Chapter Ten – Re-constructing Race and Crime (Conclusion)

Chapter summary

This chapter brings together the main arguments of the book and concludes with a call for critical criminology and other social science disciplines, to re-construct the problematic messages that are presented about race and crime, and to examine critically the mechanisms of social, state and crime control. This chapter covers:

- How contemporary forms of scientific racism, such as DNA and genetic profiling, are validated by media generated panics around Islamaphobia, bogus asylum seekers, and white victimhood.
- The logics of ‘risk reduction’ via the pre-emptive control and surveillance strategies of certain ethnic bodies.
- The increased use of profiling methods to filter spaces, which are used on the basis of race, and other cultural markers, such as, ethnicity, religion, nationality, all of which are fluid categories which are insufficiently addressed in equality legislation.
- How commonly used biopolitical practices by the state are centrally racialised, and the modes of racism they invoke are both scientific and cultural.
- How although the post-Macpherson context has provided opportunities to highlight the tensions and cracks within the racial terrain, they have not fundamentally altered the nature of the terrain itself.
• How while the reformism of statist approaches to challenging racism are important, the resistance of black and minority ethnic subjects still represents the most far-reaching critique of the rationalities of racialised governance.

Links to SAGE articles

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