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TITLE: Youthful Socialities in Australia's Urban Multiculture

Author/s: Anita Harris

Affiliation/s: Deakin University

This paper considers the function of friendship as a form of urban relation for young people living in working class areas of Australia's major multicultural cities. These neighbourhoods are characterised by very high diversity, significant socioeconomic disadvantage and large youth populations, and over the last 5 years many have received the largest influx of refugees and migrants of any Australian municipality. Against this backdrop, this paper investigates how young people create ways of being together beyond and beneath the imperatives of social cohesion initiatives to participate in harmonious community-making. In particular, it argues that young people negotiate everyday forms of convivial co-habitation through the production and regulation of friendship relations and networks that serve to recognise and manage, rather than eliminate, conflict and indifference. It suggests that young people's mundane practices of sociality exceed and complicate mainstream policy endeavours, and offer some important and hopeful ways to expand theorisation of social relations in the multicultural city.