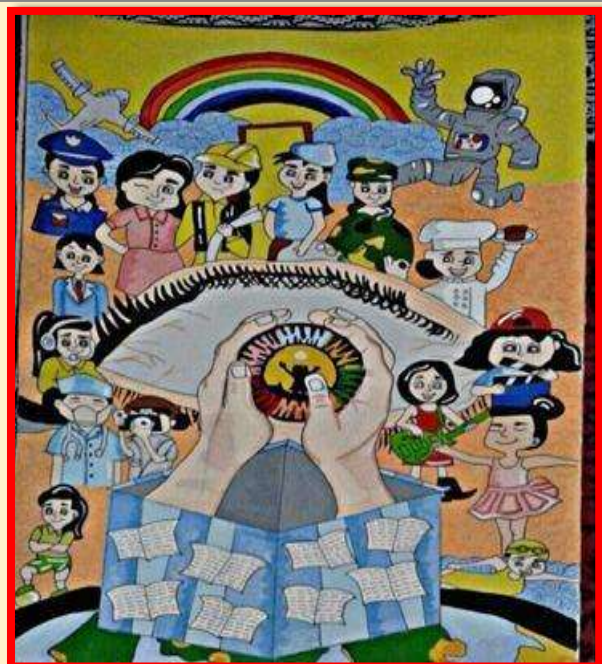




8TH EDITION, MAY 2021

- ❖ **GENDER EQUALITY IN EDUCATION, ECONOMIC JUSTICE AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS**
- ❖ **REDUCE WATER FOOTPRINT**



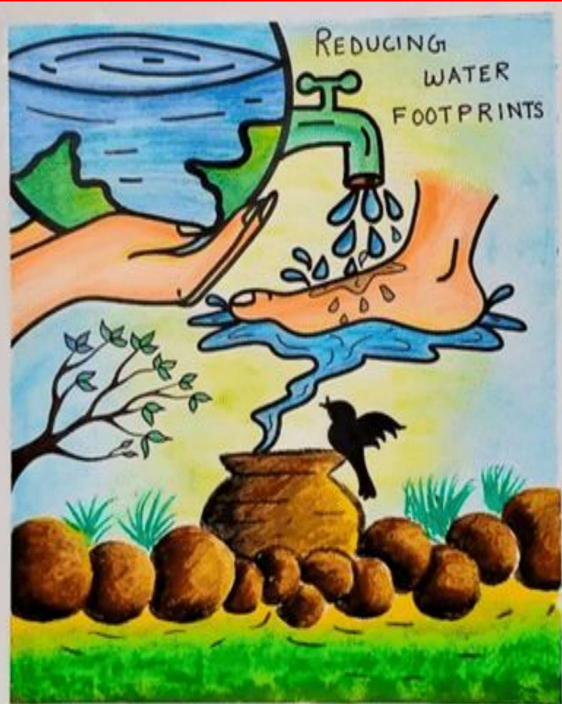
Angel Das ClassX-1, Loreto Convent, Entally



Leezer Lepcha, Class XII (Com), Loreto House

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Message From:



SR. PRABINA RUDUM IBVM
JPIC/UN REPRESENTATIVE

The entry of the corona virus has changed many things in our lives, globally and locally. It has drained us spiritually, emotionally, physically and economically. Almost all of us are eagerly waiting to go back to our 'NORMAL' lives. We could ask ourselves: Was our 'normal' lives less dangerous than Covid-19? Was our so-called 'normal lives' healthy for every human being and the planet?

As we battle with Covid, we also need to wrestle with the 'NORMAL' we are waiting to go back to. Humanity has to break away from what it thinks is 'normal', such as consumerism, gender discrimination, caste/class superiority, dysfunctional political systems, religious violence, destruction of planet earth, etc. We need to rise to a new lifestyle and pattern after going through this suffering and agony. We are witnessing a shoot of a new mode of life emerging amid this horrific pandemic. Simultaneously, we are witnessing many selfless people from all walks of life serving the suffering humanity. We are experiencing the power of love and care in the middle of chaos. There is HOPE!

I would like to congratulate our JPIC team for their efforts to stand against the discriminatory norms for women and LGBTQIA++ and wastage of our common wealth - water. Every step towards breaking unhealthy normality counts to making our 'Common Home' a better place for all creatures. I am sure that this year's issue of the JPIC magazine will contribute to the healing of our precious world.



Dear Friends,

We feel very fortunate to announce the much-awaited 8th edition of our JPIC e- magazine in the midst of such tough times. This pandemic has transformed our lives as schools are closed, we are confined to our homes and the future looks uncertain. We seek to inspire our students to express their thoughts, emotions and opinions through various mediums from their homes. The e-magazine is a mouthpiece for the young minds. Thus, this edition focuses on -

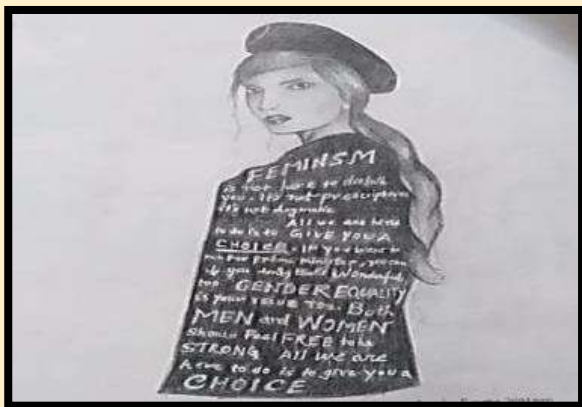
- *Reduce Water Footprint
- *Economic Justice and Women's rights
- *Gender Equality in Education.

This magazine is a result of excellent team spirit, collaboration and cooperation of all our JPIC team members. We are deeply indebted to Mrs. Tania Chakraborty, the Central Zone JPIC Coordinator, for her efforts in collating and providing structure to this e-magazine.

We would also like to express our deep gratitude to Sister Sabrina Edwards, the Province Leader, Sister Prabina Rudum and the Province Leadership team for their continuous support in our endeavor.

We pray for the safety of all.
Thank you and Warm Regards,
Mrs. Kawaljeet Kaur & Mrs. Sanchayita Dey
National Coordinators, JPIC, India.

Abhilasha Basu, Class VI A



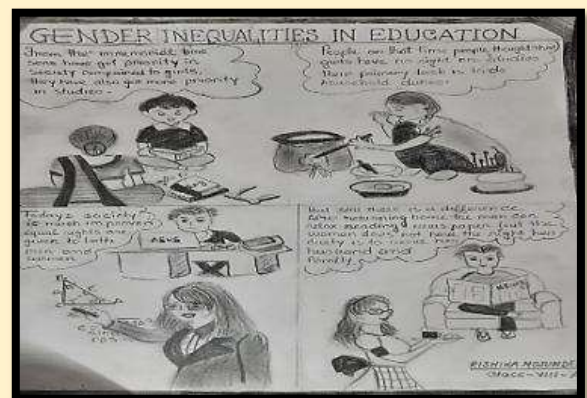
Arianna D'Souza Class VI-A



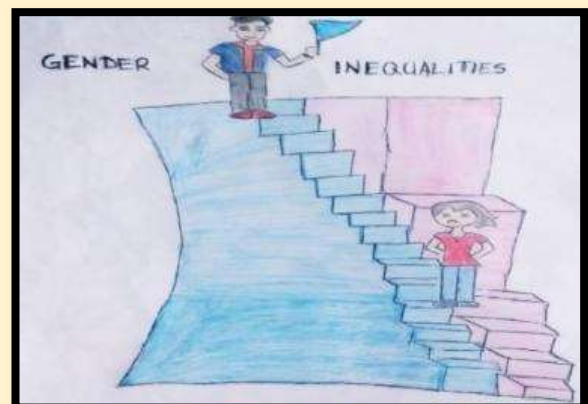
Shristi Jha Class VI



Srishtish Roy Class VIII B



Rishika Mojumder Class VIII A



Shree Mondal Class VIII-A

Save Water!

Water footprint helps in understanding the amount of fresh water utilised by human for various purposes. There are three types of water footprint – Green water footprint, grey water footprint and blue water footprint.

Water footprint of India is the largest which is 980 cubic meters per capita which is also 12% of the world's total water footprint. Well as it is observed India's feet are the largest so our country is called to have the 'largest water footprint'. Though we have spent a lot of time pondering over the problem and barely thought of a feasible solution. Hence, we can make a start by taking small steps from our homes. Something easy for all the school goers like using a bucket in place of a shower to prevent excess loss of water, I agree with the disheartenment of the bathroom singers. We can sing songs but we have to make sure it is only one. We could also turn the tap off while brushing. We could indeed reuse water for various purposes like the water used for washing vegetables could also be used to water plants.

We are young and indeed strong enough to bring a slight change which would result in a grand victory. So I have pledged to work on my water footprint rate and I pray others do too.

Iris Chatterjee, Class XII



Aditri Pattanayak Class VII A

Reduce Our Water Footprint

Water footprint is an indicator that looks at both the direct and indirect water use of an individual, business, community, city or country. Direct water use refers to the water we see coming out of the tap: the fresh water we use each day for drinking, cooking, showering, washing dishes and clothes, and gardening etc. Indirect water use refers to the water that is used to manufacture the goods that we consume or produce and the services that we use, as well as all the water that is polluted or wasted.

Measuring water footprints can give us a clear picture of how water is used in today's society, and help us come up with strategies for more sustainable water usage.

We can reduce our direct water footprint by these measures-

- Turning off the tap while brushing our teeth.
- Using water-saving toilets.
- Installing water saving shower head.
- Taking shorter showers.
- Only washing clothes when necessary.
- Fixing household leaks.
- Using less water in the garden and when cleaning.
- Not disposing of medicines, paints or other pollutants down the sink.

Anshika Arora VIII A

LORETO DAY SCHOOL, BOWBAZAR

EDUCATION FOR ALL

We live in a world that is cynical and hypocritical and where the positive values inculcated in us as children hold no value. In today's world we are still stuck amidst injustice, inequality, racial discrimination and all the other social evils.

Michelle Obama once said, "No country can never truly flourish if it stifles the potential of its women and deprives itself of the contribution of half of its citizens" and it struck me because it was true; but living in a patriarchal society where women are considered to be nothing but 'breeders of the next generation' it holds no value.

The main causes of gender inequality in education are poverty and a conservative society which confines girls within the walls of their houses and that schooling is for boys. Education is a liberty and a right of every individual.

'The girls need to prove themselves that they can be someone' might be the answer some of you had thought in response to the removal of inequality. Now I ask, why should we have to prove ourselves to another human being who is supposed to be our equal? Just because of our different anatomical structure or is it because it is predestined that girls have to prove themselves all the time? Isn't it proof enough with names like Marie Curie, Margaret Thatcher, Indira Gandhi, Malala Yousafzai and many more like them have proven time and again their worth or does the patriarchal society want more?

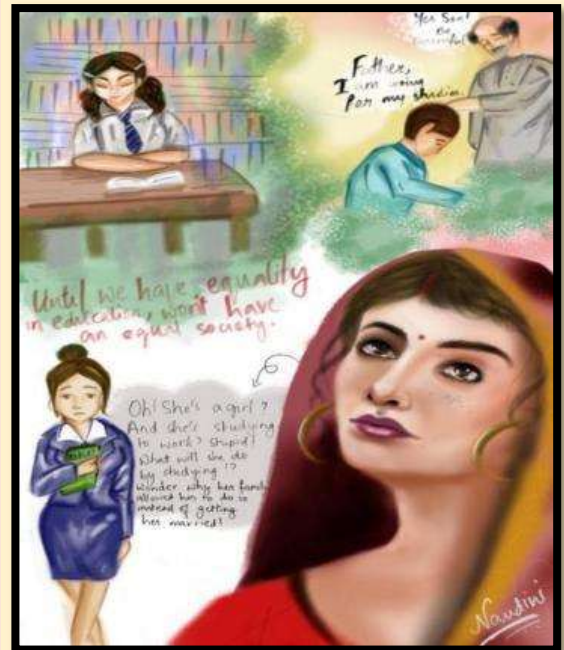
We are the future. It is up to us to change the thought process of the future generation that girls should be educated because it is her right and she deserves it. Educate her so that she can be independent; educate her so that she can make her own decisions; educate a girl without having a reason for it.

