SC 4880D POLICING & SECURITY

\\ Wednesdays

@ 12 pm

@ AS1-02-12

DR. SAHANA GHOSH

\\sahana.ghosh@nus.edu.sg

SEE SOMETHING SAY SOMETHING

- Take up a question or topic that has been raised in class materials or discussions and explore that through a case study.

- The case/focus you choose can be contemporary or historical.

- It can include audio and visual material.

- You can do this individually or in pairs.

- The final output can be in the form of a traditional research paper or a podcast. You could even do a video (like recording a presentation) if your project includes a lot of audio-visual material.

- Freedom to explore!

Final Project

- Podcast or video should be no longer than 30 mins and a script has to be submitted, including citations.

- Paper should be no longer than 4000 words, including citations.

- Project should include minimum 3 readings from the syllabus. Additional research material should be properly credited.
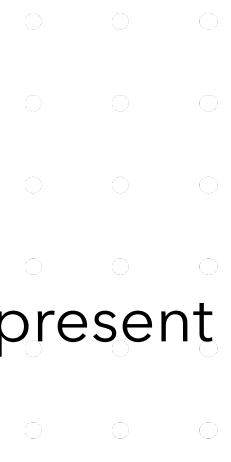
- Freedom to explore!

Final Project

WEEK 8 – CONNECTING POLICING, SECURITY, AND MILITARISM

-Madiha Tahir, "Violence Work and Police Order", *Public Culture*, 2019

- Cynthia Enloe, "How Does National Security Become Militarized?" in *Globalization and Militarism: Feminists Make the Link*, 2016 (2nd edition).

BRINGING BACK HISTORY THROUGH TRACES

-20 yrs of global war on terror

- colonialism > imperialism in the present

- technologies are not neutral or innocent – they have histories, politics, social meanings that determine their value. E.G. Aerial policing
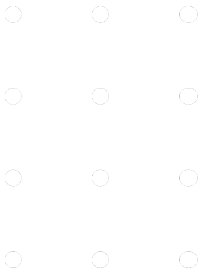
1. Historical legacies – colonialism x global and regional imperialism in the present

2. The "national" in national security is always transnationally constituted

3. Counter American exceptionalism

Era of global wars – a transnational perspective

1. Funding, technologies, expertise – follow the connections

Muhammad Abdur Raqib Retweeted

MUKTADIR rashid ROMEO ✔
@muktadirnewage

US trained SWAT are seen using military graded weapons to disperse political activists days before the BNP rally in Dhaka on Human Rights Day.
📷 colleted

5:58 PM · Dec 7, 2022 from Dhaka, Bangladesh

127 **Retweets**   20 **Quote Tweets**   547 **Likes**

Notorious Bangladesh police unit received spy training in the UK
aje.io/xc0q7l via @AJEnglish

aljazeera.com
Notorious Bangladesh police unit received spy training in the UK
Despite US sanctions against the Rapid Action Battalion, members went to Britain to receive mass surveillance training.

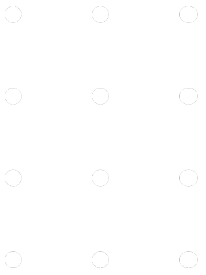Israeli spy tech sold to Bangladesh, despite dismal human rights record

haaretz.com
Israeli spy tech sold to Bangladesh, despite dismal human rights record
***

Era of global wars – a transnational perspective

2. Military-industrial complex – from war to war-preparedness

Muhammad Abdur Raqib Retweeted

MUKTADIR rashid ROMEO ✓
@muktadirnewage

US trained SWAT are seen using military graded weapons to disperse political activists days before the BNP rally in Dhaka on Human Rights Day.
📷colleted

5:58 PM · Dec 7, 2022 from Dhaka, Bangladesh

127 Retweets   **20** Quote Tweets   **547** Likes

Notorious Bangladesh police unit received spy training in the UK
aje.io/xc0q7l via @AJEnglish

aljazeera.com
Notorious Bangladesh police unit received spy training in the UK
Despite US sanctions against the Rapid Action Battalion, members went to Britain to receive mass surveillance training.

