CHAPTER-III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY
3.1 Introduction

Research method is a way of the designing and implementing research study in a scientific way. Methodology refers to the process, principles, and procedures of social science and philosophy by which researcher try to approach the any research problem and seek answers through the application to carry out the research further ahead. The research methodology is also called as the life or heart of a research, specification of methods in acquiring the information needed to structure in solving the research problem.

The research methodology called as the life of a research specification of methods in acquiring the information needed to structure or solve the research problem. This study was a mixture of both qualitative and quantitative approaches based on primary and secondary data sources by use of face to face interview method for data collection with serious attempts were made to evaluate the child marriages and their impacts on individuals and society and responsibilities and problems and social economical, cultural, religious aspects of family members, role conflict related to housework burden, problems and its
impact on people who got married at early age, children and family life with present trends. This research takes on the scientific method of exploring the concept of child marriages identity in family as well as society. Thus identifying the determinants of child marriages and their impact on families and individuals in the society and in their personal life. Present study starting from the research design with different research steps like selection of study area, sampling design, sample size, framing the objectives, hypothesis, study data required, types of data and tools of data collection, applying required test, adopting systematic sampling methods for data collection, preparation for field work, data processing, and the variable studied, definition of concept used and data analysis. Through this chapter researcher try to explain the scope and significance of research design, data collection, sampling technique methods followed in carrying out the present research with the conformation of a limitation of the study. Which help to describe the objectives of the study, for further research in this particular field more in detail.

3.2 Selection of Study Subject

The subject (research problem) selected by the researcher after doing the through critical review of literature related to the
concerned area of interest and then indeed discussion with the research supervisor come to final selection of the topic entitled “Child Marriage: A Sociological Analysis”.

3.3 Need of the Study

The consequences of child marriage are often far wider than just their impact on the individual children affected. The marriage of children has negative effects on families and communities. The practice thrives on poverty and impacts adversely on a country’s health and education sectors. Young brides and young mothers are overlooked and invisible in national policy and programmes on health, education, employment and overall empowerment of women. Child marriage is often associated with multiple health risks. This is because young brides have limited access to, and use of contraception and reproductive health services and information. In this way, the child marriages are more in this area, hence, the present study is made to assess the child marriages and its impact in the study area.

The study is considered significant, as it provides a different perspective to the studies done on child marriages. Only few studies have been done in the field of child marriage. This study has a feminist perspective child health and their future is
an interlinking social aspect, subsequently an attempt is made has to understand child marriages and a social issue.

The study is significant, as it has analyzed the constraints of child marriage and to what extent they are able to face the problems in their life. At the substantive level it has brought out the major findings of the study, some of which can be seen as measures to resolve the problem of child marriage. The study has highlighted the problem of child marriages particularly among the low profile people. The study is significant because it brings out suggestions to eradicate and create aware among the local people about child marriages and their effects.

3.4 Objectives of the Study

- To study the socio-economic factors of the respondents attached to child marriage
- To asses the prevalence of child marriages in the region
- To examine the various cultural factors leads to the child marriage
- To examine the effect of various health problems due to practice of child marriage
- To analyse the constitutional and legal measures to eradicate the child marriages.
3.5 Hypothesis of the study

- Child marriages are widespread phenomena incidence among the low profile people with low origin
- Cultural factors are leads to child marriages
- Child marriages leads to various health problems
- Low educational background among the parents leads to child marriages
- Social and religious factors are also responsible in the widespread of child marriages

When formulating a hypothesis, it is important not to try to prove that the hypothesis is true only. Instead, one should seek to find evidence that it is not true. In other words, one can never accept a hypothesis instead one fails to reject the null (posited) hypothesis. This is especially important when using statistics such as t-tests and p-values to determine significance. The particular hypotheses are formulated for the present study is that child marriages and their impact on individual life and other related aspects. As we all know child marriages commonly occurred in lower communities. The particular hypotheses are

**Caste:** Time and again it has been proved that Caste has a strong barrier on family culture eventually it has been hypothesized in the present study that the men who belong to
backward caste including SC/ST tend to involve in wife illustrating or considering as a subordinate to male than that of the forward caste people.

