

MIL to build secure, resilient, tolerant, and socially inclusive and sustainable development cities (A Gender Perspective)

October 24 & 25, 2018 Kaunas, Lithuania













1IN 3 WOMEN

experience sexual assault at least once in their lifetime

Source: UN Women





80% OF SEXUAL ASSAULTS

are not reported to the police

Source: UN Women





Why?

- . Minimal or No Awareness of SH & Legislation
- 。Social Stigma
- Insensitive System
- . Slow Judiciary







Non verbal Staring / Ogling Taking pictures Indecent gestures

Verbal
Commenting
Catcalls
Sexual invites





Physical
Touching / Groping
Stalking
Sexual Assault
Rape

Sexual violence is an entire spectrum of abuse. Yet we tend to ignore the verbal and nonverbal abuse, deeming them to be too "trivial", when in fact it can be equally debilitating to many, limiting their choices, movements and affecting mental health.





What Does This Do?

- . Emboldens the Perpetrator
- 。GBV increases
- . Women will slowly disappear from public spaces





Crime & Fear & its impact

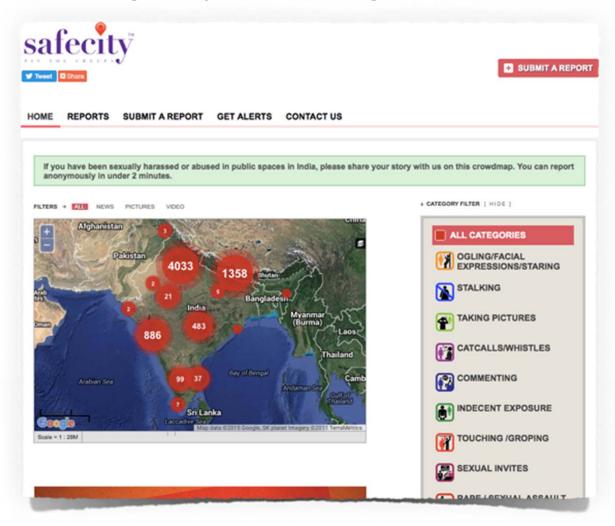
- An adverse effect on individual, society, economy and social cohesion
- A considerable impact on the daily lives of urban dwellers directly or indirectly
- Lesser use of urban open spaces such as public parks, squares, plazas, streets
- Routes preferred to travel between working places and dwelling places might be changed
- Roads and streets chosen for commerce might be altered
- Women, girls & senior citizens prefer to stay in closed and safeguarded places
- Parents restrict the right to freedom of movement of their children in the city
- Restraints the personal involvement of women in public life of the city & imposes limitations on their daily lives. They curtail their aspirations and never live up to their full potential.
- Negatively impacts individuals (mostly women & girls) as they withdraw and restrict their movement.
- Psychological disorders and causes limitations on people's daily routine





Solution

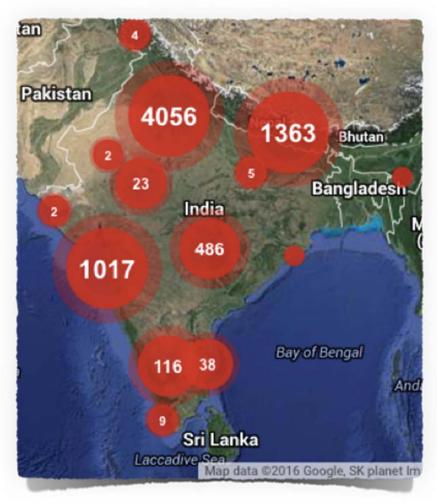
A web & mob app inviting anonymous reporting of incidents of sexual harassment







- SAFECITY crowdmaps personal experiences of sexual violence in public spaces.
- This is aggregated as location based trends and visualised as hotspots on a map.
- The aim is to make public spaces SAFE and equally accessible to all through
 - Individual awareness
 - Community engagement
 - Institutional accountability







MAKING CROWD SOURCED DATA USEFUL



Individuals - can make better choices regarding their own safety



Communities

- can mobilize themselves around the issue
- demand for better accountability from institutions



Institutions

- new dataset to work with
- better relationship with communities























Solutions to Safer Urban Public Spaces

- 24/7 Urban Environments
 - Eyes on the street
 - Improving street lighting
- People Centric Infrastructure
 - Safe Urban Commons
 - Functionalizing streets and squares & bringing them to life
 - Make Big Infrastructure Human Centric
- Public Transportation
 - Last Mile connectivity
- Increase Female participation in the Urban workforce
- Safe sanitation facilities
- Gender mainstreaming education
- Tightening security measures & Strict implementation of crime penalties
- Increased situational awareness by using apps like Safecity





Tips for citizens to take action

- If you see something not right, do something about it.
- If you see someone being harassed or abused, please call for help. Ensure you maintain the cleanliness of your neighbourhood.
- Do not be afraid to access public spaces at all times of day and night.
- Speak up and challenge gender stereotypes and inappropriate behaviour.
- Participate in your local urban planning commission. Make sure your voice is heard.
- Use public transport wherever possible or cycle or walk.
- Volunteer some time for community based projects.
- Know your rights.
- Download the <u>Safecity</u> app from the Google and Apple playstores. You can audit a place, report sexual harassment anonymously, find resources to help you and access data that can give you insights into location based sexual violence.







Be the change you want to see.



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