

Policing Crowds - The UK Football Laboratory: Surveillance, Governmentality, Neo-Mercantilism

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UK Football Crowds

- Public Culture – Structures of Feeling
- Carnival, Excess, Confrontation
- Hooligan Subcultures – Intensification
- 1980s – Thatcher's 'Enemy Within'
- Disorder Overseas - Heysel
- 'Slum Sport, Slum People'
- Hillsborough – control in reverse



UK FH Control Strategies

- Law – CJSA 1980; FSA 1989; FOA 1991; CJA 1994; FDAs 1999, 2000
- Cut alcohol; exclusion/banning; ‘trespass’; missiles; racism, etc.
- Segregation of populations
- Dawn raids
- Privatised Control – Stewards
- Surveillance systems – CCTV, ‘video-faxes’
- Intelligence gathering
- Criminal Control Systems – NCIS
- Restrict Travel
- Social engineering (e.g. England fans)



Political Economic Reinvention

- Entrepreneurs
- New League: FA Premiership
- SkyTV money - £304m, £670m, £1.1b, £1.7b
- Commodification
- New Audiences – middle-classes, families, corporate partners
- New Stadiums – rising expenses



Disciplining Audiences

Objectification /
Individuation

Bio-power – Seats, Pacify

Classification –

Segregation, Exclusion



Audience Governmentality

- ‘Conduct of conduct’;
control at distance
- Build Subjectivities –
authorized identities
- From *jouissance* to *plaisir*
- Consumerism
- ‘Repressive desublimation’
in spectacle: PA
atmosphere, ‘singing
ends’, controlled
celebration, club mascots.



Neo-Liberalism

Privatization impulses –

- Policing / Social Control – stewarding
- Commercialization
- Shifting / Instrumental Allegiances
- Free Market – players, club shares, etc



Neo-Mercantilism

- National League, Associations, Nation-State
- Nation-State – legislation/regulation, host tourneys, refashion identity
- National League –
 - EPL's international expansion
 - Platform for profitable accumulation by clubs (TNCs)
 - Prevent 'alternative states' e.g. Euro breakaway (G14 etc)
 - Allow expansion of media empires



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