



STELLA MARIS COLLEGE GENDER CENTER REPORT 21-22

GENDER SERIES TALK

Report summary

The first event of SMC gender Center for this academic year, The Gender Series talk was a four day event which was held on 26,27, 29,&30 of June 2021.

DAY 1- 26/06/2021

Organising agency:- Stella Maris college Gender Center

Students involved:- Members of Gender Center

Faculty involved:- Director of Gender Center Dr.Maria Agnes Sasitha

Resource person name:- Dr Lora Deva Prasanna

Designation:- Assistant professor department of Social Work

Affiliation:- Stella Maris college chennai

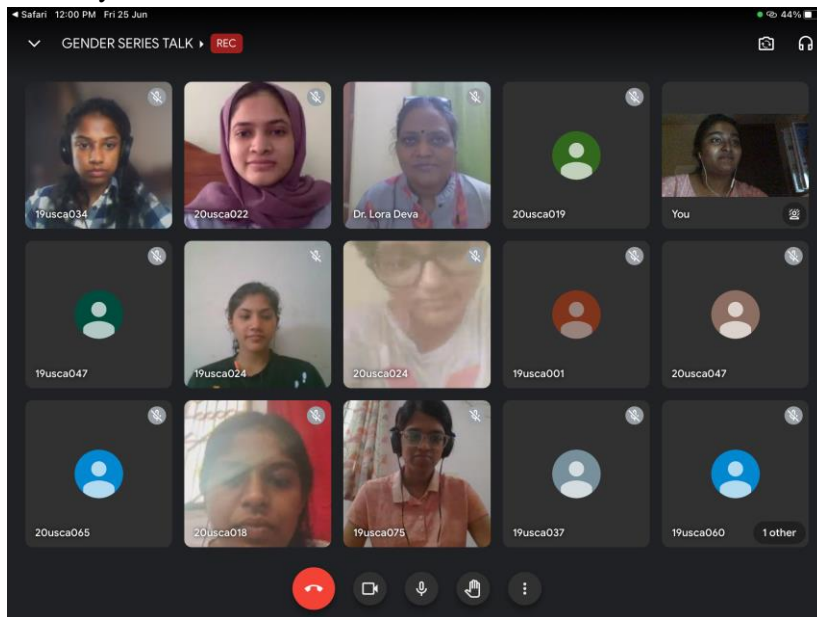
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About the event-

Topic-Gender and Sexuality

Gender Center first talk session began with a prayer by Vashenee, Treasurer of the Gender Center followed by a welcome address by Dr Maria Agnes Sasitha, Director of Gender Center and Head of the Department of Sociology. the speaker of the day Dr Lora Deva Prasanna, faculty, and former Head of the Department of social work, Stella Maris college was introduced by Rithika president of Gender Center

The speaker engaged The 20 members for one and half an hour from 10:30 onwards. Dr Lora helped the participants to look beyond the social constructs that will undoubtedly remain with them throughout in the long run. The session brought the ground reality of everything being gendered and that we ourselves gender it. It was an insightful session followed by a very interactive discussion towards the end. SAEEDA co secretary of Gender Center concluded the session with a vote of thanks.



Day 2- 27/06/2001

Organising agency:- Stella Maris college Gender Center

Students involved:- Members of Gender Center

Faculty involved:- Director of Gender Center Dr.Maria Agnes Sasitha

Resource person name:- Ms Lohitha Jaikar

Designation:- social researcher

Affiliation:- NGO

Contact:- 75989 29033. E-mail id: lohi.jaikar@gmail.com

About the event-

Topic- Gender Empowerment Health Perspective

The session began with a prayer by Vashenee, Treasure of the Gender Center. The welcome address was rendered by Rithika, the President of the Gender Center. This was followed by the speaker's introduction rendered by Abhirami the Secretary of the Gender Center. The speaker of the day was Ms. Lohitha Jaikar, social researcher and facilitator who possesses expertise in areas of social welfare, emotional intelligence, life skills, business and communication skills.

