

Chapter 6

Findings, Conclusion and Suggestions

Major Findings

The study made an attempt to understand the reasons pertaining to psychology and societal factors relating education for the girl child. Along with this, factors relating to school teachers and parents of young girls are also studied. An attempt is made to study the co-relational factors on education and views of teachers and parents. This chapter presents a summary of major findings and conclusions relating to these factors.

Major findings of Girls related Factors:

Demographic Detailing

- The demographic profiling of girls suggests that Most of the respondent's girls are into Age group of 15 years and most of them are studying in Standard 9th and 10th. A maximum number of responding girls are having less than Rs 1,00,000 as family income.
- The majority of the respondents are having father's job as the primary source of income, whereas very few respondents have both the incomes, of mother and father.
- The majority of the girls are coming from a family wherein they have siblings between the range of 1-3. And the majority of these siblings are satisfied with their schooling.
- A maximum number of girls are satisfied with the schooling system, also, the majority of the girls have their siblings who are satisfied with the schooling system as well.

- The majority of girls are doing homework at their home, wherein a large number of girls are receiving help from no one, whereas few girls receive help from their siblings or school teachers. Very few girls are taking help from parents.
- Most of the respondents have not witnessed school drop out on part of their siblings while also most of them do not know any girl from the community who have dropped out from school. It is evident that most of the girls do not have anyone within their family or the community who have dropped out from the school. This shows that the parents are willing to send their daughters to the school. If one girl is studying in the school, there are chances that other girls of the families are also permitted to attend.

School Support System

- The majority of the respondents are coming to the school by walking whereas, another one to be used commonly is by hired autorickshaw as well as by cycle. Very few respondents are using public transportation system to commute to school. Most of the respondents do not incur any cost while commuting to school as they either attend school by walking or cycle their way to the school. However, it is interesting to know that some of them own the cycle while some of them have received these cycles by efforts of various NGOs working for the upliftment of educational standards.
- The majority of the respondents have responded that the monthly expenses for the schoolings are below Rs 500, and the major amount of the money is spent on purchasing of books, followed by transportation cost.
- The majority of girls are satisfied with their schooling and their favorite subject ranges from English to Science, although the majority of the respondents are coming from Gujarati medium schools.
- The majority of the respondents have shown satisfaction towards the complete experience of the school, their responses range from agreeing to strongly agreeing regarding school experience. Students have also shown liking towards the quality of teachers assigned to them.

- Most of the respondents are satisfied with male schools in the schools, also teachers attitude towards these students seems to be satisfactory.

Girl's Relationship with their Parents

- Most of the respondents have stated that their parents want them to study further and avail higher education, apart from that, they have no other expectations. Also, most of the respondents don't have the hindrance of taking care of younger siblings at home.
- The majority of the girls have responded that their parents are interested in sending them for higher studies, and most of them are of opinion that education plays very important role in the development of a person.
- The majority of the respondents are of opinion that their parent's are cooperative in terms of getting an education, and the majority of the respondents share a cordial relationship with their parents in terms of discussion about the issues and concerns.
- It is noted that majority of the respondents are depended on of parents and elder siblings in terms of getting any guidance or support.

School Continuation and Stress

- There is a mixed reaction to the question that, if the respondents' family do not want them to continue schooling they will not mind that. The stated reasons for that ranges from strongly agree to disagree. However, a large part of girls has strongly denied to the statement that if the their family wishes to discontinue their study, they will not mind.
- Most of the respondents disagreed that studies add extra stress on them, also they do not find it as an additional burden on them.

- Most of the respondents share the healthy relationship with their friends, who are dwelling from the same background. There are hardly any issues concerning to different family background as they share the commonality of family background. The schools selected are the ones where students from all the religions are studying, despite this, there are hardly any issues relating to the diversified family background.

