



## Perspective Of Female Students Regarding Gender Preferences In Family

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### Abstract

The primary goal of the study was to learn how female students perceived gender preferences in the home. Quantitative approach with 200 responders in the sample employed for statistical analysis and conclusions demonstrated that, 62.5% (125) of the girls lived in nuclear families, and 78% (156) were from metropolitan areas. An empirical investigation revealed a substantial mean difference ( $p < .01$ ) in the perception of educational attainment between girls residing in both settings. Second, it is shown that the perceptions of both areas about supportive parental conduct differ significantly ( $p < .01$ ) in terms of mean. Furthermore, compared to girls living in urban areas ( $M = -1.38$ ,  $SD = .580$ ), girls living in rural areas are more likely ( $M = .107$ ,  $SD = 1.30$ ) to believe that parents prefer sons over daughters when it comes to health care. Finally, the perceptions of girls residing in rural and urban regions regarding their preferred jobs show a negligible mean difference ( $p < .05$ ). But when it comes to the desire for educational attainment, it turns out that there is a substantial mean difference ( $p < .01$ ). Nonetheless, there is a noteworthy average distinction ( $p < .05$ ) between nuclear and mixed families with respect to the supportive conduct of parents toward their son. Additionally, the preference of nuclear and joint families to invest more in their sons, however, is not significantly different ( $p < .05$ ). Ultimately, parental preference for a son's job over a daughter's is significantly different ( $p < .05$ ) in nuclear versus joint homes. Parents should therefore encourage their kids to succeed academically. But females ought to have to go to school and be given the same respect as boys do.

### 1. Introduction

Gender refers to the differences in social roles and social standing between men and women in a given community. These roles are shaped by a society's social, cultural, and economic systems and its prevalent religious, moral, and legal norms. Sex is a biological term, but gender is a psychological and social one. (WHO, 2010). Gender discrimination is a pervasive social evil that affects every aspect of life. Girls are subject to discrimination everywhere in the world. Gender discrimination between son and daughter can significantly affect their personality development, socialisation, and social accomplishments (Barcellos et al., 2010), especially when they experience discrimination in various facets of life, such as education, time, money, healthcare, and work activities. The rationale for favouring male children is that they are expected to carry on the family's legacy and so receive more nourishment and luxuries than female children. Girls are considered a financial burden in societies where they are stigmatised because of the fact that once married, they typically move out of their own houses and into those of their husband's family (Silverstein et al., 2006). However, because of the stereotypes connected with each sex/gender, parents are more likely to favour their sons and to act in a manner that is not equal. Specifically, research



shows that parents express more partiality and compassion for their sons for various cultural and sociological reasons. (Sultana, 2010).

In a variety of fields, including education, investment, healthcare, economic prospects, and family matters, women face discrimination. In addition, females have restricted access to the services provided for boys, and access to these programmes is still restricted in many families. Researchers from many nations can record a range of gender inequalities between sons and daughters, but little is known about the process underlying the uneven gender treatment within families. This study provides new insights into the gender-based preferences of parents. In addition, this research will provide a comprehensive picture of the prejudice between sons and daughters in society. In addition, this research will prepare the ground for appropriate recommendations to parents for creating gender equality in the household and society as a whole. The Research objectives, questions and hypotheses were hypotheses roadmap of this paper.

### 1.1. Research Objectives

- To learn the gender preferences over educational attainment in the family.
- To examine the parental discriminatory treatment towards sons and daughters.
- To explore parental biasness in the healthcare of daughters.
- To find out discrimination of parents in investment between sons and daughters.
- To know the parental discriminatory approach between sons and daughters about job permission.
- To suggest suitable measures for eliminating gender discrimination in the family.

### 1.2. Research Questions

**R.Q.1.** Does discrimination exist in education between son and daughter?

**R.Q.2.** Do parents adopt discriminatory behaviour towards son and daughter?

**R.Q.3.** Does parental biasness exist in healthcare of daughters?

**R.Q.4.** What is the level of parental discrimination in investment between son and daughter?

**R.Q.5.** Does discrimination of parents exist for job permission of sons and daughters?

**R.Q.6.** What are the suitable measures for eliminating gender discrimination in the family?

### 1.3. Significance of the Study

There is significant mean difference in perception of girls residing in rural and urban areas regarding gender preferences in family in every segment of life.

There is significant mean difference in perception girls belonging to nuclear and joint family systems regarding gender preferences in family in every sphere of life.

## 2. Literature Review

In the terms "gender equity" and "gender equality" have different meanings, according to Magno and Silova (2007) "gender equity" refers to the "guarantee of fair educational outcomes, regardless of sex differences," while "gender equality" refers to the idea that all students should be exposed to the same interventions at the same time and in the same way.

### 2.1. Discrimination in Education

In most third-world nations, females lack the educational opportunities that males do. There is a significant gender gap in education, with girls either not attending school or not receiving an education on par with that of boys (A.M. Sultana, 2010). Many families place a higher priority on their sons' educations in the hopes that they would one day have a successful job. (Greenhalgh, 2008). For girl's security of future, Marriage may appear to be the best alternative for families in extreme poverty to safeguard their daughters and alleviate some of their financial burden. As it pulls girls out of their homes and out of school, where they have been educated up to that point, marriage of school-going female was considered as the greatest hurdle in the way of getting the further education and increasing opportunities for females without gender bias (Myers and Rowan Harvey, 2011; Rowan et al., 2011).

Interventions based on higher education stop and prevent child and forced marriage. Many researchers have reached different, even opposing, conclusions. Based on US data collected between 1920 and 1965, they find that a sister-less daughter has a lower probability of finishing high school than a sister-with-one (Butcher and Case, 1994).



Researchers have found that girls are less likely to complete high school than girls who do not have brothers in the house (Conley, 2000). Even though the sex of the first-born baby is considered to be adventurous, it has been found that children with a first-born sister have a lower average education level than siblings with a first-born brother (Dahl and Moretti, 2008). When comparing GCSE performance across demographics, girls, students from non-manual backgrounds, and those who came from households with greater household incomes performed better. Age saw a worsening of the gender and socioeconomic gaps in students' absolute levels of achievement (Sammons 1995). It has been noted that women, in particular, in their society, have historically been viewed as second-class citizens. Because of widespread prejudice, they have limited access to formal schooling. He continued to insist that the girl need be taught nothing more than how to keep house and the basics (Safdar, 1996).

Parental support for gender equality and girls' education has been found to have positive effects on boys. However, people are mostly hesitant to reveal their behaviours, thus utilising them to determine parental preferences may be biased (Drèze & Kingdon, 2001). With the help of a variable that assesses parental viewpoint on the significance of equal treatment in education without gender biasness, it has been determined that parental belief in gender equality has no effect on boys' schooling but has a significant effect on schooling of girls (Kingdon, 2002).

Quisumbing & Maluccio (2003) use data from four developing countries to analyse the gender gap in educational attainment among school-aged children based on their parents' levels of education and wealth at the time of marriage. They find that there is a preference for people of the same gender in Bangladesh, Ethiopia, and South African homes with five or more Indian ancestry members. In Indonesia, they discovered no evidence of gender preferences, whereas in South African families, they discovered preferences of the opposite sex. Girls benefit more from their fathers' education and income than their brothers' do, while boys benefit more from their moms' education. Even when there are no gender discrimination in interest related to science and technology or marks among adolescents, parents tend to assume that actual sciences and technology is much more difficult and less interesting for their daughters than for their sons. What's more, moms tend to be more modest about their daughters' arithmetic skills than their boys' (Frome & Eccles, 1998). Even when academic or behavioural issues are taken into account, parents are more engaged with school on behalf of boys (i.e., they attend school meetings and organise talks with teachers and counsellors).

Parents who have sons are far more likely to have begun saving for their children's college educations and to have saved more money for their children in general (Freese & Powell, 1999). Bias in favour of sons has received a lot of attention in scientific literature. According to studies, women are less likely to enrol in school, finish their education more quickly, get worse grades, receive lower-quality education, or have fewer family spending on girls' education (Dreze & Sen, 1995). (2005) Gong et al. Numerous studies show variations between genders in death rates, access to healthcare, and nutrition/health conditions (Chen et al, 1981; Das Gupta, 1987; Borooah, 2004).

Numerous studies show that having a sister rather than a brother is associated with better health and educational achievements (Parish & Willis, 1993; Garg & Morduch, 1998). The research link this discovery to a gender-biased family environment. It has been shown that men were preferred over girls in the pursuit of higher education. When it came to religious instruction, women were prioritised. Girls were only allowed to pursue jobs in teaching and medicine, while boys were encouraged to pursue careers in any field, particularly technical ones like engineering, medicine, computer science, information technology, business, banking, and commerce. Additionally, it was discovered that there was prejudice in the distribution of food, with females receiving less than men (Anwar, 2004).

In rural Sri Lanka, it was observed that boys and girls allocate education-related household expenses differently. In 1990/91 for the age categories 5-9 and 17-19 and 1995/6 for the age groups 5-9 and 14-16, Sri Lankan rural households devoted more educational resources to girls than to boys. The study recognised that the result differs from the gender situation in other South Asian countries (Rozana, 2008). The gender gap in education would narrow as the female to male enrolment ratio increased, hence raising Pakistan's socioeconomic standing. Additionally, it will raise income levels for individuals, households,



and the country. The majority of Pakistan's population lives in rural areas, therefore gender equality would also help increase agricultural output and development. According to research, teaching females has greater advantages than educating boys. Additionally, it has been shown that the gender gap in the labour force positively and considerably affects economic development, with female employment increasing national production and greatly raising family income (Chaudhry, 2007).

## 2.2. Discrimination in Work Activities

Older children's time diaries show that girls are more likely to take care of household tasks, and both girls and boys are more likely to choose activities that conform to conventional gender roles (such as cooking and cleaning instead of yard labour) (Gager et al. 2009, Bianchi and Robinson 1997). The responses show that a majority of the mothers had always asked their daughters for help in household chores. However, other mothers stated that they occasionally ask their daughters to assist with housework, but prefer that they focus on schooling. Nevertheless, it was regarded as natural for girls to handle home tasks like as food preparation, cooking, cleaning, laundry, and care for younger siblings.

In the Pakistani context, Syed Munir Ahmad and Mohammad Neman (2013), argue that the differential treatment of daughters also became apparent when engaging daughters in household chores, than encouraging them to get involved in their education at home. Most mothers agreed that: it is common practice that in the Pashtun society, daughters need to remain limited within the four walls of the house.

## 2.3. Discrimination in behaviour

Parents consider male child more useful to them than girl child Almost in all countries of the South Asia girl child is rarely welcome (Sohoni, 1990). Usually the girls are given less nutrition, poor food, and no medical care and are even deprived of love and affection.

Parents in Pakistan generally favour having males over daughters since sons are expected to help out at home. Men secretly worry that educated women would meddle in politics and policymaking once they attain voting age. No matter how hard they try, they are still forced to rely on males for the majority of the family's financial support. Their contribution to the household's income is disregarded. They are also cheated out of their fair part of the family estate (Mamonah & Mohyuddin, 2013).

