



Miranda House UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

Society Annual Report

Society: Women's Development Cell

Year: 2021 – 2022 (from 1.7.2021 to 30.6.2022)

Student Office Bearers:

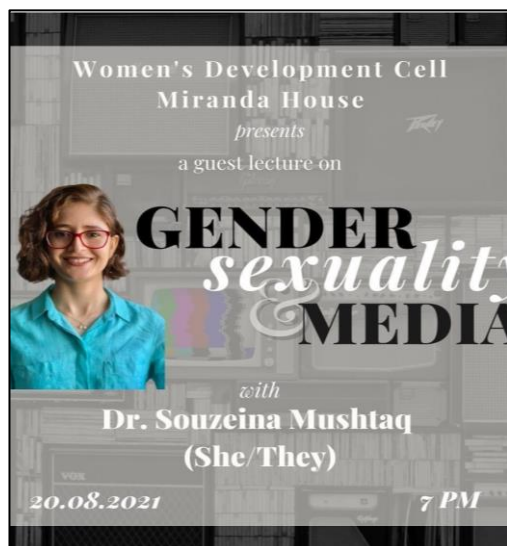
Soumya Sharma (President)
Shubha Bhatt (Vice President)
Udisha (General Secretary)
Nimisha Pathak (Treasurer)

Staff Advisors:

Dr. Abha Habib Dev (Physics Department), Convenor
Dr. Sneha Jha (History Department)
Dr. Pushpa Singh (Political Science)
Dr. Smriti S Bhatia (Chemistry Department)
Dr. Anshika (Chemistry Department)
Dr. Shivani (Sociology Department)
Dr. Nirmala Saini (Physics Department)
Dr. Harjeet Kaur (Physics Department)

Part A

Events/Seminars/conferences/workshops/Extension Activities



Gender, Sexuality, and Media

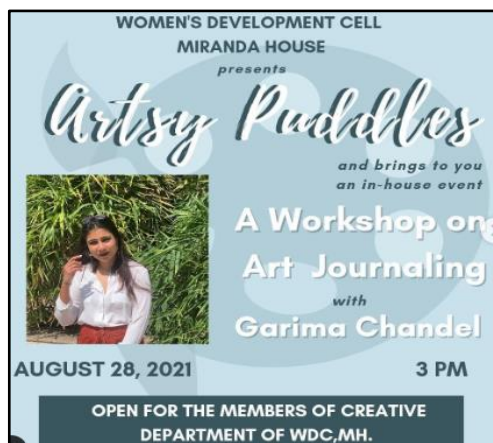
WDC Miranda House invited Dr. Souzeina Mushtaq for an online guest lecture on 'Gender, Sexuality, and Media' on 20th August 2021. The lecture provided insights into Dr. Mushtaq's research on queer Muslim women's interaction with media and its influences on their identity and self-perception.

Around 163 students from Miranda House attended the lecture.

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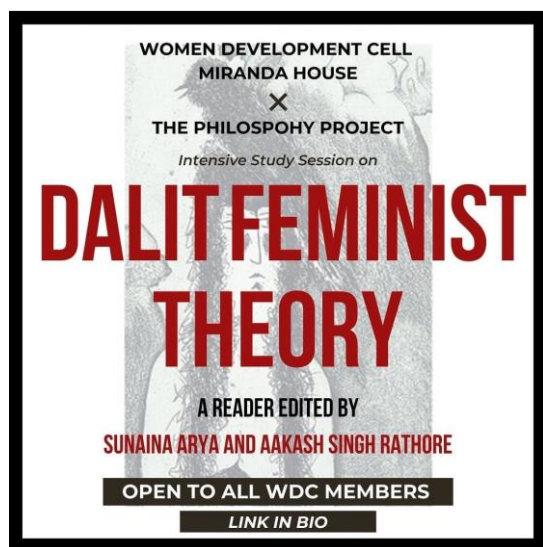


Art Journaling Workshop

The Creative Team of Women's Development Cell Miranda House organised an online Art Journaling workshop on 28.8.2021 in collaboration with Garima under their new initiative titled "Artsy Puddles." This initiative aimed to introduce members to a variety of art forms through many such workshops and lectures.

