



# Access Denied: Barriers to Legal Redress in Urban Slums of Senegal 2005

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## Abstract

Access to justice is a critical issue in urban slums of Senegal, where vulnerable populations face significant barriers to legal redress. Qualitative research methods were employed, including structured interviews with community leaders, focus group discussions with residents, and secondary data analysis of existing legal documents and reports from local government agencies. Interviews revealed that the lack of accessible legal aid services was a significant barrier to justice for urban slum dwellers. A quarter of respondents reported difficulties in accessing legal assistance due to cost or proximity issues. Urban slums in Senegal face substantial barriers to accessing legal redress, primarily stemming from inadequate legal aid infrastructure and socio-economic disparities among residents. The study recommends the establishment of more accessible legal aid centers and training programmes for community leaders to facilitate access to justice. Additionally, greater government investment in urban infrastructure is suggested to reduce geographical barriers.

**Keywords:** *African geography, qualitative research, urban sociology, legal disenfranchisement, marginalized communities, participatory observation, contextual analysis*

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