

IMPACT OF IMPRISONMENT ON MARITAL AND FAMILIAL RELATIONSHIPS

*Thesis Submitted to
The University of Calicut
For the Degree of
Doctor of Philosophy in Sociology*

BY

P. AMBIKA DEVI

SELECTION GRADE LECTURER
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
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KOZHIKODE - 673014

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CERTIFICATE

Certified that this thesis entitled "**Impact of Imprisonment on Marital and Familial Relationships**" is an original piece of research work done by **Smt. P Ambika Devi, Selection Grade Lecturer, Department of Sociology, The Zamorins Guruvayurappan College, Kozhikode,** under my supervision and guidance and that no part of it has been submitted to any other university or academic body for the award of any Degree, Diploma or any other title of recognition.


(JONI.C. JOSEPH) 31-5

SUPERVISING TEACHER

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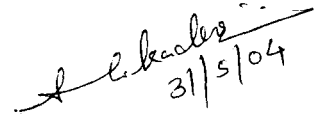
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DECLARATION

I here by declare that this thesis on **Impact of Imprisonment on Marital and Familial Relationships** is a *bona fide* record of research work done by me and that no part of it has been presented earlier for the award of any Degree, Diploma or similar title of any other university.

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PREFACE

Imprisonment of a person who is leading a family life let loose a lot of problems to the individual, dependents and other relatives. By becoming an inmate of the guarded settlement the individual's freedom, aspirations and action patterns even are controlled. The dependent spouse, parents and children are deprived of economic, social and emotional security which they had been enjoying. The spouse's rights for conjugal pleasures are frustrated. The imprisonment also tell upon the closer and distant relatives of the person imprisoned by way of becoming target of social disrespect and even rejection. In short, the event generates disorganisation / reorganisation in the life patterns of the individual, spouse and other members of the family.

The human problems created by the activation of criminal justice system had been remaining unattended to by jurists and social scientists as they were considered as the inevitable consequences of the wrong doings of the persons concerned. This retributive mentality of society is gradually giving way to the philosophy of the societal responsibility of salvaging the deviant and their unfortunate dependents from the crisis situation. As a result of this changing perspectives few scholars have made certain efforts to fathom the human side of this system of punishment. This researcher is also attempting to contribute to this philosophy what ever mite she is capable of. She is investigating into the consequences of imprisonment

of a married person to the personal marital and familial life of the confined and suggesting measures to mitigate the misery of this mode of punishment.

This dissertation is prepared in ten chapters. The first chapter introduces the problem. The second analyzes the related literature on the topic and creates the conceptual framework of the study. The third chapter discusses the methodology followed in the research. The fourth chapter portrays the whereabouts the prison system in Kerala where the empirical investigation for the study was carried out. The fifth to eighth chapters contain the core analyses carried out. They respectively analyse the socio-cultural antecedents of the criminals, impact of imprisonment on the personal life of the convicts, the nature and extent of disorganisation / reorganisation created in the marital life of the confined persons and the impact of imprisonment on their familial life. The next chapter (9th chapter) analyzes five representative cases of imprisoned persons. The narrative method is aimed at revealing the traumatic episodes involved in the incidents of crime, punishment and their after effects. The final chapter is a consolidation of the results of the analyses and their interpretations.

It is hoped that this humble attempt of the researcher will contribute, though in a small way, to the concerned area of knowledge.

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On this occasion I also remember all my former teachers who showered love and affection on me and pray for their blessings.

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Last but not the least, I am also grateful to all other members of my family for their good wishes and prayers.

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I am at a loss for words, in thanking my well wishers who stood by me throughout my life

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

THE PROBLEM

Punishment is a penalty or infliction of pain imposed upon an individual who has violated the laws of the country. From time immemorial the society has been punishing the law breakers in some form or the other. In the words of Churchill the mood and temper of the public with regard to the treatment of crime and criminals has been always an unfailing test of the civilization of any country

A criminal is punished primarily to ensure the safety of the society. Imprisonment is one of the methods of punishment and the duration of it depends on many factors. Since the offender is not only a mere person, but a member of a group also, the impact of imprisonment does not confine to the punished only. It affects the offender as well as the groups to which he/she belongs.

The confined man must content with loss of liberty, deprivation of heterosexual relations, loss of autonomy and loss of security. The real pressure of prison however goes beyond the surface of discomforts created by

environment, immobility, poverty and abstinence or compliance and uncertainty. These are aspects of prison experiences that seem designated to irritate and annoy. But the fact is that the prisoner has lost control of his world and is rendered powerless to alter his fate. The pressure of prison thus threatens to undermine the convict's image of himself as well as self sufficient, respectable member. The prisoner faces complex issues of loss, psychological change, and areas of experience, that were not, or could not be communicated. There was also a need for more discussions between prisoners and their families about their temper and expectation on release.

The impact of imprisonment does not occur in isolation for a man with a family, and the prison walls can never be a complete barrier to the emotional currents which flow between a man and his wife and children. The rupture in the marital relationship creates physical and psychic frustration for the wife and husband. The imprisoned person turns to homosexuality, sex perversion and clandestine heterosexual behaviours. Similarly the spouse outside has to resort to similar ways for satisfying sex urge. The spouses inside and outside look upon each other with suspicion and it will end up in broken marital relationship.

For the family members the feeling of isolation from the prison world where their dear one is confined is often greater than the isolation of the prisoner from the world outside. The family has to suffer more not only financially but also in many ways which sometimes are beyond the imagination of the prisoner or an outsider.

The imprisonment of a person, whether of long or short duration, results in a crisis for the family especially where he/she is the only earning member or where she is the only woman to manage the house hold work.

The crucial problem, faced by the family members because of the imprisonment, is of finance and the taking up of an economic role by some one else.

For a dependent wife, the husband's imprisonment is a real crisis and a problem of disintegration, particularly if it is the first forced separation. The total functioning of the family will be affected because of the imprisonment of the bread winner. Apart from this the family has to suffer from social stigma caused by imprisonment. The family members of the convict suffer not only from mental agony and financial loss out of their personal loss, but suffer from traumatic social apathy and boycott too. So the

family members are prone to develop psychological disorders like depression, persecution complex, suicide tendency etc.

The impact of imprisonment on families and children has received only very little attention of researchers. It is evident that negative consequence of imprisonment must be changed in order that individuals can place faith in peace building and feel included in the structuration of a new society. Without inclusion and in open recognition of the problems faced by prisoners and their families it will be impossible to integrate them into a more just and inclusive society.

This study is an attempt to analyse the impacts of imprisonment of married convicts on their familial and marital relationships, primarily from the perspectives of the imprisoned. This parental problems created to the prisoners also have been analysed in this study

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CHAPTER 2

SURVEY OF RELATED LITERATURE

To most prisoners, imprisonment is an excruciatingly painful experience. And the irony of it all is that the pains of imprisonment, though very real to those who have to pass bleak days in a prison appear in an entirely different light to the outsiders. The most hurting pain of all, perhaps, is the deprivation of free contact with family. Such deprivation creates physical and psychological tension too for the imprisoned individual (Chapman, 1968: 229).

When most of us think of the prison we imagine the grim walls of the maximum-security prison, which is the primary model of traditional penology. To the new comer, the world within the gates of most prisons is strange and forbidding. Walls, steel bars, and guard towers dominate the scene. The clang of metal doors reverberates down along corridors. Uniform dress symbolizes the sharp division between the keepers and the kept. The mood is one of hovering tension. The prisoner is denied experiences taken for granted in free society; a child's hug on return from work, the exercises of preferences among foods, a leisurely cup of coffee, an opportunity to withdraw from unpleasant association etc. In this shrunken world, trifling

matters assume great importance, motivating subterfuge, “foot licking” or violence. The inmate is forced to become a closer neighbour to him and to feel emotions more intensely, more directly and more overtly (Tannenbaum, 1932: 5-6).

The history of imprisonment reveals a trend towards emphasis on treatment and away from punishment. The view now formally expressed by most prison reformers is that the prison should make every possible effort to treat prisoners within the framework of a system of security (Sutherland and Cressey, 1968: 460). It is observed that particularly all prisoners return to free society sooner or later and that the use of primitive methods alone does not produce the desired reformation of these prisoners. Consequently, it is emphasized that non-positive methods should be used to change the prisoners so that they will desist from crime. At the same time the prison system is organized in such a way that it impedes and perhaps renders futile the efforts of correctional treatment. As a result, treatment programmes often are described on official statements of prison policy although they do not exist in fact. Some of the impediments of treatment are due to insufficient prison administration but most of them are rooted in the attitudes as the punitive reaction to crime. The prevailing conflict between punitive and treatment

policies in prisons is a reflection of the mere general societal reactions to crime (Sutherland and Cressey, 1968: 460).

Objectives of Punishment

The objectives of punishment are to bring about reformation of the offender to prevent him from committing crime again and to protect the society from the crime doer. The objective of modern punishment is to use all methods of re-education than of infliction of pain. A person is said to be punished when some pain is inflicted on him. That pain may be imprisonment, or fine, or forfeiture of property or some such other restriction imposed by society (Sethna, 1971: 196).

The various views on punishments are briefly analysed below. :

Retribution:

Retribution believes in eye for eye or tooth for tooth – in other words it is called the law of retaliation (Menninger, 1966: 247). The retributive rationale is based upon the vindictive response of victims and potential ones. The normal punitive response to the offender has been persistently supported by the doctrine of free will, i.e., man as a free moral

agent deliberately chooses right or wrong and that in the nature of things where he selects to evil, he deserves to be punished (Sethna, 1971: 197).

Deterrence:

The approach presumes that the punishment deters the individual criminal and potential criminal from committing offences. The light-hearted learns his fate from the punishment of the guilty. As long as man has the impulse of fear and anxiety, deterrence will be effective in preventing crimes or controlling criminal deeds in society (Sethna, 1971: 198).

This approach got modified by the classical school of criminology. Penalties should be given according to the seriousness of crime, but should never be more harsh than necessary to repress the criminal. The threat of punishment should offer sufficient pain merely to overcome the enticing pleasure promised by crime and there by the offender is dissuaded from his temptations to commit crimes. Besides, the individual deterrence as stated above, it means general deterrence as well (Vadakkanchery, 1981: 197).

Incapacitation:

Punishment, particularly capital punishment and imprisonment prevents a criminal from committing further crimes. This is effected by prohibiting his contact with the society. The protection of society is assured by

some measure, by close confinement, probation etc (Vadakkanchery, 1981: 197).

Protection of Society:

Is it possible to protect the society by punishing the crime doers? Penologists think that the state aims at the protection of it's members through the handling of offenders. Those who commit crimes like rape, theft, dacoity etc. are punished by imprisonment, fine or both. So long as they are confined in prison, the society is protected from the evils of such criminals. But what about those offenders who commit white-collar crimes, organized crimes, political crimes etc. Can the society be protected by inflicting punishments on those offenders? The moment a criminal is punished he becomes unhappy and when several criminals are punished many in society become unhappy. The family, friends and relatives of the crime doers feel unhappy. As a result, the punishment ultimately may not guarantee individual happiness and social welfare. Can the society be protected by punishing the guilty? The protection of the society, if one desires in a permanent or lasting manner, implies correction of criminals and their tendencies in repeating crimes (Vadakkanchery, 1981: 200).

Expiation:

The criminal when punished will be remorseful for his guilt. He may take penance and expiate himself. Instead of expiation and atonement, some of the offenders become antagonistic to the victims, to the society and to the societal agency for law enforcement (Sutherland and Cressey, 1965: 460).

Social Reconstruction:

Punishment can be employed for social reconstruction. Punishment is nothing but a social reaction to the violation of the prevailing legal norms. This is particularly true in the case of economic, social and political crimes. Punishment for giving and accepting dowry, malpractices in business transactions, etc. can have brought social and economic transformation in the country (Vadakkanchery, 1981: 201).

Reformative Approach:

Many profound thinkers in penology advocate a compromise between deterrence and reformation as the best objective of punishment. They argue that the reformative approach has both preventive and curative effect. It deters the criminals and potential criminals. At the same time, it treats the committed ones. The implementation of this philosophy is seen in parole and after care services. The convicted offenders are refused at the appropriate time

from the prisons with proper control and supervision so that they are cured of their evil tendencies. The objective is good but the method to implement this philosophy has not been sufficiently matured today (Vadakkanchery, 1981: 201).

Correction:

The criminal is a psycho-social deviant. Therefore, crime like other diseases should be treated scientifically. According to them punishment is only a means to an end, the end being correction or rehabilitation of offenders (Sutherland and Cressey, 1968: 461).

Imprisonment

The Oxford English Dictionary defines prison as a place properly arranged and equipped for the reception of persons who by legal process are committed to it for safe custody while awaiting trial or for punishment. Prison is a place where the punishment or imprisonment is executed.

In pre-literate societies imprisonment was rarely used as penalty. Similarly, the penalty of imprisonment hardly ever occurred in early Greece and it was not used at all in the Roman Republic, but was used for minor

offences in the Roman Empire (Datir, 1978: 1-2). Now-a-days, a person is imprisoned if one violates the social norms and if such violations are specified to be awarded with defined period of detention.

Originally imprisonment was a mode of custody of under trial persons. Under trial persons were locked up sometimes for five years together before they were put up for trial. These jails were miserable places where prisoners were huddled up together. It was in eighteenth century that, due to the steps taken by prison reforms, prisons were built of the cellular type. But prisoners could not stand the tortures of solitary confinement, they were put in communal confinement, and thus an important change in the prison system took place (Sethna, 1964: 240).

Solitary confinement, the one time ordinary mode of confinement, had to be given up and confinement on the principle of communal living was substituted. Fetters and dietary punishment are resorted to in our prisons even today as penalties for breach of prison discipline or rules or for insubordination. Fetters should not be used except to bring an otherwise uncontrollable prisoner to control (Sethna, 1971:240).

Imprisonment in order to be an effective reformatory method of dealing with offenders, must be long term imprisonment or imprisonment for at least a sufficient time, so as to give the prison officials sufficient opportunities of successfully dealing with the offender for his re-education and rehabilitation. Short-term sentences are worse than useless, as such sentences have no reformatory value and may lead to congestion in prison and thus expose the offender to the danger of contamination in prison by letting him come into contact with hard and rough offenders. "As for its reformatory effect, it is not worth wasting words on"(Sethna, 1971: 261). So, short-term imprisonment should be substituted by fine or better still, by release of the offender on probation under the care of probation officer.

Imprisonment is a good substitute for the death sentence. At present in India, the alternative for capital punishment is imprisonment for life, which really comes to imprisonment for 14 years. Whereas, capital punishment has neither a deterrent nor a reformatory value, imprisonment has reformatory value if the system of imprisonment is a healthy system (Sethna, 1971: 241).

Imprisonment should not be inflicted for genuine inability to pay a fine when the offender is a poor person and do not have the money to pay

the fine. The courts should after a due consideration, allow the payment of fine even in petty instalments (Sethna, 1971: 241).

Habitual offenders should not be unduly harassed by preventive detention. According to our law, whenever the police suspect the probability of the commission of some crime by a habitual offender the police can put him up before a magistrate who may order the suspect to provide security, if he finds the suspect is likely to commit a crime again (Sethna, 1971: 241). If the suspect fails to provide security he may be sent to prison under the provision of the criminal procedure code (Sethna, 1971: 241). At times, habitual offenders are harassed by the police on any frail suspicion and without any good case or justification. The police arrest such persons and put them before a magistrate. Even upon their genuine inability to furnish the bond, they are unnecessarily sent to prison. Such offenders thus become enemies to society. Instead of sending them to prison for non-satisfaction of the security, they should be made to report to the police at regular intervals. That would be quite satisfactory (Sethna, 1971: 241).

Objectives of Imprisonment

The punishment of imprisonment serves many purposes. First, society wants the criminals to be changed so that they will not commit any

more crime. The prison is expected to reform and rehabilitate criminals. Society also wants protection from criminals. The prison isolates criminals from general society so that they cannot commit further crimes at least during certain period of time. The prison is expected to make life unpleasant for people who by their crimes have made other's lives unpleasant and by this retribution is also attained. Finally, society wants to reduce crime rate not only by reforming criminals but also by deterring the general public from any behaviour, which is punishable by imprisonment.

“Within the prison the attempt to perform the duties necessary for the accomplishment of the various tasks assigned - *reformation, incapacitation, retribution and deterrence* - results in conflicts. Especially, the conditions necessary for the performance of the first task, reformation, may be in conflict with the conditions necessary for exacting retribution and for maximum incapacitation and deterrence” (Sutherland and Cressey, 1968: 461).

“When reformation is assumed to be induced by treatment, rather than by purposive infliction of pain the conditions which led to inmates crimes are determined and the inmates are then introduced to the

psychological, social, educational and technical skills which are considered important to their reformation.” (Sutherland and Cressey, 1968: 461).

“Efficient performance of this task depends on prison conditions which are conducive to free inquiry and to intimate, helpful, constructive action based on the inmate’s needs. The conditions viewed as conducive to reformation through treatment thus almost never include the purposive infliction of suffering” (Sutherland and Cressey, 1968: 461). “Such punitive action is considered to detract from the intimate, confidential, amoral, relationships necessary to obtaining valid information from inmates, and it also is thought to alienate inmates from prison personnel when the latter attempts to take positive action for inmate reformation” (Sutherland and Cressey, 1968: 461)

Impact of Imprisonment

To most prisoners, imprisonment is an excruciatingly painful experience. And the irony of it all is that the pains of imprisonment, though very real to those who have to pass bleak days in a prison appear in an entirely different light to the outsiders. The most hurting pain of all, perhaps, is the deprivation of free contact with family. Such deprivation creates physical and

psychological tension too for the imprisoned individual (Chapman, 1968: 229).

“The loss of liberty is one of the many deprivations or frustrations inflicted on imprisoned criminals, although it is fundamental to all the rest” (Sykes and Messinger, 1976: 502). Barnes and Teeters have discussed the constraints imposed by the institutional regulation under which prisoners are required to live (Barnes and Teeters, 1951: 438-439.). Clemmer has stressed the severe frustration imposed on prisoners by the denial of heterosexual relationships (Clemmer, 1973: 249). Prisoners must undergo a variety of deprivations and frustrations, which flow either by accident or intended from the act of imprisonment. Further more, it is of greatest significance that the rigors imposed on the inmates by the prison officials do not represent relatively minor irritants which he can somehow endure instead, conditions of custody involve profound attacks on the prisoners self image or sense of personal worth, and these psychological pains may be far more threatening than physical maltreatment (Sykes and Messinger, 1978: 502)

The isolation of the prisoner from the free community means that he/she has been rejected by society. His/her rejection is understood by his/her uniform and the degradation of no longer having a name but a number.

The prisoner is confronted daily with the fact that he has been stripped of his membership in society at large, and now stands. Condemned as an outcast, an out law, and a deviant, so dangerous that he must be kept behind closely guarded walls and watched both day and night. He has lost the privilege of being trusted and his every act is viewed with suspicion by the guards, the surrogates of the conforming social order. Constantly aware of lawful societies disapproval, his picture of himself challenged by frequent reminders of his moral unworthiness, the inmate must find some way to ward off these attacks and avoid their introjections (Sykes and Messinger, 1978: 503).

In addition, it should be remembered that the offender has been drawn from a society in which personal possessions and material achievement are closely linked with concepts of personal worth by numerous cultural definitions. In the prison, however, the inmate finds himself reduced to a level of living near bare subsistence and whatever physical discomforts this deprivation may entail it apparently has deeper psychological significance as a basic attack on the prisoners' conception of his own personal adequacy (Sykes and Messinger, 1973: 503).

“Rejected, impoverished and figuratively castrated, the prisoner must face still further indignity in the extensive social control exercised by the

custodians. The many details of the inmates' life, ranging from the hours of sleeping, to the route to work and the job itself are subject to a vast number of regulations and made by prison officials“(Sykes and Messinger, 1978: 504). The inmate is stripped of his autonomy; hence to the other pains of imprisonment we must add the pressure to define himself as weak, helpless and dependent (Bettelheim, 1943: 417).

“The worst thing about prison is you have to live with other prisoners” (Sykes, 1956: 109). Crowded into a small area with men who have long records of physical assaults, thievery, the inmate deprived of the sense of security that we more or less take for granted in the free community” (Sykes and Messinger, 1956:109). The problems confronting the prisoners in the form of social rejection, material deprivation, sexual frustration and the loss of autonomy and personal security are not completely eliminated (Sykes and Messinger, 1956: 109).

“Living inside a prison is living in a small closely defined world in which everything is exaggerated; rumours, tension, the power of an individual over others who cannot get away. There is the huge contrast between space and time, space being confined and time seeming endless. There is the inability to make a choice or to decide for your self, there is the

compliance with orders, rules and regulations. There is the rage and resentment and rebellion; and there is the boredom, the lying on the bed and staring at the wall. There is the lack of identity, being a number, are amongst hundreds of other prisoners, all depressed the same. (Klare, 1973: 46)

In prison, a prisoner even though surrounded by others, feels lonely. There is the loneliness of the night when you think of those you love.

Enforced idleness is bad but meaningless activity is not much better either. A lot of work that is done in prison is mainly a way of keeping people busy. It is of course difficult to find work that is reasonably interesting, yet not too difficult and also susceptible to being organised, with a work force that is in constantly changing ((Klare, 1973: 47)

In the case of short term imprisonment the offender gets the idea that imprisonment is not so bad after all. Short-term detention is devoid of any deterrent effect condition and has no reformative benefit.

“A drawback of imprisonment is the contamination likely to develop in the absence of proper segregation. Another drawback is that of deprivation of sexual life for a long time, sometimes resulting in unnatural

sexual practices. The remedy lies in granting holidays to prisoners provided the prisoner has been found to be of such good character and conduct, as would not have reasons for suspecting that he would abscond. Such a system would create the impetus for good conduct. The prisoner must live in a world isolated from the society and with in this restricted area his freedom of movement is further confined by a strict system of passes, the military formation in moving from one point with in the instructions to another and he remains in his cell until given permission to do otherwise. The prisoners loss of liberty is doubled, one by confinement to the institution and second, by confinement within the institution” (Sykes, 1962: 131)

However, the mere fact that the movements of individuals are restricted is far less serious than the fact that imprisonment means that the inmate is cut off from family, relatives and friends. It is true that visiting and mailing privileges partially relieve the prisoners’ isolation (Sykes, 1962: 131).

It is not difficult to see this isolation as painfully depriving or frustrating in terms of lost emotional relationships, loneliness and boredom. But, what makes this pain of imprisonment biting most deeply is the fact that the confinement of the criminal represents a deliberate, moral rejection of the criminal by the free community (Sykes, 1962: 131).

Many criminals are so alienated from conforming society and so identified with a criminal subculture that the moral condemnation, rejection or disapproval of legitimate society may not touch them. They are, it is said, indifferent to the penal sanctions of the free community, at least as far as the moral stigma of being defined as a criminal, is concerned. For the great majority of criminals in prison, however, the evidence suggests neither alienation from the ranks of the law abiding nor involvement in a system of criminal value is sufficient to eliminate the threat to the prisoners' ego posed by society's reflection. (Reckless, 1955: 428). Signs pointing to the degradation of prisoners are many. The ambiguity of a uniform, a number rather than a name, the insistence on gestures of respect and subordination when addressing officials and so on are some of such signs. The prisoner is never allowed to forget that by committing a crime, he has foregone his claim to the status of a full-fledged trusted member of society (Reckless, 1955: 428).

The status lost by the prisoner, in fact is similar to what Marshall has called the status of citizenship that basic acceptance of the individual as a functioning member of the society in which he lives. (Marshall, 1950: 132) The prisoner is still stripped off many of his civil rights such as the right to vote, to hold office, to see in court and so on. (Tappan, 1954: 99). Besides,

the loss of these civil rights may be the loss of more diffuse status which defines the individual as someone to be trusted or as morally acceptable in the loss which hurts most (Sykes, 1962: 68).

In short, “the wall which seals off the criminal, the contaminated man, is a constant threat to the prisoners, self-conception and the threat is continually repeated in the many daily reminders that he/she must be kept apart from decent men” (Sykes, 1962: 132).

Prisoner: The Individual

Of course, we can see that inmates are suffering from a loss of autonomy in that he/she is subjected to a vast body of rules and commands, which are designed to control his/her behaviour in minute detail. However, it might seem that many areas of life in which self-determination is withheld, such as the language used in a letter, the hours of sleeping and eating or the rate of work, are relatively unimportant. For a number of imprisoned criminals, the extensive control of the custodians provide a welcome escape from freedom and that the prison officials thus supply an external super-ego which serves to reduce the anxieties arising from an awareness of deviant impulses (Johorton, 1962: 135). Regulation by a bureaucratic staff is felt differently than regulation by custom. And, even though a few prisoners do

welcome the strict regime of the custodians as a means of checking their own aberrant behaviour, which they would like to curb but cannot, most prisoners look on the matter in a different light (Johorton, 1962: 135).

However, the important point is that the frustration of the prisoners' ability to make choices and the frequent refusals to provide an explanation for the regulations and commands descending from the bureaucratic staff involve a profound threat to the prisoners self image because they reduce the prisoner to the weak, helpless, dependent status of childhood. It is also possible that the criminal is frequently an individual who has experienced great difficulty in adjusting himself to figures of authority and who finds the many restraints of prison life, particularly threatening in so far as earlier struggles over the establishment of self are reactivated in a more virulent form (Johorton, 1962: 136).

Criminals in particular are notable ill equipped to deal with the problems posed by the deprivation of autonomy. The helpless or dependent status of the prisoner clearly represents a serious threat to the prisoners self image as a fully accredited member of adult society. And, of the many threats, which mainly confront the individual either in or out of prison, there are few better calculated to arouse acute anxieties than the attempt to response

the subservience of youth. Public humiliation enforced respect and deference, the finality of authoritarian decisions, the demands for a specified course of conduct, because in the judgement of another it is in the individual's best interest – all are the features of childhood's helplessness in the face of a superior adult world. Such things may be both irksome and disturbing for a child, especially if the child envisions himself as having outgrown such servitude. But for the adult who has escaped such helplessness with the passage of years to be thrust back into childhood's helplessness is even more painful, and the inmate of the prison must somehow find a means of coping with the issue (Johorton, 1962: 136).

The worst thing about prison is, one has to live with other prisoners (Johorton, 1962: 136). Society has chosen to reduce the criminality of the offender by forcing him to associate with other criminal. So the individual presence is thrown into prolonged intimacy with other men/women who in many cases have a long history of violent, aggressive behaviour (Sykes, 1962: 136).

In fact, the prisoner some times views his fellow prisoners as 'vicious' or dangerous. Other inmates, after all, are men like himself/herself bearing the legal stigma of conviction. Even if the prisoner believes that he

himself is not the sort of person who is likely to attack or exploit weaker fellow captive, he is apt to view others with more suspicion. And, if he himself is prepared to commit crimes while in prison he is likely to feel that many others will be at least equally ready (Sykes, 1962: 136).

Criminality in itself involves social disagreement and social stigma. Criminality and its resultant imprisonment deprive not only the criminal himself but also those who are related with him/her. When the criminals come to prison they leave free oriented society and try to adjust themselves to the custody-oriented world of prison inmates. Sykes has rightly remarked the deprivation of prisoners that the pains of imprisonment cannot be viewed as being merely limited to the loss of physical liberty (Sykes, 1958: 65-67). The significant hurts lie in the frustration or deprivation which attend the withdrawal of freedom, such as lack of hetero-sexual relationships, isolation from free community, the withholding of goods and services and so on, loss of civil rights and moral rejection by the free society fill up the empty void in a prisoners life. He/she tries to fill up the void by the daily routine life of the prison, but even then during the rest hours and now and then there is a world whose image is reference for him which makes the void in his life deeper and deeper which is usually filled up by the occasional visits,

correspondence with relatives, friends and his own family members (Advani, 1978: 164).

