

# **Loyola College (Autonomous)**

**Chennai – 600 034.**

## **Department of Service Learning (Outreach)**

### **Report of the Theme based training on Women Empowerment**

All the students who are in the Women Empowerment team from Shift-I and II were given training on the Rights of Domestic Workers on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2015 in Lawrence Sundaram Auditorium, Loyola College, Chennai.

The morning session for shift - II students commenced at 10.00 AM and the afternoon session for shift - I students at 2.00 P.M where a devotional song was played on the screen. The welcome addresses were proposed by Prof. K. A. S. Melson and Dr. Anand in the morning and the evening sessions respectively. Prof. John Kaviarasu, Head - Department of Service Learning (Outreach) explained the rationale for this training programme and also talked about the status of women and deserted women in the informal settlements.



Rev. Sr. Valarmathy, who is the state coordinator of National Domestic workers movement, was the resource person for both the sessions. She shared her experiences in the field and explained how the domestic workers face a lot of difficulties in their work spots. First of all there is a big gap between the employer and the employee in a domestic work. Most of the husbands are alcoholics and do not give any financial support to run the families. Some of them are widows and they are the bread winners. They do not get any bonus. It is very hard to get leave and that the increment is not fixed in any house. Due to this they may go on changing the houses frequently. She also informed that they could be enrolled in welfare board in order to avail the benefits from the government paying Rs.125. Students got an idea about the status of domestic workers.

This training program was a new beginning to all the students who are in Women Empowerment teams. Students got an idea about the team and decided to enroll the domestic workers in the welfare board in view of getting the government benefits. They also came to know about the plights of the domestic workers which were not known earlier. This training created an enthusiasm and augmented the students to spend time for the welfare of the slum dwellers.

This program was concluded with a vote of thanks and the national anthem.