

A Comparative Study to Assess the Knowledge and Attitude regarding Female Foeticide among Married Couples of Age Group 18 - 35 years in Selected Rural and Urban Areas of Palampur District Kangra H. P.

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Abstract: *It is a disgrace for the Indian society, which considers the birth of a girl child as a bad investment in future. . The devil of Female Foeticide first crept into the Indian society through the corridors of the northern states which engaged in gross misuse of amniocentesis. Amniocentesis first started in India in 1974 as a part of a sample survey conducted at the All - India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi, to detect foetal abnormalities. These tests were later stopped by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), but their value had leaked out by then and 1979 saw the first sex determination clinic opening in Amritsar, Punjab. A quantitative research approach and non experimental research design was adopted to conduct study. The non - probability purposive sampling technique was used to select 100 married couples of District Kangra, (H. P.) A self - structured knowledge questionnaire was used to assess the level of knowledge of married couples regarding the female foeticide and likert scale was used to assess attitude of married couples. The result of this study general showed the rural married couple they head mean percentage knowledge score was 67.87% and 80.40% mean knowledge score of urban married couple. The level of attitude score in rural area 56% moderate satisfactory and urban area 70% moderate satisfactory.*

Keywords: non experimental design, female foeticide, Knowledge, Attitude

1. Introduction

God forbid that any book should be banned. The practice is as indefensible as infanticide (Rebecca West)

Female infanticide is the deliberate killing of newborn female children. In countries with a history of female infanticide, the modern practice of gender - selective abortion is often discussed as a closely related issue. Female infanticide is a major cause of concern in several nations such as China, India and Pakistan. It has been argued that the low status in which women are viewed in patriarchal societies creates a bias against females. The term female foeticide means killing the female foetus in the mother's womb, the practice has been followed in India for ages a country that once described its women as Goddesses'. On other hands the female foeticide is the process of finding out the sex of the foetus and undergoing abortion if it is a girl, although it is illegal many people practice it. Female foeticide is completely unethical and illegal. This practice has roots in ancient history which people are following till date. There are various cultural and socio - economic reasons behind it. Most importantly, the sexism prevalent in the world is one of the main reasons for this practice. People prefer a boy over a girl even today. The reason behind this is the regressive thinking that the son will earn while the girls will only consume. This further leads to many other serious problems widening of male and female sex ratio. Sex selected abortion in the country manifest a social ethos which is the outcome of a district combination of socio

cultural and religious values. Besides, centuries of economic scarcities and paucity of options in life, rising incidence of violence and crime rates in recent decades as well as in the historical past also make notable contribution in these directions. Interestingly, despite huge socio cultural, ethnic and historical diversity in the country, female foeticide has gradually covered almost all of its states and union territories. In rural areas where most people do not have access to sex determination facilities the rate of female infanticide is alarming. „Infanticide“ is the killing of a child after birth. In India there are many shocking instances of female infanticide by strangulation, poisoning, dumping in garbage bins, drowning, burying alive, starvation and over exposure to elements. A startling fact is that often the mother or other female members in her network actively participate in the execution of these heinous killings. Surprising, but true is the fact that often educated and wealthy people in urban India too nurse a desire for a male child. The only saving grace being that they may not kill their daughter after birth. These educated classes tend to misuse the technique of surgical termination of pregnancy to get rid of an unborn female child. They determine the sex of the child using ultrasound techniques, and subsequently get rid of the female foetus by means of MTP.

