

The Surveillance State



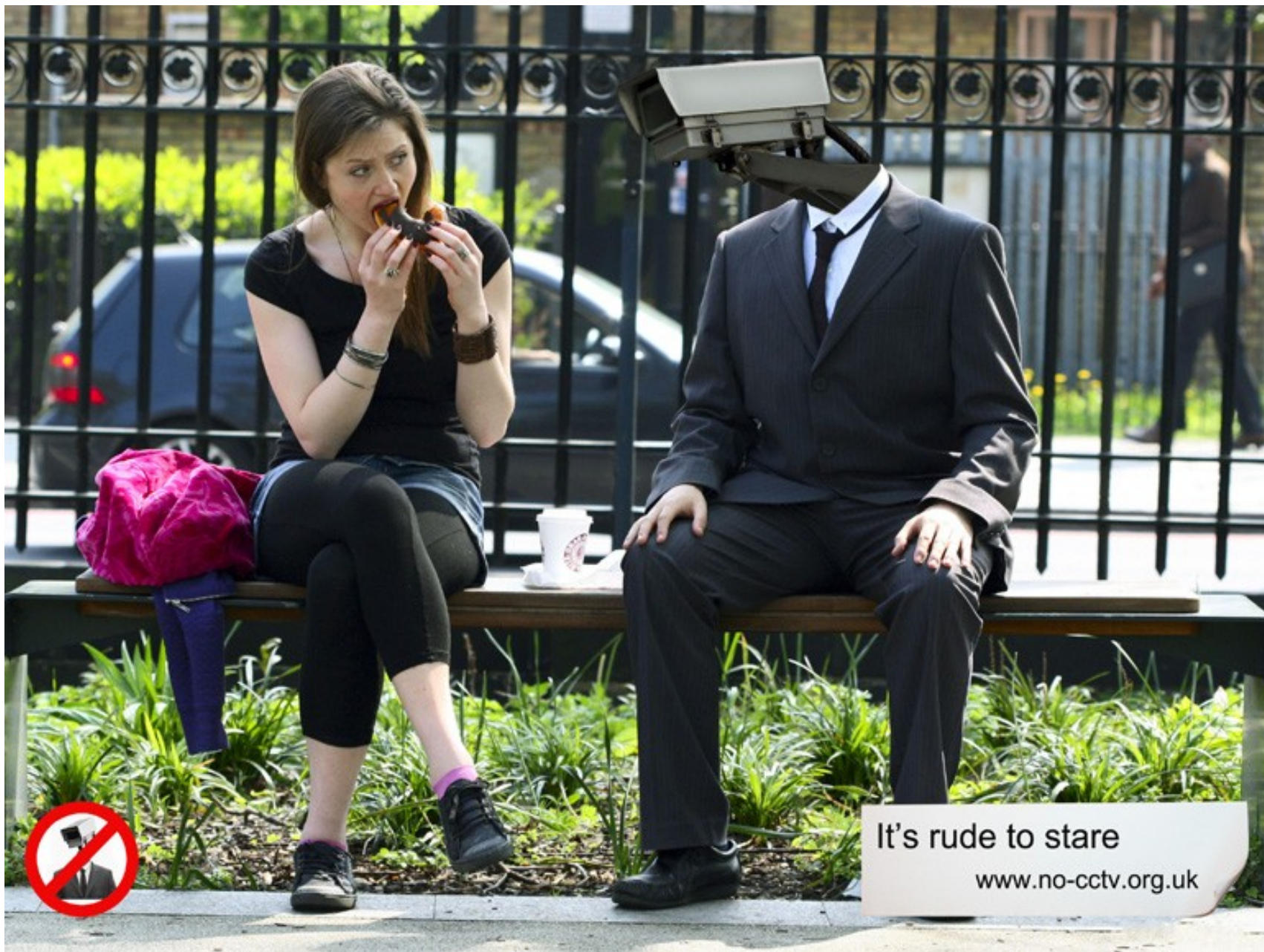
NO CCTV

Disclaimer

This is an unashamedly one sided presentation.

