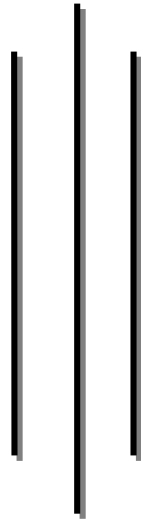


Status of Educated Married Working Women in their Private Sphere



Submitted by:
Manisha Adhikari

Submitted to:
Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology
Tribhuvan University
Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal

In partial fulfillment of the Requirement
for
the degree of Master of Arts (MA) in Anthropology

**TRIBHUWAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY/ANTHROPOLOGY
KIRTIPUR, KATHMANDU, NEPAL**

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

This is to certify that Miss Manisha Adhikari has completed her dissertation on "The Status of Educated Married Working Women In their Private Spheres" under my guidance and supervision. I, therefore, recommend this dissertation for final examination, approval and acceptance.

Dr. Samira Luitel

Professor

Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology
Tribhuwan University, Kirtipur, Katmandu, Nepal

Date: -----

**TRIBHUWAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY/ANTHROPOLOGY
KIRTIPUR, KATHMANDU, NEPAL**

LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE

The dissertation entitled "The Status of Educated Married Working Women in their Private Spheres" submitted by Ms. Manisha Adhikari has been accepted as the partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts (MA) in Anthropology.

Dissertation Committee

Supervisor

Dr. Samira Luitel

External Examiner

Dr. Krishna B. Bhattachan

Head of the Department

Dr. Om Gurung

Date: -----

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Before I start anything, with a deep sense of gratitude I would like to acknowledge my thesis supervisor, Dr. Samira Luitel, Professor, Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology for her constant encouragement, suggestion and comment throughout the entire process of research and write up. I earnestly thank my external examiner Dr. Krishna B. Bhattachan, Lecturer, Central Department of Sociology/ Anthropology for his helpful suggestions and cooperation.

Likewise, I am proud to thank my always encouraging and loving husband for his intellectual and analytical support in completing this dissertation. I absolutely agree and admit that without his constant positive nagging this thesis wouldn't have been completed by this time. I also express my sincere thank to all my friends Mia, Vishi, Suvec and Sunita and my inlaws for their substantial help throughout the study especially in the collection of secondary data. Last but not the least my heartfelt gratitude goes out to my parents for their unceasing support and love in every possible way.

Finally, I am grateful to all those respondents, who, despite of their busy schedules have contributed to move on with my dissertation, without them this study would not have been possible.

Manisha Adhikari

CONTENTS

CHAPTER- ONE

	Page No.
1.0 Introduction	1
1.1 Background	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem	3
1.3 Rationale of the Subject	4
1.4 Objective of the Study	5

CHAPTER- TWO

2.0 Literature Review	6
-----------------------	---

CHAPTER- THREE

3.0 Research Methodology	20
3.1 Research Design	20
3.2 Selection of Study Area	20
3.3 Sample Size	21
3.4 Sampling Technique	21
3.5 Nature and Sources of Data	21
3.6 Description of Data Collection Procedures	22
3.6.1 Questionnaires	22
3.6.2 Pre- test	22
3.6.3 Observation	23
3.6.4 Informal discussion and In-depth Interviews	23
3.7 Analysis and presentation of Data	23
3.8 Limitations of the Study	23

CHAPTER- FOUR

4.0 Data Analysis and Interpretation	25
4.1 Socio- Cultural Settings of Working Women	25
4.1.1 Caste/ Ethnicity of Respondents	25
4.1.2 Education of Respondents	26
4.1.3 Respondent's Years of Marriage	26
4.1.4 Respondent's Family Structure	27
4.1.5 Respondent's Household Size	28
4.1.6 Respondents Number of Dependents	28
4.1.7 Respondents Working Sector	29
4.1.8 Respondent's Monthly Income	30

