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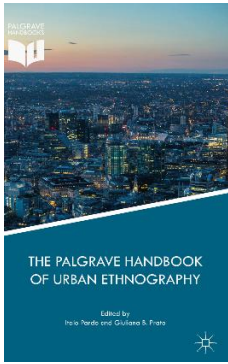
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Italo Pardo and Giuliana B. Prato (Eds)

The Palgrave Handbook of Urban Ethnography

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- Presents a range of topics, such as work, employment, and informality; everyday life and community relations; marginalization, gender, family, kinship, religion and ethnicity; and political strategies and social movements in historical and transnational perspectives.
- Points to new topical debates and charts new theoretical directions. Encourages reflection on the significance of the anthropological paradigm in urban research and its centrality to mainstream academic debates.

These 30 ethnographically-based studies of diverse urban experiences across the world present original cutting-edge research and stimulate an empirically-grounded theoretical reconceptualization. The essays identify ethnography as a powerful tool for making sense of life in our rapidly changing, complex cities. They stress the point that while there is no need to fetishize fieldwork—or to view it as an end in itself—its unique value cannot be overstated. These active, engaged researchers have produced essays that avoid abstractions and generalities while engaging with the analytical complexities of ethnographic evidence. Together, they prove the great value of knowledge produced by long-term fieldwork to mainstream academic debates and, more broadly, to society.

“The ethnographic studies collected in this fascinating volume offer deep insights into important aspects of contemporary urban experience. They span the globe, covering a rich variety of urban settings, theoretical approaches and topics. The case-studies demonstrate the power of ethnographic concepts and strategies for uncovering and making sense of the tensions, socialities, civilities, mobilities, ethnicities, lifestyles and politics that characterise today’s complex urban worlds. This book will be a wonderful companion for those embarking and reflecting on their own urban studies as well as for students seeking a comprehensive and exciting introduction to the growing field of urban ethnography.”

—Bella Dicks, *Head of Research, Amgueddfa-Cymru—National Museum of Wales; Professor of Sociology, Cardiff University*

“In this broad-ranging and state of the art book, anthropologists and sociologists of different generations from around the world demonstrate the power of ethnography to tell deeper stories about key social and political issues in an ever more urbanised world, raising issues about the particular that revitalize more general thinking about theory and policy.”

—John Gledhill, *University of Manchester, UK*

“Perhaps half of humanity now lives in urban settings and that proportion is set to grow. This invaluable Handbook brings together 30 substantive chapters from the fields of qualitative sociology and socio-cultural anthropology that examine a wide range of urban phenomena in a wide range of different parts of the globe, and that make a notable contribution to our understanding of urban life. What the volume resoundingly demonstrates is the value of fine-grain ethnography for the study of urban spaces and forms of sociality.”

—Jonathan Parry, *Emeritus Professor of Anthropology, London School of Economics & Political Science*

“This collection is very timely and welcome, as urbanists from many disciplines are increasingly realizing the crucial contribution of ethnography to understanding cities. Ethnography is the research design most effective for producing unexpected results. As this Handbook shows, open-ended fieldwork allows us to challenge assumptions about what processes are most central to the explanation of the situations that in aggregate make up the novel phenomena of contemporary change in the diverse cities of the world. The wide range of the chapters provides a great window into the diversity of the urban experience.”

—Alan Smart, *University of Calgary, Canada*