

Manav Rachna International Institute of Research and Studies
Faculty of Media Studies and Humanities
Department of Journalism and Mass Communication
Event Report
International Lecture on
“Use of artificial intelligence by social workers to help unhoused teens in USA”
01/03/2023

No. of participants: 29

Mode: Hybrid (Connected with expert via Zoom and screened in Classroom)

Event Coordinator- Dr Tinam Borah

As part of its monthly International Expert Lecture Series- Transnational Communication on Media Culture, the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, FMeH organised a lecture on March 1, 2023. The invited guest for the session was Dr Anamika Barman Adhikari, Associate Professor, Graduate School of Social Work, University of Denver, who spoke on the topic “Use of artificial intelligence by social workers to help unhoused teens in USA.”

Dr Anamika started her lecture by building a premise of her experiences that led her to her current areas of research. She

"People around the age from 18 to 25 in the US go through homelessness." shared Dr Anamika. “This leads to youth going into depression and starting substance abuse.”, she added. She also shared the fact how the percentage of drug abuse has increased up to eighteen percent in the past thirty weeks, Methylene being one of the most used drugs among them. She explained the reasons why the youth go through homelessness. One of them was not getting accepted by their own family for being a part of LGBTQIA community. "A seven year old boy was banished from his house." she gave an example to explain the reality of the USA.

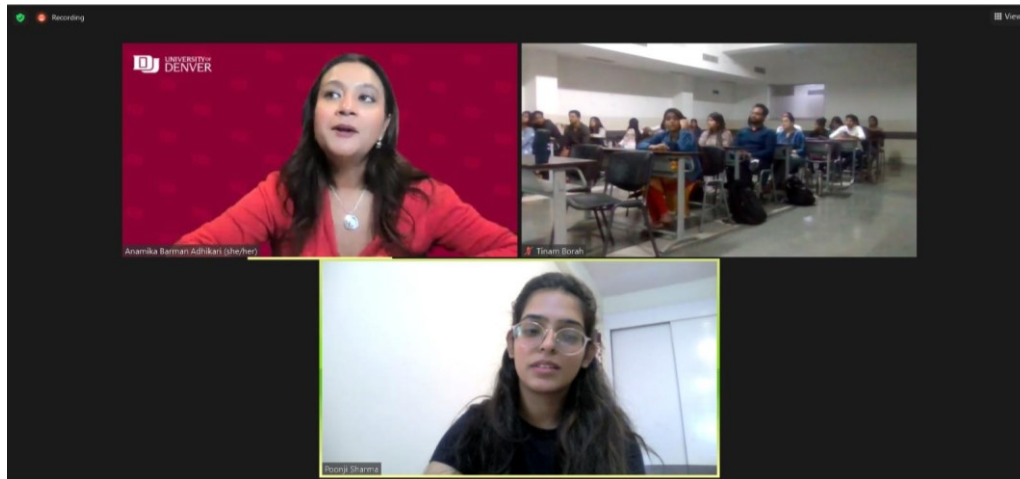
"Parents here rather abandon their child than going to therapy" explained Dr. Anamika while she talked about how a teen goes through traumatic experiences because of their parents which leads to habits like drug consumption, depression, violent behaviour, etc rather than being able to afford an expensive therapy.”

She then discussed how through the use of artificial intelligence and social networking, such teens are identified and located and then rehabilitated by social organisations in the USA. Such prevention interventions acknowledge these contextual environments and utilize social network methodology to determine how these new ideas can be disseminated and sustained using a community-based participatory research approach.

In the Q and A session followed by the lecture, Dr Anamika answered questions asked by the students present in the session. The session was coordinated by Dr Tinam Borah, Assistant Professor DJMC, MRIIRS under the guidance of Prof (Dr) Kiran Khanna, HOD, DJMC and Prof (Dr) Maithili Ganjoo.

Pictures of International Lecture on “Use of artificial intelligence by social workers to help unhoused teens in USA”

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Dr Anamika Barman Adhikari interacting with the budding journalists during her session

