



CHRIST
(DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)
BENGALURU · INDIA

KARNATAKA INSTITUTE FOR LAW AND PARLIAMENTARY REFORM

in collaboration with

**SCHOOL OF LAW, CHRIST (DEEMED TO BE
UNIVERSITY), BANGALORE**

presents

CONFERENCE ON REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS AND POLICY TRANSFORMATION

on

15TH APRIL, 2025

CONFERENCE CHAIR
Prof. Dr. Valarmathi R
Dr. Chaitra R.B.

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ABOUT KILPAR

The Karnataka Institute for Law and Parliamentary Reform (KILPAR) was established in 2005 under the Department of Law, Justice, and Human Rights, Government of Karnataka, following a State Cabinet decision. To ensure autonomy, it is registered under the Karnataka Societies Registration Act, 1960. The Governing Council, with the Chief Minister as President and the Law Minister as Vice President, oversees its functioning.

KILPAR focuses on law and parliamentary reforms through research, drafting legislation, legal awareness, and training. It has published 85 research-based books, conducted over 300 seminars on socially relevant legal topics, and organized model legislative assemblies at zonal and state levels, including exclusive sessions for women. Additionally, it provides training for government advocates and prosecutors. Committed to its objectives, KILPAR continues to expand its initiatives with innovative programs.



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ABOUT SCHOOL OF LAW

School of Law, is a part of CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bangalore. The parent University, a premier educational institution, is an academic fraternity dedicated to the motto of 'Excellence and Service' and has an already proven history of success in the field of education.

CHRIST, formerly Christ College, has the rare distinction of being the first institution in Karnataka to be accredited by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), UGC, and currently has an A+ grade as accredited in 2022 for quality education. Located in a beautiful expansive campus of CHRIST, (Deemed to be University), Bangalore, School of Law, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bangalore is an institute imparting world-class legal education not only to students from various parts of the country but also from the Middle East and Mauritius. The courses are approved by the Bar Council of India.



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CONCEPT NOTE

Gender sensitization is vital for an equitable legal framework, addressing systemic biases in policies, enforcement, and judicial interpretation. The National Conference on Reproductive Rights & Policy Transformation, organized by the Karnataka Institute for Law and Parliamentary Reform (KILPAR) in collaboration with the Gender Studies Committee, School of Law, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bangalore, aims to bridge academic research and policy recommendations on gender-related legal issues.

The Conference will critically evaluate legal frameworks, judicial interpretations, and policy implementation while exploring contemporary challenges like digital gender-based violence, gender-neutral laws, and international conventions in Indian jurisprudence. It promotes interdisciplinary approaches, integrating insights from sociology, psychology, and human rights advocacy to develop inclusive legal reforms. Providing a platform for scholars, policymakers, practitioners, and students, it seeks to identify legal gaps and drive progressive reforms to ensure gender justice.



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We invite single as well as co-authored Research Papers from students, scholars and academicians interested in the subject-matter.

THEMES:

1. Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) and Reproductive Rights

- Legal and ethical dimensions of abortion laws in India, particularly under the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971 (amended in 2021).
- Access to safe abortion services, the autonomy of pregnant individuals in decision making, the role of healthcare providers, and the challenges in implementing MTP laws.
- Debate on the gestational limit, abortion for unmarried women, and judicial intervention in abortion cases.

2. Surrogacy Laws and the Rights of Surrogate Mothers

- Impact of the Surrogacy (Regulation) Act, 2021 on intended parents, surrogate mothers, and the rights of children born through surrogacy.
- Commercial v. altruistic surrogacy, the inclusion/exclusion of LGBTQIA+72 and single parents.
- Potential reforms to make surrogacy laws more inclusive and balanced.



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THEMES:

3. Legal Challenges in Artificial Reproduction

- **Emerging medical technologies such as womb implantation and artificial wombs: legal implications on reproductive rights, parental rights, and gender norms.**
- **Potential amendments in Indian surrogacy and reproductive laws to address these futuristic medical developments.**
- **Fertility preservation: egg freezing, embryo storage, and their usage in cases of disputes (e.g., divorce or death of a partner): ethical and legal questions**

4. LGBTQIA+ Parenthood and Assisted Reproductive Technologies (ART)

- **Legal hurdles faced by LGBTQ+ individuals in accessing reproductive services**
- **Evolving definitions of parenthood and international best practices in inclusive reproductive rights.**



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THEMES:

5. Consent and Bodily Autonomy in Reproductive Healthcare

- Importance of informed consent in medical procedures such as abortion, sterilization, and assisted reproduction.
- Role of the judiciary in upholding reproductive choices as a fundamental right under Article 21 of the Constitution.
- Reproductive Autonomy in Personal Laws

6. Reproductive Health and Workplace Rights

- Workplace discrimination based on reproductive choices,
- Effectiveness of the Maternity Benefit Act
- Need for paternity leave to promote gender equality in caregiving responsibilities.



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SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- 1. All submissions must be made in English. The word limit for the abstract is 300 words (excluding keywords), and should be accompanied by 5 keywords.**
- 2. All submissions should be made in (.doc) or (.docx) format, and should be formatted in Times New Roman font style, font size 12, with 1.5 line-spacing, on A4-sized paper, with 1-inch margins on all sides.**
- 3. Abstracts should clearly mention the title of the proposed paper, the central idea of the paper and the research method to be applied in brief.**
- 4. All submissions must be original. If you want your submission to be considered for publication in the edited volume of the Centre, kindly ensure that it is not being considered for another publication simultaneously.**
- 5. Every abstract must be accompanied by a cover letter containing the name, affiliation, address and contact details (including the name & phone number) of the author(s). If there is more than one author, details of co-authors should also be mentioned.**
- 6. The abstracts must be mailed to the following email address: 'genderstudiescommittee@law.christuniversity.in'.**



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SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- 7. The email containing the communication of acceptance of abstracts will comprise a Google form link for registration, along with the deadline for registration.**
- 8. The paper must be original and free from plagiarism.**
- 9. The length of the full paper, including tables, diagrams, illustrations, references, etc., should be between 3000 to 6000 words.**
- 10. Headings should be in Times New Roman, font size 14, bold, center-aligned, with 1.5-line spacing.**
- 11. Subheadings should use Times New Roman, font size 13, italicized, with 1.15- line spacing.**
- 12. Footnotes must be in Times New Roman, font size 10, with single-line spacing.**
- 13. Papers should be accompanied by a cover page containing the name of the author(s), affiliation, address and contact details.**
- 14. The citation style shall be Bluebook (21st Edition).**
- 15. A maximum of one co-author is allowed per paper. All co-authors are required to register for the seminar.**
- 16. The submission must not contain more than 10% plagiarized content.**



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TIMELINE OF THE EVENT:

28.03.2025

SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS

30.03.2025

**COMMUNICATION OF
ACCEPTANCE OF
ACCEPTANCE**

10.04.2025

FULL PAPER SUBMISSION

15.04.2025

OFFLINE CONFERENCE



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CONTACT DETAILS:

For any queries, please reach out to us via:

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genderstudiescommittee@law.christuniversity.in

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF PARTICIPATION

All the final submissions shall be subjected to peer review and plagiarism check, thereupon which select papers would be considered for publication in an Edited Book.

All participants will receive an e-certificate of participation.



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ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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Director, School of Law

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Research Head (Law), KILPAR

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Dean, School of Law

Dr. Sapna S

***Associate Dean & Head of Department,
School of Law***

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