



Human Rights Education held at  
**Indian College of Education, Vellore**  
On 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> October 2012

# REPORT

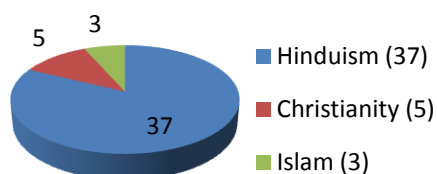


**PARTICIPANTS** with Facilitator and College Officials

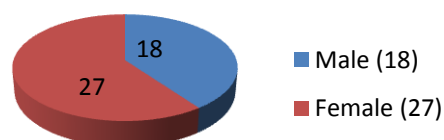
### At a Glance

Venue	: Indian College of Education, Katpadi, Thiruvalem Road, Vellore-632 014
Date	: 20 <sup>th</sup> & 21 <sup>st</sup> October 2012
Facilitators	: Mr. K. Ramachandran
Number of Participants	: 45
Gender	: Male-18; Female-27
Age Group	: 19-30
Religious Representation	: Hinduism-37; Islam-3 & Christianity-5

Religious Representation



Gender Balance



## INTRODUCTION

With the fervent support of the College Principal and active participation of students, the two day workshop has been successfully held at the Indian College of Education on 20-21, October 2012. Both the facilitator and participants enjoyed the programme, and felt the oneness and enjoyed the team spirit. The participants conveyed their gratitude to the IARF-HRE Personnel.

Mr. Anandan, the Principal and Dr. Hema Prasad, Secretary of the Institution and DR. Rama Prasad, Chairman of the Institution were very much happy

with the program. The participants have given assurance to educate others in the community about Human Rights and Religious Freedom, and also they have expressed their interest to participate in upcoming activities of IARF.

The certificates were issued to the participants at the valedictory function.

We hope that the participants will keep up their assurance and do the needful to the community.



**GROUP ACTIVITIES** in progress

### Main Aim of the Series

To educate and to understand about harmony among different religious groups and faith.

### Objectives of the Series

1. To propagate the Religious harmony to young youths
2. Make them to understand on religious problem on human rights and dignity as per article 18 of the U.N. Declaration.

### Timeline

Program was held in two consecutive days.

1<sup>st</sup> Day 20<sup>th</sup> October, 09.00am to 04.00 pm; Sessions –I to III

2<sup>nd</sup> Day 21<sup>st</sup> October, 09.00am to 04.00 pm; Sessions – IV and V

### Session Outline

#### Day-1

#### First Session (20-10-2012) 09.00am to 10.30am

- Inaugural function
- Participants' introduction and Expectation.
- Participant's Identity Concerns
- Statement of purpose
- Sharing and Categorizing Concerns
- Stimulation exercise in Learning groups: "Why am I here?"

- Introductory viewing of all 3 films.
- Immediate response and Evaluation of 1<sup>st</sup> Programs.

**Second Session (20-10-2012) 10.45am to 12.15pm**

- Group exercise on UDHR
- Group exercise on DIDRB
- Viewing “Rita’s Choice” and discussion
- Viewing “Sacred Grove” and Discussion.
- Immediate Responses after the First viewing.
- Deepening Awareness: an Inquiry into Injustice
- Analyzing the Injustice within a Human Rights Framework.
- Recalling the last sessions.

**Third Session (20.10.2012) 01.00pm to 04.00 pm**

- Viewing “Where is Home?” and Discussion
- Immediate Responses after the first viewing within a Human Rights frame work
- Discussion, Action Group exercise and Chart presentation
- Evaluation of 1<sup>st</sup> Day Program
- Group Exercise for 2<sup>nd</sup> Day (planning for Role/Street play, mine etc.,

**Day-2**

**Fourth Session (21.10.2012) 09.00am to 12.15pm.**

- Recalling the 1<sup>st</sup> Day program
- Presentation of Group Reports, Action Role play, Group songs relevant to the Subject
- Statement of concerns sharing our goals, Planning our Strategy
- Presentation from 5 groups with peer and trainer review opportunities

**Fifth Session (21.10.2012) 01.00pm to 04.00pm**

- Forming a task force
- Concrete planning for back home activities and individual presentation
- Final Reflection on Human Rights
- Learning for Tolerance and Religious Freedom
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Day and Series evaluation
- Valedictory Session including issuing of Certificates

**Methodology employed**

Lecture, Group discussion, Participatory learning, Screening of Film, Role/Street play, Mine, Group songs etc.,

**Issues rose** during each session

How human rights denied in and around our society/communities by inter religions and intra religious problems?

The caste system was also discussed.

