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Michael Atuahene Djan
University of Nebraska-Lincoln, michaelatuahenedjan@gmail.com

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Feminist Geography: Impact and Inclusion in Geographical Research

Michael Atuahene Djan

School of Global Integrative Studies, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

michaelatuahenedjan@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Feminist theories have significantly influenced the field of geography, challenging traditional notions of objectivity and shedding light on the intricate relationships between place, gender, and society. The emergence of feminist geography has been crucial in advocating for the inclusion of women's perspectives, countering historical marginalization in academic debates. This systematic review aims to summarize and assess the impact of feminist theory on geography, exploring topics such as gendered spaces, feminist methodologies, and the integration of women's voices in research. Utilizing the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) Checklist, the study employed a thematic analysis of secondary sources. Methodological complexity and resistance to change pose challenges to evaluating feminist geography comprehensively, but the increasing interest of young researchers and multidisciplinary collaborations present opportunities. The study underscores the positive influence of women's perspectives on policies and geography understanding. Feminist approaches, often qualitative, effectively address power dynamics and emphasize intersectionality. The results recommend guiding research, practice, and policy through mentoring programs, inclusive narratives, and institutional support. Despite obstacles, the review encourages future research into intersectional research, global perspectives, and policy impact assessments to promote gender equity. The comprehensive overview emphasizes the intricate nature of feminist geography, recognizing challenges, potential from collaboration, and the strength of feminist methodologies. The standard proposes institutional support, mentorship, and multidisciplinary collaboration for advancement in the field, advocating for diversity, awareness, and inclusive practices. By prioritizing inclusive narratives and employing feminist techniques, the geography field can become more comprehensive, deepening our understanding of location, and space.

Keywords: Feminist Geography, Intersectionality, Feminist Methodologies, Inclusive, Power Dynamics, Gendered Spaces

BACKGROUND

The field of geography has experienced substantial changes in recent decades, mostly driven by the integration of feminist theories and viewpoints. The inception and development of feminist geography, a dynamic topic within the discipline of geography, has played a crucial role in revealing complex interactions between gender, location, and society (Morton, Muchiri, and Swiss 2020a). This study undertakes a comprehensive investigation of the significant and diverse impacts of feminist theory on the field of geography. It examines how feminist theory has shaped the understanding and restructuring of spaces influenced by gender, the development of feminist research methods over time, and the deliberate (Morton, Muchiri, and Swiss 2020b) inclusion of women's perspectives in geographical research.

The origins of feminist geography can be traced back to the early 1970s, a significant era marked by the increasing influence of feminism on a global scale. This era bore witness to profound societal awakening, marked by fervent activism and a relentless drive to challenge entrenched gender disparities that had permeated both academia and society (Rao & Tiessen, 2020). Feminist geographers have emerged as influential agents of transformation inspired by the wider feminist movement to critically examine the spatial aspects of gender-based disparities. Central to their investigation was the acknowledgement that geography, which has historically been predominantly influenced by male viewpoints, has largely overlooked the significant influence of gender in shaping both the social and physical aspects of landscapes (Banet-Weiser et al., 2020).

One of the core principles of feminist geography is the critical examination and dismantling of traditional concepts of neutral and objective places. At the core of this viewpoint is the belief that spaces are inherently non-neutral entities since they possess embedded societal norms, power dynamics, and historical narratives that sustain the existence of gender hierarchies.

Feminist geographers argue that geography functions as an influential entity, both in shaping and mirroring gender dynamics and identity (Anderson, 2018).

Within the framework of this particular paradigm, feminist geography has undertaken a critical examination of how urban planning, architecture, and public spaces have traditionally been structured to primarily accommodate the experiences of males, thereby marginalising the demands and issues faced by women (Parisi, 2020). The aforementioned phenomenon has shed light on the detrimental consequences associated with the notions of "masculine" and "feminine" spaces, exposing how these constructions not only perpetuate gender-based stereotypes but also impose limitations on women's ability to enter and participate in public areas. The debate within the field of feminist geography has emerged as a significant catalyst for demanding the establishment of places that are more inclusive, egalitarian, and attuned to gender considerations (Khmiri 2021).

The emergence of feminist geography marked a significant shift in the appraisal of research methodology because it posed a challenge to the prevailing dominance of conventional positivist approaches that frequently overlooked the complexities inherent in gendered experiences (Archer 2019). Qualitative research methods such as ethnography and participatory research have been advocated by feminist researchers because they offer a more nuanced perspective for comprehending the dynamics of individuals' interactions with and experiences of place.

