



GENDERED STREETS: RETHINKING URBAN PUBLIC SPACES THROUGH INCLUSIVE PLANNING

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Abstract: Urban streets are more than transportation corridors; they are social spaces that shape and reflect the inclusivity of cities. This study examines how urban street design, infrastructure, safety, accessibility, and planning policies influence gender inclusivity in public spaces, focusing on Gomti Nagar Extension, Lucknow.

Keywords: Gendered Streets, Urban Planning, Gender Inclusivity, Public Space, Urban Safety, Accessibility, Gender Mainstreaming, Inclusive Design.

I. INTRODUCTION

Urban streets serve as critical components of city life, functioning not only as transportation networks but also as spaces for social interaction, economic activity, and community engagement. The concept of gendered streets refers to the unequal experiences of individuals within public spaces resulting from urban design practices, cultural norms, and governance structures.

II. BACKGROUND AND MOTIVATION

- A. Understanding Gendered Streets
- B. Urban Safety and Accessibility Challenges
- C. Need for Gender-Inclusive Urban Planning

III. LITERATURE REVIEW

The literature highlights the importance of safe, accessible, and inclusive public spaces. Studies by UN-Habitat, Phadke et al., and the City of Vienna demonstrate the significance of gender-sensitive urban planning.

IV. ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

Case Study: Gomti Nagar Extension, Lucknow

Key findings include inadequate lighting, discontinuous footpaths, lack of public amenities, and reduced female mobility after sunset.

B. Comparative Case Studies

Delhi and Vienna provide important lessons regarding safety, inclusivity, and gender mainstreaming.

C. Key Findings

- Women's mobility declines significantly after dark.
- Public transport nodes influence perceptions of safety.
- Active street frontages improve inclusivity.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS

Design Interventions:

- Continuous street lighting
- Improved footpaths
- Public toilets and seating
- Mixed land-use development



Policy Interventions:

- Gender audits
- Gender-sensitive planning regulations
- Women's participation in planning

VI. CONCLUSION

Gender-inclusive urban planning is essential for creating equitable, safe, and sustainable cities. The findings suggest that integrating gender considerations into planning and design can significantly improve public space accessibility and inclusivity.

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