

WOMEN EMPOWEREMENT EVENT

ORGANISED BY-
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(Para-Legal
Volunteer, Legal
Aid Centre,
Symbiosis Law
School, NOIDA)

(Report on the event conducted on 17-18th September, 2021)

Abstract: This event was conducted by Vanshika Rana (Para-Legal Volunteer), Medhika Sharma (Para-Legal Volunteer), Anushka Singhal (Volunteer) and Shreya Tiwari (Volunteer), at Symbiosis Law School, NOIDA. This event aimed at spreading awareness on women empowerment through welfare schemes and motivational stories.

Under the
guidance of: Ms.
Charvi Kumar
(Head Legal Aid
Centre, Symbiosis
Law School,
NOIDA)

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 two-day 'Women Empowerment Event' in collaboration with Sakhya Women's Guidance Cell, Mumbai through the Google Meet platform. The session was open for not only the women of Sakhya but for all other women who wanted to learn about the welfare schemes and wanted to know about women empowerment. All the members of Legal Aid Centre were asked to forward the link of the event to such women.

Women Empowerment is a much-talked topic nowadays but still not all women are aware about their rights. It is said, "If you educate a woman, you educate the whole family" but there are women who do not know the importance of education. The government has started welfare schemes for the upliftment of women which aim at providing nutrition, employment, education etc. but they are not able to avail the benefit of these schemes as they are unaware of them. Sexual harassment and domestic violence have increased in our country and women find themselves helpless when they are caught in such a situation. There are helpline numbers to aid women in emergency. Women should know about the welfare measures started for them and should claim their rights.

Moreover, we see that in our society women do not get motivated to fulfill their dreams. Our country has had several great women personalities who have proved that we can do anything that we want, all we need is courage and motivation. The stories of Kalpana Chawla, Saina Nehwal, Pratibha Patil, Indira Nooyi etc. inspire us and give us that requisite push to achieve our goals. Thus, during the session several motivational documentaries were shown and a discussion was done with the women present in the meeting. At the end, a quiz was also held in which women were asked to identify the famous personalities. The aim of the quiz was to increase interaction and make the women feel engaged with us.

Objective

- To create awareness about women empowerment.
- To inform them about women welfare schemes.
- To inform them about women helpline numbers.
- To motivate the women.

Preliminary Preparations

As we wanted to show motivational documentaries to the women, we took help from the platforms like YouTube and Netflix. We browsed through these platforms, saw numerous documentaries and then shortlisted a few of them for screening. Our main target audience were the women from the marginalized areas of Mumbai who were gathered by the help of Sakhya, we had to find some Maharashtra specific women welfare schemes. We consulted the government websites and formed a list of the welfare schemes of Maharashtra. Also, we included some central schemes in our list so as to benefit the other women who have joined the session. For the story telling session, five motivational stories were selected after consulting blogs and books. The work was divided among the team members and then the necessary information was compiled in a PowerPoint presentation.

Conducting the program

The session was conducted for two days. All the women were asked to join the meeting at 3 PM and once everyone joined the session started. Vanshika Rana started the session, she introduced the team and explained the motive of the event. Then she screened the documentaries. She showed the motivational stories of Gunjan Saxena, Saina Nehwal, Kalpana Chawla and also screened a short film on women empowerment. After each clip, a short discussion with the women was done in which

everyone shared their views about women empowerment. The discussions made the session lively as women shared what they learnt and how they will incorporate all these learnings in their daily life.

Then Medhika Sharma, talked about the welfare schemes through a PowerPoint presentation. She discussed the provisions of the scheme and the procedure to apply for the same. The women were informed about the following schemes-

1. Manodhairya Scheme
2. Manjhi Kanya Bhagyashree Scheme
3. Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme
4. Scheme for adolescent girls
5. Kishori Shakti Yojana
6. Ujjawala Scheme
7. Swadhar Greh
8. One Stop Centre Scheme
9. Mahila E-haat
10. STEP Scheme

Then they were told about the Maharashtra as well as the National women helpline numbers and were informed that these numbers can be used whenever they needed any assistance.

Then, Anushka Singhal narrated the inspiring stories of great women personalities. The stories of Mithali Raj, Pratibha Devi Patil, Rani Laxmibai, Saroj Khan and Jaswanti Ben Patel were narrated. Their examples encouraged the women and made them feel that they can also fulfill their dreams. Towards the end of the session a quiz was conducted. Pictures of great women personalities were shown to the women and they were asked to identify them. The quiz helped the team to increase interaction and several women actively participated in the quiz. Through the quiz, they were acquainted with some personalities like Gita Gopinathan and Avani Lekhara that they previously were not aware of. At the end of the session, the beneficiaries expressed their views about the session and clicked a group photo with the team.

