The Geography of Female Fear of Crime: A Bibliometric Mapping and an Overview in an Asian Context

K.G.N.U Ranaweera
Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka
School of Global Studies, Thammasat University, Thailand.

For correspondence: ranaweera@sjp.ac.lk

Received: September 12, 2023
Accepted: October 13, 2023
Published: November 1, 2023
DOI: https://doi.org/10.59781/5417IDMN

Abstract

Due to the fact that crime cannot be isolated from the crime scene, a spatial perspective and interest in crime studies have exploded. Consequently, human geography has arisen as a discipline of study dedicated to discovering and assessing patterns in the distribution of human-made phenomena throughout the surface of the world. For decades, experts have examined criminology and human geography to better comprehend the spatial distribution of crime. The question of how gendered geographies of fear, particularly those of females, contribute to the spatial construction of identities in the Asian context has been examined in this paper after identifying nature's existing knowledge pool via bibliometric analysis, based on the Scopus data available related to the field from 2000 to 2020.

Keywords: Bibliometric Analysis, CPTED, Fear of crime, Gender, Human Geography

1. Introduction

Since crime cannot be separated from the crime scene, a geographic approach and an interest in crime study have grown dramatically over the past few decades. As a result, human geography has emerged as a field of study devoted to identifying and evaluating patterns in the distribution of human-made phenomena across the planet's surface. In addition to these other phenomena, crime is a subject of geographical research. For decades, scientists have compared criminology and human geography to understand better how crime is distributed geographically. This is comparable to how sociology shifted its focus to criminology because of several paradigm shifts. Environmental criminology has seen a resurgence in attention in recent decades, whereas human geography has been working with quantitative approaches and building models connected to spatial analysis since the mid-20th
Criminology and human geography have been working together since the 1970s to establish "crime geography" based on cognitive mapping, environmental perception, and values and meanings attached to "place," "space," and "environment". The geography of crime serves as a descriptive tool to describe and analyze crime. A growing number of researchers are using it in geography to examine the impact of social control systems on current crime trends. The second contemporary technique is known as geographic profiling, which investigates the mobility of criminals and the process of locating their homes. Regarding crime mapping and analysis in modern police organizations, geographic information systems (GIS) are becoming increasingly popular, and applications are practically unlimited (Butorac, 2017).

Human geography is complicated to define due to confounding factors such as the relationship between human geography and geography, the discipline's relatively late professionalization, the diversity of human geography written in different languages, and the difficulty of identifying definitive research questions and sequential paradigms, or critical thinkers. Establishing a common foundation for human geography's conceptual core and enforcing it is alluring. Such a shared basis could bring a sense of unity to human geography. However, this cannot be sustained by the reality of how human geography is applied (Gibson, 2009). For geographers, emphasizing the "space-place-environment nexus" is fundamental to understanding research problems in the field. It's important to note that sociology investigates crime from an ecological perspective, focusing on how it affects people personally, in the community, and at societal levels. Criminology takes a similar approach regarding the social consequences of the law, theories about what causes crime, and how society responds to it. Broken Window Theory, Social Disorganization Theory, and Routine Activity Theory, among others, have emerged in criminology during the past twenty years as ideas relating to the spatial distribution of crime in the context of criminology (Piscitelli, 2019).

A respectful challenge to the field of criminology for maintaining its independence as a distinct field, the question of how gendered geographies of fear, particularly those of females, contribute to the spatial construction of identities in the Asian context has been examined in this paper after identifying nature existing knowledge pool via a bibliometric analysis, based on the Scopus data available related to the field from 2000 - 2020.

1.1 Locating female fear of crime in geography
It has been attempted to draw attention to the entire range of signposts that control or shut off access to urban areas and which, as a result of this partitioning, determine the use and appropriation of the city and its resources since the beginning of this current wave of feminist writing on gendered space. The underlying threat of rape, as described by many feminist writers, reinforces the message that "the city is for men, the home is for women" by creating a well-entrenched poisoned atmosphere of verbal and gestural harassing, mixed media messages about women's responsibility for "protecting themselves". The underlying threat of rape is a structuralist and nearly physiologically determinist line of thought, yet it can also incorporate the poststructuralist view that gender identity is constantly being rebuilt in place and time, as has been demonstrated. In other words, fear of violence is a societal construct continually being reshaped by the actions of individual people in their daily lives (Whitzman, 2007).