Around 54 members of the creative team of WDC, Miranda House attended the workshop.

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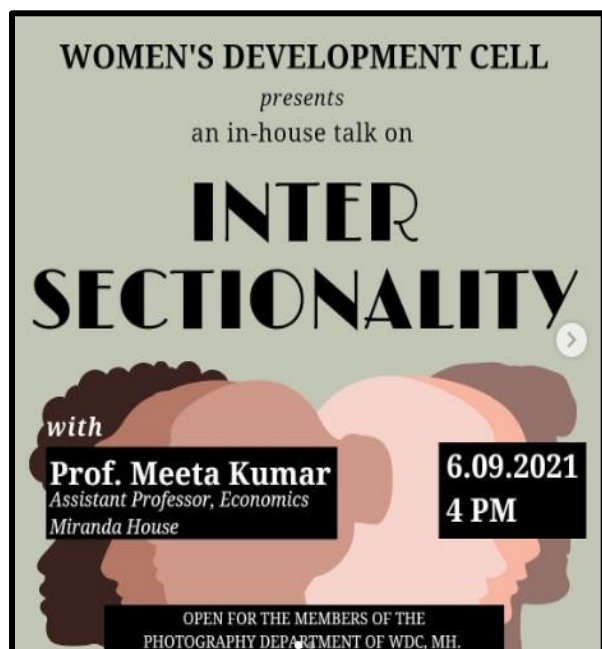
Session on Dalit Feminist Theory

The intensive study session on Dalit Feminist Theory was organized by Women's Development Cell Miranda House and The Philosophy Project began on 4th September and concluded on 25th September 2021. It was open only to WDC members at first, but due to growing interest, it was opened up to the entire student body.

The online study sessions were open to all university students. Around 240 students attended the sessions.



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Lecture on “Intersectionality”

On 6.9.2021, Prof Meeta Kumar delivered an online guest lecture on “Intersectionality” to the members of the photography department of Women’s Development Cell, Miranda House.

Around 22 members of the Photography Team of WDC attended the lecture.

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Scenes of Desire: Public Cultures of Cinema

Women's Development Cell, Miranda House conducted an online guest lecture on Scenes of Desire: Public Cultures of Cinema with Dr. Navaneetha Mokkal on 23.9.2021. Her talk detailed the politics of representation and how the ‘desirable’ identity is created through screens.

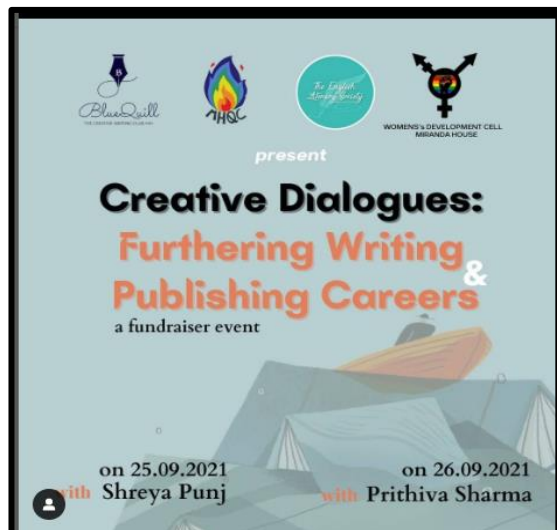
Around 110 students from Miranda House attended the lecture.

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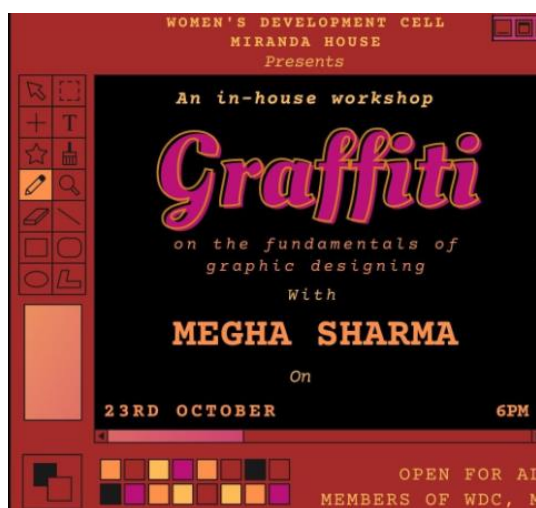


Creative Dialogues

The English Literary Society, Miranda House and Blue Quill, the Creative Writing Club of Miranda House in association with Miranda House Queer Collective and Women's Development Cell, conducted a 2-day fundraising workshop "Creative Dialogues" on 25.9.2021 and 26.9.2021. The online workshops aimed to increase the participant's knowledge of writing and publishing careers.

