

ASIA SAFE
ABORTION
PARTNERSHIP

QUARTERLY REPORT

JANUARY - MARCH
2023



GREETINGS FROM ASAP!

2023 Started on a great note as we celebrate the 15th year anniversary of ASAP this year! We marked this celebration by announcing the Abortion and Reproductive Justice Conference: An Unfinished Revolution IV, which will be organized by us in Bangkok, Thailand in February 2024.

If you are interested in attending or finding out more, do check out our [website](#) and sign up for a monthly update newsletter!



ASAP ACTIVITIES

ASAP LEARNING RETREAT | 27TH JANUARY | ONLINE

As part of building our organizational effectiveness ASAP undertook an initiative in 2021 called the 'ASAP Learning Retreat'. This space was created initially by the ASAP team for internal learning, but over the years has been opened up to our Country Advocacy Networks and other partners as well. These retreats are focused on encouraging self-learning within the team and building our capacity as advocates.

In this session we discussed the following issues:

- Decolonizing - understanding the process and purpose by Dr. Suchitra Dalvie
- Colonization and how it affected sexual practices by Ayesha Bashir
- History and Evolution of Belly Dancing by Nandini Mazumder



Decolonize this Place activists stand in the Egyptian galleries of an art museum with a banner questioning and protesting the museum's continued ownership and display of artifacts.

Sexuality as a marker of ethnic identity – John Millar expanding Adam Smith's Theory

- John Millar expanded Adam Smith's theory of economics to include sexuality as a marker of ethnic identity, by which ideologically constructed races of the world were determined as more or less advanced based on European standards of sexuality.
- The classification of the world's races into a hierarchy can be traced back to Carl Linnaeus's *Systema Naturae* (The System of Nature)



Decolonizing dance – towards revisiting, redefining, reclaiming belly dancing or 'Raqs Sharqi'
ASAP Team Learning Retreat
27th January 2023

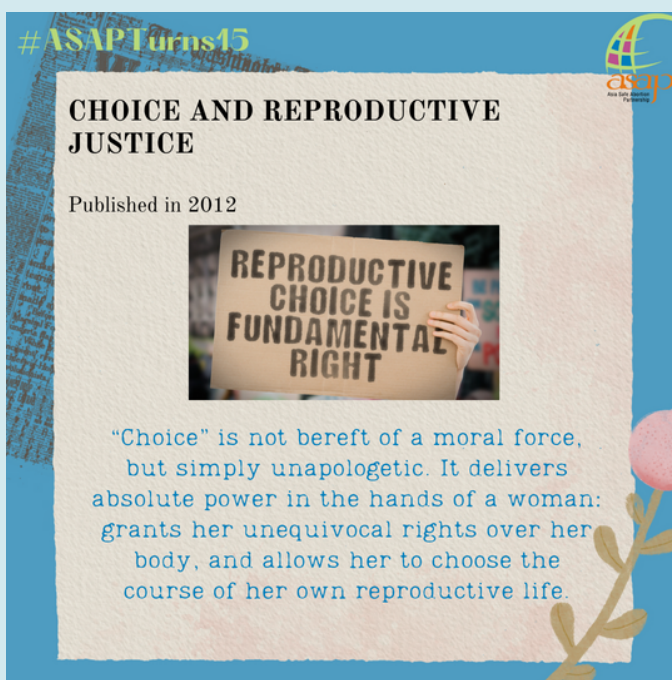
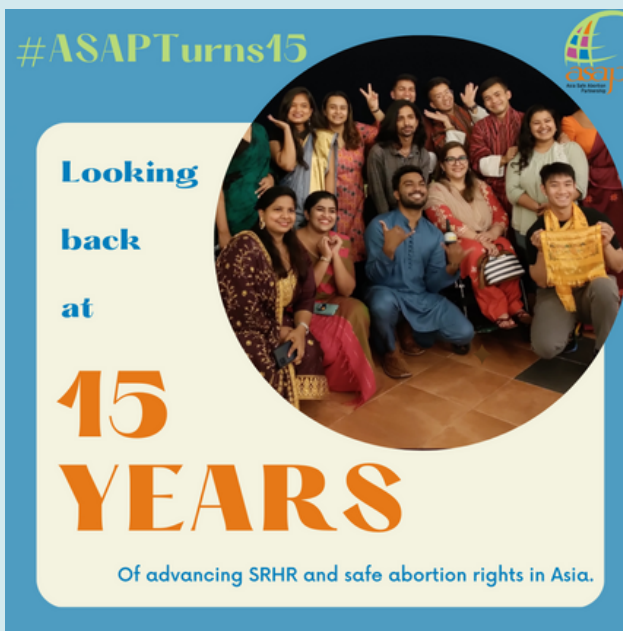
ASAP STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING | 3RD FEB | ONLINE

ASAP organized a Steering Committee (SC) meeting with new members from Australia, China, Pakistan, South Korea, and Sri Lanka.