2. Need for Study

In most populations, female mortality rates are lower than male mortality rates and females are more than males, which remain consistent across all the ages. However, historically

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South Asia is known for its male skewed child sex ratio. Researchers have attributed sex differentials in child mortality as one of the primary factors contributing to its skewed sex ratios in 0–6 year population. India's Sample Registration System (SRS) has been indicating the presence of sex differentials in child mortality since 1970s. The recent SRS report has also indicated a large gap (9 per 1000 live births) in terms of under - five mortality rate among males and females which further increases in rural areas. The preference for sons or more number of sons than daughters has been documented in several countries in the world. Particularly in India, the preference for a son is very strong and pervasive and it has been frequently cited as one of the major obstacles in the way of reducing the national fertility level. A pre experimental study was conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of planned teaching programme on knowledge and attitude regarding female foeticide. Purposive sampling technique was used to select 50 higher secondary school students for this study. The data was collected by using questionnaire and rating scale developed by the researcher. A planned teaching programme on female foeticide was administered to the higher secondary school students and was evaluated. The collected data were tabulated, analyzed and interpreted by using descriptive and inferential statistics and the findings showed that 23 (46%) had adequate knowledge and 26 (52%) had moderately adequate knowledge and 36 (72%) had positive attitude and 14 (28%) had neutral attitude in the post test. This study finding showed that the knowledge and attitude of the higher secondary school students increased after the planned teaching programme. Karl Pearson test revealed that there was positive correlation (0.32) between the post test knowledge and attitude on female foeticide. Regarding the association between the post test level of knowledge and attitude with selected demographic variables, the results revealed that there was significant association between knowledge with demographic variables like socio economic status and family income but there was no significant association between knowledge and attitude with demographic variables like age, religion, marital status, previous exposure to information of female foeticide. Asking a supplementary question in Rajya Sabha, Congress Member Ameer Yajnik said, "The record shows that in 2017, the highest number of female foeticides were in Gujarat. Has the *Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao* scheme failed in Gujarat, which is a so called model and developed state? "In reply, Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan said, "As far as *Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao* scheme is concerned, we are implementing it in 600 districts very effectively. Data does not speak about implementation of the scheme that way and it does not speak about efficiency of the state government of Gujarat. In Himachal Pradesh the child sex ratio in the age group of 0 - 6 years has improved from 896 to 906 in Himachal Pradesh from 2001 to 2011. The districts namely Hamirpur, Una, Bilaspur, Kinnour, Solan and Lahul&Sapiti have been showing decrease in female sex ratio as compared to 1991 census. In 1991 there were seven districts having less than 1000 females. But in 2001 two more districts came in this category. The districts Lahaul&Sapiti (804), Solan (853), Kinnaur (851) and Shimla (898) have less than 900 females. The districts namely Chamba (961), Sirmour (901), Bilaspur (992) have between 900 to 1000 females. Only three districts Kangra (1027), Mandi (1014), and Hamirpur (1102) have

more than 1000 females. The district Lahul&Sapiti has the minimum sex ratio (804) amongst the twelve districts. Districts showing a good and increasing trend in earlier census but a decreasing trend after the 1991 census are Hamirpur, Una, Bilaspur, Sirmour and Solan. It has been observed that in 2001, the deficit of girls is highest in district Kangra and therefore lowest child sex ratio 836 in the state. By observing different blocks of Kangra district, it becomes very sad to know that all blocks have declining trend in child sex ratio in 2001. The Kangra district has second position in overall sex ratio 16.1027, but lowest child sex ratio among all districts in Himachal Pradesh. Himachal Pradesh raising an alarm as girls are vanishing from the homes of hills. The decreasing sex ratio in hill state is not only due to the culture, socio - economic factors but may also be due to advancement of latest medical technology, which has created a serious problem of female foeticide. Majority of the respondents from female foeticide and non female foeticide group were aware of sex selection test specifically ultrasound. Socio - culture factors such as: (girls as a liability, old religious beliefs, dowry system, less status due to girls, small family norms, can't afford expenses on girls etc.) found significant association with female foeticide and non female foeticide.

