Newsletter Nov 2020

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In September 2020, Newgen organized an online mother-daughter session with the beneficiaries of the Newgen alumni association. The main objective of the session was to interact with the parents of the beneficiaries, indulge them in an open conversation, and break the social stigmas impacting the female population. The need of the hour is to have a direct conversation with the girls and their mothers to understand the importance of equality and freedom.

## Chai Pe Charcha

The session brought together the daughters and mothers and sat them down with the Newgen facilitators over a cup of tea. "Chai Pe Charcha" discussed the primitive Indian social norms and their continued presence and implications on a modern society. The facilitators also briefed the participants about their basic human and citizen rights and highlighted its importance. During the session, cases of social injustices against women were also shared with the audience.

Ms. Neelam, an employee of Newgen Software Technology Limited, participated in the session and talked about her life, her education, and how she broke all the regressive norms that limited the growth of girls her age and became a software engineer in an IT company. Her story of courage and determination inspired every member of the audience.

## Female Rights and Security

The facilitators shared critical information with the parents regarding various police helplines that are dedicated to female security. Additionally, they were made aware of the sexual harassment committees at schools, colleges, and offices. This information was provided during the session to make the mothers feel at ease about the safety and security of their daughters and encourage them to help promote higher education among their children.

## To Conclude

The overall session was engaging and interactive, with active participation by the audience throughout. The mothers also opened up to their daughters about their own encounters with gender inequality, community restrictions, and social injustices. This session helped create a safe space for the mothers and daughters to freely share their experiences and openly talk about the hardships they may be facing. The participants asked the Newgen facilitators to regularly conduct such sessions. Interactions like these are a step in the right direction towards making the girls strongwilled and better prepared for the future.



Vaishali Shaarma

Facilitator - CSR

