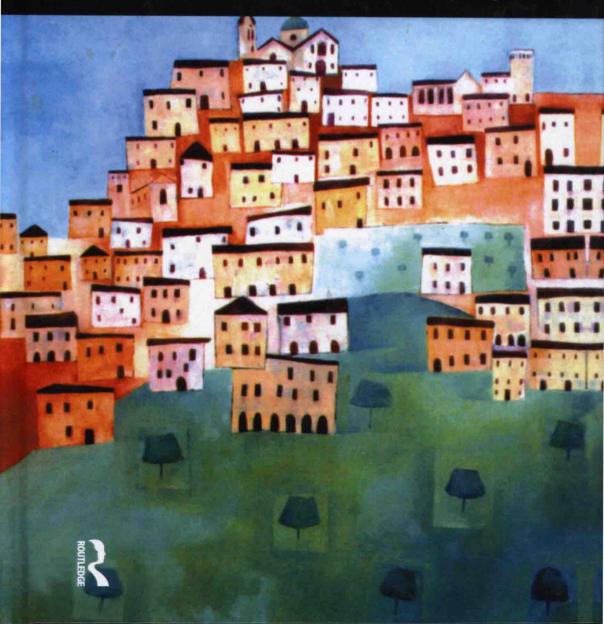
Helen Jarvis, Andy C. Pratt & Peter Cheng-Chong Wu

The Secret Life of Cities

The Social Reproduction of Everyday Life



The Secret Life of Cities

The Social Reproduction of Everyday Life

Helen Jarvis

University of Newcastle upon Tyne

Andy C. Pratt

London School of Economics

Peter Cheng-Chong Wu Chung Hsing University, Taiwan



First published 2001 by Pearson Education Limited

2 Park Square, Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 4RN 711 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017, USA

Routledge is an imprint of the Taylor & Francis Group, an informa business

First issued in hardback 2016

Copyright @ 2001 Taylor & Francis

The rights of Andy C. Pratt, Helen Jarvis and Peter Cheng-Chong Wu to be identified as authors of this work have been asserted by them in accordance with the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988.

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reprinted or reproduced or utilised in any form or by any electronic, mechanical, or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publishers.

Notice:

Product or corporate names may be trademarks or registered trademarks, and are used only for identification and explanation without intent to infringe.

Practitioners and researchers must always rely on their own experience and knowledge in evaluating and using any information, methods, compounds, or experiments described herein. In using such information or methods they should be mindful of their own safety and the safety of others, including parties for whom they have a professional responsibility.

To the fullest extent of the law, neither the Publisher nor the authors, contributors, or editors, assume any liability for any injury and/or damage to persons or property as a matter of products liability, negligence or otherwise, or from any use or operation of any methods, products, instructions, or ideas contained in the material herein.

ISBN-13: 978-0-13-087318-7 (pbk) ISBN-13: 978-1-138-16272-3 (hbk)

British Library Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

Jarvis, Helen.

The secret life of cities: the social reproduction of everyday life/Helen Jarvis, Andy Pratt, Peter Cheng-Chong Wu.

p. cm.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 0-13-087318-7 (pbk.)

1. Cities and towns. 2. City and town life. I. Pratt, Andy C. II. Wu, Peter Cheng-Chong. III. Title.

HT151.J27 2001 307.76—dc21

00-053022

The Secret Life of Cities

The Social Reproduction of Everyday Life

Authors' Acknowledgements

We would like to extend our appreciation to all those who have provided technical assistance in the production process: Matthew Smith, Louise Lakey and Stephen Pepper. Also thanks to Ann Rooke of the University of Newcastle Geography Department for her sterling efforts in processing maps, graphics and photographs to a tight deadline. These appear in a number of chapters.

There are a number of people Helen wishes to acknowledge who have contributed time and ideas to projects included here. Thanks first to Andy for supervising the PhD thesis research, which forms the basis of Chapters 4 and 5. Simon Duncan nurtured the earliest idea of the household lens used in this and subsequent research. Thanks also to Mark Kleinman and Diane Perrons for insightful comments at key stages. Colleagues too numerous to mention have contributed to a stimulating environment in which to do research. Members of the Women and Geography Study Group (WGSG) in particular have provided valuable support over the years. A particular debt of gratitude is owed to the household members interviewed in London, Manchester and Portland, who generously permitted access to their homes and their personal accounts of family life. On a more personal note, Denis Jarvis provided invaluable assistance preparing and relaying US data, contributing towards research reported on in Chapter 7. Family and friends on both sides of the Atlantic are acknowledged for their role in providing lively conduits of local knowledge and support. Helen wishes to acknowledge funding provided by ESRC award no. R00429434382 (for 1996 research) and award no. R000271085 (for ongoing UK-US research) as well as that provided by HSBC Holdings, awarded through the RGS-IBG Small Grants competition.

