

COCHABAMBA IN FRAGMENTS: AN APPROACH TO THE GATED COMMUNITIES PHENOMENON

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ABSTRACT

This research presents an approximation to the status of gated communities in the Cochabamba metropolitan area. In order to understand the characteristics of the fragmented city, and the physical-spatial, social, symbolic and motivational conditions that part of the Cochabamba's population has to inhabit segregated housing complexes, the paper reviews and reflects on the process of socio-spatial differentiation in Western cities and Cochabamba until reaching the phenomenon of gated communities. The results of the study offer an overview of this phenomenon in the metropolitan area, the situation of the institutional framework, as well as the elements that characterize gated communities in the study area.

Keywords: Metropolitan Area of Cochabamba, Gated Communities, Urban Inequality, Socio Spatial Difference, Fragmentation, Segregation.

DOI: 10.23881/idupbo.019.2-6e