Israeli spy tech sold to Bangladesh, despite dismal human rights record
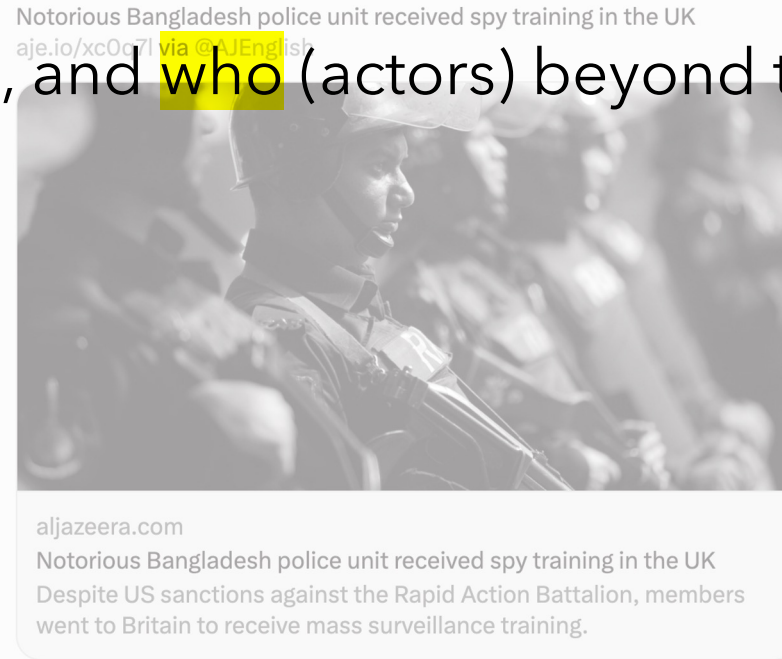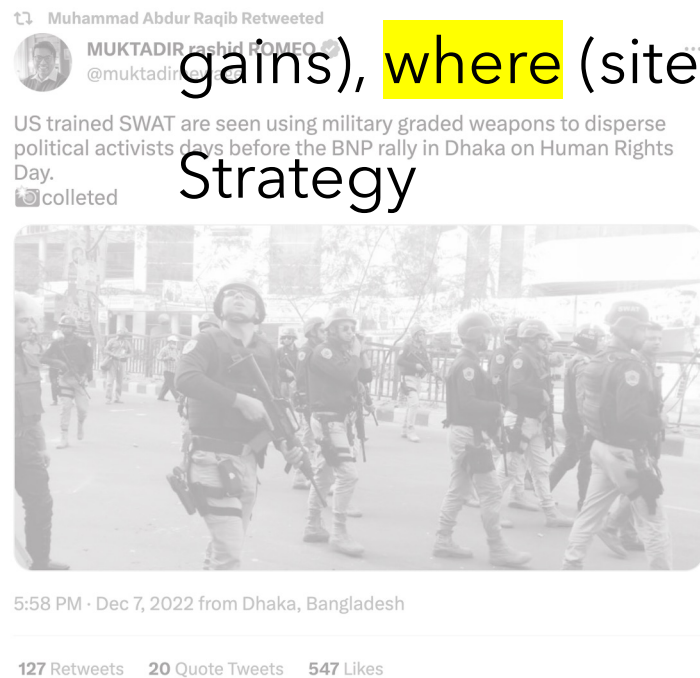
haaretz.com
Israeli spy tech sold to Bangladesh, despite dismal human rights record
***

Era of global wars – a transnational perspective

3. What are the costs of militarized national security? Who gains, who suffers? -- thinking sociologically/anthropologically about the what (costs, gains), where (sites), and who (actors) beyond the manly men of Grand Strategy

Era of global wars – a transnational perspective

"the degree to which a society's institutions, policies, behaviors, social norms, and values are devoted to and shaped by military power" (Gonzalez and Gusterson 2019: 7, *Militarization: A Reader*)

The military-industrial complex is premised on racial capitalism and patriarchy
(e.g. Wk 9, 10, 12 – geopolitics, citizenship, digital enclosures)

Domination of society and economy by military logics, priorities, and needs
(e.g. Wk 11 – militarized masculinities and emotions)

