

Research Interests

I am interested in researching the intersections of gender justice and digital technologies using feminist methodologies. My interdisciplinary research focuses on understanding challenges faced by gender-minoritized communities with digital technologies in India, and finding entry points to intervene meaningfully.

Education

Master of Arts (M.A.) in Women's Studies

June 2017 - March 2019

Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai

Thesis: "Changing Practices of Healthcare in India with the Entry of Artificial Intelligence-Enabled Diagnostics: A Feminist Exploratory Study" ([Link](#)); Supervisor: Dr. Asha Achuthan

GPA: 8.0/10 (Ranked Second, Batch of 2019)

Recipient, Prof. Chhaya Datar Prize to the Best Thesis; Institute Silver Medal to the Second Best Student; Prize and Shield to the Best Student in Field Attachment

Bachelor of Engineering (B.E.) in Computer Science

September 2011 - June 2015

M. S. Ramaiah Institute of Technology, Bangalore

GPA: 9.16/10 (Ranked in Top 5, Batch of 2015)

Recipient, Best Outgoing Student Achiever, School of Computer Science

Pre-University Sciences (Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Computer Science) September 2009 - March 2011

Sri Bhagawan Mahaveer Jain College, Bangalore

Percentage: 91.5% (Ranked in Top 10%, Batch of 2011)

Recipient, Scholarship for Higher Education in Sciences, Govt. of Karnataka

Other Courses

Graduate Certificate in Public Policy

June 2015 - August 2015

The Takshashila Institution, India

Recipient, M. S. Bharatha Iyengar Award for Excellence in Public Policy, 2015

Professional Experience

Gender Research Manager, World Wide Web Foundation

July 2021 - ongoing

- Leading research projects in 5 countries to develop evidence and monitor progress towards closing the digital gender gap and holding governments accountable for progress on UN SDG gender+ICT targets

Researcher, Internet Democracy Project (Point of View)

Jan 2020 - May 2021

- Carried out research and published a [paper](#) and [policy brief](#) on the lived experiences of digital surveillance for gender-marginalised communities during COVID-19 in India; and a [paper](#) and [policy brief](#) on the datafication of health in India through a feminist framework of embodiment.
- Presented my research at 15+ national and international events, published 2 media op-eds, and a zine (in [English](#) and [Hindi](#)) to amplify the voices of minoritized communities.

Programme Officer, *Centre for Internet and Society*

March 2019 - Dec 2019

- Carried out policy research and published a [policy brief](#) on regulating AI algorithmic transparency.
- Authored a [research](#) paper on the gendered nature of AI which was published in the *Catalyst* journal.
- Represented the organisation at 10+ national policy events.

Consultant, Secretariat - *Internet Governance Forum*,
United Nations-Department of Economic & Social Affairs

July 2018 - December 2018

- Carried out weekly bottom-up multi-stakeholder consultations with diverse global digital rights communities and published research on [gendered Internet access](#) and UN SDGs.
- Led the "Human Rights, Gender, & Youth" vertical at the 13th Internet Governance Forum at UNESCO, Paris, and organised and spoke on two [panels](#) at UNESCO, Paris.
- Contributed to drafting the final outcomes report of the 13th Internet Governance Forum.

Consultant, *Women's Rights Programme*,
Association for Progressive Communications

Nov 2016 - February 2018

- Published research [articles](#) on gender justice and digital rights for GenderIT.org
- Designed a trainers' curriculum on online gender-based violence for *Take Back the Tech!*.

Business Intelligence Consultant, *Thorogood Associates*

February 2015 - November 2016

- As Technical Lead + Project Manager, developed and supported a large-scale data warehousing application for a UK-based Fortune 500 company to process and analyse Big Data datasets.
- Languages and software used: SQL, Javascript, Microsoft SQL Server, Microsoft Business Intelligence Suite (Integrated, Analysis, Reporting Services), Microsoft Visual Studio, Microsoft Office Suite.

