

Project Group (06 Safety for Everyone):

Comment

Authors of the Comment:

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Comment: Safety for everyone, studying alternative security concepts.

Police accountability

Critique

The critique toward today's concept of security stems from the unjust treatment of marginalised people by the police. This unfair, and sometimes excessively violent, treatment is supported by the structure of society and in turn the police department.

Deepening the problem is the in-group favouritism and internal structure of the department. Thus, these structural problems that result in favouritism are harder to cope with and remedy, such as holding police officers accountable for unreasonable violence or unjust actions. Also, there is extensive criticism for the lack of transparency in police departments in the handling of those cases.

Solution

There are several potential ways of handling the excessive treatment by police and the majorities security concept.

A reasonable measure would be increased transparency in the police department. This could be achieved through a third party/ an institution analysing and investigating police conduct. After which further action should be taken to curb negatively biased and violent behaviour.

Furthermore, there should be preventative changes in the police department to avoid biased sentiments of marginalized groups, such as racial profiling and stereotyping. The Basis of this should be comprehensive and extensive sensitivity and self-reflection training internally. Another option would be psychological counselling and reflecting on conduct.

Moreover, destigmatizing internal critique towards colleagues and embracing self-critique is an integral part of preventing further escalations. Oftentimes there is a fear of repercussion upon speaking up about misconduct which needs to be dealt with. Psychological counselling is, again, a potential remedy. The rest of society has its own responsibility, the media in this case should not just focus on negatively covering the police as that can imprint mistrust of the police in people's minds.

Vision/Utopia

More training for the police together with social responsibility would reduce suspicion of minorities and therefore racial profiling, by holding the police more accountable, thus guaranteeing security for everyone.



Video Information

Title of the Video: 006_AlternativeSecurityConceptToImproveSafetyForEveryone

Authors of the Video: Lilly Gualeni, Rainers Rozitis, Mert Suvari, Nimasha Amadoru, Kira Nachtweh, Rosalie Ost, Greta Loos, Julia Karpienia, Rajjan Al Rahman, Antonia Schimmer, Jessica Schebesta, Aline Schmidt, Catherine Egeressy

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