

Dowry Deaths as Compared to Literacy Rates in different States of India

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Abstract: ***Background:** Dowry death is old wicked tradition. Death by burning of married women was reported to be 452 for the year 1985, 478 for the year 1986 and 300 for the first initial six months of 1987, of women belonging to age 16 to 30 years. [1, 2]. 1, 319 cases were also reported nationwide in 1986 [1, 3]. Police records did not match hospital records for third degree burn cases among younger married women; far more violence occurs than the crime reports indicate [1, 4]. **Methodology:** Pub Med and Google search engines were searched to search previously done studies. Data was taken from NCBR, India. Census of India and data was taken for the year 2019 and 2017 respectively. Data was made worth for the study, so that proper conclusions could be made. Analysis was performed after implementation of correlation coefficient, regression coefficient and t test. Results and conclusions were made thereafter. **Results:** The statistically significant correlation coefficient was found to be -0.329. The ANOVA table was also found indulged significantly. Study concluded enhancement in literacy may pullout dowry deaths. t test reflected a significant value 1.8 ($p < 0.5$). **Discussion:** Results were showing significant values, those could be interpreted, dowry deaths may fall if literacy rates are increased.*

Key words: Dowry deaths, Literacy rates

1. Introduction

One of the studies, concerned with the public health burden of mortality in India caused by the practice of dowry, dowry deaths and dowry-related suicides. The factors considered were woman's primary role as a mother and daughter with limited options outside marriage, a daughter who stays unmarried beyond a certain age whose parents face high social costs, divorce is practically non-existent, women are customarily denied inheritance rights and marriages are arranged by the parents of brides and groom to largely reflect the interests of parents. [5]

According to dowry prohibition act: [6]

Definition of "dowry".-In this Act, "dowry" means any property or valuable security given or agreed to be given either directly or indirectly- (a) by one party to a marriage to the other party to the marriage; or (b) by the parents of either party to a marriage or by any other person, to either party to the marriage or to any other person; at or before [or any time after the marriage] 4 [in connection with the marriage of the said parties, but does not include] dower or mahr in the case of persons to whom the Muslim Personal Law (Shariat) applies. 5 Explanation II.-The expression "valuable security" has the same meaning as in section 30 of the Indian Penal Code (45 of 1860). 3. Penalty for giving or taking dowry.-6 [(1) If any person, after the commencement of this Act, gives or takes or abets the giving or taking of dowry, he shall be punishable 7 [with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than 8 [five years, and with fine which shall not be less than fifteen thousand rupees or the amount of the value of such dowry, whichever is more]: Provided that the Court may, for adequate and special reasons to be recorded in the judgment, impose a sentence of imprisonment for a term of less than 9 [five years].] 10 [(2) Nothing in sub-section (1) shall apply to, or in relation to, - (a) presents which are given at the time of a marriage to the bride (without any demand having been

made in that behalf): Provided that such presents are entered in a list maintained in accordance with the rules made under this Act; (b) presents which are given at the time of a marriage to the bridegroom (without any demand having been made in that behalf):

Provided that such presents are entered in a list maintained in accordance with the rules made under this Act: Provided further that where such presents are made by or on behalf of the bride or any person related to the bride, such presents are of a customary nature and the value thereof is not excessive having regard to the financial status of the person by whom, or on whose behalf, such presents are given.] 1 [4. Penalty for demanding dowry.-If any person demands, directly or indirectly, from the parents or other relatives or guardian of a bride or bridegroom, as the case may be, any dowry, he shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than six months, but which may extend to two years and with fine which may extend to ten thousand rupees: Provided that the Court may, for adequate and special reasons to be mentioned in the judgment, impose a sentence of imprisonment for a term of less than six months]. The results and conclusion are as follows.

2. Results

The Karl Pearson's correlation coefficient between literacy rate and dowry death rate was negatively associated, sprinkling with -0.329, showed a significant relationship ($p = .157$). The ANOVA table resulted significant strength of association ($p < 0.5$) and F ratio 2.184

3. Discussion

Study diagnosed a significant association between the rural/urban females and literacy rates in numerous states of India. Thus we may conclude that increment in literacy may decrease the dowry deaths.

References

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Author Profile



Dr. Firdous Ansari received Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree in Statistics in the year 2012 from Singhania University Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan. She did her Ph.D. work at Desert Medicine Research Centre, Jodhpur (Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) New Delhi) under the guidance of Dr. Ashutosh Kumar Dixit, Scientist, "F" and Head of the Bio-statistics Division, DMRC, Jodhpur, Rajasthan.. Ansari got her Master degree in Statistics from Jai Narain Vyas University in the year 2006. She is Gold Medallist of her batch. She has an experience of teaching of about two years (2010-2012) as a Research Associate at Banasthali University, Niwai, Jaipur, Rajasthan. She also provided her services as Assistant Professor in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Jai Narain Vyas University, Jodhpur for a duration of about two years (2013-2015).