Around 20 undergraduate students from University of Delhi, Symbiosis College, Ramaiah Institute and more attended the workshops.

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GRAFFITI

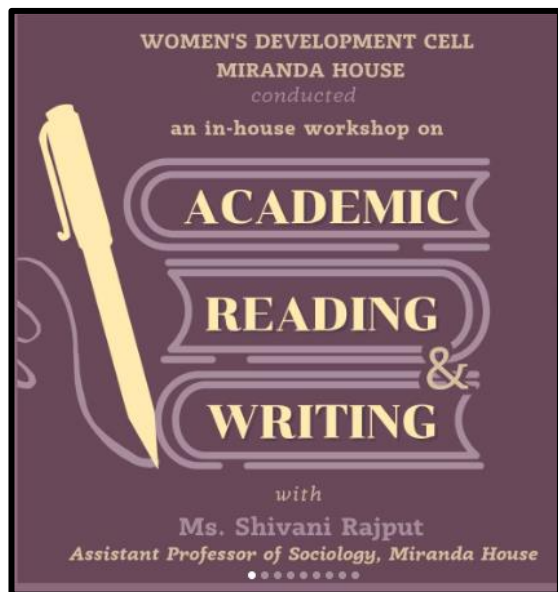
Graphics Team of Women's Development Cell Miranda House organised an online Graphic designing workshop in collaboration with Megha Sharma titled 'GRAFFITI' on 23.10.2021. This workshop aimed to introduce participants to the basics of graphic designing as well as industry experiences.

Around 40 members of the Graphics Team of WDC attended the workshop.

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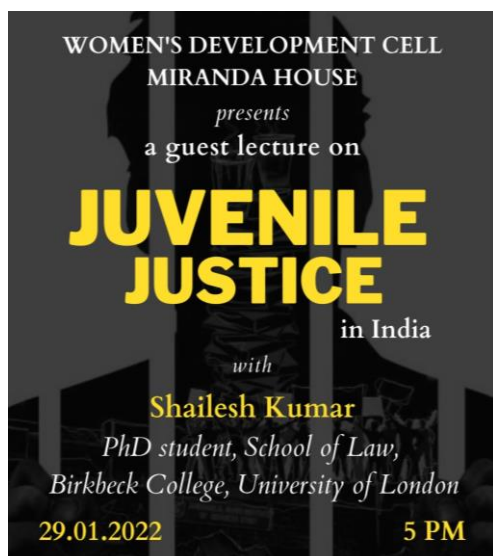


Workshop on Academic Reading and Writing

The Research & Study Department and Editorial Department of Women's Development Cell, Miranda House held a two-day online workshop on Academic Reading and Writing with Ms. Shivani Rajput on 12th and 13th October 2021. The two-day session aimed at providing students with a space to learn and get a fundamental idea of reading and writing academic texts.

The sessions were moderated by Yameena, the head of the R&S team. Around 200 members of the Research & Study and Editorial teams of WDC, Miranda House attended the workshop.

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Lecture on Juvenile Justice

Women's Development Cell, Miranda House conducted an online guest lecture on Juvenile Justice in India with Shailesh Kumar on the 29th January, 2022. The lecture discussed how Juvenile Justice, both in theory and practice, has evolved in the country, as well as its future.

Around 229 students from Miranda House attended the lecture.

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Sex Work: Understanding Narratives

On 5th February 2022, the members of WDC Miranda House and WDC Sri Venkateshwara were introduced to the major narratives around sex work in India by Dr. Anuja Agarwal, Dr. Suman Das, and Ms. Sultana Begam as part of the online webinar titled 'Sex Work: Understanding Narratives.' The webinar explored academic, legal, as well as personal experiences of sex work.

