

Jss College of Nursing student participated in essay competition held at JSS Ayurveda Medical College, Mysuru and secured 3rd place.

GLOBAL SOLIDARITY, SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

The covid-19 pandemic has shown us the deep inequalities existing in our societies. We saw the poor were more affected than the rich, the health crisis like every other crisis hits the poorest and the most vulnerable the hardest. But another thing that covid-19 has taught us is that, no one is safe unless everyone is safe and that leaving behind people is not an option. This world AIDS day the theme ‘Global solidarity, shared responsibility’ is a reminder for us as humans that it is our responsibility to uplift our fellow brothers and sisters to make way for a better world.

Eliminating hate and discrimination and putting people in the center is the basic requirement for global solidarity. The world today as we know is not perfect. People are differentiated in so many ways like religion, caste, race, nationality, the color of their skin, etc. We can see it even in developed countries like the United States where recently a person of African American origin was murdered by racist police officers. We also saw instances where the people had to riot in the streets to get the accused of the punishment he deserved. Let’s take a look at the different types of inequalities that exist in our society.

1. **Social inequality** is when people are discriminated against based on their gender, religion, sexual orientation, age, etc. In India, social inequality exists the most and it is our responsibility as a nation to suppress these discriminations and promote love and awareness. For example, we Indians are generally homophobic and discriminate heavily against people with different sexual orientations.
2. **Economic inequality** is the most common form of inequality. It occurs due to uneven income levels and differences in opportunity. This inequality is the one that differentiates people based on rich and poor. In covid-19 we saw that it was the poor that got severely affected.
3. **Income inequality:** There is a serious income disparity by the uneven distribution of income amongst poor and rich people. It creates a large income gap between different sectors of people. These things often affect the growth of the country the people are living in. Inequality should be reduced by the proper distribution of income amongst people.
4. **Wealth Inequality** is known as the wealth gap or you can say the unequal distribution of assets among the residents. It is a major economic as well as social problem that creates issues in society. The focus should be on reducing this inequality as it affects the growth of every country in the long run.
5. **Political inequality** is when people with more power affect political decisions to be in their favour. This can be seen everywhere as people with power often use their power to their advantage to get things done.

From the words of Eduardo Gelano “I don’t believe in charity; I believe in solidarity. Charity is vertical, so its humiliating. It goes from top to bottom. Solidarity is horizontal. It respects the other and learns from the other. I have a lot to learn from other people.” Solidarity means mutual support within a group. As per the theme of the 2020 AIDS day suggests, it is global solidarity that we need. What is global solidarity, why is it important?

Global solidarity is when the human race supports each other through everything that's going on in the world and love and respect each other irrespective of their sex, race, sexual orientation, wealth etc. It is what we need in these troubled times. It is important because no one will be left behind, everyone will grow together. We can see in many instances that people of lower class are left behind in sectors such as healthcare. Solidarity can ensure that they also get the same level of treatment like the rich and the powerful. Same can apply for education, welfare, income level, etc. Another thing we have to eliminate are the different human rights violations that exists around the world against woman, people of color, LGBTQ communities, etc. They also deserve the same level of respect and compassion wherever they may be in this Earth. If people start to implement solidarity in their life such social injustices that exists all around the world will cease to exist.

People who have been infected with AIDS are one of the most avoided people in the planet. Yes, the governments around the world and NGOs may take up the responsibilities of rehabilitating them and taking care of them. But we have to realize that these people are not just the governments or the NGOs responsibility. We also have the take care of our fellow human beings and should do certain things, direct or indirect to help these people get good healthcare. This the attitude that the world should have towards every crisis in the world. We should develop a feeling of commonness towards all human beings in the world. In the distribution of vaccines or such cures during the pandemic the government should make sure that all the people get the vaccine in an equal manner across all social and economic classes. Such a vaccine should be treated as a right to all human beings. This also applies for basic health care. No person should be left behind from getting the best healthcare there is at present. Life-saving medicines, vaccines and diagnostics must be considered as public goods. There must be global solidarity and shared responsibility to ensure that no individual, community or country is left behind in accessing life-saving health commodities.

Earths resources belongs to each and every human being equally. The current scenario where a few exploits the earth's resources at the expense of the rest of the world should be crime. The water of the earth, the wind of the sky, the fossil fuels under the earth, etc all belongs to all humans equally and there should be ways to make sure that everyone has access to all these natural resources. This will ensure a sustainable use of resources and ensure the survival of the human race and the nature.

To conclude we all, have a responsibility towards each other in the world. No crisis, or social issue is someone else's problem, it's a problem for you and me too. The world has many inequalities, but it can all be overcome with solidarity and compassion and treating everyone alike. We should also think about equal health care in this world AIDs day, as we all share a responsibility towards our fellow human being's health. Lets keep this in our mind and work our way to make the world a better place.

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