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WHITE BLACK LEGAL is an open access, peer-reviewed and refereed journal provided dedicated to express views on topical legal issues, thereby generating a cross current of ideas on emerging matters. This platform shall also ignite the initiative and desire of young law students to contribute in the field of law. The erudite response of legal luminaries shall be solicited to enable readers to explore challenges that lie before law makers, lawyers and the society at large, in the event of the ever changing social, economic and technological scenario.

With this thought, we hereby present to you



# **A CRITICAL ANALYSIS ON THE MERITS AND DEMERITS OF ONLINE EXAMS**

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## **Abstract**

As a result of the pandemic, the educational system has been obliged to adopt a digital interface. Students no longer have the opportunity to participate in lessons that include physical interactions and practical knowledge. Exams are conducted in the same manner that learning is done using available online platforms. Though the goal is to safeguard the younger generation from becoming infected and to limit the pandemic's spread, these online exams have a significant impact on the future of aspiring leaders. This study attempts to analyse the advantages of online exams and the difficulties faced by students who graduated via online exams. Here the research methodology followed is descriptive research. The sample size is 256 collected through convenient sampling. At the end of this research it was inferred that most of the respondents agreed with the merits and demerits and also preferred multiple choice questions for online exams by developing better apps and websites for examination to make them under full surveillance while attending the exams. Thus there should be more advanced applications developed in order to ease the difficulties faced in the online exams and thereby preventing any malpractices too.

## **Keywords**

Online Exam, Advantages, Disadvantages, Privacy, Safety

## Introduction

Online Exams are computer based examination which means that examination can be attended with the help of the gadgets such as computers, ones, etc. and there is no fixed exam halls or examination centres they shall attend the exams from their residence too it was invented by American businessman and philanthropist known as Henry Fischel somewhere in the late 19th century. and later it was redeveloped, reintroduced and updated by both individuals and corporate app developers to make it user friendly and to get more users. During **COVID 19** pandemic the whole world is under a lockdown and there is no schools and colleges and the exams and the classes were held through online and the students and the examiners were supposed to write their exams through online there were some advantages and disadvantages in online exams advantages such as reduction of time and money spent, enhanced safety and privacy, eco- friendly, highly accessible to both teachers and students, etc. disadvantages such as connectivity issues as the exam is executed online, it needs a good internet connection and other infrastructure deficiency issues, Cheating practises, etc.

For both online exams and online classes the government of india also initiated some time limits and also developed some apps and websites not only government also the government and private universities created their individual apps and websites by using such apps or websites the students and the examiners will write the exams in various methods as per the instructions given by their institutions

There were many factors affecting the online exams such as server issues i.e there is an issues or error in the apps or websites they are attending their exams, network issues as the exam is executed online, it needs a good internet connection there were no proper infrastructure such as proper internet connection, proper gadgets to attend the exams if the exams are conducted through online the students are cheating and gambling easily compared to offline exams

After covid-19 pandemic the online classes and exams increases as the whole world is under lockdown and students are not supposed to go to school and attend normal classes Invigilation and even the corrections are through online it was an adventure for the life of the poor students because it is mandatory to have either computer or laptop or smartphones or other gadgets with internet connection to attend online classes and exams

In India comparing to America less infrastructure , high poverty level 28% , only 54% smartphone users and 23% desktop users in India While in America they have good infrastructure, less poverty level 10.5% ,85% Smartphone users and 74% desktop users in America

## Objectives

- To analyse the advantages of online exam
- To examine the difficulties faced by the students who were graduated via online exam
- To examine the respondents preference upon the type of questions for online exams

## Literature Review

**Pranati Tilak, Meera Amood Deshmukh, Sabina Salim Kazi Hakim and Shweta Phadke (2020)** made an study to examine and survey the perceptions on online examination towards UnderGraduate Management students of Tilak Maharashtra vidyapeeth, Pune The sample size of study was 134 students As a result of this survey the students favoured online exams

**Madangit singh, Sulaimon Oyeniyi Adebayo, Munish sainsi and Jaswinder singh (2021)** made an study to evaluate the Indian Government E-Learning initiatives in response Covid 19 crisis and to evaluate the student and teacher responses to E-learning and their tools The sample size of the study was 384 Students and 49 Teachers of 7 Universities and 15 Colleges Where the outcomes are satisfactory and most of the respondents favoured E-learning

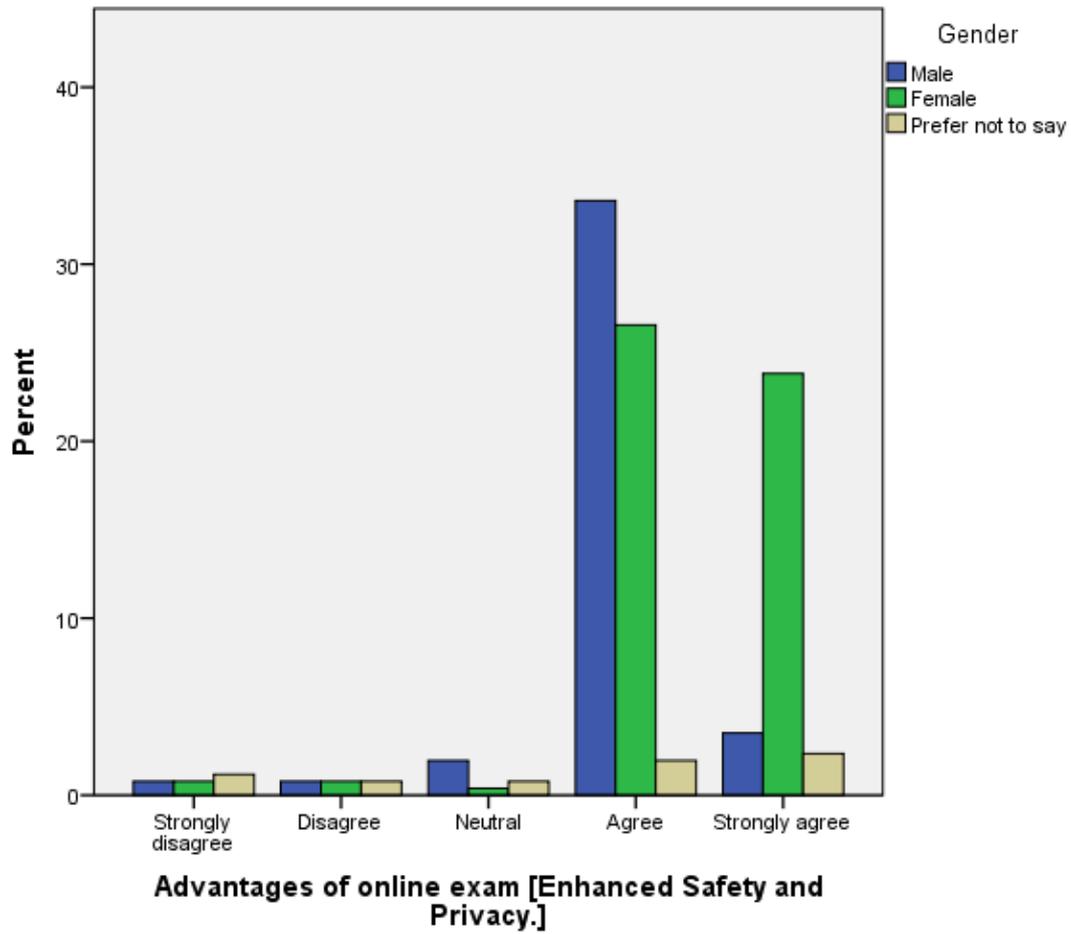
**Pranjal Ashish Grover (2021), Apoorva Dighe, Pranati Tilak and Shweta phadke (2021)** to study the efficacy of online pre recorded practical demonstrations and live streamed practical demonstration towards third year physiotherapy students the sample size of study was 44 third B.P.Th students from lokmanya college of physiotherapy as a result of this research the students preferred live demonstration technique over pre recorded videos

