A SOCIO-LEGAL STUDY OF THE STATUS OF WOMEN IN INDIA WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO FEMALE FOETICIDE AND INFANTICIDE IN THE STATE OF HARYANA

Questionnaire for Doctors*

NAME (Optional) :
AGE :
GENDER :
OCCUPATION (Optional) :

1. Do you think female foeticide has any bearing on the status of women?
   Yes/No

2. Do you agree that female foeticide has social acceptance?
   Yes/No

3. What is your reaction to this practice? Female foeticide
   a) Is an effective mode of family planning.
   b) Is a good method to opt the desired sex of the child.
   c) Helps to have balanced families
   d) Any other ________________________________

4. What according to you is the desirable number of children in a family?
   __________________

5. When do you think a family is complete? To have
   a) one son
   b) one daughter
   c) two sons
   d) two daughters
   e) one son and one daughter
   f) sex does not matter

* The names and the information provided herein will be kept strictly confidential and the information will be used only for analysis purposes for the research work.-Shipra Kaushal.
6. How many children do you have and of what sex?

7. Do you think at least one son is a must? Yes/No

8. What according to you are the reasons/factors behind female foeticide?
   a) son preference
   b) low status of women
   c) social security
   d) family name
   e) religious/spiritual functions
   f) inheritance
   g) dowry
   h) violence against women.
   i) Technological advancement

9. What are the likely consequences of sex selective abortions?
   i) Improvement in status of women.
   ii) Will start bride price.
   iii) Increase in dowry.
   iv) Decrease in dowry.
   v) Increase in sex related crimes.
   vi) Demographic imbalance.

10. How many abortion cases do you deal in a month?
    (a) Less than 10
    (b) Above 10
    (c) Above 20
    (d) More than 40
11. On what grounds do you do abortion?
   (a) Risk to mother's life/grave injury to her physical or mental health.
   (b) Risk of child’s physical or mental abnormalities
   (c) Rape
   (d) Contraceptive failure

12. In which trimester do you generally do abortions?
   (a) 1st trimester
   (b) 2nd trimester

13. How many cases of abortions come in
   (a) 1st trimester ______
   (b) 2nd trimester ______

14. Do you have ultrasound facility in your clinic/hospital?  Yes/No

15. How many cases of abortion come to you?
   (a) for male foetus
   (b) for female foetus

16. What kind of problems a female may suffer after abortion?
   (a) Less chances of conception.
   (b) Bleeding PV (per vagina)
   (c) Cervical incompetence
   (d) Emotional and psychological disturbance.

17. How many cases of maternal mortality occur in a year generally?
    ______ (Nos.)

18. Do you give counselling to the patients and their family before abortion?  Yes/No
19. How many cases have changed their mind after your counselling? 
   (Approx.)

20. Are you aware of the abortion laws? Yes/No

21. Do you think decriminalization of abortion under MTP Act is a good step? Yes/No

22. Are you aware of the grounds of seeking abortion under MTP Act? Yes/No

23. Are you satisfied with all the four grounds of medical termination of pregnancy under the Act? If not, which one
   a) Risk to mothers life/grave injury to her physical or mental health.
   b) Risk of child’s physical or mental abnormalities
   c) Rape
   d) Contraceptive failure

24. Do you find any lacunae in the Act? Yes/No

25. What do you think – Whether law for abortions is being misused? Yes/No

26. Are you aware that repeated abortions affect the woman’s health adversely? Yes/No

27. Have you ever dealt with a case of female foeticide? Yes/No

28. Do you think aborting a foetus is ethical/moral? Yes/No

29. What is your reaction to sex selective abortion?
   a) good option
   b) abhorrent
   c) acceptable
30. Do you agree that taking life of a foetus is equivalent to taking life of a child? Yes/No
31. Do you know foeticide is a crime under IPC also? Yes/No
32. Have you come across a case of female foeticide? Yes/No
33. Are you aware of any action taken under MTP Act & PNDT Act? Yes/No
34. Are you aware of the pre-natal diagnostic techniques that make it possible to know sex of the foetus? Yes/No
35. Are you aware of the pre-conception methods to opt the desired sex of the foetus. Yes/No
36. Are you aware that PNDT Act bans both the pre-conception and pre-natal diagnostic techniques for the purpose of sex-selection and sex determination? Yes/No
37. Are the present legislations effective for the control of female foeticide? Yes/No
38. Do you think the implementation machinery under the PNDT Act is sufficient to deal with this problem? Yes/No
39. Do you think there are shortcomings in the present legislation? Yes/No
40. Do you feel that there is some resistance in the enforcement of female foeticide laws? Yes/No
41. Do you think that the enforcement agencies get any response from the citizens for its actions taken for prevention, control and abetment of female foeticide? Yes/No
42. Do you think that we can achieve the goal of preventing female foeticide completely? Yes/No

43. Any suggestions for the prevention of female foeticide/infanticide.

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