According to Manzoor (2006), men in Pakistan routinely treat women unfairly and take advantage of them. Throughout much of Baluchistan, Sindh, the NWFP, and southern Punjab, they were forbidden from attending school or shopping in public places. In the daily lives of many people, brutality, honour killings, forced marriages, rape, and harassment of women were all too prevalent. Domestic abuse perpetrated by male relatives, including husbands, dads, brothers, and other male relatives, affects over 90% of all women.

## 2.4. Discrimination in Investment

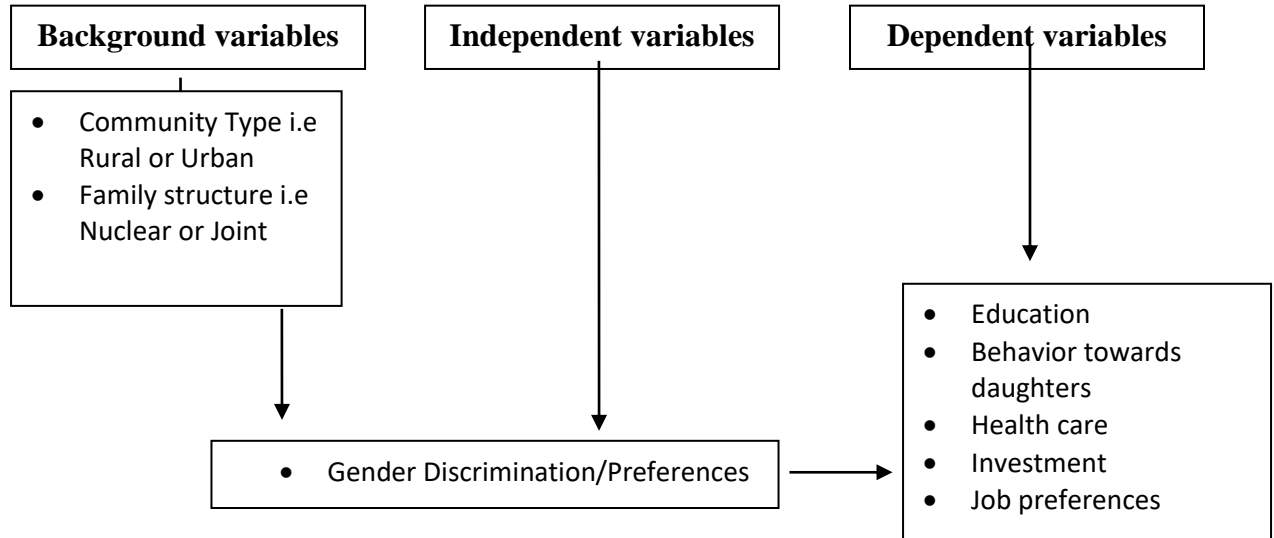
When a family has a girl after having a boy, the parents may not spend as much in the kid since they plan to have more children (Jayachandran & Kuziemko, 2010). There is a common misconception among parents that men are born with innate dynamism that only develops through time in daughters (Milazzo, 2014). Income inequality between son and daughter may result from sexism in the workplace or from differences in the ways in which men and women pursue economic and revenue-generating opportunities (Sheikh KUD, 2012) Cultural activities, such as providing for a boy's old age, may offer greater rewards than the labour market. Another factor in the establishment of gender preferences within individuals is the pervasiveness of gender stratification and discriminatory views (Pande & Astone, 2007; Glaeser & Ma, 2013).

According to Madiha Gohar Qureshi (2012), in developing nations, where a son usually acts as post-retirement insurance for ageing parents, the relative return on a boy's education may be bigger compared to a daughter's. This reliance on males becomes more important in traditional households who frown upon relying on daughters in later life. After marriage, a daughter's responsibilities shift to those of her husband's family, and in such communities, remaining unmarried is seen as a negative choice. The earning potential of a boy is far greater than that of a female, thus it is wiser to invest in a son. Several factors contribute to this: men are just better suited to physically demanding occupations like farming; there is pay discrimination against women in the labour market; and cultural norms (such as the purdah



system) discourage women from engaging in paid work outside the home. The data suggest that parents may shift their spending priorities to benefit their offspring who are projected to have higher incomes in the future.

**Variables of the Study**



**3. Research Methodology**

**3.1. Design of Research**

The quantitative method was selected for the study. The researcher adopted quantitative method due to following reasons; Variables of the study were identified and questionnaire was constructed in accordance with the selected variables. After data collection the results were obtained by using statistical tests.

**3.2. Sampling**

By using convenient sampling technique data was collected from the female students of university of Punjab. Sample was taken from the selected universe. Sample size for the current study was 200 respondents. Before distributing questionnaire, brief information was given to fill the questionnaire. The data tool was developed keeping in view the following characteristics; Observation of respondents, Provision of maximum clarity of questions to respondents. Less time and money consuming too. In the present research, the unit of analysis were the female students of Punjab University, Lahore.

**3.3. Procedure to Analyze the Data**

Data was analysed by using Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) v.16. Data was further analysed in two sections; one is descriptive analysis and second is empirical analysis.

**Descriptive Analysis**

Descriptive analysis is the interpretation of the collected data. It can be beneficial in two ways, i.e. it unveils the characteristics of acquired data and it gives brief description and summary of the observation (Coakes, S. et al., 2003). Descriptive statistical analysis helped to explain findings of the study in lenient way.

**Empirical Analysis**

For testing the hypothesis, the researcher used independent sample t-test to check the gender preferences. However, family structure and community type have been taken as independent variables and preferences in education, work behaviour towards daughter and job were carried as dependent variables to check the significant mean differences between these variables.

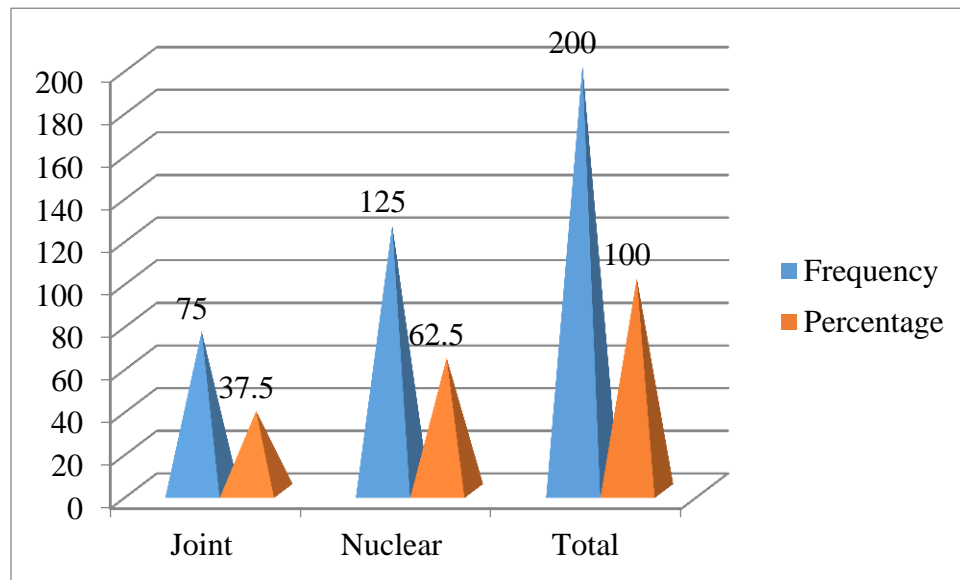


**STUDY FINDINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS**

*Table No: Family System*

Family	Frequency	Percentage
<b>Joint Family System</b>	75	37.5%
<b>Nuclear Family System</b>	125	62.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100%</b>

The above table is about the type of family system where the respondents were living. It tells that 62.5% (125) respondents were living in nuclear family system while 37.5% (75) respondents were belonged to joint family system.



*Table No: Community Type*

Community	Frequency	Percentage
<b>Urban</b>	156	78%
<b>Rural</b>	44	22%
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100%</b>

The above table shows the community type where the respondents were living. It demonstrates that 78% (156) respondents belonged to urban community while 22% (44) respondents were belonged to rural community.

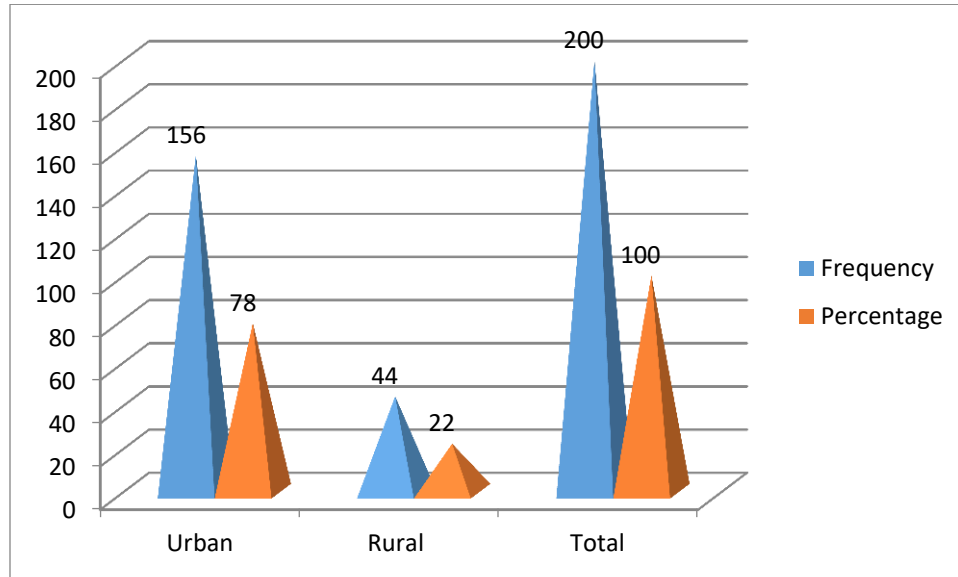


Table No: 4.3 Level of Education

Class	Frequency	Percentage
BS	88	44%
Masters	112	56%
Total	200	100%

The above table reveal the class. This table shows that 56% (112) respondents were studying in M.A, while 44% (88) respondents were studying in BS.

