

Department of Media Studies
Women's Day Panel Discussion: "Women are from Venus? Not Really."
Report

Venue: Room 119, First Floor, Innovation Centre, Block IV

Date and Time: Friday, 6th March 2020, 12:00 - 1:30 PM

Faculty Coordinator: Dr Aasita Bali

Report by: Ms Sharon Serrao, 6 CEP B



On the occasion of International Women's Day, the students of the Department of Media Studies organized a panel discussion "*Women are from Venus? Not Really.*" at Room 119 of the Innovation Centre, Block 4, on 6th March 2020. The Panel Discussion was organized under the guidance of Dr Aasita Bali and was moderated by Sharon Serrao of 6CEP B. The Panel consisted of 15 male and female students across both the Undergraduate and Postgraduate streams of the Department. The faculty of the Department were in attendance and were the audience for the same. With the intention of sensitizing the department and bringing to light the issues faced by women in the workspace and in academia, a wide spectrum of topics was discussed.

From Breaking down Patriarchy, Women in the workspace and Relationships to a call to action, the panel tried to not only bring issues to light but also urged for the implementation of the

solutions discussed. Much of the discussion also focused on the sharing of personal experiences faced by the students. The male representatives on the panel spoke of the influence of strong



women in their lives and resulting respect for these women. One of the important points that were discussed was that of respecting boundaries and educating people about them. Multiple perspectives brought out by the students indicated that education about the concepts of consent, sexuality, women in positions of power are important.

Another factor that was highlighted was the need to inform and remind students about the Internal Complaints Committee of the University and its features. As a solution, the students urged that the curriculum of the HED course should be altered to accommodate the above-discussed topics so as to enable students to be more confident and well informed. The faculty were surprised to hear some of the Panelist's testimonies and there was a positive response to the same. This Student led Panel is the first edition of many such discussions and the Department hopes for its continuity.


