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SUSTAINABLE CITIES – ASSESSMENT DOCUMENT

Part A

Introduction

Most cities are built to meet the requirement of a specific gender. The forms of citizenship in the globalized world have been developed to maintain the way of living in a specific framework. In this essay, the focus is going to develop specific issues faced by girls or women in the cities. The experience of girls or women in maintaining personal safety in the regular way of living is going to be addressed in this essay in terms of specific examples of cities. The situation of safety and experience faced by women or girls rather than men or boys in social space are going to be focused on in this essay.

Analysis

Experience of women or girls in comparison with men or boys in personal safety

The position of women in the social and domestic sphere has to be taken into consideration to analyze the way women lead an everyday life. 'The everyday connectivity of women in the feminist perspective to maintain personal safety has been regulated by the globalized world. The experience of women in the domestic sphere or social environment has not changed in the globalized world which can lead them to a position of safety and security. 'Gendered identity' of women is a stereotypical phenomenon in a society that made the position of women inferior to men from the earlier period of civilization.

A girl or a woman has to think twice about personal safety before attending a late-night party. On the other hand, while returning from the office or college on public transport or in the domestic sphere the life of a housewife has not been found safe in terms of cases occurred physical assault, harassment, gendered bullying, domestic violence, and rape. In the city of London, the case of sexual violence, online abuse, and gender violence has been found increasing. In London, the number of female victims in terms of class, and race is increasing. In 2023 the case of sexual abuse, gendered violence, and domestic abuse increased by 30% in London (Bbc.com, 2022). Women's safety and

security in personal life has not been regarded as a responsibility of the whole society; rather in London after the age of 16 almost 30% of women and girls have to go through domestic abuse. At the end of 2021, overall 40,572 women in the UK has gone through sexual violence (Bbc.com, 2022).

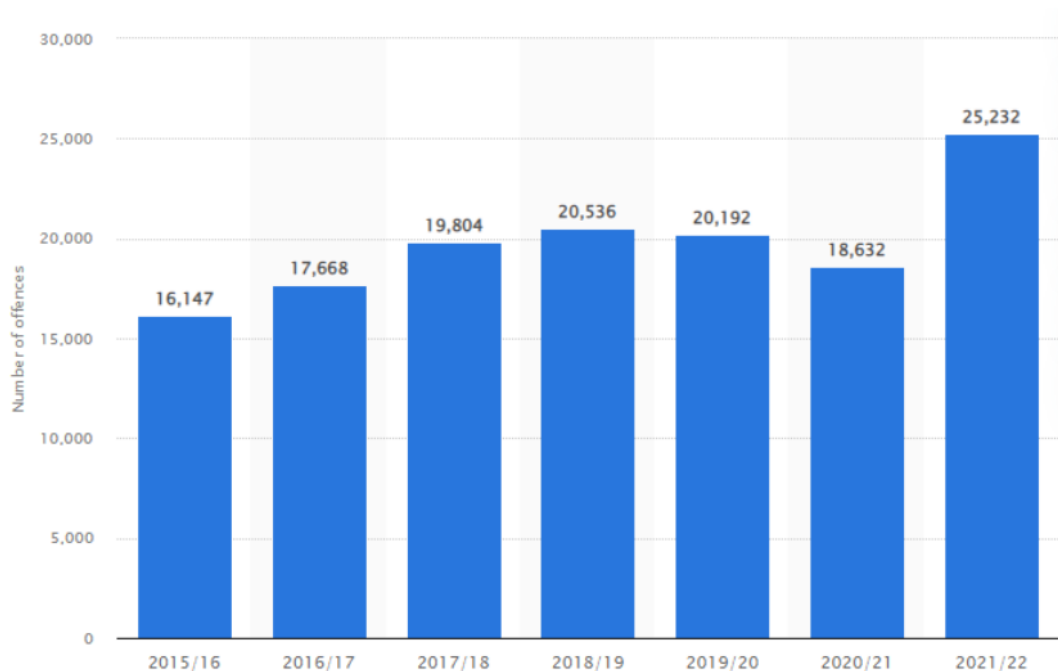


Figure 1: The number of sexual offenses increased in England and Wales

(Source- Statista.com, 2022)

