# Urban Social Geography

### An Introduction

Sixth edition

## Paul Knox

University Distinguished Professor, College of Architecture and Urban Studies, Virginia Tech

#### and

## Steven Pinch

Professor of Geography, University of Southampton

Prentice Hall is an imprint of



	A guide to using this book Acknowledgements	xiv X
1	Social geography and the sociospatial dialectic	ī
	Key questions addressed in this chapter	
1.1	Different approaches within human geography The quantitative approach The behavioural approach The structuralist approach Poststructuralist approaches The study of urban social geography	1 1 2 2 3
1.2	The sociospatial dialectic	
1.3	The macro-geographical context	Ę
	A changing context for urban social geography Economic change and urban restructuring The imprint of demographic change The city and cultural change Political change and the sociospatial dialectic Chapter summary Key concepts and terms Suggested reading International journals	6 9 13 13 14 14 14
2	The changing economic context of	
	city life	17
	Key questions addressed in this chapter	17
2.1 2.2	The precapitalist, preindustrial city The growth of the industrial city	17 20
	Early models of the spatial structure of industrial cities Marx and the industrial city Fordism and the industrial city	21 22 23 24
	Keynesianism and the 'long boom' of Fordism	2

2.3	The contemporary city	27
	Neo-Fordism	27
	Urban change under neo-Fordism	29
	Postindustrial society under neo-Fordism	30
	Globalization  Knowledge economies and the informational city	33 34
2.4	Conclusions	37
		37
	Chapter summary Key concepts and terms	38
	Suggested reading	38
2	The cultures of cities	40
3	The cultures of cities	40
	Key questions addressed in this chapter	40
3.1	What is culture?	40
	The materiality of cultures	41
	Shared meanings	41
	Diversity and difference Identities	41 43
3.2	Post colonial theory and the city	43
	Hybridity	45
	The social construction of culture	46
3.3	Space, power and culture	47
	Foucault and the carceral city	47
	The social construction of space	48
	Space and identity	49
3.4	Postmodernism	51
	Postmodernism in the city	51
	Romantic capitalism: the aestheticization of consumption	54
3.5	Conclusions	55
	Chapter summary Key concepts and terms	57 57
	Suggested reading	58
_		
4	Patterns of sociospatial differentiation	59
	Key questions addressed in this chapter	59
4.1	Urban morphology and the physical structure of cities	59
	House types, building lots and street layouts	60
	Morphogenesis	60
	Environmental quality	65

4.2	Difference and inequality: socio-economic and sociocultural patterns	67
	Studies of factorial ecology Patterns of social well-being Intra-urban variations in the quality of urban life The geography of deprivation and disadvantage	70 73 75 75
	Chapter summary Key concepts and terms Suggested reading	82 83 83
5	Spatial and institutional frameworks: citizens, the state and civil society	84
	Key questions addressed in this chapter	84
5.1	The interdependence of public institutions and private life	84
	Citizenship, patriarchy and racism The law and civil society The changing nature of urban governance Spaces of neoliberalization Green politics	86 86 88 89
5.2	De jure urban apaces	92
	Metropolitan fragmentation and its spatial consequences Fiscal imbalance and sociospatial inequality Fiscal mercantilism	92 93 94
5.3	The democratic base and its spatial framework	96
	The spatial organization of elections  Malapportionment and gerrymandering  The spatiality of key actors in urban governance: elected officials and	97 97
	city bureaucrats  Bureaucracy and sociospatial (re)production  The parapolitical structure  Business  Labour  Citizen organizations and special interest groups	97 98 98 99 99
	Homeowners' associations: private governments Urban social movements	101 103
5.4	Community power structures and the role of the local state	104
	Regime theory Structuralist interpretations of the political economy of	104
	contemporary cities	105
	The local state and the sociospatial dialectic	106
	Regulation theory and urban governance Redefining citizenship	107 110

5.5	The question of social justice in the city	111
	Chapter summary	112
	Key concepts and terms	113
	Suggested reading	113
6	Structures of building provision and the social production of the urban	
	environment	115
	Key questions addressed in this chapter	115
6.1	Housing submarkets	116
	The growth of home ownership	116
	The decline of private renting	123
	The effects of rent controls	123
	The spatial effects of disinvestment The development of public housing	123 124
	Public housing in the United Kingdom	124
	Sociospatial differentiation within the public sector	125
	The voluntary sector: the 'third arm' of housing provision	129
6.2	Key actors in the social production of the built environment	130
	Landowners and morphogenesis	131
	Builders, developers and the search for profit	131
	Discrimination by design: architects and planners	134
	Women's spaces	134
	Women's places	135
	Mortgage financiers: social and spatial bias as good business practice Bias against people	136 137
	Bias against property	137
	Real estate agents: manipulating and reinforcing neighbourhood	400
	patterns  Manipulating social geographies; blockbusting and gentrification	139 139
	Public housing managers: sorting and grading	143
	Problem families and dump estates	143
	Chapter summary	145
	Key concepts and terms	145
	Suggested reading	145
7	The social dimensions of modern	
•	urbanism	147
	Key questions addressed in this chapter	147
7.1	Urban life in Western culture	147
7.2	Urbanism and social theory	148

