



# Unlikely Allies: Our Work With Men

AN INITIATIVE BY DURGA INDIA (I'M EVERY WOMAN TRUST)



## What is the Idea Behind our Work With Men?

Most women in India are consistently living in fear of potential or repeated harassment. This is reflected in the way a woman dresses, talks or converses.

While these issues are often discussed, they are rarely followed with action. Durga's work with men is centred around making men realise their role as active allies to the women they encounter everyday. Drawing attention to the damage caused by gender stereotypes, male participants are shown how they can actively intervene in issues of women's safety and reflect on their behaviour post the sessions.

## Our Mission

**Safety for all against sexual harassment.**  
Our intervention targets BMTc bus drivers and staff, traffic policemen, BBMP pourakarmikas (men) and boys from observation homes where the men engage in an active process of learning and unlearning negative stereotypes and attitudes that they pick up through patriarchal influences.

## Our Vision

To educate men and boys about the importance of personal space, professional respect, boundaries and for them to be more sensitive and empathetic about women's issues.

**12,000**

DURGAS CREATED

**413**

DARES CREATED





## What is the Current Issue?

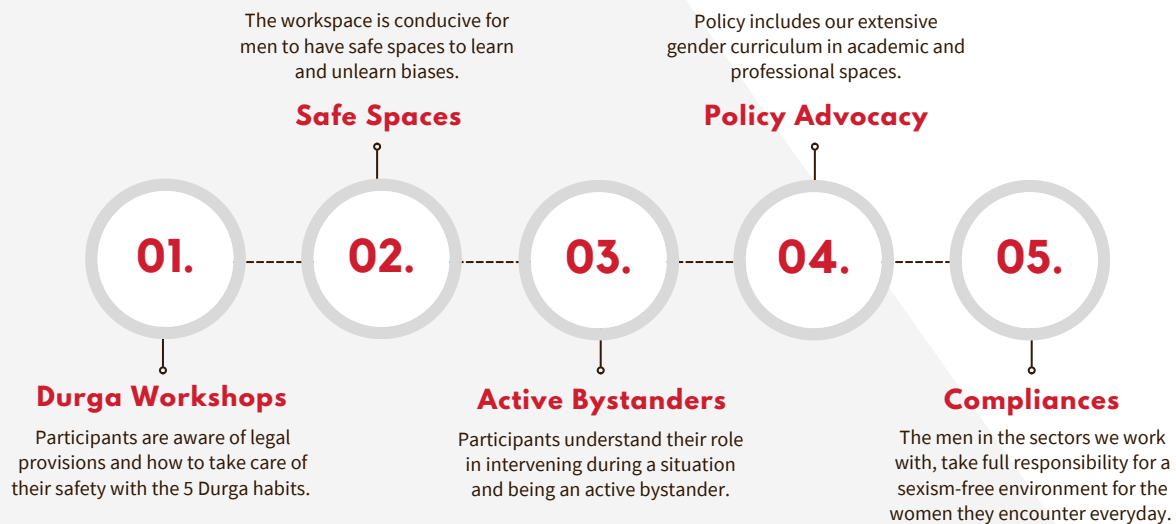
Stories of sexual assault and violence against women and children around the country continue to flood our news channels and social feeds daily.

Safety is not an issue that women need to find solutions to, rather, we believe that the responsibility and accountability to create a safe community lies with the men in the community, who are also a part of the same socio - cultural environment as these women.

We want the participants we engage with to develop critical thinking on gender stereotypes and social constructs, develop sensitivity toward women's safety and to understand sexual harassment, its nuanced forms and discuss response mechanisms; enhancing one's skills as an active bystander.

## Durga's Approach

How do we make men allies to women's cause?



Placing power in the hands of the people!



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