



**Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad**  
(A Constituent of Symbiosis International University, Pune)

*Presents*

**Workshop on Gender Rights and Sensitization**

**August 8, 2015**

**Background to the Workshop:**

Promoting gender equality and empowering women is one of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The standard norm has been to debate about the eroding value system in the present society for the violence against women. Absence of gender sensitization amongst the males may be attributed to the gender inequality to a large extent. The issues of violence, subordination, and inequality based on gender, needs to be addressed by significant institutions like family, educational institutions, media and work place, which play a vital role in formulating attitudes and values on gender perspectives and relations.

Gender not only refers to the physical identity of men and women, but also refers to the role they play in a society that is conditioned by various factors arising out of social, political, economic and cultural contexts. Sensitization, at this juncture becomes important because of the prevailing inequality leading to socio-cultural discrimination of a single gender. This discrimination is being practiced by the members of the other gender of the same society, strongly supported and legitimized by religious and educational institutions, media, and the polity to a large extent.

According to Gloria Stienem, "We've begun to raise daughters more like sons, but few have the courage to raise our sons more like daughters." The patriarchal order of Indian society continues to play an important role in the differentiated entitlements to for access to rights and resources. This attitude is hindering the growth and identity of women thus demolishing roots to social transformation. Nevertheless there are evidences of successes of women in different bastions of professional life, but they become targets of discrimination here too, in the form of glass ceiling and so on.

**Indian Scenario**

In the present scenario, the MDGs seek to promote gender equality and empower women that comes as a boon to all the women globally. It is universally understood that it is the sensitization of gender in a society that can bring about a paradigm shift in the roles, rights, and privileges of men and women thus paving the way for socio-economic equality.

In a country like India, which is governed by the male patriarchal order, women suffer from multiple disadvantages. Some of the reasons for the prevailing unequal gender relations are attributed to the lack of gender



sensitization, as a result of the inherent conditioning of minds of the people. In other words, the role of the family, peer groups, and educational institutions merit attention, in terms of the creation of a socio-cultural environment.

In India, gender as a social construct, continues to play an important role in translating the power relations between men and women based on masculinity and femininity; India practices power distance too which is reflected in relations between men and women at family as well as at a societal level. As Simone de Beauvoir had stated that, “One is not born a woman, but becomes one”- it is imperative that educational institutions and the civil society intervenes and contributes towards an egalitarian system which promotes gender relations and dignity, based on equality, justice and fairness.

### **About SLS’ Commitment to Gender Rights and Sensitization:**

In the above backdrop, Symbiosis Law School (SLS), Hyderabad has committed to propagate, and advocate gender equality and sensitization within the students to be practiced in the campus as well as engage in pro-bono activities to women who are poor and marginalized through community lawyering, legal aid camps, sensitization workshops, and permanent legal aid clinics. SLS Hyderabad believes in holistic development of nascent legal minds and ensures learning beyond classroom by field visits and workshops in collaboration with various civil society organizations.

### **About the Workshop:**

The present workshop by SLS seeks to address the issue of gender rights and the relevance of sensitization. It seeks to inform the law students about the various issues involving safety, security and dignity of women. It is an attempt to make the law students conversant with the various problems faced by women and provide legal remedies to them.

### **Objectives:**

The objective of the workshop is to enable the students to:

- Comprehend and discover gender inequality that is prevailing
- Distinguish and relate the contexts and factors of gender discrimination
- Reconstruct learning and perception towards gender sensitization

### **Expected Outcome:**

- Reorganization of thought and action towards gender issues
- Identification and documentation of all socioeconomic and legal aspects concerning gender rights and equality.
- Setting a strong base through mobilization of students and awareness through various sources of research and communication.



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## **Topic: “Women Empowerment – Different Dimensions”**

### **Profile of the Speakers**

1. **Prof K Laxmi**, Principal, Osmania University College of Arts&Social Science, and Professor, Department of Political Science, Osmania University.

Prof. K. Laxmi, has around 35 years of teaching experience. She was awarded the Doctorate degree in 1990 and her doctoral research was on the study of Women Leadership in terms of the Political Participation and Performance of women in Andhra Pradesh. Under her tutelage, 6 research scholars have been awarded doctorate degrees and 25 students have been awarded M.Phil degrees, while 8 scholars are pursuing their doctoral program under her so far. She had received the University Grants Commission (Young Teachers) award in 1994 and the State Meritorious Teachers Award in 2013. She had been nominated by the Ministry of Human Resources Department (MHRD), Government of India, a member of the Sramik Vidya Peet and presently is serving her second term.

She has participated in more than 100 National and International conferences, and has presented papers in many of them apart from having participated as resource person and head of panels. She is associated with six civil society organizations and is a regular commentator on Women’s issues and on Indian Government and Politics, in the Television and Radio.