## Methodology

The research method followed here is descriptive research. A total of 256 samples have been collected out of which all samples have been collected through convenient sampling methods. The sample frame taken here is through online Google forms The independent variables are age, gender, educational qualification, Occupation, Monthly income, marital status. The dependent variables are advantages of online exam, difficulties faced by the students who were graduated via online exams and type of online exams the respondents prefer.

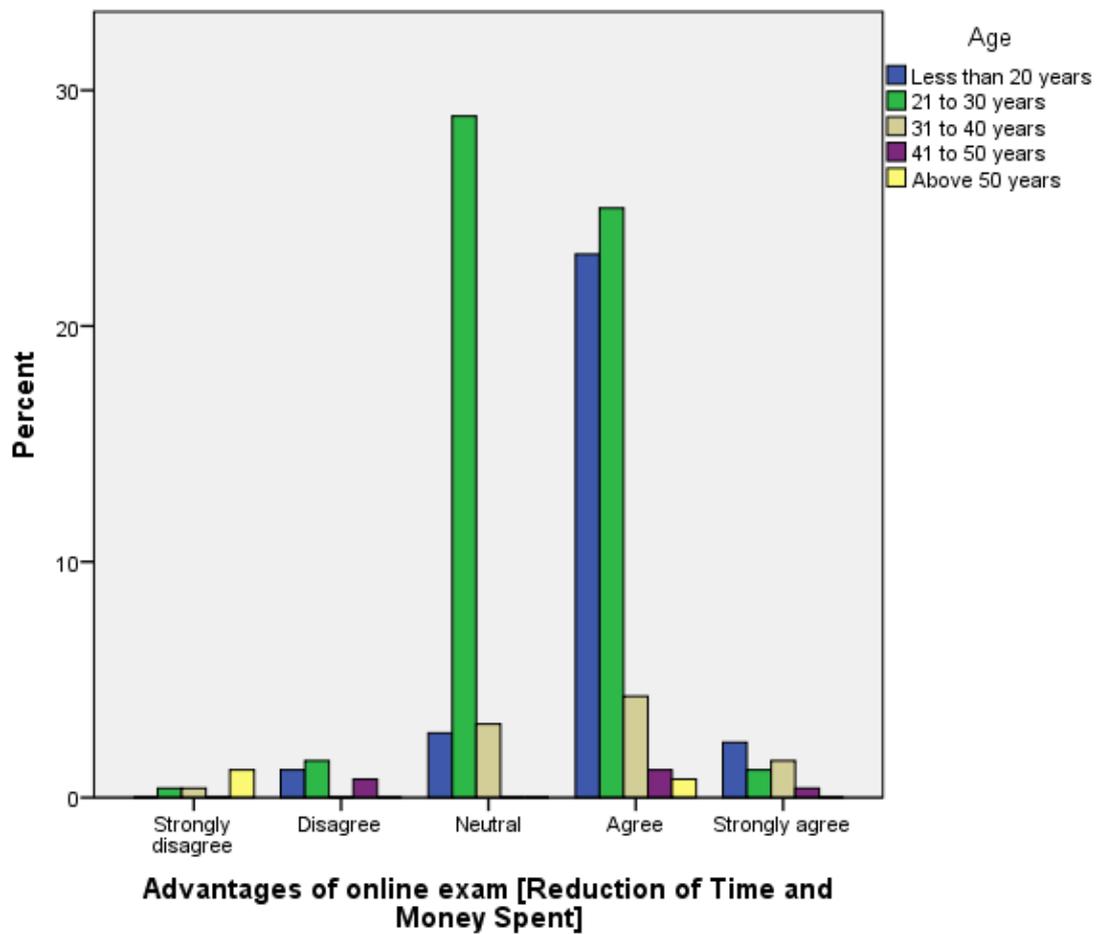
## Analysis

Figure 1



**Legend;** Figure 1 shows Respondent's view on enhanced safety and privacy under advantages of online exam

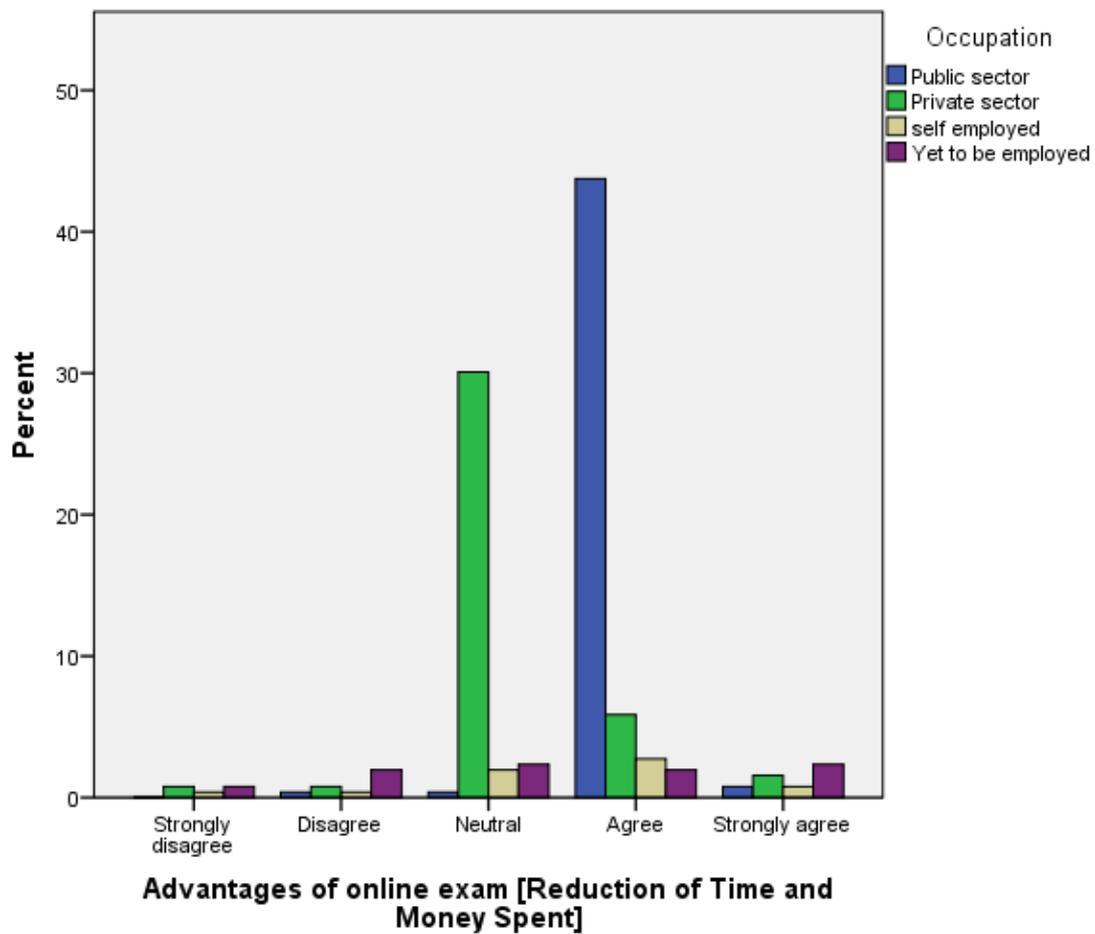
Figure 2



**Legend**

Figure 2 shows various set of age group Respondent's view on Reduction of time and money spent under advantages of online exam

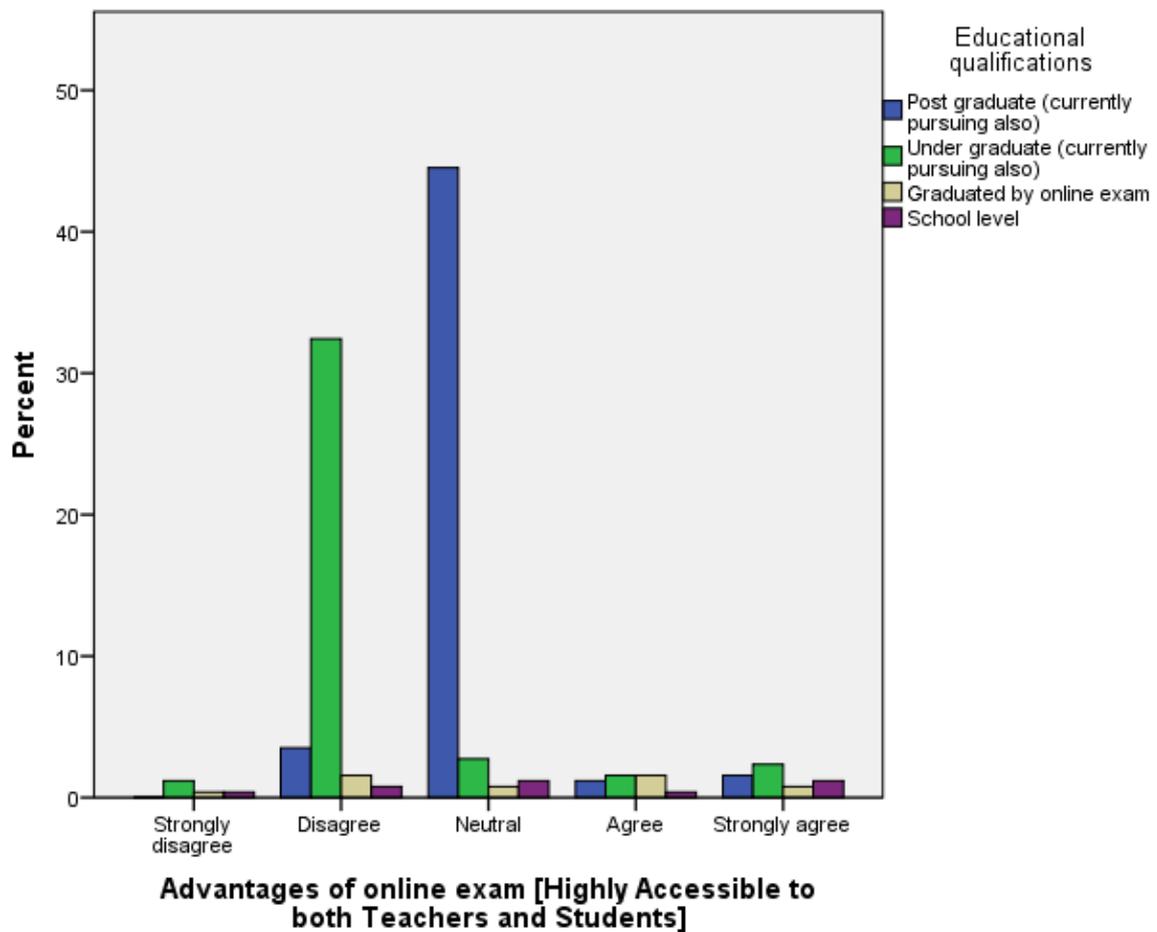
Figure 3



**Legend**

Figure 3 shows various Respondents pursuing different occupation and whose views on reduction of time and money spent under the advantages of online exam

