The City and Its Gender: A Tour of Munich

Our social conditions, including environmental and urban space, are marked by gender differences. Ideas on women and men and their knowing their appropriate place within the localities accordingly reserved for them are what constitute society. With an incorporation of certain objective structures, a person's assigned place is accepted as a “natural” given and thus cemented into one of the most privileged forms of power, namely, sovereignty over physical space.

I had decided on a bus tour through the city which offered the participants (male and female) the possibility of fusing into a group and together experiencing a slice of everyday life. Power structures in which women are not necessarily excluded but in which they are mostly included but subordinated, as well as structures that men are subjected to, were foregrounded. The bus drove to six different places that allowed us to observe men and women in the place they lived, the world they worked in and where they spent their spare time.