

# **Vulnerable Local Communities and Interface between Urban Economics and Politics**

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## **Abstract**

Economics of space is not simply about the supply and demand of land, there are a number of other factors that come in play which cause market distortion and take land away from main line market. Politics of space is one such element that upsets the status quo and results in misbalancing the spatial structure. The physical manifestation of the interface between economics and politics of space is evident in terms of peripheral land development, changes in bylaws and building regulations, economic development policies and the emergence of class based neighborhoods.

This paper intends to document these four types of physical manifestations of this interface and study their impacts on the vulnerable communities of the society and their struggle towards getting access and rights of land ownership. The case study that documents peripheral land development and impact on local communities and their struggle is from Nongkou village, Hangzhou, China, the second case documenting the emergence of class based neighborhoods and impacts on local communities is from Kennedy Road Settlement, Durban, South Africa. The third case that documents the changes in building bylaws and regulations and the resistance put up by local communities is from Porto Alegre, Brazil and the last case documenting the impacts of economic development policies is from Dakhaliyah in Egypt.