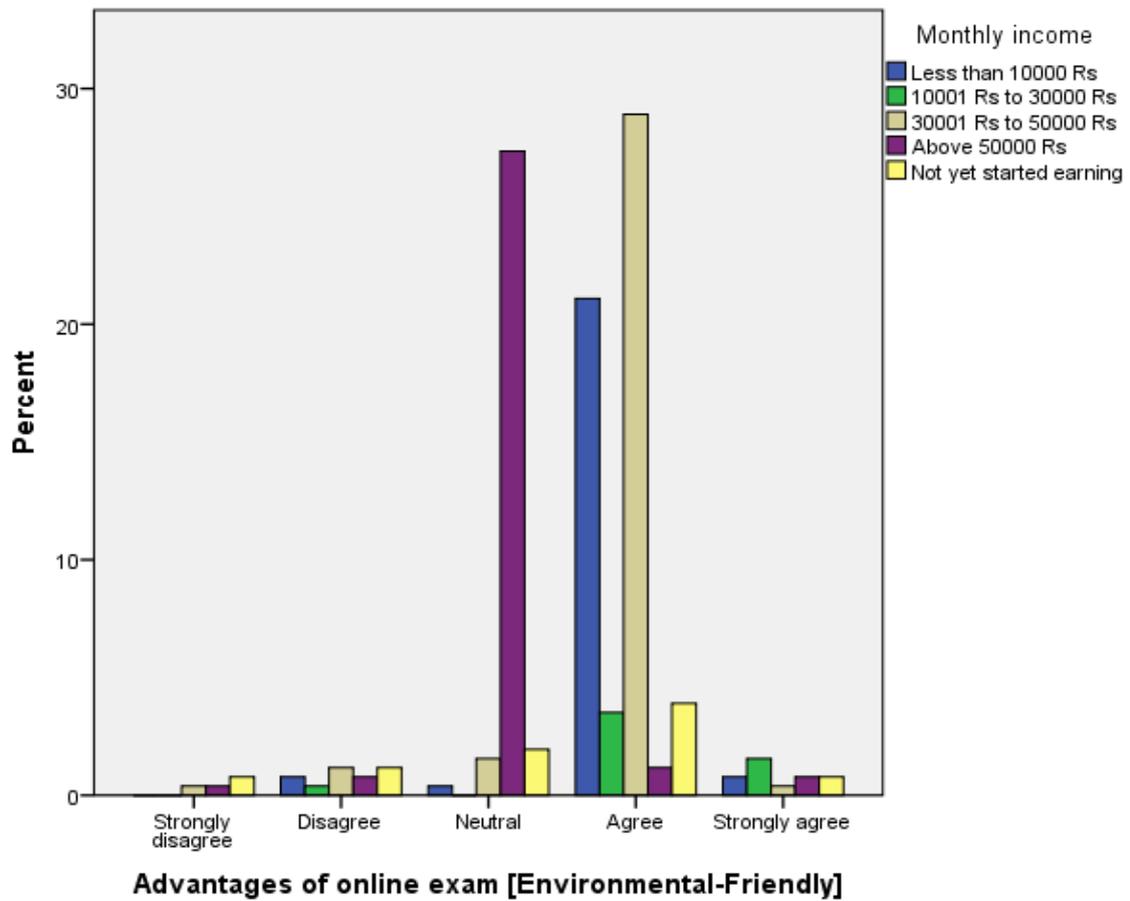
Figure 4



**Legend**

Figure 4 shows various respondents of different Educational Qualifications and whose views on that Online exams are highly Accessible to both students and teachers

