

Learning from the urban: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Participatory Planning from Belfast

CU2
Contested Cities – Urban Universities

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Scales of Development & Participation

- Regional
- Sub-regional
- City-region
- Metropolitan
- Area Partnerships
- Local



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Realities of Participation

- Strategic & Local
- Participatory Bias & Agendas
- Equality & Legalisms
- Extensive & Intensive
- Voluntary & Prompted
- Consistency & Conformity

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Spatial Planning

- Strategic, Sustainable
- Comprehensive
- Integrative
- Visionary
- Action-oriented
- Participatory

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A new paradigm perhaps!

- The engaged university
- Community planning → spatial planning
- Interdisciplinary approach
- Participation through engagement
- Shared future
- Local ↔ strategic

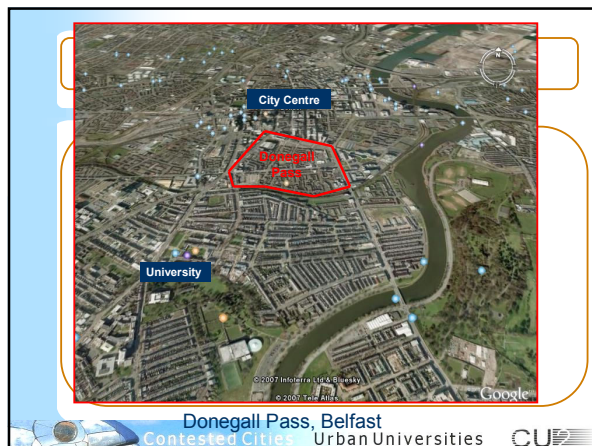
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Donegall Pass Study

- Interdisciplinary approach
Planning, Architecture, Geography, Medicine, Psychology, Education
- Data collection
- Student involvement
- Engagement
Public meetings, focus groups, interviews



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A Changing Community

Profile	Issues
- Population decline 3,700 (1971) – 1080 (2001) 78% Protestant 5% Population Ethnic Chinese - Average household size 1.77 57% one person households (of which 42% pensioners) - Owner Occupation 25% 14% Population 5 GCSE's (A-C) - Income support 34.28% (Belfast 16.9%, NI 10.8%) - Housing benefit 41.2% (Belfast 15.2%, NI 9.7%) - Car ownership 34%	- Limited housing choice - Deprivation sitting alongside affluence - Low levels of social capital - Loss of local services & facilities - Social & ethnic mix - Paramilitarism & macho culture - Territorial mind-set - Pace of change

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A Way Forward?

- Sustainable communities ↔ sustainable development.
- Engaging with communities
- Integrated approach
- Shared future
- Action orientated

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