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Theme 2

THE SOCIO-SPATIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN DEMOGRAPHY EVOLUTION AND MOBILITY IN VEGA MEDIA OF SEVILLE

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Main theoretical framework and contextualization of the research problem

The region called “Vega Media” -located to the North of the city of Seville, being a part of its metropolitan area and sharing the Guadalquivir Valley - is an exceptional area from a socio-spatial approach. It may be considered characteristic of the so-called rural peri-urban configuration, where different mobilities are contributing to create a structure and ways of life similar to the indovinian model of 'a diffuse city' (Cittá diffusa)¹. However, this area has its own differences and peculiarities.

Research problem and main aims of the paper

This essay tries to deal with one of the processes detected in the project “Mobilities, social diversity and sustainability. The challenges of the European Agenda for the rural development”, on which we have been working for several years. We will study the socio-spatial relations between demography evolution and mobilities in this area. The area that we studied has lived and lives important transformation processes (metropolization following Indovina), largely caused by the socioeconomic development of Seville, but in permanent relationship with a larger scale regional process for a state such as Spanish and a peripheral

¹ For an approach to the model proposed by Indovina see città diffusa (DAEST, Venice, 1990); .The City of low density (Provincial Government of Barcelona, 2007); or the magnificent collection of texts by Oriol Nel-lo called Francesco Indovina. Analysis of the territory city government (Icaria, 2012).

region such as Andalusia. From this perspective, then we intend to identify the most important demographic trends of recent decades, as well as characterize the study population to construct some hypotheses to analyse the relationship between mobility systems and socio-territorial model.

Methodology and techniques used to address the research problem

The approach we propose is based on a mixed methodology (quantitative and qualitative) efforts to improve the understanding of reality through our own development both graphs and tables on those demographic aspects related to mobility (always supported in the production of the Institute Statistics of Andalusia, IEA); and the reading and analysis of other research to interpret population movements. In particular, we used the doctoral thesis entitled " Capital Social en Zonas de Contacto Urbano-Rurales: la Vega Media de Sevilla" (2010), by the geographer Luis Galindo of Azpillaga, and the research of economist Daniel Coq Huelva, entitled "Crecimiento suburbano difuso y sin fin en el área metropolitana de Sevilla entre 1980 y 2010. Algunos elementos explicativos" published in 2012 in the Journal Scripta Nova. We have also supported other references will comment as they appear.

Main findings

Study the process of urban sprawl through the development of certain demographic indicators has allowed us to know, first, what kind of growth has occurred in our study area; second, the relationship of population growth to the labor market; third, the sociological subject that leads the process of dispersion; fourth, the dominant model of mobility in the Middle Vega of Seville; and fifth, the theoretical power of the diffuse city of Indovina for areas of urban-rural transition.

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