Response of the beneficiaries

The beneficiaries were very happy with the sessions. Some of them got so inspired that they told us, “ We did not get an opportunity to study, but we will definitely educate our daughters.” They shared their own experiences and told us that the sessions were very informative. They were unaware of several schemes and through this session, they got the opportunity to learn about them. Not only women but men also got inspired by our sessions and said that women empowerment is the need of the hour. The NGO coordinators thanked the team and the Legal Aid Centre for conducting this two-day event and igniting the fire to do something inside several women.

Future plan of action

These sessions proved to be very fruitful. Therefore, we have decided that we will continue doing more such sessions with women. Also, if the audience with whom interaction was done would require any legal information or information about schemes they can contact us through the NGO. Women empowerment is a very important topic in the contemporary times and such sessions serve an importance purpose by creating awareness in the society. This time we collaborated with Sakhya, next time we can collaborate with some other NGO and conduct more such sessions. Also due to COVID-19, this time the session was online. May be in the future, we will get the opportunity to conduct an offline and a much more interactive session.

Feedback

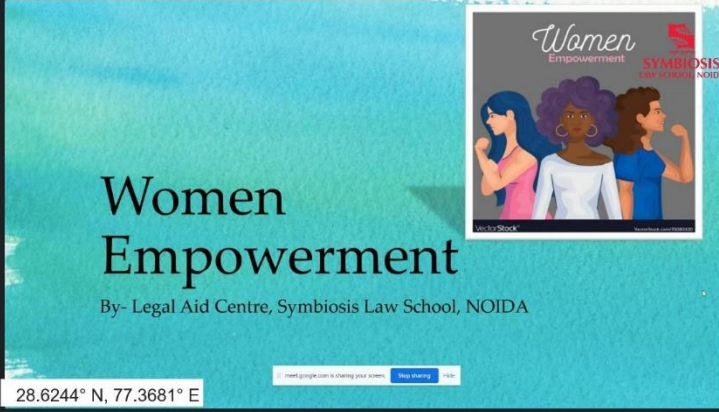
The sessions were conducted smoothly. The team enjoyed interacting with women. The documentaries as well as the ppt's served their purpose. The cameras of the women were off which demotivated us a bit as lively faces make the session more interesting. But overall, everything went well and our message reached the audience.

Conclusion

This event was quite a new experience for the team members. We enjoyed conducting it. The involvement of the women encouraged us and the positive response inspired us to conduct more such sessions for women. We ourselves were not aware of some of the women welfare schemes which we got to know through these sessions. We were all women members in the team and the women empowerment stories inspired us too. In a country like ours, women are still not treated at par with men. There is gender inequality which needs to be abridged. The government is doing its part but as responsible citizens, it becomes our responsibility to serve the society.

It is said that, “ Be the woman who fixes another woman’s crown without telling the world, it was crooked.” We tried on our part to fix their crown. We motivated them to discover their wings. Their queries were resolved and they were asked to contact us if they needed any legal assistance. Overall, the two-day event ended on a happy note, with us determined to conduct more such sessions.

Vanshika Rana is presenting



Women Empowerment
By- Legal Aid Centre, Symbiosis Law School, NOIDA

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Participants: Vanshika Rana, neeta pawar, Medhika Sharma, Vijay Bowad, SAKHYA MARGAD..., Rihan Shaikh, Vijayata Patil, 7 others, You



HELPLINE NUMBERS

Central government:

- Women Helpline (All India) **1091**
- Women Helpline Domestic Abuse **181**

Maharashtra State:

- Maharashtra Women Helpline **103, 1298, 022-26111103**
- Mumbai Police Women Helpline No. **022-22633333, 22620111**
- Maharashtra Women Commission **07477722424, 022-26592707**

28.6244° N, 77.3681° E


Participants: Medhika Sharma, Vanshika Rana, shalini jadhav, Vijay A Fernandes, Vibhuti Rao, SAKHYA MARGA..., Mridula Trivedi, 18 others, You

Participants: Vanshika Rana, Deborshi Sarkar, Legal Aid Center SLS, N..., Ayushi Chaubey, Bhavya Vijaya Lakshmi, Sushmita More, Mayay More, Aprajita Tyagi, Dhanesh Jadhav, SAKHYA MARGADARS..., Vibhuti Rao, Pravar Dennison, Medhika Sharma, Pragya Patel, 15 others, You

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PV Sindhu




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Vanshika Rana, Medhika Sharma, Vijayata Patil, Sumitra Kharat, Rahul Jagdhane, neeta pawar, Rihan Shaikh, 5 others, You

Vanshika Rana is presenting




NETFLIX

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Vanshika Rana, Vijay Bowad, Medhika Sharma, Rihan Shaikh, Vijayata Patil, Chhaya Kamble, Sukanya Sonavane, 3 others, You

Rani Laxmibai



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Medhika Sharma, Vanshika Rana, shalini jadhav, Shubhangi Moka..., Mridula Trivedi, Vibhuti Rao, Anushka Singhal, 18 others, You