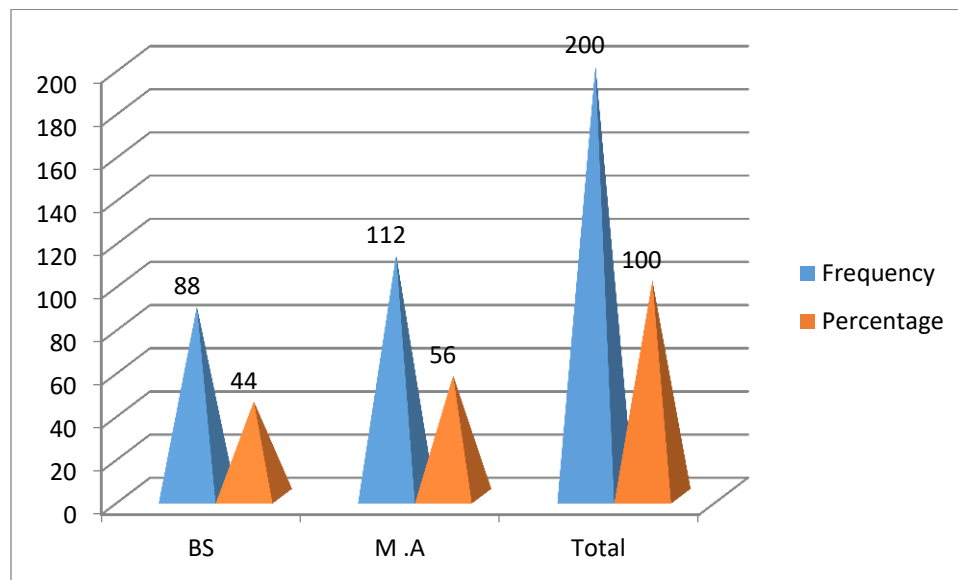


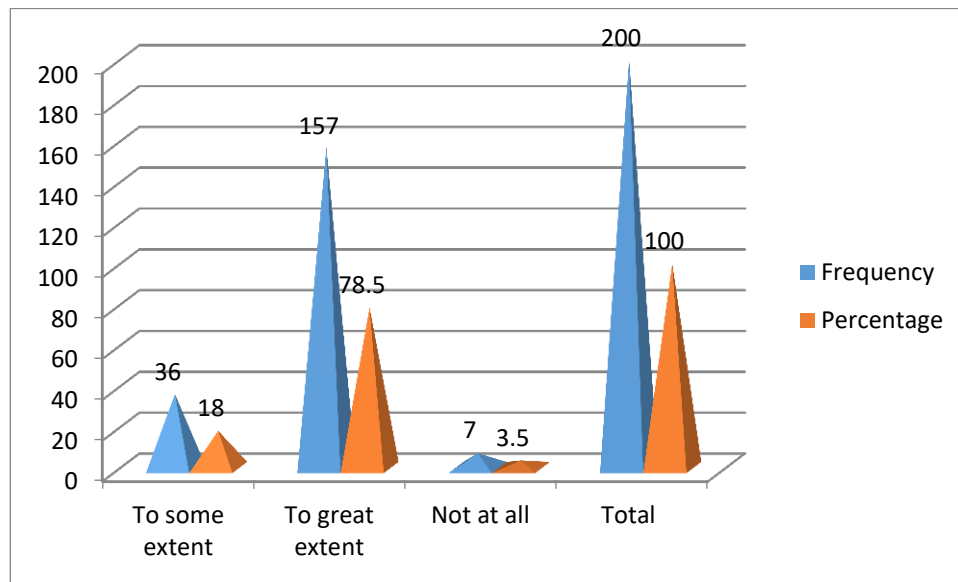
Table No: 4.4 Discrimination in Education: Positive Perception about education

Scale	Frequency	Percentage
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To some extent	36	18%
To great extent	157	78.5%
Not at all	7	3.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100%</b>

The above table indicates the responses about the statement that family hold positive perceptions about daughter’s education. Out of 200 respondents 18% (36) said to some extent about the statement, only 3.5% (7) said not at all, while 78.5% (157) respondents said to great extent about the given statement.



*Table No: 4.5 Feel proud to educate Sons*

Scale	Frequency	Percentage
To some extent	37	18.5%
To great extent	59	29.5%
Not at all	104	52%
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100%</b>

This table shows the responses about the statement that family feel proud to educate sons rather than daughters. The table describes that 52% (104) respondents said not at all about this statement, 29.5% (59) respondents said to great extent about the statement, while 18.5% (37) respondents said to some extent about this statement.



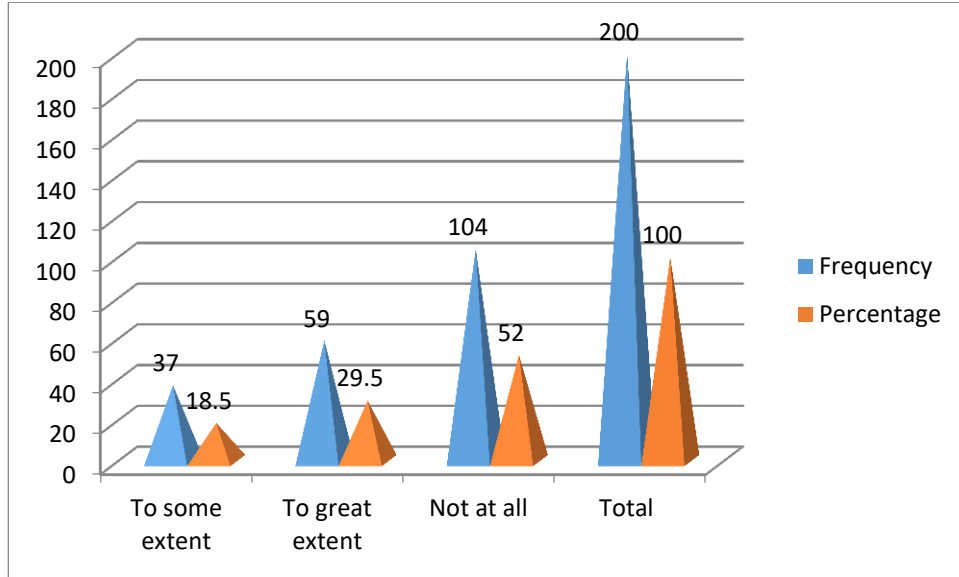


Table No: 4.6 Prefer sons rather daughters

Scale	Frequency	Percentage
To some extent	37	18.5%
To great extent	39	19.5%
Not at all	124	62%
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100%</b>

The above table shows that parents prefer sons in getting quality and higher education rather daughters. According to the table 62% (124) respondents said not at all about the statement, 18.5% (37) respondents said to some extent about the statement and 19.5% (39) respondents said to great extent about the given statement.

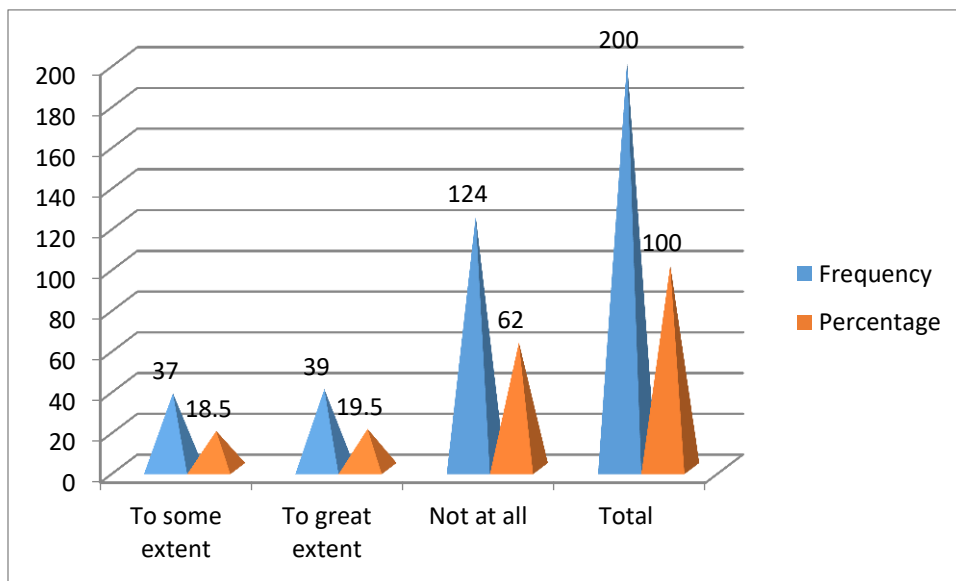
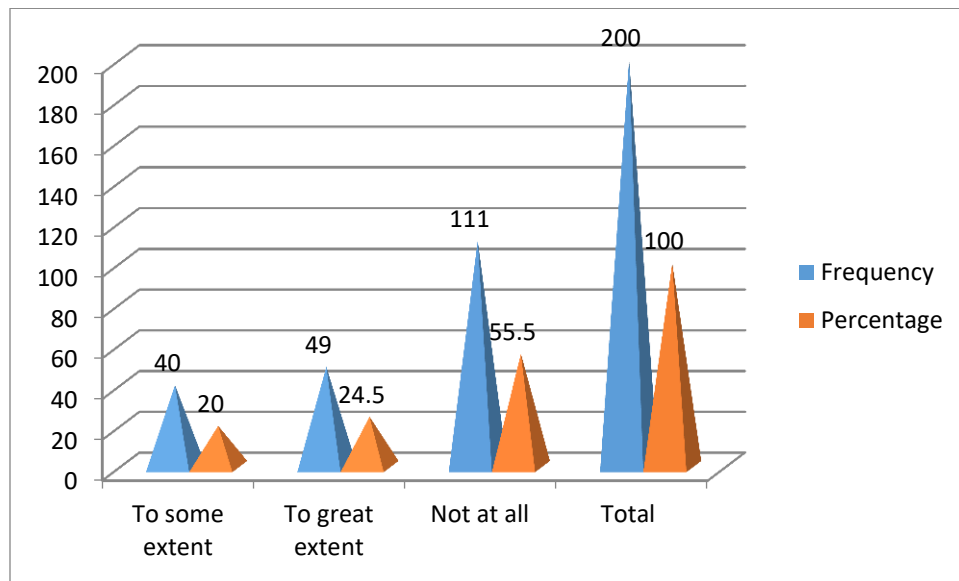


Table No: 4.7 Prefer daughter's marriage rather than education



Scale	Frequency	Percentage
To some extent	40	20%
To great extent	49	24.5%
Not at all	111	55.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100%</b>

This table shows about the statement that parents prefer daughter’s marriage rather than education. This table reveals that 55.5% (111) respondents said not at all about this statement, 24.5% (49) respondents said to great extent about this point of view, only 20% (40) respondents said to some extent about the statement.



*Table No: 4.8 Culture Influence parent’s perception*

Scale	Frequency	Percentage
To some extent	103	51.5%
To great extent	62	31%
Not at all	35	17.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100%</b>

The table describe the responses about the statement that culture influence parent’s perception about daughter’s education. According to the table 51.5% (103) respondents said to some extent about the statement, 31% (62) respondents said to great extent about the statement, while 17.5% (35) respondents said not at all about the given statement.

