



## Female foeticide is a menace in our modern Indian society: Critical analysis

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### Abstract

One of the greatest dangers to our contemporary human progress is the threat of skewed sex proportion. The expanding irregularity amongst males and females is prompting numerous violations, for example, illicit trafficking of ladies, rapes, polygamy and dehumanization of society. Female foeticide is in practice in India from the time of advent of technological advancements in medical field like prenatal sex determination in the 1990s. However, earlier to this, female child was killing after their birth in many regions of the country. In the Indian society, female child is considered as the social and economic burden to their parents so they understand that it is better to kill them before birth. In India, the number of girls per 1000 boys is reducing with each passing decade. From 962 and 945 girls for every 1000 boys in the years 1981 and 1991 respectively, the sex ratio had plunged to an all-time low of 927 girls for 1000 boys in 2001. Female Foeticide is one of the most prevalent issues today, and statistics support that. However, how did this start? How did this evil creep into the veins of the society, and how did it dig its roots so deep, that it's grown so much today? The preference for the male child dates back into history. And obviously therefore, female infanticide, has long been practiced in Indian societies - the reason being the process was relatively simpler, compared to female foeticide. Hence, tracing the origins of infanticide would be comparatively more difficult. Now, with the advancement in technologies, and development of easier, and cheaper techniques, female foeticide has spread throughout India, and sex determination tests are a very common practice during pregnancy - abusing the technology which is supposed to be used, only if there are chances of the infant contracting any hereditary genetic disease or disability. And today, it is no secret, and one can clearly see where this immoral solution to a wrongly-identified problem, has led us to. Activists through intervention of the Supreme Court are compelling State Governments to initiate action against ultrasound centres encouraging female foeticide under the Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994. Therefore, it is for the first time since the enactment of this law about eight years ago that states have started registering ultrasound machines for a better supervision of their use. The Indian Medical Association, too, has called for action against doctors helping in such sex-selection procedure. Not only is sex determination a crime against women but achieving a balance in sex ratio is also a crucial part of population stability. Expressing its concern, an NGO, CEHAT, filed a Public Interest Litigation highlighting this issue. The challenge to the constitutionality of the Pre-conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994 on ground of violation of Article 21 of the Constitution was rejected by the Supreme Court. Many important changes were made in the PCPNDT Act, 2004. It brought ultrasound and amniocentesis under its ambit. It also led to the empowerment of the Central Supervisory Board and the formation of State Level Supervisory Board. The rules, regulations, and punishments are made more stringent. In India, the policy environment is supportive of the reproductive choices of women and men. The medical termination of pregnancy act is legal and it allows for induced abortions where pregnancy carries grave injury to women's health.

**Keywords:** female foeticide, genetic counseling centre, genetic laboratory, prenatal diagnostic procedure, prenatal diagnostic test, genetic abnormalities, metabolic disorders, chromosomal abnormalities, hemoglobinopathy, PNDT, foetus

### 1. Introduction

One of the greatest dangers to our contemporary human progress is the threat of skewed sex proportion. The expanding irregularity amongst males and females is prompting numerous violations, for example, illicit trafficking of ladies, rapes, polygamy and dehumanization of society. These crimes have been on an increase making this world dangerous for women. Female foeticide is a standout amongst the most violent crimes on this planet. It may be what is wretched is that the general population which carries out this heinous crime is amongst the affluent ones.

We all know what female foeticide is. We all know why it is taking place at such a rampant pace. But we should also know

the laws which are specifically made to prevent this heinous crime. In this article, we will be discussing the laws which have been made by the government from time to time to stop female foeticide.

#### 1.1 Meaning

Female foeticide is in practice in India from the time of advent of technological advancements in medical field like prenatal sex determination in the 1990s. However, earlier to this, female child was killing after their birth in many regions of the country. In the Indian society, female child is considered as the social and economic burden to their parents so they understand that it is better to kill them before birth. No one

understands its negative aspect in the future. The female sex ratio in comparison to the males has been reduced to a great extent (8 males per one female). It is not easy to compensate the sex ratio even if we stop female foeticide completely in the next few years.

## 1.2 Definitions

### Section 2(c) defines Genetic Counseling Centre

“Genetic Counseling Centre means an institute, hospital, nursing home or any place, by whatever name called, which provides for genetic counseling to patients.”

