

**A Study of Beliefs and Perceptions Related to Female Foeticide
among Muslim Community in Jammu, Jammu and Kashmir, India**

Shashi Manhas and Jabina Banoo

P.G Department of Home Science, University of Jammu, Jammu, Jammu and Kashmir, India

Mobile: 9906068051, 9469296156**;*

*E mail: *<shashimanhas@hotmail.com>, **<jabinamschd@gmail.com>*

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ABSTRACT The present research is an attempt to study the perception and beliefs regarding female foeticide among Muslim community of Jammu. Samples of 100 parents (50 mothers and 50 fathers) were selected from four selected Muslim dominated areas of Jammu district. The tool consisted of a self-devised interview schedule to determine the perception and beliefs of parents regarding female foeticide/declining sex ratio. Results of the study revealed that majority of the parents were aware of the sex determination methods and considered it a right and safe method for having a son. The reason behind this belief was stated to be economic liability, lack of safety and fear of family honor and it was also revealed that major cause of female foeticide in this community was son preference. The paper also suggests few recommendations based on data to eliminate this evil practice.