

Female Foeticide Factors

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Abstract:

Nowadays, sex discriminating abortions and an upsurge in the number of female infanticide instances that have a noteworthy societal phenomenon in various parts of India. Even before birth, girl children become target of attack because most people give preference to sons, which continues to be a widespread practice in a customary Indian household. Increase in the number and misuse of progressive technologies together with societal factors such as dowry, leads to a decrease in the women status that is concerned with family name and so look up to the son as the heir, has made the criminal practice of female foeticide common in the middle as well as higher socio-economic households. This paper discusses about the factors which are responsible for female foeticide in India.

Keywords: Female Foeticide, Abortion, Infanticides, Dowry

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Introduction

In India, gender selection and its subsequent female infanticide remain a problem today. Sex ratio is calculated in India in which large number of women was missing because most preference was given to son according to patriarchal customs and promote the selective elimination of females through practices such as infanticide and sex selective abortion (Vickery and Teijlingen, 2017). Before birth, girl children become a target of attack due to which number of female was decreasing. According to Diaz stated that “a renowned Abortion Centre in Mumbai after performing the gender recognition tests, performed 15,914 killings throughout the year 1984-85, out of which 100 per cent were female unborn. Likewise, an assessment account of a women’s center in Mumbai tracked that out of 8,000 unborn terminated in six city hospitals, 7,999 unborn were of females” (Tandon and Sharma, 2006).

Foeticide is stated as an action that leads to the demise of an unborn. As per the legalized term, it is referred to as an intentional assassination of an unborn because of an aberrant social deed, like a harsh and fatal knock onto the belly of an expecting lady. But in medicinal terms, foeticide is the manslaughter of an unborn, likewise the initial stage of a legally persuaded foeticide or killing of the unborn (Khatun and Islam, 2011).

Factors responsible for Female Feticide

Ultrasonography (USG) technique is an advanced technology which has led to the decrement of sex ratio and an increment in female feticide. Nowadays, services of gender identification from the concept of “clinic next door”, which are appropriately accessible with peoples prepared to wash off any quantity which is claimed of them. Sex selection technique was most prevalent in northwestern and western states in the 70s and the primary 80s but has now become popular in the southern states. The sex of fetus is determined using the trans-vaginal sonography at 13-14 weeks of gestation, but at 14-16 weeks of gestation, sex of fetus is determined by using abdominal ultrasound. These techniques are easily accessible, feasible and inexpensive (Garg and Nath, 2008).

There are several factors was occur for female foeticide in India, which is as follows:

Economic Factors: In the 21st century, female foeticide have a great compliance with commercial

modernism. There are certain several factors that exist in this phenomena.

- It has a clear counter connection between pay amount and child sex ratio for rural household that is landed with property. It has gender based wage level in which women are waged lesser amount as wage. In maximum instances, womenfolk get into the homely unpaid facilities, to which a masculine civilization provides minimal or no worth at all, so they are observed more as responsibility than possessions (Khatun and Islam, 2011).
- Dowry system is one of the most powerful and widespread practices in India, according to which daughters are considered to be a monetary responsibility. This structure is extensively prevalent in northern part of India which probably result to a remarkably minor child sex percentage. Females have minimal or no authority on commercial possessions, but the only means for a new north Indian newlywed to achieve homely influence chiefly arises from her capability to give birth to children, predominantly boys. Till the date, dowries were overlooked and the advantages of legacy for girl child weren’t governed. Since this century, recorded dowry deaths have increased. Approximately 7000-8000 brides are murdered per year because of failure in paying of dowry amounts, and about 3000-4000 brides commit suicide due to dowry system. Marriage and pre-marriage are designated as ‘consumption oriented reproductive journey’ that is thought of brides (Garg and Nath, 2008).

Socio-ritual factors: In patriarchal societal structure of India, a majority of ladies are helpless to the spitefulness of patriarchy in the methods of sexual, mental and physical assaults and traumas. Females are subjugated, judged, and dispossessed in the various domains of life. In this patriarchal society, every parent of a female baby is at risk for their girl child for the aforementioned causes. These socio-rituals factors led to the demand and desire for a male babies, paving a way to the discarding of females one after another due to illiteracy and conventional society norms (Khatun and Islam, 2011).

Status of women: In this status, the most important factor is an alarming downfall in child sex percentage. The prestige of Indian womenfolk paired with customary sex prejudice, girl child’s health, nutrition and education have been neglected while

these being the basic right for every child born in this country. Along with the advancement of time interval, women position suffered substantial and harsh deterioration and they were looked down as 'slaves' (Garg and Nath, 2008).