The session was conducted for one and half an hour by Ms Lohitha Jaikar on Gender Empowerment Health Perspective, around 20 members participated and Ms.Lohitha had clearly explained the concepts of gender, empowerment and health, and made the session very interactive by sharing pictures and videos and asked the participants to share their views on empowered women. Using this she explained the International standards of empowerment and also explained Gender empowerment measures (GEM) by UNDP and how the health factors are not taken into account, Ms Lohitha brought up on light that gender empowerment is impossible without a health component. The session was very informative and it ended with the question on how to bridge the gap to balance empowerment and health. The participants came up with Socio, political and economic policy measures that can include empowerment and the health component. The session was concluded by vote of thanks rendered by Saeeda, Co-Secretary of the Gender Center.



Day 3-29/06/2021

Organising agency:- Stella Maris college Gender Center

Students involved:- Members of Gender Center

Faculty involved:- Director of Gender Center Dr.Maria Agnes Sasitha

Resource person name:- Dr. Bhuvaneshwari Mahalingam

Designation:- Part time faculty stella maris college

Affiliation:- Stella Maris college

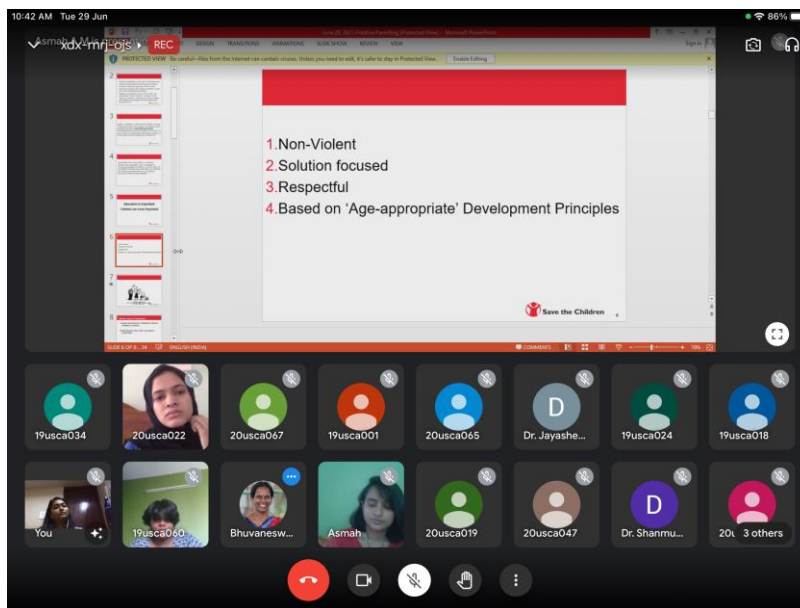
Contact:- 9444170301

About the event

Topic - Positive Socialization

The session began with a prayer by Rema Glory, 3rd Year sociology student. The welcome address was rendered by Abirami, Secretary of the Gender Center followed by Saeeda, Co-Secretary of the Gender Center introducing the resource person, Dr. Bhuvaneshwari, social worker, who has worked with International platforms including the UN and has worked closely with child and wellbeing.

Dr. Bhuvaneshwari enlightened the 20 participants on Positive Socialisation with the understanding of corporal punishment, the child socialization and how it affects the gender socialization in children to a great extent. The one and half an hour session ended with an interactive discussion among the participants and the resource person. The session was concluded by vote of thanks rendered by Vashenee Secretary of Gender Center



Day 4- 30/06/2021

Organising agency:- Stella Maris college Gender Center

Students involved:- Members of Gender Center

Faculty involved:- Director of Gender Center Dr.Maria Agnes Sasitha

Resource person name:- Ms. Leela Meghna

Designation:- final year PG department of social work

Affiliation:- stella maris college

Contact:- 9891374831

About the event

Topic- Normalisation of Gender Discrimination

The final day of the series began with a prayer by Harshini, 2nd year Sociology student. The welcome address was rendered by Saeeda, Co-Secretary of the Gender Center. This was followed by the speaker's introduction, rendered by Abirami, Secretary of the Gender Center. The speaker of the day was Ms. Leela Meghna, who is pursuing her Master of Social Work degree from Stella Maris College. She touched upon topics of consent, rape culture and methods of counteracting rape culture. She shared instances of sexual assault and how the response to the same was deeply rooted in victim blaming and misogyny.

