

Vol 4 Issue 4 Oct 2014

ISSN No :2231-5063

International Multidisciplinary Research Journal

Golden Research Thoughts

Chief Editor
Dr.Tukaram Narayan Shinde

Publisher
Mrs.Laxmi Ashok Yakkaldevi

Associate Editor
Dr.Rajani Dalvi

Honorary
Mr.Ashok Yakkaldevi

Welcome to GRT

RNI MAHMUL/2011/38595

ISSN No.2231-5063

Golden Research Thoughts Journal is a multidisciplinary research journal, published monthly in English, Hindi & Marathi Language. All research papers submitted to the journal will be double - blind peer reviewed referred by members of the editorial board. Readers will include investigator in universities, research institutes government and industry with research interest in the general subjects.

International Advisory Board

Flávio de São Pedro Filho Federal University of Rondonia, Brazil	Mohammad Hailat Dept. of Mathematical Sciences, University of South Carolina Aiken	Hasan Baktir English Language and Literature Department, Kayseri
Kamani Perera Regional Center For Strategic Studies, Sri Lanka	Abdullah Sabbagh Engineering Studies, Sydney	Ghayoor Abbas Chotana Dept of Chemistry, Lahore University of Management Sciences[PK]
Janaki Sinnasamy Librarian, University of Malaya	Ecaterina Patrascu Spiru Haret University, Bucharest	Anna Maria Constantinovici AL. I. Cuza University, Romania
Romona Mihaila Spiru Haret University, Romania	Loredana Bosca Spiru Haret University, Romania	Ilie Pinte, Spiru Haret University, Romania
Delia Serbescu Spiru Haret University, Bucharest, Romania	Fabricio Moraes de Almeida Federal University of Rondonia, Brazil	Xiaohua Yang PhD, USA
Anurag Misra DBS College, Kanpur	George - Calin SERITAN Faculty of Philosophy and Socio-Political Sciences AL. I. Cuza University, IasiMore
Titus PopPhD, Partium Christian University, Oradea,Romania		

Editorial Board

Pratap Vyamktrao Naikwade ASP College Devrukh,Ratnagiri,MS India	Iresh Swami Ex - VC. Solapur University, Solapur	Rajendra Shendge Director, B.C.U.D. Solapur University, Solapur
R. R. Patil Head Geology Department Solapur University,Solapur	N.S. Dhaygude Ex. Prin. Dayanand College, Solapur	R. R. Yalikal Director Managment Institute, Solapur
Rama Bhosale Prin. and Jt. Director Higher Education, Panvel	Narendra Kadu Jt. Director Higher Education, Pune	Umesh Rajderkar Head Humanities & Social Science YCMOU,Nashik
Salve R. N. Department of Sociology, Shivaji University,Kolhapur	K. M. Bhandarkar Praful Patel College of Education, Gondia	S. R. Pandya Head Education Dept. Mumbai University, Mumbai
Govind P. Shinde Bharati Vidyapeeth School of Distance Education Center, Navi Mumbai	Sonal Singh Vikram University, Ujjain	Alka Darshan Shrivastava Shaskiya Snatkottar Mahavidyalaya, Dhar
Chakane Sanjay Dnyaneshwar Arts, Science & Commerce College, Indapur, Pune	G. P. Patankar S. D. M. Degree College, Honavar, Karnataka	Rahul Shriram Sudke Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya, Indore
Awadhesh Kumar Shirotriya Secretary,Play India Play,Meerut(U.P.)	Maj. S. Bakhtiar Choudhary Director,Hyderabad AP India.	S.KANNAN Annamalai University,TN
	S.Parvathi Devi Ph.D.-University of Allahabad	Satish Kumar Kalhotra Maulana Azad National Urdu University
	Sonal Singh, Vikram University, Ujjain	

Address:-Ashok Yakkaldevi 258/34, Raviwar Peth, Solapur - 413 005 Maharashtra, India
Cell : 9595 359 435, Ph No: 02172372010 Email: ayisrj@yahoo.in Website: www.aygrt.isrj.org



GRT AN ANALYSIS OF THE ROLE OF RURAL WOMEN IN DECISION MAKING PROCESS IN HARYANA

Anil Kumar

Lecturer in Sociology, GSSS, Birohar (Jhajjar)

Abstract:-The present study was carried out on the 80 female respondents in village Gatauli in district Jind of Haryana. The study is descriptive and exploratory in nature. The present study has focused to know the involvement of the rural women in the decision making process of their family affairs. This study explains that maximum respondents have been engaged in household and agricultural activities. Their decision making is not restricted upto domestic work only. Their husbands give weight to their suggestions regarding agricultural activities. But the major decisions regarding sale purchase of land, vote casting, marriages, purchasing of machinery, number of children in the family, etc. are still taken by the men only. Thus, patriarchy still exists in the domestic arena of the Indian society.

