

## AWARENESS ON GENDER EMPOWERMENT AND BETI BACHAO BETI PADHAO THROUGH INTERVENTION

*Varsha Saini & Sheela Sangwan*

*Research Scholar, Professor, Department of Human Development and Family Studies,  
Cardinal O'Hara High School, Chaudhary Charan Singh University, Hisar, Haryana, India*

---

**Received: 18 Jan 2018**

**Accepted: 24 Jan 2018**

**Published: 27 Jan 2018**

---

### **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 from labour colony (CCS Haryana Agricultural University) of Hisar district were selected randomly. The result indicated that the girls and ladies both were not aware of gender empowerment and scheme i.e. Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao. The further intervention program was implemented and evaluated that impact of the program 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 the number of girls for every 1000 boys between the age group of 0-6 years, with a low of 918. SRB is defined as the number of girls born per 1000 boys. The decline in CSR has been unabated since 1961. A skewed CSR indicates that a number of girls are 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.

Though the CSR is influenced by a number of factors such as under-registration of girls, differential infant & child mortality, strong socio-cultural and religious biases, preferences for sons & discrimination towards daughters, it is in large measure determined by the Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB). SRB is defined as the number of girls born per 1000 boys. The SRB for the period 2010-12 was 908 as per SRS Statistical Report-2012, which is quite low as against the internationally observed normal SRB of 952 clearly pointing out to lesser number of girls born than the boys in India. A low SRB is directly linked to easy availability and affordability of diagnostic tools leading to increased Sex Selective Elimination (SSE).

The Government has announced *Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao* (BBBP) Scheme to address the issue of decline in CSR through a mass campaign across the country, and focused intervention & Multi-Sectoral Action in 100 gender critical

districts. The District Collectors/Deputy Commissioners (DCs) lead and coordinated action of all departments for implementation of BBBP at the District level.

Women across the world face daunting challenges, lower income and education levels, inferior legal rights and family responsibilities. Many development efforts over the years have tried to increase gender empowerment, with varying degrees of success. So there is a need of multifaceted approach to tackle the problem, as one relatively simple intervention increases women's knowledge in girl's education, girl child protection, gender equity and equality, reduces family conflict, and promotes greater cooperation and trust in the government schemes. Therefore the present study was conducted with an objective to create awareness on gender empowerment and *beti bbachao beti padhao* through intervention.

### **Methodology**

The present study was conducted in Hisar district of Haryana state. Labour colony (CCS Haryana Agricultural University) of Hisar city was selected purposively because of easy accessibility. From this colony a total of 30 respondents including 15 girls and 15 ladies were selected on random basis. 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*. Respondents were given intervention programme about creating awareness on gender empowerment and *beti bachao, beti padhao* through different teaching aids (posters and charts) and lecture method. Frequencies, percentages and t test were used to draw inferences.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS**

### **Socio Personal Profile of the Girls**

The data reported in Table -1 indicate that 53.3 per cent respondents belonged to the age group of 21-25 years and 46.7 per cent 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 40 per cent were having 2-3 siblings. Regarding education of the respondents' data presents that majority of the respondents (53.3%) were educated up to metric and 46.7 per cent were educated from secondary level to graduation level. Regarding education of the respondents' parents data in Table 1 indicate that 46.7 per cent fathers of the respondents were educated up to secondary level, 40 per cent were illiterate and only 13.3 per cent were educated from primary level to metric level. Whereas most of the mothers (66.7%) were illiterate and only 33.3 per cent were educated up to primary level.

**Table1: Socio Personal Profile of the Girls(N=15)**

S.No	Socio-Personal Variable	Frequency (%)
1	<b>Age</b> (15-20 years)	7 (46.7)
	(21-25 years)	8(53.3)
2	<b>Caste</b> (Schedule caste)	10(66.7)
	(Other backward class)	5(33.3)
3	<b>No of siblings</b> (2-3 siblings)	6(40.0)
	(4 and more siblings)	9(60.0)
4	<b>Education of the respondent</b> (Up to metric)	7(46.7)
	(Senior secondary to graduation)	8(53.3)
5	<b>Paternal education</b> (Illiterate)	6(40.0)
	(Primary to metric)	2(13.3)
	(Metric to Senior secondary)	7(46.7)
6	<b>Maternal education</b> (Illiterate)	10(66.7)
	(Up to primary)	5(33.3)
7	<b>Family income per month</b> (Up to Rs. 6,000)	4(26.7)
	(Rs. 6,001-12,000)	9(60.0)
	>Rs. 12,000	2(13.3)
8	<b>Family Type</b> (Nuclear)	6(40.0)
	(Extended)	2(13.3)
	(Joint)	7(46.7)
9	<b>Family Size</b> Small size (4-7 members)	8(53.3)
	Large size (8-10 members)	7(46.7)
10	<b>Paternal Occupation</b> (Labour)	12(80.0)
	(Service)	3(20.0)
11	<b>Maternal occupation</b> (House Wife)	13(86.7)
	(Service)	2(13.3)

Table -1 further clearly depicts that majority of the respondents (60%) had monthly income between Rs.6, 001-12,000. Whereas 26.7 per cent of the respondents had monthly income up to Rs. 6,000 and 13.3 per cent of the respondents had above Rs. 12,000 income. Maximum 46.7 per cent respondents were having joint family followed by nuclear (40%) and extended family (13.3%). The data regarding family size depict that majority (53.3%) had small family size and 46.7 per cent had large family size. It was noted 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 per cent 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 per cent 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%) were illiterate and only 26.7 per cent were educated up to primary level. Data also indicate that majority of partners of the respondents (73.3%) were educated up to middle level and only 26.7 per cent were educated from middle level to secondary level.