Kwan (2000) investigates gender variations in space-time restrictions and their impact on women's and men's activity-travel patterns from a time-geographic viewpoint and the relationship between gender and space-time constraints. Three demographic subgroups' time-budget and fixity restrictions are investigated using a trip diary data set gathered in Columbus, Ohio (United States of America). This work concludes that spatial and temporal limits significantly influence individuals' activity-travel patterns. Apart from the positive perspective that Kwan emphasizes, Stanko (1993), following a study of existing efforts to address women's fear of crime, concluded that women's concern about risk is primarily motivated by their fear of males and reflects women's position in a gendered society. Combating women's fear entails confronting the danger women face at the hands of their spouses, acquaintances, clients, and employees, in addition to other possible violence from men both within and outside the home, such as sexual harassment. On the other hand, official counsel attempts to allay women's fears by recommending that they adopt individually managed preventive methods to reduce their chances of encountering men they don't know. Good lighting, good transportation, proper childcare, decent education, safe residences, and safe relationships-one without the other is insufficient to meet the requirements of women and, as a result, to alleviate their fear of crime and violence.

Violence against women continues to impede their spatial behavior and activities across all social groupings. Significant shifts in social views against violence against women have happened in recent years, and increasing openness means that a 'conspiracy of silence,'
articulated by feminists in the 1980s, can no longer be inferred regarding sexual violence. Despite this, as the research demonstrates, sexual assault and its fear continue to exert the same influence over women's lives today. Ideologies regarding what constitutes a safe and dangerous setting continue to hold sway. These ideas about the importance of the family in crime prevention policies, which have a distinct geographic origin, are today underpinning this situation. The threat of violent crime is externalized, meaning it exists outside the home. Academic research has a propensity to exacerbate this erroneous geography of risk, and it is necessary to underline the reality of the geography of violent crime and its consequences in both the private and public sectors (Pain, 1997).

Identifying the volume and citation distribution, intellectual structure of the field, the concepts that have been explored on the female fear of crime in different spaces, and the nature of collaboration evident in the literature were the objectives of the bibliometric analysis. The primary purpose of the literature review was to synthesize the literature on the geography of female fear of crime in the Asian context to reveal the significance.

2. **Methodology**

The current study includes a bibliometric analysis of published papers on the "geography of female fear of crime" to identify the intellectual structures of the field, as well as a literature review of research articles on the geography of female fear of crime in the Asian setting.

The objective and quantitative approach of bibliometric analysis is used to determine the intellectual development of a scientific topic of study (Garfield, 1979). In the social science research sector, combining these approaches is gaining traction for studying leading trends and significant people. The literature review was carried out as manual qualitative analysis, and the bibliometric analysis was carried out using the Scopus database and the VOSViewer software.

*Figure 1 – Methodology*
3.0 Analysis and Discussion
3.1 Bibliometric Analysis

Researchers have access to various bibliographic sources or online databases that may be used to search for and extract data for bibliometric analysis. *SCOPUS, Google Scholar, and the Web of Science (WoS) database from the Institute for Scientific Information (ISI)* are considered to be the three most important of these (Cobo et al., 2012). In the current analysis, the SCOPUS database used, compared to the WoS database, is superior in terms of the number of publications it covers as well as the journals it encompasses in the area of social sciences (Hallinger, 2019).

Initial search based on the keywords and the search string was "("Fear of crime") OR ("Fear of Violence") AND (female) OR (women) AND (geography) OR (neighborhood*) OR (space) OR (urban) OR (rural)"

**Figure 2: Data Screening Process – Scopus database**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Total Documents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Initial key word search</td>
<td>252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Limited to 2000-2020</td>
<td>183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Limited to 5 subject areas</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>Limited “Final Article” only</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>Limited “English Language”</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The final Search string, which was limited to 131 publications was “TITLE-ABS-KEY ( "Fear of crime" ) OR ( "Fear of Violence" ) AND ( female ) OR ( women ) AND ( geography ) OR ( neighborhood* ) OR ( space ) OR ( urban ) OR ( rural ) ) AND ( LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR, 2020 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR, 2019 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR, 2018 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR, 2017 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR, 2016 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR, 2015 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR, 2014 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR, 2013 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR, 2012 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR, 2011 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR, 2010 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR, 2009 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR, 2008 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR, 2007 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR, 2006 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR, 2005 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR, 2004 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR, 2003 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR, 2002 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR, 2001 ) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR, 2000 ) ) AND ( LIMIT-TO ( SUBJAREA, "SOCI" ) OR LIMIT-TO ( SUBJAREA, "PSYC" ) OR LIMIT-TO ( SUBJAREA, "ARTS" ) OR LIMIT-TO ( SUBJAREA, "ENVI" ) OR LIMIT-TO ( SUBJAREA, "MULT" ) ) AND ( LIMIT-TO ( DOCTYPE, "ar" ) ) AND ( LIMIT-TO ( PUBSTAGE, "final" ) ) AND ( LIMIT-TO ( LANGUAGE, "English" ) )”

