Abstract

The presentation will contextualise and overview chapter four of my forthcoming book: *Management – A History of Violence – An Essay on the Origins of Management Knowledge*. This chapter draws out the similarities between Taylor and Mayo’s management projects and it seeks to relate these to the modern work situation and modern management. It builds on previous chapters which examine Taylor and Mayo respectively, aiming to show that both were interested in the following areas:

1. The moral and political role of management
2. The misuse of science to claim expertise and objectivity in an attempt to pass off what were political positions and acts as ‘natural’ to capitalism and, as such, to drive at the essence of capitalism which is the increasing ‘scientific’ application of planning to the social relations of production
3. The recasting of worker subjectivities
4. The reshaping of the organization into the form which has dominated the twentieth century
5. The development of new lines of authority within society

The chapter which will be discussed within this presentation suggests that because of these changes, and of labour’s reaction to them, there emerged 1) the mass industrial subject, 2) new forms of relationship between the state, capital and labour encapsulated by fordism and, 3) through this reshaping of social relations, the development of at least some of what we are currently experiencing in the name of what Marazzi calls the ‘Google Model of Production’.

Biography

Gerard Hanlon is located at the School of Business and Management, Queen Mary University of London. His recent work has concentrated on Post-Workerism and the changing nature of work and subjectivity, the shift from a real to a total subsumption of labour to capital, innovation and most recently, entrepreneurship. He is currently writing a book on classic management thought provisionally entitled ‘Management - A History of Violence – An Essay on the Origins of Management Knowledge’.