

# LIVS: **L**ocal **V**isual **I**ntersectional **S**paces

## A Pluralistic Alignment Dataset for Inclusive Public Spaces

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**ICML**  
International Conference  
On Machine Learning



**Mila**



UNESCO CHAIR IN  
URBAN LANDSCAPE

Université **um**  
de Montréal

# Problem and Motivation

## **Inequity in Design Influence:**

Marginalized communities often lack input in public space design.

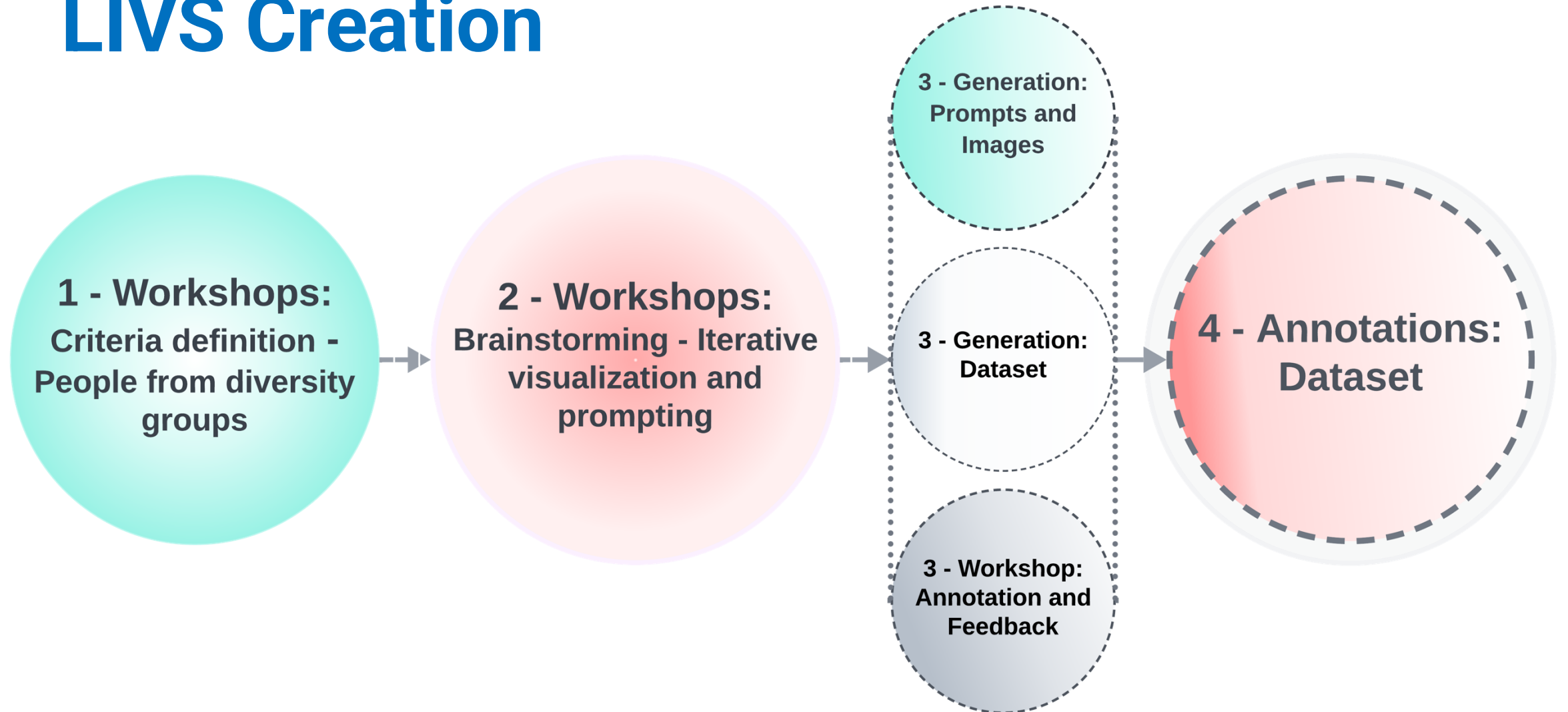
## **Democratizing Visualization:**

Goal to empower community members with visualization tools.  
Facilitate consultations with community members.

