

# PROPOSITIONS

1. In every narrative, the who, the when and the what are generally less contested, while the how, the why and the underlying experiences are almost always subject to different interpretations. (Thesis)
2. Institutionally and structurally induced through austerity social harm and suffering lead to numerous intra-societal conflicts, often expressed as 'otherism', resulting in exclusionary tendencies and behaviours. (Thesis)
3. The exercise of power in a harmful way consists of violence that in turn leads to an exacerbation of other violent forms, either as a direct response (e.g., anti-institutional violence) or, as an adverse consequence (e.g., interpersonal violence). (Thesis)
4. Different forms of violence communicate and interact at a higher degree than the already existing academic scholarship suggests. The one nourishes and sustains the other, and their interaction is highly communicative rather than co-existing. (Thesis)
5. A suppressed state, unless it successfully recovers a significant degree of its authority, is likely to resort to repression. (Thesis)
6. Among the greatest victims of austerity, is democracy itself.
7. Over-emphasising on the 'liability' of structure, tends to work in benefit of the most powerful instead of the least.
8. Critical criminology should critically reassess the role of the state in the current post-modern condition.
9. The analytical patrimony of crimes of the powerful and crimes of globalisation does not lack in theory, but it does lack in empiricism – especially in the European context.
10. A chronological distance from the 'heat of the moment' is always an asset in studies on crimes of the powerful.
11. For the mountaineers: writing a PhD thesis is like climbing mount Everest. Supposedly an easy 8000er, many people without prior experience have done it, and if you reach the summit you get to take beautiful pictures your family is very proud of. What no one told you though is that you will most probably be stuck at the base camp for much longer than expected; you will end up moving back and forth between camps trying to figure out your way; the fixed ropes set by other teams might not work for you; and by the time you are ready for the final push you realise that you have run out of oxygen. If you make it to the summit, you still get to take beautiful pictures though. And your family is still proud.