ROLE OF WOMEN IN HOUSEHOLD DECISION MAKING

(A Case Study of Kirtipur Municipality Ward No. 13)

A Dissertation

Submitted to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences,

Central Department of Economics,

in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the

Degree of Master of Arts

in

ECONOMICS

By Sujita Karki

Central Department of Economics

Tribhuvan University

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

July, 2011

RECOMMENDATION LETTER

This thesis entitled Role of Women in Household Decision Making: A Case Study of Kirtipur Municipality Ward No. 13 has been prepared by Sujita Karki under my supervision. I hereby recommend this thesis for examination by the Thesis Committee as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in Economics.

Dr. Madhavi Singh Shah

Professor

Central Department of Economics
Tribhuvan University

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

Nepal

Date:

APPROVAL LETTER

This thesis entitled Role of Women in Household Decision Making: A Case Study of Kirtipur Municipality Ward No. 13 Submitted by Sujita Karki has been accepted as the partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in Economics.

Thesis Committee	
Chairman	
	Prof. Dr. Rudra Prasad Upadhyaya
	Head of Department
	Central Department of Economics
External Examiner	
	Prof. Dr. Bijaya Shrestha
	Central Department of Economics
Thesis Supervisor	
	Dr. Madhavi Singh Shah
	Professor
	Central Department of Economics
Date:	

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This thesis entitled Role of Women in Household Decision Making: A Case Study of Kirtipur Municipality Ward No. 13 is prepared to meet the requirements for the Master of Arts in Economics. During the study and research period many hands directly and indirectly help materialize to achieve the desired objective.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my supervisor Prof. Dr. Madhavi Singh Shah, Central Department of Economic, Tribhuvan University, whose incalculable suggestions, inspirations and support provide me a right path to achieve the assigned undertaking.

My special sense of respect goes to my parents Mr. Krishna Bahadur Karki and Sanu Maiya Karki and Sisters Maya, Shoba, Sunita, Kabita, and Durga for support and encouragement in steps my life.

Similarly, I am highly indebted to my friends, Mahesh, Sirajana, Gita, Jagat and Birendra for the cooperation in this study.

Finally, I would like thanks to Mr. Rajiv Maharjan (Friend's Computer Service) Kirtipur, for his contribution in technical support.

Sujita Karki

CONTENTS

Recommendation

Acknowledgement

Approval Sheet

Page

Conte	ents
List of	f Tables
Abbre	eviations
СНА	PTER ONE: INTRODUCTION
1.1	General Background of the Study
1.2	Statement of Problem
1.3	Objectives of the Study
1.4	Significance of the Study
1.5	Limitation of the Study
1.6	Organization of the Study
СНА	PTER TWO: REVIEW OF LITERATURE
2.1	Theoretical Review
2.2	National Context
СНА	PTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY
3.1	Research Design
3.2	Short look in the Study Area
3.3	Rational of the Selection of the Study Area
3.4	Sampling Procedure
3.5	Nature and Sources of Data Collection
3.6	Tools of Data Collection
	3.6.1 Primary Data
	3.6.2 Secondary Data
3.7	Sample Size

3.8 Data Processing and Analysis

CHAPTER FOUR: SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE HOUSEHOLDS

- 4.1 Profile of the Study Area
- 4.2 Ethnic Composition of Household
- 4.3 Marital Status of the Household
- 4.4 Educational Status of the Household Couple
- 4.5 Occupation and Source of Income
- 4.6 Working Hours among the Male and Female

CHAPTER FIVE: EMPIRICAL FINDINGS ON DECISION MAKING ROLE OF WOMEN IN HOUSEHOLD

- 5.1 Decision Making Role in HHs Related Expenditures
 - 5.1.1 Decision Making in Business Investment
 - 5.1.2 Decision Making on Buying Household Items
 - 5.1.3 Educational Management Aspect
 - 5.1.4 Decision Making on the use health services
- 5.2 Decision Making Role in Social and Other Activities
 - 5.2.1 Decision Making in the Choice of Bridegroom
 - 5.2.2 Decision Making in Dowry System
 - 5.2.3 Social/Religious Ceremonies
 - 5.2.4 Decision Making for the Use of Family Planning Measures
 - 5.2.5 Decision Making in Sending Children to School
 - 5.2.6 Decision Making for Women's Education
 - 5.2.7 Community Activities
- 5.3 Decision Making Role in Other HHs Related Activates
 - 5.3.1 Control over Household Cash/ Expenditure/ Transactions
 - 5.3.2 Control over Bazaar Purchase

5.3.3 Control over Family Expenditure (Small gift/loan to friend/relative)

CHAPTER SIX: SUMMARY OF THE MAJOR FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1 Summary of the Major Findings
- 6.2 Conclusion
- 6.3 Recommendations

QUESTIONNAIRE

REFERENCES

LIST OF TABLES

Page
Table No. 4.1: Ethnic Composition of Households
Table No. 4.2: Marital Status of the Respondents
Table No. 4.3: Educational Status of Household couple
Table No. 4.4: Occupational Composition of the Respondents Couple
Table No. 4.5: Working Hours among the Male and Female Groups
Table No. 5.1: Decision Making in Business Investment
Table No. 5.2: Decision on Buying Household Things
Table No. 5.3: Decision Making Role in Educational Management
Table No. 5.4: Decision Making on the use of health services
Table No. 5.5: Decision Making in the Choice of Bridegroom
Table No. 5.6: Decision Making in the Dowry System
Table No. 5.7: Religious Ceremonies
Table No. 5.8: Decision Making for the Use of Family
Planning Measures
Table No. 5.9: Decision Making in Sending Children to School
Table No. 5.10: Decision Making for Women's Education
Table No. 5.11: Women's Participation in Community Activities
Table No. 5.12: Control over Household Cash
Table No. 5.13: Control over Bazaar Purchase
Table No. 5.14: Control over Family Expenditure

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

BS : Bikram Sambat

CBS : Central Bureau of Statistics

GOs : Government Organizations

HHs : Households

INGOs : International Non-Government Organizations

NGO : Non Government Organization

NWO : Nepal Women's Organization

SLC : School Leaving Certificate

T.U. : Tribhuvan University

TV : Television

UN : United Nation

UNDP : United Nation Development Programme

UNICEF: United Nation Children's Fund

VDC : Village Development Committee