CHAPTER- FIVE

5.1 Household Division of Labor, Decision Making and Work Schedules of Working Women	32
5.1.1 Time Spent by Respondents on Household Chores	32
5.1.2 Time Spent by Respondent on Office Work	32
5.1.3 Respondent's Involvement on Household Work	33
5.1.4 Respondent's Feeling of Additional Workload	35
5.1.5 Respondent's Satisfaction with the Prevailing Division of Work	Household 36
5.1.6 Role of Different Family Members on Decision Making over Different Activities	37
5.1.7 Respondent's Feeling About their Household Chores	38
5.2 Working Women View on Economic Independence, Self- Valuation as Working Women Along with Attitudes Towards Traditional Norms and Values	39
5.2.1 Respondent's View on Whether Women Should Join Work	39
5.2.2 Respondents reason to Why Women Work Outside	39
5.2.3 Respondent's Preference to the Family System	40
5.2.4 Respondent's Economic Independence	41
5.2.5 Respondent's Feeling of Empowerment Being Economically Independent	42
5.2.6 Respondent's Status in the Family in Comparison to Non- Working Women	43
5.2.7 Respondent's Preference of Role- Model	43
5.2.8 Respondent's Views on Mixing Freely with Opposite Sex in the Workplace	44
5.2.9 Respondents Following Menstrual Taboos	45
5.2.10 Respondents doing daily Puja	45
5.2.11 Respondent's Belief on fasting	46
5.2.12 Importance of Family Members in Upbringing a Child in the Family	46
5.2.13 Respondent's Attitude Towards Norms, Beliefs, Practices that Prevails in Our Society	47
5.3 Agents, Factors, Changes Influencing Working Women Intra- Household Lifestyle	49
5.3.1 Respondent's Employment Span	49
5.3.2 Respondent's View on Socialization	50
5.3.3 Respondent's Adjustment Pattern	50
5.3.4 Respondent's Changed Status at Home	51
5.3.5 Respondent's Feeling of Mental and Psychological Stress	52
5.3.6 Respondent's management of Stress	53
5.3.7 Respondent's Agent of Help At Household Work	53
5.3.8 Respondent's Understanding of Gender Equality	54

CHAPTER- SIX

6.0 Findings and Conclusion	56
6.1 Summary of findings	56
6.2 Conclusion	60

Bibliography

Appendix: Questionnaire

LIST OF TABLES

	Page No.
Table 1: Distribution of the Sample According to Caste/ Ethnicity	25
Table 2: Distribution of the Sample According to Educational Attainment	26
Table 3: Distribution of the Sample According Years of Marriage	26
Table 4: Distribution of the Sample According to Family Structure	27
Table5: Distribution of the Sample According to Household Size	28
Table 6: Distribution of the Sample According to Number of Dependents	29
Table 7: Distribution of the Sample According to Working Sector	30
Table 8: Distribution o the Sample According to Monthly Income	31
Table 9: Distribution of the Sample According to the Time Spent on Household Chores	32
Table 10: Distribution of the Sample According to Time Spent on Office Work	33
Table 11: Distribution of the Sample According to the Respondent's Involvement in Household Chores as per the Time Frequency	34
Table 12: Distribution of the Sample According to the Respondent's Feeling of Additional Workload	35
Table 13: Distribution of the Sample According to Respondent's Satisfaction of Division of Labor in the Family	36
Table 14: Distribution of the Sample According to the Decision- Making Role of Respondent and Family Members over Different Activities at home	37
Table 15: Distribution of the Sample According to the Respondent's Feeling of Daily Routine at Home	38
Table 16: Distribution of the Sample According to the Respondents view on whether Women Should Work Outside	39
Table 17: Distribution of the Sample According to the Respondent Reason of Why Women Should Work Outside	40
Table 18: Distribution of the Sample According to the Respondent's Family Preference	41
Table 19: Distribution of the Sample According to the Respondent's Economic Independence	42

Table 20:	Distribution of the Sample According to the Respondent's Feeling of Empowerment	42
Table 21:	Distribution of the Sample According to the Respondent's Feeling of Privilege or Non- Privilege over Unemployed Women	43
Table 22:	Distribution of the Sample According to the Respondent's Preference of the Role Model	44
Table 23:	Distribution of the Sample According to the Respondent's Following of Menstrual Taboos at Home	45
Table 24:	Distribution of the Sample According to the Respondents Doing Daily Puja	45
Table 25:	Distribution of the Sample According to the Respondent's Belief on Fasting	46
Table 26:	Distribution of the Sample According to the Respondent's View on the Importance of Family Members on a Child's Upbringing	47
Table 27:	Distribution of the Sample According to the Respondent's Attitude towards Prevailing Norms, Values, Beliefs, and Practices	48
Table 28:	Distribution of the Sample According to the Respondent's Start of Career	49
Table 29:	Distribution of the Sample According to the Respondent's View on Being Able to Give Enough Time on the Socialization of the Children	50
Table 30:	Distribution of the Sample According to the Respondent's Difficulties in the Adjustment Pattern in Playing a Dual Role	51
Table 31:	Distribution of the Sample According to the Respondents Changed Status at Home due to Career	51
Table 32:	Distribution of the Sample According to the Respondent's Feeling of Stress Leading to Quit the Job	52
Table 33:	Distribution of the Sample According to Respondent's Way of Managing Stress	53
Table 34:	Distribution of the Sample According to Respondents Having Domestic Help	54