2. **Prof M.V.Lakshmi Devi**, Principal, Keshav Memorial Institute of Commerce & Sciences, Hyderabad

Prof M.V.Lakshmi Devi is an accomplished scholar with around 35 years of teaching experience and has pursued cross disciplinary studies and research. Her educational qualifications in various disciplines are a testimony to this fact. She has two doctorates in Law and Sociology respectively. She has a Master’s Degree in, Journalism and psychology too. She has participated in 64 National seminars and 9 International Conferences and has presented papers in many of them.

Prof MV Lakshmi Devi also takes an active interest in serving social causes by conducting free “Family Counseling [Legal]” camps and also in promoting advocacy and awareness Programmes on the Status of Girl Child. She is regularly seen on Television for her commentary on gender centric issues and spiritualism.

## **Topic: “Gender Equality & Inequality – A Sociological Discourse”**

- Dr. Madhusudhan Joshi**, Consultant Psychiatrist

Dr. Madhusudhan Joshi is a Consultant Psychiatrist, who did his graduation in medicine and a Post-graduation in Psychiatry from Osmania Medical College, Osmania University. He has worked in the



Government Health Services before taking retirement as Consultant Psychiatrist in charge of Niloufer Special School Child Psychiatry Department, Niloufer hospital. Later he established the Retreat Hospital M.I.N.D. clinic and Dr. Joshi's Mind and Body Clinic a counseling centre. He has been the President of the Hyderabad Psychiatrists Society, Indian Medical Association Hyderabad. He has attended 3 Global Psychiatry meets, which includes the American Psychiatry meets, and has delivered lectures and speeches at various forums.

**Topic: "Gender Sensitization – A Psychological Perspective"**



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**SYMBIOSIS LAW SCHOOL, HYDERABAD**

(A constituent of Symbiosis International University, Pune.)

Presents

## **Workshop on Gender Rights and Sensitization**

**August 1, 2015**

### **Background to the Workshop:**

Promoting gender equality and empowering women is one of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The standard norm has been to debate about the eroding value system in the present society for the violence against women. Absence of gender sensitization amongst the males may be attributed to the gender inequality to a large extent. The issues of violence, subordination, and inequality based on gender, needs to be addressed by significant institutions like family, educational institutions, media and work place, which play a vital role in formulating attitudes and values on gender perspectives and relations.

Gender not only refers to the physical identity of men and women, but also refers to the role they play in a society that is conditioned by various factors arising out of social, political, economic and cultural contexts. Sensitization, at this juncture becomes important because of the prevailing inequality leading to socio-cultural discrimination of a single gender. This discrimination is being practiced by the members of the other gender of the same society, strongly supported and legitimized by religious and educational institutions, media, and the polity to a large extent. According to Gloria Steinem, "We've begun to raise daughters more like sons, but few have the courage to raise our sons more like daughters." The patriarchal order of Indian society continues to play an important role in the differentiated entitlements to for access to rights and resources. This attitude is hindering the growth and identity of women thus demolishing roots to social transformation. Nevertheless there are evidences of successes of women in different bastions of professional life, but they become targets of discrimination here too, in the form of glass ceiling and so on.

### **Indian Scenario**

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In a country like India, which is governed by the male patriarchal order, women suffer from multiple disadvantages. Some of the reasons for the prevailing unequal gender relations are attributed to the lack of gender sensitization, as a result of the inherent conditioning of minds of the people. In other words, the role of the family, peer groups, and educational institutions merit attention, in terms of the creation of a socio-cultural environment.

In India, gender as a social construct, continues to play an important role in translating the power relations between men and women based on masculinity and femininity; India practices power distance too which is reflected in relations between men and women at family as well as at a societal level. As Simone de Beauvoir had stated that, "One is not born a woman, but becomes one"- it is imperative that educational institutions and the civil society intervenes and contributes towards an egalitarian system which promotes gender relations and dignity, based on equality, justice and fairness.

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### **About the Workshop:**

The present workshop by SLS seeks to address the issue of gender rights and the relevance of sensitization. It seeks to inform the law students about the various issues involving safety, security and dignity of women. It is an attempt to make the law students conversant with the various problems faced by women and provide legal remedies to them.

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#### PROCEEDINGS:

##### Inauguration:

The workshop started with the lighting of the traditional lamp by the dignitaries and the deputy Director. The dignitaries were felicitated by the faculty members of the SLS Hyderabad. Dr Sukhvinder Singh Dari, the Deputy Director, SLS Hyderabad delivered the welcome address. Dr Singh in his welcome address emphasized on the commitment of the SLS Hyderabad in ensuring



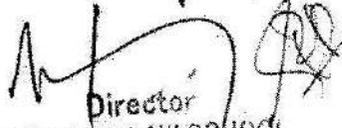
gender equality and sensitization within the campus and on the need to propagate it outside through sensitization workshops and permanent legal aid clinics.

