The Trojans let the Greeks loiter and look what happened.

NO LOITERING

THINKING ABOUT LOITERING....

Janet Owen Driggs
WHAT IS LOITERING?

Moving or acting slowly, stopping for unimportant reasons, and in general **wasting time**.

To loiter is to **linger aimlessly**.

To dally is to loiter indecisively or to delay as if **free from care or responsibility**.

To dawdle is to **saunter**, stopping often, and taking a great deal of time, or to **fritter** away time **working in a halfhearted way**.

To idle is to move slowly and aimlessly, or to spend a great deal of time **doing nothing**.

WHY IS IT ILLEGAL TO LOITER?

1. **Because: the law says** that every person who commits any of the following acts is guilty of disorderly conduct, a misdemeanor:

   “(h) Who **loiters**, prowls, or wanders upon the private property of another, at any time, without visible or lawful business with the owner or occupant. As used in this subdivision, "**loiter"** means to **delay** or **linger** without a lawful purpose for being on the property and for the purpose of committing a crime as opportunity may be discovered.”
   California Penal Code Section 647

2. **Because: “The devil finds work for idle hands”?**

3. **Because: People** who are hanging out, **“doing nothing,” are clearly criminals** and need to be moved on before they have the opportunity to commit a criminal act?

4. **Because: People who** have no “visible or lawful business” – people who are doing different things to “**us,**” – must be penalized, criminalized, and moved on?

5. **Because: Loitering opens up space for reflection.** It’s hard to be reflective, or work for social and political change, when you’re boggled down with trying to make the rent and never have a moment to reflect on life, the universe, and everything?

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While California Penal Code 647 applies to private space, CA law gives businesses the right to have people removed from public space that is adjacent to their private space. The law establishes a requirement to post signs that state "trespassing-loitering forbidden by law". My understanding of these signs is that they are required in many places in order for the police to be able to enforce protection of private property without the invitation of the property owner.
A UCLA study released in September 2007 found that Los Angeles was spending $6 million a year to pay for fifty extra police officers to crack down on crime in the Skid Row area at a time when the city budgeted only $5.7 million for homeless services. Advocates found that during an 11-month period 24 people were arrested 201 times, at an estimated cost of $3.6 million for use of police, the jail system, prosecutors, public defenders and the courts. Advocates asserted that the money could have instead provided supportive housing for 225 people. Many of the citations issued to homeless persons in the Skid Row area were for jaywalking and loitering, “crimes” that rarely produce written citations in Los Angeles outside of Skid Row.

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“Although loitering laws date back to 16th Century England, in the United States they have long been used for expressly racist purposes. After the Civil War they were used in conjunction with vagrancy laws to reinforce a state of quasi-slavery for African Americans in the South. During the Civil Rights era, they were used to break up protests (by arresting the protesters), and were used on at least one occasion to prevent court testimony by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (who was arrested for loitering in the courthouse).” (above)

http://loitering.askdefine.com

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Police in California attempting to reduce the frequency of teen loitering By Staff Writer

“Law enforcement officials in a California community have begun cracking down on late-night loitering by teenagers.

The Orange County Register reports that one local store owner claims that the teens who are hanging around his store are hurting business. He said that some teens make a mess, clog the entrance and take drugs around his shop. He said most of the adolescents are between the ages of 13 and 16 and they typically stay in or around the store for hours at a time.
California law states that anyone under the age of 18 cannot loiter, idle, wander, stroll or play in certain public areas between 10 p.m. and daylight the next morning. To combat this recent trend, one local police officer said that there will be extra patrolling around popular hangout spots for teens, and he will also contact businesses and encourage them to report any disruptive incidents.

Change.org reports that some kids frequently loiter because they have nothing else to do, especially in underprivileged communities with a lack of after-school activities. The website says that a noisemaker called the Mosquito was recently installed in a Washington DC neighborhood, armed with an obnoxious, high-pitched sound that is designed to fend off teen loiterers.

The Mosquito was installed after local business owners reported fights, theft and drug deals related to loitering.”

http://www.alternativesummercamps.com

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All Things Considered
May 26, 2006

The war between teens and authority figures has a new — or old — front: ears. British shopkeepers tired of teenage loiterers have turned to the Mosquito teen repellent, which emits a high-pitch frequency that most teenagers can hear — but not most adults.

