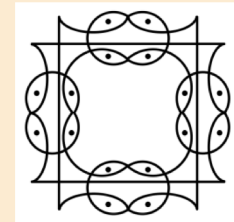


# Developing the gender, equity, and access framework for COVID-19 vaccines

Aakriti P, Neelanjana Das with inputs from Sarojini N  
Sama – Resource Group for Women and Health  
18 August 2021



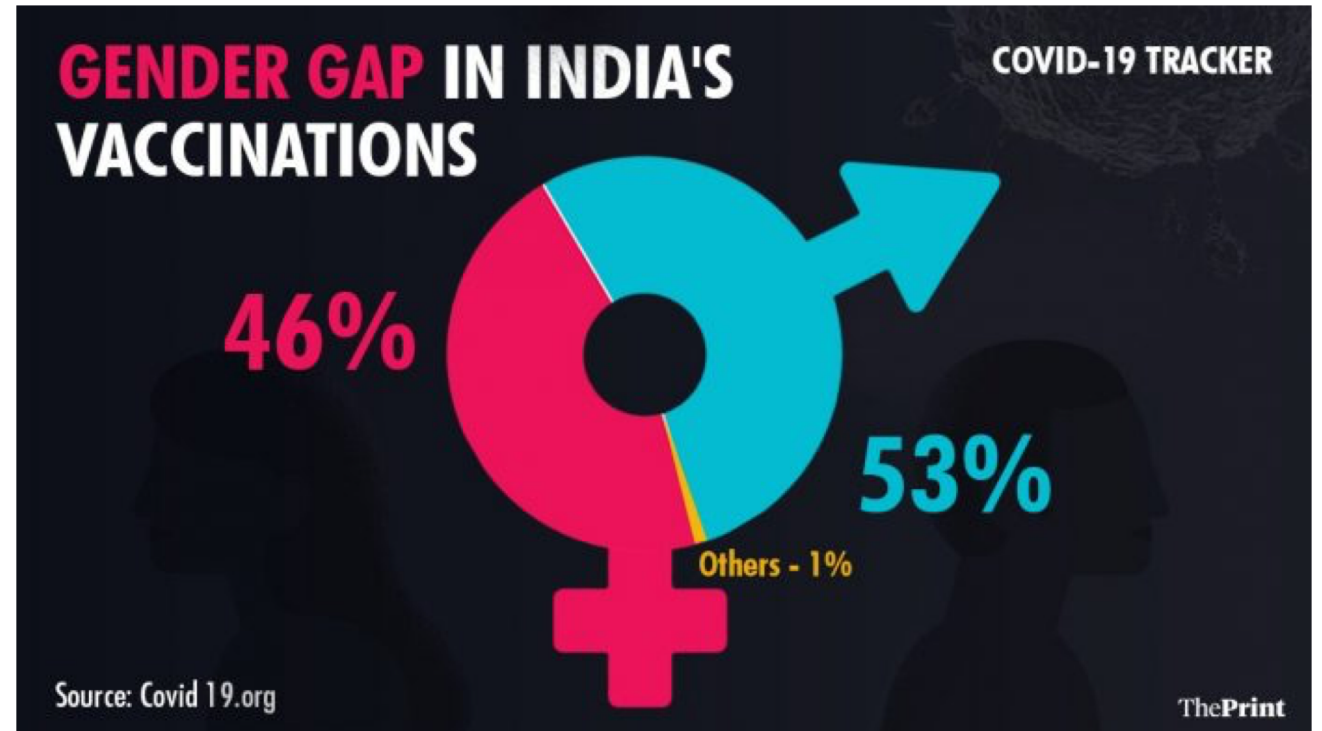
# Does a pandemic call for a feminist response?

Disproportionate effect of the pandemic

An intersectional lens for dismantling the compounding impact of multiple forms of inequalities

Right to life and health

There has been a lack in intersectional gender-responsive policies



Focus on identity  
(identities) – highlights  
not just oppression but  
privileges as well