Three videos on gender sensitization have been shown to the participants before each lecture.

**Speaker 1:** Prof K Laxmi, Principal, Osmania University College of Arts & Social Science, and Professor, Department of Political Science, Osmania University, spoke on "*Women Empowerment - Different Dimensions*"

**Summary:** The first speaker in the workshop started with a historical survey of the women rights movement across the globe. She attributed the origins of the modern movement for gender rights, to the A Vindication of the Rights of Woman by Mary Wollstonecraft.

She gave an account of the Indian context, wherein women in India were excluded from exercise to equal rights and power in a systematic manner - from the end of the early Vedic period. The second impact of the marginalization of women had an impact on their literacy and knowledge base with the ascendancy of men, followed by a complete subjugation with the advent of the Mughals. The movement for gender empowerment witnessed the rise of people like Savithri Bai

  
Director  
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SLS  
HYDERABAD

Resources Department (MHRD), Government of India, a member of the Sramik Vidya Peet and presently is serving her second term.

She has participated in more than 100 National and International conferences, and has presented papers in many of them apart from having participated as resource person and head of panels. She is associated with six civil society organizations and is a regular commentator on Women's issues and on Indian Government and Politics, in the Television and Radio.

2. Prof M.V.Lakshmi Devi, Principal, Keshav Memorial Institute of Commerce & Sciences, Hyderabad

**Topic:** *Gender Equality & Inequality – A Sociological Discourse*

**Profile:**

Prof M.V.Lakshmi Devi is an accomplished scholar with around 35 years of teaching experience and has pursued cross disciplinary studies and research. Her educational qualifications in various disciplines are a testimony to this fact. She has two doctorates in Law and Sociology respectively. She has a Master's Degree in, Journalism and psychology too. She has participated in 64 National seminars and 9 International Conferences and has presented papers in many of them.

Prof MV Lakshmi Devi also takes an active interest in serving social causes by conducting free "Family Counseling [Legal]" camps and also in promoting advocacy and awareness Programmes on the Status of Girl Child. She is regularly seen on Television for her commentary on gender centric issues and spiritualism.

3. Dr. Madhusudhan Joshi, Consultant Psychiatrist

**Topic:** *Gender Sensitization – A Psychological Perspective*

**PROFILE:**

Dr. Madhusudhan Joshi is a Consultant Psychiatrist, who did his graduation in medicine and a Post-graduation in Psychiatry from Osmania Medical College, Osmania University. He has worked in the Government Health Services before taking retirement as Consultant Psychiatrist in charge of Niloufer Special School Child Psychiatry Department, Niloufer hospital. Later he

2. Short films on equity, gender and sexuality
3. Presentation- Gender Sensitization – what, why and equity, sexuality, sexual harassment, laws and rights.

The total duration of workshop will be 2 hours and the group will be of 30 faculty members each group.

The schedule for each department and location is attached with this email. You are requested to kindly send the faculty members of your respective departments for the said workshop. The details of the venue shall be sent to you shortly. The profile of the resource person is also attached for your ready reference.

Kindly note that one of the key training program prescribed and recommended by NAAC is 'Gender Sensitization', hence we look forward to receive your support and co-operation to successfully conduct these training sessions.

This is for your information and further action.

Thanking you,

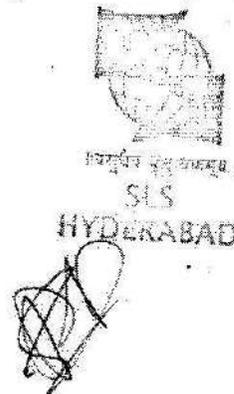
Sincerely,

Dr. Sophia S. Gaikwad.

Head, Symbiosis Teaching Learning Resource Centre

Copy to: The Vice Chancellor, SIU

**Dr. Mrs. Sophia S. Gaikwad**  
Ph.D.- Education, Qualified SET, NET, M.A.; M.Ed.  
Head, Symbiosis Teaching Learning Resource Centre,  
Symbiosis International University,  
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Dist: Pune  
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### 3. WORKSHOP ON GENDER RIGHTS AND SENSITIZATION TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF GENDER RIGHTS AND THE RELEVANCE OF SENSITIZATION. 1<sup>st</sup> August 2015

Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad, organized a workshop on Gender Rights and Sensitization to address the issue of gender rights and the relevance of sensitization. It was an attempt to inform the law students about the various issues involving safety, security and dignity of women and to make the law students conversant with the various problems faced by women and provide legal remedies to them.