Furthermore, feminist geography embraces the notion of intersectionality. This approach recognises that individuals' perceptions of space are not only shaped by gender but are also significantly impacted by a complex network of intersecting characteristics, such as race, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, and physical ability (Tiessen, 2019). This realisation has inspired a more extensive and inclusive analysis of disparities within various geographical contexts. Furthermore, it has spurred a comprehensive examination of how different

manifestations of subjugation overlap, resulting in distinct encounters for marginalised individuals (Chang, Ren and Yang, 2018). This process sheds light on the intricate dynamics between several dimensions of identity.

A fundamental aspect of feminist geography involves intentional and proactive incorporation of women's perspectives within the realm of geographical enquiry. Throughout history, academic and scientific discourse frequently marginalises or obscures women's voices and experiences (Cunha and Casimiro 2020). Feminist geographers undertook concerted efforts to address this historical omission by conducting research that focused on the lived experiences and perspectives of women.

The dedication to inclusivity extends beyond conventional narratives, covering the tales of other groups of women, including those from marginalised origins and indigenous cultures. Feminist geographers have endeavoured diligently to enhance the representation of women who have historically been excluded or marginalised in conventional geographic studies. The aforementioned paradigm change has not only enhanced the field of study but has also played a significant role in fostering a more holistic comprehension of the intricate manners in which women engage with, influence, and traverse their surroundings. The recognition of the essential worth of many viewpoints in the progression of geographical understanding and the promotion of social equity has been emphasised.

Problem Statement

Within the field of geography, an academic subject has focused on the examination of spatial relationships, locations, and societal consequences, and there has been a significant and far-reaching impact resulting from the adoption of feminist theory in recent years. This effect has brought about substantial fundamental changes. The infiltration of feminist ideology into academia has engendered a diverse and complex dialogue within the specific domain of feminist geography (Aggestam & True, 2020). This analysis explores the intricate relationship

among gender, spatiality, and societal dynamics, interrogating established presumptions and uncovering concealed aspects of gendered environments and encounters. Amid this societal transformation, a significant issue arises: the need to thoroughly comprehend and examine the influence of feminist theory in the field of geography (Selimovic, 2020). This entails exploring the conceptualization of spaces about gender, the development of feminist research approaches, and the deliberate inclusion of women's perspectives in geographical studies.

Examination of gendered places has persisted as a significant topic of interest in the field of feminist geography. Historically, conventional viewpoints have frequently seen spaces as impartial and objective constructs that lack gendered attributes. Nevertheless, feminist theorists argue that these spaces are not impartial but rather imbued with societal conventions, power structures, and historical accounts that sustain gender-based hierarchies (Dorow & Mandizadza, 2018). This argument highlights a significant concern: the necessity of critically examining conventional conceptions of space, investigating how they perpetuate gender stereotypes and hinder women's ability to enter and exert influence in both public and private domains. Comprehending this issue is crucial for promoting inclusive and gender-responsive approaches to urban planning and design.

Concurrently, feminist approaches have undergone significant transformations in the field of geography. The limits of standard positivist research methodologies, which frequently neglect to capture the intricacies of gendered experiences, have been criticised by feminist researchers (Kaligis et al., 2023). The use of qualitative research methodologies such as ethnography and participatory research signifies a methodological change aimed at attaining a more comprehensive comprehension of persons' spatial interactions and experiences. However, there is still a problem in determining the degree to which these approaches have been adopted and incorporated into geographical research as well as how they might be utilised more efficiently

to further investigate areas influenced by gender (Scarborough, Lambouths and Holbrook, 2019).

Furthermore, the need to enhance the representation of women's perspectives and experiences in the field of geographical studies is a significant and urgent matter. Throughout history, the opinions of women have been marginalised or rendered invisible within the realm of academic and scientific debate (Ratcheva et al., 2022). Feminist geographers have diligently endeavoured to address this historical omission by focusing on women's lived experiences and perspectives. Nevertheless, the degree to which this dedication to inclusivity has been integrated into conventional geographical research remains a subject requiring further investigation (Dickason-Koekemoer & Ferreira, 2019). Moreover, there is a need for a systematic examination of how varied narratives, particularly those of marginalised women and indigenous groups, may be effectively included in spatial discourse. This integration has the potential to enhance the field and promote social justice, yet it has not yet been thoroughly explored.

Given the complex and diverse difficulties and changes occurring within the realm of feminist geography, this study aimed to further explore the influence of feminist philosophy on the discipline of geography. This study aims to make a meaningful contribution to the continuing conversation within feminist geography by examining the complex characteristics of gendered environments, analysing the development of feminist techniques, and evaluating the deliberate incorporation of women's perspectives in geographical research. The primary objective of this review is to offer valuable insights and recommendations that may contribute to future research, policy development, and practical application. This will ultimately promote a more inclusive, equitable, and gender-sensitive approach within the field of geography and its larger social implications.

