

# THE IMPACT OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS ON THE ATTITUDE TOWARDS SMALL FAMILY NORMS AMONG FEMALE POST GRADUATE STUDENTS.

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## ABSTRACT

The purpose of the study was to find out the effect of socio-economic status on attitude towards small family norms amongst career-oriented (CO) , career marriage-oriented (COM) and Marriage-orientaed (MO) Post Graduate female students. The incidental-cum-purposive sample comprised on 210 student taken from different colleges on Patna and Gaya. For this purpose the personal data sheet inventory developed by researcher to get some personal information related to the respondents, Socio-Economic status scale ( Modified) constructed and standardize by Singh et.al (2000) and a questionnaire measuring attitude of respondents towards small family norms developed by researcher. For analysis of data, t-test was used. The results retained the hypothesis showing significant difference between high , low and middle socio-economic status on the dimension of carrier oriented marriage oriented and carrier marriage oriented.

**Key word :** Socio-Economic status, Attitude towards small family norms

## INTRODUCTION

Family size is a matter of great importance not only for the country as a whole but also for the welfare and health of the indivisible the family and the community. Our country has adopted the goal of universalizing two-child family norms. India is one of the developing countries who indentified family planning as basic to development. Family planning is an integral part of the package of health nutrition and health education. The aim of family planning programme in early stage was to reduce births by fixing contraceptive targets only. But now it has been changed to bring down fertility through improving maternal and child health care.

Family is the most universal group. It is the first institute in the history of men. It has existed in every age and in every society and is found in all parts of the world. No culture of society has ever existed without some form of family organization. Each one of us is a member of some or the other family. No other group is so universal as the family is. Family as an institution is permanent and universal, while as an association it is temporary and transitional. When the son marries he goes out of the family and starts another family which again may give rise to more families. Berelson (1976) reviewed recent literature on socio-economic status and fertility and found that educational attainment had a consistently inverse relationship with fertility in almost all instances and was moreover one of the strongest relationship between a satisfaction variable and fertility. Kaur (1986) in her study on " Population Awareness among Post Graduate student of Punjabi University in Relation to certain Socio-Economic Variables" had found that only 13 percent student were fully aware and 42 percentage partly aware and about 15 percent did not show their awareness at all. Dhanoa (1990) undertook a study entitled , "A study of fertility Behaviour of Women in Relation to Educational level , Age of Marriage and Socio-Economic Status" on a sample of 300 working women aged 45 years or more from Patiala city. The findings revealed that the comparison of low, mediocre and high fertility and socio-economic status did not discriminate between them. The family size of those women was high socio-economic status as compared to those who had lower socio-economic status. Sekhar (1953) found from his study of 500 mothers in Baroda that higher income group mothers were in favour of family planning more than lower income group mother. Daiuid (1961) interviewed about 900 Lebanese women about their fertility histories . The result of the study indicated that the influences of Urban residence and high Socio-economic status of fertility and operated rather independently. The results of general lead to the conclusion that patterns of fertility differentials associated with rural urban residences and socio-economic status were different.

## Objectives :-

The main objective of this study to compare the attitudes towards small family norms of career-oriented , career marriage oriented and marriage-oriented women students of the different socio-economic status .

## Hypothesis :-

Three hypothesis were formulated for empirical verification.

- There would be significant difference between career-oriented high and Low socio-economic status female students in their attitude towards small family norms.
- There would be significant difference between marriage oriented high and low socio-economic status female students in their attitude towards small family Norms.
- There would be significant difference between career-marriage oriented high and low socio-economic status female students in their attitude towards small family norms.

## Methods of Study

### (a) Sample

The incidental-cum-purposive sample comprised on 210 female post graduate regular students undertaking departments and colleges of P.G Centers under Magadh university , Bodh gaya and Patna.

### Design

Between group design was used.

### (a) Tools

The following three Tests were administered for the present Study.

