



## EFFECT OF WOMEN EDUCATION AND DURATION OF MARRIAGE PERIOD ON WOMEN EMPOWERMENT AT HOUSEHOLD LEVEL IN QUETTA PAKISTAN

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### ABSTRACT

House Hold decision-making and educational status are critical for economic and human development. Many decisions made at the household level influence the welfare of the individuals living in the household as well as their communities, also enables them to actively participate in financial and economic activities that is helpful to enhance their social mobility, due to which they get a chance to take part in family decision making process. In contrast to education duration of married life also significant factor that may affect the women involvement in decision making process at household level. The aim of present study to explore the factors that influence the decision-making power of married university teachers in their family matters. The study was carried out on three universities of Quetta city of Balochistan Pakistan with 120 respondents was taken as sample by simple random technique through structured questionnaire. Data was analyzed through SPSS version 20 and to study the relationship between the variables test of Chi- square and correlation is used. Results: 75.0% acceptance of women's decisions regarding family matters is likely to be related with their duration of marriage period ( $r=0.095$ ) ( $p=0.004$ ), 61.7% women from BPS 21 reveals after the birth of first baby their decisions were considered ( $p=0.032$ ) by their husband and his family while 84.6% response that their husband and in-laws considered their decisions regarding family matters ( $p=0.038$ ) after the birth of first baby boy.

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### INTRODUCTION

Female education is one of the important factors which help them to recognize their rights and lead the life in a better way. It is also a very big source of social change and regulates the life of an individual. Furthermore it also enables them to actively participate in financial and economic activities that is helpful to enhance their social mobility, due to which they get a chance to take part in family decision making process. Furthermore Female education is one of the basic influential source of female empowerment specially in developing countries where the status of women is very much inferior and low as compare to male gender because when they get education they come to know about their basic rights and duties that's why they not only understand their rights but also recognize their mental capacities and potentials by taking good and valuable decision at micro and macro level (sarfarz khan, 2011).

Educational status of decision maker is also considered very important. It is seen that when women are educated and well aware of their status, they are capable to take good and valuable decision for the welfare of the family because they fully understand and recognize that their decision can affect the life of their family members, as a result they take great care while solving any issue and sorting out any familial problem moreover (Y. Acharya, 2008) stated that when women are educated enough they are trusted by their family member so when any decision is taken their family consult them and expect that they will show their expertise and skills to resolve the problems (Bbaale, E., and Mpuga, P, 2011) said that female education and their socio-economic status which gave confidence to their family members to consult them in various matters of the life, also enhance their decision making power. The study further confirmed that women, who have higher education, have higher participation in family planning and contraception used (P.Boonto, 2008). In contrast to education duration of married life also significant factor that may affect the women involvement in decision making process

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at household level. The spouses educational status and their involvement in their household decision making process are very important for the socio economic development of human being because many decisions at household level effect not only the welfare of the individuals living under the one roof but also the communities and nations..In Pakistan women at any stage from girl till becoming women facing discrimination in all sphere of life. In this male dominated society from her birth to marriage father takes decision about their life after marriage her husband and in-laws decide matters about her life.

### Literature review

(KIANI M. , 2009) In Baharestan ( Isphahan) to identify the reasons that affect women's participation in decision making . Respondent residence at the time of marriage, husband age at the time of marriage, his job, duration of marriage, and women age significantly associated with the decision making power within the household. (Jabeen, N. and Iqbal. M. Z, 2010) to examine the power of decision making in family. What are the major factors that affect the decision making power of women with in the family? Study concludes that participation of women in family decision is significantly associated with women age and duration of marriage life. (Sarfraz Khan and Mirza Rizwan Sajid , 2011) Today, we observe a change in decision making processes among married women in Pakistan. Duration of marriage period and education have prearranged the revelation to women decision making at household level. Result reveals that educated women who has more than six years of their marriage period considerably involved in the process of decision making rather than illiterate women and whose duration of marital period is less than six years. (Haque, M., Islam, T. M., Tareque, M., & Mostofa, M, 2011) It is observed that in Bangladesh women exercise mid –level of empowerment but their autonomy level is decrease due to the increase in education while empowerment of women depends on their education. Study reveals that residential patterns of women, cultural back ground. Level of education, media exposure and religion are the basic determinants that influence the decision making power of women.

