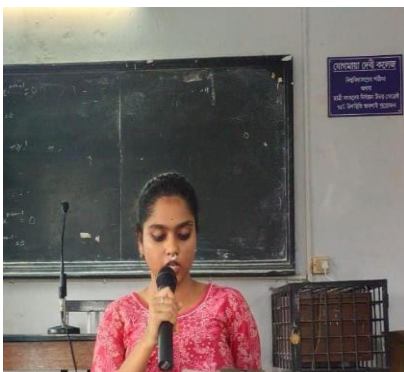


The Internal Complaint Committee of Asutosh College in collaboration with IQAC arranged for student seminar titled From Echoes to Whispers: A Comprehensive Outline of Sexual Harassment on 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2023. In the seminar students of Department of Sociology presented two important topics highlighting the outlines about sexual harassment and prevention of same through social media and the different laws by the constitution.



Dr Debastuti Dasgupta

Dr Debastuti Dasgupta, Assistant Professor, Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, introduced the topic and presenters at the onset. The first speaker is Sharmita Bhattacharya, Sem VI student of Department of Sociology. Her topic is From Microaggression to Harassment: Holistic Understanding of Sexual Harassment beyond the Gender Binary. She described vividly about what is sexual harassment and how to prevent the same.



Sharmita bhattacharya of sociology department

She briefed on things which are being included in sexual harassment unknown to many, for example unwanted pressure for sexual favors, unwanted touching on the wrong places, unwanted gifts, letters, telephone calls, sexually touching and similar kind of jokes etc. She also harped on Transgender Denial of Rights and elaborated that there are approx. 50% of transgender who are being denied for their basic rights and being harassed on a daily basis. Sharmila went on talking about theories of sexual harassment: Inequality theory: which discriminates between two sexes and Disparate treatment theory which include harassment for both the sexes which is equally violating. She vividly described psychological trauma that the victim takes after sexual harassment. She had focused on POSCO Act and other laws of India related to this.

She then concluded her speech by giving her own experience on the same and also asked the audience to engage themselves in sharing their own life experience.

The next speaker was Shruti Chatterjee, Sem VI, Department of Sociology. Her topic: The Informal Precaution Against Sexual Harassment: An Underlying Network of Whisper.



Shruti introduced us with the topic Whisper Networks which is an informal chain of information among people especially women whose main aspect is to provide awareness against sexual predators. Shruti also mentioned that the whisper networks should not be limited in the big work places it should also gain attention in the homes, or tiny workshops, workplaces etc. She further explained that whisper networks are becoming a lifeline for suppressed victims who cannot speak out for themselves.

At the end she concluded her speech by noting the fact that the whisper networks are always a precaution to let out our thoughts, not the whole solution against sexual harassment.

The audience was asked to engage themselves to participate and speak about their experiences at the end of the seminar. Both the students were being felicitated by ICC committee Dr. Maniparna SyamRoy who concluded the session by thanking all the audience and the speakers, the teaching staff as well as the non- teaching staff for making the seminar a huge success.