It has been one of the essential ingredients of imprisonment that inmates are denied the opportunity of influencing their surroundings to any significant extent. A good prisoner is one who quietly accepts the authority of the system, reconciles himself to the dreary routine and the unequal power structure within the institution and never openly questions the conventional behaviour of the staff or administration (Davis, 1974: 124). Prisoners are not expected to have valid opinion about their own circumstances or at least they are not expected to express them openly.

“Absorption into prison is complete in all material respects, the outside world carries on as before, but the prisoner has no part of it, no influence over it, a greatly reduced awareness of it and very little contact with it” (Davis, 1974: 128). Most prisoners are largely cut off from society. The fact is that prison is a legitimate curtailment of civil rights and therefore, by definition and purpose a basically unpleasant experience. “The prisoner is held in captivity.” Such a tautology is sufficient to summarize the degree of social isolation which he experiences. The world he lives in has its own emotions, its own language, its own social structure, its own norms of

behaviour – but all of these are so different from those elsewhere that come the day of release the change of environment must present nothing less than a crisis for most men and women who have been only the ‘nick’ for anything from three to ten years or more (Davis, 1974: 130).

The first day out is undoubtedly for the majority of ex-prisoners a critical occasion. Mostly because of their recent isolation from society, there are a whole range of problems and fears confronting them like the noise of the traffic, the task of the physical survival in busy streets, coping again with money, dealing with shops and shop assistants and the semi paranoid feeling that every body is looking at them and recognizing their background (Davis, 1974: 130).

In addition to this, there is the even more difficult surviving by ones own efforts. For, so long the prisoner has had no decisions to make, no responsibilities to carry and no problems to cope with. It is clear that the prisoners with families and friends to turn to quickly overcome their fears, their apprehensions, their doubts about survival in a hostile world while those without suffer the most because of their isolation and appear to be the least likely to avoid a return to crime and imprisonment.

Prisoners and Their Families

Imprisonment of a person whether of long or short duration results in a crisis for the family, especially if he is the only earning member or where she is the only woman to manage the household work. In the words of Reuben, “there are three variables at work in family crisis (1) the situation or event itself, (2) resources of family, its role structure, flexibility and previous history of crisis, and (3) definition, the family makes of the event, that is whether family members treat the events as a threat to their status, their goals and objectives” (Reuben, 1949: 9).

The crisis may be of two types “In the first type of crisis, the source could be exogenous to family in origin where as in the second type of crisis, the source could be endogenous to family in origin. (Advani, 1978: 164). The adjustment in both types of crisis would be different. The crisis, which results from some external factor, is beyond the control of the family and present different problems from the crisis resulting from the interpersonal relations within the family (Advani, 1978: 162).

Another type of classification of crisis could be on the basis of dismemberment and or demoralization. On this basis Reuben classified family crisis into three groups. “Firstly, by those where only dismemberment

occurs, for example loss of child, widowhood, orphan hood, hospitalisation, separation etc. Secondly, those, where only demoralization and dismemberment occur, for example desertion, divorce, imprisonment, suicide, homicide etc.” (Reuben, 1949: 10)

Dismemberment, coupled with demoralisation, creates a situation where not only the shifting of roles emerges but also creates a feeling of disgrace and stigma which hardens adjustment towards these unfulfilled roles. In the case of prisoner’s family, dismemberment coupled with demoralization take place (Advani, 1978: 164).

The experience of imprisonment does not occur in isolation for a man with a family, and the prison walls can never be a complete barrier to the emotional currents, which flow between a man and his wife and children. The family is thought of as some external appendage, remote and irrelevant, to the process of treatment and training rather than as continuous influence upon the man in custody. The family has to suffer more not only financially but also in many other ways which some times are beyond the imagination of the prisoner (Advani, 1978: 163).

Loss of contact with family and friends outside the prison is a source of stress for all inmates, but for long-term inmates, the fear that these relationships will be irrevocably lost creates unique concerns. While relationship with spouses, family members, girl friends and others may withstand enforced estrangement for a few years, the prospect for maintaining these relationships over the long term is dim. Maintaining external relationship is vital to coping with long-term imprisonment; but the price is high, because this reminds the prisoner that the world outside is changing (Flanagan, 1995: 112).

It is true to say that wife and children of a prisoner serve the sentence along with their husband or father. In most instances the breadwinner is removed and the family will find that it has to depend either the state or on the extended family for support. It may be required to find some way to supplement the family income in order to survive (Advani, 1978: 163).

In many societies there will be a stigma attached to imprisonment and that will be extended to the family. This will be most evident in its community, where the family may be treated as if they too were criminals. The wife will be ostracised when she goes around for her daily business. The children will be subjected to abuse when they are at school or at

play. There may also be difficulties when the family goes to visit the father or husband in prison. An unfeeling prison staff may equal the innocent family with the prisoner and feel justified in treating them less than civilized. As the family travels to and from the prison, other people will know where they are going and will step aside.

The most widely felt difficulty of the family members is of financial instability and lack of leadership. For a dependent wife the husband's departure is a real crisis and problem of disintegration ensues particularly if it is the first forced separation (Advani, 1978: 146).

There may be another aspect to the absence of a father being in prison, for the first time the wife may be in charge of the family finance. She will know how much is coming into the family each week. She will know how much she has to spend on items such as food, clothes and so on. She will be able to budget properly for the family. When her husband is released from the prison, he will expect to take over leadership of the family again. He will wish to control money coming into the family and he will decide each week how much or how little he should pass on to his wife to meet the family obligation (Cayle, 2000: 783).

The absence of role performance to imprisonment affects all sets of reciprocal role relationships. So far as the role for mother/father in nuclear family is concerned, it is accomplished by the offender's spouse with the help of some other persons or resources, which may not be involved previously in the prisoner's family's role structure.

Communications with Family

“According to prison rules a prisoner could write a letter once in two months on jail expense. In actual practice, however, there are many inmates of prisoners who had never written a single letter on prison expense for six months or so, because the prison officials were hardly bothered about distributing personal stationeries on time. Getting only one post card in two months was in itself a deprivation for those who could not afford to write on their own for those who were new comers, having no money with them in jail, but what made it worse was its erratic distribution. It was seen that many a time (vagrancy and other offences which are committed out of the family station) a prisoner could not inform his/her family that he/she was in jail, because he/she could get a post card only after completing two months imprisonment” (Advani, 1978: 184).

Adjustment of prisoners on their release and adjustment of their families during separation do not depend only on the adaptability and flexibility of taking up the roles but also on the frequency of receiving and writing letters because it helps in two ways. Firstly it keeps up the continuity of the relation with outer community during imprisonment, which would help the offenders in adjustment on release. Secondly, if they broke all types of relations with the free community during the sentence they would feel entirely lost and lonely on release (Advani, 1978: 184). The frequency of correspondence indirectly reveals the degree of adjustment during the imprisonment.

The links between prison and society constitute of letters and visits. Some of these links may be heavily circumscribed and this not only narrows the life experience of prisoners further still but may also affect his family. (Klare, 1973: 47). A lot of prisoners are, in fact, lonely people and they are lonely because they are isolated and difficult individuals, who find it hard to make a relationship. So they may not get any letter or visitor.

Visiting is not an easy matter. Wives and children may have to wait often outside the prison, to be let into the waiting room. This is usually too small and ill equipped to cope with the many visitors in an overcrowded

prison. There may be inadequate access to toilet facilities and nowhere the children can play while they wait. The result is often tension-frayed tempers before the visit even starts. (Klare, 1973: 53).

It is believed that managing children in the absence of either spouse is a very difficult job since both the partners play very important role in moulding the character of the child.

Upbringing of the children in the absence of either one of the parents is a difficult task. It is no slight matter for a child to discover that his father is a criminal and a prisoner, perhaps even a murderer. Many mothers try to hide the fact and to pretend that dad is in hospital or gone away. But it is not wiser, sooner or later to face the truth and to come to terms with it. It can be badly upsetting and the child may become hostile too and angry with the father or turn his anger in words and become depressed (Klare, 1973: 56).

Besides the care of children, the management of various household core decisions in regard to problems such as education, marriage of children, and other outside work of the family etc., had also to be shifted due to imprisonment. In nuclear families, the wife had to depend either on herself

or on children or on her parents about the decision of the education of children, work for children, marriage of the children etc.

Problems of the Imprisoned Mother

The effect of imprisonment in respect of separation from family is liable to be more keenly felt by a woman than a man. This will be especially true if she is a mother who has had to leave her children in the care of other members of her family or of the state. There is a particular dilemma if the mother of a small child is sent to prison. In some countries a child is allowed to spend some years with her mother. The deleterious effect growing up in a prison on the personal development of a young girl or boy has to be weighed against the benefit of closeness to the mother. The message is that the mother of a young child should only be sent to prison when there is absolutely no alternative (Sykes, 1958: 65).

“Whether men are voluntarily or involuntarily separated from their family, their wives find that they must adjust to their husbands’ physical absence in order to make this adjustment successfully and wives must be willing to shift roles and take up many of the husbands’ responsibilities. Most often, wives also maintain their husbands’ place in the family circle by correspondence, and visiting. Within this context prisoners’ wives must

therefore be able to gain a measure of independence in making decisions. While enforced separation engenders hardships, it also seems to provide its own unique opportunities for women to begin playing larger roles in directing their own lives. While, some wives might have identified with their husbands' situations or felt that they themselves were being punished, it is also likely that some, in effect created their own prison by putting their lives 'on hold' until their husbands could return" (Fishman, 1995: 145).

With the imprisonment of wife the social role of wife, mother and householder ceases to be performed in the family as they were performed formerly.

The absence of wife requires a re-organization of role-relationship and re-allocation of role-functions in the family.

Who takes up the mothers role in the family in the absence of wife and the nature of adjustment, we have to classify them. Upon conviction for a crime female offenders who are mothers face two-pronged sentence. First they must serve the prison term and second they must cope with the additional punishment of a temporary or permanent deprivation of parental

rights. While, male prisoners are also parents, the father has traditionally been relieved of the day-to-day responsibilities of child care (Williams, 1975: 148).

Actually she faces a double dilemma while men in prison can, to some extent, assume that their wives are caring for the family. This is much more difficult for lone fathers who are only rarely maintained as full time parents (Williams, 1975: 149). For those who are able to take their children into prison with them or who give birth to them there, other problems become acute. Loss of contact with their men worries many women prisoners and it also adds to their role disorientation and fears. Absence of home and family may be the most difficult aspect for them to adjust. To send a woman to prison is to take her away from her family and the children in particular suffer from this deprivation, which can lead to the break up of the home even where there is a stable marriage. Prison life deprives women of their usual social role. (Williams, 1975: 149).

Disorganisation of Marital Relationships

One of the deprivations of life in prison is that inmates are deprived of sexual relations with their partners. Moreover, many of the prisoners have sexual problems. For people who have difficulties in the real relationships are likely to have difficulties with sexual relationships as well.

They will manifest in their behaviour through shyness, solitariness, lack of confidence, lack of trustfulness etc (Klare, 1973: 54).

Even though homosexuality is forbidden inside the prison, it is practiced in prison. The question is whether eyes might not be turned away more so that people who are capable of having homosexual relationships are able to have it discreetly (Klare, 1973: 64).

A number of writers have suggested that men in prison undergo a reduction of the sexual drive and that the sexual frustration of prisoners are, therefore, less than they might appear to be at first glance (Sykes, 1962: 132-133). The reports of reduced sexual interest have, however, been largely confined to accounts of men imprisoned in concentration camps or similar extreme situations where starvation, torture and physical exhaustion have reduced life to simple struggle for survival or left the captive sunk in apathy. It is clear that the lack of heterosexual relationship is a frustrating experience for the imprisoned criminal and that it is frustration, which weighs heavily and painfully on his/her mind during prolonged confinement. There are some 'habitual' homosexuals in the prison and for such inmates perhaps the deprivation of heterosexual relationship cannot be counted as one of the pains of imprisonment (Sykes, 1966: 133).

The psychological problems created by the lack of heterosexual relationships can be even more serious. Latent homosexual tendencies may be activated in the individual without being translated into open behaviour and yet still arouse strong guilt feelings at either the conscious or subconscious level (Sykes, 1966: 133).

The sexual adjustment of prisoners is a mixture of their pre institutional experience and the contingencies of penal confinement. Like male prisoners female prisoners feel the pains of confinement. But reflecting the particular importance of family roles to females in society, generally, they differ from male prisoners in their proclivity for prison homosexual marriages and a prison kinship network (Giallombardo, 1974: 3-4).

In fact, if an inmate has engaged in homosexual behaviour with the walls, not as a continuation of a habitual pattern but as a rare act of sexual deviance under the intolerable pressure of mounting physical drive. The psychological onslaughts on his/her ego image will be particularly acute (Lindner, 1951: 5-20).

Besides these problems arising from sexual frustration, the deprivation of heterosexual relationships carries with it another threat to the prisoners image of himself / herself, more diffuse perhaps and more difficult to state precisely and yet not less disturbing. The inmate is shut off from the world of women/men, which by its very polarity gives the male/female world much of its meaning. Like most persons, the inmate must search for his/her identity not simply within himself/herself but also in the picture of himself/herself, which he/she finds reflected in the eyes of others. The inmates' self image is in danger of becoming half complete fractures, a monochrome without the hues of reality. The prisoners', 'looking glass self' in short is only that portion of the prisoners' personality which is recognised by men and this partial identity is made hazy by the lack of contrast (Sykes, 1966: 133).

Another threat faced by imprisonment is the ego threat created by the deprivation of heterosexual relationships. In the tense atmosphere of the prison, with its prevention and constant reference to the problem of sexual frustration, even those inmates who do not engage in overt homosexuality suffer acute attacks of anxiety about their own masculinity. These anxieties may arise from prisoners' unconscious fear of latent homosexual tendencies in himself which might be activated by his prolonged heterosexual deprivation

and the importunity of others or at a more conscious level he may feel that his masculinity is threatened because he can see himself as a man in the full sense only in a world that also contains women. In either case the inmate is confronted with the fact that the celibacy imposed on him by society means more than simple physiological frustration – an essential component of his self-conception, his status as male, is called into question (Sykes and Messinger, 1976: 504).

In fine, imprisonment of married persons creates a host of problems to the persons and their families, personal freedom is curtailed, marital and familial relationships are ruptured. Regaining the past rhythm of primary relationship remains a far cry. Undoubtedly, the phenomenon of imprisonment and its impact requires scientific analysis. However, the analysis of literature carried out implies that more attention has to be paid by social scientists and others to fathom the depth of this phenomenon. This study is a humble attempt to get some fresh insight into it.

IMPACT OF IMPRISONMENT ON MARITAL AND FAMILIAL RELATIONSHIPS

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CHAPTER 3

METHODOLOGY

3.1 Statement of the Problem

Imprisonment is a mode of punishing criminality in individual. However, when a married person is put behind bars, it creates a lot of problem. The individual is brought under regulated life. The persons intimate relationship with his/her spouse is disrupted. Further, the person's family relationship is basically disturbed. These disruptions and consequent readjustments of relationships create serious problems to both the prisoner and his/her family. This study primarily attempts to portray the nature of disorganization / reorganisation in the marital and familial relationships created by imprisonment and their consequences. The personal problems created to the prisoners as a result of the imprisonment and their methods of adaptation to them also have been analysed.

3.2 Objectives of the Study

The major objectives of the study are:

- a) to analyse the socio-cultural antecedents of the criminals
- b) to find out the nature and gravity of the impact of imprisonment on the prisoner as an individual

- c) to analyse the impact of imprisonment on the marital relationships of the prisoner
- d) to assess the impact of imprisonment on the familial relationships of the prisoner
- e) to analyse the adaptation patterns of prisoners and their family to the imprisonment

3.3 Hypotheses

Under the objectives the following hypotheses were formulated for testing.:

- a) Criminality of prisoners is not a behaviour inherited from the predecessors
- b) Imprisonment creates a crisis situation to the individuals
- c) The nature of crisis created to the individual's life by imprisonment is associated with the socio-economic and cultural backgrounds of the individual
- d) Imprisonment of married prisoners disorganizes / reorganizes their marital relationships
- e) The disorganization / reorganisation in the marital relationships depends on the socio-cultural backgrounds of the sample

- f) Imprisonment impairs the social, economic and psychological functions of the prisoners' family
- g) The impairments of the familial functions depend on the socio-cultural background of the family
- h) Imprisonment reduces the social status of prisoner's family
- i) Imprisonment necessitates serious readaptation in the function and forms of the prisoner's family
- j) The readaptation of the functions and forms of the family is associated with the socio-cultural backgrounds of the family

3.4 Definition of Major Concepts

a) Impact of Imprisonment :

Impact of imprisonment means the consequences of the detention. In this study the consequences of the detention on the individual, marital relationship and familial relationship are studied. Empirically the impact may be explained as the changes induced by imprisonment in the economic, social and emotional atmosphere of the family.

b) Marital Relationship

Relationship between husband and wife pertaining to conjugal life is termed as marital relationship.

c) Familial Relationships

The family is a group of persons united by the ties of marriage, blood or adoption; constituting a single household, interacting and intercommunicating with each other in their respective social role of husband and wife, mother and father, brother and sister creating a common culture and emotional environment. The network of relationships existing among these social roles are collectively considered as familial relationships.

d) Social Stigma

Stigma is a social attribute which is discrediting the required status for an individual or group – Stigma is a mark of disgrace or infamy.

3.5 Definition and Measurement of Variables

The background variables considered in the study are gender, age, religious affiliation, education, occupation and income of the family.

a) Gender

If the sex of a person has been biologically determined, the gender of a person has been culturally and socially constructed. There have been thus two sexes (male and female) and two genders

(masculine and feminine). Gender differentiation refers to the process in which biological differences between males and females are assigned social significance and are used as a means of social classification. In this study the gender difference is indicated by male and female.

b) Age

Age means the number of years the respondent has completed at the time of interview since birth. For analytical purposes the sample will be categorized into three age groups, the younger age group (below 30 years), middle age group (30-50 years) and old age group (50 and above)

c) Religious Affiliation

Religion is a system of beliefs and rituals, which binds people together into social groups. Religion is the human response to those things which concern us ultimately.

For analytical purposes the sample will be classified on the basis of religious affiliation into Hindu (Forward), Hindu (Backward), Muslims and Christians.

d) Educational Status

Education may be defined as the transmission of knowledge by either formal or informal methods to develop the faculties and power of a person by teaching or instruction or schooling. The act or process of imparting or acquiring general knowledge, developing the powers of reasoning and judgement and generally of preparing one self or others intellectually for mature life. Here, it refers to the number of years of formal schooling the respondents have had.

On the basis of educational attainment the respondents are classified into four groups, namely, illiterate, primary educated, secondary educated and higher educated.

e) Occupational Status

Occupation refers to a set of activities, which get centered on an economic role and usually associated with earning a living. An occupation has been a social role which is determined by the general decision of labour within a society. As a specialisation of an individual's function in society it has been an important factor defining a person's prestige, class, position and style of life.

For analytical purposes the sample will be classified on the basis of their occupational status into manual labourers, those who engaged in agriculture and fisheries, business people, white collar employee and unemployed.

f) Income Status

Income is the return that come in periodically from property, business, labour etc.

The sample will be categorized into three groups according to their monthly family income. The groups will be low-income group (income below Rs.2500), middle-income group (Rs.2500 to Rs.5000) and higher income group (Rs.5000 and above).

3.6 Dependent variables

Conceptually speaking the dependent variables are the consequences brought about in the prisoner's life patterns, marital relationships and familial relationships. Empirically the variables are measured in terms of ;

1. Disorganisation / reorganisation of individual's life patterns
2. Disorganization / reorganisation of familial relationship and
3. Disorganization / reorganisation of marital relationships

1. Disorganisation / Reorganisation of Individual's Life Patterns

The indices selected for assessing the disorganisation / reorganisation of individual's life patterns are :

- a. changed food habit
- b. difficulties in sharing space with strangers
- c. idleness felt
- d. adjusting with constraints in movement
- e. unwanted anxiety experienced
- f. loss of appetite
- g. illtemperment
- h. depression
- i. sleeplessness in nights

2. Disorganization / Reorganisation of Familial Relationship

The disorganization / reorganisation of the familial relationships is assessed in terms of

- a. debt incurred
- b. alienation Properties (both movable and immovable)
- c. taking up job afresh by the members of the family

- d. shouldering the responsibility of the household affairs by other members
- e. de-schooling of children
- f. in security feeling of family members especially of children
- g. desertion of the prisoner by children

3. Disorganization / Reorganisation of Marital Relationship

Disorganization / reorganisation in the marital relationship was assessed in terms of :

1. Increased concern about problems of spouse
2. Frustration experienced by spouse as a result of the lack of:
 - a) physical interaction
 - b) fulfilled sexual urge
 - c) companionship
 - d) emotional need satisfaction
 - e) support for decision making
 - f) support during infirmity
3. Doubting the morality of spouse
4. Desertion of the prisoner by spouse

Sources of Data

The source of primary data was interview of prisoners from the various Central Prisons in the State of Kerala.

Secondary data were collected from published materials and knowledgeable persons in the area of research.

3.7 Population

The population of the study is constituted by prisoners who have been undergoing imprisonment for more than six months in the various central prisons of the State of Kerala and who had occasions to stay with their family on parole or who are well informed about the happenings in their families and original places of residence. The category of prisoners are confined in central prisons in Thiruvananthapuram, Thrissur and Kannur. The prisoners of these prisons constitute the population of the study. According to the prison records the strength of this category of prisoners in the prisons as on 30/05/98 is as shown in Table No. 3.7

Table No. 3.7

The Population and Sample of the Study

Prison	Strength of Prisoners (P)	Sample (15% of P)
Central Prison Thiruvananthapuram	913	137
Central Prison Thrissur	333	50
Central Prison Kannur	752	113
Total	2001	300

3.8 The Sample and Sample Selection

On the basis of consultations with experts in sampling the sample size was fixed as 15% of the population which come to 300 prisoners (Table 3.7). From each prison samples were selected proportionate to the strength of the prisoners there (15% each). The samples were selected by lottery method of selection.

The Sociological Profile of the Sample

3.8.1 Sex Composition of the Sample

The males constitute 92.33% of the sample where as females constitute only 7.66 % of it.

Table No.3.8.1

Sex Composition of the Sample

Sex	Frequency	Percentage
Male	277	92.33
Female	23	7.66
Total	300	100.00

3.8.2 Age composition of the Sample

On the basis of age the sample is divided into three categories – age below 30 years, 30 to 60 years and 60 years and above. The lower group (below 30) constitutes 10.67% of the sample. The middle-aged group constitutes of 85.67% of the sample and the upper age group constitutes 3.66%

Table No.3.8.2

Age composition of the Sample

Age (in years)	Frequency	Percentage
Belo 30	32	10.67
30 – 60	257	85.67
60 and above	11	3.66
Total	300	100.00

3.8.3 Religious Composition of the Sample

On the basis of the religious affiliation of the respondents the sample was divided into Hindu (Forward), Hindu (Backward), Muslims and

Christians. The strengths of the respective groups are showing in Table No.3.8.3.

Table No.3.8.3
Religious Composition of the Sample

Religion	Frequency	Percentage
Hindu (Forward)	28	9.33
Hindu (Backward)	141	47.00
Muslim	86	28.67
Christian	45	15.00
Total	300	100.00

3.8.4 Educational Background the Sample

On the basis of the educational status the sample was divided into illiterates (who did not acquire any formal education). The illiterate respondents constitute 22.33% of the sample. Those who acquired primary level education constitute 61.67% of the sample. The secondary and higher educated respondents constitute 12.67% and 3.33% respectively of the sample.

Table No. 3.8.4

Educational Background of the Sample

Education	Frequency	Percentage
Illiterate	67	22.33
Primary	185	61.67
Secondary	38	12.67
Higher	10	3.33
Total	300	100.00

3.8.5 Occupational Background of the Sample

Manual labourers dominate the sample (69%). Respondents who engaged in agriculture and fisheries constitute 11.33% of the sample. The percentages of the business people and white-collar employees in the sample are 12% and 3.67% respectively. The unemployed respondents constitute only 4% of the sample.

Table No. 3.8.5

Occupational Status of the Respondents

Occupation	Frequency	Percentage
Manual Labourers	207	69.00
Agriculture and Fisheries	34	11.33
Business	36	12.00
White collar employment	11	3.67
Unemployed	12	4.00
Total	300	100.00

3.8.6 Income Background of the Sample

On the basis of the income status the respondents were divided into 3 categories, namely, lower income group (Below Rs.2500 per month), middle-income group (Rs.2500 - 5000) and higher income group (Rs.5000 and above). The lower income group constitute 58.33% of the sample whereas the middle income group constitute 35.33% of it. 6.33% of the sample belong to the upper income category.

Table No.3.8.6
Income Background of the Sample

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	Frequency	Percentage
Below Rs.2500	175	58.33
Rs.2500 – 5000	106	35.33
Rs.5000 and above	19	6.33
Total	300	100.00

3.9 Tools of Data Collection

The main tool used for data collection was a structured interview questionnaire. For the construction of the instrument extensive survey of literature was conducted. In order to get familiarity with the prison setting the researcher first visited the Central Prison, Kannur and met the authorities as well as prisoners. With the experience acquired from this visit, researcher was equipped for conducting a pilot study.

During the pilot study conducted in the three prisons the family members of the prisoners who came to visit their relatives were also interacted with in additions to the interaction with few prisoners of each of the jails. The information gathered from them was helpful to refine the questionnaire. The final version of the questionnaire is given in Appendix II

The interview questionnaire was developed in such a way that it enquired into the impact of imprisonment on the marital and familial relationship of the prisoners. The impact on the individual was also investigated by the questionnaire. The tool was pre-tested, at the three Central Prisons with 10 samples each from the prisons. On the basis of the pre-test, necessary modifications were made in the instrument. The information gathered from jail authorities, helped the researcher to have a clear picture about the prison and prison administration.

In addition of interviewing prisoners supplementary data were collected from informal interviews of many of the family members who came to visit their relatives in the prisons. They include, parents, spouse, children, brothers and sisters etc of the prisoners. Information were poured in from them. Jail authorities also gave a clear idea about the prison life.

3.10 The Research Setting

A detailed account of the Research Setting is given in Chapter 4.

3.11 Interviewing the Prisoners

The prisoners were interviewed in the prisons in which they were put. The interviews were conducted in the presence of a jail officer. The jail authorities were very helpful in making necessary arrangements for the interviews. It took almost six months to complete the interviews. It made the researcher to establish good and friendly rapport with all the jail authorities.

During the interview the researcher had ample opportunities to get insight into the circumstances in which crimes were committed. Many of them were circumstantial and not pre-planned. The convicts of such cases were found to repent about the whole events. It is also found that the trauma experienced by the convicts is also felt by their family members, in equal or more grate manner.

3.12 Data Verification and Analyses

The data were thoroughly scrutinised. Necessary editing and coding were done and they were fed into computer.

Analysis of data was carried out to test the hypothesis formulated. Frequency and two-way tables were generated. Gender, age status, religious affiliation, educational status, occupational status and income status were the major parameters used for the analyses of data.

Association between the variables stated in the various hypotheses were tested using Chi-Square Test of independence and for comparisons percentages were used. The levels of significance for the acceptance of the association were 0.05 and 0.01.

Analyses in which association between variables revealed are thoroughly discussed in the report. Wherever the results are in the other way round, such elaborate discussion with tables are not made. However, such results are mentioned in the respective contexts.

The researcher also conducted five case analyses. Typical case of the prisoner community were identified from the different jails with the permission of the jail authorities and depths interviews were conducted with the identified persons. The case analyses are given in Chapter 9.

Results of the study are interpreted and their practical implications are explained. Suggestions for improving the effectiveness of this correctional system are given in the report.

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CHAPTER 4

PRISONS IN KERALA

In Kerala there are three central prisons, one each in Thiruvananthapuram, Thrissur, and Kannur. In addition to these central prisons, there is a district jail at Kozhikode and an open prison at Nettukaltheri near Neyyatinkara. Besides, these prisons we have a prison exclusively for female offenders at Neyyatinkara. There are no walls or armed guards surrounding the open prison. This prison is a place of detention for those who have shown themselves as well behaved and trust worthy. In this free environment, the inmates have very good opportunity for self-improvement and rehabilitation.