The session lasted for an hour and 10 minutes; from 10:30 to 11:10 am. After Ms. Leela's speech, an interactive Q&A session that encouraged discussion among the participants on related topics. The session ended with the vote of thanks, rendered by Rithika, President of the Gender Center.



The four day series has been very informative and the participants feedback were also very positive regarding the topics discussed and the conduct of the series.



WORKSHOP ON RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Organising agency:- Stella Maris college Gender Center

Students involved:- Members of Gender Center

Faculty involved:- Director of Gender Center Dr.Maria Agnes Sasitha

Resource person name:- Dr. Neerja Rao

Designation:- former head department of sociology

Affiliation:- Stella Maris college chennai

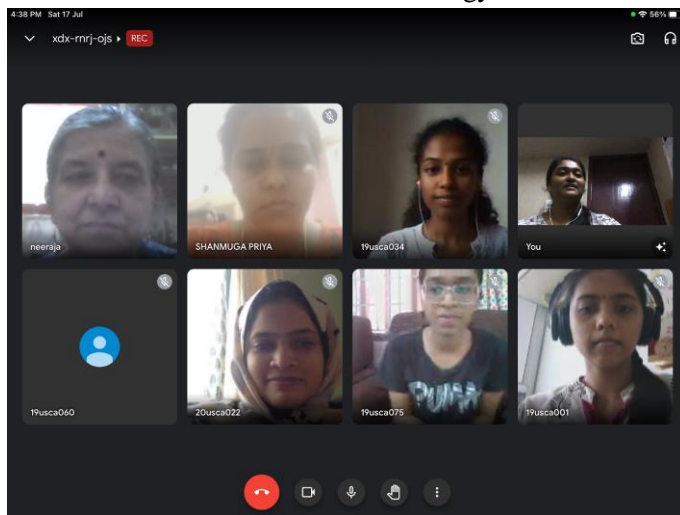
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About the event-

Date: July 17, 2021

The event began with a short prayer rendered by Saeeda, Co-Secretary of the Gender Center. The welcome address and speaker's introduction was rendered by Dr. Maria Agnes Sasitha, Director of SMC-Gender Center and Head of the Department of Sociology. The speaker of the day was Dr. Neerja Rao, former Head of the Department of Sociology, Stella Maris College. The session was aimed at addressing the intricacies of carrying out research. Dr. Neeraja Rao started out by breaking down the queries the GC team had regarding the research topic they had decided on for the academic year 2021-22. The research proposal was explored at depth and clarity regarding the same was achieved.

The session lasted for an hour and forty minutes; from 3pm to 4:40pm. The session ended with the vote of thanks, rendered by Rithika, President of the Gender Center. Feedback link was posted for the participants, the feedback link proves that the workshop had been successful by enriching the participants with clarity and information in research methodology.





MoU with Soroptimist International, 2021

The Department of Sociology has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Soroptimist International in creating awareness about gender issues. The first activity in collaboration with Soroptimist International was an inter - collegiate mini- documentary making competition, undertaken to commemorate the United Nation's 16 days of activism campaign on Elimination of Violence against Women. The theme for the competition was the same: **Elimination of Violence Against Women.**

Students from various colleges participated in this event, the last date of submission of the videos were 1/12/2021.