**Religion:** Religion is considered to be key component in upbringing or socializing the younger generation specially in Indian context which is worldwide known for its unity in diversity character. Hence it was hypothesized that the women respondents who have a strong faith in religion tend to be worst sufferer in the head of men than that of their counterparts who had a weak faith in religion.

**Education:** Whenever we turn the pages of history we come to know that education brought the hug social change in human beings life in this context it was hypothesized that the respondents with less educational background will be more sufferer from low societal status with compared to their counterparts who had higher level of education.

**Occupation:** working status or professionalism not only brings the women out of kitchen but also at the same time exposes her to the outer world and from there she comes across with the realities of modern society. To be specific the women who were employed try to protest and protect themselves whenever they
land up in a situation like family status conflict compared to their counterparts who remained as a housewives.

**Family incomes:** women with economic freedom gets ample opportunities to participating into the family decision making process. With reference to this point it has been hypothesized that the women who were unable to add or contribute to their family income most probably marginalized and side cornered in family matters in comparison to their counterparts who were economically independent and empowered.

**Type of family:** From the sociological point of view each and every thing has the advantages and disadvantages likewise family too had its two face of nature i.e. attacking and defending but till now world has seen or discussed only positive face of it. With the change of time the present study try to hypothesised that the respondents who were staying in nuclear family tend to experience higher family status in comparison to the respondents who were staying in joint family setup.

**Family decision:** To a greater extent there is male decision making in the families. Than that of the females even though these days women were economically independent and empowered.
3.6 Variables Studied

Further, keeping in mind the objectives of this study it was decided to have vast information on various background characteristics like (social, economic, demographic, cultural including attitudinal and Behavioral of the respondents was collected. However, the variables which have been taken into account in this study are based on relevant theoretical (logical) grounds. Moreover, for a clear understanding of the nature of these variables further classification or different groupism of variables was done. For the sake of justification the selection of the determinants (variables) and their Hypothesized relationship is well presented. In order to test the above mentioned hypotheses quite a few societal variables were listed for the cross verification and multivariate analysis and these variables are as follows.

Dependent Variable

1. Child marriages among the different communities or groups
2. Role of Government schemes and plans for eradication of child marriages and support the female child future
3. Awareness about punishment for child marriage
4. Effect of child marriage on child health
5. Effect of child marriage on social, psychological and other related aspects

**Independent Variable**

**Demographic characteristics:** The major demographic characteristics of the respondents which were included in present study were the age of the respondents, gender, marital status, number of children alive, these characteristics were considered to be important to evaluate the qualitative aspects of the course.

**Economic characteristics:** The significant economic characteristics of the respondent were under taken for the study purpose are occupation of the respondent, Income of the husband per month, income of the head of the family and other related information.

**Social characteristics:** The major social characteristics of the respondent studied were social status of respondent, religion, caste, type of family, education of the respondent and the other relevant information were also gathered.

**Attitudinal characteristics:** The major attitudinal characteristics of the respondents considered for the present studies were awareness and knowledge about health. These
characteristics were important from the point of understanding the concept of child marriage in the different families or communities.

**Behavioral characteristics:** The important behavioral components of the organization in a form of initiative taken on the issues like family role conflict, health, financial problem, decision making.

**Computed variables:** The important computed variables based on family responsibilities and opinion of family members on child marriages, role of Government rules and regulation in eradication of child marriages,

**3.7 Study Area**

Study Area is one of the ways of understanding the concepts of child marriage, family economic, social responsibility and its related issues by studying the characteristics of the child marriages phenomena. In this study, an attempt is made to study the background characteristics of the different types of family background and the respondents in order to understand the significance of their responsibility. Further researcher herself belong to this area was participated in data collection in order to
again first hand field experience and enhance the quality of research.

