Viktória Szirmai
Territorial Consumption Issues of Urban Sprawl in the Large Hungarian Urban Regions (especially in the Budapest Metropolitan Region)

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Sustainable Consumption 2011
Conference
21 January 2011
Corvinus University of Budapest

Introduction
The Relevancy of the Problem
Why is it relevant to analyse the territorial aspect of consumption issues?

According to the Stiglitz Report:

- Progress of society depends not only on economic circumstances but it also depends on the well-being of current and future generations.
- There is a correlation between the well-being of citizens and urban sprawl problems.

Important to examine the consumption issues in a special way.

The empirical background

"The social mechanisms and interests determining territorial consumption models", carried out by the Institute of Sociology of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, within the project titled „Sustainable Consumption, Production and Communication” supported by the Norwegian Financial Mechanism, organised by the Corvinus University.

- Sample: 1000 persons in the Budapest region,
- in the city and in 2 developed, 2 underdeveloped villages in the peripheries,
- 50 elite deep interviews.

Reanalysis of international literature.
Ecological (and Social) Consequences of Urban Sprawl
presented by world photos

Aerial view of an American suburb
American suburbs

Créteil, the southeastern suburbs of Paris
A suburb of Paris

Eastern outer suburbs of Paris: Lognes Torcy
Paris Suburbs: A house in Le Vesinet

The northern suburbs on the mainland in Norway
The northern suburbs on the mainland in Norway

A Hungarian suburb in the Budapest metropolitan region (Üröm settlement)
A house inhabited by higher status people in the outskirts of Budapest

Houses inhabited by lower status people in the outskirts of Budapest
Summary of the ecological consequences of urban sprawl
(worldwide, European, Hungarian context)

- The new types of residential landscapes, and the new models of production of built space are significant,
- The decrease of green areas, forest degradation, environmental damages, pollution are present,
- The development of dispersed cities and the danger of the liquidation of the compact city are characteristic,
- The essential consequences are the rising consumption of energy, water, and the special infrastructural requirements related to the construction of new housing forms.

Ecological (and Social) Consequences of Urban Sprawl
presented by the artists’ view
Edward Albee’s *Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*
Edward Albee’s *A delicate Balance*
*Desperate Housewives*

Luc Besson B13 - *Banlieue 13*
Urbanisation Trends
The Dichotomies of Urban and Suburban Areas

Critics – Supporters – Processes

- Many critics,
- More supporters,
- The most important supporters are the real urbanisation processes.
- And the affected social groups, the winners of suburbanisation.
- What can we see from the statistical data?
### USA – Change in the rate of city and suburb population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metropolitan region</th>
<th>1990 Rate of city</th>
<th>1990 Rate of suburb</th>
<th>2000 Rate of city</th>
<th>2000 Rate of suburb</th>
<th>Change between 1990 and 2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island</td>
<td>37,5%</td>
<td>62,5%</td>
<td>37,8%</td>
<td>62,2%</td>
<td>0,3% 0,3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County</td>
<td>24,0%</td>
<td>76,0%</td>
<td>22,6%</td>
<td>77,4%</td>
<td>-1,4% 1,4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago-Gary-Kenosha</td>
<td>33,8%</td>
<td>66,2%</td>
<td>31,6%</td>
<td>68,4%</td>
<td>-2,2% 2,2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Houston-Galveston-Brazoria</td>
<td>43,7%</td>
<td>56,3%</td>
<td>41,8%</td>
<td>58,2%</td>
<td>-1,9% 1,9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City</td>
<td>26,9%</td>
<td>73,1%</td>
<td>24,5%</td>
<td>75,5%</td>
<td>-2,4% 2,4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Diego</td>
<td>44,5%</td>
<td>55,5%</td>
<td>43,5%</td>
<td>56,5%</td>
<td>-1,0% 1,0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detroit-AAnn Arbor-Flint</td>
<td>19,8%</td>
<td>80,2%</td>
<td>17,4%</td>
<td>82,6%</td>
<td>-2,4% 2,4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dallas-Fort Worth</td>
<td>36,0%</td>
<td>64,0%</td>
<td>33,0%</td>
<td>67,0%</td>
<td>-3,0% 3,0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phoenix-Mesa</td>
<td>43,9%</td>
<td>56,1%</td>
<td>40,6%</td>
<td>59,4%</td>
<td>-3,3% 3,3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


### Europe – Change in the rate of city and suburb population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metropolitan region</th>
<th>1996 Rate of city</th>
<th>1996 Rate of suburb</th>
<th>2004 Rate of city</th>
<th>2004 Rate of suburb</th>
<th>Change between 1996 and 2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oslo</td>
<td>48%*</td>
<td>52%*</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>London</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>1% -1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paris</td>
<td>19%*</td>
<td>81%*</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brussels</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>-1% -1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copenhagen</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>-1% -1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madrid</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rome</td>
<td>75%*</td>
<td>25%*</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>1% 1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vienna</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warsaw</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>1% 1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prague</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>2% 2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ljubljana</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budapest</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>-5% 5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: [www.urbanaudit.org](http://www.urbanaudit.org)
**Suburbanisation trends in the Budapest metropolitan region**

**Hypothesis**: the suburbanisation will be more dynamic in the region

**Based on the facts:**

**Two important tendencies:**

I. The proportion of residential intention to move is not too characteristic and has reduced (2005-2010) (13-10%)
   - Who wants to move? The higher status groups (e.g. high-school graduates, professional groups, entrepreneurs, executives, people with high income)
   - Where do they want to move from? From the city centres, from the transitional zone of Budapest.
   - They don't want to move from the high position suburbs.

II. A **new urbanisation trend appears**:
   - After 2000 the decrease of the Budapest city population stopped.
   - A slow migration trend started from the suburbs to the city (not only in Budapest).

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**American model summary**  **European (and Hungarian) model summary**

- Decline of social and physical position of urban centres,
- Outmigration of the high strata from city centers
- Concentration of the poor strata in city centres.
- New trend: renewal and gentrification of city centres (globalisation).

**Consequences:**
- **Low status of the urban centres**
- **High status of the peri-urban areas**. BUT
- **changing positions of suburban areas** (slow deterioration) (for example Canada).

- A concentration of wealth and upper classes in the city areas.
- The localisation of the lower classes mainly in the outskirts and in the city centers as well.
- Diversification of the suburbs: middle class and working class suburbs.

- New trend: dynamic gentrification of city center areas (Paris, Oslo)
- But not yet in Budapest.

**Consequences:**
- **High status of city centres**, **Low, and also high status of suburbs.**
Formation of significant social spatial disparities:
Dichotomies of cities and suburbs

Where can we detect them?

➢ in the social–structural differences between the urban and the suburban population,
➢ in the commuting differences (based on our data: suburban working class members with some qualification and medium income commute more),
➢ differences in the access to and the usage of educational and health care institutions,
➢ differences in everyday life opportunities.

The future of urban sprawl in the Hungarian context

What can we predict?
The continuity of urban sprawl?
The dynamism of city development?
The development of suburbs?

There is no definite answer yet!
The effects of the contemporary economic crisis slowed down suburbanisation
The migration demands reduced
The majority of urban population is quite satisfied with the conditions of urban life.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION