

# Surveillance as Social Sorting

A Sociology of Personal Data  
Processing

# Introduction: ‘terrorist’ transactions

- The 9/11 data trail
- The big picture of convergence
- What different systems have in common:  
searchable databases for social sorting
- 9/11 reinforces convergence and sorting

# The Surveillance Story

- The C15th English information state
- Administrative ‘tab’-keeping in the C20th
- Computerization as bureaucratic support
- Networked and integrated surveillance

# Codes and Categories

- From specific to general surveillance
- Clusters and profiles
- Algorithmic surveillance
- ‘Trusted travellers’ and ‘watch lists’
- Customer Relationship Management and ‘flying while Arab’

# Apparatus and Assemblage

- Governance in the C21st: late modernity
- Societies of control
- Societies of exclusion
- Goodbye to Big Brother?
- Intensified convergence after 9/11

# Intrusion and Exclusion

- C20th ‘privacy’ perspectives
- The search for fresh approaches
- Surveillance is still ambiguous: care and control
- Surveillance is a socio-technical system
- Surveillance is part of wider trends

# Coda: Ethics and Politics

- Disappearing bodies
- Data-doubles
- Real-life chances and choices
- The limits of technical solutions
- Ethical dilemmas and information politics