I end by quoting Mary Ward, who said, "Women in time to come will do much" and I strongly affirm to this because if we all work together then gender inequality in education will soon become a myth.

Soubhagya Banerjee, XI Science



Laboni Roy Class IX B



Nandini Gupta Class X

Being a Girl

Being a girl and I am deprived of my rights
But I know that I, in my life, will reach
great heights.

I see my brothers going to school in white
shirt and pant,

When I question, I am told that I can't.

Why is not education meant for me?

I asked one day,

The answer was because you'll get married
someday,

And do all household work

Wash dishes, spoon and fork

And serve your in laws throughout your
life,

That is what suits a wife.

But I have decided not to bear this torture
and pain,

A girl's effort, I believe, never goes in vain.
Let men prevent me from receiving
education,

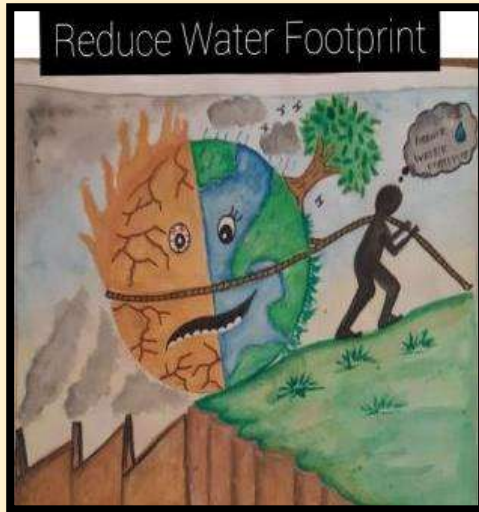
I will surely spoil their imagination.

It's not only me; let every girl raise her
voice,

Fight for their rights and make their own
choice,

For our educational rights if not given, shall
now be taken.

Rudrashmi Biswas Class IX B



Priyasha De Class X B



Kashifa Noor Class X

ECONOMI JUSTICE AND WOMEN 'S RIGHTS

Women all-round the globe, particularly India, face the critical issue of denial of their rights by the society and sometimes even by the government.

Their service to the society is remarkable yet it is undervalued. Men get greater facilities in higher education and jobs than women. Men are prioritized for high posts and wages which creates an immense economic injustice in the society.

We live in a male-dominated society where women are considered weak in handling finance or other responsibilities.

Women have their basic rights to live free from violence, slavery and discrimination, to be educated, to own a property, to vote and to earn a fair and equal wage but we can strongly express that even today women endure violence which may be physical or psychological.

These threats are preventing women from building stability and independence. In some parts of India, the safety of women is terminated and she is prohibited from stepping outside the house after sunset.

Hence it is important for us to bridge the gap between the male and female rights and dignities.

Maryam Faisal Class XI

INEQUALITY IN EDUCATION

Poverty is the one of the most significant causes which results in gender inequality and it is highly prevalent in underdeveloped or developing countries. Poverty in rural areas has also made the people believe that educating their girl child is useless because if a boy is educated then he would contribute in sustaining the family but if the girl child is educated then she would be married off where knowledge of household work would be more important. Though this could have been a contradictory statement before but now women have the same potential to earn money as men by getting educated.

The main causes of Gender Inequality are poverty, superstitions and patriarchal domination.

Girls, since their childhood, are forced to believe that boys are superior to them and are subjected to unfair treatment, especially where basic education is concerned.

It is very important to eradicate this taboo on educating girls.

The steps to promote a girl's education are as follows:

- * The schools for girls have to be made in such a way that they feel it to be a safe and secure place and would be eager to come back the next day.
- * The families should be co-operative and should aim in releasing the load of household work for the girl child so that she could freely engage in her school work.
- * The education system of a girl should be planned in such a way that it would ensure job opportunities for the child in the future if the child is sufficiently qualified.

As the society has gotten more open minded, we also have to start reducing gender inequality in education and start believing in the saying, **“educating a girl means educating a family”**.

Asmita Das Class IX-B

LORETO CONVENT, DARJEELING

SILENCE IS YOUR GREATEST POWER

With tears falling down my cheeks like pretty pearls emerging
from vast oceans and seas.
With shattered dreams and broken bangles,
Here I lay in the dark with a lonely aching heart.
These clothes that were ripped apart will tell you a story from the
very start.

Short lived was the spark of joy in my father's eye,
For, 'It's a girl' was the phrase that made him sigh.
They say my mother was to be at fault,
Because how could her womb nourish a girl child at all?

Waves of disparities hit me when I was a child,
He could go to school and I could not.
And for all of this?
They say my identity was to blame,

For I'd gaze at those empty classrooms with longing stares,
Alas! Never could I sit in one, but always kept them in my
prayers.
Those stolen books from the library reflecting the street lamp
lights,
Will tell you a different story of those starry nights.
When the old, torn pages ignited within me,
The flames of celebration and women's rights.

Caged within the walls of patriarchy,
My mind would wander off into the vast sea of freedom,
Where I'd walk down the empty streets at night,
Without being fearful of any man at sight.

Why wouldn't I shed tears of pain?
When all the efforts of celebrating women seem to go in vain.
When they worship the stone-cold figures for prosperity and joy,
Yet for them, the earthly living goddesses are just a toy.
Why wouldn't I shed tears of pain?

"You're a girl, that's not your task!", they said.
"This is how you sit, and this is what you do,
"And if you don't oblige,
You'll be punished too."

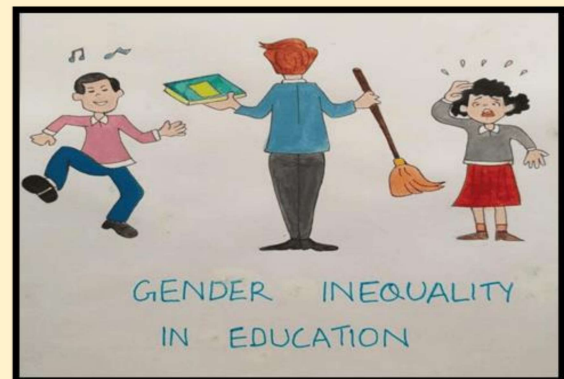
Now I sit in the corner of the dark alleyways,
With shattered dreams and tattered clothes.
I see a shadow not far away,
In haste I seek for help only to realize,

Alas! He's another devil on my way.
And when on my soul he devours,
"Hush! Silence is your greatest power," he says.

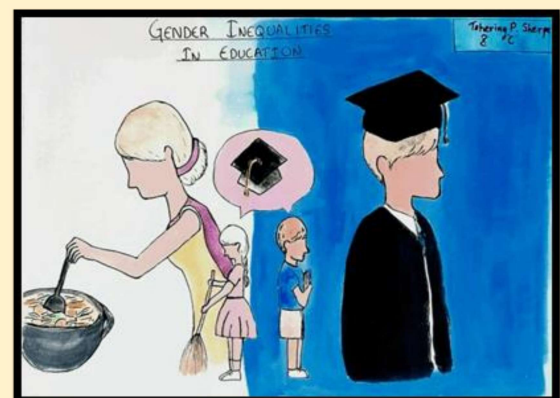
Bivechna Chettri, XII



Ashlin B. Tamang, IX



Sarisha Chettri, IX



Tshering P. Sherpa, X

REDUCING WATER FOOTPRINT

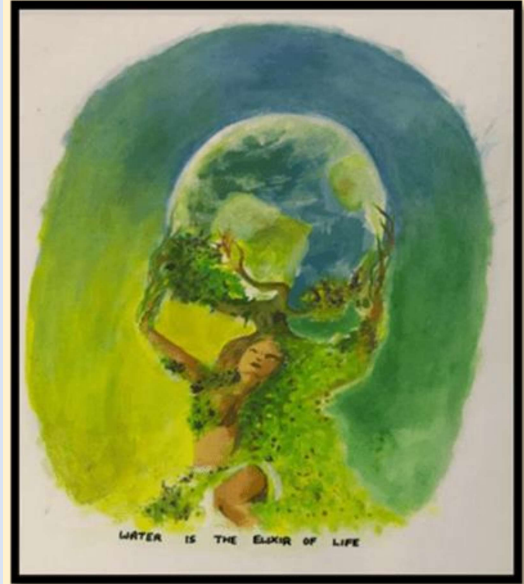
Water footprint is an indicator that looks at both direct and indirect water use of an individual, business, community, city or country. It is an empirical indicator of how much water is consumed, when and where, measured over the whole supply chain of the product. The water footprint is a multidimensional indicator, showing volumes but also making explicit the type of water use (evaporation of rainwater, surface water or groundwater, or pollution of water) and the location and timing of water use.

For our communities to be resilient and prepare for the worst effects of climate change, we need to rethink how we use, and reuse water and wastewater so that we can make the most of our most essential resource.

- We can reduce our water consumption by making small changes to our daily activities such as not watering our lawns as often and taking shorter showers, and we can replace inefficient products in our homes like clothes washers, toilets, faucets and shower-heads.
- We can reuse water in our homes and businesses to the extent possible. One of the easiest and safest application of this concept is the onsite use of groundwater and captured rainwater, sources suitable for a number of non-potable uses, such as landscape irrigation and toilet flushing, that otherwise would be discarded as waste.
- We can recycle our wastewater, purifying it so that it can be used to recharge groundwater supplies and replace potable water for non-potable applications, most commonly large-scale landscape some irrigation.

With these simple, mundane tips we can reduce our water footprint and contribute towards preserving our Earth, together and a step at a time.

-Mannat Jarial, XII



Shreya Pradhan, XII



Tenzing Dolma Class X



Niyati Gurung Class X

ST. TERESA'S GIRLS' H.S. SCHOOL, DARJEELING

HER AND HIM

She wakes up and rushes to the kitchen to feed others.

He wakes up and, on the breakfast, table declares that the food is not tasty enough.

She hurries to finish her chores; there is some place to go.

He cares not about the time, wears his uniform, fussing about the load of books he has to carry.

She on the other hand, carries the entire house on her shoulders.

Since her mother died, she decided to stay home, so her brother gets to go out.

He knows not that she always wanted to be a doctor.

But now all she can heal are the cobwebs and the dusty chairs.

They leave together.

She drops him off at school and walks until she reaches the place

Where she cooks and cleans for.

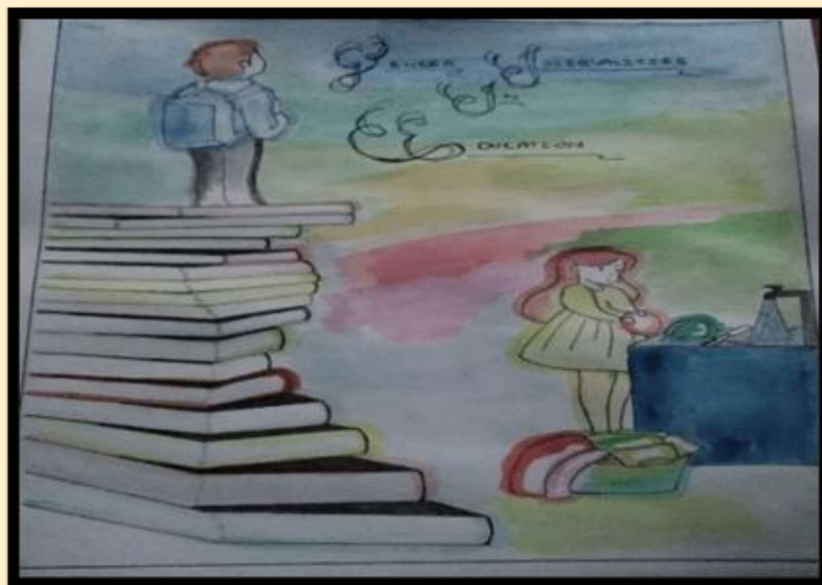
Ridhika Basnet, XI



Amisha Biswakarma, XII SC



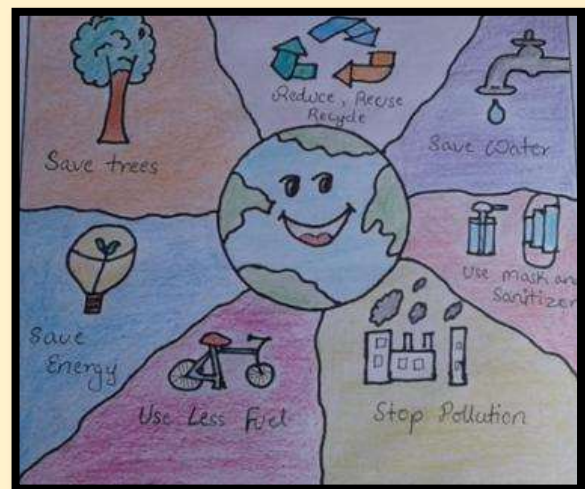
Sahika Limbu, XI A



Nim Lhomu Sherpa, XII A



Shreya Rai X C



Prabha Rai, V C



Yurgen Dichen, V B



Deeya Rai, X C



Awantika Thapa, XII B

LORETO CONVENT, DELHI

HOW TO REDUCE WATER FOOTPRINT

We use large amounts of water each day. In our daily life we don't know the value of water. We need water in our day- today life activities, so we should reduce wastage and try to reuse water as much as possible. Each drop of water is very essential. Our water footprint is the amount of water we consume in our daily life. We can reduce water footprints by many ways such as - We should use a bucket for bathing instead of using showers, it can save a lot of water. We should turn off the tap while brushing our teeth. Don't leave the tap open while washing utensils and also while washing hands. Use less water for washing cars and vehicles. We should use the minimum of water needed for bath. Wash vegetables and fruits in bowl rather than washing them under tap. Collect rainwater in a bucket whenever it is raining. We can reuse water after washing clothes and use it for cleaning. Re-use waste water /rain water for watering plants. We can also reuse water used for washing vegetables and fruits. It can save a lot of water and also water will not get waste.

