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## Study on Parental Attitude Towards Girls' Higher Education

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*"If we educate a boy, we just educate a person.  
If we educate a girl means we educate the whole society"*  
- Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru

### Abstract:

Today, in the 21st century, the country has progressed in various directions, but has not achieved complete success in the field of women's education. Even after 75 years of independence, every child between the ages of 6 to 14 could not be covered by free and compulsory primary education. It cannot be denied that the gross-enrollment ratio has increased in primary and secondary education but relatively the enrollment ratio has not increased in higher education. As reported in Economic Survey 2022-23, in 2021-22 primary gross enrollment ratio was 100, secondary gross enrollment ratio was 79.6, higher secondary gross enrollment ratio was 57.6, but higher education gross enrollment ratio was 27.3. This shows that most boys and girls are deprived of higher education. Higher education plays a pivotal role in India's socio-economic development and global competitiveness. Higher education equips individuals with specialized knowledge and skills necessary for various professions. It helps in creating a skilled workforce which is essential for economic growth and innovation. A degree from a recognized higher education institution enhances employability prospects. Many employers look for candidates with specific qualifications and competencies that are often acquired through higher education. Higher education provides opportunities for social mobility, allowing individuals from diverse backgrounds to improve their socio-economic status. It fosters inclusivity and reduces disparities by offering equal access to quality education. Higher education enhances individuals' quality of life by expanding their intellectual horizons, critical thinking abilities, and problem-solving skills. It empowers them to lead fulfilling and meaningful lives, contributing positively to society. Here the researcher has witnessed in his career experience that the number of students in the field of secondary or higher secondary education is large but the number of students in the field of higher education is very less. At various times there have been strategies to know and understand the attitude of parents of girl students towards their girl's higher education in Basirhat sub-division. In this case the role of the parent is undeniable. Higher education of students depends a lot on the attitude of parents. Therefore, through the said research, parents will try to know about the attitude of girl students towards higher education, which will subsequently make parents aware of girls' higher education and help increase girls' higher education enrollment. In this study, the researcher will prepare a questionnaire to know the attitude of the parents about their girl's higher education. The questionnaire will be presented to students who enrolled in higher education through Google Forms. In view of these answers or responses try to know the attitude of parents towards higher education of child higher education. 26 questions have been placed in questionnaire by the researcher. Here the data has been collected from a total of 60 students. The



population in the present study was defined as all the girl students enrolled in higher education from the area of Basirhat Sub-division. The purposive sampling technique was used for the study. The said study will be limited to Basirhat sub-division. The researcher will apply mean, percentage and F-value (ANOVA) to analyze the data collected.

**Keyword:** Girls Education, Higher Education, Parents, Basirhat Sub-division, Gross Enrollment Ratio

## 1. Introduction:

*"If you educate a man, you educate an individual,  
but if you educate a woman, you educate an entire family."*

- Mahatma Gandhi

Education is crucial for both men and women, especially for women, as they have been lagging behind in the race for education since independence. In India, there is a wide gap between the education of men and women, with millions of women deprived of this basic right. Girls are the indispensable part of a society, and their education influences the coming generation. They can become educated parents, good managers of families, and active members of society. In a democratic system, women are equal to men, and they are conscious of their rights and obligations. The mother is considered the first educator of a child, and her influence on a child is significant. Therefore, it is essential for society and the government to provide adequate facilities for girls' education. India's literacy rate is 74.04%, with male literacy at 82.14 and female literacy at 64.46%. The new constitution made it obligatory for the state to provide basic education for all, including girls, up to the age of 14 within ten years. As reported in [Economic Survey \(2022-23\)](#)<sup>1</sup>, in 2021-22 primary gross enrollment ratio was 100, secondary gross enrollment ratio was 79.6, higher secondary gross enrollment ratio was 57.6, but higher education gross enrollment ratio was 27.3. This shows that most boys and girls are deprived of higher education. Higher education plays a pivotal role in India's socio-economic development and global competitiveness. Basirhat sub-division is an administrative subdivision of the [North 24 Parganas district](#) in the [Indian state](#) of [West Bengal](#). Basirhat subdivision is part of the Ichhamati-Raimangal Plain, one of the three physiographic regions in the district located in the lower Ganges Delta. North 24 Parganas district is densely populated, mainly because of the influx of [refugees from East Pakistan](#) (later Bangladesh). Here the researcher has witnessed in his career experience that the number of students in the field of secondary or higher secondary education is large but the number of students in the field of higher education is very less. At various times there have been strategies to know and understand the attitude of parents of girl students towards their girl's higher education in Basirhat sub-division. Therefore, the researcher is conducting this study to know the attitude of parents of students towards higher education of enrolled girl students in higher education in this area. However, the number of illiterates

