

Riding the City
- Gender Dimension of Mobility in Urban Context-

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Abstract

In this paper I tried to understand the way in which the city is experienced by the female cyclist, taking into consideration city-mobility and gender relationships. I was also interested in observing if there is an identity transposition in this practice of mobility, investigating the relationship between the bicycle and the female cyclist. To answer the research question, I conducted 5 unstructured interviews with female cyclists and analyzed answers from a blog dedicated to women who ride bicycles where I managed to better identify which is their perception towards the bicycle. Combining the data obtained from the interviews and the blog with Marc Augé's theory about spaces and non spaces, Michel de Certeau's theory that introduces the "practiced space" concept, I have identified the gender dimension of these spaces trying to go beyond public-private dichotomy, basing my research on the "gendered space" concept. The results of the research have a descriptive character and are not representative for the entire female cyclist population.

Keywords : city • gender • mobility • bicycle