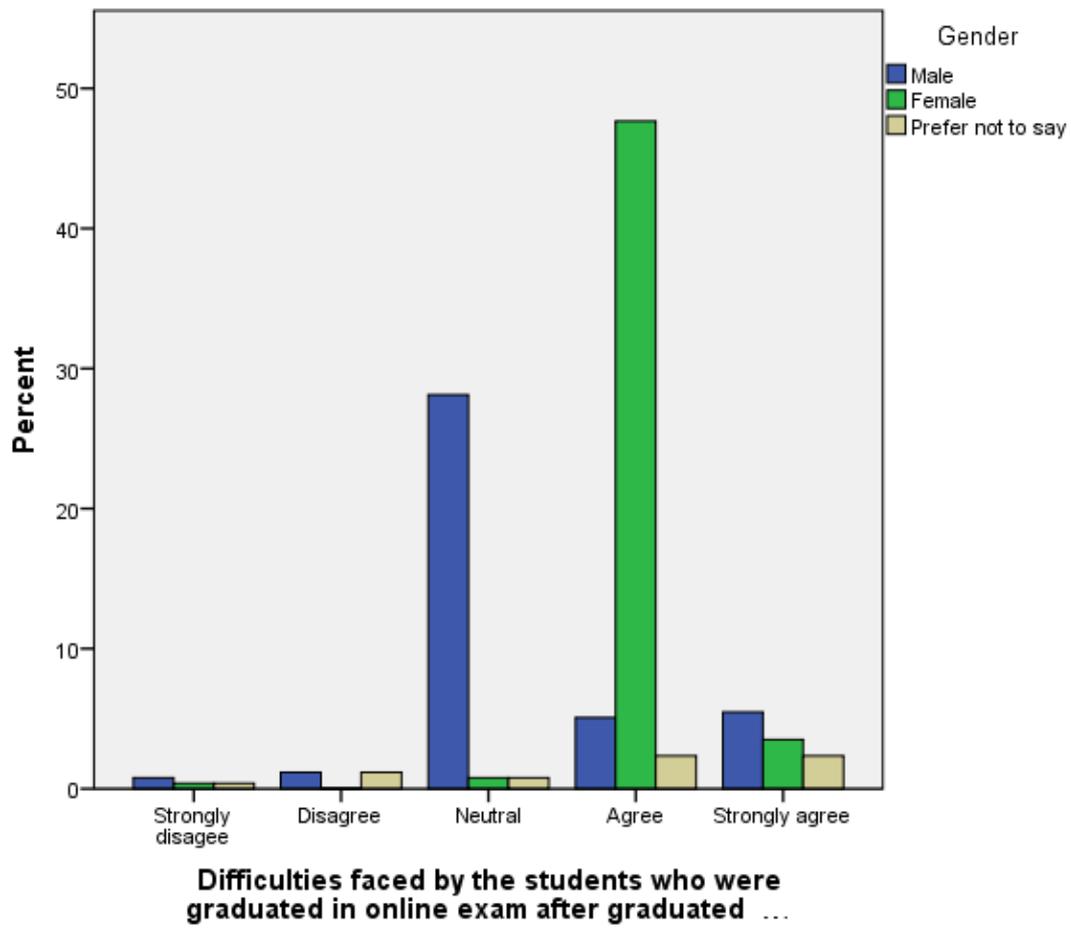
Figure 5



**Legend**

Figure 5 shows various respondents of different monthly income and whose agreeability towards the statement that online exam are environmental friendly

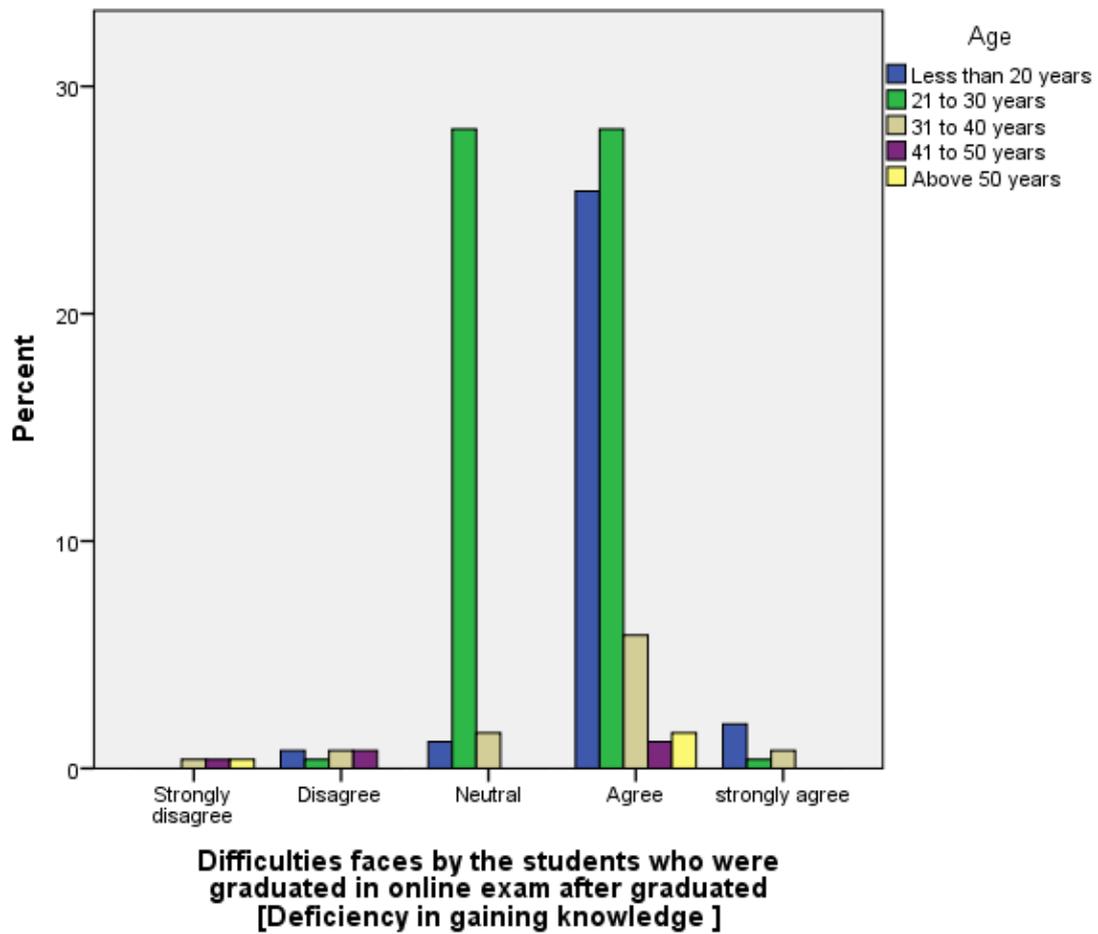
Figure 6



**Legend**

Figure 6 shows various respondents views on difficulties faced by the students to get a job who were graduated via online exams

Figure 7



**Legend**

Figure 7 shows the various set of age group respondents views on deficiency in gaining knowledge under difficulties faced by the students who were graduated via online exams