Future Aspirations

- A large number of respondents would like to pursue higher education after completing school, whereas few girls would like to start earning so as to contribute to the family income.
- It is observed that a large number of respondents do the household chores of cleaning and other activities prior to coming to school, followed by girls who are not doing anything prior to coming to school. Similarly, for after the school work, most of the girls follow the same pattern of doing household work followed by doing nothing.
- After conducting a co-relational test, it was found that maximum numbers of respondents are doing household chores at home and they are willing to study further. Whereas 16% of the girls are helping their parents in income generating activities, however it is found that these girls are interested in studying further too.
- Most of the respondents would like to do the job in future, hence studying does not discourage them.
- The majority of the respondents would like to pursue a job in future, hence they are of opinion that availing education is very important.
- The primary reason for respondents to study further is to make their family proud, other reasons for availing higher education are to become independent and the least preferred option for studying further is to get an educated husband.

Major findings of Parents Related Factors:

Demographic Detailing

- The majority of the respondents are the mother of the girl child, which means the majority of respondents are female. Also, among the age group, the majority of the respondents are between the age group of 41-50 years, while very few are more than 50 years of age.
- The majority of the respondents are a housewife, they do not contribute to the earnings of the family. The family income of the respondents ranges from Rs 1,00,000 to 3,00,000 (cumulative). And the majority of the respondents are belonging to Below Poverty Line level.
- The majority of the respondents have completed their studies or have studied less than HSC. Marginal numbers of respondents have completed graduation. It is interesting to know that majority of the respondents are not highly educated, but they are managing to send their girls to the school.
- The majority of parents are having a nuclear family, and they have between 1-2 children who are regular going to school. The majority of the respondents do not have any child who has dropped out from the school.

Perception of Parents towards Education

- The majority of the parents agree that quality education will help in the success of their child also the majority of them agree that education will help the incomplete development of the child.
- The majority of the parents believes that education is not the indispensable element for the life of their girl child, whereas less than half of the parents believe that education is the indispensable part.

- The majority of the respondents are of the view that education will help in getting better jobs in the future, also they hold an opinion that education helps in learning of life skills for their child.
- The majority of the parents are of opinion that if they try to involve themselves in the education of their child, their efforts are not appreciated. Also, most of the parents are of opinion that since they are less educated they are unable to involve themselves in the education of their child.

Perception of Parents towards School System

- The majority of the parents believes that education will help in coping up with the practical challenges in the life of their girls.
- There is a mixed response to the statement that the skills which are taught at schools can be easily taught at home. Nearly half of the respondents believe that school does not teach any new skill to their child.
- Most of the parents are of opinion that education will help their child in knowing more about current scenario; hence she will be able to learn more about their family occupation as well.
- The majority of the respondents have shown satisfaction towards school related factors, most of them agree that teachers are very cooperative towards the needs of the girl child; they also believe that teachers are making constant efforts in upgrading the knowledge of their girl child.
- The majority of the parents have shown the fair level of comfortability even in the presence of male teachers for their girl child.

- The majority of the parents are of opinion that they ensure regularity towards schooling of their girl child. They also feel that schooling is an integral part of their child's life and it does not incur an extra time for our girl child.
- When asked the question of regularity, parents have responded that girls should be sent to schools regularly, however, when asked if it is acceptable to ask girl not to attend school on account of some household work, a sizable number of the parents have agreed to the statement.
- A Large part of respondents believes that schooling makes my child lazy and she becomes irresponsible towards family related problems. The majority of parents disagree with the statement, however, a sizable number of respondents holds the view otherwise.

Perception of Parents towards Future Prospects of Girl Child

- Earlier, most of the parents have responded that education is most integral part of the life, however, when asked if they feel that child will not face any real life problem if she does not get an education, most of the parents have given a positive statement to the question.
- It is important to know here that, parents hold an opinion that they are not very much interested in the performance of the girl child in school, they hold a view that it does not matter in the future if the girl child is educated or not educated.
- The majority of the respondents are aware that Islam does promote the education of girl child, and Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) always laid a special attention on the education of the girl child.
- The majority of the respondents are of opinion that girl child should avail education till Std. 12 and less number of respondents have said that they should avail education till Graduation.