The case in favour of CCTV is constantly given air time

If you feel the need to hear the “other” side please simply replay the well worn arguments QUIETLY in your internal monologue



It's rude to stare

www.no-cctv.org.uk

CCTV numbers

- **4.2m** Cameras in UK (estimated)
- **1** – UK's position in global league table for ratio of cameras to people
- **14** – number of people for each camera
- **>75%** of total Home Office spending crime prevention in 2nd half of 1990s
- **£500m** total spent on CCTV in 10 yrs (1996-2006)
- **300** times/day person may be viewed on CCTV
- **20%** of world's cameras in the UK
- **1%** of world's population in the UK

[Data correct March 2007]

CCTV numbers

- *only 2.4% of the British public has a criminal record*
- *0.6% of Britons have received a custodial sentence for committing a criminal offence*

[Source "The truth about the 'surveillance society'" Brendan O'Neill , Spiked Magazine, 8th May 2008]

What is wrong with CCTV?

- In the UK privacy is embodied by the system of common law – in which you are free to do anything as long as it is not specifically legislated against
- Privacy goes hand in hand with anonymity

What is wrong with CCTV?

- threatens
 - the right to protest
 - right to free speech
 - right to be left alone
- increases fear
- undermines trust
- undermines community

Nothing to hide?

- The constant retort:
 - ***If you've done nothing wrong/got nothing to hide then you have nothing to fear***
- suggests that law abiding citizens do not need/deserve their right to privacy
- surely law abiding citizens deserve privacy the most!



Source: Home Office Research Study 251 / 'To CCTV or not to CCTV?', *National Association for the Care and Resettlement of offenders (NACRO)*

Home Office Police Research Group , 1992

- *“public acceptance is based on **limited, and partly inaccurate knowledge** of the functions and capabilities of CCTV”*
- *“respondents referred to television programmes such as ‘**CrimeWatch**’ as a **source of their information about CCTV.**”*

[‘Closed Circuit Television in public places: its acceptability and perceived effectiveness’]

University of Wales Violence Research Group, 1999

- ***"This study provides no evidence of a deterrent effect."***

[Effect of closed circuit television on urban violence (Violence Research Group, University of Wales College of Medicine, Cardiff) 1999]

Local Government Studies, 1999

- “***CCTV may actually undermine the natural surveillance*** in towns and communities . . . the result may be a further spiral of social fragmentation and atomization, ***which leads to more alienation and even more crime.***”

[‘Towns on Television: Closed Circuit TV Systems in British Towns and Cities’]

Home Office Research Study 252

Crime prevention effects of closed circuit television: a systematic review

Brandon C. Welsh and David P. Farrington

The views expressed in this report are those of the authors, not necessarily those of the Home Office (nor do they reflect Government policy).

Home Office Research, Development and Statistics Directorate
August 2002

Home Office Study 252 (2002)

