

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For The Following Qualification:-

B.Sc.

ES3580: Sociology and Planning

COURSE CODE : **ENVS3580**

UNIT VALUE : **0.50**

DATE : **21-MAY-04**

TIME : **10.00**

TIME ALLOWED : **3 Hours**

ENVS3580 SOCIOLOGY AND PLANNING

Answer three questions.

1. Describe the impact of the restructuring of employment on British cities since the 1970s. To what extent can the public sector influence the geography of employment?
2. Analyse the trend towards the 'residualisation of council housing' in the UK over the past decades and outline possible policy measures to tackle the problem.
3. Critically discuss the factors influencing an individual's residential location decision.
4. This quote illustrates criticisms frequently addressed to property-led urban regeneration as practiced in the 1980s. "*Global over-investment in prestige projects and events provides a highly inefficient subsidy to the private sector and (...) results in the neglect of the basic social infrastructure on which the long-term future of cities depends. Any benefits which are created are distributed unevenly, increasing social inequalities and inhibiting social justice*" (Loftman et al, 1994: 3)¹. Critically discuss.
5. Critically discuss whether policies for the inner city initiated since the 1980s have addressed the situation and needs of ethnic minorities in the UK.
6. Critically discuss whether it is desirable and possible for public policy to influence re-urbanisation.
7. Critically assess the claim that there is an underclass in contemporary British cities.
8. Critically examine to what extent New Labour policy initiatives since 1997 have signalled a significant shift in British urban policy.

END OF PAPER

¹ Loftman, P. et al (1994), *Inter-city competition, place promotion and social justice*, University of Central England, Birmingham, Faculty of the Built Environment, Research Paper No. 8