3. Objectives

- To assess the knowledge score regarding female foeticide among married couples of age group 18 - 35 years in selected rural and urban areas of Palampur District Kangra H. P.
- To assess the attitude score regarding female foeticide among married couples of age group 18 - 35 years in selected rural and urban areas of Palampur District Kangra H. P.
- To compare the knowledge score regarding female foeticide among married couples of age group 18 - 35 years in selected rural and urban areas of Palampur District Kangra H. P.
- To compare the attitude score regarding female foeticide among married couples of age group 18 - 35 years in selected rural and urban areas of Palampur District Kangra H. P.
- To find out the relationship between knowledge score and attitude score regarding components of female foeticide among married couples of selected rural and urban areas of Palampur District Kangra H. P.
- To find out the association of knowledge score regarding female foeticide among married couples of age group 18 - 35 years in selected rural and urban areas of Palampur District Kangra H. P. with their socio - demographic variables.
- To find out the association of attitude score regarding female foeticide among married couples of age group 18 - 35 years in selected rural and urban areas of Palampur District Kangra H. P. with their socio - demographic variables.

Research Design: A Comparative descriptive design (Non - experimental research design) was used to accomplish the state objectives.

Population: The population of the study was married couples of selected urban and rural areas.

- Target population:** The married couples of urban and rural areas of Palampur
- Accessible populations:** Married couples available at the time of data collection in selected urban and rural areas of Palampur and who fulfil the selection criteria
 - Rural Community area (saliyana)
 - Urban Community area (Rajpur)

Sample and Sampling Technique

Sample of the present study consists of 100 samples of married couples in selected rural and urban areas of district Kangra, Himachal Pradesh.

Group I: 50 married couples of selected urban areas.

Group II: 50 married couples of selected rural areas

Criteria for Sample Collection

Inclusion Criteria:

This study includes married couples -

- Of 18 - 35 years.
- Who will be willing to participate in the study.
- Who will be present at the time of data collection.
- Who will be able to understand Hindi and English language.

Exclusion Criteria:

This study excludes married couples -

- Who will have age under 18 years and above 35 years of age.
- Who will not be willing to participate in study.
- Who will not understand Hindi and English language.
- Who will not be available during the time of data collection.

Description of Tool: The tools consist of three parts:

Part I: Socio - demographic variables.

Part II: Under this a self - structured knowledge questionnaire will be used where a series of questions will be asked to a participant to identify their level of knowledge regarding female foeticide.

Part III: This part consists of Likert scale to assess the attitude regarding female foeticide among married couples of selected rural and urban areas of Palampur, District Kangra H. P.

Scoring Pattern

The structured knowledge questionnaire consists of 30 questions in which, right answer was documented as correct one mark and wrong was documented as zero mark. The complete ranged from 0 to 30.

Table 1: Criteria for Assessing Level of Knowledge

Level of Knowledge	(%)	Score
Poor	<33%	0 - 10
Average	34 - 66%	11 - 20
Good	> 67%	21 - 30

Table 2: Criteria for Assessing Attitude

Level of Attitude	(%)	Score
Unsatisfactory	<33%	0 - 15
Moderately Satisfactory	34 - 66%	16 - 30
Satisfactory	> 67%	31 - 50

To ensure content validity of the tool was validated by obtaining the experts opinion from different fields. To ensure content validity of the tool regarding the relevance of items, the tool was submitted to 10 experts of different field of nursing. Experts were requested to judge the items of tool for clarity, relevance, appropriateness, relatedness and meaningfulness for the purpose of study and give their opinion and suggestion on the content, its coverage, organization. There was almost 100% agreement of the items in the questionnaires; however, there were few suggestions to modify some of the questions, and they were incorporated in the final draft. For Language validity the developed tool was given to an English Language and Hindi Language experts for the correction. As per the suggestion the modification were implemented. And the Reliability of an instrument is a major criterion for assessing its quality and adequacy. It is the ability of the data gathering device to obtain a consistent result. The reliability of tool was checked with 10 married couples, that is 5 were selected from the rural area, and 5 were selected from the urban area. The method used for the reliability is split half method with Karl Pearson's correlation coefficient formula. The correlation coefficient $r = 0.98$ was found and shows high degree of reliability of the tool.

4. Results

Section

Section I Finding related to selected socio demographic variables of research participants.

Section II Findings related to the frequency and percentage distribution of level of knowledge regarding female foeticide among married couples of selected rural and urban area of Palampur district Kangra.