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<sup>1</sup> Economic Survey 2022-23. Retrieved April 24, 2024 from <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/economicsurvey/doc/stat/tab83.pdf>



continues to rise. To empower girls, policy and programming attention should be given to their attitudes towards schooling and higher education. Positive attitudes towards schooling and education can enhance parental involvement in a girl's present and future studies. One of the main justifications for increasing policy and programming attention to parents' attitude is the need to improve girls' education. Furthermore, the attendance and academic success of a girl child are significantly influenced by the positive attitude of her parents towards her pursuing a higher education. Parental involvement in their girl's current and future academic endeavours is increased when there is a positive attitude towards education and higher learning. It is anticipated that parents of girls will have a negative attitude towards schooling. However, the present study aims to examine whether the parents, today, exhibit a positive and favourable attitude towards girl children's higher education in Basirhat Sub-division.

## 2. Literature Review:

Jan and Sharma (2019)<sup>2</sup>, conducted a study in Jahangirabad (Bhopal) region to find out how parents felt about girls' education. They find out that the people who live in Jahangirabad are very poor. The students' female parents are housewives, while the male parents are labourers. The parents are supportive of the education of females despite this. Their goal is to educate their daughters, but due to their bad socioeconomic condition, they are not able to educate their daughters.

Iqbal and Mohyuddin (2013)<sup>3</sup>, concluded that the majority of parents stopped sending their daughters to school at the primary level because they had misconceptions about religious doctrine and believed that girls received preferential attention when it came to grooming. Rural areas hold the belief that a college or university education might give women the confidence to challenge the judgement of the family's elders.

According to Shahzad (2011)<sup>4</sup>, all parents wanted to send their daughters to school but were unable to do so due to financial constraints. The majority of the parents supported them in going to schools or colleges. The main causes of girl dropouts were financial hardship, marriage, and religious restrictions. Women's education is hampered by poverty, a lack of knowledge or incentives, ignorant parents, and early marriages, it has been determined. The majority of the

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<sup>2</sup> Jan, Nelofar., & Sharma Neerja. (2019) Parental attitude towards girl's education: A case study in Jahangirabad Bhopal. *IJAER*. Vol.04, Issue.01.

<sup>3</sup> Iqbal, S., Mohyuddin, A., et al (2013). Traditional attitude of parents and its impact on female educational attainment in rural Hafizabad, Pakistan. *International Journal of Education and Management Studies*, 3(4), 493.

<sup>4</sup> Shahzad, S., Ali, R., Qadeer, M. Z., & Khan, M. S. (2011). Community attitude towards female education. *International Journal of Academic Research*, 3(1).



parents agreed that women should be able to work. Most of the parents required them daughters to help out around the house. The vast majority of parents opposed co-education.

According to [Bedanta, K. K. \(2020\)](#)<sup>5</sup> this study investigated the role of parental attitude towards girls' education. Now-a-days, girls' education is drawing attention of our government, parents and educationists. The size of the sample is consisted 120 girl students of class X belonging to Govt. and Private High School of Kendrapara district. The convenience sample technique was used to collect the data. The data is collected from the students by self-prepared questionnaire. The author of this study used this questionnaire and marked the parental attitude towards girls' education. The author of this study analysis the collected data by a suitable statistical technique of Critical Ratio. The conclusion that can be drawn as a result of the findings is that the urban parents show more readiness and consciousness towards girls' education. Educated parents are more positive attitude towards girl education. The parents should not discriminate against their girl child but rather treat all children equally and provide same opportunities for them.

