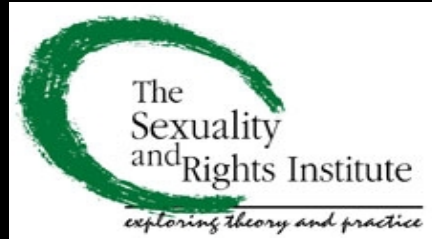


a CREA-TARSHI collaboration

January 7-16, 2009

Khandala, India



The Sexuality and Rights Institute is an annual two week long residential course that focuses on a conceptual study of sexuality. It examines the links between sexuality, rights, gender, health and their interface with socio-cultural and legal issues. Participants will critically analyse policy, research and programme interventions using a rights based approach.

Course Content

Sexuality is a complex field of study that spans multiple disciplines and areas of work. Accordingly, the course content of the Sexuality, Gender and Rights Institute will focus on a conceptual and theoretical study of sexuality drawing from different social science disciplines and the intersections between them. National and International faculty will teach the course. They will use different pedagogical methods including classroom instruction, group work, case studies, simulation exercises, fiction and films. The medium of instruction and discussion will be English.

- Sexuality and rights
- Sexuality, gender and the legal system
- Sexual and reproductive health and rights
- Sex work, sexuality and rights
- Agency and victimhood
- Representation of sexuality
- Sexual diversities and rights
- Sexuality and disabilities

Organizer

The Sexuality and Rights Institute is a collaborative initiative of CREA (Creating Resources for Empowerment in Action) and TARSHI (Talking About Reproductive and Sexual Health Issues). Both CREA and TARSHI are non-profit organisations. Based on a vision of the right to sexual well-being for all people, TARSHI works towards expanding sexual and reproductive choices in people's lives. CREA empowers women to articulate, demand, and access their human rights by enhancing women's leadership and focusing on issues of sexuality, reproductive health, violence against women, women's rights, and social justice.

Participants

Individuals who work on issues of sexuality, rights, health or gender are eligible to apply. Twenty-five participants will be selected based on their application forms. Selected participants are required to stay for the whole duration of the course. **(See attached application form)**

Costs

A limited number of scholarships are available to cover tuition, boarding and lodging costs. Participants are requested to specify if they can raise funds for their boarding and lodging (approximately Rs 40,000/- for 10 days). All participants are expected to contribute Rs. 5000/- towards the course and cover their own travel expenses.

Venue

The Sexuality and Rights Institute will be held at the Northpoint Centre of Learning in Khandala, India. The Northpoint Centre of Learning is a residential training centre with state-of-the-art facilities. Participants will be provided accommodation on campus on a twin sharing basis.

For application forms and other information, please login to www.sexualityinstitute.org. The last date for submission of application forms is November 22, 2008.

CREA

7 Mathura Road, Jangpura-B, New Delhi - 110014
Tel: 91-11-24377707 Fax: 91-11-24377708
Email: crea@vsnl.net Website: www.creaworld.org

TARSHI

11 Mathura Road, Jangpura-B, New Delhi - 110014
Tel: 91-11-24379070 Fax: 91-11-24379071
E-mail: tarshi@vsnl.net Website : www.tarshi.net

Core Faculty

Radhika Chandiramani has worked and written extensively on issues of sexuality, sexual and reproductive health and rights. She is the Executive Director of TARSHI and the South and Southeast Asia Resource Centre on Sexuality. She is a recipient of the MacArthur Fellowship for Leadership Development and the Soros Reproductive Health and Rights Fellowship. She has co-edited with Geetanjali Misra *Sexuality, Gender and Rights: Exploring Theory and Practice in South and Southeast Asia* (Sage, 2005). She is also the author of *Good Times for Everyone: Sexuality Questions, Feminist Answers* (Women Unlimited, 2008).

Alice Miller is Lecturer in Residence and Senior Fellow at the Thelton E. Henderson Center for Social Justice, UC Berkeley. She has taught at Columbia University in New York, in the areas of human rights, law, health, and humanitarian issues. She combines extensive advocacy experience with her academic work. She specialises in developing a framework for human rights claims in the context of sexuality, utilising contemporary understandings of sexuality and engaging with current global debates on the nature of inter-related, indivisible, and universal human rights.