## **Challenge:**

Align AI-generated images with diverse, localized values and preferences.

# LIVS Creation







**PARTICIPATORY  
APPROACH**



Visualize this public space and generate images using the chat:

**Public space typology:** street space

**Amenities:** all ages-, all genders-, all abilities-, all identities-friendly environments

**Location:** residential neighbourhood in Montreal

Mont Royal street in the plateau



Montreal summertime residential street



Montreal summertime residential street with tram, bikes, pedestrians, active transportation



# Prompting Workshop





Annotating:  
Pairwise  
Comparison

Inclusion / Inclusive ☒

Safe / Secure ☒

Comfortable ☒

Submit

Add comment

Previous

11 / 750

# LIVS: Prompts, Images, & Preferences

3,350  
Prompts

6  
Criteria

16,694  
Images

Over 42,000  
Annotations

## MID-Space Dataset Viewer

Select Pair ID

zk6oE9qvFJ173d4RZSmr0

Show Image Pair

Image 1

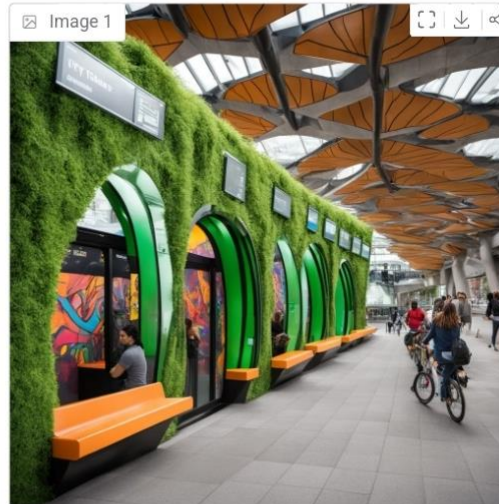
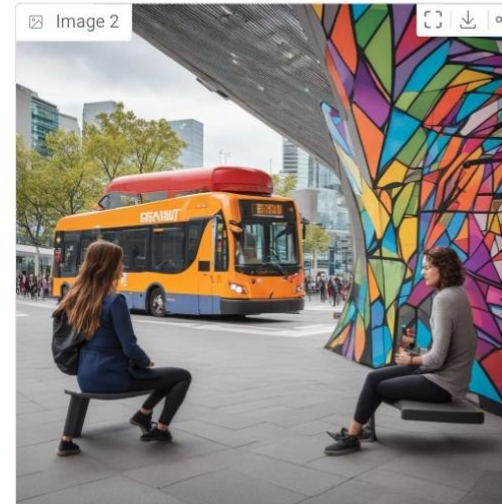


Image 2



Label 1

Comfortable

Label 1 Score

-0.66 (Preference for the image on the left)

Label 2

Safe

Label 2 Score

0.33 (Preference for the image on the right)

Label 3

Inviting

Label 3 Score

0 (Equal preferences)