Andy would like to thank James Simmie and his (then) colleagues at the Bartlett School of Planning, UCL, for proposing a book on London, which initially stimulated his thinking on this topic. In particular, Stephen Merrett and David Banister with whom he tried to fashion an integrated account of 'industry, transport and housing in London'. Out of this collective work came an initial version of the employment–transport–housing relationship. The project never came to fruition and eventually appeared as separate chapters in the book that James edited for us (see Simmie 1994). Thanks to Helen, whose ideas, especially on the notion of the 'household lens', have been so productive in this project. Thanks also to Peter, whose concern for relating social reproduction and the environment has been a challenging objective for us all.

Thanks also to Ros Gill for numerous constructive comments, and Thomas and Katarina, who were a constant reminder of the need to balance home and work, social reproduction and production.

This book was written at a rather difficult time in Peter's life. After receiving his PhD degree from LSE and starting a teaching job in Taiwan, everything seemed so bright. However, at that very moment, Peter's mother was diagnosed as suffering from lung cancer; she passed away eight months later. Peter would like to say how the completion of this book reflects the help he has received from his friends and family. Peter thanks Andy and Helen for the support that they provided in the preparation of the manuscript so that he could spend more time with his mother, as well as holding down his teaching job. Peter also wants to extend his thanks to the colleagues in the Department of Landscape Architecture at Chung-Hua University for their friendship and encouragement. Finally, Peter would like to dedicate this book to his mother and brother, Kuo-Yi, who gave up his job and took full-time care of their mother in the last few months of her life.

Helen Jarvis, Newcastle, UK; Berkeley and Portland, USA Andy C. Pratt, London Peter Cheng-Chong Wu, Taipei, Taiwan/ROC

Publisher's Acknowledgements

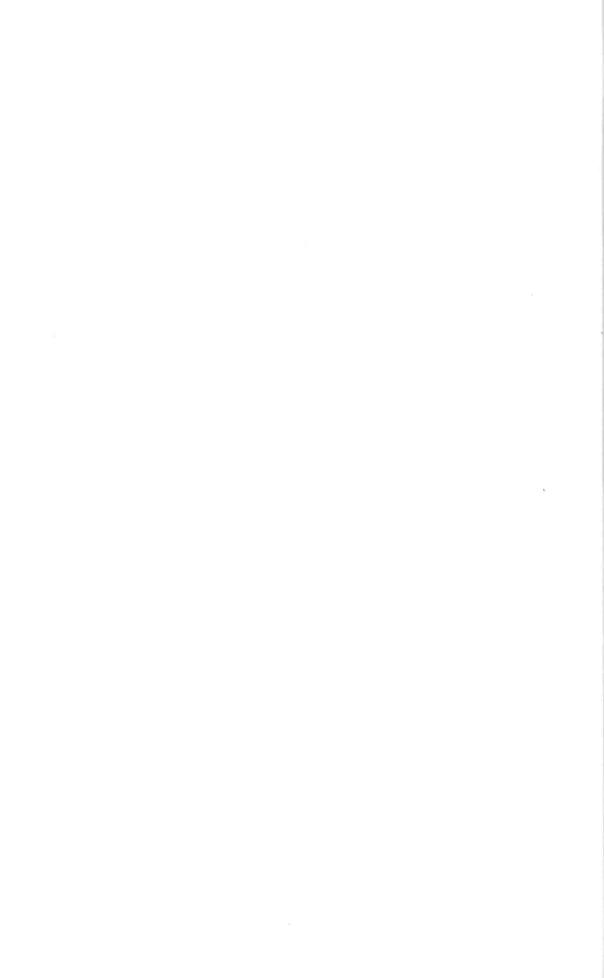
We are grateful to the following for permission to reproduce copyright material:

Figures 3.1a and 3.1b from *Metropolis Now: London and its Region*, Cambridge University Press, (Hall, J.M. 1990); Figure 3.2 from High accessibility and town centres in London, 54, in *URBED (Urban and Economic Development Group)*, Greater London Authority, (the former London Planning Advisory Committee), 1994.

