# CHAPTER-5

# DATA ANALYSIS

## 1. Introduction

The present chapter deals with the results and findings of the research study. The data for the present study has been collected through the Interview Schedule, and the collected data was analyzed by using SPSS (Software Package for Social Sciences). Frequency, significant values, Correlation, Percentage etc. were calculated by the researcher in order to answer the research questions, research hypothesis and other related research aspects.

## 2. Results related to answering &discussing the research questions

### Question: 1 Factors affecting sex ratio in the selected districts of Gujarat

1.1) what are the important reasons responsible for declining sex ratio in Gujarat state?

The answer to this question lies in (Table: 14 and Graph: 10)

***(Table: 14) Reasons affecting sex ratio***

| Reasons Affecting Sex Ratio | Percentage | Ranking |
|---|---|---|
| Dowry | 48.0% | 5 |
| Modern Sex Determination and Female Foeticide | 57.0% | 3 |
| Family Planning Methods | 34.5% | 7 |
| Migration | 54.0% | 4 |
| Religion | 62.5% | 2 |
| Son Preference | 71.0% | 1 |
| Poverty | 47.0% | 6 |

***(Graph: 10)***

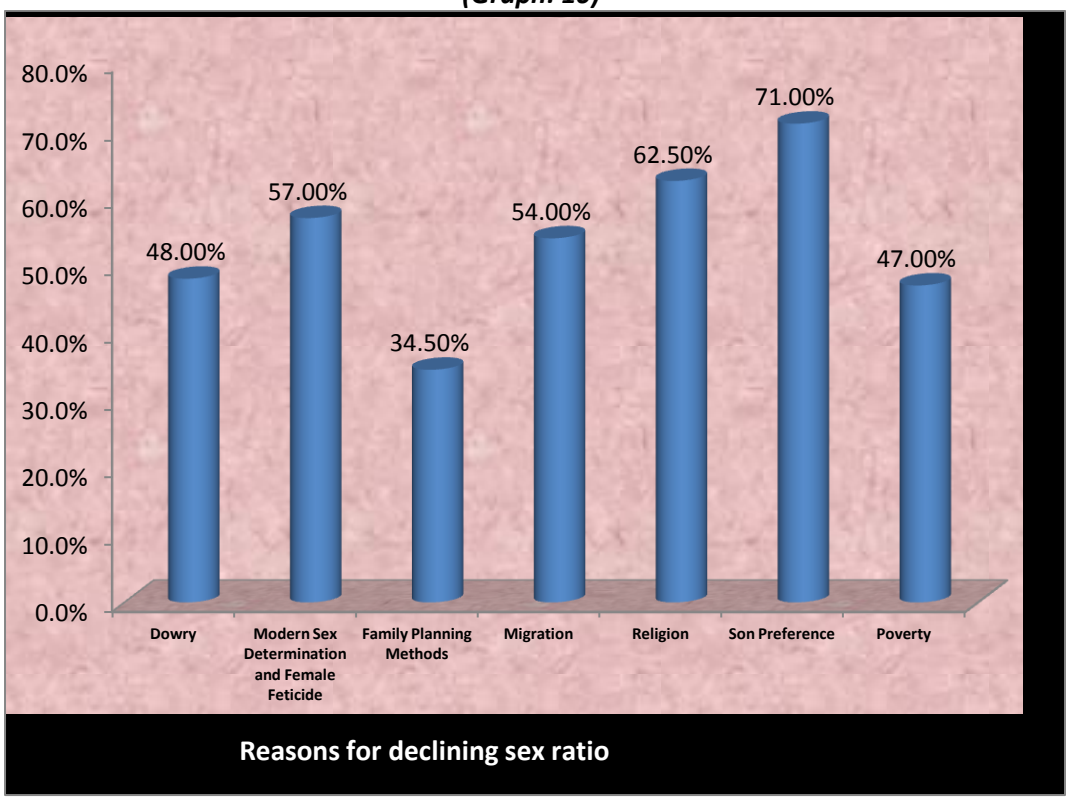



Table 14 and Graph 10 show that there are seven important factors namely; dowry, modern sex determination & female foeticide, family planning methods and practices, migration, religion, son preference and poverty are found to be the important factors responsible for the problem of declining sex ratio in Mahesana in particular and Gujarat in general. 71% respondents said that son preference is at the top and important factor for skewed sex ratio along with religion (62.5%) at 2nd rank, modern sex determination and female foeticide with (57.0%) were at 3rd rank, migration (54.0%) was at 4th rank, dowry with (48.0%) at 5th rank, poverty was at 6th rank having total (47.0%) and family planning Methods (34.5%) was at 7th place.

The above table explains that all these factors are contributing to the decline in the sex ratio of Mahesana in particular and Gujarat in general, directly and indirectly. But the important factor which is disturbing the sex ratio more is the feeling of son preference among the respondents.

1.2) What are the reasons for son preference by the parents?

The answer of this question lies in the (Table: 15 and Graph: 11)

***(Table: 15) Reasons for son preference***

| **Advantages of Having Son Child** | **Percentage** | **Ranking** |
|---|---|---|
| ECONOMIC | | |
| Son supports the parents economically in old age. | 69.5% | 2 |
| After marriage son brings dowry to the home | 63.0% | 3 |
| SOCIO CULTURAL | | |
| Son is responsible for continuation of the family line | 74.5% | 1 |
| Birth of son increases the status of parents in society | 34.5% | 4 |
| Son is only caretaker of parental property | 28.5% | 6 |
| RELIGIOUS | | |
| Parents attain heaven after death only if they have a son. | 34.0% | 5 |
| Son performs the last rites of the parents | 28.5% | 6 |

**(Graph: 11)**

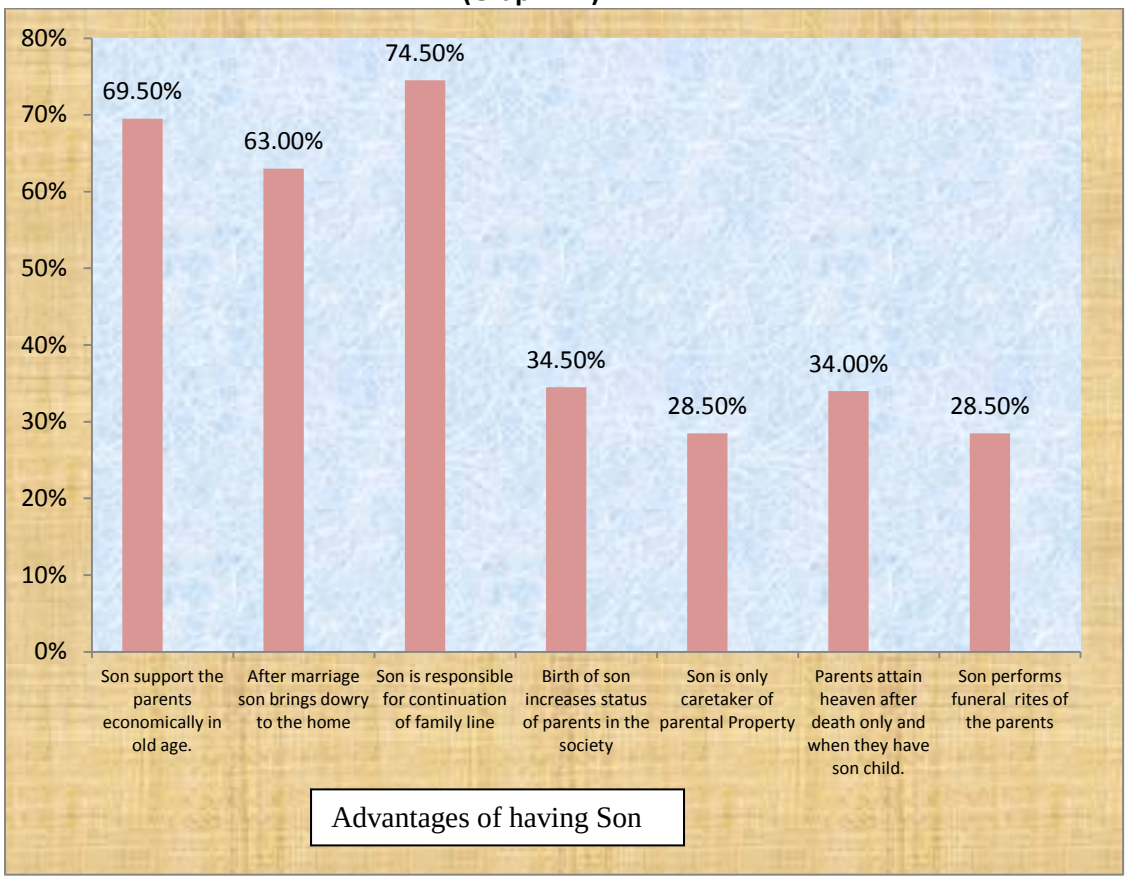



Table 15 and Graph 11 reveal that son preference is an important factor responsible for declining sex ratio in Mahesana. The table explains that majority of the parents want to have a son child for various purposes: such as son is responsible for continuation of family line (74.5%); son supports the parents in old age (69.5%); after marriage son brings dowry to home with (63.0%); birth of son increases the status of the family in the society (34.5%); parents attain heaven after death if they have a son (34.0%) and son performs the last rites of the parents (28.5%). All these factors suggest that a strong son preference feeling exists among the respondents.

1.3) what are the advantages for having girl child in family?

The answer of this question lies in (Table: 16 and Graph 12)

***(Table: 16) Advantages of having a girl child***

| Statements/Advantages | Percentage | Ranking |
|---|---|---|
| Girls assist in household chores | 64.5% | 2 |
| Girls required for continuing family line | 59.5% | 3 |
| Girls are essential during festivities | 33.0% | 6 |
| For the purpose of kanyadan so as to attain heaven | 42.5% | 5 |
| Assist parents in old age when son does not assist | 49.0% | 4 |
| Girls work at farm | 89.0% | 1 |

**(Graph: 12)**

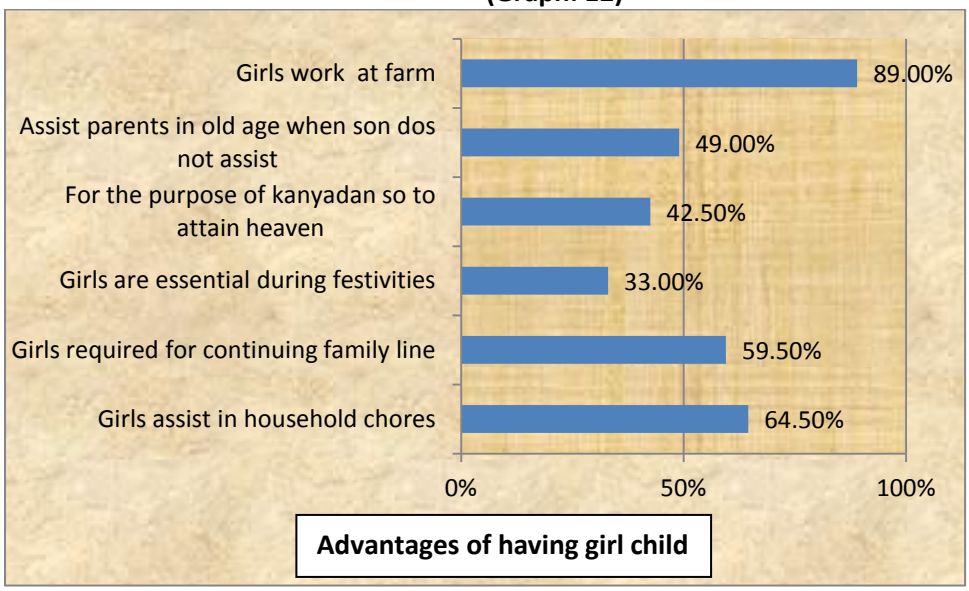



Table 16 and Graph 12 show that 70% of the respondents want a girl child in their family. Various reasons are given by the respondents for this desire. Many rural parents feel that girls are require to help or work at farm (89%); girls assist in household chores (64.5%); girls are required for the continuation of the family line (59.5%). Many of the parents who don't have girl child wanted at least one

girl child because of the ill treatment and no financial support or assistance they are getting from the son child (49.0%). 42.5% felt that “kanyadan” helped to attain heaven and 33.0% for the essentiality of girls at the time of festivities etc.

1.4) What are the reasons for which people don’t want girl child in their family?

