

Genders and Sexualities Study Group (GSSG)

The Humanities and Social Sciences Department at IISER Bhopal is launching a Genders and Sexualities Study Group (GSSG) from January 2019.

This reading and discussion group hopes to provide a forum to critically examine the complex ways in which “genders” and “sexualities” are produced and enacted in cultural, political, and theoretical practices, and how they relate to the categories of race, nationality, ethnicity, caste, class, religion, etc.

This study group will offer an informal space in which students, researchers, and others interested can explore and ask questions. They can work together to discover and examine some of the key texts, ideas, and practices that have stemmed from the struggle for equality and emancipation of women, and of those expressing nonnormative genders and sexualities. By providing a space for intellectual dialogue and exchange of ideas, this forum also hopes to facilitate the development of collaborative research projects relating to these questions.

We will discuss both relevant historical texts and movements, and some of the most current topics, including but not limited to, inequalities, identities, activism, LGBTQIAAP+ movements, heteronormativity, discrimination, sexual harassment, reproductive technologies, division of household labour, domestic labour, parenting, and other concerns of highest relevance in contemporary times.

This study group will be accompanied by a series of film screenings which will showcase cinema from around the world concerned with questions of gender and sexuality.

In the first section of the GSSG, we aim to focus on the broad theme of 'Gender, Sexuality and Political Rights'.

We welcome anyone with an interest to explore and critically engage with questions surrounding genders and sexualities – whether undergraduate or postgraduate students, faculty, staff, or community member.