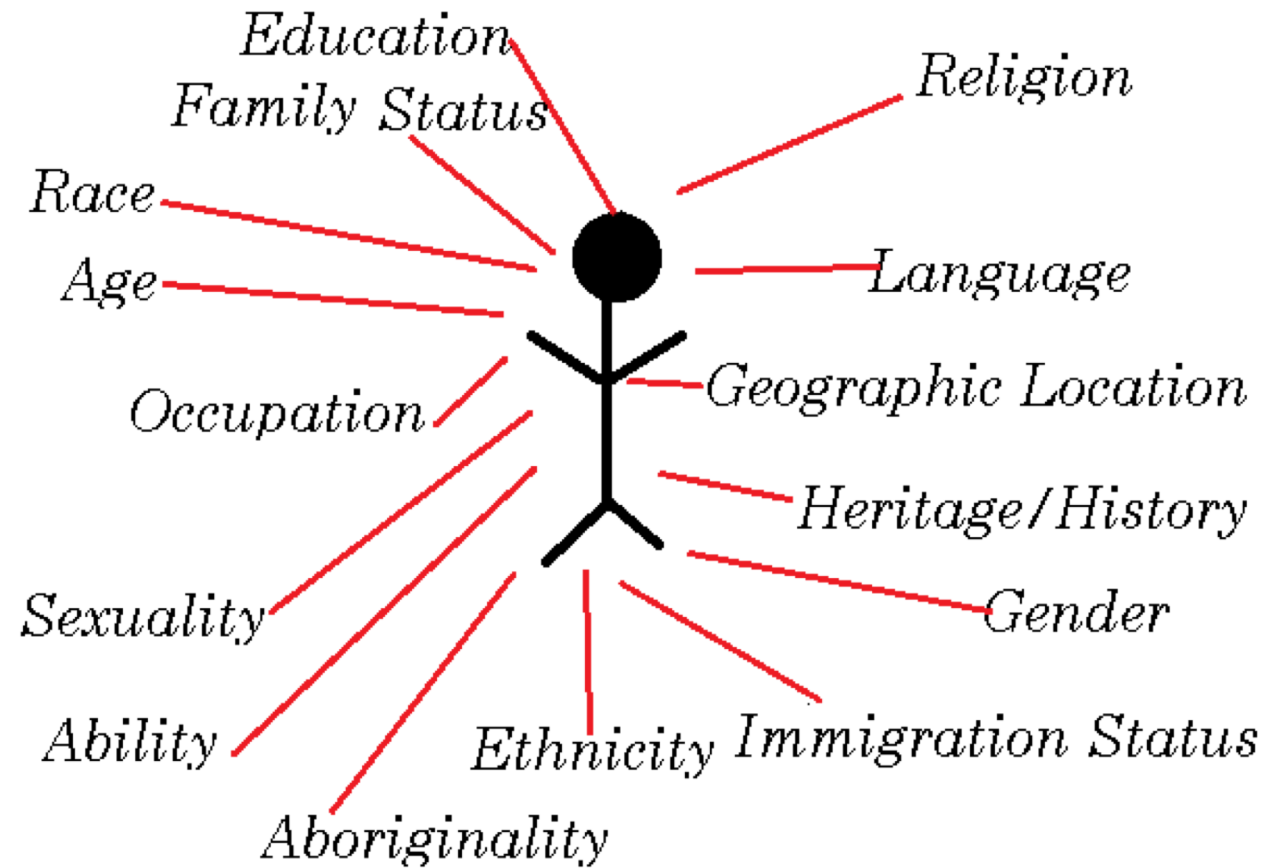


Image Source: <http://haenfler.sites.grinnell.edu/subcultural-theory-and-theorists/intersectionality/>

# Feminist response includes

I. It recognition of gender as a social construct,

- as a system of social stratification
- an institution that structures every aspect of our lives because of its embeddedness in the family, the workplace, the health care system and the state as well as in sexuality, language, and culture.

II. It locates the pandemic in the larger

- socio-economic, neoliberal globalisation,
- corporitisation of health care,
- trade and pharma politics,
- authoritarian politics,
- climate justice,
- racialised and communalised health system responses.



# Components of an intersectional feminist response

Amplifying and empowering the voices of the marginalised,

Emphasis on the right to life and health and rights of communities first and how it interacts with all other rights.

Recognises the inherent inequities that exist in the predominantly neo-liberal, corporate control, technocratised world that we live in and demands and advocates for equity in response.