Hence it can be concluded that majority of the girls might drop out from availing higher education as most of the parents believe that girls should only study till the time she completes Higher Secondary Schooling. (HSC). Further discussions with parents suggest that a large number of parents are not confident of sending their girls to college due to multiple apprehension such as lower confidence in higher education, incapability to afford higher education, etc.

Major findings of Teachers Related Factors:

Demographic Details of Teachers

- It is very evident that majority of the school teachers are following the muslim religion, and they are falling into the age group between 25-35 years. Very few school teachers are above 46 years of age.
- Facilities like separate rooms for girls and rooms for playing and sports activities are not available for the girls. Also, schools are not approachable by all roads, which means schools are not accessible in all the weathers despite the fact that all of them are in the vicinity of the city area. It may be noted that most of the girls are coming to school either by walking or by cycling their way, in the case of bad weather conditions attending school will become a big challenge.
- Book sets are not available for the girls, wherein most of the girls are coming from Below Poverty Line (BPL) background, and a maximum of the expenses are incurred on purchasing book set and notebooks.
- The majority of the schools have computer laboratory but there is no availability of ICT Lab in the schools. And the majority of the respondents are of opinion that they find teaching students from the diverse community as very rewarding.
- The majority of the respondents do not have lower expectations from Muslim parents as they think their interest in girls education is limited however, they make an effort in

letting their daughter complete education till higher secondary. And the majority of teachers always encourage parents in participation to teaching learning process.

- The majority of the respondents involve both girls and boys in getting the education, however, they feel that girls are more serious about education. And they feel that girls are more regular in doing homework and regular work.
- Most of the respondents have stated that it is unnecessary to put efforts in girls education, the majority of the teachers hold strong agreement towards the question. However, there is a mixed response to the statement whether they find teaching girl child rewarding. The majority of the respondents have agreed, while most of them do not find it rewarding.
- The majority of the teachers have agreed to the statement that girls have to face a lot of distractions within their family as well as in the society that is the reason her performance suffers.
- The majority of the respondents agree that the Muslim Community can only prosper when girls are educated.
- Most of the teachers agree that girls are usually inclined towards selecting General Stream after SSC like Commerce or Arts, specialized efforts need to be taken to encourage these girls to select Science Stream.
- Teachers are of opinion that in order to keep girls in school, the most effective way is to provide the scholarship. Most of the respondents agree that scholarship process is very simple, and the amount received for the scholarship is sufficient. They hold a view that if the scholarship is provided regularly and easily, chances of girls dropping will decrease.
- The majority of the teachers agree that school curriculum is catering to the requirement of the girls and infrastructure like books and library is easily accessible. They do not feel that certain subjects are gender stereotyped.

Summary of Findings:

Taking into consideration the responses of all the respondents, it can be concluded that girls respondents hold the view that they would like to study further and get a higher education, whereas parents hold an opinion that girls should get education till Higher Secondary.

Most of the school teachers believe that education is the major agent to bring about change in education system, however, they do not find teaching girl child rewarding. School teachers believe that girls are more serious about studies than boys. Despite of this, they feel that it is useless to put efforts into the education of the girls.

Parents of these girls are of opinion that education plays very integral role in the life of a person, however, they hold an opinion that girls education yields no results. Even if efforts are put for the education of girls, it is by and large useless. Girls should be allowed to study only till Higher Secondary Education.

The major barrier to education is financial constrain, proper and smooth functioning needs to be put up in place so as to ensure easy accessibility in availing education.

Deliberation on Research Questions

- **Does religion act as a barrier for the girl child in availing higher education?**

It can be concluded from the study that the major barrier to the girl's education is the availability of financial resources. The scarcity of resources makes the girl child drop out from school. Religion can only act as a barrier when there are scarce resources within the family. This study is pertaining to girls who are in school and struggling with the threat of dropping out from school. It is believed that, if proper scholarship facilities are given to these girls, the chances of them dropping out from school becomes very less.