### Section 2(e) defines Genetic Laboratory

“Genetic Laboratory means a laboratory and includes a place where facilities are provided for conducting analysis or tests of samples received from Genetic Clinic for prenatal diagnostic tests.”

### Section 2(i) defines prenatal diagnostic procedures

“Prenatal diagnostic procedures means all gynaecological or obstetrical or medical procedures such as ultrasonography, foetoscopy, taking or removing samples of amniotic fluid, chorionic villi, embryo, blood or any other tissue or fluid of a man, or of a woman before or after conception, for being sent to a Genetic Laboratory or Genetic Clinic for conducting any type of analysis or prenatal diagnostic tests for selection of sex before or after conception;”

### Section 2(k) defines prenatal diagnostic test

“Prenatal diagnostic tests means ultrasonography or any test or analysis of amniotic fluid, chorionic villi, blood or any tissue or fluid of a pregnant woman or conceptus conducted to detect genetic or metabolic disorders or chromosomal abnormalities or congenital anomalies or hemoglobinopathy or sex linked diseases.”

## 1.3 Consequences of female foeticide

As the Newton’s Third Law of Motion states, ‘for every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction’, the after effects of this genocide are fatal and have long term effect. It is a disaster that many have unwittingly invited in everybody’s life. Repercussions of female foeticide are long-term and disastrous in nature. Some of them are-

### a) Skewed Sex Ratio

In India, the number of girls per 1000 boys is reducing with each passing decade. From 962 and 945 girls for every 1000 boys in the years 1981 and 1991 respectively, the sex ratio had plunged to an all-time low of 927 girls for 1000 boys in 2001.

### b) Female/Women Trafficking

The sharp decline in the number of girls makes them sparse for the increasing number of eligible males for marriage. Due to this reason, illegal trafficking of women has become prevalent in many regions. Women, often young girls who’ve just hit puberty, are forced to marry for a price settled by the groom to be. They are normally bought from neighboring areas, where the number of girls might not be as minuscule as the host region. Child marriages have become a rage and child pregnancies, a disastrous consequence.

### c) Increase in Rape and Assault

Once women become an imperiled species, it is only a matter of time before the cases of rape, assault and violence become common. Due to the decline in availability of females, the surviving ones are faced with the reality of handling a society driven by a testosterone high. The legal system might offer protection, but many cases might not even surface because of the fear of desolation and humiliation on the girl’s part.

### d) Population Decline

With no mothers or wombs to bear a child (male or female), there would be fewer births, leading to a rapid reduction in the country’s population. Though a control in population is the goal of many nations like China and India, a total wipe-out of one sex is certainly not the way to achieve this goal.

### e) Trafficking and prostitution

Girls are kidnapped or stolen. They are sold and resold at varied prices. Eventually, they end up being prostitutes.

### f) Increasing number of child marriages

Many women from poverty zones or poverty-stricken families get married before 18 years in order to survive and prevent being a burden to the family. The number of child marriage is increasing. Girls get married to men double their age. They are forced to get married to old men.

### g) Increasing maternal deaths and ill-health of women

Killing of a foetus in the womb or abortion weakens the health of a woman. In some cases, the women have to undergo many abortions till they conceive a male child. The outcome is that there is an increasing number of maternal deaths. Women undergoing abortions are also more prone to infections and sickness.

## 1.4 Historical background

Female Foeticide is one of the most prevalent issues today, and statistics support that. However, how did this start? How did this evil creep into the veins of the society, and how did it dig its roots so deep, that it’s grown so much today?

The preference for the male child dates back into history. And obviously therefore, female infanticide, has long been practiced in Indian societies - the reason being the process was relatively simpler, compared to female foeticide. Hence, tracing the origins of infanticide would be comparatively more difficult. However, foeticide is abortion - which could be easily accomplished only through the development of technology. When and how did foeticide come into the picture?