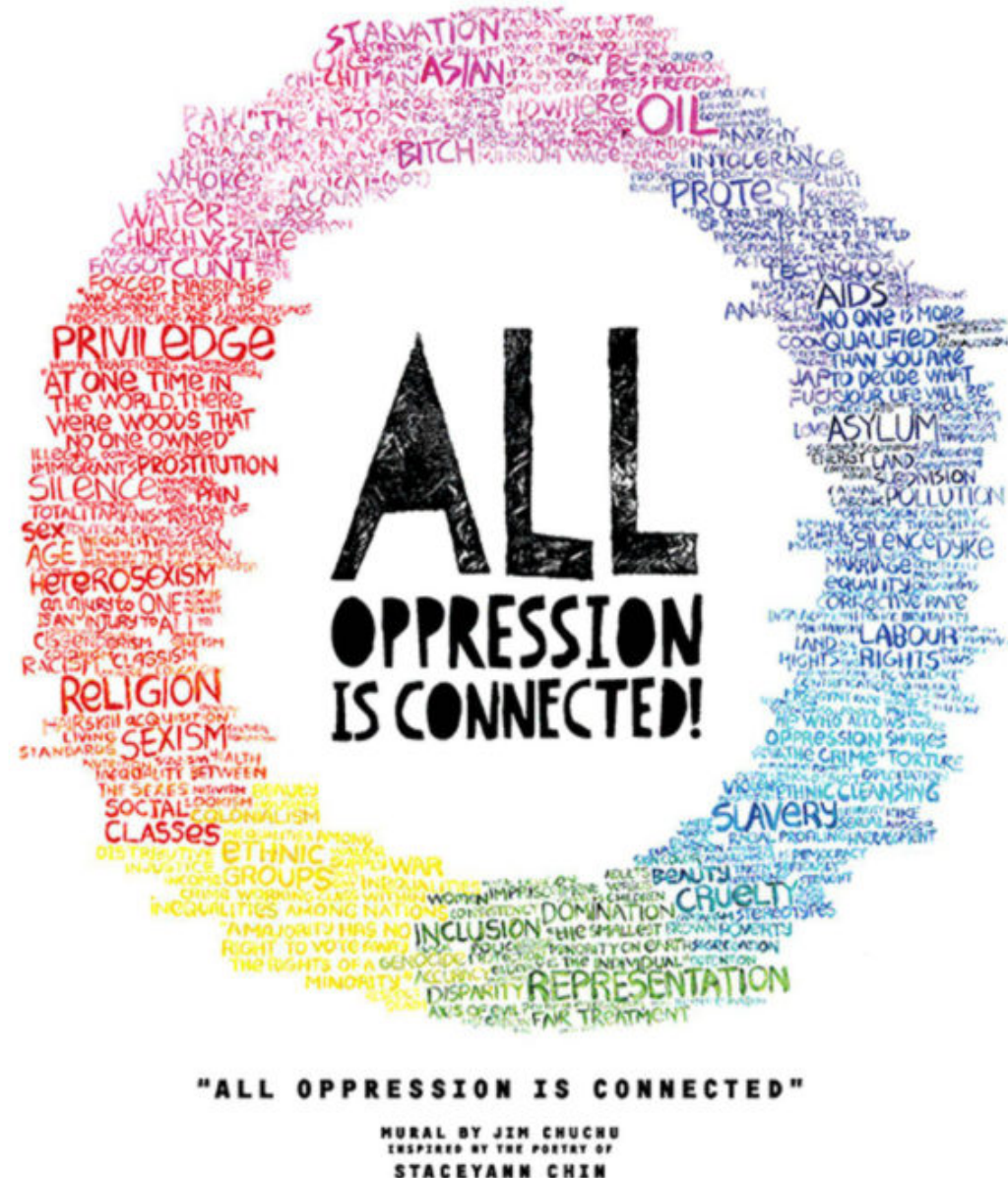
Analysing the complete erosion of democratic processes and no protection of human rights of citizens especially those from marginalised sections.

Analysing global responses, learnings, and calls for ethical action



Images from Milind Ranade, AFP, and Sandhya Devre. Composite by Nithya Subramanian

