Continued Medical Education (CME) - Auxesis 2018

ISAY- India Safe Abortion Youth Advocates

8th August, 2018

Grant Medical College, Mumbai

Dr. Suchitra Dalvie was invited by the Academic and Research Council to deliver a Continued Medical Education (CME) lecture on Safe Abortion. The CME lecture was conducted on 8th August 2018 as a part of a medical conference, Auxesis 2018, at Grant Medical College & Sir J.J. Group of Hospitals, Mumbai.

The lecture started off by discussing what differentiated humans from animals in reproductive habits. Since humans have no concept of oestrous, we are the only ones who have sex for pleasure and hence we have a need for contraceptives. She then took the session to abortion from a gender and rights perspective. She shed light on all the myths surrounding abortion and how they are driven by stories of unsafe abortions where women often lose their fertility or even their lives. She urged the audience to question these myths and their source. She stressed on the difference between safe and unsafe abortions and the importance of knowing the difference because although unsafe abortion is the 5th leading cause of maternal mortality, safe abortion is one of the safest medical procedures.

She then conducted a mini-values clarification session for audience members where she posed controversial statements and asked them to take a stand on it. Many interesting comments came up during the session and the participants enjoyed it as it was rather interactive.

She finally concluded the lecture with the video "From Unwanted Pregnancies to Safe Abortions" to show to the participants the need for safe abortions. "There is no such thing as no abortion. There is only safe and unsafe abortion."

Her lecture was very positively received by the audience as it was a refreshing topic for them as well as previously unheard of since it is also associated with a lot of stigma. They were eager to know more about the work that is done in the world of advocacy for safe abortion.