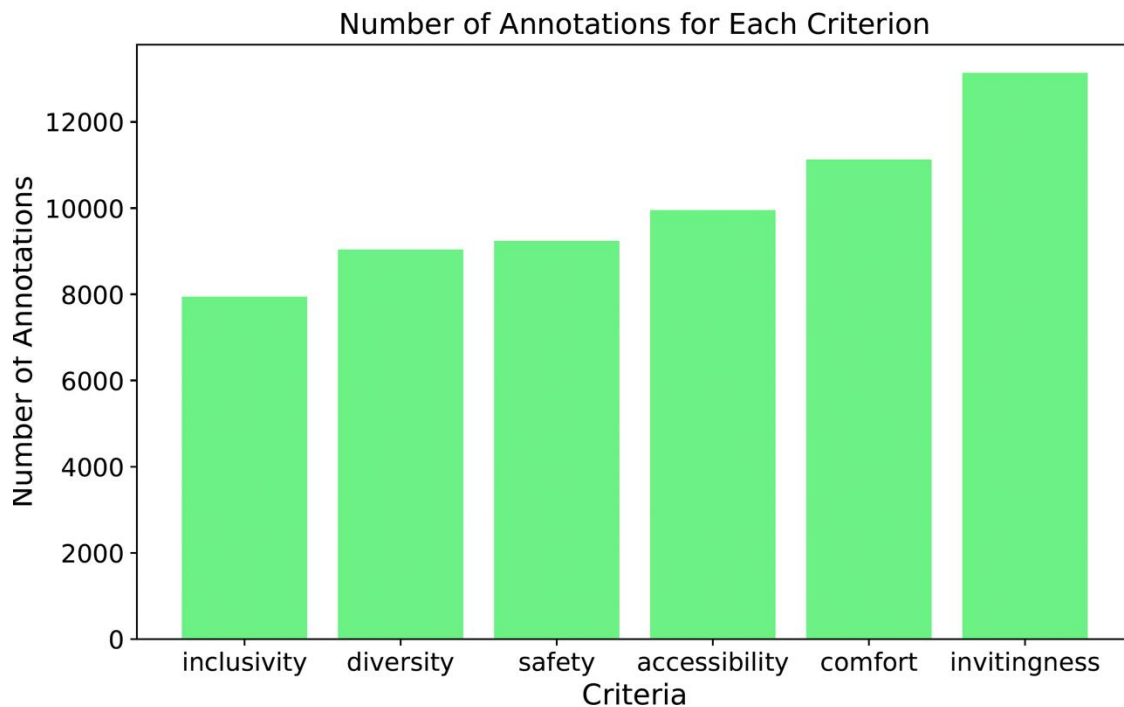
Prompt

Key transit hub in Montreal, adjacent to a metro station, vibrant street art, lush greenery, cozy sheltered seating, interactive transit information displays, bike-share stations, bustling with commuters and cyclists.



