# North Asian International Research Journal Consortium

North Asian International Research Journal of

Social Science & Cumanities

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ISSN NO: 2454 - 9827

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## A SOCIO-ECONOMICAL ANALYSIS OF MATRINITY BURDEN ON PRE MATURE GIRL IN INDIA

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#### ABSTRACT:

Maternity one of the biological status of women. Mother can often apply to a woman other than the biological parent, especially if she fulfills the main social role in raising the child. The early marriage called as a 'child marriage'. The child marriage was not prevalent in the Vedic age as a common rule; it came into being around 400 B.C. During the 20<sup>th</sup> century & even today we come across the practice of child marriage among low caste Hindus & also among those persons residing in the villages. The parents arranging marriage ceremony to his girl child for the fulfilling her grandfather desires. Some families practiced Blind traditions, early marriage support to getting a salvation. We must provide education facilities to backward, rural, illiterate areas & not only a formal education provides night schools, mobile schools, adult education, appointment of teachers.

Key-words-child marriage, Brahmin caste, Pregnancy, Blind Super situations, Devadasi system, Jogati system. Stree Shakti groups. Virginity.

#### INTRODUCTION

Maternity one of the biological status of women. This is principal position of every women in her life, she have expectations something about it. Now-a-days it is coming unexpected & untimed in her life. This is one of the burning problems in India.

Mother can often apply to a woman other than the biological parent, especially if she fulfills the main social role in raising the child.

Historically, the role of women was confined to some extent to being a mother and wife, with women being expected to dedicate most of their energy to these roles and to spend most of their time to take care of her





home. In many cultures, women received significant help in performing these tasks from older female relatives, such as mothers in law or their own mothers.

#### **BACK GROUND**

The early marriage called as a 'child marriage'. The child marriage was not prevalent in the Vedic age as a common rule; it came into being around 400 B.C. From second century A.D. Child marriage became very common & that is why we find the Yagyavalakya has remarked that a father or a guardian who does not give away the girl in marriage after the girl has attained puberty is guilty of killing the fetus.

The girl of 8 years was called Gauri & was considered fit for marriage. The girl of 9 years was called Rohini & the girl above 10 years was called Rajaswala. From the 2<sup>nd</sup> century A.D. till the 11<sup>th</sup> century A.D. The practice of child marriage had taken deep roots in Hindu society particularly among the Brahmin caste but the lower castes had not accepted child marriage as a common rule. Particularly the Kshtriya as were not in favour of child marriage. This can be shown from the fact from 3<sup>rd</sup> century A.D. to 12<sup>th</sup> century A.D. the Sankrits drama portrayed the heroine who was an adult & mature girl.

It indicates that since literature reflects the social values, child marriage was not practiced. But gradually the age of marriage for girls decreased during the middle ages, particularly during Muslim period the age of marriage of girls became very low & child marriage came to stay. During the British period the practice of child marriage was very common in rural India. During the 20<sup>th</sup> century & even today we come across the practice of child marriage among low caste Hindus & also among those persons residing in the villages.

Thus through the ages, early marriage & child marriage have come to stay in India. age of marriage for girls decreased.

#### **MEANING**

**Pregnancy**, also known as **gestation**, is the time during which one or more offspring develops inside a woman womb. Pregnancy can occur by sexual intercourse or assisted reproductive technology. Childbirth typically occurs around 40 weeks from the last menstrual period. Biological motherhood for humans, as in other mammals, occurs when a pregnant female gestates a fertilized ovum (the "egg")



The pregnancy is healthfully to certain age, but premature pregnancy is burden to girl. According to Health & Family Welfare Department more than 1.14 lakh premature girls has been pregnant which means before 18 age of girls is pregnant in Karnataka.

According to Mother & Child Tracking System survey from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 to 15<sup>th</sup> Feb 2017 14-18 aged 1,.14,575 girls pregnant. [Vijaya Karnataka Daily magazine 19/02/2017]. The statistics lighting on Child Marriage system. During 2015-2016 55,448 girls are below 18 age out of 1, 14,828 pregnancy. Among that unmarried girls also pregnant, but there is no information they delivered or not? That still translates into a disproportionate number of girls in rural and semi-urban areas who are married of in childhood, as compared to boys.