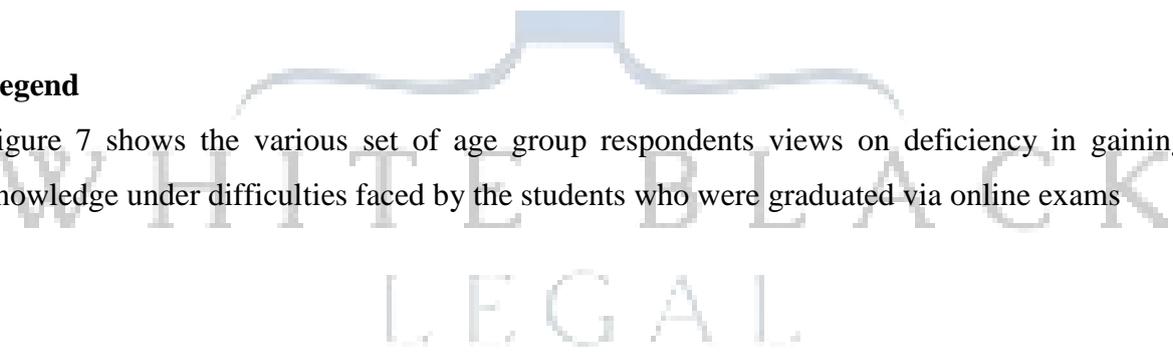
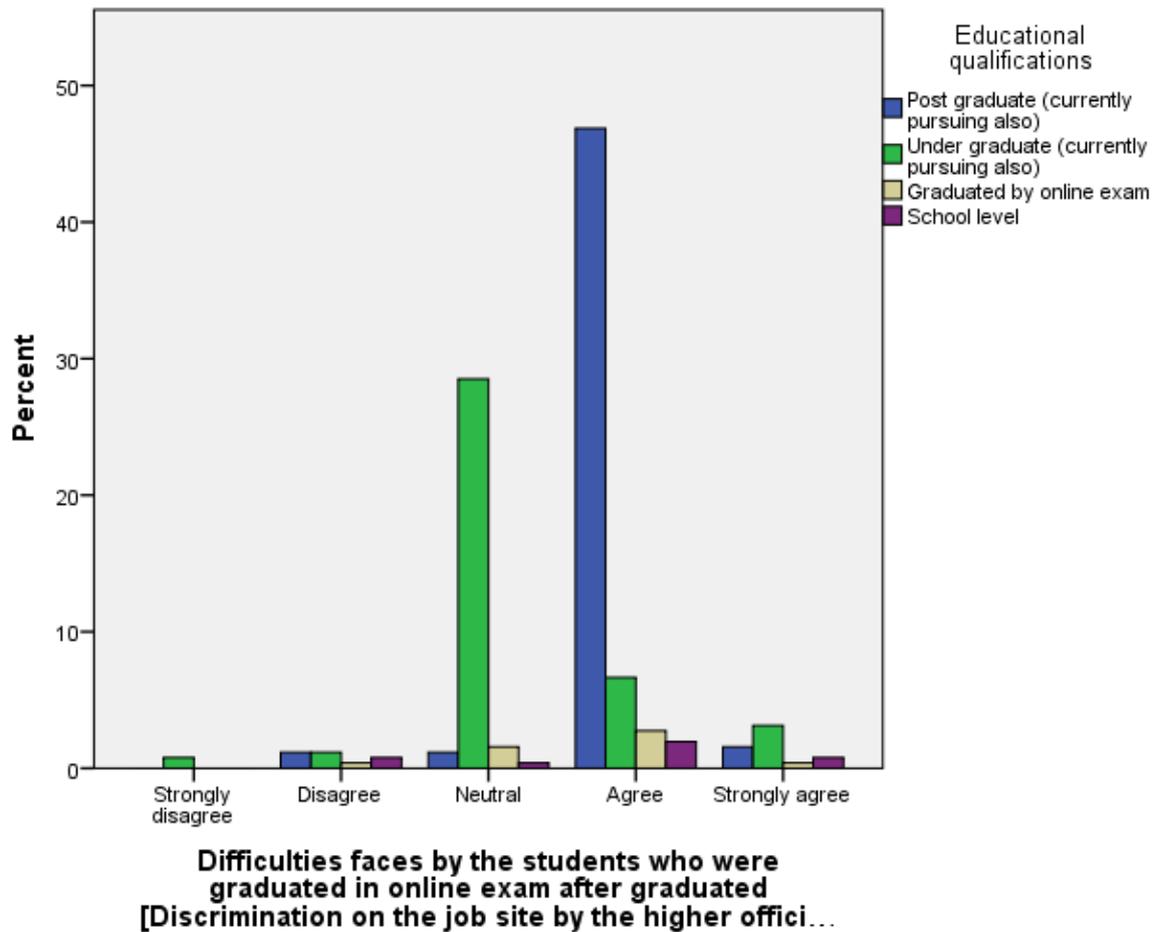


Figure 8



**Legend**

Figure 8 shows the various respondents of different educational qualification and whose agreeability towards the discrimination on the job site by the higher officials under difficulties faced by the students who were graduated via online exams

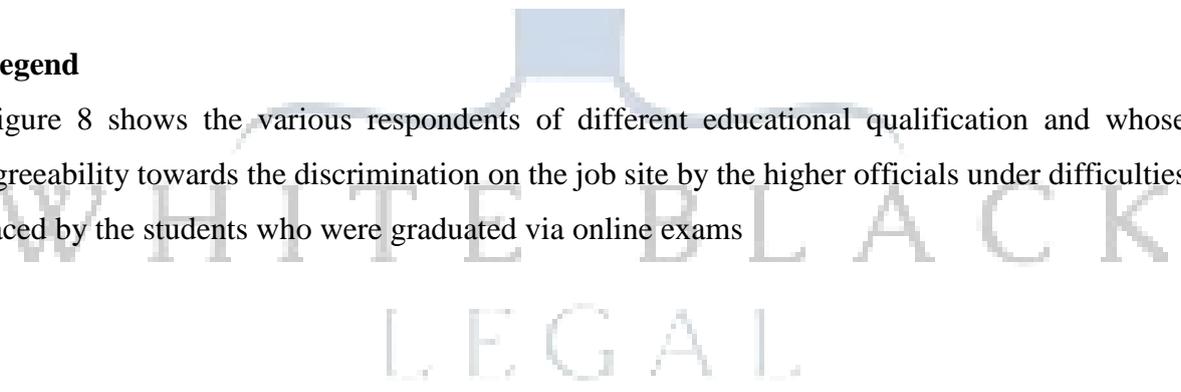
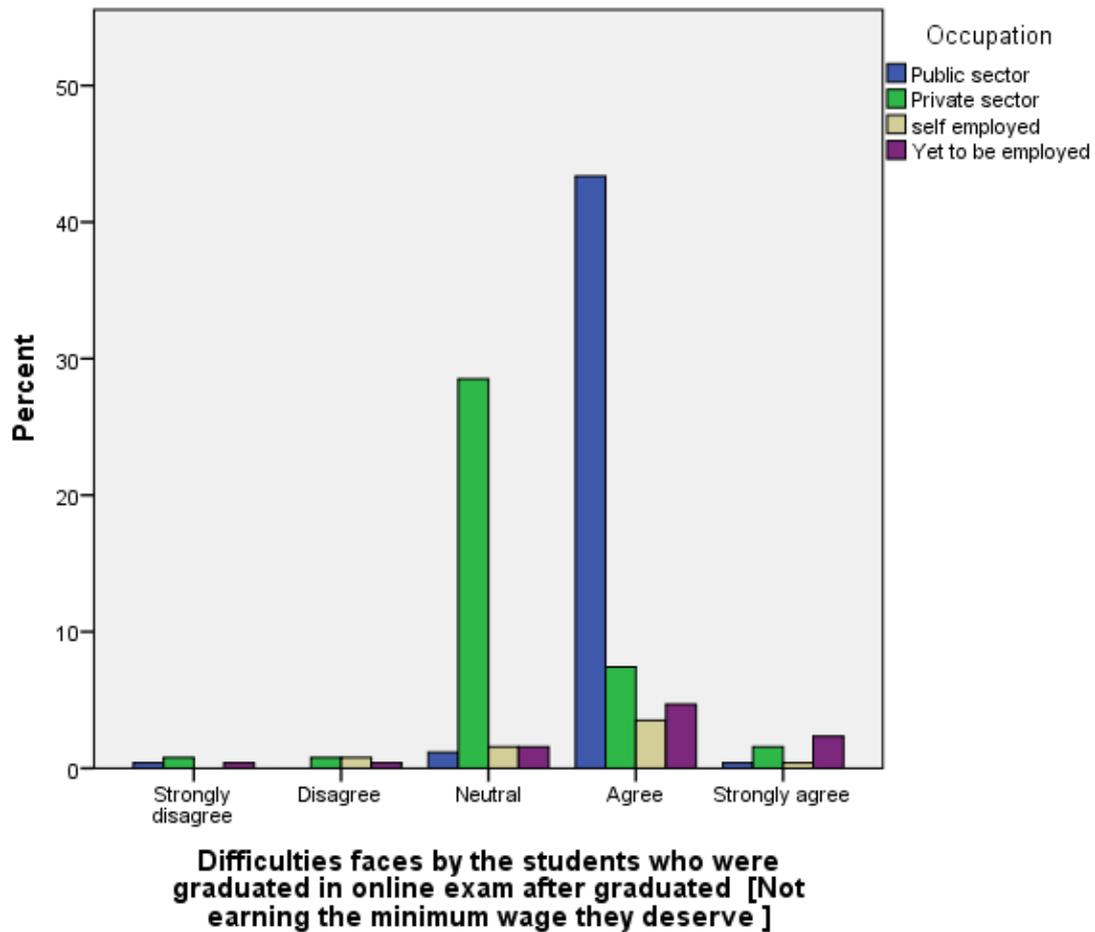


