

STUDENTS' SOCIAL REFORM INITIATIVE 2022-23

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The Students' Social Reform Initiative (SSRI) provides a platform for students who are committed to reaching out to the wider community. Their activities aim at bringing about change and transformation in the lives of many others. Using the means of politics, history and current affairs, SSRI believes in building individuals that are active agents of social change in our society.

This year SSRI went ahead and tried to broaden the horizon of our students and have them actively engage with the world of social change and what it means to be an individual living in today's age. This year SSRI worked towards creating a stronger foundation for the Sophia Queer Collective with the hopes that it will continue to grow as an independent body in the coming years.

The cultural year for the club began with a **Film Screening** and discussion for Peace Fortnight on the 2nd of August. The short film "Panpompar" was screened and a discussion followed with around 19 participants, the 15 minute film screening was followed by an hour long discussion. The participants shared their own interpretations and viewpoints on the film. The discussion primarily centered around the themes of violence in Kashmir, effects of trauma and effects of violence in childhood.



Our second event of the year was **The Best of KASHISH: A Queer Film Festival** organized by our staff-in-charge in collaboration with the departments of Education and Hindi on 21st of January, 2023. The film festival showcased a selection of 7 short films centered around queer struggles. The event was also attended by the festival director, Mr Sridhar Rangayan and the directors of two of the selected short films. The event had around 80 participants, each screening was followed by a question answer session and active discussion at the end of the screenings.



Our third event of the year was in collaboration with the English Literary Society, **A Discussion on the works of Mahasweta Devi**, Specifically Draupadi, Kunti and the Nishadin and Breast Giver on the 6th of Feb. The event was highly interactive and followed a rich discourse. The event had 17 participants and all were actively contributing to the discussion and gave their opinions and inputs. The discussions were centered around the socio-political effects and current parallels with Devi's works.

Our last event for the year was on the 10th of feb, **A Year in Review of the Hijab Row**, a collaboration with the International Relations Club where we discussed the different Hijab conflicts in India and Iran as seen in 2022. The event was very interactive, with 16 participants whom all spoke up about their opinions and different inputs on these cases and the general case of the monitoring of women's bodies.



SOPHIA QUEER COLLECTIVE

In the fourth year since it's conception, Sophia Queer Collective continued was able to organise events on a greater scale since the previous years. The year SQC began the year with it's recurring event *Queer Stories* which was held on the 7th of November, along with candid, unstructured events, Queer Stories also covered topics such as Queerbaiting in its first event.



The Collective launched a new online initiative called **They Got It Right**, with a weekly post of times popular shows and movies got their representation of queer individuals and couples right.

Second event of the year was in collaboration with English Literary Society. A book discussion on **The Seven Husbands Of Evelyn Hugo** and the queer representation inside it on December 17, 2022. The event was very lively and interactive with around 15 participants.



Our third event of the year was a **Queer Karaoke** event in collaboration with The World Music and Dance Club on the 22nd of December 2022. The event was very fun and interactive with almost all the 16 participants coming up to sing their favorite queer songs or songs by queer artists.



Our last event of the year was **Queer Stories** on the topic of Platonic vs Romantic Love on 12th January 2023. With almost 10 participants, the event was an intimate gathering with anecdotes and free discussion on how to navigate the difference between romantic and platonic love as a queer person.

