

## College Women Development Cell (CWDC) (2019-20)

The University of Mumbai set up the University Women Development Cell (UWDC) in 2001 in response to the Vishaka judgment passed by the supreme court in 1997. The main objective of this cell is to make the University gender sensitive. The College Women Development Cell (CWDC) of the college is constituted as per the directive of University of Mumbai. Its main objective is to sensitise students to the issues related to gender.

St. Andrew's College Women Development Cell organised a series of programmes to conscientise students on concepts defining gender.

### 17 July 2019- Talk on Masculinity



A talk on Masculinity studies and Queer perspective was held on 17 July 2019. Ms. Nitya Narasimhan, Alumnus of St. Andrew's College was invited as the facilitator for the talk. As the students were not well versed with the changing trends and the inclusion of masculinity and particularly queer studies in academia, the session helped to gain a holistic perspective with regards to these marginalized groups and their exclusion from the mainstream society

### Talk on Feminism



The lecture on Dalit Feminism by Dr. Preeti Oza, (Faculty : Dept of English, St. Andrew's College) organised on 22 July 2019 helped the students to understand the issues and challenges related to dalit feminism. She shared her views on feminism as a social awakening and how it is getting the desired recognition in the society although certain areas are overlooked or not acknowledged. One of the stems of feminism that over the years has gained recognition in the society is Dalit ideology and its roots in feminism. Dr. Preeti's vast knowledge on the topic of dalit feminism helped the students to understand the true essence of the topic in a holistic view.

Ms. Samira Nadkarni, (Faculty : Dept of English, St. Andrew's College) was invited as the facilitator to share her thoughts on the subject of Black Feminism on 20 August 2019. She began her narrative by drawing a distinct line between the idea of feminism in the initial stage and how the wave of black feminism changed the course of the study in the later years in the social, cultural, political and economic institutions of the society.

### **23 Aug 2019 Talk by Aanchal Narang on LGBTQI**



Ms. Aanchal Narang, an advocate of sexuality was invited as the resource person to share her views on LGBTQIA on 23 August 2019. Ms Aanchal who considers herself as Cisgender began her talk through a simple distinction of how society perceives men and women. The facilitator emphasised on how people who feel trapped in their body and want to explore their sexuality are afraid of the stigma that society holds against them.

**20-23 Nov 2019 Training on POSH and POSCO Act by Red Dot Foundation**



The Red Dot Foundation held a four- Day training program on the topic, 'Safe Campus' on 20-23 November 2019 at Lower Parel. CWDC selected five students from our college to participate for the two-day programme. The students were exposed to contemporary forms of mechanism and regulations to create a just and safe environment for people against harassment. The training program included group discussions and activities that allowed the students to share their ideas in creating a space which is safe and inclusive for all individuals



**10 Jan 2020**

Introduction to POSH and Posco Act to third year students by Mariya and Reema and Red Dot Foundation

Ms. Marissa introduced the concept of Safe City App, wherein the victim of harassment can file a complaint to the nearest police station and can get a update if action is taken against the perpetrator.

**16-17 Dec 2019 Workshop - 'Gender- Vulnerability to Empowerment' by Prof. Girija Gupte  
( Practical sessions by analyzing advertisements, movies and social media)**



A Two- Day workshop on 'Gender: Vulnerability to Empowerment' was organised for students on 16 and 17 December 2019. Ms. Girija Gupte, faculty and Head of Dept of Sociology, Sathaye College, Mumbai was invited as the resource person for the workshop. The workshop mainly focussed on screening of documentaries, advertisement and movies followed by critical analysis through group discussions. The facilitator chose documentaries related to violence against women in the classical and contemporary era. The discussion was not confined to women exploitation but also focussed on the victimisation of men and the LGBTQIA group in the society. The two-day workshop helped the student to gain an edge in understanding gender at its vulnerable stage with its constant struggle for empowerment.