Photograph 1.3 Yellow School Bus (PA Photos); Photograph 3.2 'Metroland' from The London Transport Museum; Photograph 7.1 Organize Tech Temp Workers from *San Francisco Chronicle*, (Photographer: Steve Ringman).

Haringey Council Road Safety Training for use of the 'walk to school parents pledge' and associated information.

Whilst every effort has been made to trace the owners of copyright material, in a few cases this has proved impossible and we take this opportunity to offer our apologies to any copyright holders whose rights we may have unwittingly infringed.



Contents

Li	st of photographs	ix
	st of figures	xi
	st of tables	xii
	uthors' Acknowledgements	xiii
	ablisher's Acknowledgements	xv
1	Only connect: everyday life in the city	1
	Hang on, I'm breaking up	1
	The main themes	2 5 6
	Mismatches and their consequences	5
	The 'school run'	6
	Walk to school parent's pledge	6
	Homes for the workers?	7
	'Off the edge' cities	8
	Hypermobility and environment	9
	Characterising the problem: four dimensions	10
	Employment	11
	Housing provision	12
	Movement	14
	Social reproduction	15
	The road to the present: the dynamics of urban growth	16
	Ideal solutions: new towns and compact cities	19
	New towns	20
	Compact cities	21
	Conclusions	24
2	Being there	27
	Introduction	27
	Fragments of the city: housing provision, employment,	
	households and movement	29
	Housing provision	30
	Employment	31
	Households	32
	Movement	33
	The dual city: towards an integrated analysis?	35
	The dual city and two missing middles	35

	From institutions to networks	37
	Institutions: third way or cul-de-sac?	39
	Practice: a social constructivist approach	39
	Conclusions: towards a secret life of cities	41
3	Making the connections: the dual life of a city	44
	Introduction	44
	Defining London	45
	Decentralisation and disparity: a world city divided	47
	Deindustrialisation: a combination of 'shake-out'	10
	and 'spill-over'	48
	Housing market segmentation	49
	Transport: bridge or barrier?	51
	Retail development: changing regimes	52
	An integrated city?	56
	Time-space coordination and social reproduction	57
	Changes of workplace and changes of the home-work relation Suburban living, household life-course and first-time	61
	buyers	63
	Children's schooling, investment and housing decisions	65
	Commuting: an issue of accessibility	66
	Making the links between home, work and movement	69
	Shopping: the changing contexts of urban life	70
	Local food shopping: space matters	- 71
	Paid employment, gender role and food shopping:	
	time-space matters	71
	Home, work, shopping and transport: the problem	7.0
	of meaningful integration	73
	Conclusions	74
	Notes	74
4	Opening up the household	76
	Introduction	76
	Revisiting ordinary urban households	78
	Peering inside the 'black box'	81
	Mr and Mrs Linklater: 'I tend to be the stodgy one'	82
	Mr and Mrs Langham: 'Circumstances have changed now'	83
	Mr and Mrs Leicester: 'But life was so different then'	84
	Mr and Mrs Land: 'I don't think I would have chosen to	0.5
	go back'	85
	Viewing the household as a duality of structure	88
	The practice of transformation	90
	Space, time and everyday coordination	92
	Spatial arrangement and temporal ordering	94
	Conclusions	96
	Notes	98

	Contents	vii
5	The strategies of social reproduction	100
	Introduction	100
	Two urban neighbourhoods	102
	Thirty working family households	107
	Vestiges of the 'family wage' in 'traditional' male breadwinner households	107
	Extending resources in 'flexible' households	109
	Balancing gender divisions in 'dual' households	109
	Gendered urban cultures	110
	The key relationships	110
	Coordinating housing and employment in two-earner	110
	households: 'risk sensitivity'	111
	Mr and Mrs Livingstone: 'If we were to have a decent	1.1.1
	standard of living, I had to go back to work'	112
	Mr and Mrs Mellor: 'avoid putting all your eggs in	112
	one basket'	113
	The Listers and the Lymingtons	113
	Rootedness	115
	Mr and Mrs Lexington: 'a happy medium'	116
	Negotiating flexibility: flexibility for whom?	117
	Mr and Mrs Morris: that's all we talk about at work,	11/
	not seeing enough of our families	118
	Gendered cultures of production, consumption and	110
	reproduction	120
	Conclusions	121
	Notes	124
	riotes	124
6	Towards urban social sustainability	126
	Introduction	126
	The sustainability debates	128
	Sustainable development: a complex issue	129
	Sustainable development: a reconceptualisation	130
	The concept of environment: natural environment and	
	human-made environment	130
	The concept of development: economic development and	
	socio-economic development	131
	The concept of people: individuals and society	133
	Physical sustainability and social sustainability: external and	
	internal dimensions of a sustainable overall development	134
	Industrial capitalism and social sustainability	135
	Industrial capitalism: a growth machine	135
	Uneven development between production and reproduction	100
	in space and time	136
	Institutional conflict and social sustainability	139
	Restoring the human scale of sustainable development	139
	Spatial integration: planning for sustainability in the UK	141

