



## **Editorial: Critical Criminology**

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Source: *Justice, Power and Resistance* Volume 1, Number 1 (April 2017) pp. 1-2

Published by EG Press Limited on behalf of the European Group for the Study of Deviancy and Social Control electronically 16 October 2017

URL: <http://www.egpress.org/editorial/editorial-critical-criminology>

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## **Justice, Power and Resistance**

### ***Editorial***

#### **Critical Criminology**

This collection of papers on critical criminology draws upon ideas and thinkers from all around the world. Issue 1, Volume 1 of Justice, Power and Resistance brings together a combination of papers from contemporary critical criminologists alongside a number of classic papers which are either being translated into English for the first time or have been lost to English-speaking audiences for many years. The papers by Vincenzo Ruggiero, Claudia Mantovan, and Anne Alvesalo-Kuusi, Steven Bittle and Liisa Lähteenmäki highlight some of the key theoretical and political priorities of critical analysis of 'crime', deviance, harm and social control today.

The debates explored in the following pages connect directly with ideas emerging in Europe and North America which are re-engaging with the agenda of 'liberation philosophy'. The foundational ideas of Rosa Del Olmo shine a light upon this (until recently) neglected development in criminology from Latin America and we feel that it is important in Volume 1, Number 1 of this journal to showcase this line of thought. Del Olmo brings into focus the critical approaches to the production and reproduction of violence (personal, institutional and structural) and develops a critical analysis that has clear implications for a wider critique of systems of social inequality and social injustice.

In this issue of the journal we also pay tribute to two 'absent friends' who died during the production of the journal. Herman (Thomas) Bianchi, the great Dutch abolitionist thinker, and Massimo Pavarini, the hugely influential Italian thinker, both made enormous contributions to the development and evolution of the European Group from the 1970s. The two papers we have included demonstrate the depth of their analysis and highlight issues and themes in abolitionist thought that continue to be of great relevance. Both Bianchi and Pavarini will be greatly missed by critical criminologists across Europe and elsewhere, and we include their papers in recognition of their respective contributions over the last five and more decades. We hope that their important work continues to provide inspiration for a new generation of critical thinkers

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The intention of this collection of papers, and indeed future issues of the journal *Justice, Power and Resistance*, is to provide food for thought for critical criminologists engaging in direct struggles for social justice, human rights and democratic accountability the world over. Each issue of the journal will contain a special section with reflections from activists. In this volume, we hear from Tammy Castle and Danielle McDonald, who provide an account of their current struggle for academic resistance in the USA, and from Natacha Filippi who presents SIRECOVI, a new project against institutional violence launched by the University of Barcelona.

The journal concludes with reflections on the meaning of justice (with further reflections on 'power' and 'resistance' to come in Volume 1, Numbers 2 and 3 respectively) and two book reviews.

We would like to thank those who provided translations of articles that would otherwise be inaccessible to an English-speaking readership.