

Isha Bhallamudi

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EDUCATION

University of California Irvine, USA.

Ph.D. in Sociology. Exp. 2023

MA. In Social and Demographic Analysis. 2021

Indian Institute of Technology Madras, India.

5-yr Integrated M.A. in Development Studies. (Minor in Economics). 2017

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Gender, Technology, Work, Inequality, Culture, Global South

SKILLS

- **Data Collection:** Interviews, surveys, focus group discussions, literature reviews, working with adolescents.
 - **Data Analysis:** Survey data analysis (proficient), qualitative analysis (proficient), regression analysis (proficient), statistical inference & hypothesis testing (basic), demographic analysis (basic), network analysis (basic), & policy analysis (basic).
 - **Software:** STATA (proficient), R (proficient), Dedoose (Proficient) & Excel (basic).
 - **Languages:** English (native), Hindi (native), Telugu (proficient), Tamil (basic).
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JOURNAL and CONFERENCE PUBLICATIONS

- (Forthcoming) Bhallamudi, I. 'Girls, Gadgets and Gatekeepers: How Gender and Class Shape Inequalities in Adolescents' Access to Technology in Mumbai, India'. *Information, Communication and Society*.
- [2019. Bhallamudi, I. & Lingam, L. "Swaying between saving the Environment and Mitigating Women's Domestic Drudgery: India's Efforts at Addressing Clean Cooking Fuels". *Gender, Technology and Development*, 23\(1\), pp. 36-54.](#)
- [2019. Bhaskaran, J. & Bhallamudi, I. "Good Secretaries, Bad Truck Drivers? Occupational Gender Stereotypes in Sentiment Analysis". In *Proceedings of the First Workshop on Gender Bias in Natural Language Processing, Association for Computational Linguistics 2019, Florence, Italy*.](#)
- (Under R&R) Bray, R. & Bhallamudi, I. "Research rigour and social transformation in the study of poverty: What can a 'Merging of Knowledge' approach achieve?" *Action Research*.

BOOK CHAPTERS, WORKING PAPERS AND PUBLISHED REPORTS

- (Forthcoming) Lingam, L. & **Bhallamudi, I.** “Keeping Young People Out of Harm’s Way: Smartphones and the Social Reproduction of Gender?” in Lingam, L. and Mkhwanazi, N. (eds). *Smart Phones, Social Media and Gender Fault-lines: Southern Perspectives*. Routledge.
- [2018. Lingam, L., Bhallamudi, I & Rao, N. “Adolescent Sub-cultures and Smartphones: Exploring Implications for Gender, Sexuality and Rights”. Report. UNICEF: Mumbai.](#)
- [2019. Lingam, L., Bhallamudi, I & Rao, N. “Gender Mainstreaming Across Agriculture, Urban Planning and Governance: Lessons for India”. Resource Pack. UN Women: Mumbai.](#)
- 2018. Rao, N. and **Bhallamudi, I.** [Collaborative Knowledge Creation: Interrogating Processes and Patterns](#). Workshop Report: Tata Institute of Social Sciences and Committee of Resource Organizations (CORO).
- 2015. Bray, R., **Bhallamudi, I.** with Ugarte, A. *Doing participative research: What is needed to make it work?* Working Paper, Collaborative Research Design Workshop between ATD Fourth World and the University of Oxford. Oxford, UK.
- 2015. Bray, R., **Bhallamudi, I.** with Ugarte, A. *Methods for conducting participative research: Strengths and Limitations*. Working Paper, Collaborative Research Design Workshop between ATD Fourth World and the University of Oxford. Oxford, UK.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER PREPARATION

- **Bhallamudi, I.**, Liu, A.G, Schmidt, S., Torres, A. and Turney, K. “How Low-Income Families Manage the Cognitive Burdens of Incarceration”.
- Ballakrishnen, S., Paik, A., **Bhallamudi, I.** and Whitworth, T. “Prevalence of Gender and Race Networks in Law Students’ Transition to Employment”.
- **Bhallamudi, I.** & Lingam, L. “Safe for Boys, Risky for Girls: Moral Panics in Response to Indian Girls on Digital Media”.
- **Bhallamudi, I.** and Muraleedharan, V.R. "Progress in Access to Healthcare by Adolescents in Tamil Nadu, India - Lessons for Public Sector Delivery".

LIGHTLY REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- 2021. [“Gender Parity in India: What a Case of ‘Accidental Feminism’ Can Offer”](#). *Oxford Human Rights Hub Blog*.
- 2021. [“Girls, Gadgets, and Gatekeepers: What is Ethical Feminist Fieldwork When Working with Children?”](#). *Platypus*, the CASTAC blog.