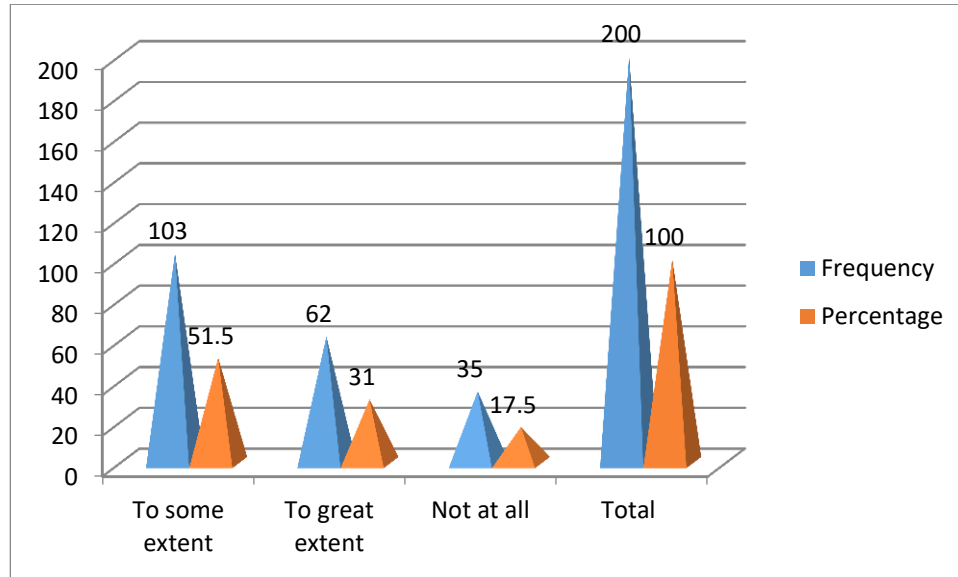


Table No: 4.9 Discrimination in Behaviour **Family equally treat son and daughter**

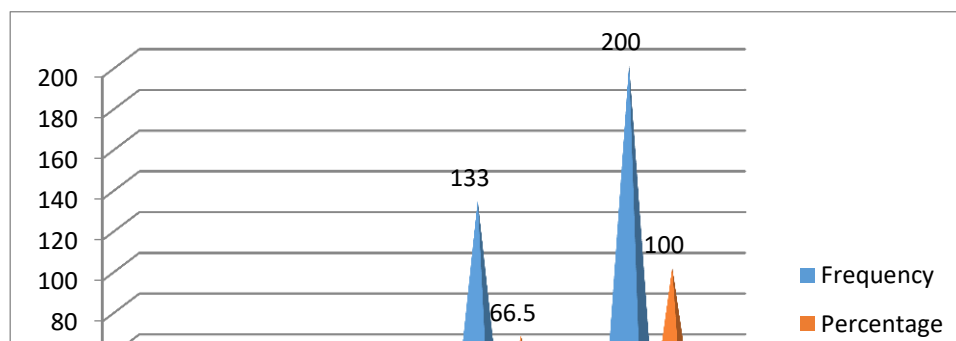
Scale	Frequency	Percentage
<i>To some extent</i>	41	20.5%
<i>To great extent</i>	151	75.5%
<i>Not at all</i>	8	4%
<i>Total</i>	<b>200</b>	<b>100%</b>

The above table explain the responses about the statement that family equally treat son and daughter. The table tells us 75.5% (151) respondents said to great extent about the statement, 20.5% (41) respondents said to some extent about the statement, while 4% (8) respondents said not at all to given the statement.

Table No: 4.10 Mother show warmth for son than daughter

Scale	Frequency	Percentage
<i>To some extent</i>	61	30.5%
<i>To great extent</i>	48	24%
<i>Not at all</i>	91	45.5%
<i>Total</i>	<b>200</b>	<b>100%</b>

This table tells us about the responses of mother show more warmth with sons rather daughters. According to the table 45.5% (91) respondents said not at all about the statement, 30.5% (61) respondents said to some extent, and 24% (48) respondents said to great extent about the statement.

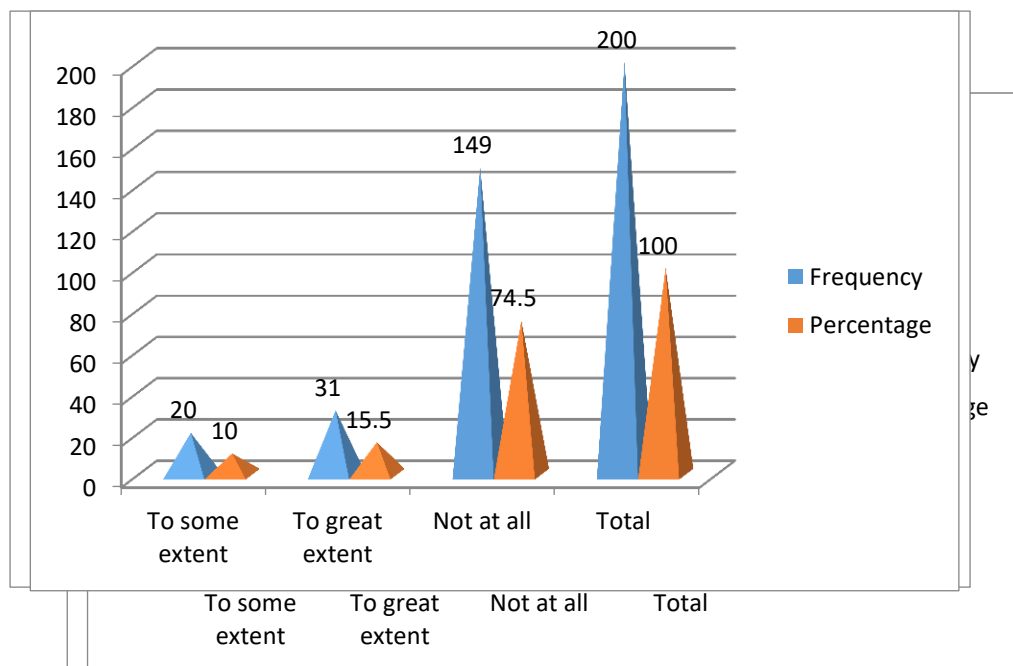




*Table No: 4.11 Family consider daughters as a burden*

<i>Scale</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>To some extent</i>	20	10%
<i>To great extent</i>	31	15.5%
<i>Not at all</i>	149	74.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100%</b>

The below table is about the responses of family concede daughters as burden on family. The table reveals that 74.5% (149) respondents said not at all about the statement, 15.5% (31) respondents said to great extent about the statement, and only 10% (20) respondents said to some extent about the given statement.



*Table No: 4.12 Parents like to bound daughters in house*

<b>Scale</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
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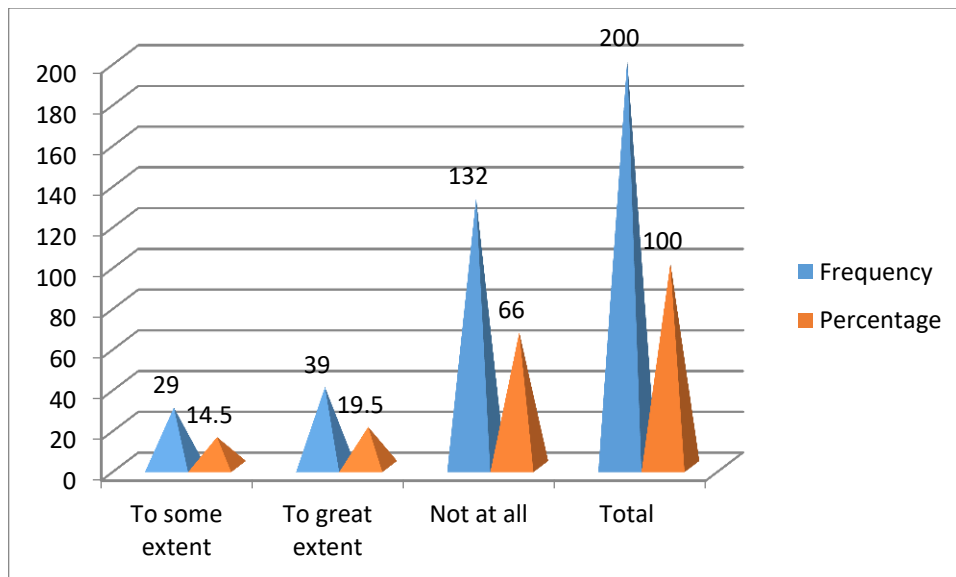
To some extent	38	19%
To great extent	29	14.5%
Not at all	133	66.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100%</b>

This table provides the information about the statement that parents like to bound daughters within four walls of house. The above table describe that 66.5% (133) respondents said not at all about the statement, 14.5% (29) respondents said to great extent about the statement, while 19% (38) respondents said to some extent about the statement.

*Table No: 4.13 Parents spend more time with sons*

<i>Scale</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>To some extent</i>	29	14.5%
<i>To great extent</i>	39	19.5%
<i>Not at all</i>	132	66%
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100%</b>

The above table is about the distribution of responses regarding parents spend more time with sons than daughters. According to collect data 66% (132) respondents said not at all about the statement, 19.5% (39) respondents said to great extent about the statement, while 14.5% (29) respondents said to some extent about the given statement.

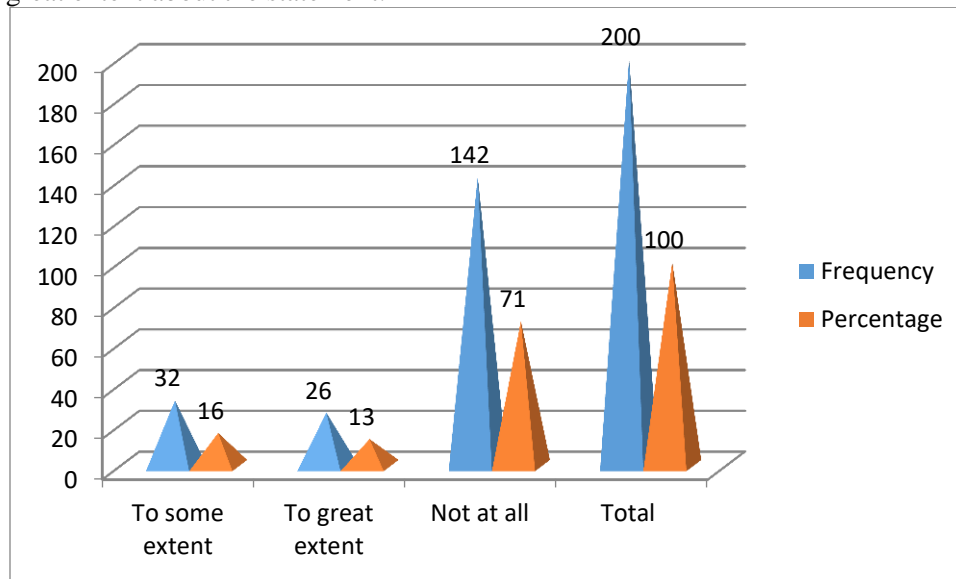


*Table No: 4.14 Parents celebrate birthday of male child*

<b>Scale</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
To some extent	32	16%
To great extent	26	13%
Not at all	142	71%
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100%</b>



This table shows the responses about family celebrate birth of male child and receives poor perception at birth of daughter. Out of 200 respondents 16% (32) respondents said to some extent about the statement, 71% (142) respondents said not at all about the given statement, and only 13% (26) respondents said to great extent about the statement.



*Table No: 4.15 Family except to surrender property rights*

<i>Scale</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>To some extent</i>	<i>44</i>	<i>22%</i>
<i>To great extent</i>	<i>38</i>	<i>19%</i>
<i>Not at all</i>	<i>118</i>	<i>59%</i>
<b><i>Total</i></b>	<b><i>200</i></b>	<b><i>100%</i></b>

The above table is about the responses regarding the statement that family except to surrender property rights in favour of brother. The result shows that 59% (118) respondents said not at all about the statement, 22% (44) respondents said to some extent about the statement, while 19% (38) respondents said to great extent about the given statement.