#### **FINDINGS**

Premature pregnancy is one of the burning issue in not only a Karnataka State; It is one of the National issue. During 2017 Chamaraj Nagar District first place [13.66] next Mysore [10.95] Chikka Ballapura [10.36] Dharwad [10.03] last place Udapi [2.22]. [Source women & Child welfare department in Vijayavani daily 19<sup>th</sup>/02/2017].

Now-a-days the society had changing aspects from the so many sources, under that the society going on in the direction of infirm future. Because we observing in our society so many reasons & facts such as ......

1]. Poverty This is one of the most popular problem in Indian society, the parents has been more children but they are incapable to serving that children. Automatically the girl sold by parents to another for some money or material or another benefits.





2]. Lack of Education:-Majority of rural people or tribal people for away from education. Because there is no any awareness about the importance of education or benefit of that. Illiterate peoples marrying a girl before age of 14. They know only settling of his daughter there is no knowledge about what is the effect on daughter from child marriage. [Lack of knowledge is support to pre mature pregnancy –Justice Sujata – Honb'l Karnataka High Court Justice, 19<sup>th</sup> Feb 2017 on stage of State Advocate First Conference function].

#### 3]. Gender disparity in Socialization

- The aspire of male child continued in modern society also.
- The pre-natal diagnostic techniques support to identification of child gender.
- More decoration arranged for the male child but no to female.
- The family members are giving different guidelines and suggestions to male / female.
- There is no listing system about female desires but they were gave special interests to male desires.
- Dress code, walking style, conversation system, body languages all are different between male/female.

#### 4]. Parents responsibility

The family members or parents don't know anything about his daughter future. Because they are busy with their own risk or job. The parents has own responsible about his daughter that is marriage. If she living without





marriage with parents that is shame to parents, so as-early-as possible the parents marrying his daughter. After that free from responsible.

#### 5] The role of Brokers or Mediators

The mediators also participate in this issue. They are living or leading their life under this job. They often find poverty family or ignored family or parents. They convinced about his daughter future life & manipulate the parents from much amount or material or some time food grains. The mediator getting a commission from those who are interested marrying that girl.

#### **6] Blind Superstitions**

We may observing in some tribal areas, hill areas, forest areas, remote area peoples suffer from so many facilities. In addition that so many customs & desires. And the grand father has some desire about granddaughter marriage. Impact the parents arranging marriage ceremony to his girl child for the fulfilling her grandfather desires. Some families practiced Blind traditions, early marriage support to getting a salvation. Devadasi system, Jogati system etc.





7] **Prostitution:-**We may observe in some village's families the prostitution is a one of the main job for the leading of life. The early marriage helps to that job, if one time she pregnant from prostitution the pregnancy is





illegal. Therefore the families arrange the early marriage to his daughter. So prostitution is support to early marriage.

#### 8]. An atmosphere of affection & love

The living atmosphere of girl is also supporting to pregnancy, loneliness, attraction of modern life style, she fell down in youngster love & affection. She expect new experience & unknown feelings by heart, automatically her life moves in the direction of boy friendship. Day-by-day the friendship converted as a sexual relationship.

#### 9]. Caste System

The caste system also one of the reason for the early marriage of girl. Some families practiced Dowry system, polygony, decline of Joint family. The imbalanced family takes serious action about girl early marriage for the maintenance of above reasons. Some upper castes sexually oppressed on lower caste girl.

#### 10]. Lack of Effective Legislations

We may observe in Indian society there is no effective legislations. The administration system cannot take action on early marriage. So many incidents happen in front of the officers, politicians, leaders, social reformers. But they helpless for the controlling that system. [Failure of officials for the control of child marriage on 19<sup>th</sup> Feb 2017 in Marihal village of Belgavi District of Karnataka].

#### EFFECTS OF EARLY PREGNANCY

#### 1]. A childhood interrupted

"The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act 2006 prohibits marriage below 18 for girls and 21 for boy. But some 80 % of Indians live in villages where family, caste and community pressures are more effectual". Girls between 15 and 19 are twice as likely to die of pregnancy-related reasons as girls between 20 and 24. Once married, a girl or boy is expected to meet different obligations arising out of such marriage, including responsibilities towards the spouse, the family and society. In a child marriage, the individuals involved are not yet-physically, mentally and emotionally ready to perform the obligations.



In child marriage, not only the rights of the individuals involved get violated but their unpreparedness to protect against any violation makes them more vulnerable to further exploitation. In that sense, child marriage is a clear violation of human rights. [Anupam Srivastava and Jyoti Rao.]

