



NLUJ-CGS Blog

Writing Competition

Theme: Gender and Law

Organised by
Centre for Gender Studies [CGS]
National Law University, Jodhpur



@cgsnluj



Centre for Gender Studies, NLU Jodhpur



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ABOUT NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY JODHPUR

National Law University, Jodhpur (NLU Jodhpur), established in 1999 in Rajasthan, is one of India's leading institutions for legal education, renowned for its academic rigour and commitment to excellence. As a premier National Law University, it seeks to develop highly competent legal professionals equipped to address the evolving challenges of law, policy, and justice in contemporary society. The University offers well-structured undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programmes that integrate strong doctrinal foundations with practical and experiential learning. Its curriculum promotes critical thinking, interdisciplinary engagement, and research-driven inquiry, ensuring students are prepared for diverse professional and academic pathways. NLU Jodhpur's vibrant academic environment is further enriched through regular seminars, workshops, conferences, and interactions with distinguished scholars and practitioners.



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ABOUT CENTRE FOR GENDER STUDIES

The Centre for Gender Studies at National Law University Jodhpur (“The Centre”) is an interdisciplinary centre. The objective of the Centre is to study questions of gender in an interdisciplinary and comparative framework, thereby providing the space for creating a vibrant community of feminist academics, students, activists, and artists concerned with issues of gender, sexuality, and power in society. The Centre aims to make a difference in existing gender equations in multi-disciplinary spheres that deal with social and cultural aspects. The Centre is a locus for international gender research. It runs a series of academic events including PoSH seminars, panel discussions, and workshops. The Centre is currently striving to increase its scope and outreach by undertaking various new initiatives such as feminist reading circles, blog posts, informal dialogue on contemporary issues and judgment, etc.



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INITIATIVES BY THE CENTRE

PoSH WORKSHOP IN COLLABORATION WITH TEAM HIMMAT

The Centre, in collaboration with Team Himmat, successfully conducted a workshop on the Prevention of Sexual Harassment (PoSH) on April 5, 2024. The workshop witnessed legal personalities such as Adv. Veena Gowda (Advocate, Bombay High Court) and Ms. Aparmita Pratap (Project Officer, Migration and Asylum Project). The workshop aimed to create awareness, promote a safe environment, empower individuals, prevent harassment, support survivors, comply with legal obligations, and foster a culture of accountability within the university and beyond.

