

This article was downloaded by:[Florida State University Libraries]
On: 6 May 2008
Access Details: [subscription number 789355451]
Publisher: Routledge
Informa Ltd Registered in England and Wales Registered Number: 1072954
Registered office: Mortimer House, 37-41 Mortimer Street, London W1T 3JH, UK



Journal of the American Planning Association

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:
<http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title~content=t782043358>

Dialogues in Urban & Regional Planning: Volume 2

G. Richard Larkin^a
^a University of West Georgia,

Online Publication Date: 01 December 2008

To cite this Article: Larkin, G. Richard (2008) 'Dialogues in Urban & Regional Planning: Volume 2', Journal of the American Planning Association, 74:1, 149

To link to this article: DOI: 10.1080/01944360701755915
URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/01944360701755915>

PLEASE SCROLL DOWN FOR ARTICLE

Full terms and conditions of use: <http://www.informaworld.com/terms-and-conditions-of-access.pdf>

This article maybe used for research, teaching and private study purposes. Any substantial or systematic reproduction, re-distribution, re-selling, loan or sub-licensing, systematic supply or distribution in any form to anyone is expressly forbidden.

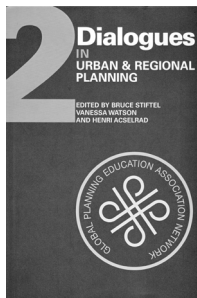
The publisher does not give any warranty express or implied or make any representation that the contents will be complete or accurate or up to date. The accuracy of any instructions, formulae and drug doses should be independently verified with primary sources. The publisher shall not be liable for any loss, actions, claims, proceedings, demand or costs or damages whatsoever or howsoever caused arising directly or indirectly in connection with or arising out of the use of this material.

indicating a need for research on edge and post-suburban cities in East Asia, South America, and Africa. However, the occasional quick references to edge cities in East Asia and the one reference to edge cities in South America are insufficient to illustrate the parallels among global edge and post-suburban cities.

In sum, this book treads new grounds by comparing European post-suburban cities to each other while also pointing out commonalities and differences with U.S. edge cities. Given that more than 50% of the world's population is now urbanized and that outward development will continue, this topic will become more important in both the near and distant future.

Katrin Anacker

Anacker received a Ph.D. in city and regional planning from The Ohio State University and is currently a postdoctoral fellow at the Metropolitan Institute in Alexandria, Virginia.



Dialogues in Urban & Regional Planning: Volume 2

Bruce Stiffl, Vanessa Watson, and Henri Acselrad, editors.
Routledge, New York, 2006. 384 pages. \$150.

D*ialogues in Urban & Regional Planning: Volume 2* is the second volume in a biannual series produced by the Global Planning Education Association Network. The book, like *Dialogues 1*, features a collection of 12 articles by planning scholars from throughout the world. Various regional planning school associations nominated works for inclusion in the volume. Most of the chapters that appear in the book were published previously as journal articles. This book, like its predecessor, represents an important effort to overcome many of the barriers that often prevent those engaged in the study and practice of planning from benefiting from the work of their colleagues in distant locations.

In the introductory chapter, the editors acknowledge the difficulties of working across national boundaries. They also identify six “global themes” that emerge from the following chapters and use the themes to provide a very useful introductory summary of the works that follow. The chapter concludes with an interesting review of international planning literature and the dissemination of planning ideas.

The first theme the book addresses deals with the economy, urban space, and planning. Chapter 2 helps develop the theme by examining the redevelopment of Vancouver in the postindustrial, postmodern era. Chapter 3 highlights the impact of the Olympic Games on the cityscape of Athens and chapter 4 examines how physical separation by social class impacts Vancouver. All three chapters also provide evidence of the impact of globalization on local planning.

The second theme is concerned with the environment and conservation of heritage. In chapter 5, “The Future of Rurality

under Globalization,” the author makes the argument that “urbanity generates recognition of the value of rurality” (p. 8) and that not all rural areas are the same. Chapter 6 examines the impact of international tourism on urban structure in Bali and provides an illustration of how planning can help preserve the traditional design and culture of an area.

Theme three deals with the planning process and the nature of decision making and theme four with the development of planning ideas. Respectively, chapters 7, 8, and 9 examine the impediments to democratic planning in Australia, contradictions imbedded in Brazilian urban reform measures, and the difficulties and potential means of implementing regional sustainable development in South Africa. Chapter 10 traces the impact of American planning ideas on Australian planning. Next, chapter 11 uses the history of Buenos Aires to examine the emergence of the term *urban planning* and argues that city planning has a contribution to make in understanding the history of cities.

Cervero's chapter 12, “Road Expansion, Urban Growth and Induced Travel,” is the only chapter included under the theme of planning and transport and the lone contribution from the United States. He uses the methodological technique of path analysis to critically examine the widely held notion that highways generate their own traffic and raises questions about earlier findings regarding the magnitude of induced travel.

The final theme and chapter of the book examine planning and gender issues. This contribution from the Association of African Planning Schools applies the conceptual framework of gender contracts to a case study of a self-help housing program in Botswana. The author concludes that even with programs that appear designed to aid women, traditional patriarchy has been replaced by new forms of female subordination and exclusion.

The editors state that volumes in this series are “designed to foster comparison of planning research, although it cannot help but contribute to comparison of planning practice” (p. 1). Most of the authors appear to accomplish both tasks by grounding their works in theory and providing a logical presentation of empirical evidence from real-world planning practice to support their theses. Those accustomed to reading academic planning and social science literature produced in the United States may be surprised by the absence of quantitative methodologies in the articles.

This is an important book and will be a valuable addition to the collections of academic planning libraries and a useful research and teaching tool for planning school faculty members. However, the price and readability of the book may prevent it from widespread circulation among planning practitioners. This is unfortunate, because the issues addressed would be familiar to many practicing planners in the United States and provide them with the comfort of knowing they are not alone in their struggles.

G. Richard Larkin

Larkin is the director of the graduate program in rural and small town planning at the University of West Georgia. His research and consulting interests include comprehensive planning, planned communities, program evaluation, and technology utilization in the planning process.