Kalaburagi district is the right place for getting the information from child marriage about their social status and health status of people who got married at early age. Other fact is that it is possible to get different kinds of factors which are greatly impact on child marriages from different backgrounds. So researcher had designed the interview schedule according to the chosen place. The target groups were highly qualified to illiterate highly rich to poor and well placed in the society. Mostly researcher found in Kalaburagi district that all these diversified groups were categorized.

3.8 Research Design

A research design is a systematic plan to study in a scientific way of particular problem. Investigator choice of research topic and its details which is basically depends on hypothesis to be examined in the study. Research design also called as Blue Print of Research because it has strength of data collection, measurement, analysis and description of data. It also helps to outlines the way of research will be carried out. Present research study determines the type of design overall strategy that allow you to choose to integrate the different components of
the study in a coherent and logical way. It also deals the information of the study areas and the probable sources of data, i.e., the data collection methods specific population to be studied the sampling process sample size and selection plan. However, it requires a clear and logical justification of using the techniques over a wide range of sampling methods available for research in scientific way with conspicuous statement.

It addresses certain key issues involved in carrying out the research there are different research designs for conducting different research studies and these research designs have distinct names and procedures associated with them. Some research designs focus on purpose of doing research whereas some other research designs give importance to cause effects relationships yet another set of research designs consider its intended use and so on so forth. Research design is essentials to follow a cycle characteristic whereby initially an exploratory stand is adopted in view the researcher can proceed systematically towards their goals and its achievement. For that it is essential to identify the research problem clearly and justify its selection with objectives, hypotheses, research questions, and effectively describe the data. Investigator will do from writing the
hypothesis and their operational implication to the final analysis of data.

**Burns and Grove** (2003) define a research design as a blueprint for conducting a study with maximum control over factors that may interfere with the validity of the findings.

In social sciences research, as a researcher they have to select the suitable plan for particular research study (problem) by understanding the number of research design purpose to analyses their study in logical way because research design have so many kinds where an understanding of a problem is developed and plans are made for some form of interventionary strategy. Make wide use of this research design to examine contemporary real life situations and provide the basis for the application of concepts and theories and the extension of methodologies.

Research design needs to prescribe the boundaries of research activities and enables the researcher to channel his energies in the right work with clear research objectives. The design also enables the researcher to anticipate potential problems of data gathering operationalization of concepts measurement. Design can extend experience or add strength to
what is already known through previous research. Social scientists, in particular the design can provide detailed
descriptions of specific and rare cases.

**Longitudinal Design:** A longitudinal study follows the same
sample over time and makes repeated observations. Longitudinal
research designs describe patterns of change and help to
establish the direction and magnitude of causal relationships.
The current research problem falls into the same category but
with new respondents.

### 3.9 Sample Design

Sampling design is a technique or the procedure which is
adopted by the researchers for selecting some sampling units
from the population or universe is drawn. The sampling design
adopted was a systematic random sampling which comes under
the proportion of population **Probability sampling design.**
Where we have selected twenty five household systematically
from each ward of Kalaburagi district. This method was used
because of its simplicity and convenience in the selection of the
sample, particularly where sampling was done by the researcher.
Within intention of smaller well selected sample may be superior
to a larger but badly selected sample (Gupta 1992). Hence
keeping in view the objectives of the study and considering the
monetary constraints and time required it was decided to select the above mentioned number of households (1375) in order to fulfil the requirements of efficiency representativeness and reliability.

**Sampling Method**: Sampling methods are statistical techniques which are used in research study to pursue the objectives of this study, field surveys were used to provide the primary data. To conduct this study **Probability of Proportion to Population Size** was used for selection of households and **Systematic Random Sampling Method** was used for selecting child marriage people as a respondents. The reason behind this was that: first it has not been possible to complete a list of the population of Kalaburagi district with all child married people, (sampling frame). Second, there are no such sources which provide list of all child marriages who were engaged only in the household activities in Karnataka, India.

**Sampling Procedure**: Whenever the information is required to study a particular research problem decision may be taken to use either primary or secondary data by using the census or sample surveys. Keeping in mind the money and time required it was decided to use sampling method which helps to know the
characteristics of the population by examining only a small part of it.

