1. About me
2. Interning in India
3. Research project
4. Learning & sharing
Where the magic happens

your comfort zone
There has been, and continues to be, an inescapable link between caste and occupation for India's sanitation workers. This ageless association means isolation, invisibility and economic depression for them.

Why does the middle class and government remain apathetic to the lives and issues of those who actually keep India clean -- our sanitation workers.
First time

- Working in social or development sector
- Human-based research
- Conducting original research
- Living in a new family
- Working with youth
- Working on gender issues
- Leaving Canada for 6+ months
- Living and/or working in a different country
- Quantitative or qualitative research
"How do I interact with kids?" - Will, pre-internship
- Gender
- Skin color or race
- Language
- Religion
- Class
- Caste (or background)
- Geography
- History (colonialism)
- Etc. (and intersections of these)
Learning
PRIA's approach
to research
The Livelihoods Aspirations of Youth in Rural Haryana
Narendra Modi wants to train 400 million people to avert demographic dividend

Modi set up a new skills and entrepreneurship ministry and has promised to train 400 million workers by 2022.

'B Providing Skills To 400 Million Indians By 2022 A Challenge'

Both public and private sectors will have to collaborate and work towards creating aspiration and respect for skills among youth, says Jayant Krishna, CEO of National Skill Development Corporation.

Bibhudatta Pradhan
What are the aspirations of the youth?

What are the opportunities available to them?

What obstructs them from achieving these aspirations, or seizing these opportunities?
• 8 days
• 15 youth interviews
• 2 focus-group discussions
• 2 training institute site visits & interviews
• 1 standardized questionnaire (n=100)
But how WAS it?
What does it take for people to thrive in their work?
All new jobs come with challenges...
What are the challenges of working in a different culture, or organizational culture?

What are the needs of employees from different backgrounds?

What are important things across all cultures (organizationally)?
Where is the power located/where are decisions made?

Who do I go to for help? (competence, trust, accessibility)

Is information being shared with me?

Am I getting enough performance feedback?
Passing the torch
Dhanyavad! (thank you)