15 YEARS OF ASAP | 3RD - 18TH MARCH | ONLINE

This year on 18th March, ASAP completed 15 years of advancing SRHR and safe abortion rights in Asia. From 3rd to 18th March we ran a 15-day campaign on our social media, revisiting some important milestones of our work as well as moments of our journey along with our brilliant Youth Champions, partners and allies.



#ASAPTurns15



Young China Needs More Information About Pregnancy and Abortion

Published in 2013



"The "normalization" of abortion as a method of contraception causes high rate of repeat abortions. These may not always however be safe, even though abortion is legal and available in China."

It was in November 2013 when China relaxed it's one child policy, allowing couples to have two kids but conditionally.

#ASAPTurns15



The Female Migrant Worker: What Are Her Reproductive Rights

Published in 2013



Published in 2013, this blog gave a nuanced perspective of the barriers particularly faced by the one of the most vulnerable women across the world - The female migrant worker.

Over the years we've tried to have various conversations with members from the community to truly understand their challenges & how can we support them

#ASAPTurns15

#ASAPTurns15



Abortion Narratives: Stories and Testimonials

Published in 2012



ASAP partners & allies on 28th September 2012, shared some thought provoking testimonials as they tried to highlight how much access to safe abortion is related to stigmatizing the freedom to reproductive choices.

10 years later similar patriarchal ideologies prevail, seriously risking lives of various individuals,

The Drop

Published in 2016



The Drop

At that time in Bangladesh, an estimated 572,000 women suffered complications from unsafe abortion, but only 40% of those who need treatment actually receive care from a facility.

This powerful documentary made by our Youth Champion from Bangladesh highlighted the complications women face in accessing services.

ANNOUNCING THE ‘ABORTION & REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE CONFERENCE IV THE UNFINISHED REVOLUTION’ | 18TH MARCH | ONLINE

At the culmination of our 15- year celebration, we were delighted to announce the upcoming Abortion and Reproductive Justice Conference IV: The Unfinished Revolution’, which will be hosted by ASAP.

This conference was initiated in Canada at the University of Prince Edward Island and has since then been hosted by Ulster University, Northern Ireland, and Rhodes University, South Africa. This conference aims to bring together academicians and activists and provide a forum for shared learning and strategizing as well as networking on the issues of abortion and reproductive justice.

The term “reproductive justice” was coined by Loretta Ross, co-founder and National Coordinator of the SisterSong Women of Color Reproductive Justice Collective from 2005-2012.

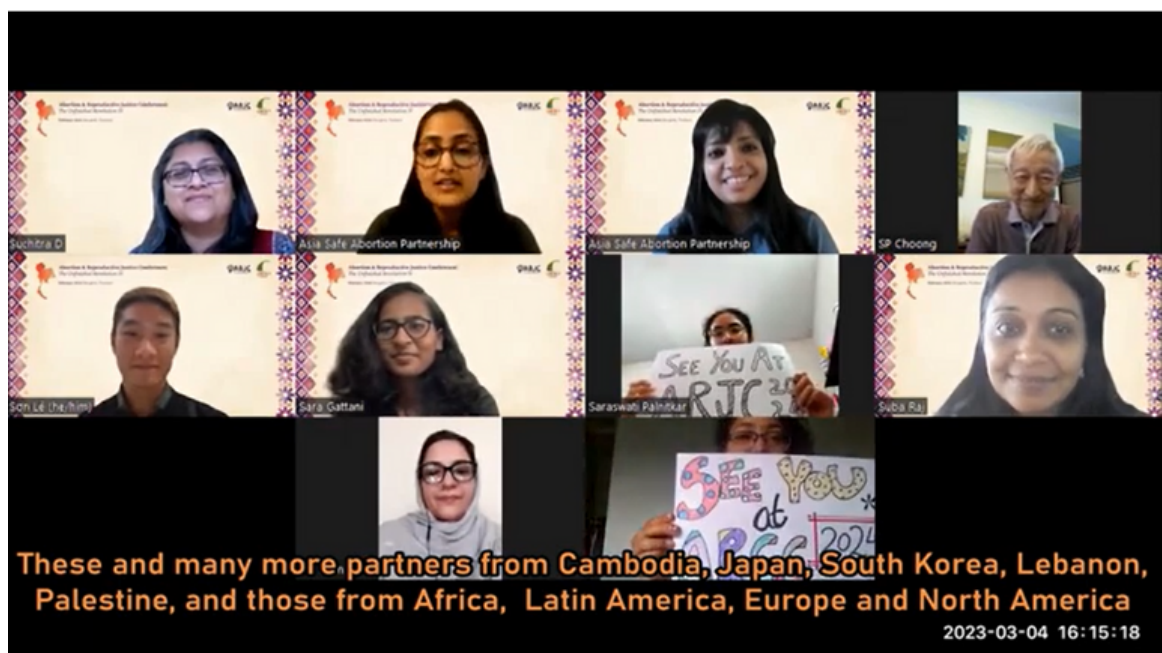


Reproductive justice is based on the theory of intersectionality which states that people have different life experiences and opportunities based on how identity categories, such as race, class, gender, and sexuality, interact with each other. Reproductive justice explains how people oppressed by their intersectional identities also experience higher levels of reproductive oppression.

