



Commodities?



Edgy or poor mans protection ?



Photo credit: author

Decrepit or charmingly quaint ?



Right to dignified habitat- how to secure a high-price commodity in an urban setting?
 How can we plan for greater urban diversity, both architectural and social?
 Can we change practices, and what changes are needed? Which municipalities and other stakeholders will take the lead?

In a neo-liberal society- when is the deliberate choice of poverty made?

How does gentrification of existing habitat relate to an individuals choice?
 Poverty-struck citizens of developing nations are not seen as choosing their fate as poor.

How is it that equally povertystruck citizens in industrialized countries are seen as having chosen... and what can architecture do about this? How can we learn from others facing similar issues?

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Photo credit: unknown



"La Ciudad Frondosa"
intellectual
property
of artists
Chiachio &
Giannone

Construction
in a
shantytown.

Living in a
bus.

Ruined
images.



As world population increases and urbanisation is rapid, gentrification as a process of creating the tradeable commodity real estate poses a large threat to citizens.

Nobody wants to live in a dangerous neighbourhood, but cleaning up the slum too often equates eviction for it's original residents, rather than construction of just habitat.

From Hunter's Point in San Francisco to Harlem in New York, poor residents are being pushed out from the ghettos to which they were originally confined.

How will industrialized countries deal with the creating of a new generation of suburban ghettos (shanty-towns)? Instead of migrating from the countryside, inner-city residents are being pushed out and away with market factors cited as law.

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This project aims to identify, the tools of private sector for development of a sustainable economic system fostering social equity and urban inclusion within the built environment, working with the tools of real estate, the public institutions as well as the community at risk of displacement.

By generating knowledge: economical and architectural, I will investigate the options available for citizens to truly yield an influence on their habitat.

First I will map and overlap areas at risk of gentrification and areas of poverty (by looking at schools and services available). A series of workshops with the help of local cash checking establishments and laundry facilities will then focus on the procurement of a just and dignified habitat in the post-colonial market economy currently prevailing.

Map courtesy of the Oakland Public Library
Photocredit: Raúl Chirinos Coya

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