-Jithya Das VIII C



Niyati Mittar VI C



Akansha Singh VIC



Prabhgun Kaur VII A



Kashvi Agarwal VII A

STOP! SAVE! SURVIVE!

The world is waiting for a steady desire
Together we work to end the chase
Looking at the union of thoughts
The fact presents some serious days.

It's not my water
It's not your water
No one owns it anyway
Grab your sheet and pen it down

Save, survive and no other way.
You let it die, you'll drown with it
You let it dry, you'll die for it

Not a single-sided death
Not a single-sided life
Solution for a drop less end is
Stop. Save. Survive.

**The New Story Says-
'Demand Equal Pay'**

Justice not in head
Testimony not in sheets
Constitution states it clear
Equality is our need.

Equal work unequal pay
Do not demand patience
Change your theory
Make it apt
No justification.
We write the virtues of a new theme

Have seen the failed equation
Admired work for too long
But now the question stages
We work for pay, not for patience
Clear our duty wage.

Our rights are free, they are equal
No suppression marks
No supreme here
No inferior hearts.

No justice is yet just
Unjust is not our veil
Big historic notion
Justice shall prevail.
- Sakshi Kumari XII-A



Vaani Dutta X B

WHAT IS A 'WOMAN'

What is a woman? Is she a commodity that people buy and sell at their own will?
What is a woman? Is she a no-one who is killed before she's even born?
What is a woman? Is she a slave who's tied down by the invisible chains of house hold work?
What is a woman? Is she a mere piece of tissue paper that people just use and throw?

Perhaps, we change the question and instead ask
Who is a woman?

SHE is a HUMAN-who's free to do whatever she wants whenever she wants
She's the one who can heal your wounds
She's the one who can give birth to you
She is the one who can fight the world alone
She is the one who can play multiple roles

She is a goddess
She is a mother
She is a daughter
She is a wife
She is a sister
She is ME and YOU.

-Harneev Kaur XII B



Kyra Prep A

LORETO DAY SCHOOL, DHARAMTALA

Economic Oppression and Deprivation of the Rights of Women

Economic oppression may take several forms, including the practice of bonded labour, forced labour, wage-gap, employment discrimination based on sex, nationality, race, and religion. Fragile walls of gender, class, caste, and religion-based discrimination has resulted in the establishment of a capitalist patriarchy thus depriving women of basic economic human rights and denial of a life with dignity and economic independence. Examples of gender based economic oppression include the Pink Tax, categorization of sanitary products as luxurious items, imposition of higher tariff rates compared to men's products (e.g., male deodorant, shaving gel etc.).

Even though class distinction of the status quo (i.e., upper, lower and middle) play a crucial role in the economic oppression of women, it is noteworthy that economic violation goes beyond the horizon of classism as it also incorporates each other's social identities (e.g., religion, caste, gender LGBTQ+ community, etc.) hence making their oppression more intersectional.

To make things worse, practice of casual sexism and sexual harassment in workplace creates an unsafe professional environment and further demotivates women.

Due to the practice of gender roles in Indian society, women are also forced to perform unpaid labour at home which is not treated as a job but as the sole duty of women to take care of her family members. Interestingly, women in Nazi Germany also had a very specific role which was to be good mothers, bring up children at home while their husband's work.

The Indian culture paints women as a goddess but abuses the same in all economic and social scenarios.

Gender sensitization, being interlinked with gender empowerment, is something that can bring significant change in society by changing our perception about gender.

Since capitalism and patriarchy are the two sides of the same coin, they enable and endorse each other hence directly causing economic oppression as one of the significant contributors to structural gender-based violence against women. While the dictatorship against women's autonomy has been largely dominated by men, it is important to know that a woman's road to liberation is indeed a revolutionary path.

Anugna Roy Class XI (HUM)

The Survival Game

Oh King, how can you smile?

How do you live when you know what we go through from dusk till dawn?

The cruelty of this world is tearing us apart,
The dark shadows are swallowing the sun!

The sun?

It isn't bright anymore, it's gloomy and darker than the devil

But remember that the king loses his crown one day,

It overwhelms me to think that you are in peace, are you happy in heaven?

One day the world around you will turn into decay.

It'll lose its beauty, its elegance

But do you care, oh king, do you?

If I were you, I wouldn't sleep for nights,

Whereas you breathe the same air as we do.

Do you realize what we, women go through?

"Stop studying, clean the house!"

"Stop speaking the truth before you lose your spouse!"

"Bow your heads when they degrade you!"

"Forget about your education and get married and give birth to one child or a few!"

Oh king, why don't you tell them?

Tell them that our education is as important as our breeding today!

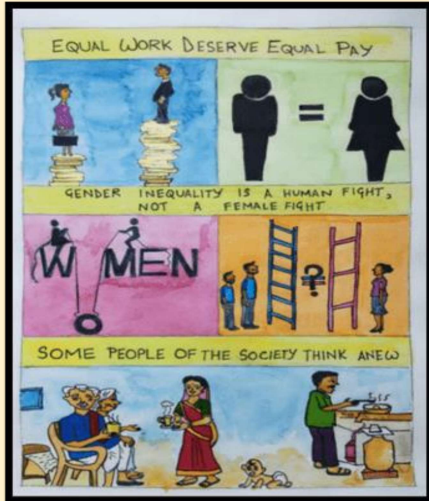
Tell them that we have a say, so that next time when someone stabs a woman in the middle of a street,

The murderer gets sentenced, instead of getting to walk away.

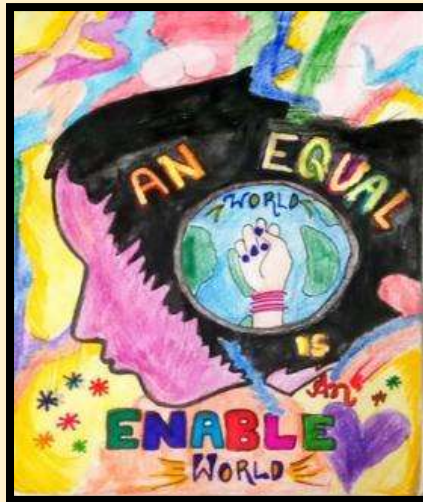
Prinadharani Neth Class IX A



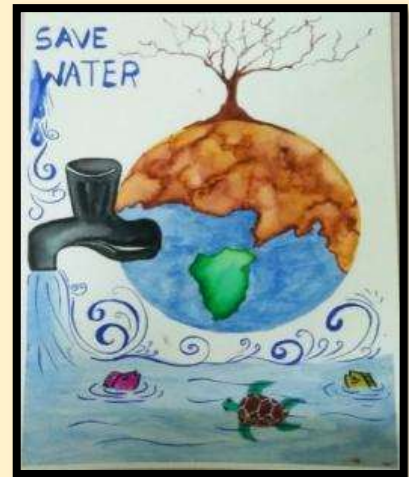
Shristi Verma Class X A



Aradhya Guha Class X-B



Chitrakshi Sinha Class IX A



Samridhi Singh Class XII (HUM)

INJUSTICES AGAINST WOMEN

Take this pink ribbon off my eyes.

I want to be exposed and I know exactly where I stand.

This world is forcing me to hold a hand, just because I'm a girl.

Does not let me get out of sight, just because I'm a girl.

The world does not let me have any right, just because I am a girl.

The moment I step outside there are so many reasons for me to run and hide.

I can't do the little things I hold so dear, because it's all those little things that I fear.

What has reproductive distinctions got to do with my rights and status in society? Why is it that the word 'feminine' is synonymous to weakness, being half-witted, undeserving and a 'burden'?

Pages after pages have been filled with stipulations regarding women's rights, education, equality, etc. in the constitutions of every country in the world. But who seems to follow them?

Thousands of blogs are written, numerous newspapers, social media platforms are heated with the hashtag trending topics about sexism, feminism, gender equality, women's rights, freedom but this hardly seems to throw its reflection in our everyday life.

The world has experienced massive revolutions; it has changed from the complex structured, infinitely wired computers to artificial intelligence; but the tragedy is that even in this period of modernization, development and technology gender inequality is still practiced from remote areas to the poshest towns in the world.

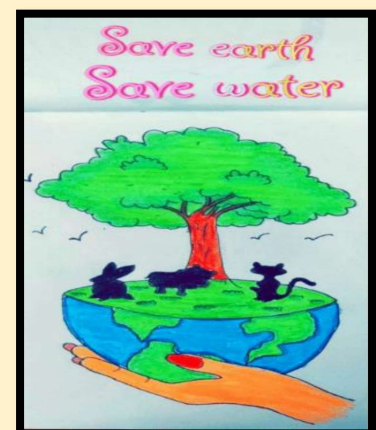
The least we can do to prevent gender inequality in the society is increasing social awareness and take a stand when girls are seen sacrificing their education.

"Some people say that women belong to the kitchen, well, that's where the knives are."

-Anushka Pandey Class VIII A



Shreya Sen Class IX B



Hiya Vasa Class IX A

LORETO DAY SCHOOL, ELLIOT ROAD

EDUCATION IS LIBERATION

“We realize the importance of our voices only when we are silenced.” This quote is of Malala Yousafzai, the girl who was shot in the head by the Taliban just because she wanted to get herself and numerous other girls educated. This tells us a lot about how, a simple thing such as receiving education, can turn fatal for women.

This is not just the case in Pakistan or Asia. Even in 1st world countries many women are denied education or are discriminated against their male counterparts. In schools, whether it is a co-educational school or a girl’s school, female students are regulated in a very different manner than their male counterparts, in terms of conversation, speech and uniforms. Female students are told to wear clothes that do not “distract” the male students rather than teaching the male students about respect and consent.

In India, the story of gender inequalities in education is not so different. In the past, people like Jyotiba Phule and his wife Savitribai Phule opened many schools for girls and boys alike so that every Indian, irrespective of gender can receive education. This effort was hardly appreciated by the people then and many did not send their daughters to school.

The reason is simply the perception of the role of women in society. It’s said that time brings change, but that has not been the case regarding women’s education. It is still believed that a woman’s job is just to procreate. From a very young age it is instilled in them that they should focus on getting a husband rather than getting educated. So, if we want that after a few years we see equilibrium in the rate of literacy of men and women we should start with broadening our minds.

Farzeen Rahi Class X



Ramisha Fathma Class X

GENDER INEQUALITY IN EDUCATION

“Until we get equality in education, we won’t have an equal society.” – Sonia Sotomayor

School is a primary institution where children learn the basics of life. However, girls and boys both face gender discriminations in educational institutions.

Inequalities like the absence of home science as a subject choice for boys and physical education as a subject choice for girls- prevail in schools.

