

# Review of: "'Women come out for less important tasks': Understanding the reality of the gendered transport sector in Karachi through Key-Informant Interviews"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Liked reading the paper. It gives a clear view of gender disparity in the transport sector of Karachi. It introduces the *status quo* of the road transport of the city in detail, along with the 'social silencing' of women in the largest city of Pakistan (and its financial capital). The INTRODUCTION section establishes well the need for assessing the complex gender dynamics in access to and use of transportation, particularly from a feminist economics perspective of power hierarchy.

My comments are listed below-

1. In the BACKGROUND section, the author could provide the number of buses per 1000 population and the distribution of buses between government and private operators.
2. In section 4.2, it is surprising that several KIs reported that "...women needed to 'tolerate' as it was part of the culture". I would have wished to see some educational background of these KIs to see how education and perceptions are linked among the pool of respondents. If these individuals are relatively well-educated, then perhaps the education system is failing, or the thought process is being dominated by cultural norms.
3. Section 4.3- 4th line: It should be KI3 instead of E3.
4. Section 4.4- 3rd Quotation: The KI number is missing.
5. The Discussion Section should have been numbered 5
6. The Conclusion Section should have been numbered 6
7. The author (maybe purposefully) has omitted the crucial linkage of cultural values and the growing conservatism in the country. For a sociological and gender discourse, such omission is glaring, if some of the mindsets are justified by religious orthodoxies and practices. These shape the cultural norms (and the mindsets of the KIs) in a conservative society. It is totally absent in the paper.
8. Is there a single author SI, or does the paper have a co-author AW? AW's name is there in the contributions but not in the authors' names.