

04/15/25

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Mass Incarceration Notes

Lecture by Dr. Pyle

- a prison you can never leave: an extermination camp
- we look at a modern image of a white man on a horse overseeing/surveilling black prisoners w/ farming tools - it looks like slavery in modern day
- What is mass incarceration?
 - roundup of ppl → period of surveillance → undercaste, exile w/in united states
 - creates a cycle impossible to escape
 - "warehouse a population deemed disposable" - unnecessary 2. global economy
 - in contrast to previous systems designed to "exploit & control black labor"
 - "warehouse"? connotation of industrialization, "body is made a ware," property instead of subject

Utilitarianism
much?Mass Incarceration Statistics

- private prisons taxed for empty cells, "low-crime tax" - 65%
- occupancy guarantee clause most frequently 90% (VA: 95%)
- justifies + inflates incarceration - the Trid - esque
- imprisonment becomes something to sell, profitable rather than a social service
- why does the state let this happen (privatization)? free labor, political capital of "tough on crime"
- map of guaranteed occupancy: mostly states that supported slavery for longest
- Trump quote: equation of "mentally ill" with gang members, rapists, etc...
 - This equation makes Dr. Pyle & John nervous: where's the line on what constitutes "mentally ill"?

13th Amendment

- "a document that used to mean something to some people"
- loophole: enslavement permitted for ANY crime

Democratic Handbook 1898

- expresses fear of/fearmongers about black people in positions of power in justice system
 - what if they do to white ppl what white ppl did to them?
- "white man's country" (reference to USA): paternalistic view that black ppl were 'unfit to govern' & democratic party was trying to "rescue the white ppl of the east from the curse of negro domination"
- fusion legislature of 1895: parallels current fearmongering/claims about 'too many ppl' being

able to vote; elections → not fair

- funds/resources management: says Dems uncovered Black ppl fraudulently managing gov't funds

- central principle of this brand of racism: Black ppl can't govern themselves - no autonomy

• Dr. Boyer says this brand of racism comes from Enlightenment empire

- Claude Kitchen (Democrat, ^{NC} HoR, 1901-28): says not to seek Black vote, but to outshoot/outcount/outmaneuver Black ppl ~

Game Takeaways (reentryjourney.org) completely nonsensical + cyclical - you can't get out +

so often there is no good option + employer mistrust → small issues become huge

- a court case (C. Thomas opinion) allowing officers to violate 4th Amendment search &

seizure/conduct profiling 4. stop & frisk if they demand to search for + find a parking violation ~

Methods of Surveillance

- Vanessa Van Dyke case: Black girl's hair supposedly violated dress code

• sends message that it's not worth risking holding onto your ID

- NYC fines ppl for noisy vehicles (including music)

• tech used as surveillance

- Hatsune Miku: constructed pop star - voice created by tech, and owned by Japanese ministry of defense?!
↳ concert-goers suggest lyrics

- 2008 study on methods of interrogation in US prisons (torture) include both loud, loud annoying music including Barney - and complete silence

• torturers called these sessions "disco"

- "no loitering" laws extended by facilities playing classical music to discourage a certain class of ppl from sticking around - so racist & classist

- concertina wire (like barbed wire) folds up like a concertina accordion

- seal that USSR used to spy on US + instrument used in horror movies invented by same dude

- TSA facial recognition + facial recognition everywhere: more commonly mistake POC + no control over your image + ppl can steal data of your face, then say

• Kiki points out that menstrual apps can be used against you in abortion cases?!

• 23andMe & DNA services also control your data

• Dr. Boyer: DNA = fallible form of evidence - testimony is so much more reliable & valid, oldest form of evidence

- final point: US locks up more ppl than any other nation

"if I'm ever on ext-convict, I will seek out these places... my Spotify playlist" - Dr. Pyle

connection between music/incarceration