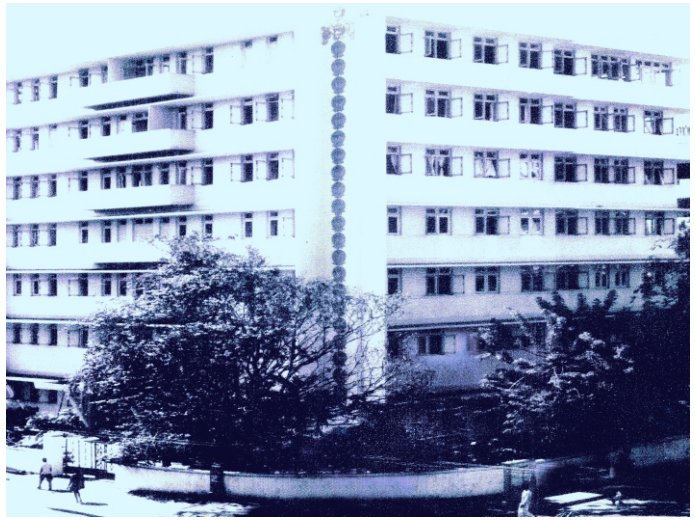
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Maharashtra

# Perspectives in Social Work

College of Social Work (Autonomous),
Nirmala Niketan
Mumbai

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***VISION AND MISSION***

- **Contribute to building a new social order based on human dignity and social justice.**
- **Work with a preferential option for the vulnerable and exploited, both locally and globally.**
- **Build cadre of young, competent professionals having a global perspective and a strong value base of compassion, personal integrity, moderation, tolerance and self-respect.**

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# GUIDELINES FOR WRITING DIFFERENT TYPES OF ARTICLES

I . **Writing an Article based on a Research Paper/Reports**.
This is an article based on an original research project/study, involving information from primary data sources. Such an article contains the following sections:

- Introduction
  - Description of the subject
  - Critical Summary of available information
  - Background of the research
  - Problem identification / analysis
  - Research questions
  - Rationale for the study
- Methodology
  - Aims of the research
  - Research design
  - Variables
  - Operational definitions
  - Sampling strategy
  - Description of the tools of the data collection
  - Techniques for analysis
  - Limitations of the study, if any
- Discussion:
  - Results of the study: This should include a summarized description of the statistical figures and techniques as well as a concise note on the key findings which could be descriptive or numeric
  - Interpretation of the data in terms of :
    - Validation of the hypothesis
    - Corroboration with cited literature
- Conclusion and recommendations:
  This section should include the following
    - Recommendations to improve/remedy the situation
    - Implication for the future research and field practice

II. **Writing an Academic Article**
This article is based on information from secondary data sources. It generally seeks to raise new issues or examine existing issues from a new perspective. It can also be used for theory building. It should contain the following sections:

- Introduction:
  - Description of the background and importance of the subject under consideration
  - Statement of purpose
  - Rationale for the article
- Discussion:
  - Critical review of literature
- Gaps in knowledge/services and emerging area addressed:
  - Intervention methods
- Conclusion:
  - Summary of key points
  - Recommendations

III. **Writing an Article based on Field Experiences**
This article stems from the experiences of the author. It focuses on a specific issue / problem / project / program that is within the purview of the author's professional practice and is descriptive in nature. It provides details of how the author dealt with the specific issue / problem or implemented the program / project under consideration. An overview of such an article is given below.

- Introduction:
  - Description of the subject under consideration
  - Critical review of relevant literature
  - Problem identification/analysis
  - Rationale for intervention
- Discussion:
  - Details of the problem/issue/program/ project under consideration
  - Action plan to improve/remedy the situation
  - Details of implementation of the action plan
  - Critical assessment of effectiveness of intervention
  - Learning in relation to existing theory
  - Limitations and suggested modifications
- Conclusion:
  - Summary of key points
  - Suggestions for future work

**Submissions that do not conform to the above guidelines will be returned for modifications before entering the review process.**

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# EDITORIAL

Post COVID-19, people in India have shown tremendous resilience to overcome the barriers and bring the life back to normalcy. On the one hand where there were positive events in fields like sports and literature, there were disturbing events like Manipur violence, Odisha train collision and Jaipur Express killings by constable Chetan Singh who was suffering from mental health issues. These events bring forth the need for renewed and sustained interventions in the fields on disaster management, peace building and mental health. The worst affected victims in such tragedies are people who are already disadvantaged, deprived and discriminated.

