

# **HOUSEHOLD DECISION MAKING STATUS OF WOMEN**

**(A Case Study of Ghorahi Municipality, Dang District)**

**A THESIS**

**SUBMITTED TO**

**THE CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF POPULATION STUDIES(CDPS),**

**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES,**

**TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY (TU)**

**IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE**

**DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS IN POPULATION STUDIES**

**BY**

**MINA REGMI**

**Central department of population studies (CDPS)**

**Faculty of Humanities in Social Sciences**

**Tribhuvan University (TU)**

**Kathmandu**

**JUNE, 2011**

## **RECOMMENDATION**

This is to certify that the thesis

Submitted by

**Mina Regmi**

Entitled

**Household Decision Making Status of Women**

is Recommended for External Examination.

**Dr. Govind Subedi**

.....

(Thesis Supervisor)

**Date: June, 2011**

## **VIVA-VOCE SHEET**

We have conducted the viva-voce examination of the thesis

Submitted by

**Mina Regmi**

Entitled

### **Household Decision Making Status of Women**

and find that the thesis to be an independent work of the written according to the prescribed format. We accept this as the partial fulfillment of the requirements for Master of Arts in Population Studies.

#### **Evaluation Committee:**

**Prof. Dr. Prem Singh Bist**

Head, Central Department of Population Studies

---

**Dr. Govind Subedi**

Thesis Supervisor

---

**Tej Prasad Adhikari**

(External Examiner)

---

Date: June, 2011

## **DECLARATION**

Except where otherwise acknowledge in the text, the analysis in this thesis represents my own original research.

.....

**Mina Regmi**

**May 2011**

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The dissertation entitled “**Household Decision-Making Status of Women**” A Case Study of Ghorahi Municipality Dang has been undertaken as for the Partial fulfillment of the requirement of the master Degree of Arts in Population Studies. This study has been carried out with the help of proper guidance and continuous supervision by Dr. Govind Subedi. There fore I am very much indebted to him for the help in providing me with Encouragement suggestion during the work which made this work simple and Possible.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Prof. Dr. Prem Singh bisht, Head of the central Department of Population Studies for support, encouragement and permission to carry out research on selected topic. I am also equally grateful to all my respected teacher and administrative staff of the department.

I am very much indebted to my husband Mr. Prabhat Pokhrel for his continuous and strong financial support as well as inspiration for the study. I am also grateful to my respected father Baldeo Regmi whose perpetual inspiration and encouragement helped to reach at this position. Finally I also grateful to my friends Sarita Bidari, Pushpa Sigdel, Sabitra Aryal and Prabina Acharya who helped me for the tenure of thesis writin

Thank you

**Mina Regmi**

## ABSTRACT

The study on “**Household Decision Making Status of Women**” (A Case Study of Ghorahi Municipality, Dang) has been based on primary data. The main objectives of the study are to analyze the relative status of women in terms of their age group, caste/ethnicity and education and to find out women’s participation in household decisions. The study was carried out with the sample size of 151 respondents among 446 households of the selected area. All the respondents were married. The data were collected by purposive sampling method.

In the study area most of the respondents had low decision making level. Out of total, 28.5% respondents worked more at home. Large number of respondents 41.72% was engaged in service. More than one fourth (i.e. 31.8%) respondents were illiterate. The main source of income was agriculture (61.6%). The age at marriage was 18.19 year.

In the case of self decision only 11.5% respondents would decide their children’s education. Out of total only 15% respondents told that they were able to decide about major household purchases and only 7.3% respondents were take important decision on the household.

In the case of family planning, illiterate respondents were using contraception under the suggestion of health assistance (25.4%) and 62.7% literate respondents were using the contraception by husband’s decision. The overall women have low decision making power. High age gap and educational gap between husband and wife was found as the main factor of determine low level of decision making.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>DECLARATION</b>	<i>ii</i>
<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	<i>iii</i>
<b>VIVA-VOCE SHEET</b>	<i>iv</i>
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</b>	<i>v</i>
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	<i>vi</i>
<b>TABLE OF CONTENT</b>	<i>vii</i>
<b>LIST OF TABLE</b>	<i>x</i>
<b>LIST OF FIGURE</b>	<i>xii</i>
<b>ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS</b>	<i>xiii</i>
<b>CHAPTER-ONE</b>	
<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1-5</b>
1.1 Background of the study	1
1.2 Statement of the problem	2
1.3 Objectives of the study	3
1.4 Significance of the study	4
1.5 Limitation of the study	4
1.6 Chapter Plan	5
<b>CHAPTER-TWO</b>	
<b>LITERATURE REVIEW</b>	<b>6-16</b>
<b>CHAPTER-THREE</b>	
<b>METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY</b>	<b>17-19</b>
3.1. Introduction of the study area	17
3.2. Methods of data collection	18
3.3. Sampling procedure	18
3.4. Sources of data	18
3.5. Data processing, presentation and analysis	18
3.6 Conceptual Framework	19
	<i>vii</i>

