Causes of School Dropouts among Rural Girls in Kathua District

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ABSTRACT A dropout is considered a student who for any reason other than death leaves school before graduation without transferring to another school. Dropping out of school is a well documented social problem and often present daunting circumstances for adolescents. Dropping out is also associated with delinquency, and low school achievements. The study was conducted in Kathua District of J and K State. The sample was selected from four villages of Kathua Tehsil namely; Kharote, Janglote, Barwal and Govindsar. The sample consisted of 50 dropout girls and one of their parents. A snowball sampling technique was used for the selection of sample. To get information for the present study an interview schedule was framed. The data obtained was compiled and analyzed using simple numbers and percentages. The main causes of dropping out of girls from school in rural areas were reluctance of parents and participation in domestic activities. Another major reason was problem of financial constraint. The parent’s educational status was poor and they did not give much importance to the education of girls as they did to their sons. They perceived that sons support them in their old age.