3.1.1 The publishing and citation pattern

Figure 3 depicts the distribution of the 100 most-cited articles across the years and the total number of publications of the highly referenced papers in those years. The graphs show that the number of publications on the geography of female fear of crime has changed. A considerable increase can be noticed in 2015, and despite a slight decline in 2016, consistent growth can be seen from 2016 through 2020.

If the number of years divides into a cluster of 5 years, a similar pattern can be identified as a steady rise of publications in the 5th year compared to the number of publications within the cluster: 2005, 2010, 2015, and 2020.
Figure 3: Total number of publications

![Bar chart showing the total number of publications per year from 2000 to 2020.](chart1.png)

Figure 4: Total number of publications versus the number of articles among the 100 most-cited publications

![Line chart showing the comparison between the number of publications and citations per year from 2000 to 2020.](chart2.png)
Data indicated in figure 3 elaborates that although the quantity of highly cited publications seems to be declining in 2004, the average citation of those articles published from 2005 to 2007 is discernible. The decreasing slope is caused by the time required to accrue citations for the most recent reports, which are not referenced as often as earlier works. As a result, it is reasonable to expect that the fraction of highly cited papers relative to the total number of publications on the issue will remain stable in the long term.

3.1.2 Key journals

Extending the research to determine the top journals that published the most-cited papers on the subject of the geography of female fear of crime found a broad range of journals. In particular, 85 journals were produced between 2000 and 2020. Table 1 displays the top ten most-cited periodicals. However, except for two (“child development” and “criminology”), other journals have published two or more of those articles. One of the most apparent findings from Table 1 is that all top journals are rated Q1 by ScimagoJR, indicating that most highly cited articles on the subject are published in top-ranking journals. Then, the scores in the second-to-last column of Table 1, which means the source’s normalized impact per publication, are shown (SNIP). SNIP evaluates the average citations per publication in a particular journal as a percentage of the journal's citation potential in the relevant area (Waltman et al., 2013).

Consequently, SNIP ratings larger than one imply that the journal's average number of citations per article exceeds the publication's citation potential in its subject area. Based on the data in Table 1, we can infer that all of these leading journals have a SNIP larger than one, with a minimum value of 1.7, which means that each of these top journals significantly influences citations in their respective categories.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the journal</th>
<th>TP</th>
<th>TC</th>
<th>CPP</th>
<th>CS</th>
<th>SNIP</th>
<th>SJR</th>
<th>QR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Science and Medicine</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>420</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>2.249</td>
<td>1.806</td>
<td>Q1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health and Place</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>391</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>1.611</td>
<td>1.216</td>
<td>Q1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geoforum</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>346</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>1.737</td>
<td>1.424</td>
<td>Q1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The co-citation network was organized into six clusters, as seen in Figure 5. Using the number of citations in each cluster, came up with descriptive names for each one. The six clusters all revolved around the same fundamental idea: Cluster 01: Statistical models of crime fear and gender, Cluster 2: Fear of crime of adults in different spaces, Cluster 3: Theoretical explanations on fear of crime females and space, Cluster 4: Psychological impact of fear, Cluster 5: Healthy lifestyle and crime fear, Cluster 6: Routine activities, fear of crime and space.
Note: Co-citation was selected as the type of analysis and cited authors as the unit of analysis. The minimum number of citations of an author is fixed as 5. Of the 7404 authors, 477 meet the threshold. Finally, it resulted in 6 clusters and 44584 links.

### 3.1.4 Mapping Key concepts

VOSviewer was used to analyze the co-occurrence of keywords (author keywords) in the cited publications to discover the important themes the researchers had examined. The results of this study are given in Figure 6. According to the findings, six primary knowledge clusters may be found in these articles. These keywords are most important in each cluster. The most repeated keywords are fear of crime, female, human, and neighborhood.

The most repeated keyword (frequency 55) was fear of crime which is evident due to the inclusion of the search string. Primary keywords related to the space were neighborhood (frequency 26), residence characteristics (frequency 25), and public space (frequency 15).
Figure 6: Keyword co-occurrence analysis

Note: A minimum occurrence of 3 was applied for the keywords whereby 137 of the 854 meet the threshold. A thesaurus file was used to replace similar words that are spelled differently.