Research

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Journals

- Radhakrishnan, Radhika. (2021). Experiments with Social Good: Feminist Critiques of Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare in India. *Catalyst: Feminism, Theory, Technoscience* 7 (2): 1-28. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.28968/cftt.v7i2.34916>
- Radhakrishnan, Radhika. (2021). Safeguarding Patient Rights under the National Digital Health Mission through A Feminist Framework of Embodiment. *NLU-D Journal of Legal Studies*.
- Radhakrishnan, Radhika. (2020). Interrogating the AI Hype: A Situated Politics of Machine Learning in Indian Healthcare. *Economic & Political Weekly*. ([Link](#))
- Radhakrishnan, Radhika. (2019). How does the Centre appear from the Margins? Queer Politics after Section 377. *NUJS Law Review*. ([Link](#))

Working Papers

- Radhakrishnan, Radhika. (2021). Health Data as Wealth: Understanding Patient Rights in India within a Digital Ecosystem through a Feminist Approach. *Mumbai, Data Governance Network*. ([Link](#))
- Radhakrishnan, Radhika. (2020). "I took Allah's name and stepped out": Bodies, Data and Embodied Experiences of Surveillance and Control during COVID-19 in India. *Mumbai, Data Governance Network*. ([Link](#))

Policy Publications

- Radhakrishnan, Radhika. (2021). Safeguarding Patient Rights within a Digital Ecosystem through a Feminist Framework. *Mumbai, Data Governance Network*. ([Link](#))
- Radhakrishnan, Radhika, & Sinha, Amber. (2020). Towards Algorithmic Transparency. *Centre for Internet and Society*. ([Link](#))
- Radhakrishnan, Radhika. (2020). Protecting Bodies and Rights in Disease Surveillance during COVID-19 in India. *Mumbai, Data Governance Network*. ([Link](#))
- Radhakrishnan, Radhika. (2018). Impact of Supplementary Models of Connectivity in Enabling Meaningful Internet Access for Women and Gender Non-Binary Persons. *Internet Governance Forum, United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs*. ([Link](#))
- Radhakrishnan, Radhika. (2018). Policy Options for Connecting and Enabling the Next Billions: Phase IV. *Internet Governance Forum, United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs*. ([Link](#))

Conference Proceedings

- Raval, N., Radhakrishnan, R., Marda, V., Singh, R. (2021). "AI on the Ground Approach: Critical methodological reflections and lessons from the field," *ACM FAccT (Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency) Conference*. ([Link](#))
- Radhakrishnan, Radhika. (2018). Are Smart-Device Based Virtual Assistants Capable of Assisting with Gender Based Violence Concerns in India? *National Conference on Gender-Based Cyber Violence*. ([Link](#))
- Nischal, K. N., Radhakrishnan, R., Mehta, S., & Chandani, S. (2015). Correlating night-time satellite images with poverty and other census data of India and estimating future trends. *Second ACM IKDD Conference on Data Sciences (pp. 75-79)*. ([Link](#))

Academic Lectures, Trainings & Curricula

- **Guest Lecture:** "Datafication of bodies: A feminist response," Certificate Course in Gender Studies, K.C. College, HSNL University, Mumbai, January 2021
- **Training:** "The Internet Rules: Unboxing digital laws in South Asia," Association for Progressive Communications x Centre for Internet and Society, November 2020
- **Training:** "Understanding Online Abuse," Centre for Internet and Society, October 2020
- **Academic Curriculum:** "Towards a Feminist Internet and its Governance in India and Beyond," Published in: *Feminist Principles of the Internet*, 2018 ([Link](#))

Research Fellowships

Research Fellow, Indian Academy of Sciences (2014)

Supervisor: Dr. Sudarshan Iyengar (Indian Institute of Technology, Ropar)

Carried out research on drug trafficking, crime, and technological policing in the state of Punjab.

Research Fellow, Carnegie Mellon University Internship Program in Technology Supported Education (2013)

Supervisors: Dr. Bhiksha Raj and Dr. Rita Singh (Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh)

Carried out research and published and presented a research paper on algorithmically imputing missing census data on poverty, and estimating future trends through night-time satellite images.

