**Proposal for Presentation**

- 5th Congress of Asian and the Pacific studies 2015 -

**Dates:** 9 - 10 - 11 September 2015

**Name of panel and panel coordinator:** Critical Assessment of Asian Population Policies from a Demographic and Gender Perspective, Laura Rahm

**Title of presentation: Discourse analysis of policy environment on sex selective abortions: Case study from India**

Sonya Davey, Gates Cambridge Scholar currently pursing an MPhil at the University of Cambridge, UK. I will be attending medical school at Stanford University with a focus on women’s advocacy in global healthcare starting autumn 2015.

The concept of sex selection and sex-selective abortion has been vastly studied in India. However, little analysis has been conducted on recent policies surrounding son preference and sex-selection. This study aims to investigate discourses surrounding key policy stakeholders including Indian government officials, activists, academics, and medical practitioners.

Additionally, the study aims to analyze the impact of policy implementation against sex-selection. Employing both qualitative and quantitative methods, this study (1) analyzes policy discourse through public statements in newspapers, reports, and semi-structured interviews with key policy actors and (2) attempts to quantify the impact of policies at regional and state levels through correlations between state policy implementation and sex ratios.

Disciplinary field: Anthropology

Key words: Discourse analysis, policy evaluation, qualitative and quantitative assessment, sex-selective abortion, sex ratio, India