



Women in Informal Employment
Globalizing and Organizing

Urban Paradigms & Street Vending: A Global View

1. Licensing Regimes

Conventional wisdom: Street vendors are ‘outside’ of regulation. Yet we see **extensive regulation of vendors** all over the world.

New York City Independent Budget Office

Fiscal Brief

November 2010

Sidewalk Standoff:

**Street Vendor Regulations Are Costly,
Confusing, and Leave Many Disgruntled**

Standard framework for licensing: require vendors to hold a license in order to trade, then limit the number of licenses issued, and selectively enforce when politically convenient. **Modifications needed:** to recognize the possibilities for regulation with low barriers to access for licenses specifically.

2. Spatial Control

Conventional wisdom: evicting/relocating street vendors will make them go away.

Standard framing driven by entrepreneurial urban governance paradigm. Research on political dynamics of urban space (including resistance) is now well established.

Modifications needed: to differentiate ‘formalization’ approaches using spatial control from other approaches.



3. Enforcement

Conventional wisdom:
regulations aren't enforced.

Standard frameworks for enforcement: fines, merchandise confiscations, license revocations, arrests.
Modifications needed: to close gaps via administrative law.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD • NOTICE OF VIOLATION AND HEARING • FOR CIVIL PENALTIES ONLY
City of New York, Petitioner vs Respondent:

LAST NAME (Print) FIRST NAME INITIAL Sex
STREET ADDRESS
CITY STATE ZIP

TYPE OF LICENSE / PERMIT OR IDENTIFICATION NUMBER
1 Consumer Affairs License 4 Vehicle Plate 7 Cert. of Auth.
2 Health Dept. License 5 Meter Number 8 Build. Reg. No.
3 Motorist Identification 6 Soc. Sec. No. 9 Telephone No.
10 Other

NOTICE ALSO SENT TO FIRST NAME INITIAL
LAST NAME
STREET ADDRESS
CITY STATE ZIP

The Respondent is charged with violation of Law/Rule.

Date of Offense	AM	Time	PM	Borough	CB NO.	Violation Code
2/20/11	<input type="checkbox"/>	3:15	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	M Bx Bkn Q St	001	201.16

NYC ADMINISTRATIVE CODE/RULES OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK OTHER CODES

1 <input type="checkbox"/> Air Code Provisions	5 <input type="checkbox"/> Sanitation Provisions	9 <input type="checkbox"/> Park Rules	11 <input type="checkbox"/> NYS Public Health Law
2 <input type="checkbox"/> Noise Code Provisions	6 <input type="checkbox"/> General Vendor Provisions	10 <input type="checkbox"/> Other	12 <input type="checkbox"/> NYC Health Code Provisions
3 <input type="checkbox"/> Water Code Provisions	7 <input type="checkbox"/> Food Vendor Provisions		13 <input type="checkbox"/> NYS VTL
4 <input type="checkbox"/> Sewer Code Provisions	8 <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation Provisions		14 <input type="checkbox"/> Other

SECTION/RULE
At Front of Opposite Place of Occurrence

DETAILS OF VIOLATION
Property Removed
 Yes No
ALTERNATIVE SERVICE
 1-2 Family Multiple Dwelling Commercial
Mail-In Penalty Schedule
\$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$ Other
Maximum Penalty For Violation
\$ or see reverse side
8:30 AM 10:30 AM 1:00 PM 2:30 PM
Date of Hearing 3 Day of February 20 1 2 3 4
Proceedings to be held under the authority of Section 2409-a of the NYC Charter and the rules promulgated thereunder.
WARNING: If you do not appear (or pay by mail if permitted) you will be held in default and subject to the maximum penalties permitted by law. Failure to appear or pay a penalty in person may lead to suspension of your license or other action affecting your ability to do business in the City of New York, as well as the possibility of a judgment entered against you in Civil Court.
I, an employee of the below agency, personally observed the commission of the civil violation charged above. False statements made herein are punishable as a class A misdemeanor pursuant to section 210.45 of the Penal Law. Attended under penalty of perjury.
COMPLAINANT'S NAME (Printed) TAX REGISTRY NUMBER AGENCY
No. E 176 590 756
176 590 756

4. Taxation

Conventional wisdom: street vendors don't pay taxes.

Standard frameworks for taxation: local levies, excise taxes, fees associated with licenses, permits, health certifications. **Modifications needed:** accounting for 'costs of being informal' including all forms of tax, plus relationship of tax to service provision.



Three Priorities for Research

- Ongoing interactions between street vending organizations and authorities at all levels — the spaces in between the headlining moments
- Emerging models for own-account workers to access social protection and otherwise mitigate risk
- Structured comparisons as one of many methods that bring value to debates on street vending