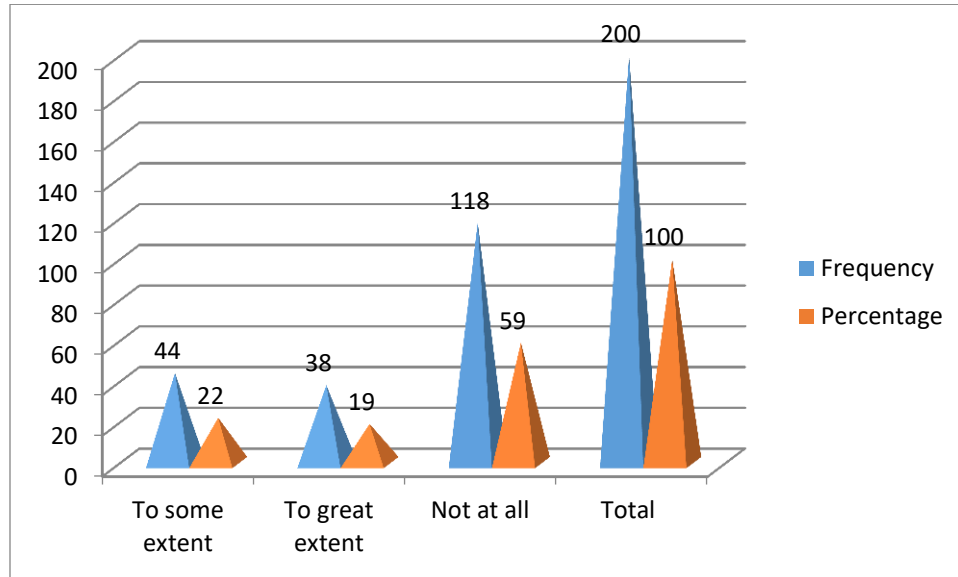


Table No: 4.16 Parents imposed their ideas on daughters

Scale	Frequency	Percentage
To some extent	53	26.5%
To great extent	33	16.5%
Not at all	114	57%
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100%</b>

The above table shows the responses about the statement of parents imposed their ideas on daughters and gives free hand to sons. The results shows that 26.5(53) respondents said to some extent about the statement, 57% (114) respondents said not at all about the statement, while 16.5% (33) respondents said to great extent about the statement.

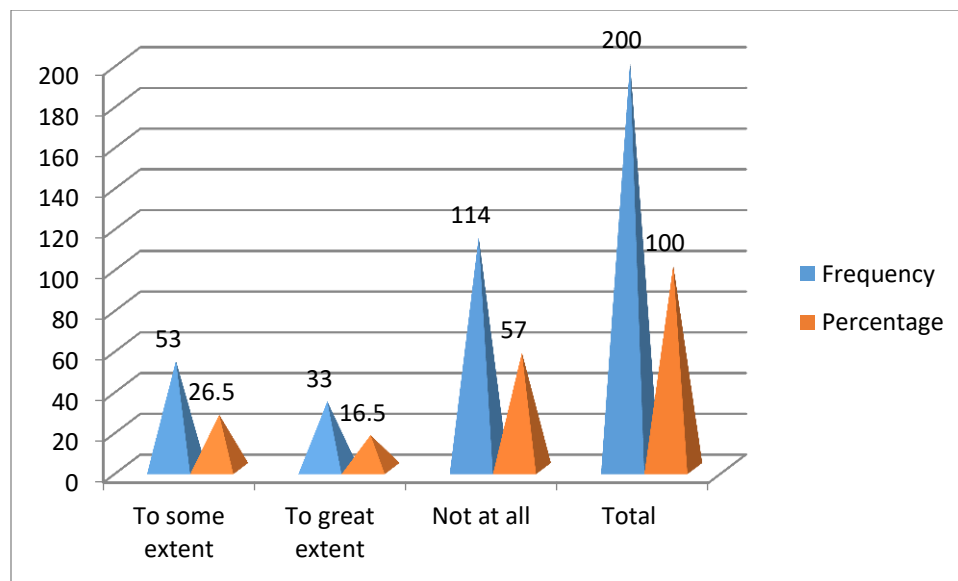


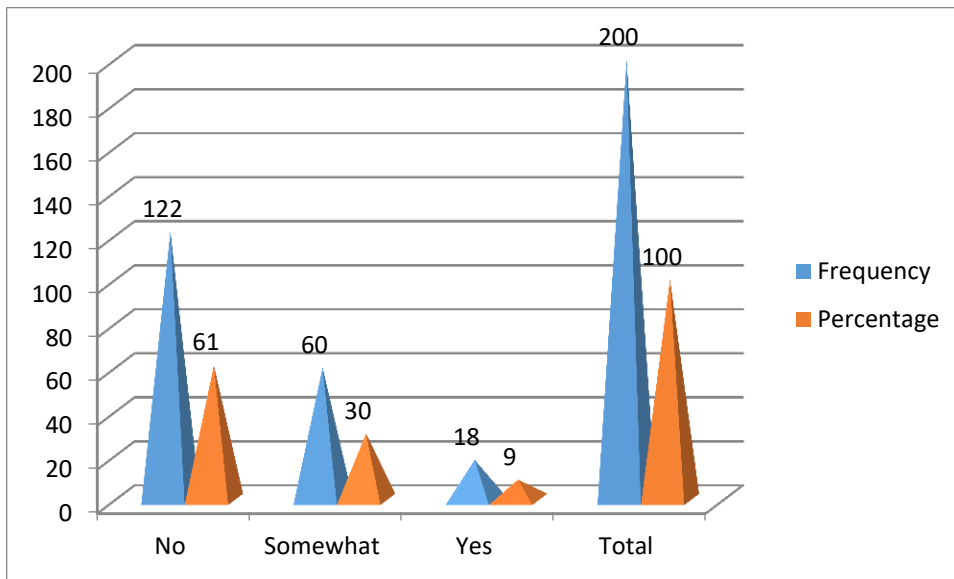
Table No: 4.17



**Discrimination in Health Care**  
*Biases in healthcare expenditure*

Scale	Frequency	Percentage
<b>No</b>	122	61%
<b>Somewhat</b>	60	30%
<b>Yes</b>	18	9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100%</b>

This table shows the responses about the statement that gender biasness in healthcare spending for children within the household. According to the results 61% (122) respondents said no about the statement, 30% (60) respondents said somewhat about the statement, and only 9% (18) respondents said yes about the given statement.

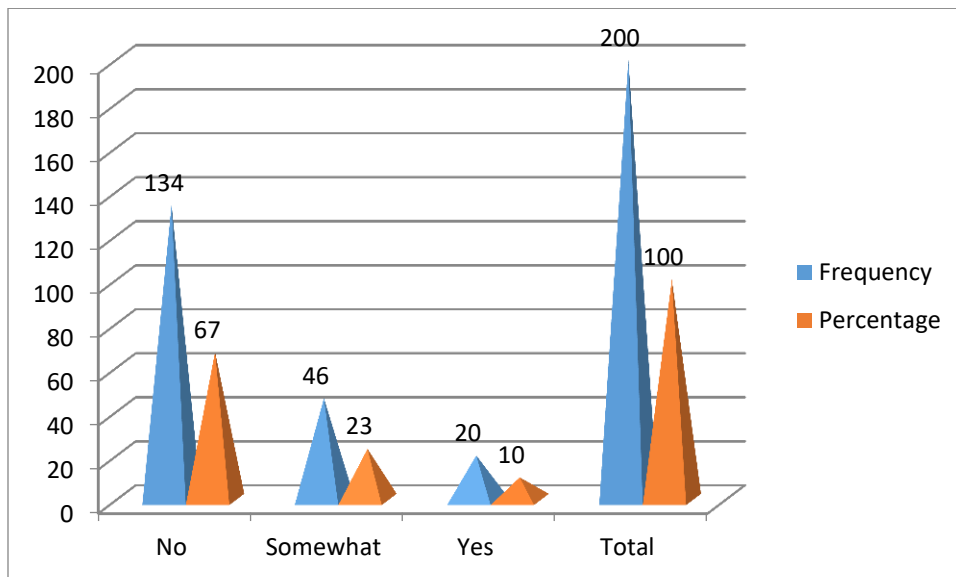


*Table No: 4.18 More healthcare of sons after birth*

Scale	Frequency	Percentage
No	134	67%
Somewhat	46	23%
Yes	20	10%
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100%</b>

The above table explain the responses about the statement of family more healthcare of son than daughter after the birth. The results reveal that 67% (134) respondents said no about the statement, 23% (46) respondents said somewhat about the statement, while 10% (20) respondents said yes about the given statement.

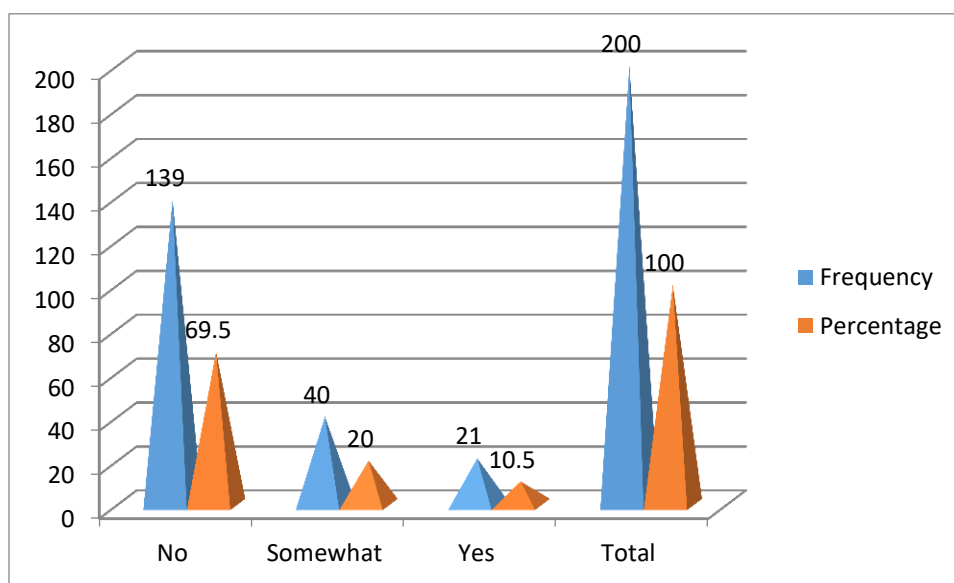




*Table No: 4.19 Discrimination in food*

<i>Scale</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>No</i>	139	69.5%
<i>Somewhat</i>	40	20%
<i>Yes</i>	21	10.5%
<i>Total</i>	200	100%

This table describe the responses about the statement of parents consume less supplementary and solid food for girls compared with boys. It tells us that 69.5% (139) respondents said no about the statement, 20% (40) respondents said somewhat about the statement, and only 10.5% (21) respondents said yes about the given statement.



