

Collaborative Campaign of Community, Civil Society and Academia to end Female Foeticide and Sex Selective Abortion in Haryana

at

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Background: Female Foeticide in India

- Social discrimination against women and a preference for sons has been promoted.
- Researchers for the Lancet journal based in Canada and India stated that 500,000 girls were being lost annually through sex-selective abortions.
- The Pre-conception and Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (PCPNDT) Act passed in 1994 – making determination and sex-selective abortion illegal.
- PCPNDT Act has been poorly enforced by authorities.

Haryana: An Overview



- economically prosperous but
- lowest sex ratio in the country (877 females per 1000 males, and down to 762 women)
- high Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) of 102
- lower literacy rate for women 66.80%.
- marriage before 18yrs - 59.9%
- 258 rape cases
- 3138 dowry torture cases
- 30 dowry deaths
- 45 per cent children suffering from malnutrition

Objectives of programme

- Reduction in cases of female foeticide in communities
 - To establish cluster teams of community level stakeholders
 - To bring about attitudinal changes for pro-female preferences amongst families.
- Engage institutions of higher education, especially girls colleges
 - to address the practice of foeticide within families, communities, and other institutions
 - to collaborate with other stakeholders – government departments, medical officers

Types of partnership:

PRIA partnered with

- Twelve post graduate colleges for women
- Community/citizen/religious leaders, elected representatives
- Civil Society Organisations
- District level administrative bodies

PRIA's Initiatives

- Orientation programme with students, community youth, community leaders, district officials
- Outreach with the community members : Door- to- Door Campaigns involving community and college youth, women's groups
- Networking with Community Based Organisations and other NGOs
- Liasoning with District-Level Monitoring Committee of PCPNDT Act
- Involvement of media for awareness raising & coverage of campaign
- Monthly meetings of cluster teams & support to cluster members
- Mobilizing community support through field animators for sustainability

Outcomes and Impacts

- College students (including boys) took a pledge that they themselves would never engage in or encourage such acts
- Couples with only daughters began to proudly share that they had no intention to have more children in the desire to produce a male heir
- Families began to avail of various schemes for the girl child related to education and health
- Educational institutions continued with efforts of gender sensitization with their students, families and the communities.
- Community took initiatives to monitor pregnant women.

Innovations

A multi-stakeholder partnership – Postgraduate women's colleges were active among community and local bodies.

Pedagogical approaches :

- learning exercises and games, group discussions,
- interviews with women in reproductive years to understand their perspectives and dilemmas
- wall writing events
- village walks
- street theatre
- seminars involving community, youth and academia



