PREFACE

Child marriage, the age old menace, continues to be a matter of grave concern even today. It is both a cause and an effect of the low status of women in the society. Though the subject is highly relevant, much studies are not seen conducted in the legal perspective. The study focuses on child marriage from a human right perspective, examines the legal measures at national and international level and attempts to evolve appropriate mechanisms for preventing this social evil.

The study is arranged in nine chapters. After the introductory chapter an intensive study of child marriage as a violation of human right of the child is made in chapter II. In chapter III an attempt is made to delve deep into the causes and the impact of child marriage on society in general. The statistical analysis of the age at marriage of female on the basis of empirical study is the subject matter of chapter IV. Chapter V analyses the socio-political reasons for the enactment of Child Marriage Restraint Act in 1929. Preventive as well as prohibitory measures envisaged in the Act is subjected to a close appraisal in chapter VI whereas chapter VII is devoted to discussion of procedure and sentencing policy under the Act. The question of legal validity of child marriage is dealt with in chapter VIII.
The whole study is concluded in chapter IX in which the inferences emerged out of the study is placed for serious consideration.

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