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Gender & Diversity – Issues and Challenges for the „just city“

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Gender & space

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Functional division of space

- Inner cities: jobs, business districts
- Suburbia: residential areas

Housing

- Post-war social housing according to 'modern' gender orders
- Transformed 'post-modern' gender orders make inner cities more attractive
 - reurbanization (Haase et al.)
 - inner suburbanisation (Frank),
 - gentrification (Bondi),
 - 'genderfication' (van den Berg)
- Demographic change hits post-war housing hardest

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Public space

- Gendered ways to use and appropriate space
- Safety issues

Economy

- Vertical and horizontal gendering of labour market
- Gender pay gap

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Transportation & mobility

- Resources
 - Driving license
 - Availability of car
- Activity chains

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Transportation & mobility

- Resources
- Activity chains
- Barriers
 - Time bound to others and/or to institutions

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Gender-responsive budget in the Canton Basel-Stadt, Switzerland, 2008, table 3, p. 110

| Unpaid labour by residents of Basel-Stadt with and without children below age 15 in 2000 (hours per year and per working person) | | | |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Persons with/without children, and type of unpaid labour | Men and women | Women | Men |
| | Hours per person | Hours per person | Hours per person |
| | and year | and year | and year |
| With children below 15 | | | |
| Housework | 1,184 | 1,738 | 582 |
| Care-giving | 719 | 901 | 522 |
| Total | 1,903 | 2,639 | 1,103 |
| Without children below 15 | | | |
| Housework | 959 | 1,13 | 761 |
| Care-giving* | 316 | 371 | 254 |
| Total | 992 | 1167 | 788 |
| Persons with children versus persons without children (=100%) | | | |
| Housework | 123,4 | 153,8 | 76,4 |
| Total | 191,9 | 226,1 | 140,1 |

Source: Schweizerische Arbeitskräfteerhebung (SAKE) 2000 (Calculations: A. Pfeifer and M. Madoerin)

* only persons who have effectively performed this work. For the purposes of the calculation, it was assumed that all individuals

belonging to this group performed housework but not all were care-givers.

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Transportation & mobility

- Resources
- Activity chains
- Barriers
 - Time bound to others and/or to institutions
 - Socialisation/safety/fear

Gender mainstreaming in planning

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- Which social groups will be affected by a project?
- How will women and men be affected if the decision is enforced? Will some be more affected than others with respect to their financial position, ethnic background, sexual orientation, psychological or mental state, family responsibility, age, language, religion etc.?
- Will the decision lead to an equal distribution of resources, service, influence or the like for both men and women, or to greater inequality?
- Does the procedure reflect prejudices, stereotypes or generalisations concerning the social life, characteristics or behaviour of women and men?

Gender mainstreaming in planning

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Gender criteria (according to Berlin Handbook for Gender Planning, available on the web):

- Diversity and flexibility of space
- Options for social usage
- Spaces for communication and interaction
- Reconciliation of professional and family work
- Security
- Participation

Diversity in planning

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Diversity \leftrightarrow social/cultural differentiation \leftrightarrow inequality?

Which diversity?

- gender
- age
- class
- ethnicity
- religion
- sexual orientation...

Perspectives

- creative cities: diversity as urban “potential”
- reurbanization: diversity in neighbourhoods = social mixing (\rightarrow gentrification?)

doing difference \leftrightarrow essentialism

Diversity in planning

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“The decisive question is how a city can be designed materially and symbolically, socially and spatially so that all residents have the most possible opportunities and chances for self-fulfilment” (Frank 2004: 212)

The Just City

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- Inequality \neq Injustice
 - Justice = legitimized inequality?
 - Justice = what is best for the strongest?
 - The Just City (Fainstein): ensuring key human capabilities
 - life itself
 - to make a living
 - health, bodily integrity
 - access to education
 - ...
- ...in the sense of **equity**, but: contradictory goals

- “to create more just cities, planners need a framework for making judgments between different claims in the planning process, as well as for facilitating them [...] Without clear goals, good implementation strategies and processes are as limited in their potential as are goals lacking appropriate processes for implementation and deliberation” (Fincher/Iveson 2008: 5ff).
- Dimensions:
 - redistribution
 - recognition
 - encounter
- The role of participation?

Open questions

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- Could we actually agree on a definition of justice?
- If yes, what are the capabilities to be ensured to all urban residents for a “just” urban development in times of global environmental change?
- How are social and environmental justice related?
- How can inter-generational issues be considered?
- Who can and is actually willing to ensure these capabilities?

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