***(Table: 17) Reasons for not wanting a girl child***

| Reasons for Neglect of Girl Child | Percentage | Ranking |
|---|---|---|
| Economic | | |
| Parents feel insecure in old age if they have a girl child . | 50.5% | 6 |
| Girls are considered as an economic liability & wasteful expenditure because they get married and give their services to others | 45.5% | 7 |
| Lacking of financial help from girl side in future to parents during any emergency | 52.0% | 4 |
| Socio-cultural | | |
| Female child considered as a symbol of low social status of parents in society | 54.5% | 3 |
| Social Insecurity | 64.5% | 2 |
| Parents have to give dowry to a daughter | 44.5% | 8 |
| Religious | | |
| Girls do not perform funeral rites of the parents | 54.5% | 3 |
| Psychological | | |
| Parents always worry about the future of their female child | 83.0% | 1 |
| Parents face mental and psychological pressure from girl child | 51.0% | 5 |

***(Graph: 13)***

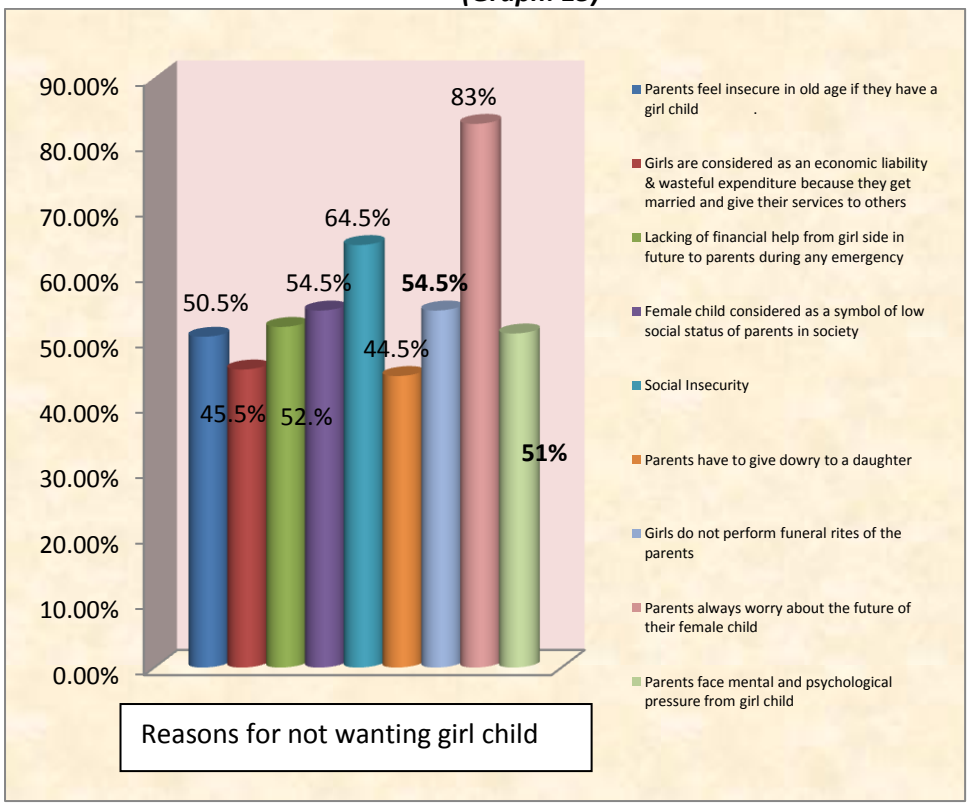



Table 17 and Graph 13 show that a majority of the respondents (83%) don't want a girl child because they have the psychological fear whereby they always have to worry about the future of their female child. 64.5% of respondents perceived the social insecurity as factor for not wanting girl child in their family. Girls not performing funeral rites of the parents, and female child considered as symbol of low social status for parents in the society were two other important factors for not wanting a girl child (54.5%). Lacking of financial help from girls side in future to parents during any emergency, parents facing mental and psychological pressure from a girl child, girls being considered as an economic liability & wasteful expenditure because they get married give their services to others, parents have to give dowry to daughter were some other factors perceived by the respondents for not wanting a girl child in their family and community.

**Question: 2 The Consequences of declining sex ratio**

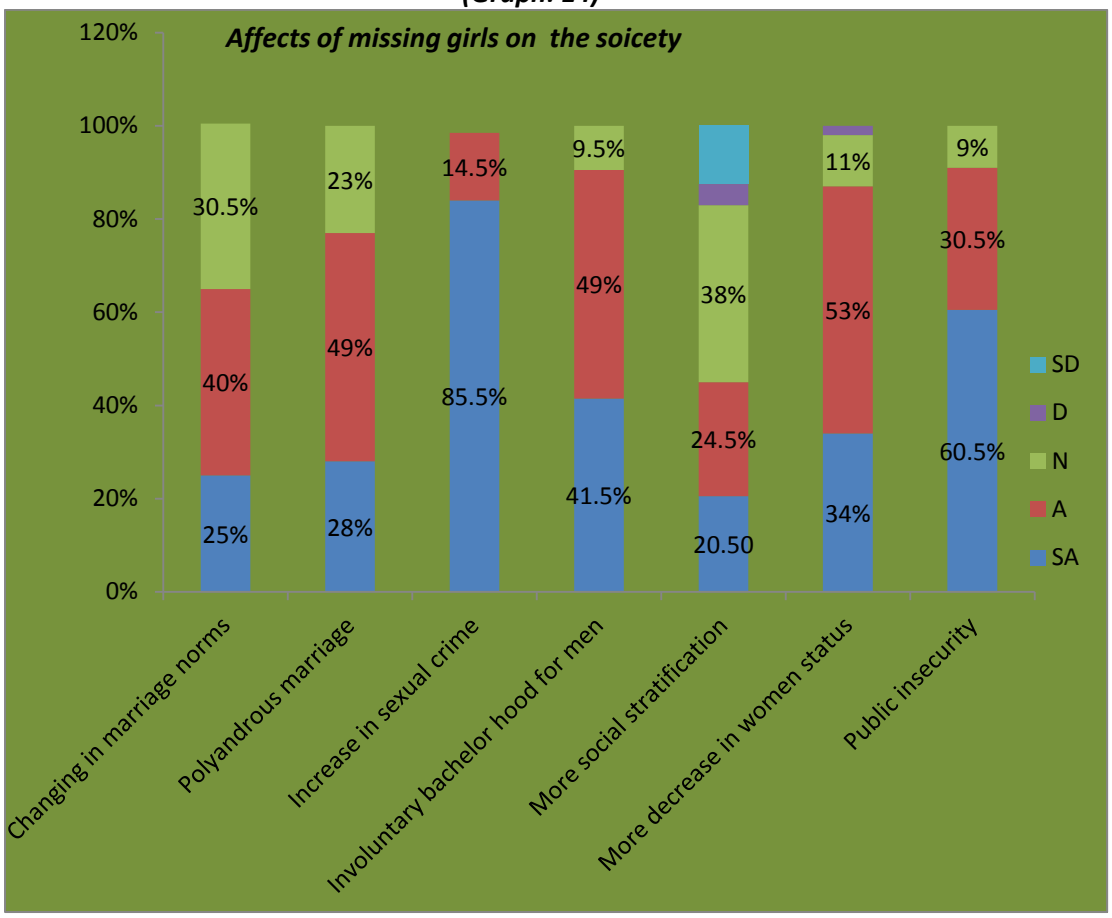
2.1) Do you think that declining sex ratio has negative consequences on your community in particular and the society in general?

Answer to this Question lies in table number 18 which shows that all 200 (100%) respondents agreed that declining ratio of female is creating negative consequences particularly in their community and area.

2.2) What are the affects of Missing women or girls on society?

Answer: Answer to this question lies in Table: 18 and Graph: 14

***(Graph: 14)***



***(Table: 18) Views of respondents on effects of missing women/girls on the society***

| Do you think that declining sex ratio has negative consequences on your community in particular and the society in general? | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Yes | 200 (100%) | | | | |
| What are the affects of Missing women or Girls on the society? | | | | | |
| | SA | A | N | D | SD |
| Change in marriage norms | 50 (25%) | 80 (40%) | 61 (30.5%) | -- | 9 (4.5%) |
| Polyandrous marriage | 56 (28%) | 98 (49%) | 46 (23%) | -- | -- |
| Increase in sexual crimes | 171 (85.5%) | 29 (14.5%) | -- | -- | -- |
| Involuntary bachelorhood for men | 83 (41.5%) | 98 (49%) | 19 (9.5%) | -- | -- |
| More social stratification | 41 (20.5%) | 49 (24.5%) | 76 (38%) | 9 (4.5%) | 25 (12.5%) |
| More decrease in status of women | 68 (34%) | 106 (53%) | 22 (11%) | 4 (2%) | -- |
| Public insecurity | 121 (60.5%) | 61 (30.5%) | 18 (9%) | -- | -- |

Table: 18 and Graph: 14 show that all 200 respondents agreed that declining sex ratio is creating negative implications on their community in particular and area in general. They rated increase in sexual crime (84%) as a major implication of declining sex ratio. (60%) of respondents highlighted public insecurity; (53%) felt there was more decrease in the status of women; Involuntary bachelorhood for men was another important implication highlighted by 49% of respondents; possibilities of increasing in the number of polyandrous marriages, change in family norms and more social stratification were other important negative implications highlighted and agreed upon by the respondents.

## 3) Results related to the examinining of the hypotheses

a) There is no significant relationship between caste and factors of declining sex ratio.

***(Table:19) Caste and Modern technology of sex determination and female foeticide***

| Caste | Modern technology of Sex determination and female foeticide. | | | | Frequency /Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | SA | A | N | D | |
| SC | 6<br>46.2% | 3<br>23.1% | 1<br>7.7% | 3<br>23.1% | 13<br>100.0% |
| ST | 6<br>40.0% | 3<br>20.0% | 5<br>33.3% | 1<br>6.7% | 15<br>100.0% |
| OBC | 23<br>46.9% | 13<br>26.5% | 11<br>22.4% | 2<br>4.1% | 49<br>100.0% |
| Gen | 79<br>64.2% | 26<br>21.1% | 14<br>11.4% | 4<br>3.3% | 123<br>100.0% |
| Total | 114<br>57.0% | 45<br>22.5% | 31<br>15.5% | 10<br>5.0% | 200<br>100.0% |

| Pearson Chi-Square | Df | p value |
|---|---|---|
| 19.400 | 9 | .022 |

Overall caste wise out of 200 respondents, 114 (57.0%) have strongly agreed and underlined modern technology of sex determination and female foeticide as responsible factors for the declining sex ratio in Mahesana in particular and Gujarat in general. Out of 123 respondents, 79 (64.2%) strongly agreed and 26 (21.1%) agreed upon this factor from the general caste. On the other hand out of 13 respondents from SC only 6 (46.2%) and from ST only 6 (40.0%) out of 15 respondents have strongly agreed upon this factor. Comparing the responses of the respondents from different caste background, it has been found in the study that respondents from general caste are more aware about the use of modern technology of sex determinations and female foeticide in comparison to those respondents who belongs to SC and ST Castes. Thus, our hypothesis that *"There*

*is no relationship between caste and modern technology of sex determinations and female foeticide as a factor for declining sex ratio"* is **"Rejected"**

b) There is no significant relationship between education and factors for declining sex ratio.

| ***(Table:20) Education and Modern technology of sex determination and female foeticide*** | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Education | Modern technology of Sex determination and female foeticide. S | | | | Frequency/ Percentage |
| | SA | A | N | D | |
| Literate | 20<br>55.6% | 1<br>2.8% | 10<br>27.8% | 5<br>13.9% | 36<br>100.0% |
| Primary | 9<br>25.0% | 10<br>27.8% | 13<br>36.1% | 4<br>11.1% | 36<br>100.0% |
| Secondary | 11<br>23.9% | 26<br>56.5% | 8<br>17.4% | 1<br>2.2% | 46<br>100.0% |
| Graduate | 74<br>90.2% | 8<br>9.8% | 0<br>.0% | 0<br>.0% | 82<br>100.0% |
| Total | 114<br>57.0% | 45<br>22.5% | 31<br>15.5% | 10<br>5.0% | 200<br>100.0% |

| Pearson Chi-Square | Df | p value |
|---|---|---|
| 106.863 | 9 | .000 |

Out of 200 respondents, 114 respondents (57%) have strongly agreed upon modern technology of sex determination and female foeticide. Data of the table revealed that 74 i.e. (90.2%) respondents out of 82 with graduate level of educational qualification strongly agreed upon the factor whereas respondents from other different educational levels have shown less agreement with the factor. After comparing different educational backgrounds of respondents in the study it was found that respondents with higher education are much more aware about the use of modern technology of sex determination and female foeticide. Respondents with lower educational level were found to be less aware about these techniques of sex determination. Hence, our hypothesis that *"There is no significant*

*relationship between education and modern technology of sex determination and female foeticide as factor for declining sex ratio"* is **"Rejected"**

***(Table: 21) Education and Family Planning Methods and Practices***

| Education | Family Planning Methods and practices | | | | Frequency/ Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | SA | A | N | D | |
| Literate | 1<br>2.8% | 15<br>41.7% | 14<br>38.9% | 6<br>16.7% | 36<br>100.0% |
| Primary | 11<br>30.6% | 12<br>33.3% | 4<br>11.1% | 9<br>25.0% | 36<br>100.0% |
| Secondary | 15<br>32.6% | 10<br>21.7% | 18<br>39.1% | 3<br>6.5% | 46<br>100.0% |
| Graduate | 24<br>29.3% | 14<br>17.1% | 33<br>40.2% | 11<br>13.4% | 82<br>100.0% |
| Total | 51<br>25.5% | 51<br>25.5% | 69<br>34.5% | 29<br>14.5% | 200<br>100.0% |

| Pearson Chi-Square | df | p value |
|---|---|---|
| 28.032 | 9 | .001 |

Table no: (21) reveals that family planning methods and practices accepted and strongly agreed upon by the respondents in the study. Out of 200 respondents, 102 (50.0%) have agreed upon this factor to be responsible for the problem of sex ratio in Mahesana in particular and Gujarat in general. Out of 82 respondents from graduate background 24 (29.3%) strongly agreed, 14 (17.1%) generally agreed and 33 (40.2%) partially or neutrally accepted the factor. On the other hand, 36 respondents from literate background only 1 (2.8%) strongly agreed, 15 (41.7%) agreed and 14 (38.9%) neutrally agreed upon the factor. After comparing different educational background of the respondents it was found that at all the levels respondents had awareness about the use of family planning methods but it was found higher at a higher educational level. Thus, it can be concluded that awareness about use of family planning methods varies with educational level. Hence, our hypothesis that *"There is no significant relationship between education and family planning methods and practices as factor for declining sex ratio"* is **"Rejected"**.

