

FOOD SHARING ECONOMIES

Transformative forms of eating in the Anthropocene?

Consuming the Anthropocene II
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Anna Davies

Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

Email: daviesa@tcd.ie

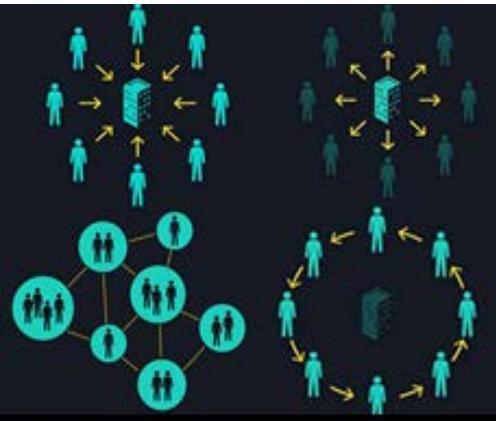
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SHARING



“Have a portion of (something) with another or others; Give a portion of (something) to others; Use, occupy, or enjoy (something) jointly with others; Possess (a view or quality) in common with others; Tell someone about (something, especially something personal) ...” (OED, 2014)



“Act and process of distributing what is ours to others for their use and/or the act and process of receiving or taking from others for our use.” Belk (2010) - **excludes contractual renting, leasing or unauthorized use**



“An economic model based on sharing underutilized assets from spaces to skills and stuff for monetary or non-monetary benefits. Largely focused on P2P markets” Botsman & Rogers (2010) – **excludes B2C; B2B**



WORKING DEFINITION

Social practice of sharing (formally or informally) underutilized food-related assets (crops, food products, food preparation spaces and devices, food growing and cooking skills) for monetary and non-monetary benefits

IDENTIFYING FOOD SHARING ECONOMIES



FOOD SHARING DATABASE

Sampling

- Global Sharing/Collaborative Consumption Networks:
 - Sharing Cities Network – 51 cities (Nov. 2014) 54 (Apr. 2015) 72 Sharing City Community Maps
 - Mesh Directory, P2P Directory, Open Food Foundation, Farm Hack, Open Source Ecology, Shareable
- Key word search

Preliminary findings

- 91 Countries - 468 Cities - >5500+ Enterprises/Sharers?
- 54 Networks/Multi-city Enterprises:
 - Incredible Edible UK - 200 groups worldwide inc. Europe, USA, Japan, Australia, India, NZ
 - Foodsharing.de 40,000 members in 218 German cities & Austria, Switzerland, Mexico, Israel , UK
 - Food Sharing Network (USA)
 - Community Food Sharing Association (Canada)
 - Australian Food Hubs Network

Limitations

- 1 month scoping study; English language websites only; Descriptive on-line data: county, city, name, web-address, focus
- Diversity of 'sharing' – what counts as a food sharing economy?

FOOD SHARING ACTIVITIES

Sharing Stuff

- Surplus public or privately grown crops: ***Cropmobster*** (USA)
- Surplus food from individuals or households: ***foodsharing.de*** (Ger.)
- Surplus food from retailers or institutions: ***foodCloud.ie*** (Ire.)
- Home-cooked food and cottage industries: ***Cookisto*** (Greece)
- Space and appliances: ***People's Kitchen Detroit*** (USA)
- Food cultures: ***The Cultured Club*** (Ire.)

Sharing Knowledge

- Sharing information about wild or publicly available foods: ***Falling fruit*** (USA)
- Sharing skills for food production and preparation: ***Open Food Foundation*** (Aus.)

Sharing Experiences

- Home-cooked food in homes: ***Eat With*** (Global); ***Opendoor Supper club*** (Ire.)



SPECTRUM OF FOOD SHARING

| What is shared? | Concept | Examples | Participants (typical) |
|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Material | Recovery and recycling | Biogas | Many suppliers, fewer users |
| Product | Food redistribution | Food banks | Single provider to single user |
| Service | Product service system | Eat With | Single provider to many users |
| Wellbeing | Collaborative lifestyles | Cookisto | Many single providers to many single users (P2P) |
| Capability | Collective commons | Landshare | Collective providers to collective users |

Following, Julian Agyeman, Duncan McLaren and Adrienne Schaefer-Borrego (2013)
Sharing cities, Friends of the Earth's 'Big Ideas' project



FOOD SHARING IN THE ANTHROPOCENE

- What does the phenomena of food sharing mean for academic consideration of the Anthropocene?
- Is it the Anthropocene or the Metrocene that we should be focused on?
- Neo-Food sharing as socio-technological innovation shifting materialities, geographies and practices of consumption under austerity, risk and inequality
- Food sharing creating new biopolitics of consumption through its new spatial, political and economic assemblages
- Sharing built on trust
- How to govern safely the new food sharing economies - handing out food on the streets as a 'crime' (Las Vegas, dissertation Southern Nevada Regional Planning Commission) - initial criminalization, then marginalization and moralization of urban food-
- sharing within a disciplining, bio(necro)political (Nast, 2011) context
-
- Following Meloni (2010), the paper will also reflect on the ways in which biopolitical discourses may impact the multifaceted assemblages that constitute various food sharing economies. This includes attending to the forms of biopower enacted by sharers and sharing regulators and the tools and technologies of intervention that are, or may be, used to shape the potentially transformative territories of food sharing in cities. In this way food sharing provides an exemplar socio-material complex for engaging with the tensions and



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Sharing Economies? Theories, practices and impacts

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