The CSEW estimated approximately 2.4 million adults aged 16 years over experienced domestic abuse in London (Ons.gov.uk, 2022). Sexual offenses have increased in 2021-22 due to the increase in criminal activities and the psychological impact of a pandemic on the human mind. The murder after being sexually assaulted in the case of sex workers in the UK has been significant. In **Berlin Germany**, the rate of gender-based violence against women has increased in the last 5 years. Personal safety maintenance of women is a very important social responsibility of the governance structure of any country which has been violated consistently. The space of equality in terms of social position has been violated in the case of women. In Germany domestic abuse and rape have increased. The murder of women by their partner or ex-partner in 2020 has been found to have increased to 4.9% (Eige. Europa. eu, 2022). Case of victimization of women is increasing

disproportionately in today's world. As per Asadullah *et al.* (2021), **femicide** which refers to the gender-related killing of women or girls has increased in Germany. In Germany in 2023 117 femicides have been witnessed and reported. In Germany, one in three women has experienced gender or sexual violence after the age of 15 (Evaw-global-database.unwomen.org, 2022). In Berlin, the safety and security of girl children and women is a matter of concern that can be estimated from increasing gendered violence in the domestic sphere and in the workplace environment.

Women have to face indiscriminate violence, and harassment in the workplace as well. Work-life balance maintenance in collaboration with the domestic lifestyle has been found challenging for women. Gender and class-related discrimination and violence in the workplace have been developed for women which made the space narrowed down for them in case of wage discrimination and personal safety issues. In both cities, it has been found visible that the personal safety of women is constantly violated and becoming a great concern due to irrespective discrimination, gendered-centric mental inhibition, and criminality in society.

Critical evaluation of the position of women in gendered cities

London

Safety is a critical issue for women in a regular way of living. In London, women may have to face trouble specifically at night. Solo women travelers avoid night visits in some specific areas of London because of safety issues. Some of the causes of women's safety in London were inadequate lighting. The trust between policy and governmental laws is poor as a result of historical inequalities in the system of justice. Because of their social culture, it is not easy to get help (Home: Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, 2023). In addition, the public transportation system is also poor and girls at night do not have easy access to vehicles. As per the latest figure from the Office of National Statistics, 177 women were killed in Europe and Wales between 2020 April to 2021 March. As per the ONS data this year a number of 9272 rape cases were recorded in London which is 24% higher of than in the last 12 months. The increase in the number and record is given the point that many women are coming forward and gaining the courage to file a report. This is a result of media coverage, campaign on the willingness to report high-profile cases as well the potential increase in the victim numbers (Women and the Criminal Justice

System, 2021). The rate of domestic abuse also increased in the city. However, the authority and government of London are working hard to ensure women's safety and try to protect them from any kind of mental and physical abuse. They develop and open up many helpline numbers and share a clear message with victims to reach out on an immediate basis to the police or other support agencies to seek help. The authorities work with sensitivity and provide full support and safety to the victim. Society needs to work together to end the violence against girls and women.

Berlin Germany

According to German police, a significant majority of violent acts against women are carried out by a spouse or ex-partner. According to the latest recent data from 2020, there was a rise of 4.9% over the prior year. In four out of every five incidents of violence, the victims are women, who are disproportionately more prone to do so. Additionally, 870 discrimination-related offenses based on sexual orientation were reported by police in 2021, 164 of which involved violence. It is anticipated that a change in the legislation will also have an impact on the punishment in instances involving sexual crimes, including rape. For instance, the German Supreme Court of Justice (BGH) has determined in a number of decisions that sexual misconduct conducted within a partnership is excused. Berlin is typically a safe city at night, especially for women, despite some of its less well-kept neighborhoods. For both locals and visitors, walking alone after a few drinks is extremely common, and problems are uncommon (Hellmann *et al.*, 2018). More victims of domestic abuse have contacted help centers as a result of greater public awareness of violence against women, especially during the pandemic's peak. The public transportation system is developed in the city and they believe in feminism. They believe in equality and the law and order system encourages all to trust the process. The experts assert that providing victims of violence based on gender with justice goes beyond criminal justice and that they also require safety, support, and aid.

