

Abstract

This research paper explores corruption within the South African Police Services, with a focus on non-commissioned police officers working at the Honeydew Police Station. Utilising ethnographic research in observing the spaces in which the police officers worked and conducting interviews with various participants, I was guided towards a specific approach to understanding corruption in the police, one which places class and consumption at the centre of my research. This paper therefore delves into whether class and consumption influences the choices of police officers and any involvement in unlawful activities. By adopting a particular ethnological perspective in the study of corruption, this research paper interrogates often-overlooked aspects of police officers daily lives and experiences which I think are vital in being able to understand corruption in the police.