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EMPOWERMENT TOOL FOR WOMEN MAPS CASES OF HARASSMENT



WORK & LIFESTYLE

A new app empowers women in Brazil by recording gender-based violence in public spaces.

We have previously written about innovations that promote inclusion and equal rights such as [edible pie charts](#) that highlight gender inequality. Another example is a [predictive text app](#) that finds alternative words for gendered language. Now, [NINA](#), created in Brazil, is an app for empowering women to report violence that occurs in public spaces. The project was shared to [Red Bull Amaphiko](#), a platform for social entrepreneurs to share their work and stories.

A 2016 survey released by ActionAid and conducted by YouGov found that 86 percent of Brazilian women were victims of harassment in public spaces. Responding to these statistics, Simony César created project NINA two years ago to help tackle gender-based violence. The app collects data in real time, mapping locations in which cases of harassment have taken place. The launch and testing of the app took place on public transport. It saw 76 thousand users per day at 17 bus lines at the [Federal University of Pernambuco \(UFPE\)](#).

César states “The premise of NINA aims to empower women through an application that denounces the types of violence they suffer within public spaces”. It combats violence against women by making cases of harassment in the city locatable on a map. NINA can then use this data to find out which bus lines have the highest rate of harassment. It can also record the most common times that cases occur and store photographic records and short videos of harassers.

Another survey by ActionAid in March 2018 revealed that 64 percent of Brazilian women surveyed were victims of sexual harassment. These results demonstrate that the need for empowerment tools, such as NINA, is still necessary. The exposure of women to violence in public city spaces is a global issue and as a result, accessibility within cities is unequal based on gender. What other tools, applications and software's can help empower women and tackle gender-based violence?

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