The categories of offenders housed in the central prisons of Thiruvananthapuram, Thrissur, and Kannur are given below

Thiruvananthapuram

1. All prisoners sentenced for imprisonment for whatever terms by the several criminal courts in the district of Thiruvananthapuram and all non bail prisoners sentenced to more than one month by the criminal courts in the districts of Kollam, Kottayam, and Alappuzha.

2. Civil prisoners committed to the prison by the civil courts in the districts of Thiruvananthapuram, Kottayam, Kollam, Alappuzha and Pathanamthitta.
3. Prisoners committed by the criminal courts in the district of Thiruvananthapuram, Kottayam, Kollam, and Alappuzha for detention in a civil prison.
4. All females under trials and remand prisoners in the district of Thiruvananthapuram.

Kannur

1. All non-habitual prisoners sentenced to imprisonment for periods of more than 3 months by the criminal courts in the districts of Thrissur, Palakkad, Malappuram, Kozhikode, and Kannur.
2. All prisoners sentenced for whatever terms by the criminal courts in the district of Kannur.
3. All civil prisoners committed to jail by the criminal courts in the district of Kannur.

Thrissur

1. Civil Prisoners committed to civil jail by the criminal court in Thrissur District

2. All habitual prisoners sentenced to imprisonment for more than one month by the several criminal courts in the state of Kerala.
3. All non-habitual prisoners sentenced to imprisonment for whatever term by the criminal courts in the towns of Thrissur and Wadakkancheri.
4. Civil prisoners committed to that jail by the civil courts in Thrissur District.
5. Prisoners committed by the criminal courts in Thrissur District for detention in a civil prison.

The central prisons also house :

1. Prisoners sent by transfer or under order of the Inspector general of prisons.
2. Prisoners convicted by a court martial and transferred by a competent authority.
3. Prisoners transferred under section 3 of the Transfer of Prisoners Act 1950
4. Security prisoners.
5. Such other prisoners by the general or special order of the government.
6. Criminal lunatics detained for observation.

The District Jail, Kozhikode confines

1. All prisoners convicted and sentenced to imprisonment for period ranging from one to six months by criminal courts in the district of Kozhikode.
2. All male habitual prisoners sentenced to more than one month and not exceeding six months by the criminal courts in the districts of Palakkad, Thrissur and Malappuram.

Prisoners are admitted to open prison on fulfillment of the following conditions :

1. Well behaved C class male prisoners sentenced to imprisonment for 3 years and above (preference being given to those sentenced for longer periods)
2. They might have undergone one year of the actual sentence.
3. The Inspector General of Prisons should be satisfied with the qualities of the prisoner.

No prisoner convicted and sentenced to imprisonment for any of the following offences will be selected for confinement in the open prison

1. Against the state.
2. Relating to the armed force.
3. Relating to counterfeiting of currency notes, coins, etc.

4. Against public tranquility.
5. Relating to rape.
6. Relating to unnatural offence.
7. Relating to burglary, dacoity, cheating, house breaking, etc

Inmates of Kerala Prisons : Sociological Characteristics

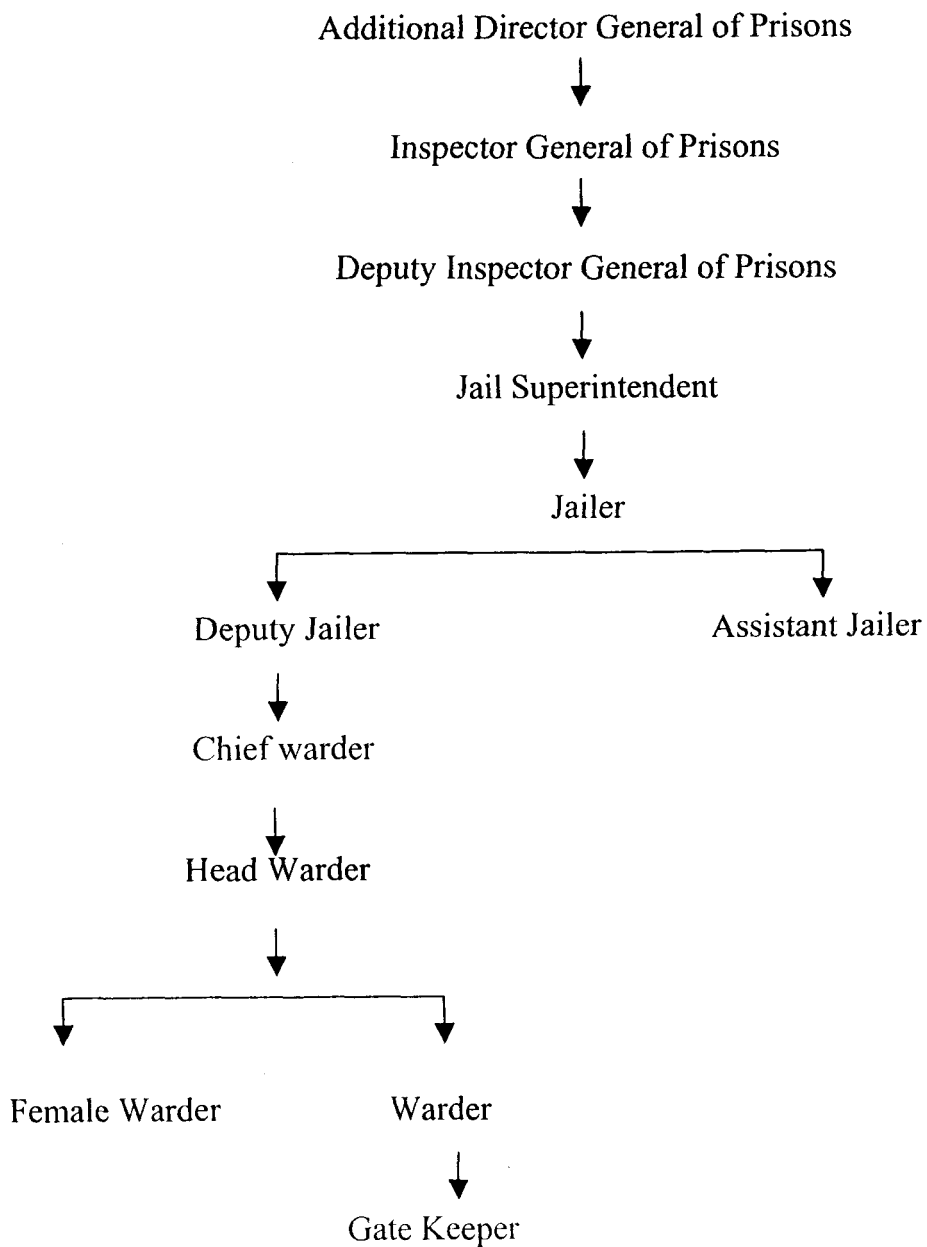
The aim of imprisonment is correction and rehabilitation. All Jail officers have to treat prisoners with good temper and strict impartiality. It is also the duty of the officers to maintain strict discipline and enforce rules and regulations. It is important that every complaint made by the prisoner should be heard with attention in order that grievances may be redressed and that no cause for discontent may be allowed to remain.

Prison Administration in Kerala

The Director General of Prisons controls the jail administration. The prison staff consists of the Superintendent, Jailer, Deputy Jailer, Assistant Jailer, Chief Warder, Head Warder, Warder and Female warder. Female prisoners are under the control of female warders. The Jailer is chief executive officer of the jail and is immediately subordinate to the Superintendent of the prison. The Jailer is responsible for the observance of all prescribed rules and orders and for the supervision of the subordinate staff. It is the duty of the Jailer to maintain discipline among the prisoners and subordinates. The Jailer must also keep a Report Book in

which he has to record the details of the prisoners and any matter on which he may require order.

Organizational Chart of Prison Administration



After an examination by the medical officer at the prison, the prisoner is assigned labour, which may be hard, medium or light, according to

his/her fitness for it, unless he/she is sentenced to simple imprisonment. A prisoner sentenced to simple imprisonment can take up work in the prison for which wages will be given

Classification of Prisoners

Convicted prisoners are divided into A class, B class, C Class and Special class.

A prisoner who is an M.P or M.L.A is eligible for class A treatments if he has not been convicted of any of the offences such as -

1. Offences involving elements of cruelty, moral degradation or personal greed.
2. Serious violence.
3. Serious offences against women and children.
4. Serious offences against property.
5. Offences relating to the possession of explosives.

B class prisoners, who by social status, education or habit of living have been accustomed to a superior mode of living will be eligible for class B treatments

C class prisoners will consist of prisoners who are not classified in classes A and B

Convict Special class – the government may under special circumstances and for practical reasons classify convicted prisoner as special class prisoner.

The High Court Judges, Sessions Judges, First Class Magistrate through the District Magistrate should make the initial recommendations for classification in class A or B to the Government. Prisoners recommended by courts for classification in class A or B shall be treated as belonging to the classes recommended till the orders of Government confirming or regretting the recommendations are received. A class prisoners are kept separated from B class and C class. Political detenues cannot be made to do any work; they are merely detained as under Defence regulations, not having been sentenced to any punishment by any court of law. Under trial prisoners also cannot be made to do any work.

Welfare Facilities of Prisons

Every Central Prison has a Welfare Officer. Lady welfare officers may be appointed for women prisoners. A Welfare Officer must serve as a

counsellor to prisoners for enabling them to adjust with prison environment and personal and family problems. Welfare Officer has to maintain case records of prisoners consisting of social history as well as information gathered from other sources including courts and Probation Departments. Welfare Officer has the key responsibility for facilitating the classification of prisoners, organising orientation and pre-release programmes and integrating the various aspects of jail services (educational and vocational) with a view to enable the individual to gain maximum benefit from his period of imprisonment. The Welfare Officer has special responsibility for organising recreational programmes also.

Prison Labour

Prison labour is of productive and useful type. Spinning, weaving, bookbinding, sewing, etc are done in prisons. Knitting, sewing, cleaning of grains are mainly assigned to women prisoners. It is the duty of the Jailer to assign work for the prisoner and to see that the prescribed tasks are performed as well.

Diet of Prisoner

Rice, vegetables, wheat and meat are allowed in the diet. Special diet is allowed for sick prisoners. Special meals are provided to A class and B class prisoners. The superintendent and the medical officer shall exercise

utmost vigilance in the supervision of food supplied and all items supplied for consumption are to be inspected daily. It is also the duty of the inspecting officer to see that the full ration is given. Quality is to be ensured and any defect in the quality is brought to the notice of the Superintendent. If the food is not of the quality and quantity a prisoner can complain the matter to the Head Warden. He receives the complaint and the matter will be reported to the Superintendent with his observation. Final decision comes from the Superintendent. The Deputy Jailor or Assistant Jailor weighs all items of food supplied for consumption daily. He/she shall be responsible for ensuring proper quantity of the food. The diet of individual prisoner may be modified on the recommendations of the medical officer. The morning meal will be given immediately after unlocking and mid-day meal will be given at 12:15 PM. Evening meal will be given on the completion of the days work. The prisoner will also be provided every morning a cup of black coffee or black tea (bed coffee). The prisoner will be given feasts on the following festival days every year : Vishu, Onam, Ramzan, Bakrid, Christmas, and Easter. Every prisoner will be provided with a plate and a glass for taking food.

Jail Routines

The jail wards are opened at the daybreak. The Jailer or Deputy Jailer shall be present at the opening of wards and cells every morning and shall

personally supervise the unlocking. As soon as the wards and the cells are unlocked, each prisoner has to take their bedding outside and dust off it well. The Superintendent and the Medical officer will occasionally examine the bedding to see if it is properly maintained. The wards and cells are thoroughly ventilated during the day and kept locked to prevent prisoners from re-entering into them. The prisoners are allowed their wash. After washing and latrine parade are completed the morning meal is served. Prisoners sentenced to rigorous imprisonment have to labour daily at some reasonably hard and useful work. For the food and clothing in prison, the government can retain four - fifth of his/her wages and the remaining one fifth is paid to the prisoner concerned in cash.

Prisoners are permitted to send a portion of their wages to their families. When the day's work is completed and a bath taken the evening meal will be supplied and opportunity is given to visit the toilet. The prisoners shall then be locked up by 6 to 6:30 PM. Light for reading shall be allowed till 9:30 PM to the prisoners at the direction of the Superintendent.

A class prisoners are kept separate from class B and class C and are allowed to wear their own clothing and use their own bedding. But B and C

class prisoners are not permitted to wear their clothing and use their bedding. B class and C class prisoners are supposed to wear the jail uniforms.

Prisoners are allowed to read books or periodicals in the jail Library. Suitable books, magazines, and newspaper may be supplied. Newspapers and magazines may be censored by the Superintendent before they are delivered to prisoners. A class and B class prisoners are allowed to use mosquito nets at their cost.

Letter and Visitors

Prisoners will be allowed to write and receive two letters a fortnight, but on urgent occasions, the rules may be relaxed at the discretion of the Superintendent. Welfare officers will censor all letters. The family members can come and visit them once in a week.. Prisoners can meet and talk to them only in the presence of welfare officers or jail staff. The duration of visit will last for a maximum of 30 minutes.

Maintenance of Discipline

It is the duty of the jailors to maintain discipline among prisoners and subordinates. For this purpose he/she must be always present at the jail. The jailer and deputy jailer are not supposed to be absent from the jail at the

same time during the day. Even the lunch break of these officers is to be so arranged that either the jailer or deputy jailer is present at the jail. It is also the duty of the jailor to execute all orders regarding the labour of prisoners and see that the prescribed tasks are performed. All the prisoners are to follow the code of conduct.

Sending Prisoners on Parole

Prisoners undergoing long-term sentence are sent on parole at the discretion of the Inspector General of Prisons to visit their families. Release on parole is a great consolation for many of the offenders.. Under the Amendment Act of 1953 (original Act 1884) prisoners can pay periodic visit to their families, for seeing a sick relative or in the event of death of a close relative.

The release on parole is not only depends on the prisoner's good conduct, but also on the opinion of the police department. The relatives of the prisoners are required to give surety to government for good conduct of the prisoners while on parole. Many times prisoners could not avail of the concession of parole only because he/she is unable to arrange for the surety.

Rules Regulating Parole

1. A prisoner who is sentenced to imprisonment for a period exceeding one year, but not exceeding five years may be released on parole for a period of two weeks at a time for every two years of actual imprisonment undergone.
2. A prisoner who is sentenced to imprisonment for a period exceeding five years may be released on parole for a period of two weeks at a time for every two years of actual imprisonment undergone.
3. A prisoner sentenced to imprisonment for more than five years but not to imprisonment for life may be released on parole every year instead of every two years during the last five years to his unexpired period of sentence.
4. A prisoner sentenced to life imprisonment may be released on parole every year instead of every two years after he completes seven years of actual imprisonment.
5. Parole is not allowed to habitual offenders, convicts in rape case and convicts under Narcotics Drug Prevention Act.

The Release Of The Convict

When the sentence passed on the prisoner has been executed according to law he/she shall be released from custody at the jail gate in the case of men and at their residence in the case of women.

On the day of release the convict's state of health and weight are recorded by the medical officer in the Convict Register. The convict shall then be produced before the superintendent, together with the warrant of release, the convict register, his history ticket, the release register, release diary, and his/her private clothing and other private properties, if any. It is the duty of the superintendent to compare the entries in the warrant with those in the register. He shall then sign the endorsement for release on the Warrant, certifying to the execution of the sentence and date of release, and shall affix his signature with date in the proper column of the convict register. The gratuity, batta subsistence allowance to which the prisoner is entitled will be paid to him/her in the presence of the superintendent. Before executing the actual release the medical officer has to certify the state of health. If the health condition is not satisfactory, he has to issue a certificate to that effect to the superintendent of the jail. Every prisoner will be given usual food before release. Ordinarily prisoners shall be released after the mid-day meals. Every C class prisoner will be provided with bus fare or railway ticket of the lowest class. A and B class

prisoners are provided with second class fair in railway and by road they may be permitted to travel in express buses. On the release of a convict the Warrant under which he was confined will be returned to the court from which it is issued.

Prisoners Sentenced to Death

When a prisoner is sentenced to death, every article of private belonging will be taken away from him/her, and he/she will be supplied with a suit of convict's clothing. Then the prisoner is removed to the condemned cell. It is the duty of the jailor to inspect the cell before the prisoner is put in it. When the prisoner is put in the condemned cell, a special guard of three warders will be deputed to watch him continuously both day and night. It is the duty of the guard to check others from communicating with the prisoner. The key of the cell door will be kept by a Head Warder. Every morning and evening it is the duty of the jailer to examine the prisoner carefully. Condemned prisoner will be provided with books at the expense of the Government. On the receipt of copy of the High Court judgment confirming the punishment, it should be communicated without any delay. The jail superintendent will inform the convict concerned that if he/she wishes to appeal to the Supreme Court he/she is free to do so. If he/she desire to submit a petition for mercy, it should be submitted within seven days. If no reply is

received within fifteen days, the superintendent will telegraph to the Secretary to the Government drawing attention to the fact. It shall at once be forwarded to the Government.

No prisoner will be allowed to attend or witness an execution. The gallow will be carefully examined before the execution. Every detail in connection with an execution will receive the personal attention of the superintendent and medical officer. When the sentence has been executed, the superintendent returns the Warrant to the court with an endorsement – certifying the manner in which the sentence has been carried out. The body remains hanging for one hour and then is examined by the medical officer. Medical Officer needs to certify the death of the executed prisoner. If the relatives or friends of the deceased are ready to receive the body, it will be handed over to them.

Prison Advisory Board :

There shall be a standing Advisory Board to investigate and report to the Government, the sentences of prisoners confirmed in each central prison and the open prison.

The Advisory Board consists of :

1. Inspector General of Prisons (Chairman)

2. The District Collector of the District in which the prison is situated.
3. The Local District and Sessions Judge
4. Three non-official members appointed by the Government, and
5. The Local District Superintendent of Police

The superintendent of the concerned prison will be secretary of the Board. The term of office of the non-official members will be fixed at 2 years. The board shall sit at least once in six months.

The statistics relating to the strength of prisoners confined in the various prisons in Kerala in 1998 are given in Appendix I to give an idea about the criminal behaviour of Kerala society.

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CHAPTER 5

SOCIO-CULTURAL ANTECEDENTS OF THE CRIMINALS

Sir Thomas Moore wrote in 'Utopia', "Society first creates thieves and then punishes them for stealing" (Weisser, 1982, 1). This, brief but profound statement prompts us to remember that social environment in some way or the other moulds out criminal behaviour

There are numerous theories that attempt to explain criminality of human beings. The sociological theories in general hold the view that criminality is not innate, rather it is the product of the social environment in which the person is brought up. These theories usually maintain that human behaviour is learned or caused through some problems or events that occurred during the socialization of the individual. This chapter analyses the socio-cultural backgrounds of the prisoners studied.

5.1 Care Taker of Child Hood

The analysis enquired into, who were mainly responsible for the bringing up of the respondents during their child hood days. The analysis of

the data is shown in Table No.5.1. The analysis indicates that the major chunk of the respondents is brought up in normal family atmosphere (76.67%).

Table No. 5.1
Care Takers of the Prisoners During Childhood

Care Taker	Frequency	Percentage
Grand Parents	4	1.33
Elder Brothers or Sisters	23	7.67
Uncle or Aunt	6	2.00
One of the parents	36	12.00
Others	1	0.33
Both the parents	230	76.67
Total	300	100.00

The normal social atmosphere is constituted by both the parents for 76.67 per cent of the prisoners. The rest were brought up by other relatives whose details are shown in the Table No.5.1. One important fact which is to be pointed out here is that 12 per cent of the respondents were brought up by single parents.

In short, this analysis came to the conclusion that who bring up a person during their early childhood has no much say in making them deviant. However, the process of rearing and environment in which the processes take place may be determining the behaviour of the person. Further analysis

conducted in the study inquired into certain other profiles of the process of bringing up.

5.2 Economic Problems Experienced

Economic environment in which one had been brought up during his/her childhood tells upon their behaviour during adulthood. On the basis of this assumption this study inquired into the type of economic security the prisoners enjoyed in their childhood.

Analysis of the data (Table No.5.2) reveals that majority of the respondents (52 %) faced economic problems very severely and 27 per cent moderately. The analysis indicates that an overwhelming majority (79%) were victims of financial crisis to various levels during their childhood days. The nightmarish experience of childhood days created by severe financial problems might have some connections with their criminal tendencies.

Table No.5.2

Economic Problems Experienced by Prisoners in Their Childhood

Economic Problems	Frequency	Percentage
Very severely	156	52.00
Moderately	81	27.00
No problems	63	21.00
Total	300	100.00

Some prisoners were very enthusiastic to give more information about this matter. They had been very vocal about their childhood days, which slowly groomed their criminal character. One prisoner (X) said he had a very miserable childhood and he felt he was an unwanted child in the family. He had a very miserable childhood and that made him indifferent to social norms and unconcerned about fellow beings in society. Another prisoner (Y) also said, the same opinion that his experience in childhood made him a criminal. They had the feeling that society was the prime culprit in making them criminals.

5.3 Discrimination Faced During Childhood

Sufferings of all kinds when faced by a group, the pain created by them are rather reduced. Needless to say about the pain reduction when the members of the group equitably share the sufferings. The history of the prisoners reveals that their sufferings during childhood were very bitter.

One of the reasons which enhanced their sufferings, was discrimination faced in the family and society.

Table No. 5.3

Discrimination Faced During Childhood

Discrimination faced	Frequency	Percentage
Very much in family	44	14.67
Very much in the society	41	13.67
In both family and society	2	0.67
Not faced any discrimination	213	71.00
Total	300	100.00

Analysis of the empirical data shows that 29 per cent of the prisoners have experienced discrimination and the rest (71%) not. Quantitatively speaking the severity of the discrimination is not very high. Further analysis revealed that 14.67 per cent of the respondents faced discrimination in their family situation and 13.67 percent faced it in the society. Another 0.67 percent was victims of discrimination in both the situations. It is to be doubted that the early experience of discrimination would have led them to criminal activities, which ultimately brought them to the prisons.

Regarding the areas of discriminations in the family it related to quality and quantity of, and time at which food served, cloth provided, time for rest allowed and nature of work assigned. The wider society discriminated

them by disallowing to mingle with children of higher status, putting them to discharge unclean work, levelling false allegations of petty theft against them . No statistical representation of the areas of discrimination was attempted as they were very much scattered.

5.4 Criminal Behaviour of Other Family Members

Intimate interaction with persons having criminal behaviour is conducive for the emergence of such behaviour in the other person. This study analysed the data relating to the criminal background of the members of the family.

Table No.5.4
Criminal History of the Convict's Family

Family background	Frequency	Percentage
Family with Criminal history	34	11.33
Family without Criminal history	266	88.67
Total	300	100.00

The analysis reveals that relatives of 11.33 per cent had committed serious crimes. It is to be doubted that the interaction of the respondents with these relatives could have catalytic effect on them to become criminals. However, it is to be noted that the lions share of the respondents (88.67%) have no criminal family background.

Further probe was made to reveal the type of relationship the respondents had with their criminal family members. The analysis is shown in

Table No.5.4.A

Table No.5.4.A

Type of Relationship With The Criminal Member Of The Family

Relationship	Frequency	Percentage
Direct	23	67.65
Indirect	8	23.53
Spouse	3	8.82
Total	34	100.00

67.65 per cent of the convicts who have criminal family background have close relationship to criminal members of the family. Hence it may be proposed that the criminal antecedents of the family prompts criminality among young members of the family.

5.5 Criminal History of the Respondents

Frequency of crimes committed gives an insight into the criminality of the individual. As everybody knows, habitual offender is to be more guarded against than a maiden offender. In this study it was seen that 91.33 per cent were maiden offenders.

Table No.5.5

Number of Crimes committed

Number of Crime	Frequency	Percentage
One	274	91.33
Two	5	1.67
Three	4	1.33
Four and above	17	5.67
Total	300	100.00

However, it is to be pointed out that 5.67 per cent have committed four or more crimes.

This analysis is based only on the number of crimes for which they were caught red handed. There may be many other criminal deeds done by them, which are gone unnoticed. Statistically speaking we may say that habitual offenders are insignificant minority. This does not mean that the disruption made by them to the social fabric is insignificant.

5.6 Nature of Crime Committed

When enquired about the nature of crimes committed by the respondents it was revealed that majority of them are murderers.

Table No.5.6

Nature of Crime Committed

Nature of Crime	Frequency	Percentage
Murder	163	54.34
Theft	23	7.67
Rape	5	1.67
Drug trafficking	74	24.67
Abetting Suicide	7	2.33
Cheating	22	4.33
Others	6	2.00
Total	300	100.00

The analysis shows that more than three fourth of the convicts have been caught for having committed heinous crimes of murder and trafficking in drugs.

Almost equal portion have been brought to book for theft and cheating (7.67% and 7.33% respectively)

On the whole, we may say that the prisoners have dangerous criminal qualities.

5.7 Punishments Awarded

Law states that severity of punishments should be in accordance with the gravity of the crime committed. This study analysed the gravity of punishments imposed on the offenders. 45.67 percent were awarded lifetime imprisonment and the rest (54.33%) imprisonment for different terms.

Table No.5.7

Nature of Punishment Awarded

Nature of Punishment	Frequency	Percentage
Life Imprisonment	137	45.67
Imprisonment for different periods	167	54.33
Total	300	100.00

The analysis shows that almost equal portions of the prisoners are enduring lifetime and imprisonment for various terms. This implies that the formal control systems are actually doing genuine efforts to protect the society from deviant members.

5.8 Prisoners' Perception of the Punishment Awarded

Punishment as mentioned earlier, should be proportionate to the offence and the awardees should perceive it in that manner. Then only the purpose of criminal justice is satisfied.

In this study the respondents were asked to reveal their perception on the adequacy of the punishment awarded. An overwhelming majority (83.67 per cent of them) reacted that the punishment imposed on them is unduly harsh. 16 percent opined that they have got a just punishment.

Table No.5.8
Opinion Regarding the Severity of Punishment Awarded

Opinion	Frequency	Percentage
Harsh	251	83.67
Just	48	16.00
Light	1	0.33
Total	34	100.00

The analysis shows that the lion's share of the respondents believes that an unjust punishment is imposed on them.

The effect of this perception cannot be predicted. The grievance they feel may harden their criminality. The severity feeling may also restrain them from doing further offences.

This analyses and discussions in the chapter support the saying that criminality is not born, but created. The respondents by and large, have theories of great experiences, which they have been undergoing right from

their childhood days. They were victims of poverty, starvation and what not in their early life. The family and society sidetracked them in all spheres. These sorts of discrimination might have attracted them to dark corners of deviant behaviour. They had got a helping hand of their dear ones who were criminals to reach their destination.

IMPACT OF IMPRISONMENT ON MARITAL AND FAMILIAL RELATIONSHIPS

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CHAPTER 6

IMPACT OF IMPRISONMENT ON THE INDIVIDUAL

Prison is an altogether different world. Freedom is much curtailed in every profile of personal life. Even the time for taking food is determined by the authorities or prison rules. It is needless to say about social interactions with others and outside world.

A person who comes first to such a restrained life feels severe nothingness around him/her. Adjustment with the sudden transition will be an arduous task. Free persons can do some thing all the time to make them engaged with. Within the prison, time even becomes a burden since there is nothing much to do, quite often, according to their wishes.

The surplus time and solitude hit hard their happiness and normal personality. Depression is a common symptom among prisoners.