The best answer to this question, could be obtained from Dr. Puneet Bedi, Consultant in Obstetrics & Gynaecology in New Delhi, talking to Amir Khan on the latter’s popular show Satyameva Jayate (aired on 6 May 2012). Dr. Bedi says that the concrete origins of female foeticide in India traced back to the 1970s. Abortion was not unknown then, and laws against abortion had already been written by the British - but the idea caught on then. According to Dr. Bedi, family planning was making its way inroads, and it was widely accepted that the root to many major social and economic issues India was facing at the time, was due to its growing population. The

preference for a male child was predominant in families, but the common practice then was for the woman to conceive till she got a male child. This practice was seen as a threat and the cause for the growing population. As a solution to this, government hospitals started aborting female fetuses. This would result in the couple getting the male child they wanted, and not needing to have any female children in the process. (The equipment and procedures at the time were however complicated, and not really risk-free. However, the pace increased after almost a decade-and-a-half, when by the late-1980s and the early 1990s, ultrasound techniques gained popularity in India.) The idea caught on, and soon spread to hospitals all over India. However soon, some activists opposed this practice, and in 1994 the Indian government passed the Preconception and Prenatal Diagnostic Techniques (PCPNDT) Act, making sex-selective abortion illegal. However, it was too late, and as has been throughout history, merely making it illegal did not stop it.

Now, with the advancement in technologies, and development of easier, and cheaper techniques, female foeticide has spread throughout India, and sex determination tests are a very common practice during pregnancy - abusing the technology which is supposed to be used, only if there are chances of the infant contracting any hereditary genetic disease or disability. And today, it is no secret, and one can clearly see where this immoral solution to a wrongly-identified problem, has led us to.

### 1.5 AIMS and objectives of the study

The major objectives of the study are as follows,

- i) To understand the trend in declining sex ratio of last 50 years (1971-2011).
- ii) To identify and to investigate the effects of declining sex ratio in the socio-cultural, economic conditions.
- iii) To conduct a situational analysis of services available for abortion in the study area.
- iv) To assess the various demographic, socio-cultural, economic and other factors contributing to the declining sex ratio.
- v) To identify strategies and to suggest different measures to control the declining sex ratio and their impact on the adverse sex ratio.
- vi) To determine sex ratio of age group and to identify strategies and suggest different measures to control the declining sex ratio.
- vii) Identify sex ratio of educated and uneducated people from urban rural area.
- viii) Prohibition of the misuse of prenatal diagnostic techniques for determination of sex of foetus leading to female foeticide.
- ix) Prohibition of advertisement of techniques for detection of sex.
- x) Punishment for violation of provisions of the Act.
- xi) Regulation of the use of techniques only for the specific purpose of detection of genetic abnormalities or disorders.

### 1.6 Importance of the study

The female population has been declining sharply in India. Maharashtra is also facing this problem. Bid, Jalgaon and Ahmednagar these are three districts having less number

females compare to the males. Ahmednagar has 839 females to 1000 males. This imbalance of sex ratio is going to create a lot of problems such as social, political and economical. It will also increase crimes against female.

The declining child sex ratio since 1991 thousand of girls are killed before or at birth. The Paper clearly shows a continuous decline in sex ratio in considered age group particularly in age group 0 - 6 of Maharashtra and Ahmednagar district of the last four Censuses. In order to understand causes of imbalance in population in different district, its consequences, portion of female in the district, it is important to undertake study of the Ahmednagar district. Besides this Ahmednagar is the largest district in Maharashtra. The study of this district may reflect the state of sex ratio of Maharashtra. The less number of female is national problem. So it is essential to study this problem at the district level.

## 2. Legislations: Indian perspective

### 2.1 Statutory provisions

#### i) Pre-conception and pre-natal diagnostic techniques (regulation and prevention of misuse) (pcpndt) act in 2004

Due to all these causes and implications of female foeticide, many laws have been passed from time-to-time to control this menace.

India passed its first abortion-related law in 1971, the so-called Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, which made abortion legit in almost all states of the country, but it was particularly made for the cases of medical risk to the mother and child conceived by rape. The law had also established physicians who could legally perform the abortion in the said scenarios. But the government had not considered the possibility of female foeticide based on technological advances. Due to this reason, this law proved to be highly ineffective.

During the 1980's, sex screening technologies in India was easily accessible to the common people. Due to this reason, a large number of reports started pouring in about the abuse of the sex screening technologies. Considering this problem, the Government passed the Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques Act (PNDT) in 1994. This law was again amended due to various reasons, and it finally became Pre-Conception and Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) (PCPNDT) Act in 2004. Its main goal was prevention and punishment of prenatal sex screening and female foeticide.

Legal initiatives to curb gender discrimination and its manifestations in the form of infanticide and foeticide have been in force since the inception of the practise. With the modernization of the medical industry and the use of technology for foeticide, there was a dire need to draw up new effective legislations to rein in the problem of sex-selective abortions.