According to [Chingtham, T. & Guite, T. \(2017\)](#)<sup>6</sup> in the present investigation aim to study the contribution of the areas related to the Parental Attitudes towards Girl's Education. This paper attempts to make a thorough, comprehensive and analytical study by exploring the educational background of the parents, different parental income, different occupation of the parents, lack of education and cultural lag of parents and the effect it has on the education of girl we can conclude that education of the parents highly influence on their attitude towards girl's education. Those parents from urban who have attained better education have more understanding towards the necessity of girl's education and have more positive attitude towards the education of girls than those parents from rural who are less educated. The economic backgrounds and occupational levels of the parents have influence on their attitude towards girls' education. And on the other hand, no matter how developed and educated the people are, their cultural lag still prevents them from broadening their mindset towards girls and girl's education. And the discrimination of gender prevails in the society, though it still exists in different forms and in different degrees. Both the parents from rural and urban show some level of discrimination as they prefer their sons than their daughters in every angle. Therefore, though education of the parents gives positive attitude, cultural lag of the parents on the other hand gives negative attitude towards the girl's education.

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<sup>5</sup> Bedanta, K. K. . (2020). Role of parental attitude towards girls' education. *IJARIE*, Vol-6 Issue-2, ISSN(O)-2395-4396

<sup>6</sup> Chingtham , T. and Guite, T., ( 2017) .Parents Attitude Toward Girls Education. *IOSR journal of research & method in education (IOSR-JRME)* e-ISSN: 2320-7388,p-ISSN:2320-737X volume



Kaur, M & Kaur, S. (2020)<sup>7</sup> The present study has tried to examine the perceptions and attitude of the underprivileged Dalit and non-Dalit parents regarding girls' education in 'Chand Bhan' village of district Faridkot in Punjab. In order to achieve all the objectives of the present study, the data consisted from Dalit and non-Dalit residents of 'Chand Bhan' village in the months of November 2019- January 2020. Quantitative data were collected from 55 parents (29) Dalit and (26) non-Dalit who had one or more than one school-going girl and were involved in marginal activity providing necessarily livelihood for less than 6 months in a year through purposive sampling technique. Qualitative data were also collected through participant observation, group discussions, and informal interviews with key respondents. Present study presented in unequivocal terms that girls 'education' in the rural areas is not as equal priority as boys for the parents. Family's socioeconomic background, parental educational status, patriarchal values, cultural ethos, availability of schools, cost of girls 'marriage and lack of safety are the major factors which decide parental attitude towards girls 'education. However, so many policies and programmes were initiated by the state to promote girls 'education in the rural areas, but the access for education in the underprivileged girls is still a distant dream.

Sinha, S. (2018)<sup>8</sup> The purpose of the study is to examine the attitude of parents towards girls' higher education. In this topic we cover educational issue namely academic subjects for girl, scholarships policies for girls, parent education. Investing in girl's education transforms communities, countries and the entire world. The present study has been conducted in Kaliganj Block of Karimganj District, Assam. A Total of 30 households has been surveyed and collected data through a structured questionnaire. This research found that, all the 30 parents are wanting to girls will be higher educated, out of the 30 parents 12 parents gave their opinion that if girls will be highly educated than the society child marriage rate decline and out of the 30 parents 18 parents are facing the financial problems because people are live in rural areas so they cannot spend more money on the higher education of the girl child.

### 3. Area of Study:

The present study has been conducted in Basirhat Sub-division, North 24 Pargana District, West Bengal. A Total of 60 students has been surveyed and collected data through a structured questionnaire.

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<sup>7</sup> Kaur, M & Kaur, S. (2020). Parental attitude towards girls' education and caste-class factors: insights from Punjab village. Journal of critical reviews, Vol. 7, issues 10, ISSN: 2394-5125

<sup>8</sup> Sinha, S. (2018). Parent's attitude towards higher education of their girl child: an analytical study of kaliganj of karimganj district, assam. International Journal of Research in Social Sciences, Vol. 8, Issue 7, ISSN: 2249-2496



#### 4. Operational Definitions of the Study:

- (i) **Girl Child:** A female child in the age group of 17-21 years is considered here as a girl child in the study.
- (ii) **Attitude:** Attitude is the degree of likes or dislikes, or judgment, for something and usually fall in the spectrum of positive, ambivalent and negative views. It involves feelings, beliefs and behaviours that are formed, nurtured and perpetuated by society, institutions, religions and families. Here in this study Attitude is comprised of three elements: feeling, beliefs and behaviour of Parents towards girl child higher education.
- (iii) **Parents:** The parents of girl children who are studying in the elementary schools and will be taken as sample for the study (both father and mother).

