

1. Género, feminismos e estudos sobre as mulheres

OC - (22785) - KEEPING A TRACK: WOMEN'S LOCATION SHARING AND MOBILITY IN NEW DELHI

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While there are attempts to claim the public space, modern Indian cities continue to be hostile for women. Women access city and opportunities associated with the city through sanitised surveilled routes authorised and controlled by familial patriarchal control. The control is often justified by the patriarchal family structures, patronising state and internalised by women themselves as discourse of safety of women in an unsafe city. This leads to significantly different experience of city among women. They are allowed access through pre-approved, predefined and predictable routes and modes of transport. The perpetual fear and surveillance translate into curfew times, restrictions on mobility or constant tracking of movements. Alternatively, in absence of a direct patriarchal control, the access is circumscribed by mental labour of calculating risks and strategies to safely access the public spaces of city. Interestingly these same strategies could be utilised to subvert patriarchal control over women's sexuality and labour.

The use of GPS enabled apps to track one's route, time mapping (sharing ETAs with origin and destination parties), trip sharing with friends et cetera appear as strategies women employ to get better control over their own mobility and to 'safely' access the city. This paper studies women's use of GPS enabled apps, trip tracking, time mapping, sharing and its impact on women's relationship with the city. In an ongoing study on understanding women's mobility patterns in the city of Delhi undertaken by us, we found that a majority of the sample reported sharing their locations with a family member or someone known to them. This proposed paper engages with women's complex relationship with location sharing as a tool and a strategy to claim the city space. The paper could offer insights about how women reclaim their agency and control over their mobility and proposes to offer some suggestions.

Palavras-chave : Space, Location, Mobility, City