#### Salient features

Offences under the PCPNDT act include conducting or helping in the conduct of prenatal diagnostic technique in unregistered clinic, sex selection on a man or woman, conducting PND test for any purpose other than the one mentioned in the act, sale, distribution, supply, renting etc. of any ultra sound machine or any other equipment capable of detecting sex of the foetus.

### **Main provisions in the act are**

1. The Act provides for the prohibition of sex selection, before or after conception.
2. No laboratory or centre or clinic will conduct any test including ultrasonography for the purpose of determining the sex of the foetus.
3. No person, including the one who is conducting the procedure as per the law, will communicate the sex of the fetus to the pregnant woman or her relatives by words, signs or any other method.
4. Any person who puts an advertisement for pre-natal and pre-conception sex determination facilities in the form of a notice, circular, label, wrapper or any document, or advertises through interior or other media in electronic or print form or engages in any visible representation made by means of hoarding, wall painting, signal, light, sound, smoke or gas, can be imprisoned for up to three years and fined Rs. 10,000.
5. It regulates the use of pre-natal diagnostic techniques, like ultrasound and amniocentesis by allowing them their use only to detect:
  - genetic abnormalities
  - metabolic disorders
  - chromosomal abnormalities
  - certain congenital malformations
  - hemoglobinopathy
  - sex linked disorders

### **ii) Pre-conception and pre-natal diagnostic techniques (prohibition of sex selection) act, 2002**

- i) The Act provides for the prohibition of sex selection, before or after conception.
- ii) It regulates the use of pre-natal diagnostic techniques, like ultrasound and amniocentesis by allowing them their use only to detect:
  - a. Genetic abnormalities
  - b. Metabolic disorders
  - c. Chromosomal abnormalities
  - d. Certain congenital malformations
  - e. Haemoglobinopathies
  - f. Sex related disorders
- iii) No laboratory or centre or clinic will conduct any test including ultrasonography for the purpose of determining the sex of the foetus.
- iv) No person, including the one who is conducting the procedure as per the law, will communicate the sex of the foetus to the pregnant woman or her relatives by words, signs or any other method.
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### **iii) The medical termination of pregnancy act, 1971**

MTP Act 1971 does not recognize the right of the mother to

abort, this right to decide on termination of pregnancy vests with a registered medical practitioner. An Act to provide for the termination of certain pregnancies by registered Medical Practitioners and for matters connected there with.

### **iv) Medical council act, 1956**

The relevant section of the Code of Medical Ethics states: On no account, sex determination test shall be undertaken with the intent to terminate the life of a female foetus developing in her mother's womb, unless there are other absolute indications for termination of pregnancy as specified in the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971. Any act of termination of pregnancy of normal female foetus, amounting to female foeticide, shall be regarded as professional misconduct on the part of the physician leading to penal proceedings besides rendering him liable to criminal proceedings as per the provisions of this Act.

### **v) Code of criminal procedure 1973**

The **Code of Criminal Procedure under Section 416** mandates that the High Court shall order of execution of capital sentences on a pregnant woman be postponed or it may commute the sentence to imprisonment for life, thereby indirectly recognizing the right to life of foetus.

### **vi) Indian penal code 1860**

Under various sections of Indian Penal Code, the punishments provided are as follows:

#### **Section 312 (Causing miscarriage)**

Whoever voluntarily causes a woman with child to miscarry, shall, if such miscarriage be not caused in good faith for the purpose of saving the life of the woman, be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to three years, or with fine, or with both; and, if the woman be quick with child, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to seven years, and shall also be liable to fine.

#### **Section 314 (Death caused by act done with intent to cause miscarriage)**

Whoever, with intent to cause the miscarriage of a woman with child, does any act which causes the death of such woman, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term may extend to ten years, and shall also be liable to fine;

#### **Section 315 (Act done with intent to prevent child being born alive or to cause it to die after birth)**

Whoever before the birth of any child does any act with the intention of thereby preventing that child from being born alive or causing it to die after its birth, and does by such act prevent that child from being born alive, or causes it to die after its birth, shall, if such act be not caused in good faith for the purpose of saving the life of the mother, be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to ten years, or with fine, or with both.

## **2.2 Constitutional provisions**

Right to Equality under Article 14 and Right to Live with Dignity under Article 21, Sex - detection tests violate both

these rights.