3.1.5 Distribution of publications

As mentioned in Figure 7 and Map 1, More than any other nation, the USA has contributed much more to the highly referenced literature on the geography of female fear of crime than any other rival (the UK), which has twice as many papers. As a result, the top three nations (the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia) produced more than half of all highly referenced papers on the subject. Alternatively, the findings show that the literature on the subject from the East and Asia has made just a minimal contribution.
Figure 7: Distribution of publications according to the country

Map 1: Distribution of publications according to the country
As Asian countries contributed: India, Malaysia, China, South Korea, Hong Kong, Iran, Taiwan, Thailand, and Turkey could be identified.

4.1 Background of the geography of female fear of crime in Asia

Asia, situated chiefly in the Eastern and Northern Hemispheres, is the world's biggest and most populated continent. It shares the continents of Eurasia and Afro-Eurasia with the continents of Europe and Africa, respectively. Asia comprises 30 percent of the overall land area and 8.7 percent of the planet's total surface area. Numerous first civilizations originated on the continent, which has long been home to the bulk of the population. Its 4.7 billion inhabitants represent almost 60 percent of the global population ("Population of Asia. 2021 demographics: Density, ratios, growth rate, clock, rate of men to women," n.d.)

Many people are interested in how Asian cultures are changing due to globalization, notably, after China opened its doors to the world and nations in Southeast Asia joined China. In the minds of many Asians, globalization connotes US-Americanization and the takeover of their cultures by the United States. Consumer goods like Coca-Cola, Hollywood films, and fast-food restaurants have achieved global popularity, but an increasing number of items, such as computers, cell phones, automobiles, and even agricultural products, are becoming standard. This means that native languages are being lost, language habits are changing, and educational procedures are evolving due to English's rise as the global language of commerce and communication. Even though Asians embrace specific favorable Western ideas throughout this process, globalization is regarded as new imperialism strengthened by capitalism that results in economic and political inequities with rising social issues (Wang & Guo, 2013)

A growing number of research studies have been conducted on the fear of crimes in the Asian context. Asia is the world's most populous and culturally diverse region. While the term "Asia" is used to represent a substantial geographic area rather than a single homogeneous continent, its use in describing such a vast territory always risks masking the great diversity among the regions it contains. Furthermore, the peoples of Asia have established the tremendous variety of human adaptations found on any of the continents, making them the most diverse (Pannell et al., 2021).
4.2 Geography of female fear of crime in Asia

Although the geographical area creates an atmosphere of fear of crime, the inherited cultural norms rooted in a personality also caused fear in many ways. Comparative study results show significant differences in the level of fear of crime victimization between students from India and Japan. Japanese students said their fear of becoming a victim of crime had increased during the last three years. Indian respondents also expressed more fear that their possessions/things might be stolen while traveling. The National College Women Sexual Victimization (NCWSV) study in the US reveals that many students will confront sexist and harassing comments, be likely to get an obscene phone call, and have higher chances of being stalked or of being victimized by coerced sexual contact. Most students in the first year of university education in India say they suffer victimization at the hands of their seniors due to bullying, and some incidents have also resulted in barbaric killings. In Japan, there was no influence of age on fear of crime among students aged 18-23. Some studies have found that students from a higher-income background face an increased risk of victimization. Previous crime victimization affects a person's fear of crime, but this study found no such correlation for Japanese or Indian respondents. This may be because such victimization might not have been viewed as a serious crime (Chockalingam & Srinivasan, 2009). Another Indian research, Patel and Mishra (2016) was conducted on 220 samples in rural-urban areas of Lucknow. The elderly who stay alone in urban areas are easy targets for crime. Also, technological advancement has created a difference between family members and the elderly, which has brought isolation among the elderly.

A discussion about the nature of fear of crimes with females was carried out by Chan and Rigakos (2002) regarding the cultural norms in India. They identified female newborns in India who were slaughtered because they created an undue burden on the lives of many Indians who were struggling to survive. According to research on woman-killing in contemporary communities, the widespread practice of woman-burning is still practiced in modern India in exchange for money and household goods as part of the dowry. The Indian government’s opposition to this practice has resulted in the institutionalization of burning, which helps preserve women's oppression within and beyond the country. The fear of crime victimization among females in some Indian traditional societies has been socialized to females with cultural gender norms and patriarchy.
Identifying the psychological status of older females in India who have direct or indirect experience with victimization; anxious and fearful that someone may victimize them. The research also discovered that older people's happiness is more influenced by anxiety and phobia, and they have a greater degree of dread of crime in their neighborhood and at home. According to the research, if anti-social elements are active in the neighborhood and commit crimes, fear of crime and anxiety grip older individuals considerably, producing a breach in their psychological wellbeing (Patel, 2020).

