

Review of: "Women in Slum, Risking Their Safety to Access and Usage of Basic Sanitation Facilities-A Literature Review"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

General Comments:

The author has taken appreciable effort put into writing this article, but reorganizing the content may attract the readers and worthy to publish this article. To enhance the paper, it would be beneficial to provide specific examples and case studies that showcase the challenges faced by women in various slum communities worldwide. This approach would make the content more interesting and relatable to readers while also offering valuable insights into the distinct issues that women face in different contexts. Additionally, the paper would benefit from including additional information on potential solutions to the problems outlined. For instance, the author could discuss the role of community-led initiatives, government policies, and international organizations in improving access to secure and safe sanitation facilities for women in slums. The articulation of the indicators is something that should be commended and needs to demonstrate how the ideas and practical solutions may be tailored to each individual indicator that is being covered in this study. Lastly, the writing could be strengthened by incorporating more statistics and data to support the author's arguments. This would provide a more evidence-based approach to the subject matter while also making the writing more persuasive and compelling to readers.

Introduction:

- **Incorporate more statistics:** The text mentions that 2.3 billion people still live without basic sanitation facilities, but it would be helpful to include more statistics to further emphasize the severity of the issue.
- In addition, include statistics about the number of women who experience sexual assault, and Urogenital issues due to lack of access to sanitation facilities, for example, would make the issue more tangible and alarming.
- Remove the brackets and use it for abbreviation in "PTs (Public Toilets)" first time usage. Then use PTs wherever necessary. Don't repeat the same "PTs (Public Toilets)". This is applicable for OD too. Follow the same for the other abbreviations too.
- The definition of sanitation can be broadened to encompass tasks like fetching water for sanitation activities,. can be moved up after the sentence "Sanitation denotes the access to and use of amenities and facilities for the safe disposal of human feces and urine".
- Add the aim and objectives of the at last of the introduction section.
- To enhance the readability and comprehension of the text, it is advisable to break it down into smaller paragraphs. This

will enable the reader to follow the different points being made and also emphasize the main ideas of the text, making it more engaging.

- By discussing the outcomes of open defecation (OD) in a more engaging manner and offering additional statistics, it is feasible to persuade readers that OD poses a greater risk to the community's health. Since then, OD has been linked to a variety of infectious diseases, including cholera, typhoid fever, amoebic dysentery, and tetanus.

Literature review:

- Adding concrete examples can help readers better understand the issue and feel more motivated to take action. Additionally, using headings or subheadings can help to organize the content and make it easier to navigate.
- The text could also benefit from including information on potential solutions or ways to address the problem.

Methodology:

- Re-organize the content in this section.
- The use of technical terms and jargon could make the text difficult to understand for readers who are not familiar with the field.
- To improve the clarity of the writing, it would be beneficial to define any technical terms or acronyms used and to explain any complex concepts in simpler language.
- While the tables and diagrams included in the text are useful for presenting data and information, it may be helpful to include more detailed descriptions or explanations of the findings presented in these visuals. This would provide readers with a better understanding of the data and how it relates to the research question.

Data Analysis:

- This section should include the how the author has done the analysis and the statistical tests applied. Remove this figure from this section and add this to results part and describe it.

Results:

- Use more descriptive language to paint a clearer picture of the issues faced by people living in slums. For example, instead of simply stating that the lack of access to sanitation leads to open defecation, describe the conditions of the toilets and the impact they have on the community.
- For example, instead of stating that "many slum areas have community toilet complexes," provide specific statistics on how many people are affected by this issue and in which regions it is most common. This will make the text more informative and persuasive.
- Include more personal stories and experiences from women living in slums to give readers a better sense of the challenges they face on a daily basis from the previous literatures. This would help to humanize the issue and make it more relatable for readers, while also highlighting the urgency of finding a solution.
- Provide more specific examples of how current toilet designs fail to meet the needs of women and girls and suggest practical solutions that can be implemented to improve the situation. This will help readers understand the urgency of

the problem and the importance of taking action to address it.

- Emphasize the need for greater political will and investment in sanitation infrastructure at all levels of government, and highlight the social and economic benefits that can result from improved sanitation in slums. This will help build support for efforts to improve sanitation infrastructure and make it a priority for policymakers and citizens alike.

Conclusions:

- Provide more concrete suggestions for how governments and other organizations can address the problem of poor sanitation and water facilities for women in slums. This could include specific policy recommendations or examples of successful programs that have been implemented in other areas.

Suggestions:

- What specific community mobilization strategies can NGOs and local communities use to map, monitor, and evaluate water and sanitation services?
- It would be helpful to place more emphasis on cultural sensitivity and community engagement when developing interventions for water and sanitation. By doing so, interventions can be tailored to meet the unique needs and preferences of different communities, increasing the likelihood of acceptance and adoption by local residents.
- How can authorities ensure that sexual assaults are taken seriously and potential offenders are deterred?
- Are there any current initiatives or programs in place to address women's water and sanitation problems, and if so, what are they
- what lies in the top of it is maintaining sanitation and infrastructure of the toilets for safer and healthier usage. The responsibility and accountability for maintaining the public toilets depends on the collective efforts and initiatives from policymakers and governing bodies with people cooperation. Therefore, an intensive awareness and education among slum population as well as implementing stringent policies for maintaining the toilets would definitely assist in making safe and healthy toilets for women. The study can emphasize this deep rationale to highlight the root cause of the problem and provide a feasible solution.
- Propose specific solutions to the problem, such as installing more CCTV cameras in public toilets at the entrance or the outside of PTs, providing self-defense classes to women, or building more gender-sensitive toilets in slums. This would give readers a sense of hope and encourage them to take action to address the issue.