

## Report on First day's event of the Prajnya's 16 day campaign against gender violence

The Prajnya 16 day campaign against gender violence kicked off with the intercollegiate oratorical competitions on "Women's Rights are Human Rights". The assigned topics were: "Gender violence, a silent killer," "Violence against women is violence against society" and "Gender violence violates human rights."

K. Rizwana Banu of Bharathi Women's College easily swept aside the competition with her combination of a well-researched, well-written and beautifully delivered speech on "Violence against women is violence against society." She took home a trophy for her college and a prize worth Rs. 1000. At second place, was V. Saradha of Women's Christian College. All participants were awarded certificates of recognition.

It was Rony Chandy of Madras Christian College who won the English Oratorical with a powerful presentation on the need to take cognizance of the economic, psychological and political impact of gender violence. Apart from the cash prize he carried back trophy for his college. The second prize went to Thairyam of Loyola College.

The Prajnya 16 Days Campaign Intercollegiate Oratorical Competition in Tamil was organized in partnership with the Department of Tamil, Queen Mary's College, Chennai. The participants came from Presidency College, Women's Christian College, Bharathi Women's College, M.O.P. Vaishnav College for Women and Queen Mary's College.

Dr. Ramu Manivannan of the University of Madras, Professor Amal of Loyola College Media Arts Department and Dr. Tamilselvi of the Queen Mary's College Tamil Department served as judges. The prizes were given away by Professor Pakkianathan, the acting Principal of Queen Mary's College.

The Department of foundation Course, Loyola College partnered with Prajnya for the English Oratorical competition. At the Lawrence Sundaram auditorium at Loyola College 10 young men speaking on various aspects of gender violence and the need to realize that women's rights are not separate form human rights.

The judges for the event were Dr. Chitra Krishnan, Department of English and Foreign languages, University of Madras and Mr. K. Hariharan, Director L V Prasad Film and TV academy, Mr. Hariharan awarded the winners while Dr. Chitra gave away the trophy to MCC College.

A good beginning!



K. Rizwana Banu of Bharathi Women's College receiving the first prize trophy in Tamil oratorical competition.



Rony Chandy and Mark Gideon of MCC receiving the winning trophy for the English oratorical competition