This means that it is often harder for oppressed people to access healthcare because of factors such as education, income, geographic location, immigration status, and potential language barriers.

We at ASAP are honored to carry on the legacy of this important conference, bring the conversation to Asia & create a space that is safe, feminist, political & addresses region specific barriers to abortion & reproductive justice, in context of our post- colonial & very diverse lives.

Watch this video of ASAP partners coming together to welcome everyone to the conference



Introducing The Abortion & Reproductive Justice Conference 2024

Throughout this year we will be releasing information about the conference on our social media. In order to stay regularly updated you can register on the ARJC website for more on the themes, venue, registrations..

FOS FEMINISTA PARTNERS MEETING | 21ST FEBRUARY | MUMBAI

ASAP and our country advocacy network India Safe Abortion Youth Advocates organized an in- person meeting with one of our donors - Fos Feminista. It was an important catch-up as we discussed not just our future plans but possible strategies that can lead us towards helping shape the Global South Feminist leadership landscape.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY | 8TH MARCH 2023

As part of our 15 Year celebration, this International Women's Day we looked back at all of ASAP's previous online campaigns which were contributed & organized over the years by our brilliant_Youth Champions from across_Asia and the globe!

Join us down this powerful memory lane!



#ASAPTurns15

ASAP Myth Buster Superheroes

2015



ASAP Youth Champions came together in 2015 to bust myths and stigmas that limit access to safe abortion services

#ASAPTurns15

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2015



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#ASAPTurns15

Save Women Not Monuments

2016



In 2016 ASAP #YouthChampions called upon their governments to recognize that women have needed to and have had abortions for longer than these world famous monuments exist

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Abortion Is Black and White

2016



ASAP Youth Champions took to social media in 2016 to amplify that safe abortion should neither be conditional nor based on the reasons for abortion. It is a right every person has over their bodies.

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ASAP Change Makers

2017



ASAP Youth Champions have always been change makers in their small and big ways. So in 2017 they shared with us how they're challenging status quo and changing things for the better, one step at a time.

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Every Woman Every Country

2017



#EVERYWOMANEVRYCOUNTRY
#MAY28



ASAP has always emphasized the need to look at individuals not just as statistics for a country, but as human beings who should have full control over their bodies and decisions

#ASAPTurns15



Every Woman Every Country

2017



#EVERYWOMANEVRYCOUNTRY
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ASIA SAFE ABORTION PARTNERSHIP | WWW.ASAP-ASIA.ORG

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#ASAPTurns15



I Make History

2019



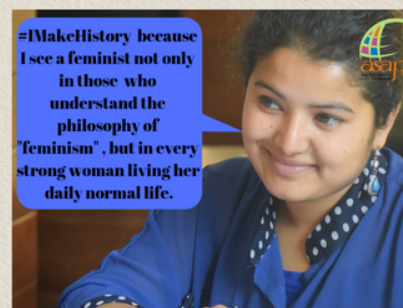
As part of Women's History month celebrated each year, ASAP YCs told their stories and how they are making history each day by challenging stereotypes & stigma around them.

#ASAPTurns15



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2019



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ASAP AS PANELLIST

FOS FEMINISTA PARTNER FORUM | 28TH - 29TH MARCH | ONLINE

This partner forum was an initiative designed by Fos Feminista to be an interactive and engaging experience for their partners across the Alliance. Through this they created a space where participants had opportunities to share their experiences, ask questions, and connect with each other. In addition to the live sessions, there were many ways to engage on the platform, including the chat topics in the Networking Area, the Partner Booths in the Partner Area, and downloading useful documents from the Resource Center.

ASAP team represented by Nandini Mazumder, Assistant Coordinator and Ayesha Bashir, Communications and Networking Officer joined in. We joined the breakout rooms on strengthening feminist movements. We also shared about ASAP's experience of working with women with disabilities and trans and non-binary men as a part of our building inclusive movement strategy and reiterated the need for building solidarities across allied movements.