A good measure would be considering the inclusion of such subjects in the co-curriculum. Other than that, in a lot of cases when there are too many children in the family, young girls are restricted from going to schools.

In such cases, merit-based scholarships or near-free education policies should be put to use. The education system will be unable to flourish fully unless these inequalities are wiped away.

Shinjita Ghosh XII



Shumaila Akhtar Class IX

GENDER INEQUALITY IN EDUCATION

Discrimination on the basis of an individual's gender has been prevalent in our country since ages and it is no surprise when we find traces of this disease in our educational system as well. Rural India has been progressing in educational fields to a large extent but is still failing at treating the children who come to acquire this education on an equal level. Parents of these students consider education for boys as an investment whereas a loss when it comes to girls owing to the fact that someday they'll be married off.

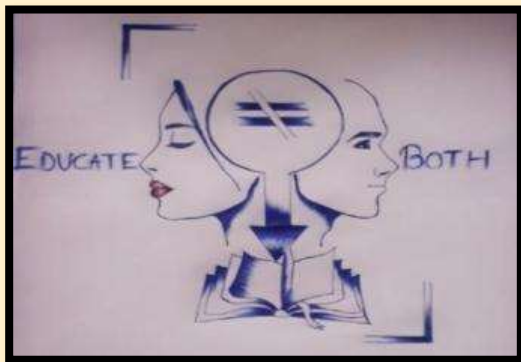
Like charity begins at home, it is important for the parents of students to be educated on the importance of education irrespective of their child's sexual identity. In urban localities, it is important to establish more co-educational institutions for children to feel equal and consider themselves no less than the others just because of their gender.

As our foundress Mary Ward rightly said "women in time to come will do much", I believe that through the right changes made, we indeed can uplift the status of women in our society and achieve great heights in all aspects.

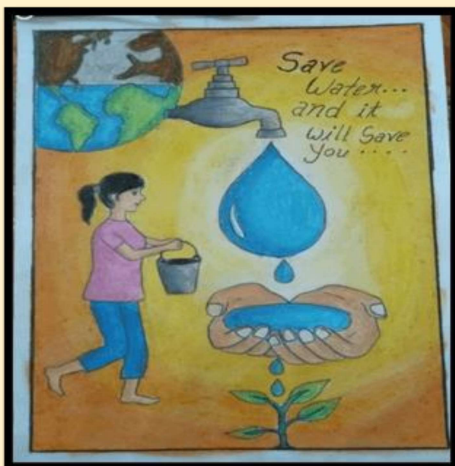
Priya Pillai Class XII



Alina Mullick Class X



Trishita Saha Class XII



Lizna Molla Class IX

I Am A Woman

And I wish I could say this doesn't cause me fear
That I am not weary of this body, of what it's been
Through or what "they" might do.

And I love being one.
But why does this mean I have to receive less?
Why can you freely voice your opinions,
While mine I always have to suppress?

Being a woman doesn't make less of a person,
Nor does it make me your "prey".
I have the right to feel safe when I walk around by myself
"I am a woman" Yes, I am.
But before that I am also a "human" just like you.

And all women deserve to be treated with the same respect
men do too.
Because regardless of gender or race,
Each and every one of us has the right.....to feel safe!

Munira Kurban Hussain Class IX

LORETO CONVENT, ENTALLY

NOT TOO LATE TO SAVE WATER'S FATE.

Everything we use, buy, sell or eat takes water to make. A water footprint shows the extent of water used by people. It is the total volume of fresh water used to produce the goods and services consumed by the individual or community. When we think of reducing our water footprint, we are often concerned with saving water while brushing our teeth or showering. While this is really important, the water we use in this way is called direct water use. We often overlook the other type of water consumption that can play an even bigger role in our water footprint: indirect water use. Indirect water use includes water used to produce the goods and services we consume daily.

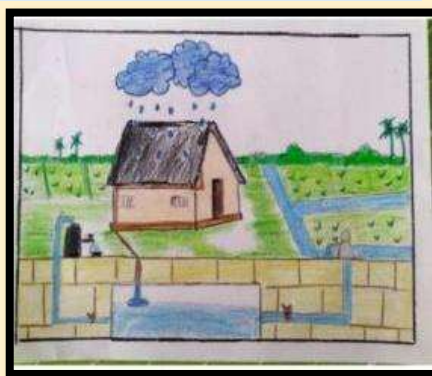
Ammaarah Habib XII (HUMANITIES)



Ritika Das Class IV (I)



Priyasah Paul V (1)



Tanisha Ghosh II



Anushna Sardar



Rajanya Haldar III (2)



Debangi Ghosh V (2)

ONE COTTON T-SHIRT OR 1300 DAYS OF DRINKING WATER?

Water footprint shows the amount of water use in relation to usage by people. In 2002, the water footprint concept was introduced in order to have a consumption-based indicator of water use that could provide useful information in addition to the traditional production-sector-based indicators of water use.

It can take 2,700 liters to produce the cotton needed to make a single t-shirt. Textiles Production (including cotton farming) uses around 93 billion cubic meters of water annually, representing 4% of global freshwater withdrawal beyond production, washing clothing using washing machines is estimated to require an additional 20 billion cubic meters of water per year globally. It takes about 2,257 gallons of water to make one pair of shoes.

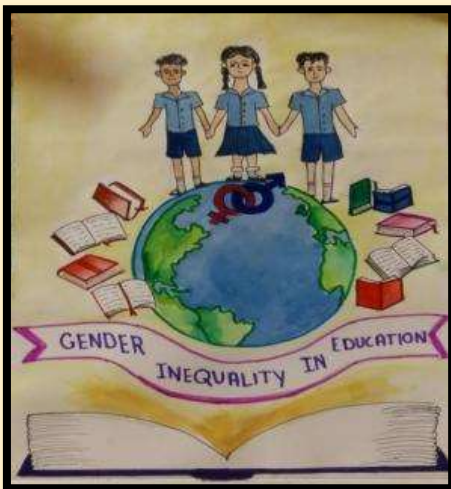
The water footprint helps us to realize the purposes for which our limited freshwater resources are being consumed and polluted. If the consumers are aware of water footprint data, it would be convenient for us to make informed choices regarding the purchase of goods and services that have a lower water footprint.

Ankita Bhattacharyya

BREAK THE BARRIERS

Education is pillar which is to be accessed by everyone, in order to achieve wisdom and knowledge in life, but surprisingly there's a discrimination against women in the educational stream. Women make up two-thirds of the 750 million adults without basic literacy skills. Gender inequality against women is one of the worst and the most severe hit in the urban communities. It has only been growing due to the low thinking and the male domination in our society, making it possible for the difference in the number of boys and girls having access to education being in a large rate. Various governments and several organisations are opening up educational centers for women to study and get literate. The Education 2030 agenda recognizes that gender equality requires an approach that 'ensures that girls and boys, women and men not only gain access to and complete education cycles, but are empowered equally in and through education. There are remarkable improvement observed by countries like china and USA since 1970s and 1980s on fighting against gender inequality

Harshita Chettri-X-1



Mayuri Sah VI-2



Deepanjali Sen VIII-3

GENDER INEQUALITIES IN EDUCATION

Gender inequality refers to the existence of unequal opportunities in society on the basis of gender especially in the education field. In rural areas still the girls are not allowed to study. Boys go outside the city and study as per their need. But girls are expected to stay at home and learn to do household chores and get married. Child marriage impose negative impact on girls. There are many girls who do not get higher education while there are cases where though they get education but are not allowed to do job and fulfill their dreams. There are very less schools who admit LGBT community children because they are not considered dignified members of society. It should me made compulsory for schools to keep a part of seats aside for them. There are very less schools which are solely for LGBT community children as a result some children find it embarrassing and awkward to go in other school. Every child irrespective of their sex must have equal access to education this will not only help the child live a independent life but also help the country develop.

Kashish Agarwal Class-XII (2)

LORETO HOUSE, KOLKATA

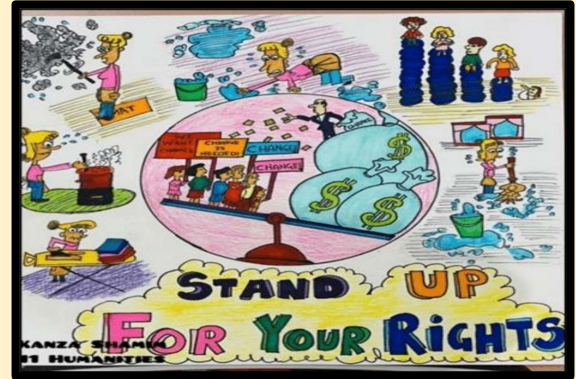
ECONOMIC JUSTICE and WOMEN'S RIGHTS.

Women are undoubtedly the foundation of the basic unit of society – the family. Even in traditional roles they demonstrate great innovation, skill, intelligence, hard work and commitment. If we can harness these attributes effectively, India's growth can be more inclusive and equitable.

Women's ability to generate a regular and independent source of income has a significant impact on her being able to make decisions and have a control over the life of others. Barriers to women's economic justice include - constraints on time due to unpaid work, social norms that limit her freedom outside her home, lack of finance to start a business, discriminating policies at work, and the threat of violence or harassment at her work place.

Growth in modern civilization, has led to the expansion of business as well as social and political activities. People all over the world have now realized the potential of women as contributors to the economic growth and development. In the words of A.P.J. Abdul Kalam “Empowerment of women is essential as their thoughts and their value systems lead to the development of a good family, good society and ultimately a good nation.”

Akanksha Banerjee IX (I)



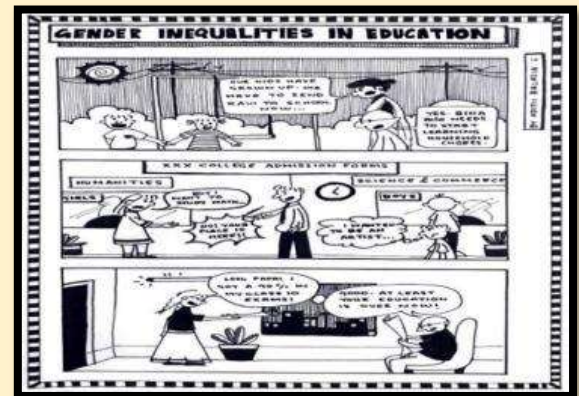
Kanza Shamim XI(HUM)



Ayushi Hazra X(II)



Tamanna Khatik X-1



Aditi Balasia XII(SC)

GENDER INEQUALITY IN EDUCATION

It is impossible to deny that gender inequality persists in the educational sector. Two-thirds of the world's uneducated population are women, and the percentage is still higher in India. What is the point of mass discrimination when, characteristically, we're all the same? Gender bias, especially in education, is a hindrance to the development of a country. Frequently, women are restricted from pursuing their ambitions because of the orthodox belief that they might not achieve much, being the traditionally subordinate opposite gender. Conservative mentalities, poverty, disregard for female achievements, less representation in schools, normalising male superiority, lack of educational resources add fuel to the raging fire of discontent among women. Gender equality is not a female fight; it is a human fight. The only solution is to acknowledge this issue, embrace actions and provide resources to encourage women; for the ultimate welfare of the country.

Akanksha Saha X

EXPECT US

In a world that has two realms
 One a man, the other a woman,
 Bring about a perfect harmony.
 That is, until supremacy reigns over the roles of a girl.
 Aren't women to be adored just the way you adore Maa Durga?
 They said men and women were on the same page,
 But why are we chapters behind?
 Why are we held back, held back from jobs,
 from shows, from speaking up and from fighting?
 Have you ever wondered why?

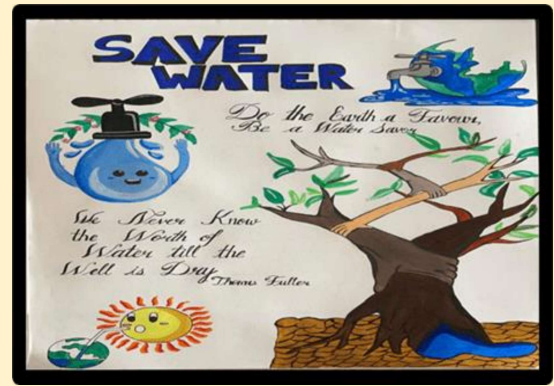
Why was she told she could not do as other men did,
 earn the way other men did, as other men pleased?
 You deny her education; you deny her a dignity;
 You deny her a life, and you expect us not to revolt?
 You are afraid of her worth, her wisdom
 and that would damage your pride and ego.

