Abstract
During the past years Bogotá and Medellín have become the stage for a series of governmental innovations in which the reconfiguration of 'culture' and 'space' has had a preeminent role. As laboratories of urban reconstruction these cities pose important questions about emergent paradigms of urban policy and planning in Latin America. In this article I take the first steps towards an understanding of these urban transformations stressing the importance of an anthropological critique of governmental knowledge and practices.

Keywords
Governmental knowledge and practices, urban interventions, Bogotá, Medellín