ANALYTICAL SUMMARY

Castillo Couve, María José
Settler's skills in constructing housing and neighborhoods: recent experiences and actions in Chile

This article discusses the role of the citizen in the production of their habitat and their relationship with public housing and neighborhood policy in Chile. Taking three case studies, we analyze the deployed capabilities; experience and knowledge accumulated by the people in the production and management of their habitat. The results show where settlers' are today in order to contribute and take part in decisions on housing and urban policy.

Key words: settler's; housing policy; skills; neighborhood management; self-management.

Verón, Natalia
Squatters, Squatted houses and Residential Area of the «urban poor» in the city of Buenos Aires

The aim of this paper is to analyze the diversity of social norms involves in housing occupation from an ethographic perspective. Since the occupation of abandoned property is a common practice among people of low income especially in central and southern neighborhoods of Buenos Aires, the article focuses and discuss the scope of

the concept of informal market through the study of the governing economic exchange in those residentials areas.

Key words: squattes; Buenos Aires; etnography; informal market; residencial segregation.

VARGAS GAMBOA, Nataly Viviana
INFORMAL HUMAN SETTLEMENT AS MAIN SOURCE OF BOLIVIA'S URBAN GROWTH: BETWEEN ILLEGALITY AND CONSTITUTIONALITY
América Latina Hoy, 68, December 2014, pp. 57-78

The new Constitution of Bolivia introduced important changes in the protection of housing rights, making a propitious framework to the implementation of new public policy, which pays attention to the dignified housing access of the poor and vulnerable population. Through these changes have been tried to develop housing and right's protection programs to irregular settlements in Bolivia, in order to overcome inefficient conditions of housing access for the poor population that was leading an exponential and uncontrolled growth of cities. However public sector stocks are still unable to provide solutions to these problems.

Key words: irregular settlement; social housing; social function of property; inclusion.

LEITÃO, Gerônimo and DELECAVE, Jonas
ORGANIZED OCCUPATIONS OF URBAN LAND IN RIO DE JANEIRO, IN THE 1980'S AND 1990'S
América Latina Hoy, 68, December 2014, pp. 79-93

This paper addresses the organized occupation of unused urban areas, mostly public, in the city of Rio de Janeiro and adjacencies, between the early 1980s and mid-1990s. These occupations, of strong political character, sought to build popular neighborhoods, outside of the State housing programs, developing urban projects, ordering the land's subdivision and registering its users. Two case studies were selected: the Parque Esperança Community and the Getúlio Cabral Village.

Key words: organized occupation of urban land; social movements; social housing; urban planning; Rio de Janeiro's metropolitan region.

Observed from the housing factor, Montevideo and its metropolitan area walk in a model that drives development *in* the city and not the city development. In this process, we find ways to influence the urban residential structure, through public strategies, market and social. Each sector expressed their aspirations and develop capacities to carry out their interests, composing a scene that defies the guidelines of urban integration and cohesion that progressive governments intend to promote. The AMM intensity expresses the dominance of a functional economic relationship on political and social issues.

Key words: metropolitan periphery; housing; functionality.

Analysis of popular participation in government interventions in Medellín-Colombia, from 1980, in historical contexts of increasing urban informality and illegality. The central argument focuses in the relation between precarious condition, participation and interventions, deriving potentialities for the collective construction of city, framed by the recognition of the social fight as a condition that pre-exists, subsists and transcends the same urban intervention, strengthening it. The article derived as result of qualitative social research, of documentary type.

Key words: participation; potentiality; urban slums; political; intervention.

Why do democracies survive or break down? In this paper, it returns to this classic question with an empirical focus on Latin America from 1945 to 2005. The argument deviates from the quantitative literature and a good part of the qualitative literature on democratic survival and breakdown. It is argued that structural variables such as the level of development and inequalities have not shaped prospects

for democratic survival in Latin America. Nor, contrary to findings in some of the literature, has economic performance affected the survival of competitive regimes. Instead, it is focused on the regional political environment and on actors' normative preferences about democracy and dictatorship and their policy radicalism or moderation. It is argued that 1) a higher level of development did not increase the likelihood of democratic survival in Latin America over this long time; 2) if actors have a normative preference for democracy, it is more likely to survive; and 3) policy moderation facilitates democratic survival.

Key words: democracy; dictatorship; political actors; normative preferences; radicalism.