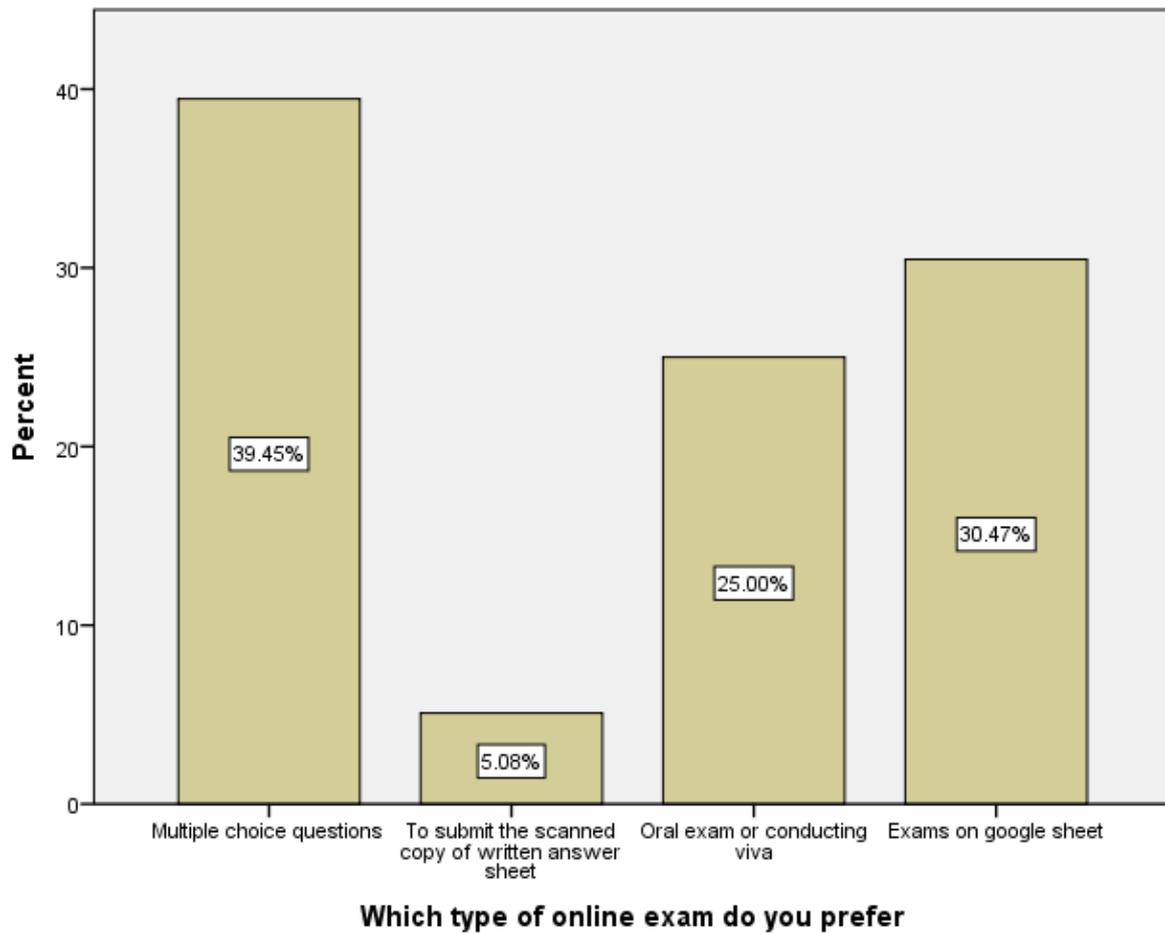
Figure 9



**Legend**

Figure 9 shows various respondents who were doing different occupations and whose agreeability towards the statement that the students who were graduated via online exams are not earning the minimum wage they deserve

Figure 10



**Legend**

This figure shows the respondents preference over the type of online exam

## Result

### Figure 1

It is clear from figure 1 that both male and female respondents agree that online exams give enhanced safety and privacy

