


by Sexuality&Disability 3 years ago

Sex-ed workshop at Jagriti School for Blind Girls, Alandi, Pune

Third in the series of our workshops in Pune, we went to Jagriti School in Alandi, an hour away from Pune, where we were received by a young and enthusiastic group of school girls.


We arrived around noon at Jagriti and were welcomed by Ms. Manisha Wankhede, the principal, into a nice warm dorm room with six bunker beds on each side. A total of 19 young girls between the age-group of 15-17 attended the workshop. We took consent from the principal as well as the participants to take photographs. The girls had two similar 'body and hygiene' workshops in the past which ended at menstruation.



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Hola tweeps, we are still in Pune, conducting our 3rd workshop today at Jagriti School for the Blind Girls. We are ready to roll! #sexdis

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We asked the girls if we can take pics and use for social media dissemination. All said yes! #consentreceived #consentoskey #sexdis

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We are in a nice warm dorm room with 23 girls from 15-18 yes of age. [#sexdis pic.twitter.com/Zlg0Od3m0C](https://twitter.com/Zlg0Od3m0C)

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We conducted the passing the parcel ice breaker in the form of a musical train, i.e. instead of passing a thing, they tapped the back of the person in front of them and when the music stopped, the last person to pass to be tapped would have to sing/dance/act/mimic/recite etc. Though, initially they took some time to start doing any of this, later 2-3 of them mimicked their teachers and TV serial actors. We then did a round of introductions with “my favorite food item”. That really broke the ice for them.



Musical train: We just made a human train and play music. When stops, introduce yourself. #sexdis #icebreaker pic.twitter.com/a3RHV4Rbch


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Next icebreaker: tell your name and fav food. From samosa to vada pav, papri chat to pani puri, we have all. #sexdis pic.twitter.com/X9haQh40IA


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Before the introductions, we sang three songs - all of us together. Sheela ki jawani and Sawan aaya hain. They were singing very loudly once they got into the groove. We were wondering why they were so quiet and speaking in such low volumes, when they can be so loud and powerful. When we asked them at the end regarding this, they said they take a long time to adjust to strangers.

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From Sheila Ki Jawani to Meri Madhubala and Baby Doll, we are singing all! :) #sexdis


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 **Shivam Manghnani**
shivamLM@shivamLM

Implore you all to follow @dis_sexuality


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Hema's session started. She talked about the changes in the bodies of boys and girls when they grow up. The girls referred to their menstrual cycles as birthdays amongst each other. Kranti and Hema told the girls what it used to be referred to as during their teenage.

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Our resource person Hemlata is back & after talking about our latest crushes (Hrithik, anyone?) we talk about changes during puberty #sexdis

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The voice changes, esp in boys, armpit hair, girls need to wear a bra. Boys get a beard. The girls refer to menstrual cycle as bdays #sexdis

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Kranti: we used to refer to periods as 'my sakhi (friend) has come'. Hema: some say 'the crows has touched her' Girls chuckle! #sexdis


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 **Shivam Manghnani**
shivamLM@shivamLM

[@dis_sexuality](#) no. Thank you for the great work you are doing for such an important aspect.


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When sex and marriage were being discussed, most of them seem uninterested. It was evident that they weren't open to this ideas. When Nidhi probed by using the song they all love (Mohobbat barsa dena tu, sawan aaya hai, tere aur mere milne ka mausam aaya hai) and asking "what do you think this 'milna' is, is it just meeting for tea and pakoda or something else?" The girls giggled.

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However, girls sang with gusto "mohabbat barsa dena tum" w/o knowing the meaning of 'Milan'.
When asked, giggle loudly with domino's effect

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One girl says: I don't want to get married because I want to be independent and stay single."
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We are now discussing the wish to talk to boys and how it increases & decreases with age. Girls listen intently! [#sexdis](#)

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We just showed the body models and now busting the myth that kissing leads to pregnancy.
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Counselor asks, "do you talk to boys?". Girls loud and assertive: No, oops! [#sexdis](#)


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Kranti started her session. She built on the same thing "do we have an allergy of boys?" "do you feel is it unsafe to talk to or meet boys? Or were you told that it is unsafe?". There's a difference between the two. The girls said that they don't feel safe with boys unless it's their brothers or fathers. Kranti continued: "With respect to good touch and bad touch: where is the goodness or the badness? Is it in the touch itself or in the intentions in the mind?"

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Kranti (legal counselor) starts her session. She builds on the above: "Do we have an allergy of boys?" #sexdis

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Kranti: "do you feel it is unsafe to talk/meet boys or were you told it is unsafe?". "There's difference between the two." #sexdis

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Girls: "we don't feel safe with boys, unless its our fathers or/and brothers". #sexdis

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.@rajuness: "I thought honeymoon was a town where couples went to register or receive babies."
Girls erupt in laughter! :) #sexdis

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W.r.t. to good & bad touch, Kranti asks, "Where is the goodness or badness? Is it in the touch itself or in the intentions?" #sexdis

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Kranti ended the workshop by talking about sexual harassment and abuse that happens; about rape; about the appropriate age for pregnancy and marriage among others.

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Kranti: "Where all can harassment happen?". "Street, school, home, even at organisation or hostel?" Girls silent. #sexdis

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Kranti: "whom can we trust if we exp harassment?" Girls: "Parents". Kranti: "And what about ourselves?" Girls: "YES!" #sexdis

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Kranti: "Is rape the only form of sexual assault? What about touching, groping, sending non-consensual letters, giving blank calls?" #sexdis

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Discussing and teaching the importance of saying NO loud and clear. #sexdis

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busydot@busydot

@dis_sexuality Great tweets. I feel like I was there!

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We end another kickass workshop with young adolescent girls in Pune. We'll be back on Monday with Storifys. Follow us! #sexdis

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