O. Yiftachel, J. Little, D. Hedgcock and I. Alexander (eds.), *The power of planning, spaces of control and transformation*

Julien Vandeburie
This book critically addresses the question: “What is the societal impact of urban and regional planning?”. It begins with a theoretical discussion and then analyses, through a series of case studies, the intentions, contents, struggles and consequences of urban and regional planning. It shows that plans and policies often defy the commonly perceived role of advancing equality, justice, development and amenity, by causing social problems, marginalisation and inequalities. The 12 chapters demonstrate the multiplicity of social and political struggles over the contested terrain of spatial policies. The book focuses on four key areas where the impact of planning is explored: community power, gender relations, ethnic tensions and social polarisation, while comparing three societies; Australia, Israel and England.