- *“It was found that CCTV had no effect on violent crimes (from five studies)”*

Cambridge evaluation, 2007

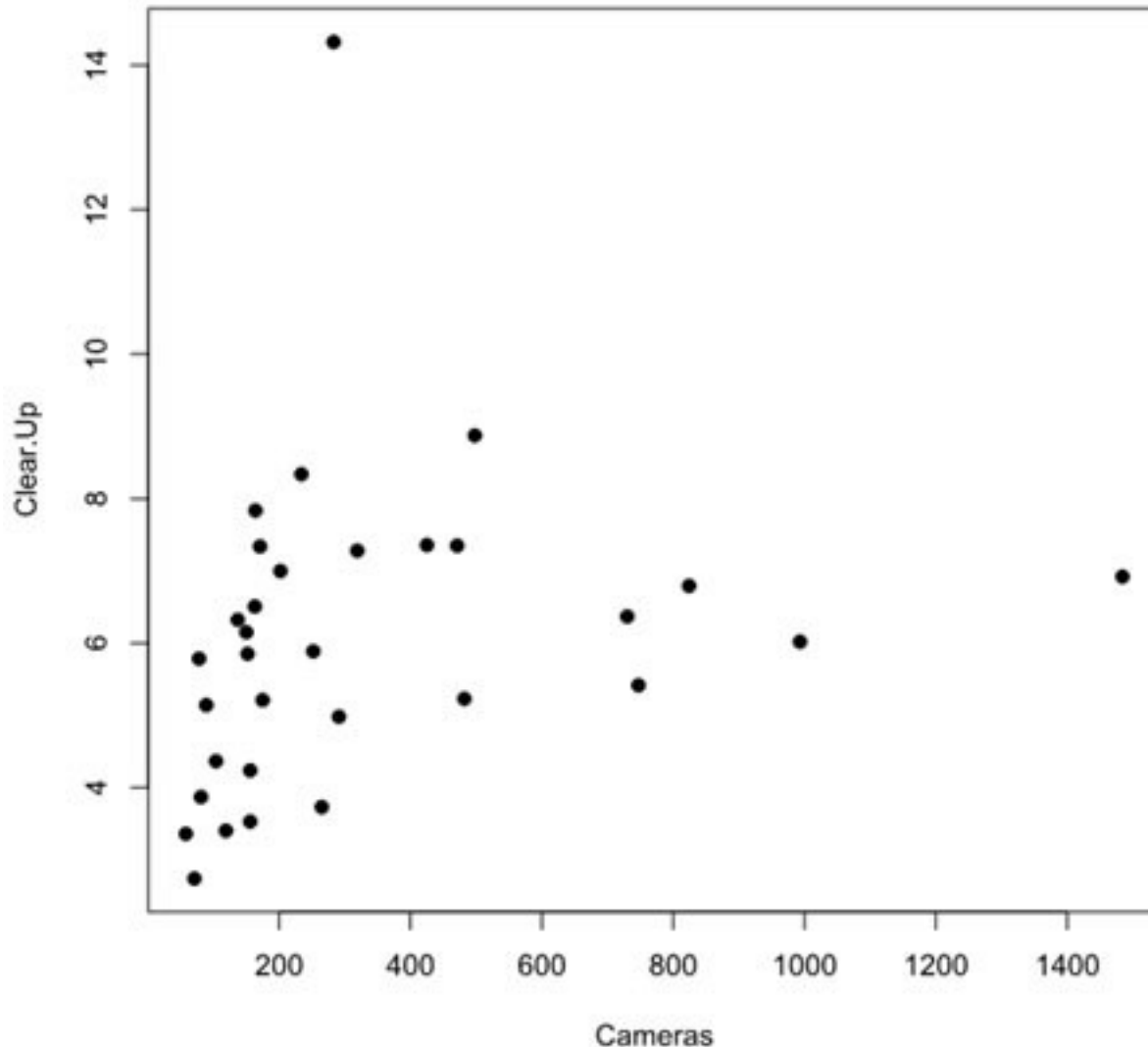
- “the Cambridge evaluation is consistent with prior research in showing ***no significant desirable effect of CCTV on crime in city centres.***”

[The Cambridge evaluation of the effects of CCTV on crime]

London Assembly, 2007

- September 2007 members of the Greater London Assembly produced *a breakdown by London Borough of the number of CCTV cameras together with details crime clear up rates*

Number of cameras vs clear up rate



there is no correlation between CCTV and crime clear-up rate

4 out of 5 of boroughs with most cameras have below average record of solving crime

Part funded
by National
Policing
Improvement
Agency

Campbell Systematic Reviews
2008:17
First published: 2 December, 2008
Last updated: 2 December, 2008

Effects of Closed Circuit Television Surveillance on Crime

Brandon C. Welsh, David P. Farrington



THE CAMPBELL COLLABORATION

2008
Campbell Collaboration
Update to 2002 Study

41 CCTV evaluations in
four main settings: city
and town centres; public
housing; public transport;
and car parks

Campbell Collaboration 2008

- *“the evaluations of CCTV schemes in city and town centres and public housing [...] as well as those focused on public transport, **did not have a significant effect on crime.**”*

Oxford Policing Policy Forum, 2008

- ***“Britain is in danger of becoming a society where everyone is effectively 'on parole'”***

'Too much surveillance?', Oxford Policing Policy Forum, All Souls College Oxford

Home Office Study 292, 2005

- “It would be ***easy to conclude*** from the information presented in this report that ***CCTV is not effective***: the majority of the schemes evaluated ***did not reduce crime*** and ***even where there was a reduction*** this was mostly ***not due to CCTV***; nor did CCTV schemes make people feel safer, much less change their behaviour.