Objective

This systematic review's main goal is to thoroughly summarise and assess the body of literature to explore the impact of feminist theory on geography, including discussions of gendered spaces, feminist methodologies, and the inclusion of women's voices in geographical research. By highlighting gaps in the existing literature and the variables that affect these views, this review seeks to add to the body of knowledge and inform future research, practice, and policy. The review followed the PRISMA 2020 checklist to provide a transparent and reliable methodology.

The specific objectives are:

- To identify challenges and opportunities in integrating feminist theory into gender-sensitive research practices
- To investigate the extent to which women's voices are incorporated into geographical research and the impact of this inclusion on the discipline.
- To critically analyze feminist methodologies employed in geographical research and evaluated their effectiveness in addressing sex-related issues.

Overview of key concepts

Feminism

Feminism is a complex and dynamic socio-political and cultural movement that seeks to address and correct long-standing gender inequalities, discrimination, and oppression prevalent in civilisations worldwide for many centuries (Banet-Weiser et al., 2020). This detailed analysis aims to explore the complex nature of feminism, examining its historical origins, many ideological perspectives, and connection to the discipline of feminist geography.

The social and political movement known as feminism achieved popularity in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, although its origins can be traced back to earlier historical eras. The

triggers for the birth of feminism may be attributed to intellectual ideals of equality and individual rights that emerged during the Enlightenment era (Morton, Muchiri, and Swiss 2020a).

Additionally, the momentum generated by social movements, such as the suffrage movement in the United States and the United Kingdom, which advocated women's right to vote, played a significant role in the development of feminism.

Fundamentally, feminism promotes the principle of achieving parity between genders and the deconstruction of patriarchal systems that sustain gender-related prejudices. Although feminism is characterised by numerous ideological threads, it is important to note that it is not a monolithic movement (Chang, Ren and Yang, 2018). Nonetheless, certain fundamental principles have various manifestations.

The trajectory of feminist movements has witnessed significant shifts over the decades, marked by evolving societal norms, changing political landscapes, and transformative policy advancements. The Feminist Mobilization Index, developed by (Forester et al. 2022) assesses the strength and impact of feminist movements in various countries, serves as a crucial barometer of progress in the pursuit of gender equality. This undertakes a comparative analysis of the Feminist Mobilization Index in 1975 and 2015, examining how feminist mobilization has transformed and influenced global gender dynamics over the span of four decades. The comparative analysis of the Feminist Mobilization Index in 1975 and 2015 underscores the transformative journey of feminist movements. From nascent grassroots efforts to a globally interconnected force, feminist mobilization has left an indelible mark on societal perceptions, governmental policies, and the overall landscape of gender equality. While challenges persist, the evolution captured by the index illuminates the resilience and adaptability of feminist movements, affirming their continued role as catalysts for positive societal change. As we reflect on these changes, the journey from 1975 to 2015 serves as both a testament to the

progress achieved and a call to action for the continued pursuit of a more equitable and inclusive world.

Feminist Geography

Feminist geography is a distinct and specialised subdiscipline within the broader study of geography, which gained prominence during the latter half of the 20th century. This interdisciplinary approach combines feminist theory with the examination of geographical phenomena to comprehend the influence of gender on spatial connections, landscapes, and human experiences across diverse geographical contexts (Khmiri, 2021). Feminist geography presents a critical perspective that questions the conventional understanding of place as neutral and objective. This statement underscores the underlying gendered nature of locations, which has distinct implications and connotations for those identifying as men and women. This viewpoint has prompted an examination of how urban planning, architecture, and public places may be strategically devised to foster greater inclusivity and equity (Banet-Weiser et al., 2020).

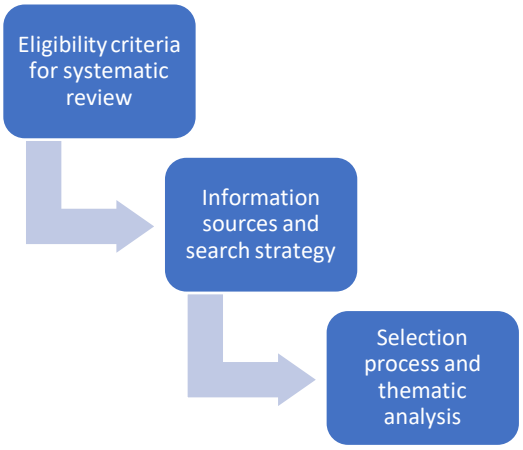
Feminist geography utilises research approaches that are sensitive to matters of power dynamics, representation, and the amplification of marginalised voices. Qualitative methodologies, such as ethnography and participatory research, are frequently employed to amplify the perspectives of marginalised communities and people (Banet-Weiser et al., 2020).