***(Table: 22) Education and Migration***

| Education | Migration | | | | Frequency/ Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | SA | A | N | D | |
| Literate | 5<br>13.9% | 8<br>22.2% | 21<br>58.3% | 2<br>5.6% | 36<br>100.0% |
| Primary | 0<br>0% | 18<br>50.0% | 8<br>22.2% | 10<br>27.8% | 36<br>100.0% |
| Secondary | 2<br>4.3% | 10<br>21.7% | 22<br>47.8% | 12<br>26.1% | 46<br>100.0% |
| Graduate | 5<br>6.1% | 12<br>14.6% | 57<br>69.5% | 8<br>9.8% | 82<br>100.0% |
| Total | 12<br>6.0% | 48<br>24.0% | 108<br>54.0% | 32<br>16.0% | 200<br>100.0% |

| Pearson Chi-Square | Df | p value |
|---|---|---|
| 40.722 | 9 | .000 |

Out of the 200 respondents from different educational backgrounds in the study, 108 (54.0%) had partially or neutrally accepted and agreed on migration as a factor for declining sex ratio in Mahesana in particular. Out of 82 respondents from graduate background, 6.1% strongly agreed, 14.6% agreed and 69.5% partially agreed over the factor for the problem. On the other hand out of 36 respondents from literate background 13.9% strongly agreed, 22.2% agreed and 58.3% partially agreed and accepted the factor. Comparing these two levels it has been concluded that educational background determines directly or indirectly the rate of migration in any given society.

Hence, our hypothesis that *"There is no significant relationship between education and migration as one of the factors for declining sex ratio"* is **"Rejected"**.

***(Table: 23) Education and Religion***

| Education | Religion | | | | Frequency/ Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | SA | A | N | D | |
| Literate | 5<br>13.9% | 12<br>33.3% | 19<br>52.8% | 0<br>0% | 36<br>100.0% |
| Primary | 1<br>2.8% | 19<br>52.8% | 14<br>38.9% | 2<br>5.6% | 36<br>100.0% |
| Secondary | 4<br>8.7% | 2<br>4.3% | 38<br>82.6% | 2<br>4.3% | 46<br>100.0% |
| Graduate | 12<br>14.6% | 11<br>13.4% | 54<br>65.9% | 5<br>6.1% | 82<br>100.0% |
| Total | 22<br>11.0% | 44<br>22.0% | 125<br>62.5% | 9<br>4.5% | 200<br>100.0% |

| Pearson Chi-Square | Df | p value |
|---|---|---|
| 39.613 | 9 | .000 |

In the present study religion is found to be one of the factors which has indirectly affected the sex ratio. Out of the 200 respondents from different educational backgrounds, 62.5% have partially or neutrally accepted and agreed upon religious ideas, values, beliefs, customs and practices etc. to be responsible for the problem. Out of 82 graduate respondents, 14.6% strongly agreed, 13.4% agreed and 65.9% partially agreed upon the factor. Out of 36 literate respondents (13.9%) strongly agreed, 33.3% agreed and 52.8% partially agreed upon the factor. From the above data it has been concluded that religion and its related ideas, values, beliefs, customs and practices are accepted and followed by all people irrespective of their educational background. In some cases some people with higher education may believe and give more importance to religious ideas and practices some do not. Thus, education directly or indirectly determines the rate of accepting and following of religious ideas and practices by the people.

Hence, our hypothesis that "*There is no significant relationship between education and religion as one of the factors for declining sex ratio"* is **"Rejected"**.

***(Table: 24) Education and Son Preference***

| Education | Son preference | | | | | Frequency / Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | SA | A | N | D | SD | |
| Literate | 20<br>55.6% | 1<br>2.8% | 7<br>19.4% | 5<br>13.9% | 3<br>8.3% | 36<br>100.0% |
| Primary | 34<br>94.4% | 0<br>0% | 1<br>2.8% | 0<br>0% | 1<br>2.8% | 36<br>100.0% |
| Secondary | 45<br>97.8% | 1<br>2.2% | 0<br>0% | 0<br>0% | 0<br>0% | 46<br>100.0% |
| Graduate | 43<br>52.4% | 9<br>11.0% | 21<br>25.6% | 4<br>4.9% | 5<br>6.1% | 82<br>100.0% |
| Total | 142<br>71.0% | 11<br>5.5% | 29<br>14.5% | 9<br>4.5% | 9<br>4.5% | 200<br>100.0% |

| Pearson Chi-Square | df | p value |
|---|---|---|
| 52.883 | 12 | .000 |

Out of 200, 142 respondents (71.0%) from different educational background have strongly agreed upon son preference as an important factor for the declining number of females in Mahesana district of Gujarat. At graduate level, out of 82, 43 respondents (52.4%) have strongly agreed over the factor while at literate level, out of 36, 20 respondents (55.6%) strongly agreed over the factor. Respondents with primary education (94.4%) and secondary education (97.8%) have strongly agreed and accepted son preference to be one of the factors responsible for the problem. Comparing different levels of education, it has been found in the study that respondents with less education have agreed more over the factor than respondents with a higher educational level. Thus it can be concluded that at all educational level there exists the feeling of son preference among the parents or couples and it varies with education.

Hence, our hypothesis that *"There is no significant relationship between education and son preference as one of the factor for declining sex ratio"* is **"Rejected".**

***(Table: 25) Education and Poverty***

| Education | Poverty | | | | Frequency/ Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | SA | A | N | D | |
| Literate | 15<br>41.7% | 1<br>2.8% | 17<br>47.2% | 3<br>8.3% | 36<br>100.0% |
| Primary | 10<br>27.8% | 18<br>50.0% | 7<br>19.4% | 1<br>2.8% | 36<br>100.0% |
| Secondary | 6<br>13.0% | 33<br>71.7% | 7<br>15.2% | 0<br>0% | 46<br>100.0% |
| Graduate | 0<br>0% | 14<br>17.1% | 63<br>76.8% | 5<br>6.1% | 82<br>100.0% |
| Total | 31<br>15.5% | 66<br>33.0% | 94<br>47.0% | 9<br>4.5% | 200<br>100.0% |

| Pearson Chi-Square | Df | p value |
|---|---|---|
| 107.807 | 9 | .000 |

Out of 200, 97 respondents (48.5%) from different educational background agreed and strongly agreed over poverty factor to be responsible for declining sex ratio. Out of 36 respondents, 15 from literate background with (41.7%) strongly agreed and accepted poverty as one of the factors for the problem. On the other hand among graduate respondents, out of 82 nobody showed strong acceptance over the factor. Comparing these two educational levels, it has been found in the study that respondents with less education have shown much more consideration and acceptance for poverty as a factor than respondents with higher education. Thus, it can be concluded that poverty is very much associated with education which decides the number of girls in the family.

Hence, our hypothesis that *"There is no significant relationship between education as variable and poverty as one of the important factor for declining sex ratio"* is **"Rejected".**

c) There is no significant relationship between family and factors for declining sex ratio

***(Table: 26) Family and Modern Technology of Sex determination and Female Foeticide***

| Family | Modern technology of Sex determination and female foeticide. | | | | Frequency/ Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | SA | A | N | D | |
| Nuclear | 54<br>49.1% | 21<br>19.1% | 26<br>23.6% | 9<br>8.2% | 110<br>100.0% |
| Joint | 60<br>66.7% | 24<br>26.7% | 5<br>5.6% | 1<br>1.1% | 90<br>100.0% |
| Total | 114<br>57.0% | 45<br>22.5% | 31<br>15.5% | 10<br>5.0% | 200<br>100.0% |

| Pearson Chi-Square | Df | p value |
|---|---|---|
| 19.335 | 3 | .000 |

If we consider the overall family structure table (26) shows that out of 200 respondents, 114 respondents from both nuclear and joint families 57.0% have strongly agreed upon modern technology of sex determinations and female foeticide as important factors for the problem of declining sex ratio. Out of 110 respondents from nuclear families, 54 i.e. (49.1%) have strongly agreed upon the factor. At joint family structure if we see we it has been found that out of total 90 respondents, 60 respondents with (66.7%) have strongly agreed over the factor. Comparing at both the levels, it was found that sensitivity towards modern technology of sex determination and female foeticide exists but it has been found higher among those respondents who belong to joint families. Thus, it may be concluded that perceptions of the people vary directly or indirectly in accordance with their family structure.

Hence, our hypothesis that *"There is no significant relationship between family as variable and modern sex determinations and female foeticide as important factors for declining sex ratio"* is **"Rejected".**

***(Table: 27) Family and Family Planning Methods and Practices***

| Family | Family Planning Methods and Practices | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | SA | A | N | D | Frequency/ Percentage |
| Nuclear | 19<br>17.3% | 27<br>24.5% | 35<br>31.8% | 29<br>26.4% | 110<br>100.0% |
| Joint | 32<br>35.6% | 24<br>26.7% | 34<br>37.8% | 0<br>0% | 90<br>100.0% |
| Total | 51<br>25.5% | 51<br>25.5% | 69<br>34.5% | 29<br>14.5% | 200<br>100.0% |

| Pearson Chi-Square | Df | p value |
|---|---|---|
| 30.813 | 3 | .000 |

Family structure wise out of 200 respondents, 102 (50.0%) respondents strongly agreed and agreed & accepted family planning methods and practices to be one of the factors responsible for declining sex ratio in Mahesana in particular and Gujarat in general. At nuclear family structure out of 110 respondents, 19(17.3%), 27 (24.5%) and 35 (31.8%) have strongly agreed, agreed and neutrally agreed upon the factor. At joint family structure out of 90 respondents, 32 (35.6%) strongly agreed, 24 (26.7%) agreed and 34 (37.8%) partially agreed upon the factor. Comparing at both the levels it was found that respondents from joint family structure were found to be more aware and sensitized about the use of family planning methods and practices than respondents from nuclear families. Thus it can be concluded that awareness and sensitivity towards the use of family planning methods and practices varies slightly from one family to another.

Hence, our hypothesis that *"There is no significant relationship between family variable and family planning methods and practices as important factor for declining sex ratio"* is **"Rejected".**

***(Table: 28) Family and Migration***

| Family | Migration | | | | Frequency/ Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | SA | A | N | D | |
| Nuclear | 12<br>10.9% | 33<br>30.0% | 49<br>44.5% | 16<br>14.5% | 110<br>100.0% |
| Joint | 0<br>0% | 15<br>16.7% | 59<br>65.6% | 16<br>17.8% | 90<br>100.0% |
| Total | 12<br>6.0% | 48<br>24.0% | 108<br>54.0% | 32<br>16.0% | 200<br>100.0% |

| Pearson Chi-Square | Df | p value |
|---|---|---|
| 17.854 | 3 | .000 |

Out of 200 respondents, 108 respondents with (54.0%) have partially agreed upon migration as factor for declining sex ratio. Out of these 108 respondents (49) were from nuclear families and (59) were from joint families. On considering migration and nuclear family structure we found that out of 110 respondents 12 (10.9%), 33 (30.0%) and 49 (44.5%) have strongly agreed, agreed and partially agreed and accepted migration as important factor. At joint family structure level it has been found that out of 90 respondents 15 (16.7%) agreed and 59 (65.6%) have partially agreed upon the factor. Comparing at both levels it has been found and concluded that overall migration is an important factor for the declining sex ratio and is much more associated with nuclear families than with joint families.

Hence, our hypothesis that *"There is no significant relationship between family variable and migration which is an important factor for declining sex ratio"* is **"Rejected"**.

***(Table: 29) Family and Religion***

| Family | Religion | | | | Frequency/ Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | SA | A | N | D | |
| Nuclear | 13<br>11.8% | 37<br>33.6% | 51<br>46.4% | 9<br>8.2% | 110<br>100.0% |
| Joint | 9<br>10.0% | 7<br>7.8% | 74<br>82.2% | 0<br>0% | 90<br>100.0% |
| Total | 22<br>11.0% | 44<br>22.0% | 125<br>62.5% | 9<br>4.5% | 200<br>100.0% |

| Pearson Chi-Square | Df | p value |
|---|---|---|
| 32.741 | 3 | .000 |

Religious ideas, values, beliefs and customs are other important factors which are directly or indirectly responsible for the decline in the number of females in Indian society. Out of 200 respondents, 125 (62.5%) agreed upon the factor. Out of these 125, 51 respondents (46.4%) and 74 (82.2%) were from nuclear and joint families respectively. Data with regard to nuclear family structure reveals that out of 110 respondents, 13 (11.8%) strongly agreed, 37 (33.6%) agreed and 51 (46.4%) partially agreed upon religious ideas, values, beliefs and customs to be responsible for the declining sex ratio in Gujarat. Among the joint families out of 90 respondents 9 (10.0%) strongly agreed, 7 (7.8%) agreed and 74 (82.2%) partially agreed upon the factor as being responsible for the problem. Comparing at both the levels it was found that religious ideas and beliefs existed and were followed at both the levels but in the present study it was found to be slightly higher among the nuclear type families. Thus, our hypothesis that *"there is no significant relationship between family variable and religion and its ideas, values, practices as important factors for declining sex ratio"* is **"Rejected"**.

d) There is no significant relationship between income and factors for declining sex ratio.

***(Table: 30) Income and Dowry***

| Income (Rs) | Dowry | | | | | Frequency/ Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | SA | A | N | D | SD | |
| Less than 20,000 | 38<br>86.4% | 5<br>11.4% | 0<br>0% | 0<br>0% | 1<br>2.3% | 44<br>100.0% |
| 20,001-35,000 | 17<br>33.3% | 20<br>39.2% | 11<br>21.6% | 2<br>3.9% | 1<br>2.0% | 51<br>100.0% |
| 35,001-55,000 | 12<br>23.5% | 11<br>21.6% | 12<br>23.5% | 14<br>27.5% | 2<br>3.9% | 51<br>100.0% |
| Above 55,000 | 29<br>53.7% | 2<br>3.7% | 5<br>9.3% | 2<br>3.7% | 16<br>29.6% | 54<br>100.0% |
| Total | 96<br>48.0% | 38<br>19.0% | 28<br>14.0% | 18<br>9.0% | 20<br>10.0% | 200<br>100.0% |

| Pearson Chi-Square | df | p value |
|---|---|---|
| 109.085 | 12 | .000 |

Income as a variable and dowry as a factor for declining sex ratio reveal a close association. Out of 200 respondents, 96 respondents from different income groups (48.0%) had strongly agreed and 38 (19.0%) agreed upon dowry as a factor responsible for the problem. At different income levels, it was found that out of 44 respondents from less than Rs 20,000 income group, 86.4% strongly agreed and 11.4% agreed upon the factor. Out of 51 respondents from income group of Rs 20,001-35,000, 33.3% respondents strongly agreed and 39.2% respondents agreed upon the factor. Out of 51 respondents from income group of Rs 35,001-55,000, 23.5% respondents strongly agreed and 21.6% agreed upon the factor. Lastly, out of 54 respondents from income group of above RS 55,000, 53.7% respondents strongly agreed and 3.7% agreed upon the factor. After comparing all the income levels in the study it was found that at all income levels, dowry has been found to be important factor for the declining sex ratio. It was found that dowry, as a factor for skewed sex ratio is much more associated and accepted as factor by

respondents in lower income group. Thus, it can be said that the dowry factor varies with income in relation to declining sex ratio.