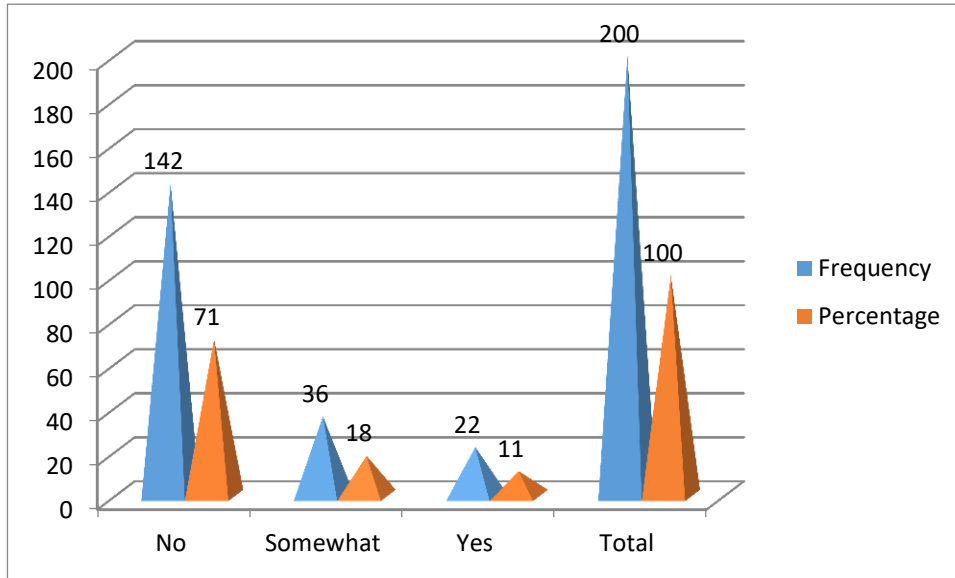
*Table No: 4.20 Family more conscious about son’s health*

<i>Scale</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
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<i>No</i>	142	71%
<i>Somewhat</i>	36	18%
<i>Yes</i>	22	11%
<i>Total</i>	<b>200</b>	<b>100%</b>

This table reveals the information about the statement of parents are more conscious about son health than daughter. Out of 200 respondents 71% (142) respondents said no about the statement, 11% (22) respondents said yes about the statement, while 18% (36) respondents said somewhat about the statement.



*Table No: 4.21 Girls hospitalized in severe condition*

<b>Scale</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
No	60	30%
Somewhat	38	19%
Yes	22	11%
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100%</b>

The above table is about the response regarding family boys are paid much attention whereas girls are hospitalized in severe conditions. It has been described in the table that 30% (60) respondents said no about the statement, 19% (38) respondents said somewhat about the statement, and only 11% (22) respondents said yes about the statement.

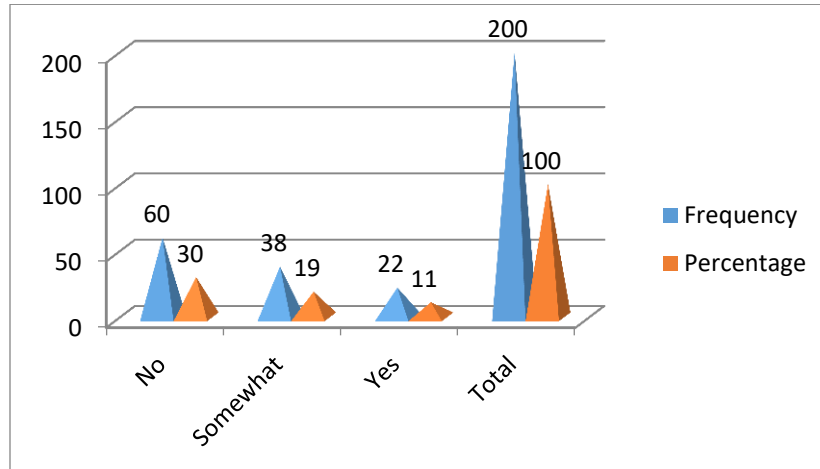


Table No: 4.22 Discrimination in Investment *Invest equal money for education*

Scale	Frequency	Percentage
To some extent	42	21%
To great extent	129	64.5%
Not at all	29	14.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100%</b>

The above table provides the information about the statement that parents invest equal money for higher education of sons and daughters. The results shows that 64.5% (129) respondents said to great extent about the statement, 21% (42) respondents said to some extent about the given statement, while 14.5% (29) respondents said not at all about the statement.

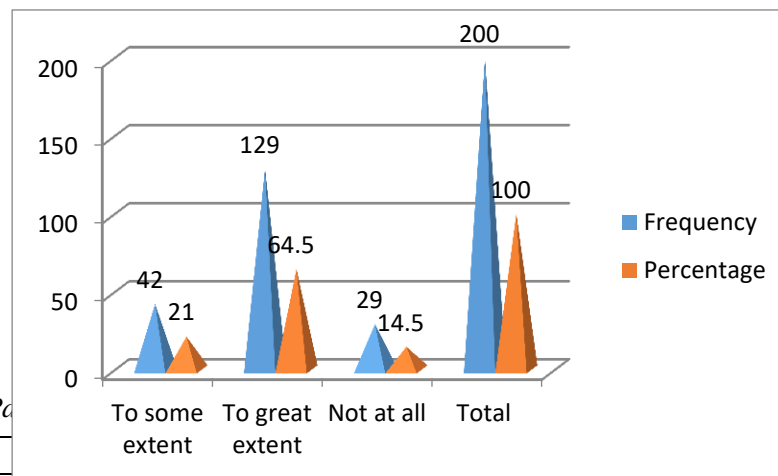


Table No: 4.23 Pa

Scale	Frequency	Percentage
To some extent	48	24%
To great extent	44	22%
Not at all	108	54%
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100%</b>

This table shows the responses about the statement that parents give property to their sons rather than daughters. The results reveal that 54% (108) respondents said not at all about the statement, 24% (48) respondents said to some extent about the statement, and only 22% (44) respondents said to great extent about the statement.

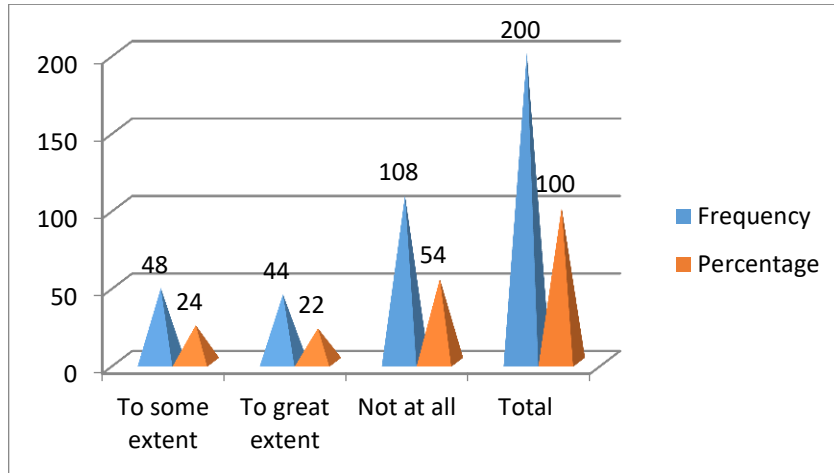


Table No: 4.24 Family prefer sons over daughters in investment

Scale	Frequency	Percentage
To some extent	54	27%
To great extent	41	20.5%
Not at all	105	52.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100%</b>

The above table explains the responses regarding statement that family concede sons as earning hand therefore they prefer boys over daughters. The data given in the table show that 52.5% (105) respondents said not at all about the statement, 27% (54) respondents said to some extent about the statement, while 20.5% (41) respondents said to great extent about the given statement.

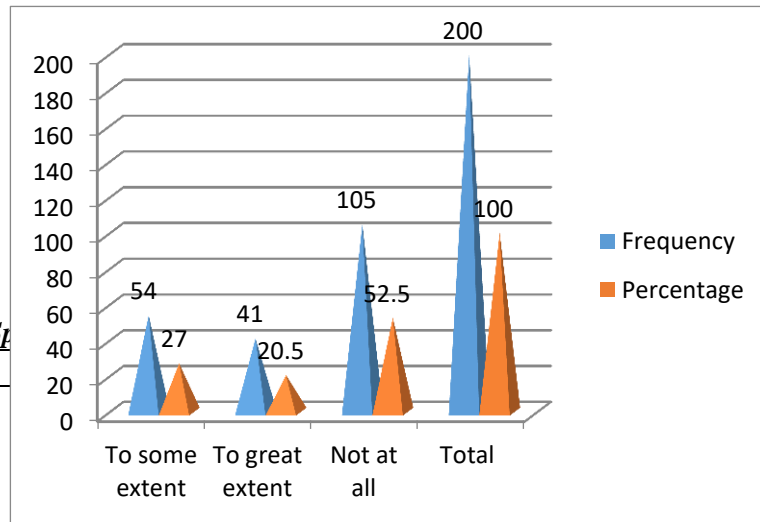
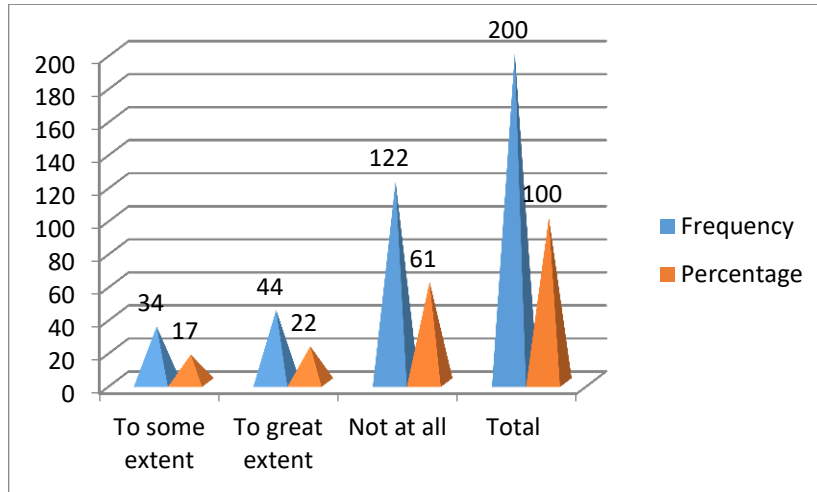


Table No: 4.25 Sp

Scale	Frequency	Percentage
To some extent	34	17%
To great extent	44	22%
Not at all	122	61%
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100%</b>

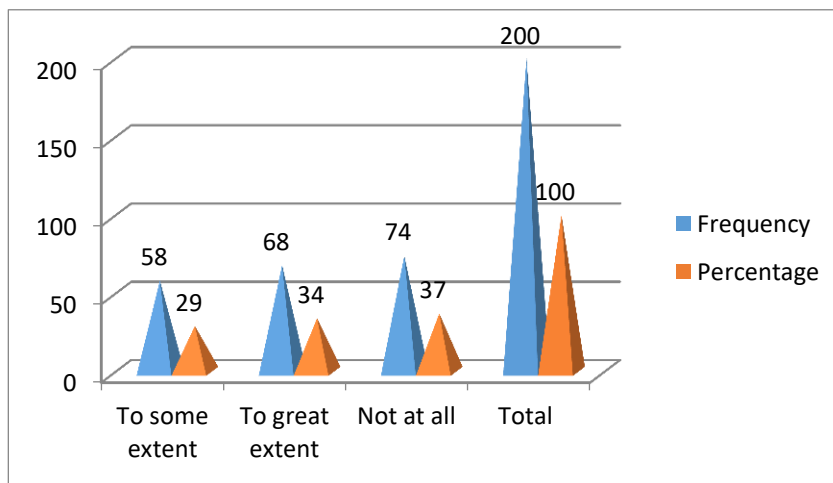
This table shows the responses about the statement that family concede spending money on girls as burden and wastage of resources. The obtained data shows that out of 200 respondents 17% (34) said to some extent, 61% (122) respondents said not at all, while 22% (44) respondents said to great extent about the statement.