(Chanda, S. K., Howlader, M. H., & Nahar, N, 2012)Married women level of education and their involvement in decision making process at various arenas of household. women with higher level of education 93.3% authority of getting married as compare to illiterate one, also 46.7% had high level of autonomy in purchasing in comparison to illiterate (.0%), in additional women with primary level of education no right of purchasing. ( shoaib et, al, 2013) was conducted a study on villages of Tehsil Chiniot and sample was consist on113 married women. Result demonstrates positive association between education and women empowerment at household level. (Rezapour, Z., & Ansari, H, 2014) There are many factors that affect the participation of married women in family decisions. In Northern Khorasan province 389 respondents were selected from different ethnic Access to resources and women participation in decision making reveals positive and significant relationship. Positive correlation also observed between socio-economic status of women and their involvement in decision making process. (Yusof, S. A., 2015) Malaysia is multi-ethnic and multi-cultural country so this research also focuses on the influence of ethnicity on decision making in household, data is collected randomly from 672Malaysian urban households. Differences found among the

different ethnic groups. Chinese are follower of the traditional patriarchal set-up and management of economic affairs deal by husband. Education play crucial role in giving women power to control over household finances. Due to education Malaysian women involve in workforce that enhance their level of empowerment this economic contribution in turn became the key of country development.

### Objective

- To identify the factors influencing the universities married teacher's decision making power in their family matters

### Hypothesis

- Decision making power of married university teachers in family matters is likely to be related with their duration of marriage period

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

Survey research method was used in the present study to collect information about large population by using the technique of structured questionnaire (Black storm and Hursh ,1963). Quantitative research design is occupied by the researcher to analyzed the decision making power of married working women, quantitative research design provide immediate statistical analysis about the phenomena may also help full to test the hypothesis

**Universe /sample:** Quetta is multi ethical city of Baluchistan where women were varied in term of their cultural aspects. The researcher conduct study in the three purposively selected universities of Quetta city, that was Sardar bahadur khan women university, Baluchistan university of information and technology, Engineering and management science university of Baluchistan. A sample of 120 married married women were selected from these universities by using the technique of simple random sampling.

**Tool of data collection:** A structured questionnaire was utilized to collect the data from participants regarding decision making power that was consisted on two sections the first section related to the demographic information and the second was having the questions related to the factors like women age and their income that how they influence the decision making power of married working women in family matters.

**Data analysis:** Researcher analyzed the data by using SPSS software version 20. Both descriptive and inferential Chi square statistics were used for presenting the influence of age and personal income on their family related matters.

**Sample size:** The sample for this study comprises of 172 married universities teachers, consisted of 69.76% of the total population from which 120 randomly selected. However researcher limited the population to the married universities teachers who have children and live their husband either in joint family or nuclear one. All universities maintain the record of their employees but due to some personal issues or ethical reasons they haven't record of married employees who lived with their husband and children. To make the study scientific and systematic researcher make an effort and a list of married lecturers with husband and children was prepared by making a personal interview.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Respondent's Demographic profile on the basis of age Group

Table 1.