#### 5. Research Gap:

The review of major past studies examining the attitude of parents towards their child education generated a confirmation regarding the negative impacts casted by location, religion, parents' educational qualification. **As, Chingtham, T. & Guite, T. (2017)** In the present investigation that, those parents from urban who have attained better education have more understanding towards the necessity of girl's education and have more positive attitude towards the education of girls than those parents from rural who are less educated. **Iqbal and Mohyuddin (2013)**, investigated that rural areas hold the belief that a college or university education might give women the confidence to challenge the judgement of the family's elders. **Chingtham, T. & Guite, T. (2017)** investigated that both the parents from rural and urban show some level of discrimination as they prefer their sons than their daughters in every angle. Therefore, though education of the parents gives positive attitude, cultural lag of the parents on the other hand gives negative attitude towards the girl's education. **Bedanta, K. K. (2020)** concluded that can be drawn as a result of the findings is that the urban parents show more readiness and consciousness towards girls' education. Educated parents are more positive attitude towards girl education. The parents should not discriminate against their girl child but rather treat all children equally and provide same opportunities for them.

Moreover, a relative citation in the reviewed literature was exposed from a large number of studies that urban parents show more readiness and consciousness towards girls' education and both the parents from rural and urban show some level of discrimination as they prefer their sons than their girls in every angle. The researcher has covered all these important areas carefully in the present study. Further the study may emphasise on parental attitude towards their girls' higher education in Basirhat Sub-division under north 24 pargana, West Bengal.



## 6. Objectives of the Study: Objectives of the study are-

- (i) To know the parental attitude towards girls' higher education in Basirhat sub-division.
- (ii) To know the difference in the attitude of rural and urban parents towards higher education of girls in Basirhat sub-division.
- (iii) To know what kind of changes their parents expect to see in their girls after getting higher education.
- (iv) To know when parents make decisions about their girls' education, do they also consider economic, cultural, gender, and religious.
- (v) To know the difference in attitude towards their girls' higher education of Parents with different occupations and educational qualifications.

## 7. Research Questions:

The purpose of the research study was to investigate the parental attitude towards their girls' higher education. In order to get the conception of attitude of parents toward their girls' higher education, the research study attempted to give answers to the following research questions:

- I. What is the importance of girls' education according to their parents?
- II. There is a difference in the attitude of rural and urban parents towards higher education of girls?
- III. When parents make decisions about their girls' education, do they also consider economic, cultural, gender, and religious?
- IV. What kind of changes their parents expect to see in their girls after getting higher education?

## 8. Methodology of the Study:

### 8.1 Method:

This study was descriptive survey method of research in nature. The study was a survey since it was a systematic attempt to investigate the Parental Attitude Towards Girls' Higher Education in Basirhat Sub-division. In order to collect primary data, a locally developed questionnaire with the closed ended items was used. The scale which was utilized for the response of questionnaires was 5 Likert scale. The questionnaires addressed to following categories<sup>9</sup>

- i) Importance of Women Education
- ii) Gender Specifications
- iii) Financial Resources
- iv) Cultural and Family Traditional Patterns
- v) Religious Values and
- vi) Women Education and Development

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<sup>9</sup> Laila, U., Chohan, B.I & Behlol, M. G. (2014). Parental Attitude towards Girls' Higher Education: A Case Study of Pakistan. Journal of Research in Social Sciences, Vol: 2 Number 2 ISSN: (E) 2306-112X





## 8.2 Population:

The population in the present study was defined as all the girl students enrolled in higher education from the area of Basirhat Sub-division. The sample for the study was 60 within the age group 17-21 years.

## 8.3 Sample and Sample Size:

The Sample in the present study was defined as a representative group of the girl students enrolled in higher education from the area of Basirhat Sub-division. The sample consisted of 60 adolescents (17 urban girl students, 9 semi urban girl students and 34 rural girl students,). The sample was selected from different higher secondary school of West Bengal.

Table 1: Table if Sample

College Name	Number of Sample
Basirhat College	20
Hingalganj Mahavidyalaya	20
Taki Government College	20

## 8.4 Sampling Technique:

The purposive sampling technique was used for the study. Here the researcher will use his intelligence and experience to select the sample according to the purpose.