Gender Discrimination: In India, biasedness for women is stranded in religious, economic, and cultural roots. In field work, sons are expected, they deliver superior revenue and are supposed to take care of their parentages when they grow old. Male descendants are observed as a kind of coverage this way. As per the male-controlled culture, male descendants are accountable for the progression of the clan. According to the Hindu faith, the igniting of the funeral pyre by a male child is reflected to be essential for the salvation of the deceased's soul. This faith strengthens fondness for male child which consequences to a life-threatening process for female children, and thus, they are taken to be odious customarily and publically. In northern states of India, 60% of unwanted birth of girls and eradication of undesirable potency in this method has prospective to advance the sex percentage at natal to 130 males per 100 females.

Sex discernment reveals in itself a procedure of suspension in care from less competent medical practitioners seeking medical care, and outlaying slighter amount on medications when a girl child is ill. Mothers that gave birth to daughters are an extreme disappointment to family and this attitude of the family members can unfavorably disturb her capacity to breastfeed the female baby that results in to unfortunate nutritious position. It is no surprise that the occurrence of undernourishment is more in females than males (Garg and Nath, 2008).

Technological factors: Girl child infanticide is the modern style of a largely followed and well-rooted sex biasedness. Ultrasound technology is a low cost technology due to which person determine the sex and lead to killing of girl children, thus decreasing the number of female babies born per annum.

Population Policy: Indian household scheduling strategies embolden a two child policy and this concept of a sound family perception results into the termination of girl children in the process of having the "perfect family" with minimum a male child (Khatun and Islam, 2011).

Review of Literature

PAKRASI and HALDER 1971, stated that both the genders of rural and urban families of India follow usually the relevant sequences and distribution. In urban and rural families, first born children have been traced with high masculinity at birth, as per the samples. In present samples, gender percentage amongst the first-born baby is found to be 127 boys/100 girls, and this fraction doesn't vary much from that of the rural children of first parity in Indian families during 1951.

Jha et al. 2006, concluded that in India, sex ratio is affected by sex of previous child and children of existing birth, with a percentage of lesser girls born to be as the second or the third babies to families who are yet to have a male child. In urban and rural areas, regardless of the religion, with detail to gender percentage of second order babies. This paper has elucidation that houses and members are ensuring that at least one male child is born in to the family. The shortage in the amount of females born as second child is greater than two times as much in learned community than in uneducated community, presuming similar birth percentages. Qualification level isn't inter-related with dealings of capital or income, like as plot allotment.

Kumar 2012, concluded that India still has an extensive path to go, in her combat against deteriorating girl child percentage, abolition of girl children and the hour to take a stern action is speedily passing away. The scarcity of female babies would result to the scarcity of suitable spouses, thereby making the female population a "limited commodity". As per the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) estimate, 30% males shall remain single by the end of 2025 and also a large number of them will never even get into wedlock at all. In the provinces of Punjab and Haryana, 20% men aren't getting married due to the scarcity of marriageable women.

Malaviya 2017, dictated that the conclusions assume that gender percentage during delivery is not just influenced by the inclination to have a male child by pre-birth gender discernment with the help of technologies as ultra sound monitored by amniocentesis or with the aid of gender favored nurturing arrangement, for the anticipated sequential and compositional size of the family, but purpose for suspending future unwanted gestations and their avoidance, plays a superior part in the identification

of boyhood population at the initial age-group. Commercial expansion along with incessant enhancement in health facilities and technologies plus progressive information of household scheduling processes in amalgamation with favored child-bearing pattern has a prospective to alter the gender format of the inhabitants at macro as well as micro level.

Vickery and Teijlingen 2017, concluded that pressure on women from patriarchal social, cultural and religious traditions from India which conform to the social expectation of producing sons and contributes to continuation of female infanticides. In Nepal country, son preference promote according to patriarchal social, cultural and religious traditions but the extent to which this results in female infanticides is seemingly less than neighboring India, although still evident. Female infanticides is a human

rights issue and preventing this can only occur by changing the deeply fixed socio-economic and cultural factors which promote the demand for gender-selective killings and female infanticides.

Conclusion

Female foeticide is increasing day by day due to which decrease the female sex ratio. According to India customs, persons are most preference to give the sons not to girls because they said that sons are increasing their families and handle their works. By using the ultrasonography (USG), they know the sex of baby, if baby is female, then they are upset and abortion take place and if baby is male, then they are happy. By using the legal enforcement, abortion and female foeticide is possible to stop and female infants will breathe the air of earth and see the light.



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