But now teens have struck back against the Mosquito: They are using the same sound to communicate without adults' knowledge.

At issue is a text-message ringtone that emits the same pitch as the Mosquito. Using it, students can learn about a new message while they're in class — where they're not supposed to be using their cellphones. Most of their teachers can't hear the alert.

Inventor Howard Stapleton, creator of the Mosquito teen repellent, says only a few people over age 30 can hear the Mosquito's sound. He and his 16-year-old daughter Isabel talk to Melissa Block about the sound, which has been dubbed "Teen Buzz."


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Kitty Calavita: Invitation to law & society: an introduction to the study of real law

“Sometimes “this non-enforcement...is partial and sporadic. But it is meaningful and patterned nonetheless...Sometimes the pattern reveals selective non enforcement. The original law against vagrancy, for example, was never meant to apply to everyone but was targeted at the lower classes to coerce them into the agricultural workforce.”
“After the Civil War...vagrancy arrests were used in the South to keep freed slaves in a state of agricultural servitude...these mass arrests of African Americans had the added advantage to those interested in subjugating them that it reinforced racist ideas about black’s disposition to criminality.”

“Loitering laws – which make it illegal in certain public venues to stand in one spot doing nothing – are a lot like vagrancy laws in that they prohibit behavior that many of us engage in and therefore encourage discretionary (and discriminatory) action on the part of law enforcement. I recently saw a “No Loitering” sign in a public park in southern California; I asked myself what constitutes loitering in a park, where the point precisely is not to move on, but to linger. As far as I could tell, everyone here was loitering.

The ability to enforce the law against some people and not others is the logic behind the enactment of some laws...in the Civil Rights era...anti-loitering laws were used to break up sit-ins and protests. MLK was arrested and jailed on loitering charges in Montgomery Alabama, where he was picketing a business that refused service to African Americans.” And “when the Montgomery Bus Boycott in 1955...dragged on for a year, the black community organized carpools; they were arrested for loitering at designated carpool pickup points in a thinly veiled effort by law enforcement to break the strike.”

“A white male student of mine told me he did an impromptu experiment when he was in high school...tried to get charged with loitering and were utterly unsuccessful.”

Other kinds of people “are considered to be loitering as soon as they show up in public”. IE, injunctions against gangs, which prohibit them from appearing together in public are “technically a law against loitering.” In Chicago they have been struck down as “unconstitutionally vague by the U.S. Supreme Court in Morales v. Chicago (1999). “Gang injunctions have since been passed across the US.”

“The injunction, which is not based on criminal activity but on association, prohibits such everyday activities as riding in cars, walking down streets, or sitting in front yards....it is important to notice that they target kinds of people, not actual criminal activity.”

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FLANEUR [flah-NUR] noun: One who strolls about aimlessly; a lounger; a loafer. Flaneur comes from French, from flâner, “to saunter; to stroll; to lounge about.”

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“Charles Baudelaire developed a derived meaning of flâneur—that of "a person who walks the city in order to experience it[1]cite:needed". Because of the term's usage and theorization by Baudelaire and numerous thinkers in economic, cultural, literary and historical fields, the idea of the flâneur has accumulated significant meaning as a referent for
understanding urban phenomena and modernity. In French Canada flâner is rarely used to describe strolling and often has a negative connotation as the term's most common usage refers to loitering.

Flâneur is not limited to someone committing the physical act of a peripatetic stroll in the Baudelairian sense, but can also include a "complete philosophical way of living and thinking", and a process of navigating erudition.

Baudelaire saw the writer as a detached flaneur, a mocking dandy in the big-city crowd, alienated, isolated, anonymous, aristocratic, melancholic.”

Walter Benjamin, 1938: "There was the pedestrian who wedged himself into the crowd, but there was also the flâneur who demanded elbow room and was unwilling to forego the life of the gentleman of leisure. His leisurely appearance as a personality is his protest against the division of labour, which makes people into specialists. It was also his protest against their industriousness. Around 1840 it was briefly fashionable to take turtles for a walk in the arcades. The flâneurs liked to have the turtles set the pace for them."