Three speakers have been invited to share their thoughts about this topic. The workshop started with the lighting of the lamp by the dignitaries and DrSukhvinder Singh Dari, the Deputy Director, SLS Hyderabad followed by felicitation to the dignitaries by the faculty members of SLS Hyderabad. DrSukhvinder Singh Dari, the Deputy Director, SLS Hyderabad delivered the welcome address. Dr Singh in his welcome address emphasized on the commitment of the SLS Hyderabad in ensuring gender equality and sensitization within the campus and on the need to propagate it outside through sensitization workshops and permanent legal aid clinics. The first speaker :

(i) Prof K Laxmi, Principal, Osmania University College of Arts & Social Science, and Professor, Department of Political Science, Osmania University spoke on - "*Women Empowerment – Different Dimensions*". She attributed the origins of the modern movement for gender rights, to the 'A Vindication of the Rights of Woman' by Mary Wollstonecraft. She gave an account of the Indian context, wherein women in India were excluded from exercise to equal rights and power in a systematic manner – from the end of the early Vedic period.

(ii) Prof M.V.Lakshmi Devi, Principal, Keshav Memorial Institute of Commerce & Sciences, Hyderabad discussed on *Gender Equality & Inequality – A Sociological Discourse*". She stated that women in Indian have confronted unequal gender relations. She mentioned that as per law there are provisions for gender equality, but emphasized that if we want equality or don't want equality, we ourselves want inequality. In other words, she called for differentiating inequality based on biological differences from the inequality based on social constructs of gender.

(iii) Dr. Madhusudhan Joshi, Consultant Psychiatrist gave an insight on "*Gender Sensitization – A Psychological Perspective*". He spoke on the normative gender roles from a psychological perspective. Dr Joshi stated that our conditioning as social beings influences our biases and conformity towards sexual hierarchy.

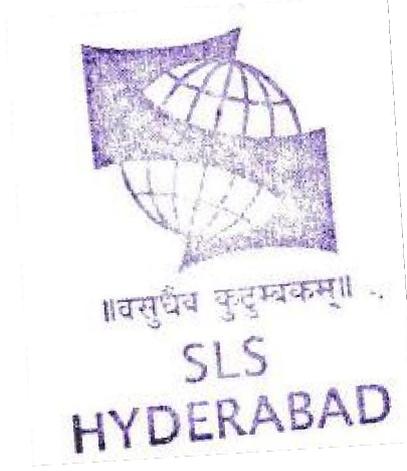
**WORKSHOP ON GENDER RIGHTS AND SENSITIZATION  
1 AUGUST 2015  
ATTENDANCE  
2014-19**

1	14010322001	Aayush Rai
2	14010322002	Aditya Nair
3	14010322003	Aiswarya Buddhavarapu
4	14010322004	Akanksh Ashok
5	14010322005	Ayush Sharma
6	14010322006	Bhakti Madan
7	14010322007	Bijaya Das
8	14010322008	Ekant Hiranandani
9	14010322009	Himanshu Pradhan
10	14010322010	Manas Bahuguna
11	14010322011	Nikhil Gangai
12	14010322012	P. Vardhan
13	14010322013	P. Kumar
14	14010322014	Pragna Gr
15	14010322015	Priyanka Sahasrabudhe
16	14010322016	Rishika Dewan
17	14010322017	Shaima Khursheed
18	14010322018	Shivani Deodhar
19	14010322019	Shreya Murali
20	14010322020	Asmit Chitransh
21	14010322021	Subrato Angadi
22	14010322022	Tejas
23	14010322023	Vanshree Sahu
24	14010322024	Yash Bajpai

**2015-20**

25	15010323128	Margdwitee M
26	15010323129	Kevin George
27	15010323130	Pratiksha Sushil Dey
28	15010323132	Debapratim Deb
29	15010323133	Vishwajit Dilipbhai Vala
30	15010323135	Shashwat Ashish
31	15010323136	Eesha Sharma
32	15010323137	Shubham Agrawal
33	15010323141	Rajvi Dharmesh Mehta
34	15010323142	Akshaya Sawla
35	15010323144	Yashodhara Burmon Roy
36	15010323145	Roopkatha Roy
37	15010323146	Vishal Bariar
38	15010323147	Deepa Karanam
39	15010323148	Disha Bansal

49	15010323149	Mohana Sharda
41	15010323152	Monalisa Mukherjee
42	15010323154	Shivam Chaudhary
43	15010323155	Atharva Aaryan Singh
44	15010323157	Shriya Shyam Chandankar
45	15010323158	Snigdha Jayakrishnan



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