PoSH CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP FOR THE FACULTY

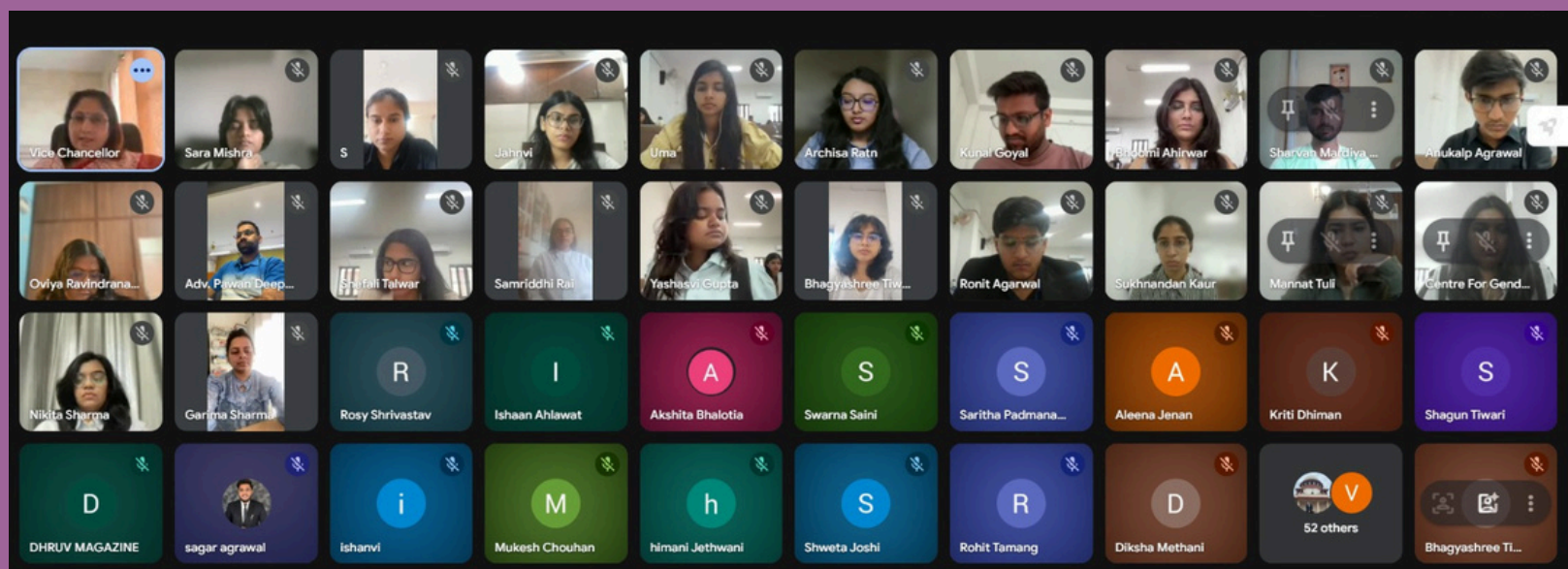
On April 5, 2024, the Centre successfully organized a workshop on Prevention of Sexual Harassment (PoSH) for university faculty and officials. The workshop was conducted by Prof. (Dr.) Ritu Gupta, a highly respected academician and Professor of Law at the National Law University, Delhi. Dr Gupta is known for her specialization in gender sensitization and sexual harassment laws. The purpose of the workshop was to ensure the safety of all community members, empowering individuals to stand against harassment, supporting survivors, fulfilling legal obligations, and promoting a culture of accountability.



INITIATIVES BY THE CENTRE

1st NLUJ-CGS CERTIFICATE COURSE ON st GENDER, LAW & PRACTICE

The Centre successfully organised the 1st NLUJ Certificate Course on Gender, Law & Practice from 3rd to 5th April 2026. The three-day online programme witnessed the participation of over 100 students and professionals from law and allied social science disciplines across the country. Comprising 12 interactive sessions, the course featured eminent speakers such as Prof. Dr Jyoti Dogra Sood, Adv. Veena Gowda, Farhan Zia, Bishakha Dutta, and other leading experts, who engaged participants on contemporary issues relating to gender, law, and practice. The programme was conducted with the support of the Women's Collective Forum, while organisations including Life and Liberty Foundation (LLF), HUMAN.DROITS, IT for Change, Partners for Law in Development (PLD), and the Chambers of Adv. Veena Gowda facilitated internship opportunities for participants. Cyber Blog India partnered as the Publication Partner, and LiveLaw served as the Media Partner.



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INITIATIVES BY THE CENTRE

KV-BSF ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION

The Centre has successfully conducted an essay writing competition at PM Shri Kendriya Vidyalaya BSF, Jodhpur, on the 17th of February, 2024, for classes 8, 9 and 11. With wide-ranging topics centred around the themes of gender inequality and equitable representation of women in the public arena, we witnessed enthusiastic participation from around 250 students.