**Universe:** The universe of the study comprised all the existing household from communities located in each the jurisdiction of the corporation of the Kalaburagi district

**Sample Unit:** A Sample unit is a single component of the sample study (Respondents i.e. child married) selected form the total universal Population of total population of Kalaburagi district

**Sampling Size:** The present research study different case of child marriages of the Kalaburagi district. Different opinions have been expressed by the experts on the selection of sample size which indicates that bigger size does not ensure representativeness in a sample. A smaller well selected sample may be superior to a larger but badly selected sample. Hence, keeping in view the research topic and the objectives of the study and considering the monetary constraints and time required it was decided to collect the needful detail information.

### 3.10 Preparation for Field Work

In order to understand clearly the concept of “child marriage: a sociological analysis” well structured questionnaire was prepared in two languages (Kannada and English) keeping
in view the spoken language of the study population was Kannada. The standardised questionnaire consists of six main sections. The standardized management questionnaire sections were as following:

1. Respondent’s personal information.
2. Historical perspective and changing status of child marriage.
3. Role of Government rules and regulation in eradication of child marriage
4. Household chores as productive or non-productive.
5. Child marriages and problems
6. Child marriages and their influential factor

Section one deals with the basic characteristics related with the permanent residents of individual personal information. Second section deals with the historical perspective of child marriage and their changing status. Section three gives Role of Government rules and regulation in changing the status of women. Section four provides the awareness of child marriage as productive or non-productive. The above mentioned were major sections in questionnaire, apart from that the questionnaire was printed with Kalaburagi University cover page and identification section. To meet the study objectives and to collect the quality of
information the researcher kept open ended, close ended and descriptive types of questions in questionnaire. In the pre-test the respondents were expressed that in some of the questions they were not comfortable to answer yes or no questions, hence the researcher used the five points Likert Scale to capture the opinion of respondents in management questionnaire.

3.11 Validity & Reliability of Questionnaire:

Kirk and Miller (1986) claim that reliability as well as validity shall be separated into internal and external concepts. The amount of internal reliability can be considered to be high when two or more researches have agreed on in what way to interpret their empirical findings (Bryman & Bell 2005). Partiality is less like to appear in this research since there is more than one author and that all decision regarding methodology, theory and interviews have been discussed between the authors before performing each task. Furthermore, the same authors and Thyer (2001) argue that external reliability is about to what degree two similar researches with the same type of collected data roughly can gain same transcript material to generate similar results.

Bryman and Bell (2005) describe reliability as the certainty of measuring if a certain concept as stable and valid. Reliability is together with validity and replication is considered to be the
three most important criterias when performing a research. According to Kirk and Miller validity is considered as a measurement of how accurate the results of a research are compared to the questions and phenomenon intended to be researched. The authors have answered the thesis questions supported by their theoretical framework and collected empirical data.

Validity in qualitative researches are known to be criticized due the fact that validity many times is based on positivistic assumptions whereas knowledge needs to be approved and not based on a researchers own interpretations (Huberman & Miles 2002, Kirk & Miller 1986, Maxwell 2004). Even though keeping in mind the cause and consequences the researcher gone for a pilot study in a form of pre-testing the prepared interview schedule and incorporated the necessary medication before starting the final field survey.

**Pilot Study:** A pilot study is a primary work to gain clear cut and specific research perspective in the subject of investigation to be undertaken. Moreover, for any research a pilot study is not only essential but also pre-requisite in order to simplify the task of designing interview schedule, in a compact and scientific way.
Hence, in the present study the rough draft questionnaire was administered to three organisations and 18 beneficiaries and same questionnaire was discussed with research experts and incorporated those necessary changes to standardize the questionnaire with the intention that the researcher, respondents, community benefit point of view should not face any problem in understanding and filling up the questionnaire themselves.

**Field Planning:** A tentative one month survey plan was prepared with the help of the research supervisor and a vehicle was hired in order to reach all the selected wards. In the study population most of the rural women are engaged full time housekeeping duties in convenience of respondents the day schedule user to start more or less 10.30 a.m. in orders to interview them.

