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Ecological Gentrification : Re-negotiating concepts of justice in the city *La gentrification écologique: la renégociation des concepts de justice dans la ville*

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In *Justice, Nature & the Geography of Difference*, Harvey (1996) challenged scholars to explore the spatial dialectics associated with environmental and social changes. Part of Harvey's political and intellectual project included demonstrating the dialectical linkages between notions of justice and nature in urban environments. My work responds to Harvey's call for developing a language that reveals the complexity and specificity of how injustices are produced and contested by demonstrating how the ideological constructions of *home*, *homeless*, and *green spaces* produce and perpetuate injustices experienced materially and spatially in the daily lives of homeless people living in urban green spaces. Using Agamben's notion of bare life (1998) as my analytic framework, I explore two issues: (1) the disconnection between notions of *home* articulated by homeless people living in green spaces and the ideological constructions of *homeless* espoused by government and planning agencies; and (2) the tensions in urban green spaces resulting from homeless people who live there because all other options are not viable and the definitions of urban green spaces developed by the city parks department and housed citizens involved in planning for future green spaces in the city. I present the concept of *ecological gentrification*, which I define as the process of organizing space that neglects the lives of the most vulnerable while espousing an environmental ethic. I conclude by advocating a robust pluralism of *home* and *green spaces* as an initial movement towards re-negotiating concepts of justice in urban areas. I present short and long-term strategies for resisting the production of bare life with the goal of improving the material and spatial lives of homeless people, and argue that such strategies require a re-imagined practice of urban ecological planning.