One day 2 Fos Feminista team had speakers who shared about their work and the models they presented explored for-profit ventures for SRHR issues. These were thought provoking as they challenged us to see beyond the traditional donor-grantee models and think of rights work from a for-profit perspective. Overall, the 2 days meeting was extremely fruitful to meet the Fos team and their other grantee partners, share and learn together, explore online platform for partners that was extremely well-done and engaging and leave the forum with several new ideas and thoughts.

ASAP AS PARTICIPANT

IPPF SUMMIT ON SRH | 19TH - 20TH JAN | KATHMANDU, NEPAL

Coordinator Dr Suchitra Dalvie attended this South Asian Regional Summit on Sexual and Reproductive Health organized by IPPF SARO.



BLOGS

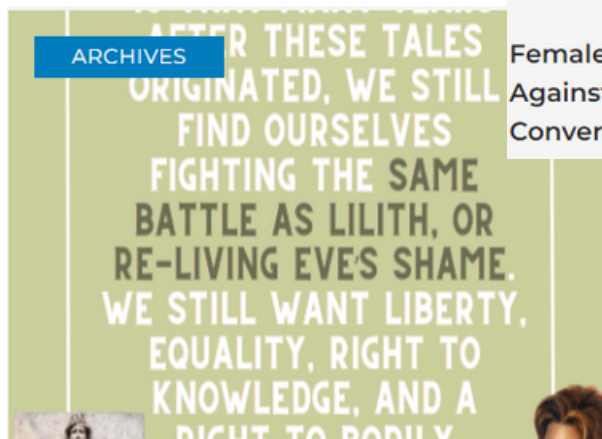


ARCHIVES

Looking Back at 2022 for ASAP



STIGMA, RELIGION AND SOCIAL BARRIERS



ARCHIVES

Lilith and Eve

Female Genital Mutilation- Continuing fight Against Patriarchy, Religion and Politics. Conversation with Masooma Rana



ACCESS AND BARRIERS

Abortion Narratives: Stories and Testimonials

BLOGS

MARGINALIZED WOMEN



The Female Migrant Worker: What Are Her Reproductive Rights



"The 'normalization' of abortion as a method of contraception causes high rate of repeat abortions. These may not always however be safe, even though abortion is legal and available in China."

ARCHIVES



"Choice" is not bereft of a moral force, but simply unapologetic. It delivers absolute power in the hands of an individual; grants them unequivocal

Young China Needs More Information About Pregnancy and Abortion

Choice and Reproductive Justice

PUBLICATION

The
NEWS
Minute

India has a liberal abortion law – then why are unsafe abortions so rampant?

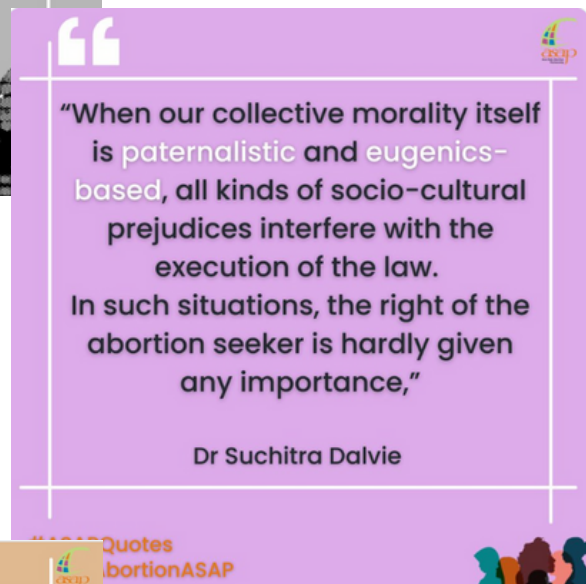
An adult abortion seeker doesn't need a husband or partner's permission to get an abortion, and can terminate a pregnancy up to 24 weeks. And yet, 67% of the abortions in the country are unsafe.



“Dr Suchitra explains that while India’s abortion laws have been liberal, the Indian Penal Code (IPC) criminalises ‘causing miscarriage’. In essence, the MTP Act decriminalises abortions when performed by doctors, and it is heavily dependent on the liberal, sensitive interpretation of the law by doctors. “When our collective morality itself is paternalistic and eugenics-based, all kinds of socio-cultural prejudices interfere with the execution of the law. In such situations, the right of the abortion seeker is hardly given any importance,” she says”

SOCIAL MEDIA

#ASAPQUOTES



SOCIAL MEDIA

#ASAPQUOTES



SOCIAL MEDIA

MEMES

Me watching a movie



Me watching the same movie
after YAI Workshop

Women researching,
trying to learn more
about their own
sexual pleasures

Women watching
youtube videos &
reading articles on how
to 'satisfy their man'



*Govt/Leaders

We're amending the
abortion law



To make it easier for people right?



Right?

THANK YOU!

Follow us on Social media for
more regular updates



2023