

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements	vii
Preface	ix
Abbreviations.....	xi
Chapter 1: Introduction	1
1.1. The making of bodies, places and spaces in Observatory	1
1.2. Motivations.....	6
1.3. Chapter outlines	18
Chapter 2: Contextualising crime.....	19
2.1. Theoretical framing	19
2.2. Background and contextualisation.....	21
2.3. Reading crime and vulnerability in South Africa	35
Chapter 3: Inserting the self in the field: How to ‘do’ research on vulnerability and ethnographic methods as ethics.....	39
3.1. Introduction.....	39
3.2. Conclusion: Learning to know and to see	53
Chapter 4: The everyday texture and architecture of fear in the suburb: patrollers and their strategies and accessories of security	55
4.1. Introduction.....	55
4.2. The ONW patrollers	56
4.3. Negotiating fear and idealised notions of local realities	64
4.4. Strategies and accessories of safety and security.....	70
4.5. Conclusion	75

Chapter 5: The Phantom Suspect: Cultivating and embodying suspicion in Observatory	79
5.1. Introduction.....	79
5.2. My first patrol.....	80
5.3. Who are we looking for?	84
5.4. Shades of being ‘suspicious’	87
5.5. On patrol with Christina.....	89
5.6. Conflicting translations of trust and suspicion onto bodies and selves	93
5.7. Conclusion	96

Chapter 6: Dancing with the devil: patrolling as performance.....	99
6.1. Introduction.....	99
6.2. ‘I’m no superman!’	100
6.3. Patrolling with Richard	103
6.4. Playing cat-and-mouse	106
6.5. The performed patroller as technology of self.....	110
6.6. Conclusion	113

Chapter 7: ‘Couch patrolling’ and the virtual embodiment of the Observatory Neighbourhood Watch.....	115
7.1. Introduction.....	115
7.2. Simone, the troublemaker	118
7.3. Faces and spaces of crime	119
7.4. Signifying bodies	120
7.5. Forums of ideological discrepancies	122
7.6. Couch patrolling as distant caring.....	124
7.7. Precarious and comforting qualities of couch-patrolling	127
7.8. Conclusion	132

Chapter 8: Conclusions: Masking vulnerability and other comforts of being a patroller.....	135
Bibliography	145
Appendix.....	151