# Data Analysis - Prompts

**Over 37,000 annotations. Total of 3,350 prompts. Average prompt length: 37 words.**





# Results - DPO



**SDXL - Original**



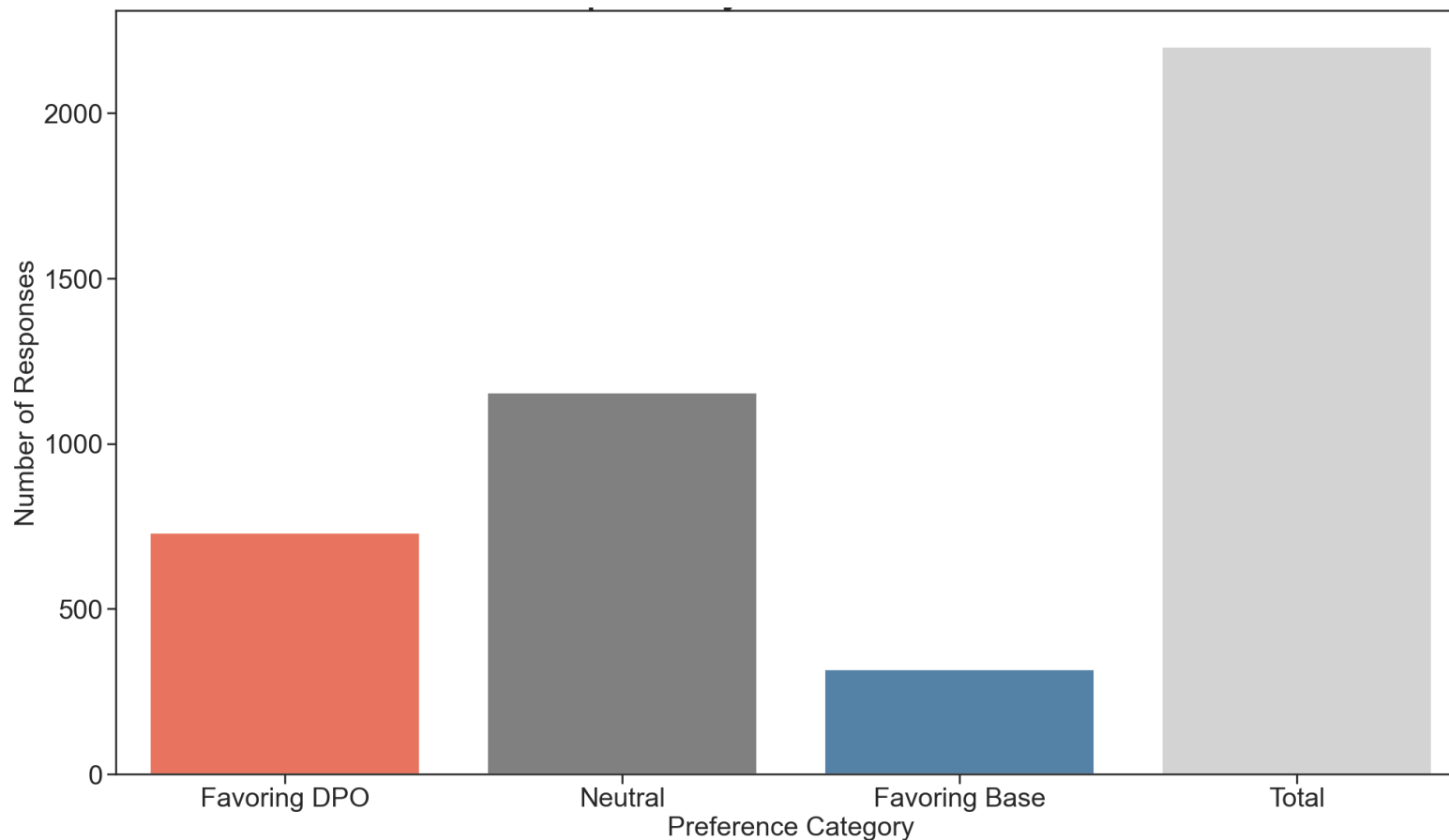