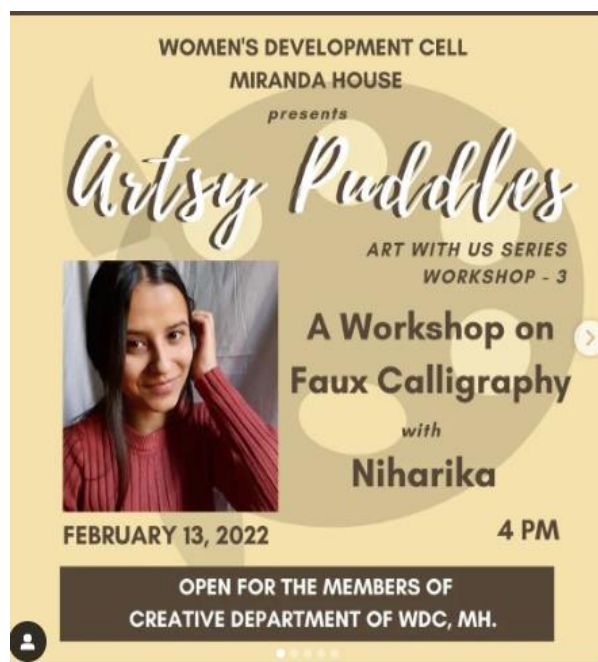
Around 257 students from Miranda House and Sri Venkateshwara College attended the webinar.

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Workshop on Faux Calligraphy

The Creative Team of Women's Development Cell, Miranda House organised an online workshop on Faux Calligraphy in collaboration with Niharika. The workshop was being conducted under "Artsy Puddles", an initiative that aimed to introduce members to a variety of art forms and engage in conversations around art through workshops and lectures.

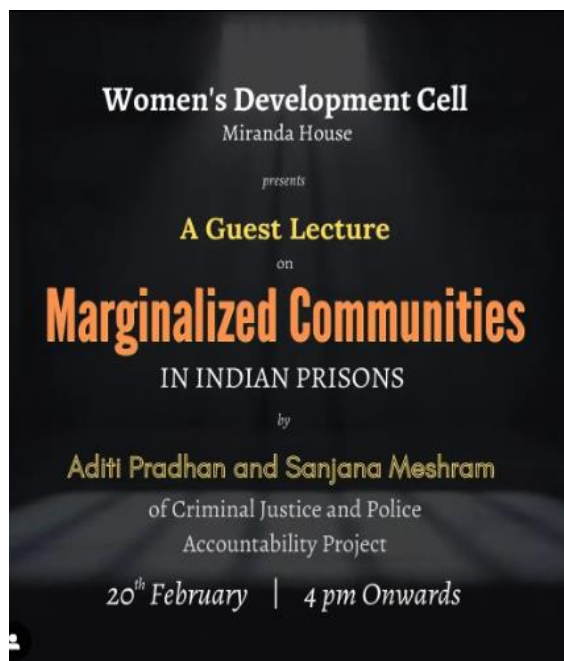
Around 70 members of the Creative Team of WDC, Miranda House attended the workshop.



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Lecture on Marginalised Communities in Indian Prisons

The WDC, Miranda House hosted an online guest lecture on Marginalised Communities in Indian Prisons on Sunday, 20th February. The lecture covered the conditions of imprisonment concentrating on minority prisoners, especially with respect to gender and caste. Members of the Criminal Justice and Police Accountability Project, Aditi Pradhan and Sanjana Meshram were the guest speakers.

Around 115 students from Miranda House attended the lecture.

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Lecture on Female Rage in Literature

