

The Borders of Punishment

Migration, Citizenship, and Social Exclusion

Edited by
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THE BORDERS OF PUNISHMENT

KFA: For my grandparents, Vida and Iztok MB: For my daughters, Ella and Sophia

Preface

Katja Franko Aas and Mary Bosworth¹

Immigration and its control are highly charged topics in contemporary policy and politics. Over the past two decades they have become subjects of extensive scholarly analysis, primarily in fields such as anthropology, sociology, human geography, refugee studies, and human rights law. It is all the more surprising then, that, with some notable exceptions, criminologists have been relatively slow to pay them much attention. The apparent lack of criminological interest is by no means merited by the size of the phenomena and the intensity of the legal, social, and sociological developments in this area. In the United States, for instance, immigrationrelated prosecutions outnumber all other federal criminal prosecutions, including drugs and weapons prosecutions, while Immigration and Customs Enforcement is now the largest investigative arm of the US Department of Homeland Security (Stumpf, Chapter 3 in this volume). In Europe, rapidly growing foreign populations represent on average 20 per cent of prison inmates, reaching extraordinary highs in countries such as Switzerland (71.4 per cent), Luxembourg (68.8 per cent), Cyprus (58.9 per cent), Greece (57.1 per cent), and Belgium (44.2 per cent).² All states have criminalized at least some aspects of immigration, establishing networks of immigration detention centres and extending their powers to deport.

Under these conditions, traditional distinctions between criminal law and immigration law are eroding. Institutions like the police and the prison, previously bound to the nation state, these days extend well beyond its borders. As more foreigners end up in prison and as states pursue more vigorously additional forms of confinement in immigration detention alongside deportation, the distinct justifications of punishment and administrative penalties blur. The book's title, *The Borders of Punishment*, alludes, on the one hand, to the literal activities of border control, and on the other hand, to punishment in its extended sense, where its borders become blurred and merge with various forms of migration control, deprivation of welfare, and social exclusion. Finally, the overlapping nature of those subject to internal and external border controls and minority communities within host countries, reveal the enduringly racialized nature of citizenship and its protections.

¹ This has been a collaborative venture, not just between the editors but also with the contributors. We would therefore like to thank our contributors, each of whom produced a fascinating account at the conference at the Centre for Criminology in the University of Oxford in April 2012, as well as those who helped us in organizing that event and participated in it (in particular, in Oslo: Per Jørgen Ystehde and Julie E. Stuestøl; in Oxford: Ana Aliverti, Steve Allen, Chris Giacomantonio, Sophie Palmer, and Lea Sitkin). Finally, we would like to thank the European Research Council 2010 and 2012-StG, the British Academy, the University of Oslo, and the Law Faculty and Centre for Criminology at the University of Oxford each of whom provided funding for various aspects of this project.

² Source: http://www.prisonstudies.org/info/worldbrief/>.

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Such developments solicit in new ways some of the fundamental and enduring questions of criminal justice and criminology: What is punishment? What is crime? What should be the normative and legal foundation for criminalization, for police suspicion, for the exclusion from the community, and for the deprivation of freedom? How, if at all, does popular punitivism shift in relation to foreign citizens? They also raise questions about methodology. Can we understand the prison today, for instance, simply in terms of life within it, when its effect may be felt many continents away? Do qualitative or quantitative techniques developed with citizens in mind, work when applied to foreigners? How might we capture the similarities between criminal justice and migration control while remaining alert to the specific nature of each field and to the vulnerabilities of non-citizens?

These questions animate this volume. In it we seek, with the assistance of colleagues drawn from across the world, to bring migration and borders to the criminological home front. We believe not only that an understanding of criminal justice is essential to explaining practices such as detention and deportation of foreign citizens, but also that mobility and its control are central to any analysis of the criminal justice system. The purpose of this collection is therefore to sketch out a particular sub-field within criminology and criminal justice, the *criminology of mobility*. We do this, not to put up borders to keep people out, but rather to chart an intellectual space and a theoretical tradition within criminology to house scholars dealing with issues of citizenship, race, ethnicity, and immigration control.

In so doing, we seek to extend traditions of criminological theory concerned with membership, matters of social exclusion, and penal power. With some notable exceptions, theoretical work on punishment and criminal justice has not explicitly questioned the national frame of analysis, leaving the discipline with an implicitly static notion of society at its core. As a result, according to Dario Melossi (Chapter 15 in this volume), even when classical theorists such as Marx addressed issues of migration and mobility, these have not been taken into account in further theoretical analyses of punishment.