Keywords: Decision making, gender role, participation, power, status.

INTRODUCTION

Women play an important role in determining the destiny of a nation. Therefore, due recognition to them in the society and their greater involvement in socio-economic and political affairs becomes all the important. However, history reveals that women have not been given their due status in the society. The role of women as wife and mother was centralized and as a consequence it was expected from them to guard all the religious and socio-cultural value and thus women's wage work was supposed to be in harmony with the home. Thus, "home" become their primary occupation even if they take a secondary salaried job outside the home. Housework is most unproductive the most barbarous and arduous work a woman can do. It is exceptionally petty and does include anything that would in any way promote the development of the women. But it cannot be forgotten that the housework is essentially to sustain our social and economic structure, where the family is the basic unit of production. It is highly labour intensive yet it is unpaid. From this, flow the idea that the economic interdependence on men should be lessened so that women can think of becoming the part of decision making process.

Rural women in India as well as in other countries have been neglected a lot. They have not been actively involved in the mainstream of development even though they represent a bulk of population and labour force. Primarily, women are the means of survival of their families but are generally unrecognized and undervalued being placed at the bottom of the pile. Ideologically as well as in practice women were considered completely inferior to males.

Women are an important segment of family's economy because of their active participation in home, farm and other activities. Rural women play vital role in decision making regarding household resources which are especially used by them. Their influence and decision-making in household affairs is affected due to certain factor like the degree of economic independence, socio-

cultural pressures, demographic factors and physical settings etc.

In Haryana, the women are overloaded with work in the house hold and field and all these activities makes them busy from early morning till the evening. In spite of all there burden of farm and home their contribution are not given due recognition and their work is not recognized as productive. Another study by Joshi & Janna (1987) explains that in the joint family social role of men and women is strictly separated. A daughter-in-law has to remain in purdah and may not speak directly to her father-in-law and her husband's elder brothers. This proves her subordinate position.

In any group, status of its members gets expressed to a great extent by their rights of taking decisions regarding themselves and the whole group. In family, various decisions are required to be taken regarding the daily affairs like maintenance of house, lifestyle of members, food and regarding particular occasional acts having far-reaching effects such as financial budget of family, purchases of things to be used for a long time, buying and selling of immovable property, education, profession and marriages of children etc. Blood and Wolfe (1960), in a study on, "Husbands and wives - The Dynamics of married living", studied some 900 wives in urban and rural areas. They found that remaining 25 percent of the marriages, it was husbands who dominated in decision making, whereas only 3 percent of wives took the decision regarding marriage. In the remaining 72 percent, both partners had about equal say. The most common pattern was a division of responsibility, with the wife usually or always deciding some matters, such as the food, budget and selection of a doctor, and the husband deciding others. Dasgupta (2003) also describes the position of women in his book, "position of women among Hindus". According to him, the social position of women, their duties as daughter, wives and mothers, restrictions on the education of women in accordance with religious beliefs and rituals are to an extent responsible for their slow progress.

John Scanzoni (1980) in his book 'Family Decision Making: A developmental sex role model', says that traditional sex roles make the family decision-making 'unnecessary'. Moreover, besides gender roles, other elements play an important part in affecting family decision-making. These include tangible resources (education and income) and intangible resources (race, religion, age, etc.). Also early decision influences decision-making. Since Indian women are totally subordinated to man, she takes all type of atrocities on herself with a sense of submission in quite a natural way. Therefore, in the modern nuclear family also, husband tends to keep all the decision power with himself, regarding all the important matters of inside and outside home, utilizes it on the occasion, and his wife being his obedient follower, only helps him in converting his decisions into practice. For women who go out for working, since they attain only limited knowledge about outer world due to limited activities regarding their profession and office, therefore their advice is taken on the issue only for formalities sake. Old customs and traditions of the Indian society are so deep-rooted that in order to erase their effects and to change the thinking of men and women both, special efforts, are needed to be made by the interested and concerned people themselves. Women have no right to take decision, not only connected with the whole family or any other member of the family, but with herself also. Her own liking and disliking, willingness and unwillingness regarding various issues concerned with her own life have no importance and they don't direct her activities and she has to lead her life according to her husband's wishes and expectations. Generally, decisions concerned with household daily affairs are taken by women by keeping in mind the husbands likes and dislikes, but the decisions regarding important issues outside the home are mostly taken by men.