- 2020. “[Bespoke but not Woke](#)”: A commentary on the show Indian Matchmaking. *Economic and Political Weekly*. Vol 55, Issue 31.
- 2020. “[Outrage and Othering: ‘Bois Locker Room’](#)”: A commentary on online gender-based violence in India. *Economic and Political Weekly*. Vol 55. Issue 20.
- 2020. “[Rowdy Without a Cause?](#)”: A commentary on misogyny in South Indian films. *Economic and Political Weekly*. Vol. 55. Issue 6.
- 2018. “[Positive Approaches to Adolescents and Sexuality Education: A Case for Expanding Regional Vocabularies](#)”. Family Planning Association of India (blog post).
- 2017. “[Mental Health in IIT Madras: Survey Findings](#)”. The Fifth Estate, IIT Madras. (2-part article based on a survey of 800 students that I designed, conducted & analysed).
- 2016. “[Gender-Based Harassment: a Reality on Campus?](#)” The Fifth Estate, IIT Madras. (2-part article based on a survey of 800 students that I designed, conducted & analysed).

RESEARCH FEATURED IN MEDIA

- [TISS-UNICEF Study on Smartphone Use by Adolescents](#), DNA India, June 2018
 - [Fathima Lateef: Death on the Campus](#), Open Magazine, Nov 2019
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WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, ‘California Alliance for Hispanic-Serving Social Science Advancement’

PI: Hapke, H.; Walker, B.; Ponciano, L. and Wagner, B. 01/22 – 06/22

- Carrying out content analysis of grant reviews and survey analysis of faculty surveys in order to study systematic biases in Univ. of California faculty grant application processes.

Research Assistant, ‘How Law Student Networks Impact Employment’

PIs: Ballakrishnen, S. and Paik, A. 10/21 – 06/22

- Carrying out longitudinal analysis of survey, networks and interview data to understand how law students’ social networks shape belongingness as well as employment outcomes.

Research Assistant, ‘Intergenerational Consequences of Paternal Incarceration’

PI: Turney, K. 06/20 – 01/22

- Carried out qualitative coding and analysis of interviews on Dedoose, and in the process of co-authoring a paper.

Research Assistant, ‘Adolescent Subcultures and Smartphones: Investigating Gender, Sexuality and Rights’ (funded by UNICEF India)

PI: Lingam, L. 06/17 – 08/18

- Carried out focus group discussions and field observation with low-income parents, youth and community leaders to understand how resource-constrained youth access and navigate online spaces. Wrote and released a UNICEF report on the findings.

Research Assistant, ‘Gender Mainstreaming in Urban Planning, Agriculture and Governance in India’ (funded by UNDP)

PI: Lingam, L.

06/17 – 08/18

- Carried out literature reviews and case study analyses, and published a UN Women resource report for practitioners based on the findings.

Research Assistant, ‘[Global Poverty in All its Forms: Determining the Dimensions of Poverty & How to Measure Them with People Who Experience it](#)’

PI: Walker, R and Bray, R.

06/15 – 07/15

- Helped design this 6-country study, researching a novel participatory qualitative methodology (previously only used in small-scale settings) and figuring out how to adapt it to a large-scale setting. The project was presented at the UN and OECD in 2020.

Research Intern, ‘Barriers to Girls’ Education in India: Future Directions’

PI: Lingam, L.

06/14 – 08/14

- Carried out a literature review, analysed survey findings and wrote up a report based on the findings.

HONORS, PRIZES AND GRANTS

- 2022. **Noyce Fellowship in AI, Law and Society**. UC Irvine.
- 2022. **Summer Research Fellowship**, Dept. of Sociology, UC Irvine.
- 2021. **Graduate Fellow**, Center for Relational and Networks Analysis, UC Irvine.
- 2021. **Conference Grant**, AGS, UC Irvine.
- 2021. **Summer Research Grant**, Dept. of Sociology, UC Irvine.
- 2020. **Summer Research Grant**, Dept. of Sociology, UC Irvine.
- 2019. **Summer Research Grant**, Dept. of Sociology, UC Irvine.
- 2019. **Summer Research Fellowship**, Dept. of Sociology, UC Irvine.
- 2018. **Graduate Dean’s Recruitment Fellowship**, UC Irvine.
- 2015. **Research Travel Grant**, IIT Madras, India.
- 2015. **Institute Merit Prize** for academic excellence. IIT Madras, India.
- 2014. **Institute Merit Prize** for academic excellence. IIT Madras, India.
- 2012. **INSPIRE scholarship**, awarded to top 1% high school students in India. Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India.
- 2012, 2010. **Merit Certificate for Academic Excellence**. Central Board of Secondary Education, Government of India.

