

The way to Displacement and Exploitation is Full of Good Intentions: The 'Stations Precinct', Tel-Aviv

Eran Tzin

In recent years the Ne've Sha'anani neighbourhood in southern Tel Aviv has become the main destination for migrant workers and asylum seekers. This article critically examines this spatial phenomenon in relation to the production of Tel Aviv as a global city. The area's re-branding as the "Stations District" is analyzed relating the concept of 'diversity' to global city production. The analysis reveals the gap between everyday life - of poverty, conflict and concentration of subaltern communities - and its representation in planning schemes and discourse. It is argued that the 'diversity' discourse serves to hide planning's dark side, and thus actually supports the exploitation and displacement of the residents of southern Tel-Aviv (both migrants and veterans), who do not get to enjoy the benefits of globalization.

Keywords: Global cities, diversity, migrant labor, neo-liberalism, gentrification

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Citizenship at Work: the Struggle over Vita Galilee Factory

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In this paper we examine a struggle waged by production line workers at a factory located in Israel's northern periphery. Its limited scope notwithstanding, we argue that it ought to be seen as an all-out struggle through which laborers deployed their peripheral location and ethno-class identities to make claims for - and enact their citizenship (at work). Drawing on two years of ethnographic research, we argue that despite — or perhaps because of—years of persistent labor market reforms, traditional industrial factories remain critical spaces for the constitution of citizenship in Israel. In contrast to the past, when state-sponsored industrial employment created a perfect congruence between labor market participation and citizenship, recent processes aimed at enhancing labor market flexibility have fundamentally altered these relations. Under constant threats of downsizing, precarious industrial workers in privatized factories experience a restless citizenship, a

ceaseless battle to secure their jobs through what might be called the work of citizenship.

Keywords: Periphery, neo-liberalization, workers struggle, citizenship, labor regime

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Southern Justice: Social Impact Analysis for the Planning of Beersheba, Israel

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Is it possible to plan a just city? And if so, how? A central demand emerging from the Israeli wave of social protest (2011-2012) was for a mandatory Social Impact Statement for every major urban and regional plan. The article presents a model for the preparation of such a document, using Beersheba as a case study. The material was prepared by a team of graduate planning students at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, who adopted Susan Feinstein's model of the 'just city'. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first time such a document has been prepared in Israel. The findings show significant spatial social problems in Beersheba such as: widening socioeconomic and built environment gaps between the city's neighborhoods; marginalization and alienation of several minority communities; and exclusion of the city residents from meaningful participation or influence on urban plans.

The framework proposed here evaluates the city's new outline plan, "Beersheba 2030", in light of these findings, as to how the plan addresses the city's social problems. Our analysis shows that the new plan offers a reasonable path toward closing socioeconomic and built environment gaps between the city's neighborhoods. However, the plan does not sufficiently address issues of accessibility to transport and social facilities and possible social dislocation resulting from massive urban renewal. In addition, the plan does not relate at all to the cultural marginalization of minorities, nor does it respond to the notable democratic deficits expressed in resident attitudes. The paper concludes