Observing the 1980s

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- Ethical and methodological issues - what we did
- Narratives of the ordinary and everyday - what emerged
- the glimpses of Thatcherism
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SOCIETY FAMILY ROYAL
WEDDING MEDIA LIVE
AID THATCHER PEOPLE
FALKLANDS MEMORIES
UNIONS UNEMPLOYMENT
MINERS STRIKE THE CITY
IMAGES VOICES CULTURE
LIFE

4,000+ pages
23 Respondents from the
Mass Observation Project (1981-1990)

90 hours
26 Voices from the
British Library Oral History Collection

1,000 pages
38 Leaflets pamphlets & flyers from the
University of Sussex
Documents Collection

“1984: Thatcher’s Britain”
Moodle Open Educational Resource
(UER)

OBSERVING THE 80s  blogs.sussex.ac.uk/observingthe80s

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soundcloud.com/observing80s
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Prezi
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Time and Place: 1984: Thatcher’s Britain (Observing the 1980s)

Introduction

Lecture 1: Introductions - Thatcher and Thatcherism
Lecture 2: Britain and the world
Seminar 1: Thatcherism and the Eighties
Lecture 3: Britain and War i) The Falklands War
Lecture 4: Britain and War ii) Northern Ireland
Seminar 2: Memoirs and Memories of the Falklands War.
Lecture 5: The Unions
Lecture 6: Unemployment.
Seminar 3: News Media and the Miners Strike
Lecture 7: Immigration, Ethnicity, Riots
Lecture 8: Feminism and Family Values
Seminar 4: Activism and Identity
Lecture 9: Youth and cultures of resistance
Lecture 10: Labour’s Challenge
Seminar 5: Blair and New Labour
Lecture 11: Conclusions - From Thatcher to Blair
Lecture 12 Methodologies
Seminar 6: Sources workshop

Tutor Contact Details
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- Permission
- Accessibility
- Budget/time
- Anonymity
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Buying clothes: For me this is a chore which I put off as long as possible, and in this get one up quickly as possible. I usually go out knowing what I want and get very rapidly. Sometimes I would just get it, certainly not looking into maintenance, like making shirts, or getting on with it. I think this was for women of my age, but I suppose it was what could be called a consideration, probably it was more important for clothes to be functional in my childhood.

I find it difficult enough buying clothes for myself. I don’t need much attention to buy clothes for other people. I would even prefer my wife to take someone else with her when buying her own clothes rather than have her rely on my judgment.

When it comes to colours, I have to stick to always grey, the safe colours, I suppose. I might admit to preferring a white shirt although pastel shades are not the same as white shades. However, on me or any other.

If I will buy all my clothes locally if I can get what I want, but my wife always goes to London if she wants anything special. She also buys a lot of our clothes from a mail-order catalog. I feel I can’t get clothes for yourself. They only have certain sizes and don’t usually come through with my regular size. This is a problem at the shops, because of course.

The most expensive item in my wardrobe is my leather suit, and this was a modest 300. So there I have always bought my shoes, I don’t make such a big purchase. However, this can be part of the accumulation of things, and in the end, I don’t spend much. I do not make any other than non-committal comments three days.

Reading “Household” I find it easy to understand and like the young children with their colours. Often they do not write without the help of my possible consequences, and can be the result of which parents act. I wish the notion of a further have a haven not.
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1) Thatcher + Thatcherism
2) Britain + the world
3) Britain at war
   i) Falklands
   ii) Northern Ireland
4) Miners Strike 1984
5) Employment tech
6) Community, Nation, Race
   i) Riots
7) Family Values
8) Cultures
   i) C28/1185
9) End of a setting
   Back
9. **T.S.B. share launch**

What a hypocrite I am. Off I went with my privilege order form when I am convinced that to sell off the T.S.B. like B.T. and British Ga$ etc. is wrong.

This one really did catch the imagination of Joe Public though and money was there for the making. One acquaintance of mine making £375 on the first day which is helping to pay for his daughter's wedding. As usual the little man was at a disadvantage. How many of us could sell at 9.00 a.m. on that first day even if we wanted to. The post very often doesn't arrive until you have left for work. So once again money going to money.
The Eighties

To me the 80s was the decade of the grandchildren '84, '88, and '89. It was also the decade of redundancy '83 and '86. The first time I thought I would not work again, but I found out that if you are not choosy and prepared to work, there is always a job available. At the moment it seems possible that it is on the cards again. In the 80s I became a capitalist and used some of my unearned rewards to become a home owner. I also bought my first ever brand new car.
As P and her husband leave she gives me her office pools money for the next fortnight as she is on holiday (she is deputy editor of the paper for which I am a sub editor and feature writer) plus a jar of blackcurrant jelly and two plants for the flower garden.

They leave on the ten minute walk home and we hustle Elizabeth upstairs as it is hours past her bedtime. I begin to clear and wash up while my husband goes off to check 'his' kiosk. BT employees can take responsibility for checking a particular phonebox each day as part of the fight against vandalism and to report faults.

He returns in time to help with most of the washing up and putting away and we get to bed ourselves just on midnight.
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