

National Conference
On
Addressing Violence Against Children in North Eastern States and Sikkim.

Organized by
Centre for Child Rights, National Law University, Assam

In Partnership With

UNICEF, Assam

Date: 21st and 22nd July 2017

Venue: National Law University, Assam

About Centre for Child Rights: The National Law University and Judicial Academy Assam (NLUJA, Assam) is established under the National Law School and Judicial Academy, Assam Act, 2009. NLUJA, Assam has three specialized Centres of Excellence for promotion of advanced research, teaching and study, of which, the Centre for Child Rights (CCR), is a specialized centre dedicated to the cause of children. CCR undertakes wide range of activities from capacity building, developing IEC (information, education and communication) materials, conducting research and other activities to address issues of Children.

UNICEF, in accordance its Charter and Mission Statement, works with the Government of India and various State Governments to ensure that each child born in this vast and complex country gets the best start in life, thrives and develops to his or her full potential. UNICEF Assam and NLUJA, Assam have joined hands in 2015 through an MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) and have been working in unison in addressing key issues in the area of Child Rights Governance. The Children represent the present and the future and how we address the issue of 'Violence Against Children', today, will have a direct bearing on the future. Thus, this year CCR in collaboration with UNICEF Assam has envisages to organize a National Conference which will specifically deal with Violence Against Children pertaining to North Eastern States and Sikkim.

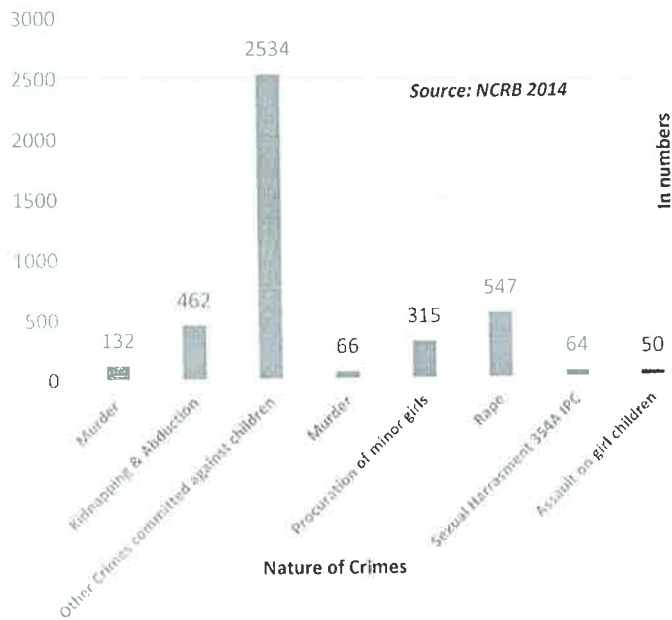
Background of the National Conference: Children have an absolute right to be safe from violence, as stated in the Convention of the Rights of the Child. Protecting children from physical and other grave forms of abuse and danger establishes the right for children to enjoy their

dignity, physical and psychological integrity, as well as their right to quality education, development and health. There is also significant evidence on the devastating, long term impacts that physical abuse and violence can have on the wellbeing and development of a child. It can cause serious physical and psychological harm to the child and also teaches the child that violence is acceptable and appropriate strategy for resolving a conflict or getting people to do what you want.

The global scenario of violence against children, published in a report of 2014 (*Hidden in Plain Sight*) is shocking. A staggering 700 million girls/women were married before 18 years of age, 280 million girls alive today are at risk of becoming brides, 200 million girls and women alive today have undergone Female Genital Mutilation, 246 million children live in countries/areas affected by armed conflicts globally and other crimes against children are also in numbers surpassing beyond our imagination.

In the context of India and specifically for North-Eastern States and Sikkim which remained disturbed politically till recent past, due to various social movements, children have suffered a great deal. Further amongst all other priorities of the States, the agendas of children have recently been able to draw some importance due to some evidence based advocacy. A data drawn out from the 2014 report of National Crime Records Bureau has provided a better clarity in term of numerous crimes committed against children in the 8 states of North-east including Sikkim, which are only the one's reported. Needn't to mention that, these numbers are just a tip of the iceberg.

Crimes Against Children in North East & Sikkim (2013-2014)



For 15 years, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) dealt with many issues affecting the lives of children, young people and their families. A tremendous progress was made in reducing preventable child deaths, getting more children in schools, reducing extreme poverty and ensuring more people have access to safe water and nutritious food. However, many pressing issues of children were not adequately covered in the MDGs.

During the drafting of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) few issues of children remained high on global agenda, more specifically Violence Against Children. Millions of people were involved in crafting this new sustainable development agenda, including: governments, civil society, the private sector, academia, the UN system and concerned individuals. Some of the specific targets in the SDGs directly addresses issues of violence against children.

- Goal 16.2 addresses to reduce any kind of abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against children
- Goal 16.2 addresses to end all forms of violence and exploitation of children.
- Goal 5.2 addresses all forms of violence against women and girls.
- Goal 5.3 addresses all harmful practices, such as child's early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation.