**Field Investigation Training:** As the research topic was basically sensitive and female oriented it was decided to have a well qualified research team of four social science post graduate investigators, one field supervisor as a researcher herself to maintain the well balanced co ordination in the field during the data collection. This was done with the aim of collecting rich information about matters which are highly personal. Moreover, a pilot study was arranged in the nearby 50 households in
Kalaburagi district in order to pre-test the questionnaire. After the pretesting necessary changes were made according to the requirement of the objective. Second, a similar type of exercise was carried out to train the field investigators in the research area before launching of the actual field work. Field data collectors visited door to door households and interview were conducted by the investigators by asking structured questions, the participants means respondents assured that the whole process is confidential and their names and personal details would not be disclosed. This way the women in interview were done prior to the actual interview process. This sort of standardize questionnaire would help the researcher to focus on all points and gain the related high qualities information in respect to those particular study aims. The researcher made every possible effort to cover the entire topic, in detail however, the phrasing and sequence of questions might have varied from one interview to another in order to make it more convenient form the respondent’s point of view.

At the beginning of each interview the researcher explained to the participants respondent’s the aim of the interview and the present research and asked if there were any questions or if any further explanation was required. It was explained to the
interviewees that the researcher is not looking for right and wrong answers but is rather seeking their genuine opinion and perceptions on the matters of subject discussion. Interviews were carried out in both languages i.e. Kannada and English. This is because some of the interviewees were not Kannada speakers and they preferred to conduct the interview in English. However, little bit interviews were in other language speaking and they offer to conduct the interviewee in their mother tongue interviews on an average last for approximately an hour but later on All interviews on an average last for approximately 30 to 40 minutes.

In present study the researcher used this observation method also to observe child marriages in the society. The researcher had an opportunity to observe the household activities of family such as family management, taking care of children, All these observations were mentioned while discussing the analysis chapters appropriately.

The hospitality given by the concerned community people and respondents was overwhelming though during the first few days the researcher had to explain to almost each and every one the purpose of their visit the way in which the respondent would benefit from this research. The researcher also faces some
problem while doing field work it is very tough time during field study. Firstly, researcher started pilot survey to see the reaction of the target group. Researcher got very bad responses because they felt it was no use for them. The target group was very confused about the purpose of this study. But researcher had to convince them that the required data would he used only for academic research purpose only (Ph.D. thesis) because they are the subject on whom researcher was going to do the present research.

**Field Work:** The field investigation was undertaken during the period of 6 month from 15-08-2015 to 04-02-2016. The personal face to face interview method was adopted. The researcher had received the maximum required cooperation from respondents in Kalaburagi district. However, certain problems were encountered by the researcher in collecting the data from the child marriages families and eliciting the information from the all religion and different castes household on household activities considering as productive work concerned indirectly expressed their opinions in course of the discussions in some cases.

**Data Collection:** The present study incorporates present preferred to both primary and secondary data for an in depth investigation. the study used Interview schedule over other
available data collection methods because here are so many
Methods of data collection are available in social science
research but useful designing the research plan depending upon
the nature of the study, subject matter, unit of enquiry, sample
size, educational level of respondents, availability of skilled
manpower and sample representative of the respondents
required. The interview schedule was preferred keeping in view
the objectives, the research questions and the hypotheses of the
study. Care was taken to see to it that none of the objectives
were left out and irrelevant and superfluous data were not
gathered from the respondents. Each question was picked for the
information it generates in addressing the objectives. Further,
the interview schedule was divided into several sections each
dealing with an objectives and the sections were so arranged as
to lend it a rational structure and a logical sequence. There were
separate sections on child married individuals personal
information.

