Resilience - Resistance

Remixing - Reinventing the Right to the City

Judith Ryser CORP conference 14-16 May 2012
Resilience

Meaning?
Resistance

Meaning?
Resilience?

in reality

nature <> humankind
Resistance? in reality

development industry <> people's claims
Assumption
Re-mixing makes cities more sustainable

Mixity: past golden age?

Mixity: present fractured

Mixity: future sustainable?
Sustainability through passive resistance/resilience?

wasteful nature <> resourceful people
Sustainability through active resilience / resistance?

inner strength

outward emotion
Resistance or Resilience of cities
Resilience and Resistance in cities
Crisis -> (Austerity) -> Protest resistance in London

peace camps

student protests

occupy lsx

riots 2011
Peace camps
peaceful, resilient until they achieve results

Effects
short term - positive:
raise awareness and trigger debate
short term - negative:
are discredited, criminalised, evacuated
long term - positive:
achieve results (e.g. anti apartheid SA)
long term - negative:
restrictions to demonstrate and congregate, no photography, more surveillance
Student protests
peaceful or violent, short lived, IT smart

Effects
short term - positive:
intense media coverage, sympathy
short term - negative:
are condemned for violence, criminalised

long term - positive:
achieve results (e.g. no fees in Wales)
long term - negative:
more punitive conditions, more segregation, more surveillance, greater compliance
Summer riots
violent, opportunistic, short lived, IT smart

Effects
short term - positive:
media coverage, expose social polarisation

short term - negative:
anger, criminalisation, harsh punishments

long term - positive:
raise debate on uneven economic hardship

long term - negative:
more punitive conditions, more exclusion, more surveillance, less tolerance
Occupy Lsx

peaceful, alternative, resilient, inclusive

Effects

short term - positive:
media coverage, expose greed & hardship

short term - negative:
irritation, dilemma in church, opposition

long term - positive:
global movement, alternative society

long term - negative:
internal fragmentation, less tolerance, more gated public realm
Resistance and urban change

Effects on the city and neighbourhoods

Negative:
surveillance, use restrictions, privatisation of public realm, gating

Positive:
Innovative use of forgotten spaces
New forms of conceiving, producing, keeping and sharing space
Citizens as producers as well as consumers of urbanity
Conviviality, sharing, exchange, belonging, responsibility
Resistance and urban change

Negative effects on city and neighbourhoods
Resistance and urban change

Positive effects on city and neighbourhoods
Resistance and urban change

Meanwhile…
Resistance and urban change

Meanwhile…
Resistance and urban change

Yet...
Resistance and urban change

Public realm reinstated...
Resistance and urban change

Cohabitation?...
Resistance and urban change

Cohabitation? Cooperation? Sustainable resilience…

Resilience and Adaptive Cycles in Human and Natural Systems - The Simplified Panarchy Model -

Connectedness
Thank you