

Praxis Café 29/3/14

Poster 1

- Power is those who control the means of production – discuss
- POWER
 - PROTEST-numbers effective for making a difference
 - Media and law constructed to take power out
- Police are unregulated
- MEDIA
 - The mainstream will FRAME protest and miscarriages of justice as they see fit.
 - How to give power to alternative narratives
- POLICE again – what will we do about them?
- THEORY----CONSCIOUSNESS – TO – PRACTICE
 - One by one, step by step, person by person. The film, the text, the ideas will open our ‘eyes’ and our understanding educate and uplift the race with infinite awareness and opening our range of options for ACTION!
- LOCAL
 - Films – about local events and places = relevant, engaging
 - Praxis Café etc. How to distribute screen, promote, connect in the media sea?
- Media depictions St Pauls
- Had to rediscover identity as a black man in order to address
- Show of force that provokes
- Filmmaking now very accessible to young people and everyone cheaply – YouTube, phone cameras etc. Democratised.
- The impact of our early experiences of the police – how that stays with us
- Police being hyped-up, as well as geared up – beyond any reason or dialogue
- FEMALE ISSUE: ‘double-tax’
 - What helps her to remain resilient
 - Where SUPPORT come from?
- AS A BLACK MAN – ist time? Surely not
- Police need skills to de-escalate tensions – not mirror the aggression
- Including an interactive process for the film enables some co-creation
- Suggestion for future cafes: If speakers used a mike then the café would be more accessible to visual and hearing impaired people
- Forgetting: what is it that makes communities forget their power? In Foucaudian terms what is the silencing/forgetting regime in action here?
- Long history of radical lawyers and legal aid – these cuts affect many communities
- Local news
 - Controlled by local people
 - Radio stations
 - Propaganda

- Isolation
- Police- whistleblowing whose responsibility?
 - Structural changes – how do we treat whistle-blowers – how are their voices not just heard but incorporated

Poster 2

- How does one contain gentrification? (Improve property and outsiders come in?)
- Operation delivery? 1986 massive damage to area after police invasion in St Pauls. No public inquiry
- Stories important to continue community building
- Sustain positive change across time
- RESILIENCE – doggedness
- Contact video network
- Police are not accountable to public
- Vimeo as a constraint, i.e. captions
- Witnesses of peaceful presence counter bad behaviour
- How can we understand what was in the police mind-set. How can they account for their behaviour?
- Was the Tesco riot film about +++++ righteous self indulgence accuse police squatters and their friends
- Behaviour (on putting resilient/open civil networks)
- Importance of consulting with and engagement with community.
 - St Pauls Unlimited – receives funding from council – needs to be maintained
- Sharing of story -> resilience – pride -> ownership
 - The personal is political
- Demonstration might be an effective way of communicating opposition/resistance to abuses of power/status quo.
 - However, the state is likely to repress – often violently and often provoking violence.

Poster 3

- The TESCO-ISING of LAW
- Cartography of the POSSIBLE
- NO REACTION FROM GOVERNMENT!
 - Seems to confirm institutional racism...
- Feedback

- I'm not quite sure what the purpose of this is, or how the theory or practice are coming together.
- I would have liked to know more about who was here – there was no opportunity to bring in our own experience and stories.
- What are the researchers trying to find out?
- What are the participants meant to learn?
- What questions are we trying to answer?
- How will this session feed in to the productive margins work?

Poster 4

- Tesco Riot
 - Civil disobedience rather than a riot – no burnt out shops, no looting.
- Lots of people going up Picton St attacked by the police
 - Welsh police there
- Plenty of randoms when police came into area who wanted (*spelling?*)kick off
- Police were told to get more aggressive
- “Peaceful protest doesn’t work – violence the only answer” Tesco Riot film.
- St. Pauls Unlimited – if they join up their problems can be solved
- Not enough residents in the film – someone from the planning group, someone from the housing group.
- Importance of pleasure in documentary filmmaking
- I bought my house on the first days of the riots
- You can’t afford to lose any of the businesses to the communities
 - More small independent
- Attack on legal aid an attack on democracy itself
- Who will take the police to task with the legal aid cuts?