INVITED TALKS AND CONFERENCES

- 2022. “Cameras On’: How School Mandates about Digital Participation Reify Social Inequality”. Paper accepted at the **Sociology of Education Association Annual Conference**. (Co-authored with Dinsmore, B., Jonas, A., Miner, M., Outland, S., Puckett, C. and Rafalow, M.)
- 2022. “How Gender and Class Impact Access to Tech for Women”. **Invited Talk at a Tech Startup** (GET Cities).
- 2021. “Survey Research Methods”. **Guest Lecture, Research Methods course**, Summer Session, UC Irvine.
- 2021. “Fighting Gender Inequality with Coding + Social Science”. **Guest Lecture for Girls Tech Camp**, National Center for Women and Information Technology, USA.
- 2021. “Ethical Dilemmas During Fieldwork with Adolescents in India: Complicating and Questioning Ideas of Feminist Fieldwork in the Global South”.
 - Paper presentation, **4S Annual Meeting**.
 - Paper presentation, **Anthropology in Transit Conference**, UC Irvine.
- 2021. Co-Panel Organizer, 'Transgenerational Listening: Telling Stories about Global STS Programs and Formations' Open Panel, **4S Annual Meeting**.
- 2021. Co-Panel Organizer, 'Celebrating and Critiquing Feminist Inclusion Strategies in Technoscience Communities', Open Panel, **4S Annual Meeting**.
- 2021. “Girls, Gadgets and Gatekeepers: Gendered Modes of Access to Mobile Phones in Mumbai, India”.
 - Paper presentation, **AoIR Annual Meeting**.
 - Paper presentation, **SSSP Annual Meeting**.
 - Refereed Roundtable, **ASA Annual Meeting** (declined due to Covid-19).
- 2019. Participant, **Roundtable on Artificial Intelligence in Health in India, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay**, India.
- 2019. “Smartphones and Gender Fault Lines: How are Adolescent Girls and Young women Navigating?” **Paper presentation, Imagine a Feminist Internet: Research, Practice and Policy in South Asia** conference. Internet Democracy Project, Sri Lanka.
- 2018. “Fight for Equality: Moral Panic over Adolescent Girls and Mobile Phone Use in Mumbai”. **Paper presentation, Gender Research Workshop, UC Irvine**.
- 2018. “Why Loiter? Women Claiming Online Public Space”. **Paper presentation, National Conference on Gender-Based Cyber Violence**. Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India.

- 2014. Participant, Symposium on Violence Against Women: Review of Institutional Responses in India and the U.K., Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India.

TRAINING AND WORKSHOPS

- 2021. **Summer Institute in Computational Social Science**, UCLA (1 of 30 participants selected).
- 2020. **Summer Institute on 'AI and Governance'**, Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society, Harvard University (1 of 23 students selected globally).
- 2020. NSF Problem-Solving Sociology **Dissertation Proposal Development Workshop**, Northwestern University.

SERVICE, LEADERSHIP AND POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY

- **Co-Chair**, Transnational and Transgenerational Collaborations Working Group, Student Section of the Society for Social Studies of Science (4S) 2021-22
 - **Student Member**, Diversity and Inclusion Committee, CITAMS, ASA 2021
 - **Student Member**, Graduate Admissions Committee, Sociology, UC Irvine 2021-23
 - Informally mentored >15 students during their PhD applications 2021
 - **Member**, Professional Devl Committee, Associated Grad Students, UC Irvine 2020-21
 - **Social Sciences Rep.**, Associated Graduate Students, UC Irvine 2020-21
 - **Peer Mentor**, UC Irvine. 2019-20
 - **Occasional Reviewer**, Sexual and Reproductive Health Matters. 2019- pres
 - **Executive Editor**, The Fifth Estate, IIT Madras. (News Body) 2016-17
 - Led a team of 50 correspondents and media team members, produced several novel media initiatives and features, revamped the website & increased viewership by 27%.
 - Spearheaded campus-wide surveys forming the only publicly available data on campus sexual harassment and mental health.
 - **Peer Mentor**, IIT Madras. 2016-17
 - **Founder and Member**, Committee to Prepare Guidelines for Sexual Harassment Policy, Student Legislative Council, IIT Madras. 2016-17
 - Researched and drafted guidelines and recommendations for the Complaint Committee Against Sexual Harassment, IIT Madras.
 - **Member**, Committee to Prepare Recommendations for Campus Mental Health, Student Legislative Council, IIT Madras. 2015-16
 - Researched and drafted guidelines and recommendations for recognizing and addressing student mental health on campus, IIT Madras.
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TEACHING EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING

- **Inclusive Instruction Working Group**, UC Irvine Spring 2019
 - Created teaching resources including [Inclusive Teaching Practices: A Practical Guide](#) and the [Accessible Teaching Habits Checklist](#)
 - **Enhancing Diversity and Equitable Inclusion** seminar, UC Irvine Fall 2020
 - **Content Developer**, National Prog. on Technology Enhanced Learning Summer 2013
 - A Govt. of India sponsored collaborative educational program offering >1000 MOOCs
 - **Teaching Assistantships**
 - ‘Sociology Majors Seminar’, UC Irvine. Winter, Spring 2021
 - ‘Fundamentals of Psychology’, UC Irvine. Spring 2018, 2019
 - ‘People and Society’, UC Irvine. Winter 2018
 - ‘Law and Society’, UC Irvine. Fall 2018
 - ‘International Trade and Finance’, IIT Madras, India 2016
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