

‘A CALL TO CARE AND COMMITMENT’-AN ANALYSIS ON GIRL CHILD POSITION IN INDIA

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Abstract: Purpose: To study and analyze the Girl child position in India.

Methodology: - The research methodology used for the present research article is traditional Doctrinal research method. As most of the information can be sought form the available literature by referring books, articles, journals, websites etc.

Findings:- There are two main inequalities as pointed out by Amartya Sen: educational inequality and health inequality. These are the indicators of a woman's status of welfare. In India irrespective of the caste, creed, religion and social status, the overall status of a woman is lower than men and therefore a male child is preferred over a female child. A male child is considered a blessing and his birth is celebrated as opposed to a female child where her birth is not celebrated and is considered more of a burden. Therefore, [education] and health care of the female child in India is an important social indicator to measure equality between men and women.

Practical Implications:-The results of this study would check the utility of the various laws in dealing with girl child position and role of Judiciary in implementing and interpreting the values in the Constitution and the changes brought because of the Legislation for the betterment of society at large.

Value:-The study is probably first time conducted in systematic manner to check the Legal provisions relating to the Girl child position and her challenges in a developing country like India.

Key words: Girl Child, Education, Discrimination.

Introduction: DIVINITY is more attractive in feminine form in India. But there is always famine for feminism. Child is the cynosure if human prosperity but girl child is adored more in grave than in gaiety. India is a land of wonderful controversies and hence girl child execution is not astonishment. Civilization needs progeny but not the balance of male and female.

PNDT (Pre Natal Diagnostics Test) science is curious to see the would-be off-spring only to be dissolved and not to be fostered or cared. Wonderful! A civilization, culture and humanity, we hardly or reluctantly realize that 25% of girl-child world perish before 15th spring. Girls are avowedly treated with indifference and callous contempt. There is malnutrition, poverty, high illiteracy and infant mortality ailing the society today in India.

Only 40-50 percent women get antenatal care. In Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa and Gujarat the registration for health services for mother and child are low (5-22% in rural) and (21-51% in urban) areas. A pregnant woman is dependent on the mother-in-law and husband for any treatment that she needs. Atrocities against women have risen. Every 26 minutes a woman is molested. Every 34 minutes a rape takes place. Every 42 minutes a sexual harassment incident occurs. Every 43 minutes a woman is kidnapped. And every 93 minutes a woman is burnt to death over dowry. One-quarter of the reported rapes involve girls under the age of 16 but

they are never reported[1]

Girl Child Position In India: The constitution guarantees free primary school education for boys and girls up to 14 years of age. But till today, only 39% of girls and 64% of boys get education in Bihar, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. If women teachers were increased chances are that girls in rural areas would continue to study. As girls get enlightened, they will raise better families.

Eliminate Discrimination, not the Girl:

- Killing of female fetuses and infants has increased over the past few years. In Urban India and in "prosperous" states also.
- A wide gap continues to separate the girl child from her brother. While he goes to school and gets nourishing food and time for play, she is expected to work at home, look after siblings and is often given less to eat. Education is not made a priority for her.
- The disregard, malnourishment, and abuse, continue through her life, taking the form of enforced early marriages, repeated child bearing at a young age and denial of property rights in adulthood.
- The Indian Constitution provides for equal treatment of all children. The girl child needs to be positively discriminated in favour of, both within her family and outside. Only this will create a milieu that preserves, cherishes and nurtures her childhood and is conducive to her holistic development.

The girl child has rights equal to that of boys.

Event	Probability (%)	Numbers who will (mill)	Numbers who won't (mill)
Birth	93	10.07	0.76
Survive their 5th Birthday	89	9.01	1.06
Be adequately nourished	49	4.60	4.41
Enroll in primary school	75	6.85	2.16
Complete elementary school	40	4.09	2.76
Complete secondary school	8	0.51	3.57
Survive their 12th birthday	85	7.50	1.51
Not be sexually abused, prostituted	60	5.40	3.60
Not be married before their 18th birthday	40	2.63	4.88
Not be a teenage mother	85	1.12	6.38
Survive childbirth	99	7.43	0.07

Sex Ratio - 1981-91 census shows: 1.37 crore more boys than girls. 2001 census shows there are 42 crore children, with boys outnumbering girls by 1.98 crores.

- The national average is falling;
- In 1991 : 945 girls for every 1000 boys
- In 2001 : 927 for every 1000 boys
- Projections for 2011 show that about 23 million men would be without life partners

The Census 2001 shows that 6 million children reside in slums and constitute 16.4 per cent of the child population.[3]

1. The child sex ratio (for the age group of 0 to years) in slum areas of 26 states is 919 girl compared to 904 girls in "non-slum areas inhabited by fairly well-off people.
2. In 13 states and Union Territories, the child sex ratio in slum areas is above 943, which is above the average national figure.
3. The child sex ratio is above 950 in slum areas in Chennai, Patna, Nagpur and Nashik.
4. In Rajasthan, the child sex ratio in rural areas is 914 compared to 887 in urban areas.
5. The child sex ratio in Rajasthan's slum areas is 90 compared to 886 in non-slum areas. Also, the rat

of cases of selective abortions is higher in Rajasthan's non-slum areas compared to slum

areas. According to reports, technology, particularly pre-natal sex determination tests, is responsible for lower girl child numbers in urban non-slum areas.

According to the 2001 Indian census, overall male-female ratio was 927 females per 1000 males. However, the 2011 Indian census shows that there are 914 females per 1000 males. During the last [decade] the number female children to male children in the youngest age group fell from 945 per 1000 males to 927 per 1000 males.[4] As per the data available there seems to be gender disparity depending on the location, as the Northern states (particularly Punjab, Haryana, and Himachal Pradesh) seem to be more biased than the Southern states. The sharpest decline for the age group of zero to six years is observed in the Northern States particularly in Punjab (793 per 1000 females) and Haryana (820 per 1000 females).[5] These new figures point out that the use of new technology contributes to the gender composition. Furthermore, the availability of and access to new technologies provides new ways for parent to achieve such goals of sex determination before birth.[6] Due

to the widespread use of this technology the Indian Government banned the sex determination before birth. In spite of these bans imposed by the Government, the law is not widely followed

Conclusion:

If girl is not protected today, there will be no woman tomorrow.

It there is no woman today, there will be no nature tomorrow.

If there is no nature today, there will be no human race tomorrow.

Remember –

Tomorrow depends upon today

And today should not be eccentric but elegant in thought and deeds.

'Let Noble Thoughts Flow From All Sides' says Rig-Veda.,Great Thoughts Come to Great people.

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