The actual data for the study was planned in stages wise.
During the first stage all the wards in the study area were listed
in order to collect basic data such as name of the ward location
household and address. In the course of listing only care was
taken to identify all child married from predictable sample
households. The second stage of data collection involved visits to respective households where there were eligible child married available for conducting detailed interviews about the present Doctoral research purpose. The data was collected during the months of September 2015 to February 2016. Throughout the period of data collection the researcher use to spend full day in the wards by visiting house to house and had the opportunity to have a firsthand experience of living and working with the respondents. The data were collected by using the direct interview method with the help of a structured interview schedule. The actual schedule administered is provided in Appendix

3.12 Field Experience

Once the study tools and study sample list was finalized the researcher approached Registrar, Kalaburagi University, Kalaburagi to issues a authentication letter to start the field survey i.e. data collection. Accordingly the Registrar, Kalaburagi University, Kalaburagi has issues and authentication letter to introduce the researcher in the field. Overall conducting interview with the respondents of Kalaburagi district was appeared to be easy compared to earlier field study interviews. The researcher used to camp in nearby surrounding places in
order to reach the survey site in time according to the convenient
time of the community respondents. In certain cases researcher
used to stay back in the field area till late night but also used to
revisit the sample houses two to three times in order to complete
the interview. After reaching the field area the researcher try to
find out the rural women to explain the purpose of visit the way
in which the respondents would benefit from this research study
as well as a to build the necessary rapport with the respondents
to get full co operation from other people also. However, the
hospitality given by the child married individuals was
overwhelming. In most of the causes during the survey the
research team got full support and healthy acceptance from the
child married people. Except in a few causes particularly in
highly rich highly educated, egoist nature, and below poverty
line family more often the husbands, uses to come forward to be
a respondent on behalf of their partners With the due respect to
the respondents husband the researcher had try to convince and
adjust the timing of the interviews such a way that whenever the
women respondents whoever were free was first interviewed and
later on the other respondents were interviewed whenever they
were find in relax moud. However it needs to be mentioned that
the research team had no difficulty in obtaining answers from
female respondents except in a few cases. There were also
instances where husbands used to come forward voluntarily to assist their wives during interviews and this enhanced the reliability of the data collection. Since the researcher herself was involved in the data collection and necessary care was taken to get quality data.

1. Care was taken to ensure that no questions were left unanswered.

2. Whenever resistance was found on the part of the respondents, their doubts were cleared by the interviewer, researcher.

3. In order to maintain consistency, error checking was done first by the investigators themselves, followed by the researcher.

4. The interviews were conducted in Kannada which was the language spoken in the study area and with which the researcher was also familiar.

Once proper rapport was established with the respondents the interviews went on smoothly. However, it was observed that in some cases, especially among local Muslim women the respondents initially hesitated to answer the individual schedule and many a time in laws other than the respondent women volunteered to answer the questions in
that cause the researcher had to make at least three visits to such households to get the right information from an appropriate person only.

3.13 Analysis of the Data

Data Processing: The data collected were coded, verified and processed on a computer at the University. Two separate files were prepared, one was data file and the other was an SPSS (statistical package for social sciences) file. However, the single frequency distribution of each variable was generated to validate the data, quality.

The data collected were coded, verified and processed on the personal Computer at the university. A single frequency distribution of each variable was generated to validate the data. The treatment was given to the dependent and independent variables as they are influenced by educational and occupational levels and other socio economic variables such as caste, religion, reasons behind women low status and the type of family. Further, the dependent variable was cross tabulated with each of the social and economic variables. In order to understand the effect of each independent variable on the dependent variables, an analysis was used which will be discussed in detail in the following chapters.
3.14 Conclusion

This chapter also mentions the types of data collection, tools, methods of data collection, on the basis of objectives, hypothesis of the study. The process of identifying the value of variable line by line coding is done with help of SPSS. In chi square part we have focus on way of use of cross tabulate categorical data in SPSS and produce the chi-square statistical test. After coding planning of analysis, preparing SPSS file for applying the bivariate, to find out significance between independent and dependent variable, finally this study carried out among Kalaburagi district child marriages. The study area selected for the present study where researcher adopted systematic random sampling method for data collection in different areas of Kalaburagi district. Researcher selected 358 respondents from study area. Without attending to design issues. The overall research problem will not be adequately addressed and any conclusions drawn will risk being weak and unconvincing. As a consequence, the overall validity of the study will be disappearing.