Matters of mobility are by no means an historic novelty. They have productively inspired sociological and criminological writings in previous periods, including the writings of the Chicago School, the Birmingham Centre for Cultural Studies, postcolonial criminology, and critical race studies. Nonetheless, the present scale of global movements of people, goods, and capital is introducing new dimensions that are radically transforming the contours of society. These developments, generated by globalization, have brought issues of citizenship to the forefront of numerous political and policy debates. As states reflect on such matters, punishment and the criminal justice system have become increasingly important mechanisms for guarding the gates of membership. The criminology of mobility is therefore a study of the contested and precarious nature of membership in a deeply divided global order, and the practices of policing of its (physical and symbolic) boundaries. As such, it relates to the traditional issues of race, gender, and class, which endure as migration pathways often connect to existing inequalities. For some, these developments raise questions about a developing global apartheid (see Bowling, Chapter 16 in this volume).

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The challenge for the criminology of mobility lies in making sense of these continuities while also identifying new manifestations of membership, social solidarity, and belonging. The task is partly an empirical one. We simply have little evidence documenting the experiences and effects of migration control. What is it like to be detained indefinitely? How does it feel to face deportation? What are the challenges that mobility poses for police officers, prison guards, policy makers? However, the criminology of mobility seeks to do more than just fill in the gaps. Significant conceptual work also needs to be done. Many recent developments in migration and criminal justice cannot be fully captured and understood by the vocabulary of the past, nor can they be named and described by criminological and criminal justice concepts alone. Terms of art that have been so productive within criminology, such as legitimacy and (in)justice, alongside work on penality and (human) rights, are called into question in a global frame. What is the relevance of borders (conceptual, empirical, identity) for the 'right to have rights' (Arendt 2004; Benhabib 2004)? Who is the subject of rights within a society and what is the relevance of the relationship between citizenship and criminal justice?

The book may be dipped into or read from cover to cover. Hindpal Singh Bhui's introduction and Ben Bowling's concluding remarks synthesize the volume's main arguments, while raising additional questions and issues for future consideration. The chapters in between are clustered around five central questions, which underpin much of criminal justice thinking and research: criminalization, policing, imprisonment, punishment, and social exclusion. Though seemingly familiar, contributors demonstrate how these traditional topics become transformed, taking on a new guise and adopting novel rationalities and modes of existence under

conditions of mass mobility.

In the first section, Katja Franko Aas, Lucia Zedner, Juliet Stumpf, and Catherine Dauvergne explore how migration unsettles the traditional anchoring of justice and criminal law in the nation state and citizenship. Mobility, and its control, they argue, introduces new forms of illegality and criminalization, often undermining due process rights established within the criminal law. The chapters outline the multiple points of intersection between criminal law, immigration, and refugee law, as well as the eroding distinctions between internal and external aspects of sovereignty and between the process and punishment. As the traditional moorings of criminalization in (national) criminal law and membership begin to unsettle, a challenge arises of doing justice to non-citizens and those whose membership status is in question. Such developments, these chapters suggest, though typically overlooked by criminal lawyers and criminal justice scholars, require new frames of analysis.

The second section takes up the issue of policing. In it, Sharon Pickering and Leanne Weber, Darshan Vigneswaran, and Maggy Lee critically assess the transnational scope and nature of contemporary policing practices. While acknowledging the relevance of historically established practices of racial and colonial control, the authors demonstrate the salience of new ideas and rationalities in practices apparently designed to produce immobility in the form of closed borders and fortress continents. Termed by Weber and Pickering as 'transversal' logic, contemporary

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policing transgresses traditional boundaries separating states, between inside and outside the society, and among various policing and administrative domains. In so doing, the police identify who must be immobilized as well as prevent, or in some cases, force movement across boundaries. As Zygmunt Bauman (1998) and others have pointed out (Aas 2007; Weber and Bowling 2008), in a world otherwise marked by transnationality and the freedom of movement, immobility has become a prime form of social exclusion. Under these conditions, the power of the police has shifted and been amplified.

Immobility remains an important theme in the third section of this volume, which considers the imprisonment and detention of foreign citizens. Here, chapters by Mary Bosworth, Emma Kaufman, and Thomas Ugelvik examine the transformation of the 'traditional' prison as well as the growth of special institutions of detention dedicated to the housing of the growing foreign populations. While resembling familiar institutions of confinement, such places, the authors argue, break with or fail to adhere to many of the key assumptions that justify restricting people's liberty. Foreign citizens, are, in short, held to different standards. In prisons and detention centres, states not only mark out a national identity based on exclusion, but reveal the limits of the liberal political ideal of inclusion.

The fourth section explores the corollary of forced immobility: expulsion. The section starts with the particular in a moving account by David Brotherton and Luis Barrios of the traumatic effects of deportation on a group of women and men sent back to the Dominican Republic. Then, while maintaining a focus on specific nation states—the United Kingdom and Sweden—chapters by Matthew Gibney and Vanessa Barker consider more generally the extent to which the established notions of citizenship, democracy, and belonging are being unsettled and transformed through banishment. Through their increasing reliance on deportation, nation states reinforce and redraw the political and legal boundaries of membership, thus raising, in all its complexity, the perennial question of who belongs in the community.