The notion of intersectionality, derived from feminist theory, plays a vital role in feminist geography. The statement recognises that individuals' perceptions of spatial environments are influenced not only by gender but also by additional intersecting elements such as race, socioeconomic status, and sexual orientation (Morton, Muchiri, and Swiss 2020b). The acknowledgement of this phenomenon has resulted in a more sophisticated comprehension of the many ways in which disparities materialise in diverse settings.

Methodology

To thoroughly examine the impact of feminist theory on the field of geography, with a specific focus on its implications for gendered spaces, feminist methodologies, and the integration of women's perspectives in geographical research, this study outlines a research methodology that adheres to the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) Checklist.

Figure 1: Summary of the methods used.



Eligibility Criteria

The eligibility criteria for the systematic review on Feminist Geography necessitated a focused emphasis on feminist perspectives within the field of geography. The discussed subjects spanned a range of themes, including the examination of gendered places, the application of feminist approaches, and the incorporation of women's perspectives within the field of geographical study. The eligible study period encompassed the duration from January 1, 2021, to December 31, 2021, in order to provide a full analysis that is both historically contextualised and pertinent to ongoing discourse. The research approaches under consideration encompassed a variety of qualitative and quantitative techniques, spanning from case studies and surveys to content analyses. To ensure scholarly integrity, the review exclusively incorporated peer-

reviewed literature. With the purpose of enhancing accessibility and comprehensibility, it was necessary for all research to be written in English language.

Information Sources

To conduct a thorough study, a complete range of academic databases were examined for the purpose of the systematic review of Feminist Geography. The aforementioned platforms encompassed JSTOR, Scopus, Web of Science, and the Social Sciences Citation Index. A comprehensive assessment was conducted on specialised academic publications in the fields of feminist studies and geography, including "Gender, Place & Culture" and "Progress in Human Geography." Furthermore, platforms such as Google Scholar and ResearchGate provide users with access to pertinent academic publications. A series of keyword searches were conducted using phrases such as "feminist geography," "gendered places," "feminist approaches," and "women in geographical research." The assessment also embraced multidisciplinary viewpoints by incorporating works published in publications that prioritise wider social science or gender studies. Finally, the reference lists of the chosen papers were examined in order to locate any supplementary research that satisfied the predetermined criteria.

Search Strategy

To guarantee the inclusion of the most pertinent and extensive collection of literature for the systematic review of Feminist Geography, a multi-faceted search methodology was implemented. In the beginning, the search focused on prominent scholarly databases such as JSTOR, Web of Science, and the Social Sciences Citation Index. The search query involved the use of keywords such as "feminist geography," "gendered spaces," "feminist methods," and "women in geographical research" in order to explore different combinations and narrow the search using Boolean operators such as "AND," "OR," and "NOT." To guarantee comprehensive coverage of the topic matter, the subsequent phase involved a thorough examination of specialised publications within the domains of geography and feminist studies. Prominent titles such as "Gender, Place & Culture" and "Progress in Human Geography" were

scrutinised to ascertain their relevance and inclusion of subject-specific content. In addition, Google Scholar and ResearchGate were employed to access a wider array of scholarly resources. Ultimately, the reference lists of the chosen publications were thoroughly examined in order to identify any supplementary studies that satisfied the predetermined criteria.

Selection Process

A preliminary selection of publications was obtained through an extensive search conducted across several academic databases and specialised journals. The initial screening process was evaluating the relevance of each article to the topic of Feminist Geography, which encompasses gendered places, feminist techniques, and the incorporation of women's perspectives in geographical research. This evaluation was based on the item's title and abstract. The articles that successfully survived the first screening process were subjected to a comprehensive examination of their whole text in order to ascertain if they satisfied the predetermined eligibility criteria. This study analysed peer-reviewed works published in the English language from January 2021 onwards, focusing on the essential topics identified. Furthermore, the acceptance of both qualitative and quantitative research designs was seen. Subsequently, the reference lists of the aforementioned papers were scrutinised in order to ascertain more pertinent publications. Subsequently, the collection of articles was consolidated in order to facilitate a comprehensive examination and evaluation.

