



A study about Reasons Regarding Gender Discrimination

DR. NEETA P. CHAUDHARI
Assistant Professor,
Children's University, Gandhinager
Gujarat-India

Abstract:

Gender inequality means unequal treatment of women and men in laws and policies, and unequal access to resources and services within families, communities and society at large. Gender discrimination manifests itself in the form of delay in seeking medical care, seeking care from less qualified doctors and spending lesser money on medicines when a daughter is sick. This study was based on survey method. The validated questioner was used for data collection. Four hundred parents in which four hundred father and four hundred mother was selected as a size of sample. Sixteen villages were selected from the all direction of Mehsana district Gujarat. The villages were situated interiorly place of residence, age, education, occupation and monthly family income were independent variable of the studies. The study was focus on female discriminated at socially and educationally. Study found 100% of the respondents had high level discrimination between girls and boys. Highly significant difference was found in data of total discrimination between girls and boys.

Keywords: *Gender inequality, Gender discrimination, Female discrimination*

1. Introduction

Gender inequality means that male and female have unequal opportunities to relive their full human rights and contribute to and benefit from economic, social, cultural and political development". There are many aspects and dimensions of gender disparities in rural employment. Employment segmentation between males and females enables men to dominate the more financially rewarding, higher skilled positions, while women prevail in unstable, unskilled and unpaid or poorly remunerated work segments. The bias against females in India is grounded in cultural, economic and religious roots. Therefore, the present study was planned to assess the reasons of rural people towards gender inequality.

The times of London reports, "All over India, since the 1980s when the country was flooded with cheap ultrasound technology, this mobile killing machine, wielded by doctors with no ethics, has been doing its lethal work. Villages may not have clean drinking water or electricity, but they have access to ultrasound tests. Some clinics in towns load the machine onto a van, along with a generator, and go to remote towns offering sex-selection services. In some villages no, girl has been born for years" (The Times of London, "Brothers are Sharing the Same Women," June 22, 2004). While laws do exist in India to prevent selective sex tests and abortions, they are ineffectual at best. According to the BBC, "Sex selection tests and abortion on the basis of gender have been banned for 15 Years in India. But the law has simply forced the trade underground UN figures state that 750,000 girls are aborted every year In India." (BBC Tow: 2007).

Gender discrimination is most prevalent in Indian cultural ethnicity. Although female infanticide is now a crime in India, census data of the last two decades show a persisting male bias in sex ratio in several parts of the country (Muthulakshmi, 1997; Natarajon, 1997). The ratio of girls to boys in India is becoming increasingly skewed in favor of boys, as more and more girls are being selectively aborted

as fetuses or killed after birth (Arnold, Kishor & Roy, 2001; Malaviya, 2005). Between 1992-93 and 1998-1999 the estimated number of sex selective induced abortions declined from 69,000 to 62,000 and from 57,000 to 51,000 in Haryana and Punjab respectively. Rural areas show higher preference for sex selective abortions than urban areas, UNFPA (2001). As reported parents of 13 to 19 years old 9th to 12th class female students from rural areas of Rohtak District were not highly educated and had seasonal earnings except those in service. Number of children per family range was 1-6, having 3 and 4 children being the prominent trend. Higher number of children may be linked with less education and less female feticides. Focused on education variable reporting that children born to mothers with class 10 or higher education had a significantly lower female sex ratio at 683/1000 than illiterate mothers at 869/1000. It may lead to less educated mothers having higher number of children and less female feticide but sons' preference remains equally strong in all. (Jha et al. 2006). According to a March, 2011 global survey by the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW), 24% of Indian men have committed sexual violence at some point in their lives, compared with 2% of Brazilian men and 9% of men in child, (The Time of India, 2011).

A study of male attitudes to violence against women in Bangladesh found that an overwhelming majority of men felt that a wife was accountable to her husband for her behavior and that violence was an acceptable form of corrective punishment. Only 30 percent of men opposed general (not marital) violence against women. (UNFPA, 2003). Same male attitudes. (ICRW, 2002). Enormous effort is required at the cultural and social levels, as most forms of violence against women are still viewed by a majority of the population as „private matters“ to be endured, and most certainly not a crime. Addressing violence against women requires challenging and changing unequal power relations between men and women, as much as it means dealing with issues of gender inequality in relation to resources, benefits, and political power.