**SDXL- DPO: Inclusivity**



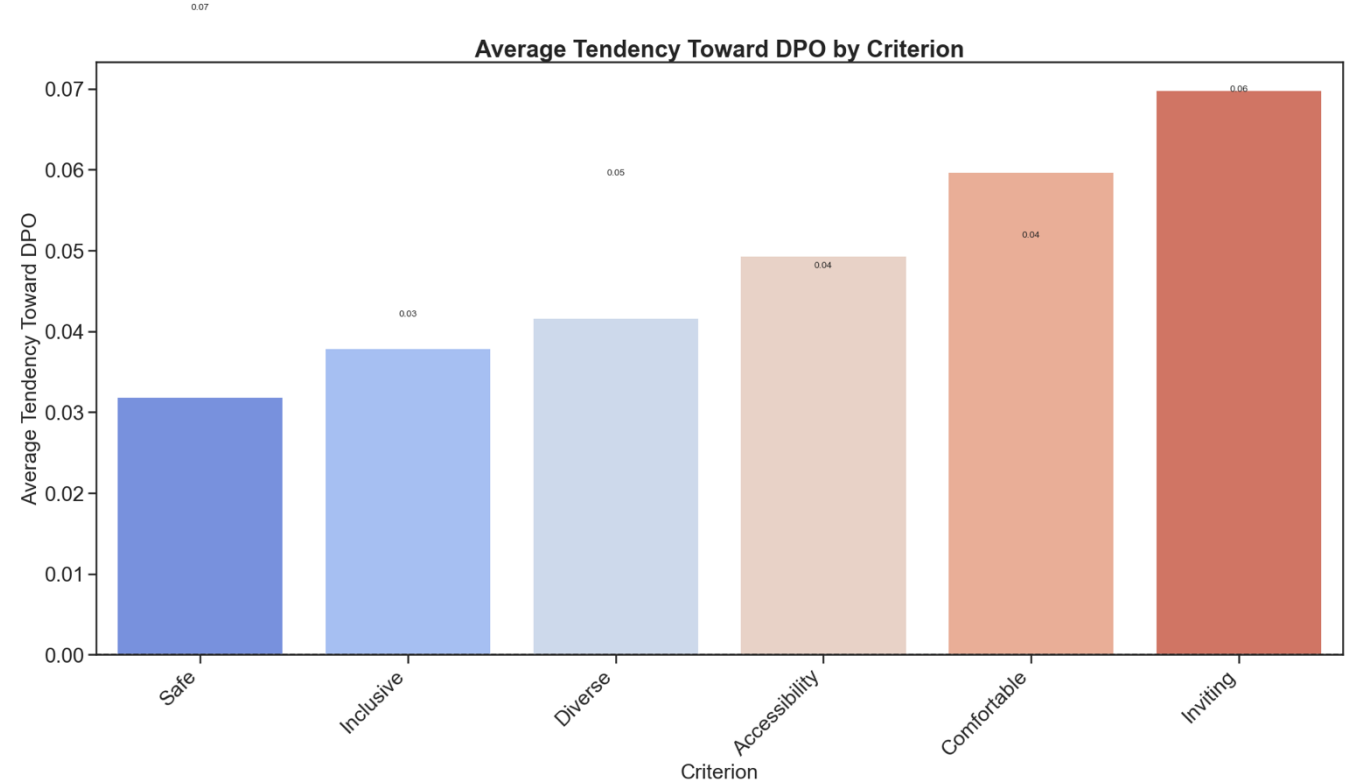
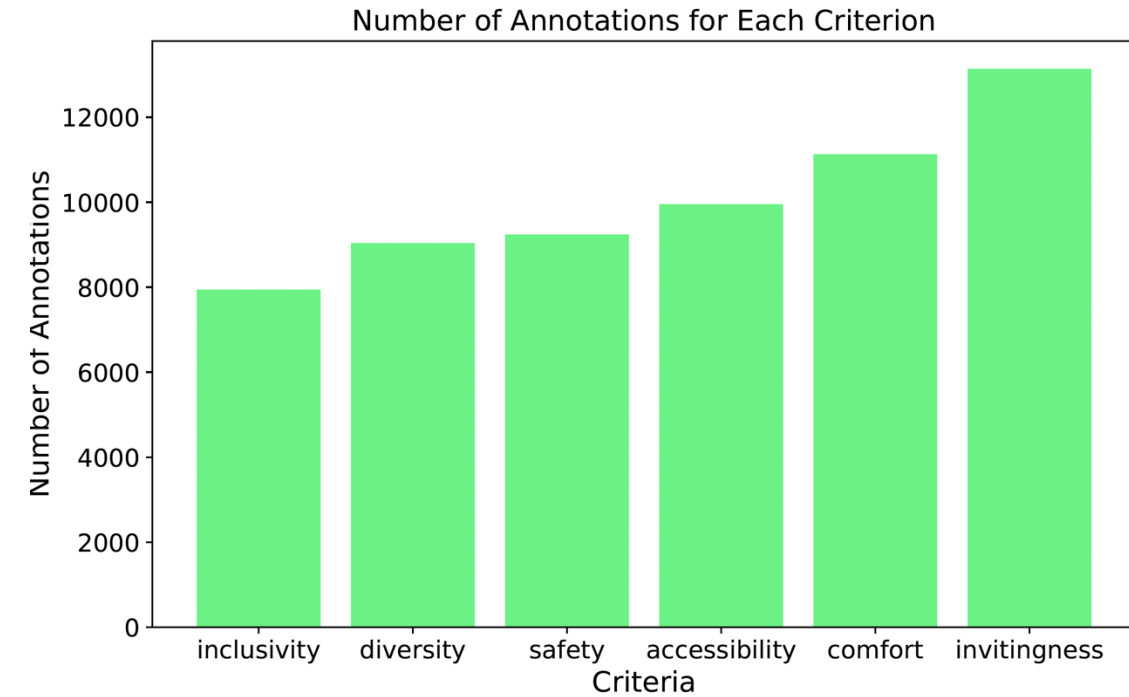
**SDXL- DPO: All Criteria**

"A quiet, inclusive meditation garden in a busy urban area."

