DISCUSSION PUBLISHERS
Research Center · Open Access Edition

Resilience as a policy narrative: potentials and limits in the context of urban planning

Christophe Bn, Lyla Mehta, Gordon McGranahan, Terry Cannon, Jaideep Gupte, Thomas Tanner

Discussion Research ID	DPR-2026-1481
Year	2017
Field	Social Sciences
DOI	10.1080/17565529.2017.1301868
Author ORCID	0000-0002-7078-9241
Licence	CC-BY
Original source	SOAS Research Online (SOAS University of London)
Permanent link	https://discussionpublishers.com/research/3d88280f-fdba-4496-a194-788864e890ff
Publisher	Discussion Publishers discussionpublishers.com

Republished by Discussion Publishers under the original CC-BY licence. Copyright remains with the original authors; please cite the original work.

Cite as: Christophe Bn, Lyla Mehta, Gordon McGranahan, Terry Cannon (2017). Resilience as a policy narrative: potentials and l. Di

Abstract

The aim of this paper is to analyse the emergence of the concept of urban resilience in the literature and to assess its potentials and limitations as an element of policy planning. Using a systematic literature review covering the period 20032013 and a combination of techniques derived from narrative analysis, we show that diverse views of what urban resilience means and how it is best used (as a goal or as a conceptual/analytical framework) compete in the literature. Underlying these views are various (and sometimes diverging) interpretations of what the main issues are and what forms of policies or interventions are needed to address these issues. Urban planners need to be better aware of these different interpretations if they want to be in a position to use resilience appropriately and spell out what resilience can bring to their work. The review also highlights that the notion of urban resilience often lacks adequate acknowledgement of the political economy of urbanization and consequently does not challenge the status quo which, some argue, is socially unjust and environmentally unsustainable. As such it runs the risk to be seen as simply making marginalized urban communities more resilient to the shocks and inequity created by the current dominant paradigm.

Keywords: urban resilience, urban planning, political economy of urbanization, social justice, environmental s

Full text

The complete text of this work is hosted by its original publisher.
Read it via the Discussion Publishers page:
https://discussionpublishers.com/research/3d88280f-fdba-4496-a194-788864e890ff
Original record: https://soas-repository.worktribe.com/output/372837
DOI: https://doi.org/10.1080/17565529.2017.1301868