Although acts of violence against women are perpetrated by individuals who should be held responsible for their crimes, gender-based violence is learned behavior. Socialization plays a major role in such learning. Individual acts are supported overtly or tacitly through social institutions such as the family and the community, and by the State, either through normative rules or by impunity towards acts of violent domination, as the and by the cases above illustrate. Acts of violence are often committed by a group of individuals acting collectively. These groups may be family based, or share other forms of identity such as political ideology, religious ideology, or membership of a gang. Within these groups, violence can be fostered through rituals, symbolism, or ideological articulation. In South Asian, even acts of domestic violence are more often than not family-based acts involving more than one perpetrator. Similarly, women are often targeted in time of war communal conflict, political struggle, and in caste-based violence. Parents (69%) responded saying that the son should be educated, Kumari, et. al. (1990). The process of socialization too helps to perpetuate the system-based gender inequality and creates a sense of inferiority among women. Even the well-off families do not encourage expenditure on girls' education (Shajy & Shajy, 2007).

Attitude of parents about nutritional health discrimination toward girl child: According to the clinical paper, "The Unknown Genocide," "if she survives her birth, the girl child in India is faced with discrimination throughout her young years. (M Sumner Molly 2009). A study by the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences examined health patterns in 85,633 children aged 0-36 months and found startling results that showed a gender bias towards boys. Study showed that children who were hospitalized at least once, 64.6% were boys and only 35.4% were girls. The authors conclude gender bias is likely the only explanation for such a disparity as boys and girls were found to fall sick an equal number of times and with similar severity. (Women's Feature Service, 2004). Studies show male preference in more ways; more boys are immunized than girls; boys are breast fed longer; girls eat after all of the male family members have finished; girls get less food and what they do get is of poorer

nutritious quality; also, mortality related to diarrhea respiratory infections and measles is higher among girls than boys. (Canadian Woman Studies, 1995). Reports The Action Aid Study.

2. Methodology

This study was based on survey method. The validated questioner was used for data collection. Four hundred parents in which four hundred father and four hundred mother was selected as a size of sample. The sample was a selected by proponent random sampling technique. Sixteen villages were selected from the all direction of Mehsana district Gujarat. The villages were situated interiorly place of residence, age, education, occupation and monthly family income were independent variable of the studies. The study was focus on female discriminated at socially and educationally.

3. Result and discussion

Table 1: Distribution of respondents according to their level of discrimination Between girls and boys

Sr.	Discrimination %	Father =116		Mother =100		Total =216	
		F	%	F	%	F	%
1.	Lower discrimination 31%	-	-	-	-	-	-
2.	Medium discrimination 31% to 69%	-	-	-	-	-	-
3.	Higher discrimination above 69%	400	50	400	50	800	100
Total		400	50	400	50	800	100

Table 1 Indicate that Discrimination level between girls and boys. Discrimination level between girls and boys measured with the help of test developed by the researcher. As discussed in the methodology chapter, the discrimination index of each of the respondents was calculated in to three group vise (1) Low (2) Medium (3) High discrimination.

The data pertains to level of discrimination are presented in table-1 and the data pertaining in table 1 reveals that 100% of the respondents had high level discrimination between girls and boys.

It could be concluded that majority 100% respondents had high level of discrimination between girls and boys. The reason found that the bias against mother in India is grounded in cultural, economics, and religious roots. Sons are expected to work in the fields, provides, greater income and look after parents in old age. In this way, sons were responsible for preservation of the family name. Also as are Hindu belief, lighting, the funeral pyre by a son is considered necessary for salvation of the spirit. So results of the study show that high discrimination level between girls and boys.

Table 2: 't' analysis for total discrimination between girls and boys

Sr.	Statistical Aspects	Gender discrimination Father N =400	Gender discrimination Mother N=400
1.	Mean	120	104
2.	S. D.	41.31	44.34
3.	SEM	3.84	4.43
4.	t calculated	2.73	
5.	Df	216	

Significant at 0.01 and 0.05 level significant:

Table 2 gives information about 't' analysis of data. The personal of data presented in table 14 reveals that highly significant difference was found in data of total discrimination between girls and boys (t d

0.01 and 0.05). So null hypothesis adjusted for analysis i.e., there is no significant difference in data of total discrimination towards girls and boys were rejected.

