Social Epistemology:

Profiling, Torture & Knowledge

Both profiling and torture are practices that are given certain discursive justifications, and are incorporated by the state, and by those who have the authority to do so, into the social practices of governmentality. The state of emergency, the "war on terror" and the "war on drugs" are the definitions and the contexts for these practices.

So, lastly, the first question that I want to deal with regard to knowledge is that of knowledge in the context of profiling and torture. Knowledge, in this context, is used to justify and legitimate the practices of profiling and torture. Knowledge, and the production of knowledge, is the justification for the use of the other single biggest weapon in the state's arsenal, the use of force, and the use of force is the definition and the justification of knowledge.

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Presently, I will turn to the question of knowledge in the context of profiling and torture, but I will first be distracted by the question of knowledge in the context of the production of knowledge in the contemporary proliferation of centres of knowledge, and the production of knowledge in the context of ongoing processes of globalization, and the production of knowledge in the interstices of how the "knowledge economy" is being constituted, and how it is being imposed as institutional practice, and how it is being imposed as institutional practice in the "war on terror" and the "war on drugs". That is, the question of knowledge in the context of the "knowledge economy" is a question of knowledge in the context of the "war on terror" and the "war on drugs" and the "war on people" and the "war on the poor" and the "war on the working class" and the "war on the middle class" and the "war on the rich" and the "war on the world" and the "war on the universe" and the "war on the multiverse" and the "war on the metaverse" and the "war on the omniverse" and the "war on the omnimetaverse" and the "war on the omnimetaverse" and the "war on the omnimeta