**Table 2: Socio Personal Profile of the Ladies (N=15)**

S.No	Variable	Frequency (%)
1	<b>Age</b>	
	(25-47 years)	10(66.7)
	(48-70 years)	5(33.3)
2	<b>Caste</b>	
	(Schedule caste)	10(66.7)
	(Other backward class)	5(33.3)
3	<b>Education of the respondent</b>	
	(Illiterate)	11(73.3)
	(Up to primary)	4(26.7)
4	<b>Spouse education</b>	
	(Up to middle)	11(73.3)
	(Middlec to Senior secondary)	4(26.7)
5	<b>Family income</b>	
	( Rs. 6,000-8,500)	8(53.3)
	(> Rs. 8,500)	7(46.7)
6	<b>Family Type</b>	
	(Nuclear)	2(13.3)
	(Extended)	4(26.7)
	(Joint)	9(60.0)
7	<b>Family Size</b>	
	(5-7 members)	5(33.3)
	(8-10 members)	10(66.7)
8	<b>Respondent Occupation</b>	
	(House Wife)	12(80.0)
	(Service)	3(20.0)
9	<b>Spouse occupation</b>	
	(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 per cent of the respondents had monthly income up to Rs. 6,000. Regarding type of family data indicated that 60 per cent respondents were having joint family followed by (40%) extended and nuclear family (13.3%). Majority (66.7%) of respondents had large family size and 33.3 per cent had small family size. It was also noted that most of the respondents (80%) were house wife whereas 20 per cent were engaged in service. Regarding partners of the respondents most of the partners (73.3%) were laborer and 26.7 per cent were engaged in service.

#### **Gain in Knowledge of Girls on Gender Empowerment and *Beti Bachao Beti Padhao***

Pre-exposure and post exposure mean scores and 't' test was computed to study the impact of intervention regarding gender empowerment and *beti bachao beti padhao* among respondents (Table 4). There were significant differences in knowledge regarding gender empowerment and *beti bachao beti padhao* among respondents for different statements i.e. child sex ratio is low in Haryana ( $t=4.00^*$ ), female infanticide is the main reason of decreasing sex ratio ( $t=14.00^*$ ), awareness about sex determination process ( $t=2.82^*$ ), abortion deteriorate mother's health ( $t=14.00^*$ ) and *Beti Bachavo, Beti Padhavo* scheme will be helpful in overall development of girls ( $t=5.29^*$ ). Usdin (2005) and Gulzar (2006)

are also in conformity with the findings. Sangwan and Duhan (2010) studied impact of intervention programme on mental abilities of slow learners. They found marked improvement in verbal, perceptual performance, quantitative and memory aspects.

**Table 3: Gain in knowledge of Girls on Gender Empowerment and *Beti Bachao Beti Padhao***

Sr No.	Statements	Pre Exposure Mean $\pm$ SD	Post Exposure Mean $\pm$ SD	Gain in Knowledge	t-Value
1	Do you know about “Beti Bachavo, Beti Padhavo” scheme of govt. of India?	1.86 $\pm$ 0.35	2.00 $\pm$ 0.00	0.14	1.46
2	Do you know that child sex ratio is low in Haryana?	1.46 $\pm$ 0.51	2.00 $\pm$ 0.00	0.54	4.00*
3	Do you know that female infanticide is the main reason of decreasing sex ratio?	1.06 $\pm$ 0.25	2.00 $\pm$ 0.00	0.94	14.0*
4	Do you aware about sex determination process?	1.06 $\pm$ 0.26	1.53 $\pm$ 0.52	0.47	2.82*
5	Do you know that abortion deteriorate mother’s health?	1.06 $\pm$ 0.26	2.00 $\pm$ 0.00	0.94	14.0*
6	Female infanticide is the best way to control the family and population?	1.93 $\pm$ 0.25	2.00 $\pm$ 0.00	0.07	1.0
7	What better education will improve the condition of girls in society?	1.93 $\pm$ 0.25	2.00 $\pm$ 0.00	0.07	1.0
8	Do you think that “Beti Bachavo, Beti Padhavo” scheme will be helpful in overall development of girls?	1.33 $\pm$ 0.48	2.00 $\pm$ 0.00	0.67	5.29*
9	In comparison to girls boys should get higher education?	1.93 $\pm$ 0.25	2.00 $\pm$ 0.00	0.07	1.0
10	In comparison to girls boys should get more freedom at home?	1.80 $\pm$ 0.41	2.00 $\pm$ 0.00	0.20	1.87
11	Only boys play an important role to dynasty?	1.80 $\pm$ 0.41	2.00 $\pm$ 0.00	0.20	1.87

Significant at 5% level of significance.