Section III Findings related to the frequency and percentage distribution of attitude score regarding female foeticide among married couples of selected rural and urban area of Palampur district Kangra

Section IV Findings related to the comparison of knowledge score regarding female foeticide among married couples of selected rural and urban area of Palampur district Kangra.

Section V Finding related to relationship between knowledge score and attitude score regarding female foeticide among married couples.

Section VI Findings related to association of knowledge score regarding female foeticide among married couples with their selected socio demographic variables.

Section VII Findings related to association of attitude score selected socio demographic variables regarding female foeticide among married couples with their

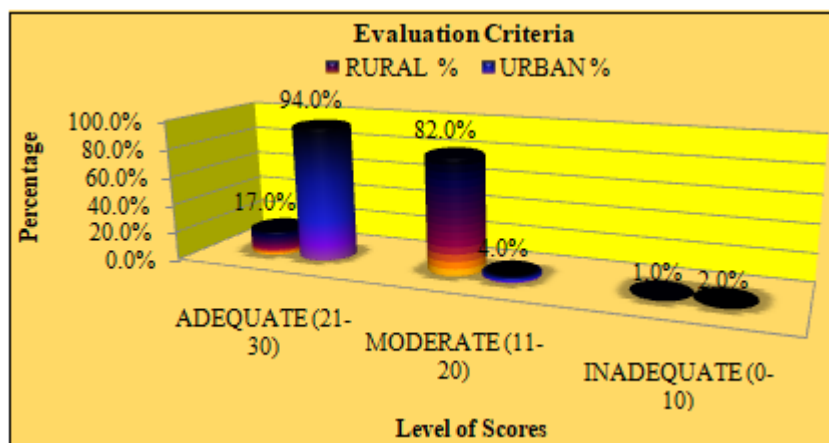
Section I: Findings related to selected socio - demographic variables of the research participants, N=100

Section - 1 Socio Demographic Proforma		Rural (%)	Urban (%)	Rural (f)	Urban (f)
Age in years	23 - 26 Years	12%	20%	6	10
	27 - 30 Years	60%	30%	30	15
	31 - 35 Years	28%	50%	14	25
Educational Status	No Formal Education	2%	0%	1	0
	Primary	32%	0%	16	0
	Secondary	62%	14%	31	7
	Graduation and above	4%	86%	2	43
Occupation	Home maker	44%	4%	22	2
	Private employee	40%	38%	20	19
	Government employee	14%	38%	7	19
	Business	2%	20%	1	10
Monthly Family Income	Less than 10, 000	12%	0%	6	0
	10, 001 - 15, 000	28%	10%	14	5
	15, 001 - 20, 000	32%	26%	16	13
	20, 001 and above	28%	64%	14	32
Religion	Hindu	90%	90%	45	45
	Muslim	4%	6%	2	3
	Sikh	6%	4%	3	2
	Others	0%	0%	0	0
Type of Family	Nuclear	46%	64%	23	32
	Joint	54%	36%	27	18
Area of Living	Urban	0%	100%	0	50
	Rural	100%	0%	50	0
Source of Information	Yes	60%	82%	30	41
	No	40%	18%	20	9

Section II: Findings related to the frequency and percentage distribution of level of knowledge regarding female foeticide among married couples of selected rural and urban area of Palampur district Kangra.

Frequency percentage of knowledge score of Both Group

Criteria Measure of Knowledge Score		
Level of Scores	Rural f (%)	Urban f (%)
ADEQUATE (21 - 30)	8 (17%)	45 (94%)
MODERATE (11 - 20)	41 (82%)	2 (4%)
INADEQUATE (0 - 10)	1 (1%)	3 (2%)
Maximum = 30		Minimum = 0

