Unpolicing the Urban Poor: Consequences of Third Party Policing on Inner-City Women

Matthew Desmond, Harvard University

Discussant Sébastien Chauvin, University of Amsterdam

Matthew Desmond is an Assistant Professor of Sociology and Social Studies at Harvard University. After receiving his Ph.D. in 2010 from the University of Wisconsin at Madison, he joined the Harvard Society of Fellows as a Junior Fellow. He is the author of On the Fireline: Living and Dying with Wildland Firefighters (2007), which won the Max Weber Award for Distinguished Scholarship by the American Sociological Association, as well as two books on race in America (both with Mustafa Emirbayer): Racial Domination, Racial Progress: The Sociology of Race in America (2009) and The Racial Order (forthcoming). He has written essays on educational inequality, dangerous work, political ideology, race and social theory, and the inner-city housing market. His current project combines ethnographic fieldwork, survey data, and documentary analysis to explore the causes, dynamics, and consequences of eviction among the urban poor and, more broadly, to plumb the inner workings of disadvantaged neighborhoods and the low-cost housing market.

Sébastien Chauvin is a tenured assistant professor of sociology at the University of Amsterdam. He has formerly taught at the Université Paris 1-Panthéon Sorbonne and as a visiting lecturer at the University of Chicago. His research deals with labor, migration, gender and sexuality issues, mainly in France and the United States. He has published Les Agences de la Précarité. Journaliers à Chicago (Seuil 2010) and is a contributor to the collective study exploring the labor-market experience and union-supported mobilization of undocumented immigrant workers in France (On bosse ici, on reste ici. La grève des sans-papiers: une aventure inédite [La Découverte 2011, with Pierre Barron, Anne Bory, Nicolas Jounin and Lucie Tourette]). Recent research focuses on social capital and the sociology of global elites in Europe and the Caribbean (with Bruno Cousin), and on the critical history of the commodity form (with Olga Sezneva).

Sandwiches will be served. Please register with marina.abelskaia.graziani@sciences-po.fr

SCOOPS is the official seminar of the MaxPo. We try to hold it once a month during the academic year, usually on the third Monday. Most SCOOPS presenters are official visitors at the Maxpo, and the seminar takes place during their visit. Matt Desmond is visiting the Maxpo from January 15-22.

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