



Special Issue Call for Planning Theory on the Impact of Hardin's 'Tragedy of the Commons' on planning theory

This call builds from a joint ACSP/AESOP panel session in 2018 titled "After Hardin." The goal of this special issue is to conduct a scholarly autopsy on the role that Hardin's Tragedy has wrought on planning theory. Such a close examination is urgent as planning seeks to reinvent itself in solving ever-escalating humanitarian crises, as highlighted by keynote speakers at these ACSP and AESOP conferences.

It has been 50 years since Garrett Hardin's 1968 article 'Tragedy of the Commons'. Citation analysis shows that Hardin's 'Tragedy' is continuing to be cited in ecology, economics, biology, and other physical science disciplines (Costanza, 2004; Fidelis, 2018). His premise forms the foundation of theoretical and practical planning dialogs. Namely, there are too many people who want to make use of common resources. Without drastic action, they will run roughshod over the resource to its and their own demise. Many proponents of zero or slow growth planning policies call on Hardin's work. Indeed, broad-reaching policies used 'The Tragedy' as the basis for arguing for privatization. Hardin noted, "*the tragedy of the commons ... is averted by private property, or something formally like it*" (Hardin, 1968, p. 1245).

This special issue seeks to define Hardin's legacy in planning theory. Are his ideas and recommendations still salient, or should they be excised from planning theory? Indeed, 'The Tragedy of the Commons' is widely refuted, most notably by Nobel-prize-winning Elinor Ostrom (Ostrom, 2015). Ostrom's eight design principles (1990, p 58-102) are upheld by hundreds of empirical case studies that illustrate long enduring common pool resource management. Her work suggests that there may not be a tragedy and that privatization is certainly not the answer for resource management.

Understanding Hardin's legacy in planning is urgent as planners shape the management of natural, social, capital and physical resources in the face of climate change and urbanization. This special issue re-evaluates the role that Hardin has played in shaping planning theory. Empirical case-based articles are welcomed as long as they contribute to theory-building work in planning that translates the many understandings of the commons and their resource management to current and future planning paradigms. Articles can reflect back on the influence of Hardin on planning theory, but may also build new theory in relation Hardin's influence.

Abstract submission: November 1, 2019

Please submit abstracts to Dr. Catherine Brinkley, ckbrinkley@ucdavis.edu

The subject line should be "After Hardin, Author Name"

Abstracts can be 200-350 words in length.

Invited authors will submit their first draft to guest editor (Dr. Catherine Brinkley), due by January, 2021