

De la teoría del Bentham al
"pseudopanóptico": Un
modelo de análisis
psicohistórico desde el fracaso
de la reforma penitenciaria
española del siglo XIX al
"panóptico digital"del siglo
XXI [

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text (article)

Analítica

Michel Foucault made the Benthamian panoptism cornerstone of his criticism of the modern technology of punishment allegedly "humanitarian" and "rehabilitator" as defended by the Enlightenment, whose maximum expression was manifested as "constant reform of prisons", is no less true that the panoptic model of Jeremy Bentham, whichwas seen as the summitof a modern correctional system, positive, efficient, economically productive, psychologically accurate and morally healthy, actually had a more theoretical than real impact on Western prison systems. The theory of the panopticon ran into all sorts of economic and technical difficulties that made it an imaginative psychosocial experiment without the possibility of real implantation. Thus, the very concept of "panopticon" ended up going from the noun to the adjective, and all the literature built around the "eye that sees everything" was revealed as an intellectual fiction. This work, of psicohistorical research, tries to outline from its introduction in Spain of that technological project that reformed the presidios that was the panopticideology, and how its failure materialized, despite the enthusiasm of its defenders. However, and paradoxically, far from implying this failure a renunciation of the model, it served as an incentive to redirect it towards the reformulation of a genuine "prison theory" -and "the prisoner" - that found articulation in a whole philosophy of the penitentiary reform, the control of the spaces and the treatment of the prisoner that he framed in the juridical changes and in the architectural projects, as well as the very ideal of "re-education"

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