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***'Instructions to the Unconverted':  
Marie Stopes, Indian Women and the  
making of a pamphlet on Birth Control  
(1920-1955)***

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A talk by **Dr. Indira Chowdhury**

Oral History Project, TIFR Archives  
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**Venue: CCS seminar hall, IISc**

**Date: Friday, 12th August 2005**

**Time: 4 pm**

**Tea/coffee will be served at 3:30 pm**

*A paleobotanist by training, Marie Stopes became a spirited crusader for birth control in England and started a birth control clinic in 1920. Her book Married Love (1918) remained popular in its time in the face of severe opposition from the church authorities. Although banned in America until 1931, the book was immensely popular in India. While answering the numerous queries of her Indian readers, Stopes also wrote a special pamphlet for Indian women about birth control. This talk will look at the ways in which the pamphlet was written, revised and readied for publication and reflect on the larger implications it held for the Family Planning movement and the population policy.*

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