

Shitizens/ Citizens: Why Ignoring Sustainability, Gender and Culture Undermines Sanitation Progress

Professor Lyla Mehta

L.Mehta@ids.ac.uk

Institute of Development Studies, UK and Norwegian University of Life Sciences

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Shit and inequality

- Inequalities are reflected in how and where a person shits
- “Second-Class Shitizens” – Cohen (2010) and socio-economic marginalisation (Jewitt, 2011)
- Full or non citizens?
- Powerless women and men, often deemed to be illegal and invisible (or ‘impure’ and ‘dirty’)
- Sanitation programmes and the poor and marginalised
- The myth of the community



The problems with sanitation drives and campaigns



BILL & MELINDA
GATES foundation

Conclusions

- Beyond toilets to environmental justice and realising rights
- Need to link socio-technical, cultural and ecological dynamics
- Build on local cultural dynamics and perceptions
- Gender and social exclusions cannot be ignored
- Locate sanitation within issues of poverty, inclusion, rights and citizenship
- Failure to do this compromises on wider sustainability and sanitation justice