Hence, our hypothesis that *"There is no significant relationship between income variable and dowry as a factor for declining sex ratio"* is **"Rejected"**.

***(Table: 31) Income and Modern Technology of Sex Determination & Female Foeticide***

| Income (Rs) | Modern technology of Sex determination and female foeticide | | | | Frequency/ Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | SA | A | N | D | |
| Less than 20,000 | 1<br>2.3% | 12<br>27.3% | 21<br>47.7% | 10<br>22.7% | 44<br>100.0% |
| 20,001-35,000 | 25<br>49.0% | 16<br>31.4% | 10<br>19.6% | 0<br>0% | 51<br>100.0% |
| 35,001-55,000 | 34<br>66.7% | 17<br>33.3% | 0<br>0% | 0<br>0% | 51<br>100.0% |
| Above 55,000 | 54<br>100.0% | 0<br>0% | 0<br>0% | 0<br>0% | 54<br>100.0% |
| Total | 114<br>57.0% | 45<br>22.5% | 31<br>15.5% | 10<br>5.0% | 200<br>100.0% |

| Pearson Chi-Square | df | p value |
|---|---|---|
| 140.850 | 9 | .000 |

Table number 31 reveals that out of 200 respondents with different income groups 57.0% and 22.5% have strongly agreed and agreed upon the factor of modern technology of sex determination and female foeticide as important factors responsible for the problem of declining sex ratio in Mahesana district. Out of 114 respondents from different income groups respondents from income group of above Rs 55,000 (54%) strongly agreed upon the factor with highest percentage whereas respondents from income group of less than Rs 20,000 agreed the least upon the factor. Comparing these two income levels, it was found that respondents from higher income group were found to be much more aware about the use of different sex determination techniques and because of their financial condition

they could use these techniques which lead to female foeticide. Thus it can be said that income level determines the use of modern technology of sex determination. Hence, our hypothesis that *"There is no significant relationship between income variable and modern technology of sex determination which leads to female foeticide as factor responsible for declining sex ratio"* is **"Rejected"**.

***(Table: 32) Income and Family Planning Methods and Practices***

| Income (Rs) | Family Planning Methods and practices | | | | Frequency /Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | SA | A | N | D | |
| Less than 20,000 | 10<br>22.7% | 18<br>40.9% | 5<br>11.4% | 11<br>25.0% | 44<br>100.0% |
| 20,001-35,000 | 12<br>23.5% | 12<br>23.5% | 21<br>41.2% | 6<br>11.8% | 51<br>100.0% |
| 35,001-55,000 | 19<br>37.3% | 9<br>17.6% | 22<br>43.1% | 1<br>2.0% | 51<br>100.0% |
| Above 55,000 | 10<br>18.5% | 12<br>22.2% | 21<br>38.9% | 11<br>20.4% | 54<br>100.0% |
| Total | 51<br>25.5% | 51<br>25.5% | 69<br>34.5% | 29<br>14.5% | 200<br>100.0% |

| Pearson Chi-Square | Df | p value |
|---|---|---|
| 28.954 | 9 | .001 |

Out of 200, 102 respondents (50.0%) agreed and strongly agreed upon family planning methods and practices. Out of 44 respondents from income group of less than Rs 20,000, 22.7% respondents strongly agreed and 40.9% agreed upon the factor to be responsible. Out of 54 respondents from income group of above Rs 55,000, 18.5% strongly agreed and 22.2% agreed upon the factor. After comparing both the levels it was found that at both the levels there was higher utilization of family planning methods and practices. In the present study people from low income background are found to be more sensitized towards family planning methods and practices. Thus, it can be concluded that majority of people

belonging to different income groups are aware about the various family planning methods and practices. What is determined by income as variable is the utilization of family planning methods for restricting unwanted birth because of their low financial condition. Therefore, income directly and indirectly determines the utilization of family planning methods and practices by people. Hence, our hypothesis that *"There is no significant relationship between income variable and family planning methods as important factor for declining sex ratio"* is **"Rejected"**.

***(Table: 33) Income and Migration***

| Income (Rs) | Migration | | | | Frequency/ Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | SA | A | N | D | |
| Less than 20,000 | 1<br>2.3% | 22<br>50.0% | 14<br>31.8% | 7<br>15.9% | 44<br>100.0% |
| 20,001-35,000 | 1<br>2.0% | 9<br>17.6% | 28<br>54.9% | 13<br>25.5% | 51<br>100.0% |
| 35,001-55,000 | 5<br>9.8% | 12<br>23.5% | 23<br>45.1% | 11<br>21.6% | 51<br>100.0% |
| Above 55,000 | 5<br>9.3% | 5<br>9.3% | 43<br>79.6% | 1<br>1.9% | 54<br>100.0% |
| Total | 12<br>6.0% | 48<br>24.0% | 108<br>54.0% | 32<br>16.0% | 200<br>100.0% |

| Pearson Chi-Square | Df | p value |
|---|---|---|
| 44.685 | 9 | .000 |

Migration as one of the factors for declining sex ratio was found to be partially accepted and agreed upon by 108 respondents (54.0%) out of 200 respondents in the study. Out of 44 respondents from income group of less than Rs 20,000, 50.0% have agreed upon and accepted migration as a factor responsible for the problem. Out of 54 respondents from income group of above Rs 55,000 only 9.3% have agreed upon the factor. After comparing at all the income levels it was found that migration is observable among all the respondents belonging to different income groups. In this study it was found that migration rate was slightly higher among the respondents from income group of less than Rs 20,000 in comparison to those with higher income groups. Thus it, can be said that income as variable

determines the rate of migration in a family or a community. There are many possibilities in the pattern of migration which are associated with the income of people. Like, there may be chances or no chances of migration among those people who belong to high income class. On the other hand, there will be more possibility of migration of an individual who belongs from low income group.

Hence, our hypothesis that *"There is no significant relationship between income variable and migration as one factor responsible for declining sex ratio*" is **"Rejected".**

***(Table: 34) Income and Son Preference***

| Income (Rs) | Son preference | | | | | Frequency/ Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | SA | A | N | D | SD | |
| Less than 20,000 | 44<br>100.0% | 0<br>0% | 0<br>0% | 0<br>0% | 0<br>0% | 44<br>100.0% |
| 20,001-35,000 | 49<br>96.1% | 2<br>3.9% | 0<br>0% | 0<br>0% | 0<br>0% | 51<br>100.0% |
| 35,001-55,000 | 33<br>64.7% | 3<br>5.9% | 13<br>25.5% | 2<br>3.9% | 0<br>0% | 51<br>100.0% |
| Above 55,000 | 16<br>29.6% | 6<br>11.1% | 16<br>29.6% | 7<br>13.0% | 9<br>16.7% | 54<br>100.0% |
| Total | 142<br>71.0% | 11<br>5.5% | 29<br>14.5% | 9<br>4.5% | 9<br>4.5% | 200<br>100.0% |

| Pearson Chi-Square | Df | p value |
|---|---|---|
| 92.576 | 12 | .000 |

The above table 34 reveals that out of 200 respondents belonging to different levels of income groups, 142 respondents (71.0%) have strongly agreed upon and accepted son preference as an important factor responsible for declining sex ratio. All the 44 respondents from income group of less than Rs 20,000 (100.0%) strongly agreed upon and accepted the factor. On the other hand, out of 54 respondents from income group of above Rs 55,000 only 16 respondents (29.6%) have shown their positive response for the factor. Comparing the responses of the respondents at various income levels it was found in the study that son preference

found to be more visible and influential among lower and middle income group respondents. Therefore, it can be concluded that son preference exists among majority of parents but its frequency varies with income. Hence, our hypothesis that *"There is no significant relationship between income as a variable and son preference as one of the factor responsible for declining sex ratio"* is **"Rejected"**

***(Table: 35) Income and Poverty***

| Income (Rs) | Poverty | | | | Frequency/ Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | SA | A | N | SD | |
| Less than 20,000 | 29<br>65.9% | 15<br>34.1% | 0<br>0% | 0<br>0% | 44<br>100.0% |
| 20,001-35,000 | 2<br>3.9% | 30<br>58.8% | 19<br>37.3% | 0<br>0% | 51<br>100.0% |
| 35,001-55,000 | 0<br>0% | 21<br>41.2% | 30<br>58.8% | 0<br>0% | 51<br>100.0% |
| Above 55,000 | 0<br>0% | 0<br>0% | 45<br>83.3% | 9<br>16.7% | 54<br>100.0% |
| Total | 31<br>15.5% | 66<br>33.0% | 94<br>47.0% | 9<br>4.5% | 200<br>100.0% |

| Pearson Chi-Square | Df | p value |
|---|---|---|
| 184.723 | 9 | .000 |

Table number 35 highlights the existing relationship between income as a variable and poverty as a factor for the declining sex ratio. Out of 200 respondents from different income groups, 97 respondents (48.5%) have shown positive response towards poverty as a factor for the problem. Out of 44 respondents (65.9%) from the income of group of less than Rs 20,000, strongly agreed and accepted poverty as a factor responsible for the problem of skewed sex ratio. Out of 54 respondents from income group of above Rs 55,000 no one strongly agreed or accepted the factor. After comparing these two higher and lower income levels it was found that poverty was a factor responsible for the declining sex ratio. It was much more associated with respondents who belonged from low and middle income groups. Thus, it can be concluded that poverty is one of the factors responsible for declining sex ratio and is connected with the income of the people. Hence, our

hypothesis that *"There is no significant relationship between income as a variable and poverty one the factor for declining sex ratio"* is **"Rejected".**

***(Table: 36) Income and Religion***

| Income (Rs) | Religion | | | | Frequency/ Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | SA | A | N | D | |
| Less than 20,000 | 2<br>4.5% | 17<br>38.6% | 20<br>45.5% | 5<br>11.4% | 44<br>100.0% |
| 20,001-35,000 | 1<br>2.0% | 8<br>15.7% | 40<br>78.4% | 2<br>3.9% | 51<br>100.0% |
| 35,001-55,000 | 12<br>23.5% | 5<br>9.8% | 34<br>66.7% | 0<br>0% | 51<br>100.0% |
| Above 55,000 | 7<br>13.0% | 14<br>25.9% | 31<br>57.4% | 2<br>3.7% | 54<br>100.0% |
| Total | 22<br>11.0% | 44<br>22.0% | 125<br>62.5% | 9<br>4.5% | 200<br>100.0% |

| Pearson Chi-Square | df | p value |
|---|---|---|
| 34.706 | 9 | .000 |

Out of 200 respondents from different income groups, 125 respondents (62.5%) partially agreed upon the factor. Out of 44 respondents from income group of less than Rs 20,000, 2 (4.5%) strongly agreed, 17 (38.6%) agreed and 20 (45.5%) partially agreed and accepted religious values, beliefs, practices to be factors responsible for declining sex ratio. On the other hand, out of 54 respondents from income group of above Rs 55,000, 7 (13.0%) strongly agreed, 14 (25.9%) agreed and 31 (57.4%) partially agreed upon the factor. After comparing these income levels with religious ideas and practices it was that among all the income levels religious ideas and practices are found to be influential and dominant.

Hence, our hypothesis that *"There is no significant relationship between income as a variable and religious beliefs and practices which are important factor for declining sex ratio"* is **"Rejected".**

e) There is no significant relationship between occupation and factors for declining sex ratio.

***(Table: 37) Occupation and Modern Sex Determinations and Female Foeticide***

| Occupation | Modern Sex determinations and Female Foeticide | | | | Frequency/ Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | SA | A | N | SD | |
| Labour | 1<br>2.2% | 13<br>28.3% | 22<br>47.8% | 10<br>21.7% | 46<br>100.0% |
| Business | 44<br>93.6% | 3<br>6.4% | 0<br>0% | 0<br>0% | 47<br>100.0% |
| Farmer | 40<br>78.4% | 11<br>21.6% | 0<br>0% | 0<br>0% | 51<br>100.0% |
| Service | 29<br>61.7% | 18<br>38.3% | 0<br>0% | 0<br>0% | 47<br>100.0% |
| Any Other | 0<br>0% | 0<br>0% | 9<br>100.0% | 0<br>0% | 9<br>100.0% |
| Total | 114<br>57.0% | 45<br>22.5% | 31<br>15.5% | 10<br>5.0% | 200<br>100.0% |

| Pearson Chi-Square | df | p value |
|---|---|---|
| 88.148 | 16 | .000 |

Table:37 shows a close relationship between occupation as a variable and modern sex determinations and female foeticide as factors for declining sex ratio in Mahesana in particular and Gujarat in general. The above table shows that out of 200 respondents, 57.0% of them have strongly agreed and accepted the above factor to be responsible for the declining sex ratio. Out of 47 respondents from business related occupations, 93.6% of them have strongly agreed upon the factor. Out of 46 respondents from labour related occupations only 2.2% agreed upon the factor. After comparing these levels with underline factor it has found in the study that there exists much of the awareness and sensitivity among those respondents who are associated with business and service related occupations towards modern sex determination and female foeticide than those respondents who belong to

labour related occupations. Thus it can be concluded that occupation directly or indirectly determines the utilization of the modern sex determinations and practice of female foeticide. Hence, our hypothesis that *"There is no significant relationship between occupation as variable and modern sex determination and female foeticide"* is **"Rejected"**.

