

Report 2015

Faculty Convener: Dr. Ambar Ahmad

The Women's Development Cell is a forum for discussing issues of gender, patriarchy and sexuality with and amongst the students. The primary purpose is to introduce them to the basic concepts of gender and link them to the experiences of their daily lives, enabling them to understand the structural patriarchy at work that is often implicit, unseen and considered 'natural' in society. The attempt is to foreground gender, keeping in mind how it interacts with other identities of religion, caste and sexual orientation. The WDC seeks to sensitise students through lectures, workshops, seminars, film festivals etc. about a wide range of issues.

This year the WDC collaborated with the organization HopeinU to create awareness about issues concerning women's safety. Through this, the WDC wishes to become a part of a larger movement that helps to empower women by addressing gender issues and working towards a more secure environment for women. Hope in University (HopeinU) is the university-chapter of Hope Monkey (an online and offline movement towards women's empowerment).

As a part of this collaboration, HopeinU organised the event 'Games People Play,' in which, through a series of interactive games, participants were encouraged to speak-up about their experiences of living in a gendered world and debate the solution. A workshop on "Bystander Intervention" was organized in an attempt at raising consciousness regarding safety issues in Delhi. Some of our students have participated and volunteered for various workshops and programmes as a part of the larger HopeinU network.