



Social reproduction in the gig economy: qualitative insights from India

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The myth of flexibility in gig work: the valorization of of the platform economy as a disruptive force obfuscates the truth of a woman's work day

Women in the gig economy face significant occupational hazards, with exploitative rates of pay and high input (capital) costs

And yet: women's participation in the gig economy is held as a benchmark of progress (labour force participation rate)

Can we assess this claim using the tools of Social Reproduction Theory? Some qualitative insights from gig workers in the beauty and delivery sectors, and women agricultural workers within worker-owned cooperatives.



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Moving forward:

- 1. We need the best of both worlds, methodologically. Our inability to capture unpaid women's labour quantitatively also means we are unable to capture changes to the time-use of women.**
- 2. Re-imagining the platform model to re-appropriate the affordances of what technology can do: subscription models?**
- 3. Alternative experiments need to achieve network effects - which can be done only through scaling and publicly-owned platforms**

