

ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22

Centre Name: CENTRE FOR WOMEN AND LAW

Logo:



About Us:

The Centre for Women & Law (CWL) is a Research Centre of National Law University Odisha which works with the combined effort of faculty members and students of NLUO. The Centre was established with a view of having a platform for unremitting study of the structural, societal, legal and regulatory issues associated with gender from a multi-disciplinary perspective. The CWL aims to look at regulatory process through the lens of gender justice, and to disseminate the research work through varied mediums such as academic publications, training programmes, webinars, government consultation projects with a view to apprise the policy, initiate change that would promote equitable justice for women in Indian society.

Vision and Mission:

VISION

The Centre envisions to undertake studies and raise awareness through holistic approach to gender issues, working towards equity and justice for all and provide a deeper legal and cultural appreciation of power imbalance. CWL operates as a research support group undertaking research projects, training and capacity building programmes for women's organisations and formal bodies involved with the execution of laws affecting women. It also works towards dissemination of knowledge and sensitization of society through its publications, webinars and conferences.

MISSION

The Centre has been established with the goal of promoting and encouraging research, new ideas, views, approaches, discussions and disseminating high-quality literature on issues concerning 'women and law'. In this context, the objective of the Centre is to

- To establish, promote, and support interdisciplinary studies and research in the subject of gender justice that are at the crossroads of law and policy.
- To undertake policy review and conduct a thorough evaluation of existing legislation and propose fact-based, concrete solutions to address current public policy concerns.
- To engage in comprehensive research and capacity building on issues concerning women's wellbeing and gender justice in India.
- To engage in an interdisciplinary research consuetude for augmenting the appreciation of legal, cultural and social issues in gender studies for law graduates and professionals.
- To improve public policy in the areas of women's rights, education, mental health, and overall welfare by conducting independent, nonpartisan, and thorough research and analysis.

Objectives of the Centre: The Centre for Women and Law aims to empower women by increasing their understanding of their legal rights and entitlements. This involves conducting workshops, seminars, and awareness campaigns to educate women about various laws that affect them, such as those related to marriage, property rights, domestic violence, workplace harassment, and inheritance. The Centre engages in rigorous research to analyze existing laws and policies related to women's rights. It identifies gaps, inconsistencies, and areas in need of improvement, and then advocate for policy changes based on evidence-backed research. This involves engaging with policymakers, lawmakers, and government bodies to influence legal reforms. This Centre focuses on gathering and analyzing data related to women's legal issues, such as cases of violence against women, discrimination, and economic disparities. Data-driven insights can inform policy decisions and highlight areas where interventions are most needed. The Centre provides training programs and resources for legal professionals, judges, police officers, and other stakeholders to enhance their understanding of gender-related legal matters. This contributes to more effective implementation of laws and fairer outcomes for women in the legal system.

Contact Us:

E-mail – cwl@nluo.ac.in

Other Links:

LinkedIn - <https://www.linkedin.com/company/centre-for-women-and-law/>

Instagram - https://www.instagram.com/cwl_nluo/

Activities:**EVENTS IN 2021-22**

Date: 17 February 2022

Event: NCW Eastern Regional Consultation on “Review of Criminal Laws – Improvement in Status of Women”

About the Event: National Commission for Women (NCW) Eastern Regional Consultation for the states of Odisha, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Bihar on ‘Review of Criminal Law: Improvement in Status of Women’ was organized by National Law University Odisha, Cuttack on 17 February 2022. The objective of this consultation was to review and analyze the position of law; and formulate consolidated recommendations for viable amendments keeping in view the perspective and position of women in India. This regional consultation witnessed participation from members of State Women Commissions, NGOs, members of Civil Societies, Delegates from Academia, Legal Professionals, Police Personnel and Prison Officials to give their views and opinions through deliberations in focused group discussions. The welcome address was delivered by Prof. Ved Kumari, Vice-Chancellor, National Law University Odisha, where she delineated the questions and points to be discussed during the consultation process. Ms. Rekha Sharma, Chairperson, NCW delivered the inaugural address. Dr. Usha Ramanathan, noted academician and leading human rights activist, shared her insights on ‘Looking at Criminal Law through the Lens of Women Studies’. Other notable speakers were Mr. Debi Prasad Dhal, Members, Bar Council of India, and Prof. Gangotri Chakraborty.

