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Paper title: "Contesting the construction of knowledge in relation to extractive industry projects: the role of social practitioners in the mediation of corporate-community conflicts"

Description: Changes in the governance of extractive industry projects have brought increasing prominence to the role played by social practitioners. These are professional experts on social matters who operate typically as private consultants to extractive firms. Increasingly they are relied upon to develop corporate policy, manage corporate-community relations, and ensure regulatory compliance on social matters. This paper assesses how social practitioners are involved in the mediation of corporate and community relations through the construction and communication of knowledge back and forth between corporate, community and state actors. This study is based on fieldwork in Peru involving interviews with social practitioners, industry managers, regulators, and campesinos affected by a prospective large mine project.