Like many "traditional" nations, Indian society is still patriarchal (Sivakumar & Manimekalai, 2021). Through distinct cultural metaphors, patriarchal ideals governing sexuality, reproduction, and social productions are articulated. Existed were explicit restrictions preventing women from engaging in some crucial tasks and denying them certain privileges. The most subtle manifestation of patriarchy, however, is via symbolism, such as sending messages of women's inferiority through stories that emphasize women's self-sacrificing, self-effacing image. It is also conveyed via ritual acts that stress the role of women as devoted spouses and mothers daily. In addition, women are taught not to oppose discrimination, subordination, exploitation, and subjection at numerous systemic levels. These standards limit women's ambitions beyond marriage. Similarly, gender standards for males are based on masculinity, and a man's sense of self is dependent on his capacity to manage women. The daughter's protection and virginity are seen as a sign of the father's honor and manhood until she marries (Singh & Agrawal, 2007, Sinha, 2012, Shekhawat & Saxena, 2015).

Masculinity is not a cohesive or consistent idea. Caste/race, class, the urban-rural divide, geopolitical divisions, family, and other environmental variables all have an impact on it. However, because of the pervasiveness of patriarchy, there are apparent parallels among civilizations. Various forms of gender discrimination are reinforced in the family via socialization. Girls who indulge in activities such as playing with dolls, aiding their mother or sister in the kitchen, or doing housework are seen as effeminate by older males and their peers. Boys are taught from a young age that displaying emotion or weeping is not a sign of a genuine man. Because the male child is taught not to show normal human feelings like fear or grief, the male brain must eliminate notions of compassion, rectitude, and sensitivity and establish a barrier of bravery radiating remoteness and isolation. At this time, he begins his search for power and control in order to feel safe. The quest for power results in a vicious cycle of inability to develop human relationships followed by failing to acknowledge their worth. Female fear of crime in India is
based on cultural norms, especially the idea that females are inferior to males, regardless of geographical location but mostly in the rural context. At the same time due to socialization, although the fear of crime is obvious, there is a tendency of revealing the truth by males in fear of crime research as well.

In contrast, popular culture routines and female fear of crimes in urban Thailand have been revealed by รักษาธรรม ณ., โชติชาครพันธุ์ ต., & สหพัฒนา ป. (2016). According to the research findings, female fear of sexual offenses gradually grows. Furthermore, according to the results of this study, the elements that influence men's and women's fear of sexual crimes are distinct. Additionally, the factors that affect a woman's fear of sexual offenses differ. Finally, the following elements influence females' fear of sexual crimes: (a) the frequency with which they use taxis, (b) the length of their journey, (c) the perception of the risk of becoming a victim, and (d) the information about sex crimes in taxis that they are aware of.

Malikhao (2017) identifies gradual freedom of females in Thailand, although according to historical data, women were under the guardianship of their parents while they were young, their husbands when they were married, and their sons when they had children throughout the ancient Indian period. Although women are still not permitted to become monks in the Thai Buddhist organization, females moving with the developing world as well as males, which is evidence of the nature of female fear identified in 2016 by รักษาธรรม ณ., โชติชาครพันธุ์ ต., & สหพัฒนา ป.