6.1 The Initial Problems

In this study, an enquiry was made to understand the adverse impact of the prison environment on the inmates, especially during the initial period of confinement. A little more than half of the prisoners (53%) stated that initiation into prison life caught hold of them in various difficult conditions. The rest (47%) were not affected by the event. Sleeplessness, lack of interest in food and unreasonable hostility to others were the symptoms they felt during the initial days of imprisonment. They reported that slowly they got rid of these problems and adjusted with imprisonment (Table No. 6.1.1)

6.1.1 Gender and the Problem

This study made further analysis of the collected data to see whether the initial problems are related to gender. The analysis in Table No. 6.1.1 reveals that the problem is associated with the variable. 55.60% of the male prisoners reported that they were haunted by such problems as depression, sleeplessness, hot temper and anxiety. Only 21.74% of the females faced the problems. The Chi-square test applied also reveals significant association between the variables

Table No. 6.1.1
Gender and Adaptation Problems Faced by Prisoners During Initial
Stage of Imprisonment

Gender	Felt various problems	Not felt any problem	Total
Male	154 (55.60%)	123 (44.40%)	277 (100%)
Female	5 (21.74%)	18 (78.26%)	23 (100%)
Total	159 (53%)	141 (47%)	300 (100%)

Chi-square = 9.84 df = 1 Table value = 3.841 P ≤ 0.01
The association is significant.

6.1.2 Education and the Problem

Education is one of the ways, which embolden people to face adverse environment. Here in this study, it was assumed that the impact of the initial problems of the prisoners is associated with their educational status. Accordingly, an analysis as shown in Table No. 6.1.2 was carried out.

Table No.6.1.2

Educational Status and Adaptation Problems Faced by Prisoners During Initial Stage of Imprisonment

Educational Status	Felt Various Problems	Not felt any Problems	Total
Illiterate	40 (59.70%)	27 (40.30%)	67 (100%)
Primary	99 (53.51%)	86 (46.49%)	185 (100%)
Secondary	17 (44.74%)	21 (55.26%)	38 (100%)
Higher	3 (30.00%)	7 (70.00%)	10 (100%)
Total	159 (53.00%)	141 (47.00%)	300 (100%)

Chi-square = 15.14 df = 3 Table value = 11.3 $P \leq 0.01$
The association is significant.

The analysis reveals that the higher educated are lesser affected by the initial problems of imprisonment. The 'not-affected' group steadily increases from illiterate to the higher educated respondents. The result is, in fact, contrary to the expectations and more probing is required to explain it logically.

Another interesting result received on deep probing is that the illiterates feel prison a safer place than the open world. 40.30% of the respondents expressed the view that imprisonment prevents them from doing further crimes under the persuasion of others.

It is further revealed that the primary educated prisoners experience more intensely the initial shock of imprisonment. 32.97% of the respondents felt sleeplessness, restlessness, etc on facing the bars in front of them.

The initial problems faced by the prisoners is not associated with such other sociological variables as age, income status, occupational status, and religious affiliation. Hence the details of the analyses are not given here.

6.2 Impact on Social Status

In all communities, deviant behaviour attracts some kind of stigma to the individual and the primary group to which the individual belongs. It naturally decreases the social esteem enjoyed by the affected member or group. In this study, it was assumed that the feeling of esteem of the prisoners is eroded because of their imprisonment.

The empirical data were analysed to substantiate the assumption. The analysis is shown in the table 6.2.1. The analysis reveals that 86.33% of the respondents believe that their esteem is considerably reduced because of their imprisonment. The rest, 13.67%, however, believe in the other way round. Therefore, we may conclude that the prisoners are conscious about the erosion of their esteem. This further implies that the commission of crime is impulsive only and not a thought about act.

6.2.1 Age and Erosion of Esteem

This study attempted to find out the relationship between reduction in the esteem and the background variables. Table No.6.2.1 shows the analysis of the data based on age.

The analysis reveals that there is a gradual reduction in the feeling of erosion of esteem as the age increases. The test of association also reveals significant relationship between the dependent and independent variables. It is natural that the youngsters will be feeling the loss more, because they have to face the problems escalated by imprisonment for a longer period and they are in their building up stage.

Table No.6.2.1

Age and Opinion About the Erosion of Esteem

Age (in years)	Esteem Decreased	No Change	Total
Below 30	31 (96.88%)	1 (3.13%)	32 (100%)
30 to 60	221 (85.99%)	36 (14.01%)	257 (100%)
60 and above	7 (63.64%)	4 (36.36%)	11 (100%)
Total	259 (86.33%)	41 (13.67)	300 (100%)

Chi-square = 5.991 df = 2 Table value = 5.991 $P \leq 0.05$
The association is significant.

6.2.2 Income and Erosion of Esteem

This study further undertook another analysis to test the presumption that the economic status of prisoners is associated with their feeling of esteem loss. The analysis showed that 82.27% of the lower income group (below Rs.2500), 91.51% of the middle-income group and 94.74% of the upper income group feel that the imprisonment eats away their self-respect. As seen in the analysis the pattern revealed here is that the higher the income status the higher is their feeling of loss of esteem. The pattern is quite according to our expectations.

Table No.6.2.2

Income Status and Opinion About the Erosion of esteem

Income (monthly in Rs.)	Esteem Decreased	No Change	Total
Below.2500	144 (82.29%)	31 (17.71%)	175 (100%)
2500 – 5000	97 (91.51%)	9 (8.49%)	106 (100%)
5000 and above	18 (94.74%)	1 (5.26%)	19 (100%)
Total	259 (86.33%)	41 (13.67%)	300 (100%)

Chi-square = 5.97

df = 2

Table value = 5.991

P ≤ 0.05

The association is significant

6.2.3 Occupation and Erosion of Esteem

Another analysis was carried out to understand the nature of relationship between the feeling and their occupational background. The data were analysed as shown in table 6.2.3. The analysis revealed that businesspersons and white-collar employees feel the loss of esteem very much. The unemployed person occupies the lowest rung in this matter. This pattern of responses is quite explicable by the common logic. Businesspersons and white-collar employees are enjoying greater status and esteem in any society than the manual labourers and those who have no specific occupation.

Naturally, when they face a defaming situation the intensity of esteem loss felt to them differs.

Table No. 6.2.3

Occupational Background and Opinion About the Erosion of Esteem

Occupation	Esteem Decreased	No Change	Total
Manual labour	182 (87.92%)	25 (12.08%)	207 (100%)
Agricultures & Fisheries	26 (76.47%)	8 (23.53%)	34 (100%)
Business	34 (94.44%)	2 (5.56%)	36 (100%)
White collar	10 (90.91%)	1 (9.09%)	11 (100%)
Unemployed	7 (58.33%)	5 (41.67%)	12 (100%)
Total	259 (86.33%)	41 (13.67%)	300 (100%)

Chi-square =13.42 df = 4 Table value = 9.488 P ≤ 0.01

The associations are significant.

Analyses of data were also carried out to find out whether there exist any relationship between the feeling and other background variables, namely, gender, religious affiliation and educational background. The analyses revealed that they are not associated. Hence the details of the analyses are not given here.

6.3 Impact of Imprisonment on the Personal Up-keeping

Impact of imprisonment on the individual was analysed by taking another profile of personal life. Any individual is inclined to up-keep his/her person. For the purpose one has to get food/dress/resting place/facilities for cleaning (cloths, utensils, etc) and some amount of privacy.

This study enquired into the overall reactions to the distractions created to these aspects of their personal life by being in jail. It would have been much better had the researcher made enquires into each of these matters. However, to observe jail rules regarding time allowable to this kind of enquires, the indices were blanketed together. Certain deep enquiries were made by taking representative cases from the prisoners. The output of such enquiries is supplemented with the statistical analysis.



The data elicited were tabulated as shown in table 6.3.1. It is interesting to note that no one feels that their personal life is not at all disrupted by the imprisonment. The major chunk of the respondents was of the view that it is disrupted some what (68.33%). Another 31.67% of the respondents stated that it is very much disrupted. The reactions indicate that prison environment is not very much hostile to maintaining the personal up

keeping of the inmates. The material and socio-cultural backgrounds of prisoners are not very high and moderate standards of physical comfort and privacy will satisfy them. Further, it is a fact that though there are over crowding in certain jails the authorities are careful to give physical comforts as much as possible. The information collected through certain unstructured probing substantiate the findings based quantitative analysis. Many prisoners openly stated that the food supplied, facilities provided for cleaning and resting are far better than those they enjoyed in their free life.

One complaint generally projected by prisoners was that their supper is served very early, by 5 O'clock in the evening. They are not also happy with the restrictions imposed on their free movement outside their ward. Regarding privacy also they have no much discontentment. During the initial period, the problem of sleeping close to strangers was felt, for most of the prisoners. However, once they are 'prisonized', the aspiration for an exclusive 'territory' is vanished. It is understood that if a problem regarding encroachments arises it flares up like anything.

The analysis tends to the conclusion that the prisoners' personal up-keeping is not much affected by their imprisonment.

Further analyses were carried out to reveal the relationship between the indicator of impact of imprisonment and the independent variables. They show that the background variables, namely, gender, age status and educational status are associated with the dependent variable. The other variables (income, occupation, and religion) show no association with the response. The nature of associations with gender, age and education is explained in the coming sections.

6.3.1 Gender and Opinion About the Disruption of Personal Up-keeping.

Regarding the influence of gender on the opinion, it is seen that the male prisoners are more satisfied in the facilities provided for their personal up keeping (Table No.6.3.1). 70.04% of them stated that the facilities are satisfactory. 29.96% reacted that their personal interests are totally dislocated due to lack of facilities provided in the prison. In the case of females, majority (52.171%) feels that the facilities are completely unsatisfactory for their personal needs. However, among females, 47.83% expresses their satisfaction in this matter.

As everybody knows, the females are socialized in such a way to enjoy more privacy for cleaning themselves and making personal decorations.

In jails there are restrictions in these matters. This might be the reason for their greater dissatisfaction.

Table No.6.3.1
Gender and Feeling of Disruption of Personal Up keeping Because of Imprisonment

Gender	Personal up-keeping some what disrupted	Personal up-keeping totally disrupted	Total
Male	194 (70.04%)	83 (29.96%)	277 (100%)
Female	11 (47.83%)	12 52.17%	23 (100%)
Total	205 (68.33%)	95 (31.67%)	300 (100%)

Chi-square = 4.84 df = 1 Table value = 3.841 P ≤ 0.05

The association is significant.

6.3.2 Age and Opinion About the Disruption of Personal Up-keeping

The analysis in the in Table No.6.3.2 shows that age and the opinion are associated. It is interesting to note that the youngsters are more satisfied with provisions for their personal up keeping. As seen in Table No.6.3.2, 84.38% of below 30 years category feel that the imprisonment has only partially disrupted their personal need satisfaction. 54.55% of the old age group (above 60 year) responded that there are total disruptions in their

personal need satisfaction, induced by the imprisonment. The middle-aged group comes in between the younger and older age groups.

The older persons might have been leading a more structured and arranged life when they were brought to book. Therefore, they feel more disruptions in their personal life.

Table No. 6.3.2
Age and Feeling of Disruption of Personal Up keeping due to Imprisonment

Age (in years)	Personal up-keeping somewhat disrupted	Personal up-keeping totally disrupted	Total
Upto 30	27 (84.38%)	5 (15.63%)	32 (100%)
30 to 60	173 (67.32%)	84 (32.68%)	257 (100%)
60 and above	5 (45.45%)	6 (54.55%)	11 (100%)
Total	205 (68.33%)	95 (31.67%)	300 (100%)

Chi-square = 6.59

df = 2

Table value = 5.991

P ≤ 0.05

The association is significant

6.3.3 Education and Opinion About the Disruption of Personal Up-keeping

A third background variable, which influences the opinion, is educational status. The details of the analysis are given in Table No.6.3.3

Table No. 6.3.3
Education and Feeling of Disruption of Personal Up keeping Due to Imprisonment

Education	Personal up keeping some what disturbed	Personal up keeping totally disturbed	Total
Illiterate	41 (61.19%)	26 (38.81%)	67 (100%)
Primary	134 (72.43%)	51 (27.57%)	185 (100%)
Secondary	27 (71.05%)	11 (28.95%)	38 (100%)
Higher	3 (30%)	7 (70%)	10 (100%)
Total	205 (68.33%)	95 (31.67%)	300 (100%)

Chi-square = 9.94 df = 3 Table value = 7.815 P ≤ 0.05

The association is significant.

As revealed in the analysis, the higher educated respondents are more disappointed by the dislocation occurred in their personal and private life than the other categories. 70% of the category is under this impression. In

the case of other educational categories, a large majority feels that their personal life is only somewhat disturbed by the jail environment. Among these categories, almost equal portion of the primary and secondary educated respondents (72.43%, 71.05% respectively) uphold this view. The impact is not so harsh to the illiterates.

A possible explanation for this difference in the impact may be that the higher educated aspires for more personal conveniences wherever they live. So, they are much frustrated by the comforts provided for the prisoner which are far lesser than their expectations. The illiterate may be happy a bit to cope with the changed environment which may be more comfortable than their original habitat.

6.4 Freedom for Movement within the Prison

The prisoners' freedom to many things is curtailed. Freedom for movement according to the wish of the individual is restricted by imprisonment. Even within the prison the inmates have to observe certain restrictions regarding movement. The inmates are allowed to move in certain places and during particular time.

In this study, an enquiry was made to find out the prisoners reactions to the restrictions within the prison. They were asked whether they have enough freedom to move around in the prison. The responses are given in Table 6.4.

Table No.6.4

Opinion About the Freedom of Movement Within the Jail

Opinion	Frequency	Percentage
Have enough freedom	283	94.33
Do not have	17	5.67
Total	300	100

The analysis reveals that an overwhelming majority of the respondents are very much satisfied with the freedom they are allowed to move around within the prison. A few respondents are found to have very good appreciation to the jail warders who are kind enough to allow maximum freedom in this matter, but within the restrictions prescribed by law. So it is to be understood that the prisoners have enough freedom in this matter. The differing minority may be having certain isolated experiences of facing restrictions in the movement and it need not be seen as a pattern of the outlook of prisoners in general.

6.5 Treatment of Warder

Each block is under the control of a warder. It is the duty of the warder to mark regular attendance of the prisoners in the block. Locking and unlocking of the prisoners in morning and evening and looking after their safety are the responsibilities of the warder.

In this study, the respondents were asked to reveal their opinion regarding the responsibility shown by the warders. It is very interesting to note that not even a single respondent made any adverse remark about the warder's behaviour. So it is to be concluded that the relationship between the prisoners and warders is very cordial.

6.6 Living with Problematic Inmates

As in the case of wider society, persons having different habits and behaviours are there in the imprisoned population also. Many are law abiding, peace-loving people. They have come to the confinements due to circumstances. However, many are problematic to the authorities and other inmates. Many of them are alcoholics and drug addicts. Many are homosexuals. If these prisoners are sharing physical and social environments with others, one can understand the hell that is created to the latter.

In this study an enquiry was conducted to know whether the peace lovers are forced to live with the problem makers. It was revealed that 50.67% of the inmates had bitter experiences of sharing the physical and social space with the unrefined group due to compulsion from the authorities. The rest 49.33%, however had not experienced the chaotic condition (Table No.6.6) It is a pity that even after conviction they are not getting a tranquil and peaceful life because of forceful mixing up inside the prison. Why the authorities are not paying any heed to this problem? May be they are under the impression that the problematic can be tamed by this mixing up or else there may be sadism and cruelty on the part of the authorities

Table No. 6.6

Complaint About Putting the Peace Loving with the Problematic Inmates

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Forced to mix up with the problematic	152	50.67
No such situation	148	49.33
Total	300	100

When the responses were analysed against the background variables, it was seen that the pattern of responding of all the social categories is the same. This further enhances the significance of the findings. All social categories look upon the phenomenon similarly. This implies that the social

environment of prisoners is not very comfortable. In this context, we have to remember that the inmates [all of the respondents] have expressed great satisfaction on the physical comforts of the prison. So we need not doubt their openness. If there is everything sans social harmony and peace of mind what satisfaction the inmates can derive out of the situation!

6.7 Spending Leisure Time

The life of a prisoner is set in strict routine. In the routine we can see that the prisoners are getting much leisure time. When we apply the theory of diminishing utility , the surplus leisure may be a burden to the prisoners.

In this background, the respondents were asked whether they are getting surplus leisure time ?. All of them feel that they are getting leisure time enough and to spare. Further probe was made to know how they spend their leisure time. The analysis is given in Table No.6.7.1. The analysis shows that 47.67% spends the time without any particular activity. 42% spends it on reading books, magazines, dailies and other periodicals and the rest (10.33%) engages themselves in some games (both indoor and outdoor), and gardening. The analysis shows that majority of them are utilizing their leisure time on meaningful activities (52.33%). But 47.67% of them spend the time remaining

idle. Men make small talks and quarrel among themselves or do unlawful activities, which harm their material and social existence. The female prisoners also follow suit. In addition they spent time on necessary cleaning and combing of hair.

6.7.1 Gender and Pattern of Spending Leisure Time

In order to understand whether there is any difference in the leisure time activities of men and women in prison another analysis was conducted as shown in Table No.6.7.1.

Table No.6.7.1
Gender and Pattern of Spending Leisure Time

Gender	Reading	Playing	Others*	Total
Male	122 (44.04%)	27 (9.75%)	128 (46.21%)	277 (100%)
Female	4 (17.40%)	15 (41.30%)	15 (41.30%)	23 (100%)
Total	126 (42%)	31 (10.30%)	143 (47.67%)	300 (100%)

Chi-square = 6.40 df = 2 Table value = 5.99 P ≤ 0.05

* Includes gossiping, watching TV, sitting idle etc.
The association is significant.

The analysis in the table above shows that a higher portion of both the men and women spend their leisure time by sitting idle or engaging in meaningless and harmful activities (46. 21% and 41.30% respectively of men

and women). 41.30% of the women engage themselves in gardening. The corresponding portion of men is only 9.75%. However, 44.04% of the men are in the habit of reading while among the women the category is only 17.40%. The chi-square test indicates significant difference in the habit of men and women.

6.7.2 Age and Pattern of Spending Leisure Time

Age status and pattern of spending leisure time are assumed to be associated. In order to test the postulate the data were analysed as shown in Table No.6.7.2.

Table No. 6.7.2

Age and Pattern of Spending Leisure Time

Age (in years)	Spending time by reading	Spending time by playing and gardening	Others	Total
Below 30	10 (31.25%)	2 (6.25%)	20 (62.50%)	32 (100%)
30 to 60	113 (43.97%)	25 (9.73%)	119 (46.30%)	257 (100%)
60 and above	3 (27.27%)	4 (36.36%)	4 (36.36%)	11 (100%)
Total	126 (42%)	31 (10.30%)	143 (47.67%)	300 (100%)

Chi square = 11.38 DF = 4 Table value = 9.458 P ≤ 0.05
The association is significant

It is very painful to see that comparatively very high proportion of the youngsters (below 30 years) spends their precious leisure time idle or engaging themselves in spurious activities (62.50%). Among the middle age group, 46.30% come under this category, which again is the highest portion of them. Among the aged inmates only 36.36% come under this category. This shows that the higher the age the greater the time consciousness. Another important observation is that reading habit is more in middle age group. Younger age group is more interested in sitting idle, gossiping or watching TV (combing their hair or chatting with one another).

The analysis reveals that age is a determinant of the spending pattern of leisure time. The result shows that imprisonment may adversely affect the youngsters more.

6.7.3 Education and Pattern of Spending Leisure Time

Education is a strong background factor which determines the behaviour of people. In this situation, it is presumed that the pattern of spending of leisure is related to the educational background of the prisoners.

Accordingly, the data were analysed to substantiate the postulate. The details are shown in the Table No.6.7.3.

Table No.6.7.3
Education and Pattern of Spending Leisure Time

Education	Spending time by reading	Playing and Gardening	Others	Total
Illiterate	16 (23.88%)	7 (10.45%)	44 (65.67%)	67 (100%)
Primary	83 (44.86%)	20 (10.81%)	82 (44.32%)	185 (100%)
Secondary	22 (57.89%)	3 (7.89%)	13 (34.27%)	38 (12.67%)
Higher	5 (50.00%)	1 (10.00%)	4 (40.00%)	10 (100%)
Total	126 (42%)	31 (10.30%)	143 (47.67%)	300 (100%)

Chi square=14.86 df=6

Table value=12.592

P≤0.05

The association is significant

The analysis reveals that the background variable is associated with the behaviour of spending leisure time.

One important result is that on the whole the useless way of spending leisure time decreases with increase in the educational status. In higher educated group those who spent time uselessly are slightly higher than

those in the secondary educated group. It is to be inferred that the former group becomes more frustrated on imprisonment and becomes disordered. However, 50% of them are very good readers. Though the size of the higher educated group in the sample is smaller, one disturbing, implication revealed by the analysis is that they easily become prey for spending leisure time on an idle manner/harmful manner. It is interesting to note that reading habit is more prominent among secondary educated group (57.89%). It is seen that almost equal proportion of all educational group spends their leisure time in games and gardening.

Analysis on the influence of other background variables namely income, occupation and religion gave negative results and the details are not given here.

6.8 Relatives Reactions

An imprisoned person is a social reject. In this study, investigations are made into the type of reactions the prisoners are facing from their primary group.. The details are given in Table No.6.8

Table No. 6.8

Reactions of Close Relatives to the Imprisoned

Reaction	Frequency	Percentage
Cut off relationship	98	32.67
Unwelcome	69	23.00
Sympathize	100	33.33
No change	33	11.00
Total	300	100.00

The analysis indicates that around 33% of the prisoners are rejects from their close relatives. An equal portion is target of sympathy of their close relatives. 23% feels that they are not welcome by their close relatives. 11% believes that there is no change in the outlook of their relatives towards them as a result of the imprisonment. It is to be pointed out that the majority of the prisoners are severed by their kin groups. (33% are rejects and 23% are unwelcome).

6.9 Reaction of Neighbours Towards the Imprisoned

The reactions of their neighbours as perceived by prisoners were analysed.

Table No.6.9

Reactions of Neighbours Towards the Imprisoned

Reaction	Frequency	Percentage
Want to avoid the imprisoned	27	9
Unwelcome	48	16
Sympathy	177	54
No change	48	16
Total	300	100

The analysis indicates that majority perceives sympathy of neighbours on they being put in prison (54%). 16% considers that they are unwelcome members of their neighbourhood. Only 9% considers that they are rejects of their neighbourhood. It may be interesting to compare reactions of family members and neighbours as perceived by the prisoners (Table No.6.8 and 6.9). It can be seen that reactions of the family is very severe than that of the neighbourhood. 32.67% of the family totally avoids the prisoners while the corresponding figure in the case of neighbours is only 9%. Similarly, for 23% of the family members the prisoner is an unwelcome member. The corresponding figure in the case of neighbours is only 16%. Majority of the neighbours (54%) has only sympathy towards the prisoners. But it is only 33.33% in the case of the family members. The harsh reaction of the family members, compared to that of neighbours can be interpreted in terms of the

intimacy of the relationship between the group and the individual. The family members feel the disgrace of imprisonment more than the neighbours do. The Malayalam adage that 'insane mother of an unrelated person is a source of amusement' is relevant here. When one's own mother becomes insane, it is painful.

6.10 Return to the Family on Release

Imprisonment of a member brings about shame and sorrow to the whole family. Therefore at least occasionally the family may be cursing the prisoner for he/she happened to be a member of it. This attitude of the family will be quite known to the prisoner and he/she may be aspiring for delinking himself from the family bonds.

The study attempted to analyse whether any detachment of the prisoners from their family is occurred. A question was asked whether they would return to their family when they are released from the prison. The analysis of the responses is given in Table No.6.10.1 It shows that 82.67% will readily rejoin their family. 8.33% are not interested to return to their family. The question was not applicable to 9% as their families deserted them earlier.

The analysis reveals that the major chunk of the prisoners is eagerly waiting for rejoining their family. That is, the family ties are strong in the cases of majority of prisoners. However, a small portion has detached themselves from their family. It may be re-established by proper counselling.

6.10.1 Occupation and Interest to Return to Their Families

Subsidiary analysis was conducted to reveal the relationship between the background variables and the responses. Only one variable viz., occupation, was found to be associated to the dependent variable. The analysis is given below in Table No.6.10.1. The details of the other analysis are not given here.

Table No. 6.10.1

Occupational Background and Interest to Return to the Family

Occupation	Readily rejoin	Not interested	Not applicable	Total
Manual labour	174 (84.06%)	14 (6.76%)	19 (9.18%)	207 (69.00%)
Agriculture & Fisheries	30 (88.24%)	2 (5.88%)	2 (5.88%)	34 (11.33%)
Business	29 (80.56%)	6 (16.67%)	1 (2.78%)	36 (12.00%)
White collar employment	8 (72.73%)	2 (18.18%)	1 (9.09%)	11 (3.67%)
Unemployed	7 (58.33%)	1 (8.33%)	4 (33.33%)	12 (12.00%)
Total	248 (82.67%)	25 (8.33%)	27 (9.00%)	300 (100.00%)

Chi square = 16.14 df = 8 Table value = 15.07 P ≤ 0.05
The association is significant.

The analysis indicates that majority of all occupational groups aspires for rejoining their family on their release from the jail. However, a significant portion of the business group does not want to rejoin their family (16.67%). White-collar employees show similar trend. 18.18% (although in absolute term it is two) of them are reluctant to go back to their family. They may be feeling that they have lost both economic and social status. Businessmen have to maintain good will for prospering their business. It is lost due to the imprisonment. Similarly, an imprisoned person may not be reinstated in their Government/private employment because criminal act is against the code of conduct prescribed for such employments. Further, these categories had been enjoying better position before the conviction and imprisonment. Therefore, they may be feeling that a settled life in the future is not possible and why should they disturb their family, which has been readapted to the changed situation.

The analysis for testing association between other background variables and the inclination to return to their family on release gave negative results and the details of them are not given here.

IMPACT OF IMPRISONMENT ON MARITAL AND FAMILIAL RELATIONSHIPS

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CHAPTER 7

IMPACT ON MARITAL LIFE

The family as an institution is intended for upbringing children, preservation of values, sharing of productive activities etc. For undertaking such tasks the spouses are to live together. Above all the co-habitation of the spouses is essential for the fulfilment of their emotional demands.

Imprisonment forcefully separates the spouses and the family atmosphere is dislocated. None of the directly and indirectly affected parties aspires for such separation. This would enhance the sorrows of separation. In the case of confined individual the personal handicaps created by prison life would further aggravate the already swollen sorrows.

Imprisonment may increase their regards for their spouse due to the reason that they may not be aware about the value of the presence of their spouse when they are with them. The separation and solitude created by prison increases the value of the partnership.

7.1 Changes in the Concern About the Spouse

In order to understand the type of change occurred in the outlook of the prisoner towards the spouse an enquiry was carried out. 91.67%

of the sample responded that they are more worried about their spouses after the commencement of the jail term. The rest, (8.33%) do not experience any change in their concern.

This indicates that imprisonment increases their regards for their life partner. This may be due to the reason stated earlier viz., they may not be aware about the value of the presence of their spouse when they are with them.

7.1.1 Gender and Change in the Concern

Gender was assumed to be associated with the change in the concern and an analysis as shown in Table No.7.1.1 was carried out.

Table No. 7.1.1
Gender and Change in the Concern

Gender	Concern increased	No change in the concern	Total
Male	263 (94.95 %)	14 (5.05 %)	277 (92.33 %)
Female	12 (52.17 %)	11 (47.83 %)	23 (7.66 %)
Total	275 (91.67 %)	25 (8.33 %)	300 (100 %)

Chi square = 50.86 df = 1 Table value = 10.827 $p \leq 0.01$

The association is significant.

Male prisoners are more worried about their spouses than their female counterparts are. Only 5.05 % of the male respondents stated that their concern about their spouses did not change after the imprisonment. Among the female prisoners, 47.83 % do not feel any change in their concern. This clearly reveals that the impact of the separation due to imprisonment is more on the males. Chi-square test confirms the association between the variables.

