Prenatal sex selection against females: Recent trends in the UK Indian Diaspora

Sylvie dubuc, Sylvie.dubuc@spi.ox.ac.uk

Son preference and discrimination against girls have been reported in many countries and notably in South and East Asia. The availability of various pre-natal sex-determination techniques such as ultrasound screening since the 1980s, has resulted in well documented prenatal sex-selection against females in many Asian countries. New results from the 2010 Indian census data suggests sex-selection against females has further increased and spread. PNSS against females has recently also been evidenced in Western countries with important Asian diasporas. In the UK, a male biased sex ratio at birth among India-born women over 1990-2005 reflects the trend observed in India. However, a closer analysis by main Indian region of origin suggests less bias in the Indian Diaspora. Updated results since 2005 are presented and discussed.