CONTENTS

Declaration
Certificate
Acknowledgement

Chapter 1: Introduction and Methodology 1-6
1.1 Introduction and Methodology 1
1.2 Myths and Social Reality 2
1.3 Arguments for and Against Sex Selection Technology 3
1.3.1 Moral and Ethical Arguments 3
1.3.2 Legal Arguments 3
1.3.3 Feminist Arguments 4
1.4 The Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act 4
1.5 Law and Policy Impacting Sex Selection 5

Chapter 2: The Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act, 1994 7-32
2.1 The Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act 7
2.2 A History of Legislation 8
2.2.1 The Seventies 8
2.2.2 The Eighties 9
2.2.3 The Nineties 12
2.2.4 The New Century 14
2.3 The Western World and Responses to Sex Selection 14
2.4 The Sex Selection Laws 15
2.4.1 The Maharashtra Act 15
2.5 The Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act, 1994 16
2.6 The C E H A T Petition 22
2.7 The Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act 25
2.8 Medical Ethics in the Context of Sex Selection, Sex Determination and Sex-Selective Abortion 26
2.9 Approaches to the Problem 28
2.9.1 Point of Prohibition Approach 28

Chapter 3: Population 33-71
3.1 Population 33
3.2 Introduction 34
3.3 History of Ratio/Sex Ratio Studies: A Partial Reason for the Late Legal Response 35
3.4 Family Planning Policy and its Impact on the Sex Ratio/Sex Selection 40
3.5 China’s Population Policy: Lessons for Law and Policy in India 42
3.6 The Courts and the Two-Child Norm 54
3.7 Incentives and Disincentives 64
3.7.1 The National Development Council Committee on Population (1992) 68
3.7.2 The National Population Policy (2000) 69

Chapter 4: Infanticide 72-82
4.1 Infanticide 72
4.2 The Colonial Experience 73
4.3 The Chinese Experience 76
4.4 Female Infanticide and Abandonment 79

Chapter 5: Abortion and Sex Selection 83-106
5.1 Introduction 83
5.2 The Abortion Debate as a Feminist Focus 84
5.3 The Medical Profession and Abortion 88
5.4 International Standards on Abortion 95
5.5 Abortion and The Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971 98
5.6 Safeguarding Abortion and Preventing Sex Selective Abortion in the Future 101

Contents

Chapter 6: New Reproductive Technologies and Sex Selection 107-118
6.1 Introduction 107
6.2 Choice Rhetoric and sex Selective Abortions 108
6.3 Eugenics and New Reproductive Technologies 110
6.4 Sex Selection – Sex Determination Tests and Sex Selective Technologies 111
6.5 New Reproductive Technologies in India 111
6.6 Law and New Reproductive Technologies 112
6.7 The Way Forward 113
6.7.1 Amniocentesis 116
6.7.2 Chorionic Villus Biospy 117
6.7.3 Ultrasonography 117
6.8 Sex Selection Techniques 118
6.9 The Pre-implantation Genetic Diagnosis (PGD) 118

Chapter 7: Sex Selective Abortion and Violence Against Women 119-142
7.1 Sex Selective Abortion and Violence Against Women 119

Chapter 8: Madhya Pradesh 143-150
8.1 Madhya Pradesh 143
8.2 Sex Ratio in Madhya Pradesh 146
8.3 Sex Ratio of Madhya Pradesh and Neighbouring States 147
8.4 Sex Ratio in Districts of Madhya Pradesh 147
8.5 Child Sex Ratio in Madhya Pradesh 148
8.6 Child Sex Ratio of Madhya Pradesh and Neighbouring States 148
8.7 Ranking of Districts by Child Sex Ratio, Rural 149
8.8 Ranking of Districts by Child Sex Ratio, Urban 149
8.9 Top and Bottom Five Districts by Child Sex Ratio, Total, Rural and Urban 149

Chapter 9: Conclusion 151-160
CONTENTS

9.1 Conclusion 151
  9.1.1 Law Reform in Modern Sex Selection Law 153
  9.1.2 Policy Changes 154
  9.1.3 Implementation of Constitutional Guarantees 155
  9.1.4 Creation of Implementation Mechanisms 156
  9.1.5 Modification of Criminal Laws and a Relook at
       Criminalizing Policy 157
  9.1.6 Making Medical Ethics Meaningful 158
  9.1.7 Miscellaneous 158

Bibliography 161-183