***(Table: 38) Occupation and Dowry***

| Occupation | Dowry | | | | | Frequency/ Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | SA | A | N | D | SD | |
| Labour | 39<br>84.8% | 6<br>13.0% | 0<br>0% | 0<br>0% | 1<br>2.2% | 46<br>100.0% |
| Business | 27<br>57.4% | 7<br>14.9% | 4<br>8.5% | 2<br>4.3% | 7<br>14.9% | 47<br>100.0% |
| Farmer | 13<br>25.5% | 3<br>5.9% | 14<br>27.5% | 11<br>21.6% | 10<br>19.6% | 51<br>100.0% |
| Service | 15<br>31.9% | 20<br>42.6% | 6<br>12.8% | 4<br>8.5% | 2<br>4.3% | 47<br>100.0% |
| Any Other | 2<br>22.2% | 2<br>22.2% | 4<br>44.4% | 1<br>11.1% | 0<br>0% | 9<br>100.0% |
| Total | 96<br>48.0% | 38<br>19.0% | 28<br>14.0% | 18<br>9.0% | 20<br>10.0% | 200<br>100.0% |

| Pearson Chi-Square | Df | p value |
|---|---|---|
| 88.148 | 16 | .000 |

In the study, out of 200 respondents, 134 respondents (67.0%) with different occupations accepted and agreed upon dowry as a factor to be responsible for the problem of declining sex ratio. Out of 46 respondents, 84.8% from labour related occupations have strongly agreed and accepted dowry as a factor. On the other hand out of 47 respondents only 31.9% from service related occupations showed agreement for dowry as a factor. Comparing various occupations with dowry factor it was found that dowry was an important factor responsible for not wanting

girl child especially among respondents associated with labour related occupations. Thus, it can be concluded that good occupation determines income which further determines the acceptance or rejection of dowry by the people. This in turn affects the chances of survival of a girl child in Indian society. Hence, our hypothesis that *"There is no significant relationship between occupation and dowry as a factor for declining sex ratio"* is **"Rejected".**

***(Table: 39) Occupation and Poverty***

| Occupation | Poverty | | | | Frequency/ Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | SA | A | N | SD | |
| Labour | 30<br>65.2% | 16<br>34.8% | 0<br>0% | 0<br>0% | 46<br>100.0% |
| Business | 0<br>0% | 9<br>19.1% | 33<br>70.2% | 5<br>10.6% | 47<br>100.0% |
| Farmer | 0<br>0% | 11<br>21.6% | 36<br>70.6% | 4<br>7.8% | 51<br>100.0% |
| Service | 0<br>0% | 22<br>46.8% | 25<br>53.2% | 0<br>0% | 47<br>100.0% |
| Any Other | 1<br>11.1% | 8<br>88.9% | 0<br>0% | 0<br>0% | 9<br>100.0% |
| Total | 31<br>15.5% | 66<br>33.0% | 94<br>47.0% | 9<br>4.5% | 200<br>100.0% |
| | Pearson Chi-Square | df | | p value | |
| | 159.426 | 12 | | .000 | |

Table: 39 reveals that all 46 respondents from labour related occupations strongly accepted and agreed upon poverty as factor to be responsible for the problem of skewed sex ratio. Out of 47 respondents from business related occupations only 19.1% have agreed upon the factor. Out of 47, respondents with the service related occupations 46.8% expressed their agreement over the poverty factor. From the above data it was found that poverty was a major factor among respondents with labour related occupations and also among respondents with lower income. Hence, our hypothesis that *"There is no significant relationship between*

*occupation as a variable and poverty as a factor for declining sex ratio"* is **"Rejected".**

***(Table: 40) Occupation and Migration***

| Occupation | Migration | | | | Frequency /Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | SA | A | N | SD | |
| Labour | 1<br>2.2% | 24<br>52.2% | 14<br>30.4% | 7<br>15.2% | 46<br>100.0% |
| Business | 3<br>6.4% | 4<br>8.5% | 37<br>78.7% | 3<br>6.4% | 47<br>100.0% |
| Farmer | 7<br>13.7% | 10<br>19.6% | 27<br>52.9% | 7<br>13.7% | 51<br>100.0% |
| Service | 1<br>2.1% | 6<br>12.8% | 29<br>61.7% | 11<br>23.4% | 47<br>100.0% |
| Any Other | 0<br>0% | 4<br>44.4% | 1<br>11.1% | 4<br>44.4% | 9<br>100.0% |
| Total | 12<br>6.0% | 48<br>24.0% | 108<br>54.0% | 32<br>16.0% | 200<br>100.0% |

| Pearson Chi-Square | Df | p value |
|---|---|---|
| 54.987 | 12 | .000 |

Out of 46 respondents from labour related occupation and 51 from farming related occupation, 54.4% and 33.3% of respondents agreed and accepted migration as an important factor for declining sex ratio. On the other hand, respondents from business and service related occupations, 14.9% and 14.9% respectively agreed upon the factor respectively. In the study, it was found that majority of the respondents from all the occupations highlighted education and job opportunity to be the important factors for the migration. It was also observed that frequency of migration of a member of the family or community is more among respondents who are associated with labour and farming occupation, than those from other occupations. Hence, our hypothesis that *"There is no significant relationship*

*between occupation as a variable and migration as a responsible factor"* is **"Rejected".**

## 4) Examining of other research related issues and questions

### *4.1) Awareness about Family Size and Family Planning.*

***(Table: 41) Awareness among respondents with regard to family size and composition***

| Are you aware about the concept of family size and family composition? | |
|---|---|
| Yes | 200 (100%) |

| Who takes decision in your family regarding family size and its composition? | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Yes | No | Total |
| Husband | 84 (42.0%) | 116 (58.0%) | 200 (100%) |
| Mother-in-Law | 95 (47.5%) | 105 (52.5%) | 200 (100%) |
| Father-in-Law | 107 (53.5%) | 93 (46.5%) | 200 (100%) |
| Wife or Mother Herself | 32 (16.0%) | 168 (84.0%) | 200 (100%) |
| Both Husband and Wife | 80 (40.0%) | 120 (60.0%) | 200 (100%) |

It was found in the study that all the respondents (100%) were aware about the concept of family size and family planning. Table 41 reveals that out of 200 families, majority of the decisions with regard to family size and composition were taken by father-in-law (107 respondents), along with mother-in-law (95), husband (84 respondents).

40% respondent's couples took decision with regard to family size and its composition. Wife or mother doesn't have much autonomy to freely decide for the family size and its composition. Only 32 respondents took independent decisions with regard to the issue.

**(Table: 41.1)** ***Awareness among respondents with regard to family size and composition***

| What should be the family size according to you? | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Yes | No | Total |
| One Child | 41 (20.5%) | 159 (79.5%) | 200 (100%) |
| Two Children | 113 (56.5%) | 86 (43.0 %.) | 200 (100%) |
| Three Children | ----- | 200 (100%) | 200 (100%) |
| More than Three children | 7 (3.5%) | 193 (96.5%) | 200 (100%) |

| What you think about the Family Composition? | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Yes | No | Total |
| One Boy | 17 (8.5%) | 183 (91.5%) | 200 (100%) |
| One Girl | 7 (3.5%) | 193 (96.5%) | 200 (100%) |
| One Boy, One Girl | 138 (69.0%) | 62 (31.0%) | 200 (100%) |
| Two Boy, One Girl | 9 (4.5%) | 191 (95.5%) | 200 (100%) |
| Any Other | 44 (2.0%) | 156 (78.0%) | 200 (100%) |

Out of 200 respondents, majority (113 respondents) agreed upon the fact that they wanted two children in their family. 41 respondents favored to have one child only in the family, and only 7 respondents wanted more than three children in their family.

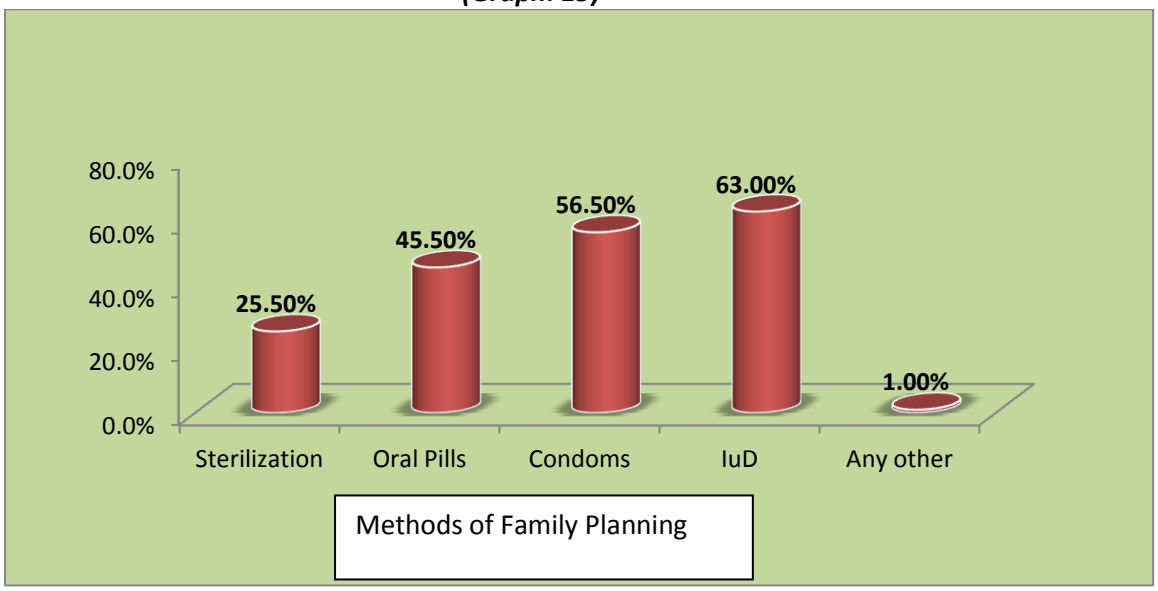
Out of 200 respondents, 138 respondents agreed upon one child and one girl as their family composition; 17 respondents wanted to have one boy in their family composition; whereas only 7 respondents wanted to have a girl child in their family.

***(Table: 41.2) Awareness among respondents with regard to family planning methods and practices***

| Are you aware about "Family Planning" practices? | |
|---|---|
| Yes | 200 (100.0%) |

| What are the methods of family planning? | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Yes | No | Total |
| Sterilization | 51 (25.5%) | 149 (74.5%) | 200 (100%) |
| Oral Pills | 91 (45.5%) | 108 (54.0%) | 200 (100%) |
| Condoms | 113 (56.5%) | 86 (43.0%) | 200 (100%) |
| IUD | 126 (63.0%) | 73 (36.5%) | 200 (100%) |
| Any other | 2 (1.0%) | 198 (99.0%) | 200 (100%) |

***(Graph: 15)***




All 200 respondents were aware about the family planning practices. Table 41.2 and graph 15 reveals that almost all the methods of family planning are being used by the respondents. Condoms as an important contraceptive found to be more used by the 113 male respondents, 126 women respondents said that they use IUD method for contraception. Oral pills and sterilization were other methods which were found to be used by the other respondents.

***(Table: 41.3) Awareness among respondents with regard to family planning methods and practices***

| In your family usually who takes decision to have first child? | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Yes | No | Total |
| Husband | 153 (76.5%) | 47 (23.5%) | 200 (100%) |
| Wife | 28 (14.0%) | 172 (86.0%) | 200 (100%) |
| Mother-in-Law | 94 (47.0%) | 106 (53.0%) | 200 (100%) |
| Father-in-Law | 11 (5.5%) | 189 (94.5%) | 200 (100%) |

In the study it was found that 76.5% husbands took the decision for having the first child in the family. After husband, 47% of mother in laws took the decision and lastly only 14% wives or mothers took the decision for having first child in the family.

**Conclusion:-**

The above data analysis highlighted that majority of the respondents were found to be aware about the concept of family size and family composition. 56.5% of the respondents agreed to have two children in their family size. 69.0% respondents in the study agreed to have one boy and one girl to complete their family composition.

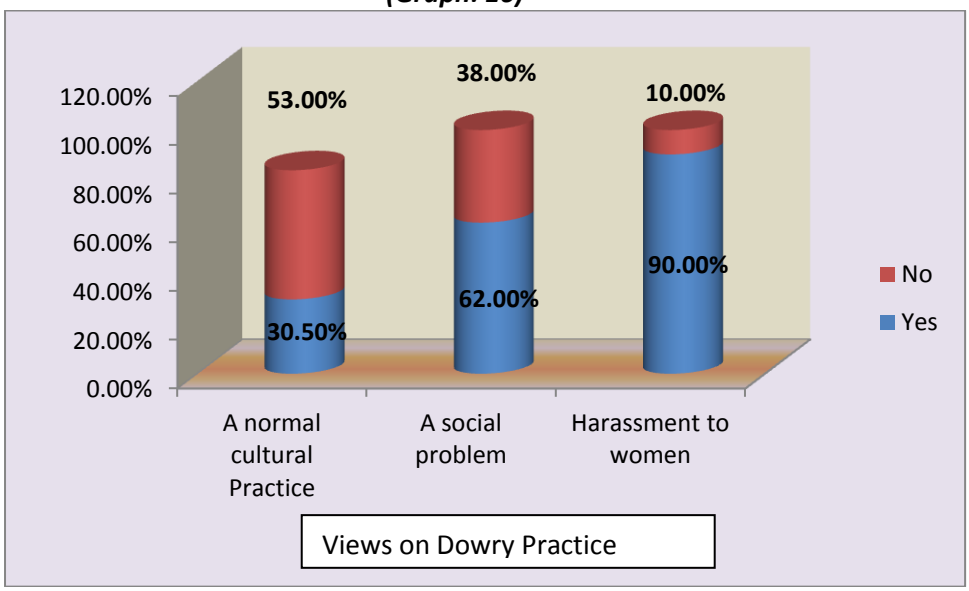
With regard to family planning and practices it was found that, (100.0%) all the respondents were aware about it. Condoms (56.5%) & IUD (63.0%) were found to be more popular family planning practices among the respondents. Decision making with regard to family size & family composition was found to be more male dominated.

