

**Borsdorf, A. & R. Hidalgo** (2004): Vom Barrio Cerrado zur Ciudad Vallada. Neue Dimensionen der sozialen und funktionalen Exklusion in Santiago de Chile. Mitteilungen der Österreichischen Geographischen Gesellschaft 146: S. 111-124.

### **Abstract**

Since about 30 years in Latin American cities above 80.000 inhabitants there can be observed an increasing trend to socio-spatial exclusion. Gated communities, hermetically closed against their neighbourhood by walls and sophisticated security installations have risen in nearly all Latin American towns. It started with the closure of streets, went on with the construction of high rising apartment houses and concluded in gated neighbourhoods ("barrios cerrados") of up to 150-200 houses. The tendency towards social exclusiveness and inward orientation of family homes is to be seen as an element of Latin American tradition. Under this perspective the enclosure could have been seen as a cultural relict, as well. However, in the last years mega-projects have been launched which because of its size of more than 300 ha and some ten thousands of inhabitants can no longer be called "quarters" or "neighbourhood" but must be seen as new towns. In Santiago de Chile the new trend resulted in the construction of private highways combining several exclusive quarters or cities, which are accessible only for the citizens of these districts, but not for the public. This new development can only be interpreted as a result of globalisation and neoliberalism.