GLOBAL SYMPOSIUM ON MENTAL HEALTH: GENDER, YOUTH & SOCIAL JUSTICE

Monday, 13 April, 2015 / INDIA INTERNATIONAL CENTRE

8:30 – 9:00  Registration

9:00 – 9:30  INAUGURATION
  • Kathleen M Pike: Columbia University
  • MC Misra: All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS)
  • Justice KG Balakrishnan: National Human Rights Commission

9:30 – 10:00  MENTAL HEALTH AS A GLOBAL HEALTH AND SOCIAL JUSTICE PRIORITY
  • Shekhar Saxena: World Health Organization (WHO)

10:00 - 10:30  SOCIAL JUSTICE PHILANTHROPY AND ADVANCING MENTAL HEALTH
  • Kavita Ramdas: Ford Foundation

10:30 - 11:00  Coffee Break

11:00 - 11:30  SEXUAL HEALTH, GENDER AND SOCIAL JUSTICE
  • Eszter Kismödi: Harvard Law School

11:30 - 13:00  MENTAL HEALTH, GENDER AND SOCIAL JUSTICE
  Panel Discussion
  • Padma Bhate-Deosthali: Centre for Enquiry into Health and Allied Themes
  • Mirai Chatterjee: Self Employed Women’s Association
  • Eszter Kismödi: Harvard Law School
  • María Elena Medina-Mora: National Institute of Psychiatry, Mexico
  • PM Nair: Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS)
  Moderator: Kathleen M Pike: Columbia University

13:00 - 14:15  Lunch

14:15 - 14:45  ADVOCATING FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS
  • Harsh Mander: Centre for Equity Studies, New Delhi

14:45 – 16:15  MENTAL HEALTH, CHILDREN, YOUTH AND SOCIAL JUSTICE
  Panel Discussion
  • Achal Bhagat: Saarthak
  • Anju Dhawan: AIIMS
  • Cary Kogan: University of Ottawa
  • Harsh Mander: Centre for Equity Studies, New Delhi
  • Poonam Natarajan: Vidya Sagar
  • Shekhar Seshadri: National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences
  Moderator: Brigitte Khoury: American University of Beirut

16:15 – 16:45  SUMMARY AND REFLECTIONS
  • Geoffrey Reed: WHO

16:45 – 16:50  VOTE OF THANKS
  • Pratap Sharan: AIIMS
JUSTICE KG BALAKRISHNAN is the Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission in India, committed to the cause of protection and promotion of human rights. During Justice Balakrishnan’s earlier tenure on the Supreme Court, he delivered several landmark judgments, including a mid-day meal programme as a statutory requirement that brought relief to millions of poor children who had otherwise had to discontinue their studies due to poverty.

ACHAL BHAGAT is a Senior Consultant Psychiatrist and Psychotherapist at Apollo Hospitals, and he serves as the Chairperson of Saarthak, a group of mental health organizations working on the issues of mental health in South Asia. Saarthak provides mental health services, trains people and organization on mental health and advocates for the rights of people living with mental illness. Working together with a multidisciplinary team, Dr. Bhagat is actively involved in the rights movements for gender rights, rights of persons with disabilities and the rights of persons with mental illness.

MIRAI CHATTERJEE is the Coordinator of Social Security for India’s Self-Employed Women’s Association, SEWA - a trade union of over 200,000 self-employed women. She is responsible for SEWA’s Health Care, Child Care and Insurance Programmes. Before this, she was General Secretary of SEWA. Ms. Chatterjee is on the boards of several organizations in India, including the Friends of Women’s World Banking (FWWB) and HealthWatch. She has been a member of national task forces on social security, health and poverty reduction. Most recently, she was appointed to the National Advisory Council and the National Commission for the Unorganised Sector.

ANJU DHAWAN is currently a Professor of Psychiatry at the National Drug Dependence Treatment Centre. Dr. Dhawan has been instrumental in the development and scale-up of India’s Opioid Substitution Treatment Programme under the National AIDS Control Organization. She is also responsible for piloting the first ever Methadone Maintenance Treatment Programme in India. Additional interests include the community-based treatment of substance use disorders and drug abuse in street children, especially Inhalant abuse and dependence. Dr. Dhawan is Vice President of the Sri Sri Global Meditating Doctors Association.

