

SEMINAR

ONLINE TROLLING - *The Beast on the Block*

Wednesday, 12 and Thursday, 13 September 2018 (10:00-18:00, both days)
Siddhartha Hall, Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan



Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan and the **International Association of Women in Radio and Television (IAWRT)**, Chapter India, are jointly organising a two-day seminar on online trolling of women journalists, activists, actors, women politicians and other civil society members.

The seminar will explore how troll armies target dissent and free speech while also examining the trajectory of online attacks and how they can very quickly escalate into physical attacks. What can women journalists and others do when misogynistic abuse and death threats issued to them online are 'liked' by those in positions of authority?

Who bears the responsibility for allowing the digital space to become toxic? What is the response of cyber cells when complaints are filed? Does the judiciary take trolling seriously? Is it enough to say '*mute the conversation*' when you are being mercilessly trolled? What is the role of these multi-billion dollar platforms in these situations, and how can citizens become more proactive in asking them to take action?

Speakers will present testimonies outlining the extent of the problem and examine the legal and security options that are available. This consultation will not only profile the problem, but also try to look at the rights of citizens so they are better prepared to protect themselves when confronted with toxicity in the digital space.

To register to attend the seminar, please write to: Shweta.Wahi@goethe.de

SCHEDULE

DAY 1	
09:30 - 10:00	REGISTRATION
10:00 - 10:05	Welcome
10:05 - 11:30	SESSION 1: In the digital firing line Panelists: Rana Ayyub, <i>Journalist & Author</i> Meera Jatav, <i>Editor, Khabar Lahariya</i>

	<p>Anubha Bhonsle, <i>ICFJ Knight Fellow & Independent Journalist</i></p> <p>Neha Dixit, <i>Independent Journalist</i></p> <p>Moderator:</p> <p>Nupur Basu, <i>Journalist & Documentary Filmmaker</i></p>
11:30 - 12:00	COFFEE BREAK
12:00 - 13:00	<p>SESSION 2: Threats from online to offline</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <p>Siddhartha Vardarajan, <i>Founding Editor, The Wire</i></p> <p>Colin Pereira, <i>Security Expert, Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ)</i></p>
13:00 - 14:00	LUNCH
14:00 - 16:00	<p>SESSION 3: Women punch back!</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <p>Anna Vetticad, <i>Journalist</i></p> <p>Ginnie Mahajan, <i>Radio Jockey</i></p> <p>Disha Mullick, <i>Managing Director, Lahariya</i></p> <p>Nazia Erum, <i>Author</i></p> <p>Moderator:</p> <p>Paromita Vohra, <i>Filmmaker & Creative Director, Agents of Ishq</i></p>
16:00 - 16:15	COFFEE BREAK
16:15 - 17:30	<p>SESSION 4: Who is following whom and why</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <p>Swati Chaturvedi, <i>Author, 'I am a troll'</i></p> <p>Sanam Mehar, <i>Author, 'The sensational life and death of Qandeel Baloch'</i></p> <p>Dhrubo, <i>Journalist, Hindustan Times</i></p> <p>Anika Verma, <i>Representative from Breakthrough</i></p> <p>Moderator:</p> <p>Shikha Jhingan, <i>Academic & Filmmaker</i></p>
17:30 onwards	<p>Evening Performance - Poetry</p> <p>Aditi Angiras</p> <p>Himel Sarkar</p> <p>Medha Singh</p>

DAY 2	
09:30 - 10:00	REGISTRATION

<p>10:00 - 11:30</p>	<p>SESSION 5: Why are the courts mute spectators</p> <p>Panelists: Vrinda Grover, <i>Human Rights Lawyer</i> Siddhartha Narrain, <i>Lawyer & Academic</i></p> <p>Moderator: Manoj Mitta, <i>Journalist & Author</i></p>
<p>11:30 - 12:00</p>	<p>COFFEE BREAK</p>
<p>12:00 - 13:30</p>	<p>SESSION 6: Is industry action only the tip of the iceberg?</p> <p>Panelists: Dr Anja Kovacs, <i>Director, The Internet Democracy Project</i> Gaurav Bhaskar, <i>Google (TBC)</i> Pratik Sinha, <i>Alt News (on skype from Ahmedabad)</i> Osama Manzar, <i>Founder, Digital Empowerment Foundation (DEF)</i></p> <p>Moderator: Sania Farooqui, <i>Journalist</i></p>
<p>13:30 - 14:30</p>	<p>LUNCH</p>
<p>14:30 - 16:30</p>	<p>Session 7: Trolling: how grim does it get?</p> <p>Panelists: Nidhi Razdan, <i>Journalist</i> Rajdeep Sardesai, <i>Journalist</i> Akash Banerjee, <i>Online Commentator</i> Priya Janakiraman, <i>Actor and Founder Member WCC (TBC)</i> Steven Butler, <i>Asia Director, CPJ (recorded video from Washington)</i></p> <p>Moderator: (TBC)</p>