



NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY DELHI

CENTRE ON THE DEATH PENALTY MENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH PROJECT

CALL FOR INTERNS

Date: December 13, 2016

The National Law University, Delhi ('University') is seeking to engage a few interns to work with the Centre on the Death Penalty on a research project examining the mental health status of prisoners sentenced to death in India.

About the Centre: The Centre is established under the aegis of the National Law University, Delhi and was set up in August 2014 to undertake litigation, research and engage with multiple stakeholders on issues related to the death penalty. The aim of the Centre's research wing is to generate information, through empirical and doctrinal studies, on issues affecting prisoners sentenced to death in India, analyze the developing jurisprudence on the death penalty in India and other jurisdictions, and undertake comparative research to add to the current understanding and debate around the death penalty.

The Mental Health Research Project: The Centre, in collaboration with two Professors of Psychiatry, Dr. Sanjeev Jain and Dr. Pratima Murthy, and an Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychology, Dr. Geetanjali Narayanan at the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS, Bangalore), seeks to inquire into the mental health status of prisoners sentenced to death in India. The study has both an empirical as well as a descriptive component to it. Under the project, the prisoners sentenced to death across India, who are at different stages of the judicial process, will be interviewed. As part of the project, mental health professionals and researchers from the Centre will conduct semi-structured interviews with the prisoners as well as their families, provided they consent to be part of the project. At the conclusion of the project, a report will be published with an analysis of the findings and observations. The project will require travelling to different cities and villages to conduct interviews with families of prisoners and prisons to interview prisoners sentenced to death. This project seeks to build on the Death Penalty India Report (May 2016) that developed the socio-economic profile of India's death row prisoners and mapped their interaction with the criminal justice.

Responsibilities:

- A. Conduct in-depth qualitative interviews with families of prisoners sentenced to death.
- B. Be a part of in-depth qualitative interviews with prisoners sentenced to death to assess their mental health status.



- C. Engage with prison officials in various States.
- D. Contribute to collating and analysing findings of the interviews and publish them.
- E. Contribute to publishing a report with the findings and analysis of the interviews and recommendations with respect to the mental health of prisoners sentenced to death.
- F. Any other work that may be necessary to further the aims of the Centre.

Qualifications:

- A. A postgraduate degree/ pursuing a postgraduate degree in mental health (Social Work in Mental Health, Clinical Psychology, Counseling, or related fields) from a recognized University.
- B. Prior experience of conducting Mental Status Examination (MSE)/ Clinical Interviews/ Case Histories is essential.
- C. Knowledge and experience of conducting qualitative research is essential.
- D. Knowledge of data analysis softwares (Atlas-ti/ N-vivo/SPSS) would be desirable.
- E. Knowledge of the prison system or work with prisoners/persons in conflict with law will be an advantage.
- F. Ability to read/ write/ speak regional Indian languages will be an advantage.

Stipend: The stipend will be commensurate with qualifications and experience and will be in the range of Rs. 10,000-15,000 per month. The Centre will incur all travel related costs separately.

Duration of Internship: A minimum commitment of 3 months (12 weeks) is required.

Application Process and Deadline: Interested persons may send their resume and a Statement Of Purpose (SOP) to pankhuri.aggarwal@nludelhi.ac.in and pankhuri.bhatia@nludelhi.ac.in latest by **31st December 2016**. The SOP should indicate the manner in which applicants would approach the interviews conducted with prisoners and their families, their interest in the Mental Health Research Project and the contribution that they see themselves making to the same. The SOP must not exceed 750 words. The subject of the e-mail should be "Mental Health Research Project - Application for Internship". The cover letter must state (Attn: Director, Centre on the Death Penalty). The interview dates will be informed to the shortlisted candidates by email/phone.

Note:

1. The University reserves the right to conduct interviews and not fill these internship positions.
2. The University will be unable to cover the costs of attending the interview but the possibility of telephonic/video interview can be explored.



3. The Centre works on behalf of all prisoners sentenced to death, regardless of the offence involved.
4. These internship positions in this call are supported by a grant from OAK.
5. The National Law University, Delhi is an equal opportunity employer.