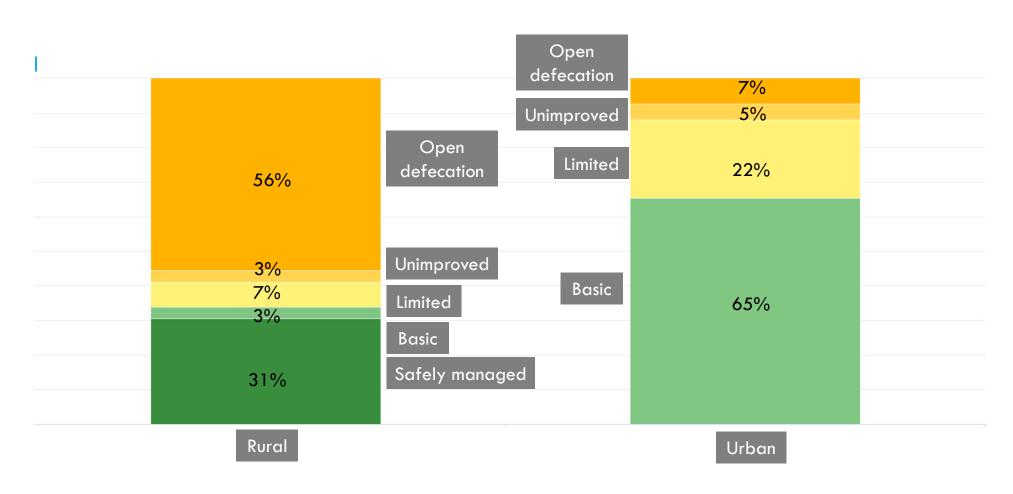
PRIVATE ACTS, PUBLIC STORIES: SANITATION NGOS DURING THE 'CLEAN INDIA' MISSION

Jennifer A. Barr, PhD
Research anthropologist
Environmental Lab, US Engineering Research and Development
Center
World Toilet Day 2019





INDIA HAS A SEVERE SANITATION PROBLEM.

Source: Joint Monitoring Programme WHO/UNICEF 2015

"Sanitation is like a corrupt brother-in-law. You can't get rid of him, but you don't want to introduce him to your friends."

- Sanitation consultant





SWACHH BHARAT MISSION IS LAUNCHED IN 2014 WITH A DEADLINE OF 2019.

"After Independence, after so many years of Independence, when we stand at the threshold of one and half decades of the 21st century, do we still want to live in filthiness?"

--Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India Independence Day Speech August 15, 2014



IT'S NEVER "JUST" ABOUT TOILETS.







THE BJP IS ASSOCIATED WITH VIOLENCE AGAINST AND OPPRESSION OF MINORITIES.





SANITATION IS ASSOCIATED WITH SOME OF THE LOWEST CASTE GROUPS.



Two Indian sisters 'gang-raped', killed and hanged from a tree

Three men arrested, including two police officers, after teenagers' bodies are discovered in Uttar Pradesh



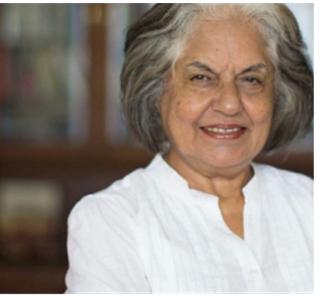
SANITATION IS ENTWINED WITH A COLONIAL PAST AND IS HIGHLY GENDERED.



JOHN BULL CAT CHING THE CHOLERA

London Pub? by Modegson to Cloth Fair

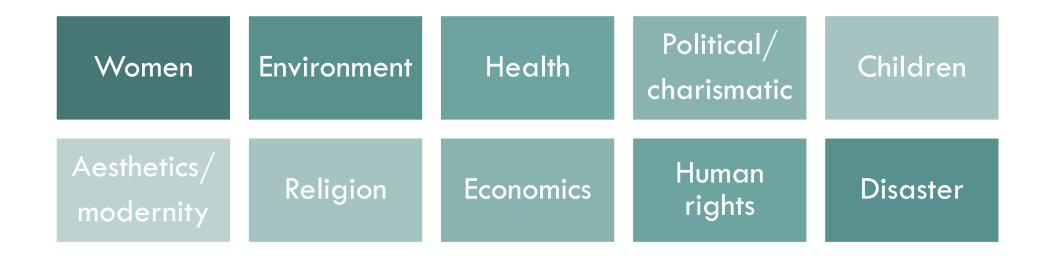








THERE IS A
CONTESTED
RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN THIS
GOVERNMENT AND
NGOS.



STAKEHOLDER ORIENTATIONS







SANITATION IS NOT JUST ABOUT TOILETS, BUT A STRUGGLE TO DEFINE WHAT A "CLEAN" MODERN INDIA SHOULD BE.

THANK YOU!

Jennifer Barr
Research Anthropologist
Environmental Lab at the US Engineering Research
and Development Center
jen.anne.barr@gmail.com

