

# CHILDREN'S DAY EVENT

Report on the event conducted on 14 November, 2021

Abstract- This event was conducted by Vanshika Rana (Para-legal volunteer), Anushka Singhal (Volunteer), Shreya Tiwari (Volunteer), Bhavya Vijaya Lakshmi (Volunteer) and Pragya Patel (Volunteer), at Symbiosis Law School, NOIDA. This event aimed at creating children about the child rights.

ORGANISED BY-  
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## Concept Note

The Legal Aid Centre at Symbiosis Law School, NOIDA conducts several awareness and welfare programmes for the benefit of the society. As an extension of such initiatives, we conducted a 'Child Rights Awareness event' in collaboration with Sakhya Women's Guidance Cell, Mumbai through the Google Meet platform on the occasion of Children's Day. The event aimed at making children about the rights they have and the way by which they can exercise such rights.

Children are the gift of God but we often tend to forget this and thus our children suffer. Problems like child labor, child marriage, child trafficking, sexual abuse etc. take a toll on their childhood. Children should know about their rights and the remedies available when these rights are violated. The government has framed laws like Protection of children against sexual offences (POCSO) Act, Child Marriage Prohibition Act, Child Labor (Prohibition and Regulation) Act etc. for the welfare of children. Helplines are being created but not all are aware of them. Children are trafficked and are forced to do begging and other such activities.

Thus, we decided to conduct a child rights event wherein all rights were discussed in detail and children were involved through a question-and-answer session. These days, right to good health and healthy environment has also become a big issue with rising pollution and uncleanliness. We all have the right to a good environment and thus if gets violated, we can approach the Court. So, to make aware the children of their legal rights and remedies, this session was conducted.

## **Objectiv**

- To create awareness about child rights.
- To tell children about the legal remedies available in case of violation of child rights.
- Make them a responsible citizen.
- To motivate them to fight for their rights.

## **Preliminary Preparations**

We wanted to make the session as much comprehensive as possible. Therefore, we decided to show them some short videos, tell them stories and do a discussion. We searched platforms like YouTube for the videos and shortlisted some short videos which we found appropriate for the session. Stories revolved around the child rights being discussed. Each volunteer was asked to prepare a presentation material for the event and then everything was compiled. A quiz was also prepared based on the rights we told the children.

## **Conducting the program**

The event was conducted in the evening and was of a duration of approximately one hour. The event was kept short as the children had their children's day celebration next. The event started by a brief introduction wherein Ms. Vanshika Rana introduced the event plan and told children about children's day. Then Ms. Shreya Tewari told the children about Right to education and Child Trafficking. Through videos she explained how we have the Right to Education for up to 14 years of children and we cannot be deprived of the same. As child trafficking was a sensitive issue, they were told about the same in an easy manner. Then Ms.

Anushka Singhal told them about right against child marriage and right to good health and healthy environment. All of them were made to learn the helpline number. Then a short story about an Uttar Pradesh school and the way people sailed through the difficult situation of an unhealthy environment was discussed. The children got to know that they have a right to clean environment and can seek court's help and claim their right. Then Ms. Pragya Patel threw light on the menace of child labour and how we can deal with the same. Moreover, Ms. Bhavya talked about the POCSO Act and gender equality. Since the act is a bit difficult for the children to understand, the concept of good touch and bad touch was used to explain the same. A video was shown to sensitize them and make them aware that one should stay aware from the strangers. They were told that everyone is equal and there should not be a discrimination between a boy and girl. We wanted to conduct a quiz as well so that we could refresh the memory of the children about the child rights taught in the event but due to the shortage of time, the quiz part was replaced by a short summary of the whole session. Ms. Vanshika Rana summarized the whole session by a short summary and asked the children to repeat the same with her. Finally, the session was concluded and the children went to enjoy their children's day party organized by the NGO.

### **Response of the beneficiaries**

The children as well as the NGO coordinator were happy with our event. The children told us that they enjoyed and learnt new things. They were responding to almost all our questions and even remembered the things we told them. This showed that they were attentively listening to us. The LAC executives who were attending the event were also satisfied and praised the team.

### **Future plan of action**

Seeing the positive reaction from the audience, we are planning to conduct more such events. Child rights is an important issue, and we aim at creating awareness among the children at all levels. Also, as everything is shifting to 'offline' we also plan to conduct a physical event by meeting slum children, school children and even their parents as well.

### **Feedback**

The feedback we received was positive. The NGO coordinator informed us that the children liked the session and learnt new things. Even the children thanked the whole team for conducting the event and making them aware of their rights. Everything was fine except the fact that at times few of the volunteers went a little fast and the children were not able to cope up with the speed then we had to clarify the things again. But towards the end of the session, this thing was managed, and the event ended successfully.

### **Conclusion**

It is said that '*children must be taught how to think and not what to think*'. On the same lines we did an effort to make the children learn about the child rights. This event proved to be a good experience for the team members. They learnt the art of sensitization and as well as learnt that interaction is very important for making an event successful. With the instances of child labor, child marriage as well as trafficking, it became all the very more important for us to conduct this session and let the children know that they have the remedies available, and they need not fear in such circumstances. The POCSO discussion also paved the way for the children to understand about their bodily rights and understand that no one can touch them without their consent in a wrong way. Overall, the session ended on a happy note with the children saying us a 'big thank you'.

# ANNEXURE





Vanshika Rana is presenting




28.6244° N, 77.3681° E



Vanshika Rana is presenting




28.6244° N, 77.3681° E





