

The Politics of the Governed: Company Community Policies and Local Repertoires of Action

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Critical analyses of local governance in extraction enclaves tend to focus on companies' ordering practices and how such practices, and often the mere presence of the firm, affect local communities. They tend to neglect the agency of those being addressed, or affected by, oil and mining company practices. This paper develops a heuristic framework for studying popular politics of contestation and appropriation and provides a typology of the repertoires of action societal actors use to mobilize against, or for cooperation with, multinational companies. Empirically the paper draws on field research on mining companies' governance practices and the contentious strategies of local and transnational societal actors in the DRC, South Africa and Guinea.