Kung, Lap Yan, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

Choi Yuen Village as Heterotopia: A Study of its Change of Function in the Process of the Protest Against the Demolition of Choi Yuen Village

The paper employs the notion of heterotopia proposed by Foucault to analyze how the function of Choi Yuen Village has been articulated, reframed and transformed in the process of the protest against its being demolished that is due to the construction of Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link. The protest has reflected Choi Yuen Village as heterotopia understood in terms of the contrast between China and Hong Kong, urban and rural, landlords and leaseholders, service industry and farming, government and people. This paper suggests that since the protest itself is a process of rewriting the script of identity of the people of Hong Kong, Choi Yuen Village as being a heterotopia of illusion challenges the ideology of good place for living featured by urbanization, commercialization and China-zation.