

CG 4: Apne Aap Women's Collective

Aryan Bhargava, Aminata Zoungrana, Diya Mitchell, Geo Johnson, Josie Eckman, Min Sung Choi, Ryan Montgomery, Sadia Haidari

Facilitators: Sara Hollingshead and Will Patrick

Apne Aap: Vision and Mission

- AAWC's mission is to help and support marginalized girls and women in order to resist and end sex trafficking.
- Founded by Mr. Sudarshan Loyalka in 1998, whose main goal was to address the faulty socioeconomic and political systems relating to the human rights exploitation of women in the redlight area.
- "We may have not changed the world but we have indeed changed a few lives."
- During initial contact with the beneficiaries, AAWC focuses on outreach. Their services include finances, health, education, empowerment, recreation, and shelter
- For the girls, empowerment mean academic and professional success, and societal reintegration.







Why Statement

Apne Aap grew from an anti-trafficking organization to one that holistically addresses the unjust systemic issues impacting women in the red-light communities.

India's Legislation

- India's legal framework addresses the criminalization of several aspects of prostitution and the prohibition of human trafficking.
- The Protection Of Children From Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act and The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) aim to safeguard children to prevent trafficking and protect vulnerable individuals, especially children.

What is the Red Light Area?

- Kamathipuram is known as Asia's largest red-light area, and sex workers in this area face violence, debt to brothels, and social rejection.
- The sanitation is poor, and disease transmission is high, with social stigma and legal insensitivity exacerbating the injustice faced by these individuals.

Fall Semester

Originally, the plan for this year was a little different. During the fall semester we...

- Focused on how we can teach the AAWC girls the meaning and importance of empathy to the girls
- To do this, we created a slideshow presentation that acted as a walkthrough of a lesson plan
- This presentation included different lessons for the three different age groups of the girls with activities ranging from an information skit and rap
- The purpose of this was to create a lesson plan which the girls themselves would use as instruction

Winter Semester

In Winter Semester, we were asked to instead create an implementation document, which the staff would use. The staff would choose from our implementation document to create custom lesson plans. Additionally, we were asked to create a module for the staff teaching them how to have empathy when working with the girls. So in the winter semester, we...

- Created an implementation document for the girls. The implementation document outlines activities that the girls can partake in to teach them empathy and gratitude. It provides a thorough guide on how to implement these activities.
- The staff module is a module teaching the staff how to have empathy and gratitude when interacting with the girls. Similar to the implementation document, it thoroughly explains how to implement each part of the module.

Implementation Document for Girls

In the Implementation Document, we broke the activities into broad age brackets, by color coding them. Each activity details from end to end what materials are needed, and the learning outcomes associated with the activities. This rigorous approach allows the staff to thoroughly understand the point of each activity, and offers a detailed explanation on how to best organise them.

Staff Module

In the Staff Module, we used a similar approach to the Implementation Document, but employed a higher-level approach. By using more general activities, the purpose was to allow that flexibility in teaching the staff how to conduct themselves with empathy and gratitude.

