REGISTRATION FEE
Academicians and others: Rs.700/-  Research scholars and students: Rs.300/-
The registration fee can be paid at the Seminar venue only.

TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION
Sleeper class fare will be given to participants whose paper is accepted for presentation. However the participants are requested to seek sponsorship of their institution for their travel. Moderate accommodation and local hospitality will be provided to outstation participants. In case of multi-authors, only one author will be paid travel charges.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS
The participants are advised to make their own travel arrangements and inform the arrival and departure dates for making necessary arrangements.

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**BACKGROUND**

Discrimination and Violence against girl child has assumed alarming proportions across the world today and it is an extremely critical issue in South Asian nations. Violence against a girl child manifests in diverse discriminatory practices that are deeply entrenched in the social structures of patriarchy, caste, ethnicity and class relations in India. Throughout history, cultural attitudes suggest the paradoxical status of women and the implications of these complexities across historical periods and contexts. The pre-colonial period witnessed the practices of oppression against the rights of women and gradual decline of their status until reformist movements initiated attempts to emancipate their status. Today, the most worrying attribute confronting the human race is the ‘very birth and survival of the girl child’ which in the recent times has become the most contentious issue and has drawn significant attention of the historians, demographers, policy makers, planners and scholars in India. Girls are ascribed a subdued status in family and are disadvantaged as the parental preference and allocation of care and family resources are centered on boys. Such discrimination ranges from education, provision for nutritious food, clothing and even medical care. Violence against girl child is an extreme form of discrimination—the root cause of this violence is ‘gender inequality’ and the cultural belief that boys are more valuable than girls. The result of these practices is the “systemic exclusion of girl child from participation in social life”.

The discrimination and violence against girl child starts even before birth, with an alarming rise in female foeticide in the last decade resulting in low sex ratio at birth (Census 2011). What is even more perplexing is that sex-selective abortions have increased among the more educated and affluent Indians even in relatively wealthy states such as Delhi, Punjab, Maharashtra and Haryana. (Lancet study and Miller, 2013). For countless girls, this violence continues through childhood and into womanhood; and thus it has become a truism that almost every young woman has experienced some level of discrimination or harassment. It is also not confined to a certain class or section of society though unthinkable of the plight of girls belonging to marginalized communities who suffer greater degree of violence and discrimination due to their inherent vulnerabilities.

Violence against girl child has assumed numerous forms such as foeticide, infanticide including sex-selective abortions, honor killings, acid attacks, bridals deaths, trafficking etc. in addition to child abuse in family, school, work and social spaces. It needs mention that every two out of three school children reported facing corporal punishment. About 70.21 per cent of children were in conflict with law incarcerating in juvenile institutions with 52.86 per cent of children in need of care and protection and were found to have been physically abused. It may be stated that all these are instances of gross violation of human rights. It is no denying the fact that there were sincere policy initiatives taken at the global and national level in the form of Conventions on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), Millennium Development Goals, Constitutional provisions, The Pre Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994, The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 and a host of other laws aimed to protect the dignity and ensure survival of the girl child. Notwithstanding these landmark declarations and important legislations, discrimination and violence against girl child continues unabated and is an impediment to realization of the objective of attaining ‘gender equality’.

**THEMES OF THE SEMINAR**

- Girl child issues in Pre Colonial, Colonial and contemporary Times
- Discriminatory and Exclusionary Practices against girl child
- Declining Child Sex Ratio in India-- Issues and Concerns of girl child
- Issues of girl child relating to Sex selective abortions and Female Foeticide
- Violence against Girl Child and Trafficking of girls including Cyber and other Crimes
- Girl child labour including domestic servants
- Girl Child issues among the Marginalized sections
- Social and Economic Issues concerning girl child
- Health, Education and Development Issues of girl child
- Issues of girl child in conflict with law including victims of armed conflict and those in custody
- Girl Child Protection and Human Rights-National and International Policy Initiatives
- Any other issue relating to girl child including Case and Intervention Studies on any of the above themes

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

Papers are invited on any of the themes mentioned in the thrust areas

**MODE OF PRESENTATION**

Resource persons are invited to make presentations on any key theme. The duration of presentation for selected papers will be for 15 minutes.

**GUIDELINES FOR AUTHOR(s)**

- Abstract not exceeding 300 words typed on MS word format with title, name of authors(s), complete address, telephone number and e-mail of the author should reach the director of the seminar by a mail attachment to e-mail: girchisem2015@yahoo.com and the hard copy by 15th February, 2015. In case of co-authors, these details should also be provided for each co-author.
- Full papers along with abstracts not exceeding 5000 words should be mailed with separate file (in MS word) containing the cover page mentioning the title, author’s name, complete address, telephone number and e-mail of the author along with the hard copy by 20th February, 2015 to the Director, Centre for Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy, School of Social Sciences Building, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam-3 (AP). Correspondence shall be made to the first named author unless otherwise indicated.
- A committee will review the abstracts submitted and acceptance will be communicated to the authors subsequently.
- The selected papers will be published in an edited book.
- The authors are requested to send their abstracts and full papers to the following e-mail: girchisem2015@yahoo.com