## **CHAPTER-FOUR**

### **BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS 20-29**

4.1. Characteristics	20
4.1.1. Age group of the respondents	20
4.1.2. Age at marriage of the respondents	21
4.1.3. Occupation of the respondents	21
4.1.4. Level of education	23
4.1.5. Caste/ethnic composition of the study population	24
4.1.6. Dowry system	25
4.1.7. Use of the family planning of the respondents	26
4.1.8. Ever use of family planning	26
4.1.9. Participatory institution of the respondents	27
4.1.10. Preference of son	28
4.1.11. Main sources of income in the family	29

## **CHAPTER-FIVE**

### **HOUSEHOLD DECISION MAKING 30-48**

5.1. Decision on currently use of family planning	30
5.2. Decision about family planning to use	34
5.3. Decision on major household purchases	35
3.4. Decision on purchase for daily household needs	37
5.5. Works more in home	39
5.6. Participation in decision making	41
5.7. Take important decision in the household	43
5.8. Decision about health care for yourself	44
5.9. Consult for property brought or sold	46
5.10. Decision for children education	47



## **CHAPTER-SIX**

### **SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION 49-51**

6.1. Summary of findings 49

6.2. Conclusions 50

6.3. Recommendations 50

6.4 Recommendation for the further research 51

### **REFERENCE 52-54**

### **APPENDIX 55-60**

## LIST OF TABLE

	Page
Table. 4.1 Distribution of the respondents by Age group	20
Table. 4.2 Percentage of age at marriage by age group cross table	21
Table. 4.3 Distribution of the respondents by their occupation	22
Table. 4.4 Distribution of the occupation according to their caste/ethnicity	22
Table. 4.5 Distribution of respondents by level of education	23
Table. 4.6 Percentage of level of education by caste/ethnicity	24
Table. 4.7 Distribution of caste/ethnic composition in the study population	24
Table. 4.8 Distribution of the respondents of dowry in marriage	25
Table. 4.9 Distribution of the respondent use of family planning methods	27
Table. 4.10 Distribution of the respondent participation in social activities	27
Table. 4.11 Preference of those respondents who have only two daughters in the study area.	28
Table. 4.12 Distribution of respondents by main sources of income	29
Table. 5.1 Percentage of ever use of contraception by age, Caste, and education	32
Table. 5.2 percentage of decision about family planning to use by age group, caste/ethnicity & education	34
Table. 5.3 percentage of decision on major household purchases by age group, caste / ethnicity & education	36
Table. 5.4 Percentage of decision on purchase for daily household need by age, caste & education	38
Table. 5.5 percentage of respondents who work more in home by age group, caste/ethnicity & education	39

Table. 5.6	percentage of respondents who participate in household decision by age group, caste/ethnicity & education	41
Table. 5.7	Percentage of the respondents who take important decision in the household by their age group, caste/ethnicity & education	43
Table. 5.8	percentage of respondents on decision about health care for your self according to their age group, caste/ethnicity and level of education	45
Table. 5.9	percentage of respondents	46
Table. 5.10.	Percentage of respondents who are taking decision for children education according to their age group, caste/ethnicity and level of education.	47

## **LIST OF FIGURE**

Figure 3.1 : Conceptual Frame Work of the Study

19

## ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

BBC	Beyond Beijing Committee
CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics
CDPS	Central Department of Population Studies
CEDA	Center for Economics Development and Administration
CEDAW	Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women
FWLD	Forum for Women Legal and Development
GAD	Gender and Development
HRN	Human Right in Nepal
ICPD	International Conference on Population and Development
ILO	International Labour Organization
MOH	Ministry of Health and Population
NDHS	Nepal Demographic Health Survey
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PPD	Partner in Population and Development
PSSN	Population Students Society of Nepal
SLC	School Leaving Certificate
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Science
SWP	State of World Population
T.U	Tribhuvan University
UN	United Nations
VDC	Village Development Committee
WHO	World Health Organization