Thematic Analysis

The thematic analysis of literature on feminist geography uncovered key themes that demonstrate the substantial impact of feminist perspectives on the field of geography. One major theme revolves around gendered spaces, highlighting how feminist geography challenges traditional ideas by revealing that spaces are not neutral but shaped by societal norms that often marginalize women. This theme explored strategies for creating more inclusive, gender-responsive spaces. Another vital theme was the evolution of feminist methodologies, showing a shift towards qualitative methods like ethnography, which offer

deeper insights into gender dynamics in different contexts. The deliberate inclusion of women's perspectives emerged as a crucial aspect, emphasizing efforts to counter historical marginalization in academia and amplify diverse narratives. Additionally, the theme of intersectionality was significant, illustrating how feminist geographers consider the intersections of gender with race, class, sexuality, and ability to understand complex inequalities in various geographic settings. Lastly, the analysis discussed challenges and opportunities, noting resistance to integrating feminist theories but also highlighting the potential for progress through interdisciplinary collaborations and inclusive approaches. These themes collectively provide a detailed exploration of how feminist theory has reshaped geographical research, from redefining concepts of space to promoting inclusivity and equity in the field.

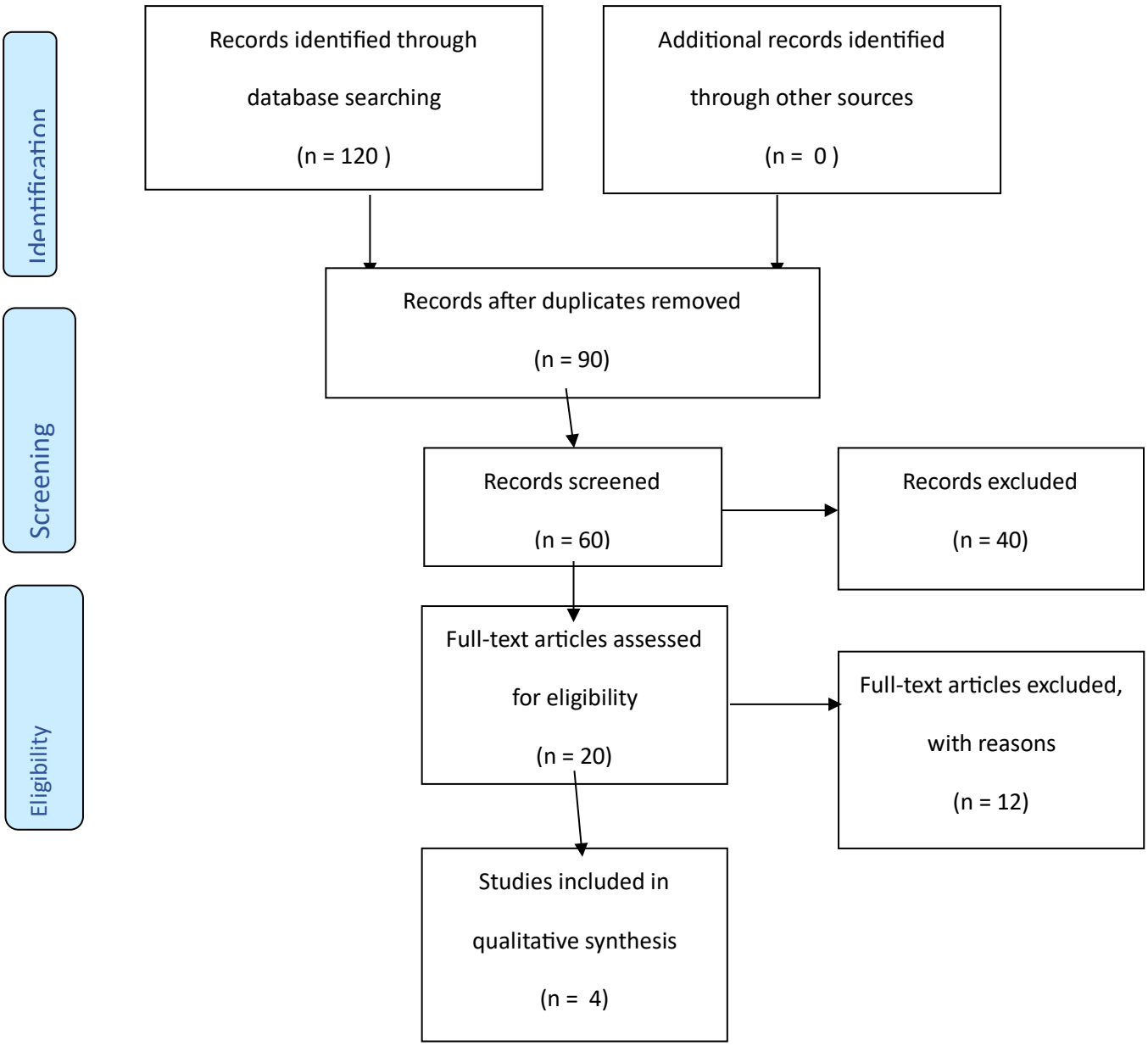
Study Risk of bias assessment

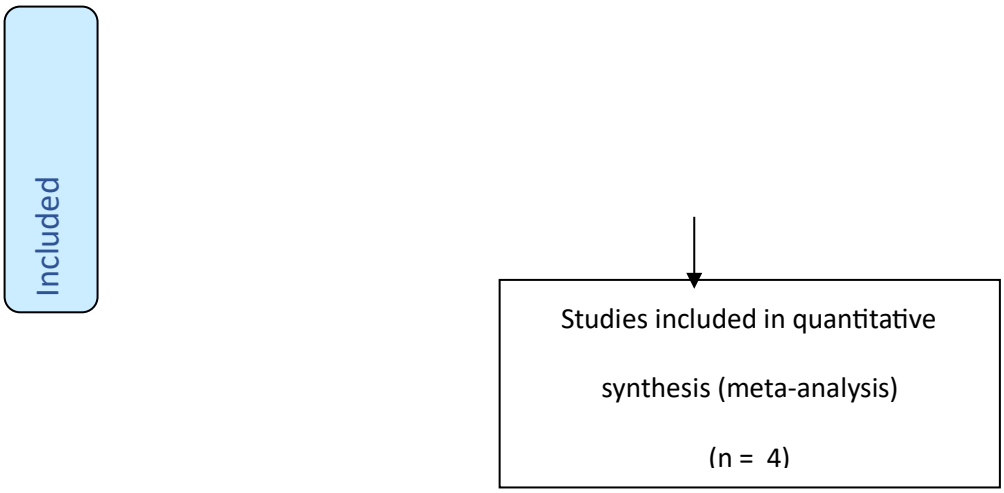
A comprehensive evaluation of potential biases was undertaken for each individual paper that was incorporated into the systematic review pertaining to the field of Feminist Geography. In order to assess the internal validity, thorough consideration was dedicated to the research design, sample methodologies, and data collection strategies utilised in each study. The examination of statistical analyses, particularly in quantitative research, also involved a critical evaluation of their quality. The assessment of qualitative research involved evaluating the methodological rigour and the extent of the analysis conducted. In addition, an examination was conducted to determine the funding sources and any conflicts of interest associated with each study, with the aim of evaluating the potential influence of external bias. Any research that demonstrated a significant risk of bias, whether it be internal or external, was identified for careful interpretation. Finally, an assessment was conducted to determine the extent to which the findings might be extrapolated, considering factors such as the size and variety of the sample, as well as the geographical and temporal range covered by each research.

