

WOMEN DEVELOPMENT CELL
REPORT : JANUARY – DECEMBER '21

CONVENOR – DR NUPUR RAY

STUDENT CONVENOR – SAMEENA KAUSAR

- **HEMANGI**

Event 1

WDC×Prathisandhi

1. Date: January 27, 2021 Consent and Communication
2. Date: February 3, 2021, Voice Against body shaming
3. Date: February 10, 2021, Understanding Sexuality and LGBTQIA+
4. Date: February 17, 2021, Developing Healthy Boundaries: Learning to say NO

WDC in collaboration with Prathisandhi, a youth-led non-profit organization based in New Delhi, registered under Section 8 of the Companies Act working towards sexual health and education among adolescents and the youth community in India, organized four workshops that aimed at different pressing issues. Through these workshops, the students were made aware of the issues like consent, body shaming, sexuality, LGBTQIA+, and boundaries by interactive presentations and activities. Sanskriti Baxi, who has a major in Economics from the University of Delhi and is also the Head of Training and Research and Development conducted the workshops.

EVENT 2

Date: February 12, 2021 Panel Discussion on Women of Today, Leaders of tomorrow

Women's development cell, Kamala Nehru College organized a panel discussion on the theme "Women of Today, Leaders of Tomorrow". The discussion was held as a tribute to Sarojini Naidu on the occasion of National Women's Day, 12th February 2021. Speakers for the discussion have been chosen from all walks of life:- Pragya vats: a leading social activist/ professional Dr. Rityusha Tiwary: academician Priyanka Saxena: media entrepreneur Dr. Apurva Gupta: gynecologist Kunjan valia: homemaker The discussion was wrapped around feminist ideologies. It revealed day-to-day challenges to major turns women have to take in order to supplement the norms of their respective families and society. From something as basic as choosing an outfit to something as major as changing one's career is not in their own hands. The discussion unveiled the personal experiences of the panelists, both pleasant and vexatious. The experiences were such that most of the audience could relate to it. Followed by the discussion was a short film "Devi" a tale of sisterhood, truth, and suffering. A frightening story that left many with tears in their eyes but definitely with a strong message. A short narration of a poem by our WDC member ensured a perfect ending of the event.

EVENT 3

DATE: April 7, 2021

WDC in collaboration with Breakthrough in partnership with L'oreal Paris Workshop on stand up against street sexual harassment WDC in collaboration with Breakthrough Trust, an organization with a mission is to make violence and discrimination against women and girls unacceptable by building a generation of gender-sensitive adolescents and young adults, in partnership with L'Oréal Paris organized a bystander intervention program- Stand-Up Against Street Sexual Harassment. In this program one-hour training everyone was encouraged to effectively respond when they witness or experience street harassment. The workshop talked about what can harassment look like — from microaggressions to violence — and how Hollaback's 5D's of bystander intervention can help: distract, delegate, document, delay, and direct. Also, prioritizing one's own safety while intervening and how to respond if one gets harassed was talked about. The workshop was attended by 68 participants who were awarded with certificates.

EVENT 4: E-TALK ON BREAST CANCER

Date- 8th October 2021; Webinar in collaboration with Canfem; Dr. Mansi Chowhan

The webinar was conducted on 8th October 2021 and it was based on the 'breast cancer awareness', in collaboration with canfem which is a social enterprise enabling cancer warriors to get back to society and have the best quality of life with and after cancer. For the event, Dr. Mansi Chowhan who is an expert surgical oncologist was the guest speaker.

The event commenced with dr Mansi Chowhan elucidating the audience about the root causes of breast cancer, various environmental and genetic factors leading to breast cancer, how can we conduct self-examination on our breasts, and what are the ways we can prevent it.

Up next was the question-and-answer session where the audience asked a set of interesting questions which were answered to their satisfaction. During the question and answer round the doctor also busted a few myths about breast cancer, that everyone believes in and were unaware of.

It was a really informative and insightful session that imparted basic knowledge about breast cancer and the importance of early detection and self-examination of our breasts, as it was reiterated in the session as well, "early detection saves lives"

EVENT 5: INTERNATIONAL GIRL CHILD DAY

Date: 11th October 2021; Kirthi Jayakumar

On 11th October 2021, WDC organized a webinar on international girl child day, which we dedicated to Kamla Bhasin. The guest speaker of the event was MS. Kirthi Jayakumar, who is a gender equality and peace activist, artist, entrepreneur, and writer from Chennai, India.