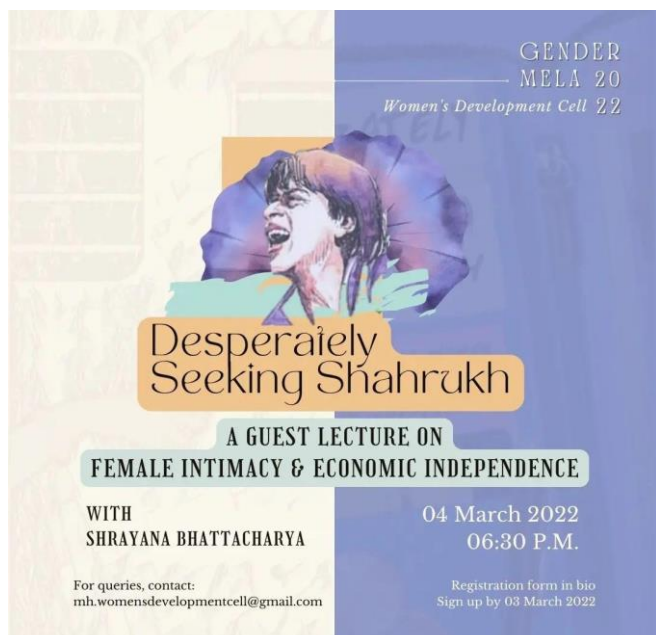
Celebrating the power of rage, Women's Development Cell Miranda House, in collaboration with Bluequill, Creative Writing Club Miranda House, organised a guest lecture on Female Rage in Literature. The online lecture, hosted on 25.2.2022, aimed to explore anger as a form of response against gender oppression and was led by Dr. Aneeta Rajendran who specializes in gender studies, sexuality studies and queerness.

Around 70 undergraduate students attended the lecture.





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Guest Lecture by Sharanya Bhattacharya

On 4th March 2022, Women's Development Cell Miranda House organised an online guest lecture on Female Intimacy and Economic Independence as a part of its annual fest Gender Mela.

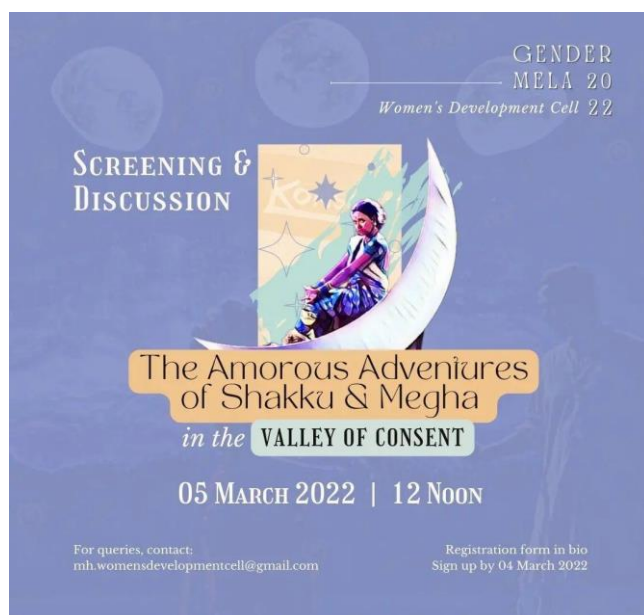
The speaker for the session was Sharanya Bhattacharya who is the author of 'Desperately Seeking Shahrukh: India's Lonely Young women and the Search for Intimacy and Independence.'

The lecture was open to all and around 292 participants joined.

Movie Screening

On 5th March, 2022, Women's Development Cell Miranda House organised an online screening of "The Amorous Adventures of Shakku and Megha in the Valley of Consent " which was followed by a student discussion. The session was moderated by Logistics Head Rusha Chatterjee and General Secretary Udisha. The movie explained the meaning and importance of consent via Laaavni performances by portraying the experiences of protagonists Shakku and Megha.

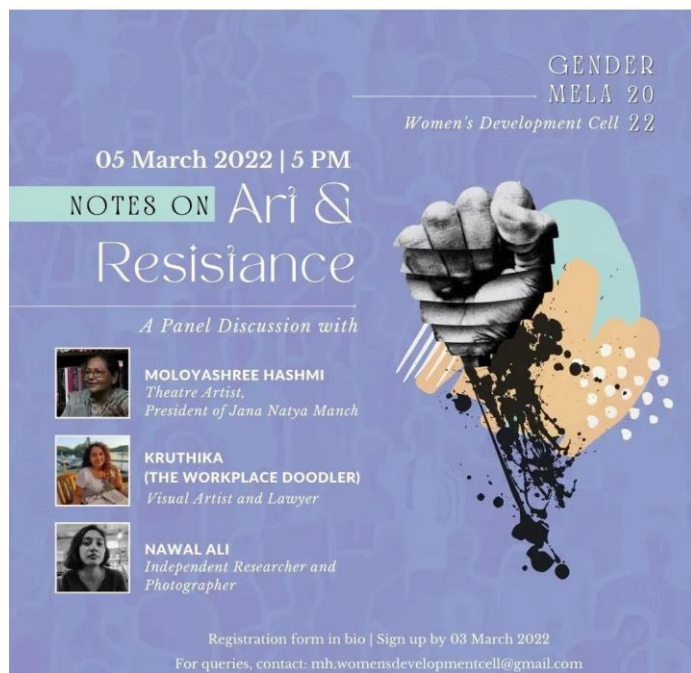
The discussion was open to all and around 230 participants joined.