This issue of Perspectives in Social Work contains six articles that highlight the challenges faced by marginalized groups and initiate a discussion on issues that emerge through intersectionality. Intersectionality theory examines the way social systems and power structures segregate and deprive vulnerable groups whose social category involves multiple identities, each of which is separately associated with significant social disadvantage. Thus, multiple disadvantaged social identities lead to manifold interacting layers of discrimination and challenges.

COVID-19 pandemic drew attention worldwide on the intersection of poverty, social exclusion and health. The first article by Mr. Jibin Alex Eapen, Dr. Joseph and Ms. Joseph examines the challenges faced by sanitation workers during COVID 19. It analyses the findings of a qualitative study with nine sanittation workers working under Kollam Municipal corporation areas. Highlighting the challenges faced by sanitation workers in the areas of health, finance and social exclusion, the authors suggest recommendations at micro, mizzo and macro level. The article emphasises the need for social sensitization and inclusive policies that would not only reduce their present plight but would make future of their children, better.

The second article by Dr. Sajeda Warsi explores that gendered impact of lockdowns in Kashmir. Here again the intersectionality of women in a nearly constant conflict zone like Kashmir during a pandemic like COVID 19 underlines the variety of hardships they faced during this difficult time period. The article is based on a mixed methods research study that interviewed women who had to get out of their homes during stringent lock down due to health reasons. The article explored the critical issues that women faced when there were mental health concerns of family members who could not seek professional help, pregnant women found it very difficult to go to the hospital with all the security checks with hardly any women security personnel, loss of social support due to physical distancing and transportation challenges in case of emergencies. The author opines that the government can provide safety and protection to all only when it can address differences within the socio-economic status and contexts of people and adapt its policies and interventions accordingly.

The third article is again on challenges faced by women who have been marginalized and discriminated by social as well as political structures. S. Vennila, Dr. Sethuramalingam and Dr. Eljo in their article titled 'A Study of Women in Difficult Circumstances in Chennai Metropolitan Area, Tamil Nadu, India' narrate the socio-demographics, work aspects and challenges experienced by female sex workers in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. Poverty was found to the main reason for women entering the commercial sex trade especially when lack of proper education limits their livelihood options. Highlighting the oppressive and disempowering experiences of the women the article advocates for more protective and preventive interventions.

'Access to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in Three Slum Pockets of Mumbai, India' is the fourth article authored by Dr. Ronald Y. and Dr. Laavanya PV. The articles is based on a study conducted in the three slum pockets in three wards of Mumbai that looked into the access women have to public tap water, water consumption patterns, community toilet facilities and challenges faced by

women related to water as well as sanitation facilities. The article enumerates the various problems women face due to lack of enough water in the water taps as well as in the community toilets, absence of basic cleaning as well as garbage disposal facilities at home and in community. The authors propose sustainable solutions for these challenges related to the basic needs of human beings.

The last two articles in this issue are on topics that are different from the general theme across other articles. Both articles are in the domain of human development, with one article discussing the issue and experience of leisure among the elderly in Kolkata and the other article on the perception of people regarding the last stage of life – death.

The article 'Enjoying Leisure Time by Aged Persons in Kolkata Across Their Chronological Ages: An Ethnographic Study' is by Dr. Moumita Gupta and is based on the data collected from elderly in old age homes in north and south Kolkata. The data was collected by multiple methods such as individual interviews, group interviews, case studies and participant observation. The research article points out that it is only during the old age that people felt that they can do certain leisure activities or pursue certain hobbies though they had these interests since they were young. The fast pace of today's work life and socio-cultural norms are not facilitative to learn new things or do things which are not seen as 'productive' or 'livelihood'. One of the most coveted things in the old age is companionship or close relationship with the other people. Recreation or leisure activities, according to the author, can be one of the strategies to prevent the feeling of loneliness in old age.

The last article 'Measuring Death Perception and Its Correlates Among Individuals' by Dr. Archana Kaushik is about the death perception scale that was developed by the author. The said scale is found to have high reliability and validity. The scale was correlated with socio-demographic variables such as gender, religion,

occupation and education. The association between mental health indicators and the positive, negative or ambiguous perception of death was studied in the research and has been explained in the article. The author has discussed the potential utility of death perception scale for social work professionals.

Each of these articles is unique and at the same time all of them have the common theme of the challenges faced by the vulnerable groups which are multiply disadvantaged due to the intersectional aspect of their social identity. They highlight the need for planning relevant and effective social work interventions based on this understanding.

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