



# The Illegal City: Space, Law and Gender in a Delhi Squatter Settlement (Gender, Space and Society)

By Ayona Datta

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

## **The Illegal City: Space, Law and Gender in a Delhi Squatter Settlement (Gender, Space and Society)** By Ayona Datta

The Illegal City explores the relationship between space, law and gendered subjectivity through a close look at an 'illegal' squatter settlement in Delhi. Since 2000, a series of judicial rulings in India have criminalised squatters as 'illegal' citizens, 'encroachers' and 'pickpockets' of urban land, and have led to a spate of slum demolitions across the country. This book argues that in this context, it has become vital to distinguish between illegality and informality since it is those 'illegal' slums which are at the receiving end of a 'force of law', where law is violently encountered within everyday spaces. This book uses a gendered intersectional lens to explore how a 'violence of law' shapes how 'public' subjectivities of gender, class, religion and caste are encountered and negotiated within the 'private' spaces of home, family and neighbourhood. This book suggests that resettlement is not a condition that squatters desire; rather something that is seen as the only way out of the 'illegal' city. The wait for resettlement is a temporal space of anxiety and uncertainty, where particular kinds of politics around law, space and gender takes shape, which transform squatters' relations with the state, urban development, civil society, and with each other. Through their everyday struggles around water, sanitation, social and political organisation and the transformation of their homes and families, this book shows that the desire for the 'legal city' is also the irony and utopia of home, which will remain an incomplete gendered project - both for the state and for squatters.

 [Download The Illegal City: Space, Law and Gender in a Delhi ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Illegal City: Space, Law and Gender in a Del ...pdf](#)

# **The Illegal City: Space, Law and Gender in a Delhi Squatter Settlement (Gender, Space and Society)**

*By Ayona Datta*

## **The Illegal City: Space, Law and Gender in a Delhi Squatter Settlement (Gender, Space and Society)**

By Ayona Datta

The Illegal City explores the relationship between space, law and gendered subjectivity through a close look at an 'illegal' squatter settlement in Delhi. Since 2000, a series of judicial rulings in India have criminalised squatters as 'illegal' citizens, 'encroachers' and 'pickpockets' of urban land, and have led to a spate of slum demolitions across the country. This book argues that in this context, it has become vital to distinguish between illegality and informality since it is those 'illegal' slums which are at the receiving end of a 'force of law', where law is violently encountered within everyday spaces. This book uses a gendered intersectional lens to explore how a 'violence of law' shapes how 'public' subjectivities of gender, class, religion and caste are encountered and negotiated within the 'private' spaces of home, family and neighbourhood. This book suggests that resettlement is not a condition that squatters desire; rather something that is seen as the only way out of the 'illegal' city. The wait for resettlement is a temporal space of anxiety and uncertainty, where particular kinds of politics around law, space and gender takes shape, which transform squatters' relations with the state, urban development, civil society, and with each other. Through their everyday struggles around water, sanitation, social and political organisation and the transformation of their homes and families, this book shows that the desire for the 'legal city' is also the irony and utopia of home, which will remain an incomplete gendered project - both for the state and for squatters.

## **The Illegal City: Space, Law and Gender in a Delhi Squatter Settlement (Gender, Space and Society)**

**By Ayona Datta Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #5510058 in Books
- Published on: 2012-09-20
- Original language: English
- Dimensions: 9.50" h x 6.50" w x .75" l, 1.19 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 210 pages

 [Download The Illegal City: Space, Law and Gender in a Delhi ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Illegal City: Space, Law and Gender in a Del ...pdf](#)

## Download and Read Free Online **The Illegal City: Space, Law and Gender in a Delhi Squatter Settlement (Gender, Space and Society)** By Ayona Datta