#### 2]. Violence

Young girls in a child marriage are more likely to experience domestic violence in their marriages as opposed to older women. According to study of **International Centre for Research on Women** showed that girls married before 18 years of age are twice as likely to be beaten, slapped, or threatened by their husbands and three times more likely to experience sexual violence. Young brides often show symptoms of sexual abuse and post-traumatic stress. ["Child Marriage Facts and Figures" International Center for Research on Women].

#### 3]. Fertility outcomes

According to study of **International Institute for Population Sciences and Macro International** in 2005 and 2006 showed high fertility, low fertility control, and poor fertility outcomes data within child marriages. 90.8% of young married women reported no use of a contraceptive prior to having their first child. 23.9% reported having a child within the first year of marriage.

17.3% reported having three or more children over the course of the marriage. 23% reported a rapid repeat childbirth, and 15.2% reported an unwanted pregnancy. 15.3% reported a pregnancy termination (stillbirths, miscarriages or abortions). Fertility rates are higher in slums& rual than in urban areas. [Chandrasekhar, S (2010). "Factors Affecting Age and Marriage and Age at First Birth in India". Journal of Quantitative Economics: 86]

#### 4]. Early maternal deaths

Girls who marry earlier in life are less likely to be informed about reproductive issues, and because of this, pregnancy-related deaths are known to be the leading cause of mortality among married girls between 15 and 19 years of age. These girls are twice more likely to die in childbirth than girls between 20 and 24 years of age. Girls younger than 15 years of age are 5 times more likely to die in childbirth. [Chandrasekhar, S (2010). "Factors Affecting Age and Marriage and Age at First Birth in India". Journal of Quantitative Economics: 86.]





#### 5]. Deceases

About 213 million pregnancies occurred in 2012, of which, 190 million were in the developing world and 23 million were in the developed world. The number of pregnancies in women ages 15 to 44 is 133 per 1,000 women.

About 10% to 15% of recognized pregnancies end in miscarriage. In 2013, complications of pregnancy resulted in 293,000 deaths, down from 377,000 deaths in 1990. Common causes include maternal bleeding, complications of abortion, AIDS, high blood pressure of pregnancy, maternal sepsis, and obstructed labor.

#### 6]. Burden on Family & Society

The pre mature pregnant girl is burden to her family for the **securing her physical**, **mental health**, & protection of pre natal safeguards from parents is too responsible, if neglected unexpected incidents happens in family. Other hand the society is also responsible to that girl provide—all moral support. **But some societies neglected pre mature pregnant girl or pre marriage pregnant girl.** Automatically the pregnant girl suffered from some facilities & mother mortality, child mortality incidents is grow.

#### 7]. Effects on Growth of Population

Indians consider marriage as a social obligation almost all marriageable persons are in a married state. Particularly for women marriage is almost an inescapable obligation. & **Imbalance of sex ratio from the effect of female infanticide, infanticide, neglect of infants, bad treatment & hard work of women**. When there is a rapid growth of population in a country, there will be large proportion of unproductive consumers. In fact today about 51% of the total population of India is unproductive. Rapid increase in the population contributes to an increase in the dependency ratio.

#### 8]. Support to Social evils

The unplanned births in future neglected by parents & society. The neglected child doing anything anywhere, **like stolen, robbery, smuggling, prostitution another illegal activities.** Majority of that families suffered from so many facilities, like socialization, education, love of parents, child labour, unemployment, poverty, responsible of future life.



#### 9]. Burden on Government welfare Services

The government services unnecessary waste in improvement of rural poor, unemployed, peoples. One side the government services effectively success, at the same time arise the some problems like early marriage, early pregnancy, early births, so and so... The governments introduce so many programs for controlling the some problems, unnecessary these are spoiled the so many expenses of national economy.

#### 10]. Headache to officers & Administrators

The problem create controversy among the officials because the top level officer enforced by politicians, impact he is forced on lower officers for the controlling the problem. But the society cannot understanding about that problem. Often Media telecast the like that incidents in channel. Other hand the government spent large size amount for the eradication of problems but the task did not reach the goal.

#### **SUGGESTIONS**

#### 1]. Provide Education facilities

We must provide education facilities to backward, rural, illiterate areas & not only a formal education, provide night schools, mobile schools, adult education, appointment of teachers for the teaching to them at night time [6.30 pm to 8.00 pm] especially female teachers. If effectively the task set forth in society then the problem decrease in it's accelerate.