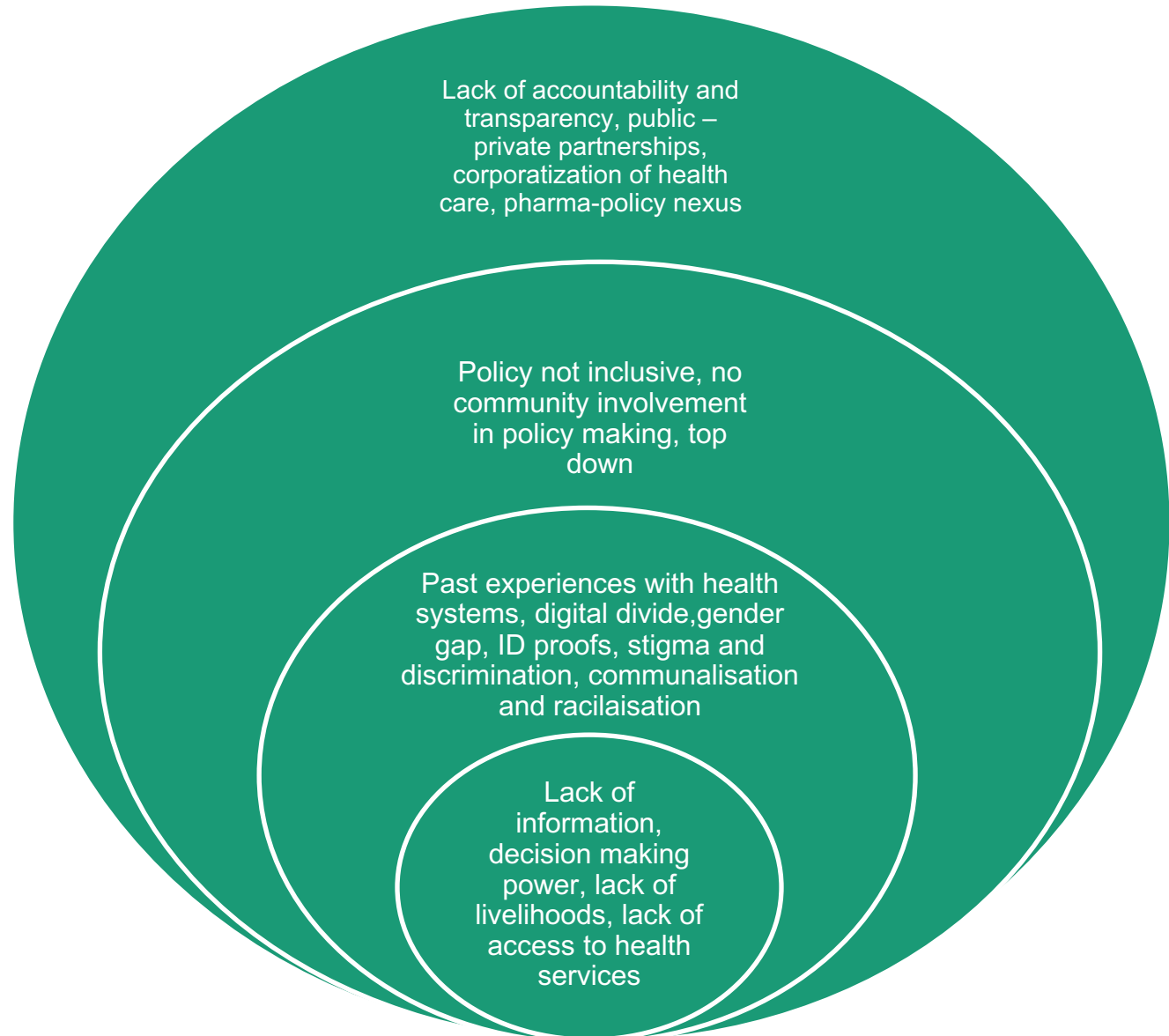
- No one size fits all. A focus on how identities interact to create further oppressions.
- An awareness that the situation is evolving, and so must our response too



# Problem analysis –

Women and young girls from marginalised sections, frontline workers, migrants, PLHIV, women & trans people in prisons; those marginalised by gender, sexuality, sexual orientation; work; by race, religion, caste and ethnicity, disability, age, occupation, citizenship etc

