The Sharing Economy as an Urban Phenomenon

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Why we select this research?

By framing the sharing economy as an urban phenomenon, this article sheds important light on the interaction between urban governance and the sharing economy. This study is highly relevant for city leaders as the authors analyse how the sharing economy is transforming cities and gives practical examples of how local governments are currently regulating the sharing economy.

Key findings

Many sharing companies flourish through a kind of regulatory arbitrage that finds value in frictions and barriers generated by urban regulatory regimes. Local governments are being pushed to be more transparent about their policy interests, creating spillover effects in regulatory regimes beyond the sharing economy. And the sharing economy is transforming cities themselves. The shift from ownership to access is altering development and mobility patterns as traditional links between transportation, housing, and labor markets and the shape of metropolitan space morph.

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Davidson, N. M., & Infranca, J. (2016). The sharing economy as an urban phenomenon. Yale Law & Policy Review