PANEL DISCUSSION BY SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

Organising agency : The Soroptimist International

Students involved : Members of the Gender Center

Faculty involved : Dr Jayasheela George

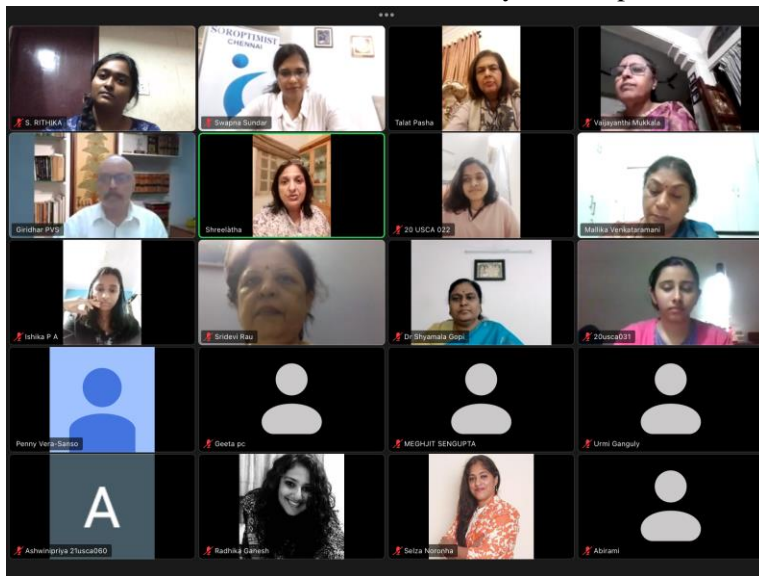
Resource person(s) : Members of the Soroptimist International

Topic : Confronting Patriarchy

About the event

Date: Dec 8,2021

The panel discussion was conducted by The Soroptimist International, with SI members from different parts of the world as the panelists and the members of The Gender Center of Stella Maris College. The session began with the announcement of the winners of the mini- documentary competition held by Soroptimist International in collaboration with the Gender Center. The winning entries were projected. The panel discussion aimed at highlighting women as the custodians of culture. The welcome address was rendered by Ms Swapna Sundar, followed by Advocate Giridhar who moderated the session. Ms Shashikala, Ms Talat Pasha, Ms Geeta, Mr Meghjit, Ms Radhika and Ms Penne engaged the audience with their valuable inputs into the topic. The panelists enlightened the audience on issues such as the state sanctioned community censorship happening today, weaponization and homogenisation of culture and several other perspectives in which culture can be seen as an oppressive tool against women. The phenomenon of no "culture" and how resistance to the oppression perpetuated by the same culture can also be a culture was recognised after Ms Radhika's valuable thoughts. The informative session ended with a question answer session. The vote of thanks was rendered by Ms Swapna Sundar. The session lasted 2 hours, from 5 to 7pm.



OPEN MIC:

Organizing agency:- Stella Maris college Gender Center

Students involved:- Members of Gender Center

Faculty involved:- Director of Gender Center Dr.Maria Agnes Sasitha

About the event-

Date: Dec 17, 2021

Gender center's first offline event ' OPEN MIKE' on the theme EMBRACE WHO YOU ARE began with a welcome address and rules and regulation for the open mic event was rendered by Saeeda, Co-Secretary of the Gender Center and also the host for this event.

The aim of this event is to provide a platform to the members of Gender center to showcase all their talents, creativity and uniqueness . The session was conducted for one and half an hour; from 1.30pm to 3:00pm, around 25 members participated. The members exhibited their talents like dancing, singing, poetry reciting and open talks. Their were concept oriented performance aswell like enacting sexual harrasemt concept in thier dance and speach delivered by the speakers were very motivational they included concepts like be yourself, positive impact on grabbing the opportunity, stepping out from being a introvert, kindness and loving ourselves. The participants as well as the audience have thoroughly enjoyed this event which is very well seen from all their positive comments and smiles at the end of the sessions. This open mic platform has really helped us all in getting to know many young talented ladies who are very creative and they all were mesmerizing the whole gender center room with their performance. The session was concluded by vote of thanks rendered by Saeeda, Co-Secretary of Gender Center.