The Indian Constitution has recognized the right to life under Article 21 as also recognized in several cases. But this is hardly available to the unwanted girl child. Hence the right of the girl child may be construed in broader terms and should be read as:

1. Right to be born and not to be aborted only because she is a girl.
2. Right to remain alive after birth and not to be killed at any moment after birth.
3. Right of the girl child to her mind her body, right to childhood and right to a healthy family environment.

### **International perspective**

International Measures Against Female Foeticide deals with the international perspective and the methods and steps taken by the world across to prevent the crucial practice of female foeticide.

### **2.3 Judicial pronouncement**

Activists through intervention of the Supreme Court are compelling State Governments to initiate action against ultrasound centres encouraging female foeticide under the Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994. Therefore, it is for the first time since the enactment of this law about eight years ago that states have started registering ultrasound machines for a better supervision of their use. The Indian Medical Association, too, has called for action against doctors helping in such sex-selection procedure.

Not only is sex determination a crime against women but achieving a balance in sex ratio is also a crucial part of population stability. Expressing its concern, an NGO, CEHAT, filed a Public Interest Litigation highlighting this issue.

The challenge to the constitutionality of the Pre-conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994 on ground of violation of Article 21 of the Constitution was rejected by the Supreme Court in *Vinod Soni Vs. Union of India* (2005 Cri LJ 3408).

Expressing concern over this issue the Supreme Court in *CEHAT V. Union of India* [(2001) 5 SCC 577] moved in to stop illegal sex determination and directed all State to confiscate ultrasound equipment from clinical that are being run without licenses. The Health Secretaries of Punjab, Haryana Delhi, Bihar, West Bengal etc. were present to explain the steps taken to implement the Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act 1994.

### **2.4 Implementation of the law**

Many important changes were made in the PCPNDT Act, 2004. It brought ultrasound and amniocentesis under its ambit. It also led to the empowerment of the Central Supervisory Board and the formation of State Level Supervisory Board. The rules, regulations, and punishments are made more stringent.

Despite all these changes, it has been said that the implementation of this act has turned into a farce. It has been nearly two decades since the law came into force and despite this, not many changes have taken place in the society.

Despite rulings given by the Supreme Court and various High Courts to make the existing law an impediment, the courts have shown their hesitancy in sending the offenders off to jail. The convicts in many cases have been let off only by a mere warning by the judge which has led to a mass negative reaction from the legal fraternity as well as social and academic activists. Lawyers and activists have unanimously demanded stringent punishment for the guilty while also fixing the accountability of the competent authorities handling the cases of sex detection.

### **2.5 Enforcement and effectiveness**

In India, the policy environment is supportive of the reproductive choices of women and men. The medical termination of pregnancy act is legal and it allows for induced abortions where pregnancy carries grave injury to women's health. A negative outcome of the PNDT act was that the practice of sex determination was driven nonetheless and the availability of services proliferated correspondingly. Ultra sound machines continued to be widely available and simple to use. In such an environment it is very difficult to enforce a law which sought to control information that travels through informal channels and can operate secretly. Law cannot control the information that is conveyed through a mere smile or frown face. Unsurprisingly the enforcement if law becomes weak. there is still utmost controversy as to whom will serve as the watch dog to control the misuse of the practice of female foeticide and its implementation is difficult and considering it can only be the doctor who carries out the abortion or mother of the foetus who can be punished. This is very ambiguous as many women are indeed forced by family members to go ahead with an abortion of a female foetus. Thus once again putting the life of thousands of women in danger. Other reasons for limited effectiveness of the law include lack of political will to ensure enforcement. Experience has shown that in general the role of legislation is subverting a social practice is limited.

The ministry of health and family welfare had proposed a series of amendment to the 1994 act. Although there was a central act regulating and preventing the misuse of pre-natal diagnostic techniques the menace of female foeticide continued. So there was need for much more stringent rules to curb this evil. These were given parliamentary approval. The act was amended in 2002 and in 2003 Rules were framed by the central government under section 32 of the act. These rules may be called Pre-conception and pre-natal diagnostic techniques (Prohibition of sex selection) rules 1996.

### **2.6 Suggestions**

Following are some suggestions to combat the evil of female foeticide:

- i) The related social malaises such as dowry, poverty, women's unemployment and exploitation, lack of proper education to girl child and their dropouts early marriage *etc.* are to be dealt with sternly by enacting proper laws and implementing them in true spirit.
- ii) Affirmative action on part of the government and the corporate sector by providing security for parents and granting financial aid to the girl child can help in changing the mindset of the society of treating the girl as a burden.

