

Review of: "Redefining borders in the contested territory between San Pedro and San Andres Cholula"

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This article provides insightful perspectives on urban planning in Puebla, which are focused on the definition of borders. These borders are identified by the author through a careful examination of the places where some basic services are lacking or are virtually inaccessible. The methods used in this research are, however, disperse in the article and could be exposed in an introduction (which is absent), as well as the main goals.

It would also be interesting to provide a description of the political organization in Mexico, in order to make clear the concepts used. Not all readers are acquainted with this political organization, and this is crucial for a better understanding of the data provided. I would also recommend a review on the historical perspective: the author mentions interesting aspects of bordering in these territories, but it is hard to understand its relevance and the way the perception of these borders change throughout the years.

In this context, it should be stated from the beginning that the author provides a different view on borders, which are defined not by people but by a methodology that is focused on differences between "barrios". For example, not all borders are conflictive scenarios. Consequently, the borders identified within this methodological framework do not have to be consistent with local people's perception. Thus, it is not clear if the author uses – or not – a bottom-up perspective.

In conclusion, this article can be improved with further examination and interpretation of concepts. The identification of borders (within the author's perspective) is a means to a better understanding of social reality and for a planning in which these borders or vulnerable areas are eliminated. This is, from my viewpoint, a remarkable achievement in the future.