

## **Summary of the Minor Research Project Titled “‘Countries’ Subverting ‘Culture’: Mapping Counter Culture in the ‘Young India’ Narratives”**

The study focuses on how culture moulds nations and how it undergoes changes with the changing people. Every nation has its own unique culture and social systems. India being a multicultural space is more prone to changes with its vast varieties and myriad tastes. Counter culture movements emerge as a reactionary response to the gripping demands of the mainstream tradition. Indian tradition being too institutionalised is prone to changes.

Even in art culture bifurcate into high and low based on the social tastes and values. So young India being more sensitive to popular art express their anxieties through it. The study has taken two novels (*The Illicit Happiness of Other People* and *Narcopolis*), two reality shows (*MTV Roadies 4* and *MTV Splitsvilla 1*) and two movies (*Neelakasham Pachakadal Chuvanna Bhoomi* and *Rang De Basanti*) for analysing the varying tastes of young India.

These visual and literary narratives show how counter culture movements evolved in young India. The collective frustration and shared social anxiety make them more provocative in their actions. They reflect their attitude in their apparels, demeanour and in all modes of lifestyle. They find their own parallel zones of happiness through drugs, travel, revolution and madness.

The young India seeks answers by problematizing all forms of institutionalised power structures such as religion, family, gender and political structures. The rebellion is an outcry for a change in the systems; a change that can hold both the mainstream and counter cultures together.

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