The investigation on present topic is very much concern with the society as well with nation and world. This study based on the attitudes towards sex selective abortion. The researcher completed this research to prove the attitude of couples towards sex selective abortion, their socio-economic status and anxiety level of mothers. Couples are chosen as respondents as they are main concern with the current research and directly responsible for female abortion in society.

In the current research work, the investigator intends to observe the attitudes of couples towards daughter abortion, its relation with socio-economic status and anxiety levels of mothers. The investigator has tried to know the attitude of male and female towards sex selective abortion. The above discussion on the several problems of the day instigated the investigator to work on the topic entitled – To study the attitudes of couples towards sex selective abortion.

After reviewing the concept and objective of the problems, preparation of hypothesis, studying the review of work done by the earlier investigators and explaining the detailed statistical data analysis, the researcher is now able to discuss the results of present study on the basis of data analysis.

The researcher considered some demographic variables of the respondents for the present study which are shown in different table no. 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22. Table–6 shows distribution of respondents according to sex (male/female) parameter and table–7 deals with the distribution of respondents according to age (18-41 years) parameter. Table–8 reveals the distribution of respondents according to occupation (service/business) parameter while table – 9 related with distribution of respondents according to religion (Hindu/Muslim/Sikh/Christian) parameter. Table–10 indicates distribution of respondents according to level of education (educated or non-educated) parameter.
and table-11 reveals distribution of respondents according to level of location (rural/urban) parameter.

Table-12 shows distribution of male and female according to different age groups and table-13 indicates distribution of male and female according to occupation service. Table-14 is distribution of male and female according to occupation business. Table-15 is distribution of male and female according to religion Hindu. Table-16 reveals distribution of male and female according to religion Muslim but table-17 related with distribution of male and female according to religion Sikh. Table-18 is distribution of male and female according to religion Christian. Table-19 reveals distribution of male and female according to education while table-20 shows distribution of male and female according to non-education.

Table-21 shows distribution of male and female towards sex selective abortion. Table-22 and 23 represents attitudes of educated and non-educated male and female towards sex selective abortion. The attitude of service and business class respondents are shown in table 24 & 25. The attitude of Hindu, Muslim, Sikh and Christian respondents revealed in tables 26 to 29. Table 30 represented comparative study of male and female towards sex selective abortion.

The socio-economic status and its relation with attitudes of couples towards sex selective abortion with high, middle and low socio-economic status is also explained. These relations are shown in tables 31, 32, 33 and 34. The high, average and low attitude of couples towards sex selective abortion with respect to number of daughter in their family is shown in table 35.

Table-36 represents distribution of respondents according to anxiety level of mothers of daughter with respect to sex. The study of anxiety level among the al mothers in this study is represented in table 37. Table 38 shows very high, high, average, low and
very low anxiety level of mothers of son while Table 39 revealed comparison of very high, high, average, low and very low anxiety level between mothers of daughter.

### 6.1 VARIFICATION OF HYPOTHESIS

Hypothesis is usually considered the principal instrument in research. Its main function is to suggest new experiments are carried out with the deliberated object of testing hypothesis. Decision makers often face situations where in they are interested in testing hypothesis on the basis of available information and then take decision on the basis of such testing.

The researcher formulated some statistical hypothesis for the present study. It is assumed that that the formulated hypothesis is true or false. To validate the subject hypotheses, the formulated hypothesis was converted in to null hypothesis. If supposed and evaluated data are differing markedly then formulated hypothesis is not true. But when the observed differences are significant then null hypothesis will be rejected and formulated hypothesis is true.

**The first null hypothesis of the present study is that there will no significance differences between the couples towards sex selective abortion.** This null hypothesis is divided in to two sub null hypothesis for better conduction and explanation of present study results. Attitudes towards sex selective abortion divided in three categories viz. high attitude, average attitude and low attitude.