Specific policies or Government initiative

The government regulations and policies are there to help women and stand by them during the crisis period of maintaining personal safety. In the UK tackling violence against women and girls has been monitored to provide female security under any circumstance. The UK government has developed strategies to provide girls safety at home, online, and

on the street. ***The Domestic Violence Crime and Victim Act 2004*** has been developed to ensure the safe and secure place of women and girls at home and in private spaces (Gov. uk, 2022). The criminal justice protection against rape and response to victims and sufferers has been taken into consideration to provide girls and women a safe place to live. ***Honor killing, honor-based abuse, and revenge porn*** are the sectors of criminal offenses that have been started monitoring by the *Landmark of Domestic Abuse Act*. As per Bermúdez *et al.* (2020), ***the Domestic Abuse Act 2021*** has been especially responsible to provide protection against 'stalking, coercive behavior and upskirting' against women. Priority prevention has been ensured by the Home Secretary of the government to develop survivor surveys against the crime and make a required positive approach to help the victim. The ***Violence Against Women Act*** has been developed to supervise the Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) process and the provision of security to women to protect their human rights in society.

In **Germany**, the *Equal Rights Act and the Federal Equality Law* have been developed to provide women safety and security to maintain gender equality. The increasing rate of domestic violence in Germany has been observed which can be pacified with the government's stance of punishing six months to 10 years of imprisonment. Sexual identity in terms of race, class, and sex has been maintained in Germany by the *Equality Act 2010* (Eige.europa.eu, 2022). The council of the European Government has developed safety and violence controlling regulations for women in case of honor killing, online abuse and harassment, and sexual assault. An action plan to combat violence against women has been developed in Germany to devise strategies to prevent the increasing rate of domestic violence. Awareness-building programs have been regulated in Germany to promote the importance of developing equal space for women in society as experienced by Men. The city **of Glasgow** has become a completely 'gendered city' in terms of providing women first place in the decision-making of town planning, administrative development, and encouraging women. The development of female equality and providing a female equal rather higher place in society has been gradually increasing a changing alternative in the world.

Conclusion

In this essay, the development of the analysis has been centered on the position of women and girls in society compared to men. The kind of sexual violence and domestic assault has been faced by women has been discussed in this essay. The critical evaluation of facing problems by women in maintaining personal security in society has been discussed in the specific reference of London and Berlin city. The required government policies and laws to protect women's rights in society and provide responses against the criminal offenses against them have been discussed and evaluated in this essay.

Part B

Introduction

The development of sustainable cities is a form of proceeding with technological advancement, innovation, and improvement of the lifestyle of citizens. In this particular essay, the chosen city is **ADDIS ABABA (ETHIOPIA)** which is ⁶the capital of Ethiopia. The urbanization planning of the city **ADDIS ABABA** is going to develop in this essay in collaboration with the process of growth in city planning and required improvement. The development of smart cities, whether it can be possible in **ADDIS ABABA** or not, is going to be illustrated in this essay. The key environmental issues and policies of this city are going to be addressed in this essay.

Analysis

A. Urbanization Pattern

Urbanization has increased to 15% in the recent years of globalization. As per Weldegebriel *et al.* (2023), rapid growth and mobility have been witnessed as key priorities for developing urbanization. Urbanization has been developed as a pillar for providing people with increased capacity, public health and safety, and mobilization to improve the quality of living. Urbanization in Ethiopia has been associated with a high

level of economic growth. The average growth of the economy and urbanization scope in Ethiopia has improved by 10.4% from 2003 to 2013 (Data.worldbank.org, 2022). Natural population increase and rural-to-urban migration are the common trends of urbanization in recent years. Migration from rural to urban areas is the main trend and reason behind the increasing rate of urbanization in Ethiopia.