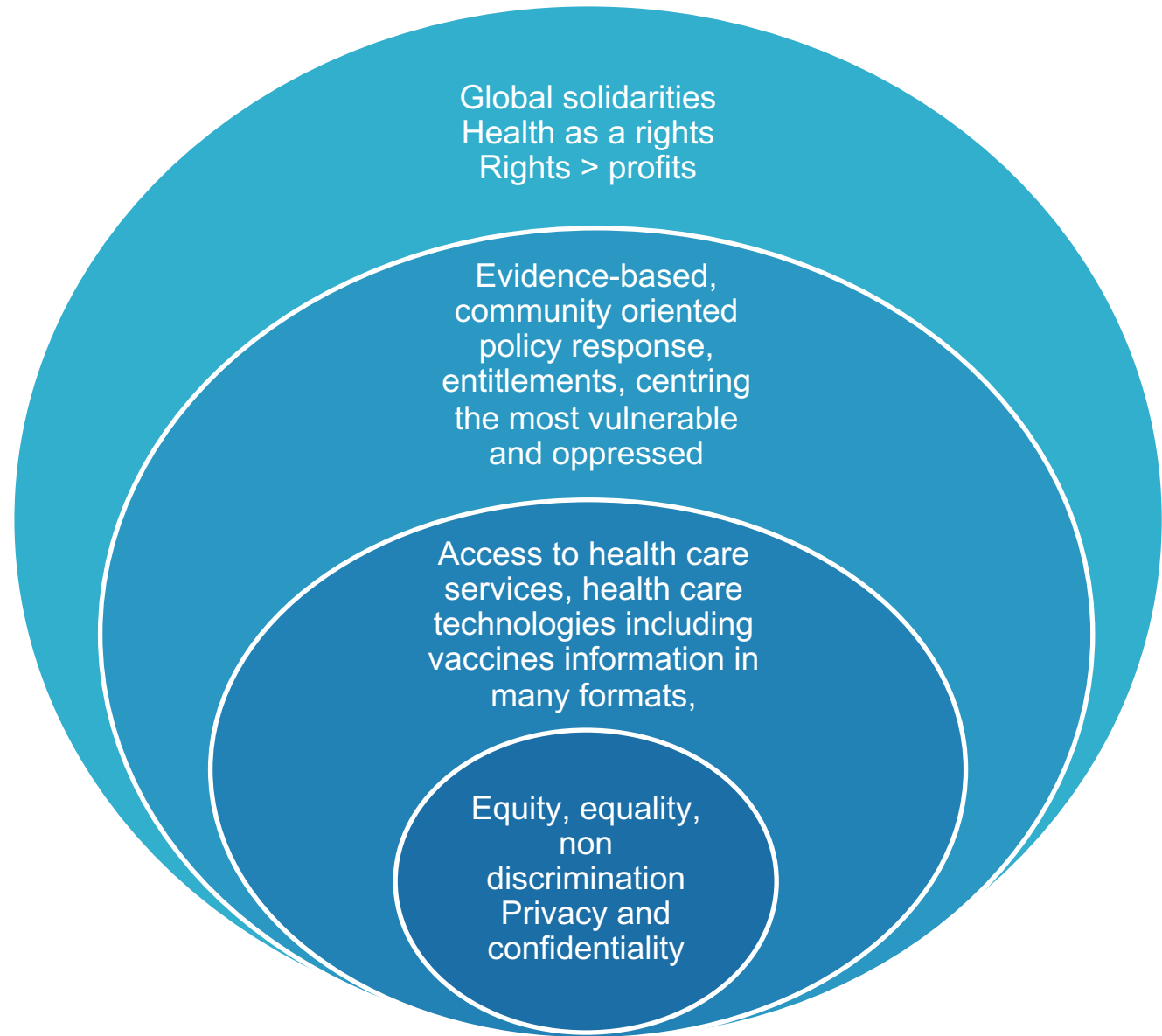
– **getting equal access to testing, treatment and safe Vaccines?**



# Core pillars of a feminist response

However, there is no one feminist way of understanding and responding.

A framework that emerges with inputs from our diverse realities will help us to engage at the local, national and global level.



# Activities conducted based on the framework

- Advocating for increased investment in the public health system, limiting privatization - old issues that have cropped up again
- Finding answers to the question that bothers us all, in terms of global governance in pandemic times— what did we learn from the past history of Pandemics & recent global outbreaks? In what ways was the experience similar to then and how was it different?
- Advocacy for manufacturing of vaccines through public sector units and demanding free vaccination
- Working with communities to increase health literacy with emphasis on right to information and the right to choose?



# Webinar Series on Ethical and Legal Challenges in Vaccine Research and Access

A Webinar Series on

## Ethical and Legal Challenges in Research on Preventive Vaccines and in Making Approved Vaccines Accessible

7 to 21 November 2020

Organized by Amar Jesani, Sarojini Nadimpally, Yogesh Jain, Veena Johari and S(Chinu) Srinivasan

With technical support from Sama Resource Group for Women and Health

For further details, contact Amar Jesani 9833073773 (amar.jesani@gmail.com) | Sarojini Nadimpally: 9818664634 (sarojinipr@gmail.com) | Yogesh Jain: 9425530357 (yogeshjain.chhattisgarh@gmail.com)

### SCHEDULE OF THE WEBINAR SERIES

WEBINAR 1: 07 NOVEMBER 2020, SATURDAY, 15:30-17:30 IST

Scientific and Ethical Issues in COVID Vaccine Trials

WEBINAR 2: 09 NOVEMBER 2020, MONDAY, 15:30-17:30 IST

COVID Vaccine Trials: Experiences and Opinions from the Ground

WEBINAR 3: 11 NOVEMBER 2020, WEDNESDAY, 15:30-17:30 IST

Regulating COVID-19 Vaccine Clinical Trials

WEBINAR 4: 17 NOVEMBER 2020, TUESDAY, 15:30-17:30 IST

COVID Vaccines as Public Goods: Regulatory Approval and Patent

WEBINAR 5: 21 NOVEMBER 2020, SATURDAY, 15:30-17:30 IST

Priority Setting and Health Sector Preparedness

A Webinar Series from 7 to 21 November 2020  
ETHICAL AND LEGAL CHALLENGES IN RESEARCH IN PREVENTIVE VACCINES  
AND IN MAKING APPROVED VACCINES ACCESSIBLE

