

Symposium

“Counter-/Narratives of Punishment and Criminal Justice”

21st to 23rd June 2018; University of Siegen (Germany)

The intellectual starting point of the conference is that there is not one single but that there are many narratives of criminality. In discussing this heterogeneity and its transformation over time, the conference will focus on two kinds of narratives and their relation. First, *individual stories*: Crime and its individual, biographical background is a major issue in criminological research. When individual circumstances of offenses are discussed, e.g., during a trial, then the (alleged) offenders are not just passive participants. Instead, they construct corresponding stories and experience “un-/reasonable conviction” and “un-/just punishment”. Second, *public narratives*: Irrespective of any specific content, the criminal justice system and its ways to tackle crime are inherently connected to political discourses and public narratives of punishment and law. They provide trust and legitimacy on which the criminal justice system substantially depends. Since individual and public stories are interwoven, the conference focuses on their interrelation and (possible) contention, including a focus on the interplay of authoritative and counter-narratives.

Scientific Organisation: Martina Althoff (Groningen, Netherlands), Bernd Dollinger (Siegen, Germany), Holger Schmidt (Dortmund, Germany), Klaus Weinhauer (Bielefeld, Germany)

Information: <http://narrativecrim-workshop.de/>

Program

Thursday 21st June

12.00-13.00 Arrival and Coffee

13.00-13.30 Introduction

13.30-14.30 Foundation

- Narrative Criminology; *Sveinung Sandberg (Oslo, Norway)*

14.30-18.00 Panel 1: Popular and everyday narrations of Crime and Punishment

- Crime and narration. The creation of (in)security in everyday life;
Katharina Eisch-Angus (Graz, Austria)

15.30-16.00 Break

- Popular and visual narratives of punishment in museum settings;
Hannah Thurston (Brighton, UK)
- Abstract Narrating Crime in Superhero Comics; *Daniel Stein (Siegen, Germany)*

Friday 22nd June

10.00-12.00 Panel 2: Contexts and Structures of Crime and Deviance

- Files as Narrations of Deviance? Methodological Reflections about the Intertextual Structure of Case Files from Residential Care in West Germany 1950 – 1970; *Mechthild Bereswill (Kassel, Germany)*
- Countering street harassment: online stories, offline resistance; *Jennifer Fleetwood (London, UK)*

12.00-13.30 Lunch Break

13.30-15.30 Panel 3: (Counter-)Narratives in Transnational Settings

- Human rights scepticism and its (lack of) counter-narratives: exploring contrasts and similarities in European newspaper coverage of the European Convention on Human Rights; *Lieve Gies (Leicester, UK)*
- Gendered Narratives of Migration: Preferred Criminals and Victims, Dehumanized Masses and Calls for Equality; *Greta Olson (Gießen, Germany)*

15.30-16.30 Break

16.30-18.30 Panel 4: Crime Narratives in Criminal Justice Systems

- Sympathies and Scandals: (Counter-)Narratives of Criminality and Policing in Inter-war Britain; *John Carter Wood (Mainz, Germany)*
- Practical narratives in the criminal law process; *Martha Komter (Amsterdam, Netherlands)*

Saturday 23rd June

10.00-11.00 Panel 5: Small and big stories of Crime and Criminal Justice

- Mapping and Measuring Public narratives of Crime and Criminal Justice: Developing public narratives as an empirical concept; *Martina Feilzer (Bangor, UK)*

11.00-11.30 Conclusion