”

...

Home Office Study 292, 2005

- “It would be easy to conclude from the information presented in this report that CCTV is not effective: the majority of the schemes evaluated did not reduce crime and even where there was a reduction this was mostly not due to CCTV; nor did CCTV schemes make people feel safer, much less change their behaviour. ***That, however, would be too simplistic a conclusion ...***”

Sexing up CCTV?

- In June 2008 Prime Minister Gordon Brown gave a speech to the Institute of Public Policy Research (IPPR) about 'Security and Liberty':

“In central Newcastle, after CCTV was installed, burglaries fell by 56 per cent, criminal damage by 34 per cent, and theft by 11 per cent.”

Home Office Study 252 (2002)

- Home Office study showed that CCTV an “undesirable effect” in Newcastle
 - Total crime fell by **21.6%** in the area with cameras but by **29.7%** in the area where there were no cameras
- Not a single journalist reported these figures !

Local Media sexing up CCTV

- Oxford Mail 19/4/09 'Cowley Road crime falls under CCTV's gaze'
 - *"Figures obtained by the Oxford Mail under the Freedom of Information Act showed there were 150 crimes on Cowley Road in the first two months of operation. that was a drop from 166 over the same time last year"*
- *We got FOI data and found some crimes went up, including:*

Oxford Crimes that went up

- *Possession of firearms,*
- *Racially aggravated criminal damage to a vehicle*
- *Theft from a vehicle*
- *Theft or unauthorised taking of a bicycle*
- *Shoplifting*
- *Affray*
- *Administering a substance with intent*

Voices in local media

Jan Bartlett, owner of Premier Letting Agency, said:
*“The results are better than we could have imagined. Our area is **now safer for my staff and all members of the public,** including the tots using the Manzil Gardens play area, where the fall in used needles and condoms, as well as the **improved crime statistics,** has **improved the quality of life.**”*



NATIONAL CCTV STRATEGY

OCTOBER 2007

GRAEME GERRARD
GARRY PARKINS
IAN CUNNINGHAM
WAYNE JONES
SAMANTHA HILL
SARAH DOUGLAS

National CCTV Strategy
Published October 2007

National CCTV Strategy

*"Anecdotal evidence suggests that **over 80% of the CCTV footage supplied to the police is far from ideal**, especially if it is being used for primary identification or identities are unknown and identification is being sought, for instance, by media release."*

National CCTV Strategy

NATIONAL CCTV STRATEGY

39	R9.4	Use National Threat Assessments and develop other tools and initiatives to increase the effectiveness of CCTV in managing and reducing the threat of serious, organised crime and terrorism.
40	R9.6	Promote the use of the National Intelligence Model and establish other tools and practices to improve the responsiveness of CCTV to changes in local crime and local priorities.
CHAPTER 10 – PARTNERSHIP WORKING		
41	R10.5	Primacy in relation to CCTV should be determined at a local level by the CDRP, taking into account the strategic guidance provided by the strategy and the National Strategic Board.
CHAPTER 11 – MANAGEMENT, FINANCIAL, RESOURCE		
42	R11.2	Create an effective funding stream for public space CCTV.
43	R11.3	Develop national key performance indicators relating to the use of public space CCTV across all associated agencies.
44	R11.4	Promote CCTV and its expansion by forming evidence based business cases.

Why admit CCTV doesn't work?