WEBINAR 4

### COVID-19 VACCINES: OWNERSHIP AND ACCESS

SPEAKERS



Vaccines as 'Public goods': The notion of 'public good' in the framework of universal health care  
**PROF. T. SUNDARAMAN**  
(Global Coordinator of Peoples Health Movement and has been an activist of people's science movements and peoples health movements since the 1970s)



Moderator  
**K. M. GOPA KUMAR** (THIRD WORLD NETWORK)  
Lawyer specializing in international law, he is Legal advisor to the Third World Network (TWN)



Vaccines and Intellectual Property: Should we be concerned?  
**KAJAL BHARGAVA**  
Lawyer based in Delhi. She has been working on HIV, health and human rights for two decades with a special focus on trade, IP and health.



Moderator  
**VEENA JOHARI**  
Practising lawyer specializing on health-related laws, ethics, and access to medicines. Also an External Legal Member in the Research Ethics committees that review and monitor clinical trials, including those relating to COVID-19



International agencies and the development and distribution of COVID vaccines  
**ROHIT MALPANI**  
An independent consultant specializing on issues of access to medicines, antibiotic resistance, and the role of artificial intelligence in health.

TUESDAY  
17 NOVEMBER 2020  
15:30 to 17:30 IST

Please use the link below to join the webinar:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81077573648>

Organized by Amar Jesani, Sarojini Nadimpally, Yogesh Jain, Veena Johari and S. (Chinu) Srinivasan with technical support from Sama Resource Group for Women and Health

A Webinar Series from 7 to 21 November 2020  
Ethical and Legal Challenges in Research in Preventive Vaccines  
and in Making Approved Vaccines Accessible

WEBINAR 5: SATURDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2020 15:30 to 18:00 IST

### FROM VACCINE TO VACCINATION: PREVENTION OF COVID-19

SPEAKERS



Health System Preparedness at Centre level, Financing, procurement, roll-out plans / mechanisms  
**PROF. VINOD K. PAUL**  
Member of the NITI Aayog and part of the core team of Union Government for COVID-19 pandemic response, as well as the National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for Covid-19



Health System Preparedness at the State level, Roll out plans / mechanisms  
**RAJEEV SADANANDAN**  
CEO of Health System Transformation Platform. An Advisor to the Chief Minister of Kerala on management of COVID-19



Field-level Delivery Issues: Syringes cold chain and bio waste management, logistics  
**PRABIR CHATTERJEE**  
Specialized in Community Medicine, worked in Public Health, Immunization, surveillance and health worker training in rural areas of Jharkhand, north Bengal and Chhattisgarh.



Prioritising Health Equity, Gender and Intersectionality in the COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution  
**SAROJINI NADIMPALLY**  
Involved with issues of public health, clinical trials and access to medicines through research and advocacy. Affiliated with Sama and JSAP/Peoples Health Movement.



Moderator  
**DR. YOGESH JAIN**  
Paediatrician by training, public health physician in practice, has been involved with community health programmes in central India for over 20 years.



Emerging Issues from the Webinar Series and Way Forward  
**DR. AMAR JESANI** **S. (CHINU) SRINIVASAN** **VEENA JOHARI**

Click to join the webinar: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85032550811>

Organized by Amar Jesani, Sarojini Nadimpally, Yogesh Jain, Veena Johari and S. (Chinu) Srinivasan with technical support from Sama Resource Group for Women and Health



# Covid-19 Pandemic and Vaccination Roll out: Experiences of Frontline workers

**समा महिला व स्वास्थ्य संदर्भ समूह**  
आप को

**“कोविड -19 वैश्विक महामारी के बीच आशा कार्यकर्ताओं के को समझने का प्रयत्न”**

**वक्ता** वेबिनार में शामिल होने के लिए आमंत्रित करता है

सुलक्षणा नंदी-राष्ट्रीय संयुक्त संयोजक जन स्वास्थ्य अभियान, छत्तीसगढ़  
गीता मंडल-ऐपवा राज्य सचिव, झारखण्ड  
सुनीता रानी-राज्य सचिव, आशा वर्कर्स यूनिट, हरियाणा  
सबया देवी-बिहार राज्य आशा कार्यकर्ता संघ (ऐक्टू), बिहार  
अंजू खेवर -प्रोग्राम कोऑर्डिनेटर, SHRC, छत्तीसगढ़  
संयंत्रण-समा