7.1.2 Age and Change in the Concern

Age is a determinant of peoples' empathizing capacity and consequent feeling of sympathy, sorrow etc. In this context, it was assumed that the concern of the prisoner for his/her spouse is associated with the age status. Accordingly, an analysis was carried out as shown as Table No. 7.1.2.

Table No. 7.1.2
Age and Change in the Concern

Age (in years)	Increased the concern	No change in the concern	Total
Below 30	28 (87.50 %)	4 (12.50 %)	32 (100 %)
30 – 60	239 (93.00 %)	18 (7.00 %)	257 (100 %)
60 and above	8 (72.73 %)	3 (27.27 %)	11 (100 %)
Total	275 (91.67 %)	25 (8.33 %)	300 (100 %)

Chi square = 6.49 df = 2 Table value = 5.991 P ≤ 0.05

The association is significant.

The analysis shows that the worries about the spouse are more among the middle age group (30-60 years). The Table shows that 93% of the category is worried very much about their spouses after imprisonment. 87.50% of the younger group (below 30 years) and 72.73 % of older age group (60 and above) are coming under the category. The interesting fact is that the worries are lesser among the old age group.

As everybody knows, youngsters are stronger in every respect, physical, mental, emotional statuses etc. Therefore, their self-sustaining capacity will also be greater. Their lesser concern may be due to the confidence arising from their strength. The middle age group is a stage of responsibilities and transition in physical, social, and mental aspects. Naturally, in this stage joined living of partners become important and the absence of such living creates more discomfort to both the spouses. This is reflected in the analysis. Old age is an age of inertness to everything. So they do not feel much about the separation of their spouse. Further, the responsibility of looking after the aged parents is one of younger generation's and not of husband/wife. These facts would explain the above results relating to the older group.

7.1.3 Educational Background and Change in the Concern

Education refines human beings and their regards, sentiment and emotions shown to others will vary according to this parameter. Criminality being an impulsive behaviour, when the wrong doer regains normality the above principle will be applicable to him/her. Accordingly, an analysis shown as Table 7.1.3 was carried out to understand the association between educational background and the concern for their spouse.

The analysis (Table 7.1.3) shows that the three groups viz. the illiterates, primary and secondary educated have very deep commitment to their spouse; hence they are concerned about the whereabouts of their spouse. However, the higher educated category is not that much disturbed as other categories are. Education may be their rationality in this matter. They may be reasoning, why should they get themselves mentally agitated which can only spoil normal life without advantages to them and their spouses.

Table No.7.1.3**Education and Change in the Concern**

Educational Status	Increased the concern	No change in the concern	Total
Illiterate	63 (93.03 %)	4 (5.97 %)	67 (100 %)
Primary	171 (92.43%)	14 (7.57 %)	185 (100 %)
Secondary	35 (92.11%)	3 (7.89 %)	38 (100 %)
Higher	6 (60.00)	4 (40.00)	10 (100.00)
Total	275 (91.67 %)	25 (8.33 %)	300 (100 %)

Chi square = 13.77 df = 3 Table value = 11.3 P ≤ 0.01

The association is significant

7.1.4 Income Status and Change in the Concern

Income status and change in the concern for their spouse are assumed to be related, as economic insecurity is one of the major elements that create anxiety. To test this proposed relationship the data were analysed as shown in Table 7.1.4

. Table No.7.1.4

Income and Concern for Their Spouse

Monthly income (in Rs.)	Concern increased	No change in the concern	Total
Below Rs. 2500	159 (90.86%)	16 (9.14%)	175 (100%)
Rs. 2500-5000	101 (95.28%)	5 (4.72%)	106 (100%)
Rs. 5000 and above	15 (78.95%)	4 (21.05%)	19 (100%)
Total	275 (91.67%)	25 (8.33%)	300 (100%)

Chi square = 6.25 df=2 Table Value=5.99 $P \leq 0.05$

The association is significant

The analysis indicates that 90.86% of the low-income group (below Rs 2500) and 95.28% of the middle-income group (Rs 2500-5000) have become very much concerned about their spouse. However, the corresponding figure in respect of the high-income (Rs 5000 and above) category is 78.95% only. The analysis reveals that the higher income group is lesser worried about their spouse. The logic behind the formulation of the relationship is proved true by the analysis.

The analyses to establish relationship between other background variables (religion and occupation) and the response revealed that they are not significantly associated. Accordingly, the details of the analyses are not given here.

7.2 The Problem of Physical Absence

Physical comforts including sexual satisfaction are the aims of establishing marital bond between a man and a woman. Imprisonment shatters these comforts. What is the impact of this forced separation on their urge for the company of their spouse, was analysed in this study. The respondents were asked whether their imprisonment affected their urge for the physical interaction with their spouse.

37.33% responded that their urge for physical interactions with their spouse increased considerably and the rest indicated that they do not feel any change in their urge in this matter (Table 7.2.1). This reveals that the imprisonment is enhancing the urge for physical interactions for a considerable portion of the prisoners. This urge is unfulfilled and naturally, abnormal behaviour may be expected of the prisoners. Perverted sex behaviour and even violence among prisoners may be the result of this unfulfilled aspirations.

7.2.1 Gender and the Urge for Physical Interaction

Gender is a determinant of the urge for physical interactions with spouse especially in traditional cultures like ours. In this study, an enquiry was carried out to reveal whether the change in the urge is gender specific. The

responses are analysed as shown in Table 7.2.1. The analysis reveals that only 34.30% of the males stated that their urge for physical interactions with their spouse increased while 73.91% of the females stated that their urge increased considerably. This shows that the females are more in need of the physical company and interactions of their husbands. In Indian culture, females do not have better freedom to interact with opposite sex outside the marital bond. That is, their interaction is very much confined to their husbands. Hence, it is to be concluded that in this matter (dislocated marital relationship) the females are the worst sufferers among prisoners.

Table No. 7.2.1
Gender and the Urge for Physical Interaction

Gender	Increased the urge for physical interaction with spouse	Not changed the urge for physical interaction with spouse	Total
Male	95 (34.30%)	182 (65.70%)	277 (100%)
Female	17 (73.91%)	6 (26.09%)	23 (100%)
Total	112 (37.33%)	188 (62.67%)	300 (100%)

Chi square = 14.25

df=1

Table value =10.827

P ≤ 0.01

The association is significant

7.2.2 Religious Affiliation and The Urge for Physical Interaction

Association between religious affiliation of the prisoners and their change in the urge for interactions with spouse was enquired into in the study.

The details are given in Table 7.2.2

Table No.7.2.2
Religious Affiliation and Urge for Physical Interaction

Religious affiliation	Increased the urge for physical interaction with spouse	No change in the urge for the physical interaction with spouse	Total
Hindu (Forward)	6 (21.43 %)	22 (78.57 %)	28 (100 %)
Hindu (Backward)	51 (36.17 %)	90 (63.83 %)	141 (100 %)
Muslim	29 (33.72 %)	57 (66.28 %)	86 (100 %)
Christian	26 (57.98 %)	19 (42.22 %)	45 (100 %)
Total	112 (37.33 %)	188 (62.66 %)	300 (100%)

Chi square = 11.63 df = 3 Table value = 11.341 $P \leq 0.01$

The association is significant

The analysis shows that Hindu Forward and Christians have opposite feelings in the matter. The response of Muslims and Hindu Backward

is similar. The Christians feel the physical absence of their spouse very much after their imprisonment. The case of Hindu Forward is diametrically opposite. The others (Muslims and Hindu Backward) come in between these two groups. The Christian culture fosters very much the affinal bond established between men and women. This might be the reason for the enhanced feeling of the Christian prisoners about the missing company of their spouse. Traditionally the relationship between husband and wife among the forward Hindus is lukewarm, especially when polyandrous marriage was allowed. Thus, an interpretation of Hindu's view is possible. Muslims respondents do not allow free interaction of man and woman especially in the open. Further, husband-wife separation in the community is very frequent due to various economic and religious factors. So they are not much worried about the separation. The backward Hindus also had been facing husband-wife separation more because they were labourers of upper caste groups and the man and woman were labouring any where in the fields. In short, the separation is affecting the Christians most.

7.2.3 Income and the Urge for Physical Interaction

It was assumed that the change in the urge for physical company and interaction of prisoners are associated with their income status. To test the validity of the assumption an analysis was carried out as shown in Table 7.2.3.

The analysis reveals that the variables are significantly associated. The change in the urge was highest, for the low-income category (43.43%) and least for the middle-income group (28.90%). 31.58% of the higher income group also feels this change. The Chi square test reveals significant relationship between the variables.

Comparison of the lower and higher income categories may be very easy had there been no responses of the middle-income group. Cash may be used by the higher income group to purchase intimate physical company or anything substitutes for that. But the middle-income group will contradict this explanation. Therefore, complex interactions of variables are to be assumed and hence a logical interpretation of the results requires further enquiries and analyses.

Table No.7.2.3
Income and the Urge for the Physical Interaction

Income (Monthly in Rs)	Changed the urge for physical interaction with spouse	Not change in the urge for physical interaction with spouse	Total
Below Rs 2500	76 (43.43%)	99 (56.57%)	175 (100%)
2500-5000	30 (28.30%)	76 (71.70%)	106 (100%)
Rs 5000 and above	6 (31.58%)	13 (68.42%)	19 (100%)
Total	112 (37.33%)	188 (62.67%)	300 (100%)

Chi square = 6.74 df=2 Table value=5.991 P≤ 0.05
The association is significant

Other independent variables are found to have no relationship with the change in the urge (age, education and occupation) and the details of the analyses are not given here.

7.3 Visits of the Spouses

Imprisonment ruptures the marital life. Face to face but restricted communicative interaction is the only relic of the relations of the prisoner with his/her spouse. The jail rules have prescribed restrictions on the frequency of visit of the spouse. However, it is the usual practice that the jail authorities give maximum opportunities for the spouses to visit their husbands/wives who are behind the bars. It is during such visits that the prisoner gets a key-hole view of the outside world. So the meetings of the spouses, separated by the wire mesh, are precious for both of them. The physical, social and psychic passions of the spouses usually create emotional tide which they have to suppress during the meetings.

Both the spouses would like to get as much time for their meetings. However, there are restrictions for the time according to prison rules. Further, if wives are coming to meet their husbands, especially from far off places some male relative will escort them. Therefore, their escorts

conveniences also are to be taken account of. Further, the spouse outside is facing social stigma created by the imprisonment of the other. Therefore, his/her jail visits are not welcome act for the society around. However, the multiple thrust for seeing each other bring them together by overcoming the ordeals.

This study enquired into the frequency of the visits of the spouse to the jail. Table 7.3.reveals the details of the visits. As seen from the Table majority (52.17%) of the prisoners have no blessings of the meeting as they never turn up. Only 47.33% have occasions to meet their spouses and the lion's share of them get the opportunity occasionally 5.67% of the respondents receive their spouses weekly and 8.33% monthly. 3.67% of their spouses visit their life partner once in a fortnight. The analysis reveals that only a minor portion of the respondents is getting the warmth of the marital relationship even through visits of their spouses. Practically the marital relationship of the prisoners is a reality of the past. Therefore, the study concludes that the impact of the imprisonment on marital relationship is very severe.

Table No. 7.3

The Periodicity of Visits of the Spouses

Periodicity of visits	Frequency	Percentage
Weekly	17	5.67
Fortnightly	11	3.67
Monthly	25	8.33
Occasionally	89	29.67
Never	158	52.67
Total	300	100.00

7.4 Desertion of Imprisoned Husband

The strength of any relationship shall be tested only in the odds of life. Any relationship branded by true love will not be fractured. If one of the spouses is imprisoned, the spouse outside is practically but indirectly punished for the crime for which he/she owes no responsibility. However, the pangs of justice inadvertently bite the spouse along with the imprisoned criminal. Such a separation due to justice administration by imprisonment destroys a family setting and the spouse outside may be very disillusioned, often absolutely geared to uncontrollable actions. It may lead to some times deserting from all the surroundings where the household of the family was set up. It might be sometimes an attempt in order to forget about all the unpleasant things looming around.

The distribution of the prisoners based on the gender showed that only 23 female prisoners are there in the sample (7.67%) and the rest are males (92.33%). This is reflecting the fact that wives of 92.33% of the respondents are sufferers of involuntary separation from their husbands due to the uncontrollable life of the latter. As mentioned earlier, the over burden imposed on them, the shame meted out from the society and the solitude, make them mad and they may behave in irrational manner.

It is understood during interviews with the respondents that wives of 9% (27) of the respondents deserted them primarily due to the separation. This phenomenon of broken family is to be considered as a serious problem caused by imprisonment.

7.5 Support from the Imprisoned Spouse

When the spouse visits husband/wife in prison the world will be revealed in front of the prisoner. The spouse will have to inform a lot to their partners in prison. They will narrate how things were managed in their absence. At least some of the spouses will have no experience in administering household affairs. The spouses would be seeking the advice of their partners, as to how to manage unfamiliar situations. Normally the spouses might bring to the prisoners a plethora of problems. Of the 47.33% of

the spouses who make a minimum of one visit a month to their partners in prison would be prioritising their problems which are to be sorted out in consultation with the imprisoned.

This study enquired into the major problems discussed during the rendezvous of the couple. The analysis is given below in Table No.7.5.

Table No.7.5

Matters Discussed During the Meetings with Spouse

Matters	Frequency	Percentage
Economic problem	116	38.67
Experience of solitude	14	5.66
Looking after children	10	3.33
Disease	2	0.67
Not applicable	158	52.67
Total	300	100

It is to be understood from Table No 7.5 that the burning problems faced by the family members/spouses are economic difficulties and solitude. For a dependent wife the husband's departure is a real crisis particularly if it is the first forced separation. The imprisonment of the breadwinner was regarded as a serious crisis because it had not only affected

the functioning of the family but also ruined it economically (Advani, 1978: 171).

It is to be noticed that the three major impacts of imprisonment in the order of their gravity are those, which create economic crisis, solitude and helplessness of the spouses in upbringing children.

The responsibility of any organized society is to satisfy the material needs and urge for companionship and by thus keep good mental language of it's members. Generation of socialized descendants is another function of group living. In the case of the prisoner and his/her family all this needs are not met.

7.6 Emotions Aroused During The Meeting

Separation and reunion of dear ones create many types of emotions in the parties. In the case of the prisoners, the getting together of the spouses is to bid farewell at the next moment and that is even without getting a warm hug.

In this background, in order to understand the emotional problems faced by the prisoner, they were asked to reveal their experiences. It was

astonishing to see that 139 out of 142 respondents whose spouses visit them stated that they often broke down due to emotional burst at the sight of their spouses. They weep, scream, try to catch hold of their dear ones and try to feel their face from the other side of the wire mesh. Much of the meeting time is spend in this way.

92.25% the prisoners are visibly moved where as only 7.75% of prisoners are not visibly moved while seeing their spouses at the jail. It may be due to the overwhelming feelings of the imprisoned spouse of a strange mixture of repentance on the crime and responsibility of pushing the family to great difficulties along with the normal emotions of seeing the spouse after a while. Since the spouses outside are mostly women, they might get emotionally petrified.

The spouse of the prisoner would be complaining always that the criminal act destroyed the life who ever is responsible for the criminal act.. The spouse outside would also feel that she/he is unjustifiably punished for no fault of her/his.

During the meetings, the prisoners and their spouses make exchange of displeasures. It is understood that the woman spouses visiting the

prisoner usually repeatedly curse their destiny to live in the manner in which they are. The prisoner also expresses his/her grief through emotionally charged words that are capable of attracting sympathy of the visiting spouse.

When all these exchanges are over, they console each other. All the 142 respondents who are visited by their spouses informed that consoling words are exchanged during the time of departure. However, they stated that they are very much interested to touch the other to console, but it is not possible, as jail rules do not permit it. The respondents stated further that their visiting spouses also aspire for such a consoling touch and reciprocate it. However, they have to uphold the sanctity of the rules.

7.7 Reactions to the Time Allowed for Visits.

Usually, the visitors are given 15 – 30 minutes to verbally interact with the prisoners. The prisoners will be separated from the visitors, including spouses, by a window fitted with wire mesh. Therefore, physical contact between the prisoners and their visitors is not possible. Further, the meeting will be in front of an officer of the prison.

In this study, it was enquired into whether the visiting time is sufficient for them.

Table No. 7.7.

Reactions of Prisoners Regarding Sufficiency of Visit Time

Reactions	Frequency	Percentage
Visiting time sufficient	46	15.33
Not sufficient	76	32.00
Not applicable	158	52.67
Total	300	100.00

The analysis shows that even in such an inhospitable condition they want to prolong the visits. From this, the extent of impact of imprisonment on the familial and marital life can be assessed.

32% of the total respondents feel that the time is insufficient. If we consider only those who have visiting relatives, the portion comes to 67.61% (majority). With all the problems of such meetings, they want to be in the presence of the spouses for more time. (Quite often, the researcher noticed that the spouses remain in the jail premises even after the visit is over). Only 15.33% of the respondents feel that there is no point in prolonging the meetings. The major reason for them to be satisfied with the time given for spouse visits may be that they are permitted to meet their spouses in the presence of jail officers and not in privacy. The prisoner and the spouse are not permitted to go out either. The meeting is either allowed at the side of a window or an opening fitted with an iron grill, which curtails the body

contacts of the long separated spouses in the presence of others. Therefore, it does not give any opportunity for more intimate body contacts during the temporary reunion. Naturally, it might cause frustration among the couples. They might be feeling that the shorter the meeting the better for both of them. In addition, being not in constant contact with the near and dear ones, the topics for talking may be easily exhausted. In short, they may not be able to bear the sight of the separated spouse at the hands reach, but on either side of a wall.

7.8 Aspiration for Privacy During the Visits of Spouse

It is interesting to study how prisoners consider having privacy during the meeting with their spouses. It is more interesting when the above is examined against the permitted conjugal visits of spouses of prisoners in western countries. (Prisoners are allowed to live with their spouses for short periods in the accommodation provided in the prison). In Indian conditions, such meetings are possible only when the prisoners are let out on parole. Naturally, we may assume that great majority of prisoners would want privacy during visits of spouses.

Only 19.33% of the prisoners who get spouses' visits aspire for privacy when they meet them. They may have apprehension of the total

prison environment which discourage such meetings. In addition, they may be doubting that even law and order problems may crop up by the presence of women. The mind-set of the prisoners may be disallowing them to support drastic changes like permitting meeting of prisoners and their spouses in privacy.

7.8.1 Gender and Aspiration for Privacy

In order to study the influence of gender on the aspiration an analysis as shown in the table 7.8.1 was made

Table No. 7.8.1

Gender and Aspiration for Privacy During Visits of Spouse

Gender	Aspire for privacy	Do not aspire for privacy	No spouse visits	Total
Male	57 (20.58%)	73 (26.35%)	147 (53.07%)	277 (100%)
Female	1 (4.35%)	11 (47.83%)	11 (47.83%)	23 (100%)
Total	58 (19.33%)	84 (28.00)	158 (52.67%)	300 (100%)

Chi square= 6.5 df = 2 Table value = 5.991 P≤0.05
The association is significant

20.58% of male prisoners aspire for privacy where as only 4.35% of the female prisoners aspire for it. 26.35% of the male prisoners and 47.83% of the female prisoners do not welcome practice. It shows that the female

prisoners are more cautious against such an unwelcome practice. Privacy may initiate sex related behaviour and the females will have to face the adverse consequences of various types.

7.8.2 Income and Aspiration for Privacy

Income is a strong factor which influences aspirations, attitudes and actions of people. In this study it was assumed that income status and the aspiration of the prisoners are associated. To test the postulate an analysis was carried out.

Table No.7.8.2
Income and the Aspiration

Income in (Rs. Monthly)	Aspire for privacy	Not aspire for privacy	No visit	Total
Below Rs.2500	32 (18.29%)	40 (22.86%)	103 (58.86%)	175 (100%)
Rs. 2500 – 5000	25 (23.58%)	34 (32.08%)	47 (44.34%)	106 (100%)
Rs. 5000 and above	1 (5.26%)	10 (52.63%)	8 (42.11%)	19 (100%)
Total	58 (19.38%)	84 (28.00%)	158 (52.67%)	300 (100%)

Chi square = 12.51 df = 4 Table value = 9.448 P ≤ 0.05
The association is significant

Analysis in Table No. 7.8.2 shows significant association between income of the respondents and their aspiration for privacy when they meet their spouses. It is observed that middle-income group (23.58%) aspires for privacy more than the lower income group (18.29%) does. However, the higher income group contradicts this pattern.

Further analysis conducted to establish association of the variables with the other background variables (age, religion, educational status and occupation) did not give positive results.

7.9 Aspirations for Support During Infirmary

Mutual assistance of spouses during infirmity caused by sickness, accidents etc is a blessing of marital life. This is especially true in modern era where even children are unmindful of the problems of their parents. Prisoners being isolated from their spouses are very much unlucky in this regard. However, they are having aspirations like ordinary people for the company and support of their spouses during the adverse days of sickness. This study analysed the aspiration of the prisoners for the presence of their spouse during sickness.

Table No. 7.9

**Aspiration of the Prisoners for the Presence of Their Spouses During
Sickness**

Extent of the aspiration	Frequency	Percentage
Very much	170	56.67
NO	44	14.67
Not Applicable	61	8.33
Total	300	100.00

The analysis in Table 7.9 reveals that majority (56.67%) aspire for the presence of their spouses by their side during sickness very much. Another 14.67% feels it preferable to have their spouses with them to console and physically support them during their sickness.

The majority knows that the jail statutes do not permit such presence of spouses - still then, they are aspiring for. This reveals another blow of imprisonment on the marital life of the victims.

7.10 Advice for Decision Making

In married life, the spouses make decision on various matters jointly reducing the tension created for decision-making processes. However, the prisoner as he/she is within the prison may not be required to make much

of decisions. Still, there may be critical moments to overcome by making appropriate decisions.

In this analysis, how far the prisoners aspire for the support of the spouse for decision-making was enquired into. Table No.7.10 shows the details of the analysis.

The analysis shows that 33.33% of the prisoners have extreme aspiration for the advice of their spouses for decision-making. Almost an equal proportion (31.33%) feel it very desirable to have such advices. However, 27% expressed that they are not interested in such advices. The analysis concludes that majority of the prisoners aspire for their spouses' advice in decision making to various levels. However, this aspiration is not going to fruition as prison walls separate them. This again highlights the adverse impact of imprisonment on marital and familial life.

7.10.1 Age and the Aspirations for Advice for Decision-Making

Further analysis revealed that the age status and the aspiration are associated. (No other background variable showed any association.) It is seen that the middle age group is more inclined to get the advice of their spouses (Table No.7.10.1). 35.02% of them are very much aspiring for the advices and

31.91% aspires for it to certain extent. The corresponding figures in respect of lower age group are respectively 28.12% and 21.86%. In the case of the upper age group the figures are respectively 9.09% and 45.45%.

In the youthful age, they may be feeling that they can manage anything by their own and older age group might be upholding the philosophical view that those which are impossible to happen need not be aspired for.

Table No. 7.10.1

Age and the Aspirations for Advice for Decision Making

Age (in years)	Aspire very much	Aspire to some what	No aspiration	*Not Applicable	Total
Below 30	9 (28.12%)	7 (21.86%)	15 (46.89%)	1 (3.13%)	32 (100%)
30 – 60	90 (35.02%)	82 (31.91%)	62 (24.12%)	23 (8.95%)	257 (100%)
60 and above	1 (9.09%)	5 (45.45%)	4 (36.37%)	1 (9.09%)	11 (100%)
Total	100 (33.33%)	94 (31.34%)	81 (27.00%)	25 (8.33%)	300 (100%)

Chi square = 9.50 df = 4 Table value = 9.488 P ≤ 0.05

The association is significant

* This column is not considered in the calculation of Chi-square

7.11 Suppression of Normal Sex

The normal urge for conjugal company of the spouse (normal hetero sexual urge) will not be gratified until parole is permitted. It may be

permitted after years in the case of many prisoners. It is a very long duration for those who are used to conjugal engagements. Therefore, the normal assumption would be that it would be highly painful. The prisoners answered a question relating to feeling sex urge as given in Table No.7.11.1.

31.33% reveals that they feel sex urge very much. The rest informed that they do not feel the urge much.

7.11.1 Gender and Feeling of Sex Urge

More of women prisoners (52.17%) than men (29.60%) state that they feel the urge for conjugal company of spouse. The above intriguing fact may be due to the reason that male prisoners are overwhelmingly prisonized or may be due to the difference in the expressions of male and female libido in unisexual environment.

The jail officers vouch that homosexual activity is rampant in male wards. Alternatively, it may be due to a cultural shadow that the prisoners are not willing to admit their homosexuality. Most of the European countries permit regular conjugal visits to the prisoners by their spouses. It is presumed to reduce the negative effect of imprisonment on the prisoner. It also safeguards the importance of instinctive urge of the innocent spouse of

the criminal. However, in our country, parole is the only solution for such a malady, but it involves a long drawn procedure.

**Table No. 7.11.1
Gender and Feeling of Sex Urge**

Gender	Feel sex urge	Do not feel sex urge	Total
Male	82 (29.80%)	195 (70.40%)	277 (100%)
Female	12 (52.17%)	11 (47.83%)	23 (100%)
Total	94 (31.33%)	206 (68.67%)	300 (100%)

Chi square = 5.03 df = 1 Table value = 3.481 P ≤ 0.05

The association is significant

7.12 Adaptation to the Normal Sexual Inactivity

Subsequently an enquiry was made as to know how the biological urge for sexual gratification is controlled by the prisoners. Their responses are summarized in table 7.12

**Table No. 7.12
Adaptation to the Normal Sexual Inactivity**

Method of adoption	Frequency	Percentage
Self control	184	61.33
Diversion to other activities	114	38.00
Other methods	2	0.67
Total	300	100.00

The analysis reveals that only two out of the 300 respondents have some methods of sexual gratification. However, it is to be presumed that the responses of self-control and diversion to other activities have equivocal meanings.

Many of them may be practicing self-sex, homo-sex or clandestine hetero sex. In this context, we have to turn to the comments of the jail officials about the sexual practices of the prisoners. They testify that the above forms of sexual practices are very common among the prisoners and homosexuality is ruling the roost.

7.13 Perception on the Morality of Spouse

In this study, the perceptions of the prisoner on the moral life of their spouse after the separation were analysed. It was revealed that 80% of them have no negative opinion about the moral strength of their spouses. However, 12.67% are very much sure about the deterioration of the moral standard of their spouse. 2.33% are highly skeptic about the morality of their spouses.

Another 5% responded that they do not know anything about the moral side of their spouse at present. Those who doubt the morality of their

spouses pointed out that suppressed sex might be one of the major factors, which made them to deviate from the normal moorings.

Table No.7.13
Perception on the Morality of Spouses

Perception	Frequency	Percentage
Very much a moral wreck	38	12.67
Some what a moral wreck	7	2.33
Do not know	15	5.00
Not changed	240	80.00
Total	300	100.00

This analysis shows that at least 20% of the prisoners are doubtful about the moral life of their spouses.

The study indicates that imprisonment creates irreparable damage to the marital life of prisoners in general.

IMPACT OF IMPRISONMENT ON MARITAL AND FAMILIAL RELATIONSHIPS

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For the Degree of
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CHAPTER 8

IMPACT ON THE FAMILY

Imprisonment of a responsible member of a family affects its economic, social and emotional atmosphere. This chapter enquires into the impact of imprisonment on the above matters of the family.

8.1 Impact on the Financial Position

Regarding the impact on the financial position of the family, the income dwindles down and expenditure increases. The net result will be a financial fiasco. In this study an analysis was made to find out the position of the imprisoned in the family and hence to assess the consequence of the imprisonment on the economic status of the family unit.

Table No.8.1

The Position of the Imprisoned in the Family

Position	Frequency	Percentage
Key earning member	276	92.00
Others	24	8.00
Total	300	100.00

The analysis reveals that 92% of the respondents are key earning members of the family. This fact can project the financial problem that will

crop up in the family. Not only substituting the lost income (of the imprisoned member) is sufficient but also the family has to utilize funds for defending the case against the member. In short, the imprisonment is a bolt from the blue for family .