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Webinar on Art and Resistance

On 5th March 2022, Women's Development Cell Miranda House organised a webinar on Art and Resistance as part of Gender Mela, its annual fest. This online event aimed to explore the socio-political influence of art. The event was conducted online with three guests - Moloyashree Hashmi, Kruthika NS and Nawal Ali each discussing their own unique spheres. Soumya, WDC's President, moderated the event.

The webinar was open to all and around 240 participants joined.

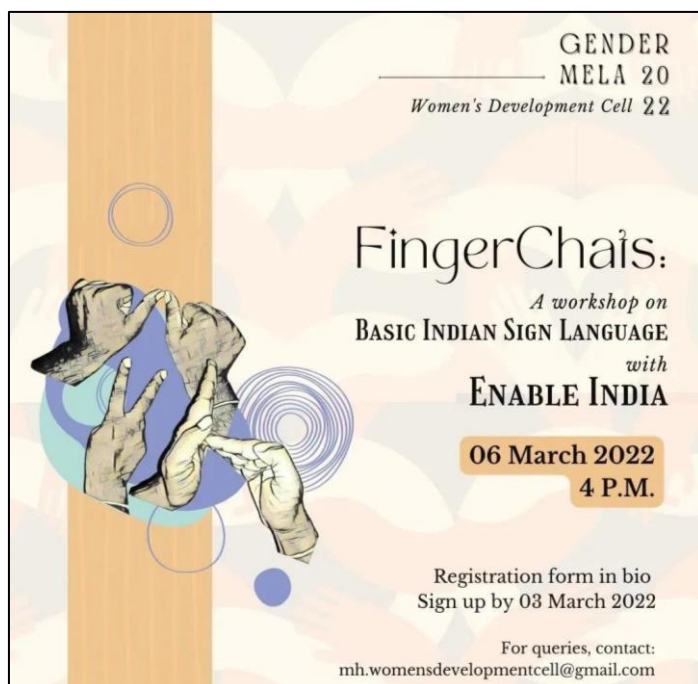
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Workshop on Basic Indian Sign Language

On 6th March 2022, Women's Development Cell, Miranda House organised "FingerChats" a workshop on Basic Indian Sign Language with ENABLE INDIA organisation as a part of its annual fest- 'Gender Mela'. The hosts for the session were Ms Kaavya and Mr Charan. The online workshop taught the students to sign ISL alphabets, months, days, years, and basic greetings.

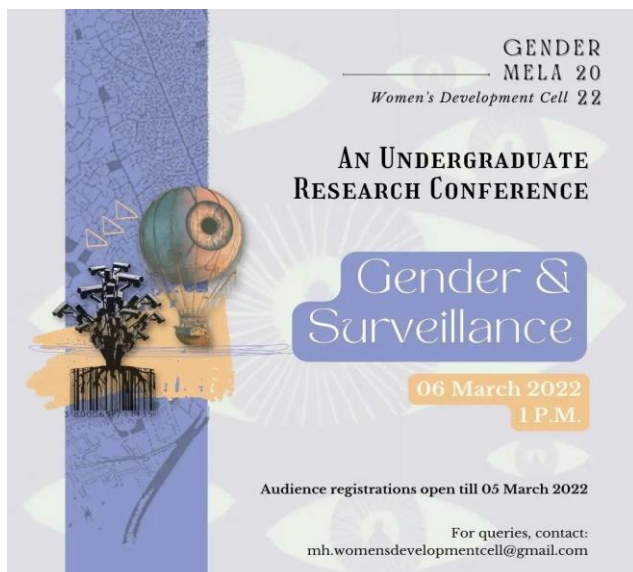
The workshop was open to all and around 150 participants joined.

