

Gender Justice and Feminist Jurisprudence

Objective:

Feminist jurisprudence, as a philosophy of law based on the social, economic and political equality of the sexes, exerts a considerable influence on debates and discourses around the formulation, interpretation and implementation of laws related to gender based violence and discrimination. While the philosophical thought is dedicated to changing women's status through a re-working of the law and its approach to gender justice, injustice to women in many aspects of life is a common phenomenon in India. Against this backdrop, this course aims at critically analysing the law and exploring the potential for and limits of legal transformation in order to achieve gender justice and equality.

Course Content:

Unit-I: Introduction to feminist jurisprudence 6 Hours

Feminist doctrines and their application to laws on violence against women in India

Unit-II: Gender equality and the law 6 Hours

Gender-based harassment and discrimination- Reasons- Remedies

Unit-III: Limits of law and legal provisions to achieve gender justice 6 Hours

Prescribed Books:

1. Sharmila Rege, A Dalit Feminist Standpoint, in Gender and Caste 90-101 (Anupama Rao ed. 2005).
2. Sarla Gopalan, Towards Equality – The Unfinished Agenda –Status of Women in India 2001. National Commission for Women.
3. Amita Dhanda, Archana Parashar (Ed) Engendering Law Essays in Honour of Lotika Sarkar (1999). Eastern Book Depot.
4. Ratna Kapur and Brendia Cossman, Subversive Sites: Feminist Engagements with Law in India (1996).
5. Flavia Agnes, Protecting Women Against Violence – Review of a Decade of Legislation 1980-89, Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. 27, Issue No. 17, Apr. 25, 1992.