The first sub null hypothesis is *there will be no significance difference between the male towards sex selective abortion.* Table 21 to 30 represents the attitudes of males
towards sex selective abortion. The total males are divided into educated/non-educated, occupation service/business and religion Hindu, Muslim, Sikh & Christian. Table no. 22 & 23 shows that non educated persons are more orthodox and educated person are little bit favourable. The percentage of educated males is 70 and non-educated is 30. Occupations are important for living style of persons and their selection of son and daughter in the family. Table no 24 & 25 reveals that service class males are liberal towards sex selection while business class males are not so liberal. 58% males are doing service while 42% males are engaged in their business. Religion plays an important role in forming the attitude towards any situations. Preference towards daughter is also a dominating facts due to religion. Table 26, 27, 28 and 29 shows that Hindu males are little bit liberal towards daughter, Muslim males having dominating nature towards sex selection while Sikh & Christian males are giving equal preference to son and daughter. The percentage of Hindu male is 45, Muslim male is 24, Sikh male is 17 and Christian male is 14. Table 30 shows that the results are insignificant and p value 0.1614, 0.2434 and 0.2536 for high, average and low attitudes. It is clear from these results that males are not significantly differs in their attitude towards sex selective abortion.

Nature of male in our Indian society is male dominating and attitude towards son is so prominent that it affects the thinking of all male. males are more related with son and it is their urge to get son in their family. males are the followers of customs and rituals of the society in which it is realized son will support the family and property. They also think that son give the security and prestige to their family. Therefore the result shows that males are not significantly differs in their attitude towards sex selective abortion.

The other sub null hypothesis is there will no significance difference between the female towards sex selective abortion. Table 21 to 30 represents the attitudes of females
towards sex selective abortion. The total females are categorized into educated/non-educated, service/business and religion Hindu, Muslim, Sikh & Christian. According to level of education, occupation and religion, females are also tested in their views regarding selection of daughter. The percentage of educated female is 79 & non-educated female is 21. The percentage of service class and business class female is equally 50 and percentage of females in Hindu, Muslim & Christian religion is 45, 24, 17 & 14 respectively. Table 30 reveals that the results are insignificant and p values 0.1614, 0.2434 and 0.2536 for high, average and low attitudes. It is clear from these results that females are not significantly differs in their attitude towards sex selective abortion.

The above sub null hypothesis is not significant because females of different cultures are showing no significant difference between their attitudes towards sex selective abortion from ancient time. Many believed that the act of sex-selective abortion was forced upon women by their husbands and in-laws. However, this has proved to be wrong, the sex-selective abortions are much supported by women of Indian society as well. “Son preference is not only bound by physical territory, cultural setting, economic and educational access. It also derives its relevance from the urge to establish one’s cultural identity.” Motherhood is the only chance to uplift the woman’s status in Indian society. If she gives birth to son, it becomes a proud for family. Therefore every female of any culture or creed want son in her family.

*It is clear from the discussion of above two sub null hypothesis that the first null hypothesis is true. Therefore it is confirmed that there is no significance differences between the couples towards sex selective abortion.*

The followings studies support the outcome of the researchers:-
In 2002, Ganatra B. et al reported that the most common reason women report for having an abortion is to limit family size. Other common reasons are to increase the spacing between births or to protect their health in cases where underlying medical conditions would be worsened by pregnancy or childbirth.

In 2002, Sen A et al observed that there are a number of reproductive strategies that Indian couples adopt as they attempt to ensure the birth and survival of at least one son.

In 2006, Mutharayappa et al. asserted that between 1985 and 2005 as many as 10 million female fetuses may have been selectively aborted.

In 2007, Ebenstein et al. suggested that sex selective abortion is the main cause for the rising trend in sex ratios at birth is the fact that sex ratios rise steeply with birth order and are concentrated among mothers who have daughters in previous births.

In 2010, Barcellos et al., reported that son preferences in India and other East Asian countries have been documented extensively.

