



Korean Women's Development Institute

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## Press Release

# Elimination of Misogynistic hate speech in Daily life: Learning from International society -International conference on Regulations on Misogynistic hate speech-

**Seoul, June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018** – The Ministry of Gender Equality and Family (Minister Chung Hyung-back) and Korean Women's Development Institute (President Kwon Insook) are hosting international conference on 'Regulation on Misogynistic hate speech' from 9:30am on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> June at Korean Women's Development Institute (Eunpyeong-gu, Seoul).

- With more than 100 researchers and policy-makers interested in the phenomenon of misogyny and its solutions, the Conference aims to look at foreign case of legal regulatory measures for misogynistic hate speech and to search for possible counter-measures for Korean society



[Picture of the participants]

- Dr. Lee Soo-yeon (Senior Research Fellow, Korean Women's Development Institute) and Dr. Yoon Jiso (Associate Research Fellow, Korean Women's Development Institute) will present on the topic of the seriousness and problems of misogynistic hate speech in Korean society
  - Dr. Lee Soo-yeon will point out 'What is misogyny and why is it so dangerous?' and Dr. Yoon Jiso will introduce 'Experience of women of being a target of misogynistic hate speech'.
- Continually, researchers from Australia, Scotland, Finland and Belgium will present examples of legal regulatory measures on misogynistic hate speech of each country. The presenters will point out that misogynistic hate speech is associated with deep-rooted power inequality between women and men, and appear in blaming women for denying the value of 'particular social norms'.
  - Kylie Weston-Scheuber, Lawyer at the state of Victoria in Australia indicate that Australia's anti-discrimination law prohibits racist statements while the Sex Discrimination Act has no similar provisions and provide direction. Therefore, if the legal provision on prohibiting misogynistic hate speech is to be made, it can show that the government does not tolerate hate speech.
  - Professor Kimberley Barker from the University of Stirling point out that in Scotland, though there are numbers of criminal provisions related to misogynistic hate speech such as <Abusive Behaviour and Sexual Harm Act (2016)> and <Communications Act (2003)>, there is no concrete action from the state and also the need for introduction of new criminal regulations and broad social change were emphasized.
  - Professor Atte Oksanen from Tampere University of Finland highlights even though Finnish criminal law prohibits expressing threats or insults based on race, colour, nationality, sexual orientation etc., legal restrictions are too weak and there is the need to regulate cyber-hatred and harassment more strictly.
  - Deputy Director Liesbet Stevens from the Belgian Institute for the Equality of Women and Men explains that in Belgium, although <Anti-sexism Law (2014)> may penalize certain misogynistic hate speech, but the purpose of the law lies in cultural change, not the punishment.
- In the panel discussion, President Kwon Insook will moderate the session with Director Lee Geon-jung (Women's Policy Division, Ministry of Gender Equality and Family), Professor Kim min-jung (Media Communication Department, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies), Professor Hong Sung-soo (Division of Law, Sookmyung Women's University) and experts from various fields including journalists and law scholars will participate as panelists to discuss ways to improve misogynistic hate speech in Korean society.
- Minister Chung Hyun-back, in her welcoming remarks, strengthen that "misogynistic hate speech is an attempt to categorize women who are trying to escape from deep-rooted gender power structure and existing sexist stereotypes, to condemn their thoughts and actions, and even more to marginalize those women."
  - She also stated that "the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family will make gender-sensitive guidelines for one-person media such as personal broadcasting to deal with misogynistic hate speech in our society. Also efforts will be made to spread gender-equal culture and awareness by carrying out a campaign to improve use of sexist language in everyday lives."

- KWDI President Kwon Insook stated that “in our society, it is necessary to strengthen social regulations and introduce legal regulation to prevent misogynistic hate speech in reflection of its distinct characteristics. In this context, it is hoped that the Conference will provide an opportunity to contributed to introduce appropriate policy for misogynistic hate speech and to activate related-research.”

### **Korean Women’s Development Institute**

Korean Women’s Development Institute (KWD) is a government research think-tank under the Prime Minister’s Office of South Korea. Since its establishment in 1983, KWDI has strived to promote women’s policy to realize gender-equal society. KWDI is currently conducting a comprehensive research on women’s policy in Korea and contributing to women’s social participation, promoting welfare, family and national development by providing information on women’s policy and women’s empowerment and research on women.

## Appendix 1

## Program Overview

- Objectives : to identify current situation on misogynistic hate speech in foreign countries and to share cases of related legal regulations in order to seek applicable regulations in Korean society
- Date and Time : June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018 (Wed) 9:30 ~
- Location : International Conference Hall, KWDI 2F
- Co-hosted by the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family and Korean Women's Development Institute
- Program

Session	Time	Program Details
Opening remarks	09:30-09:40	Opening Ceremony Kwon Insook (President, Korean Women's Development Institute)
Welcoming remarks	09:40-09:50	Welcoming Remarks Minister of the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family
Session 1	10:00-12:00	Presentation 1. Lee Soo-yeon (Senior Research Fellow, KWDI) What is sexist hate speech and why is it so dangerous?
		Presentation 2. Yoon Jiso (Associate Research Fellow, KWDI) Experience of being the target of sexist hate speech
		Discussion Presenters from Afternoon session (4 persons)
Break	12:00-13:00	Lunch Break
Session 2	13:00-14:00	Australian Case Kylie Weston-Scheuber, Australia, Barrister "The Legal Treatment of Gendered Hate Speech in Australia"
		Scottish Case Kimberley Barker, Scotland, University of Stirling "Online Misogyny, Hate Speech & Scotland: Two Steps Forward & One Step Back?"
Break	14:00-14:30	Break time
Session 3	14:30-15:30	Finnish Case Atte Oksanen, Finland, Tampere University "Hate Speech: Cross-National and Legal Perspectives"
		Belgian Case Liesbet Stevens, Belgium, Institute for the Equality of women and men "Sexist hate speech as a challenge for legislators and societies – the Belgian case"

Session 4	15:30~17:30	<p>Panel Discussion</p> <p>Moderator : Kwon Insook (President, Korean Women's Development Institute)</p> <p>-Lee Geon-jung(Director of Women's Policy Division, Ministry of Gender Equality and Family)</p> <p>-Kim Min-jung(Professor of Media Communication Department, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies)</p> <p>-Hong Sung-soo(Professor of Division of Law, Sookmyung Women's University)</p> <p>-Lee Jin-ok(Head of Korea Women's Political Solidarity)</p>
		General Discussion