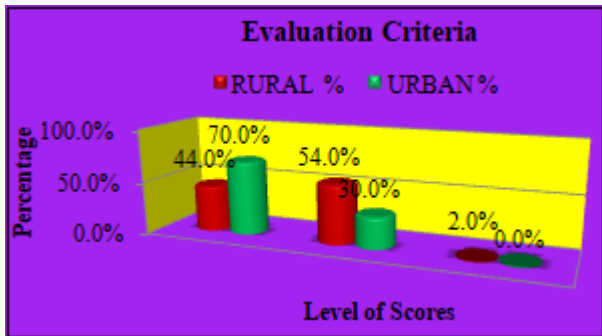


Section III: Finding related to frequency percentage of attitude scores regarding female foeticide among married couples of selected rural and urban area of Palampur district Kangra

Frequency percentage of Level of attitude Score of Both Group

Criteria Measure of Attitude Score		
Level of Scores	Rural f (%)	Urban f (%)
Satisfactory (37 - 50)	22 (44%)	35 (70%)
Moderately Satisfactory (24 - 36)	26 (54%)	15 (30%)
Unsatisfactory (10 - 23)	2.0 (2%)	0 (0%)

Maximum = 50 Minimum = 10

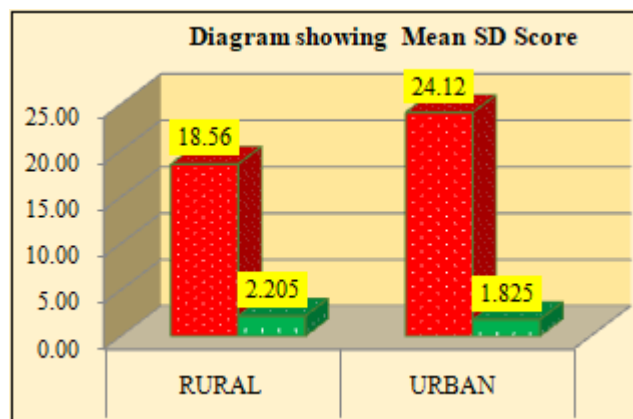


Section IV: Findings related to the comparison of knowledge score and attitude score regarding female foeticide among married couples of selected rural and urban area of Palampur district Kangra.

Comparison of knowledge score regarding female foeticide among married couples of selected rural and urban area, N=50+50

Unpaired T Test		Mean Score	S. D.	N	Mean %	Unpaired Test	P value	Table Value at 0.05	Result
Knowledge Score	Rural	18.56	2.205	50	61.87	13.733	<0.001	1.984	Significant
	Urban	24.12	1.825	50	80.40				

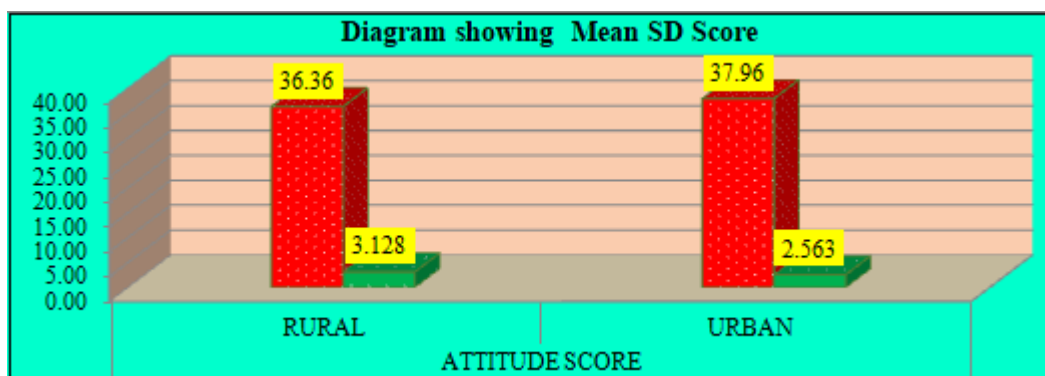
*Significance level 0.05 or 5%
Maximum=30 Minimum=0



Comparison of attitude score regarding female foeticide among married couples of selected rural and urban area, N=50+50

