

## Women's Development Cell (WDC)

2017-18

Women's Development Cell, LSR is a group of passionate young feminists who collectively think about and work for various experiences of gender. Established in 1985, WDC has established itself as a space for dialogue and activism on a variety of feminist issues—from the social issues of intimate partner violence, sexual harassment, gender identity, caste and class, to engaging with undoing the reinforced power structures of patriarchy and the like. WDC prides itself on forming itself as a closely knit safe space, and to that end, they hold “Let's Talk” sessions. These are group discussions open to the LSR community that seek to discuss and engage with everyday experiences of patriarchal violence. In addition, by holding talks, workshops, panel discussions, stand ups, poetry slams, movie screenings, they try to question, learn and actively challenge everyday patriarchal constructions.

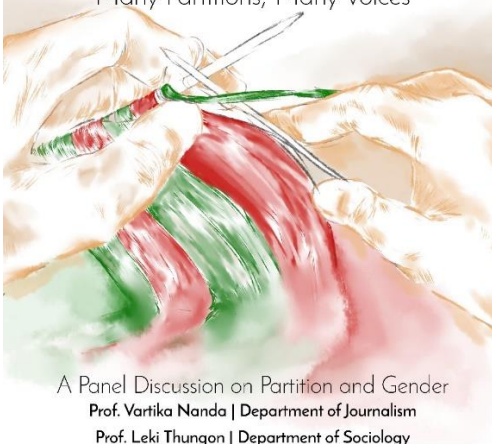
The academic year of 2017-18 began with a series of Let's Talk sessions, in which members discussed feminist prose and poetry, feminist intersectionalities, and personal experiences of gender discrimination.

This year, they also hosted a panel discussion titled ‘The Other Side of Silence: Many Partitions, Many Voices’ that analyzed the partition through a gendered lens. This interdisciplinary panel, comprising LSR faculty—Dr. Sunalini Kumar, Dr. Vasudha Pande, Dr. Priti Prakash Prajapati and Prof. Leki Thungon— opened up an gendered analysis of the partition through literary, political, sociological and historical perspectives.

Women's Development Cell, LSR, invites you to

### The Other Side of Silence

Many Partitions, Many Voices



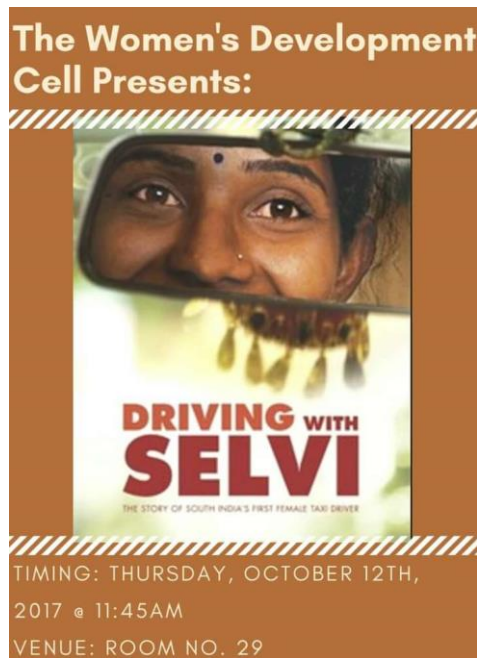
A Panel Discussion on Partition and Gender

Prof. Vartika Nanda | Department of Journalism  
Prof. Leki Thungon | Department of Sociology  
Prof. Vasudha Pande | Department of History  
Prof. Sunalini Kumar | Department of Political Science  
Prof. Priti Prakash Prajapati | Department of Hindi

September 28 · Special Assembly · Upper Seminar Room

Ilakshi: +919811699170    Rajosmita: +918800441804  
Oorna: +919958188190    Situti: +919874688953

In October, they hosted a screening of the Canadian-Indian documentary, *Driving With Selvi*. The documentary, directed by Elisa Paloschi, charts the journey from violence and abuse to independence and emancipation of the first female taxi driver in South India, Selvi. Following the screening, there was a discussion with the director and Selvi herself.



WDC continued with the gender sensitization workshop, held in collaboration with NSS. This year, a series of six sessions, across six NGOs, reaching out to over 150 children was organised. Through storytelling, role play, art and conversation, volunteers from WDC tried to make young children challenge the notions of beauty and gender roles. Significantly, they also tried to sensitively converse with the children about good touch and bad touch.

The most awaited event this year was WDC's participation in Tarang 2018. This year, WDC hosted two events seeking to challenge patriarchal constructions: a parody event titled *That's What She Said*, and a feminist stand up event called *In Hysterics*. Through the mediums of poetry, stand up, and acting, participants creatively and humorously laid out their gender experiences in a patriarchal world. Besides these events, WDC also actively engaged with various issues that women from LSR experienced throughout the academic year.