Geetanjali Misra is Executive Director, CREA, New Delhi. She has worked intensively at the activist, grant making and policy levels in the fields of sexuality, reproductive health, gender, human rights and violence against women. She is also the co-founder of SAKHI for South Asian women in New York, the President of the Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID), and is on the Board of Directors of Reproductive Health Matters and Women's Initiatives for Gender Justice.

Carole S. Vance, Ph.D., M.P.H., teaches anthropology at the Mailman School of Public Health and is also the Director of the Program for the Study of Sexuality, Gender, Health and Human Rights at Columbia University, New York City. She has written widely about sexual theory; science, sexuality, gender, and health; and policy controversies about sexual expression and imagery. She is editor of *Pleasure and Danger: Exploring Female Sexuality* and the Co-Director of the Summer Institute on Sexuality, Culture and Society, University of Amsterdam. (To be confirmed)

Visiting Faculty

Anand Grover is a practicing lawyer in the Mumbai High Court and Director of the Lawyers Collective HIV/AIDS Unit (LCHVAU). He is co-founder of LCHVAU and drafted, along with LCHVAU, the proposed HIV law in India. Grover has either assisted or argued several well-known cases in the field of public interest law relating to housing, environment, sex discrimination and sexual harassment, animal rights, and management take over by workers. He represented the Naz Foundation's petition in the Delhi High Court to read down Section 377. He is also the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health. (To be confirmed)

Nivedita Menon, Ph.D., teaches Political Science at Delhi University and is involved in citizens' initiatives on democratic rights, peace and secularism. She has authored *Recovering Subversion: Feminist Politics Beyond the Law*, and an edited volume, *Sexualities*.

Arvind Narrain is a lawyer with and founder member of the Alternative Law Forum, based in Bangalore, India. He was part of two fact finding reports on sexual minorities in India. The People's Union of Civil Liberties – Karnataka (PUCL-K) Report of 2001 highlighted human rights violations against sexuality minorities, and, the 2003 report specifically looked at human rights violations against the transgender community. He is also the author of *Queer: Despised Sexualities and Social Change* and co-editor of *Because I Have a Voice: Queer Politics in India*.

Sunil Babu Pant is the Founder / President of the Blue Diamond Society (BDS), a network of 20 groups and organisations working on HIV/AIDS, human rights and social justice for sexual and gender minorities in Nepal. He is a member of the Constituent Assembly in Nepal.

Janet Price has worked on women's health and development in India and the UK and has research and teaching experience. She has co-edited two books on feminist theories and the body and has also focused on sexuality and disability. She is a Director of the North West Disability Arts Forum, based in Liverpool, UK.

Meena Seshu has worked with VAMP, a collective of people in prostitution in Sangli, India, and with SANGRAM, an organization that works to build the capacity of sex workers; negotiate condom use with their clients, and creates spaces within which these groups can assert and defend their rights. She also works with people living with HIV and AIDS. She is currently Director of CASAM, the Center for Advocacy on Stigma and Marginalization, a project of SANGRAM that is envisaged as a resource to advocate for the reduction of stigma, violence and harassment of marginalized communities. In 2002, Meena was awarded the Human Rights Defender Award from Human Rights Watch in recognition of her outstanding work.

Chayanika Shah is a queer feminist activist, member of Lesbians and Bisexuals in Action and Forum Against Oppression of Women, both autonomous collectives based in Mumbai. Her areas of interest, interrogation and involvement are sexuality, health, fundamentalisms and science.

Ruth Vanita, Professor at the University of Montana, former Reader at Delhi University, was founding co-editor of *Manushi* from 1978 to 1990. She is the author of *Sappho and the Virgin Mary: Same-Sex Love and the English Literary Imagination*, co-author of *Same-Sex Love in India: Readings in Literature and History*, and author of several other books including *Love's Rite: Same-Sex Marriage in India and the West* and *Gandhi's Tiger and Sita's Smile: Essays on Gender, Culture and Sexuality*. She has also authored a book of poems (*A Play of Light*) and translated several works of fiction and poetry from Hindi and Urdu to English.

Special Lectures by

Shohini Ghosh, Professor, Video & TV Production, AJK Mass Communication Research Centre, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, is a media scholar and independent filmmaker.