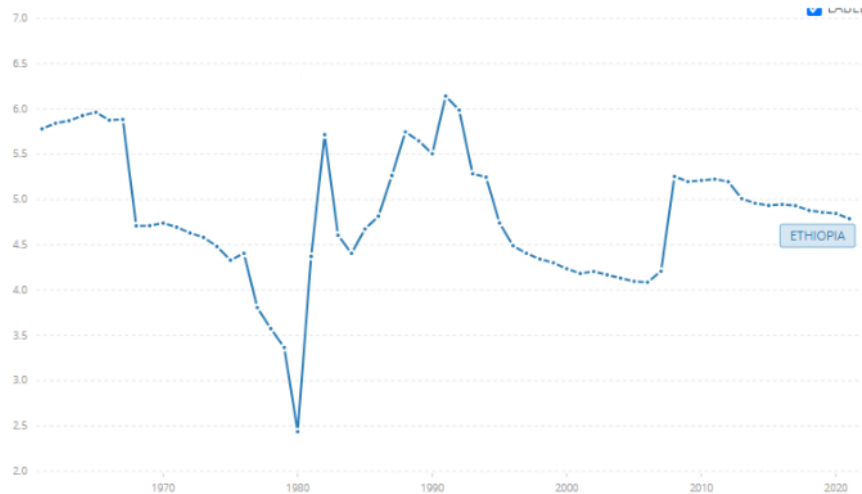


Figure 2: Urban Population Growth in Ethiopia

(Source- Data.worldbank.org, 2022)

Employment opportunities, population growth, roads and railway infrastructure, and policy framework are the determinants to develop urbanization in Ethiopia.

There are three stages of urbanization such as the initial stage, the celerity stage, and the terminal stage. Ethiopia is at the **initial stage** of belongingness of urbanization (21.9%) in the developing process. The low level of urban growth in Ethiopia has been observed lower in 2019 due to a lack of policy framework by the Ethiopian government and less economic growth in the pandemic period across the world. Economic and social transformation, unemployment, and poverty are the issues faced by Ethiopian cities that hindered economic development and the growth of urbanization. Urbanization in Ethiopia is increasing at a rate of 4.5% to the statistics of World Development Indicators (Data.worldbank.org, 2022).

As per Li *et al.* (2022), **a primate city** is the largest in the country, region, or province and disproportionately larger than any other city in the urbanized area. A primate city has

several characteristics that cover the largest population growth of the country belonging to that city with facilities to develop urbanization growth and lifestyle. ³ 'ADDIS ABABA' is the capital of Ethiopia which is one of the largest cities in the country with eleven times greater population than the second largest city. As one of the oldest and largest cities in Africa, ADDIS ABABA has developed as the center of urbanization with the mobility of people from rural to urban places. The city has been exercising a kind of self-rule in Africa to provide facilities and infrastructure to the inhabitants.

Urban growth of ADDIS ABABA

Urban profiling has been accelerating in ADDIS ABABA due to central governance and the development of urban growth. In this city, rapid urban growth was witnessed till 2019 hence the rate of unemployment, and poverty increased during the pandemic period. The urban growth of ADDIS ABABA will increase by 4.5% in 2023 which is a sign of developing significance in the rapid migration of rural people into cities (Grasham and Neville, 2021). This city has hosted 30% of the urban population of Africa. Slum dwellings, poor housing, sanitization, and infrastructure development are the required areas that ADDIS ABABA needs to be taken care of to improve the urban growth of 12 million in 2024. The second-order city growth is not distorted by the urban growth of ADDIS ABABA as each city has its own scope of development and characteristics to grow.

D. Smart City

As per Ongel (2019), **a Smart city** is a kind of city structure that has a reflection of its citizens and behaves as an innovative ecosystem. The development of a 'smart city' depends on the requirement of technological innovation implementation in social construction. According to CISCO smart cities are scalable solutions that adopt the advantage of Information Technology (IoT) to improve resources, and efficiencies and reduce the cost of living. In ADDIS ABABA smart city projects are already developing. After the process of permission and administrative requirement development, the much-awaited smart city project of ADDIS ABABA has started in 2022. Smart city projects are pursued to provide people with technology-oriented living and reduce the cost of living infrastructure and save time.

The smart city project of *ADDIS ABABA* will provide citizens living in the capital with the development of reliable facilities in collaboration with governance and technology. The use of AI-driven technologies will provide the inhabitants of the city with better opportunities for living and make the city attractive for living. As per Crijns (2021), the development of smart and sustainable cities is effective to improve data-led management and planning for the people, efficient community-based infrastructure and services, and localized innovation adoption.



Figure 3: Smart city planning

(Source- Ongel 2019)

In Ethiopia, the development of smart cities has been initiated by the government to provide people with IT security and services, well-being and education, and better infrastructure for living. *ADDIS ABABA* being a primate city in the country has taken strategic planning to launch smart city projects for the people.