# Results - Participants Evals

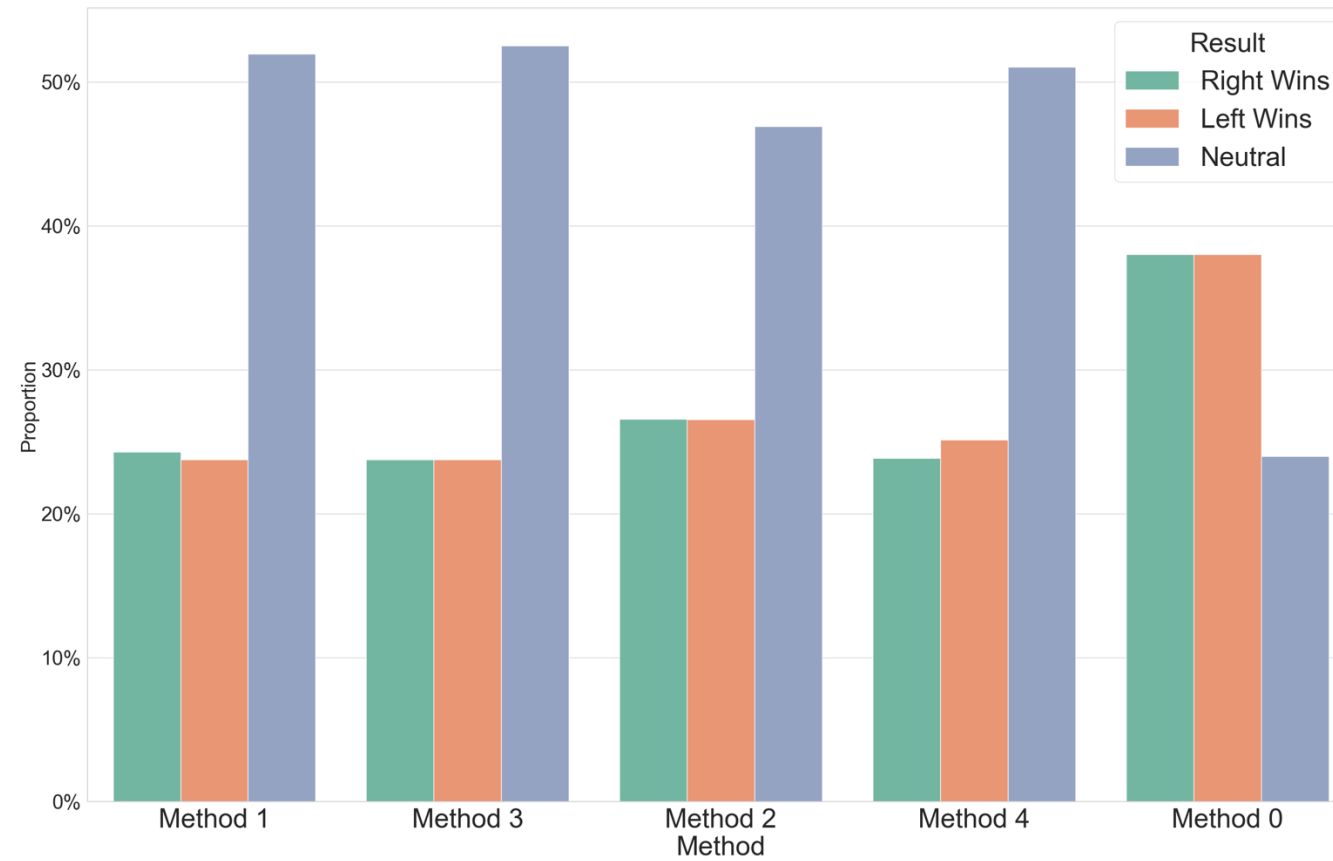


# Results - Participants Evals





# Prompting methods



# Limitations

## **Sample Size:**

Small number of annotators.

