Resistance to crime

Storied Selves in ‘not doing crime’

European Society of Criminology (ESC)
Prague 10 – 13 september 2014

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The next 15 minutes you will …

- Inspiration
- Data collection and data analysis;
- Themes & storyline in lifestories of resisters (preliminary findings)

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(May 2012 – June 2012)
Literature + preparation pilotstudy

(July 2012 – July 2013)
Data collection & data analysis

(Jan 2014 – July 2014)
Preliminary findings

(Sept 2014 – Jun 2015)
Data collection & data Analysis

End: oktober 2016
Writing proces
Why this research?

1. Relative under-representation of narrative lifestory research within criminology

2. Focus on: persons engaged in crime or those who stopped a career in crime.

‘Criminologist should not only be focussed on the question why do people commit crime, but also on the question why people do NOT commit crime’

(Birkbeck & Lafree, 2993)
Central question (pilotstudy)

“Many persons within the so-called causal categories do not commit crime.”
(Katz, 1988)

“Unmarked ground”
‘Marked ground’ (Mullaney, 2006)

Which themes and what storyline(s) dominate lifestories of resisters regarding resistance to crime?

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Method – General

Narrative lifestory research

“A persons identity is not found in behaviour, nor- important though this is – in the reactions of others, but in the capacity to keep a particular narrative going.” (Giddens, 1991:54).

‘Storied identities’
(Presser, 2010:433)
Data-collection

- Seven participants
- Two personality tests
- Two Interviews, 1 - 2.5 hours
  - Introduction
  - Lifestory interview inspired by McAdams (1996)
- + life-line
- Memo’s
- Taped & Verbatim transcripted
Example - Life line

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Data Analysis

- **Thematic Analysis** (GT inductive > deductive)

- **Storyline Analysis** (Murray & Sools, 2014)

Burke’s Pentad
- (Introduction + case Title)
  1. Five elements + breach, narrative summary
  2. Interactional analysis
  3. Moral, wider context
- (Comparative analysis)
“Sometimes it literally was told that I was some kind of... Torchbearer of the family you know... Like: you are one of the smarter ones, you came a long way, so now you must continue on the road to succes...” (Michael)
Storyline Analysis: Preliminary conclusions (phase 1)

- Storied self is a redemptive one: ‘My past is my future’

- Progressive lifestory; the best is yet to come...

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Storyline Analysis: Preliminary conclusions (phase 2)

Interaction ‘confessional’

“When I was driving home that evening I kept thinking. “Wow, I actually am talking to someone about it! [lauging]... I noticed I felt some kind of...liberation, I mean you know more about me than my girlfriend does!”

Resisters’ storied selves are secret stories

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Storyline Analysis: Preliminary conclusions (phase 3)

‘Masternarrative’ – Counternarrative
(Bamberg, 2004)

- Proces level?? NOT telling (M) / Telling (C)
- Criminogenic Context (M) / Resister (C)
- Society (M) / Criminogenic context (C)
So... (I hope you) ...

- Know which two things inspired me to conduct this research;

- Are aware of the way I conducted this research regarding data-collection and data-analysis;

- Have some substantiated knowledge of (a part of) the preliminary conclusions related to life stories of resisters.
Thank you!

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Reference list


Avans Centre for Public Safety and Criminal Justice

Websites:
http://culverteacher.blogspot.nl/2012/06/burkes-pentad.html
http://icejewlz.wordpress.com/2011/05/09/reflective-easy/