		Contents
	The Chicago School	149
	Urbanism as a way of life	149
	The public and private worlds of city life	152
	The self: identity and experience in private and public worlds	152
7.3	Social interaction and social networks in urban settings	154
	Social network analysis	154
	Urban ecology as shaper and outcome of social interaction	156
	The spatial model	157
	Criticisms of the ecological approach	158
	Social interaction in urban environments	160
	Social distance and physical distance	160
	Chapter summary	163
	Key concepts and terms	163
	Suggested reading	164
8	Segregation and congregation	165
	Key questions addressed in this chapter	165
	Rey questions addressed in this chapter	105
8.1	Social closure, racism and discrimination	165
8.2	The spatial segregation of minority groups	166
	Issues of definition and measurement	167
	External factors: discrimination and structural effects	169
	Congregation: internal group cohesiveness	171
	Clustering together for defence	172
	Clustering for mutual support	172
	Clustering for cultural preservation	173
	Spaces of resistance: clustering to facilitate 'attacks'	173
	Colonies, enclaves and ghettos	174
	Illustrative example 1: structural constraints and cultural preservation in the United Kingdom	176
	Illustrative example 2: migrant workers in continental European citie	_
	Chapter summary	185
	Key concepts and terms	185
	Suggested reading	185
9	Neighbourhood, community and the	
	social construction of place	187
	Key questions addressed in this chapter	187
9.1	Neighbourhood and community	188
	Urban villages: community saved?	188
	The fragility of communality	188

	Suburban neighbourhoods: community transformed?  Splintering urbanism and the diversity of suburbia  Status panic and crisis communality  Communities and neighbourhoods: definitions and classifications	190 191 191 193
9.2	The social construction of urban places	193
	Urban lifeworlds, time-space routinization and intersubjectivity Structuration and the 'becoming' of place Constructing place through spatial practices Place, consumption and cultural politics Habitus	196 198 199 200 202
9.3	The social meanings of the built environment	202
	The appropriation of space and place: symbolism and coded meanings Architecture, aesthetics and the sociospatial dialectic Commodification Architecture and the circulation of capital Chapter summary Key concepts and terms Suggested reading	203 204 205 205 208 208
10	Environment and behaviour in urban settings	210
	Key questions addressed in this chapter	210
10.1	Theories about deviant behaviour	211
	Determinist theory Crowding theory Design determinism Alienation Compositional theory Subcultural theory Structuralist theory Multi-factor explanations: the example of crime and delinquency Data problems The geography of urban crime	212 213 215 216 216 218 219 219
10.2	Cognition and perception	225
	Designative aspects of urban imagery Cognitive distance Appraisive aspects of urban imagery The cognitive dimensions of the urban environment Images of the home area Chapter summary Key concepts and terms Suggested reading	226 229 230 230 232 232 232

11	Bodies, sexuality and the city	234
	Key questions addressed in this chapter	234
11.1	Gender, heteropatriarchy and the city	235
	Gender roles in the sociospatial dialectic	236
11.2	Sexuality and the city	238
	Prostitution and the city Urbanization and prostitution Sex workers in contemporary cities Homosexuality and the city The social construction of sexuality Homosexual urban ecology Gay spaces Lesbian spaces Queer politics: lipstick lesbians and gay skinheads	238 239 239 240 240 243 243
11.3	Disability and the city	246
	The social construction of disability Disability in urban settings	247 248
	Chapter summary Key concepts and terms Suggested reading	250 251 251
12	Residential mobility and neighbourhood change	252
	Key questions addressed in this chapter	252
12.1	Patterns of household mobility	254
	Movers and stayers	254
	Patterns of in-migration	254
	Intra-urban moves	256
	Distance and direction	256
	Household movement and urban ecology	256
	The determinants of residential mobility	257
	Reasons for moving	257
	Space needs and life-course changes	258
	The decision to move	260 263
	The search for a new residence Specifying the desiderata of a new home	263 263
	Searching for vacancies	263 264
	Time constraints	266
	Choosing a new home	266

12.2	Residential mobility and neighbourhood change	267
	High-status movement, filtering and vacancy chains Obstacles to filtering	267 269
	Vacancy chains	270
	Chapter summary Key concepts and terms	270 270
	Suggested reading	271
13	Urban change and conflict	272
	Key questions addressed in this chapter	272
13.1	Externality effects	272
	The costs of proximity and the price of accessibility  Competition and conflict over externalities	273 273
13.2	Accessibility to services and amenities	275
	The aggregate effects of aggregate patterns	276
	Amenities, disamenities, and social reproduction	277
13.3	Urban restructuring: inequality and conflict	278
	Decentralization and accessibility to services and amenities	278
	Accessibility and social inequality Redevelopment and renewal	279
	Planning problems: the British experience	280 280
	Service sector restructuring	282
	Deinstitutionalization and residualization	282
	Privatization	284
	Workfare Social polarization	285 285
	The informal urban economy	288
	Urban social sustainability	292
	Chapter summary	296
	Key concepts and terms	296
	Suggested reading	297
14	Whither urban social geography?	
	Recent developments	298
	Key questions addressed in this chapter	298
14.1	Los Angeles and the 'California School'	299
	Critique of the LA School	301
	Los Angels: a paradigmatic city?	302
14.2	Cinema and the city	304
	Films as texts	304
	The influence of the city on film	305

	The influence of film on the city	305
	Film as business	308
	'Curtisland'	308
	City branding	309
14.3	Conclusion: whither urban social geography?	310
	Chapter summary	312
	Key concepts and terms	313
	Suggested reading	313
	-i	
	Glossary	314
	References	345

#### Supporting resources

Index

Visit www.pearsoned.co.uk/knox to find valuable online resources

#### **Companion Website for students and instructors**

- > Links to relevant sites on the web
- Project assignments for further investigation and practice
- > Essay questions

For more information please contact your local Pearson Education sales representative or visit www.pearsoned.co.uk/knox

Contents

363