

Supporting Statement for *Time Lords and Star Cops*

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This is the first book-length study of British science fiction television series set against their political and social context, using interdisciplinary methodologies to build an argument that these series are responding to, and anticipating, the changing ideological climate of 1970s-80s Britain. No other monograph has presented a comparably comprehensive analysis of this era set against the emergence of Thatcherite neoliberalism.

Alongside the well-known series, this work analyses overlooked examples from this era such as *Tripods*, *Knights of God* and *Star Cops*, the latter two of which have never before received serious academic attention. The book charts the progress of Thatcherite ideology and its effect on television, both in terms of the medium itself (the 'logic of the marketplace' dictated that there was less financing available for original series) and the cultural and political subtext. The book uses these series to chart a development from hostility towards this new environment, to an almost total concession to its ideology.

Matt Hills, the well-known *Doctor Who* scholar, author of *Triumph of a Time Lord* and co-editor of *Adventures Across Space and Time: A Doctor Who Reader*, comments, 'Braithwaite's ... analyses of the impacts of Thatcherism and neoliberalism on the coded universes, worlds and characters of these TV shows are incisive, at times provocative, and always insightful.'

This work intervenes in the burgeoning, interdisciplinary fields of science fiction and television studies, placing important television series in the political context of discussions of neoliberalism, and analysing utopian and dystopian themes. It is intended to spark further discussion of politics and neoliberalism, utopia and dystopia, and television as a site of political discourse.