## 8.5 Tools Used:

With assistance from the expert, the researcher designed a questionnaire on parental attitude towards girls' education for area. The researcher developed this questionnaire primarily with an emphasis on West Bengal. The purpose of this questionnaire is to gauge the attitude that parents have towards their girls' education. The girls' education is at the centre of the parents' mindset. This questionnaire is applicable to both urban and rural settings. This questionnaire helps explain the attitudes of parents in rural and urban areas about girls' education. This questionnaire will support the girls' educational growth.

## 9. Data Collection:

In the present study, data was collected from the girl students who enrolled in higher education from the area of Basirhat Sub-division. Twenty data were collected from Basirhat College, Hingalganj Mahavidyalaya and Taki Government College. At first, to collect necessary data, the researcher selects few numbers of questions and creates a questionnaire and presents them to the students through Google Forms. The researcher here instructs the students to read and answer the questions carefully. Answering time should not be done by any person. 26 questions have been placed in questionnaire by the researcher. Here the data has been collected from a total of 60 students.





Table 2: Table of Collected Data

Variables		Number	Mean	Stander Division	Total
Location	Urban	19	34.55	41.29	60
	Sub urban	9	44.78	23.00	
	Rural	34	44.32	24.97	
Religion	Hindu	42	52.17	32.75	60
	Muslim	18	44.33	26.30	
Family Income	1-2 Lac	52	47.31	30.30	60
	3-5 Lac	8	66.13	32.12	
Total		60	49.82	30.95	60

## 10. Data Analysis and Interpretation:

Data analysis was made employing descriptive statistics such as Mean, Standard Deviation and inferential statistics such as ANOVA (Test of significance difference between three groups means) interpretation will be done appropriately. The information obtained from the questionnaire was analyzed also using tables that provided descriptions of the respondents' percentages. Further discussion of percentages was conducted by descriptive analysis. Reverse scoring was used to some of the negatively scored statements in the categories. The scores were reversed in statements as giving 1 score for strongly agree, 2 score for agree, 3 score for uncertain, 4 score for disagree and 5 score for strongly disagree. Average range of response 1.00 – 1.80 for strongly agree, 1.81 – 2.60 for agree, 2.61 – 3.40 for uncertain, 3.41 – 4.20 for disagree and 4.21 – 5.00 for strongly disagree.

Table 3: Importance of Women Education

Questions	Strongly Agree	Agree	Uncertain	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Average Response
Your parents allow you to be enrolled in higher education?	75%	6.7%	5%	3.3%	10%	1.67
Your parents have a supportive attitude for higher education?	76.7%	3.3%	5%	5%	10%	1.68
They give attention on your education?	70%	10%	8.3%	1.7%	10%	1.72
Your parents are contributing important role for your education?	75%	6.7%	6.7%	1.7%	10%	1.65
Your educational achievements are acknowledged by your parents?	73.3%	8.3%	6.7%	0%	11.7%	1.6
Your parents encourage you to go and get higher education at distant areas?	56.7%	18.3%	10%	5%	10%	1.93
You have a right to decide about your education?	65%	15%	8.3%	1.7%	10%	1.77
<b>Average</b>	70%	10%	7%	3%	10%	1.72



There are seven questions in Table 3 and out of 420 responses, 70% are in strongly agree and 10% are in agree while there are only 7% respondents are uncertain. Only 3% responses disagreed with the statements and meanwhile there are only 10% respondents who strongly disagreed. So, the overall results of table 3 indicated that majority of the students agree that their parents understand the importance of education for girls and overall average response of the girls' students is 1.72 that means parents are strongly agree about girls' higher education is important.