Unpaired T Test		Mean Score	S. D.	N	Mean %	Unpaired Test	P value	Table Value at 0.05	Result
Attitude Score	Rural	36.36	3.128	50	72.72	2.797	0.006	1.984	Significant
	Urban	37.96	2.563	50	75.92				

*Significance level 0.05 or 5%
Maximum=50 Minimum=10



Section V: Finding related to relationship between knowledge score and attitude score regarding female foeticide among married couples

Correlation between knowledge score and attitude score regarding female foeticide among married couples of rural married couples

Pearson's Correlation	Pair	
	Knowledge	Attitude
Mean	19.44	36.4

SD	3.085	3.024
N	50	
Correlation	- 0.207	
Table Value	0.279	
P Value	0.148	
Result	Not Significant	

Correlation between knowledge score and attitude score regarding female foeticide among married couples of urban married couples

Pearson's Correlation	Pair	
	Knowledge	Attitude
Mean	22.76	37.96
SD	2.454	2.563
N	50	
Correlation	0.106	
Table Value	0.279	
P Value	0.466	
Result	Not Significant	

Section VI: Findings related to association of knowledge score regarding female foeticide among married couples with their selected socio - demographic variables.

Chi square showing association of knowledge score regarding female foeticide among married couples of selected rural area of Palampur district Kangra

Demographic Variables		Level of Scores			Association with Rural Scores				
Variables	Opts	Adequate	Moderate	Inadequate	Chi Test	P Value	df	Table Value	Result
Age (years)	18 - 22 Years	0	0	0	0.219	0.896	2	5.991	Not Significant
	23 - 26 Years	1	5	0					
	27 - 30 Years	6	24	0					
	31 - 35 Years	2	12	0					
Educational Status	No Formal Education	0	1	0	3.544	0.315	3	7.815	Not Significant
	Primary	1	15	0					
	Secondary	7	24	0					
	Graduation and above	1	1	0					
Occupation	Home maker	2	20	0	6.323	0.097	3	7.815	Not Significant
	Private employee	4	16	0					
	Government employee	2	5	0					
	Business	1	0	0					
Monthly Family Income	Less than 10, 000	0	6	0	1.546	0.672	3	7.815	Not Significant
	10, 001 - 15, 000	3	11	0					
	15, 001 - 20, 000	3	13	0					
	20, 001 and above	3	11	0					
Religion	Hindu	6	39	0	6.865	0.032	2	5.991	Significant
	Muslim	1	1	0					
	Sikh	2	1	0					
	Others	0	0	0					
Type of Family	Nuclear	4	19	0	0.011	0.918	1	3.841	Not Significant
	Joint	5	22	0					
Area of Living	Urban	0	0	0		N. A			
	Rural	9	41	0					
Source of Information	Yes	6	24	0	0.203	0.652	1	3.841	Not Significant
	No	3	17	0					

Chi square showing association of knowledge score regarding female foeticide among married couples of selected urban area of Palampur district Kangra

Demographic Variables		Level of Scores			Association with Urban Scores				
Variables	Opts	Adequate	Moderate	Inadequate	Chi Test	P Value	df	Table Value	Result
Age (years)	18 - 22 Years	0	0	0	0.694	0.707	2	5.991	Not Significant
	23 - 26 Years	10	0	0					
	27 - 30 Years	14	1	0					
	31 - 35 Years	24	1	0					

Educational Status	No Formal Education	0	0	0	2.243	0.134	1	3.841	Not Significant
	Primary	0	0	0					
	Secondary	6	1	0					
	Graduation and above	42	1	0					
Occupation	Home maker	2	0	0	1.891	0.595	3	7.815	Not Significant
	Private employee	18	1	0					
	Government employee	19	0	0					
	Business	9	1	0					
Monthly Family Income	Less than 10,000	0	0	0	0.734	0.693	2	5.991	Not Significant
	10,001 - 15,000	5	0	0					
	15,001 - 20,000	12	1	0					
	20,001 and above	31	1	0					
Religion	Hindu	45	0	0	19.618	0.000	2	5.991	Significant
	Muslim	2	1	0					
	Sikh	1	1	0					
	Others	0	0	0					
Type of Family	Nuclear	31	1	0	0.177	0.674	1	3.841	Not Significant
	Joint	17	1	0					
Area of Living	Urban	48	2	0		N. A			
	Rural	0	0	0					
Source of Information	Yes	39	2	0	0.457	0.499	1	3.841	Not Significant
	No	9	0	0					

Section VII: Findings related to association of attitude score regarding female foeticide among married couples with their selected socio demographic variables.

