

**EDUCATIONAL STATUS AND
HOUSEHOLD DECISION MAKING POWER OF BRAHMIN WOMEN
(A CASE STUDY OF JUROPANI VDC, JHAPA DISTRICT)**

**BY
KAMALA CHOUHAN**

**A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
AND SOCIAL SCIENCE IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE
REQUIREMENTS OF THE DEGREE FOR MASTER OF ARTS IN
CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF POPULATION**

**TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY
KIRTIPUR, KATHANDU
NEPAL**

March, 2010

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY
Central Department of Population Studies
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Kirtipur

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

This is to certify that Miss **Kamala Chouhan** has completed this dissertation entitled “**Educational Status and Household Decision Making Power of Brahmin Women**” Under my supervision and guidance. To the best of my knowledge, the study is organized and carries useful information in the field of household decision making. I, therefore, recommend this dissertation for the final approval and acceptance to the dissertation communities.

Dr. Prabha Kumari Hamal

Reader

Central department of population Studies
Tribhuvan University Kirtipur,
Kathmandu, Nepal.

Date:

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY
Central Department of Population Studies
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Kirtipur

APPROVAL SHEET

The dissertation entitled “**Educational Status and Household Decision Making Power of Brahmin Women**” submitted by Miss. **Kamala Chouhan** has been accepted as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Masters of Arts in Population Studies.

Approved by:

.....
Prof. Dr. Prem Singh Bista
(Head of the Department)

.....
Mr. Tej Prasad Adhikari
External Examiner

.....
Dr. Prabha Kumari Hamal
Supervisor

Date:

Dissertation Committees

Acknowledgements

I may never be able to thank all the people who have supported me in undertaking this study. First of all, I would like to express my hearty gratitude to **Dr. Prabha Kumari Hamal**, Reader of CDPS for her regular guidance, encouragement, suggestions and comments to complete this repatriation of this dissertation that have eventually supported to get this work accomplished. Likewise, I also extend my sincere gratitude to **Dr. Prem Singh Bista**, professor and head of the Central Department of Population Studies for providing opportunity to write this dissertation. With big thanks, I would like to remember all persons how directly and indirectly involved in the course of this valuable study.

I would like to thank Mr. Hom Nath Sharma for this meritorious support in the field of my dissertation and the villagers of Juropani VDC for their kind cooperation and support, they have shown in the entire period of interview.

I am really indebted to my family members especially to my parents from whom I got regular support, financial support and equally thankful my brothers Kul Bahadur Chouhan, Deepak Acharya, Durga Paudel and Sujan Bogati and sisters Manju and Adita for their outstanding support to accomplish to this study.

Similarly, all of my friends who have been wonderful people and have supported me with encouragements and support deserve my thanks. Lastly but not the least, I am thankful to Madams Era and Mira who made my administrative works sound and fast.

Kamala Chouhan

CDPS, Kritipur, Kathmandu

March, 2010

ABSTRACT

This study is an analysis of “**Educational Status and Household Decision Making Power of Brahmin Married Women**”. The objective of this study is to perceive the phenomena of educational status and their decision making power in household activities among married women, the specific objective is to identify the impact of educational status of women in decision making process on household activities. The purposive sample was taken for this study by the support of the information that has been collected by direct interview with the help of structure and non structure questionnaires. The process of the collected data has been done using software package SPSS programs.

The study has attempted to reveals the decision making power of married women engaged in household chores, agriculture activities and low decision making power in every aspect such as involved in political activities, involved in female social group and social meeting about children education selection of family size.

The research in the study area has found that ownership of land, family planning, fertility, education, economic and social aspects are major sectors for the low decision making power of female. Male is the centre of the family and decision maker who make decision for economic, political and social sectors and in other major sector like mostly dominating the village level decision and meetings. Looking at the overall participation of women in village level, women’s participation was not remarkable due to hesitation, illiteracy, unawareness and patriarchal taboos.

The decision making power of women of study area is weak because of their socio economic as well as political status is very low compared to their counterparts. Education status of respondents is not satisfied. Maximum respondents are concentrating in primary level and few respondents are illiterate.

TABLE OF CONTENT

	Page No.
Letter of Recommendation	i
Letter of Approval Sheet	ii
Acknowledgement	iii
Abstract	iv
Table of Content	v
List of Table	vii
Acronyms	ix
CHAPTER-I: INTRODUCTION	1-8
1.1 Background of the study	1
1.2 Statement of problems	4
1.3 Objectives of the studies	6
1.4 Significance of the study	7
1.5 Limitation of the study	7
1.6 Organization of the Study	8
CHAPTER-II: LITERATURE REVIEW	9-17
CHAPTER-III: METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY	18-20
3.1 Introduction of the study area	18
3.2 Sample Design	20
3.3 Questionnaire design	20
3.4 Data collection in process	20
3.5 Data presentation and analysis	20
CHAPTER-IV: GENERAL INFORMATION OF RESPONDENTS	21-34
4.1 Characteristic of respondents	21
4.1.1 Age composition of respondent	21
4.1.2 Respondents family own home	22
4.1.3 Age at marriage	22
4.1.4 Type/kind of marriage of respondent	24

