

REPORT

Engaging Youth with Street Theatre for Social Change



Report by

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Overall Experience

We have come to the end of this journey indeed with mixed emotions, happy because we have 2 strong teams now, 2 plays and experience of play performance but sad too because this journey with a combination of fun, learning, emotions, happiness, togetherness has come to an end. The youth are very excited and would keep it going by performing these plays at different locations and spread awareness among people on the issue of Patriarchy and Nigrani.

A drastic change can be seen in the youth from the first day to the final performance day. They have transformed from being a shy, hesitant, and low on confidence person to a confident, energetic person. One can see many changes in them , to name a few their body language has changed, their view on various social issues has changed.

Initial two days we spent on knowing the teams from both the communities and we had a theatre workshop for 2 days at SPYM. We had 35 youth from both the communities who were very excited to know about theatre. We had sessions from morning till evening along with fun activities, theatre exercises and discussions. During the workshop we mutually discussed and agreed upon the name of our Theatre group as "**YUVA DHARA**".

We went further with the energetic team from BAWANA first. Youth were very excited to work as a team and after 2 days of power packed yet stressful discussion and brainstorming on issues we decided to pick the issue of "**NIGRANI**"- a Familiar yet challenging issue as people were not aware of the fact that there is a team of community women who are dedicatedly working on Ration issues. Youth decided to appreciate their work by doing a street play on Ration issue and the problem faced by locals. After 8 days of hard work youth performed 3 plays in bawana at different venues and got a very positive response from the spectators.

After a discussion with Jagori team we have decided to have a signature song for theatre group in the form of rap so I wrote lyrics of rap and composed it and both our teams will use this as a signature song for their group. The lyrics of the song is attached in this report please see page no 6.

We started play practice in khaddar with a mix team of both male and female youth. We came up with the issue of Masculinity and started working on the script. After hard work of 2 days we had a concrete plot. Youth were passionate about the process and I truly appreciate that they learnt it well and gave their output whenever needed. After completion of the script they started fitting up themselves in different characters as demanded by the script. They worked real hard on the script as a result the best came out from them and we prepared a well scripted play and they performed it in Khadar at different blocks.

What I observed in youth after the practice and performance is:

- They were more confident
- More energetic
- Their problem solving ability increased
- They started working as a team
- Individual efforts came out when needed
- Decision making power improved as a team and as an individual

One can see the difference in them before or after the workshop and practice. As an individual, they learnt how to contribute their bit and as a team how to support each other and to start a chain reaction to control the output. My wishes are always with them and hoping to see them giving their best for the society.

Photo glimpse of the workshop





Signature Song for “YUVA DHARA”

Yuva dhara yuva dhara yuva dhara-2, yuva yuva...

Nayi ye soch hai.... Naya ye josh hai.... Humko kahte hai “YUVA”

Nayi umang hai... nayi tarang hai... badlenga sab kuch “YUVA”.....

Badle jamane hai... mast tarane hai..... Dikha denge sabko “YUVA”....

Ab na koi rokega hume na tokega hume

Bahti umang hai.. utti patang hai...

Awaaz hai, naya saaz jai.. Sarphire se jazbaat hai..

Azaad hai.. bebak hai.. Iraadon par hume naaz hai...

Roke se na rukenge... Ek dhara me hum bahenge..

Sochenge, thaanenge,

Badlenga, chalenge, milenga, nachenga, gayenga

Haunsle baandhenga...

Naya daur hai banana, chahe roke zamana,

Jab mushkil raah hai thaani...

To likhenge nyi kahani....

FEEDBACK

Three sessions have been undertaken to collect feedback from:

a) The “Yuva Dhara” team: key learning and future plans

- *My soul feels connected to the work I did and I feel truly responsible to the society – Poonam*
- *This process gives me time and space to think and discover the area of social work where I would want to continue to extend my support - Ghanshyam*

b) The resource person: key learning and reflections

The process of involvement was realistic and practical based, I came to know more about the youth thought process and work and we chose issue in which I can learn and give my bit.

c) The audience: key messages received from the 2 street plays

- *Play was realistic, informative - Sunder lal (bawana)*
- *Now I know where to complaint about ration issues – Sarita (Bawana)*
- *Now I know mardangi kuch nhi hoti sabko ek saman milna chahiye (bhot acha) – Samsudin (Khadar)*

THANK YOU NOTE

I am thankful to the entire JAGORI team for giving me this opportunity. A special thanks to youth of both communities – Bawana and Khadar for their support, hard work, sincere efforts and belief. Hope this endeavor will continue in future and JAGORI will keep involving youth for social change and provide them such platforms so that they can become sensitive and give their bit towards the society.