Exploring state intervention & the production of social harm

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What is 'social harm'?

What are 'social harms'?

What are social harms?

- <u>Physical/mental health</u>: pertaining to impediments of physical or mental health & wellbeing

- <u>Autonomy</u>: pertaining to the impediment of attempts to achieve self- actualisation

- <u>Relational</u>: pertaining to the harms resulting from misrecognition and/or social exclusion (Pemberton, 2016)

What is the relevance for us today?

Case 1 | Drugs Crackdown Operation

Case 1

Relational harms

Community networks

Police-community relations

Misrecognition

Autonomy harms

Harmful opportunities

Lack of control

Mental health harms

Anxiety & helplessness

Feeling unsafe

Relational harms

"…the most awful meeting I've ever been to, ever" (YWM)

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Autonomy harms

"How many people got arrested and it's still got worse" (Aqeil)

Mental health harms

Zimbo arrived having been at the Maple Post Office submitting his University paperwork. On entering the room he told Saalim, Jaydon and I how he had left the Post Office and noticed the sound of footsteps behind him. After ignoring this for a while Zimbo had turned around, to see that he was being followed by around six people that he recognized as drug users.

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Harms of misrecognition

"… there is no trust between the community and the police. There just isn't. If they would be honest with us "this this" then there could be, but with them finding ways to just do you over, there's gonna be no trust" (Zimbo)

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So what?

Seeing through the social harm 'lens'

A failure to acknowledge results in a failure to act (Bhopal, 2018)

Useful references

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