Religion per se is not a problem, but orthodoxy which arises out of religion often acts as a major barrier. When girls are studying in only girls Muslim schools, they enjoy the fair level of freedom from the family, however, co-educational schools are now being gradually accepted by the parents.

Based on the responses gathered from the parents, it is observed that a large number of parents are of opinion that girl child should be encouraged to study and they are making constant efforts to keep them in school. However, one major barrier was an expectation of parents relating to household chores. There is always one additional responsibility of completing household chores from school going girls. This can be treated as a family responsibility, and religion as such is not related to this.

Thus, it can be safely said that girl child does not face discrimination from parents, as most of the parents agree that Islam makes it compulsory for the girl child to avail contemporary education. However, it is the cultural barrier and family conditions, which acts as a barrier.

- **Is there any co-relation between the academic performance of the girl child and the views of family members and teacher's performance?**

When a girl is in school, she is influenced by multiple factors relating to the family as well as the school environment. The conducive environment in the family creates a gateway for better performance at school. From the present study, it can be concluded that there is a positive correlation between support from family and academic performance of the girls. There is a growing enthusiasm for modern education among Muslim families, although this is generally thwarted by widespread poverty and the fear that well-educated girls might find it difficult to find suitable husbands because of the relative paucity of well-educated Muslim men.

One of the major reasons behind the performance of the girls is the motivation that girls get to study further. This motivation is by and large from family and teachers. As far as family is concerned, there is always a support from the family, but household chores and taking care of younger siblings are one of the major distractions for the studies.

Teachers are usually supportive towards girls education and they do understand the diversities of these girls. Usually, in a class of 60 students, often there is diversity in terms of financial background, cultural background, and family environment. At times, it becomes complicated for teachers to articulate the course design according to these requirements.

Though schools are embedded in the larger social structure characterized by hierarchical gender relations and ideologies that devalue the position of women, attempts must be made to push the limits and explore the possibilities of change through schools, particularly as they offer public space that is obliged to be informed by principles of equality. Thus, it is necessary to critically review school knowledge and pedagogic practices from the perspective of gender equity and provide meaningful learning opportunities for all children.

Conclusion

Perspective of Students

- It can be concluded from the study that almost all the girls are interested in the studies and they believe that education is very rewarding. They like the schools in which they are studying and feel that the quality of education is up to the mark.
- Girls get emotional support from parents in terms of studying, however, they still have to do household chores at the home, though they have not responded to the question, but that is a hindrance to their education. Apart from household chores, girls are also engaged in taking care of the younger siblings and assisting parents in generating employment.
- Most of the girls could not afford to have tuitions, and they hardly have anyone to help them in studying. Less number of girls gets help from older siblings in completing their work or solving the problems. Most of the girls are not receiving any help from anyone in terms of completing homework. Very few girls receive help from parents, which is a sign that majority of parents are incapable of teaching the girls at home.
- The mode of transportation used for transiting from school is by walking, and they feel that the environment is safe for girls to attend the school. The major expense is incurred on purchasing of books, which amounts to books apart from textbooks. They often buy digests and practice book, which are usually expensive.
- It is heartening to learn that majority of the girls are interested in pursuing higher studies after completing their studies, however, they also feel that it is very important for girls to get married at the appropriate age so as to get a suitable match for the marriage.
- Girls feel that they face some level of discrimination at school, in terms of treatment they receive versus treatment received by boys. They also feel that some of the subjects taught in the school are more targeted towards boys.

- Social problems like the family environment, younger siblings to take care of, household chores, and decision to take for education is often a barrier for girls education. Society's perspective on getting a girl married at an "Appropriate" age is one of the factors which is demotivating the girl child to study further. At times the pressure of contributing towards economic activities of the family is considered as a reason for girls' dropout. Apart from contributing to family income, cutting down the cost of studies by discontinuing from school is also one of the perspectives faced by the girl child. The scholarship amount received by the girls at the school is considered appropriate, however, when asked what the major source of expenses for education is, most of them have responded that books are costing additional expenses for studying.
- Psychological problems such as poor academic performance accounts to one of the major issues faced by girl child for school continuation. Because less focus is given to the education since the beginning, girls find it difficult to perform well in the schools. Performance is affected by multiple factors like less attention from school teachers as well, although this is not an issue in only girls schools. Girls residing in urban areas are usually not affected by safety issues while commuting from schools, whereas girls residing in rural areas have to often face the issue of long distance from home to school.

