

Unit 2 Topic 2.3 Page 115

Activity: Media Foucault

Learning objective

At the end of this activity you should be able to:

- explain the principle behind Panopticon and its impact.

Using the link below, answer the questions that follow.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AHRPzp09Kqc>

1. In your own words, briefly describe Bentham's Panopticon.
2. What was the consequence of the Panopticon for the prisoners?
3. What is the advantage of the Panopticon for the guards?
4. What are the four principles of the Panopticon? Try to explain each one.
5. How does the Panopticon expand the power of the guards?
6. Do you think you went to a panoptic school? Give reasons for your answer.
7. What do you think would be the key features of a panoptic country?
8. What did Edward Snowden discover about a range of governments?
9. Why are six British journalists suing the Metropolitan Police?
10. What was being recorded about the journalists?
11. Why do the police ask for your name and address if they stop you?
12. According to Foucault, what does surveillance do?
13. How might 'stop and search' link to the Panopticon?
14. What proportion of stop and searches result in an arrest? Who is more likely to be stopped and searched?
15. What does Foucault's work tell us about surveillance?
16. Why is surveillance never politically neutral?
17. As suggested in the clip, try to think of ways we could dismantle panoptic structures and replace them with alternative strategies.