The second null hypothesis is that there will be no significant difference between the socio-economic status of couple. The socio-economic status is categorized in to high, middle and low socio-economic status.

Table 31 showing that 34% males belong to high status, 41% related to middle status and only 25% is associated with low socio-economic status. The number females are different in their status from males. The maximum 47% females are belong to middle status while very less 17% females 19 are living their low socio-
economic status. P value is calculated which is not significant and their level of significance is shown in table 31. The result shows that there is no significant difference in the socio-economic status of couples.

*It is clear from the discussion of above second null hypothesis is true and accepted. Therefore it is confirmed that there is no significant differences in socio-economic status of couples.*

**The third null hypothesis is that there will be no significant difference between the socio-economic factor and attitude of couple towards sex selective abortion.** This null hypothesis is divided in to three sub null hypothesis for better conduction and explanation of present study results. The Socio-economic status of family plays a prominent role in attitude formation. The socio-economic status of taken families are divided into three subclass i.e. high, middle and low.

The first sub null hypothesis is *high socio-economic status of couples will not differ significantly in their attitude towards sex selective abortion.* High Socio-economic data was obtained from rural and urban communities. Tables 32 represent the relation between high socio-economic status and attitude of couples towards sex selective abortion. 8% males and females from rural and 25% males & females from urban areas belongs to high socio-economic status and they show their negative attitudes towards sex selective abortion. These results revealed that high socio-economic status is significantly and negatively correlated with the attitude of couples towards sex selective abortion. It is found that high socio-economic factor of couples is differ significantly in their attitude towards sex selective abortion.
The second sub null hypothesis is *middle socio-economic status of couples will not differ significantly in their attitude towards sex selective abortion*. Tables 33 represented the relation between middle socio-economic status and attitude of couples towards sex selective abortion. 21 % males and 25% female from rural and 20% male & female from urban areas having middle socio-economic status. The study was tested on these couples. These middle socio-economic class couples show their negative attitudes towards sex selective abortion. The results revealed that middle socio-economic status is significantly and negatively correlated with the attitude of couples towards sex selective abortion. Therefore it is found that middle socio-economic factor of couples is differ significantly in their attitude towards sex selective abortion.

The above sub null hypothesis of the researcher is false as significance differences between high and middle socio-economic status and attitude towards sex selective abortion is found. The reason behind this may be the difference between the opinion of male and female of high and middle socio-economic group because they think differently. Some modern demographic couples have changed their attitude and feel that sons and daughters are same and they accept the daughter as well as son. On the other hand some families of high and middle income group are authoritarian and living in ancient thinking, they give more preference to son and want son in their family. Therefore the above sub null hypothesis is rejected.

The third sub null hypothesis is *low socio-economic status of couples will not differ significantly in their attitude towards sex selective abortion*. Tables 34 represented the relation between low socio-economic status and attitude of couples towards sex selective abortion. Similar to high and middle SES, low socio-economic status families are also taken from both rural and urban areas. 16% males and 11% females from rural and 8% males & 6% females from urban areas show their different and positive attitudes towards sex selective abortion. These results revealed that low
socio-economic factor is not significantly correlated with the attitude of couples towards sex selective abortion. Therefore it is resulted that low socio-economic factor of couples is not differ significantly in their attitude towards sex selective abortion.

Low socio-economic group especially a labour class, farmers and other worker group who are engaged in physical work and generally are non-educated having different attitude towards sex selective abortion. Illiteracy of male and female in the low socio-economic society due to lack of schooling, males and females in India are generally unable to obtain high-paying work and are therefore financially dependent on the men in the family. As a result, it is felt to be to a family’s economic advantage to minimize the number of daughters. Since many of the reasons behind son preference are economically based life style. This group has a strong feeling that sons will be benefitted for the family and daughter is curse for the family.