GENDER SENSITIZATION WORKSHOPS

The Centre for Gender Studies conducted Gender Sensitisation Workshops at Mahesh Public School on 27th September, 2025 and Delhi Public School, Jodhpur, on 7th October, 2025 to foster awareness and understanding of gender among school students. The sessions focused on helping students recognise and challenge gender stereotypes while developing a nuanced understanding of the concept of gender. Through interactive discussions, the workshops promoted the values of equality, inclusivity, mutual respect, and empathy, encouraging participants to embrace diversity and contribute towards creating a more inclusive society



INITIATIVES BY THE CENTRE

“PUKAR”- THEATRICAL PLAY IN COLLABORATION WITH AKANKSHA SANSTHAN

The Centre, along with the Cultural Committee, organised a stage performance of the socially significant play “Pukar” performed by Akanksha Sansthan, Jodhpur on November 6, 2025. The performance aimed to initiate meaningful dialogue on sexual violence, emotional trauma, and the social stigma faced by rape survivors, bringing attention to the deep-rooted patriarchal attitudes that continue to silence survivors and normalize victim-blaming.

WORKSHOP ON SENIOR CITIZENS IN COLLABORATION WITH THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE

The Centre in collaboration with National Institute of Social Defence under the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India organised a workshop on the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 with the aim of bridging legislative intent of the act with practical implementation. The workshop witnessed the presence of Anuradha Advani (Director of Anubhoddh Vruddhajan Kutir Sanstha) and esteemed speakers delivering insights on constitutional protections and combating elder abuse.



INITIATIVES BY THE CENTRE

AROHA

AROHA is a Maori term that translates to love, compassion, and generosity. Through this flagship series, we have collaborated with NGOs, academic centres, and committees to bring together panelists from diverse backgrounds. These discussions aim to engage with the student community on contemporary and relevant issues, fostering a rich exchange of perspectives and ideas. The following Panel Discussions have been conducted under AROHA:

- Representation of LGBTQIA+ in the Courts
- The Most Beautiful Ones: A Panel Discussion on Acid Attacks
- Gender and Sexual Violence in International Armed Conflicts
- The Non-Binary in the Gender Spectrum: Taking a Step Towards Inclusion and Allyship

SECOND INNINGS MOVEMENT

The Centre for Gender Studies in association with the National Commission for Women, organised “Promotion of Work for Housewives: Career Counselling Sessions for Home Makers”. which was a workshop for Homemakers of Jodhpur. It witnessed the setting up of stalls by local women having their own business, and essentially provided higher visibility and marketing of their products, thereby encouraging their financial independence.



1ST NLUJ-MAP ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION

The Centre for Gender Studies, National Law University, Jodhpur, in collaboration with the Migration & Asylum Project (MAP), successfully organised the 1st NLUJ Essay Writing Competition on Gender and Law.

The competition aimed to encourage meaningful discussions on the relationship between gender and law and provide a platform for participants to share their ideas through legal research and writing. The competition received an overwhelming response, with over 150 registrations from across the country. Participants included students, academicians, researchers, and professionals from diverse fields such as law, social sciences, humanities, public policy, management, and other allied disciplines.

The competition invited participants to write on important issues relating to gender and law under the following broad themes:

- Intersection of Gender and International Law
- Family Law and Gender
- Labour, Corporate and Gender
- Media, Technology and Gender
- Reproductive Rights and Gender

This encouraged the exploration of how legal frameworks impact diverse identities and marginalized communities through the analysis of the interplay of gender with social factor.



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ABOUT THIS COMPETITION

The **NLUJ-CGS Blog Writing Competition on Gender and Law** is an initiative of the Centre for Gender Studies, National Law University, Jodhpur, aimed at encouraging students to critically engage with contemporary questions surrounding gender, law, society, culture, media, and digital spaces.

The competition seeks to create a platform for critical thinking, meaningful dialogue, and wider awareness of contemporary gender issues, while encouraging students to examine how gender shapes and is shaped by social, cultural, legal, and digital realities.

Participants are invited to explore contemporary issues under three broad themes: Feminism, Consumerism & Digital Culture; Culture, Media, Art & Representation; and Society, Social Conditioning & Gender Norms. Through the competition, the Centre seeks to foster informed perspectives and accessible discourse on the evolving relationship between gender and society.