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Student Paper Presentation: Gender and Surveillance

In an attempt to facilitate critical academic inquiry into the question of policing and social control through surveillance practices, the Women's Development Cell, Miranda House, as part of Gender Mela 2022, hosted an online student paper presentation on the topic "Gender and Surveillance" on 6th March, 2022.

The paper presentation explored the different facets of surveillance with respect to gender and insights of presenters.

The competition was judged by Akriti Bhatia and Aditi Surie. The session was open to all and around 200 participants joined.

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Screening of City Girls

Women's Development Cell Miranda House, in collaboration with Celluloid, Film Club Miranda House, screened "City Girls," a documentary film produced by The Third Eye, in association with Chambal Media, on 28th March 2022. The screening was followed by a panel discussion with Shabani Hassanwalia (Executive producer of the film and the Editor of The Third Eye), Umra and Kusum (protagonists of City Girls).

The offline screening was open to all and around 150 participants joined.

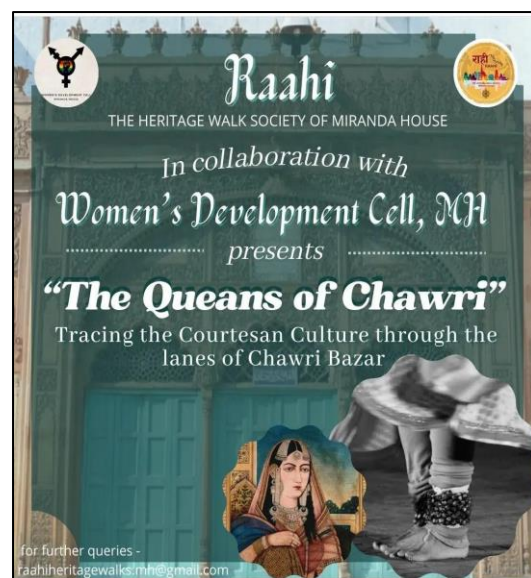
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Heritage Walk

On 19.4.2022, WDC MH collaborated with the Heritage Walk Society of Miranda House, Raahi, for a noteworthy evening walk, traversing through the lanes of Chawri Bazar and reminiscing the purposefully forgotten yet glowing lives of the Courtesans, the Queens of Chawri.

Around 20 participants joined for the offline walk.

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Part B

1) Participation in the conduct of elections of students' representatives to ICC


Miranda House, University of Delhi


Notice

As per the UGC (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal of Sexual Harassment of Women Employees and Students in Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations 2015 and the resolution of the Staff Council, Miranda House of 14 December 2018, **Elections for a Students' Representative on Internal Complaints Committee (ICC)** will be held as per the following schedule:

Phase I	
Election/Nomination of a representative from each class of Ist, IInd and IIIrd year to the Gender Sensitising Committee (GSC)	
<i>Process to be conducted by the respective Department Society</i>	
Meeting of the Office Bearers of Department Societies and Staff Advisors and Office Bearers of WDC	3 pm, Tuesday, 5 April 2022
Last Date of submission of list of Elected/Nominated representatives (emailed to convenor.wdc@mirandahouse.ac.in)	5 pm, Wednesday, 20 April 2022
Phase II	
Election of a representative to ICC from amongst the Gender Sensitising Committee	
<i>To be conducted by Convenor, Women Development Cell (WDC)</i>	
Last Date of receipt of Nomination Papers	4 pm, Friday, 29 April 2022
Scrutiny of Nomination Papers	4 pm, Friday, 29 April 2022 Committee Room
Last date of withdrawal from the Elections	4 pm, Monday, 2 May 2022
List of Candidates to be posted on the College Website and notice boards	11 am, Wednesday, 4 May 2022
Polling	2 pm – 4 pm, Friday, 6 May 2022 (Polling through Google Form generated by the Convenor, WDC)
Declaration of Result	4:30 pm, Friday, 6 May 2022

Nomination Forms and Withdrawal Forms will be available on the College website. These should be emailed as per the schedule to convenor.wdc@mirandahouse.ac.in, with cc to abhadav.habib@mirandahouse.ac.in and jyoti.prakash@mirandahouse.ac.in.