Moreover, Thailand offers a particularly fascinating difference in terms of where, culturally speaking, small-scale firms run by women are seen as acceptable. From a legal and policy standpoint, it also differs significantly from India. This is shown by the legal and cultural frameworks and particulars governing women's access to urban public spaces for economic purposes (Yasmeen, 2016). Identifying the status of urban Thai females, Sangtongdee (2018) concludes males fear less than females. It is possible to anticipate crime fear in a city based on the link between gender and fear of crime within a community and the relationship between gender and personal wealth. Looking at the Thai context, some women who have a male guardian for safety and care might quickly discover a familial bond. Because of paternal authority, fathers and brothers must safeguard their moms and sisters from dangerous circumstances. The investigated region is situated on the outskirts of Bangkok, which is considered a rural area where most women are housewives. Apart from the cultural factor highlighted in the Indian context has been converted into social status in Thailand.
Fear of crime has different faces based on geography, especially in rural and urban. Unlike Indian and Thai contexts Malaysian urban females bear the fear of crime when engaging in leisure time activities. In Malaysia, people from many cultures feel the fear of approaching urban parks and gardens unprotected. Maruthaveeran & Van den Bosh (2015) emphasized topics on the traits that elicit fear among Kuala Lumpur people in urban parks: hiding (vegetation), being alone, symptoms of the bodily disorder, the presence of social incivilities, familiarity, prior knowledge of the crime, and experience with crime. The study also revealed some form of protective behavior against crime in urban parks among Kuala Lumpur residents; however, this was only shown in female participants in the research and has also highlighted the consequences for park construction and administration that emerge from the replies supplied by respondents. Even though crime in urban green spaces is not a big concern in Malaysia, the research highlights the necessity for measures connected to urban park management to promote a more incredible feeling of security among users (Maruthaveeran & Van den Bosh, 2015).

Further research based on leisure time activities and fear of crime investigated the relationships between individual and societal barriers in leisure walking, and the findings demonstrated the importance of both elements in the choice and regularity of leisure walking. The results of this study can be helpful to health researchers in Malaysia because of the lack of walking among residents in the urban neighborhood areas, as well as informing them of the barriers that prevent residents from walking; in particular, the results obtained in this study showed more walking among residents in the neighborhood area. As an aggregate measure of participants' evaluations for illumination and crime, the felt safety was substantially connected with female walking but not with male walking. Furthermore, an enhanced description was shown to be associated with lower crime and increased pedestrian activity after dark, boosting monitoring (Aliyas & Ujang, 2015).

Furthermore, the community engagement of females in Malaysia has given more equal opportunities than in countries like India, but at the same time, the nature of fear of crime in urban spaces has been newly faced due to the female commuters. According to Sham et al. (2018), in Malaysian urban environments, public transportation is still not designed to suit the travel demands of working women. Keeping this in mind, the rising crime rate among these vulnerable groups in metropolitan areas has increased their fear of crime of traveling to work.

A study in Malaysia examines the indirect relationship between Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) and fear of crime through victimization as a mediating variable.
The data imply that CPTED has a negative indirect influence on fear of crime. According to the findings of the study, CPTED is indirectly connected with decreased crime fear. The use of CPTED principles has good impacts on the built environment, which may decrease the occurrence of crime in residential areas, consequently enhancing the quality of life. However, it may seem that CPTED is not regarded as an effective strategy for directly lowering crime-related fear. Lastly, the results of this study imply that future research is required to measure CPTED in various neighborhood contexts more precisely and to evaluate its influence on varying crime levels and fear of crime. Researchers should continue to examine variations in terror reactions among residents based on the CPTED concept in various neighborhood designs and cultural contexts. It would be fascinating to explore the effectiveness of CPTED in homogeneous and varied populations, for instance (Hedayati Marzbali et al., 2012). Although CPTED is considered an effective crime prevention method, Hedayati Marzbali's research identified the less effective in the Malaysian context as a fear reduction method.

More than half of Malaysians are Muslims. Similar to Indian culture, Pakistan, whose official name is the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, is a South Asian nation. In Pakistani culture's intricate socio-demographic and cultural environment, women's empowerment has long been a contentious topic. On all essential human development measures, women are rated lower than males. In light of this, there is an immediate need in the Pakistani context to investigate the numerous factors that influence women's empowerment ("Determinants of women's empowerment in Pakistan: Evidence from demographic and health surveys, 2012–13 and 2017–18," 2021). According to research carried out in Pakistan by Yirmibesoglu & Ergun in 2015, women are more afraid of crime than males. The terror remains with a little reduction after the restorations, which made the area safer. High crime rates in urban areas are one of the elements contributing to the loss in quality of life witnessed in major cities, which is one of the most serious challenges of the modern-day. To create healthy living environments, it is critical to prevent and minimize crime and diminish people's fear of being a victim of crime. This study effort focused on the historic city core known as Beyoglu. Prior to the area's reconstruction, crime rates were high; however, they have subsequently decreased (Yirmibesoglu & Ergun, 2015). In contrast with the discussion of rural females' high crime fear rate, Pakistani females fear geographically based on the urban space. As Indo-Pakistani wars and conflicts continued from 1947, urban places were continuously terrorized, and the increment of fear of crime in the urban scenarios in Pakistan is noticeable.
Lee (1997) community context, particularly social and physical vulnerability and incivility, was a major predictor in the specific fear of crime, but not in the general fear of crime. Knowledge of crime, which included understanding the victimization experience of others, contact with crime news, and impression of crime severity as reported by the media, was the most important component of the particular fear. However, it did not contribute to the general fear at all. According to Brown (2016), gender was substantially linked with all indicators of apprehension concerning crime. Fear of crime in South Korea revealed that most women polled (75.5%) felt fear of crime when traveling alone at night. However, since Lee (1997) only surveyed women, he could not explore the influence of gender on fear of crime among South Koreans. Brown's findings give evidence of the magnitude of gender differences in South Korean crime fear, perceived risk, and crime avoidance strategies. Notable was the effect of gender on avoidance behaviors, with about half of women reporting that they avoided certain regions and nighttime activities owing to fear of crime. The avoidance of specific places and midnight activities by women in South Korea is not just a matter of economic relevance, since companies across the city must deal with inadequate income and inferior profitability, but also a matter of gender equality (Brown, 2016). Geography-based female fear of crime has been revealed in South Korean studies. Thus, space and time (night) has been identified as the significant variables.