*Table No: 4.26 Give dowry to daughters*

Scale	Frequency	Percentage
<b>To some extent</b>	58	29%
<b>To great extent</b>	68	34%
<b>Not at all</b>	74	37%
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100%</b>

This table indicates results regarding the statement that family give dowry as the daughter’s share of the family assets. According to the results 37% (74) respondents said not at all, 34% (68) respondents said to great extent about the statement, and only 29% (58) respondents said to some extent about the given statement.

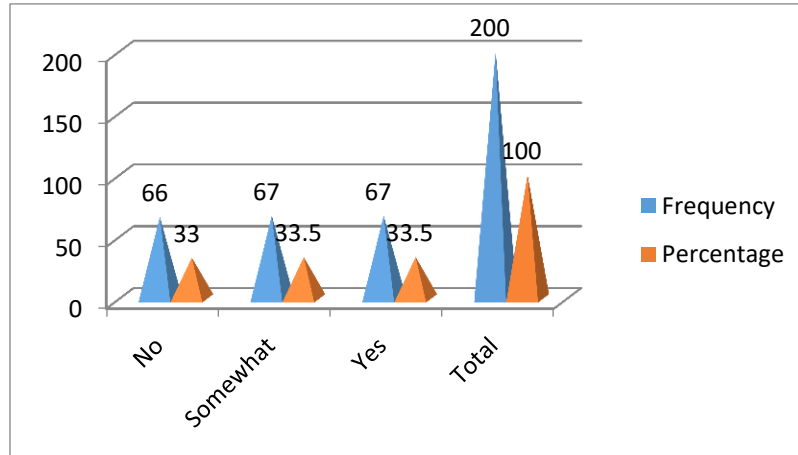


*Table No: 4.27 Discrimination in Work Expect girls to maintain household*

Scale	Frequency	Percentage
No	66	33%
Somewhat	67	33.5%
Yes	67	33.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100%</b>



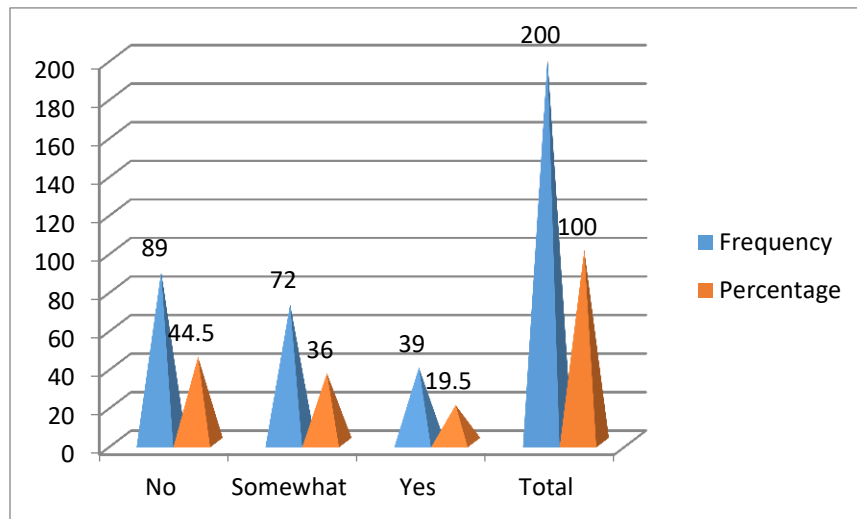
This table is about the responses regarding the statement parents expect girls to maintain the household. It indicates that 33.5% (67) respondents yes about the statement, 33.5% (67) respondents said somewhat about the statement, and only 33% (66) respondents said no about the given statement.



*Table No: 4.28 Expect from sons to earn money*

Scale	Frequency	Percentage
No	89	44.5%
Somewhat	72	36%
Yes	39	19.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100%</b>

This table tells about the results regarding statement that parents expect only from sons to earn income. Out of total respondents 44.5% (89) respondents said no, 36% (72) respondents said somewhat about the statement, while 19.5% (39) respondents said yes about the above statement.



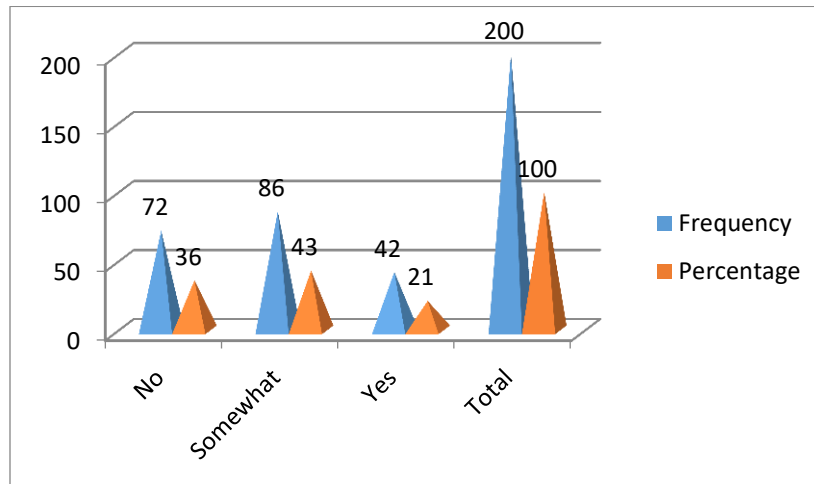
*Table No: 4.29 Taught girls to suppress their feelings*

Scale	Frequency	Percentage
<b>No</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>36%</b>



<b>Somewhat</b>	86	43%
<b>Yes</b>	42	21%
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100%</b>

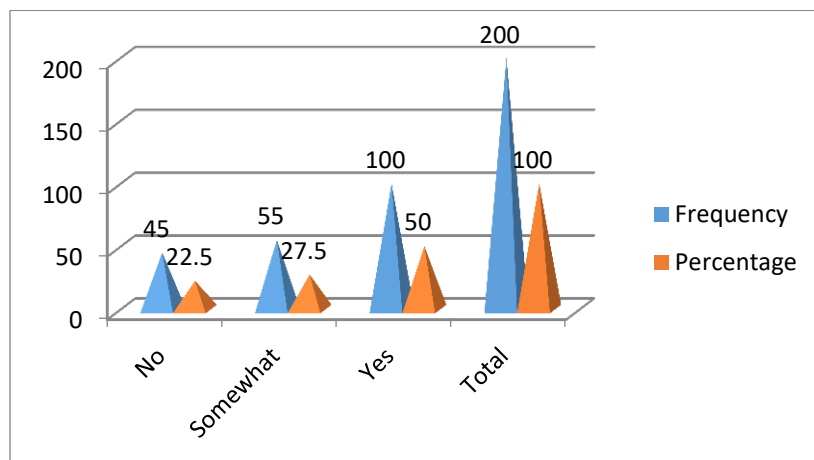
This table shows the distribution of responses about the statement that parents taught girls to suppress their feeling and desires, and to act modestly with reserve and self- control. It tells us that 43% (86) respondents said somewhat about the statement, 36% (72) respondents said no, and only 21% (42) respondents said yes about the above statement.



*Table No: 4.30 Allow girls to job*

<b>Scale</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
No	45	22.5%
Somewhat	55	27.5%
Yes	100	50%
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100%</b>

The above table describe the responses regarding the statement of parents allow girls to job. The above table tells us that 50% (100) respondents said yes about the statement, 27.5% (55) respondents said somewhat, while 22.5% (45) respondents said no about the given statement.



*Table No: 4.31 Prefer sons for employment*

<b>Scale</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
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No	99	49.5%
Somewhat	53	26.5%
Yes	48	24%
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100%</b>

The above table shows the responses about the statement that parents prefer sons for employment than daughters. This table reveal the results that 49.5% (99) respondents said no, 26.5% (53) respondents said somewhat about the given statement, and only 24% (48) respondents said yes about this statement.

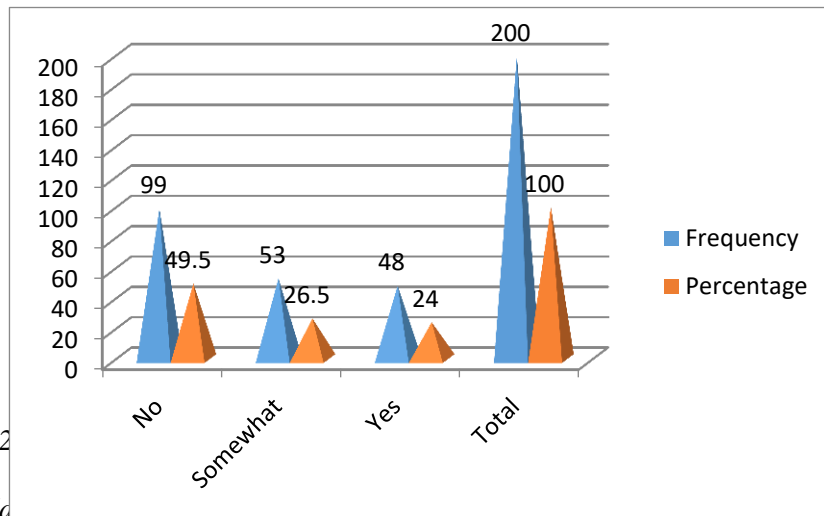


Table No: 4.32  
Table No: 01  
Means, standard

deviation, and t-test results for rural and urban girls' localities and educational attainment preferences, parental behaviour preferences, health care preferences, investment preferences, and job preferences (N = 200)

	Mean	SD	t	Sig. (2 tailed)
<i>Educational attainment</i>				
<b>Rural</b>	1.22	.658	-5.106	.000
<b>Urban</b>	-.839	.825		
<i>Parental behaviour preferences</i>				
<b>Rural</b>	.823	2.02	5.123	.000
<b>Urban</b>	-3.49	.785		
<i>Health care preferences</i>				
<b>Rural</b>	.107	1.30	3.117	.002
<b>Urban</b>	-1.38	.580		
<i>Investment preferences</i>				
<b>Rural</b>	.731	1.31	2.799	.001
<b>Urban</b>	-1.14	.978		
<i>Work/job preferences</i>				
<b>Rural</b>	.054	.785	1.825	.104
<b>Urban</b>	-6.47	.744		

$p < .01, p < .05$

**H1:** there is significant mean difference in perception of girls living in rural and urban areas regarding parental preference of educational attainment for their sons and daughters.

**H2:** there is significant mean difference in perception of girls living in rural and urban areas regarding parental supportive behaviour towards their sons and daughters.





- H3:** there is significant mean difference in perception of girls living in rural and urban areas regarding parental preference of health care for their sons and daughters.
- H4:** there is significant mean difference in perception of girls living in rural and urban areas regarding parental preference of investment for their sons and daughters.
- H5:** there is significant mean difference in perception of girls living in rural and urban areas regarding parental preference of job preferences for their sons and daughters.

