



IJLESS

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Volume: 3, Issue 1, 2016 (Jan-Mar)

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF LAW, EDUCATION, SOCIAL AND SPORTS STUDIES (IJLESS)

WWW.IJLESS.KYPUBLICATIONS.COM/

ISSN:2455-0418 (Print), 2394-9724 (online)

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www.kypublications.com

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DECLINING WOMEN SEX RATIO AMONG HAVYAK BRAHMINS IN YELLAPUR TALUK OF KARNATAKA

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RESEARCH ARTICLE



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ABSTRACT

There aren't enough girls in our will have a wide variety of problems in the future when the 0-19 age group moves on to the 25-39 age group. It is going to screw up productivity, fertility ratios, and the country as a whole. This is a brief summary of the problem.

India is a rich country inhabited by the poor people. Population growth and economic growth are closely interred connected. Growth is always affected by population as much as population affects on growth. Sex ratio is used to describe the number of females per 1000 of males. Sex ratio is a valuable source for finding the population of women in India and what is the ratio of women to that of men in India. In the Population Census of 2011 it was revealed that the population ratio in India 2011 is 940 females per 1000 of males. The Sex Ratio 2011 shows an upward trend from the census 2001 data. Census 2001 revealed that there were 933 females to that of 1000 males. Since decades India has seen a decrease in the sex ratio 2011, but since the last two decades there has been in slight increase in the sex ratio. Since the last five decades the sex ratio has been moving around 930 of females to that of 1000 of males.

It hampers the overall well being, because blocking women from participation in social, political and economic activities can adversely affect the whole society. Many developing countries including India, have displayed gender inequality in education, employment and health.

It is common to find girls and women suffering from high mortality rates. There are vast differences in education level of the two sexes. India has witnessed gender inequality from its early history due to its socio-economic and religious practices that resulted in a wide gap between the position of men and women in the society.

From a global perspective, India accounts for 19% of all live births and 27% of all maternal deaths. The deaths of young girls in India exceed those of young boys by over 300,000 each year, and every 6th infant death is specifically due to gender discrimination. Women face discrimination right from the childhood. Gender disparities in nutrition are evident from infancy to adulthood.

Key Words: Havyak Brahmin, Sex ratio, Women

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INTRODUCTION

There aren't enough girls in our will have a wide variety of problems in the future when the 0-19 age group moves on to the 25-39 age group. It is going to screw up productivity, fertility ratios, and the country as a whole. This is a brief summary of the problem, let's not dwell on it. Instead, let's focus on the solutions.

India is a rich country inhabited by the poor people. Population growth and economic growth are closely interred connected. Growth is always affected by population as much as population affects on growth. Sex ratio is used to describe the number of females per 1000 of males. Sex ratio is a valuable source for finding the population of women in India and

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what is the ratio of women to that of men in India. In the Population Census of 2011 it was revealed that the population ratio in India 2011 is 940 females per 1000 of males. The Sex Ratio 2011 shows an upward trend from the census 2001 data. Census 2001 revealed that there were 933 females to that of 1000 males. Since decades India has seen a decrease in the sex ratio 2011, but since the last two decades there has been in slight increase in the sex ratio. Since the last five decades the sex ratio has been moving around 930 of females to that of 1000 of males.

According to the United Nations (2011), in 2010 the world's population consisted of 3,478 million males and 3,418 million females, giving a nearly equal sex ratio of 1.017 [note that the sex ratio is expressed here as the ratio of males to females (m/f); unless otherwise noted, all demographic estimates are from United Nations (2011)]. However, this figure of 1.017 hides considerable variation. For example, the ratios were well above one in East Asia (1.062) and South Asia (1.057). These populations had a distinctly masculine edge. North Africa (1.005), sub-Saharan Africa (0.999), and Southeast Asia (0.990) had ratios close to one. Latin America (0.976) and North America (0.975) had figures indicative of slightly more females than males. Europe's population (0.930) was by far the most feminine.

The sex ratio at birth in the world in 2010 is estimated by the United Nations at 1.07—i.e., there were approximately 107 male births for every 100 female. But males tend to die at higher rates than females at all ages. Indeed, the United Nations considers that in the current five-year period, 2010–2015, male and female life expectancies are 67.1 and 71.6 years, respectively, signifying a female advantage of 4.5 years. Moreover, the excess of male death rates over female death rates increases at older ages, as the overall risk of dying increases. Therefore, the modest surplus of males at birth is gradually—and then rapidly—whittled away.

It hampers the overall well being, because blocking women from participation in social, political and economic activities can adversely affect the whole society. Many developing countries including India, have displayed gender inequality in education, employment and health.

It is common to find girls and women suffering from high mortality rates. There are vast differences in education level of the two sexes. India has witnessed gender inequality from its early history due to its socio-economic and religious practices that resulted in a wide gap between the position of men and women in the society.

Statistics reveal that in India males significantly outnumber females and this imbalance has increased over time. The sex ratio according to 2001 census report stands at 933 per 1000 males. Out of the total population, 120 million are women who live in abject poverty. The maternal mortality rate in rural areas is among the world's highest.

From a global perspective, India accounts for 19% of all live births and 27% of all maternal deaths. The deaths of young girls in India exceed those of young boys by over 300,000 each year, and every 6th infant death is specifically due to gender discrimination. Women face discrimination right from the childhood. Gender disparities in nutrition are evident from infancy to adulthood.

