

# INVITATION AND ANNOUNCEMENT

NATIONAL SEMINAR

ON

**"GENDER NORMS AND GENDER INEQUALITY"**

**(NSGNGI)**

**January 23<sup>th</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> , 2018**

Venue: Pt Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur (CG).



**Jointly Organized By**

**Centre For Women Studies**

**Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur (CG).**

**&**

**Oxfam India**

## THE SEMINAR

Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG)<sup>1</sup> is a gross violation of human rights and one of the most persistent forms of gender inequality and discrimination. Even after 20 years of the UN General Assembly Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, World Health Organisation (WHO) data shows that one in three women (35 per cent) of women have experienced either physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence in their lifetime. India is a signatory to the Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) which was ratified in June 1993. Yet, the situation in India is still disproportionately against women. The Indian National Family Health Survey 4 (NFHS) conducted in 2015-16 recorded that 28.8 per cent<sup>2</sup> of ever married women aged 15-49 years have experienced spousal violence. According to NFHS 3, women in the lowest wealth quintile were more than twice as likely to report facing domestic violence as women in the highest wealth quintile; women with no education were thrice as likely to experience violence as those with more than 12 years of schooling. Incidence of domestic violence was most acute among Scheduled Castes and Tribes, with 46 and 44 percent respectively, against 30 percent for other groups.<sup>3</sup> Less than one in four women who faced domestic violence reported having sought help. India has enacted laws like the Protection of Women against Domestic Violence Act (PWDVA) 2005, and the Criminal Amendment Act 2013 to provide relief and justice to women facing violence at private and public spheres. However, the poor implementation of the laws made it inaccessible to women in general, and more so women from socially excluded sections.

Over the past six years, Oxfam India<sup>4</sup> had been working on the issue of domestic violence (in the states of Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha and Uttar Pradesh) on building political will, empowering women and strengthening specialist women's services. Our programmatic evaluations detail that that individual factors (inequitable gender attitudes condoning VAWG and

---

mistaken factual beliefs), social factors (harmful social and gender norms), material factors (household poverty and lack of economic opportunities for women and girls and weak infrastructure) and structural factors (weak or discriminatory legal and institutional frameworks) work at different levels and sustain the harmful behavior perpetuating domestic violence. Evidence prove that when social norms <sup>5</sup>hold in place a certain behaviour, the behaviour is unlikely to change without addressing social motivations. Therefore, the social factors act as a ‘brake on social change’. It could be the missing link in how change happens on VAWG. An analysis of social factors reveals that social norms can be manifested in two ways. They can be gender norms and gender norms perpetuating violence against women.

**Gender norms** are the “social norms that relate specifically to gender differences...[or] refer to informal rules and share social expectations that distinguish expected behaviour on the basis of gender. They are about gender roles and power relations. This norm would form the root cause for gender discrimination and the existing gender inequality in society. An example of a negative gender norm is a community or reference group could be that people value the contributions of men and boys more than those of women and girls. This is a descriptive gender norm. An injunctive gender norm would be women and girls should be subservient to the needs or desires of men and boys.

**Social norms that perpetuate VAWG** are norms that normalize violence within a specific reference group or community. A descriptive social norm would be that it is common for women to experience violence in intimate relationships or it is typical for men to hit their wives for not doing the housework well. An example of an injunctive norm here would be that violence in the home or in a relationship should be treated as a private affair. A common link in this kind of social norms underpinning VAWG is the association of masculinity as a justification of violence.

Oxfam India has launched a campaign ‘BanoNayiSoch’ in November 2016 promoting positive social norms underpinning domestic violence and thereby creating an enabling environment addressing violence against women and girls. In this context during this 16 Days of activism, we are hosting a two day National Convention in Raipur on **23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2018** on the theme ‘Gender Norms and Gender Inequality’.

---

## THE HOSTS-

Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University is Chhattisgarh's largest and oldest institution of higher education, founded in 1964, and named after the first chief minister of erstwhile Madhya Pradesh. The University has a sprawling campus, spread in 207 acres of land in the western part of the capital of Chhattisgarh, Raipur and plays a major role in the educational, cultural and economic life of the region.