It may, therefore be concluded that girls succeeded in acquiring knowledge after exposure to intervention programme on gender empowerment and *beti bachao beti padhao*.

#### **Gain in Knowledge of Ladies on Gender Empowerment and *Beti Bachao Beti Padhao***

To study the impact of intervention programme gender empowerment and *beti bachao beti padhao*, pre-exposure and post exposure mean scores and ‘t’ test was computed. Table 4 shows that there was significant gain in knowledge regarding gender empowerment and *beti bachao beti padhao* among ladies for all statements as t values were statistically significant at 5% level of significance.

**Table 4: Gain in Knowledge of Ladies on Gender Empowerment and *Beti Bachao Beti Padhao***

Sr No.	Statements	Pre Exposure (Mean $\pm$ SD)	Post Exposure (Mean $\pm$ SD)	Gain in Knowledge	t-Value
1	Do you know about “Beti Bachavo, Beti Padhavo” scheme of govt. of India?	1.26 $\pm$ 0.45	2.0 $\pm$ 0.00	0.74	6.20*
2	Do you know that child sex ratio is low in Haryana?	1.06 $\pm$ 0.26	2.0 $\pm$ 0.00	0.94	14.0*
3	Do you know that female infanticide is the main reason of decreasing sex ratio?	1.26 $\pm$ 0.45	2.0 $\pm$ 0.00	0.74	6.20*
4	Do you aware about sex determination process?	1.06 $\pm$ 0.25	1.86 $\pm$ 0.35	0.80	7.48*
5	Do you know that abortion deteriorate mother’s health?	1.26 $\pm$ 0.45	1.60 $\pm$ 0.50	0.32	2.64*
6	Female infanticide is the best way to control the family and population?	1.46 $\pm$ 0.52	1.86 $\pm$ 0.35	0.40	2.10
7	What better education will improve the condition of girls in society?	1.66 $\pm$ 0.48	2.0 $\pm$ 0.00	0.34	2.64*
8	Do you think that “Beti Bachavo, Beti Padhavo” scheme will be helpful in overall development of girls?	1.06 $\pm$ 0.25	2.0 $\pm$ 0.00	0.94	14.0*
9	In comparison to girls boys should get higher education?	1.26 $\pm$ 0.45	2.0 $\pm$ 0.00	0.74	6.20*
10	In comparison to girls boys should get more freedom at home?	1.26 $\pm$ 0.45	2.0 $\pm$ 0.00	0.74	6.20*
11	Only boys play an important role to dynasty?	1.26 $\pm$ 0.45	2.0 $\pm$ 0.00	0.74	6.20*

Significant at 5% level of significance

It may, therefore be concluded that there is a gain in knowledge after exposure to intervention programme on gender empowerment and *beti bachao beti padhao* among ladies. Similar results were also obtained by Peacock and Levack (2008) and Campbell (2006). Banu and Sandhya Rani (2009) also found the positive effect of intervention on psychological well being of the respondents.

## CONCLUSIONS

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.

## REFERENCES

1. Banu. N and Rani.S.,B (2009). *Impact of intervention on mental health levels of rural adolescents girls. Praachi journal of psycho-cultural dimensions.* 25(1&2):156-161
2. Campbell JC, Manganello J. (2006) *Changing public attitudes as a prevention strategy to reduce intimate partner violence. Journal of Aggression, Maltreatment and Trauma,* 13:13–39.
3. Gaurav Bagga, *Managing Gender Based Issues, International Journal of Human Resource Management and Research (IJHRMR), Volume 2, Issue 3, September-October 2012, pp. 13-20*
4. Gulzar, J. (2006). *Evaluating Training –Beyond Reaction Evaluation. Indian Journal of Trg. & Dev.,*36, 19-31.

5. Peacock D and Levack A (2008). *The men as partners in South Africa: reaching men to end gender-based violence and promote sexual and reproductive health*. *International Journal of Men's Health*, ([http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi\\_m0PAU/is\\_3\\_3/ai\\_n13733408?tag=artBody;coll](http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_m0PAU/is_3_3/ai_n13733408?tag=artBody;coll)).
6. Concepcion R. Sumadsad & Ariel P. Tuazon, *Gender and Development (Gad) Awareness in a Higher Education Institution*, *International Journal of Educational Science and Research (IJESR)*, Volume 6, Issue 3, May-June 2016, pp. 75-86
7. Sangwan S. (2010). *Impact of intervention programme on mental abilities of preschool slow learners*. *Psycho-linguistic association of India*. **40**(1&2): 84-87.
8. Usdin S (2005). *Achieving social change on gender-based violence: a report on the impact evaluation on Soul City's fourth series*. *Social Science and Medicine*, **61**, 2434–2445.
9. Sandipan R. Gavhale, *Inequality of Gender Ratio among Religious and Social Groups in India*, *IMPACT: International Journal of Research in Humanities, Arts and Literature (IMPACT: IJRHAL)*, Volume 4, Issue 11, November 2016, pp. 43-50

