



Ubuntu 2024 Workshop

Title:

Exploring gender, identity, and sexuality through poetry and paintings

Facilitators:

Dr Anshu –

MBBS, MD, DNB, MNAMS, MHPE

Director-Professor, Department of Pathology

Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences, Sevagram, India

Dr Anshu has been awarded Commonwealth Academic Staff Fellowship (2007), CMCL-FAIMER Fellowship (2007), FAIMER-Institute Fellowship from Philadelphia (2009), and DBT Clinical Fellowship in Genetics Diagnostics (2021). Dr Anshu was awarded the International Fellowship in Medical Education (IFME) from FAIMER, USA in 2012 which enabled her to complete her Masters in Health Professions Education with distinction from Maastricht University. She was the President of the Academy of Health Professions Educators, India for the year 2022. She is on the Board of Directors of the Network Towards Unity of Health as a South-East Asia representative from 2023.

Synopsis

Healthcare professionals and students need to be aware of the issues surrounding gender, identity and sexuality in healthcare. The power dynamics, social norms, and cultural biases surrounding these themes often subtly impact access to healthcare. Medical textbooks often deal with only the gender binary and ignore the whole spectrum of sexual identity. These themes are barely discussed openly, and are often cursorily shelved. We have experimented with various innovative techniques such as games, small group exercises, poetry, cinema, and art to impart these competencies to students.

Getting students to react to poetry and paintings are powerful ways of getting these messages across. In this workshop we will demonstrate how using poems in the local language or context can resonate with students. We will also demonstrate how visual thinking strategies can be used with art to deepen critical thinking and sensitivity.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of the workshop participants will be able to:

- Outline issues surrounding gender, identity and sexuality in healthcare
- Use innovative methods such as art and poetry to deliver these messages to students of different health professions

Who should attend

- Health professions educators who wish to explore these themes with their students can be inspired to use these methods.
- Students who wish to understand these themes better through poems and art will also enjoy this different learning experience.

Participants are free to bring their own poems and art work related to healthcare to the workshop.

Workshop Outline

Time	Activities
5 minutes	Welcome comments Ubuntu 2024 Moderator
5 minutes	Role of gender, identity and sexuality in health care
20 minutes	Using poetry as an affirmative and formative tool in healthcare
20 minutes	Using paintings as a learning tool in healthcare
5 minutes	Questions and summary
5 minutes	Closing comments Ubuntu 2024 Moderator