4.1.5 Decision about the bridegroom	25
4.1.6 Dowry asked for marriage	26
4.2 Fertility and family planning status of respondents	27
4.2.1 Communication between husband and wife about child birth	27
4.2.2 Number of live birth	28
4.2.3 Age at first pregnancy	30
4.2.4 Decision upon the selection of family size	31
4.2.5 Use of family planning	33
4.2.6 Cause of husband not to use family planning	34

CHAPTER-V: SOCIO-ECONOMIC, EDUCATIONAL AND POLITICAL ASPECT OF RESPONDENTS 35-54

5.1.1 Main source of family income	35
5.2 Respondents own land	36
5.2.1 Decision about Sell the Animals without anyone Permission	38
5.2.2 About taking loan	39
5.2.3 Distribution of respondents by level of education	41
5.2.4 Distribution of respondents by cause of drop out from school	42
5.2.5 Decision making on children education	43
5.2.6 Decision about participation in adult literacy class	45
5.2.7 Believe in doctor or faith healers	46
5.3 Political Awareness	46
5.3.1 Participation of respondents decision making in household activities	47
5.3.2 Participation of respondents in female social group	48
5.3.3 Decision making for household purchase	50
5.3.4 Decision making on cooking each day	52

CHAPTER-VI: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECONMMENTDATION 54-59

6.1 Summary	54
6.2 Conclusion	55
6.3 Recommendations	57

REFFERENCES 59-60

APPENDICES

LIST OF TABLES

Table No.	Page No.
Table 4.1: Percentage distribution of respondents by five-year age groups, 2010	21
Table 4.2: Distribution of respondents family own home	22
Table 4.3: Distribution of respondents age at marriage by age and educational status, 2010	23
Table 4.4: Distribution of respondents by kind of marriage, 2010	24
Table 4.5: Distribution of respondents by decide about bridegroom, 2010	25
Table 4.6: Distribution of respondents by dowry asked for marriage, 2010	26
Table 4.7: Distribution of respondents communication between husband And wife about child birth by age group and educational status, 2010	27
Table 4.8: Distribution of respondents number of live birth by age group And educational status, 2010	29
Table 4.9: Distribution of respondents age at first pregnancy by age group and educational status, 2010	30
Table 4.10: Distribution of respondents decide about selection of family size by age group and educational status, 2010	32
Table 4.11: Distribution of respondents by use of family planning, 2010	33
Table 4.12: Distribution of respondents by husband not to use of family planning, 2010	34
Table 5.1: Distribution of respondents by main source of income, 2010	35
Table 5.2: Distribution of respondents own land by age group and educational status, 2010	37
Table 5.3: Distribution of respondents sells the animals without any one permission by age group and educational status, 2010	38
Table 5.4: Distribution of respondents about taking loan by age group and educational status, 2010	40
Table 5.5: Distribution of respondents level of education by age group, 2010	42
Table 5.6: Distribution of respondents by causes of left out from school, 2010	43
Table 5.7: Distribution of respondents decision making on children education by age group and educational status, 2010	44

Table 5.8: Distribution of respondents by decides participation in adult literacy class, 2010	45
Table 5.9: Distribution of respondents by believe in doctor or faith healers, 2010	46
Table 5.10: Distribution of respondents by participation in political party, 2010	47
Table 5.11: Distribution of respondents participation in decision household activities by age group and educational status, 2010	48
Table 5.12: Distribution of respondents participation of female in social group by age group and educational status, 2010	49
Table 5.13: Distribution of respondents decision on purchasing daily needs by age group and educational status, 2010	51
Table 5.14: Distribution of respondents decision making on cooking each day by age group and educational status, 2010	53

LIST OF ACRONYMES

%:	Percent
ADB:	Asian Development Bank
BBC:	Beyond Beijing Committee
CBS:	Central Bureau of Statistics
CDPS:	Central Department of population Studies
CEDA:	Central Economics Development and Administration
CHERPA:	Central for Research on Environment Health and Population Activities
FWLD:	Forum for Women Law and Development
FWLD:	Forum for Women Legal and Developments
HDR:	Human Development Report
HH:	Household
ICDP:	International Conference of Population and Development
INGOs:	International Non Governmental Organization
MA:	Master of Arts
MOH:	Ministry of Health
MOPE:	Ministry of population and Environment
NDHS:	Nepal Demography and Health Survey
NGOs:	Non- governmental Organization
NHDR:	Nepal Human Development report
SAARC:	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SLC:	School Leaving Certificate
TU:	Tribhuvan University
UN:	United Nation
UNDP:	United Nation Development program
UNFPA:	United Nation Found for population Activities
UNICEF:	United Nation International Children Educational Found
USA:	United Stated of America
VDCs:	Village Development Committees
WHO:	World Health Organization