

GENDER, RACE, VIOLENCE

PO3A7: Term 1, Seminar
Week 10

Saadia Gardezi

Browse the American Civil Liberties Union's (ACLU) report on the militarisation of US police forces, *War Comes Home*.

- What does the report tell us about race, militarism and violence in the contemporary US?
 - How can the violences documented in this report be understood as part of global politics?
-

- How should drug use be policed?
 - Structural violence - structural racism
 - US police forces is not worth questioning: Organised police forces are not a ‘natural fact’
 - “The earlier War on Drugs criminalized drug use for Black and Latino communities while the current opioid epidemic policy has veered dramatically toward a public health approach to the problem.”
-

- Speaking of heroin....



... Afghanistan and the War on Terror

- Having leveraged the drug trade to fund their insurgency for decades, in 2021 the Taliban outlawed the harvesting of ephedra, which grows wild in the mountains and from which ephedrine, a meth precursor, can be extracted, and the following April abruptly banned opium cultivation and production. This move blindsided many farmers in Afghanistan's poppy-growing heartlands.

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2023/02/01/taliban-afghanistan-drugs-war-ban-heroin-ephedra-economy/>

Obviously, the US ins involved somehow right?

- "Operation Mosquito was a simple-sounding subversive plan to combat the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan in 1980. The CIA was to pick up narcotic drugs seized in the US and supply it on the sly to Russian soldiers. Thanks to US backing the ragtag mujahideen eventually metamorphosed into a well-knit force fully-equipped with modern weapons, with complete control of the drug trade."

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2003/4/24/war-with-drugs>

- When the warring factions in Afghanistan stopped receiving military and financial aid mainly from the Russians and Americans after the Russians withdrew in the late 1980s, control of trade became very important. This included the drug economy, which expanded massively from the early 1990s.
-

hooks: Not patriarchy that is central to militarism, but **imperialism**

- How?
-

- Fundamental to these understandings are ideas about ***racialised gender and sexuality*** – “in particular, the Orientalist idea that the Muslim world constitutes a site of particular sexual excess and simultaneously, extreme sexual repression, particularly of women” (R-M, p. 97)
-

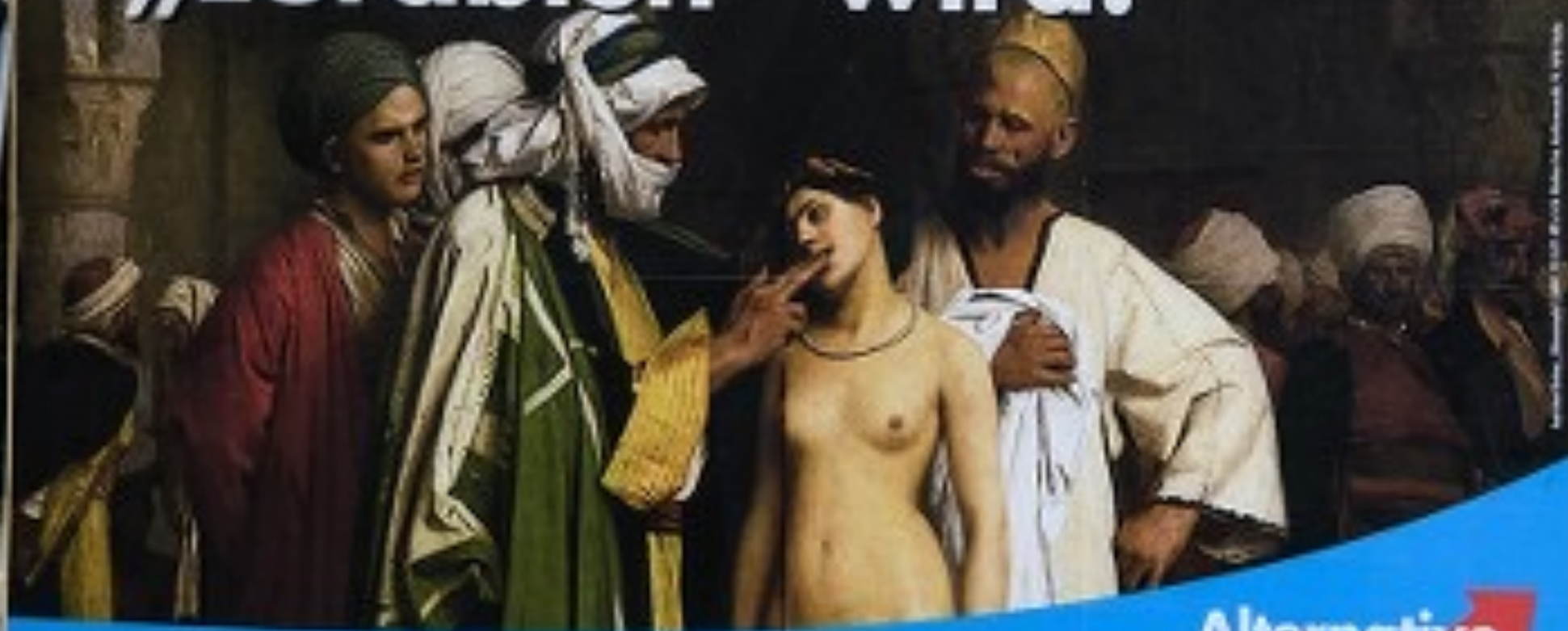




“The Snake Charmer” 1879 and “The Slave Market” 1866, Jean-Léon Gerome

Dieses Bild ist Teil der AfD-Serie: „Aus Europas Geschichte lernen“.

Damit aus Europa kein „Eurabien“ wird!



Europäer wählen AfD!

Alternative
für
Deutschland



Landesverband Berlin

- When race is taken seriously as a relation of power, what effect does this have on where we understand war and violence to be taking place?
-