

## **In/visibility and Difference: A Visual Methods Workshop – Berlin, 3-4 December 2015**

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### **(In)visibility and the Visual: exploring gendered experiences of public space in Delhi**

Abstract:

In the wake of protests against sexual violence in Delhi (2012), there has been an increased focus on how women experience this city's public spaces. While there is an argument for the problems associated with women's marginalization and invisibility in certain contexts, there is also a hyper-presence of the 'modern' women in the media landscape of a neo-liberal economy, and their representation as the bearers of tradition within religious fundamentalist iconography. As part of the SINGLE project exploring the relationship between women and public space in Delhi (and Shanghai, [www.hera-single.de](http://www.hera-single.de)), this presentation will argue that visual methods can become a means to highlight a more nuanced, affective relationship between women and their city, as well as to challenge the visual referents of dominant economic and religious cultures. Using material gathered in 'go-alongs', photographic elicitation, media analysis and work with visual artists, it is possible to document the ability of women to navigate the complexity of pleasure and discomfort that Delhi engenders. However, there are limitations to the use of the visual in analyzing affective urban geographies, highlighting questions of interpretation, participation and the importance of the audio.