

**Power Play**  
**Writing assignment #1**  
**Bodine Hekkert, Advertising**  
**Theme: *Borders, Yusser & Franziska***

**Thursday**

In the first class we looked at different ways of recording. We started with watching a “situated testimony” of Forensic Architects and discussed the value of this investigating method. I think it is very interesting that architects and artists can use their skill for a very different purpose than they’ve learned. With the method of Forensic Architects I think the testimony becomes a very real story in which you learn about the whole situation and get drawn more into it.

Then we visited Imperial courts which gives us an inside in the neighborhood and its story through audio, video and photo’s. These methods of recording give us an other inside than when people in the neighborhood were being interviewed. We watch it from their point of view. There’s no prejudice in the filming but just showed as it is which I find a nice way to observe and listen.

At the end we watched a deported woman recording violence by using her own body. For me that made it a very powerful performance. You can hear something and find it bad but it has never the same effect as seeing it. She showed how inhuman the protocols become when you no longer are seen as citizen. How all of a sudden you no longer are viewed as human.

**Friday**

In the second class we read a part of “The decolonial listening” and “Whites, Jews, and us”. The first text explains the challenge of decolonial listening, which means to listen to people outside your own frames and how Modernity maintains the way we view the world, from a white/western perspective.

Whites, Jews and us shows us how the white/western voice is being idolized and how we see ourselves as angels. We have reached modernity and therefore we are worthy, we are valued. We also feel the right to “help” other people in third world countries but only with our own visions. But we need to realize that because we never really listened to their needs we simply don’t know what is best for them.

It really confronts me how big this issue is rooted in our idea of being succesful/a successful world which for me relates to power. This power creates a lot of violence and borders (access to countries, education etc)