

# WERP – India and Women's Development Cell, Hindu College.

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## Seminar discussion on 'Reproductive Agency'.

Date – 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2019.

Venue – Hindu College, DU.

Participating Organizations ~ *WERP India, F// (Feminism in India), Bhairavi Kala Samiti in collaboration with Women's Development Cell of Hindu College, DU.*

A seminar discussion on the theme 'Reproductive Agency' – My Body My Rights was organized under the aegis of WERP India

in collaboration with the Women's Development Cell of Hindu College. Gracing the seminar were the founder directors of F// and Bhairavi Kala Samiti. The seminar received positive feedbacks from the audience especially for its informative and interactive nature.

## Discussion

The event opened with a broad discussion of the theme 'Reproductive', and what this entails in the contemporary world of rampant politics over a woman's body and sexuality. Specific themes from the wide sea of this topic were handpicked to be discussed by the student speakers. Notable among them were:

- Discussions on maternal death and health care through the screening of the WHO documentary 'Why did Mrs. X die?.
- Discussion on the country specific success of Nepal in combating maternal mortality.
- A brief discussion on the history of Abortion Laws in India through a well researched presentation.
- Discussions on specific cases of Lesbian Rights and Cervical Cancer.

### Guest Speakers :

**Japleen Pasricha** – The founder director of the hugely successful F// spoke extensively on the theme which clearly reflected the speakers deep knowledge of the subject. The speaker spoke on Reproductive Agency and Sex Education, elucidating on how important it is

for young people to have knowledge about their sexual rights and about their fertility so that they take informed choices in future. The session was very interactive with the audience participating actively on questions relating to human rights and bodily agency.

**Keshav Sharma :** The legal specialist of Bhairavi Kala Samiti threw light on the past and present of Abortion as a right and as a policy in India and the world. The speaker explored deep issues of constitutional standings and personal initiative to take up the cause of body rights. The particular session was remarked as full of facts and data evidences.

Q and A session : The question answer session was very effervescent and suffused with

knowledge and differing viewpoints. All in all it was a healthy discussion.

Feedback : The speakers were especially delighted at the sensibility and relevance of the topic chosen, in the face of repressive abortion laws being passed all over the world. Most of the students were undergraduate students who found the theme very new and unheard of and thus for them the entire discussion was very enlightening. In closing the President of the Women's Development Cell remarked that such sessions are necessary to disseminate information about issues that are generally silenced.

President ( Women's Development Cell, Hindu College). – Deepika Sharma

**Lead Campus Ambassador – Aaryaveer Chauhan.**

**Campus Ambassadors:**

- Devanshi Sinha
- Sakshi Priya.
- Isha Vaidehi
- Jahanavi Sharma
- Neha Sharma
- Ambika Katyal
- Aakanksha Mishra
- Muskan

**WERP – India.**

**DELHI.**