PSYCHOGEOGRAPHY “was defined in 1955 by Guy Debord as "the study of the precise laws and specific effects of the geographical environment, consciously organized or not, on the emotions and behavior of individuals."[1] Another definition is "a whole toy box full of playful, inventive strategies for exploring cities...just about anything that takes pedestrians off their predictable paths and jolts them into a new awareness of the urban landscape." en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Psychogeography
DÉRIVE: By definition, psychogeography combines subjective and objective knowledge and studies. Debord struggled to stipulate the finer points of this theoretical paradox, ultimately producing "Theory of the Dérive" in 1958, a document which essentially serves as an instruction manual for the psychogeographic procedure, executed through the act of derive ("drift").

“In a dérive one or more persons during a certain period drop their usual motives for movement and action, their relations, their work and leisure activities, and let themselves be drawn by the attractions of the terrain and the encounters they find there... But the dérive includes both this letting go and its necessary contradiction: the domination of psychogeographical variations by the knowledge and calculation of their possibilities.”

In the Situationist International's 6th issue, Raoul Vaneigem writes in a manifesto of unitary urbanism, "All space is occupied by the enemy. We are living under a permanent curfew. Not just the cops – the geometry. Dérive, as a previously conceptualized tactic in the French military, was "a calculated action determined by the absence of a greater locus", and "a maneuver within the enemy's field of vision". To the SI, whose interest was inhabiting space, the dérive brought appeal in this sense of taking the "fight" to the streets and truly indulging in a determined operation. The dérive was a course of preparation, reconnaissance, a means of shaping situationist psychology among urban explorers for the eventuality of the situationist city.

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“As towns and cities are increasingly overwritten by the needs and desires of globalized capital, so public spaces and the behaviors they support are becoming evermore shrunken and controlled. At the same time however, everyday examples of common usage – a skate boarder curving past a crowd, a girl chopping and bagging melon on the sidewalk, a child dancing up a mountain of steps – counterpoint homogenization and regulation.

Initiated and managed by Owen Driggs, Performing Public Space is both a celebration of artists who consciously adopt such tactics and instrumentalize their bodies in an effort to bend, expand, or puncture dominant spatial narratives, and an inquiry into the ways in which public space is articulated through real use.”

www.performingpublicspace.org

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Benjamin Barber: *The Art of Public Space*

“[P]ublic space is not merely the passive residue of a decision to ban cars or a tacit invitation to the public to step into the street. It must be actively created and self-consciously sustained against the grain of an architecture built as much for machines as people, more for commercial than common use...[It is] the result of constructive intervention rather than laissez-faire disinterest.”

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**Put on the spot: Pink light that shows up acne drives teenagers from trouble areas**

A pink light that shows up acne is being used to drive teenagers away from trouble spots. Blemishes are shown up by the light – usually found in beauty salons – causing the teens serious embarrassment. The lights have been working in two under-passes in Layton Burroughs, Mansfield, for more than two months ago and have proved a huge success. But now the gangs have vanished. 'We used to have quite a problem,' said Marianne Down, of the local residents' association. 'It felt quite intimidating for anyone walking past, but the pink lights have really made a difference. It feels safer walking through there now.'

As well as highlighting spots, the pink light has a calming effect and is seen as 'uncool'. The residents' association in Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, now plans to install more lights at a third underpass. Mike Powis, crime reduction manager at Nottinghamshire Police, added: 'Some of the more innovative and creative solutions to problems can be the most effective.' Other yob-beating measures taken by councils include the mosquito device, which emits a high-pitched squeal heard only by under-25s, uncool music such as Barry Manilow and classical, and painting areas where youths gather pink.

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-1181539/Put-spot-Pink-light-shows-acne-drives-teenagers-trouble-areas.html

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**Busy Doing Nothing – A Song For Life: Bing Crosby, 1949**

We're busy doin' nothin'
Workin' the whole day through
Tryin' to find lots of things not to do
We're busy goin' nowhere
Isn't it just a crime
We'd like to be unhappy, but
We never do have the time.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QuxSl_4yLz4
NO LOITERING
SOLICITING
SKATEBOARDS
ROLLERBLADES