

Race, Surveillance and Empire reading assignment.

### **Direct violence**

“Following the so-called Tompkins Square Riot of 1874—actually a demonstration in New York against unemployment that was attacked by the police” Page 10

This is an example of direct violence because it is describing a police attack on a demonstration in New York.

“In practice this meant that white men, for instance, could rape Black women and not be charged with a crime (because Blacks were property and so only “damages” were to be paid to the slave owner)” Page 7

This is an example of direct violence because it is showing how white people were allowed to commit direct violence against African Americans because they were considered property.

### **The legal system**

“Over the following three decades, the Virginia Assembly passed a series of acts that racialized workers as Black and white.” Page 7

This is an example of the legal system being used to exploit people because it is describing how the state of Virginia codified race and put people into categories with different rights.

“The Intercept, which revealed that under the Obama administration the number of people on the National Counterterrorism Center’s no-fly list had increased tenfold to 47,000” Page 2

This quote is describing how people were placed on a secret no fly list that limits their access to flying, this legal system was used to repress targeted people like Arab Americans.

### **Employment deprivation**

“Congress first sought to police borders as part of a strategy of regulating labor in 1882, when it excluded Chinese immigrants. In 1909, US immigration officials began excluding around half of all Asian Indians from entering” Page 9

This quote is describing the start of US immigration policy and how it was focused on reducing Chinese immigration to protect employment for white people.

“Criminal records databases, which are easily accessible to potential employers, now hold files on around one-third of the adult male population.” Page 19

This quote is describing how the US has made information public for employers that can be used to deny people positions.

### **Conspicuous surveillance**

“By 1900, a number of police departments in the United States had created “red squads” specifically to deploy informants to left-wing organizations and meetings.” Page 10

This quote is describing how members of US law enforcement would attend meetings for political organizations, this presence would have ultimately been known and would intimidate members of the group.

“Latinos and Blacks who suffer from hugely disproportionate rates of stop and frisk.” Page 25.

This quote is describing the “Stop and frisk” program which was used by police to antagonize and ultimately intimidate members of the community, usually African Americans.

### **Covert surveillance**

“Surveillance that defined and demarcated according to officially constructed racial typologies enabled the colonial state to sort “tribes” Page 5

This is describing how colonialists would covertly gather information on Indian tribes for the purpose of categorization.

“Snowden material provided a detailed account of the massive extent of NSA’s warrantless data collection. What became clear was that the NSA was involved in the mass collection of online material.” Page 1

This is describing how Edward Snowden released information that revealed the US government has been collection massive amounts of information from people online.

### **Deception**

“A key part of the FBI’s countersubversion strategy was the manipulation of political activists into committing criminal acts so that they could be arrested and prosecuted.” Page 15

This quote is describing how the FBI would deceive political activists into committing crimes so they could be arrested.

“In various cities, the FBI and local police used fake letters and informants to stir up violence between rival factions and gangs to disrupt the Black Panther Party.” Page 15

This is an example of deception because it is describing how the FBI would attempt to incite the black panther party members into committing crimes and being arrested.

## **Mass media influence**

“The techniques of compiling dossiers on dissidents’ private lives, spreading disinformation in the media, and planting agents provocateurs among militants were applied to combating radical nationalist groupings in Manila.” Page 11.

This is an example of mass media influence because it is describing how the US forces in Manila would publish or release certain private information in order to hurt individuals.

“In a bid to shape public opinion, the FBI also launched a mass media campaign in 1946 that released “educational materials” to cooperative journalists and legislators.” Page 14

This is an example of mass media influence because it is describing how the FBI engaged in a media campaign where it distributed “educational materials” to journalists.