PADMA BHATE-DEOSTHALI is the Director of the Centre for Enquiry into Health and Allied Themes (CEHAT), an organization that believes in socially relevant and rigorous academic health research and health action for the well being of the disadvantaged masses, for strengthening people’s health movements and for realizing the right to health care. Ms. Deosthali coordinated the establishment of Dilaasa, a public hospital crisis centre created to respond to survivors of domestic violence. She is a member of the Steering Group of the Guidelines Development group of WHO, responsible for developing guidelines for responding to Intimate Partner violence and sexual assault in low and middle income countries.

BRIGITTE KHOURY is a Clinical Psychologist and an Associate Professor at the American University of Beirut, Department of Psychiatry, in Beirut, Lebanon. She is the director of the Clinical Psychology training program, as well as the director of the Arab Regional Center for research, training and policy making in mental health. Dr. Khoury is a member of the advisory group with the World Health Organization for the revision of the ICD-10, and the coordinator of the clinical field studies held in the Arab region. She was the Chair of the drafting committee for the Women’s Health and Development Forum which was held recently at the United Nations headquarters in New York, focused on women’s health goals post 2015-2030.

ESZTER KISMÖDI is an international human rights lawyer on sexual and reproductive health law, policy and research. Having worked as a human rights advisor at the WHO, Department of Reproductive Health and Research, she most recently held the post of visiting scholar at Harvard Law School and presently works as an independent human rights lawyer for a number of United Nations agencies, international organizations and NGOs. Kismödi’s work includes the contribution to the reclassification of gender expression and other sexuality related matters for the ICD-11 process.

CARY KOGAN is Associate Professor of Clinical Psychology at the University of Ottawa and Director of Clinical Training for the internship programme at the University’s Centre for Psychological Services and Research. Dr. Kogan conducts translational neuroscience research in the area of neurodevelopmental disorders with a particular interest in Fragile X Syndrome. He has developed novel experimental tasks that allow for assessment of the functioning of perceptual and cognitive mechanisms that recruit selective neural pathways. While on sabbatical at the WHO, Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, he contributed to the revision process for the Mental and Behavioural Disorders chapter of the ICD-11.
HARSH MANDER is Honorary Director of the Centre for Equity Studies, a social worker and writer, having worked in the Indian Administrative Service in the states of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh for almost two decades, mainly as the head of district governments of tribal districts. He is associated with social causes and movements related to communal harmony, tribal, dalit, and disability rights, the right to information, custodial justice, homeless people and bonded labor. Mander is Special Commissioner appointed by the Supreme Court of India advising on the Right to Food case on hunger and state responsibility.

MARÍA ELENA MEDINA-MORA is the General Director of the National Institute of Psychiatry de la Fuente Muniz in Mexico, and a member of the Board of Directors at the National Autonomous University in Mexico. Dr. Medina-Mora has a particular expertise in drug abuse and in developing, implementing and evaluating science-based demand-reduction strategies. As an epidemiologist, she has served as temporal advisor for the WHO and the Pan-American Health Organization since 1976 and as a member of the WHO Expert Committee on Addictions since 1986. She is the Chair of the WHO ICD-11 Field Studies Coordination Group.

MC MISRA is Director of All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS), having also served as head of the institute’s trauma centre. Dr. Misra is known as a leading surgeon and is also credited with developing AIIMS Trauma Centre into a model of care for emergency services in the country. He possesses multifaceted and wide-ranging interests and has contributed immensely to clinical practice related to Trauma Care Services, Gastrointestinal Surgery, and Surgical Oncology.

PM NAIR served in the Indian Police Service for 35 years. He has investigated and prosecuted several crimes of child abuse, sex offences against women and children, and human trafficking both national and international. As the Nodal Officer of the National Human Right Commission on anti-human trafficking, he was the principal researcher in the Action Research on Trafficking in Women and Children in India. Dr. Nair is now Chair Professor with the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai.