---

### Editorial Review

#### Review

'This fresh, multilayered, meticulous examination of everyday life in a squatter camp in New Delhi reveals key intersections among land tenure, illegality, and gender power relations to show how vulnerable residents experience law in deeply transformative fashion, and everyday life becomes the fulcrum where residents negotiate their relationships with each other and with the state. The use of an analytical lens centered on gender, but including caste, class, and religion, allows Datta to draw a subtle and rich portrait of how vulnerable residents encounter the state in fragile housing situations. This compelling analysis sheds new light on interstices of vulnerability that are often hidden from view or simply neglected and attributed to the "normality" of life among the poor. The Illegal City is immensely smart and will appeal to a wide readership.' Cecilia Menjivar, Arizona State University, USA 'The Illegal City is a thought provoking study of the double nature of law as both threat and hope in the lives of people in squatter settlements in a city. Paying close attention to the processes of governmentality through which space is categorized and acted upon, Datta produces an excellent ethnographic account of the fine workings of power and domination that are reproduced within the slum. Especially interesting is the way she tracks the manner in which gender folds into other differences and produces the uneven subjectivities through which law is encountered. This book is theoretically bold and ethnographically well anchored in the lived experiences of the poor.' Veena Das, Johns Hopkins University, USA 'An insightful and thought-provoking account of what illegality means for Delhi's squatters which takes a strikingly original approach to gender, showing how gender and illegality are mutually constituted, and exploring the consequences in both private and public spaces.' Ann Varley, University College London, UK 'At its core, it is an immensely scholarly work that adds substantive and methodological value to urban development studies. It is rich with insights and observations that may lead to further work...' Times Higher Education '... the material explored in this book is rigorously researched and suitably anchored in the lived experiences of squatters themselves. The Illegal City does not shy away from asking difficult questions about the everydayness of urban squatting and should add significant theoretical and empirical value to a growing body of work on the nature of marginalization, illegality and urban citizenship.' LSE Review of Books 'Illegal City offers a much overdue feminist contribution to debates about the production of urban marginality in the South.' Urban Studies This is an unassuming yet wonderful book, with very few flaws. Datta's iterative style of writing is accomplished and places each chapter's focused discussion within the broader urban history. Urban History '... The Illegal City does well to capture the growing importance of law in Delhi's political landscape, the ways in which jhuggi residents experience their position in the city, how gender shapes this experience, and how these experiences are internalized in the actions, hopes and struggles of their lives.' Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography

#### About the Author

Ayona Datta is a Senior Lecturer in Citizenship and Belonging at the School of Geography, University of Leeds, UK.

### Users Review

#### From reader reviews:

##### **Marcy Madison:**

As people who live in the particular modest era should be revise about what going on or details even

knowledge to make these people keep up with the era which can be always change and advance. Some of you maybe will update themselves by looking at books. It is a good choice to suit your needs but the problems coming to an individual is you don't know which one you should start with. This The Illegal City: Space, Law and Gender in a Delhi Squatter Settlement (Gender, Space and Society) is our recommendation to make you keep up with the world. Why, since this book serves what you want and wish in this era.

### **Nicole Floyd:**

The book untitled The Illegal City: Space, Law and Gender in a Delhi Squatter Settlement (Gender, Space and Society) contain a lot of information on the item. The writer explains the woman idea with easy method. The language is very simple to implement all the people, so do not worry, you can easy to read this. The book was authored by famous author. The author gives you in the new age of literary works. It is easy to read this book because you can continue reading your smart phone, or gadget, so you can read the book with anywhere and anytime. In a situation you wish to purchase the e-book, you can open their official web-site along with order it. Have a nice read.

### **Alexandra Robbins:**

As we know that book is vital thing to add our knowledge for everything. By a e-book we can know everything we would like. A book is a pair of written, printed, illustrated or maybe blank sheet. Every year was exactly added. This publication The Illegal City: Space, Law and Gender in a Delhi Squatter Settlement (Gender, Space and Society) was filled about science. Spend your time to add your knowledge about your science competence. Some people has several feel when they reading the book. If you know how big benefit from a book, you can truly feel enjoy to read a guide. In the modern era like now, many ways to get book that you simply wanted.

### **Tony Hogan:**

As a college student exactly feel bored for you to reading. If their teacher requested them to go to the library as well as to make summary for some e-book, they are complained. Just minor students that has reading's internal or real their leisure activity. They just do what the teacher want, like asked to the library. They go to at this time there but nothing reading seriously. Any students feel that reading through is not important, boring as well as can't see colorful photographs on there. Yeah, it is to become complicated. Book is very important for you. As we know that on this age, many ways to get whatever we want. Likewise word says, ways to reach Chinese's country. Therefore , this The Illegal City: Space, Law and Gender in a Delhi Squatter Settlement (Gender, Space and Society) can make you feel more interested to read.

**Download and Read Online The Illegal City: Space, Law and Gender in a Delhi Squatter Settlement (Gender, Space and Society)**

**By Ayona Datta #RPVOB6EXDQA**

# **Read The Illegal City: Space, Law and Gender in a Delhi Squatter Settlement (Gender, Space and Society) By Ayona Datta for online ebook**

The Illegal City: Space, Law and Gender in a Delhi Squatter Settlement (Gender, Space and Society) By Ayona Datta Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Illegal City: Space, Law and Gender in a Delhi Squatter Settlement (Gender, Space and Society) By Ayona Datta books to read online.

## **Online The Illegal City: Space, Law and Gender in a Delhi Squatter Settlement (Gender, Space and Society) By Ayona Datta ebook PDF download**

**The Illegal City: Space, Law and Gender in a Delhi Squatter Settlement (Gender, Space and Society) By Ayona Datta Doc**

**The Illegal City: Space, Law and Gender in a Delhi Squatter Settlement (Gender, Space and Society) By Ayona Datta MobiPocket**

**The Illegal City: Space, Law and Gender in a Delhi Squatter Settlement (Gender, Space and Society) By Ayona Datta EPub**

**RPVOB6EXDQA: The Illegal City: Space, Law and Gender in a Delhi Squatter Settlement (Gender, Space and Society) By Ayona Datta**