#### 2]. Provide employment opportunities

Employment is one of the important weapon to control of problems. So provide employment to them, which means not only a government employment, provision to self employment, cottage works, hand crafts, homemade products, fangs culture, honey culture, figs & rabbits forum, effectively economic gain works. & provide training facilities for the modern skill works in their native places.

#### 3]. Provide economic facilities

We must provide economic facilities, because they suffer from poverty, not free helps to them, provide loan facilities through the banks or co-operative societies for self employment, like fisheries, animal husbandry, poultry, totally self employment.



#### 4]. Create awareness

We must create awareness among that areas, publicity of evil effects of that problem, convince of parents & relatives for avoid of early marriage. Girl is not burden to parents, she is a one of the member of my family why we early send off her to out of my family? Suggest them about traditional blind practices, systems, customs.

#### 5]. Provision to alternative facilities

After the protection of early married girls provide alternative facilities to them for the leading life. Support to her future life. Encouragement to moral life & giving guidelines for the alternative works or job for the life & her babies. We must establish refugee's center & provide moral support. Communal center is also use for that girls & create awareness about effects of early marriage. Support to her about fear from the loss of virginity. We must support to nontraditional jobs initiate self improvement activities.

#### 6]. Provide Health facilities

We must provide medical facilities to rural, illiterate, backward areas. Because so many people's suffer from the hereditary, & epidemic deceases. The marriage is compulsory in every life so the parents arrange as-early-as possible to his daughter. Because they suffer from some diseases she can die any time. If she died without marriage cannot getting salvation. That is blind method so we must provide medical facilities for curing from deceases then they postponed marriage.

#### 7]. Improvement of Rural Society

After the independence the government introduced so many planning for the rural development. But still the rural society suffer from so many problems, So we must provide basic needs to rural like education, employment, health nutrition, drinking water, housing facilities, transport, communication, economic helps, awareness, & other improvements is essential to rural society.

#### 8]. Campaigns & Vigilance program

We must organize the campaigns for publicity of evil effects of early marriage, blind methods, customs, superstitions, dowry, & other problems. Acting street dramas, functions, forums, advertisements, sticking wall posts in public places, Initiate the vigilance among the rural peoples about early marriage, her pregnancy,





mortality, mother mortality, infant mortality, diseases, & other effects. Teach to youths or getting a oath from youngsters, & pre mature girl about avoid the early marriage.

#### 9]. The role of Mass Medias

The role of mass medias is very important in control of early marriage, They must control of the explosive telecast of early marriage incidents. They conduct discussions about evil effects of that problem in studio & often telecast the vigilance program of problems, Provide information to rural peoples about government facilities, opportunities. The mass media must attract the peoples for the modern jobs, voluntary jobs, eradication of poverty, health program, hosing facilities, & other useful program.

#### 10]. The role of NGO & Voluntary organizations

The NGO is more activate agency for the control & improvement of rural problems. Who works behalf of government fund & donor funds. The NGO must effectively operate the task. Initiate the awareness program, education, night schools, adult education, health – nutrition, eradication of cast restriction or customs along with participate of local youths.

Voluntary organizations also improve the rural society like self-help groups, Stree Shakti groups. Women organizations must take serious task for the control of early marriages, prostitution, sexual harassments, sexual abuse of girl & women in rural society.

They must take the rural youths, girls & women in involving the development works. Support to empowerment, stability in economic; create awareness about future life, self independence, self confidence, & self achievement.

#### 11]. Effective Legislations

All social problems are not solve from the government legislations, But sometime which is essential in our society. The society excepted qualitative changes but some time the changes comes from the out of legislations, another time compulsory the changes comes from the legislations only. So we must set forth the effective legislations not passive legislations, for the change of the society through the control or removing of the social problems.



Those who are support directly or indirectly to early marriage, prostitution or other illegal activities who are must be punished. More penalty or imprisonment punishment is need. Those who are take part in early marriage they also guilties. Parents, brokers, totally merciless punish by legislations.

#### **CONCLUSIONS:**

The all social problems will arise along with solutions, Prevention is better than currying. We must find out suitable answers to problem & the problem is not belonging to those who are suffering from problem. The problem is applied to all human beings. So we all like a member of world family we must support to control of problems.

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