POONAM NATARAJAN is a pioneer of disability and development activities in India and founder and chairperson of Vidya Sagar, an organization working with children and young adults with cerebral palsy and other neurodevelopmental disability, their families and the communities they live in. As former Chairperson of the National Trust at the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, she was engaged in making disability policies, legislation and programmes rights-based and people-centered. She has pioneered a range of programmes for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the area of health insurance, livelihoods and assisted living.

KATHLEEN M. PIKE is currently Executive Director and Scientific Co-Director of the Global Mental Health Program at Columbia University where her ongoing work includes the training and education of international scholars and a broad array of programs designed to bring greater awareness of mental illness as the leading cause of disability worldwide. She is Professor of Psychology in Psychiatry and Epidemiology and Senior Supervising Psychologist in the Center for Eating Disorders, both at Columbia University Medical Center. Since 2012, Dr. Pike leads Columbia’s collaboration with the World Health Organization and the Global Mental Health Program at Columbia serves as the Data Coordinating Center for the field trials currently being conducted globally that will contribute to the revision of the International Classification of Diseases – ICD-10.

KAVITA RAMDAS serves as the Ford Foundation Representative for India, Nepal and Sri Lanka, where she oversees grant making in the region, focusing on issues of equality, inclusion, economic fairness, freedom of expression, human rights, sexuality and reproductive health and rights. Ms. Ramdas applies her considerable negotiating skills to leverage relationships with government, civil society and the private sector to advance social justice. The founder and first Executive Director of the Program on Social Entrepreneurship at Stanford University’s Spogli Institute for International Studies, Ramdas also served as president and CEO of the Global Fund for Women, which grew under her leadership to become the world’s largest public foundation for women’s rights. During her tenure, the fund’s assets increased from $3 million to $21 million - giving women in more than 170 countries access to financial capital that fueled innovation and change.
GEOFFREY M. REED joined WHO in 2008 as Senior Project Officer for the Revision of ICD-10 Mental and Behavioural Disorders in the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse. As Senior Project Officer, he is responsible for Management of all activities related to development of chapters on Mental and Behavioural Disorders, Sleep-Wake Disorders, and Sexuality-Related Conditions and Dysfunctions for the Eleventh Revision of the World Health Organization’s International Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD-11). Dr. Reed is a leading expert on classification in mental health, has consulted to a wide variety of countries and health systems, and has published numerous scientific articles in several languages on mental health nosology and other health policy areas. His recent publications describe the results of large, collaborative, international field studies intended to inform early decisions about the basic structure and content of the ICD-11 classification of mental and behavioural disorders.

SHEKHAR SAXENA serves as the Director of the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse at the World Health Organization and as joint leader of the Mental Health Innovation Network. Dr. Saxena is a psychiatrist with over 30 years of experience in research and programme management, service delivery and information systems in the area of mental health, especially in low and middle income countries. Dr. Saxena led WHO’s Mental Health Atlas and WHO Assessment Instrument for Mental Health Systems which have been used in more than 80 countries, and he is responsible for the implementation of WHO’s mental health Gap Action Programme on scaling up care for mental, neurological and substance use disorders in low and middle income countries. In adopting the Action Plan, WHO’s 194 member states have formally recognized the importance of mental health and have committed to take specific actions to improve mental health, with agreement on specific and measurable global targets and indicators as a way to monitor implementation, progress and impact. Dr. Saxena is currently working towards implementing the WHO Comprehensive Mental Health Action Plan 2013-2020.

SHEKHAR SESHADRI is Professor, Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Department of Psychiatry, National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS), Bangalore. Besides working in child and adolescent mental health including developmental disabilities, he is actively involved in the areas of gender and sexuality, violence/trauma and abuse, children in difficult circumstances, juvenile justice, experiential methodologies, school programmes/teacher training in life skills education, school mental health programmes, forum theatre and qualitative research.

PRATAP SHARAN is currently with the Department of Psychiatry, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi. He was earlier associated with the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education & Research, Chandigarh and World Health Organization, Geneva. He is a Member of WHO International Advisory Group for the Revision of ICD-10 Mental and Behavioural Disorders. He has served as the President of the Indian Association for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and as the Editor of Journal of Indian Association for Child and Adolescent Mental Health.

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