### Figure 2

It is clear from the figure that the Respondents of age group 21 to 30 stated neutral on reduction of time and money spent via online exams

Respondents of age group 21 to 30 years, 31 to 40 years and 41 to 50 years agree that online helps to reduce money and time spent

Respondents of age group above 50 years strongly disagree that online exams help to reduce time and money spent

### Figure 3

This figure shows most of the respondents who were working under public sector and who were doing business / self-employed responded that online exams reduce the time and money spent via online exam

Most of the respondents who were working under private sector stated neutral for reduction of money and time spent via online exam

Most of the respondents who were not yet employed agree that online exams reduce the time and money spent

### Figure 4

This Figure shows most of the post graduate respondents stated neutral for the statement that online exams are accessible for both students and teachers

Most of the undergraduate respondents disagree that online exams are highly accessible to both students and teachers

### Figure 5

Most of the respondents of monthly income 30001 Rs to 50000 Rs, less than 10000 Rs and the respondents who were not yet started earning agree that online exams are environmental friendly

Most of the respondents of monthly income above 50000 Rs stated neutral on the statement that online exams are environmental friendly

### Figure 6

Most of the female respondents agree the statement that students who were graduated via online exams have difficulties to get a job

Most of the male respondents stated neutral towards the statement that students who were graduated via online exams have difficulties to get a job

Figure 7

Most of the respondents of age group 21 to 30 years, less than 20 years, 31 to 40 years, 41 to 50 years and above 50 years agrees the statement that the students who were graduated via online exams have deficiency in gaining knowledge

Most of the respondents of age group 21 to 30 also stated neutral to the statement that the students who were graduated via online exams have deficiency in gaining knowledge

Figure 8

This figure shows Most of the post graduate , graduated via online exams and school level respondents agrees that students who were graduated via online exams have discrimination on the job site by the higher officials

Most of the undergraduate respondents stated neutral towards the statement that the students who were graduated via online have discrimination on the job site by the higher officials

Figure 9

This figure shows most of the public sector, self employed and yet to be employed respondents agrees that the students who were graduated via online exams are not earning the minimum wage they deserve

Most of the private sector workers stated neutral towards the statement that the students who were graduated via online exams are not earning the minimum wage they deserve

Figure 10

This figure shows that most of the respondents (39.45%) had chosen Multiple choice questions type of online exams



## **Discussion**

Figure 1

Most of the Respondents - gender- male group agrees that online exam provides enhanced safety and privacy since after covid-19 pandemic they are so afraid to attend the exams directly through offline

Figure 2

Most of the respondents of age group of less than 20 years , 31 to 40 years and 41 to 50 years agrees that online helps to reduce money and time spent because we shall attend the online exams from the convenient place we choose so no fixed exam halls we need not travel from

one place to another to attend an examination

Figure 3

Most of the respondents - occupation- public sector group agrees that the online exam reduces the time and money spend because it will give the sufficient time to spend in other daily routines.

Figure 4

Most of the respondents - Educational qualification - post graduate(currently pursuing also) shows neutral towards that online exams are highly Accessible to both students and teachers because all students have the facilities to attend the online class

Figure 5

Most of the respondents -monthly income- 30,001Rs.-50,000Rs. group shows agrees that online exam are environmental friendly because the reduction of transportation to school will reduce the pollution

Figure 6

Most of the respondents-gender-female group agrees that difficulties faced by the students to get a job who were graduated via online exams because there is no focus and attention towards the teacher while teaching , as a result they due to lack of improving skills they are struggling to get a job

Figure 7

Most of the respondents -age- 21-30 years agrees that deficiency in gaining knowledge under difficulties faced by the students who were graduated via online exams because due to lack of focussing on the subjects they lose interest and will start to hate it.

Figure 8

Most of the respondents- educational qualification- post graduate (currently pursuing also) agrees that discrimination on the job site by the higher officials under difficulties faced by the students who were graduated via online exams because of the inability to answer the questions in interview

Figure 9

Most of the respondents -occupation- public sector group agrees that the students who graduated via online exams are not earning the minimum wage they deserve because of the inability to tackle the extreme situations more efficiently.

Figure 10

Most of the respondents had chosen multiple choice type of questions for online exams because it is easy to answer via online comparing to other types of online exams and it also easy to

validate and invigilate via online

## Inferences

Chi-Square tests

Null hypothesis: There is no association between type of online exams they prefer and their gender

Alternate hypothesis: There is association between type of online exams they prefer and their gender

**Which type of online exam do you prefer \* Gender Crosstabulation**

Count		Gender			Total
		Male	Female	Prefer not to say	
Which type of online exam do you prefer	Multiple choice questions	21	73	7	101
	To submit the scanned copy of written answer sheet	6	3	4	13
	Oral exam or conducting viva	4	56	4	64
	Exams on google sheet	73	2	3	78
Total		104	134	18	256

### Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	155.786 <sup>a</sup>	6	.000
Likelihood Ratio	174.991	6	.000
Linear-by-Linear Association	48.061	1	.000
N of Valid Cases	256		

a. 2 cells (16.7%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is .91.

Interpretation

The calculated p value is 0.000 since  $p \text{ value} < 0.05$  null hypothesis is rejected at 5% level of significance. So there is a association between type of online exams they prefer and their gender

## Limitation

One of the major limitations of the study in the sample frame. There is a major constraint in the sample frame as it limits within my contacts and my social media followers and friends. Thus, it proves to be difficult to extrapolate it to a larger population Another limitation is the

sample size of 256 which cannot be used to think of the entire population in a particular country, state or city

## Conclusion

Online exam is the exam which is conducted through online with the help of computers Based on the results of this study it was found that online exams has both merits and demerits most of the respondents agreed the merits of online at the same time it have some demerits too and in India the students who were graduated via online exams are not treated as same as the students who were graduated via traditional type of exam (offline exams) because compared to offline exams in online exams the students can easily cheat , involves in copying or attempting to copy , communicating answer with another person during an exam ,and other types of gambling these are the main disadvantages of online exam and the disadvantages can be minimised by changing the type of questions most of the respondents prefer multiple choice questions for online exams since it can be fully monitored and it does have any thing to write or type and it is easy to answer via online online only way to solve this issues are creating better apps and websites and making them perfectly to monitor the examiners may be in future there is no traditional type of exams i.e exams with paper and pen

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