Researcher also observed that couples feel daughters do not fit well into their culture and are potentially a source of vulnerability in the family. Sons, on the other hand, are a source of pride and strength: “the role of sons in exerting control over farm resources, in protecting the community against unwanted elements, and in the army of the state...may have been factors militating for the generalized preference for sons”. Therefore low socio-economic group think same and showing the insignificant attitudes towards sex selective abortion.

*It is clear from the discussion of above three sub null hypothesis of the third null hypothesis is false for high & middle SES group and fulls true for low SES group therefore the second hypothesis is partially rejected. Therefore it is confirmed that there is significance differences between high & middle socio-economic factor and attitudes of couples towards sex selective abortion while no significant differences between low socio-economic factor and attitudes of couples towards sex selective abortion.*
The followings studies support the outcome of the researchers:-

In 2001, Piko et al identified social class, living location, caste and religion as indicators of socio-economic status.

In 2003, Bornstein et al. reported that socioeconomic status (SES) is probably the most widely used contextual variable in education research.

In 2005, Agawal OP et al, concluded that the socio economic status (SES) is an important determinant of health, nutritional status, mortality and morbidity of an individual.

In 2011, Sobel j et al studies of the relationship between socioeconomic status (SES) and obesity reveals a strong inverse relationship among women in developed societies.

In 2013, Dasgupta et al published the largest reduction in the female disadvantage in postneonatal Mortality is observed in poorer rural households who are less likely to practice sex selection.

The fourth null hypothesis is that there will be no significant difference between the number of daughter in the family and attitudes of couples towards sex selective abortion. The attitude of couples towards sex selective abortion is divided in to three categories i.e. high, average and low attitude. The number of daughter in the family is taken as n=0, 1 & 2.

Table 35 revealed the relation between the high, average & low attitudes of couples with different number of daughter in the family. Table 35 is prepared to find out the different attitude of the couples towards sex selective abortion if they
have already any daughter in the family. 65% couples having no child i.e. daughter. 24% couple having only 01 daughter while 11% couples having 02 daughters. The high attitude towards sex selective abortion is shown by 11% couples having two daughters. 24 % couples showing average attitude even they have only 01 daughter. The attitude of 65% couples is very different having no daughter in the family and they show low attitude towards sex selective abortion. But no significance difference is found towards sex selective abortion, if they have already daughter in their family. The p value is calculated it is found 0.8563, 0.4511 and 0.0769 for high, average and low attitude of couples which was not insignificant and their level of significance is shown in concern table no. 35. These result shows that there is no significant difference between the number of daughter in the family and attitude towards sex selective abortion.

The above third null hypothesis true because strong urge towards son is so prominent that having one son in the family, couples are also interested in son. This is why the researcher obtained no significant difference in the attitude of couples towards sex selective abortion.

*It is clear from the discussion of above third null hypothesis falls in to true and is accepted. Therefore it is confirmed that there is no significant difference between the number of daughter in the family and attitude towards sex selective abortion.*

The followings studies also support the findings of investigators:-

In 1987, Sen and Sengupta reported that sharp decline in the population cannot be answered by the under-counting of females alone. The percentage of females to males over the last few decades has shown a marked decline.
In 1987, Karkal published that differentials in mortality of the two sexes reflect the differences in their biological makeup. In societies such as India, high mortality for females is a reflection of the role and status of females, both within the family and in society at large, as much as they represent the health consequences of social, economic and cultural discrimination against them.

In 1990, Balakrishnan made investigation into women's political mobilization and suggested the need to explore the relationship between access to property and sex ratios.


The fifth null hypothesis is that there will be no significant difference between anxiety level in mothers under. According to given manuals, the level of anxiety is divided into five categories i.e. very high, high, average, low and very low anxiety level. Table 36 reveals the distribution of anxiety levels in mothers. Table 37 showing the different anxiety level in mothers under study. The p value is calculate which are insignificant at 0.01 level of significance.