Objectives of the study:

1. To pin point the declining women sex ratio among the community.
2. To find out the causes of declining women sex ratio.
3. To explain the effects of declining women sex ratio among the respondents.

METHODOLOGY

Universe of Data Selection: The Researcher has conducted a field work in Yellapur Taluk (Karwar District). According to 2001 census Yellapur taluk has a population of 58,216. In Yellapur taluk, Havyak Brahmins scattered approximately 27,000. It is surrounded by 127 neighbouring villages. Hence the taluk consists of different communities and groups living harmoniously. Most of them are settled in agriculture, priest hood, business etc. The study group includes both men and women of 20 to 66 above age. Study is conducted both in village and town area.

The Sample: A systematic random sampling technique is adopted for selecting the sample. This study is conducted in Yellapur taluk. The study is confined to 4 village of Yellapur taluk. The data was collected from 80 persons (head of the household and family members).

Tools and Techniques: The study is based on both primary and secondary data. The primary data is collected with the help of interview schedule. The researcher had directly participated and interviewed the head of the household. The interview

scheduled contained both pre-coded and open-ended questions. Researcher also collected secondary data from books/ articles/ magazines etc.

Sex Ratio among Respondents

Sex	Respondents
Male	55
Female	25
Total	80

Literacy: According to census, a person aged seven and above, who can both read and write with understanding in any language, is treated as literate. A person who can only read but cannot write is not literate. The provisional results of 2001 reveal that there has been an increase in literacy in the country.

The literacy rate in the country is 64.84 percent (75.26 for males and 53.67 for females). Kerala retained its position by being on top with a 90.86 percent literacy rate and Bihar ranks lowest among all states with 47 percent literacy rate.

In study region Havyak Brahmins are orthodox and village situated people. In them respondents give more importance to boy's education which is one of the major reasons for declining the women sex ratio.

Sex Ratio (females per 1000 males), India 1901-2001

Year	Sex Ratio	Sex Ratio in Children (0-6)
1901	972	-
1911	964	-
1921	955	-
1931	950	-
1941	945	-
1951	946	-
1961	941	976
1971	930	964
1981	934	962
1991	929	945
2001	933	927

Reasons for declining sex ratio among Havyak Brahmins community

Reasons for declining sex ratio among respondents community	No. of Respondents
Low socio- economic status	22
Lack of education	25
Patriarchy system	-
Dowry system	10
Boys are way to Moksha	23

Rather than this several reasons are attributed to the decline in the number of girls-neglect of the girl child, female infanticide, female feticide, misuse of modern medical facilities etc. And the condition precedent for attainment of moksha is the performance of cremation rites by the son. Last but not the least, while a "son's marriage brings dowry into the family, a girl is always associated with the term pereyadhan. Females are regarded only as temporary members of their natural family. On the one hand, a daughter or woman is generally considered financially unproductive as her contribution is largely in the form of unremunerated family labour and, on the other, she alienates her parent's property on marriage.

Sen's article stimulated much research on the topic of missing women and girls, whether due to excess deaths or abortion (Bhat 2002a,b; Sen 2003; Alam et al.2007; Bossen 2007; Anderson & Ray 2010 .

Effects of declining women sex ratio in Havyak Brahmins Community : Inter community marriages: Vasantha Laxmi, former convener, Havyaka Vadhu Varara Vivaha Vedika she said, That the male-female ratio, roughly 3:1, is the main reason for inter community marriage. Few decades ago dowry system was there in Havyak Brahmins community, but now due to declined sex ratio Vadhu Dakshine is practicing by the community people. The coastal part of the state has reached such a pass that Brahmins marry girls from other sub-communities, which they'd consider inferior earlier. Today, marrying Lingayats and Konkans or even those from other religious is not considered extreme. This inter community marriages leads to cultural differences/changes. Orthodoxy of Brahmins is accommodating through this. Observable percent of unmarried males mainly in rural places in villages.

Within the framework of the World Health Organization's (WHO) definition of health as a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity, reproductive health addresses the reproductive processes, functions and system at all stages of life. Reproductive health implies that people are able to have a responsible, satisfying and that they have the capability to reproduce and the freedom to decide if, when and how often to do so. Individuals do face inequalities in reproductive health services. Inequalities vary based on socioeconomic status, education level, age, ethnicity, religion, and resources available in their environment. It is possible for example, that low income individuals lack the resources for appropriate health services and the knowledge to know what is appropriate for maintaining reproductive health.

Findings of the study:

The findings of the present study indicates that

1. Inter community marriages is found to be one of the major reason for declining sex ratio among Havyak Brahmins
2. Reproductive health problems such as unwanted pregnancy, feticides, problem of menstruation, infanticides, lack of family planning,
3. Preference for male child: In traditionally Indian society it is believed that son would be the inheritor of the property and they are the way of Moksha. That's why in traditional Havyaka Brahmin community they give more preference to boys than girl child.
4. Dominance of patriarchy, women being under control of men in matters involved like socio economic, religious, family decisions etc.
5. Practice of traditional medicines among community is also one of the factor for having low health status among community people especially women such as child bearing women, married women under reproductive cycle, women under lactation period, etc.

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