**Interpretation**

At first, it is shown that girls living in rural localities are ( $M=1.22, SD=.65$ ) more likely perceive that sons are preferred over daughters by parents than girls living in urban areas ( $M=-.839, SD=.825$ ) with respect to getting education. However, there is significant mean difference ( $p<.01$ ) in perception of both girls living in rural and urban areas with respect of education attainment. Secondly, it is shown that girls living in rural localities are ( $M=.823, SD=-2.02$ ) less likely perceive supportive parental behaviour as compare to sons than girls living in urban areas ( $M=-.349, SD=.785$ ). However, there is significant mean difference ( $p<.01$ ) in perception of both girls living in rural and urban areas with regard to supportive parental behaviour. Next to that, girls living in rural localities are ( $M=.107, SD=1.30$ ) more likely perceive that parents prefer sons over daughter regarding health care than girls living in urban areas ( $M=-1.38, SD=.580$ ). However, there is significant mean difference ( $p<.05$ ) in perception of both girls living in rural and urban areas with regard to health care preferences. Nevertheless, girls living in rural localities are ( $M=.731, SD=1.31$ ) more likely believed that parents invest more on sons than girls, as compare to girls living in urban areas ( $M=-1.14, SD=.978$ ). However, there is significant mean difference ( $p<.05$ ) in perception of both girls living in rural and urban areas with regard to investment. Lastly, girls living in rural localities are ( $M=.054, SD=.785$ ) more likely believed that parents prefer jobs for sons over girls, as compare to girls living in urban areas ( $M=-.47, SD=.744$ ). However, there is insignificant mean difference ( $p<.05$ ) in perception of both girls living in rural and urban areas with regard to job preferences.

**Table No: 02**

*Means, standard deviations, t-values and significance (2 tailed) between respondent’s family nature and educational attainment preferences, parental behaviour preferences, health care preferences, investment preferences, and job preferences (N = 200)*

	<b>Mean</b>	<b>SD</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>Sig. (2 tailed)</b>
<i>Educational attainment</i>				
<b>Nuclear</b>	-1.49	.916	-6.267	.000
<b>Joint</b>	1.25	.677		
<i>Parental behaviour preferences</i>				
<b>Nuclear</b>	.803	1.80	5.104	.004
<b>Joint</b>	-1.09	.718		
<i>Health care preferences</i>				
<b>Nuclear</b>	.978	1.30	3.117	.000
<b>Joint</b>	-1.38	.805		
<i>Investment preferences</i>				
<b>Nuclear</b>	.947	1.53	1.997	.083
<b>Joint</b>	-.941	.893		
<i>Work/job preferences</i>				
<b>Nuclear</b>	.169	.857	1.288	.001
<b>Joint</b>	-.485	.147		

$p<.01, p<.05$



**H1:** there is significant mean difference in perception of girls living in nuclear and joint families regarding parental preference of educational attainment for their sons and daughters.

**H2:** there is significant mean difference in perception of girls living in nuclear and joint families regarding parental supportive behaviour for their sons and daughters.

**H3:** there is significant mean difference in perception of girls living in nuclear and joint families regarding parental preference of health care for their sons and daughters.

**H4:** there is significant mean difference in perception of girls living in nuclear and joint families regarding parental preference of investment for their sons and daughters.

**H5:** there is significant mean difference in perception of girls living in nuclear and joint families regarding parental preference of job preferences for their sons and daughters.

### Interpretation

It is unveiled that sons are more preferred in joint families ( $M=1.25$ ,  $SD=.67$ ) than nuclear families ( $M=-1.49$ ,  $SD=.91$ ) to get education. However, there is significant mean difference ( $p<.01$ ) regarding preference of educational attainment of son between nuclear and joint families. Furthermore, parental behaviour towards sons are more supportive in nuclear families ( $M=.803$ ,  $SD=1.80$ ) than joint families ( $M=-1.09$ ,  $SD=.71$ ). However, there is significant mean difference ( $p<.05$ ) regarding supportive parental behaviour towards son between nuclear and joint families. In addition, parents prefer sons for health care more than daughters in nuclear families ( $M=.978$ ,  $SD=1.30$ ) than joint families ( $M=-1.38$ ,  $SD=.80$ ). However, there is significant mean difference ( $p<.01$ ) regarding parents preference of sons over daughter for health care between nuclear and joint families. Parents in nuclear families spend more on sons ( $M=.947$ ,  $SD=1.53$ ) than daughter as compare to joint families ( $M=-9.47$ ,  $SD=.89$ ). However, there is insignificant mean difference ( $p<.05$ ) in parents' preference of investing more on son between nuclear and joint families. At the end, parents in nuclear families prefer sons ( $M=.169$ ,  $SD=.857$ ) over daughters for job as compare to joint families ( $M=-.485$ ,  $SD=.147$ ). However, there is significant mean difference ( $p<.05$ ) in parents' preference of job for son over daughter between nuclear and joint families.

### FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 4. Conclusion

Among the total respondents 62.5% (125) girls were living in nuclear family system while 37.5% (75) girls were belonged to joint family system whereas 78% (156) belonged to urban community while 22% (44) girls were belonged to rural community. As far as perceptivity of the girls are concerned, girls living in rural localities are ( $M=1.22$ ,  $SD=.65$ ) more likely perceive that sons are preferred over daughters by parents than girls living in urban areas ( $M=-.839$ ,  $SD=.825$ ) with respect to getting education. However, there is significant mean difference ( $p<.01$ ) in perception of both girls living in rural and urban areas with respect of education attainment. Secondly, it is shown that girls living in rural localities are ( $M=.823$ ,  $SD=-2.02$ ) less likely perceive supportive parental behaviour as compare to sons than girls living in urban areas ( $M=-.3.49$ ,  $SD=.785$ ). However, there is significant mean difference ( $p<.01$ ) in perception of both girls living in rural and urban areas with regard to supportive parental behaviour. Next to that, girls living in rural localities are ( $M=.107$ ,  $SD=1.30$ ) more likely perceive that parents prefer sons over daughter regarding health care than girls living in urban areas ( $M=-1.38$ ,  $SD=.580$ ). However, there is significant mean difference ( $p<.05$ ) in perception of both girls living in rural and urban areas with regard to health care preferences. Nevertheless, girls living in rural localities are ( $M=.731$ ,  $SD=1.31$ ) more likely believed that parents invest more on sons than girls, as compare to girls living in urban areas ( $M=-1.14$ ,  $SD=.978$ ). However, there is significant mean difference ( $p<.05$ ) in perception of both girls living in rural and urban areas with regard to investment. Lastly, girls living in rural localities are ( $M=.054$ ,  $SD=.785$ ) more likely believed that parents prefer jobs for sons over girls, as



compare to girls living in urban areas ( $M=-.47$ ,  $SD=.744$ ). However, there is insignificant mean difference ( $p<.05$ ) in perception of both girls living in rural and urban areas with regard to job preferences. On the other hand, it is unveiled that sons are more preferred in joint families ( $M=1.25$ ,  $SD=.67$ ) than nuclear families ( $M=-1.49$ ,  $SD=.91$ ) to get education. However, there is significant mean difference ( $p<.01$ ) regarding preference of educational attainment of son between nuclear and joint families. Furthermore, parental behaviour towards sons are more supportive in nuclear families ( $M=.803$ ,  $SD=1.80$ ) than joint families ( $M=-1.09$ ,  $SD=.71$ ). However, there is significant mean difference ( $p<.05$ ) regarding supportive parental behaviour towards son between nuclear and joint families. In addition, parents prefer sons for health care more than daughters in nuclear families ( $M=.978$ ,  $SD=1.30$ ) than joint families ( $M=-1.38$ ,  $SD=.80$ ). However, there is significant mean difference ( $p<.01$ ) regarding parents preference of sons over daughter for health care between nuclear and joint families. Parents in nuclear families spend more on sons ( $M=.947$ ,  $SD=1.53$ ) than daughter as compare to joint families ( $M=-.947$ ,  $SD=.89$ ). However, there is insignificant mean difference ( $p<.05$ ) in parents' preference of investing more on son between nuclear and joint families. At the end, parents in nuclear families prefer sons ( $M=.169$ ,  $SD=.857$ ) over daughters for job as compare to joint families ( $M=-.485$ ,  $SD=.147$ ). However, there is significant mean difference ( $p<.05$ ) in parents' preference of job for son over daughter between nuclear and joint families.

The study shows that 62.5% (125) respondents were living in nuclear family system while 37.5% (75) respondents were belonged to joint family system. The study shows 78% (156) respondents were belonged to urban community while 22% (44) respondents were belonged to rural community. According to the research 78.5% (157) respondents said to great extent, 18% (36) respondents said to some extent about the statement that family hold positive perception about daughter's education. According to the conducted study 52% (104) respondents said not at all and 29.5% (59) respondents said to great extent about the statement that family feel proud to educate sons rather than daughters. The present study reveals that 74.5% (149) respondents said not at all, while 10% (20) respondents said to some extent about the statement that family concede daughters as burden on family. The collected data shows that 66.5% (133) respondents said not at all, and only 19% (38) respondents said to some extent about the statement that parents like to bound daughters within four walls of house. According to the study 59% (118) respondents said not at all, while 22% (44) respondents said to some extent about the statement that family expect to surrender property rights in favor of brother. The collected data tells that 67% (134) respondents said no, 23% (46) respondents said some what about the statement that family more healthcare of son than daughter after the birth. According to the study 69.5% (139) respondents said no, 20% (40) respondents said somewhat about the statement that parents consume less supplementary and solid food for girls compared with daughter. The results shows that 64.5% (129) respondents said to great extent, while 21% (42) respondents said to some extent about the statement that parents invest equal money for higher education of sons and daughters. The data described that 54% (108) respondents said not at all, and 24% (48) respondents said to some extent about the statement that parents give property to their sons rather than daughters. The results show that 44.5% (89) respondents said no, while 36% (72) respondents said to somewhat about the statement that parents expect only from sons to earn income. The collected date reveals that 43% (86) respondents said somewhat, and only 36% (72) respondents said no about the statement that parents taught girls to suppress their feelings and desires, and to act modestly with reserve and self-control.

## 5. Recommendations

Parents should persuade their children for remarkable educational achievements however; education of girls must be compulsory and equally valued as for boys. Parents should establish healthy relationship with their children for their mental, physical and social development. A strong bond should be developed with children that will ultimately lead them to positive self-esteem and self-confidence. Daughters should have opportunity to participate in decision making equally as boys. Male and females are known as two sides of one coin therefore, parents should consider girls' health equally important as boys without



discrimination. Investment on own daughter is verily benefiting her own in the long run. Therefore, parents should not feel reluctant in investment on daughters. A family environment should be friendly and comfort for both girls and boys without gender discrimination. The notion about boy's preferences upon girl should be eliminated and renewed with equal opportunities and treatment. Programs should be launched by the civil society organizations and government for creating awareness among parents about daughters' rights given by Islam and law of land as well. Social media should have to play a positive role to resolve gender discrimination between son and daughter through TV serials, advertisements and through other means.

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