

# The Winners in China's Urban Housing Reform



## Professor John R. Logan

20 January 2010 (Wednesday) , 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm  
KB223, Knowles Building, The University of Hong Kong

*John R. Logan is Professor of Sociology and Director of the initiative on Spatial Structures in the Social Sciences at Brown University. He is a member of the editorial boards of Journal of Urban Affairs and City and Community. He is well known as co-author of Urban Fortunes: The Political Economy of Place (California 1987), and he has edited two books about urban China: The New Chinese City: Globalization and Market Reform (Blackwell 2002) and Urban China in Transition (Blackwell 2007). He was the founding director of the Urban China Research Network, supported by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. He is at present Visiting Research Professor of the Strategic Research Theme on Contemporary China Studies of the University of Hong Kong.*



“Housing reform in China has proceeded on two tracks: privatization of public housing and development of a new private housing sector. During this period of transition, rents have remained relatively low in the remaining public housing, and purchase prices offered to occupants of public housing have been well below market prices. Although these rents and prices are partly based on known formulas, there is considerable variability in how much people pay for similar apartments. This study uses 2000 census data to estimate the housing subsidy received by the remaining renters in the public sector and purchasers of public housing, based on private sector prices for housing of comparable quality and size. It also analyzes variation in the estimated discount from market prices that these people receive. The findings show that the biggest winners in China's transition from socialist housing allocation are those who were favored in the previous system, based on such factors as residence status, education, and occupation.”

*All are welcome!*



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