"LEGAL AID CAMP: HUMAN RIGHTS AND RIGHTS OF CHILDREN"

(Report on the event conducted in Delhi on December 10th, 2018)

Abstract: This event was conducted by a para-legal volunteer of the Legal Aid Centre of Symbiosis Law School, Noida. A campaign was organised on 10th December 2018 to mark the celebration of Human Rights Day, at an NGO for street children. They were informed about their rights has individuals and as children followed by an in-depth discussion on "Child Sexual Exploitation: Good Touch and Bad Touch". Towards the end, the children were also shown a short film on the topic above, called "Komal". For a better understanding, an activity on the same was also conducted.

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1. Concept Note

The Legal Aid Centre at Symbiosis Law School, Noida conducted a legal awareness programme to mark "Human Rights Day", the purpose of which was to create awareness about the various social evils and issues inherent in the society. The topic chosen by the para-legal volunteer for this campaign was "Child Rights" which was conducted at a shelter of Salaam Baalak Trust, a reputed NGO stationed in Paharganj, Delhi.

2. Objective

The primary objective of this campaign was to make the less-informed children, studying at the NGO, aware about their rights as individuals and as children. They were also made aware about issues that aren't usually spoken about; Child Sexual Abuse and Good Touch, Bad Touch. Such a topic would not only sensitise them but would also make them emotionally strong and help them if an unpleasant situation was to arise in their lives, thereby preparing them for the harsh realities of this world.

3. Preliminary Preparations:

A few preparations were made by the Para-Legal Volunteer prior to the commencement of the event:

- 1. A worksheet on "Good Touch, Bad Touch" was prepared for an activity conducted towards the end of the event.
- 2. A short clip on Child Sexual Abuse followed by a powerpoint presentation for a better understanding of the topic was also prepared.
- 3. A Q&A session was also organised to ensure that the message was conveyed to the target audience.
- 4. Chocolates and sweets were also handed out to the children to mark the celebration of Human Rights Day.

4. Conducting the Program

As a part of an initiative by LAC, I had conducted a campaign to mark Human Rights Day, in the Kailash Nagar Day Care Centre of Salaam Baalak Trust in Delhi, a centre for underprivileged children. The target population of the event were children between the age groups of 5-14 years. The event began with an interactive session on "Manav Adhikaar Divas" also known as Human Rights Day, followed by an in-depth discussion on "Good Touch, Bad Touch". The children were made aware about the dangers that lay in the outside world and how must they defend themselves in situations that make them feel uncomfortable. They were also made to see a short film called "Komal: Child Sexual Abuse", a story on sexual exploitation of children to make them understand the importance of the issue better. At the end, the students were made to do

an activity worksheet prepared by me, they were also treated to chocolates to mark the celebration of the day.

5. Response of the target population

The target population's response to this event was surprisingly very good. Children as young as 5 years old understood the topic well and actively participated in the question and answer round. The discussion was not limited to "good touch, bad touch", an interactive session on their rights as human beings and as children was also conducted, the response of which was also very good.

6. Future plan of action

Such events especially on days such as the Human Rights Day, must be conducted so as to make the target population aware about certain aspects that they otherwise would not have access to thereby giving them a clearer picture about such relevant issues. Follow-up events must also be organised on a regular basis as one event is not enough to make the target population aware about the topic as a whole.

7. Suggestions/Feedback:

As a whole, the event was a success and the primary objective of this event was successfully fulfilled. I believe such events prove to be quite fruitful and informative especially to the more unfortunate sections of our society and therefore, more of such social awareness programmes must be conducted in the future.

8. Conclusion

To conclude, this was quite an insightful and fun experience for a budding professional as it made me aware about the social evils that prevail in society and allowed me to interact with people belonging to the lowest strata of society. It was a fun learning experience and I would definitely love to organise and carry out such social awareness programmes in the future.

Annexures

Some candid photographs from the event:-



1. (A group photograph of the students after the activity)





3. (An interactive question and answer session with the students)



4. (Students intently watching a short film called "Komal")



5. (A discussion that followed after the film)

Annexure

Social Media Coverage of the event

#LACSLS
#HumanRightsDay



Via Instagram

#LACSLS
#HumanRightsDay

10/12/18

Via Facebook