which domination permeates the entire practice. The same could be said, it might be presumed, about a broad range of other discussions and applications of environmental ethics.

In the final analysis, those not well-versed in environmental philosophy, especially undergraduates, may find the first two parts of the book rough going. The half dozen or so case study-based chapters, however, are well worth reading and would be valuable in any course on environmental politics, policy, and ethics.

Evans, Peter, ed. 2002. *Livable Cities? Urban Struggles for Livelihood and Sustainability.* Berkeley, CA: University of California Press.

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Exploring questions related to livability in cities in the developing world, *Livable Cities?* is a valuable contribution to research on sustainability and development. Given that cities in the developing world are the expected locus of both future economic and population growth, challenges related to the livability of such cities are central to both environmental politics and urban governance. The volume, which began as a working group of the Social Capital and Public Affairs Project, draws together scholars from a variety of fields to consider how cities can and must be made more livable.

Through case studies from six areas, the volume explores the issues of livability through two linked concepts, livelihood and ecological sustainability. In the book's introductory chapter, Peter Evans defines livelihood as jobs that offer a living wage in close proximity to affordable housing and accessible services and amenities. Sustainability is defined as having three components. First, livelihood needs must be met in ways that do not degrade or destroy the environment of the city. Second, cities must have a sustainable relationship with their hinterlands, something that is especially key in an increasingly globalized world were cities often have large ecological footprints. Finally, ecological sustainability involves some component of "intergenerationl justice," (p. 2) by which Evan's means meeting current needs without compromising the ability of future generations to also meet their needs for livelihood in a sustainable way. Following a discussion of the volume's theoretical context, including discussion of the role concepts such as markets and agency in questions of livability, the book moves on to six case studies of efforts to envision and develop livable cities in the developing world using eight urban areas in three regions of the world.

The second chapter by Douglass, Ard-am and Kim, consider strategies to improve environmental conditions in slum communities located in Seoul, Korea and Bangkok, Thailand. After describing each of the communities and their social, cultural and political contexts, the authors consider how a variety of factors contribute to efforts to increase livability. In the case of the Walgoksa-dong

community in Seoul improvements came through confrontations with the state and demands for better sanitation and amenities rather than some sort of community-state collaboration. In contrast, Wat Chonglom was formed on private land, and developed needed amenities without substantial government support, but also without active efforts to hinder the development of the community.

Next the book moves on to consider experiences from Taiwan and Vietnam. Chapter three, by Hsiao and Liu, examines the history of urban environmental activities in Taipei, Taiwan. Taking advantage of an increasingly open political culture in the late 1980s and 1990s, residents of Taipei began mobilizing to protest the pro-development policies that were leading to widespread changes to landscape within and surrounding Taipei. The authors find that the results of these efforts were mixed based upon disparities in the relative power of communities such that wealthier communities were often able to gain improvements in urban quality, while poorer communities were often further impacted by development activities. In chapter four, Dara O'Rourke develops a model of community driven regulation through a study of community efforts to address environmental pollution in Vietnam. Experiencing both the rapid growth of other Asian nations and a transition from state-socialism to a market economy, Vietnam provides a challenging case for testing the model of community driven regulation. The chapter considers how actions by some communities in Vietnam resulted in a reduction of industrial pollution despite community power being restricted by laws and a lack of strong regulatory allies.

Moving away from cases in Asia, the next three chapters consider efforts to develop more livable cities in Hungary, Brazil, and Mexico. With chapter five, Zsuzsa Gille considers the dangers of a city gaining livelihood and sustainability at the expense of its hinterland. In this case, it is the small village of Gare, which became a repository for toxic waste. Gille explores the context and decisions that led to the predicament of Gare, and the way in which political structures of post-socialist Hungary failed to provide the village with support necessary to resolve its problems. Next, Margaret Keck examines the challenges of creating a sustainable water infrastructure in Sao Paulo Brazil. While involvement of communities and activists in efforts to develop solutions to water quality issues has not resulted in sustainable solutions, Keck offers an interesting insight into the strength of networks, both within and outside government, working to resolve problems. In the book's final case study, Kieth Pezzoli looks at struggles in Mexico City between the livelihood needs of poor communities and the city's needs for ecological sustainability.

One of the greatest strengths of this volume lies in its recognition that it is highly problematic to seek universal solutions for making communities more livable. As Peter Evans makes clear in the book's final chapter, struggles for livability are processes of negotiating questions about human-nature and human-human relationships which occur in specific sociopolitical contexts. The book imparts a vision of agency that recognizes the difficulties faced by communities

and activists, but which also considers the many ways that people are working together to create more livable urban environments. As such, *Livable Cities?* is a helpful volume that explores ways different peoples in different places are engaged in such negotiations. The book is well written and organized, and would be appropriate for advanced undergraduates and graduate students, as well as scholars from fields such as environmental studies, public policy and urban development.