CONTRADICTION AND SYNONYMY IN IDEOLOGIES
The Potentials for a Subversive Socio-Spatial Dialectic
in the Public Housing Spaces of Singapore

by

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ABSTRACT

This dissertation aims to look at the ‘revolutionary consciousness’ that French Marxist Henri Lefebvre and American geographer Edward Soja has written on concerning the spatial dialectics that are present in the space we dwell in. Furthering a paper on the spaces of public housing [Sng, 2000] where the potentials of this revolutionary consciousness reside in any actions undermining the ideology of ‘nation’, this paper proposes to examine the ideology of ‘nation’ further, and examine the similarity between these two ideologies. If it could be shown that the two ideologies have seemingly overlapped in recent years to the extent that the capitalist tag could not be separated from that of ‘nation-building’, can there then be any potentials for the possibility of ‘revolutionary consciousness’ in the spaces of public housing? With the synonymy of these two ideologies, the possibilities of ‘subversive socio-spatial dialectic’ are revisited, together with an investigation on the everyday lived spaces of public housing.

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