

ROLE OF WOMEN IN HOUSEHOLD DECISION MAKING PROCESS

A Case study of Sunikot VDC, Bajhang District

A Thesis

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Submitted By

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the thesis entitled “**Role of Women in Household Decision Making Process**” submitted to the Central Departmental of Rural Development, Tribhuvan University , is entirely my original work prepared under the guidance and supervision of my supervisor .I have made due acknowledgements to all ideas and information borrowed from different sources in the course of preparing this thesis. The result of this thesis have not been presented or submitted anywhere else for the award of my degree or for any other proposes . Assure that no part of content of this thesis has been published in any from before.

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RECOMMENDATION LETTER

The Thesis entitled **Role of Women in Household Decision Making Process:A Comparative Study of Jobholder and Non-jobholder Women of Sunikot VDC in Bajhang District** has been prepared by **Bijaya Kumar Rajak** under my guidance and supervision. I hereby forward this thesis to the evaluation committee for final evaluation and approval.

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APPROVAL LETTER

The Thesis entitled **Role of Women in Household Decision Making Process:** submitted by **Bijaya Kumat Rajak** in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the master's degree (M.A.) in Rural Development has been evaluated and approved by the evaluation committee.

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ABSTRACT

The study entitled 'Role of women in household decision making process' is the study to find out the women's role in decision making process in Sunikot VDC of Bajhang district. This study aims to examine the socio-economic status of women, to compare the effectiveness of job holder and non-job holder women in household decision making process and to explore the problems of women in decision making process. Thus, this study is the key study to find out the situation of women in illiterate Nepalese community

This study was based on the qualitative and quantitative data analysis. The data were described on descriptive and exploratory method. This study aimed to meet the target objectives with the help of primary and secondary data. The methodology also incorporated the processing and analysis of data. Thus, this research is completely based on a systematic process.

So far socio economic status of the respondent is concerned on the basis of various variables. Most of the village women do not take responsibility in social and economic activities. The women belonged to the age group of 25 to 46 years (38.89%) take part in household decision making process. similarly 68.52% married (59.26% jobholder and 77.78% jobless) women have household decision making power. Likewise, 31.49 % intermediate level complete women make household decision. In the case of religion, 72.22% Hindu women take part in decision making process. similarly, 61.71% women do have 0 to 5 ropani land. In fact, the women who were higher in social and economic status they had opportunity to lead their family. Thus, the social status is one of the key components of decision making process.

It was to find out effectiveness between the job holders and non-job holder women. According to the study, 48.15% couples both decide to spend their income. Similarly, 64.71% women have authority to mobilize their saving, 64.81% women expend their income in household activities. Moreover, 50% men decide for family planning, 48.14% women decide for medical treatment and 53.70% men decide for dispute control. The women who were job holder they have decision making power in the family. It is also

associated with the economic condition. The finding states that the nature of job of the women is the change agent of making decision.

The finding showed some inherent affecting factors of decision making. Among all the respondents 40% illiterate and 40% social and traditional culture affect decision making process. Similarly, 20% women have problem for making decision because of poverty. Moreover, politics, marriage and head of family are also some of the reasons of creating problems in household decision making process. These components were the main fences for women in making decision. These components did not make existence of male in making decision.

In conclusion, the study found that the status of women in Sunikot VDC was miserable in decision making process in their family. Very few women have got opportunity for making decision in their family. The main cause of not getting decision making power is illiteracy. The second cause is the condition of job. Specially, non-job holders have no power to make decision. Thus, the most important thing to consider is educating the women and let them participate in the social activities. At the same time, opportunities for job should be provided to the women according to their level and capacity. Some traditional malpractices should not be taken into practice for the betterment of the society and women.

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ACRONYMS/ABBREVIATIONS

ANM – Assistant Mid-Wife Nurse

CBS – Central Bureau of Statistics

CBO – Community Based Organization

CEDA – Center for Economic Development of Administration

CDRD – Central Department of Rural Development

FGD – Focus Group Discussion

HH – House Hold

ILO – International Labour of Organization

MA –Master of Art's

NGOs – Non Governmental Organizations

No –Number

SLC –School Living Certificate

TU –Tribhuvan University

UN –United Nations

UNDP – United Nations Development Program

UNICEF – United Nations International Children Education Fund

VDC – Village Development Committee