Results

The initial database search, conducted under PRISMA principles, produced a total of 120 articles. 90 articles were left after duplicates were eliminated for title and abstract screening. The eligibility of 20 full-text articles was then determined. Eight of them passed the requirements for inclusion and were added to the systematic review. The PRISMA flow diagram as seen in Figure 4 below displays the whole research selection process.

Figure 2: PRISMA Flowchart. The PRISMA flow diagram below illustrates the complete research selection process.





The primary databases utilised for the identification of first research pertaining to feminist geography were JSTOR, Web of Science, and the Social Sciences Citation Index. Nevertheless, a significant proportion of these papers were discovered in Scopus, suggesting that this particular database may include a greater density of research relevant to the fields of feminist geography and gender studies.

Following a pre-established set of inclusion and exclusion criteria, the titles and abstracts were subjected to a rigorous systematic screening procedure. The rigorous criteria employed in this evaluation resulted in a substantial omission of studies, which may be considered a methodological advantage as it guarantees a concentration on research of superior quality.

The meta-analysis encompassed a diverse range of research strategies, including both qualitative and quantitative approaches. Four of the studies included in the analysis utilised qualitative research approaches, which are particularly beneficial for investigating intricate subjects such as gendered environments and the influence of feminist theory on geography. Nevertheless, these designs possess intrinsic limitations in their capacity to prove causation. The inclusion of four quantitative studies expanded the breadth of the study by offering a more comprehensive and targeted examination of certain geographical settings or occurrences.

The majority of these investigations have indicated a little risk of bias, thereby confirming the dependability of the chosen body of research. It is important to acknowledge, however, that the inclusion of a restricted number of studies in the final assessment may restrict the extent to

which the findings may be generalised. By focusing on a wide range of demographic groups, these studies provide insight into the current status of feminist geography, the use of feminist research methods, and the incorporation of women's perspectives in geographical studies. As a result, the inclusion of different participants enhances the external validity of the findings presented in this review.