The classification of a Smart City can be developed according to its characteristics such as- **virtual cities, knowledge-based cities, Broadband metropolis and digital cities**. The facilities that can be found in these classified cities are mainly dealing with the facility provided for people living in those cities such as digital technologies, virtual space for living, and local needs of the transaction. Broadband city approach to provide internet connection and knowledge regarding the government policies and facilities of the people to make it attractive for a living (Mohamed *et al.* 2020).

The core challenges of *ADDIS ABABA* can be identified as the most significant that has to be improved to provide people with a healthy infrastructure of living. Poverty, unemployment, and lack of economic growth are the core challenges of *ADDIS ABABA* which can be addressed with the development of launching smart city projects. The new smart city project will definitely bring employment opportunities for local people, and increase migration for working opportunities and the need for city space. Employability

can reduce poverty and develop the quality of living. On the other hand, the development of economic improvement can be initiated with the new smart city project in the city.

E. Environmental issues

Environmental degradation and climate change have been regarded as one of the main challenges in the globalized world to maintain environmental protection. The increase of the global population across the world and the rate of pollution development in the air has reduced the scope of improving health and hygiene. In *ADDIS ABABA* the core environmental challenges are

Increasing soil erosion- The rapid population growth of the city has put extreme pressure on the environmental balance. As per Bayu (2020), environmental degradation has been found in the city due to a lack of awareness among people to protect the environment and fewer administrative measures to handle human activities. River and soil pollution has occurred as a result of industrial waste. Around 35% of the industrial waste has not been collected from the industrial areas which led to mixing up the waste with soil and water.

Deforestation and forest degradation have been found as another way of environmental pollution in *ADDIS ABABA*. Increasing population in the city due to migration leads to their livelihood by cutting trees for wood, sap, wax, and fuel to lice their livelihood. As per Gelan (2021), in this way forest degradation occurred in the city that reduced the amount of fresh oxygen in the air and increasing carbonated gas. The purification of air cannot be executed by human activities in the city. The uncontrolled population growth of *ADDIS ABABA* causes deforestation and environmental damage.

Water scarcity and loss of biodiversity- Environmental obstacles have been perceived in Ethiopia especially in *ADDIS ABABA* in terms of developing water scarcity and loss of biodiversity. Water scarcity has been witnessed by the people of the city due to lack of adequate rain the whole year and less water supply facility development by the government. On the other hand, biodiversity of wild animals and species has been lost due to deforestation, mixing of solid waste on river water.

The Environmental Policy of Ethiopia has a specific goal to develop sustainable ways of protecting the environment and improve quality of living in a healthy manner. The

Ethiopian Environmental Policy 1997 has been developed to provide environmental protection and this cat has been modified in 2010 to incorporate new requirements of improving sustainability on environment. The scope of this policy is to develop environmental awareness among people of ADDIS ABABA to make them more environmentally conscious to save the environment, control human activities such as deforestation, and the storing of industrial waste without disposal.

The renewable energy resources such as water energy, solar energy will have to be used in the industrial process to reduce the emission of carbonated gas in the environment. The people of this city have to be more environmentally protected to maintain the soil and water protection from mixing of industrial waste. As per Azagew and Worku (2020), the government has to be more strict and monitoring to oversee the system of waste collection infrastructure and maintain prohibition to increase deforestation. The innovative policy of Ethiopia environment protection development in ADDIS ABABA has no use in the present context as the rate of waste storage, garbage at the city and less maintenance of sanitization has been witnessed. The people living in this city are not aware about the development of bringing knowledge to improve environment protection. In this context, the government will have to be more strict to prevail on environmental policy to develop a sustainable way of improving infrastructure for the inhabitants of the city. Environmental Policy will have to be unique to attract people to develop awareness in improving the quality of life by maintaining health and hygiene in the city, controlled human activities to keep the balance of biodiversity of nature.

Concussion

In this essay the Ethiopian city ADDIS ABABA has been taken into consideration to analyze its urbanization growth, the rate of population development to become more urbanized in Ethiopia. The smart city development plan has been analyzed in this essay along with the requirements of developing better opportunities for the urban people to become more facilitated. The technological advancement and scope of urbanization has been illustrated. The environmental challenges of the city have been evaluated. The policy of the country and required measures to improve the policies have been analyzed in this essay.

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