

## Voice: Youth Engagement

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









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

Durga's youth engagements, known as 'Voice' want to create a safe, democratic & non-judgemental space for youth where individuals can address issues in their immediate surroundings such as bullying, ragging, sexual harassment etc.

Voice also ideates on creating safe spaces for women and girls in their respective institutions, especially safe spaces to raise voices, share opinions and dialogue with like - minded individuals on safety, consent, gender equity and how harassment can be curbed.

#### **Our Mission**

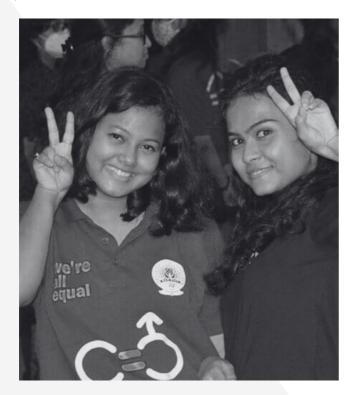
**Safety for all youth against sexual harassment.** The idea behind Voice is to create democratic student bodies and safe, gender equitable spaces in colleges to empower a self sustainable student community.

### **Our Vision**

To build Next - Gen Advocates for Gender Justice who can champion the cause of women's safety and well - being in the respective schools, colleges, campuses and institutions.







# What is the Current Issue?

Women and girls in schools and colleges lack safe and equitable spaces to participate in their campuses. Not only is sexism and discrimination a debilitating systemic barrier for women pursuing education, but facing the same from their peers can severely impact one's sense of belonging. Most women (and men) first experience ragging, bullying and sexual harassment during preteen or teenage years. The lack of conversation about sexual harassment and deterrence may reinforce problematic behaviour and repeated harassment by perpetrators and cause extreme psychological distress to survivors.

Not instigating conversations about sexual harassment could further perpetrate inequalities that commonly affect schools and universities; making collaboration between different groups of peers difficult and exacerbating inequality, stereotyping and harassment.

### **Durga's Approach**

How do students engage with topics like campus safety?



Reclaiming public spaces through youth action!