## 4.2) Awareness with regard to the Practice of Dowry.

***(Table: 42) Views of respondents on dowry and its related issues***

| Are you aware about the practice of dowry? | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Yes | | 200 (100%) | |
| Statements | Yes | No | Total |
| A normal cultural Practice | 61 (30.5%) | 106 (53.0%) | 200 (100%) |
| A social problem | 124 (62.0%) | 76 (38.0%) | 200 (100%) |
| Harassment to women | 180 (90.0%) | 20 (10.0%) | 200 (100%) |

***(Graph: 16)***



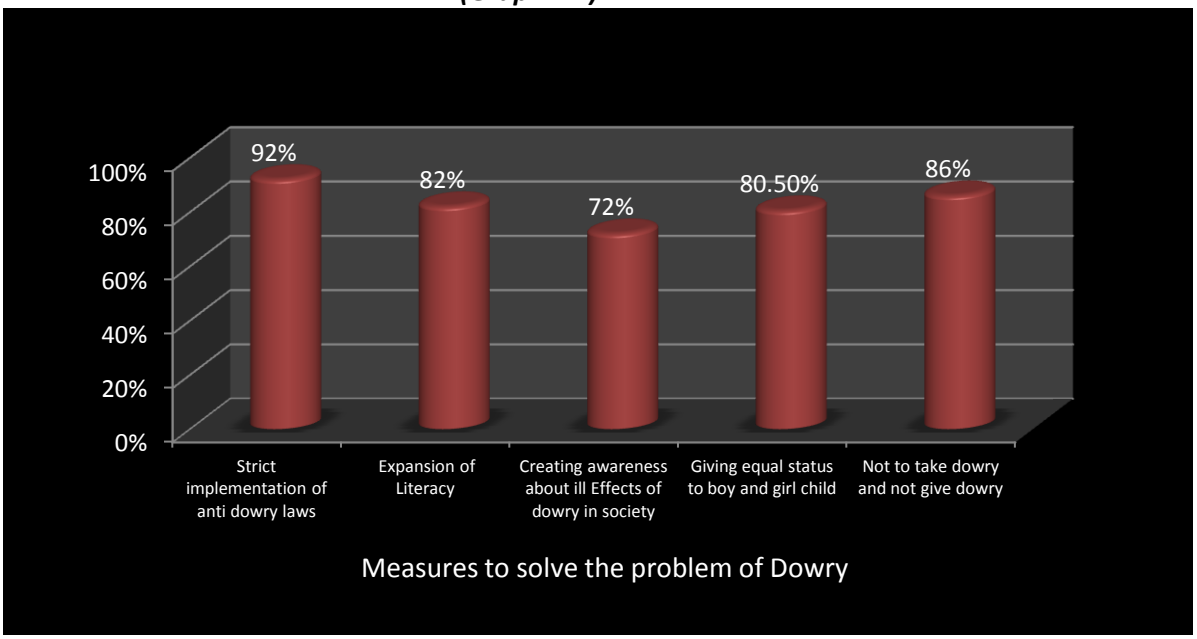

All the 200 respondents found to be aware about the practice of dowry.

Out of (200 respondents) 90% respondents identified dowry as a problem which is responsible for the harassment of women. 62% of respondents highlighted dowry as social problem in the society. Very few respondents considered dowry as a normal cultural practice.

***(Table: 42.1) Measures to remove dowry system***

| Measures to remove the problem of dowry | Yes | No | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| Strict implementation of anti dowry laws | 184 (92%) | 16 (8%) | 200 (100%) |
| Expansion of education | 164 (82%) | 36 (18%) | 200 (100%) |
| Creating awareness about ill effects of dowry in society | 144 (72%) | 56 (28%) | 200 (100%) |
| Giving equal status to boy and girl child | 161 (80.5%) | 39 (19.5%) | 200 (100%) |
| Neither to take dowry not to give dowry | 172 (86%) | 28 (14.0%) | 200 (100%) |

***(Graph: 17)***



Respondents in the study suggested many solutions in order to solve the problem of dowry so as to solve the problem of declining sex ratio. Strict implementation of anti dowry laws was one of the important measure suggested by 92% of respondents, 86% promised not to take or give dowry, Expansion of education was put forward by 82% of respondents as a measure. 80.5% of the respondents favored and appealed for giving equal status to boy and girl child. Lastly, 72% of respondents demanded for creating awareness among the people about the ill effect of dowry in society.

**Conclusion:-**

The analysis of the above mentioned issue showed that, 100.0% respondents were found to be aware about the practice of dowry. 62.0% rated dowry as a social problem and 90.0% considered dowry as a form of harassment to women. Majority of the respondents agreed on the fact that in their community they practiced dowry. The study also revealed different measures in order to overcome with the problem of dowry system.

### 4.3) Awareness about Abortion and Sex Determination Tests and Techniques

***(Table: 43) Views with regard to Abortion***

| Statements | Yes | |
|---|---|---|
| Are you aware of "Abortion"? | 200 (100.0%) | |
| Are you aware about the types of abortion practices? | | |
| | Yes | No |
| Induced | 114 (57.0%) | 86 (43.0%) |
| Spontaneous | 118 (59.0%) | 82 (41.0%) |
| Who takes decision related to abortion in general? | | |
| | Yes | No |
| Wife | 91 (45.5%) | 109 (54.5%) |
| Husband | 114 (57.0%) | 86 (43.0%) |
| Mother-in-Law | 87 (43.5%) | 113 (56.5%) |
| Father-in-Law | 23 (11.5%) | 177 (88.5%) |
| Any Other | 2 (1.0%) | 198 (99.0%) |
| Has any abortion taken place in your family? | | |
| Yes | 63 (31.5%) | |
| No | 137 (68.5%) | |

All 200 respondents (100%) were found to be aware about the abortion. In general, it was found that husband (57%) used to take decision with regard to abortion. Out of 200 respondents in 31.5% families underwent abortion.

***(Table: 43.1) Views regarding Abortion***

| Who conducted the abortion? | | |
|---|---|---|
| | Yes | No |
| Doctor | 50 (79.4%) | --- |
| Nurse | ---- | --- |
| Dias | 13 (20.6%) | --- |
| What was the sex of aborted foetus? | | |
| | Yes | No |
| Male | 23(11.5%) | ---- |
| Female | 40 (20.0%) | ---- |
| Who accompanied you for abortion? | | |
| | Yes | No |
| Husband | 45 (22.5%) | --- |
| Mother-in-Law | 10 (5.0%) | --- |
| Father-in-Law | 8 (4.0%) | --- |
| Any Other | --- | --- |
| What were the reasons for abortion? | | |
| | Yes | No |
| Dowry system | 13 (6.5%) | --- |
| Limiting family size | 10 (5.0%) | --- |
| Don’t want female child | 30 (15.0%) | --- |
| Complications in pregnancy | 10 (5.0%) | --- |

In those cases where the abortions were conducted, it was found that 79.4% of doctors conducted the abortions in which 20.0% of aborted foetuses aborted were girls because 15.0% of couples did not want to have girls in their family. It was also found that in the abortion cases, wives were accompanied by their husband at the time of abortion. 45 of such cases were reported.

***(Table: 44) Views about Abortion and Sex Determinations and Techniques***

| In general what are the reasons which lead to abortion? | | |
|---|---|---|
| | Yes | No |
| Dowry system | 43 (21.5%) | 157 (78.5%) |
| Limiting family size | 93 (46.5%) | 107 (53.5%) |
| Don't want female child | 117 (58.5%) | 83 (41.5%) |
| Complications in pregnancy | 143 (71.5%) | 57 (28.5%) |
| Are you aware about the "Sex Determination Techniques and Tests? | | |
| Yes | 200 (100%) | |
| No | --- | |
| Do you know Sex determinations are illegal? | | |
| Yes | 200 (100.0%) | |
| No | --- | |

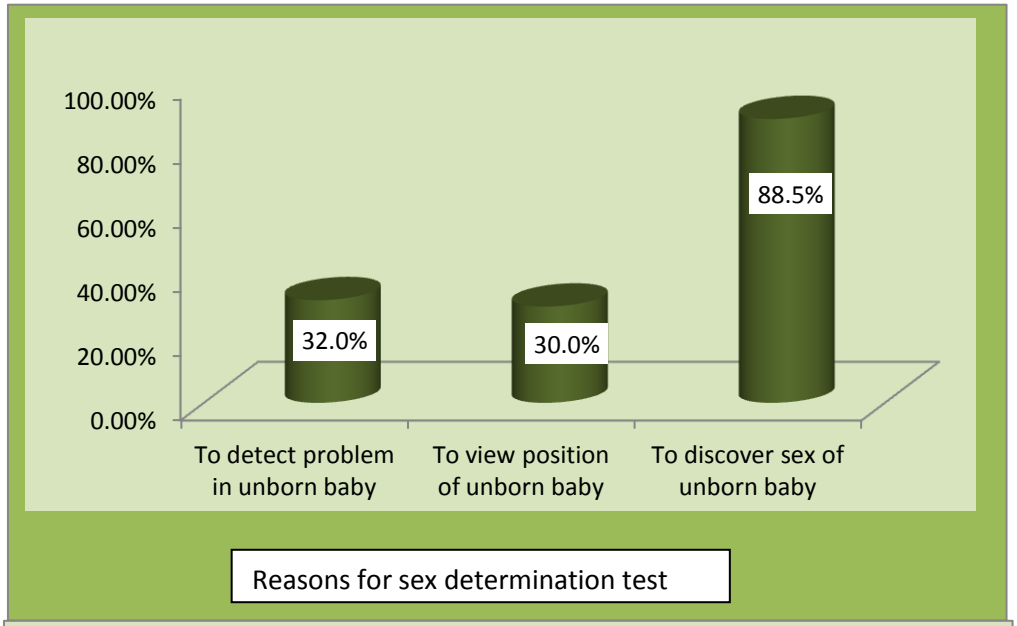
Table 44 shows that in the study 71.5% of the respondents identified complications in pregnancy, 58.5% respondents identified unwanted female child along with limiting family size (46.5%) and dowry (21.5%) to be reasons in general for abortions. This study also revealed that all respondents (100%) found to be aware of the sex determination techniques and tests and were also aware that such tests are illegal.

***(Table: 44.1) Views about Abortion and Sex Determinations and Techniques***

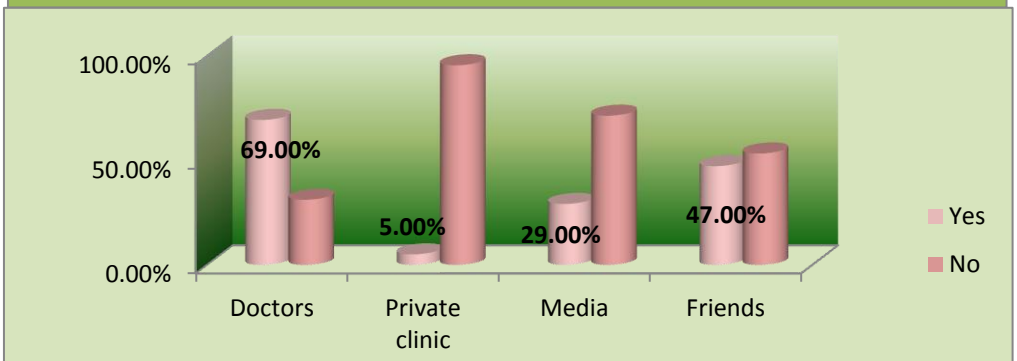
| What are the different techniques of sex determinations? | | |
|---|---|---|
| | Yes | No |
| Ultra sound | 154 (77.0%) | 46 (23.0%) |
| Ammonocentesis | 36 (18.0%) | 164 (82.0%) |
| Chronic villi biopsy | 10 (5.0%) | 190 (95.0%) |
| What are the reasons, which lead to sex determinations? | | |
| | Yes | No |
| To detect problem in unborn baby | 64 (32.0%) | 136 (68.0%) |
| To view position of unborn baby | 60 (30.0%) | 140 (70.0%) |
| To discover sex of unborn baby | 177 (88.5%) | 23 (11.5%) |
| From where you learned about the sex determination techniques? | | |
| | Yes | No |
| Doctors | 138 (69.0%) | 62 (31.0%) |
| Private clinic | 10 (5.0%) | 190 (95.0%) |
| Media | 58 (29.0%) | 142 (71.0%) |
| Friends | 94 (47.0%) | 106 (53.0%) |

Table 44.1 and graph 18 reveals that out of 200 respondents, 154 respondents were aware about ultra sound technology of sex determination. Around 88.5% of respondents told that the important reason for the sex determination is to discover the sex of unborn baby. Out of 200 respondents, 138 (69.0%) of respondents accepted that they came to know about these different methods of sex determination through doctors and 47.0% said that they came to know about these techniques through friends.