**Table 4: Gender Specifications**

Questions	Strongly Agree	Agree	Uncertain	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Average Response
Your parents allow you to get higher education in co-educational institutions?	63.3%	15%	10%	0%	11.7%	1.82
Your parents have equal educational preferences for you and for your brother?	68.3%	10%	8.3%	1.7%	11.7%	1.78
Girls are provided same opportunities as boys to get higher education?	68.3%	13.3%	5%	3.3%	10%	1.73
Your parents spent equal money on the education of yours and your brother?	68.3%	13.3%	3.3%	1.7%	13.3%	1.78
<b>Average</b>	67.05%	12.9%	6.65%	1.675%	11.675%	1.77

Table 4 addresses gender-based reservations, demonstrating that gender-based disparities also exist in our culture since we live in a patriarchal society where men rule and women submit to them. However, the result of table 4 shows that out of 240 respondents 67% are strongly agreed and 12% agreed with the statements. This illustrates that students do not face any kind of gender-based differences in the higher education. While, 1.675% responses disagreed and 11.67% strongly disagreed on the statement that their parents support them to gain education in co-educational institutions. Overall average response percentage is 1.77 that mean parents are strongly agree towers girls' higher education in respect the gender specification.

**Table 5: Financial Resources**

Questions	Strongly Agree	Agree	Uncertain	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Average Response
Your educational expenses are happily paid by your parents?	70%	11.7%	5%	0%	13%	1.75
You are given enough money to fulfil your educational needs?	66.7%	11.7%	8.3%	1.7%	11.7%	1.8
<b>Average</b>	68.35%	11.7%	6.65%	0.85%	12.35%	1.775



Table 5 highlighted Financial Resources as an additional issue that may provide obstacles for ladies pursuing higher education for girl students. Literature demonstrates that parents' decisions to register their children in higher education are also influenced by the lack of suitable financial resources. Results of Table 5 indicate that out of 120 responses 68% strongly agree and 11.7% agree that their educational expenses are happily paid by their parents. Only 11.7% responses disagreed with the statements. Majority of the students believe that their parents have a supportive attitude in terms of financial concerns related to their education. Overall average response percentage is 1.77 that mean parents have a supportive attitude in terms of financial concerns related to their education.

**Table 6: Cultural and Family Traditional Patterns**

Questions	Strongly Agree	Agree	Uncertain	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Average Response
Your family has positive attitude for your higher education?	70%	13.3%	3.3%	6.7%	6.7%	1.67
Your family traditions support girls' education?	73.3%	8.3%	5%	1.7%	11%	1.7
Your parents believe that you will follow family traditions while getting higher education?	66.7%	13.3%	8.3%	1.7%	10%	1.75
Educated women are encouraged to share their opinions and ideas in your family?	68.3%	11.7%	5%	1.7%	13.3%	1.8
Your family gives importance to your suggestions and opinions?	61.7%	10%	11.7%	3.3%	13.3%	1.97
<b>Average</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>11.32%</b>	<b>6.66%</b>	<b>3.02%</b>	<b>10.86%</b>	<b>1.778</b>

Table 6 contains comments on the culture and attitudes of the extended family in the area, which have an impact on parents' attitudes and decisions regarding their girls' education both directly and indirectly. Table 6 has 5 questions and out of 300, 68% respondents are strongly agreed and 11.32% are agreed that means their culture and family traditions are in favour of women education and higher education is considered very important for women. 6.66% responses are doubtful while 3.02% responses disagreed and only 10.86% strongly disagreed. The majority of responses indicate positive outcomes linked to the family's and society's upbeat and supportive attitudes towards the girls' higher education. Overall average response percentage is 1.78 that means parents have strongly positive attitude in terms Cultural and Family Traditional Patterns related to their girls' higher education.



Table 7: Religious Values

Questions	Strongly Agree	Agree	Uncertain	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Average Response
Your family takes education for girls as religious obligation?	35%	13.3%	15%	8.3%	28.3%	2.81
Your parents think that you can offer your religious duties more devotedly by getting higher education?	56.7%	18.3%	13.3%	1.7%	10%	1.9
Your parents believe that only religious education is necessary for girls? (Reverse scoring of the above statement)	36.7%	13.3%	11.7%	6.7%	31.7%	3.17
Average	42.8%	14.97%	13.33%	5.57%	23.33%	2.63

The area of the study has a very diverse religious background and beliefs of the people are deeply rooted in the religion. Table 7 shows that out of 180 responses, 42% are strongly agreed and 14.97% are agreed with the statements this shows that their parents believed that Religious highly support girls' education at all level and higher education enables them to understand their religion with its full spirit. There are 13.33% responses that are unclear about the situation and 5.57% responses disagreed and 23% strongly disagreed. However, majority of respondents answered that their parents believe that religious support girls' education at all levels without any ambiguity and their parents also take their education as a religious obligation. Overall average response percentage is 2.63 that average parents have uncertain attitude in terms Religious Values related to their girls' higher education.