8.2 Worries About the Financial Crisis

In order to understand the reaction of the prisoners to the financial crisis created by their imprisonment, they were asked to reveal the depth of their worries on the matter. The data were analysed as shown in Table No.8.2.1. It is seen that 59.67% of the respondents is very much worried about the financial problem faced by their family, 19.33% is somewhat worried and 21% does not believe that there is any financial problem created by their imprisonment. The analysis reveals that an overwhelming majority of the prisoners are worried about the financial crisis of their families.

8.2.1 Gender and the Worries

Economic inactivation of male and female members of family affects the financial position differently. Therefore, the worries on the problem will be different between the two categories. On the basis of this logic an analysis was carried out as shown in the table No. 8.2.1. The results, support the assumptions. While 61% of the male prisoners interviewed stated that they

were very much worried about the malady, only 30.43% of the women expressed that their worries are strong and 52.17% of them does not believe that there is any economic problem created on account of their imprisonment. It is to be concluded that the worries differ among males and females.

Table No 8.2.1

Gender and Gravity of Worries About the Financial Crisis of the Family

Gender	Very much worried	Worried	No new economic crisis	Total
Male	171 (61.73%)	55 (19.86%)	51 (18.41%)	277 (100%)
Female	7 (30.43%)	4 (17.39%)	12 (52.17%)	23 (100%)
Total	178 (59.67%)	59 (19.33%)	63 (21%)	300 (100%)

Chi-square = 15.10 df = 4 Table value = 13.277 $P \leq 0.01$
 The association is significant

8.2.2 Age and the Worries.

The analysis on the relationship between age and worries about economic problems of their family reveals that the middle age group is more disturbed by the problem. Majority (62.65%) of them is too much worried and 19.46% is somewhat worried about the matter. Among the younger age group also the worries are fairly high. 37.50% is terribly worried and 25% some

what worried. Among the older age group 45.45% stated that the family is not facing any financial crisis due to their absence.

The greater worries of the middle-income group shall be due to their greater financial responsibility, like education, marriage etc of children. The youngsters are at the beginning stage and elders are almost settled.

Table No. 8.2.2
Age and Gravity of Worries About Financial Crisis of the Family

Age (in years)	Very much worried	Moderately worried	No new economic crisis	Total
Below 30	12 (37.50%)	8 (25.00%)	12 (37.50%)	32 (10.66%)
30 to 60	161 (62.65%)	50 (19.46%)	46 (17.90%)	257 (85.66%)
60 and above	5 (45.45%)	1 (9.09%)	5 (45.45%)	11 (3.66%)
Total	178 (59.33%)	59 (19.67%)	63 (21%)	300 (100%)

Chi-square = 12.96 df = 4 Table value = 9.488 $P \leq 0.05$
The association is significant.

8.2.3 Educational Status and the Worries

Educational attainment of the people is a strong variable which influences the emotional conditions and empathy. These qualities create worries about the sufferings of others. In the study the worries of the prisoners about the financial problem are assumed to be associated with their

educational status. To test the assumption an analysis of the collected data was carried out (Table No. 8.2.3). The analysis reveals that the assumption is true. 64.18% of the illiterate and 61.62% of the primary educated group are very much worried about the pathetic economic condition brought to their family by the imprisonment. However, among the secondary educated and post secondary educated groups only 47.37% and 30% respectively are so much worried as the other two groups are. Higher portions among them (36.84% and 60% respectively) stated that their families have no severe economic problem created by their absence.

Table No. 8.2.3
Educational Status and the Gravity of Worries About the Financial Problem

Educational status	Very much worried	Some what worried	No new economic crisis	Total
Illiterate	43 (64.18%)	13 (19.40%)	11 (16.42%)	67 (100%)
Primary	114 (61.62%)	39 (21.08%)	32 (17.30%)	185 (100%)
Secondary	8 (47.37%)	6 (15.77%)	14 (36.84%)	38 (100%)
Higher	3 (30%)	1 (10%)	6 (60%)	10 (100%)
Total	178 (59.33%)	59 (19.67%)	63 (21%)	300 (100%)

Chi-square = 17.41 df = 6 Table value = 16.812 P ≤ 0.01
The association is significant

Other background variables (income, occupation and religion) are not associated with the dependent variable.

8.3. Economic Role Transfer in the Family

Due to the imprisonment of the respondent, the role of the key-earning member was forced to be transferred to others. The details of the role transfer is given in Table No.8.3

Table No. 8.3
Role Transfer of the Key Earning Member (Prisoner)

New Role Player	Frequency	Percentage
Spouse	141	47.00
Children	27	9.00
Others	108	36.00
Not Applicable	8	8.00
Total	300	100.00

As seen in the Table No.8.3, 47% of the spouses of the prisoners had to take over the role of key earning member. Thirty six per cent of the families were to depend upon other relative as the key-earning member. 9% of the role was shifted to children. 8% were not key earning members prior to their imprisonment. The analysis indicates that 47% of the spouses had to take

the additional role. Anybody can guess the burden fell upon them. Still more sympathetic is the case of 9% of the children who was earlier dependent of the prisoners. Further, anybody can understand, how contemptuously other relatives will take up responsibility of economic mentoring of another family. The results imply that several socio-economic problems have been generated in the prisoners' family because of their imprisonment.

8.4 Financial Help Received from Relatives

During crisis some of the relatives render support to tide over the situations. Previous analysis reveals that imprisonment is a point of financial crisis for the family. But, it is doubtful whether the relatives will be sympathetic towards the family of the criminal who has been put behind the bars. Therefore, the help rendered indicates not only financial support but a token of sympathy towards the criminal's family also.

On this perspective, the data were analysed as shown in Table No.8.4.

Table No. 8.4
Financial Support Received from Relatives

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Received	143	47.67
Not received	157	52.33
Total	300	100.00

The analysis shows that those who did not receive financial support from others are the majority (52.33%) though the difference between the two categories is not too much. The analysis implies, further that, majority of the prisoners are rejects of their relatives.

8.5 Accepted Gainful Work

In analysis 8.1, we have seen that 92% of the convicts was the breadwinners of their families. By the conviction and imprisonment, other members of the family were forced to take up jobs to keep their hearth burning.

In this study enquires were made relating to this matter and the data received are analysed in Table No.8.5.

Table No. 8.5.

Person Forced to Work for Substitute Income

Relation to the respondent	Frequency	Percentage
Spouse	69	23.00
Son	26	8.67
Other Relatives	17	5.67
Brother	13	4.33
Daughter	2	0.67
No one	149	49.66
Not Applicable	24	8.00
Total	300	100.00

The analysis shows that some members from 42.34% of the prisoners' family began to work for substituting the lost income of the convicts. Among those who began to take up employment, spouse come first (23%), second comes son (8.67%). Two prisoners very painfully informed that their daughters were sent for work to support the family economically.

49.66% of the prisoners stated that no one from their family was sent for work afresh to substitute their income. They informed that they are ashamed of such an arrangements since others would know the precarious position of their families. Instead, they are searching subsistence by selling out

land, ornaments, furniture and such other movable and immovable properties. They further stated that it was impossible for them to finance the litigations and family expenditure without resorting to these extreme steps.

The analysis indicates that the imprisonment crashed the family in many ways including role shifts. Students were to take up daily wage-jobs and keep themselves away from education; housewives were to become domestic servants, to mention a few cases.

8.6 Alienation of Assets

On the conviction and imprisonment the respondent faced severe economic crises, 40% of them had to alienate their assets like land, house, vehicle, gold ornaments, and even house hold utensils, to overcome severe financial set back. The rest (60%), however, did not resort to this method of mobilizing funds for tiding over the financial problems. However, many of them resorted to other methods. These details are given in the next section (8.7).

Table No. 8.6
Alienation of Asset

Asset sold out	Frequency	Percentage
Land	57	18.00
House	8	2.66
Gold	43	14.33
Vehicle	5	1.66
Utensils	7	2.33
Did not sell anything	180	60.00
Total	300	100.00

8.7 Indebtedness

Consequent on the imprisonment, many of the households have to incur debt. The social stigma and rejection of the convict's family created many problems even for securing loans for financing unavoidable events such as marriage of children, medical treatment, and litigation process. However, due to the urgency they had to get loan at any cost. Therefore, they approached certain kind-hearted person for recommending loan for them.

It is significant to note that the highest portion of the loans were incurred for financing legal progress to defend the victims (26.66%). Four percent have to take loan for medical treatment of the family members. Though, the number of loans availed of for marriage were only (3), the

narrations of the ordeals faced by the loaners to secure the loans were touching. All these were the after effect of the imprisonment.

Table No. 8.7
Details of Loan Taken by the Households

Reason for availing loan	Frequency	Percentage
Children's marriage	3	1.00
Treatment	12	4.00
Legal expenses	80	26.66
Others	10	3.33
No loan was taken	195	65.00
Total	300	100.00

Impact on the Social And Emotional Environment

Creation of intimate social relationship and emotional satisfaction derived out of it make family a unique social institution. If the members are separated, both these characters are lost. Imprisonment of a member creates problems in the social and emotional atmosphere of the family.

In this study, enquiry was made to assess how the imprisonment affected the social and emotional characteristics of the family.

8.8 Worries of the Prisoner as Father/Mother

A question to ascertain whether the prisoner has become more concerned about his/her children was asked to the respondents, to assess the emotional tensions experienced by the person. Analysis of the responses revealed that 89.17% of the respondents has become more concerned about their children. They feel that their freedom to care the children is lost by the confinement. When they were with them, even though they were not caring their children, they had the confidence that whenever necessity arises they can attend to them. A very meager portion of 3.67% is not worried about their children. The question was irrelevant to 8.67% of the respondents, as they were not having children.

The analysis indicates that the prisoners are under tremendous tension created by their separation from children.

8.8.1 Gender and Change in the Concern

On a gender-based analysis of the data, it was revealed that the male prisoners are more concerned about their children (89.19%). 69.57% of the females are also anxious about their children. The details of the analysis are given in Table No.8.8.1.

The male prisoners are unable to provide the children with the necessary support for their progress. Love and affection of mothers by themselves are not sufficient for the up bringing of children. Further, the mothers' care and love will be slackened, as she has to play the bread-winning role of the imprisoned father. All these facts may be pinpricking them. The mothers know that the material welfare of the children is safe at the hands of their father. Moreover, they feel that the children may look upon criminal mother with more hostility than to such a father. So, it is better to be separated from the children.

Table No. 8.8.1
Gender and Change in the Concern for Children

Gender	Very much increased	Not changed	Not Applicable	Total
Male	247 (89.19%)	8 (2.89%)	22 (7.94%)	277 (100%)
Female	16 (69.57%)	3 (13.04%)	4 (17.39%)	23 (100%)
Total	263 (87.67%)	11 (3.67%)	26 (8.67%)	300 (100%)

Chi square = 9.49 df = 4 Table value = 9.48 P ≤ 0.05
The association is significant.

8.8.2 Age and Change in the Concern

When the data were analysed to find out the relationship between age status of the prisoners and their concern about children, the results obtained were the following. The middle age group is more concerned about their children (89.11%). The young group also comes very close to the

middle age group (84.38%). The above 60 group is not that much concerned as the other two groups are.

The children of the middle age group may require more parental care and attention as they may be in their teens or youth. The youngsters' children will be taken care of by their other relatives since they (children) are physically and behaviourally attractive. The elders would be having grown up, self-reliant children. This may be the reason for the difference in their concern.

Table No.8.8.2

Age of the Respondents and Their Increased Concern About Children

Age	Increased very much	Not changed	Not applicable	Total
Below 30	27 (84.38%)	2 (6.25%)	3 (9.38%)	32 (100%)
30 to 60	229 (89.11%)	6 (2.33%)	22 (8.56%)	257 (100%)
60 and above	7 (63.67%)	3 (27.27%)	1 (9.09%)	11 (100%)
Total	263 (87.66%)	11 (3.66%)	26 (8.66%)	300 (100%)

Chi square = 19.39 df = 4 Table value = 18.465 P ≤ 0.01

The association shown as the above table is significant.

8.8.3 Education and Change in the Concern

Education refines human beings and the outlook of the educated towards different phenomena will be different from non-educated. In this study an enquiry was conducted to see whether the concern of the prisoners changed on the basis of their educational background. Table 8.8.3 contains the analysis. The analysis reveals that there is association between educational status and change in the concern for their children. But, the result shows that contrary to the expectations the change is lower in the case of the higher educated group than that of the lower educated group. In the case of the illiterate, the “very much-changed” group is constituted by 88.06%. The corresponding figures in respect of the primary, secondary, and higher educated groups are respectively 89.93%, 84.27% and 60%. The illiterates and primary educated shows similar behaviour. It is to be presumed that the higher educated groups show the maturity to accepts things in their reality. They may be thinking that their increased concern does not give anything good to their children.

Table No.8.8.3

Education and Change in the Concern of Parents

Education	Increased concern	Not changed the concern	Not Applicable	Total
Illiterate	59 (88.06%)	2 (2.99%)	6 (8.96%)	67 (100%)
Primary	166 (89.73%)	7 (3.78%)	12 (6.49%)	185 (100%)
Secondary	32 (84.27%)	2 (5.26%)	4 (10.53%)	38 (100%)
Higher	6 (60.00%)	0	4 (40%)	10 (100%)
Total	263 (87.66%)	11 (13.66%)	26 (8.66%)	300 (100%)

Chi square = 14.24 df = 6 Table value = 12.59 P ≤ 0.05
 The association is significant.

The variables namely, religion, income and occupation are not associated with the change in the concern towards children.

8.9 Worries on Unfulfilled Parental Duties

Another index taken to analyse the impact of imprisonment on the social and emotional atmosphere of the family is the worries of the prisoner on the undischarged duties of a parent to the children.

Analysis of the responses revealed that 72.66% are very much worried about their inability to discharge the parental duties, 12.33% are somewhat worried and 6.33% are not worried. 8.66% had no answer on the matter as they have no children (Table 8.8.1). The analysis indicates that the imprisonment is seriously impairing the social and emotional atmosphere of the family.

8.9.1 Gender and Worries

The data was analysed on the basis of gender difference (Table 8.9.1). The analysis indicates that the worries are more among male prisoners 74.73% are very much worried and 11.55% are somewhat worried. The corresponding figures in respect of the females are respectively 47.83% and 21.74%. The females, may be having grown up children who are capable of looking after themselves. Grown up children even do require directives and other emotional support from father. Awareness about this fact may be disturbing the male prisoners.

Table No. 8.9.1
Gender and Worries on Unfulfilled Responsibilities

Gender	Very much worried	Somewhat worried	Not worried	Not Applicable	Total
Male	207 (74.73%)	32 (11.55%)	16 (5.78%)	22 (7.94%)	277 (100%)
Female	11 (47.83%)	5 (21.74%)	3 (13.04%)	4 (17.39%)	23 (100%)
Total	218 (72.66%)	37 (12.38%)	13 (6.33%)	26 (8.66%)	300 (100%)

Chi square = 7.86 df = 3 Table value = 7.815 P ≤ 0.05

The association is significant.

8.9.2 Age Status And Prisoners' Worries

Age status is assumed to be influencing the worries of the prisoners. Accordingly, to test that assumption, the data was analysed as shown in Table No.8.9.2.

The above analysis (Table 8.9.2) shows that the worries on the matter are more among the middle age group. Among the elders a minority has serious worries. The youngsters come in between the other two groups. The middle aged parents are usually having children who require guidance for proper personality development. The children of the elder group may be independent of them. This fact may be influencing the groups

Table No.8.9.2**Age and The Worries**

Age in years	Very much worried	Some what worried	Not worried	Not applicable	Total
Below 30	23 (71.88%)	4 (12.50%)	2 (6.25%)	3 (9.38%)	32 (100%)
30 to 60	192 (74.71%)	27 (10.51%)	16 (6.23%)	22 (8.56%)	257 (100%)
60 and above	3 (27.27%)	6 (54.55%)	1 (9.09%)	1 (9.09%)	11 (100%)
Total	218 (92.66%)	37 (12.33%)	19 (6.33%)	26 (8.66%)	300 (100%)

Chi square = 20.02 df=9 Table value = 16.919 P ≤ 0.05
 The association is significant

8.9.3 Educational Status and The Worries

An analysis was done to find out the relationship between the educational status and the prisoners' worries regarding their children. It shows that the illiterate and primary educated prisoners express almost similar response regarding the gravity of their worries. (73.13% and 74.59% respectively are seriously worried). The secondary educated is not that much worried as the former categories, but not very far away from them (71.05%). The higher educated group may not be having dependent children and hence their worries are lesser.

Table No. 8.9.3

Educational Status and The worries

Educational status	Very much worried	Some what Worried	Not worried	Not applicable	Total
Illiterate	49 (73.13%)	7 (10.45%)	5 (7.46%)	6 (8.96%)	67 (100%)
Primary	138 (74.59%)	25 (13.51%)	10 (5.41%)	12 (6.49%)	185 (100%)
Secondary	27 (71.05%)	4 (10.53%)	3 (7.89%)	4 (10.53%)	38 (100%)
Higher	4 (40 %)	1 (10%)	1 (10%)	4 (40%)	10 (100%)
Total	218 (72.66%)	37 (12.33%)	19 (6.33%)	26 (8.66%)	300 (100%)

Chi square = 16.919 df = 9

Table value = 15.37

P ≤ 0.05

The association is significant

Other background variables (occupation, religion and income) are not associated with the dependent variables under consideration.

8.10 Anxiety of the Prisoners About the Future of the Children

In a highly competitive society parents will have great concern about the future of their children. The concern when exceeds certain limits will spill over as worries and tensions. In a society where the employment

chances are few it is likely that the children may go vagabond. Most parents are aware of this. The children who are not guided properly may create greater tension for parents. When one of the parents is away (in jail) the responsibility of the other parent would turn to be very high. Apart from the above, the status of children in society being the children of convict is likely to be affected.

The nature of anxiety is revealed in the analysis contained in Table 8.10.1. 76.33 per cent are highly anxious almost the future of their children. Eight per cent are moderately anxious. Seven per cent are indifferent. That is, the lions share of the prisoners experience extreme anxiety about the future of their children.

8.10.1 Gender and Anxiety of Prisoners About the Future of Their Children

The analysis in Table 8.10.1 shows very clearly that majority of the male prisoners are severely anxious about the future of their children. 78.34% of male parents and 52.17% of female parents are come under this category. 6.4% of the male prisoners and 29.09% of the female prisoners are moderately worried about the future of their children. It shows a significant difference in this matter between male and female prisoners. It may be due to

their better knowledge about the world outside that the male prisoners are more worried about their children's future.

Table No.8.10.1
Gender and The Anxiety

Gender	Very much anxious	Somewhat anxious	Not at all anxious	Not applicable	Total
Male	217 (78.34%)	18 (6.50%)	20 (7.22%)	22 (7.94%)	277 (100%)
Female	12 (52.17%)	6 (26.09%)	1 (4.35%)	4 (17.37%)	23 (100%)
Total	229 (76.33%)	24 (8%)	21 (7%)	26 (8.67)	300 (100%)

Chi square = 14.53 df = 3 Table value = 13.815 P ≤ 0.01

The Association is significant

8.10.2 Age Status and the Anxiety

From the above analysis (Table no. 8.10.2) it is clear that middle-aged prisoners are more anxious about their children's future. The elderly prisoners do not have much anxiety about the future of their children. Only 36.36% of them come under this category. However, an equal portion of the elderly are somewhat anxious about their children's future. As in the case of worries (analysis No. 8.9.2) the younger group comes in between the other two groups in this matter too. It is natural that the middle-aged group is more

anxious about their children's future. Their children are yet to get a settled in life. The elders' children should have become settled.

Table No.8.10.2
Age and Anxiety About children's Future

Age in years	Very much	Somewhat	Not at all	Not applicable	Total
Below 30	22 (68.75%)	3 (9.38%)	4 (12.50%)	3 (9.38%)	32 (100%)
30 to 60	203 (78.99%)	17 (6.61%)	15 (5.84%)	22 (8.56%)	257 (100%)
60 and Above	4 (36.36%)	4 (36.36%)	2 (18.18%)	1 (9.09%)	11 (100%)
Total	229 (76.33%)	24 (8%)	21 (7%)	26 (8.76%)	300 (100%)

Chi square = 18.40 df = 6
The association is significant

Table value = 16.872 P ≤ 0.01

8.10.3 Educational Status and the Anxiety

An analysis of the data were conducted to see whether the educational status of the prisoners is a determinant of the anxiety. The analysis, shown in Table No. 8.10.3, reveals that the illiterates are more anxious about the future of their children. The 'very much anxious' groups among the illiterates, primary, secondary, and higher educated categories respectively are 83.58%, 75.68%, 76.32% and 40%. The illiterates usually are more ambitious about their children and constantly advice them (their

children) not to fall prey for deviant behaviour. But, as a convicted criminal and away from the company of the children they may not be having that much courage and opportunities to give inspiration and directions for their children. This makes their hopes about their children to turn to anxieties.

Table No. 8.10.3
Educational Status and Anxiety of Prisoners About Their Children's
Future

Educational status	Very much worried	Somewhat worried	Not at all worried	Not applicable	Total
Illiterate	56 (83.58%)	4 (5.97%)	1 (1.49%)	6 (8.96%)	67 (100%)
Primary	140 (75.68%)	17 (9.19%)	16 (8.65%)	12 (6.49%)	185 (100%)
Secondary	29 (76.32%)	2 (5.26%)	3 (7.89%)	4 (10.53%)	38 (100%)
Higher	4 (40.0%)	1 (10%)	1 (10%)	4 (40%)	10 (100%)
Total	229 (76.33%)	24 (8%)	21 (7%)	26 (8.67%)	300 (100%)

Chi-square = 19.57 df = 9 Table value = 16.919 P ≤ 0.05
The association is significant

Other background variables income, occupation and religion are not associated with the anxiety.

8.11 Children's Approaches to the Imprisoned Parent

The imprisoned parent as far as the children are concerned would be a 'fallen God'. Children, if they are not grown up enough to understand the offence done by their parents and punishment awarded, would consider that their parents have done a great mistake. It is a shame to be a children of such a person. Such feelings might be haunting the children of the imprisoned parents. The natural love developed in them towards the parents would conflict with the hate bushing up. Such conflicts might provoke some children to be indifferent to their imprisoned parents. It may gradually turn to hatred. In this study, in order to assess the change in the parent (prisoner)-children relationship certain indices were selected. Frequency of children's visit to the jail, their emotional out bursts during the visits and gifts brought to the parent were the indices selected.

8.11.1 Frequency of Children's Visit

When a visitor comes the windows to the outside world is opened before the prisoner. The prisoner not only gets information about the world but he/she is rather experiencing the warmth of human relationships. Needless to say the thrill he/she experiences if the visitor happens to be the spouse or children.

In this study, the visits of the children was considered as an indicator of children's attachment and affection to the imprisoned parent. The frequency of children's visits was analysed as given the Table No. 8.11.1

Table No.8.11.1
Frequency of Children's Visit

Frequency of visit	Frequency	Percentage
Regularly	28	9.33%
Rarely	38	12.67%
Never	208	69.33%
No children	26	8.67%
Total	300	100.00%

The analysis indicates that a small portion of the prisoners (9.33%) has the enjoyment of children's visits regularly. 12.67% get them rarely. The major chunk of the prisoners sorrowfully informed that their children never visit them (69.33%). This indicates that the children of the prisoners are indifferent to the imprisoned parents. They may be considering that the prisoner as their parent is a source of social disgrace.

8.11.2 The Children's Emotions During the Visit

Enquiry was also conducted to understand the emotional change of the children during their visits. It was revealed that 18% of the children

becomes very emotional when they see their parents behind the bars. They weep, utter broken words and try to touch their parents who are on the other side of the wire mesh. They usually narrate the ordeals they face due to the absence of the parent. The children may also present much good news to the prisoner occasionally. Another 4% of the visiting children show no emotions during their visit. They complete the visit, as a routine duty. 78% of the prisoner's children never visit them. It also includes the prisoners who have no children to visit them (8.67%).

Table No. 8.11.2

Emotional State of the Children During Visits

Emotional state	Frequency	Percentage
Become emotional	54	18.00%
Inert	12	4.00%
Do not visit	208	69.33%
No children	26	8.67%
Total	300	100.00%

This analysis also indicates that the parent-children relationship is very weak.

8.11.3 Pleasantries Brought by the Children

Pleasantries and gifts are indicators of the intimacy existing between the giver and the receiver. In our study the instances of giving pleasantries to their parents were analysed.

Table No. 8.11.3 shows the kind of articles brought by the children to their imprisoned parents. Even though it is the custom of not to accept anything from outside, some prisoners may get personal articles like cigars, dress and sometime eatables. Among the visiting children, 12.67% visits without bringing anything to their parents. 6.67% of the prisoners will get eatables like candies, biscuits, fruits, etc. and 2.67% of the prisoners are getting dress from their children. Even though it is not permitted to take anything from outside in the form of eatables some jail warders are kind enough to allow them sweets or fruits from their children. Table No. 8.11.3. gives the details of the items brought by the children

Table No. 8.11.3

Pleasantries Brought by the Children to Their Imprisoned Parents

Items	Frequency	Percentage
Eatables	20	6.67%
Dress	8	2.67%
Nothing	38	12.67%
No visits	208	69.33%
No children	26	8.67%
Total	300	100.00%

The analysis reveals that only 9.34% of the children brings something to present to their parents. This is also an indication of the emotional vacuum existing between the children and the imprisoned parents.

8.11.4 Perception of the Prisoner on the Change in the Concern of their Children After Imprisonment

Table No. 8.11.4
Change in the Concern of the Children

Perception	Frequency	Percentage
Very much decreased the concern	59	19.67%
No change in the concern	186	62.00%
No children	26	8.67%
Don't know	29	9.66%
Total	300	100.00

Finally, the prisoners were asked to reveal their perceptions on the change in the concern of children towards them as a result of their imprisonment. 19.67% of the respondents stated that their (children's) concern is slackened very much, 62% perceived that there is no change, 9.66% is unable to understand the change and 8.67% has no children.

It is seen from the analysis that a considerable portion of the children shows indifference and lack of interest in the imprisoned parents.

All the analysis substantiate that the emotional gap between the children and parents has been widened by the imprisonment.

8.12 Termination of Schooling

Children of imprisoned parents are dishonoured in different ways in the wider society. If they are school children they have to face many types of insults from teachers and their peers. In many instances, school children may not withstand the rebuke and condemnation and they decide to withdraw into the security of family atmosphere forever. To measure the impact of imprisonment on children's carrier such drop out cases were analysed by collecting data from the respondents. The analysis is shown in Table No.8.12

Table No.8.12
Termination of School as a Result of the Imprisonment

Impact	Frequency	Percentage
Become dropout	39	13.00%
No such impact	235	73.33%
No school going children	26	8.66%
Total	300	100.00%

It is seen that 13% of the respondents have children who have become dropout of the school as a result of the imprisonment. This is not a negligible portion. Even one dropout is to be considered as a serious impact on the children.

8.13 Deviance of the Children

Children raised by solo parents or *defacto* solo parents are likely to develop behavioural problems due to the lack of proper guidance and feeling of insecurity. Children of the imprisoned parents may have to face the society with a feeling of disgrace. Such experiences might generate hatred towards everyone else complicating the behavioural patterns of the children.

They show various deviant tendencies like involving in crimes, suicide attempts, drug addictions, and prostitution. In this study, an enquiry was conducted to assess the extent of such deviance occurred in the respondents' children after their imprisonment. The analysis of data is given in Table No.8.13

Table No. 8.13

Deviances in the Children after imprisonment

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Deviated	30	10.00%
Not deviated	244	81.33%
No children	26	8.67%
Total	300	100.00%

The analysis reveals that 10% of the children of the imprisoned have become deviant as a consequence of their imprisonment. This is to be considered as a grave after-effect of the imprisonment.