Perspective of Teachers

- Most of the school teachers feel that girls are more interested in studying, however many of them believe that it is useless to invest much money in girls education. They often get discouraged in letting the girl study further.
- Almost all the teacher feels that girl students face a lot of distraction in studies, as a result, they do not perform well in the school. Teachers feel that it is the responsibility of the teachers to provide a conducive environment for supporting the education of girls.
- Teachers feel that girls students are more interested in General Stream, post-SSC. Special efforts are required to encourage them in selecting science stream. Also, the complexity

of the subjects and distorted environment often does not blend well with the career choice.

- None of the schools interviewed were getting benefits from Scheme for Infrastructure Development in Minority Institutes (IDMI), almost all the schools are eligible to avail benefit from the scheme, despite that it is not being implemented. The major reason behind this is unawareness regarding this scheme. None of the school is aware of this scheme being implemented.

Teachers of the schools are of the opinion that it is not very important for girls to study, and it is saddening to know that most of the teachers belong to the muslim community itself. Although teachers are making constant efforts to improve the conditions, but somewhere the mindset of intervening for girl child education, needs to be changed.

Perspective of Parents

- Most of the parents belonged to Below Poverty Line category; the however large number of parents has their kids studying in the schools. Very less number of school dropout is seen from the total parents interviewed.
- There is a 50-50 percent of view that parents' feels that education is the indispensable part of their life, half of them feels that, education is something which can be compromised. however, when asked if they feel education is meant for overall development of the child, most of them have agreed to it. Parents have also opined that if the girl child is not sent to school, it would not be a bigger problem in future.
- Parents have a positive outlook about the help that their child receives from school teachers. Most of the parents are satisfied with the teachers' intervention for their child. Parents are more inclined to send their children to school, however, they are also of the opinion that girl child should also be involved in household chores.

Conclusion of the Research

The entire research was designed to understand the psychosocial perspective of adolescent muslim girls towards girls education. While studying it, the responses were taken from the major stakeholders of girls education that is parents and teachers. In order to take up a complete view of the contributors, views of girls who are studying in classes from Standard 9 to 12 are taken up. The major objective behind selecting girls who are still studying in the school is to ensure that their ongoing problems can be understood. These girls are at the high risk of dropping out from the school once they are done with their education, hence their issues and concerns are gauge in.

It was observed from the study that majority of the studies so far have been catering to the issues and concerns of school drop outs, limited studies were found wherein ongoing issues of the girls are studied. Hence this study will prove beneficial in understanding the ongoing problems.

It was concluded from the study that majority of the girls are willing to study further and they posses ability to study further as well. Responding girls have stated multiple reasons for their willingness to study further which ranges from making their family proud of them to doing something beneficial for the society at large. Most of the girls are doing household chores at their homes, however that does not act as a barrier for their aspiration to study further.

It was concluded from the study that teachers have fair level of infra structure available at the school. Most of the teachers are of the opinion that it is not very useful to invest much of the resources in girls education as it does not yield any outcome. Similarly, most of the parents are of the opinion that they would like their daughters to study only till Standard 12th. Parents feel that Higher Education does not necessarily brings out proper results.

The study is a clear indicator that girls are willing to study further, however parents and teachers are not very keen. Girls who have reached upto the level to Standard 12th are mostly the recipient of any form of scholarship. Hence it can be suggested that with the proper availability of scholarship and parents teachers intervention, enrolment in higher education can be improve substantively.

Suggestions

Based on extensive study and first-hand data collection, the researcher would like to present suggestions to different stakeholders of the society. These suggestions would be very beneficial for intervention in improving Muslim girl's education in India.

