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## The Great Urban Transformation

You-tien Hsing

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Item type: book

This book emphasizes the centrality of cities in China's ongoing transformation. Based on fieldwork in twenty-four Chinese cities between 1996 and 2007, the author forwards an analysis of the relations between the city, the state, and society through two novel concepts: urbanization of the local state and civic territoriality. Urbanization of the local state is a process of state power restructuring entailing an accumulation regime based on the commodification of state-owned land, the consolidation of territorial authority through construction projects, and a policy discourse dominated by notions of urban modernity. Civic territoriality encompasses the politics of distribution engendered by urban expansionism, and social actors' territorial strategies toward self-protection. Findings are based on observations in three types of places. In the inner city of major metropolitan centers, municipal governments battle high-ranking state agencies to secure land rents from redevelopment projects, while residents mobilize to assert property and residential rights. At the urban edge, as metropolitan governments seek to extend control over their rural hinterland through massive-scale development projects, villagers strategize to profit from the encroaching property market. At the rural fringe, township leaders become brokers of power and property between the state bureaucracy and villages, while large numbers of peasants are dispossessed, dispersed, and deterritorialized; their mobilizational capacity is consequently undermined.

## The Politics of Urban Violence

Eduardo Moncada

in *Cities, Business, and the Politics of Urban Violence In Latin America*

Published in print: 2016 Published Online: May 2016 Publisher: Stanford University Press

Chapter abstract: This chapter develops cross-case analyses of the politics of urban violence in Colombia to highlight how the variables and mechanisms identified in the analytic framework yield insights into the nature and trajectory of political projects in response to violence across cities. The chapter explores the generalizability of the framework's core dimensions through a brief analysis of the case of Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, where drug trafficking-related violence has increased in recent years. The analysis finds support for three key elements of the framework: (1) business is a pivotal actor in the politics of urban violence, (2) clientelism shapes political preferences regarding responses to urban violence, and (3) patterns of armed territorial control influence the fortunes of political projects in response to violence. The chapter concludes by outlining next steps in the study of urban violence and, more broadly, urban politics in the developing world.

## Borderline Citizens

Kathryn Gleadle

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This volume provides a comprehensive analysis of women's involvement in British political culture in the first half of the nineteenth century. It is based on extensive archival research, but also engages with recent feminist theories in the social sciences, such as psychology and sociology. The volume looks at both rural and urban experiences of politics. The author throws new light on women's political activities and challenges many traditional assumptions about contemporary politics. The book gives fresh insights into the Reform Act of 1832, pays attention to continuities in political practice and ideas, and brings focus to the primary significance of parish politics within the day-to-day activities of the middling and gentry classes.

## Crucibles of Black Empowerment

Jeffrey Helgeson

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In 1983, black Chicagoans elected Harold Washington as the city's first black mayor. In the process, they overthrew the white Democratic machine and its regime of "plantation politics." This book details the long-term development of black Chicago's political culture, beginning in the 1930s, that both made a political insurrection possible in the right context, and informed Mayor Washington's liberal, interracial, democratic vision of urban governance. Building upon recent studies of the "Long Civil Rights Movement," which focus largely on a black radical tradition, this book recovers the history of a long tradition of black liberalism at the ground level. Men and women, largely unsung, made history by engaging with - rather than rejecting - the institutions and ambitions of urban life, and by connecting their individual aspirations to the collective interests of the race. They maintained popular critiques of overlapping systems of race, class, and gender inequality and developed local crucibles of black power that made pragmatic reform possible and set the stage for Washington's victory and - in surprising ways - even the ascendance of Barack and Michelle Obama. The tragedies of incomplete and uneven racial progress are undeniable. Yet, in struggles for decent housing, good jobs, and political power over a half a century people worked to overcome racial segregation and inequality in everyday life. Consequently, this study shows that the image of the Second Great Migration as an inexorably tragic event is no longer tenable, while it also integrates the story of black urban politics into the deeply ambiguous history of American liberalism.

## Black Citymakers

Marcus Anthony Hunter

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DOI: 10.1093/  
ISBN: 9780199948130 eISBN: 9780199333202 acprof:oso/9780199948130.001.0001  
Item type: book

This book revisits the Black Seventh Ward neighborhood and residents of W. E. B. DuBois's *The Philadelphia Negro* over the course of the twentieth century. Through the dual lens of political agency and critical historical events, this book follows the transformation of the neighborhood from being predominantly black at the beginning of the twentieth century into a largely white upper-middle-class and commercial neighborhood by the century's conclusion. Employing the insights of an array of scholars such as Robin D. G. Kelley, James Scott, Cathy Cohen, William Julius Wilson, and Mary Pattillo, the book argues that black Philadelphians were by no means mere victims of large-scale socioeconomic, structural, and political changes such as deindustrialization of the local and national economy, urban renewal, and the growing federal intervention into urban America following World War II. As the book shows, black Americans

framed their own understandings of urban social change, forging dynamic inter- and intraracial alliances that allowed them to shape their own migration from the old Black Seventh Ward to emergent black urban enclaves throughout Philadelphia. Whereas most urban studies analyze multiple facets of black life over the span of a few decades, the book extends the chronology to nearly a century, capturing events such as banking and tenement collapses, housing activism, black-led antiurban renewal mobilization, and the changing politics emergent in post-civil rights Philadelphia.