D'Souza (1975), in 'Women in contemporary India', says that there is not much improvement in the status of women till today. Women are not consulted in family decision-making processes.

Santosh Sharma and NaliniOgale (1995) focus on women's employment and decision making power in the family. A study of women worker in the handloom industries of Panipat in Haryana. Total sample of 252 women workers was selected, comprising 126 workers each from rural and urban areas. They find that more percentage of women workers had control over family finance and had some decision-making authority within the family. Before employment their involvement in various decision-making matters was far less as compared to what it was after took up employment joint decision-making had increased after their employment in activities relating in purchasing of house and jewelry, health of children, size of family, marriage and education of

children. So it can be concluded that earning of women workers did make an impact on their decision-making authority. Still large number of women, workers had not much authority in family matters.

V.M. Rao (2003) focuses on the pattern of workload and participation in decision-making in his study of Arunachal Pradesh to understand marital and economic status of selected women, to analyse time allocation and participation in decision-making process. In his study he found that women attend wide variety of activities in their day to day life. Women took decisions related to child care, children education, type of feast to be prepared, purchase of utensils and clothes and activities. Thus decision related to major issues are taken by husbands, while decisions on activities within the house are dominated by women. Men dominate in taking decisions on number of children to bear, arranging children's marriage, taking/given loans, sale/purchase of animals, settlement of disputes, social visits, and to some extent voting. Thus decision making in important activities is decided by the husbands.

A study by Nayak (1993) found that fisher women Kerala contributed a major portion of family income. They had a tendency to understand their economic role in order to respect to their husband. In his study he found that in most of decision making man played the major role. When a women took a decision on her own it was taken as a sign of full involvement, if her husband or other family members consulted her before making a decision it was treated a partial involvement. On the other hand if the women was not consulted at all treated as 'no-involvement'.

K.M. Kapadia (1966) mentions that men were looking after the major occupational activity and women were looking after the household work. They had much more restricted social life. Very few women were socially free to go out of their home or visit friends house without escort.

M. Sarada Devi and T.R. Rayalu (2003) studied on 75 working women and 75 non-working women from middle class families of Hyderabad and Secundarabad. The study found that working women had more power in taking decisions related to household affairs than non-working women. This might be due to the fact that working women have access to financial resources.

Weissman (1980) work also become a controversial issue for women, it is pointed out are overwhelmed by their multiple roles and overload of work, especially with regard to household tasks. Somehow housework alone and dusting twinges a few times seemed pointers. Women feels as if there was nurturing to look forward to her life was finished.

P.K. Bhowmick (2002) found that more than about 75 per cent of educated women of Orissa feel that only females can take decision regarding their participation in political affairs in village whereas 75% illiterate women think that, only the male members of the family can decide. More than 92% of illiterate women also feel that joint decision should be taken for their participation in politics. Being illiterate and due to superstitions male counterpart make them depend on the decisions of their male member of family.

Chartton (1984) observed that women were in majority involved in making decision regarding to cooking, cleaning, milking but decision related to major issues are taken by males. Males taking decision on sale/purchase of animals, settlement of disputes, social visits. Women are generally not expected to be self-supporting, have few opportunities to earn significant income.

FIELD OF STUDY AND METHODOLOGY

The present study aims to study the role of rural women in decision making in their daily routine affairs of life. For this, the village Gatauli in Julana block of district Jind was selected as the area of study and 80 female married respondents were purposively sampled from three major caste groups i.e. upper caste, backward caste and scheduled caste. Interview schedule and observation methods were used for data collection.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The objectives of the Present Study are:

1. The present study have be undertaken with a view to examine the socio-economic condition of the rural women.
2. To study the participation of women in decision making process in the family.

FINDINGS&CONCLUSION

The present study was conducted to find out the role of Rural Women in Decision Making Process in their family affairs. On the basis of objectives, it was found out that out of 80 respondents, 16.25 per cent belonged to backward caste, 25 per cent respondents were from scheduled castes. Majority of the respondents belonged up upper caste respondents.

Regarding women participation in decision-making process in household activities, 11.25 per cent respondents took self-decision about number of children to be bear. Most of husband (57.25 per cent) took decisions himself regarding number of children and 37.5 per cent respondents and their husband took joint decisions.

Majority (86.25 per cent) of respondents took self-decision about child care, 11.25 per cent of them were took joint decision. Only 12.5 per cent respondents took design about their children education. 61.25 per cent husband took decisions and 26.25 per cent were took self-decision.

Women decision participation related to their children's marriage is nil. Most of the husband took decision related to their children's marriage, only 37.50 per cent respondents took joint decision about their children's marriage.