Public Talks

2021

- "Artificial Intelligence, Biometrics, and Democracy: India's Experience in Global Perspective," **University of California, Berkeley** (*postponed due to COVID-19*)
- "State Governance and Autocracy," **Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development**, 2021
- "Tech Policy and Gender," **Young Leaders in Tech Policy**, 2021 ([Video](#))
- "Tumhari Bahu Mobile Maangti Hai: Women, Power, Digital Bharat," **Khabar Lahariya**, 2021

2020

- "How the internet is shifting the paradigm of democracy in India," **RightsCon**, 2020
- "Digital Rights and Inclusion After the Pandemic," **ORF CyFy**, 2020 ([Video](#))
- "Access to Information during the COVID Crisis," **UNESCO**, 2020 ([Video](#))
- "COVID-19 and Rising Gender-based Violence," **LEAD at Krea University**, 2020 ([Video](#))
- "Surveillance during COVID-19 and Women at the Margins," **Prajnya Gender Talks**, 2020 ([Video](#))
- "Caught in the Web: Online Safety and Surveilling of Young People," **YP Foundation**, 2020 ([Video](#))

2019

- "Gendered Biases in Artificial Intelligence," **Anthill Inside, HasGeek, Bengaluru**, 2019 ([Video](#))
- "Gender and Diversity in Internet Governance," **Indian School on Internet Governance**, 2019
- "AI for Social Good?," **Indian Institute of Information Technology, Bengaluru**, 2019
- "Towards Algorithmic Transparency in India," **Indian Institute of Information Technology, Delhi**, 2019
- "Emerging AI technology in healthcare in India," **Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay**, 2019

2018

- "Gender & Internet Governance," **13th United Nations Internet Governance Forum, UNESCO, Paris**, 2018. ([Video](#))
- "Connecting & Enabling the Next Billion(s)," **13th United Nations Internet Governance Forum, UNESCO, Paris**, 2018. ([Video](#))
- "Facebook's Community Standards", **Facebook, Mumbai**, 2018

Media & Advocacy

Media Op-eds

- "Your Health Data is Others' Wealth," **Heinrich Böll Stiftung**, 2021 ([Link](#))

- "How Covid-19 Helped Govt Control Your Data & You," **Article14**, 2021 ([Link](#))
- "The Cost of Safety. Surveillance Will Not Keep Women Safe," **Smashboard**, 2021 ([Link](#))
- "Embodied surveillance during Covid-19 in India: A feminist perspective," **Observer Research Foundation**, 2020 ([Link](#))
- "Why death penalty for rape doesn't actually help with women's safety," **The News Minute**, 2020 ([Link](#))
- "Kill Rape Culture, Not Rapists," **Live Law**, 2019 ([Link](#))

Book Chapters

- "Right to Bleed at the Workplace," **500 million in the Red**, Pan Macmillan India (forthcoming 2021)

Podcasts

- "Cyberdemocracy Season 2" (5 episodes), **Suno India**, 2020-2021 ([Link](#))
- "Period Leave", **Bangalore International Centre (BIC) Talks**, 2020 ([Link](#))

Other Advocacy

- **Media video interview**: "Gender-based Violence and Technology," Youth Ki Awaaz, 6 May 2021 ([Link](#))
- **Zine**: "Lived Experiences of Surveillance at the Margins during COVID-19 in India," Internet Democracy Project, 2020. ([Link](#))

Volunteer Work

Avehi Abacus Foundation (2017 - 2018)

- Designed an interactive module on tech-mediated gendered violence as part of the organisation's unique school curriculum on gender justice, and implemented the module in public schools and slum settlements in Mumbai, India.
- Contributed to the organisation's work on slum resettlement, helped secure funding, and drafted organisational policies for child protection and sexual harassment.

University Extra-Curriculars

- **Winner**: National Law School British Parliamentary Debate 2015, Indian Law School National Parliamentary Debate 2014
- **Tournament Director**: 1st Indian Women's Debating Championship, 2015
- **Founder, Head**: M. S. Ramaiah Institute of Technology Gender and Sexuality Forum, 2014-2015

Hobbies

Reading books on feminist non-fiction and historical fiction, [blogging](#) ('Top Writer' on "Feminism" and "Sexuality" on [medium.com](#) in 2019), public speaking, practicing yoga, cooking Asian cuisines