## Power Plays: Alternative Performance Art and Urban Space in the Political Life of the City

Kam Louie (ed.)

in *Hong Kong Culture: Word and Image*

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hongkong/9789888028412.003.0003

This chapter considers artworks that incorporate text and images related to the institutional dynamics of the formation of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) of the People's Republic of China. In this context—a historically unprecedented territorial formation and a political movement geared to increasing democratic practice—alternative performance art and art actions contribute to the articulation of an urban cultural politics with national dimensions and a spatial expression in public life. Reflecting on word and image, this discussion focuses on performance artworks concerned specifically with text, speech acts, statements and enactments, and those whose use of images or representational images have resonated beyond their moments of production to become known among artists and the art-viewing public as a consequence of social documentation.

## Handbook of Religion and the Asian City

Peter van der Veer (ed.)

Published in print: 2015 Published Online: January 2016  
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Item type: book

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california/9780520281226.001.0001

This book highlights the creative and innovative role of urban aspirations in Asian world cities. It does not assume that religion is of the past and that the urban is secular, but instead points out that urban politics and governance often manifest religious boundaries and sensibilities—in

short, that public religion is politics. The chapters in this book show how projects of secularism come up against projects and ambitions of a religious nature, a particular form of contestation that takes the city as its public arena. Questioning the limits of cities like Mumbai, Singapore, Seoul, Beijing, Bangkok, and Shanghai, the chapters assert that Asian cities have to be understood not as global models of futuristic city planning but as larger landscapes of spatial imagination that have specific cultural and political trajectories. Religion plays a central role in the politics of heritage that is emerging from the debris of modernist city planning. Megacities are arenas for the assertion of national and transnational aspirations as Asia confronts modernity. Cities are also sites of speculation, not only for those who invest in real estate but also for those who look for housing, employment, and salvation. In its potential and actual mobility, the sacred creates social space in which they all can meet.

## The Future of Sustainable Cities

John Flint and Mike Raco (eds)

Published in print: 2011 Published Online: May 2012 Publisher: Policy Press  
DOI: 10.1332/  
ISBN: 9781847426673 eISBN: 9781447305545 policypress/9781847426673.001.0001  
Item type: book

The sudden onset of the credit crunch in 2008 and the subsequent recession in many national economies has opened up significant new challenges for policy makers and communities in cities across the world. The assumptions that underpinned planning systems and sustainability strategies during the 1990s and 2000s have been rapidly undermined as welfare states are downsized and the availability of private sector investment becomes more limited. This book investigates how the meanings and politics of urban sustainability are now being radically rethought in the wake of crisis. Chapters provide up-to-date coverage of the impacts of recent changes on key areas of urban planning, including housing, transport, and the environment, and map out core areas for future research.

## The Public City

Philip Ethington

Published in print: 2001 Published Online: March 2012 Publisher: University of California Press  
DOI: 10.1525/  
ISBN: 9780520230019 eISBN: 9780520927469 california/9780520230019.001.0001  
Item type: book

This book challenges the assumptions of several decades of urban history that treat American urban politics as the expression of social-

group community experience. Instead, it maintains that social-group identities of race, class, ethnicity, and gender were politically constructed in the public sphere in the process of political mobilization and journalistic discourse. The book looks specifically at the political construction of urban life in San Francisco from 1850–1900.

## Enhancing Spaces of Inclusion? Power, Participation in Governance and the Urban Regeneration Litany

Peris S. Jones

in *Reinventing the City?: Liverpool in Comparative Perspective*

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DOI: 10.5949/  
ISBN: 9780853237976 eISBN: 9781846313912 liverpool/9780853237976.003.0005  
Item type: chapter

This chapter focuses on the effects of ‘downscaling’ for governance and local policy interventions, which proposes the enhancement of spaces of inclusion in cities. It begins by examining the discourse downscaling within the context of the emergence of an ‘entrepreneurial’ city. It then discusses the notion of urban politics and the ways in which competing interpretations relate to different conceptualisations of power. The concept and practice of ‘participation’ in governance is also examined. The chapter ends by asking whether the limits of participation in urban regeneration have already been reached.