

Urban sprawl

Source information

Reference list entry:

Duany, A., Plater-Zyberk, E., & Speck, J. (2010). *Suburban Nation: The rise of sprawl and the decline of the American dream* (10th ed.). New York, NY: North Point Press.

What it's about:

In *Suburban Nation: The rise of sprawl and the decline of the American dream*, authors Andres Duany, Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk, and Jeff Speck discuss the spread of urban development in the form of houses and strip malls, and present the various problems created by this type of development, including traffic, scarcity of resources, and lack of a sense of community.

From Duany, Plater-Zyberk, and Speck page 4:

"The traditional neighborhood—represented by mixed-use, pedestrian-friendly communities of varied population, either standing free as villages or grouped into towns and cities—has proved to be a sustainable form of growth."

From Duany, Plater-Zyberk, and Speck page 6:

"*Shopping centers*, also called *strip centers*, *shopping malls*, and *big box retail*. These are places exclusively for shopping. They come in every size, from the Quick Mart on the corner to the Mall of America, but they are all places to which one is unlikely to walk."

Your paragraph

Many environmentalists are concerned with urban sprawl, which is the development of open land near a city. *Suburban Nation*, by Duany, Plater-Zyberk, and Speck, describes the problems with urban sprawl. The book's main point is that suburbs create terrible traffic, waste resources, and do not foster a sense of community. According to the authors, in contrast to suburbs, cities have proved to be "a sustainable form of growth." In their section titled "The Five Components of Sprawl," the authors discuss strip malls, which they say are intended for only one purpose: shopping. Suburbs are dependent on car ownership. As the authors say, "In suburbia, there is only one available lifestyle: to own a car and to need it for everything."