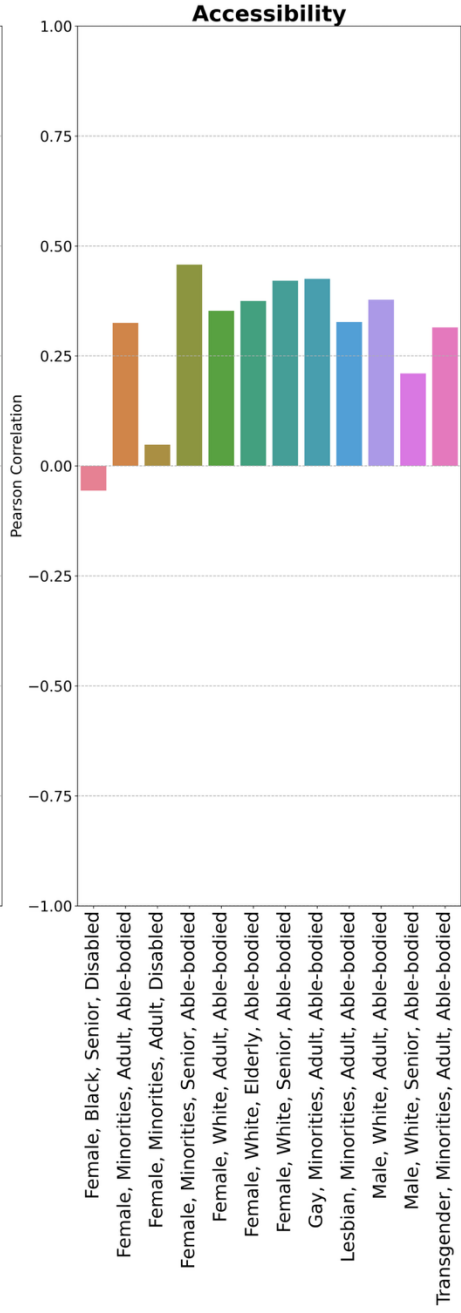
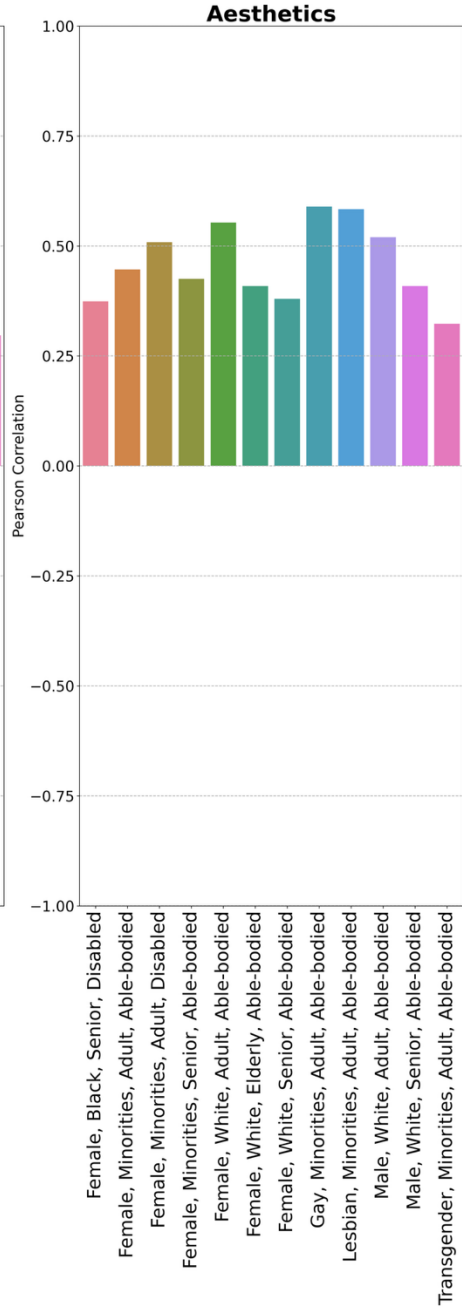
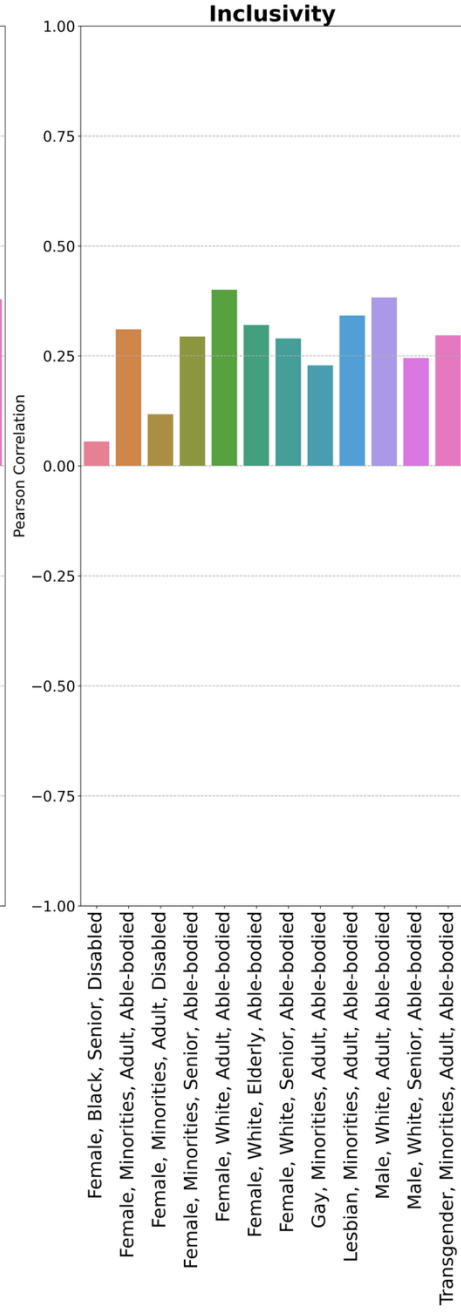
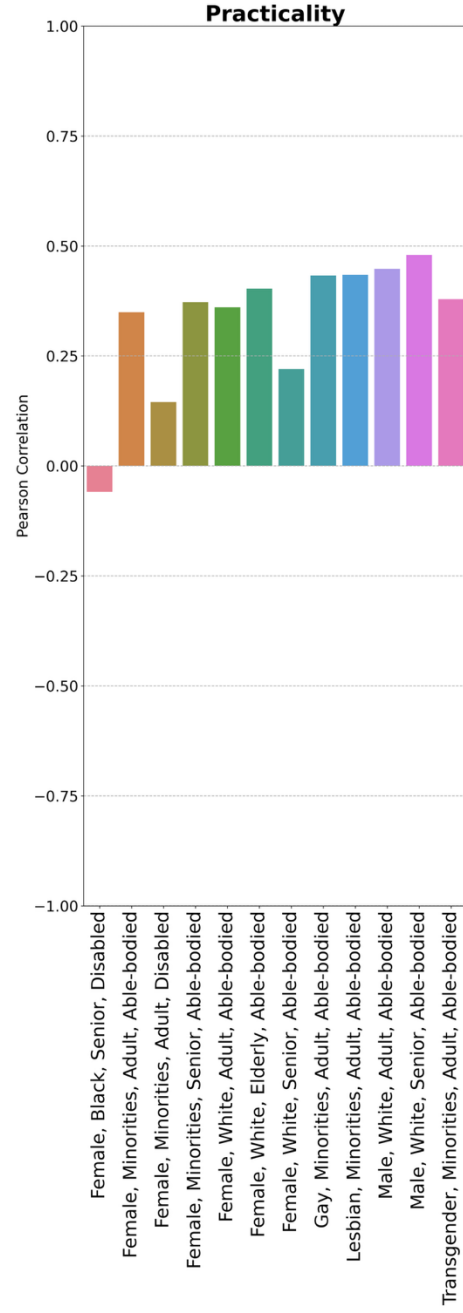
## **Generalization Challenges:**

Difficulty in scaling annotations to broader demographics

## **Model Limitations:**

Struggles with certain features (e.g., accessibility elements).  
De-noising techniques reduced nuance.

# Challenges: Marginalized Users





# Future Work

**Engage More Participants:** Broaden representation by involving more community members.

**Develop Advanced Training Techniques:** Capture nuances and address conflicting preferences. Enhance models to handle pluralistic values effectively. Use equal ratings.

# Acknowledgement

## Community Organizations

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Altergo  
La Maisonnée  
Cummings  
Community Center for Seniors  
Marguerite-Bourgeoys Hub  
RÉZO  
Afrique au Féminin  
L'Agence On est là!  
Montreal Women's Groups Table  
LGBTQ+ Community Center of Montreal  
Women's Center of Plateau Mont-Royal  
Congolese Community Center of Montreal  
...

## NPOs - Private

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Enclume  
  
Dark Matter Labs  
  
Sid Lee Architecture  
  
Canadian Commission for  
UNESCO  
  
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Partenariats Communautaires

# Thank you!

<https://mid-space.one/>