Lighting the Touch Paper

The transmission of violence from Tottenham to the UK

Jason Featherstone

The Contagion of Violence
Setting the stage for Transmission

- MP Expenses scandal £96 million -389
- Public Sector Cuts £6.2 billion
- Deaths in police custody – 1430 since 1990
- EMA
- Tax evasion of the Corporates
- Unemployment
Tottenham – The Index Case

- Cynthia Jarrett
- Joy Gardner
- Roger Sylvestor
- Youth Provisions
- Unemployment
- Deprivation
Mark Duggan killed 4th August 2011

- Incorrect reports of a shootout
- Rumours of execution style killing circulate
6\textsuperscript{th} August

- Duggan family and friends march to Tottenham police station
Lighting the Touch paper
Blackberry Messenger

- Troopz

Sent one minute ago

Everyone in edmonton enfield wood green everywhere in north link up at enfield town station at 4 o clock sharp!!! Start leaving ur yards n linking up 💥💥💥💥. Fuck da fedz, bring your ballys and your bags trollys, cars vans, hammers the lot!!

Press R to reply
Never one to be left behind...

Want to organise a riot?

There's an app for that.
The Transmission

• 24 hour Television footage
• Headlined all major newspapers
• Constant broadcast of rioting, burning buildings, looting
• Blackberry Messenger Broadcasts
• Twitter
The Role of Social Media in Transmission
Riots and disorder spread across England

- **Saturday 6 Aug**: Tottenham, Tottenham Hale, Wood Green
- **Sunday 7 Aug**: Chingford Mount, Enfield, Islington, Oxford Circus, Ponders End, Walthamstow
- **Monday 8 Aug**: Bethnal Green, Bromley, Camden, Clapham, Croydon, Ealing, East Ham, Hackney, Lewisham, Peckham, Stratford, Woolwich
- **Tuesday 9 Aug**: Birmingham, West Bromwich, Manchester, Salford, Leicester, Clapham, Wolverhampton
- **Thursday**: Mark Duggan shot dead at Ferry Lane, Tottenham
- **Enfield**: 7 Aug
- **Hackney**: 7 Aug
- **Brixton**: 7 Aug
- **Croydon**: 8 Aug

Map showing locations affected by riots and disorder.
Spread of Violence: UK/London Riots
August 4, 2011
Spread of Violence: UK/London Riots
August 4-6, 2011
Spread of Violence: UK/London Riots
August 4-7, 2011
Spread of Violence: UK/London Riots
August 4-8, 2011
Spread of Violence: UK/London Riots
August 4-9, 2011
Spread of Violence: UK/London Riots
August 4-10, 2011
Spread of Violence: UK/London Riots

August 4-11, 2011
Spread of Violence: UK Riots

August 4, 2011
Spread of Violence: UK Riots

August 4-6, 2011
Spread of Violence: UK Riots

August 4-7, 2011
Spread of Violence: UK Riots

August 4-8, 2011
Spread of Violence: UK Riots
August 4-9, 2011
Spread of Violence: UK Riots
August 4-10, 2011
Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)
The Rioter’s POV and the role of gangs
Figures

- 15,000 people rioted
- 5 fatalities
- 5,000 crimes
- 1,860 arson/criminal damage
- 1,649 Burglaries
- 366 violence against the person
- Total cost £400,000,000 est.
Moving Forward

• London Citizen recommendations
  – Community and the police
  – Working futures
  – I love Tottenham
  – Tottenham 100

• CeaseFire replication
Language of the Unheard

When you cut facilities, slash jobs, abuse power, discriminate, drive people into deeper poverty and shoot people dead whilst refusing to provide answers or justice, the people will rise up and express their anger and frustration if you refuse to hear their cries.

A riot is the language of the unheard.

Dr Martin Luther King