



# SEXUAL & REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS IN INDIA: SOCIAL MOVEMENTS & LEGAL BATTLES

**APRIL 14TH - 15TH, 2019**

In the past decade, the discourse and legal advocacy around sexual and reproductive rights has developed rapidly in India. While mobilising action around maternal mortality, domestic violence, and sex-selective abortion has been rapid, it has been negligible around other key issues such as the right to abortion, and adolescent sexuality, which continue to be at the margins of activist and legal concerns. Similarly, the perspectives and needs of persons with disabilities or LGBTI+ persons tend to be overlooked.

Through this conference, we aim to bring together prominent activists, academics and lawyers to evaluate the past, present and future of sexual and reproductive rights work in India. Our objective is not only to learn from past actions, taking into account the contemporary responses to SRR, but to draw attention to the issues that are often implicitly or explicitly excluded. The conference will also serve as a space to deliberate on litigation and other strategies and tools to mobilize around these concerns.

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**Bangalore International Centre (BIC)**

**CA Site, No. 7, 4th Main Rd, Stage 2, Domlur**

**Bengaluru, 560071**

APRIL 14

# PROGRAMME

10.00 - 10.30 AM

## Tea and Registration

10.30 - 11.30 AM

### I. Introduction:

#### Framing Legal Approaches to Sexual & Reproductive Rights

(i) **Siri Gloppen**, Director, Centre on Law and Social Transformation, University of Bergen, Norway

(ii) **Maya Unnithan**, Director of the Sussex Centre for Cultures of Reproduction, Technologies & Health (CORTH), University of Sussex

(iii) **Jayna Kothari**, Senior Advocate & Executive Director, CLPR

11.30 - 11.45 AM

## Tea

11.45 AM - 1.00 PM

### II. Sexual & Reproductive Rights & the Courts

(i) **Siri Gloppen**, Director, Centre on Law and Social Transformation, University of Bergen, Norway -

(ii) **Jayna Kothari**, Senior Advocate & Executive Director, CLPR - *Is the Indian Supreme Court Recognizing Reproductive Rights?*

(iii) **Gauri Pillai**, DPhil Student, University of Oxford - *Reimagining Reproductive Rights in India: The Role of Equality and Non-Discrimination*

1.00 - 2.00 PM

## Lunch

2.00 - 3.30 PM

### III. Sexual & Reproductive Rights of LGBTI+ Persons

(i) **Trinetra Haldar Gummaraju**, Transgender Rights Activist, Student of Medicine, Manipal University

(ii) **Vinay Chandran**, Founder, Swabhava Trust

(iii) **Saumya Dadoo**, Research Associate, CLPR - *Recognising Compulsory Heterosexuality & Reproductive Coercion as Domestic Violence*

3.30 - 4.30 PM

### IV. Sexual & Reproductive Rights & Sexual & Reproductive Health

(i) **Maya Unnithan**, Director of the Sussex Centre for Cultures of Reproduction, Technologies & Health (CORTH)

(ii) **Jashodhara Dasgupta**, Head, National Foundation for India-Rights, Claims and Negotiations: SRHR stories from the back of beyond

APRIL 15

# PROGRAMME

9.00 - 9.30 AM

## Tea and Registration

9.30 - 11.00 AM

### I. Adolescent Sexuality & Child Marriage

- (i) **Jaya Sagade**, Vice Principal, ILS Law College, Pune - Impact of Child Marriage on the Sexual and Reproductive Rights of Girl Child
- (ii) **Aparna Chandra**, Director, Centre for Constitutional Law, Policy, & Governance, National Law University Delhi - Criminalization of Adolescent Sexuality and its Impact on SRHR
- (iii) **Swagata Raha**, Consultant Restorative Justice & Legal Affairs - Treatment of "Romantic Cases" by Special Courts under the POCSO Act

11.00 - 11.15 AM

## Tea

11.15 AM - 12.30 PM

### II. The Right to Abortion

- (i) **Suchitra Dalvie**, Coordinator, Asia Safe Abortion Partnership - Are we ready for safe abortion as a woman's right in India?
- (ii) **Sarita Barpanda**, Director, Reproductive Rights Unit, HRLN & **Meenaz Kalkaria**, Lawyer, HRLN  
The Right to Abortion and the Indian Judiciary

12.30 - 2.00 PM

### III. Reproductive Rights and Disability

- (i) **Anita Ghai**, Professor, Human Studies, Ambedkar University, Delhi
- (ii) **Nidhi Goyal**, Disability and Gender Rights Activist, Point of View
- (iii) **Renu Addlakha**, Centre for Women's Development Studies  
Intersections of Disability, Sexuality, and Reproductive Rights

1.45 - 2.30 PM

## Lunch

2.30 - 4.00 PM

### III. Reproductive Labour and Reproductive Justice

- (i) **Anindita Majumdar**, Asst. Professor, IIT Hyderabad - Banning a Select Few: Conversations on Reproductive Justice and Reproductive Labour in Commercial Surrogacy in India

4.00 - 5.00 PM

### V. Moving Forward:

#### The Present and Future of SRR Advocacy in India

- (i) **Siri Gloppen**, Director, Centre on Law and Social Transformation, University of Bergen, Norway
- (ii) **Maya Unnithan**, Director of the Sussex Centre for Cultures of Reproduction, Technologies & Health (CORTH)
- (iii) **Jayna Kothari**, Executive Director, CLPR