

Abstracts

The Integrated Spectacle: Neoliberalism and the Socially Dead

Dawn L. Rothe and Victoria E. Collins

Despite the architectural forms of socio-moral spatial exclusion that have become the dominant theme of cities as they strive to channel capital, homelessness persists in any city street in the United States and abroad. Political discourse across the United States promises to put an end to the barbaric conditions that millions of homeless people, the “socially dead,” experience in their everyday life; however, we suggest that this hegemonic discourse is symbolic at best and has been reframed to further exclusionary practices.

My Brother's Keeper: Mass Death in the Carceral State

Ernest Kikuta Chavez

As the number of prisoners in the United States who die from terminal illness, old age, and deteriorating health conditions reaches unparalleled proportions, scholars who study punishment ought to extend their focus to the ways in which mass incarceration is producing what is referred to in this work as mass death. By centering on sites of physiological death that exist inside of US prisons such as prison hospices, prison deathbeds, funerals, and cemeteries, this article attempts to illustrate the ways in which the carceral state constructs and justifies mass death.

Settler Colonialism and the Policing of Idle No More

Andrew Crosby and Jeffrey Monaghan

Idle No More is a grassroots movement that presents a powerful politics of resistance to settler colonialism. In response, security agencies in Canada have categorized the movement as both a criminal and a national security threat. This article is focused on the policing and surveillance of Idle No More by security agencies in Canada. In detailing the extensive surveillance of the movement, we describe the policing of Idle No More as a continuation of colonial policing practices that target—with the objective of eliminating—indigenous movements that challenge the legitimacy of the settler state.

Who Polices the Police?

Gene Grabiner

This article examines discriminatory, aggressive, and violent policing within the framework of structural and cultural violence and offers some observations about the class character of policing in America. It also provides recommendations for improved police practice, including community policing, deescalation training, more stringent public regulation of policing, and the demilitarization of police. The article concludes with a discussion of the much-debated topic of body cameras.

Due Process and the Reconstruction of Democracy

Steve Martinot

This article attempts to rescue the concept of due process from the limited field of legal procedure to look instead at its political potential as well as the effects of its denial. I argue that due process as a principle is at the core of any concept of democracy and that its withholding is already a signifier for autocracy. This has important implications in several domains, including the housing crisis and police brutality.