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THEMES FOR THE COMPETITION

Feminism, Consumerism & Digital Culture

- **Corporate/Brand Feminism:** Marketing Empowerment or Selling It? How brands fold feminist language into advertising.
- **Performative Activism:** whether online visibility translates to material change.
- **Feminism as Aesthetic:** How feminist symbols get detached from politics and sold as lifestyle branding
- **Beauty Standards and Self-Worth in the Filter Age:** Ties beauty industry messaging to self-esteem research.
- **Influencer Culture and the New Aspirational Femininity:** How influencers construct identity for engagement.
- **Social Media Feminism and the Backlash Cycle:** How online feminist discourse triggers organized backlash.
- **The Pink Tax:** Gendered Pricing as Everyday Inequality, compare pricing of razors, deodorants, dry-cleaning services marketed by gender.
- **Commodification of Empowerment:** Broader theoretical piece tying together brand feminism and aesthetic feminism.



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Culture, Media, Art & Representation

- **Gender Representation in Indian Cinema:** The shift in mainstream Bollywood to newer women-centric films.
- **LGBTQ+ Visibility in Mainstream Media Post-Navtej Johar:** Representation before and after 2018 decriminalization.
- **The Male Gaze and objectification.**
- **Social Media, Influencers, and the Construction of Digital Identity:** How online feminist discourse triggers organized backlash.
- **Feminist and Queer Art as Political Resistance:** Contemporary queer visual artists reclaiming public space.
- **The Erasure of Women from History and Cultural Memory:** How women's contributions get written out of official history/canon.

Society, Social Conditioning & Gender Norms

- **“Good Girl” Conditioning and the Quiet Suppression of Ambition:** How early socialisation shapes women's career and risk-taking behavior later in life.
- **Marriage as the Social Endpoint:** How marriage is framed as the default life-completion milestone for women specifically, and what happens to those who opt out.



- **Changing Gender Roles in the Indian Household:** Dual-income households, shifting domestic labor division, and whether “modern” households still default to traditional roles.
- **Social Expectations and the Making of Gendered Identity:** How social scripts (from toys to career “suitability”) shape identity from childhood onward.
- **Gen Z and the Generational Shift in Gender Attitudes:** Gen Z globally polls as more gender-progressive but also shows some concerning splits.



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ELIGIBILITY & REGISTRATION

The competition is open to undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral students, as well as academicians, scholars, practitioners, consultants, researchers, and policymakers, from diverse backgrounds, including but not limited to law, social sciences, liberal arts, humanities, public policy, media, and management. There can be multiple participants from the same university. Co-authors can be from different universities as well.

Registration Fee for Participants:

- **Single authorship** - ₹200 (Two Hundred Rupees Only)
- **Co-authorship (maximum 2 authors)** - ₹300 (Three Hundred Rupees Only)

Mode of Registration:

- The payment is to be made using this link - [click here](#)
- Fill out the Google Form to register - [click here](#)

Please ensure that the registration form is filled out after making the payment.



SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- Each submission must be 1,200-1,500 words
- The body text must be formatted in Times New Roman 12-point font with 1.5-line spacing
- The submission must be done in .doc or .docx file format.
- For citations, authors should embed hyperlinks in the body text for all supporting materials and legal sources, and endnotes should be used only where hyperlinks are unavailable.
- AI Limit - 20%
- Plagiarism Limit - 10%



PRIZE & PUBLICATION OPPORTUNITY

- Winner - ₹8,000/-
- Runner-up - ₹5,000/-
- Second Runner-up - ₹2,000/-

Additionally, the top five selected blogs will be published as the inaugural blogs on the new Centre for Gender Studies website, tentatively proposed to launch in December 2026



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TIMELINES

7TH
OCTOBER,
2026

Registration Opens

30TH
OCTOBER,
2026

Registration Closes

10TH
NOVEMBER,
2026

Submission Deadline

DECEMBER,
2026

*Announcement of
Results*



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Stay Tuned!

Further information will be shared on our official social media platforms in due course.



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