

GENDER AND MOTORCYCLES: A STUDY OF BIKING CULTU...

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Abstract Title of the dissertation: Gender and Motorcycles: A Study of Biking Cultures in Kolkata This research has been a venture to investigate the hitherto uncharted domain of the relationship between gender, risk, and motorcycling from a sociological perspective in Kolkata, India. This attempts to methodologically explore the rising distinctive culture of motorcycling in Kolkata. It should be noted that this study deals with those individuals who ride a motorcycle either professionally or passionately. The subjective notion of 'riding passionately' here means motorcyclists who ride motorcycles apart from mundane activities. This study has three main objectives. Firstly, to explore the rituals and significant styles associated with motorcycling only, forming a separate community of its own, resulting in a prominent culture. Secondly, to enquire whether motorcyclists are doing gender while riding a motorcycle and it is expressive of a particular kind of masculinity. Thirdly, it would explore what kind of risk men and