Table 3: Opinion Regarding Educational discrimination towards girls

Statement	Father %			Mother %			Overall %
	Agree	Disagree	Never	Agree	Disagree	Never	Agree
Education is necessary for girls	92.24	6.89	0.87	90	10	-	91
Education gives to girl's child while education is free for her.	72.41	26.72	0.87	67	31	2	70
Only writing and reading is sufficient for girls.	43.10	56.03	0.87	44	56	-	44
Only up to graduation study is necessary for girls.	71.55	28.45	-	69	31	-	71
Spends of money for girls' education is a wastage of money and resources.	12.06	67.07	0.87	15	84	1	14
Education gives to girls is a good thing instead of dowry.	90.51	9.49	-	93	6	1	92
High education is not requiring for girls.	13.80	84.48	1.72	20	77	3	17
Equal opportunities of education give to girls.	99.82	4.31	0.87	91	9	-	96
Educates the girls is a good investment for making good society.	70.69	28.44	0.87	76	23	1	74
Only primary education gives to girls in rural area.	31.03	68.97	-	33	67	-	32
For continue the education of girls keep her in a hostel is a nothing a loss of time.	37.06	60.37	2.60	60	70	-	49
Compared to boys girls have less literacy.	12.20	88.80	-	24	76	-	44
	53.28	45.28	0.79	54.33	45	0.66	58

Table no 3 indicates that distribution of respondents according to their educational attitudes to gender discrimination data presented in tables shows that 92.24% father and 90% Mother respondents agree with education is necessary for girls 90.51% father and 93% Mother respondents agree with education gives to girls is a good thing instead of dowry. 99.82% father and 91% Mother Respondents agree with equal opportunities of education give to girls. 70.69% father and 76% Mother agree with for making good society. So above presented data shows positive educational attitude of respondents towards girls' child.

While data also shows that 72.41% father and 67% Mother agree with education gives to girl's child while education is free for her. 43.10% father and 44% Mother respondents agree with only writing and reading is 69% Mother respondents agree with only up to graduation study is necessary for girls 12.06% father and 15% Mother respondents agree with spends of money for girls' education is a wastage of money and resources. 13.80% father and 20% Mother agree with high education is not requiring for girls. 31.03% father and 33% Mother agree with only primary education gives to girls in rural area.

37.06% father and 60% Mother agree with for continue this education of girls keep her in a hostel is a nothing a loss of time. 12.20% father and 24% Mother agree with compare to boys' girls hared less literacy. So above data shows negative education attitude of respondent towards girl child. So, Results concluded that average 92.24% father and 90% Mother state that education is necessary for girls and also 99.82% father and 91% Mothers state that equal opportunities of education give to girls so it means respondents had positive attitude way more towards girl regarding educational aspects. The process of socialization too helps to perpetuate the system-based gender inequality and creates a sense of inferiority among women. Even the well-off families do not encourage expenditure on girl's education (Shajy 2007).

Table 4: Distribution of respondents according to their reasons of educational discrimination Towards girls

Sr.	Statement	Father Yes %	Mother Yes %
1.	It is difficult for finding life partner for educated girls	87.93	88
2.	Girls live in hostel for getting education is a bad thing for her	0.34	15
3.	Girls are not a local member she is a other property.	31.03	35
4.	Educated girls become independent so crisis develops in a family.	32.76	36
5.	Education is a barrier for child marriage.	45.69	35
6.	Educated girls think that she is a more active compared to other members of their family.	19.82	28
7.	Educated girls dis like house hold work.	47.41	57
8.	Educated girls do not obedience to elder.	16.37	15
9.	Educated girls suffered adjust problem after marriage.	39.66	42
10.	Educated girls do not accept religious occupation and farming work.	38.80	38
11.	Girls are helpful to their parents in household and farming work.	98.28	96
12.	Girls also care their younger brother and sister.	94.82	97
13.	Girls do only household work so does not give education to her.	11.20	27
14.	Educated the girls is not a custom of our society.	35.34	34
15.	Parents is not capable for to spend money for girls' education.	56.03	60
16.	Parents do not get benefits economically from daughter's education.	62.07	60
17.	Dowry given to more for educated girls.	11.20	18
18.	Father teacher are more in school so fear develops for her abuse.	36.20	43
Total		774.96	824
Average		43.05	45.77

Table 4 indicates that distribution of respondents according to their reasons of educational discrimination towards girls Data shows that shows that respondents did have various reasons for discriminations to girls. Majority respondents 87.95% father and 88% Mother state that it is difficult for finding life partner for educated girls. 98.28% father and 96% Mother state that girls are helpful to their parents in household and farming work. 94.82% father and 97% Mother state that girls also care

their younger brother and sister. 56.03% father and 60% Mother state that parents are not capable for to spend money for girls' education while 62.07% father and 60%.

