



Bharatiya Bhatke Vimukt Vikas va Sanshodhan Sanstha's
YASHWANTRAO CHAVAN SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
SATARA, MAHARASHTRA
Affiliated to Shivaji University, Kolhapur

BEST PRACTICE 2018-19

BEST PRACTICE #1

TITLE OF THE PRACTICE: RESPONSE TO GENDER ISSUE'S

1. The context

Western Maharashtra is comparatively reached in natural resources as compare to other parts in Maharashtra. It is having plenty of water bodies due to which majority of the population is engaged in agriculture and that also in cultivation of cash crops like sugar cane. This has resulted in very good economic condition of most of the people in this area. Nisrale is one of the small village located hardly 15 to 20 km. away from Satara city, near to the National high way, it is situated on the banks of river Krishna, having a population around 3000, with total number of households around 600. Majority of the people are from Maratha community which is traditionally very orthodox and is not allowing the women to get participated in many social activities. The same scenario we came across in this Nisrale village. We had arranged a rural camp of our MSW students in this village, when we came to know about these women issues in this village. So we thought of intervening in this issue.

2. Objectives of the practice

1. To empower the women in village Nisrale by providing them livelihood opportunities.
2. To aware women about their rights.
3. To help the women to understand their role in village development.
4. To make the male members to realise the need for recognising the efforts of women in household activities.
5. To bring attitudinal change in the male members by asking them to perform all the household activities at least for a day which are usually performed by women.

3. The Practice

We had arranged rural camp of MSW students which resulted in identification of gender issues prevailing in Nisrale village. Firstly we had conducted a meeting with Grampanchayat members and then we had gone for adopting this village for further activities. 8th March is a International Women's Day which is celebrated all over world by conducting different activities like wise in Nisrale village also we thought of celebrating this day in a very different manner. Firstly we conducted the meeting of all male members from this village and

decided to have a very innovative programme as a part of celebration of this day. In this all male members had passed a resolution in gramsabha and decided that on women's day not a single woman from village will do household activities. As per the decision on 8th March all women were away from all type of household activities. All household activities were carried on by respective male members from their houses. For whole day awareness on different issues related with women & entertainment activities were carried on & in evening common dinner was arranged for all villagers, that also by all male members of the village. Nearly 500 + women had participated in the programme.

4. Obstacles faced if any and strategies adopted to overcome them

1. Changing the mind-set of the male members and convincing them to engage themselves in household activities was a big challenge which we could easily overcome with the help of our students as they encouraged and motivated every male member through street plays and home visits.
2. Convincing women to take one day holiday from household activities was also one of the biggest challenges in front of us but this also was easily overcome by the contribution and the rapport which the students had built with this community.

5. Impact of the practice

This activity resulted in helping the male members to realise the hard work which the women are taking for upbringing and development of each and every member of the family. They also realised the importance of this selfless service by the women for their family. By giving one day holiday from all household activities, honouring their efforts in public and arranging entertainment activities and food that also prepared by the male members were really emotional moments for every women from this village. It helped to realise these women their role in village development. This activity was flashed in the media and it was also appreciated by the election commission of Maharashtra and he had suggested all the district collectors to conduct such type of activities in maximum villages of Maharashtra.

6. Resources required:

1. Guest lecturers
2. Short films on women empowerment and role of women in village development.
3. Utensils and material for food preparation.