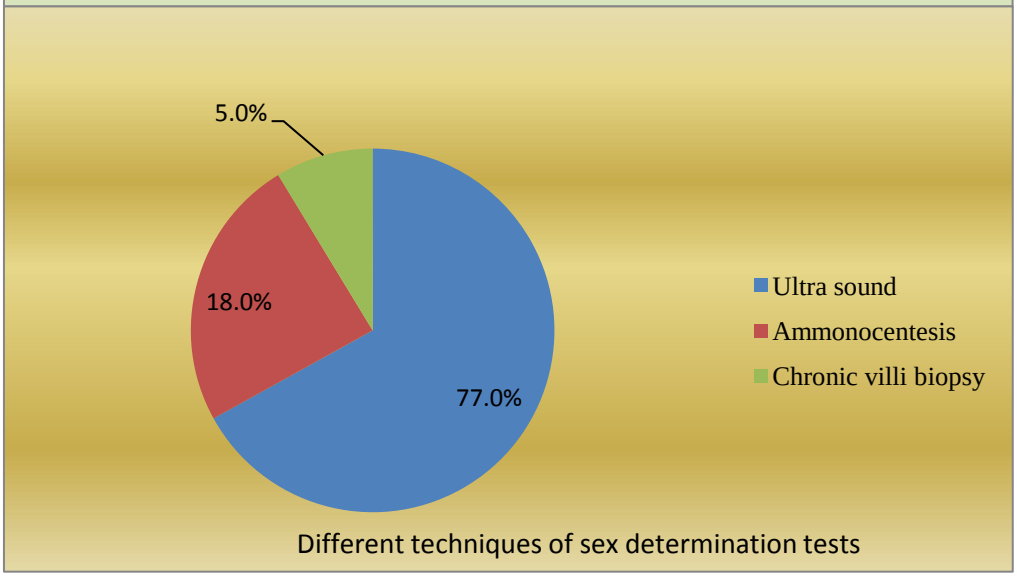
***(Graph: 18)***




Reasons for sex determination test




Different sources to know about sex determination techniques




Different techniques of sex determination tests

**Conclusion:-**

In this study abortion was something known to all of the respondents. 31.5% of the respondents admitted that abortion took place earlier in their family because a female child was not needed. 15.0% abortions took place because of due dowry system; & limiting family size was another factor found to be responsible for abortions. All (100%) respondents in the study were found to be aware about the sex determinations & techniques in which ultrasound technology was known 77.0% of the respondents. The reasons which were been identified by the respondents for the abortion, female foeticide & sex determination included finding out the sex of the unborn baby 88.5%, 69.0% respondents admitted that they came to know about these techniques through doctors.

### 4.4) Views about Migration as a Factor for the Declining Sex Ratio

***(Table: 45) Views of respondents on Migration***

| Do you think migration is responsible for the decline in sex ratio? | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Yes | 200 (100.0%) | | | | |
| In what way is migration responsible for the declining sex ratio? | | | | | |
| | SA | A | N | D | SD |
| Education | 107 (53.5%) | 48 (24.0%) | 35 (17.5%) | ---- | 10 (5.0%) |
| Employment | 152 (76.0%) | 23 (11.5%) | 15 (7.5%) | ---- | 10 (5.0%) |
| Family Migration | 2 (1.0%) | 13 (6.5%) | 43 (21.5%) | 12 (6.0%) | 130 (65.0%) |
| Marriage | --- | 33 (1.5%) | 52 (26.0%) | ----- | 115 (7.5%) |
| Business | 143 (71.5%) | 20 (10.0%) | 26 (13.0%) | 1 (0.5%) | 10 (5.0%) |
| Natural calamities | ---- | 1 (0.5%) | 9 (4.5%) | 20 (10.0%) | 170 (85.0%) |

***(Graph: 19)***

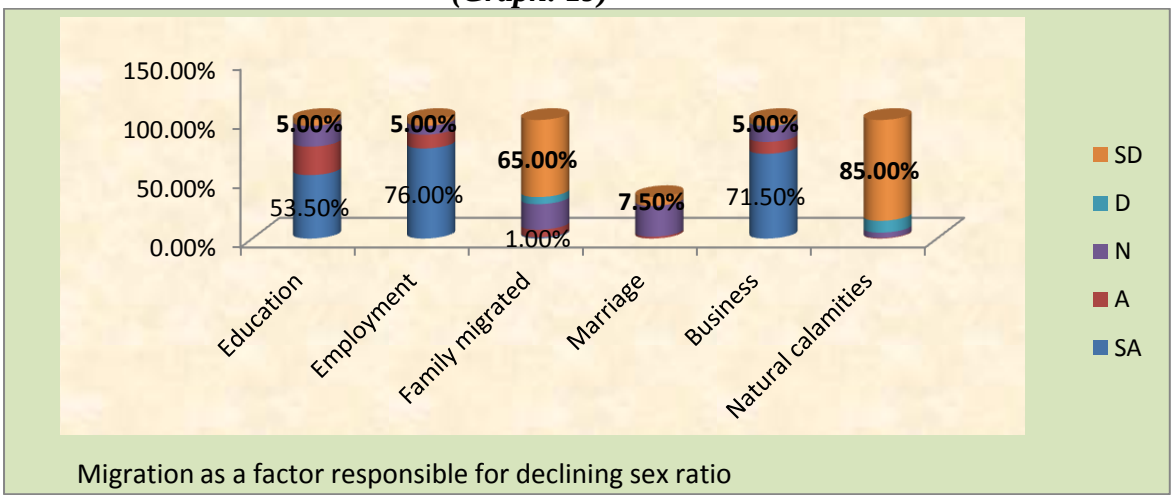



Table: 45 and Graph 19 depicts that all respondents agreed upon migration as an important factor responsible for declining sex ratio in Mahesana in particular and Gujarat state in general. 76.0% of the respondents highlighted that people migrate more for the purpose of employment opportunities available in urban areas and abroad, 71.5% of respondents identified business as an important factor for migration along with education 53.5%.

**Conclusion:-**

All 200 respondents underlined migration as one of the factor responsible for the declining sex ratio in Gujarat. Employment (76.0%) and business (71.5%) factors were found to be important motivating force behind the process of migration.

## 4.5) Responses on the Birth of Girl and Boy Child

***(Table: 46) Responses of the respondents on the birth of child***

| As a father how did you feel on the birth of | Girl Child | Boy Child |
|---|---|---|
| Happy | 150 (75.0%) | 200 (100.0%) |
| Partially Happy | 50 (25.0%) | --- |
| Upset | --- | --- |
| As a mother how did you feel on the birth of | Girl Child | Boy Child |
| Happy | 197 (98.5%) | 200 (100.0%) |
| Partially Happy | 3 (1.5%) | --- |
| Upset | ---- | ---- |
| As a mother in law how did you feel on the birth of | Girl Child | Boy Child |
| Happy | 150 (75.0%) | 200 (100.0%) |
| Partially Happy | 25 (12.5%) | --- |
| Upset | 25 (12.5%) | --- |
| As a father in law how did you feel on the birth of | Girl Child | Boy Child |
| Happy | 150 (75.0%) | 200 (100.0%) |
| Partially Happy | 25 (12.5%) | --- |
| Upset | 25 (12.5%) | --- |

*(Graph: 20)*

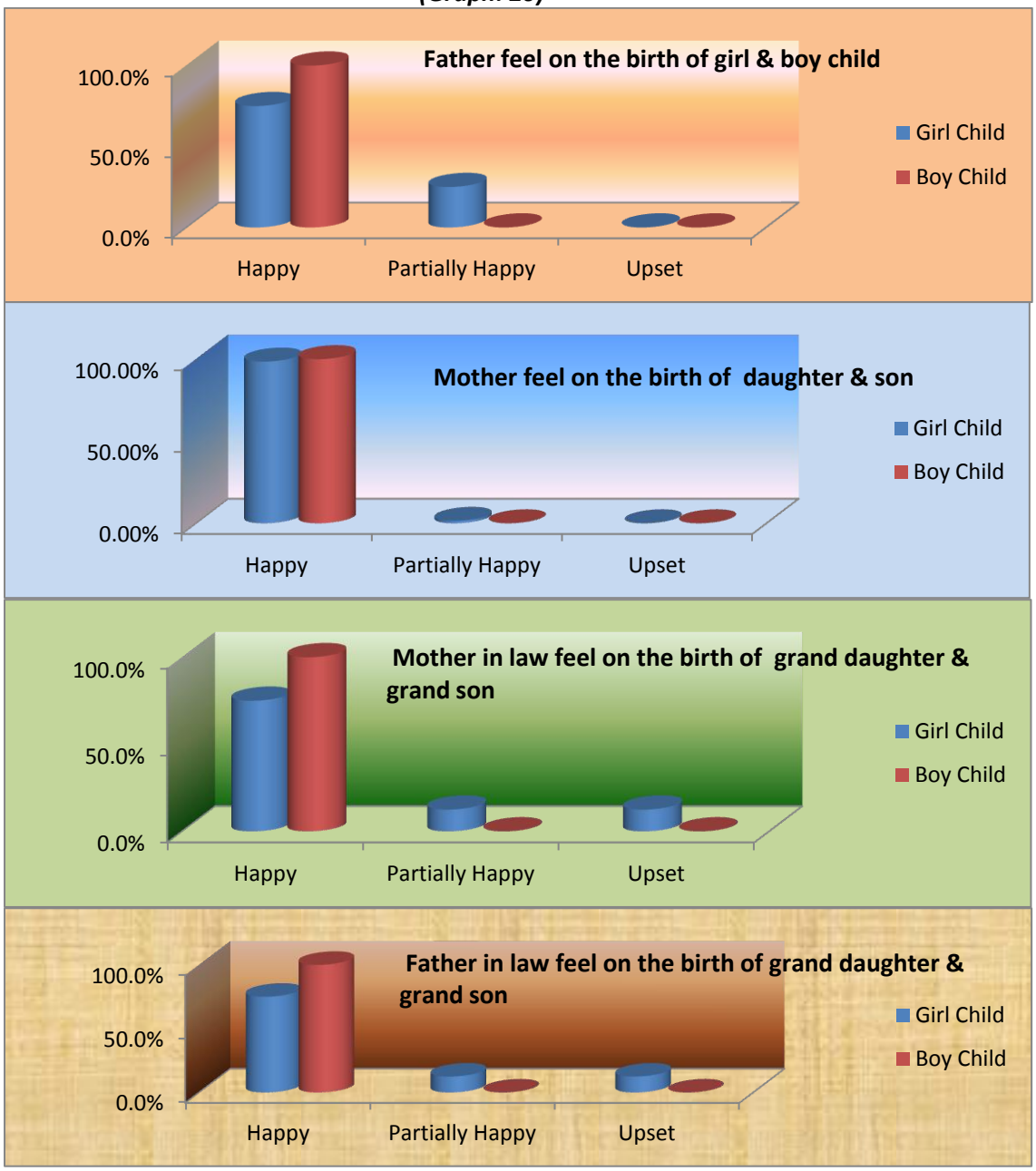



Table 46 and Graph 20 show that 100.0% father, mother, mother-in-law and father-in- law felt happy at the time of birth of a son child or boy child in the family whereas at the birth of a girl mother felt happy, father was partially happy and mother-in-law and father-in-law found to be upset and less happy.

**Conclusion:-**

This study revealed that father, mother, mother-in-law & father-in-law were found to be happier at the time of the birth of a boy child rather than a girl child in the family.

### 4.6) Views Regarding Types of Rituals Performed for Begetting Son Child

***(Table: 47) Views of respondents with regard to various rituals performed***

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Do you believe in rituals for getting male child? | | |
| Yes | 141 (70.5%) | |
| No | 59 (29.5%) | |
| Whether you have performed any ritual for getting the son child? | | |
| Yes | 141 (70.5%) | |
| No | 59 (29.5%) | |
| What types of rituals have you performed for begetting male child? | | |
| | Yes | No |
| Perform Pujas | 181 (90.5%) | 19 (9.5%) |
| Carry out Hawan | 182 (91.0%) | 18 (9.0%) |
| Mannat | 160 (80.0%) | 40 (20.0%) |
| Observing fast | 191 (95.5%) | 9 (4.5%) |
| Visiting Sacred places | 159 (79.5%) | 41 (20.5%) |

***(Graph: 21)***

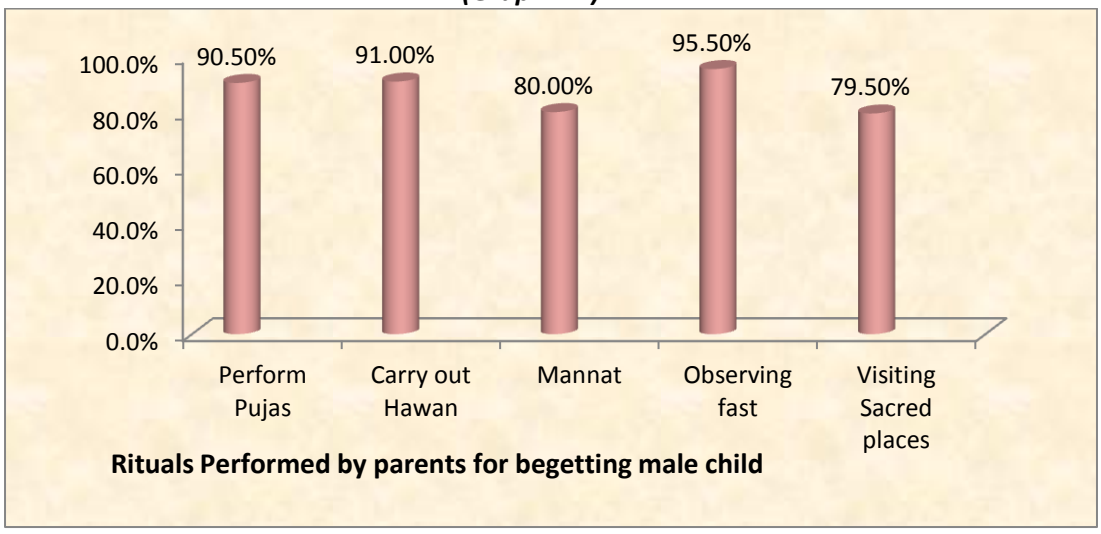



Table 47 and Graph 21 highlight that 70.5% of respondents believed in rituals for getting a male child and 70.5% of respondents had performed various rituals for

begetting a son. Observing fast (95.5%), perform pujas (90.5%), Carry out hawan (91.0%), Mannat (80.0%) and visiting sacred places (79.5%) were some of the rituals found to be performed by many parents in order to get a son in the family.

