

REPORT: GROUP DISCUSSION ON “RIGHT TO MARRY”

The AIL Centre for Personal Law (ACPL) successfully organized a **Group Discussion on the “Right to Marry”** on 25 February 2025 in the ACPL Room at 2:30 PM. The event aimed to facilitate an open and insightful dialogue on the legal, constitutional, and societal dimensions of the right to marry in India.

Objectives of the Discussion

The primary objective of the group discussion was to encourage students to critically analyze the concept of the right to marry from multiple perspectives, including:

- **Legal Framework:** Constitutional provisions, statutory laws, and international conventions.
- **Judicial Interpretations:** Landmark judgments shaping the right to marry.
- **Social and Cultural Aspects:** The influence of societal norms, religious customs, and personal autonomy.
- **Challenges and Reforms:** Issues such as forced marriages, same-sex marriages, interfaith marriages, and legal hurdles.

Highlights of the Discussion

The discussion saw enthusiastic participation from students, who actively engaged in debating various facets of the topic. Some of the key points raised included:

- The constitutional basis of the right to marry under Article 21 (Right to Life and Personal Liberty)..
- The legal recognition of same-sex marriages in the country and the ongoing debate.
- The role of personal laws and their implications on inter-caste and interfaith marriages.
- Societal resistance and challenges such as honor killings, family opposition, and state intervention in personal choices.
- The impact of Special Marriage Act, 1954, and its relevance in ensuring legal protection for interfaith and inter-caste couples.

Participation and Engagement

The discussion was moderated by members of ACPL, who ensured that the conversation remained structured and interactive. Students presented well-researched arguments, drawing from legal texts, case

laws, and real-life instances. The event encouraged critical thinking and legal reasoning, allowing participants to gain a deeper understanding of the complexities surrounding the right to marry.

Conclusion and Acknowledgment

The discussion concluded on a positive note, with participants appreciating the opportunity to engage in a meaningful debate on an issue of great contemporary relevance. The session successfully enhanced students' legal awareness and understanding of personal rights in India. As a gesture of appreciation, all participants were presented with goodies at the end of the event. The AIL Centre for Personal Law looks forward to organizing more such engaging discussions in the future.

Visuals from the Event