Date: 5 February 2022

Event: Workshop on Anti-Sexual Harassment Law and Policy

About the Event: On 5th February, 2022, the Centre for Women and Law at National Law University, Odisha organized a workshop on Anti-Sexual Harassment Law and Policy with special emphasis on the working of Internal Complaints Committees (ICCs) and Local Complaints Committees (LCCs), and to educate the participants about the working knowledge of the Sexual Harassment Act, 2013. National Law University Odisha has adopted a zero-tolerance policy towards any kind of sexual harassment and strives to create a community in which students, teachers and non-teaching staff can work together in an environment free of all forms of gender violence, harassment, exploitation, intimidation and discrimination.

The purpose of this workshop was to bring together a variety of stakeholders including members of the Gender Sensitization Committee (GSICC), the Supreme Court of India, members of the Internal Complaints Committees (ICCs), and staff and students at NLUO. Its primary purpose was to,

to educate the participants about the issue of the workplace sexual harassment of women,

to impart working knowledge of the Sexual Harassment Act, 2013, to help them to understand the legal position on the topic and how to handle sexual harassment complaints.

to familiarize them with the structure and operation of GSICCs and ICCs,

to detail the procedure that the GSICC and ICCs will follow when dealing with such complaints,

to ensure that faculty, staff, and students understand the mandatory provisions of the Sexual Harassment Act in order to foster a positive work environment and society at large.

Research and Publications:

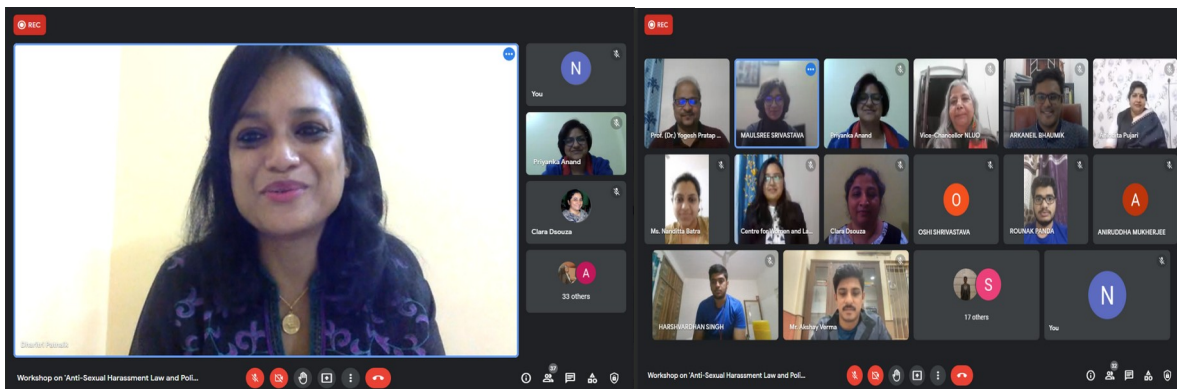
Title: EDITED VOLUME WITH A MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH ON “SOCIO-LEGAL ANDROCENTRIC AND GENDER INEQUALITIES”.

Year: 2021

About the Book: The book is a proud attempt aimed at the metanarrative of patriarchy which reduces the status of the female gender to the ‘second sex’ and hinges her existence relative to men. A series of articles published in this volume authored by legal scholars, academicians, and students from all over the country explore various socio-legal themes in the Indian Societal Structure, for instance, Customary practices and Gender discrimination, gender stereotypes, and their impact on the socio-legal perception of Gender, Property/succession law and gender concerns and Gender concerns and LGBTQIA. The book is likely to be published with joint collaboration of CWL, NLUO and Eastern Book Company (EBC) and would be available by the end of July, 2021.

Photos Gallery:

EVENT – WORKSHOP ON ANTI SEXUAL HARRASMENT LAW AND POLICY – 5th FEBRUARY 2022



EVENT – NCW REGIONAR CONSULTATION ON REVIEW OF NATIONAL LAWS – 17TH FEBRUARY 2022

