

Legal Exclusion as a Determinant of Health

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Background

- An estimated 1 billion people globally live in urban slums
- The UN definition of a slum is comprehensive and addresses housing, water, and insecure tenure, but ignores a heterogeneity in legal status
- In India, approximately 60 percent of urban slums are “non-notified”
- These “non-notified” slums, as opposed to “notified slums,” are legally excluded from receiving municipal basic services and residents are often subjected to eviction
- The disparities in terms of basic services, maternal and child health outcomes, and housing quality are very evident between notified and non-notified slums
- Simply put, legal exclusion leads to poor health outcomes and there are several implications from this data

Objectives

- Understand disparities on a grand scale
- Assess whether notification can lead to better outcomes
- Gain insight into lived experience of legal exclusion via interviews with residents of Kaula Bandar, a non-notified slum in Mumbai

Methods

- Conducted literature review on slum notification, housing tenure, basic services, and maternal/child health outcomes
- Qualitatively coded past interviews with Kaula Bandar residents to assess impact of special stigma and exclusion on individual mental health
- Currently, further interviews are being conducted with residents of Kaula Bandar to collect more lived experience

Disparities in Basic Services and Maternal Health

City	Health indicator	Non-notified slum outcome	Notified slum outcome
Mumbai, Maharashtra ¹	Child health		
	Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	58.1	24.9
	Children <5 years born outside healthcare facility (%)	25.0	16.7
	Children lacking all basic vaccinations (%)	52.6	31.3
	Children with weight-for-age below -2 SD (%)	45.9	36.1
	Adult health		
	Underweight adult males (%)	32.0	25.6
	Underweight adult females (%)	20.3	23.1
	Overweight or obese adult females (%)	37.1	25.1
	Basic services		
	Households without piped drinking water (%)	99.9	0.3
Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh ²	Households without access to a non-shared toilet (%)	97.0	78.6
	Households without access to any toilet (%)	14.0	1.6
	Households using biomass fuel (%)	16.2	5.0
	Antenatal and delivery practices		
	No antenatal checkup (%)	61.8	37.8
	No tetanus vaccine (%)	53.9	24.5
	Delivered outside healthcare facility (%)	90.2	68.4
	Baby delivered by untrained midwife (%)	84.8	68.7
	Report of problem during delivery (%)	9.8	7.1
	Newborn feeding practices		
	No colostrum given (%)	69.6	52.5
	Prelacteals given (%)	83.3	53.1
	First feed given after first 12 hours (%)	66.7	43.9