The analyses in the chapter in doubtless terms establish that the imprisonment hit hard the familial relationships and ruin them in an irreparable manner.

IMPACT OF IMPRISONMENT ON MARITAL AND FAMILIAL RELATIONSHIPS

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CHAPTER 9

CASE ANALYSES

In this chapter the researcher attempts to analyse few cases to highlight the challenges that the family of prisoners, particularly their spouse and children have to face as a result of their imprisonment. She also tries to project her perspectives on the role played by the surroundings in creating criminal behaviour in individuals.

The interaction of the researcher with the prisoners was allowed in a highly restricted manner and hence she could not fathom the full depth of the cases.

CASE 1

This is the case of a 46 year old person who was very hard working once and maintaining his family, consisting of wife, a son and two daughters, in good stead. He belonged to Vengalam, a suburb of Calicut. He was a God fearing Latin Catholic Christian. He managed to get work almost every day and according to him he got an average of Rs.80 per day. As a responsible father he took utmost interest and care to maintain the family. He loved his children and wife.

One problem with him was that he was addicted to alcohol. The drinking habit was started when he was young. Even after he became the bread winner of the family he continued in the habit and he never faced any objection from his wife to his irresponsible behaviour.

In July 1997, on the day of the criminal deed, he returned home dead drunk, and then there was none else than her elder daughter. Under the influence of alcohol, his animal instinct got released and he sexually assaulted his own daughter.

Two months later, his wife came to know about this dreaded and senseless act when her daughter showed symptoms of pregnancy. She filed a petition against him, with the police, with the support of the villagers.

In September 1997, he was arrested and charged with the offence of rape. He was on remand for 16 months.

His criminality was established before the court of laws and the it punished him for the maximum period, prescribed for the offence (7 years) and a fine of Rs.10,000 and sent to the Central Prison, Kannur.

The imprisonment was a point of crisis of the family. His son left the home even without leaving a note to anybody. It seems as a teenager he was shocked by the shameful act of his father and he could not stay in his place of birth.

After this incident (criminal act) his wife rifted from him and the imprisonment took the story to the climax. She deserted him forever with her children.

So became a worker of a coir yarn producing shed and earned Rs.25/- daily. She struggled during day and night to look after her two daughters and very boldly faced every problem, which come across, with the support of the villagers.

Now no body is interested in him. He has no information about his family. The only thing he knows is that his daughter was pregnant when he was arrested. To the society, in his own words, he is a 'waste'. He is now remorseful about the horrendous incident that no father could even think of. He is trying to console himself by prayers.

The case amply explains how criminal deeds germinate and attain their monstrous nature. The influence of alcohol and the absence of all the family members instigated his libido. He had no intention to threaten the modesty of his own child. But circumstances took him into the wrong direction. The marital and family relationships are totally broken down. He took many months to adjust with the jail life and spent many months without sleep. The ordeals the person suffered are at every body's guess

CASE 2

Another case is the one of a 32 year old labourer hailing from Dindikal. He has no formal education and engaged in manual work and had been earning Rs.50 daily. His mother died when he was very young. Later his father married again, and he lived with her father and stepmother. His father arranged his marriage when he was 24. Now he has two children, a girl and a boy. His wife was also a daily wage earner.

He loved his wife very much and he was very much possessive of his wife. He could not even tolerate to see that his wife is talking with some one else. After the birth of his second child he began to doubt the

chastity of his wife. They frequently quarrelled on the parentage of his son too (second child).

On the day of the incident (1-9-91) severe quarrel between the husband and wife took place. Seeing the dangerous situation that is being cropped up, his brother-in-law (wife's brother) intervened in the issue. He got agitated further and took a knife and attempted to stab his wife. At that time his brother-in-law tried to save his sister. The prisoner said that he remembers up to the incident of drawing the knife and does not know what happened after that. When he regained his normal state of mind he saw the gory sight of his brother-in-law crawling in a pool of blood.

On hearing the roaring cry of his wife people around came to her rescue and police were called on. He was under remand for one year and a half. Later the court punished him for life term imprisonment and sent to Kannur Central Prison.

After coming to the prison he had to spent sleepless nights for a long time. His heart was, according to him, bleeding for the lost the sweet and loving company of his wife and children whom he loved very much.

The window on the world outside for him was his father. His father regularly corresponded with him from Dindikal. The family in Dindikal has been excommunicated by the neighbours and relatives. Another shocking information got from his father was that his wife is now residing with her sister's husband with the two children. He is both in pains and contentment about. He is agonising on the fact that his loved ones are aliens to him now. At the same time he tries to console himself that they are under the protection of a person. He is optimistic that when he is released from the confinement he can take back his children and bring them up in a proper manner.

When we analyse this case we can see that the after effects of the imprisonment are the very same as those of the case discussed before. Only the actors are changing but the content and consequences remain the same. His family and married life are blazed out.

CASE 3

This case reveals misfortune of a lady who killed the children for fear of facing utter poverty due to they being deserted by her husband.

She is 28 and belongs to Nedumpuzha in Thrissur district. She is a member of a backward community hence her life since birth had been full of problems of various kinds. Her father passed away when she was only 5 months old. Her schooling stopped at the primary level. She has an elder brother who is crippled due to polio infection. Her second brother is elder to both her and the handicapped one. The family had been mooring on the strength of her eldest brother and mother. Her mother had been running a vegetable kiosk and her brother was a daily wage earner.

When she attained the age of twenty years she was married to a person (a manual labourer and an illiterate) who was 12 years older to her. All the formalities were satisfied in sending her away in marriage with him.

The initial period of their married life was very happy as he was earning good income and conscious to look after her. Her mother and brother also helped them in what all means possible. Eventually, the couple got two girl children.

When the elder child was three and the younger one one, to her surprise, she realised that her husband is gradually getting away from her for reasons best known to him. Very soon she and her children became deserted.

Even though, her mother and brother were very kind enough to her and highly supporting, she realised that life has become a miserable proposition. She did not want to over burden her relatives but at the same time she could not find any way out. Finally, she decided to end her life with her children. In a delirious state of mind she strangled her children using a cloth and killed them – a kind of mercy killing! She also attempted to kill herself by stabbing. But it was in vain. The incident happened on 15th March 1995.

She was admitted in the District Hospital, Thrissur. She was treated under police custody.

When she was discharged from the hospital she was put under remand for six months. The final verdict of the court came sentencing her for life imprisonment. She was put in Central Prison, Thrissur.

She is frequently visited by her brother and rarely by her mother. She receives letters regularly from her mother. Though she has the moral support of her family she is now a mental wreck. She becomes restless

whenever she talk of her children who met their end by the women who gave them birth and later food and love.

The case shows the influence of extraneous factors on a pious woman for committing a heinous crime. Her everything is shattered as a result of the criminal behaviour and consequent imprisonment for life. She lost her company of her beloved mother, brothers and all the more the two innocent children. All these were triggered by a selfish act of her husband.

CASE 4

Another case analysed in depth was that of a couple both of whom were accused for murder and later sentenced for life imprisonment. Both of them are now in Kannur male and female prisons respectively. The significance of the case is that the young girl child of the couple who is nearly five years of age is also growing up in the female prison as there is no one to take care of her.

The husband is thirty-two and wife is twenty eight. The husband belongs to Thikkodi in Kozhikode District. He belongs to a backward Hindu community. His schooling was stopped at the primary level

and started working in the small hotel run by his family consisting of father, mother and a brother.

He got married at the age of twenty four and his wife also joined in their hotel business. As he has to look after a family the responsibility of their hotel business was given to them and other members turned to be supporters of it. In due course of time he became the father of three children – one boy and two girls. The return from the hotel was hardly sufficient to support the subsistence of the eight-member family. In the mean time he became slightly alcoholic though not addicted to drinks.

To keep running the hotel he borrowed money from every possible source and debt mounted up. He revealed to the researcher that the only alternative before the family was to bid fare well from the world for ever.

All the members except the little ones joined in a suicide pact and decided to end their existence by poisoning themselves including the children. On 18th December, 1990 all of them except their youngest child (daughter) were given poisoned food by them (the prisoner couple). The couple's elder daughter died immediately. All others including their son were hospitalised and they recovered gradually. The prisoner explained to the

researcher the reason for their abstention from the pact. According to him the others were given the food first and immediately they showed the symptoms of struggling with death. This prevented them from poisoning their little daughter and themselves.

The couple were arrested and charged with the offence of murder. For 38 days they were under remand and then the court verdict came sentencing them for life imprisonment. Both of them were confined in Central Prison Kannur with their infant daughter. The wife and child were put in the women's prison.

The calamity of the family did not end there. Their son committed suicide later by taking poison. The father passed away in 1993. The prisoner's mother is now with his brother. His brother frequently visits him and hence he has clear information about the happenings in the family and neighbouring community. The family is now living in a social vacuum as a result of the whole episode of suicide attempt and criminal case and punishment.

In the female prison their daughter is growing innocently appreciating all the wonders of nature around her and the people's love and

affection showered on her. But the big question before the imprisoned parents is that on their child attaining the age of five what they have to do. At the age of five, according to the prison rules, the child is to be separated from her mother. She is to be taken care of by some relatives or else she is to be sent to the juvenile home. According to the prisoner, it is too much to expect help from his brother in this regard. So she is to be sent to the juvenile home. Now the prisoner gets occasional permission to see his wife and child at the female prison. It is a pin pricking thought for both the husband and wife that very soon their child will be taken away from them.

This case too is demonstrative of the way in which social relationships intimate and loose, are shattered by criminal behaviour and imprisonment. Husband – wife relationship, the smaller and wider family relationships and the social links to the wider society of the group are broken and shattered in this case.

Case 5

Another case reveals still further profiles of the after effects of crime and punishment. The prisoner in this case is a 28 year old youth. He

belongs to Coimbatore. He is an illiterate and a manual labourer. He earns on an average of Rs80/- a day.

His family consists of wife two small children, father, brother and mother. His father is also a daily wage earner. His mother and wife manage the household. When the prisoner was sentenced his brother was not at the earning age. Now, infact he is the sole supporter of the family.

The prisoner had the hobby of taking drinks though he was not an addict to it. However, his need for money was unmet by his income and he turned to petty thefts which were gone unnoticed by the victims and no police action was taken against him.

In August 1998 the prisoner resorted to breaking open a house in Palakkad and stealing gold ornaments and Rs.4000/- from there. He was caught hold by the police and brought before law. Seven years imprison was awarded for him and sent to Central Prison, Kannur. The prisoner narrated the distress that he had undergone during the initial period and those were the same highlighted by others. Sleeplessness, aversion to food, unexplainable anxiety etc.

The problems faced by the family are more heart burning. The family has to transfer its burden of maintenance to the second son who was not then strong enough to bear it. The father became shocked and disinterested in his work and domestic duties. The prisoner's wife, a young woman, having two small kids could not attend to anything else other than looking after the little ones. She is totally disturbed by the imprisonment of her young husband. The mother who is in her sixties is the guide and guardian of the family now. Any one can guess the economic problems that the family is facing.

To avoid the sheer shame of the crime the family has propagated that the son has gone away in search of remunerative work.

The mother is a frequent visitor to him. She undergoes a lot of ordeals to travel all the way from Coimbatore to Kannur, that too alone. The researcher had an occasion to meet her and had an almost one hour friendly talk. On the day it was only 1 pm – one more hour still remaining to get permission to visit the prisoners. The mother was waiting in front of the jail, under the shades. She was too weak. However, she seemed to be interested to disclose the mental agony which she had been undergoing, to someone for getting herself relaxed a bit. She described the whole hardships of the family

meted out after the incident. The family is now in utter poverty. They are struggling to conceal the matter of imprisonment from the community. The deplorable state of her daughter-in-law who is facing economic, emotional and social crisis was stunningly portrayed by the mother. Finally, in tears the old mother highlighted that, “those mothers are blessed who have not given birth to a child for she can live and die in peace”. The pain she has been suffering from prompted her to utter these words of curse.

It is hoped that these cases analysed amply demonstrate the consequences of imprisonment faced by the spouse, the family and the wider society. It is believed that overtly and covertly the society supplies the back up potential for the criminality of individuals.

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CHAPTER 10

CONCLUSION

It is an accepted fact that imprisonment disturbs the familial and marital lives of married prisoner in addition to disrupting the personal life. These disruptions and consequent readjustments create serious problems to both the prisoner and his/her family. This study attempts to portray the nature of disorganizations in the personal, marital and familial lives created by imprisonment and their consequences.

Brief Methodology

Three hundred prisoners were interviewed from the Central Prisons in Thiruvananthapuram, Thrissur and Kannur. The samples (15% of the population) were selected by using random sampling method. The interview was conducted with the help of a structured interview schedule. The interviews enquired into, how far the personal, marital and familial lives of the respondents was disorganized due to their imprisonment. Inorder to get more information about the gravity of the impact, the researcher made friendly talks with the visitors particularly the spouses who come to visit them. Descriptive and inferential statistics were used in the analysis of the data.

The Main Objectives of the Study were ;

- (a) to analyse the socio-cultural antecedents of the criminal
- (b) to find out the nature and gravity of impact of imprisonment on personal life of the prisoner
- (c) to analyse the impact of the imprisonment on the marital relationship on the prisoner
- (d) to asses the impact of the imprisonment on the familial relationship of the prisoner
- (e) to analyse the adaptation patterns of the prisoner and the family to the imprisonment

On the basis of these objectives specific hypotheses were formulated.

In the following sections major observations and findings are summarized

1. Socio-Cultural Antecedents of the Criminal

In this study the data collected were analysed to find out the socio-cultural history of the prisoners. The analysis enquired into, who were mainly responsible for the bringing up of the respondents during their childhood days. It is found that 76.67 per cent of the respondents were brought up in normal family atmosphere (Table No.5.1). The rest (23.33 per

cent) were brought up by other relatives and single parents (either mother or father). So it is found that who up-bring a person in their early child hood has no influence in making them deviant.

Economic environment in which one had been brought up during his/her childhood tells upon their later behaviour. On the basis of this assumption this study enquired into the type of economic security the prisoners enjoyed in their childhood. 52% of the respondents faced economic problems very severely and 27 per cent faced moderately. The problem faced may have injected deviant tendencies in to them.

Regarding the areas of discrimination faced in the family, it relates to quality and quantity and time at which food served, cloths provided, time allowed for rest etc. It is to be doubted that the early experiences of discrimination would have influenced them to criminal activities.

It was found that 39 per cent of the prisoners have relatives who got life imprisonment. These respondents had been living with them. This would have played an important role in cultivating criminal tendencies in them.

It was seen that 91.33 per cent were maiden offenders. The rest (8.67 per cent) of the respondents have committed crimes for more than four times. It is found that habitual offenders are insignificant minority among the respondents.

When enquired about the nature of the crime committed by them, it is found that more than three-fourth of the convicts have been caught for heinous crimes of murder and drug trafficking. 7.67 per cent of them are caught for theft and 7.33 per cent are caught for cheating. On the whole we may conclude that the prisoners have dangerous criminal qualities.

On our analyses it was seen 45.67 percent were awarded lifetime imprisonment and the rest (54.33%), imprisonment for different terms. This implies that the formal control systems are actually doing yeoman efforts to protect the society from doing criminal tendencies by awarding punishment proportionate to the severity of the wrong doing.

When enquired about the adequacy of the punishments awarded, an overwhelming majority (83.67%) of them reacted that the punishments imposed on them is unduly harsh. The grievance they feel may harden their criminality.

The analyses in the chapter support the saying that criminality is not in-born but created.

2 Impact of Imprisonment on the Individual

The adverse impact of the prison environment on the inmates especially during the initial period of confinement is very severe. More than half of the prisoners (53%) stated that initiation in to prison life caught hold of them in various difficult situations. The rest (47 percent) were not affected by the event. Lack of interest in food and unreasonable hostility to others were the symptoms they felt during the initial days of imprisonment.

The analysis of the data revealed that the initial problems are gender based. The problems is faced more by male members.

The higher educated are lesser affected by the initial problems. Table No. 6.1.2 shows the result, is in fact, contrary to the expectations and more probing is required to explain it logically. The illiterates feel prison a safer place than the open world. 40.30 per cent of the illiterates expressed the view that imprisonment prevents them from doing further crimes. The other background variables are not associated with the problems faced.

It is found that 86.33 per cent of the respondents believe that their esteem is considerably reduced because of their imprisonment. It indicates that the impact of imprisonment on the social status of the individual is very harsh.

There is a gradual reduction in the feeling of erosion of esteem as the age increases. It is natural that the youngsters will be feeling the loss more, because they have to face the problem escalated by imprisonment for a longer period. The higher income category feels the status loss greater. It decreases with decrease in income status.

Erosion of esteem is also associated with occupational status. The business persons and white collar employees feel the loss of esteem very much. Business persons and white collar employees are enjoying greater status and esteem in any society than the manual labourers and those who have no specific occupations do.

Except very few (3) all prisoners admitted that the food supplied, facilities provided for cleaning and resting are far better than those enjoyed in their free life.

The general complaint projected by prisoners was that their supper is served very early by 5 o' clock in the evening. Even though majority of them felt the problem of sleeping close to strangers initially, once they are prisonised the aspiration for an exclusive territory is vanished.

The analysis tends to the conclusion that the prisoners, personal up-keeping is not much affected by their imprisonment. Gender, age status and educational status are associated with the dependent variable (satisfaction in the personal up-keeping). The other variables (income, occupation and religion) show no association with the response.

Table No.6.3.1 shows that male prisoners are more satisfied with the facilities provided for their personal up keeping. 70.04 per cent of the male respondents expressed their satisfaction regarding their personal up keeping whereas in the case of females 52.17 per cent feel that the facilities are completely unsatisfactory for their personal needs.

Age and the feeling are found to be associated with each other (Table No.6.3.2). It is interesting to note that the youngsters are more satisfied with provisions for their personal up keeping. Old age group (above

60 years) responded that there are total disruptions in their personal welfare. The older persons might have been leading a more structured and arranged life when they were brought to book. May be the reason is that they feel more disruptions in their personal life.

Educational status and satisfaction in the personal up keeping are associated (Table No.6.3.3.). 70% of the higher educated respondents expressed that their personal up keeping is totally disturbed due to imprisonment. This may be due to the fact that the higher educated aspires for more personal conveniences wherever they live. So, they are much frustrated by the comforts provided for the prisoner.

It is found in the study that the relationship between the prisoners and warders are very cordial. The prisoner's needs and demands are met by the warder. The jail authorities are treating the prisoners without giving any room for complaint from the detained - the analysis reveals.

However, 50.67 per cent of the inmates had bitter experiences of sharing the physical and social space with unrefined inmates due to authorities compulsion. The rest of the prisoners (49.33 per cent), however, had not experienced any such chaotic condition.

Prisoners are getting much leisure time. The study reveals that 52.33 per cent of them are utilizing their leisure time on meaningful activities. 47.67 per cent of them spend their time remaining idle. It is seen that the females are more feeling the problem of excess leisure time. So they simply engage in small talks and other time passing activities.

The result shows that age is a determinant of spending pattern of leisure time. The youngsters are more unmindful of spending their leisure time valuably. Therefore, imprisonment may create laziness in the youngsters.

Unconstructive way of spending leisure time decreases with increase in the educational status. It is interesting to note that reading habit is more prominent among secondary educated group (57.89%). Other background variables, namely, income, occupation and religion showed no association with the habit.

An imprisoned person in a social reject – the result reveals. 32 per cent of the prisoners are social rejects of their close relatives. Another 23 per cent are unwelcome members of their wider family.

Regarding the reactions of the neighbours towards the imprisoned, it was revealed that 16 per cent are rejects from their neighbours. However 54 per cent perceives sympathy on the part of their neighbours on their misfortune.

The prisoners are still optimistic to repair their ruptured family relationships. The major portion (82.67%) of the prisoners is eagerly waiting for rejoining with their family. Only a small portion has detached themselves totally from their family.

Impact On Marital Life

Imprisonment separates the spouses and the marital relationship is dislocated. None of the directly and indirectly affected parties to the marital bond aspires for such separation.

If one of the spouses is imprisoned, the spouse outside is practically but indirectly punished for the crime for which he or she owes no responsibility. Such a separation due to justice administration by imprisonment destroys the marital relationship. The study concludes that the impact of imprisonment on marital relationship is very severe. The

distribution of the prisoners based on gender showed that only 23 female prisoners are there in the sample (7.67%) and the rest are males. So wives of 92.33 per cent of the respondents are sufferers of involuntary separation from their husbands due to the uncontrollable life of the latter. Because of the economic and social over burden and solitude imposed on them, they behave in irrational manner. According to this study the wives of 9 per cent of the respondents deserted them mainly because of the separation. .

91.67 per cent of the respondents revealed that they are more worried about their spouses after the commencement of the jail terms. Only a minority, (8.33 per cent), do not experience any change in their concern. This reveals that imprisonment increases their regard for their life partner. It is found that the separation and solitude created by the prison increases the value of the partnership

Male prisoners are more worried about their spouses than their female counter parts. Only 5.05 per cent of the male respondents stated that their concern about their spouses did not change after imprisonment. But at the same time 47.83 pre cent do not feel any change in their concern.

The concern of the prisoner for his/her spouse is associated with the age status.. Worries about the spouse are more among the middle age group. 93 per cent of the respondents of the middle age group are very much worried about their spouses after their imprisonment. 72.73 per cent of the old age group (above 60) are also worried more about their spouses after the imprisonment.

Educational level of the respondents and their concern for their spouse is also associated. The Primary and the Secondary educated have very deep commitment to their spouse.

Income status and change in the concern for their spouse is also associated. Economic insecurity is one of the major reason that creates anxiety in them. 90.86 per cent of the lower income group and 95.28 per cent of the middle income group have become very much concerned about their spouse. The higher income group is lesser worried about their spouses.

The other background variables namely, religion, occupation are not significantly associated with the change in the concern.

Sexual life of the inmates are totally disturbed due to the imprisonment. 37.33 per cent of the respondents revealed that their urge for physical interaction increased due to their imprisonment and the rest revealed that they do not feel any change in their urge for conjugal company due to their physical separation. Perverted sex behaviour and increased violence among the prisoners are the results of this forced separation.

Gender is a determinant of the urge for physical interaction, with their spouse. 34.30 per cent of the males stated that their urge for physical interaction with their spouse increased. At the same time 73.91 per cent of the females stated that their urge for physical interaction increased considerably due to the forced separation. This may be due to the fact that females are more in need of the physical company and interaction of their husband. So it is a fact that females are the worst sufferers among prisoners in this regard.

Religious affiliation of the prisoners and their change in the urge for interaction with spouse is associated. Christians expressed increased concern and urge for the company of their spouse.

Coming to income status and the urge it was found that they are associated. The change in the urge is highest among the lower income group (43.43%) and least among the middle income group (28.90).

The other independent variables namely, age, education and occupation are found to have no relationship with the urge.

Even though there are restrictions for the meetings of their spouses according to the prison rule, the jail authorities give maximum opportunities for the spouses to visit their beloved ones. The analysis reveals that only meagre portion of the respondents is getting the warmth of the marital relationships through visits of their spouses. Only 5.67 per cent of the respondents are visited by their spouses weekly and 8.33 per cent monthly. Only 47.33 per cent have the opportunity to meet their spouses.

It is common during the meetings that the prisoners and their spouses exchange displeasures. The wife visiting the prisoner usually curse her destiny to live in the manner in which she is. The prisoner also express his/her grief through emotionally charged words that are capable of attracting sympathy of the visiting spouse. All the respondents (142 respondents) who are visited by their spouses informed that consoling words are exchanged

during the time of departure. They also expressed that they are very much aspiring for a hug or a touch of their spouses to console them but they have to uphold the sanctity of the jail rules.

The normal practice is that visitors are given 15-30 minutes to verbally interact with the prisoner. The prisoner will be separated from the visitors by a window fitted with wire mesh. The meetings will be in front of an officer of the prison. Regarding the adequacy of meeting time, 32% of the respondents feel that the time is insufficient. Even though the atmosphere in the prison is inhospitable they want to be in the presence of the spouse for more time. The researcher noticed that, the spouses remain in the jail premises even after the visit is over. The inhospitable place is a centre of attraction for them for their loved one is there on the other side of the big wall. Only 15.33 per cent of the respondents feel that there is no point in prolonging the meetings. The reason may be that because they are permitted to meet only in the presence of an officer and not permitted to meet inside a room or so. It does not give an opportunity for more intimate body contacts. This may be the reason why 15.33 per cent of the prisoners feel that the duration of time for visits (15 to 30 minutes) is enough. Further, they may not be able to see the separated spouse at the hands reach but on the other side of the wall.

This study analysed the interest of the prisoners for having privacy during the visits of their spouses. The over all reaction was that it is not welcome by the prisoners. They may be fearing that this may let loose sexual anarchy in the prison.

When analysed the influence of gender on the aspirations for privacy during spouse's visits, 20.58 per cent of the males aspire for privacy where as only 4.35 per cent of the females aspire for it. Female prisoners are more cautious against such an unwelcome practice. They may be afraid that privacy may initiate sex related behaviour and the females will have to face the adverse consequences.

Another variable, which is associated with the aspiration, is income status. It is observed that middle income group (23.58%) aspire more for privacy than the other income group. No other background variables show any association with the aspiration.

The normal heterosexual life is not possible until parole is permitted. Most of the European countries permit regular conjugal visits to the prisoners by their spouses. It is presumed to reduce the negative effect of imprisonment on the prisoner. However, in our country parole is the only

remedy to satisfy their normal sexual urge. In this study an enquiry was made to find out the way in which the prisoners manage their sexual urge. 61.33% of them revealed that they controlled their urge. Only 2 out the 300 respondents revealed that they have some other methods of sex, which are have not revealed. Many of them may be practicing self sex or homo sex. The jail officials point out that homo sexuality is very common in our jails.

On the perception of the prisoners on the sex ethic of their spouses, 80 per cent of them have no negative opinion on the morality of their spouses. But, 12.67 per cent are very much sure about the deterioration of the moral standard of their spouse.

The study analysed the aspiration of the prisoners for the presence of their spouse especially during sickness. 56.67 per cent of the respondents aspire for the presence of their spouses during sickness. By and large, they aspire for the consoling touch of their spouse during their illness. But the better half is away.

In married life, spouses make decisions jointly and reduce their tension by doing so. The prisoner being in prison may not be required to make much of decisions. However, when enquired about their aspiration for

spouse's support for decision-making, it was found 33.33 per cent of the prisoners have extreme aspiration for the advice of their spouse in this matter. In this matter the background variable age, is found to have influence on the aspiration. The middle age group is more aspiring for the advice than the other groups are. Youths may be feeling that they can manage anything by their own, and older age group might be upholding the philosophical view that those, which are impossible to happen, need not be aspired for.

The findings on the impact of imprisonment on marital relationships show that it creates untold miseries to the parties of the bond.

3 Impact on Family Life

The study shows that 92 per cent of the respondents are key earning members of their family. It is revealed further from the analysis that 59.67 per cent of the respondents are very much worried about the financial problems faced by the family. This indicates that financial problems let loose by the confinement of the prisoners are many.

Further analysis revealed that while 64 per cent of male prisoners are seriously anxious about the economic miseries that are posed

against their family due to their imprisonment. The anxiety is not so serious among the females.

The gravity of the anxiety of the different age groups is different – the study indicates. It is found that the middle age group is more disturbed. Among the younger age group also the worries are fairly high. Among the older age group 45.45 per cent stated that their families do not face any financial crisis due to their imprisonment.

Among the different income groups the middle-income category is more worried about the financial problems faced by their families as a result of their imprisonment.

Other background variables are not associated with the index of the impact on the family.

Another index selected for assessing the impact on the family was the shift in the key-earning member role. 47% of the spouses of the prisoners had to take over the earning member's role.