**Conclusion:**

The findings of the present study reveal that (66.5%) of the respondents showed their belief in rituals for a begetting son .70.5% of the respondents admitted that they had performed the rituals such as performing pujas, observing fast, mannat (Badha) , visiting sacred places etc. for begetting a son child in their family.

## 4.7) Views on Celebrations, on the Birth of A Boy and A Girl

***(Table: 48) Responses regarding celebration on the birth of child***

| How did you (as parents and other relatives) celebrate the birth of a boy in your family? | | |
|---|---|---|
| | Yes | No |
| Perform puja | 140 (70.0%) | 60 (30.0%) |
| Banging of plates to announce to the community about the birth of baby | 120 (60.0%) | 80 (40.0%) |
| Distribution of clothes, sweets, singing etc | 90 (45.0%) | 110 (55.0%) |
| Distribution of clothes ornaments etc | 181 (90.5%) | 19 (9.5%) |
| How did you (as parents and other relatives) celebrate the birth of a girl in your family? | | |
| | Yes | No |
| Perform puja | 100 (50.0%) | 100 (50.0%) |
| Banging of plates to announce to the community about the birth of baby | 98 (49.0%) | 102 (51.0%) |
| Distribution of clothes, sweets, singing etc | 107 (53.5%) | 92 (46.0%) |
| Distribution of clothes ornaments etc | 140 (70.0%) | 60 (30.0%) |

***(Graph: 22)***

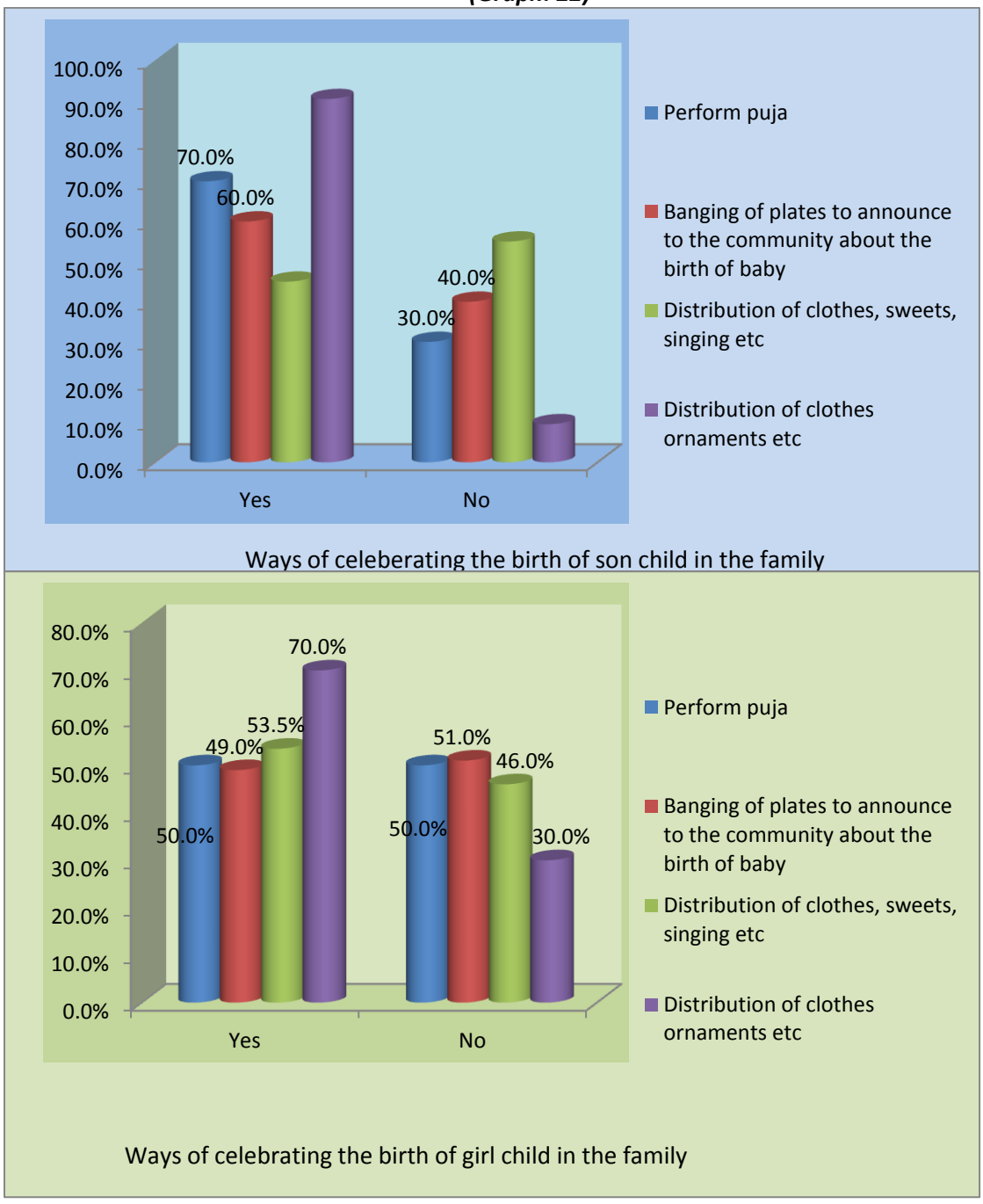



Table 48 & Graph 22 show that parents discriminate between a girl and a boy when it comes to celebrating of their birth. It was found that birth of boy child is celebrated with more enthusiasm by distributing of clothes, performing pujas, banging of plates to announce birth of boy child and distributing of sweets, clothes etc. On the other hand the birth of a girl child in the family was not celebrated with that kind of

happiness and enthusiasm by the parents and family members. Frequency of subsequent celebrations after birth of the child reduced in the case of a girl child in the family.

**Conclusion:-**

It has been found from the above analysis that parents celebrate the birth of both girl and boy child. But the frequency and way of celebration varies with the birth of girl & boy child. More joy & celebration is attached with the birth of son child in the family.

### 4.8) Views Regarding Distribution of Decision Making Among the Respondents

***(Table: 49) Views with regard to decision making among respondents***

| Who take decision in your family regarding the education of children? | |
|---|---|
| | Yes |
| Husband | 120 (60.0%) |
| Wife | 20 (10.0%) |
| Mother-in-Law | ---- |
| Both Husband and Wife | 60 (30.0%) |
| Who take decisions about buying clothes or jewellery? | |
| | Yes |
| Husband | 1 (0.5%) |
| Wife | 2 (1%) |
| Mother-in-Law | 42 (21.0%) |
| Both Husband and Wife | 155 (77.5%) |
| In your family, who takes decisions about going to parents home or relatives? | |
| | Yes |
| Husband | 17 (8.5%) |
| Wife | ____ |
| Mother-in-Law | 50 (25.0%) |
| Both Husband and Wife | 133 (66.5%) |
| Who takes decision about taking children to hospital? | |
| | Yes |
| Husband | 25 (12.5%) |
| Wife | 25 (12.5%) |
| Mother-in-Law | ----- |
| Both Husband and Wife | 150 (75%) |

With regard to the decision making role among the respondents, it was found that decision about the education of children lay more in the hand of husbands (60.0%). Decision with regard to buying clothes or jewellery was jointly taken by husband and wife. Decision about going to parents home or relatives was also taken jointly by husband and wife 66.5%; and decision regarding taking children to hospital was taken jointly by husband and wife together 75%.

**Conclusion:**

It was found that decisions over various issues are jointly taken by husbands and wives in most cases.

### 4.9) Views of Respondents on Various Issues related to Boys and Girls

***(Table: 50) Responses of respondents on various issues related to boys and girls***

| | |
|---|---|
| Do you think girls are stronger than boys? | |
| Agree | 57 (28.5%) |
| Neutral | 45 (22.5%) |
| Disagree | 98 (49.0%) |
| Do you think boys need more food than girls? | |
| Agree | 109 (54.5%) |
| Neutral | 14 (7.0%) |
| Disagree | 77 (38.5%) |
| Is there any need for agirl to go to school? | |
| Agree | 188 (94.0%) |
| Neutral | 12 (6.0%) |
| Disagree | ---- |
| Do you think men should also do household work? | |
| Agree | 52 (26.0%) |
| Neutral | 139 (69.5%) |
| Disagree | 9 (4.5%) |
| Do you think girls are more intelligent than boys? | |
| Agree | 86 (43.0%) |
| Neutral | 48 (24.0%) |
| Disagree | 66 (33.0%) |

Table 50 show that 49.0% of the respondents think that girls are not stronger than boys. 54.5% respondents agreed that boys needed more food than girls. Majority of the respondents 94.0% agreed upon the issue that girls should be sent to schools for the study. 69.5% of the respondents showed neutrality on the issue that men should also do household work. 43.0% respondents agreed that girls are more intelligent than boys.

**Conclusion:-**

The above analysis highlighted that on certain issues parents showed their agreement where girls are found to be more equal to their boys counterparts. Like 94.0% respondents agreed that education should be imparted to girls just as their boy counter parts were getting etc.

## 4.10) Awareness about Various Laws

***(Table: 51) Awareness about various laws among the respondents***

| | |
|---|---|
| Are you aware abortion is illegal? | |
| Yes | 190 (95.0%) |
| No | 10 (5.0%) |
| Are you aware dowry is illegal? | |
| Yes | 191 (95.5%) |
| No | 9 (4.5%) |
| Are you aware any kind of violence against women is punishable by law? | |
| Yes | 173 (86.5%) |
| No | 27 (13.5%) |
| Are you aware Hindu law permits equal share in ancestral property for males and females? | |
| Yes | 182 (91.0%) |
| No | 18 (9.0%) |

Table: 51 reveals that majority of the respondents were aware about various laws. Like 95.0% of the respondents were aware that abortion is illegal; 95.5% of the respondents were that about dowry is illegal; 86.5% respondents were aware that any kind of violence against women is punishable by law and 91.0% respondents were found to be aware of the Hindu law which permitted equal share in ancestral property for males and females.

**Conclusion:**

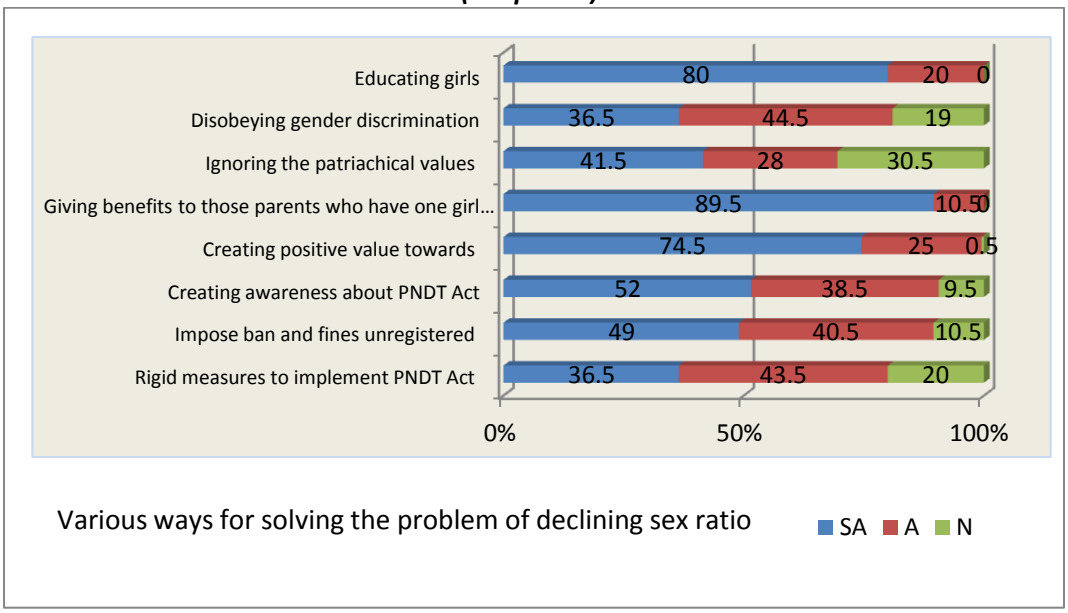
It has been found from the study that almost all the respondents are aware about various laws. For example 95.0% respondents were aware of the law which considered abortion, and dowry as illegal etc.

## 5) Solutions for Solving the Problem of Declining Sex Ratio

***(Table: 52) Solutions for solving the problem of declining sex ratio***

| How we can solve this problem of declining sex ratio? | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Answers | SA | A | N |
| Rigid measures to implement PNDT Act | 73 (36.5%) | 87 (43.5%) | 40 (20.0%) |
| Impose ban and fine unregistered hospitals or clinics which performs such tests | 98 (49.0%) | 81 (40.5%) | 21 (10.5%) |
| Creating awareness about act | 104 (52.0%) | 77 (38.5%) | 19 (9.5%) |
| Creating positive value/attitude towards girl child | 149 (74.5%) | 50 (25.0%) | 1 (0.5%) |
| Giving benefits to those parents who have one girl child | 179 (89.5%) | 21 (10.5%) | -- |
| Ignoring the patriachical values | 83 (41.5%) | 56 (28.0%) | 61 (30.5%) |
| Disobeying gender discrimination | 73 (36.5%) | 89 (44.5%) | 38 (19.0%) |
| Educating girls | 160 (80.0%) | 40 (20.0%) | -- |

***(Graph: 23)***




## Conclusion:

The above findings highlight various measures, as identified by the respondents in the study, so as to overcome the problem of declining sex ratio in Gujarat in particular and India in general. These measures include giving benefits to the parents, who have at least one girl child 89.5%; educating girls, creating awareness about the PNDT Act, imposing bans on those clinics or hospitals which carry out sex determinations & sex selective abortions; creating positive values or attitudes towards girl child in the society; & ignoring the patriarchical values.