

# Geographical Analysis of Woman Safety and Gender Issues: An Alarm towards Social Wellbeing in Ajmer City, Rajasthan, India

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Kofi Annan remarked, 'Violence against women is perhaps the most shameful human rights violation, and it is perhaps the most pervasive. It knows no boundaries of geography, culture or wealth'. As long as it continues, we cannot claim to be making real progress towards equality, development and peace. The need of effective utilization of Information Technology in public safety management and social welfare enhancement is increasing in the present global scenario. It contributes in effective administration, planning and sustainable use of resources for the prevention and control of criminal activities, aiding the investigative process. (Divya, Robinson and Selvan, 2014). The major objective of the study is to identify the social and economic factors affecting different categories of crime against women in the region. The research targets the crime prone districts of Rajasthan, India where condition of women is pitiable and hampers their social well being and sustainable growth. Geospatial techniques have been used for crime mapping and analysis. Information obtained from police personnel from the local thanas and chowkis has been analyzed and evaluated to establish relationship between offences and geographical conditions responsible for the same. The research implies the utilities of GIS tools like kringing, hotspot analysis, cluster analysis and weighted overlay to identify the hotspots of crime as well as to facilitate the development of investigation preference strategy for policing.

The methodological framework applied in the present investigation for crime mapping can be effectively applied for development of user-interfaces platform for the development of safe city strategies (Nurul Hazwani binti, Othman and Selamat, 2012). The Gender Inequality index (UNDP) presents a shocking scenario of South Asia with India at 127, Sri Lanka at 80, Pakistan at 133, Nepal at 118, Bangladesh at 134, Myanmar at 106 ranks. Geographic profiling is an investigative methodology that uses the locations of a connected series of crimes to determine the most prone areas for crime. Rajasthan (India) fares worst in women education in age group of 15-17 years ranking among top three states with maximum crimes against women.

Ajmer City has high incidences of registered cases of domestic violence, rape, molestation and the hotspots are mainly the old city areas with compact infrastructures, narrow lanes, dark gullies and huge traffic issues. It has also been observed that population concentration, low sex ratio, low literacy rates, high unemployment rate, city profiling of an area contribute to crime records of the region. The research enables the Ajmer city police towards spatial crime mapping and demarcation of hot spot zones towards better crime prevention control. It also assists the police officials towards generating their surveillance plan and crime control strategy in the region. The study supports a number of public service and police department towards effective functioning providing best support for crime prevention and to stand out as a flagship project towards its Smart City Concept.

**Key words:** *Crime mapping, Geographic profiling, Gender equality, Geospatial techniques, Social welfare*