**Ideas and solutions** to the issues identified by the participants

- Awareness program may be conducted at different stages and different places (Village, Town and City) through street play, hoardings, Slogan writings, public medias and trainers by giving training to the selected students
- For Religious violence, youths in different Religion to be trained under one umbrella properly about the Human Rights and its values and about religious harmony
- Participants are willing to co-operate with IARF at any time

**Assumptions** that were made

The participants were informed well in advance about the program and the sessions were arranged continuously in two working days

**Risk factors** and how they were taken care of?

The participants were very much interested in the program and co-operative, therefore there was no risk factors in the program

## Learning Outcomes

### Short-Term

- Interfaith interaction, attending functions and poojas of other religion/community and to give due respect to members of other religion.
- Equal in all race.
- The protection of Human rights
- Study about the different problems internationally and its remedy through U.N. Declaration and conventions.

### Long-Term

- To maintain Inter-religions harmony and peace throughout the world.

What **resources** were used? Did the arrangements like equipment, meeting hall and seating, etc. work smoothly?

What difficulties were faced?

With the help of College authorities the program was conducted smoothly.

What was the **contribution made by the community/** communities? Please give details.

Meeting hall, seating and other arrangements were provided by communities.

**Materials:** What films and which sections of the HRE Manual/handouts were used in the training sessions?

video films, handouts, HRE Manual, SACC office Guidelines etc., were used

Did you face **any difficulties** with regard to the use of the materials?

No

Did you encounter any **language problems** among participants in terms of the materials (for example, handouts, and films)? And how did you handle them?

No, all participants could easily understand the materials and all were well in English language

How did the **community receive the learning program**?

As this is a new approach at college level, the community received the learning program well and satisfied

Did you face any **resistance from the community**?

Three major religions have participated in the program and there was no resistance from the community

Do you feel **the community/target group you chose was appropriate**, why? Please give concrete examples.

Yes, before fixing the program we came to understand that different religions will be attending the program. The participants were students and faculties

Please write about the **composition of the learning group**. How did you ensure a balance of gender, ages etc?

The learning Group consists of college students and faculties. Female: 27 & Male: 18; Total: 45

Please write about **attendance of participants** at the session/series? For example, did you have problems getting the same people for each session etc?

There was no problem, all the participants were in the same college and everybody has attended at their own interest to learn about Human Rights

a) Which **faith traditions** attended?

Hindu, Muslim, Christian

b) How many **people from each faith** attended?

Hindu - 37

Muslim - 03

Christian - 05

Give details of the **gender balance** amongst the participants from these faith groups?

Female: 27 & Male: 18

Did you include any **young people**? If did so, how many?

All the participants were young

Were there any **serious disagreements** and tension between the participants from different faith groups? If so, what were the points of disagreement and how they were resolved?

No

What **ice-breaking/team-building** activities did you conduct? (Please specify)

Yes: different groups were formed by mixing various religions; hence, the group activities and their active participation were good.

Please add the **names, gender, faith traditions and ages** of at least 3 people in the group who were your support team.

1. Mrs. A. Rafique, Female, Lecturer, Muslim, age 37
2. A.H. Yamini, Female, Hindu, age 20
3. B. Nishanthini, Female, Christian, age 22
4. C. Udhaya Asha Pinky, Female, HINDU, age 21

**Name of Mediator** and the role he played

K. Ramachandran, Facilitator, Chennai has conducted the entire program

What areas of the session / series could have been **done better** and how do you plan to make these improvements in the next session / series?

The participants were very smart and understanding, everything was went on well

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### Participants' Comments

Participants' Comments were very inspiring and brought mixed responses.



**Mr. J. Soma Sundaram** (M), 23, Hindu

By attending this program I could improve my knowledge on Human Rights. I will share this knowledge to my friends and relatives. I will work for the well being of my society. Thanks to IARF for organizing this program.



**R. Alice Mary** (F), 35, Christian

The program was very useful. Course materials were very good and updated. The films were also very touching. The workshop was a timely one for us, as we are facing lot of restrictions in expression our views.



**Mr. N. Dinakaran** (M), 24, Christian

The Workshop was very useful for us. Now we are explored to the constitutional provisions and how to respond to violation of rights. The course materials were very good. Thanks a lot to IARF and respected facilitator.



**Ms. B. Sulthani** (F), 23, Islam

I did not know much about the Human Rights, before attending this program. Though I am a Muslim I love all religions and hate those who ill-treat members of other religion. Thanks for the exposure given to us. We will work for the goodness of our society and fellow being.



**Ms. A. Rafiqua** (F), 37, Islam

This program has proved to be valuable and interesting. I came to know about human rights which have been prescribed for the human kind by reading the articles. All the articles give emphasis on mankind and right to life. Thanks to IARF for providing us this knowledge.

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**VIEW PHOTOS** of the Workshop: <http://www.iarfsacc.org/media/photos/index.php?cat=76>