



Centre for Women and Child Law

organizing

Two-Day National Seminar on “Live-in Relationship” : Impact on Family Laws in India

11th & 12th March, 2023



About Damodaram Sanjivayya National Law University

With the growing importance of quality legal education, various national law schools acquired a lot of importance. To meet the requirements of students of the State, the Government of Andhra Pradesh established this National Law University in 2008. DSNLU endeavours to be a premier law school with state-of-the-art facilities with emphasis on clinical aspects to promote and provide world class education, training and research. DSNLU strives to motivate and develop quality human resources with ethics, by imparting knowledge, skills and domain expertise in regulatory and legal fields and to attract and retain competent talent to eventually emerge as pioneers for promotion and proactive growth through interactive activities, globally competent academic programs with quality content, designed delivery and synchronized support services. We strive to design and deliver unique, innovative and research-based pedagogy for holistic promotion of the students. The University offers 5 year integrated B.A. LL.B. (Hons) Degree and one year LL.M. program, Ph.D. and LL. D research programs.

About the Centre for Women and Child Law

The DSNLU Centre for Women and Child Law is established with the object of channeling the power of law to champion the cause of women and child rights by encouraging and facilitating active discourse and deliberations on issues relating to women and children. The protection of women and children is one of the cardinal tasks of the nation. Despite many laws intended to protect women's rights gender inequalities remain deeply entrenched in our society. Children are also vulnerable by virtue of their age and so they are easily exposed to violence and exploitation. The Centre aims to mainstream the child and gender concerns by initiating research, capacity building and outreach programs.

Concept Note

Every Woman Needs to Define for Herself – “What is acceptable and What is Unacceptable.”

The horrific murder of Shraddha Walker by her live-in partner Aftab Poonawala, in Delhi, has highlighted how women are becoming victims of toxic relationships.

India is a country which boasts about its great culture and values, the cohabitation of opposite gender without the sacrament of marriage is considered as a taboo. However, things are changing and the western culture influenced the institution of marriage and there is a transit from the sacrament of marriage to Live-in Relationships. In the present global era a live-in relationship is defined as a domestic cohabitation between two adult partners who are not married. Apparently, it appears like a stress-free companionship without any legal obligations; conversely, women in such relationships are mostly found at the darker end with many complications. With changing times and the attitude of the people, these relations have come to the main stream of society. The number of such relations are increasing gradually and this has compelled the Apex Court of India to take the matter gravely.

The legality of live-in relationships in India is quite muzzled. It finds roots in Article 21 of the Indian Constitution. In *Khushboo v Kanniamma* (2010) 5 SCC 600 & *Nandkumar v State of Kerala* (2018) 16 SCC 602, the Court held that ‘the right and freedom of choice to either marry or have a live-in relationship with an individual is of one's own will, thus emerge from their inalienable fundamental right.’ The Indian Judiciary proving itself as a custodian of its citizens and has extended extra protection to relationships arising out of live-in relationships.

There are many grey areas which need appropriate attention like cultural issues, security of women, property and succession rights, custodial rights, well-being of children, social, psychological, and other legal issues. Is there any emerging need of a legislation to protect women and children from toxic and abusive relationships? Still, it is a debatable issue in India and there is a dire need to relook into the concept of Live-in Relationship and its impact on Family Laws in India and this Two Day National Seminar is an endeavour in this direction and is aimed at facilitating articulation of views, ideas, electrifying initiatives and suggestions from all the stakeholders.

Themes & Sub Themes

Theme-I: Live-in Relationship & Culture:

- Matrimonial Relationship versus Live-in Relationship
- Live-in Relationship: Impact on Indian Culture & Tradition
- Live-in Relationship: Dignity & Personal Liberty of Women
- Live-in Relationship: Dimensions under Indian Constitution
- Live-in Relationship: Effect on marriage & family institutions in India
- Live- in Relationship in Indian socio-economic and legal context
- Social & Psychological factors lead to Live-in Relationship
- Live- in Relationship: Interfaith issues

Theme II: Live-in Relationship & Women:

- Status and Security of Women in Live-in Relationships
- Live-in Relationship: Crimes/Violence against Women
- Live-in Relationship: Succession Rights of Women
- Aftermath Live-in Relationship: Legal status & Rights of Women
- Live-in Relationship: Need of Legislation for the protection of Women

Theme III: Live-in Relationship & Children

- Well-being of Children born out of Live-in Relationship
- Live-in Relationship: Violence against Children
- Live-in Relationship: Inheritance Rights of Children
- Aftermath Relationship: Guardianship & Custody of Children

Theme IV: Legality of Live-in Relationship

- Live-in Relationship: Legal Framework in India
- Live-in Relationship and Indian Judiciary
- The Concept of Live-in Relationship and International Scenario
- Live-in Relationship in India: Issues & Challenges

Important Dates

Last date for submission of Abstract (500 words)	23 January 2023
Communication of acceptance	03 February 2023
Last date for submission of Full paper (4000-6000 Words)	23 February 2023
Seminar dates	11th & 12th March 2023

Submissions shall be mailed to:

seminarlnr2023@dsnlu.ac.in

Registration Fee:

Academicians/Legal practitioners/ Judicial officers:

Rs.1500/-

Students/Research Scholars: Rs. 800/-

Foreign delegates: \$100

The Registration fee is payable to **Registrar, Damodaram Sanjivayya National Law University, Union Bank of India, Sabbavaram, A/C NO: 283710100024089, IFSC CODE: UBIN0828378.**

Formatting Guidelines:

All submissions must be made in Word Format (.doc)/(.docx).

The body of the manuscript should be in Times New Roman, size 12 with 1.5 spacing.

The Bluebook (20th ed.) is to be followed for the citation format.

Footnotes should also be in Times New Roman, 10 font size and single spacing.

Accommodation:

Moderate limited shared accommodation on first come first serve basis (Rs.500/- per day)

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For Queries

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