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Hong Kong: Geopolitics and Intellectual Practice

This paper examines the close relation between geopolitics and intellectual practice. It concentrates on the changing context in which Hong Kong emerged as a legitimate object of research during the Cold War, the evolution of Hong Kong studies into a popular research field in the 1980s and 1990s, and the current decline of Hong Kong studies after 1997. It argues that the field of Hong Kong studies frequently set itself into the paradox of being *sous rature* (under erasure). The more the researchers purport to spell Hong Kong out, the more they proceed to wipe Hong Kong out. A new global change over the knowledge/power configuration as a consequence of China's rise now occurs. This paper at the end put forwards some preliminary views for a possible continuity of Hong Kong studies in such a new geopolitical context.