The above null hypothesis shows that there is no significant difference between anxiety level of mothers. This hypothesis is falls into true category because the first child is the proof of their reproductive ability; therefore the sex of the child is not a matter. However, the second child is the means to achieve their prestige, but only if the second child is the son. This prestige is the only form of respect a woman has in her life, in order to have if she supports the use of sex-selective abortion.
Therefore the above fifth null hypothesis is accepted and it is confirmed that there is no significant difference between the anxiety level of mothers in the family.

The sixth null hypothesis is that there will be no significant difference between levels of anxiety in mothers of son and daughter. This null hypothesis is divided into two sub null hypothesis for better conduction and explanation of present study results. According to given manual, the level of anxiety is divided into five categories i.e. very high, high, average, low and very low anxiety level.

The first null hypothesis is *there will be no significant difference between levels of anxiety in mothers of son.* Table 38 reveals the different levels of anxiety in mothers of son in the family. This anxiety test is administered on 36% mothers having at least 01 son. The level of significance is presented in table 36 and p value is calculated which is significant. Therefore this sub null hypothesis is false and so it is rejected. It is found that there is significant difference between levels of anxiety in mothers of son.

The above sub null hypothesis shows that mothers of sons are differ in their level of anxiety because in the second or third pregnancy the expectations of every mother are different. Some mothers think that one son already in the family therefore new coming child may be son or daughter, it will make no difference in their family.

The second null hypothesis is *there will be no significant difference between levels of anxiety in mothers of daughter.* Table 39 represents the different levels of anxiety in mothers of daughter in the family. 14% mothers having at least one daughter in their family are administered in the present study. The level of significance is presented in table 37 which is in the level of insignificance. Therefore this sub null hypothesis falls
in to true category and accepted. It is confirmed that there is no significant difference between levels of anxiety in mothers of daughter.

The ideal family size, particularly among the all socioeconomic classes, is two children. Given that at least one son is necessary, families with two daughters become increasingly anxious about the sex of their expected child. Some mothers wants only son in their family after the daughters. Studies have supported this theory, demonstrating that sex selective abortion occurs most frequently in families with one or more daughters which increase the levels of anxiety on mothers of daughter. It is also observed that spontaneous abortion and miscarriage also increase the anxiety level of mothers.

*Therefore the above fourth null hypothesis is partially rejected and it is confirmed that there is significant difference between the levels of anxiety levels of mothers of son while there is no significant difference between the anxiety levels of mothers of daughter in the family.*

The following studies also support the results of resercher:-

In 2000, Mishra et al examined the perception of anxiety level among male and female.

In 2002, Barbara et al compared high anxiety couples with low anxiety couples and found that high anxiety couples expressed higher level not only in anxiety and stress but also in anger, sadness and fatigue.

In 2003, Saipainish determined the prevalence of source of anxiety among educated couples.
In 2004, Kockar and Gencoş investigated the importance of different source of perceived social support, socio-tropic, automatic personality dipositions, achievement expectations in predictive anxiety symptoms of couples.

In 2009, Karande S reported that the mean age of mothers was 40.14 years, 73% belonged to upper or upper middle socioeconomic strata of society, 67% were graduates or postgraduates, 58% were full-time home-makers, and 33% lived in joint families. Levels of anxiety were absent in 24%, mild in 75%, and moderate in 1% of mothers. Their common worries were related to child's poor school performance (95%), child's future (90%), child's behavior (51%).

In 2010, Erdem Y. determined that maternal age, education, income; planned pregnancy, having complications of pregnancy, receiving antenatal care, type of labour, gestational age of the infant at birth, reasons for hospitalization of the infant and birth weight did not affect maternal anxiety levels. Maternal anxiety was significantly related to the infants' gender and duration of hospitalization, with statistically significant differences.

In 2013, Yılmiz H found that anxiety levels of mothers of daughters is higher than the anxiety level of mothers having sons. Anxiety levels in mothers of such children should be taken into account, and mothers should closely be followed and if necessary, psychologically supported.