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Beti Bachao Beti Padhao: A boon

Kavita Kumari and Jyoti Rani

Abstract

The present study was conducted in Hisar district of state Haryana. The objectives of the study were to assess and create awareness on gender empowerment and Beti Bachao Beti Padhao. Fifteen girls and fifteen ladies Tokas village of Hisar district were selected randomly. Result indicated that girls and ladies both were not aware about gender empowerment and scheme i.e. Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao. Further awareness campaign was implemented and programme of 2-3 hours and evaluated. It was revealed that impact of awareness campaign was assessed positively on girls and women.

Keywords: Gender empowerment, beti bachao beti padhao, awareness

Introduction

Gender empowerment is conceived as a process by which women can overcome many of the hurdles that they face such as education, work status, employment opportunity, health care, social security, position in decision making by virtue of their gender.

The Census (2011) data showed a significant declining trend in the Child Sex Ratio (CSR), calculated as number of girls for every 1000 boys between age group of 0-6 years, with an all time low of 918. The decline in CSR has been unabated since 1961. A skewed CSR indicates that number of girls is getting disproportionately less in comparison to the boys. It reflects both pre birth discrimination manifested through gender biased sex selection, and post birth discrimination against girls. The decline is widespread across the country and has expanded to rural as well as tribal areas.

Methodology

The present study was conducted in Hisar district of Haryana state due to easy accessibility. Tokas village of district Hisar was selected purposively because of easy accessibility. From this village of Hisar city 15 girls and 15 ladies were selected on random basis. Thus a total of thirty respondents were selected for creating awareness about gender empowerment and beti bachao, beti padhao through different teaching aids (posters and charts) and lecture method. Interview Schedule was developed and used for the socio-personal variable and inventory was developed to assess the knowledge of respondents about gender empowerment and beti bachao, beti padhao.

Result and Discussion

Socio personal profile of the girls

The data reported in Table -1 indicate that (53.3%) respondents belonged to the age group of 21-25 years and (46.7%) of the respondents belonged to the age group of 15-20 years. The data further depicts that majority of the respondents (66.7%) belonged to schedule caste followed by other backward class (33.3%). Most of the respondents (60%) were having 3-4 siblings where as rest of the (40%) of the respondents were having 2-3 siblings. Regarding education of the respondents' table presents that majority of the respondents (53.3%) were educated up to metric and (46.7%) were secondary level to graduation level educated. Regarding education of the respondents' parents data in table 1 indicate that among fathers of the respondents (46.7%) were secondary level educated, (40%) illiterate and (13.3%) were educated from primary level to metric level. Whereas most of the mothers (66.7%) were illiterate and only (33.3%) were educated up to primary level.

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Table1: Socio personal profile of the girls (N=15)

S. No	Socio-personal Variable	Frequency (%)
1	Age	
	(15-20)	7 (46.7)
2	(21-25)	8(53.3)
	Caste	
2	(Schedule caste)	10(66.7)
	(Other backward class)	5(33.3)
3	No of siblings	
	(2-3)	6(40.0)
4	(3-4)	9(60.0)
	Education of the respondent	
4	(up to metric)	7(46.7)
	(Senior secondary to graduation)	8(53.3)
5	Paternal education	
	(Illiterate)	6(40.0)
	(Primary to metric)	2(13.3)
6	(Metric to Senior secondary)	7(46.7)
	Maternal education	
6	(Illiterate)	10(66.7)
	(Up to primary)	5(33.3)
7	Family income	
	(Up to 6,000)	4(26.7)
	(6,000-12,000)	9(60.0)
8	>12,000	2(13.3)
	Family Type	
	(Nuclear)	6(40.0)
8	(Extended)	2(13.3)
	(Joint)	7(46.7)
9	Family Size	
	Small size (4-7 members)	8(53.3)
10	Large size (8-10 members)	7(46.7)
	Paternal Occupation	
10	(Labour)	12(80.0)
	(Service)	3(20.0)
11	Maternal occupation	
	(House Wife)	13(86.7)
	(Service)	2(13.3)

Table -1 clearly depicts that majority of the respondents (60%) had monthly income between Rs.6, 000-12,000. Whereas (26.7%) of the respondents had monthly income up to Rs. 6,000 and (13.3%) of the respondents had above 12,000 income level. 46.7 per cent respondents were having joint family followed by nuclear (40%) and joint family (13.3%). The data regarding family size depict in Table- 1 that majority (53.3%) had small family size and (46.7%) had large family size. It was noted from table 1 that among fathers of the respondents most of the fathers (80%) were laborer and rest of the fathers (20%) were engaged in service. Regarding maternal occupation, most of the mothers (86.7%) were house wife whereas (13.3) were engaged in service.