In the final section on the changing nature of social exclusion, Nicolay Johansen's chapter provides a detailed exploration of mechanisms—such as deprivation of welfare and medical aid—used to encourage failed asylum seekers in Norway to leave 'voluntarily'. While fascinated by the apparent novelty and complexity of the phenomena, the final chapter by Dario Melossi brings to our attention the historic antecedents of these developments as well as the persisting salience of the political economy in their formation.

Conclusion

The criminology of mobility introduces new, substantive topics and sites of research as well as transforming old ones with novel empirical and theoretical considerations. The focus of the discipline shifts, on the one hand, to the literal activities of border control, and, on the other hand, to punishment in its extended sense. The criminology of mobility therefore addresses not only issues pertaining to

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mobility as such (which may seem to be situated at the outskirts of the social), but rather to those phenomena which are at the heart of contemporary debates about membership and social exclusion in our globalized and increasingly diverse societies. As Honig (2001) points out, foreigners—and the discourses about them—do a particular kind of work in terms of the political constitution of the society. Although generally seen as a threat to social unity and stable identity, foreigners—and the growing punitive regimes to which they are subjected—also serve as a conduit for the articulation of new forms of identity and belonging. This book does not aspire to do justice to the enormity of these topics, yet it is, we believe, a productive step on the way towards their understanding.

Drawing the border to the centre of criminological and penological concerns expands the imaginary of justice (Carlen 2008), by including into the discourse of justice new categories of people as well as some so far overlooked institutional arrangements and geographical locations. This is both a normative and an empirical task, since many of the phenomena in this collection have hitherto neither been adequately described nor named. As a result they have also not been regulated or subjected to scrutiny. At the most basic level, statistics on many of the issues considered in this volume are only inadequately kept. To some extent, the lack of evidence is inevitable. We simply cannot know for certain how many undocumented people are present. On the other hand, however, the government itself at times obscures the topic. In the United Kingdom, for instance, the government rarely publishes details about those held in prison under Immigration Act powers. Details about the make-up of the detained population beyond raw figures are also hard to come by. We know very little, in any country, of what happens to those who are removed or deported.

However, the invisibility pertains not only to the national context but also has global dimensions as it often results from the territorial scope of mobility control beyond the borders of the nation state. Several aspects of mobility control addressed in this volume take place outside respective national territories, or are conducted by non-state agents; for example the extra-territorial policing described by Aas and Weber and Pickering, the suffering of the deportees revealed by Brotherton and Barrios, and the practices of the international NGOs reported by Lee. These are by and large not policies and practices that are publically proposed, debated, democratically agreed, and scrutinized by the (national) media. They are often developed in an ad hoc fashion by individual institutional actors or they may arise through international cooperation. Rather than being delineated by the law, they thrive in its shadow or, what Barker aptly terms, 'no man's lands'. These cross-border activities thus also demand a 'de-bordering of national normative frames' (Sassen 2008: 63) and the formation of novel ethical and legal mechanisms of regulation. An expansion and de-bordering of criminology's analytical and imaginative space one of the central features of the criminology of mobility—is therefore intrinsically connected with the transcendence of disciplinary boundaries and an expansion of normative and legal spaces. Several chapters, albeit with varying degrees of optimism, refer to human rights and the emerging humanitarian discourses as potential means of empowerment as well as an emerging technique of governance.

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We consider this set of essays a first step, along with others, in carving out this new part of our discipline. As governments increasingly develop and apply their powers of exclusion, these issues should concern us all.

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List of Abbreviations

AFP Australian Federal Police

ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations

AusAID Australian Government Overseas Aid Programme

BID Bail for Immigration Detainees
CBP Customs and Border Protection (US)

DCO detention custody officer

DFID Department for International Development

DIAC Department of Immigration and Citizenship (Australia)

EEA European Economic Area
EFTA European Free Trade Association
ERC European Research Council

ESRC Economic and Social Research Council
EUROSUR European Border Surveillance System
The Financial Action Task Force
HMIP Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons

ICE Immigration and Customs Enforcement (US)

ICIBI Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration

ICMC International Catholic Migration Commission

IIRIRA Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (US)

IOM International Organisation for Migration

IRC Immigration removal centre
LPR legal permanent resident
NAO National Audit Office

NOMS National Offender Management Service

RAN Royal Australian Navy

RGC Research Grants Council of Hong Kong SIAC Special Immigration Appeals Commission

STHF short-term holding facility

TIP Report Trafficking in Persons Report (US)

UAV unmanned aerial vehicle UKBA UK Border Agency*

UNESCAP United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific UNESCO United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

UNHCR United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

UNIAP United Nations Inter-Agency Project in Human Trafficking

UNICEF United Nations Children's Fund

UNIFEM United Nations Development Fund for Women
USAID United States Agency for International Development
VEVO Visa Entitlement Verification On-line (Australia)

At the end of March 2013, the British Government announced that the UKBA was to be abolished, returning immigration and enforcement services to the Home Office and the direct control of ministers. Chapters in this collection refer to the UKBA, since they were written before the announcement was made.

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