viii Contents

Urban reconcentration and mixed-use development:	
concentration or integration?	141
Diversity, flexibility and accessibility: a socially sustainable city	143
Conclusions	146
Note	147
7 Widening the web	148
The journey, not the destination	148
Recapping the themes of the book	149
The secret life of Portland, Oregon	152
Some lessons arising from the research	157
Ways of seeing	157
Social sustainability	157
Time and exclusion	158
Women: being everywhere	158
The grain of the city	160
Beyond this book	161
Note	163
Appendix	
Applying qualitative methods and a household perspective	
to local contexts in the city	164
The case studies	164
(1) Four household samples from two contrasting	9
London boroughs	164
(2) Working family households interviewed in London	
and Manchester	164
(3) Working family households interviewed in central	
and outer Portland	167
Neighbourhood-specific household research	167
Use of in-depth interviewing and 'biographical' data collection	168
Interviewing household members together and apart	169
Thematic narrative analysis	170
References	171
Index	189

List of photographs

Photograp	ohs in chapter headings ————————————————————————————————————	
Chapter 1	Seattle, Washington (Source: Helen Jarvis)	1
Chapter 2	5th Avenue, New York (Source: Andy C. Pratt)	27
Chapter 3	Looking south from Alexandra Palace to Central London (Source: Andy C. Pratt)	44
Chapter 4	Toys outside a day-care centre, London (Source:	
1	Helen Jarvis)	76
Chapter 5	Frances's birthday party (Source: Roger Browning)	100
Chapter 6 Chapter 7	Hundertwasser House, Vienna (Source: Andy C. Pratt) Elevated interstate highway damaged by earthquake, San	126
Shap to 7	Francisco (Source: Andy C. Pratt)	148
Photograp	ohs in text	
1.1	The traditional 'school run': mothers escort their	
	children from the school gates in Manchester	
	(Source: Helen Jarvis)	7
1.2	The 'living wage' debate has taken hold on both sides	
	of the Atlantic (Source: Helen Jarvis)	13
1.3	The US-style 'school run' imported to the UK	
	(Source: PA Photos)	16
3.1	Bringing food shopping back to the city (East London Tesco): space for car parking remains (Source:	
	Helen Jarvis)	55
3.2	'Metroland': expanding the horizons of Londoners'	
	housing prospects, 1908 (Source: London's Transport Museum)	64
5.1	Typical inter-war housing in Barking, east London	01
	(Source: Helen Jarvis)	105
7.1	1970s high-density social rented housing in London	
7 2	(Source: Helen Jarvis)	151
7.2	1990s high-density 'urban village' private-sector housing in Portland (Source: Helen Jarvis)	153

7.3 Changing gender roles and household structures: Microsoft 'permatemp' helping out at home (Source: Steve Ringman)

159

List of figures

5.1	London as a quartered city	
	(a) Inner and Outer London	46
	(b) East and West London	47
	(Source: Hall, 1990)	
3.2	London's polycentric retail network - a hierarchy of retail	
	development (Source: URBED, 1994)	53
3.3	Location of Harrow and Tower Hamlets study areas in London	58
4.1	The relational link between household members and the	
	system of the household	89
5.1	Location and plan of east London (Barking) and north	
	Manchester (Prestwich) neighbourhood study areas	104
5.2	Schematic representation of domestic practices and strategies	
	of coordination for thirty households, comparing three	
	'idealised' household employment structures	108
6.1	The relationship between physical and social sustainability	134

List of tables

3.1	Profile of London households interviewed, organised according		
	to four study areas:	(a) Greenhill, Harrow	59
	*	(b) Stanmore, Harrow	59
		(c) Wapping, Tower Hamlets	60
		(d) Bethnal Green, Tower Hamlets	60
5.1	Profile of housing, en	mployment and gender relations in	
	Barking and Prestwice	1 .	106
A.1		mily households interviewed in two case	
	study areas:	(a) London (Barking)	165
		(b) Manchester (Prestwich)	166