



Topic of the Month #14

2016 Olympics: What Rio Doesn't Want The World To See



The 2016 Olympics are about to begin in approximately a month in **Rio de Janeiro**. Vox calls our attention to the fact that “As the city prepares to receive an influx of international visitors, it is building new infrastructure and transportation systems to accommodate the surge. But the city is also undergoing another major project: **hiding and removing poor people from view** of foreign onlookers.” “This sort of urban planning around hiding the poor is not unprecedented in Rio. The city has hosted numerous international events in recent years, and in each instance, similar removal policies have been instituted to keep the city’s poor out of site of visitors. One thing that makes this sort of discriminatory urban planning possible is what Orlando Santos, an urban planner I spoke to, calls “the state of exception.” Santos explained that when mega events like the World Cup or the Olympics come to town, the city is able to justify drastic decisions that, in normal times, would never be acceptable.”

Click on the picture for a VIDEO on the 2016 Olympics and the FULL ARTICLE