The role of spatial justice in the regeneration of urban spaces

Sarah Bassett | University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign | Department of Urban and Regional Planning

Spatial injustices are and continue to be rooted in the social and physical infrastructures that have been formed through decades of uneven (re)development processes. Spatial justice can be recognized through the connectivity between spatial claim, spatial power, and spatial links through the formation of solidarities across differences to change or reconfigure injustices.

This study has looked at the engagement on both social and spatial terms of Dutch spatial quality policies as a way to measure spatial justice in two urban redevelopments in Groningen, The Netherlands.

These policies in the Dutch context give direction on how to approach spatial injustice - the relationship between social and spatial dimensions - in regeneration processes as a way to mitigate unjust impacts on our cultural geographies. Values are used as a scalable response to measure factors of the redevelopment process, including the usage, perceived, and future value of an urban space.

\[ \text{Spatial justice is an ongoing contestation to engage in the struggles over geography} \]

\[ \text{spatial justice moves} \]

\[ \text{spatial quality values} \]

\[ \text{spatial power} \]

\[ \text{spatial links} \]

\[ \text{spatial claim} \]

\[ \text{spatial overlap} \]

\[ \text{spatial justice} \]

\[ \text{low spatial quality can result ONLY in low spatial justice} \]

\[ \text{high spatial quality can result in low OR high spatial justice} \]

\[ \text{spatial quality policy does NOT ensure all stakeholders are represented} \]