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Street Vendors as Guerillas in Shanghai

As for the coming World Expo in Shanghai in 2010, more governmental actions have been taken toward street vendors. In this paper, I choose the street vendors around East China Normal University in Shanghai as the case. I will explore the relationship between different street vendors and their tactics of survival struggle. Their actions are a kind of “guerilla warfare”. I will try to answer the following questions: 1) when and why they chose to be street vendors; 2) how they define themselves except the formal definition of “street vendor”; 3) how they conduct “guerilla warfare” and what its driving force is. Nonetheless, I give more emphasis on their everyday life and their persistent occupying the streets no matter how strong the official force to sweep them in the name of “urban tumor”.