Table 8: Women Education and Development

Questions	Strongly Agree	Agree	Uncertain	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Average Response
Your parents believe that higher education of the girls can improve their social status?	71.7%	11.7%	5%	0%	1.7%	1.68
They accept that higher education of the girls can make Positive effects on family's economic condition?	68.3%	13.3%	5%	5%	8.3%	1.71
In opinion of your parents' higher education can bring positive changes in your life?	75%	5%	5%	10%	5%	1.65
Your parents think that higher education provides opportunities to utilize your abilities and potentials?	71.7%	11.7%	3.3%	5%	8.3%	1.66
Your parents consider that highly educated women have enough opportunities for employment?	60%	15%	15%	3.3%	6.7%	1.82
Average	69.34%	11.34%	6.66%	4.66%	6%	1.704



Table 8 is related to women education and development which is based on the concept that higher education makes possible women access to prosperity. Research studies shows that higher education can bring economic, social and moral development of women in all phases of life. In this perspective, findings in the table 8 shows that 69.34% respondents strongly agreed and 11.34% are agreed with the statements of the questionnaire. Only 4.66% responses are disagreed. This study show that the majority of parents believe that their girl's life can be developed with higher education.

**Table 9: Data sheet of girl students' response**

		Average Response	Range of Average Response
Location	Urban	2.35	Strongly Agree- 1.00–1.80 Agree - 1.81 – 2.60 Uncertain- 2.61 – 3.40 Disagree- 3.41-4.20 Strongly Disagree- 4.21 – 5.00
	Semi Urban	1.66	
	Rural	1.64	
Religion	Hindu	1.96	
	Muslim	1.64	
Approximate family income	1-2 Lac	1.75	
	3-5 Lac	2.45	

Table 9 shows that average response of urban parents towards higher education of girls under Basirhat sub-division is 2.35, average response of semi urban parents towards higher education of girls is 1.66 and average response of rural parents towards higher education of their girls is 1.64. That is, it is seen here that the attitude of semi urban and rural parents towards the higher education of their girls is Strongly Agree. You can say that you have a positive attitude. And the parents of the urban also expressed a positive attitude towards girls' higher education is agree. Average response of Hindu parents towards higher education of their girls 1.96 and the average response of Muslim parents' attitude towards girls' higher education is 1.64. Both parents expressed a positive attitude towards higher education for girls. Here we can witness that Muslim parents expressed relatively more attitude towards higher education of girls than Hindu parents. The average response of attitude of parents with annual income between 1 to 2 lakhs is 1.75 and the average response of attitude of parents with annual income of 3 to 5 lakhs is 2.45. Here also we can observe that those parents whose annual income is between 1-2 lakhs have shown more attitude towards higher education of girls. Meaning Overall we can say that both the parents expressed positive attitude towards higher education of girls.

**Table 10: Attitude of the parents - *Comparison of* Location (Urban, Semi-urban & rural area) (ANOVA)**

Source of Variation	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	4423.751	2	2211.876	2.421	.098
Within Groups	52085.232	57	913.776		
Total	56508.983	59			



In the table no 10, researcher try to calculate, whether is a significant difference between mean attitude of parents of urban, sun-urban and rural towers higher education of girls. The calculate value is 2.421 and the table value at 0.05 significant level is 3.159. Hence, the calculate value is less than the table value. So, there is no significant difference of mean of parents' attitude of their girls' higher education of among groups (Urban, Semi-urban & rural area).

<b>Table 11: Attitude of the parents - Comparison of Occupation (Service, Business, Laboure &amp; Farmer) (ANOVA).</b>					
Source of Variation	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	1789.948	3	596.649	.595	.621
Within Groups	56121.035	56	1002.161		
Total	57910.983	59			

In the table no 11, researcher try to calculate, whether is a significant difference between mean attitude of parents of **Service, Business, Laboure & Farmer** occupation towers higher education of girls. The calculate value is 0.595 and the table value at 0.05 significant level is 2.796. Hence, the calculate value is less than the table value. So, there is no significant difference of mean of parents' attitude of their girls' higher education of among groups (*Service, Business, Laboure & Farmer occupation*).