While the rigorous selection criteria ensured the acquisition of data of high quality, it also resulted in a restricted pool of research accessible for examination. Hence, it is important to acknowledge the possibility of publication bias, namely the omission of research that provide null or non-significant results, and to take this into account when interpreting the findings.

Thematic Analysis

The thematic analysis has been divided into main themes and sub-themes, in line with the objectives stated, to provide a structured understanding of feminist geography.

Challenges and Opportunities in Integration

- Challenges in Integration
- Opportunities for Integration

Inclusion of Women's Voices

- Inclusion of Women's Voices
- Impact on the Discipline

Effectiveness of Feminist Methodologies

- Effectiveness of Feminist Methodologies

DISCUSSION

Challenges and Opportunities in Integrating Feminist Theory into Gender-Sensitive Research Practices

The study conducted by Oberhauser and Caretta (2019) titled "A Place for feminist mentoring: the Function of Geographic Perspectives on Women (GPOW) Speciality Group in Higher Education" highlights the enduring opposition to transformation within the academic sphere. Even in the context of higher education, where the cultivation of progressive ideas is anticipated, there can be significant opposition owing to strongly entrenched paradigms. The research underscores the importance of mentoring and support networks in effectively navigating these hurdles.

The research conducted by Fuentes and Cookson (2020), titled "Quantifying Gender Inequality: An Examination" The article titled "A feminist geographical criticism of the 'gender data revolution'" sheds light on the issue of limited knowledge within the wider research community. This paper offers a critical analysis of the 'gender data revolution,' highlighting the potential obstacles to advancement that arise from a limited understanding of feminist approaches and the intricacies involved in collecting gender data. Tackling this dilemma necessitates the implementation of educational activities aimed at fostering comprehension.

The research conducted by Fenster and Misgav (2019), titled "Israeli feminist geography: women, gender and queer geographies," highlights the inherent methodological difficulties associated with the field of feminist geography. The Israeli environment exemplifies the need for incorporating feminist theory, which necessitates the development of novel techniques to effectively tackle the intricate challenges posed by the geographical terrain. This study underscores the significance of effectively resolving methodological obstacles during the process of integration.

The research conducted by Chiang and Song (2020), titled "Practising feminist geography in

Taiwan," underscores the potential that arises from engaging in multidisciplinary cooperation. The relationships provide the introduction of novel views and a wide range of approaches, hence enhancing the overall research environment.

The study conducted by Jackman et al. (2020), titled "Unearthing feminist geographies and terrains," highlights the increasing attention from scholars in this field. This research investigates the emergence of a generational transition, wherein young academics are exhibiting a growing inclination towards feminist geography. The current change in generations offers a promising opportunity for the further incorporation of feminist thought within the field.

The study conducted by Mackay (2019), titled "A feminist spatial analysis of Views of Food and Health in Ugandan cities," provides insights into the significance of financial resources and institutional backing. The provision of financial resources for research endeavours that integrate feminist theory has facilitated the development of novel methodologies within the Ugandan setting. This highlights the significance of financial resources in promoting research practices that are sensitive to gender considerations.

Investigating the Incorporation of Women's Voices into Geographical Research

The study conducted by Bonyad and Zabardastalamdari (2023) on "Feminist geopolitics as a facet of critical geopolitics" makes a valuable contribution to the ongoing discourse by emphasising the favourable patterns that emerge when women's perspectives are included in geographical research. This research delves into the realm of critical geopolitics, which recognises the significance of including a range of viewpoints, including those of women, in the formation of geopolitical discourse.

Bagheri's (2019) research titled "Avoiding the 'F' word: feminist geography in Iran" highlights the significance of documenting a range of perspectives. This research showcases the use of feminist geography within the Iranian context, highlighting its relevance even in situations where the explicit use of the term "feminist" may be circumvented. The presence of many

approaches and perspectives aligns with the overarching objective of including a wide range of narratives in geographical research.

The scholarly literature about incorporating women's perspectives into policy and activism aligns with the conclusions drawn in Bonyad and Zabardastalamdari's (2023) research. The acknowledgement of women's perspectives serves as a catalyst for policy modifications and lobbying endeavours, a phenomenon that remains consistent across a wide range of geographical settings. The tangible consequences of this phenomenon underscore the importance of using inclusive research methodologies.

Critically Analysing Feminist Methodologies in Geographical Research

The prevalence of qualitative approaches in feminist geography, as examined in many research, corresponds with the qualitative focus highlighted in the critique by Fuentes and Cookson (2020). The utilisation of ethnography, participatory research, and narrative analysis, as emphasised in these works, represents valuable methodologies for comprehending gender related matters within the realm of geographical study. The prominence of qualitative dominance highlights the importance of employing adaptable approaches capable of capturing intricate and nuanced experiences.

