



Indraprastha College for Women

University of Delhi

Women's Development Cell

January – April 2018

Combating Online Harassment and Promoting Digital Security

12 January 2018

Trainer-facilitators from Feminism In India (FII) conducted a workshop on “*Combating online harassment and promoting digital security*”. Japleen Pasricha, founder-director of Feminism In India, engaged the participants in an interactive discussion on online abuse, harassment and violence against women. She shared the findings of her research on social media violence and experiences from the campaign ‘*digital hifazat*’. She elaborated on the various forms of online harassment such as cyber stalking, impersonation, voyeurism, and the laws that help in redressing violence and harassment. “The best way of showing solidarity is occupying the internet,” said Pasricha as she explained the need to call out and name the wrongdoers in public.

The workshop also focused on digital security and encouraged students to brainstorm strategies for ensuring a safe online experience. They were sensitized to the significance of employing secure passwords and were introduced to various online apps like Signal, Confide and Telegram that can be used for secure sexting and chatting. She also explained the precautions one must take in order to protect oneself from online crimes such as hacking. The workshop ended with a round of questions in which the students cleared their doubts and queries about sexual harassment in the cyber space.



GAYlentine's Day: Challenging Heteronormativity

13 February 2018

“*GAYlentine's Day: Challenging heteronormativity*” was organized in collaboration with Nazariya, a queer-straight alliance run by Delhi University students. The event was attended by around three

hundred people from across the city; the attempt was to create a safe space for people from all walks of life. Several LGBT+ artists spoke on the occasion. Kushboo, a drag queen and a human rights lawyer, inaugurated the panel discussion with their performance followed by Aditi Angiras, Shivani Agrawal and Dhruvo Jyoti. They spoke of activism and the need for it while bringing in discourses of “art for art’s sake”, caste, class and physical disability in the queer narrative.

The panel was followed by an open mic session where several poets, dancers and singers from the queer community performed to tremendous applause. The second session of the event involved a musical session by the team of Nazariya and lastly the speed networking session where audience members spoke to each other for brief intervals of time and got to know each other. The face painting and selfie also booths attracted a lot of attention.



Legal Awareness Lecture

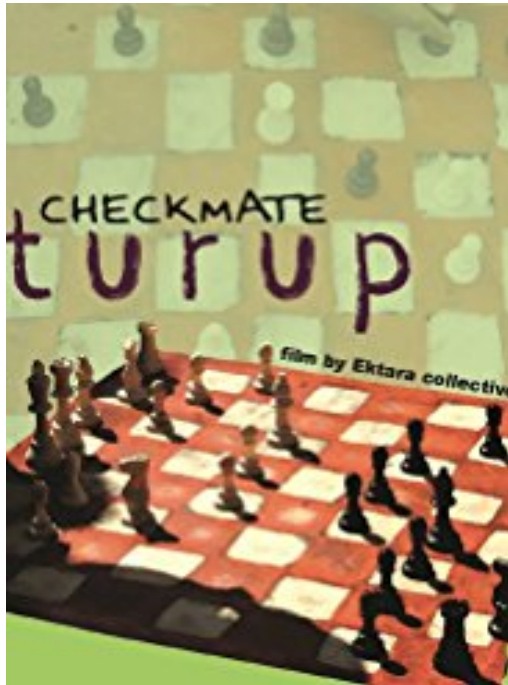
19 February 2018

A Legal Awareness programme was organized in collaboration with the Political Science Academic Society. Mr Sandeep Gupta, Metropolitan Magistrate and Secretary, Central Delhi Legal Services Authority, Tis Hazari Courts conducted the session. He addressed the issues 'Domestic Violence, Sexual Harassment and Property Rights'. He highlighted the main provisions on laws related to Domestic Violence and Sexual Harassment and briefly touched upon Property Rights. Mr. Gupta also briefed about the structure of the National Legal Services Authority (NLSA) and Delhi State Legal Services Authority and the dual mandate of these institutions namely, Free Legal Aid and Legal Awareness. The students were very interactive and raised a lot of pertinent concerns.



International Women's Day

8 March 2018



On the occasion of International Women's Day, a 72-min film "**Turup**" (Checkmate) was screened. Crowd funded and crowd directed, the film by *Ektara Collective* dealt with issues of gender, patriarchy, caste-class divide and religion, all in one diverse bouquet, and just the way it exists in society. The screening was followed by a discussion moderated by Dr. Surabhika Maheshwari (Department of Psychology, IPCW) and Dr. Priya Ranjan (Department of Sociology, IPCW) and Priyanka Chabra (representative from Ektara Collective). The discussion was quite engaging with several inquisitive questions from the audience.

A theme based open mic titled "Khula Manch" followed the discussion wherein remarkable poems were recited by the students. The poems challenged and satirized the patriarchal setup of society and how one could strive to subvert it. Echos of complete rebellion against injustice and misogyny were heard through the poems.

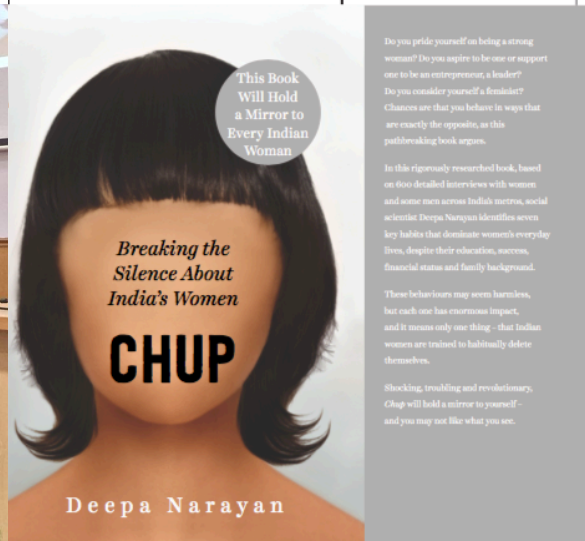


CHUP: Breaking the silence about India's women

16 March 2018

A book discussion of "CHUP: Breaking the silence about India's Women" was organized in collaboration with the Discussion Forum. Author Deepa Narayan discussed the salient features of her book with a focus on the seven habits that are impediments to women's success. She discussed sexuality, social isolation and dependency (to name a few) and how patriarchy uses these tropes to subjugate women time and again. "Patriarchy crushes loud and argumentative women and our culture is training us to just not exist" as quoted by her. Also commenting on the internalized patriarchy, she critiqued on the social isolation of women. She emphasized on the need for women to stand up for other women in solidarity, to shun the pretense and biases and to realize that a woman

is not alone. Dr. Babli Moitra Saraf, Principal, IPCW also shared her insightful views on the “silences and speeches” of an Indian Woman and how, yet, a lot needs to be done to win the battle against patriarchy and misogyny. The discussion was followed by an interesting session of questions by the audience.



Do you pride yourself on being a strong woman? Do you aspire to be one or support one to be an entrepreneur, a leader? Do you consider yourself a feminist? Chances are that you behave in ways that are exactly the opposite, as this pathbreaking book argues.

In this rigorously researched book, based on 600 detailed interviews with women and some men across Indian metros, social scientist Deepa Narayan identifies seven key habits that dominate women's everyday lives, despite their education, success, financial status and family background.

These behaviours may seem harmless, but each one has enormous impact, and it means only one thing - that Indian women are trained to habitually delete themselves.

Shocking, troubling and revolutionary, *Chup* will hold a mirror to yourself - and you may not like what you see.