Another consequence of the imprisonment on the family is that other members are forced to take up vocation which they like it or not to offset the income loss. Our analysis shows that majority of the prisoners' spouses are forced to work in order to substitute the income loss of their family. A small portion of the prisoners substitute their income loss by sending their sons to work. Two prisoners very painfully admitted that they were forced to send their daughters for work to support the family which they do not like in any way.

Another interesting finding is that 49.66 per cent of the prisoners revealed that they are ashamed of sending their spouses or children to work who were not working, to substitute their income loss. So, they resort to selling out land, ornaments and such other movable and immovable properties to withstand the financial crisis. The analysis indicates that the imprisonment crushed the family in many ways including role shifting. School going children were to take up daily wage jobs and keep themselves away from education, housewives were become domestic servants- to mention few cases.

As a result of imprisonment of the earning member, many of the households have to incur debt. The social stigma and rejection created many problems for securing loans. It is also found that highest portion of the loans

incurred was for financing legal procedures to defend the victims. The narrations given by the respondents to secure the loan were touching. All these were after effect of the imprisonment.

Creation of intimate social relationship and emotional satisfaction derived out of it makes the family a unique social institution. But because of the forced separation due to imprisonment these characters are lost in a prisoner's family.

The emotional tension experienced by a prisoner is very severe. 89.17 per cent of the respondents have become more concerned about their children. The study revealed that the prisoners are under tremendous tension created by their separation from the children.

Gender based analysis revealed that the male prisoners are more concerned about their children. The female prisoners feel that they are unable to provide their children with the necessities for their survival. Mother's (wife of prisoner) care and love will be slackened as she has to play the bread winning role of the imprisoned father – the mothers interviewed out side the prisons (spouses of prisoners) expressed their confusing conditions. .

When data was analysed to find out the relationship between age status and their concern about children, it was found that middle age group is more concerned about their children. The young age group also comes very closer to the former. Children of the middle age group may be requiring more care and attention as they may be in their youth. The elderly (above 60) would have grown up children who are self sufficient.

It was found that the middle income group is more concerned about their children than the higher income group is. The low income group comes in between the two in this matter.

Regarding the relationship between education and the concern, contrary to our expectation, the higher educated shows lower concern than the illiterate and primary educated respondents do. It is to be presumed that the higher educated group shows the maturity to accept things in their reality. They may be thinking that their increased concern does not give anything good to their children.

Prisoners are also worried about the un-discharged duties to the children.

The males are having more worries about their unfulfilled duties to the children. The females may be having grown up children who are capable of looking after themselves.

The remorse on account of the unfulfilled duties is more for the middle- aged prisoners. This might be due to the fact that their children are in a stage of life, which requires utmost care and attention from parents, especially father.

Among the different educational groups, the illiterates worry more about the un-discharged duties to their children.

The acceptance of the imprisoned parents by their children was analysed by studying the frequency of jail visits of the children, emotional outbursts during the visit and gifts brought to the parent.

The major chunk of the prisoners sorrowfully informed that their children never visit them (63.33%). This indicates that the children of the prisoners are very indifferent to their imprisoned parents.

18% of the children who visit their parents become very emotional when they see their parents behind the bars. Their sorrow will burst into tears and try to hold their parents who are seen through the window fitted with wire mesh. However, another four per cent keep a blank face during such visits.

Among the children who visit their parents in jail 12.67 per cent simply pay visits. Another 6.67% present eatables like candies, biscuits, fruits etc to their parents. On the whole it is to be concluded that there exists an emotional vacuum between the prisoners and their children, created due to the imprisonment.

Children of imprisonment parents are dishonoured in different ways in the wider society. If they are school children they have to face many types of insults from their peers. 13% of the respondents of the study have children, who are dropouts of school as a result of the imprisonment. Even one single dropout is to be considered as a serious impact of imprisonment on the children.

Children raised by solo parents are likely to develop behavioural problems due to lack of proper guidance and feeling of insecurity. The society

contemptuously look upon them. Such experiences of social stigma and feeling of personal insecurity might generate hatred towards every one else, complicating the behaviour pattern of the children.

Children of 10% of the prisoners have become deviant as a consequence of their imprisonment. They involve in criminal activities like theft, house breaking, pick pocketing and show suicidal tendencies and also alcohol and drug.

In Bruief :

The results prove the major hypotheses formulated. In the case of relationship between the background variables and the independent variables in certain cases, lack of expected association is got.

The results of the study underline the importance of reviewing the system of criminal justice and making appropriate changes in it according to the personal and social needs. Civility should be the bed rock of administration of criminal justice.

The case analyses carried out corroborate the results of the statistical study. The pain created by the dislocation of married and familial

relationships by imprisonment is clearly revealed in the analyses. The analyses also, highlight the role played by the socio-cultural background in the inculcation of criminal behaviour in individuals.

IMPACT OF IMPRISONMENT ON MARITAL AND FAMILIAL RELATIONSHIPS

*Thesis Submitted to
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For the Degree of
Doctor of Philosophy in Sociology*

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Suggestions

On the basis of the results of this study the following suggestions are made.

1. Prolonged separation from the marital and familial relationship is found to have serious repercussions on the individual and the family. So arrangement by way of allowing parole is to be made for the rendezvous of the prisoner, the spouse and other family members. In allowing parole objective criteria are to be followed and no sort of influence shall make back seat driving. Prisoners are also human beings. With that thinking it is essential to relax parole rules
2. Without prejudice to the jail rules relating to the discipline of the prisoners the inmates may be allowed to communicate with their dear ones through letters or other ways. Further, frequency of visiting prisoners by friends and relatives may be allowed at an enhanced rate. This may reduce the sense of solitude of the prisoner.
 - 2.1. Necessary arrangements have to be made for the comfortable stay of family members near the prisons premises especially near central prisons. Jail authorities may charge a minimum rent based on their financial background. If the central prisons are having such a facility more prisoners will get visitors. That may

definitely reduce the tension of the prisoner and improve the relation between prisoner and their family. .

- 2.2. The present practice of meeting with the relatives on the other side of the wire mesh has to be changed. Instead, a meeting room may be attached to every jail where the prisoner receives his/her visitors. A responsible official may be appointed to arrange the meeting under his supervision.
3. Awareness programmes are to be conducted to change the attitude of the society toward the prisoners and their family.
4. In order to ease the economic burden of the family created by the imprisonment certain steps may be adopted. The talents and resources (mainly manpower) of the prisoners may be valued at a higher rate and the remuneration for them is to be increased. Further, arrangements may be made to send the money home on a periodical basis if the prisoner wish so, sending of money should be at the cost of the Government.
5. In order to further alleviate the financial problem of the family the Government may take necessary steps to provide bank loans at reduced rates of interest..

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IMPACT OF IMPRISONMENT ON MARITAL AND FAMILIAL RELATIONSHIPS

*Thesis Submitted to
The University of Calicut
For the Degree of
Doctor of Philosophy in Sociology*

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Appendix I

Table I

**Strength Of Prisoners Confined In The Various Prisons In Kerala And Their
Frequency Of Commitments**

Name of Prison		Imprisoned for the				Total
		1 st time	2 nd time	3 rd time	4 th time	
Central Prison Thiruvananthapuram	M	285	360	475	239	1359
	F	36	35	43	80	194
	T	321	395	518	319	1553
Central Prison Thrissur	M	340	50	10	11	411
	F	5	6	--	--	11
	T	345	56	10	11	422
Central Prison Kannur	M	553	61	31	18	663
	F	32	3	1	--	36
	T	585	64	32	18	699
Open Prison Nettukaltheri	M	90	--	--	--	90
	F	--	--	--	--	--
	T	90	--	--	--	90
District Prison Kozhikode	M	200	105	75	68	448
	F	23	25	18	7	73
	T	223	130	103	75	521

Source: Administrative Report, Department of Jail, Government of Kerala - 1998

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Table II**Religious Affiliation of the Prisoners Admitted to the Various Prisons in Kerala**

Name of prison	Hindu		Muslim		Christian		Total	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Central Prison Thiruvananthapuram	991	145	158	7	210	42	1359	194
Central Prison Viyyur	166	8	101	0	144	3	411	11
Central Prison Kannur	312	16	180	10	171	10	663	36
Open Prison Nettukaltheri	54	0	25	0	11	0	90	--
District Prison Kozhikode	188	39	182	20	78	14	448	73
Female Prison Neyyatinkara	--	20	0	2	0	1	--	23
Total	1711	228	646	39	614	70	2971	337

Source: Administrative Report, Department of Jail, Government of Kerala - 1998

Table III**Age wise Distribution of the Prisoners Admitted to the Various Prisons in Kerala**

Name of Prison	Age in years					Total
	20 years	21-30	31-40	41-60	Above 60	
Central Prison Thiruvananthapuram	103	649	544	245	12	1553
Central Prison Viyyur	19	220	144	39	--	422
Central Prison Kannur	80	128	189	249	53	699
Open Prison Nettukaltheri	--	4	30	40	16	90
District Prison Kozhikode	189	200	110	20	2	521
Female Prison Neyyatinkara	--	3	10	10	--	23
Total	391	1204	1027	603	83	3308

Source: Administrative Report, Department of Jail, Government of Kerala - 1998

Table IV**Educational Status of the Prisoners Admitted to the Various Prisons in Kerala**

Name of Prison	Educated		Uneducated		Total	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Central Prison Thiruvananthapuram	1164	116	195	78	1359	194
Central Prison Viyyur	234	5	177	6	411	11
Central Prison Kannur	629	32	34	4	663	36
Open Prison Nettukaltheri	90	--	--	--	90	--
District Prison Kozhikode	448	73	--	--	448	73
Female Prison Neyyatinkara	--	15	--	8	--	23
Total	2565	241	406	96	2971	337

Source: Administrative Report, Department of Jail, Government of Kerala - 1998

Table V**Occupational Status of the Prisoners Admitted to the Various Prisons in Kerala**

Name of Prison	Govt. Employees	Unskilled Manual Labour	Mechanics	Business	Others
Central Prison Thiruvananthapuram	17	970	126	170	270
Central Prison Viyyur	2	106	--	109	208
Central Prison Kannur	2	316	20	41	316
Open Prison Nettukaltheri	4	46	10	10	20
District Prison Kozhikode	--	300	50	96	75
Female Prison Neyyatinkara	--	--	--	1	--

Source: Administrative Report, Department of Jail, Government of Kerala - 1998

Table VI**Marital Status of the Prisoners Admitted to the Various Prisons in Kerala**

Name of Prison	Married		Unmarried		Widower		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Central Prison Thiruvananthapuram	869	115	490	57		22	1553
Central Prison Viyyur	350	8	39	3	22		422
Central Prison Kannur	600	20	63	16			699
Open Prison Nettukaltheri	80	--	10	--			90
District Prison Kozhikode	400	50	48	20			521
Female Prison Neyyatinkara	--	22	--	1			23

Source: Administrative Report, Department of Jail, Government of Kerala - 1998

Table VII**Nature of Imprisonment of the Prisoners Admitted to the Various Prisons in Kerala**

Name of Prison	Nature of Imprisonment						Total
	0-1 years	1-5 years	5-10 years	Above 10 years	Life imprisonment	Death	
Central Prison Thiruvananthapuram	1322	138	58	15	19	1	1553
Central Prison Viyyur	285	87	4	7	19	--	422
Central Prison Kannur	256	257	56	86	44	--	699
Open Prison Nettukaltheri	--	--	--	--	90	--	90
District Prison Kozhikode	429	60	9	12	11	--	521
Female Prison Neyyatinkara	10	7	--	--	4	--	21

Source: Administrative Report, Department of Jail, Government of Kerala - 1998

Annexure II

IMPACT OF IMPRISONMENT ON MARITAL AND FAMILIAL RELATIONSHIP

I. Personal Data

Name :.....

Prisoner Number :.....

Name of Prison :.....

Residential address :.....

.....

Sex Male / Female

Age :.....

Religion

1 Hindu Forward	5 Muslim
2 Hindu Backward	6 Christian Forward
3 SC	7 Christian Backward
4 ST	8 Others

Educational Status

1 Illiterate	5 College
2 Primary	6 Technical
3 Secondary	7 Others
4 Higher	

Marital status

1 Married	4 Separated
2 Divorced	5 Others
3 Widowed	

Pre-imprisonment occupation :.....

Monthly income
(Pre-imprisonment period) :.....

Native place :.....

II. Family Background

Sl.No.	Name	Relationship with the prisoner	Age	Education	Marital Status	Occupation & Income

III. History of the Person and the Crime

1. Are your parents alive
 1. Both alive
 2. Mother alive
 3. Father alive
 4. Both dead
 5. Don't Know

2. When did you lose your parents
 1. Father
 2. Mother
 3. NA

3. If you were a child when you lost any one or both of your parents who took care of you then
 - 1 Grand parents
 - 2 Elder brother / sister
 3. Aunt / Uncle
 4. Others

4. Had you been facing economic problems during pre-imprisonment period
 - 1 Very severely
 - 2 Moderately
 - 3 No problem

5. Had you been experiencing discrimination during pre-imprisonment period
 1. Very much in the family
 2. Very much in the society
 3. Both family and society
 4. Not feeling discrimination

6. Is/was there any one else in your family who committed a crime
 - 1 Yes
 - 2 No
 - 3 N.A.

- a) If yes what is your relationship with his/her
1. Direct
 2. Indirect
 3. Spouse
- b) What was the nature of his/her crime
- | | |
|----------|---------|
| 1 Murder | 2 Theft |
| 3 Others | 4 N.A |
- c) What punishment he/she is awarded
1. Hanging
 2. Imprisonment for life
 3. Imprisonment for years
 4. N.A
- 7 How many criminal acts you have so far committed :.....
- 8 How many times you have locked up :.....
- 9 When did you commit the last crime
10. What crime did you commit last
- | | |
|-----------|---------------------|
| 1. Murder | 4. Drug trafficking |
| 2. Theft | 5. Cheating, |
| 3. Rape | Abetting, others |
- 11 How long you were on remand :.....
- 12 What punishment you have been awarded
1. Imprisonment for life
 2. Imprisonment for years
- 14 Do you think that you got a just punishment
- | | |
|---------|----------|
| 1 Just | 3. Harsh |
| 2 Light | |
15. Is there any other case pending against you
- 16 What are the nature of offence for which cases are pending
- | | |
|-----------|-------------------|
| 1. Murder | 3. Hurt Seriously |
| 2. Rape | 4. Others |

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IV. Impact on Imprisonment on the Individual

- | | | | |
|-----|---|---|--|
| 17 | How were you spending your leisure time before imprisonment | 1. Reading
2. Games
3. Gambling | 4. Gossiping
5. Drinking
6. Others |
| 18. | In prison you are not able to spend your leisure time as before. How do you feel about it | 1. Feel very much depressed
2. Feel better since it would not lead to crimes further
3. Not affected | |
| 19. | Do you think your esteem in society has gone down due to the crime and punishment | Yes/No | |
| 20. | How long you took to get adjusted with the prison life? | 1. A few days
2. A few weeks
3. A few months
4. Not yet adjusted
5. Did not feel any difficulty | |
| 21. | What are the difficulties you faced in your early jail period | 1. Could not eat
2. Could not sleep
3. Day dreaming
4. Difficulty to respond to realities | |
| 22. | What worries you most in jail? | 1. The family welfare
2. The future
3. Children's future
4. Any other | |
| 23 | Are you satisfied with the present stay in jail | Yes/ No | |

- a) if yes what are the conditions which make you satisfied :
- b) if no, what are the reasons which make you unsatisfied
1. Worried about the future
 2. Worried about the family
 3. Worried about the children
 4. Others
- c) if your are worried about your family, how you are consoling yourself
1. Encouraging the family to brave the situation
 2. Getting involved in activities
 3. Others
24. Are you satisfied with the food provided
1. Yes
 2. No
- a) if yes what are the reason which make you happy
1. Enough quantity
 2. Tasty and delicious
 3. Nutritious food
 4. All the above
- b) if no, why are you unsatisfied
1. No tasty
 2. Not enough
 3. No nutritional value
 4. Thinking about the food preparing in home
 5. Eating alone without family
 6. Others
- c) if you are unhappy with the food, how do you react to it
1. Not eating sufficiently
 2. Eating the bare minimum
 3. Tolerating
 4. Others
25. Are you happy with the toilet facilities in the prison
- Yes/ No
- a) if no, what is the reason
1. Dirty and not clean
 2. Water Scarcity
 3. Any other

- b) if you are unhappy with toilet facilities how will you react to it
1. complaining
 2. Cleaning by oneself
 3. Tolerating
 4. Others
26. Are you getting sufficient clothing
- Yes/No
- a) if no how do you react it
1. Complaining
 2. Tolerating
 3. Others
27. Are you happy with the bedding facilities provided to you
- Yes / No
- a) if no, what is the reason
1. Dirty
 2. Cannot change as wish
 3. Sleeping alone without family by one's side
 4. Any others
28. Is your freedom of movement with in the jail satisfactory
- Yes/ no
- a) if yes, how do you react to it
1. Tolerating
 2. Others
29. Have you been put in the cell with trouble making inmates
- Yes / no
- b) if yes, how do you react to it
1. Complaining
 2. Tolerating
 3. Any others
30. Do you think that the wardens are kind enough to the prisoners
- Yes / no
31. Do you have enough freedom to interact with other prisoners
- Yes / no

32. How do you spend your leisure time
1. Reading
 2. Playing /Gardening
 3. Others
- 33.. Are you satisfied with the medical care in the jail
1. Very much
 2. No
- a) if no how do you react it
1. Complaining
 2. Tolerating
 3. Any other
34. What was your spouse's reaction on hearing your crime?
1. Departed company
 2. Separated from marital bond
 3. Others
35. With whom your spouse is staying no
1. Alone
 2. With children
 3. With in-laws
 4. With parents
 5. Other native
36. Has your spouse changed residence on your imprisonment
- Yes/ No
37. Why did your spouse change residence on your imprisonment
1. Security reasons
 2. Economic reasons
 3. Social stigma
 4. Other reasons

V. Husband – Wife Relationship

38. Are you concerned more about your spouse after imprisonment
1. Very much
 2. No change in the concern
- a) if yes, please state what is the reason
1. Financial insecurity
 2. Social stigma
 3. Physical insecurity
 4. Emotional insecurity
 5. Others

39. How do you overcome this tension
1. Praying
 2. Try to console
 3. Trying to divert feelings
 4. Any other
40. Do you feel any change in your urge for the company of spouse since imprisonment
- Yes / No
- a) if yes, please describe change
1. Becoming stronger
 2. Getting Progressively weaker
 3. Others
41. How often your spouse visiting you
1. Weekly
 2. Fortnightly
 3. Monthly
 4. Occasionally
 5. Never
- a) How much the visits prolong
1. Minutes
 2. N.A.
42. If your spouse does not visit you, what shall be the reason
1. Hate
 2. Divorced
 3. Separated from marital bond
 4. Others
43. Has your spouse deserted you on account of your imprisonment
- Yes / No
44. What are the major information conveyed by your spouse
1. Economic problems
 2. Looking after children
 3. Problems of diseases
 4. Problem of lost companionship
 5. Absence of intimacy sharing
 6. Others
45. Do you feel the time available for such meeting is short
1. Visiting time sufficient
 2. Not sufficient
 3. N.A

- a) if yes, how do you adjust with it
1. Tolerate
 2. Will make use of the maximum
 3. Any other
46. Do you became emotional when your spouse is seen
1. Very Much
 2. Some What
 3. No
47. If no, does you want to have such meeting
1. For a short time
 2. Don't want
48. Does your spouse become emotional during such visits
1. Very much
 2. Some what
 3. No
49. If your spouse curse you, how will you console his/her
1. Through words
 2. Through physical contacts
 3. Others
 4. N.A
50. How will you be consoled by your spouse when you became emotional
1. Through words
 2. Physical contact
 3. N.A.
51. Do you aspire for privacy when you meet your spouse
1. Very much
 2. Not aspire for privacy
 3. No visits
52. When your spouse departs ho long do you think about your married life
1. Very much
 2. Some what
 3. No
53. When your spouse departs how long do you think about your married life
1. Till next visit
 2. Few days
 3. Few yours
 4. Five minutes
 5. No
54. When your spouse departs would you become emotional
- Yes / No

- a) if yes, how will you over come it
1. Engage in forgetful activities
 2. Praying
55. When you become ill in the jail do you aspire for the presence of your spouse
1. Very much
 2. No
 3. N.A.
56. If you very much aspire for the presence of your wife how do you console your self
1. Weeping
 2. Cursing one self
 3. Others
57. When you have to take a decision, do you aspire for the advice of your spouse
1. Very much
 2. Some what
 3. No
58. If you want very much the advice of your spouse in taking decision how will you decide anything not
1. Find it very difficult
 2. Dilemma
59. Do you feel any change in you urge for the conjugal company of spouse since imprisonment
- Yes / No
- a) if yes, how do you ever come it
1. Self control
 2. Diverting to other duties
 3. Other methods
60. In some countries prisoner's spouse is permitted to live with him/her for a few days in the prison what is your opinion about it
1. Absolutely necessary
 2. Good
 3. Not necessary
61. If you disagree with the above system what is your reason
1. Indiscipline
 2. Adversely affect the safety of the spouse
 3. Departure is painful
 4. Others

- | | |
|---|---|
| 62. Do you know how prisoners control their bodily urge | 1. Self control
2. Direct attention to work
3. Others |
| 63. Has your spouse deviate from their normal courses of life after your imprisonment | 1. Very much a moral wreak
2. Some what a moral wreak
3. Not changed
4. Don't Know |
| a) if yes, in which way be/she deviated | 1. Speak ill about me
2. Illicit sex relationship
3. Alcoholism
4. Drug addiction
5. Others
6. N.A |
| 64. Do you feel your spouse is becoming less concerned about you since imprisonment | Yes / No |
| b) if yes, how do you accommodate to it | 1. Avoidance
2. Express during visits
3. Helpless
4. Others |

VI. Impact on Familial Relationship

a) On the Social Sphere

- | | |
|--|---|
| 65. Are you concerned more about your children after imprisonment | 1. Very much
2. Not at all |
| 66. What do you suppose the reason | 1. Emotional insecurely
2. Social stigma
3. Character formation |
| 67. Do you feel your children are becoming less concerned about you since imprisonment | 1. Very much
2. Not at all |

- a) if yes, how do you react it
1. Avoidance
 2. Expression during visits
 3. others
68. How often do you get letters from the family
1. Frequently
 2. Rarely
 3. Never
69. If you are getting letters who usually writes to you
1. Spouse
 2. Children
 3. Parents
 4. Other relatives
 5. Friends
70. Do your children visit you in the jail
1. Regularly
 2. Rarely
 3. Never
 4. No Children
71. Do you get emotional when you are see your children
- Yes/No
- a) if yes how do you control yourself to overcome this emotion
1. Fonding the children
 2. Ask the children to leave
 3. Keeping quiet
 4. Self control
72. If children visit you how do they depart usually
1. Painfully
 2. Casually
 3. N.A.
73. Who else of your relatives visits you usually
1. Father
 2. Mother
 3. Sister
 4. Brother
 5. In-laws
 6. Parents
 7. Others
 8. No visitors
74. If the children feel painful for leaving you behind, how would you console them
1. Ask them to visit again
 2. Tell them about your release from the jail
 3. Ask them to be independent

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75. Do you feel that your children regards towards you have diminished after the imprisonment
1. Very much
 2. No change in the concern
 3. Don't know
 4. No Children
- a) if yes, why do you feel so
1. Not communicating
 2. Trying to get distanced from
 3. Others
76. Do they bring anything for you when they come
1. Eatable
 2. Dress material
 3. Nothing
 4. No visit
 5. No children
77. Do they complain about the hardship they face due to your imprisonment
1. Very much
 2. Rarely
 3. No
 4. N.A
78. Does any of your children complain about the social contempt he/she faces from the society
1. Yes
 2. No
 3. N.A
79. Has any of your children terminated their education after your imprisonment
1. Yes
 2. No
- a) if yes, was it due to your imprisonment
1. Yes
 2. No
80. Has any of your children's marriage proposal got cancelled after your imprisonment
1. Yes
 2. No
- a) if yes, was it due to your imprisonment
1. Yes
 2. No

- | | |
|---|---|
| 81. How did your relatives consider you when they knew about your imprisonment | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Got rid off 2. Did not welcome to their house 3. Sympathy 4. Nothing special |
| 82. How did your neighbours consider you when they knew about your imprisonment | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Got rid off 2. Did not welcome to their house 3. Sympathy |
| 83. Has any of your near relatives marriage proposals get cancelled due to your imprisonment | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sisters Marriage 2. Brothers Marriage 3. Cousins Marriage 4. Nephews Marriage 5. Niece's Marriage 6. Nobody's |
| 84. If you had got parole and visited your family what was the reaction of your children then | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. With fear approached 2. Contemptously 3. Looked at sympathetically 4. Indifference 5. N.A |
| 85. How your relatives considered you then | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Got rid off 2. Did not welcome to their house 3. Sympathy 4. Nothing special 5. N.A |
| 86. Did they complain about the hardships they face to look after your family | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Yes 2. No |
| 87. Did they complain that their social recognition is affected by your imprisonment | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All 2. Some of them 3. None |
| 88. What were the reactions of your neighbours then | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Want to avoid 2. Unwelcome 3. Sympathy 4. No change |

89. Has your family changed its residence from the old place as a result of your imprisonment
1. Yes
 2. No
90. On your release do you want to go to your family
1. Yes
 2. No
 3. Not decided
91. If no, what is your reason for not going to your family
1. Will not recognise
 2. Do not want to settled down there
 3. Social excommunication of the family
 4. N.A

b) Parental Care

92. How do you feel about your inability on discharging parental duties
1. Terribly worried
 2. Worried
 3. Not worried
 4. N.A
93. If you are worried about how you overcome such worries
1. Writing more letters expressing your anxieties
 2. Expressing your anxieties when they visit
94. Are you worried about the future of your children
1. Very much
 2. Some what
 3. Not at all
 4. N.A
- a) are you worried about the future of your children for they being the children of a convict
1. Yes
 2. No
95. Are you worried about the character formation of your children
1. Yes
 2. Not at all

96. If you are worried about the character formation of your children, how would you try to straighten it ip
1. Ask your spouse to take care
 2. Ask the children to be more responsible
97. Do you think that your children are showing deviant tendencies
1. Yes
 2. No
- a) if yes, think that your children are showing deviant tendencies
1. Yes
 2. No
98. Do you think that your children are showing changes in their behaviour
1. Yes
 2. No
- a) if yes, what types of changes you can see in them
1. Not talking
 2. Inquiring
 3. Tried to get distanced
 4. N.A

c. On the Economic Sphere

99. Were you the bread inner of your family during the pre-imprisonment period
- 1, Yes
 - 2, No
- 100 Who is the bread inner in your family now
1. Spouse
 2. Children
 3. Others
 - 4.
- 101 How your family has been affected financially due to your imprisonment
1. Terribly
 2. Moderately
 3. Not affected
- 102 Do you think that any of your family members will take care of the financial needs of your spouse and children in your absence
1. Yes
 2. No
- a) if no, are they worried about it
1. Yes
 2. No

103. If you are worried about how would you cope with it
1. Ask the spouse to earn more
 2. Ask the children to be independently
104. Due to your imprisonment has anybody else been in your family forced to go for work
1. Yes
 2. No
- a) if yes who started working
1. Son
 2. Daughter
 3. Brother
 4. Others
105. Have you mortgaged any of your properties due to your imprisonment
1. Yes
 2. No
- a) if yes, give the type of mortgaged property
1. Land
 2. House
 3. Gold
 4. Vehicle
 5. Utensils
106. Have you been forced to sell out any of your properties due to your imprisonment
1. Yes
 2. No
- a) if yes, give the type of property
1. Land
 2. House
 3. Gold
 4. Vehicle
 5. Others
107. Has your spouse been forced to take any loan on account of the loss your income
1. Children's marriage
 2. Children's education
 3. Treatment
 4. Legal expenses
 5. Others

108. Has any one of your family members faced problem in getting a loan for he/she being your relative

1. Yes
2. No

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