Socio personal profile of the Ladies

The data reported in Table -2 indicate that majority of the respondents (66.7%) belonged to the age group of 25-47 years and (33.3%) of the respondents belonged to the age group of 48-70 years. The data further depicts that majority of the respondents (66.7%) belonged to schedule caste followed by other backward class (33.3%). Regarding education of the respondents' table presents that most of the respondents (73.3%) of the respondents were illiterate and only (26.7%) were educated up to primary level. Regarding education of the respondents' partners data in table 1 indicate that among

majority of partners of the respondents (73.3%) were educated up to middle level and only (26.7%) were educated from middle level secondary level.

Table 2: Socio personal profile of the ladies (N=15)

S. No	Variable	Frequency (%)
1	Age	
	(25-47)	10(66.7)
2	(48-70)	5(33.3)
	Caste	
2	(Schedule caste)	10(66.7)
	(Other backward class)	5(33.3)
3	Education of the respondent	
	(Illiterate)	11(73.3)
4	(Up to primary)	4(26.7)
	Partner education	
4	(Up to middle)	11(73.3)
	(Middlec to Senior secondary)	4(26.7)
5	Family income	
	(6,000-8,500)	8(53.3)
6	(>8,500)	7(46.7)
	Family Type	
6	(Nuclear)	2(13.3)
	(Extended)	4(26.7)
7	(Joint)	9(60.0)
	Family Size	
7	(5-7 members)	5(33.3)
	(8-10 members)	10(66.7)
8	Respondent Occupation	
	(House Wife)	12(80.0)
9	(Service)	3(20.0)
	Partners occupation	
9	(Labour)	11(73.3)
	(Service)	4(26.7)

Table -2 clearly depicts that majority of the respondents (53.3%) had monthly income between Rs.6, 000-8,500 and (46.7%) of the respondents had monthly income up to Rs. 6,000. Regarding type of family data further indicated in table 2 that 60 per cent respondents were having joint family followed by (40%) extended and nuclear family (13.3%). The data regarding family size depict in table- 2 that majority (66.7%) had large family size and (33.3%) had small family size. It was noted from table 1 that among respondents' occupation, most of the respondents (80%) were house wife whereas (20%) were engaged in service. Regarding partners of the respondents most of the partners (73.3%) were laborer and rest of the partners (26.7%) were engaged in service.

Comparison between girls and ladies with regard to knowledge on gender empowerment and beti bbachao beti padhao

Table 3 indicated that no significant difference was found towards the knowledge on gender empowerment and beti bbachao beti padhao of both respondents i.e. girls and ladies before creating awareness. So, the table clearly indicated that girls and ladies both were not aware regarding all the statements gender empowerment and beti bbachao beti padhao. Only girls were aware about these both statments; female infanticide is the best way to control the family and population and in comparison to girls boys should get higher education.

Table 3: Comparison between girls and ladies with regard to knowledge on gender empowerment and beti bbachavo beti padhao (N=15)

Sr no.	Statements	Girls Mean \pm SD	Ladies Mean \pm SD	t-value
1	Do you know about “Beti Bachavo, Beti Padhavo” scheme of govt. of India?	1.90 \pm 0.30	1.74 \pm 0.50	0.76
2	Do you know that child sex ratio is low in Haryana?	1.41 \pm 0.51	1.66 \pm 0.57	0.74
3	Do you know that female infanticide is the main reason of decreasing sex ratio?	1.09 \pm 0.30	1.00 \pm 0.00	0.58
4	Do you aware about sex determination process?	1.15 \pm 0.37	1.00 \pm 0.00	0.56
5	Do you know that abortion deteriorate mother’s health?	1.09 \pm 0.30	1.00 \pm 0.00	0.58
6	Female infanticide is the best way to control the family and population?	2.00 \pm 0.00	1.85 \pm 0.37	1.07*
7	What better education will improve the condition of girls in society?	2.00 \pm 0.00	1.90 \pm 0.31	0.69
8	Do you think that “Beti Bachavo, Beti Padhavo” scheme will be helpful in overall development of girls?	1.09 \pm 0.30	1.00 \pm 0.00	0.58
9	In comparison to girls boys should get higher education?	2.00 \pm 0.00	1.75 \pm 0.50	1.78*
10	In comparison to girls boys should get more freedom at home?	1.81 \pm 0.40	1.75 \pm 0.50	0.27
11	Only boys play an important role to dynasty?	1.81 \pm 0.40	1.75 \pm 0.50	0.27

Significant at 5% level of significance.

Conclusion

On the basis of findings it can be concluded that there is a need to create awareness among people to attain the gender equity and equality.

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