- Why would police admit that CCTV does not work?
- Time to upgrade the CCTV network!
 - > convince public CCTV works
 - > install systems
 - > admit it doesn't work
 - > upgrade systems promising it'll work this time
 - > repeat ad infinitum

National Strategy – Networked cameras

- *"Consideration should also be given to the police [...] **having limited and prescribed network access to smaller CCTV systems**"*

National Strategy – integrated CCTV

- ***Town centre cameras connected to ANPR systems[...] Transport system cameras to travel cards"***

National Strategy - panacea

- ***"the search continues for the panacea of CCTV; systems capable of Automated Picture Analysis, Person Identification, and Behavioural Analysis."***

Existing CCTV projects

- **ADABTS** Project - “Automatic Detection of Abnormal Behaviour and Threats in crowded Spaces”
 - *is seeking to develop models of "suspicious behaviour" so these can be automatically detected using CCTV and other surveillance methods.*

Existing CCTV projects

- **SAMURAI** project - **S**uspicious and **A**bnormal behaviour **M**onitoring **U**sing a netwo**R**k of c**A**meras for s**I**tuation awareness enhancement
 - *seeks to: “Develop an abnormal behaviour detection system based on a heterogeneous sensor network consisting of both fix-positioned CCTV cameras and mobile wearable cameras with audio and positioning sensors.”*

ANPR Strategy



**ANPR STRATEGY FOR THE POLICE SERVICE -
2007/2010**

ANPR Strategy

MILESTONES

A number of key milestones have been identified within constituent projects for ANPR with an intention that these will support the embedding of ANPR into core police business by March 2010, these include:

- Publication of revised National ACPO ANPR Standards (NAAS) – January 2008
- National Rollout of Back Office Facility (BOF) II version 2.2 – March 2008
- National Rollout of the National ANPR Data Centre connectivity (NADC) – March 2008
- National Rollout of Back Office Facility (BOF) II version 2.3 – March 2009
- ANPR embedded into core police business – March 2010



**Nothing
to hide ... ?**

www.no-cctv.org.uk

Nothing to fear ?

*If you keep within the law,
and the government keeps within the law,
and its employees keep within the law,
and the computer holding the database
doesn't screw up,
and the system is carefully designed
according to well-understood software
engineering principles
and maintained properly,*

Nothing to fear ?

***and** the government doesn't scrimp on the outlay*

***and** all the data are entered carefully*

***and** the police are adequately trained to use the system*

***and** the system isn't hacked into,*

***and** your identity isn't stolen,*

***and** the local hardware functions,*

well, you have nothing to fear

But there's nothing we can do about it. Is there?



Who watches the watchers?

www.no-cctv.org.uk



Decisions are made at local level

- CCTV cameras are primarily introduced by local councils
- Attend local council meetings
- Lobby councillors
 - Ask them to prove the need for CCTV
 - The Home Office, the Information Commissioner's Office, The Royal Society of Engineers and others have said that CCTV should only be installed where there is a proven need

Crime and disorder partnerships

- set up under Crime and Disorder Act 1998
- given the responsibility to generate crime control strategies in their particular locations
- names like Safer[Insert name of town]
- like PubWatch and other quangos - shadowy coalitions of bodies that allow policy laundering by local authorities and police
- R10.5 National CCTV Strategy

Decisions are made at local level

- Join Neighbourhood Action Groups – often linked to Crime and disorder partnerships
- Use Freedom of Information Act and Local Government Act to obtain information

Licensing

- Local licensing committees now a front line in the fight for civil liberties
- Licensing Act 2003 being used as a way of removing freedoms for alcohol!
- Police will often contest a license / license variation UNLESS certain criteria are met
- Attend licensing committees ask the committee to tell you why freedoms are being traded for booze!

Local media / national media

- Write to media
- London pub landlord Nick Gibson went to media when police required CCTV as licensing condition – council backed down
- Be careful
 - the media love cctv
 - CCTV is good copy for papers / tv

Local Police

- Ask for detailed crime data
 - beat codes used to record crime location
 - new police crime maps not detailed enough
- Find out about other interventions
- Look for trends in data

What if we do nothing?

- *“We shall find, in ten or twenty years time, that serious crime has risen yet further, terrorism will be more strongly embedded and law enforcement agencies will still be failing in their intelligence and ability to prevent such activities. Yet we, as decent citizens, **will have sacrificed completely our rights to privacy and anonymity.** This is a very serious matter.”*

(‘Biometrics and privacy: A sacrifice worth making?’, Julian Ashbourn, ‘Biometrics’ Times supplement, 31st July 2006)

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