Majority (81.75 per cent) respondents took self- decision related to purchase of clothes. 68.75 per cent respondents took self-decision related to type of food to be prepared, husband contribution in these activities is very less (7.5 per cent). Only 18.75 per cent respondents took self-decision related to purchase clothes, 68.75 per cent husband took decision and 12.5 took joint decision.

Women's decision participation related to taking/given loans is nil. 72.5 per cent husband took decision about given and taken loans. 27.5 per cent husband and wife took joint decision.

Women decision participation in voting is nil. 87.5 per cent husband took decision about voting and 12.5 per cent respondents took joint decision with the husband. Regarding sale and purchase, only 10 per cent respondents took self-decision about sale and purchase of animals. 50 per cent husband took decision himself and 40 per cent respondents took decision jointly with their husband. Thus we can say that most of the women took self-decision related to child care, type of feast to be prepared, her contribution in decision making is very less. Most of the women did not take part in decision proves related different agriculture activities. 91.25 per cent husbands took decision about variety of crops to be purchase only, 7 per cent took joint decision. No respondents took self-decision about sale and purchase of land. Most of the husbands took decision, 21.25 per cent were took joint decision.

Women involvement in purchasing of farm machinery is nil, 75 per cent husbands took decision and only 25 per cent were consulted before purchasing of farm machinery. Only 2.5 per cent respondents took self-decision about storage of products, 40 per cent decisions were taken by husband and 35 per cent decisions were jointly by husband and wife.

Finally, it is concluded that most of the women are engaged in household and agricultural activities. Most of their time is spent in such kind of activities. Their decision making is not restricted upto domestic work only. Their husbands give weight to their suggestions regarding agricultural activities. But the major decisions regarding sale purchase of land, vote casting, marriages, purchasing of machinery, number of children in the family, etc. are still taken by the men only.

WORKS CITED

1. Deepa, Mathur (2002). “Women, Family and Work”, Rawat Publication, Jaipur.
2. Giri, Mohini, (2000). ‘Emancipation and Empowerment of Women’ Gyan Publishing House, New Delhi.
3. Hasan, Nural (1974). Towards Equality, Report of the Committee on the Status of Women in India, Minister for Education and Social Welfare, Government of India, New Delhi, Dec.
4. Santosh Sharma and Nalini Agale (1995): Social Change, Journal of the Council for Social Development, Vol. 33, No. 1, March, 2003.
5. Rao, V.M. Women’s Link, Women and Sustainable Development, Social Action Trust, Vol. 9, No. 1, January-March, New Delhi, 2003.
6. Nayak (2003). Indian Journal of Gender Studies, Vol. 10, Number 2, May-August, Saga Publication, New Delhi.
7. K.M. Kapadia: “Marriage and Family in India” Oxford University Press, Bombay, pp. 140-142.
8. M. Sarda Devi and T.R. Rayalu, Indian Psychological Review, Agra Publication, Research Cell, Vol. 60, No. 1, March, 2003.
9. Weissman (1980). The Depressed Women, The University of Chicago, Press London., 1980.
10. P.K. Bhaumick, Man and Life, Social Research and Applied Lok Town Kolkata, Vol. 28, Nos. 3-4, July-Dec. 2002.
11. S.E.M. Chartton, Women in Third World Development, Westview Press, London., 1984.
12. Dasgupta, Sukh (2003). The Indian Journal of Labour Economy, A Quarterly Journal of the Indian Society of Labour Economics, Vol. 46, No. 1, January-March.
13. Liddle Janna and Rama Joshi (1987). Daughter of Independence, Gender, Caste and Class, Vashima Printers, New Delhi.

Publish Research Article International Level Multidisciplinary Research Journal For All Subjects

Dear Sir/Mam,

We invite unpublished Research Paper, Summary of Research Project, Theses, Books and Book Review for publication, you will be pleased to know that our journals are

Associated and Indexed, India

- ★ International Scientific Journal Consortium
- ★ OPEN J-GATE

Associated and Indexed, USA

- EBSCO
- Index Copernicus
- Publication Index
- Academic Journal Database
- Contemporary Research Index
- Academic Paper Database
- Digital Journals Database
- Current Index to Scholarly Journals
- Elite Scientific Journal Archive
- Directory Of Academic Resources
- Scholar Journal Index
- Recent Science Index
- Scientific Resources Database
- Directory Of Research Journal Indexing

Golden Research Thoughts
258/34 Raviwar Peth Solapur-413005, Maharashtra
Contact-9595359435
E-Mail-ayisrj@yahoo.in/ayisrj2011@gmail.com
Website : www.aygrt.isrj.org