A study in the Philippines discusses the broad insecurities have a significant underlying influence on fear of crime. Moreover, women were seen as physically defenseless and incapable of defending themselves. They were more likely to experience the painful physical and social consequences of violence or sexual assault if they were victims. Those who felt uncomfortable and were in danger of being a victim of crime also tended to be uncertain about their financial security, work, disaster readiness, health, environment, and human rights. In addition, they tended to be fear of community issues such as trash, juvenile misbehavior, and illicit narcotics. In terms of family income, the broad middle class looked to be more scared, although employment typically lowered fear, and has discovered additional valid indicators, such as prior victimization, local government expenditures, and social identifiers such as age and gender, but none as powerful as widespread insecurity (Garcia et al., 2017).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author/s</th>
<th>Article Title</th>
<th>Key Learning</th>
<th>Methods Used</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mei-Po Kwan</td>
<td>Gender differences in space-time constraint</td>
<td>• Women with higher occupational status and income, as well as improvement in their access to private means of transportation, will lead to changes in traditional gender roles, results of this study do not support traditional belief</td>
<td>Travel diary survey Observation and sample interview</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Elizabeth A. Stanko | Women, Crime, and Fear | • Women's fear of crime, some claim, is merely the result of feminists' propaganda about male violence  
• An acting as powerless, women are quite creative about pre-cautionary strategies and violence avoidance.  
• Fear of crime is a consequence of being at the "sharp-end" of the patriarch | Literature Review                  |
| Rachel H. Pain   | Social Geographies of Women's Fear of Crime | • Four fundamental topics of geographical analysis are discussed in detail: restrictions on the use of urban space, the relationship between public and private space in perceptions of risk, the social division of space into a "safe" and "dangerous" zone, and the social control of women. | Literature Review                  |
| Kumara Veluchockalinga and Murugesan Srinivasan | Fear of Crime Victimization: A Study of University Students in India and Japan | • Fear of crime victimization is affected by certain socio-demographic characteristics such as age, gender, and place of residence.  
• Disproved the hypothesis that prior experience of victimization positively affects fear of crime victimization. | A structured and self-explanatory questionnaire |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Authors</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Summary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Avanish Bhai Patel, Anindya Jayanta Mishra</td>
<td>Fear of crime amongst elders in India</td>
<td>Rich elderly living alone in urban areas are easy targets for crime and also have a higher level of fear of crime. Family members and neighborhood create fear of crime.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wendy Chan and George S. Rigakos</td>
<td>Risk, Crime, and Gender</td>
<td>Gender is one important constitutive determinant of how risk is negotiated and understood. Cultural factors affecting fear of crime.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rakkham Tham Na., Choticachako Chornphan K., &amp; Saha Pathana Por.</td>
<td>Fear of sexual crimes of female passengers using public taxis in Bangkok metropolitan</td>
<td>The elements influencing men’s and women’s fear of sexual offenses are distinct. The elements that influence a woman's fear of sexual offenses differ.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sreetheran Maruthaveera na and Cecil Konijnendijk van den Bosh</td>
<td>Fear of crime in urban parks – What the residents of Kuala Lumpur have to say?</td>
<td>In urban parks, attributes such as concealment (vegetation), being alone, indicators of physical disorder, the presence of social incivilities, familiarity, prior knowledge about crime, and past crime experience elicit fear of crime.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funda Yirmibesoglu</td>
<td>Fear of Crime among Women in the Old City</td>
<td>Women are more afraid of crime than males. The terror remains, but with a little</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Documentary and quantitative data analysis methods
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>and Nilgun Ergun</th>
<th>Center of Istanbul</th>
<th>reduction after the restorations, which made the area safer.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Urban planning and smart utilization of the built environment will reduce crime fear and recurrent crime while improving environmental quality.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massoomeh Hedayati Marzbalia Aldrin Abdullah and Nordin Abd.Razak and Mohammad Javad Maghsoodi Tilakia</td>
<td>The influence of crime prevention through environmental design on victimization and fear of crime</td>
<td>• The data imply that CPTED has an indirect negative influence on crime fear.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ben Brown</td>
<td>Fear of Crime in South Korea</td>
<td>• Women were much more likely than males to report fear, risk perception, and crime avoidance actions. It can be seen that fear of crime is influenced by gender, with women being more fearful than men. This may reflect the societal expectations and roles assigned to men and women.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y.H Lee</td>
<td>Explaining Korean women's fear of crime</td>
<td>• Specific fear appears to be most influenced by knowledge of the occurrence of crime, followed by community environment and their perceptions about the incidence of crime.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Author(s)</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Methodology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emmanuel Garcia</td>
<td>Reassessing Fear of Crime: The Role of Broad Insecurities</td>
<td>Quantitative Methodology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamil Paolo Francisco</td>
<td>Rose Ann Camille Caliso</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Public perceptions of safety depend not only on tough policing and &quot;cleaning up&quot; communities, but also on providing economic opportunities, developing human capital, and securing people's wellbeing.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avanish Bhai Patel</td>
<td>Psychological factors of fear of crime: an empirical study of older people in Lucknow, India</td>
<td>Multivariate regression analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Female older individuals have been subjected to mental abuse, they are more scared in their families and community.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Emotional abuse causes anxiety, phobias, and other emotional disorders in the elderly.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• elderly people have traditionally depended on family members and relatives for physical and emotional care.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zeinab Aliyas Norsidah Ujang</td>
<td>Influence of Interpersonal Barrier and Fear of Crime on Walking Behavior</td>
<td>Quantitative Method</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• The felt safety, as an aggregate measure of participants' evaluations for illumination and crime, was substantially connected with female walking but not with male walking.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Conclusion