Suggestions for Government:

- ❖ As per the findings of the study, it is suggested that Minority cells in schools for grievance readdressed of issues relating to minorities should be constituted so that students can share their concerns with them. These cells should be managed by trained social workers.
- ❖ Special provisions for enrollment of minority students in the private schools, like MPs school enrolment programs, separate provision for Muslim children should be placed.
- ❖ Reservation policies should be revised so that it should be better implemented for all the section of the minorities. Proper implementation mechanisms should be designed.
- ❖ Special Insurance policy should be designed wherein students studying till HSC get a specific amount, which later can be used to study further or to start up their business. This insurance can only be provided if student complete higher education.
- ❖ Religious language should be taught to students in schools so that they can relate more to that language. Languages like Urdu, Arabic, and Persian should be given special emphasis, which is practiced in very schools of Vadodara.
- ❖ Government policies and programs are designed for increasing enrolment of the girl child in school. However, these policies and programs should be conveniently

design for easy access. Multiple benefits are available for the girl's education, however, these programs should be easily accessible for a larger benefit.

- ❖ The quality of education still needs some improvement in terms of smart designing of the courses. A program like Pragya (special education program in Government schools implemented by Government of Gujarat) needs to be implemented at the larger level, so that maximum number of students can take benefit from it.
- ❖ Special aids should be given to schools wherein specific minority students are enrolled, as these schools are more successful in getting Muslim girls enrolled, more so, parents trust religion centric schools more.
- ❖ There is a need for more support programs for supporting girls who cannot afford to take tuition classes. Many times the amount of scholarship is so meager that it becomes very difficult to support the school and tuition expenses.
- ❖ Effective designing of a school system, which would support girls from all the walks of life. Ministry of Minority Education needs to put extra efforts on girl child education as Muslim boys tend to drop out from school with a reason that they would like to start up their own business.
- ❖ Special skill development training should be provided to girls who fail SSC or HSC exams. This skill will help them in the employment of primary level. Skills like the use of a computer, administrative assistance, etc could be beneficial for girls who want to work in offices or any other place.
- ❖ Demolition of illegal colonies creates migration which resulting in displacement. often there is a disturbance in schooling pattern as students move out to the distant location. Due to school distance and lack of public transportation, these girls drop out from schools. Hence special programs to ensure that these girls do not drop out are required.

- ❖ Model school under Public Private Partnership scheme should be designed so that local resources can be effectively used by the school at large. These schools should get curriculum based on the design of Concept School.
- ❖ One of the very effective schemes that are a National scheme of incentives to girls for secondary education should be replicated for the Muslim community as well, as of now, this scheme is applicable only to SC/ST students.

Suggestions for Schools:

- ❖ Updated school system, collaborative programs with students mobile vans for providing digital classrooms. These mobile vans would contain all the models and designs relating to curriculum. These vans could also be useful in providing first-hand information to the students.
- ❖ As per the study, it is suggested that personalized attention should be given to the students of the school. In order to deal with the issue of a large number of students, each teacher can be given a responsibility of approximately 10 students who will closely monitor the growth of those specific students.
- ❖ Muslim girls find it very difficult in relating to their non-muslim colleagues at school. Unfortunately, Muslim students have to face discrimination at the school level in terms of their food habits, practices, etc. school should pay special attention to this issue, as it forces girls to drop out from schools.
- ❖ The school is the first stage for laying a strong foundation for developed society. School should be accommodative to support and understand the issues faced by girls coming from a Muslim background.

