

RADHIKA RADHAKRISHNAN

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Bangalore, India

RESEARCH INTERESTS

I am interested in researching the intersections of gender justice and digital technologies using feminist methodologies. Through my interdisciplinary research, I explore challenges faced by gender-minoritized communities with digital technologies in India, and find entry points to intervene meaningfully.

EDUCATION & AWARDS

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

Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai
2017 - 2019

- GPA: 8.0/10 (Ranked Second, Batch of 2019)
- Thesis: "Changing Practices of Healthcare in India with the Entry of Artificial Intelligence-Enabled Diagnostics: A Feminist Exploratory Study" ([Link](#)); Supervisor: Dr. Asha Achuthan
- Prof. Chhaya Datar Prize to the Best Thesis
- Institute Silver Medal to the Second Best Student
- Best Student in Field Attachment

Bachelor of Engineering (B.E.) Computer Science

M. S. Ramaiah Institute of Technology, Bangalore
2011 - 2015

- GPA: 9.16/10 (Ranked in Top 5%, Batch of 2015)
- Best Outgoing Student Achiever, School of Computer Science

Professional Awards & Achievements

- "100 Brilliant Women in AI Ethics" in 2022, organised by [Women in AI Ethics](#)
- M. S. Bharatha Iyengar Award for Excellence in Public Policy, 2015, awarded by The Takshashila Institution

WORK EXPERIENCE

1. World Wide Web Foundation

Gender Research Manager
July 2021 - Present

- Leading research projects in 6 countries to develop evidence, monitor national progress towards closing the digital gender gap, and holding governments accountable for progress on UN SDG gender+ICT targets

2. Internet Democracy Project

Researcher
January 2020 - May 2021

- Carried out original research & published 4 papers on technological surveillance of marginalised communities during COVID-19, and the datafication of healthcare in India, by building upon feminist theory
- Presented my research at 15+ national and international events, published 3 media op-eds, and a zine

3. Centre for Internet and Society

Programme Officer
March 2019 - December 2019

- Carried out original policy research and published 2 policy papers on the regulation of algorithmic transparency of AI

4. Internet Governance Forum, United Nations

Consultant, Gender

July 2018 - December 2018

- Carried out multi-stakeholder consultations with diverse global digital rights communities and published 2 research outputs on gendered Internet access and UN SDGs.
- Led the "Human Rights, Gender, & Youth" vertical at the 13th Internet Governance Forum at UNESCO, Paris

5. Thorogood Associates

Business Intelligence Consultant

February 2015 - November 2016

- As Technical Lead + Project Manager, led a team of 10 to develop and support 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

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- **Radhakrishnan, R.** (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>

LIGHTLY REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- **Radhakrishnan, R.** (2021). Health Data as Wealth: Understanding Patient Rights in India within a Digital Ecosystem through a Feminist Approach. *Mumbai, Data Governance Network*. ([Link](#))
- **Radhakrishnan, R.** (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](#))
- **Radhakrishnan, R.** (2020). Interrogating the AI Hype: A Situated Politics of Machine Learning in Indian Healthcare. *Economic & Political Weekly*. ([Link](#))

POLICY PUBLICATIONS

- **Radhakrishnan, R.** (2021). Safeguarding Patient Rights within a Digital Ecosystem through a Feminist Framework. *Mumbai, Data Governance Network*. ([Link](#))
- **Radhakrishnan, R.** & Sinha, A. (2020). Towards Algorithmic Transparency. *Centre for Internet and Society*. ([Link](#))
- **Radhakrishnan, R.** (2020). Protecting Bodies and Rights in Disease Surveillance during COVID-19 in India. *Mumbai, Data Governance Network*. ([Link](#))
- **Radhakrishnan, R.** (2018). Impact of Supplementary Models of Connectivity in Enabling Meaningful Internet Access for Women and Gender Non-Binary Persons. *Internet Governance Forum, United Nations* ([Link](#))
- **Radhakrishnan, R.** (2018). Policy Options for Connecting and Enabling the Next Billions: Phase IV. *Internet Governance Forum, United Nations* ([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 Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency Conference* ([Link](#))
- **Radhakrishnan, R.** (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). *ACM, March 2015*. ([Link](#))

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Guest lecture: "Datafication of bodies: A feminist response," Certificate Course in Gender Studies, K.C. College, HSNC University, Mumbai (2021)

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

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.

Carnegie Mellon University Program in Technology Supported Education (non-residential) (2013)

- Supervisors: Dr. Bhiksha Raj and Dr. Rita Singh (Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh)
- Carried out research and published and presented a conference paper on algorithmically imputing missing census data on poverty and estimating future trends through night-time satellite images.

TALKS, PANELS & WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

- Panelist: "Artificial Intelligence, Biometrics, and Democracy: India's Experience in Global Perspective," **University of California, Berkeley** (*postponed due to COVID-19*)
- Panelist: "Tech Policy and Gender," **Young Leaders in Tech Policy, 2021** ([Video](#))
- Panelist: "How the internet is shifting the paradigm of democracy in India," **RightsCon, 2020**
- Panelist: "Digital Rights & Inclusion After the Pandemic," **Observer Research Foundation CyFy, 2020** ([Video](#))
- Panelist: "Access to Information during the COVID Crisis," **UNESCO, 2020** ([Video](#))
- Invited speaker: "Surveillance during COVID-19 and Women at the Margins," **Prajnya Gender Talks, 2020** ([Video](#))
- Panelist: "Caught in the Web: Online Safety and Surveilling of Young People," **YP Foundation, 2020** ([Video](#))

- Workshop presentation: "The Internet Rules: Unboxing digital laws in South Asia," **Association for Progressive Communications, 2020**
- Workshop presentation: "Understanding Online Abuse," **Centre for Internet and Society, 2020**
- Invited speaker: "Gendered Biases in Artificial Intelligence," **Anthill Inside, HasGeek, 2019** ([Video](#))
- Invited speaker: "Gender and Diversity in Internet Governance," **Indian School on Internet Governance, 2019**
- Invited speaker: "AI for Social Good?," **Indian Institute of Information Technology, Bengaluru, 2019**
- Invited speaker: "Towards Algorithmic Transparency in India," **Indian Institute of Information Technology, Delhi, 2019**
- Panelist: "Emerging AI technology in healthcare in India," **Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, 2019**
- Panelist: "Gender & Internet Governance," **13th United Nations Internet Governance Forum, UNESCO, Paris, 2018**. ([Video](#))

PUBLIC WRITING

- "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](#))

PODCASTS

Podcast Host: "Cyberdemocracy Season 2" (5 episodes), *Suno India, 2020-2021* ([Link](#))

VOLUNTEER WORK

Avehi Abacus Foundation, Mumbai, 2017 - 2018

Designed an interactive module on tech-mediated gendered violence as part of the organisation's school curriculum on gender justice, and implemented the module in public schools and slum settlements in India.

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: Gender and Sexuality Forum, M. S. Ramaiah Institute of Technology, 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