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BEST PRACTICE 2018-19

BEST PRACTICE #2

**TITLE OF THE PRACTICE: RESPONSE TO NATURAL DISASTER DURING
FLOOD SITUATION IN MAHARASHTRA**

1. The context that required the initiation of the practice

Three districts from western Maharashtra especially Satara, Kolhapur and Sangali are prone to flood situations. Every year during rainy season and especially in the mid of July in these areas flood like situation occurs. The reason behind is the heavy rainfall in the areas of Mahabaleshwar and Koyana. Navaja village from Koyana area is getting one of the highest rainfall in India as compared with Cherapunji. Also the reason of flood situation is because of the two major dams, one in Koyana area the KoyanaNagar Dam and another one in Karnataka the Almatti Dam. Once the Koyana Dam gets full then for managing the water level district administration releases the water which results in increase level of water in the Koyana river, which meets to river Krishna in Karad and later to river Panchganga at Narsihmwadi in Kolhapur. These all rivers flow ultimately to Almatti Dam. If the water from Almatti Dam is not released further then the flow of water from these rivers get stuck and ultimately results in flood situation in the above mentioned districts. In this major villages and few city areas get water logged ultimately resulting in floods in respective areas. In this scenario rescue of the people from flood areas, setting up temporary relief camps, providing dry ration kits, food packets, drinking water, medicines, clothing, bedding, and after flood helping the people to settle in their respective houses are the activities which require huge number of man power where volunteers are much needed, so being a social work institution our students are involved in such activities.

2. Objectives of the practice

1. To help the flood affected people by providing ready to eat food packets and other essential things.
2. To provide psycho-social support to flood affected people.

3. To help district administration in administration of temporary relief camps.
4. To identify and prepare lists of affected people.
5. To conduct survey to assess the severity of disaster and exact loss of the affected families.
6. To help the affected people to maintain good health and hygiene by providing them with essential medicines.
7. To help affected people by providing volunteer support during post flood situation to clean the public places and houses.

3. The Practice

In July 2019 there were floods in Satara, Kolhapur and Sangali district. Majorily Kolhapur and Sangali districts were affected a lot, many people from these areas were required to be evacuated and were kept in temporary relief camps nearly for 6 to 8 days many areas/ villages from Kolhapur and Sangali districts were under water. Many families had lost their belongings and were not able to carry anything from their homes. In this distressful situation lot of people had raised their helping hands as such our institute also had participated in this relief activity. Nearly 90 students, two faculties and one non- teaching staff member were the part of this relief work. We had selected one of the worst affected village name Khidrapur from Shirol Tehsil, district Kolhapur. This village was surrounded from all the four sides with the water for merely 8 to10 days. Almost 80 to 85 per cent of houses were damaged. Our students reached their stayed with the community for four days and helped them in cleaning the village, providing psycho-social support, doing survey for assessing the exact damage occurred to the respective family and also provided all families with dry ration kits and clothes.

4. Obstacles faced if any and strategies adopted to overcome them

1. As the Khidrapur village to far from college so carrying required material and students was one of the challenging task which we had managed from raising funds from donors.
2. Getting an accommodation was one of the biggest challenges but one youth mandal had helped us in searching and providing the accommodation facility at the village itself.
3. Each and every family was in complete distress as majority of them has lost their immovable properties and in that situation giving them psycho-social support and involving them in our activities was really a challenging task, but with the help of

the students and their dedication and love towards the work resulted in active participation in each and every activity.

4. Post flood situation is always prone to communicable and epidemic diseases as well as water borne diseases in which maintaining each and every student's health was bit risky job but every students had taken his/her utmost care which resulted in successful completion of relief activity.

5. Impact of the practice

This flood relief activity at Khidrapur village resulted in helping 300 families with dry ration kits and clothing. We also cleaned public museum, zilla Parishad primary school, Boudha vihar, all streets and gutters. We also helped few families to remove debris of their houses. The students also conducted assessment survey to find out the exact damage occurred to the houses of respective families. Students also helped the Grampanchayat people the relief material and proper distribution of the material to affected family. They also counselled the people and had provided psycho-social support to them. Students got an hands on experience to handle disasters, administer relief camps, proper distribution and management of relief material, motivating and encouraging people to fight against distressful situations, organising and mobilising community in the time of natural disaster working with Panchayat Raj institution and government officials during natural disasters , adjustments to be done at the time of natural disaster, post disaster relief activity, its planning and actual execution, team work, etc. Students also learned to develop questionnaires and to conduct need assessment surveys.

6. Resources required:

1. Transport Facility
2. Dry Ration kits
3. Clothing
4. Drinking water facility
5. Accommodation
6. Medicines
7. Tools for cleaning
8. Utensils and other items for food preparations.
