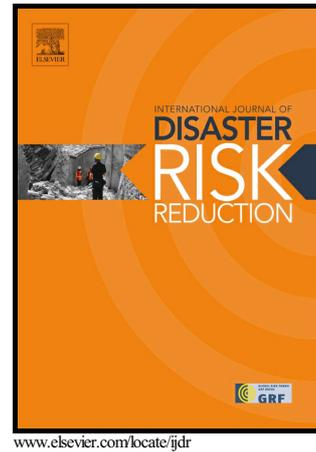


Author's Accepted Manuscript

A critical analysis of vulnerability

Christine Gibb



PII: S2212-4209(17)30329-1
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijdr.2017.11.007>
Reference: IJDRR713

To appear in: *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*

Received date: 9 August 2017
Revised date: 7 November 2017
Accepted date: 8 November 2017

Cite this article as: Christine Gibb, A critical analysis of vulnerability, *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijdr.2017.11.007>

This is a PDF file of an unedited manuscript that has been accepted for publication. As a service to our customers we are providing this early version of the manuscript. The manuscript will undergo copyediting, typesetting, and review of the resulting galley proof before it is published in its final citable form. Please note that during the production process errors may be discovered which could affect the content, and all legal disclaimers that apply to the journal pertain.

A critical analysis of vulnerability

Christine Gibb

Affiliation where the work was done:

Chaire de recherche du Canada en études asiatiques,

Université de Montréal, C.P. 6128, succursale Centre-ville, Montréal, QC, Canada H3C 3J7

Current affiliation:

Department of Geography and Planning,

University of Toronto, Sidney Smith Hall, 100 St. George Street, Toronto, ON, Canada M5S 3G3

Present and permanent address:

430, rue du Docteur Thauvette, Vaudreuil-Dorion, QC, Canada J7V 6Z6

christine.gibb@gmail.com, tel: 1 514 358 2975

Abstract

Vulnerability is a concept fundamental to the theoretical and practical dimensions of disasters. Paralleling, and sometimes diverging from, the dominant physicalist discourse in disaster studies, disaster management and engineering-oriented studies, the conceptualisations of vulnerability and their application have undergone several transformations. In this paper, I critically examine the naissance, use and critiques of a structural understanding of vulnerability in the context of disasters. I contend that a structural understanding of vulnerability is less problematic than its physicalist predecessor from both theoretical and practical perspectives, but it is not unassailable. In fact, not only does structural vulnerability have an Achilles heel, but its potentially fatal flaws are shared by the physicalist paradigm. Instead of rejecting the structural vulnerability paradigm or being paralysed by the apparent impasse, I argue that scholars, practitioners and policy-makers should focus on the ways in which structural vulnerability benefits disaster theory and practice, and foreground the relational character of vulnerability.

Key words

Structural vulnerability; natural hazard; disaster; physicalist paradigm

Download English Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/en/article/7471584>

Download Persian Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/article/7471584>

[Daneshyari.com](https://daneshyari.com)