

Call for Papers

Rethinking Confinement: Captive Bodies Beyond Foucauldian Theory

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Foucault famously traces the replacement of the direct targeting of the body in punishment by subtler, more insidious penalties, operating strongly through the gaze of surveillance. The perceived omnipresence of this gaze causes the captive subjects to render their own bodies docile. These bodies are thus not only imprisoned by walls but, even more powerfully, by the biopolitical powers of discipline. According to Foucault, imprisonment is merely one of the many manifestations of the dialectic of normalcy, and disciplinary structures extend far beyond the prison walls in what he calls a 'carceral continuum'. Consequently, docile, 'captive' bodies are to be found in virtually every social realm.

The panel we propose for the Anglistentag in 2018 is interested in potentially new theoretical and analytical perspectives on captive bodies. We are inviting contributions that engage with corporeal aspects of material and social forms of confinement/captivity inspired by recent theoretical developments in, for instance, theories of embodiment, (trans*-)-gender studies, cultural narratology, cognitive studies, critical race studies, disability studies, queer studies, or human geography/carceral geography.

Topics for papers may include but are not limited to the following areas of inquiry:

- Gender and captivity
- Hypermasculinity and/as imprisonment
- Queer/trans* embodiment in prison
- Race and captivity
- Disability and captivity
- Embodiment of social dynamics in prison
- Agency and resistance in captivity
- Pornographic depictions of violence
- 'New Punitivism' and hyperincarceration
- 'War on terror', 'refugee crisis' and the securitization of urban space

Please email 300-400 word abstracts and a short bio note to Cornelia Wächter (cornelia.waechter@rub.de) and Marcus Hartner (marcus.hartner@uni-bielefeld.de) by **15 October 2017**.