Chapter-III

Research Methodology
back to specific issues being addressed. We confined our interview with those women who were having at least one child but their period of marriage was about eight to ten years. The entire history of pregnancies of study women was necessary for us to understand and building strategies and to obtain accurate birth order of recently born children.

**Techniques of Date Collection**

Basically, there are two types of data (1) primary (2) secondary. Primary data were collected with the help of interview schedule and informal discussion. Information such as age, caste, occupation, income, family structure, education, number of sons in family, factors responsible for the foeticide and infanticide, awareness and attitudes towards foeticide and other related issues were collected. The respondents were given freedom to express their views frankly. Apart from interview, the observation techniques also helped in collecting the informations for the study.

The secondary data was collect from books, periodicals, journals, Internet, census report, unpublished thesis and officially maintained records from various libraries and offices. Drawback about collection of secondary data was the non-availability of uptodate informations.

**Data Collection**

An interview schedule was constructed for the purpose of data collection after necessary modification and corrections, we confined interviews to women who experienced pregnancy and its out come in the last five years. We interviewed women who are belonging to different background and who has gone for more than one abortion to get at least one son. The entire history of pregnancies is to understand family building strategies and obtain accurate birth orders of recently born children women were interviewed at their homes. We collected certain information from the elderly women of the village to
know their view on the practice of female foeticide/ultrasound test and consequences of decline sex ratio.

Field Work:

An initial field work was done for (a) finalizing the area of the study (b) locating the sampling frame and selecting the sampling units (c) pre-testing our tool for data collection. The main fieldwork was started after meeting the above criteria. Our respondents were suitably appraised about the nature and purpose of the study and were ensured confidentiality of the information imparted by them. Married women were interviewed with the help of interview schedule. Informations were also collected from elderly women of these villages. The fieldwork was carried out in time period of 8 months and was personally conducted by the researcher.

DATA PROCESSING AND ANALYSIS PLAN

Data processing is an intermediary stage of work between data collection and data analysis. It involves classification and summarization of data in order to make them amenable to analysis

The interview schedules were edited for ensuring consistency completeness and correctives of responses. The audited data was classified and coded. The informations were then tabulated to facilitate analysis.

LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

The study is limited to attitude of the people from:

(1) Only two villages from two districts – Rohtak and Jind

(2) Married females sample respondents living in rural areas of each district.

Interviewing the working respondents was a bit difficult, as many of them were available only in the evening or on holiday. Repeated visits were
needed to contact them. The respondents were often not willing to give the interview and often would ask the husband to give the interview on her behalf. The rationale they offered as that both share more or less the same views. Moreover, the truth was that some of them felt hesitant to respond to questions asked by woman researcher in the presence of the elders. In the presence of the husband, wife, while responding to the questions, usually asked the husband whether he shared the same views. At some questions the respondents simply laugh and say that you write whatever is thought to be right. Some respondents are hesitant in answering questions about fertility history.

KEY TERMS USED IN THE STUDY

Sex-Ratio

“Sex ratio is defined as number of female per 1000 males.”

Sex Selection

“Sex selection includes any procedure, technique, test or administration or prescription or provision of anything for the purpose of ensuring or increasing the probability that an embryo will be of a particular sex.

Female Foeticide:

“Female foeticide is the killing of the female foetus after the detection of the sex of the foetus through by sex determination test.”

Female Infanticide:

“Female infanticide is the killing of female after birth”

Amniocentesis:
In this invasive technology, amniotic fluid using a syringe is tapped from the amniotic sac from pregnant woman’s uterine cavity in which the foetus floats, attached to the placenta through the umbilical cord.

**Ultra-Sonography/Ultrasound:**

The technology uses sonography to project the image of the body part being examined by putting a small instrument which looks like the mouse of the computer) over the body part and gently sliding it over the abdomen.

**Chorionic Vili Biopsy**

It involves biopsy of chorionic villi i.e. early product of conception. This can be done trans abdominally or trans cervically i.e. through the abdominal wall or through the vagina.