Why treat someone lower just because of their gender,
 Or the right to earn a living for herself,
 The right to educate herself?

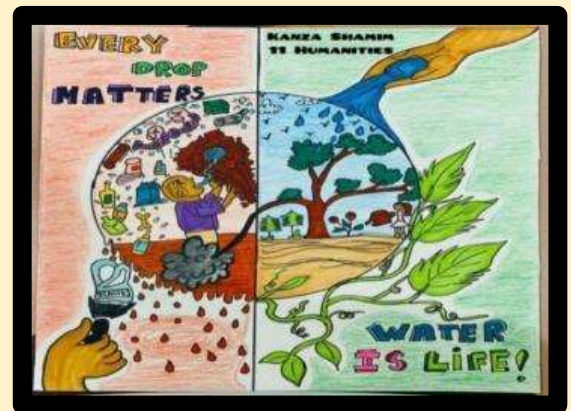
Is she not a human just like you, who has needs and worries too?

Or is it your lack of knowledge that blinds you
 from seeing the glow, the women of the world have?
 Why fear and love goddesses when you show no mercy to us?
 Stop being biased.
 Stop holding her back.
 We are powerful.
 We are beautiful.
 We will fight.

Expect us.
 Shae-Lynn Samuel XII



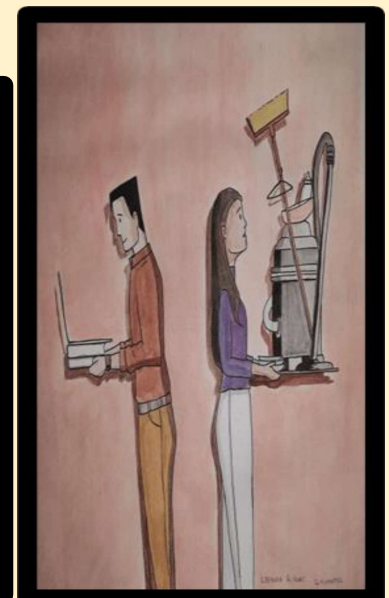
Pari Gupta X(II)



Kanza Shamim XI(HUM)



Madhushruti Niyogi IX



Leeanna Angela Hart XII

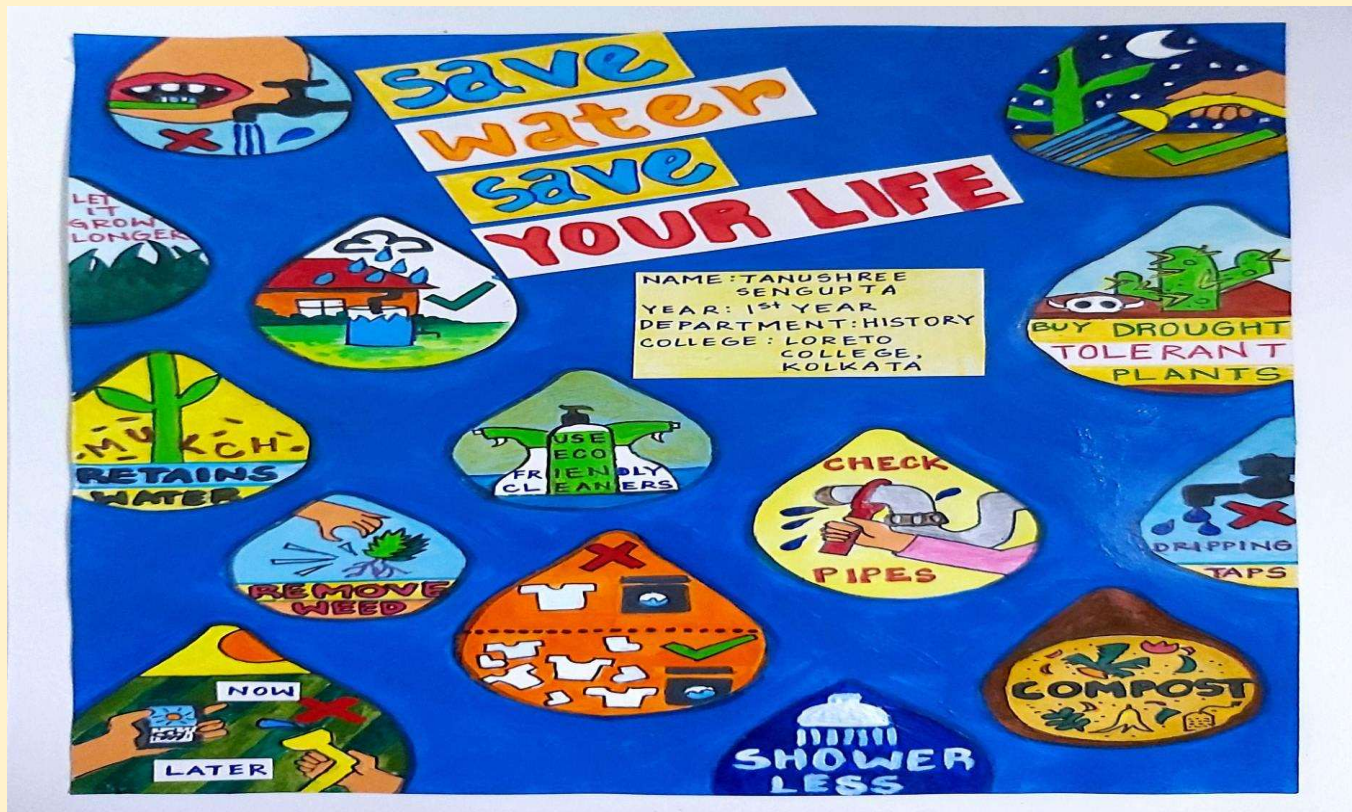


Advaita Rebecca Sengupta IX

Conserve Water: The Prime Resource for Mankind

Echoing around the damp corridor the doorbell rang. Wiping off the beads of perspiration on her forehead Esme stood waiting in the humid air when the door swung open to the calmest smile belonging to her aunt. Welcoming her inside as Esme made herself comfortable in the living room, her aunt offered her a glass of water only half full, offering with a smile she said “You know dear if you ever happen to visit Arabia, the water there is considered nothing less than liquid gold, you get only as much as you need not a drop more, not wasting any, as you never should, be it anything. If only everyone looked after their need and not their greed, we would all have been happy, wouldn’t we?” “I always wake up early you know why? So that I could finish off all my regular bathing and washing and not prolong it, because it causes more water wastage throughout the day. You see those cans in the corner; I fill them and use them in the day to keep water running and not be stale compost for bugs, similar to keeping the mind and body in a functional state as stagnation harbors nothing but bad. I tried last monsoon to build a rainwater harvester, wasn’t much of a success but I will keep trying until its the best, and in the end, if I can’t, still knowing something new is never a harm,” saying this she looked at Esme, who was holding the glass staring still “Forgive me for going on” she said, “It’s always good to have someone near to talk and spend time well”.

Priyanshi Ghosh
1st Year (History Honours)



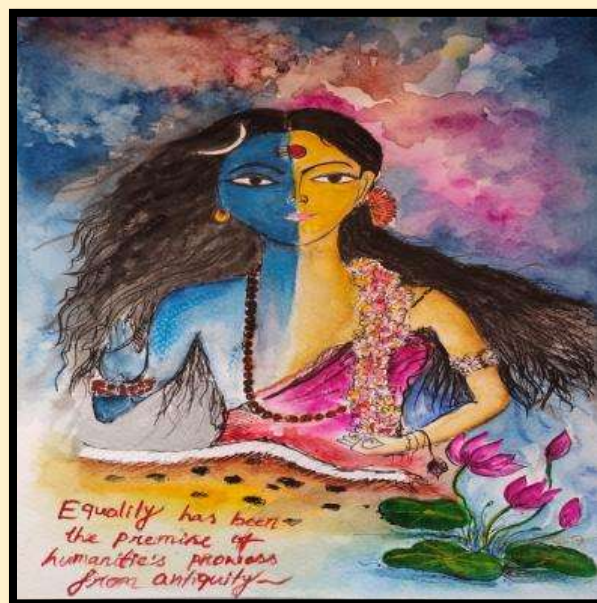
Tanushree Sengupta
1st Year History Hons.

Gender Equality – A Necessity

"A wise woman refuses to be anyone's victim" - Maya Angelou.

Women are always thought to be vulnerable, meant to be docile and play roles that society burdens her with. This mentality has paralysed the society. Women have always struggled but never won the title of 'bread earner' or the 'guardian' of the house. It is because of the deep-rooted patriarchy that breaks women. A woman needs to convince her family so that she can work outside her home or seek permission from her husband and when she tries to take steps against his will, she becomes a victim of domestic violence or acid attack or rape. These incidents fabricate terror and create a biased environment for women to live in. Economic dependence increases if a woman stays at home which in turn generates the idea of following the order of the money maker of the family when she often has to tolerate violence or abuse. To sustain herself, she needs to get a job which she often cannot get due to job segregation, lack of employment equality and uneven access to education. A notion of 'unnecessary' has always been associated with girls' education, a girl gets married and moves to her husband's house where she puts her efforts and even her earnings are invested in that household, so the parents do not want to invest for education rather saves money for her marriage and mainly focus on the future of their son. Rituals during the marriage are extremely oppressive for a woman and her family as they often has to pay a dowry or buy car, furniture for the groom's household which inculcates an essence of exchange of goods, an extremely disrespectful supposition for the society. The identity of a woman has always been a mother, a wife, a daughter but it is important to acknowledge a woman through her true identity instead of integrating her with another person. This would also convey true equality and independence for a woman. Small practices like sharing household chores, nurturing a baby and other activities like these should be shared between men and women to minimise the inequality. Equal pay should act as a right for women to protect them from exploitation. Equality is a necessity today for the growth of the world. End of injustice and biases will shape the world into a peaceful place to reside in.

Sagarika Ganguly,
1st Year (History Honours)



Roshmi Dey, 1st Year (History Honours)

LORETO CONVENT SCHOOL, LOLAY

Reduce Water Footprint

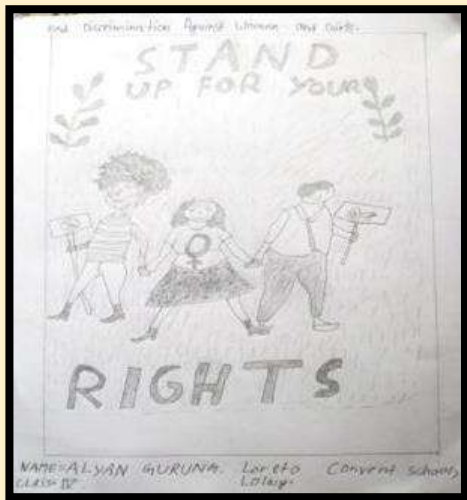
A water footprint is an indicate that looks at both the direct and indirect water use of an individual business, community, city or country.

We can reduce direct water footprint by –

- Turning off the tap while brushing our teeth.
- Using water saving toilets.
- Using buckets in bathroom instead of shower.
- Using eco- friendly cleaning products.
- We can recycle our waste water, purifying it so it can be used to recharge groundwater.

We can Reduce, Reuse, Recycle our water. If we do not reduce our water footprint there might be change in climate which is expected to bring droughts. We must find new ways to meet the demands of a growing population facing crisis of water in coming days. Planning for future water Shortages and making smart choices is the only way to ensure sufficient supplies to meet all our needs while protecting the environment.

Shriya Rai Class V



Alyan Gurung Class IV



Aanmary Rai Class IV

Gender Equality

Economic justice is a set of principles for which economic infrastructure is developed, where the ultimate goal is to create an environment with equal opportunity for each individual and to establish a material foundation of which people can achieve a creative, dignified and productive life.

Since very beginning there have been differences between the two genders (male and female). Feminism is the movement that has always stood up for women's rights. It recognizes the idea that individuals are treated differently based on their biological identities and there still exist a dominance of the male gender. No matter what the environment is, be it a school or work, women are treated in subordinate manner.

We can achieve a peaceful and better society with gender equality, as well as full human potential and overall development.