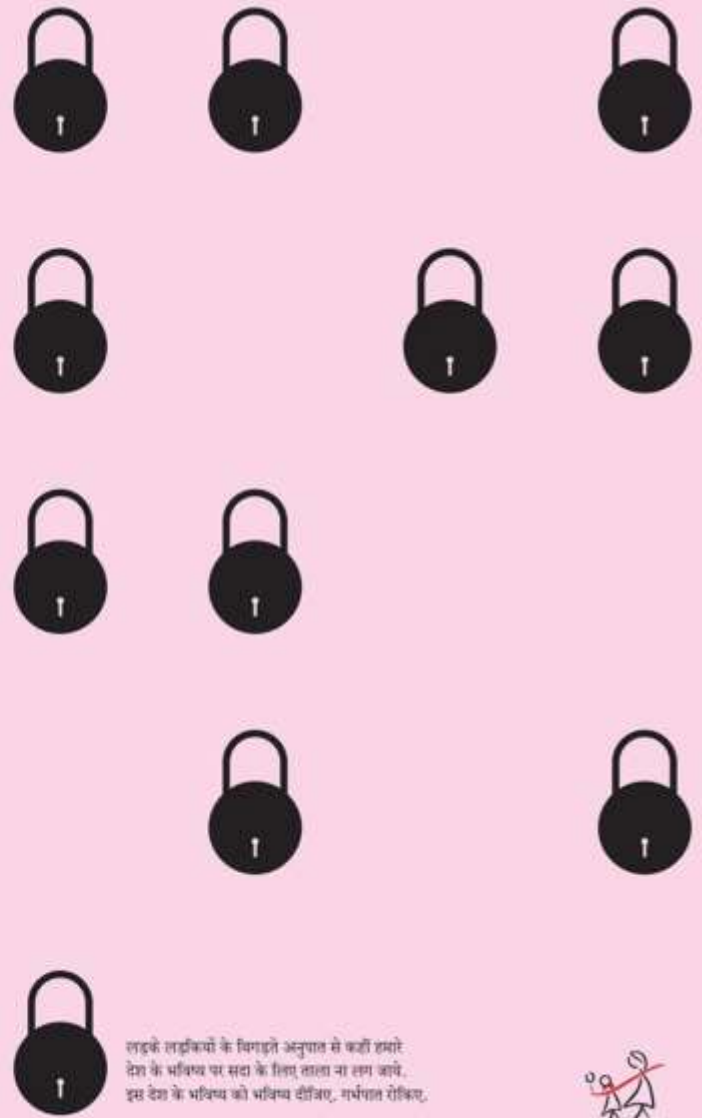
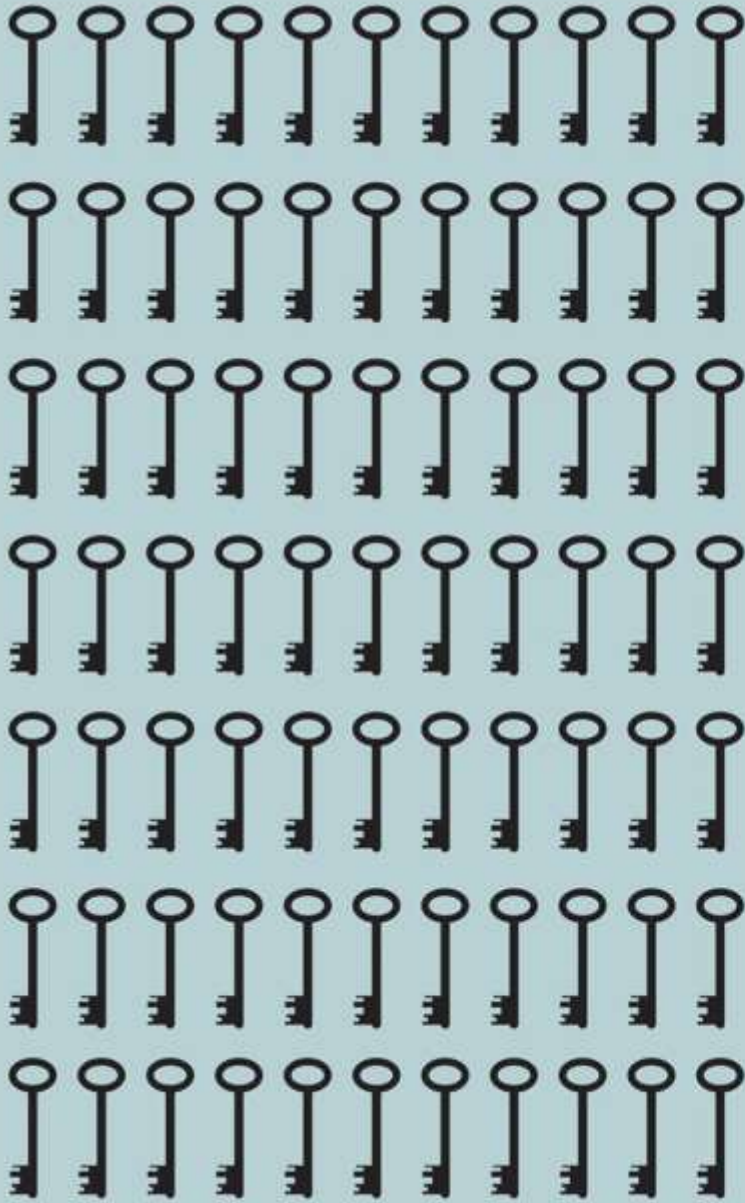
जिसे पूजते हो, उसे ही गिराते हो २

कविता - सुनील कुमार अरोड़ा जी नहीं, राम ३



MISSing UNIVERSE 2010

Don't ignore, *save the girl child.*



लड़कें लड़कियों के विगड़ने अनुपाल से कहीं हमारे
 देश के भविष्य पर सदा के लिए खतरा ना लग जाये.
 इस देश के भविष्य को भविष्य दीजिए, गर्भराल रोकिए.





कन्या भ्रूण हत्या पूरी पीढ़ी को खत्म कर सकती है।



कन्या भ्रूण हत्या के खिलाफ हाँथ मिलाएं

Thank you