militarism

Recognizing militarism as a socio-cultural process

– denaturalizes security and takes it up for multi-faceted understanding as any other sociocultural phenomena e.g. the nuclear family, migration etc.
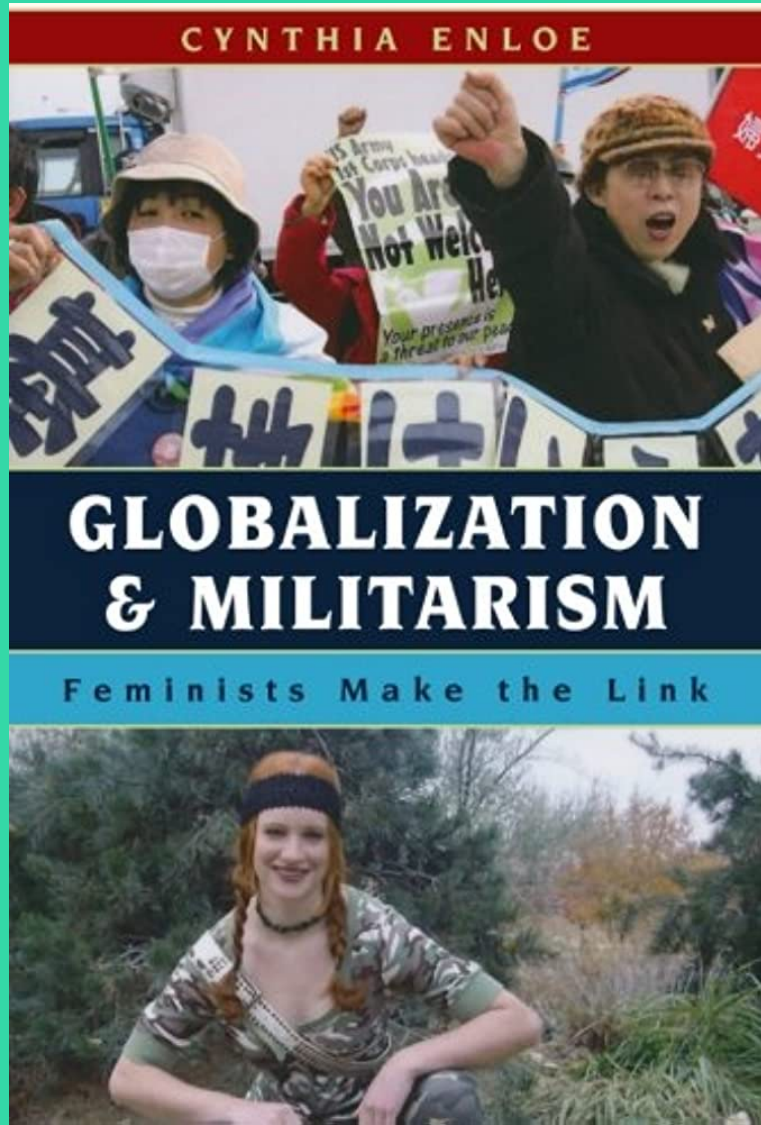
"the military normal" (Catherine Lutz)

Especially when they are explicitly kept separated by categories! (e.g. the opening scene of Tahir's article)

- War/out there --- policing/inside, here

- Overwhelming violence ok –- violence must be regulated, within sanctioned bounds

The discourses, structures, actors, and categories that make up security regimes (including state and non-state) are socially produced & located
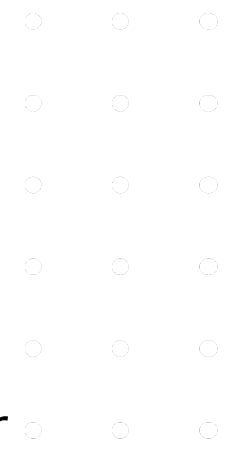
How do policing, security & militarism connect?

WHAT DOES A FEMINIST APPROACH TO SECURITY & POLICING MEAN?
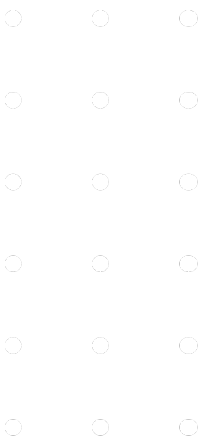
(And why does it matter?)

- Feminist perspective NOT EQUAL to women

- Feminist perspective is to focus on gender as relations of power

- To center questions of inequality and social justice which are always intersectional

- To look at the links between ideas of control, safety, and security and norms around masculinity and femininity

What does a feminist approach to policing & security mean

1. Entry point into understanding vulnerability of different kinds

2. Interrogate stories that are often told using simplistic binaries of ==victim/perpetrator==; victim/empowered; local/global; safety/danger

3. Connect beyond national frames

4. Imagine collective action!

Why is a feminist approach useful/valuable?

"Contemporary police order" (Tahir, p 410) –- age of the Global War on Terror

1. LAPD + aerial patrol at US-Mexico border
-- share in technologies
-- comparing domestic policing with war abroad makes everyday violence seem less remarkable & spectacular

2. Bugis crossing the Indonesia-Malaysia borderlands
-- policing >> militarism at borders/ for border security
-- policing as boundary work to detect the *real* threat

How to connect policing, security & militarism?

"drawing studied connections between disparate sites"

-- builds grounds for solidarity

-- makes visible the transnational interconnections

-- critically examines the categorical separations (war/policing; national/global; here/there; war/peace; past/present) that do not reflect contemporary realities

Why connect policing, security & militarism?

Rational actors/thinking vs emotional talk

"This conventional gender package has made a certain kind of masculinity the entry ticket into national security discussion."

-- this extends from government/formal politics, to experts, and spaces of knowledge (e.g. university)

Can we engage "national security" in a soci/anth classroom?!

WEEK 9, 10, 11 –

- SECURITY, CITIZENSHIP & MASCULINITY
- GEOPOLITICS AND GENDERED LABOR
- SECURITY EMOTIONS

WEEK 12– THE BATTLEGROUND HAS SHIFTED – TECH, SECURITY, STAKES

– DIGITAL ENCLOSURES

10 MIN BREAK

DISCUSSION LEAD

https://watson.brown.edu/costsofwar/

COSTS OF WAR