**दिनांक: 24 जून**  
**समय: 4PM से 5PM**

**रजिस्टर करने के लिए लिंक पर क्लिक करें**





# Pandemics and public health: from feminist and public health lens

Sama Webinar Series: Feminist and Public Health Conversations on Equity, Gender, Intersectionality & Access to Health Care Technologies

## PANDEMICS & PUBLIC HEALTH: LEARNINGS FROM THE PAST AND PRESENT

**Conversations around**

- What did we learn from the past Pandemics and the recent global outbreaks in terms of global governance?
- What ways was the experience similar or different from what has happened now?
- How Pandemics have shaped the economic, social, geopolitical, environmental, technological aspects of human life?

**30 MARCH 2021**  
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM IST | 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM BST | 6:30 AM - 8:30 AM EDT

**SPEAKERS**



**Dr. Prashant Kidambi**  
Dr. Prashant Kidambi is a historian based at the Centre for Urban History, University of Leicester. His book 'The Making of an Indian Metropolis: Colonial Governance and Public Culture in Bombay, 1890-1920' highlights the impact of the plague pandemic on colonial Bombay.



**Dr. Carlo Caduff**  
Author of 'The Pandemic Perhaps: Dramatic Events in a Public Culture of Danger', he is a Reader in the Department of Global Health & Social Medicine at King's College, London. His research concerns include questions of global health & disease, science & technology, ethics & morality.



**Prof. Rama Baru**  
Professor at the Centre for Social Medicine and Community Health at the Jawaharlal Nehru University. Her areas of interest include commercialization of health services, infectious diseases, comparative health systems and health inequalities, and recently, Covid 19.



**Prof. Aditya Bharadwaj**  
Professor of Anthropology & Sociology at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva. His teaching & research uncovers the local & global dimensions underscoring the production, utilisation and circulation of biomedicine & biotechnologies.

**FACILITATORS**

**ZOOM LINK:** [https://us02web.zoom.us/join/wn\\_5a1Q80t-QFu6P1-Wf4ADcw](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/wn_5a1Q80t-QFu6P1-Wf4ADcw)

 **Sama Resource Group for Women and Health**

 **Gender Justice & Health Thematic Group**  
People's Health Movement (PHM)

Sama Webinar Series: Feminist and Public Health Conversations on Equity, Gender, Intersectionality & Access to Health Care Technologies

## PANDEMICS & PUBLIC HEALTH: LEARNINGS FROM THE PAST AND PRESENT

**Webinar 2**

- What have we learnt from the past history of pandemics?
- How does the evidence we have from the Ebola and Zika outbreaks inform the current response to COVID-19 or beyond?
- What is the public health analysis that accounts for the ways global governance and states are transforming into the post-pandemic future?

**16 APRIL 2021, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM IST | 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM EDT**  
Register in advance for this webinar at:  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/join/wn\\_T7E9ksRXurxsZ78uYsQ](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/wn_T7E9ksRXurxsZ78uYsQ)

**SPEAKER**



**Dr. Eugene T. Richardson**  
Dr. Richardson is a physician anthropologist and Assistant Professor of Global Health and Social Medicine at Harvard Medical School. He previously served as the clinical lead for Partners In Health's Ebola response in Kono District, Sierra Leone, where he continues to conduct research on the social epidemiology of Ebola virus disease and COVID-19. He also worked as a clinical case management consultant for the WHO's Ebola response in Beni, Democratic Republic of the Congo. More recently, he was seconded to the Africa CDC to join their COVID-19 response. His overall focus is on biosocial approaches to epidemic disease prevention, containment and treatment in sub-Saharan Africa. As part of this effort, he is chair of the Lancet Commission on Reparations and Redistributive Justice. His recent book, 'Epidemic Illusions: On the Coloniality of Global Public Health' explores how public health practices - from epidemiological modeling to outbreak containment - help perpetuate global inequities.

**FACILITATOR**



**Dr. Vineeta Bal**  
Dr. Vineeta Bal is a trained physician, an immunologist and a faculty at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) in Pune. Prior to her present affiliation, Dr. Bal worked at the National Institute of Immunology as a Staff Scientist for 25 years. She has published more than 300 original research papers and has worked on diverse areas in immunology research - understanding immune responses in viral hepatitis, tuberculosis, Japanese Encephalitis and typhoid as infectious diseases - besides trying to understand how vaccines work, how immunological memory can be manipulated, how allergic immune responses can be modified with a focus on T cells. She was a member of a Task Force on Women in Science set up by the Government of India between 2004-2008. Outside of her professional work, she is also involved with issues related to Feminism, Science and Society, Peace movement, among others.