Shristi Tamang Class IV

LORETO CONVENT INTERMEDIATE COLLEGE, LUCKNOW

GENDER INEQUALITIES IN EDUCATION

Gender inequality in education is regarded as the major impediment within the course of overall progress of the system of education. Girls have been discriminated against in terms of various aspects as compared to their male counterparts. The primary aspect in terms of gender inequality has been experienced is in participation. Girls were provided with less participation opportunities as compared to their male counterparts and hence, it led to prevalence of gender inequality. In rural communities, this problem has been more severe as compared to urban communities. Therefore, it is vital to formulate measures and programs that are focused upon making provision of equal rights and opportunities to girls, not only within the course of acquisition of education, but also in the implementation of other job duties.

Nishtha Saxena XII

ECONOMIC JUSTICE: ASK FOR IT LADIES, NOW!

The rate of female unemployment is increasing rapidly not only in India, but also around the world. As a result, the economy is falling down in the fastest way. Women are in need of economic justice now more than any other time.

Household duties pertaining to marriage or children is the leading cause of female unemployment. Despite being multitasking, women can only take so much toll on their health. Other reasons include workplace harassment, or manipulation by in-laws or husband to quit.

It's high time we address the elephant in the room, and bring back the ladies into the offices.

Shubhangi Bisht XI (Hum.)



Jessica Bennett Class XI (Hum.)



Riddhima Singh Class 12 (Sc.)

Economic Justice & Women's Rights

Economic justice means overall economic prosperity while Women's rights are human rights!

Women's rights are human. These include the right to live free from violence and discrimination; to enjoy the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health; to be educated; to own property; to vote; and to earn an equal wage.

We are all entitled to human rights & social justice. The goal of Economic Justice is to create opportunities for all to thrive and that prosperity and justice go hand-in-hand rather than in opposition to one another.

Yaashaswini Talwar XII C

Increasing Water Footprints: Clean Them Up Now!

Water crisis is not something unheard of by the world, yet we choose to ignore this issue like every other problem out there. The average adult human consumes about 3 liters of water, as a result of which 15 liters of water go down the drain to fulfill our requirements.

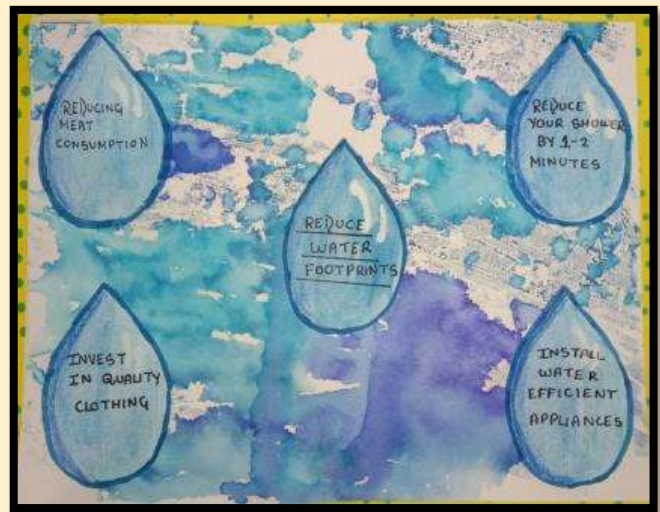
There are various simple methods we can use to reduce our water footprints, such as: closing the water tap while brushing our teeth, using buckets instead of showers, and giving leftover water to plants.

We need to be more aware of our water footprints and must enlighten others as well.

Zainab Fatima XII



Mridulika Mukherjee Class 11 (Sc.)



Shubhangi Bisht XI (Hum.)



Ishanvi Jain Class IX C

ST. AGNES' LORETO DAY SCHOOL, LUCKNOW

WATER SPEAKS

Not a single day is passed
When I'm not left aghast
To see how much the humans can go to waste me vast.

You can call it accidental,
But believe it or not,
I'm wasted each day in tones and quintals!

They say that the humans are gifted with brains to think,
But when it comes to me
Why is all their knowledge wasted in a blink?

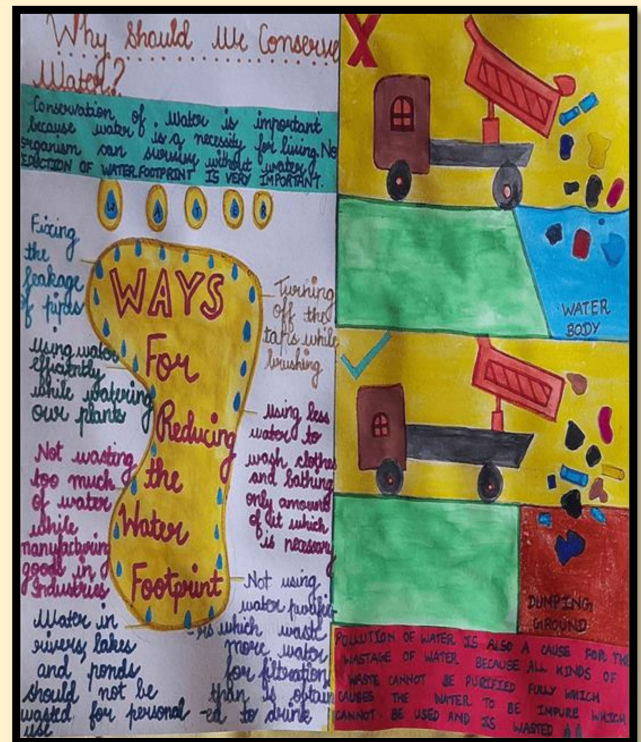
I vouch to teach you now
'cause I'm sure at last,
you will be left with the reaction how!
But if you want it to be WOW
Then, you must brace up now!

Turn off the tap while brushing your teeth
Do not waste water
Rather store it beneath.

Favor me by taking a shower shorter,
And be smarter like a martyr
And swear not to waste any more water.

Listen to me oh dear humans!
Quit the act of being like demons
Or you shall harm our very precious Mother Earth
For ignoring the reason in the season!

Vaishnavi Shukla IX B



Anjali Sharma VIII B

THE WATER FALL

Water, such a precious commodity
Unfortunately, its value is not realized
In future we'll have to pull strings,
To suffice the needs of humankind.

You can build fire, you can clear land
But Water is an element made only by His hand

It is finite, and we will run out some day
So we better learn to reduce our footprints
For future generations' on their way

Gallons of water go to waste daily
Aren't we using it too mindlessly?
Huge waves wash upon the shore
But are they as clean as they were before?

Be mindful of how you put water to use
everyday
And make sure the consumption rate does not
go astray
The world is in much greater danger than can
be assumed
So, take action quick, or we're all doomed.

WHAT CAN A GIRL DO WITH BOOKS?

Your machine-like hand holds the broom,
It always does at five,
You dust the house, you sweep his room,
Where he is fast asleep.

You serve your brother his breakfast,
And then you leave for school,
For nowadays even girls get asked,
If they're educated.

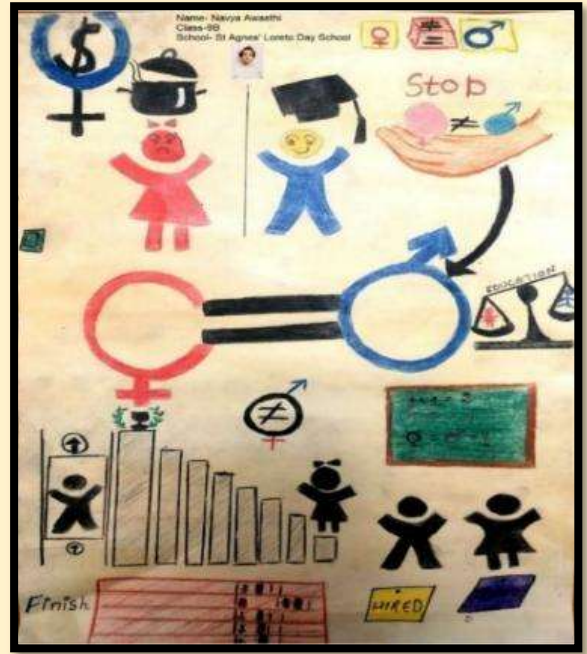
You get your lunch after he's done,
He studies while you work,
Maths isn't something you need learn,
You should learn how to cook.

For when you're married, at fourteen,
They'll pull you out of school,

What then will know English mean,
When you're in the kitchen.

It's hard for girls like you to thrive,
Girls who like words and books,
The girls whose eyes once used to shine,
Till society caged them.

Sanskriti Agarwal VIII C



Navya Awasthi IX B

RIGHT TO EDUCATION

Around the world, inequalities on the basis of gender is experienced even in education. Girls are often made to drop out of school adhering to certain factors such as child marriage, lack of proper period protection and so on. Girls are often asked to help in household chores rather than to go out and study. They are thought to be the inferior gender due to which they are deprived of something as important as education. Education is a birth right which should be given to everyone irrespective of their gender.

Japneet Kaur VIII A

GENDER INEQUALITY IN EDUCATION

The most common reasons for Gender gap are:

1. Poverty
2. Disabilities
3. Violence
4. Lack of infrastructure

Gender inequality in education is a major problem within the Indian society, especially for the girls, belonging to economically weaker section of the society. The major factors that contribute to education gaps are, socio-economic factors, cultural view points and thinking among individuals and communities regarding the education of girls. In educational institutions, gender inequality has been experienced. Girls have been discriminated against in terms of various aspects of as compared to their male counterparts. Girls and boys see gender inequality in their homes and communities.

Ananya Sharma 7 B

LORETO SCHOOL, PANIGHATA



Sarika Chettri VII A



Priyanka Sauriya Class IX



Mallika Biswakarma Class VIII

LORETO CONVENT RANCHI

ECONOMIC JUSTICE AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS

The concept of economic justice intersects with the idea of overall economic prosperity. There is a belief that creating more opportunities for all members of society to earn viable wages will contribute to sustained economic growth. When more citizens are able to provide for themselves and maintain stable discretionary income, they are more likely to spend their earnings on goods, which in turn drive demand in the economy.

Achieving economic justice can include addressing wage gaps and other deficiencies in individual earnings. For instance, there may be members of the workforce employed in jobs who do not make full use of their skills. This typically leads to workers earning wages that do not reflect the full potential of their professional abilities. As a result, they do not earn the highest income of which they are capable of. Such a loss of possible wages creates inefficiency in the economy because those workers will not have the income to participate to their fullest in it. If this inefficiency reaches significant magnitude—wherein large portions of the population are not purchasing goods and services they might have otherwise spent their earnings on—it can slow the economy.

Around the world, women perform the worst work, earn less than men, do more unpaid work, and bear the brunt of the widening wealth gap. Women in India represent 29 percent of the labour force, down from 35 percent in 2004. More than half of the work done by women in India is unpaid, and almost all of it is informal and unprotected.

Women are not well represented in most sectors, including business leaders. Though they comprise almost 40 percent of agricultural labour, they control only 9 percent of land in India. Women are also shut out of the formal financial system. Nearly half of Indian women do not have a bank or savings accounts for their own use and 60 percent of women have no valuable assets to their name. It is unsurprising then that at 17 percent, India has a lower share of women's contribution to the GDP than the global average of 37 percent. In addition, women face great physical insecurity.

The rate of crimes against women in India stands at 53.9 percent. In Delhi, the capital city, 92 percent of women reported having experienced sexual or physical violence in public spaces. More than half of Indian women don't have cell phones, and 80 percent don't use them to connect to the internet. If equal number of women had phones as men, it could create US\$17 billion in revenue for phone companies in the next 5 years.

The Government of India's MUDRA scheme to support micro and small enterprises and direct benefit transfers under the Jan Dhan Yojana seeks to empower women. Women entrepreneurs account for about 78 percent of the total number of borrowers under MUDRA. In addition, as employers, the private sector can invest in women's security against violence at home and in public spaces, and take steps to ensure their mobility through inclusive transport.

Tanisha Panjwani IX 'B'



Hrishita Jha IX 'B'



Aakshita Shrivastava IX 'C'

ADEQUATE MEASURES/ACTIONS TO SAVE THE ENVIRONMENT

Environment is the nature and surrounding in which all plants, animals, humans and other living beings live and operate. It provides all the resources for our survival like air, water and sunlight. Human activities leading to the development of the world have caused serious damage to our environment to the extent that very survival of our planet has become a question.

