

REPORT ON THE WEBINAR ON WOMEN'S STUDIES

Title of the Webinar : Feminism and Literature

Date : 27.8.20

Resource Person : Dr. Paramita Chakravarti, Associate Professor,
Department of English, Jadavpur University.

Topic of the Lecture : A Young Man Like Ourselves : Mary
Wollstonecraft and the Feminist Foremothers.

Number of Participants : 61

Theme and Outcome : Feminism as a term, has gained currency in the whole world today, and is a much-talked subject among the intelligentsia. Starting with equal rights of women in terms of education and job, this movement, initially rooted in Europe and the U.S.A, gradually spread to different parts of the world, making both men and women, conscious of the need for women to raise their voices against inequalities, injustice and discrimination of all sorts. The movement found expression in many of the writings, of both women and men writers. One of the earliest literary works to discuss the ideas of feminism, A Vindication of the Rights of Women, by

Mary Wollstonecraft, created history of some sort, with its bold assertions, clarity of thought and logical representation.

Dr. Chakravarti spoke on the tenets of this work, explaining its nitty-gritty and the principles coded in it. She also opened up new vistas for interpretation and understanding.

Since this webinar focused on literary values and reading this particular work as a work of literature, its participants were mostly from the departments of English in various colleges. Calcutta University has prescribed this text in the Undergraduate syllabus, and a webinar of this kind benefited both the students as well as the Faculties.