**Table 12: Attitude of the parents - Comparison of Mothers Educational Qualification (Higher Education, Secondary, Primary & Illiterate) (ANOVA).**

Source of Variation	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	1850.108	3	616.703	.632	.598
Within Groups	54658.876	56	976.051		
Total	56508.983	59			

In the table no 12, researcher try to calculate, whether is a significant difference between mean attitude of mothers' educational qualification (like **Higher Education, Secondary, Primary & Illiterate**) towers higher education of girls. The calculate value is 0.632 and the table value at 0.05 significant level is 2.796. Hence, the calculate value is less than the table value. So, there is no significant difference of mean of parents' attitude of their girls' higher education of among groups (**Higher Education, Secondary, Primary & Illiterate**).

**Table 13: Attitude of the parents - Comparison of Fathers Educational Qualification (Higher Education, Secondary, Primary & Illiterate) (ANOVA).**

Source of Variation	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	1155.733	3	385.244	.390	.761
Within Groups	55353.250	56	988.451		
Total	56508.983	59			



In the table no 13, researcher try to calculate, whether is a significant difference between mean attitude of fathers' educational qualification (like **Higher Education, Secondary, Primary & Illiterate**) towers higher education of girls. The calculate value is 0.390 and the table value at 0.05 significant level is 2.796. Hence, the calculate value is less than the table value. So, there is no significant difference of mean of parents' attitude of their girls' higher education of among groups (**Higher Education, Secondary, Primary & Illiterate**).

### 11. Findings:

- i) After analysis the collected data we observe that the parents are given positive attitude towers girls' higher education in Basirhat sub-division.
- ii) Under the Basirhat subdivision, the average answer from urban parents to their girls' higher education is 2.35; the average response from semi-urban parents is 1.66; and the average reaction from rural parents is 1.64. That is to say, it is evident that rural and semi-urban parents strongly agree that their girls should pursue higher education. You could describe your attitude as optimistic. Additionally, the urban parents voiced support for girls pursuing higher education.
- iii) The average reaction from Hindu parents regarding their girls' higher education is 1.96, whereas the average reaction from Muslim parents is 1.64. Positive attitudes on higher education for girls were stated by both parents. Here, we see that Muslim parents have a comparatively more positive attitude than Hindu parents on girls' higher education.
- iv) The average attitude response from parents earning between 1 and 2 lakhs per year is 1.75, whereas the average attitude response from parents earning between 3 and 5 lakhs per year is 2.45. Here, too, we see that parents whose yearly income falls between one and two lakhs have demonstrated a more positive attitude towards girls' higher education. In summary, it can be concluded that both parents had a favorable attitude regarding their girls' tertiary education.
- v) This study show that the majority of parents believe that their girl's life can be developed with higher education.
- vi) This research find illustrates that students do not face any kind of gender-based differences in the higher education.
- vii) Parents have strongly positive attitude in terms Cultural and Family Traditional Patterns related to their girls' higher education.
- viii) This study found that that no significant difference of mean of parents' attitude of their girls' higher education in their location (Urban, Semi-urban & rural area), Occupation (Service, Business, Laboure & Farmer), and Educational Qualification (Higher Education, Secondary, Primary & Illiterate).





## 12. Limitation of this study:

- i. This study based on only higher education.
- ii. This study was conducted only on girl students of Basirhat sub-division who enrolled in higher education.
- iii. This study was limited only to government educational institutions of Basirhat sub-division.
- iv. By Researcher, the data was collected only from girl students of Basirhat college who have enrolled in higher education.

## 13. Conclusion:

India's girl child represents the future of women; therefore, it is crucial to give her the opportunity and dignity she deserves if she is to grow up to become an equal partner with men. The goal of the current study is to investigate parents' attitudes or opinions regarding their girls' higher education. This study is structured in Basirhat sub-division. Parents have positive attitude towards higher education of their daughters. Parents encourage girls to pursue higher education. Parents give freedom to decide for higher education like boys and spends enough money on girls' education. They believe that it is possible to develop the society by harnessing the ability of girls through higher education. This study showed that parents' educational qualification, occupation, location do not show any difference in attitude towards higher education of girls. Above all parents of Basirhat sub-division area have positive attitude towards higher education of their girls.

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