



Hindi Vidya Prachar Samiti's

HINDI VIDYA PRACHAR SAMITI'S COLLEGE OF LAW

(Affiliated to University of Mumbai & Recognised by Bar Council of India)

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Date 11/10/2021

International Day of the Girl Child 2021- 11th Oct. 2021

The Women Development Cell (WDC) of Hindi Vidya Prachar Samiti's College of Law organized a Webinar on the Topic "Digital Generation on 11th October 2021 at 11 am onwards. Our Generation: Perspectives from India" in line with UNICEF's Theme to mark the International Day of the Girl Child 2021. This day was first adopted in the year 1995 in Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action – the global agenda for advancing the rights and empowerment of women and girls, everywhere. The event was conducted on Zoom with 100 participants and live-streamed on YouTube where we had 83 views.

In the opening address by Assistant Professor Ms. Gretta Maria Castelino highlighted that the Indian Constitution guarantees several rights to girl children such as Right against Female Foeticide, Right Against Abusive Family Members as encapsulated in Domestic Violence Act, Right against Child Marriage and the Right to Education. The status of Girl Children in India reveals that the number of cases of domestic abuse, rape and murder under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act has been increasing. Hence it was only crucial that we mark the day by discussing it.

Dr. (Mrs.) Madhura Kalamkar - I/C Principal & Event Convener set an optimistic tone for the Webinar by recalling the Sustainable Development Goals and India's commitment towards it. This was followed by brief introduction of each of the esteemed panellists by Mr. Sameep Patil (student of S.Y.B.L.S./LL.B).

Dr. Frances Vaidya (Associate Professor, GSB's Smt. Surajba College of Education) introduced the topic by quoting excerpts from the UNICEF Concept Note, and then directed two interesting questions to each resource person. Asst. Professor Shruti Jadhav (I/C Principal of GES's Law College) representing academics shed light on the enrolment statistics of various streams in higher education and the allocation of seats for all genders in the admission process to law courses. Adv. Savina Crasto (Practitioner in Bombay High Court) enlisted all the laws that govern rights of the girl child and elaborated upon the expanded view of Art. 21 of the Indian Constitution - the Right to Life which includes the Right to Education. Ms. Mehala Nagarajah (Program Head- Digital Empowerment, VIDYA NGO) gave a presentation on the role of NGOs, in general, to protect and promote the rights of girls, and the projects of her NGO to impart digital literacy. She also called upon students to volunteer with the organisation.

All the participants were enthralled by the speeches and raised pertinent questions to the resource persons. Dr. Frances Vaidya read out the questions and moderated the discussion among the panellists, wherein each of the esteemed speakers provided greater insight into the theme. We were also honoured to have the presence of Adv. Hansraj Duggal. He has been serving as a visiting faculty in our college and a senior academician in the law faculty. On Principal Madam's request, Duggal sir obliged to share his views on the topic. He drew an

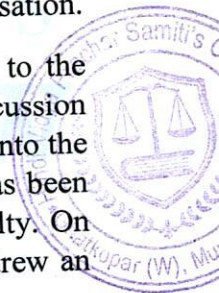
Dr. (Mrs.) Madhura Kalamkar

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applause when he shared that he has encouraged his quinquagenarian daughter to enrol for LL.M.

The event was concluded with a Vote of Thanks delivered by Asst. Professor Ms. Gretta Maria Castelino specially mentioning I/C Principal & Event Convener Dr. (Mrs.) Madhura Kalamkar for her effective leadership and IQAC Co-ordinator Mr. Amar Salve for his networking.

We were overwhelmed to receive very encouraging feedback from 90 participants, out of which 61% were students and over 35% belonged to the teaching faculty. Over 95% respondents expressed that the content of each speaker was highly appreciable and 93% were more than satisfied with the questions answered. Additionally, 97%, 95.5% & 92% felt that the Choice of Topic, Time management and tech arrangements were up to the mark. Lots of encouraging comments have been received, including "informative" and "valuable" session.



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