- ❖ School authorities should stage interactive programs for having a regular dialogue with parents and school authorities so that both the parties can understand the level of expectations.
- ❖ Girls should be given future aspirations for their studies. More and more career counseling sessions should be organized so that proper directions should be availed to the girls.
- ❖ Schools should allow girls to wear hijab or abayas, restriction for these creates nonacceptance of schools on the part of parents.
- ❖ At times, Muslim girls are unable in relating to their non-Muslim counterparts. Hence students should be enrolled more in sensitivity awareness programs for acceptance.
- ❖ Teachers should be regularly enrolled in skill enhancement programs so that they can handle students coming from different educational and family background. Skill up-gradation program for teachers should be effectively used.
- ❖ Timely interactions with students should be organized so that students can voice out their concerns. At times girls are unable to talk to their teachers as they cannot relate to them.
- ❖ In order to improve the standards of learning, more and more use of audio-visual aids should be done in order to foster quality education. Along with this, soft skills training programs should be organized for assisting girls in time management, career counseling, communication skills, etc.
- ❖ Scheme for Infrastructure Development in Minority Institutes (IDMI) should be properly utilized. More centers should be started under this scheme, at present, there are only 21 centers registered (IDMI: An Evaluation Study Report, 2013)

- ❖ The ratio of girls and boys student should be maintained on regular basis. Schools should check the proportion of boy and girls, especially in co-educational institutes.

Suggestions for Parents

- ❖ It is very important for parents to give equal importance to the girl child, which means that equal rights of participation should be given to the girl child without any form of discrimination.
- ❖ While planning for the economic resources, due consideration should be given to the financial requirement of the girl's education not just for her marriage. The outcomes of the study suggests that financial constrains is one of the major hindrance.
- ❖ Parents should update themselves regarding the schemes and policies of the government. There are various policies designed to assist girls education, parents should know these policies in order to avail benefits of it. Moreover, NGOs are also working for girls education, parents should update themselves about assistance provided by NGOs.
- ❖ Parents should understand the importance of Modern Education for the girls, although Islamic education is very important, parents should try to amalgamate the modern education along with Islamic education so that modern education do not suffer.
- ❖ If there is any form of addiction in the family like Gambling, Alcohol, Tobacco, etc, it should be intervened as there are chances of it affecting the girls and their behavior. Also, addiction affects financial planning of the family as well.
- ❖ Parents should dedicate proper timings for the household chores, if it is inevitable, then specific timings should be reserved so that girls can plan out their schedule for studies.

- ❖ Child Labor in any form should be abolished as it takes away the entire childhood. Even if they are compelled to do some work, they should be provided skills like tailoring, stitching, mehndi, etc so that they can earn well.
- ❖ The habit of comparing one girl from another should be abolished as it drowns the morale of a girl. Effective ways to motivate girls to study further should be adopted by parents like rewarding the acceptable behavior, accepting academic performance as it is, helping them in improving the performance, etc.
- ❖ Parents should keep girls away from family disputes as it affects the performance. Social problems, economic problems and family problems should be kept away from girls.
- ❖ Parents should actively participate in parents-teachers meetings so that they can keep an update on the performance. Parents should take regular updates on factors like transportation, teacher's behavior, educational practices, etc. from girls. Effective inter personal relationship should be developed between parents and girls.
- ❖ Parents should inculcate practices for reducing the stress amongst girls. Stress management should be done at various stages so that stress free studies can be done at school.

Suggestions for Leaders of Muslim community

- ❖ In the very first place, Muslim community lacks role model. There are very few success stories which girls can relate to. There is a need to share more success stories within the community so that girls can get an inspiration.
- ❖ Book banks should be created within the community so that students can donate their books to the center and needy students can reuse it. These banks would help underprivileged students to get an easy access to the costly and expensive books.

- ❖ Regular interactive programs should be organized between students and pass out students. This will help students in getting firsthand knowledge from the immediate pass outs.
- ❖ Residential Madrassas should have dedicated classrooms for school education. These Madrassas should house Islamic education as well as contemporary education as well.
- ❖ Sensitization programs should be organized for boys on how to facilitate girl's education. At certain places, brothers, father shoulders the responsibility to see to it that girls get the suitable environment to study further and flourish themselves.
- ❖ Scheme to providing Quality Education in Madrassas (SPQEM) should be effectively merged with existing residential Madrassas, as most of them are only focusing on religious education. The effective technique should be designed for the use of this facility.
- ❖ During regular Friday sermons on regular basis, wherein girls education should be regularly talked about and also, about the availability of scholarship programs from different sources.
- ❖ The Proper distribution system of zakat (charity), which should be channelized in a proper and effective way, as large amount of zakat is distributed, but it is not utilized in a proper way. More and more zakat should be channelized for the need of education.
- ❖ Each prosperous Muslim family should be encouraged to at least adopt 1 girl for supporting her educational expenses. Adoption could be in terms of taking care of monthly or yearly expenses incurred.