Principal
(Returning Officer)


Convenor, WDC
(Presiding Officer)

The Women's Development Cell facilitated the election of student representatives to the Gender Sensitising Committee (GSC) and the Internal Complaints Committee (ICC). The office-bearers of all departments and WDC, accompanied by the staff advisors of WDC met on 5th April 2022 to discuss the workings of GSC & ICC as well as the election process. GSC elections were completed by 20th April.

2) Research project in collaboration with the Centre for Women's Development Studies (CWDS), New Delhi

Women's Development Cell completed a research project on the issues faced by first-generation learners in Indian universities with support from CWDS, New Delhi. The research report was formally submitted at the CWDS office on 30th March 2022.

Participants involved:

- **Principal Investigators**
 - Soumya Sharma
 - Naina Bhargava (Graduated in 2021)
 - Rusha Chatterjee
 - Muskan Dhar (Graduated in 2020)
 - Tejaswini Tabhane (Graduated in 2020)



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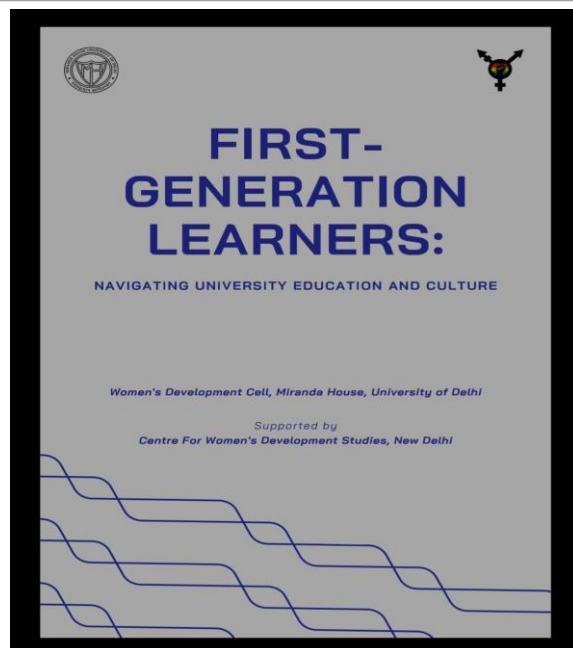
UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

- **Data Analysis Team**

Yameena Zaidi
Fabiha Nazki
Anshika
Gauri Patti
Reena
Diya P Niyam

- **Data Collection Team**

Deepika Shekhawat (Graduated in 2021)
Harshita Singh
Nidhi Kanaujia
Saniya (Graduated in 2020)
Manvi Vashist (Graduated in 2020)
Ananya Dutta (Graduated in 2021)



ABSTRACT

First Generation Learners (FGLs) are students who are the first in their families to attend college and are, therefore, coming from backgrounds without any experience of a higher education setting. The consequent lack of 'insider' knowledge that comes from attending such institutions creates significant barriers for the FGL in approaching and adjusting to University education and culture. The paper, through semi-structured interviews and online surveys, will attempt to answer the following three questions concerning the University experience of FGLs in Indian universities:

1. What are the major challenges that FGLs encounter in the course of their University life?
2. What makes the FGL experience unique? In other words, how do the experiences of FGLs and Non-FGLs, i.e students who are NOT the first in their family to attend college, compare and to what extent?
3. What interventions can be made and exposures provided in order to support the FGL journey?

Overall, the paper will provide comprehensive insight into FGL experiences and how these experiences can be shaped to make the student's journey more fulfilling. We believe such findings would be useful to institutions, policy-makers, and also to first-generation learners.



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3) Launch of the 1st edition of the Women's Development Cell newsletter 'Parvaaz'

The 1st edition of 'Parvaaz,' Women's Development Cell's newsletter was launched on 19th April 2022. The theme of the 1st edition was 'Gender and Dystopia.' It contained articles, essays, illustrations, and photographs submitted by the students and showcased the diverse talents of WDC members.