Chi square showing association of attitude score regarding female foeticide among married couples of selected rural area with their selected socio demographic variables

Demographic Variables		Level of Scores			Association with Rural Scores				
Variables	Opts	Satisfactory	Moderately Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Chi Test	P Value	df	Table Value	Result
Age (years)	18 - 22 Years	0	0	0	0.219	0.896	2	5.991	Not Significant
	23 - 26 Years	1	5	0					
	27 - 30 Years	6	24	0					
	31 - 35 Years	2	12	0					
Educational Status	No Formal Education	0	1	0	3.544	0.315	3	7.815	Not Significant
	Primary	1	15	0					
	Secondary	7	24	0					
	Graduation and above	1	1	0					
Occupation	Home maker	2	20	0	6.323	0.097	3	7.815	Not Significant
	Private employee	4	16	0					
	Government employee	2	5	0					
	Business	1	0	0					
Monthly Family Income	Less than 10,000	0	6	0	1.546	0.672	3	7.815	Not Significant
	10,001 - 15,000	3	11	0					
	15,001 - 20,000	3	13	0					
	20,001 and above	3	11	0					
Religion	Hindu	6	39	0	6.865	0.032	2	5.991	Significant
	Muslim	1	1	0					
	Sikh	2	1	0					
	Others	0	0	0					
Type of Family	Nuclear	4	19	0	0.011	0.918	1	3.841	Not Significant
	Joint	5	22	0					
Area of Living	Urban	0	0	0		N. A			
	Rural	9	41	0					
Source of Information	Yes	6	24	0	0.203	0.652	1	3.841	Not Significant
	No	3	17	0					

Chi square showing association of attitude score regarding female foeticide among married couples of selected urban area with their selected socio demographic variables

Demographic Variables		Level of Scores			Association with Urban Scores				
Variables	Opts	Satisfactory	Moderately Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Chi Test	P Value	df	Table Value	Result
Age (years)	18 - 22 Years	0	0	0	0.694	0.707	2	5.991	Not Significant
	23 - 26 Years	10	0	0					

	27 - 30 Years	14	1	0					
	31 - 35 Years	24	1	0					
Educational Status	No Formal Education	0	0	0	2.243	0.134	1	3.841	Not Significant
	Primary	0	0	0					
	Secondary	6	1	0					
	Graduation and above	42	1	0					
Occupation	Home maker	2	0	0	1.891	0.595	3	7.815	Not Significant
	Private employee	18	1	0					
	Government employee	19	0	0					
	Business	9	1	0					
Monthly Family Income	Less than 10, 000	0	0	0	0.734	0.693	2	5.991	Not Significant
	10, 001 - 15, 000	5	0	0					
	15, 001 - 20, 000	12	1	0					
	20, 001 and above	31	1	0					
Religion	Hindu	45	0	0	19.618	0	2	5.991	Significant
	Muslim	2	1	0					
	Sikh	1	1	0					
	Others	0	0	0					
Type of Family	Nuclear	31	1	0	0.177	0.674	1	3.841	Not Significant
	Joint	17	1	0					
Area of Living	Urban	48	2	0		N. A			
	Rural	0	0	0					
Source of Information	Yes	39	2	0	0.457	0.499	1	3.841	Not Significant
	No	9	0	0					

5. Discussion

The findings of the study discussed were based on the objective as

To assess the knowledge and attitude regarding female foeticide among married couples of age group 18 - 35 years in selected rural and urban areas of Palampur district Kangra. In rural 96% of married couples were having adequate knowledge and 4% of them are having moderate knowledge, and in urban maximum 82% married couples were having moderate knowledge and 18% were having adequate knowledge. In rural married couples they had mean percentage knowledge score was 67.87 % and 80.40% mean knowledge score was present in urban married couples. And the level of attitude score in rural areas was 56% moderate satisfactory, 44% satisfactory was there, and in urban areas level of attitude score was 70% satisfactory and 30% moderate satisfactory.

