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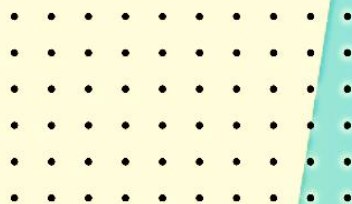
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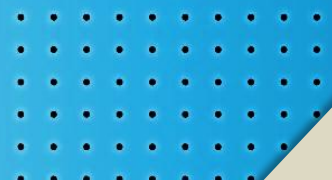
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Editorial

In recent years, the discourse on gender has entered a pivotal phase, marked by significant strides forward and persistent challenges that demand our unwavering attention. As a Chief Editor of the Asha Paras International Journal of Gender Studies (APIJGS), I reaffirm our commitment to publishing scholarship that not only exemplifies academic rigor but also embodies social responsiveness and relevance. We firmly believe that Gender and Women's Studies must engage with the multifaceted complexities of lived experiences across diverse geographies, disciplines, and identities.

Our journal serves as a platform for disseminating cutting-edge research findings and amplifying voices that challenge prevailing narratives, contest systemic injustices, and propose revolutionary ideas for fostering inclusion and justice. The current issue encapsulates a myriad of perspectives on gender, ranging from grassroots concerns to media representation, legislative frameworks, cultural nuances, health-seeking behaviors of women, and educational paradigms.

The articles featured in this issue offer profound insights into the production, contestation, and modification of gendered experiences. They traverse a broad spectrum of topics, including the lived realities of women in regional contexts, sophisticated critiques of media depictions informed by the seminal work of Rosalind Gill, critical evaluations of governance and legal frameworks, nuanced analyses of gender provisions in Indian criminal law, the intricate nexus between human trafficking and globalization, cyber victimology, the impact of CSR-driven microfinance on women's empowerment, and the representation of women in Haryanvi Folk Culture.

These scholarly inquiries compel us to reexamine the deeply ingrained norms embedded in everyday narratives and institutional structures. Each article underscores the value of multidisciplinary research and the imperative need for gender-sensitive studies to shape public opinion, education, and policy.

The present issue of APIJGS showcases pivotal ideas and recent research that address entrenched inequalities and emerging opportunities for empowerment. We remain steadfast in our commitment to sharing knowledge that is socially significant, transdisciplinary, gender-equitable, and freely accessible. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to our contributors for their diligent work and profound scholarship, which continues to enrich the journal's intellectual landscape.

May this issue inspire meaningful reflection, dialogue, and action across academic, policy, and community spaces, fostering a more equitable and just society for all.



Prof. Asha Shukla
Editor-in-Chief, APIJGS