

Health: The Design, Planning and Politics of How and Where We Live

- **Paper / Proposal Title:**

Detached places – ‘modern’ informal settlements

- **Format:**

Presentation in person.

- **Author(s) Name:**

Concepcion del Carmen Rojas Rivera

- **University or Company Affiliation:**

The University of Nottingham

- **Abstract (300 words):**

Key words: *Place-making, leadership, place attachment, physical layout, informal settlements.*

Informal settlements play an important role in the development and growth of cities, but are rarely treated as part of the urban space. These rejections in both the urban and social realms have created trouble with the way the city and their citizens identify and acknowledge themselves as. Reflecting as non-planned cities with pollution, crime and poverty issues, directly affecting the health and wellbeing of both regular and irregular citizens.

These settlements are typically found established on hills, or very hard access lands. Few research on place attachment has been done considering the informality and temporality of these type of settlements, even though they are a crucial part of the cities'

growth. Less research has considered the variables of spatial layout (specifically topography) as a determining factor for social interaction. No research has explored the influence that leadership can impose in the physical layout of informal settlements, which affects the social relationships and living conditions of residents; hence on the place attachment that could be developed by them.

This research, seeks to contribute to debates by exploring the production of knowledge about the formation of informal settlements, and how that impacts on residents' place attachment. Filling up the knowledge gap in urban theory related to socio-spatial impacts on place attachment in informal settlements, which could nurture future planning policies for improvement and relocation

• **Author(s) Biography (200 words each):**

Ph.D. research student part of the Architecture, Culture and Tectonics group. Graduated in Architecture from the Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico in 2001. Gained a MA degree in Architectural Technology from the University of Nottingham in 2003. Worked as Project Manager for different construction companies focusing on Sustainable Building. LEED Green Associate member until 2013. From 2006 until 2015 taught Architecture modules at the Instituto Tecnológico de la Costa Grande in Mexico, where she set up the Speciality of Sustainable Architecture for final year students. Head of the School of Architecture from 2014 to 2015.