T01W07 / Towards a sociology of banishment: Addressing intersections of social marginalisation in public policy and practice

Topic : T01 / Policy Process, Policy Making, Policy Implementation,
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CALL FOR PAPERS

The workshop interrogates the interface between different kinds of banishment, understood as government policies of spatial and social regulation targeting citizens as well as non-citizens. As highlighted by Beckett and Herbert (2010, 1), governments have historically relied on spatial strategies including 'banishment, quarantine, transportation, deportation and incarceration' of those perceived as deviant, criminal, or a social, political or demographic 'threat' to the state and society. Research on contemporary practices of banishment have highlighted the return of banishment as a government strategy to regulate social inequality, notably through practices of containment and expulsion: incarceration and segregation are utilized to govern social marginalization, destitution, and resulting urban unrest (Fassin, 2013; Wacquant, 2009), and private security personnel and hostile architecture is deployed to exclude the 'socially undesirable' from commercial and public spaces, notably in the U.S. and in Western Europe (Petty, 2016). Moreover, confinement and deportation are used to govern 'unwanted' mobility and inequalities on a global scale, and most expulsions take place from richer to poorer countries (Besteman, 2019; Khosravi, 2019). The same body of research has identified racialized, neoliberal and securitized logics underpinning these different state projects; yet rarely have the policies designed to address 'unwanted' international migration, urban securitization and social inequality been addressed together. This workshop aims to explore this gap by engaging conceptually and empirically with how practices ofbanishment among citizens and non-citizens is used to govern social inequality. In doing so, we aim to overcome the 'migrant-citizen divide' (Anderson, 2013; Dahinden, 2016) and address intersections and commonalities in how laws and policies of confinement, socio-spatial segregation and expulsion affect different marginalised groups and constrains and stratifies their access to rights (Korteweg, 2017; Mezzadra & Neilson, 2013). We invite scholars from diverse disciplinary backgrounds, including anthropology, sociology, geography, law, public administration and related fields, to submit conceptual as well as empirical contributions that explore different policies, practices and logics of banishment. The themes we are interested in exploring include, but not limited to, the following:

- Conceptual and theoretical engagements with banishment as a form of social and spatial regulation, including its underpinning logics of neoliberalism, security and social control;
- The role of banishment in perpetuating racialized, gendered and classed inequalities and reconfiguring the boundaries of citizenship;
- Historical studies tracing the emergence and shifting configurations of forms of banishment over time;
- Empirical studies of laws and policies as well as ethnographic explorations of how banishment is translated into practice (e.g. studies of street level bureaucrats involved in policing, imprisonment, deportation proceedings or working within social services);
- Engagements with the perspectives of target groups (e.g. people detained and imprisoned, deported or evicted)
- Novel solidarities and practices of citizenship emerging among those banished (e.g. among deportees, among destitute and marginalized citizens and non-citizens)

ABSTRACT

Banishment, which denotes the social and spatial regulation of 'undesired' populations (Beckett & Herbert, 2010), is an old governing technique that has seen a resurge in recent years. Today, we can witness practices of banishment used as a means of governing social inequality (Wacquant 2009), through the exclusion or confinement of 'deviant' citizens and non-citizens (Jefferson, Turner, & Jensen, 2019) and in the creation of 'hostile' environments in urban areas or in refugee camps (Petty, 2019; Suárez-Krabbe & Lindberg, 2019), and in practices of expulsion, designed to regulate the mobility of undesired migrants (Khosravi, 2019). Banishment targets citizens and non-citizens, yet commonalities are usually overlooked and treated as separate phenomena in policy and in research; the aim of this workshop is to bridge this 'migrant-citizen divide' (Anderson, 2013). In order to do so, we invite an interdisciplinary group of scholars to reflect on commonalities in policy regimes aimed at socially and territorially banishing 'undesired' populations. The workshop invites empirical as well as theoretical

contributions exploring policies, practices and experiences of banishment and their effects from an intersectional perspective (Crenshaw, 2012) that includes gender, ethnicity, class, sexuality – and legal status. Moreover, we are interested in the productive nature of banishment in constituting boundaries between the 'citizen' and 'others', and in the ways in which these boundaries are challenged by those targeted by exclusionary policies. The workshop thus aims to establish a platform for interdisciplinary exchange between participants working on these on acute matters of social inequality and exclusion. It will result in a joint academic publication project and we also intend to write a summary report, available to the general public.