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Surveilling And Securing The Olympics: From Tokyo 1964 To London 2012 And Beyond (Transnational Crime, Crime Control And Security)





Synopsis

This book analyses the relationship between the Olympic Games, with its ethos of openness and collectivism, and the security concerns and surveillance technologies that are becoming increasingly prevalent in the organisation of public events.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“Bajc’s edited collection, *Surveilling and Securing the Olympics*, provides a series of critical insights into the complex relationships between sports organisations, the government and military arms of the state, business interests, the media, spectators and the general public. This text offers much to an under-researched and under-theorised field of research that is rapidly gaining the attention of academics and policymakers alike.” (Neil King, *International Journal of Sport Policy and Politics*, Vol. 8 (4), 2016)

With an uncanny capacity for a transversal analysis of a familiar subject - the competition to get the Olympics - Vida Bajc has produced a volume that keeps surprising us. This is a great read, comic and tragic items included.’ - Saskia Sassen, Robert S. Lynd Professor of Sociology, Columbia University, USA, and author of *Expulsions* ‘*Surveilling and Securing the Olympics* is a creative and ambitious work that leads to surprising and somewhat alarming insights into today’s world system. By selecting key moments in the development of technologies and practices utilized to

secure the world's most complex mega-event, the Olympic Games, this book essentially tells the story of the last half century of world history from a thoroughly novel perspective. The Olympics demand new levels of cooperation between different layers of government, from the local levels of the host city government all the way up to international security coalitions. The most thought-provoking aspect of the argument is that at the core of this development is not the rationality that is claimed in public statements, but a kind of ritual that plays on the human desire to control uncertainty and produce predictability in social behavior. This book makes an important contribution to our understanding of globalization by shedding light on a previously dark corner of the world system.' - Susan Brownell, Professor of Anthropology, University of Missouri-St. Louis, USA

'Starting from what might seem a minor issue - security - [this] book brilliantly uses it as a short-cut to get to the critical heart of the bureaucratic 'behemoth' called the Olympics. The Foucauldian strength of the book is to show how crucial surveillance and monitoring are to a hierarchy-building institution usually presented as ruled by a disembodied 'Olympic spirit', but in fact characterized by the management of three sorts of visibility: the visibility of spectacle, the visibility of surveillance, the visibility of monitoring.' - Daniel Dayan, Marcel Mauss Institute, cole des Hautes tudes en Sciences Sociales, France

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