The Centre for women studies was set up in the year 2001 to mark the "Women Empowerment Year" and acquired its recognition from the UGC in 2010-2011. With an aim to translate the component of women empowerment, the centre is designed to act as a catalyst for promoting and strengthening women's studies through teaching, research curriculum, field and extension work, training and continuing education etc. In future, the centre plans to work in the areas of gender equality, economic self-reliance, women's education, rights, laws other than social exploitation and awareness activities.

## THE CITY OF RAIPUR

Raipur, the capital of Chhattisgarh is the administrative, educational, business and industrial seat of the region. In its immediate neighbourhood lies the steel city of India- Bhilai, where one of Asia's largest steel plants is located. The climate of Raipur is pleasant in February and light woollen clothing will suffice. The city is located about 300 kms from Nagpur in the East on the Mumbai - Kolkata trunk line and is well connected with many major cities of India by air, rail and road. There are various places of tourist interest worth visiting.

## CALL FOR PAPERS

A 300-500 word abstract with a covering letter should be sent to [cwsprsurapur@yahoo.in](mailto:cwsprsurapur@yahoo.in) The subject line for submission should be "Abstract of Paper-National Convention". The abstract should outline the main research questions, conceptual framework, methodology and empirical base of the paper.

- **The last date for submission of abstract (300-500 words) is 25 December, 2017**

The abstract acceptance will be communicated to the scholars in a week.

- **The last date for submission complete paper (5000-6000 words) is 10<sup>th</sup> January 2018**

The paper should not be published earlier in any form. The organising committee will revert on the selected papers in a week. The authors of selected papers will be invited for presentation of their paper during the three day National Seminar. The travel, boarding and lodging of the presenters will be borne by the organising committee.

## **SUB -THEMES OF THE SEMINAR**

- Social Norms and Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act
- Social norms underpinning domestic violence and the Tribals
- Social norms underpinning domestic violence and the Muslims
- Social norms underpinning domestic violence and the Dalits
- Manifestation of gender norms in regional/Bollywood films
- Manifestation of gender norms in television soaps
- Manifestation of gender norms in advertisements
- Role/representation of girls/women in university elections
- Gender & culture
- Women with disability
- Manifestation of gender norms in cultural activities, sports etc.
- Awareness, opinions and attitudes towards workplace sexual harassment.
- Status on implementation of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 – Challenges and achievements

## **REGISTRATION FEE**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Fees Structure (INR).</b>
<b>Students/Research scholars</b>	<b>500=00/600=00</b>
<b>Teachers (PRSU &amp; Affiliated Colleges)</b>	<b>1000=00</b>
<b>Professionals</b>	<b>1500=00</b>

All payments should be made by Demand Draft in favour of “ NSGNGI ” payable at SBI, Pt R.S. University Branch, Raipur. It includes registration kit, breakfast, lunch, dinner during symposium period, tea/coffee during session breaks and invitation to cultural programme and conference banquet. No abstract will be entertained without registration fees.

## **ACCOMMODATION**

Accommodations in Hotels / Guest Houses will be arranged on prior intimation and advance payment. The tariff will range from Rs. 500/-to Rs. 3000/

**ORGANIZING SECRETARY**  
**Dr. PRIYAMVADA SRIVASTAVA**  
Associate Director, Centre for Women's Studies, Pt. RSU, Raipur

**CONTACT NO.**

Office No. – 0771-6516999  
Mobile No. - 09425515951, 09425517387

**REGISTRATION FORM**

(Call for paper on Gender norms and Gender Inequality Date 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018)

**(A) Personal Details**

Name : .....

Designation : .....

Affiliation : .....

Date of Birth ..... Gender : M  / F

Mobile No : ..... Fax : .....

Email ID : .....

Preference : Oral  / Poster

Title of the paper : .....

.....

.....

Author (s) : .....

.....

Accommodation requirement : Yes /  No

**Particulars of Accompanying Person (S)**

1. Name/Age/Gender :

2. Name/ Age/Gender :

Details of Demand Draft :

DD No. : ..... Date : ..... Amount : .....

Date /Place : .....

## **Signature**

Please complete and return this form along with the Demand Draft towards Registration/  
Accommodation fees to the Organizing Secretary, latest by January 15, 2018.