Our endeavor for rapid development leading to over utilisation of natural resources and environmental pollution is a serious concern which requires immediate attention otherwise it will have catastrophic effects on our planet in future.

Environmental degradation is causing global warming, raising the sea level leading to submerging of many coastal landmasses, melting ice cover at high altitude leading to degradation of river water and surrounding fertile land, ozone layer depletion etc.

There are many ways to save the environment. We should protect our green cover as it not only provides oxygen but helps maintain Ozone layer intact and minimises the effect of industrial pollution. So, people must be encouraged to plant more trees.

Instead of fuels like petrol and diesel which lead to release of carbon dioxide, CNG gas must be used in vehicles. Electric vehicles should also be used. Farmers should not use harmful chemicals such as fertilisers and pesticides which pollute the soil and make it infertile for agriculture. Industries should not dump their wastes into water bodies as they cause water pollution.

Management of waste is also an important measure to protect the environment. Plastic must be banned all over the world as it is the most serious cause of environmental pollution. We should also practice segregation of wastes. We should adopt the formula of 3R, i.e. reduce, reuse and recycle. We should use renewable energy resources like solar and wind energy instead of non-renewable energy resources like coal and petroleum energy. Finally, in order to reduce the load on environment we should encourage population control.

We must follow the measures to protect our environment so that we and our future generations can live and survive on this planet.

Advika Ranjan VII 'C'

REDUCE WATER FOOTPRINT

“Reckless people please understand Without water it is hard to withstand.”

There are five main natural elements on which a human can thrive- air, soil, water, fire and sky.

All five elements are interdependent and enjoy an intrinsic relation. If one of them is missing, the survival of humans will become impossible. Water is one of these essential elements.

Water footprint shows the consumption of water in respect with even a small fruit and a gigantic blue whale. Water footprint is the consumption of water for the formation of an element. There are three main components of water footprint.

Blue water footprint indicates the volume of surface and groundwater consumed.

Green water footprint indicates the volume of rainwater consumed. Grey water footprint is the amount of water required to adjust pollutants and maintain water quality. Water is used in manufacturing almost everything. For example, 1 almond uses 1 gallon for its production, the consumption of 1 avocado is 60 gallons of water.

Therefore, water footprint is important in every sphere. Without the minimum presence of water requirement by a living being, the being would die on grounds of dehydration.

Due to our haste and wastage of water 1 billion people do not have access to freshwater in developing countries.

We should use it as our need and treasure it. If only we are determined to fight in this catastrophic situation, there are several ways in which we can reduce water misuse.

The first step is very important and simple yet among the most neglected. It is to stop the wastage of food. We should eat only what we require. Eating more than our requirement is known as excessive intake of food. On wasting food, the water footprint required to compose it is also wasted. Even the slightest drop of water should be saved because every drop of water is precious. Our population is 7 billion worldwide. If each person saves at least one drop then those 7 billion drops will combine to form a huge lake. If each person starts saving more water, then probably, the world will transform into a better place with less shortage of water. One should carefully close the water tap after its effective use. The flow of water coming out of taps should be kept low. More water is saved while using a bucket instead of a pipe while washing a vehicle.

Water is a precious gift given to us. We have a great responsibility to save it. We should carry out this responsibility with a sense of pleasure. Water conservation is so important that it should stay topmost in our thoughts and concerns and always instigate us to do the same. We still have time to save water and it is not too late to gain our consciousness towards it as it is rightly said that “It is better late than never.”

LORETO CONVENT, SADAM



Yankila Lepcha, Class IV



Sawanam Rai, Class IV



Phuntchok Sherpa, Class V

LORETO DAY SCHOOL, SEALDAH**WATER FOOT PRINT**

Everything we use, wear, buy, sell and eat takes water to make. The water footprint measures the amount of water used to produce each of the goods and services we use. It can be measured for a single process, such as growing rice, for a product, such as a pair of jeans, for the fuel we put in our car, or for an entire multi-national company.

Freshwater is a scarce resource; its annual availability is limited and demand is growing. Good information about water footprints of communities and businesses will help to understand how we can achieve a more sustainable and equitable use of fresh water. There are many spots in the world where serious water depletion or pollution takes place: rivers running dry, dropping lake and groundwater levels and endangered species because of contaminated water.

Green water footprint is water from precipitation that is stored in the root zone of the soil and evaporated, transpired or incorporated by plants. It is particularly relevant for agricultural, horticultural and forestry products.

Blue water footprint is water that has been sourced from surface or groundwater resources and is either evaporated, incorporated into a product or taken from one body of water and returned to another, or returned at a different time. Irrigation agriculture, industry and domestic water use can each have a blue water footprint.

Grey water footprint is the amount of freshwater required to assimilate pollutants to meet specific water quality standards. The grey water footprint considers point - source pollution discharged to a freshwater resource directly through a pipe or indirectly through runoff or leaching from the soil, impervious surfaces, or other diffuse sources.

Causes

The four major factors determining the water footprint of a country are:

- *Volume of consumption
- *Consumption pattern
- *Climate
- *Agricultural practice

What can consumers do to reduce their water footprint:

- *Installing water saving toilets,
- * Cut down on wastage of water
- *Using less water in the garden
- *By not disposing medicines, paints or other pollutants in water-bodies
- *Taking shorter showers
- *Only washing clothes when necessary
- *Fixing household leaks.

Consumers can reduce their indirect water footprint by:

- *Eating less meat
- *Switching coffee for tea.
- *Cutting down on sugar.
- *Eating less processed food.
- *Consuming more local produce.
- * Buying quality, not quantity.

Snigdha Mitra X G

ECONOMIC JUSTICE AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Issues of economic justice disproportionately impact women, girls, and trans people. There are great disparities in both paid and unpaid work, job security, and opportunities.

Women execute multilateral role in the society i.e. as a breadwinner of her family, as a care taker of her family as a mother, wife, daughter and service provider to the society. In spite of the fact that their contribution towards the country's development is equal to that of their male counterpart, still they experience a number of limitations that restrain them from comprehending their potential for development.

The Millennium Development Goal on gender equality and women's empowerment can be realised in India only when the traditional practices like female infanticide, dowry deaths, honour killings by khap panchayats, domestic violence, or sexual abuse is eliminated. It is only then that gender equality and women's empowerment can become a reality.

Arpita Ghosh X G

THE PETROLEUM OF 21ST CENTURY

Water is indispensable for sustaining life on earth and is one of the basic rights of any human being. Haplessly, our planet is losing all its fresh water sources whereas the population has been rising significantly. Although 71% of the earth's surface is covered by water, the majority (70%) of it is saline. So, the remaining 1% of water of the earth's surface consists of fresh water which is crucial for the survival of the human race. Rivers are one of the main sources of fresh water which have been drying, getting polluted by the pesticides, fertilizers, harmful chemicals or even by household waste. It has been found that the demand for water is increasing substantially due to increase in population, urbanization, industrialization and rising agricultural production.

Water use is growing twice the rate of population growth. Still there are 2.1 billion people lacking access to safe water. It has been estimated that more than 2.2 million people die each year from diseases related to contaminated drinking water and poor sanitation. By the year 2050, water scarcity will affect two to seven billion people out of the total population of 9.3 billion.

Wastage of food causes water foot print to increase as for agriculture we spend gallons and gallons of water. For example, to produce one kilogram of bread 1,608 liters of water is required and 5,060 liters of water is required to produce 1kg of cheese. Textile industries also require a huge amount of water as 2,500 liters of water is needed for producing one T-shirt. So, wastage of food and cloth is indirectly linked to the wastage of water.

So, it's the responsibility of each individual to reduce water foot print making earth a greener and healthier. The following measures can be taken to reduce the water footprint:

1. Rain water harvesting- This helps in the conservation of rain water which can be used by the regions facing crisis of water.
2. Planting more trees- As we know trees bring rainfall so, more trees mean more rainfall which can help people who are facing scarcity of water.
3. Waste water treatment- By waste water treatment we can remove contaminations from the waste Water and use the purified water for our needs.
4. Disposal of garbage- We find rivers getting clogged and dumped by garbage which contaminates the river water.
5. Close taps- We should always close taps when we are not using them. This prevents a huge amount of water from being wasted.
6. Fixing leaking pipes- Leaks in the water network creates unnecessary wastage of water.

Securing the future of our planet, we should encourage each other to come forward to reduce water foot print of each individual.

Manisha Pahari IX G

LORETO CONVENT SCHOOL, SHILLONG

GENDER INEQUALITIES IN EDUCATION

Gender inequality is embedded unfortunately in our society because of a gender bias that has been imbibed into the Indian mindset for generations lasting for several decades and has crept into the Indian mindset, which is a reflection of the Indian societal system of male dominance infused into the generations that incites malevolence. This is the most despicable behavioral act that can demolish a societal system which lacks temerity and boldness of the women who are susceptible to several values of male dominance and even acts of violence towards women which is a result of our culture headed by the males who are thought to be physically and mentally dominant structures of the society, perhaps aided by the temerity which is a fictional attitude, respected by a misogynistic society.

The entire episode is reflected by the general public, who shower accolades on such members thinking that it is a classic case of male dominance and has a clear reflection in their educational system. This has affected the regressive educational policy affecting millions of the girl and women education system which is a disgrace for the entire society and the country. This entire attitude has to be discarded and replaced by a female oriented mindset in order to resurrect the past mistakes that can somehow make a wholesome society of full women empowerment. As Gandhiji had said, women, Dalits and deprived sections should be included for the inclusive development of the whole country and their empowerment.

Siddhangana Nag, X A

ECONOMIC JUSTICE AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Economic Justice is a set of ethical and moral principles to promote just and equal rights among all human civilians. The main aim and goal of Economic Justice is to provide fair and equal opportunities for all, in all fields to create a better foundation on a dignified, creative; and in a whole, a better life.

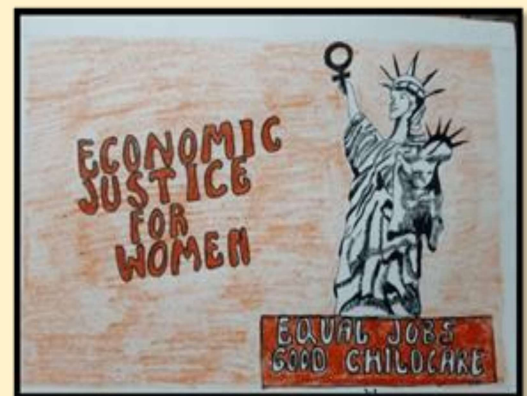
Women's rights are basic human rights and empowerment granted to females all over the world; irrespective of their race, caste, class, religion, etc.

All over the world, different rights are imposed to different people; women's rights in particular are vastly different from one country to another. In some countries, females are still forced into child marriages, arranged marriages and more. These in turn, result in large reports of domestic abuse, sexual abuse, mental abuse, verbal abuse and more. This results in mental illness and trauma in most women especially children. In most developing nations, females are forced to stay home and learn all household chores and are denied their basic right of education. Women and young girls represent 98% of the 4.5 annual victims of human trafficking and forced prostitution. Girls married off at a young age, mostly 15-19 years report most of the sexual, domestic and verbal abuse. In the summer of 2018, Saudi Arabia legalised female drivers making it the last nation to legalise female drivers; although in the Middle East and particularly in regions of Africa, it is still difficult for women to exercise the right to vote. This is in vast contrast to the United States where 19% of the House of Representatives are women and 23% of the Senate are also women.

In conclusion, Economic Justice and Women's Rights are vital elements in today's world. These two hands in hand would promote growth in the economy and regulating and checking unfair practices imposed in different fields on the basis of gender. These would also promote equal and fair practices in all fields of life.



Angeline Reuben, X A



Kohana Banerjee, VA

IT IS TIME

It is time to make the stew
As that is what we always have to do
It is time to wash the clothes
As this is how the story goes
Is it not time to think differently?
For this is not what we chose
We are always on our toes
Afraid that our pain might show
It is time for women to arise
Like the phoenix we will arise
It is time to raise a voice
It is time to make a choice

Nazreena Sunn, XII (Humanities)



Tanishtha, IV A

WATER FOOTPRINT

Water footprint is an important concept which most of us have probably heard of though very few know the exact meaning. When we think of water conservation, the first thing that comes to our mind is reducing our "domestic water consumption" - like closing the taps while brushing our teeth, taking a bath using buckets of water instead of showering and so on. But this is just the tip of the iceberg. Each day a person consumes over 3000 litres of virtual water while the domestic consumption is merely 150 litres per day. But what is this "virtual water"? And if it makes up such a big part of our total water consumption, how can we reduce its usage?