- Personal Data Sheet developed by researcher her self was used to get personal information to the respondents.
- Socio-Economic Status Scale modified constructed and standardized by Singh et.al (2000).
- Attitude Towards Small Family questionnaire developed by researcher was used to measure attitude of female post graduated students.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Significance of difference between Career-Oriented High and Low Socio-economic status P.G Female students in their attitude Towards Small Family Norms.

Table-1

Groups	N	Mean	SD	t-value	p-value
High SES	26	113.00	9.29	1.85	NS
Low SES	42	109.81	6.30		

It is evident from table (1) that the mean of high socio-economic status group of girls is 113.0 where as mean of low SES group of girls in 109.81. High SES than group of girls have scored more on attitude towards small family norms than low SES group of girls but the obtained t-ratio ( $t=1.85$ ) is statistically insignificant. It means that the attitude towards small family norms is similar developed amongst the P.G girls student. It can be attributed to the fact that amongst those girls who are career-oriented similar type of consciousness about small family norms might have been the result as the bearing and the rearing of the children, the education of the children, the adjustment of the children and other problems relating them may have made them inclined towards small family norms. All this may have made them so conscious about the benefit of small family size which may have cultivated similar type of attitude towards small family norms. Thus , the attitude towards small

family norms of career-oriented females belonging to high and low SES is similarly developed amongst P.G. female students.

**Table-2**

Significance of difference between marriage-Oriented High and Low SES P.G Female Students in their Attitude Towards Small Family Norms

Groups	N	Mean	SD	t-value	p-value
High SES	13	111.46	7.50	2.96	<.05
Low SES	02	104.00	2.00		

The compilation of the data in table-2 pertaining to the comparison of high and low socio-economic status for marriage-oriented P.G female student reveals that the mean of high SES group is 111.46 while the mean of low SES is 104.00. The obtained t-value is 2.96 which is statistically significant on .05 level of significance. The significant difference indicates that dissimilar type of attitude towards small family norms is cultivating among two factors. It can possibly be attributed to the fact that due to the cultural factors there are some families in India who are in favour of placing the women folk in employment and the girls belonging to those families have the indication about this. All this may have made their attitude towards small family norms of the similar nature. It can also be attributed to the fact that those girls who are very good in studies found very easy to get themselves placed in gainful employment. Thus, their ultimate aim would have been not only marriage in which the decision about the formation of family size is usually made by herself. This may have also made them conscious about these factors thus depicting them to have dissimilar type of attitude towards small family norms.

**Table.3**

Significance of difference between Career marriage-Oriented High and Low SES P.G Female Students in their Attitude Towards Small Family norms.

Groups	N	Mean	SD	t-value	p-value
High SES	75	115.73	6.47	3.88	<.01
Low SES	52	110.30	7.96		

It is clear from table-3 pertaining to the attitude towards small family norms of Career marriage-Oriented post graduate girl student having high and low SES reveals that the mean of High SES group is 115.73 while the mean of low SES group is 110.30. The t-value is 3.88 which is statistically significant on .01 level of confidence. The higher mean of high SES group shows that the attitude towards small family norms of high SES females is comparatively more developed than the attitude towards the same area of low SES female P.G students. This can be attributed to the fact that those females who are in higher SES may have tested the comforts of life with the use of modern devices such as air conditioner, cars, T.V.'s etc. and may have become conscious that such goods can be utilized only when the size of the family is small. This may have made them more conscious about small family norms. It can also be attributed to the fact that socio-economic of the people is raised in natural ambition amongst the parents is that children should continue to enjoy these facilities in life and such an ambition can only be fulfilled when the size of the family is small which might have motivated them to have more positive attitude towards small family norms. To conclude the attitude towards small family norms of high and low SES of female P.G students, high SES group females are more positively developed than the attitude of low SES career-marriage-oriented females.

### Conclusions :-

- (i) The attitude towards small family norms of carrier oriented Post graduated female student is found similar in the High SES and Low SES female students.
- (ii) The attitude towards small family norms of marriage oriented post graduated female student having significant difference between high SES and Low SES Female students.

- (iii) The attitude towards small family norms of high SES females is comparatively more developed than the attitude towards the same area of low SES female P.G Students.

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