



# Theatre as Social Commentary in West Africa: A Policy Analysis of Senegal's Performance Landscape

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## Abstract

Theatre in Senegal serves as a platform for social commentary, reflecting and critiquing societal issues through performances. A qualitative approach was employed to examine existing policies, interviews with artists, and observations of recent theatrical productions. Recent surveys indicate that over 70% of performances address themes related to gender equality and environmental conservation. The policy analysis reveals a significant role for theatre in promoting social commentary and addressing critical societal issues in Senegal. Future policies should encourage more productions focusing on underrepresented topics such as economic inequality and cultural preservation. Senegalese Theatre, Social Commentary, Policy Analysis, West Africa

**Keywords:** *African geography, Theatre studies, Social theory, Anthropology of performance, Cultural policy analysis, Ethnography, Performance studies*

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