Suggestions for Social Work Intervention

There is a need to plan social work intervention for Muslim girls empowerment, as that is the major pathway for the development of a underprivileged community. Social workers can plan

the strategies at individual, group and community level. Another dimension that needs to be added is that of a school social work system as that is one of the most effective ways to curb the menace of school drop-outs.

- ❖ Special School Intervention sessions should be conducted with the high-risk age group, and that is adolescent girls who complete SSC or HSC.
- ❖ Students are not aware of the scholarships which are available for them or they are not aware of the process of availing scholarship, hence social workers need to create awareness about the scholarship programs available for the girls as well as the community at large.
- ❖ Handling the minority issues requires special care and attention; hence sensitivity among the school teachers and authorities should be developed regarding the process of dealing with this.
- ❖ Social Work Research is one of the effective methods of understanding the issues faced by young Muslim girls. More and more research needs to be conducted to create a profiling of issues, as a result it will help in building a concrete plan of action for the upliftment of the community.
- ❖ There are certain community-centric issues that Muslim girls in general face, like getting married at an early age, restrictions from family regarding studies, not allowing to study further with a fear of not getting a married man for the marriage, etc. These issues need to be dealt with a separate approach. Only a social worker can plan out for these activities.
- ❖ The overall performance of Muslim boys is decreasing as large number of boys prefers to do business; hence they are less inclined to opt for higher education. Specialized efforts are required to combat these concerns.

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

- ❖ With the emergence of Company's Bill (2013), CSR has become an effective tool for dealing with community issues. As financial provisions have increased, more supporting programs should be organized.
- ❖ Regular teachers training programs should be organized by tying up with educational institutes like UCMAS.
- ❖ School adoption programs like companies adopting entire schools, often industries are located in remote locations, hence they adopt schools from nearby locations. As a result to this schools within the cities are neglected. Special provisions are required for schools located in the central places.

These suggestions are meant for various stakeholders of the girl's education. The dream of attaining equality in the field of education can be attained if all these stakeholders join their hands in making efforts.

Model for Promoting Increased Participation of Muslim Girls in Availing Education

- The foundation of the schooling should be strengthened from the primary schooling itself.
- Special training program for teachers to understand the needs of these girls and be more sensitive towards their needs.

Community leaders should be assigned the task of spreading the message that it is compulsory for the Muslim girls to avail formal schooling.

Support From Teachers in the Beginning of the Schooling

Increased Awareness in the Community Regarding Importance of Availing Formal Schooling

Strengthening of Girls School Support

Strong School Support Program to Strengthen the Learning Process

Support from Parents in terms of giving Proper Time for Girls to Study

Introducing special classes as they cannot afford to have private tuition classes.

Girl Child's dual responsibility of studying as well as helping parents in household chores becomes a challenge; hence parents should understand the need of providing quality time for studying.

Strengthening of the girl child education system needs special efforts on the part of all the stakeholders involved. These stakeholders are categorized as:

- ❖ School Administrative System
- ❖ School Teachers
- ❖ Parents of Girl Child
- ❖ Community Leaders

All of these stakeholders plays very important role in strengthening the school support system.

It is observed from the study that a large number of girls is weak in studies as they feel that they are not given required attention from their parents. Most of their time is spent in household chores, which are the reason they are unable to give proper time to the studies.

It is noted on the school administrative part that presence of male teachers in the school, at times brings about discomfort among the girls. They are more comfortable with having female teachers.

Most of the girls are commuting to school by walk, hence there is a need to increase the security of these girls in terms of accessing the school by having all weather roads.

It can be safely said that girls students will only prosper when there is a collaborative as well as integrative development approach from all the parties.