

## THE SCIENCE OF DIGNITY: A REVIEW OF HEALTH, SAFETY, AND SOCIAL MEANING IN RURAL SANITATION

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*Traditional sanitation systems in rural areas are often viewed primarily as a public health or technical matter, but this review of the literature will look at the health, safety, and social implications of proper sanitation. This will specifically look at how proper sanitation reduces disease incidence, protects the vulnerable rural populations, and ensures that health and safety are met. Factors surrounding the cultures and behaviours associated with using and accepting toilets often influence the extent to which people accept the use of toilets within the environment in which they live. When considering and implementing a rural development project, an understanding of community identity and objectives should be considered in addition to engineering considerations even when all technical aspects of toilet design have been met.*

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