ABSTRACTS

Universal Basic Income, Social Justice, and Marginality: A Critical Evaluation
Anthony J. Knowles

Struggles for economic justice have historically centered around the fight for jobs and higher wages, but universal basic income (UBI) seeks to distribute wealth outside of labor by giving every citizen an unconditional and universal minimum income. This paper critically assesses the policy of UBI and asks what ought to be taken into consideration and addressed before the first practical implementation of UBI on a broad scale. Three issues are outlined: UBI in relation to histories of oppression and the danger of a neoliberal universal basic income; UBI and the issues of citizenship, border imperialism, and social solidarity; and how UBI could affect the carceral system and the incarcerated. The essay argues that UBI runs the risk of reproducing precarity and inequality if not crafted with the needs of marginalized communities in mind and theorizes what a socially just UBI might look like if it was designed to confront these challenges.

Police as Supercitizens
Brittany Arsiniega & Matthew Guariglia

We propose the concept of law enforcement officers as supercitizens in the body politic of the United States. We explore the ways in which citizenship in the United States is, and has always been, contingent, giving rise to both infracitizens and supercitizens. Infracitizens are those whose experiences of citizenship come with fewer privileges than the prototypical (white, male) citizen, whereas supercitizens enjoy benefits and privileges, both under law (de jure) and by social practice (de facto) not afforded to other members of society. We document the myriad ways in which the supercitizenship of US police manifests in modern US society and suggest that such supercitizenship stands as an impediment to meaningful police reform.

 Crossing the Line(s): The School of the Americas, Radical Pedagogy, and Sacrificial Activism
Ralph Armbuster Sandoval

This article explores a class field trip to the School of the Americas in November 2005. The School of the Americas has been implicated in massacres, genocide, and human rights abuses in Latin America since the 1960s. In El Salvador, military troops, commanded by an officer who had been trained at the SOA,
killed over nine hundred women and children in El Mozote in December 1981. In this class, students read about this massacre and became morally outraged. They started planning a week-long series of activities regarding the SOA, and they even traveled to the annual protest to shut down the SOA in Fort Benning and risked arrest. This article examines the students’ decision to engage in high risk activism or not. It raises the issue that although first-generation, Latinx students may not be able to directly commit civil disobedience (crossing the line), many have dedicated their entire lives to a better, more just world.

From Fledgling Network to the Creation of an Official Division of the American Society of Criminology: The Growth of Convict Criminology 2.0
Jeffrey Ian Ross & Grant Tietjen

Over the last decade, the Convict Criminology (CC) network has gone through a handful of significant changes. These developments culminated in the establishment of the official Division of Convict Criminology (DCC) as part of the American Society of Criminology (ASC). This article reviews the critical challenges that prompted the network to become a division of ASC. This includes, but is not limited to, the death of some of our closest allies, the decline in the health and commitment of some of the original founders, the emergence of other organizations that seemingly provided similar benefits, and generational changes and other external pressures.

Commentary: The Monitoring Group: Forty Years on the Frontline
Jasbinder S. Nijjar

December 2021 marked forty years since the birth of the Monitoring Group, a leading national antiracist charity in Britain that supports Black, Asian, migrant, and refugee communities at the sharp end of state and street racism. This piece examines some of the milestone struggles of the Monitoring Group, from the street campaigning against lethal racist violence in the 1970s to the landmark government-commissioned Macpherson Report, which acknowledged institutional racism in 1999. I argue that exploring the formation and ongoing campaign work of the Monitoring Group offers vital lessons for present and future antiracist resistance.