

## **Engaging with Security and State from a Gendered Lens in the South Asian Context: Indian State's Construction of Internal Security and State Responses**

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**Abstract :** In the following paper, an attempt would be made to engage with the relationship between the state and the imperatives of security from a gendered lens. This will be juxtaposed with the feminist engagement with International Law. Theorizations from the literature on South Asian politics and Global politics would be applied to the manner in which the Indian state has defined and proposed to deal with concerns of internal security pertaining to the 'Left Wing Extremism' in 2010-2011. It would be argued that the state needs to be disaggregated into the legislature, executive and the judiciary; since there are times when some institutional parts of the state provide space for progressive democratic engagement whilst other institutions don't. The specific contours of violence faced by women and children at the hands of the state, in the above-mentioned discourse would also be examined. In the end, implications of the security state discourse on debates in International Law would be elaborated.

**Keywords :** feminist engagement, human rights, state response to left extremism, security studies in South Asia

**Conference Title :** ICHRHS 2015 : International Conference on Human Rights and Human Security

**Conference Location :** Paris, France

**Conference Dates :** June 25-26, 2015