In the year 2016 UNICEF launched a Global Partnership Platform where UN agencies, civil society groups, philanthropic foundations, academia and children themselves became members to discuss and deliberate issues pertaining to VAC (violence against children) and find out strategies to reduce and bring to an end any violence against children.

The key objective of this National Conference is to bring together Academicians, Scholars, Students, Civil Society, Writers and Child Protection Practitioners in single platform to deliberate and share their ideas and experiences to deal with Violence Against Children and what can be done to End Violence Against Children. The Conference will have the following thematic areas under which all applicants are requested to submit their abstracts/papers. The paper should focus in and around the 'Theme' and be suggestive of how VAC can be stopped and dealt with to ensure an enabling environment for all our children.

Sl. No.	Theme	Description
1.	Supporting parents, caregivers and families	Educating families, caregivers and parents on their child's early development increases the likelihood that they will use positive disciplining methods. This reduces the risk of violence within the home.
2.	Helping children and adolescents manage risks and challenges	Giving children and adolescents the skills to cope and manage risks and challenges without the use of violence and to seek appropriate support when violence does occur is crucial for reducing violence in schools and communities.
3.	Changing attitudes and social norms that encourage violence and discrimination	Changing the attitudes and social norms that hide violence in plain sight is the surest way to prevent violence from occurring in the first place.
4.	Promoting and providing support services for children	Encouraging children to seek quality professional support and report incidents of violence helps them to better cope with and resolve experiences of violence.
5.	Implementing laws and policies that protect children	Implementing and enforcing laws and policies that protect children sends a strong message

		to society that violence is unacceptable and will be punished.
6.	Carrying out data collection and research	Knowing about violence – where it occurs, in what forms and which age groups and communities of children are most affected – is essential to planning and designing intervention strategies, and setting numerical and time-bound targets to monitor progress and end violence.

Guidelines:

1. Abstract of not more than 500 words with details of author/s (Name, Position, Affiliation, Contact address, Email-Id and Mobile number) should be submitted to CCR.Conference.NLUJAA@gmail.com along with the Application Form.
2. Last date for submission of abstract is 05:00 PM, 15th June, 2017.
 - a. Abstract should be in 12 font size, Times New Roman and in single line spacing.
 - b. All abstracts selected will be reverted/contacted back by latest 22nd June, 2017.
3. Selected authors whose Abstracts are selected will be asked for submitting Full Papers.
 - a. Final Papers must conform to the word limit of
 - 3000-5000 words along with the abstract.
 - 5000-8000 words along with the abstract.
 - b. Last date of Submission of Full Papers is 05:00PM, 16th July, 2017.
4. Maximum two persons may jointly write/present the paper.
5. Title of the paper should be in 16 font size, upper case, bold and centrally aligned.
6. Name of the author(s) and their affiliation should be placed just below the title of the paper, which shall be of 12 font size.
7. The subheadings and the body of the text should be in 12 font size, title case and bold.
8. Line spacing should be uniformly followed at 1.5.
9. Provide 1.25-inch margin on all sides of the A4 size paper.

10. Paper should be submitted only in MS-Word format. Please do not submit papers in PDF.
11. Authors are requested to follow “The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation” style sheet for the purpose of referencing.
12. Selected Papers from the Conference will be published in CCR’s Journal named as ‘Child Rights and Policy Review’.
 - a. Paper shall be published in good faith. Hence, it is the liability of the authors to ensure originality of the paper and plagiarism of more than 15% shall not be accepted
 - b. The author shall give an undertaking stating that
 - it is his/her original work,
 - it is not published anywhere else or not under the consideration of any other journal/conference should be submitted along with the final paper,
 - he/she gives copyright to NLUJAA to publish the article in CCR’s Journal.
13. The details of presenting the Paper in power point presentation, formats and timings will be shared in the 3rd week of July, 2017.
14. The National Conference will be held on 21st and 22nd July, 2017.
15. All outstation participants will be given Travel Expenses of 10,000 /- upper cap for ‘To and Fro’ travel to Guwahati. Any expenses more then 10,000/- will have to borne by the participant.
16. All participants will be given accommodation, food and transport for the entire 2 days.
17. All participants will have to be present for the entire 2 days of the conference.
18. **N.B** – All abstracts and Full Paper thereof will be related to issues pertaining to the demographic area and issues of North-Eastern States and Sikkim, *visive* the Themes mentioned above.

Important Dates

Last Date for Receipt of Abstract	15 th June 2017 – 05:00PM
Confirmation regarding acceptance of Abstract	By 22 nd June 2017
Last date for submission of full paper	16 th July 2017 – 05:00PM
Last date for submitting of Power Point	19 th July 2017 – 02:00 PM

Venue:

National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam
Hajo Road, Amingaon, Kamrup – Rural
PIN: 781031, Assam

Organizing Committee: Centre for Child Rights (CCR), NLUJA Assam

Chief Patron: Professor (Dr.) J.S. Patil, Vice –Chancellor, National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam

Chief Advisor: Professor (Dr.) Yugal Kishore, *i/c* Registrar, National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam

Coordinators: Mr. Syed Tazkir Inam, Programme Manager, Centre for Child Rights, NLUJA, Assam
Ms. Richa Surabhi Tigga, Research Associate, Centre for Child Rights, NLUJA, Assam

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