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Title: Law and urban slums: the emergence of exclusionary power

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Law is always and inevitably linked to the realities of time and place (Carmalt, 2007). Attention to the nuances of law and regulation in time and place has generated a valuable socio-legal scholarship around the mechanisms and effects of power as it operates within the folds and interstices of gross legal apparatus. Law as an 'intellectual technology' or 'regime of truth', is construed as both limiting and providing expression for modern subjectivities (Valverde 2003; Cruikshank, 1993). The relationship traced between law and society, however, assumes the universality and longevity of coherent, structured urban landscapes. The 20th century urban city provides the backdrop against which law is understood as intertwined with disciplinary and sovereign mechanisms in the intricate web of governmental power (Foucault, 1991) . The city houses the technologies and mechanisms of the 'self' and gives them individual and institutional expression. The radical and rapid change in the urban landscapes that has occurred in the last decades of the twentieth century, particularly in the south, challenges these assumption of place. In the mega cites of the new urban planet (Davis, 2006) millions of poor exist beyond law, invisible and inaccessible to the 20th century forms of urban governance. In this environment, legal and regulatory mechanisms are transformed to operate as forms of social exclusion rather than disciplinary or governmental structures. I will argue in this paper that the reconsideration of intersections between law, power and dominant social forms required by the phenomenon of mega-cities shows law is a new guise and heralds a new form of modern (exclusionary) power.

Key words:

- GEOGRAPHIES OF LAW
- GLOBALIZATION
- LAW AND DEVELOPMENT
- POLICING, SECURITY & GOVERNANCE

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