Virtual water is the volume of water used to produce a specific product, including everything we eat, buy and wear. In essence, it is all the "hidden water" behind a product. For instance, one cup of coffee contains 125ml of actual water but the water used to produce the ground coffee, from irrigating coffee plants to processing the beans, is nearly 1000 times more than that amount, at 132 litres. Therefore, the amount of water we physically use each day for washing and drinking is dwarfed by our virtual water usage. "Water footprint" is a measure of humanity's usage of fresh water in volumes of water consumed. It includes all the water consumed in everything we use, wear, buy, drink and eat. Therefore, it comprises both our virtual water as well as our domestic water consumption. So, now that we have understood what a water footprint is and what constitutes it, we can further discuss ways to reduce it.

Reducing our domestic water consumption is also very crucial but that would only make a small impact on our total water footprint. If we want to make a big impact, we need to reduce our virtual water usage too. This means that we need to start thinking a little more carefully about what we eat, buy and wear. For instance, try to switch to a more vegan diet as dairy and meat products require a lot of water to be produced. Cows consume hay, wheat, corn, oats, etc. These grains take in millions of litres of water to grow. Additionally, cows also drink water to stay hydrated. This further adds to the total virtual water calculation. Making processed food too is a water-intensive process therefore we must try consuming homemade food instead.

Clothes are another example of products that are very water thirsty. Let's think of it this way, pick out any one cotton t-shirt from your wardrobe. Did you know that on average, 2700 litres of water go into producing that one cotton t-shirt?

However, most importantly, we must sensitize people about the concept of virtual water and ways on how to conserve it because it is the power of understanding that can bring about change. Once we understand water truly, we will be able to use it wisely. Awareness about the idea of water footprint and virtual water will not provide a magic answer to the world's water problems but, it can help us understand our role as humans in the lifecycle of water on the earth.

GENDER EQUALITY IN EDUCATION

All through life there were distinctions with which we all have grown -

Science for Boys, Home Science for Girls

Shirts for Boys, Skirts for girls

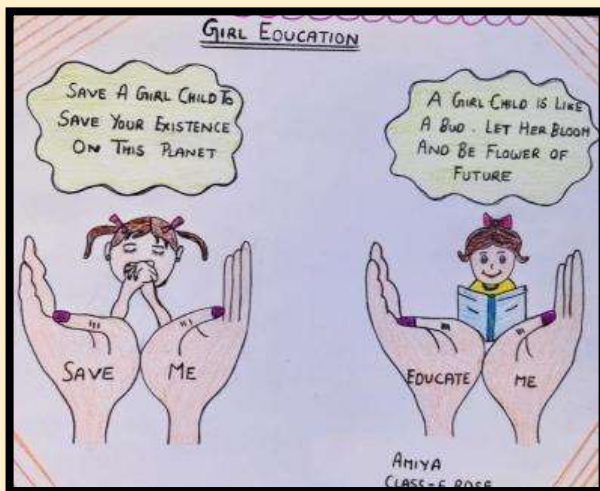
But the truth remains that when we shall bid adieu to this mortal world, Graves would be IDENTICAL.

When men are oppressed it's a tragedy but when women are oppressed it becomes a tradition. The Education 2030 agenda recognizes that gender equality requires an approach that 'ensures girls and boys, women and men not only gain access to complete education cycles, but are empowered equally in through education.' Education is a must for the development of not only an individual or family but for the entire nation as education is the only weapon by which people especially girls can win any battle or challenge bestowed upon them by life. However, only education is not what matters but right education is what actually does. The first teacher in anyone's life is his/her parents and education by them does not only mean what they are advocating but also what their very own conduct and actions are...

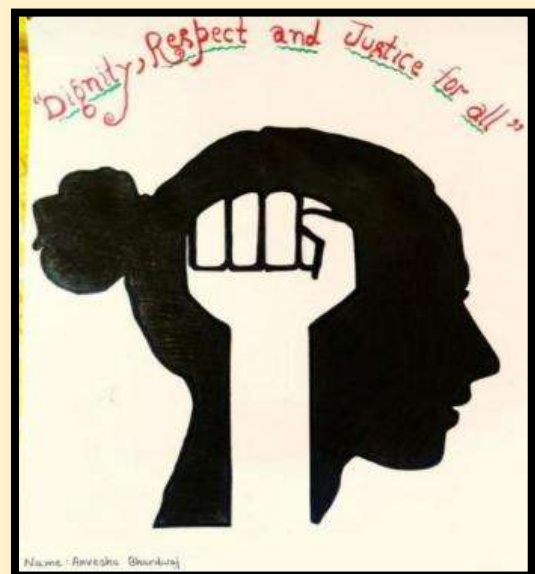
'A child is the mirror of the family; he reflects the moral purity of his parents.' 'What they see and hear, they do.... thus, be a good reflection to them.' Therefore, being the first and forever teacher to a child, it is the duty of each parent to bequeath his/her child not with riches, but with the spirit of reverence.

Gender equality in education is inevitable. Being critical to gender unfairness, children can help citizens or even the society to deal with this conflict and respond to intolerance and injustice in the real world. Studies have proved that the areas of the brain responsible for language and fine motor skills mature earlier in girls than in boys. Evidence shows that educators need to have gender awareness open to girls' and boys' choices in learning and development which in turn helps children explore who they are, make connections to people around them, as well as gain self-confidence, well-being, peer acceptance, and social support. If there is equality in education among the learners, mutual respect coupled with responsibility will usher in, which in turn would prevent violence against women and girls that is indispensable and essential for economic prosperity. Societies which value women and men as equal are safer and healthier. If we want to make our country developed, we need to fight out the menace of gender inequality.

Ridhi Mahajan 10 Tulip



Amiya Class VI Rose



Anvesha Bhardwaj Class VIII Tulip

REDUCE WATER FOOTPRINT

The mermaid was on a world tour over the oceans and the water bodies. She knew a golden rule that water should be put to best use as it is a precious resource. How would she travel? Water footprint is the answer. Consuming the water as required by her. She can't store the water as it symbolizes hoarding and using more than required.

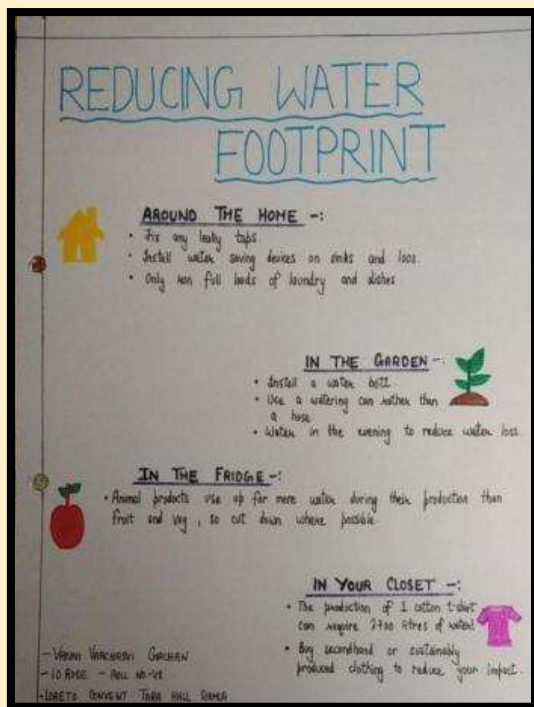
She sailed successfully on the blue water that is on the oceans and the underground water. The blue color teaches us to stay with peace and security. Yet, the mermaid knew that it is only possible if we use water as a precious gem, a sapphire.

Oh! She is stuck in the grey water. It is from the factories that grey water is entering the surface and she tries hard to swim as the water is trying to maintain its quality. She was in tears realising water footprint in the factories.

Ah! It was raining cats and dogs. Yes! It's the green water. The mermaid survived from the grey water and soaked herself in green water admiring the things around. When she saw things clearly, she realised it takes millions of tons of water to make food, shelter, necessities and luxuries.

Let's not let this mermaid get lost because of water scarcity. Let's reduce the consumption of water and use it sustainably.

Naina Goel (8 Rose)



Vaani V. Chauhan Class 10 Rose



Arhit Kaur Class VI Lily

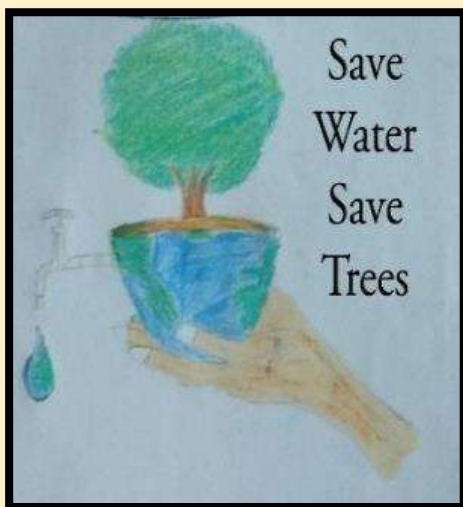
LORETO ST. VINCENT'S SCHOOL, THAKURPUKUR



Rishav Sarkar KG II



BoniMallik KG II



Arnab Das Class II



Ujjan Biswas Class II

জন্মভূমি

হে দেশ, হে আমার জননী,
কেমন করে তোমায় আমি বলি।
যে মাটিতে ভর দিয়ে আমি উঠে দাঁড়িয়েছি
আমি যা কিছু স্পর্শ করি কেবল তোমারই অনুভূতি
তুমি বিশ্ব জননী,
তুমি কখনো শীতল কখনো বা তপ্ত গ্রীষ্ম
কখনো আবার বর্ষার রাণী।
হে দেশ, হে আমার জননী,
তোমার কোলে মাথা রেখে দুঃখের দিনে
শুকিয়ে যায় আমার চোখের পানি।
হে দেশ, হে আমার জননী হে বিশ্ব জননী, গর্ভধারনী
তোমার কোলে কত পশু পাখির ঘর
আর কত গাছের ছাওয়া।
আর কত সমুদ্র কত নদী সেগুলি জলে ভরা।
হে দেশ, হে আমার জননী,
হে জননী যারা নিষ্ঠুর ভাবে তোমার বুকে আঘাত করেছে
আমার কখনও তাদের ক্ষমা করিনি।
হে দেশ, হে আমার জননী, আমার জন্মভূমি।

Rashi Roy Class V



Isha Naskar Class II



Trisha Bhuiya Class III



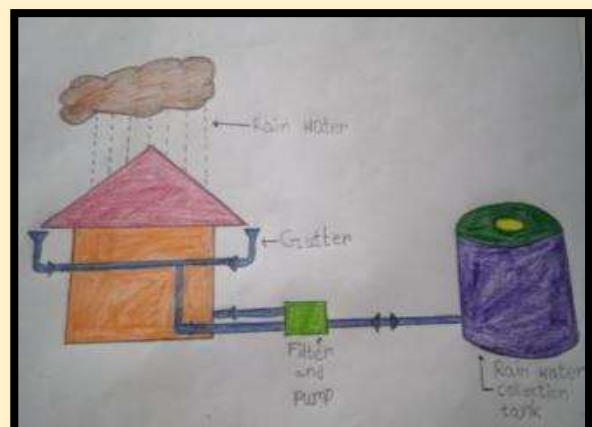
Bijoy Mondal Class IV



Ritika Mondal Class I



Shruti Roy Class II



Neha Sardar Class I

**UNTIL WE GET
EQUALITY IN
EDUCATION,
WE WON'T HAVE AN
EQUAL SOCIETY.”**

-Sonia Sotomayor



Ashlesha Pradhan, Class X, Loreto Convent,
Darjeeling



Mahirah Salahuddin IX A, Loreto Day School,
Dharamtala



Ankita Orown, Class IX, Loreto School, Panighata



Ishika Bhaduri, Class X B, Loreto Convent,
Asansol

**“GOD IS RICH
ENOUGH
FOR US ALL.”**

-Mary Ward (1585-1645)