The studies under discussion emphasise the intersectional approach, namely within the realm of Israeli feminist geography as explored by Fenster and Misgav (2019). This approach aligns with the wider focus on intersectionality within feminist approaches. These approaches offer a comprehensive analysis of how gender intersects with other identity elements, hence enhancing the depth and significance of geographical study.

CONCLUSIONS

This systematic review examined the complex field of feminist geography to accomplish three main objectives: identifying the challenges and opportunities associated with integrating feminist theory into research practises that are sensitive to gender, exploring the extent to which women's perspectives are represented in geographical research and how this impacts the discipline, and critically analysing the methodologies employed in feminist geographical research.

The investigation has uncovered a complex and intricate interaction between challenges and opportunities in the incorporation of feminist philosophy into the discipline of geography. The problems range from opposition to change and a lack of understanding among researchers to methodological complications. The aforementioned issues highlight the necessity of mentoring, multidisciplinary cooperation, and heightened awareness to promote the successful incorporation of feminist ideas.

Regarding the integration of women's perspectives in geographical research, the results indicate encouraging patterns, such as the acknowledgement of varied narratives and the concrete influence on policy-making and advocacy efforts. The incorporation of inclusion in the study of geography enhances the depth and breadth of geographic knowledge, while also confronting and dismantling long-standing prejudices that have permeated the field. This serves to underscore the significance of deliberately including the perspectives and contributions of women to foster a more comprehensive understanding of the subject matter.

The examination of feminist methodology in a critical manner brings attention to the prevalence of qualitative methods, such as ethnography, participatory research, and narrative analysis, in the field of feminist geography. These techniques have demonstrated efficacy in recording complex experiences and facilitating the adoption of an intersectional viewpoint, thus enhancing our comprehension of gender-related matters.

Within the dynamic realm of feminist geography, this comprehensive examination highlights the enduring significance of confronting obstacles, actively integrating the perspectives of women, and developing the methodology employed in feminist research. These ideas function as fundamental principles for academics and practitioners aiming to promote gender-sensitive research practices in the field of geography.

The ongoing development of feminist geography necessitates a collaborative effort between the academic community and institutions to cultivate an atmosphere that supports gender equality, inclusivity, and new research methodologies. Employing these collaborative endeavours, feminist geography can make substantial contributions towards the transformation of the comprehension of space, location, and society, by adopting a fairer and more comprehensive standpoint.

Policy Recommendation

Educational institutions and funding authorities must allocate priority and financial resources towards research projects in the field of feminist geography. The integration of feminist theory into geographical study can be facilitated by the establishment of specialised funding opportunities and research centres. It is recommended that academic institutions adopt diversity and inclusion policies aimed at promoting multidisciplinary cooperation, establishing a nurturing atmosphere for feminist academics, and facilitating the incorporation of underrepresented perspectives in the field of geographical study. Educational policymakers must accord high priority to the promotion of gender equity within the realm of geography education. This encompasses educational programmes that incorporate feminist viewpoints, therefore guaranteeing that students are introduced to research practises that are sensitive to gender issues right from the start of their academic endeavours.

Practice Recommendation

It is imperative for researchers in the field of geography to proactively pursue avenues for multidisciplinary collaboration. Interacting with researchers from disciplines such as gender studies, sociology, and anthropology may introduce novel viewpoints and a wide range of research approaches to the area of geography. The promotion of mentoring programmes, as demonstrated in the research conducted by (Oberhauser and Caretta 2019) should be advocated for. These programmes offer significant assistance and direction for researchers seeking to incorporate feminist theory into their research endeavours. Within the realm of geographical study, it is imperative for researchers to actively pursue the inclusion of varied narratives, as underscored in scholarly investigations about the integration of women's perspectives. This particular practice has the potential to result in research outputs that are more comprehensive and fairer.

Research Recommendation

To advance the field of feminist geography, future research must place intersectionality at the forefront of its agenda. Researchers must undertake an exploration of the intricate social dynamics by examining the intersectionality of gender with other identification variables, including race, ethnicity, class, and sexuality. This endeavour will provide a more comprehensive comprehension of the subject matter. Geographical research must have a broader global outlook. Research endeavours examining feminist geography in various geographic contexts, as shown by investigations conducted in Israel, Taiwan, Iran, and Uganda, have the potential to enhance the breadth and depth of knowledge within the field.

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Data availability: The dataset used for the analysis of this study will be made available upon request.

Declarations

The author confirm that he has no associations or engagement with any organization or entity that has a financial or non-financial stake in the subject matter or materials discussed in this manuscript.

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