To compare the knowledge and attitude regarding female foeticide among married couples of age group 18 - 35 years in selected rural and urban areas of Palampur district Kangra the maximum mean percentage score obtained by urban married couples 24.12 with standard deviation of 1.825 and minimum mean percentage obtained by rural married couples 18.56 with standard deviation of 2.205, and the calculated t - value is 13.733 which shows that there is a significant difference in knowledge between rural and urban married couples at the level of 0.05df. The rural mean level of attitude score was 36.6 and SD was 3.128 and the urban mean level of attitude score was 37.96 and SD was 2.563. The calculated 't' value was 2.797 which was significant at the level of $p < 0.05$. Thus there is significant difference between the attitude scores of rural and urban Married couples.

To find - out the association of knowledge and attitude scores regarding female foeticide among married couples of age group 18 - 35 years in selected rural and urban areas of Palampur district Kangra The association of knowledge score regarding female foeticide among married couples with their selected socio - demographic variables. The association reveals that the demographic variables had not shown significant association with the knowledge score regarding female foeticide. Hence the research hypothesis (H_{01}) was accepted. The association of attitude level regarding female foeticide among married couples with their selected demographic variables. The association reveals that demographic variables had not shown significant association with the attitude level regarding female foeticide. Hence the research hypothesis (H_{01}) was accepted.

Another study has been found by **Suman MounKhatkar (2018)** conducted a comparative Study on Knowledge and Attitude regarding Female Foeticide among Women in Selected Urban and Rural Areas at Fatehabad District In the case of female foeticide, the female children in the wombs of expecting mothers, they are not only denied the right to live but are robbed to their right to be born. Social, cultural, financial and psychological reasons are responsible for the prevalence of evil female foeticide in our society. The aim of the study was to compare the knowledge and attitude regarding Female Foeticide among urban and rural women. Methodology: The Comparative design was used. The conceptual framework used in the study was Ludwig Von Bertalanffy General system theory. The total sample size for the study was 100 women (21 - 45Yrs) in Fatehabad District. Written consent has obtained from the samples. Non Probability Convenient sampling technique has been used and data collection by structured knowledge questionnaire and Attitude scale. Results: The major finding of the study revealed that in Knowledge, 80% of urban women's have average knowledge, 58% of rural women's have average knowledge, 38% of rural women's have low

knowledge, 12% of urban women's have low knowledge and 8 % urban women's have the good knowledge. 4 % rural women's have the good knowledge regarding female foeticide. In Attitude 94% of rural women have average attitude, 88 % of urban women's have average attitude, 6% of urban women's have low attitude, 4.0% of rural women's have low attitude, 6.0% of urban women's have good attitude and 2% rural women's have the good attitude regarding female foeticide. The statistical outcomes of association between socio demographic characters of urban and rural women's with their knowledge regarding female foeticide. It is evidenced that the knowledge is not influenced by marital status, religion, type of family, occupation, family income, number of children, source of information. There is significant relationship between knowledge of urban women and socio demographic variable. There is no significant relationship between knowledge of urban women and socio demographic variable. There is no significant relationship between attitude of urban and rural women and socio demographic variables. Conclusion: This study concludes that in both knowledge and attitude Urban mothers stands in front. So rural mothers need more attention and education to prevent and stop female foeticide.

6. Conclusion

From the result of study, it was concluded that there is a significant difference between the knowledge and attitude score of married couples regarding female foeticide. and significantly associated with level $p < 0.005$.

- Similar study may be replicated on large sample.
- Similar study can be carried out by using various teaching methods and skill training strategies.
- An experimental study can be conducted.

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