

**THE SOCIO-SPATIAL DIFFERENTIATION IN URBAN AREAS  
A GIS APPLICATION TO BAHIA BLANCA AREA**

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ISPRS Commission VI - Working Group 3

**ABSTRACT:**

The differentiated urban space reflected the inequalities between social groups and these are materialized in residential areas. Space is a social product and so it is the consequence from several mechanism and forces, acting in urban land market, which influence in patterns of residential localization of the different social groups.

Differentiation in socio-spatial structure of the city results from the residential areas distribution and the socio-economics features of dwellers, just as the infrastructure and equipment available that are related with public investments. By applying many variables related with these aspects, the aim of this work is to identify socio-spatial differentiation in Bahia Blanca, a mean size city located 700 km south of Buenos Aires, Argentina.

The Census information of 1991 was applied to establish differentiation in residential urban areas within the city. The problem is to compare this arrangements with neighborhoods or other organized areas.