# Policing Violence in the Digital Age, the case of South Tel-Aviv

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## Abstract:

South Tel Aviv is an area of ethnic, religious and social heterogeneity, affected by social changes such as immigration, prostitution, homelessness and drag use. These challenges rise tensions and instability in the public sphere, which often represented in the media as unsafe and violent. This dynamic has fostered radical transformation to include greater management and involvement of police agencies, implementation of surveillance technologies, and spatial practices of control, all being used by various authorities and civic organizations. Yet these efforts are being constantly challenged by the nature of the complex social problems (i.e. drug use, immigration, prostitution) and the power of residents. Nowadays, residents use digital platforms to enhance greater control over representation and space.

Through quantitative and qualitative research methods, three key questions are examined: 1.) What technological and spatial means of control are being used to enhance safety and stability? 2.) What are the implications and challenges of this tools on the ground? 3.) and how does digital technologies challenge the traditional power balance between residents, authorities and civic society in shaping space and enhancing order?

Methodologically, the research is based on mixed methods; media and social media analysis, interviews with police-man, residents, civic organizations and municipality, ethnographic and spatial analysis.

The examination of south Tel Aviv will enable to understand better the way technology change and affect conflicts in the city, the way it challenges traditional models of policing and governing, and the way it generates new ways of resident's engagement. With the growing dispute and heterogeneity of our cities, due to processes of immigration and inequality, many cities are concerned with instability, social tensions and fear of violence. This research will shed light on the complex relations between violence, space and technology in our contemporary cities.