Guest lecture

Countermapping Crime: Noisy Maps against State Violence

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The academic focus of environmental criminology on street crime contrasts with the extensiveness and harmfulness of state and corporate crimes that remain largely understudied. In response, critical geographers and criminologists have pointed out the manifold problems of reducing the spatial dimension of social phenomena to the Cartesian plane and abstracted imageries. This lecture proposes to escape essentialist views in order to explore ways in which mapping endeavours can contribute to analyse the spatial dimension of deviance and crime from a critical perspective. Countermapping crime is suggested as an approach to reposition the normative framework of crime mapping, widen its conceptual lenses, break methodological silos, and engage in public action for social transformation. Application of countermapping crime is illustrated with the case study of arbitrary detentions of youths for military conscription in Bogotá (Colombia), discussing its potentialities, limitations and dilemmas.

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Allende Platz 1, Room 250