# Authorship as empowerment: A feminist toolkit for the post-covid world

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## A feminist toolkit

 "A toolkit is a collection of authoritative and adaptable resources that enables the intended user to learn about an issue and identify approaches for addressing them. Toolkits can help translate theory into practice, and typically target one issue or one audience." (American Library Association)



### FEMINIST TOOLKIT: DIGITAL, VISUAL, PARTICIPATORY

# 1. Create safe spaces online

Genre of authorship that have wide appeal in a digital age such as selfies, free verse, shorthand and emojis, women used both parody and dark humour to transform shame, humiliation and fear into reflection, refusal and resistance.



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#### WhatsApp Diaries: Infrastructure व्हाट्सप्प डायरीज़: संरचना









読

"Sheher [city], where life is very busy, people go to work in the morning and by evening, return. Today we were in the market at 9 pm, and it was very crowded, and on our way back, we got a bus, but it was pretty crowded, was not sure about it, we still got in, was glad there are reserved seats, so we asked a man, he got up very willingly, which made me happy."

"शहर, जहाँ जीवन बहुत व्यस्त है, लोग सुबह काम पर जाते हैं और शाम को वापस लौटते है। आज रात 9 बजे हम बाजार में थे, वहां बहुत भीड़ थी। वापसी के समय हमने बस ली, जो भी लोगों से भरी हुई थी। अच्छा है की औरतों के लिए रिजर्व्ड सीट्स होती हैं। हमे ख़ुशी है, एक आदमी वह रिज़र्व सीट देने को आसानी से राजी हो गया।"

WhatsApp Diaries: Selfies व्हाट्सप्प डायरीज़: सेल्फीस





03

Meine aise kiya taki koi aa ogo ko pehchan na paye











"Guys, look at my new selfy" "मेरा नया सेल्फी कैसा लगा"

"Kon si accha hai dii dekh lo" "कौनसी अच्छी है दी, देख लो"

"wah wah" "वाह वाह"





### 2. Produce and perform Spoken Word



This city is not anyone's property



### 3. "Our stories our voices"

Photo Credit: www.rohitmadan.com

## **Community Podcasts**



## Digital authorship as empowerment

Authorship is the ability to speak, write, curate and direct one's future on one's own terms, based on one's experiences of struggles and hardships, and making these visible, and legitimate in the public domain

Authoring in and through digital technologies is a form of translocal solidarity across digital, social and physical places which have traditionally excluded women and girls from the working classes despite decades of policies on gender and development. In the digital age, authorship is a form of decolonial storytelling, where ordinary and everyday stories of struggle are transformed into political artefacts, thus profoundly changing the social nature of the digital space and its potential to influence public policy.