At the frontiers of the urban: thinking concepts and practices globally

Parallel session D2

Urban carcerality roundtable
Monday 11 November, 16.00 – 17.30
IAS Room 11

Sovereign power seeks social control and causal power over the chaos of the urban. The resulting urban governance assemblage is temporally and spatially contingent, emergent from the entanglement of imaginaries, mechanisms, practices, materiality and actors of both social control and of resistance. Comparative regional perspectives on urban governance assemblages provide an important worlding critique to the study of the production and maintenance of urban governance in the everyday.

One emerging set of concepts and approaches proving useful for the comparative analysis of urban governance assemblages is critical carceral geography. This roundtable on urban carcerality seeks to unpack the challenges of critical carceral geography for comparative urban governance research, and to articulate some of the ontological and empirical directions studies of urban carcerality might take if applied across disciplinary, regional and methodological boundaries.

The roundtable will involve researchers whose work on urban carcerality addresses contrasting levels, urban experiences and frameworks. The goal is to consider issues which the study of urban carcerality raises for thinking global urbanism. These include: scale; planning policy; emergent mechanisms and practices for policing punitive urbanism; materialising carcerality through technology; expanding conceptualisations of urban carceral spheres; worlding Anglo-American carceral studies; relational ontology; creating urban marginality and criminalised subjects; and resistance to carceral practices.

Chair:
Dr Caroline Oliver, Associate Professor of Sociology, Education, Practice & Society, UCL

Participants:
Hannah Elsisi, Lecturer in Modern Middle East History, King’s College London; PhD candidate, Merton College, University of Oxford
Dr Brian Jordan Jefferson (via video), Associate Professor of Geography and Geographic Information Science, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
Prof. Bruce Stanley, Professor for International Relations, Richmond – The American International University in London
Dr Annie Pfingst, Visiting Research Fellow, Department of Sociology, Goldsmiths University of London