Mother state that parents don't get benefits economically from daughters' education while some of the respondents 10.34% father and 15% Mother state that girls live in hostel for getting education is a bad thing for her. 31.03% father and 35% Mother state that girls are not a local member she is an other property. 32.76% father and 36% Mother state that educated girls become independent so crisis develop in a family 45.69% father and 35% Mother state that education is a barrier for child marriage 19.82% father and 28% Mother state that educated girls think that she is a more active compared to other members of their family 47.41% father and 57% Mother state the educated girls dis like house hold work. 16.38% father and 15% Mother state that educated girls do not obedience to elder. 39.66% father and 42% Mother state that educated girls suffered adjust problems after marriage. 38.80% father and 38% Mother state that educated girls do not accept religious occasion and customs. 11.20% father and 27% Mother state that girls do only household work so do not give 34% Mother State. That educated the girls is not a custom of our society. 11.20% father & 18% Mother state that dowry given to more for educated girls 36.20% father and 43% Mother state that father teachers more in school so fear develop for her abuses. So, result reveals that majority respondents 98.28% father and 96% Mother were had reasons for educational discrimination where girls were helpful to their parents for house hold and farming work and 94.82% father and 97% Mother state that also helpful for care their younger brother and sister so they discrimination the girl child educationally. Moreover, the parents do not wish to risk endangering the reputation of the girl and the family as well. Once a girl has passed the marriageable age it difficult to find a husband for her, as mentioned in the statements cited before and also supported in previous study as "an educated girl would be more argumentative" (padh like jaayegi to jyadamannchalayegi). (Kumari et.al.1990).

Table 5: Distribution Of respondents according to their reasons for nutrition and health discrimination towards girls

Sr.	Statements	Father %		Mother %	
		Yes	No	Yes	No
1.	Boys doing hard work so he need more nutrition and good health compared to girls.	85.34	14.66	89	11
2.	Boys' earning more money so they need more nutrition and good health compared to girls.	75.87	24.13	79	21
3.	Boys give physically security to parents in old age so he needs more nutrition.	44.82	55.18	56	44
4.	For maintaining fast physical fitness of boys need more nutrition and care of health.	75.87	24.17	83	17
5.	For maintain good body building of boys he need more nutrition and health.	75.87	24.13	87	13
6.	Boys are permanent members of family but girls are not permanent member of family.	25	75	31	69
7.	Boys are more energy yielding compared to girls.	27.59	72.41	41	59
8.	If girls are healthy new generation also to be healthy.	90.51	9.49	93	7
Total		500.87	297.4	559	241
Average		62.03	33.42	69.87	30.12

Table no 5 indicates that distribution of respondents according to their reasons for nutrition and health discrimination towards girls. Data shows that 85.34% father & 89% Mother agree for supported to statement to boys doing hard work so he need more nutrition and good health compared to girls.

75.87% father & 79% Mother agree for supported to statement to boys earning more only so they need more nutrition and good health compared to girls. 55.18% father disagree for supported to statement & 56% Mother agree for supported to statement to boys gives physically security to parents in old age so he need more nutrition. 75.87% father & 83% Mother agree for supported to statement to for maintaining fast physical fitness of boys need more nutrition and care of health. 75.87% father & 87% Mother agree for supported to statement for maintain good body building of boys he need more nutrition and health. 75% father & 69% Mother disagree for supported to statement to boys are permanent members of family but girls. Are not permanent members of family? 72.41% father & 59% Mother disagree for supported to statements to boys are more energy yielding compared to girls. 90.51% father & 93% Mother agree for supported to statements to if girls are healthy new generation also to be healthy. So, the data conclude that majority of respondents 90.51% father & 93% Mother respondents were supported to statement to if girls is healthy new generation also to be healthy.

References

1. Aravamudan, Gita (2007). *Disappearing Daughters; The Tragedy of Female Foeticide*, New Delhi; Penguin Books, pages 157-159.
2. Arnold, Fred, Suita Kishor & Roy, T.K (2001). Sex selective abortions in India *Population and Development Review*, 28,759 -785.
3. Bose, A. (2001). *India's billion plus People: 2001 census highlights, methodology, and media coverage*. Delhi: B.R. Publishing Corporation.
4. Chaudhari, N (2016). "To study of attitude of parents regarding gender discrimination".