

## Abstract

Preferences for selecting male firstborn children have been well established through research in countries such as India, China, and the Middle East. The effects of this phenomenon have been devastating to these populations' sex ratios and have led to a number of violent crimes against women. Early studies conducted in the United States have indicated that firstborn son preference exists; however, more recent studies indicate a slight trend toward firstborn girl preference. The current study examines firstborn preference and attitudes towards using technology to achieve the desired sex of firstborn offspring. A sample drawn from the Cleveland State University student body was given a survey to determine male and female firstborn preferences and willingness to use sex selection technology. Our findings revealed an overall preference for firstborn sons and a trend towards "no preference" for sex of offspring among female participants. The number of participants who indicated a willingness to use sex selection technology (8%) was too small to calculate any relationship between potential users and firstborn sex preference.