Corporate initiatives, such as “*Beti Ek Anmol Ratan*” scheme in which the donations are invested in mutual funds, Kisan Vikas Patras & National Savings Certificates in the name of new born girls and on maturity (Age of 21 years) to be utilised for higher education or marriage; has found favour with the parents and the scheme is yielding positive results.

Government schemes like “LADLI” have created gender revolution in national capital, and impacted sex ratio in favour of the girl child. Banks need to be encouraged to give loans for female child’s higher education at lower rates of interest. Old age pension should be given to parents with no sons and having only daughters.

- i) Awareness program should be launched to make the woman aware about their rights and about the ill effects of abortions. Women should know their rights regarding adoption, maintenance, marriage, property, employment, education *etc.*
- ii) In order to make the females independent, women should be imparted skill and training through various vocational program. Free and compulsory education should be provided to female children so that they can support themselves during exigency. Also it would remove the attitude that investing in girls is unnecessary.
- iii) As dowry is considered to be an important cause of female foeticide, the Dowry Prohibition Act should be made more stringent by proper amendments and should be implemented strictly.
- iv) Medical termination of pregnancy should only be permitted after approval of PNDT authority/ommittee/gazetted female officer/Mahila Panchayat members/NGOs on proof of the existence of medical condition necessitating such termination.
- v) The foetus should enjoy the right to life and should enjoy distinct legal rights which should be recognized from the conception, because failure to recognize the right to life on the foetus will amount to discrimination violating Article 14 of the Constitution of India. Regarding the Unborn Child’s rights in the realm of torts, the Congenital Disabilities (Liability) Act, 1976, was passed by the British Parliament providing for action that may lie against a person or authority whose breach of duty to a parent results in a child being born disabled, abnormal and unhealthy. Similarly the Nuclear Installation Act of 1965 (U.K.), recognizes liability for compensation in respect of injury or damage caused to an unborn child by occurrences involving nuclear matter or emission of ionizing radiation. The Indian Parliament should enact laws on similar lines so as to ensure healthy growth and safe birth of an unborn child.
- vi) Village level committees should be set up to watch the pregnant women besides setting up the Appropriate Authorities and Advisory committees at the District and Sub-District levels.
- vii) There is need for social awareness that girls can grow up to be as good as boys. They can be good citizens, good earners, good providers for their family and for their parents. That woman need not be sold for dowry or burnt for it, that her education can make her self-sufficient and economically blessed as a man. A clear and strong social preference for the girl child is required to be created

which can be done by generating awareness.

- viii) In society, the members of the medical community enjoy a powerful position. Medical professionals should counsel their patients and their families on the importance of the girl child and impact of the skewed sex ratio on the society.

### 3. Recommendation

We already know various legislations and Govt. also passed many legislations and constitutional provisions for the purpose of preventing the practices female foetus determination. But Govt. and many legislations are failure to prevent this practices female foetus determination totally. To pass many laws, it is not an absolute solution to prevent this practice. To prevent this practice, Public awareness, Employment and Education to the girl child is necessary or essential. Any person can prevent this type of evil practice, if he/she wants. If all persons want to abolish this practice from our society, they can do it. If it is possible, no legislation is required to abolish this type of evil practice.

Person should change its practice through his/her thing, braving and trying.

### 4. Conclusion

Through many mediums, awareness about female foeticide is being spread throughout the nation. Let it be plays, soap operas, mass awareness programs, ads, endorsement by various celebrities, Beti Bachao campaign, rallies, posters, etc. Everyone is trying to spread the message everywhere. Despite all these efforts, the sex ratio of our country is not improving. According to the 2011 Census, there are approximately 110 boys behind 100 girls. This shows that we have wrecked the sex ratio of our country. We can blame the government, the NGO’s or the society as a whole for all we like but till the time the common man does not understand the value of a girl child, this problem will not be solved. The people of this country need to understand that every action has a reaction. Due to rampant female foeticide, the demand for girls for marriage has increased in the whole country. Due to this reason, flesh trade has increased. In one way or the other, it is the female who suffers. We need to understand the importance of a female. After all, they constitute one-half of the society. They should be given the same preference and respect which a male gets in the society. But most of the people use this test for determination of the sex of the foetus. They do not use the test for actual purpose.

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