FROM WOMB TO TOMB: AN ANALYSIS OF FEMALE FOETICIDE IN INDIA

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'No place is safe for the girl not even the mother's womb. They are put to death even beforethey are born'. These are the words of President K R Narayanan which shows how intense is the problem of female foeticide in India. Female foeticide is one of the most sensitive and burning issue not only for India but the whole world. Female foeticide over the last 20 years has distorted the sex ratio at birth in India, as well as in several other Asian countries especially China. The female foetus is transferred from womb to tomb through this insensitive act. Parents tend to be selective in choosing the sex of the child. Improved reproductive technology in India has resulted in the reinforcement of patriarchal values through female foeticide as majority of doctors here arenot hesitant in conducting this ethical misconduct. In India the child sex ratio has consistently shown a declining trend, which is a matter of great concern. Even the so called developed states of India has not performed better than the underdeveloped or the BIMARU (name given to most backward states of India which means sick)states of India. It is a general assumption that developed states with better literacy rate may have better sex ratio but this assumption is questioned one looks at the data. This article it has been tried to analyse this assumption and it also focuses on the causes, effect end remedy of this insensitive act.

Keywords: female, developed, BIMARU, foeticide, literacy.