**Organised by:**

 **Sama**  
Resource Group for Women and Health

 **Gender Justice & Health Thematic Group**  
People's Health Movement (PHM)

# International Consultations on ‘The feminist response to living through & beyond the Covid-19 pandemic’

INTERNATIONAL CONSULTATION ON  
GENDER, EQUITY AND ACCESS TO COVID  
VACCINES AND BEYOND

18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2020

Sama Resource Group for Women and Health



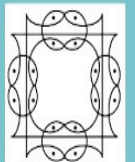
## 2nd International Consultation on Gender, Equity and Access to Covid-19 Vaccines and Beyond

Date : 23rd and 24th July 2021

Time : 3:00 PM - 5:30 PM IST

Organised by  
Sama Resource Group for Women and Health

<http://www.samawomenshealth.in>



# NOT IN LOCKDOWN: VOICES AND STRUGGLES AGAINST GENDER, RACIAL AND SOCIAL INJUSTICES

Sama Resource Group for Women and Health and  
People's Health Movement (PHM)  
invite you for a Webinar



## Not in Lockdown: Voices and Struggles against Gender, Racial and Social Injustices

JUNE 25, 2020

5:30 PM TO 7:00 PM INDIAN STANDARD TIME (GMT +5:30 HRS)



**SARA HOSSAIN** (BANGLADESH)  
MODERATOR AND FLAGGING KEY  
ISSUES ON THE THEME



**SAROJINI N** (INDIA)  
THE PANDEMIC AND SOLIDARITY:  
WHY IS JUSTICE IMPORTANT FOR  
HEALTH FOR MARGINALISED, INDIA



**LIEGH HAYNES** (USA):  
INEQUITIES ON TOP OF INEQUITIES:  
RACISM, VIOLENCE AND REPRESSION  
IN THE US DURING THE COVID 19  
PANDEMIC



**SAEROM KIM** (SOUTH KOREA):  
GENDERED IMPACT OF THE COVID  
CRISIS IN SOUTH KOREA



**SHATHA ODEH** (PALESTINE):  
PANDEMIC WOES TO CONFLICT  
SETTINGS, CENTERING GENDER  
DISCUSSIONS FROM PALESTINE



**PENINAH KHISA** (KENYA):  
UNDERSTANDING GENDER BARRIERS  
IN ACCESS TO HEALTH AND  
DETERMINANTS, EAST AFRICA

### REGISTRATION LINK:

[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/MEETING/REGISTER/TZEUCUUGQJOTG9JDC\\_7QIPGGQSXXZDWD75JD](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tzeucuugqjotg9jdc_7qipggqsxxzdwd75jd)

- Conducting consultations with front-line workers, communities, and groups at the international level (global south - LMIC) to document experiences and inputs from as many groups as possible and building solidarity at the global and community level towards developing a framework on gender, equity and pandemics: a feminist response
- Influencing through strategies such as filing of PIL, building frameworks for NHRC, developing statements, demanding accountability and transparency from systems in charge
- The Access to ‘People’s Vaccines’ initiative by Sama is also focused on COVID vaccines and brings feminist and equity analysis to this important space.







# Build the framework with us

It is an evolving document



Contact us at

[sama.womenshealth@gmail.com](mailto:sama.womenshealth@gmail.com)

[www.samawomenshealth.in](http://www.samawomenshealth.in)



**Founded in 1999, feminist organisation  
working on issues of public health  
from a gender and intersectionality  
lens**

*Sama Resource Group for Women and Health* considers health a fundamental human right and believes this can be achieved by strengthening public health system, regulating private sector, and curtailment of multiple forms of discrimination based on caste, class, gender, religion, ethnicity, ability and sexual orientation. Over the years, Sama has worked on a range of issues such as public health, right to health and health care, sexual and reproductive health and rights, addressing gender-based violence, reproductive health technologies, access to medicines, ethics in clinical trials, and more.



# Image References

- <https://theprint.in/health/gender-gap-in-vaccine-worse-than-indias-sex-ratio-only-867-women-got-covid-shot-per-1000-men/670340/>
- <http://haenfler.sites.grinnell.edu/subcultural-theory-and-theorists/intersectionality/>
- <https://scroll.in/pulse/958444/beyond-doctors-neglected-frontline-workers-need-coronavirus-safety-gear>
- <https://talynnel.com/blog/2017/1/3/oppression-is-rarely-one-big-defining-moment>
- [www.samawomenshealth.in](http://www.samawomenshealth.in)
- Images: Nirantar Swasthya ki khoj mein, Sama archives and various news items