The event commenced with the convenors displaying a presentation about what is international girl child day, why is it celebrated, the achievements of some of the women leaders who inspire us from all walks of life, a brief about who was Kamla Bhasin and her achievements, and at the end, there was a recitation of one of the poems of Kamla Bhasin. Then Ms. Kirthi Jayakumar made the participants conduct a small activity, wherein she told us to draw a circle, a semi-circle, a triangle, and two small circles and we had to draw that on the piece of paper, either vertically, horizontally, or in any manner in which we can imagine. The ultimate purpose was to draw a smiling face, but different participants drew the shapes in different manners. The purpose of this activity was to show, how different people

have different perceptions about the world even though the same set of rules, regulations are presented to everyone.

She then acquainted the participants with the learnings she acquired from Kamla Bhasin, her personal experiences, and explained how violence is not only direct but structural as well as cultural.

The webinar ended with a question-and-answer round, where students asked her their questions on gender equality and the steps, we should undertake to reach the goal.

EVENT 6: METHODS OF CONTRACEPTION

Date: 10th November 2021; in collaboration with Pratisandhi; Sanskriti Baxi

On 10th November 2021, a webinar was organized in collaboration with Pratisandhi, on the topic 'methods of contraception with Ms. Sanskriti Baxi and Khushboo Nagpal as the guest speakers.

The attendees were educated on different methods of contraception, different methods used for different genders, internal and external contraceptives and side effects of it (if there is any), and the rights and wrongs of using contraception.

They talked in great detail about the action of Abstinence and how it is different from celibacy. Abstinence essentially entails refraining from engaging in intercourse. Basically, embracing the philosophy of if you don't want to get pregnant, don't engage in intimacy.

This is a topic that is not really talked about in our society because of various taboos and stigmas associated with it, but this session was extremely helpful in understanding and developing cognizance about safe sex. We are thrilled with how insightful it turned to be!

EVENT 7: SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTION

Date: 17th November 2021; in collaboration with Pratisandi; Sanskriti Baxi

On 17th November 2021, a discussion was held with Ms. Sanskriti Baxi on the topic of Sexually transmitted Infection and disease.

The event began with the speaker explaining what does STD means and then presenting a short video that briefly explained, how STDs can be transmitted from one person to another, what are its symptoms, and different ways by which you can cure it.

The session mainly revolved around the topic of different types of STDs and their treatment.

In the end, the students asked quite interesting questions

EVENT 8: ORIENTATION PROGRAM

Date: 24th November 2021

In the afternoon of 24th November 2021, WDC conducted its orientation program for the freshers.

The program commenced with the core team members conducting an ice breaker program, with a few games, for instance, guess the series and guess the song to begin our journey with light and fun-hearted mood. Furthermore, we acquainted the freshers with the vision of the cell.

Towards the end of the session, there was a detailed discussion with our convenor Dr. Nupur Ray about the past events, activities, and programs of the cell along with the presentation of a short video, that reminded us, that 'we are enough'.

EVENT 9: PEER PRESSURE AMONG YOUTH

Date: 27th November 2021; in collaboration with Coitopedia; Sonali Gupta and Shreya Amod

The speakers started the webinar by making us realize how much we do things under pressure and not because of our own will. For example- in the Squid game- people watched the series just to keep up with the trend and discussion happening in the friends' groups.

Peer pressure can be negative or positive. Under negative peer pressure, we make decisions we wouldn't have on our own. For example - people compromise on studies to please their friends or indulge in alcohol, sex, other bad behaviors, etc just to look 'cool' & feel accepted by their peers.

However, positive peer pressure also exists! Sometimes, our peers influence us to change our behavior for the better. For example: - A friend who is academic-oriented, being in her company will somehow influence her friends to also study.

They ended by saying that peer pressure can be negative or positive, it depends on the company a person surrounds herself with.

SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGNS

1) Date: 6th February, Awareness campaign on Female Genital Mutilation

- The following topics were broadly discussed - What is FGM, the various socio-cultural reasons for FGM in India, legal action against FGM

2) Date: 23rd February - 27th February

WDC celebrated Black History Month by giving tribute to female activists - Harriet Tubman, Rosa Park, Myrlie Louise Evers, Dr. June Jackson Christmas, Leah Chase, Fannie Lou Hamer, Marsha P Johnson

3) 7th March - 10th March

In order to challenge the social norms on International Women's Day, WDC KNC focused on changing the narrative and talked about inclusivity. The focus was on steps that would lead to the fruition of feminist goals. The cell members were asked to share their story and just one thing that any person can do to achieve the goals we have set for ourselves through a video.

4) MENSTRUAL HYGIENE DAY

The cell members performed the Red Dot Challenge, a social media campaign initiated by Post for Change, a non-profit organization in partnership with UNICEF India aims to spread the message of menstrual hygiene

5) Through our Social Media page we shared awareness on Gender Based Stereotype in Bollywood Movies , Education Day , Sexually Transmitted Infection , Elimination of Violence Against Women , Women in Sports , Cyber Bullying , Marital Rape