

Gramsci and Foucault: Hegemony in the Global Episteme

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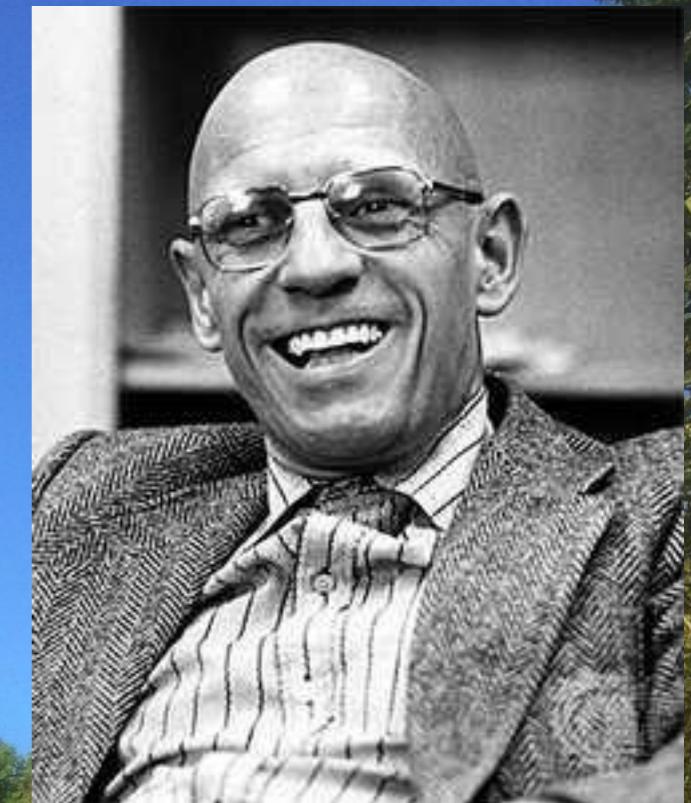


Antonio Gramsci

1891-1937

Italian Marxist
theoretician spent
much time in prison.

Most of what we
know is in
'Prison Notebooks'



Michel Foucault

1926-1984

French
poststructuralist
philosopher and
historian of ideas.
Author of numerous
books and academic
lectures



Hegemony

Force and consent
used by the dominant
to rule more effectively
than with force alone



Power/Knowledge

Power is not located
in those who exercise it
- relations of power are
everywhere, especially
within 'knowledge'



Discipline

Selves constituted by the institutions, languages and practices we grow up with

Culture

Shifting alliances of different social groups vying for hegemony - more than just 'economic necessity'



Dissonance

Gramsci: power over - macropolitics - state and social classes

Foucault: power between - micropolitics - decentred individuals



Consonance

Foucauldian Gramsci: hegemony situated within discursive micropolitics

Gramscian Foucault: resistance is possible through the collective revolution of the self



Hegemony in the Global Episteme

❖ /,ep.ɪ'stɪ:m/

Foucault: the historical *a priori* that grounds knowledge and its discourses and thus represents the condition of their possibility within a particular epoch

- ❖ Gill: transnational historic bloc
- ❖ Hardt & Negri: Empire: (distributed/epistemic) neoliberal ascendancy

Hegemony in the Global Episteme

- ✿ Laclau & Mouffe: hegemony articulates (discursive) social identities
- ✿ Consumerised / financialised / virtualised social identities: a new transnational and distributed hegemonic governmentality
- ✿ Global episteme: hegemony and resistance:
Google, Apple, Facebook, Monsanto, Nestle,
TPP/TTIP
vs
Syriza, Podemos, Sanders and Corbyn.



Leadership

- ✿ Newspaper barons and private education
vs
'Social media' mediated social movements
- ✿ 'Social media' belong to corporate interests
 - a site of resistance where hegemony is fought for at the interpersonal level
 - the collective revolution of the self
- ✿ Arab Spring – leaderless – US:Sanders, Greece:Tsipras UK:Corbyn etc – heads of social movements organised online

Gramsci and Foucault: A Reassessment

Edited by - *David Kreps*

Foreword - *Stephen Gill* - the Post-Modern Prince

Chapters

David Kreps - Introduction - three camps: Gramsci right, Foucault right, or the possibility of some benefit to using both

Alex Demirovic - Truth and power

Ngai-Ling Sum - Discourses of competitiveness

Marcus Schulzke - Power and resistance

Jean-Paul Gagnon - Education and democracy

Sonita Sarker - Subaltern positions without identity: Dalit and indigenous US

Jelle Verserien & Brecht de Smet - Religion, modernity, Catholic and Shia

Efe Gurcan & Onur Bakiner - Latin American revolutionary politics

Heather Brunkell-Evans - Western child psychology in post-invasion Iraq

David Kreps - Complexity theory: can hegemony emerge from micro politics?

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<http://bit.ly/gramscifoucault>