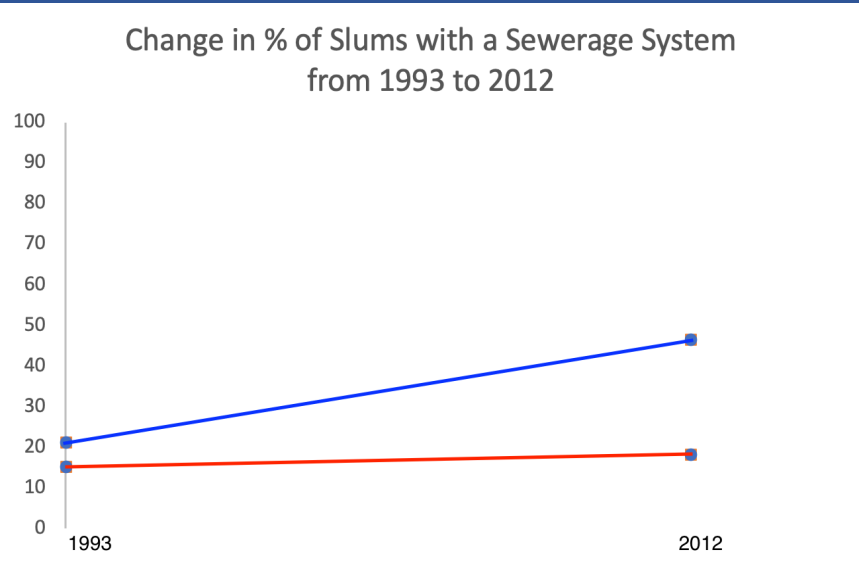
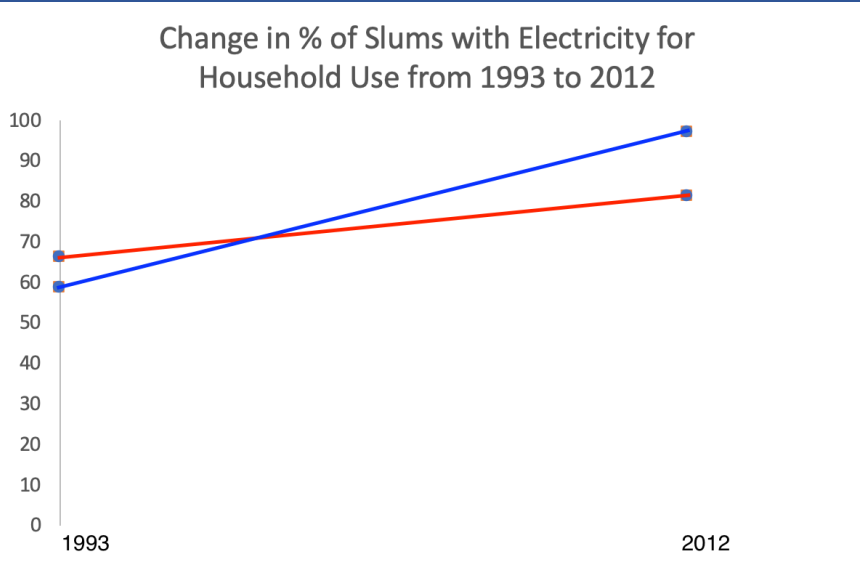
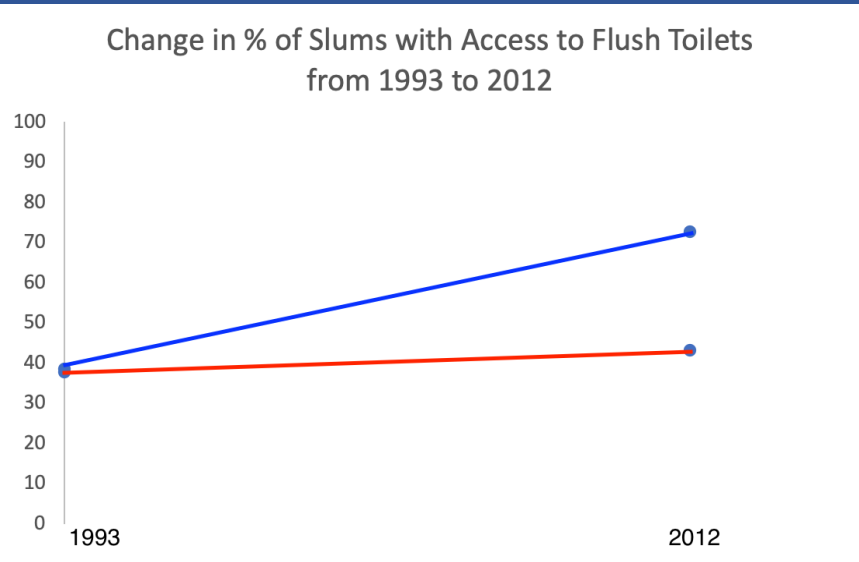
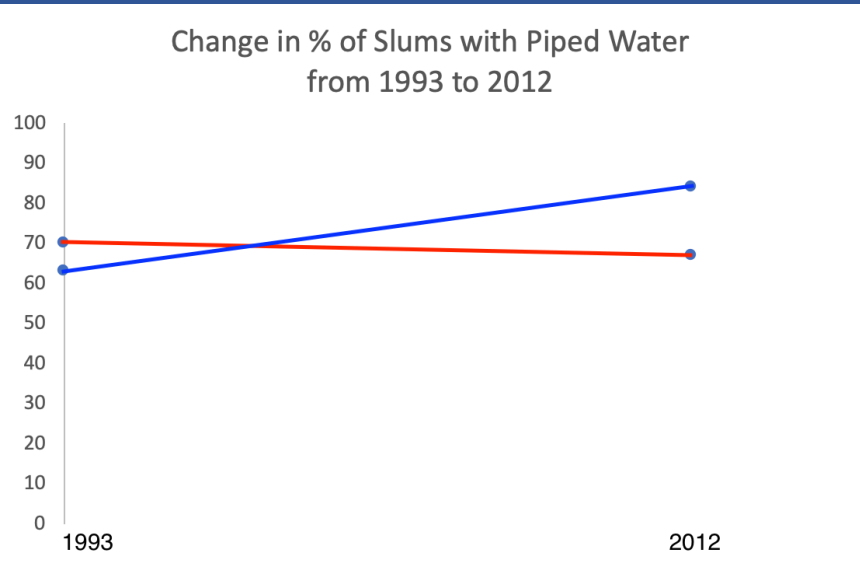
Notification Improves Housing Quality

- It was found that notification of a slum was positively correlated with vertical expansion.⁵
- Residents with **ration cards** are more likely to add a second story made of permanent materials.⁴

Notification Improves Access to Basic Services

Basic service	Slum Type	1993 (% of slums with access)	2012 (% of slums with access)
Piped water	Notified	62.7	83.8
	Non-notified	69.8	66.4
Toilets	Notified	38.4	72.3
	Non-notified	37.4	43.0
Electricity	Notified	58.9	97.2
	Non-notified	66.3	81.5
Sewage	Notified	20.9	46.2
	Non-notified	15.0	18.0

Improvements in Notified vs. Non-Notified Slums



Looking Forward

Housing and basic services are directly correlated with health outcomes. There is evidence that suggests notification can lead to improved health outcomes for individuals in currently non-notified slums; this has significant policy implications.

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