Compared to earlier times, women have a position that is, on average, more advantageous in Asia than in other parts of the world, despite the continent's wide linguistic and cultural variety. This can be explained by several different aspects, including the following: traditionally, kinship was determined through both the maternal and paternal lines; a daughter was not a financial burden as a result of the widespread practice of bride price; women played prominent roles in indigenous ritual; their labor was essential in agricultural practices, and
they dominated local markets. However, as time progressed, the emergence of centralized regimes and the expansion of foreign philosophies and faiths (such as Confucianism, Daoism, Buddhism, Islam, and Christianity) increased the privileges of males and highlighted the subjection of females and more. Even though such effects were most apparent among the elite, the power of local customs was always a moderating element.

According to the bibliometric analysis, it is clear that the theme of "the geography of female fear of crime" has been a hot topic throughout the two decades starting from 2000, with exceptional growth within the period 2014 to 2020, referring to the Scopus database. Most cited journals and popular authors on the topic were revealed via the co-citation network, and Asia's contribution was at a lower level compared to Europe.

The investigated qualitative research literature on the Asian context always elucidates the cultural atmosphere of the geography of female fear of crime. The common finding that all authors agreed on was females' social and physical inferiority regardless of the territory. Especially the discussion on different geographies based on female social status, patriarchy, access to modern technology, and leisure time activities were emphasized by Asian authors. Moreover, the fear of crime related to space with war has created fear of crime in urban female city dwellers. The female fear of crime is different in different cultures. Although CPTED failed in one research setting, according to the literature, identifying the geographies as exact hotspots of fear of crime and applying suitable CPTED techniques might lead to zero fear spaces. Thus, qualitative research on the geographies of female fear of crime is needed.

References
Blazer, D. (2007). Faculty opinions recommendation of neighborhood social conditions mediate the association between physical deterioration and mental health. Faculty Opinions – Post-Publication Peer Review of the Biomedical Literature. https://doi.org/10.3410/f.1092264.546668


Wang, I., & Guo, L. (2013). Introduction to Asian Culture(s) and globalization. *CLCWeb: Comparative Literature and Culture, 15*(2). https://doi.org/10.7771/1481-4374.2231

