

Dr.NandiniGhosh

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Career History

B.A. Sociology, Presidency College, Kolkata

M.A Sociology, University of Calcutta

PhD in Social Sciences, Tata Institute of Social Sciences Mumbai

Activities

- Engaged in teaching Qualitative Research methods and Sociology as part of the M Phil. in Development Studies curriculum and guided students in M Phil dissertation in IDSK.
- Conducted courses in Gender, Health and Disability for students of different Master's degree courses at Tata Institute of Social Sciences Mumbai.
- Taught module on Doing Applied Sociology for Certificate Course on Applied Sociology at Department of Sociology, Jadavpur University.
- Panel member at two day workshop on creating a teaching module on gender and disability for orientation and refresher courses organized by IAWS (Indian Association for Women Studies) in collaboration with Equal Opportunities Cell, Delhi University.
- Core committee member of Disability Activists Forum for drafting new law on disability along with Office of the Commissioner (Disability), Government of West Bengal.

Research interests

Gender studies, Disability studies, Qualitative Research Methodology

Selected Publications

Articles

- Paper - **Disability Policy and Action in India: A critical review** in the International Journal of Disability Studies, Vol. 2 Number 2, December 2006.
- Paper - **Embodied Experiences: Being Female and Disabled** in Economic and Political Weekly, Review of Women's Studies Volume 45, Number 17, April 24 - 30, 2010
- Chapter on **Women with Disabilities** in the **Country Report for the United Nations' Convention for Rights of Persons with Disabilities**, on behalf of Government of India and NALSAR, Hyderabad.
- Article - **BhaloMeye: Cultural Construction of Gender and Disability in Bengal** edited Volume titled **EMERGING PARADIGM OF DISABILITY STUDIES: PERSPECTIVES AND CHALLENGES FROM INDIA** to be published by

Centre for Women's Development Studies, New Delhi and Routledge India **to be published in January 2012.**

- Article Accepted – ***Using Qualitative methods in Disability Research*** in edited Volume titled **Qualitative Research in Public Health in India** to be published by Indian Institute of Public Health, Gandhinagar
- Article Accepted - **Feminist Ethnography: Exploring Lives of Disabled Women** in Forthcoming volume on "Exploring Disability in Social Science Research." To be published by Centre for Study of Social Systems, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

Papers presented at Conferences/ Seminars

- Presented paper on "***Developing positive attitudes towards People with Disabilities***" in Seminar organized by Dept. of Science and Technology, Govt. of West Bengal in June 2000.
- Have co-authored a report on **The Status of Women with Disabilities in 10 districts of West Bengal** in a study conducted by Sanchar, a leading NGO in West Bengal working on issues related to disability in 2006-07.
- Co-presented Paper with Jeeja Ghosh on "***Sexuality and Women with Disabilities***" at the National Dialogue: Women, Health and Development in Mumbai 23rd - 25th November 2006.
- Presented a paper "***BhaloMeye: Cultural construction of gender and disability in Bengal***" at Conference on Disability, Gender and Society: Contemporary Perspectives and Challenges organized by Centre for Women's Development Studies New Delhi in August 2008.
- Presented a paper "***Embodying Gender: Disabled Women in Bengal***" at the Ninth Women in Asia Conference at University of Queensland in Australia in September-October 2008.
- Paper titled ***Disability and Census: The need to be counted*** at Seminar on "**Getting Women and Girls with Disabilities counted in Census 2011**", organized by Association for Women with Disabilities on 21st May 2010, Seva Kendra, Kolkata
- Taught modules on Communication for Advocacy and Cross cutting Issues in Certificate course on Advocacy and Empowerment organized by Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy, Kolkata in 20-24 September 2010.
- Paper titled ***Disabled Adolescents: issues and concerns*** at UGC **National Seminar at Department of Psychology, Basanti Devi College** on "Perceived Psycho-Socio-Cultural Problems and Adjustments among Adolescents: A Rural and urban Contexts." on 8th December 2010.
- Paper titled ***Gender and Disability in India*** at the **Community Based Rehabilitation India Network Annual Conference** held at New Delhi on 10th and 11th December 2010
- Paper titled ***The Politics of Disability: Some Reflections*** at the **National Annual Conference on Disability** organized by the Equal Opportunities Cell, University of Delhi on March 3-5, 2011.

Projects

A Study of the Disability Movement in India: Trajectory, Tensions, Future

The primary aim of this study is to examine and explore the ways in which the local/regional/national struggles of groups of persons with disabilities is taking the shape of

a social movement that seeks to alter the ways in which disabled people are viewed and treated by the society at large. The research study proposes to examine the different strands of the localised disability advocacy struggles in various parts of the country in order to gain a better and contextualised understanding of the key issues, important events and strategies being used to carve out a disability rights movement, based on development of collective identity for all persons with disability.

The objectives of the research are:

Objective 1: To gain a deeper understanding of the processes through which alliances of persons with disabilities are being forged at the local levels – the reasons and ways in which agencies are promoting formation of disabled people’s organisations at the grassroots level, the reasons why disabled people are forming groups, and the ways in which they are organising themselves.

Objective 2: To explore the processes by which the groups are identifying key issues as concerns for their advocacy, the strategies used by these groups to negotiate the major challenges they face in terms of inclusion in the community in terms of education, health and livelihood as well as in other domains of social life.

Objective 3: To evaluate the extent of impact the efforts of these groups has had on the lives of persons with disabilities in terms of changes in structures, systems and processes, and to determine their role in stimulating the disability rights movement at the local, regional and national level.

Objective 4: To gain a deeper understanding of the processes of identity formation and reinforcement of certain identity markers for persons with disabilities brought about by the participation in the groups and in the larger movement.