Respondent's Characteristic	N=29 30-34 n= (%)	N=34 35-39 n= (%)	N=21 40-44 n= (%)	N=18 45-49 n= (%)	N=18 50&above n= (%)
<b>Basic pay scale of respondent</b>					
BPS 18	26 (42.6%)	22 (36.1%)	8 (13.1%)	3 (4.9%)	2 (3.3%)
BPS 19	3 (10.0%)	12 (40.0%)	9 (30.0%)	5 (16.7%)	1(3.3%)
BPS 20	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	4 (23.5%)	5(29.4%)	8(47.8%)
BPS 21	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	5 (41.7%)	7 (58.3%)
<b>Respondents educational qualification</b>					
B.S	5 (62.5%)	3 (37.5%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Master's	8 (28.6%)	11 (39.3%)	1 (3.6%)	5 (17.9%)	3 (10.7)
M.Phil	15(31.9%)	17 (36.2%)	7 (14.9%)	4 (8.5%)	4 (8.5%)
PhD	1 (2.9%)	3 (8.8%)	13(38.2%)	9 (26.5%)	8 (23.5%)
Post-doctorate	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	3 (100%)
<b>Respondents job experience</b>					
5-9	24 (49.0%)	17 (34.7%)	5 (10.2%)	3 (6.1%)	0 (0.0%)
10-14	4 (14.3%)	14 (50.0%)	6 (21.4%)	2 (7.1%)	2 (7.1%)
15-19	1 (8.3%)	1 (8.3%)	5 (41.7%)	5 (41.7%)	0 (0.0%)
20-24	0 (0.0%)	2 (40.0%)	1 (20.0%)	1 (20.0%)	1(20.0%)
25-29	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	4 (38.8%)	2 (15.4%)	7 (53.8%)
30 And above	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	5 (38.5%)	8 (61.5%)
<b>Respondent settlement pattern</b>					
Domicile	9 (16.4%)	11(20.0%)	14(25.5%)	9 (16.4%)	12(21.8%)
Local	20 (32.3%)	23 (37.1%)	7 (11.3%)	6 (9.7%)	6 (9.7%)
KPK	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	3 (100%)	0 (0.0%)
<b>Residential pattern</b>					
Rural	9 (26.5%)	12 35.3%)	5 (14.7%)	3 (8.8%)	5 (14.7%)
Urban	20 (23.3%)	22 25.6%)	16(18.6%)	15(17.4%)	13(15.1%)
<b>Structure of family</b>					
Joint	21 (31.8%)	25 (37.8%)	16(24.2%)	3 (4.5%)	1 (1.5%)
Nuclear	8 (14.8%)	9 (16.7%)	5 (9.3%)	15(27.8%)	17(31.5%)
<b>Type of marriage</b>					
Love	5 (26.3%)	5 (26.3%)	6 (31.6%)	2 (10.5%)	1 (5.3%)
Arrange	24 (23.8%)	29 (28.7%)	15(14.9%)	16(15.8%)	17(16.8%)
<b>Types of marriage</b>					
Endogamy	6 (20.0%)	9 (30.0%)	9 (30.0%)	1 (3.3%)	5 (16.7%)
Exogamy	23 (25.6%)	25 (27.8%)	12(13.3%)	17(18.9%)	13(14.4%)
<b>Respondent husband's educational qualification</b>					
Under graduation	2 (16.7%)	8 (66.7%)	1 (8.3%)	1 (8.3%)	0 (0.0%)
Graduation	20 (27.0%)	22 (29.7%)	15(20.3%)	8 (10.8%)	9 (12.2%)
M.phil	6 (66.7%)	2 (22.7%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (11.1%)	0(0.0%)
PhD	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (16.7%)	7 (58.3%)	3 (25.2%)
Post-doctorate	1(7.7%)	2 (15.4%)	3 (23.1%)	1 (7.7%)	6 (46.2%)
<b>Respondent number of children</b>					
1-2	18 (33.3%)	18 (33.3%)	4 (7.4%)	3 (5.6%)	11(20.4%)
3-5	10 (18.2%)	16 (29.1%)	13(23.6%)	12(21.8%)	4 (7.3%)
6-8	1(9.1%)	0 (0.0%)	4 (36.4%)	3 (27.3%)	3(27.3%)
<b>Respondent number of female children</b>					
0	9 (37.5%)	4 (16.7%)	4 (16.7%)	0 (0.0%)	7(29.21%)
1-2	19 (25.7%)	23 (31.1%)	7 (9.5%)	14(18.9%)	11(14.9%)
3-4	1(5.9%)	7 (41.2%)	7 (41.2%)	2 (11.8%)	0 (0.0%)
5 And above	0 (0.0%)	0(0.0%)	3 (60.2%)	2 (40.0)	0 (0.0%)
<b>Duration of marriage</b>					
5-9	14 (58.3%)	10 (41.7%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
10-14	14 (42.4%)	13 (39.4%)	4 (12.1%)	2(6.1%)	0 (0.0%)
15-19	1 (5.6%)	7 (38.9%)	8 (44.4%)	2 (11.1%)	0 (0.0%)
20-24	0 (0.0%)	3 (21.4%)	4 (28.6%)	6 (42.9%)	1 (7.1%)
26-29	0 (0.0%)	1(4.0%)	3 (12.0%)	8 (32.0%)	13 (52.0)
30 And above	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	4 (66.7%)
<b>Family monthly income</b>					
10,0000-20,0000	15 (51.7%)	10 (34.5%)	3 (10.3%)	1 (3.4%)	0 (0.0%)
20,0000-30,0000	10 (25.0%)	14 (35.0%)	8 (20.0%)	2 (5.0%)	6 (15.0%)
40,0000 And above	4 (7.8%)	10 (19.6%)	10(19.6%)	15(29.4%)	12(23.5%)
<b>Who takes decisions in your family</b>					
Elder male member	13 (35.1%)	19 (51.4%)	1 (2.7%)	3 (18.1%)	1 (2.7%)
Elder female	6 (85.7%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (14.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Mutually	3 (7.0%)	6 (14.0%)	15(34.9%)	10(23.3%)	9 (20.9%)
Me	1 (14.3%)	2 (28.6%)	1 (14.3%)	0 (0.0%)	3 (42.9%)
My husband	6 (23.1%)	7 (26.9%)	3 (11.5%)	5 (19.2%)	5 (19.2%)

However the total number of married lecturers was 172 out of 483. Sample of the study is compose of 120 universities lecturers and sample size is decided by using (Yamane, 1973) formula.

**Hypothesis:** Decision making power of married university teachers in family matters is likely to be related with duration of marital period.

their lives, their role in decision making very little. She plays different roles as a daughter, mother, wife under the supervision of their male members or their male counterpart and enjoys collective authority over their children, Marital status of women provides an opportunity to participate in decision making process. Mostly women living in nuclear family system make decisions about children’s schooling,

**Table 2. Duration of marriage period and decision making power of women**

Respondent Basic Pay Scale	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Chi-square	df	p-value	r-value
<b>Decision don't consider by her husband Family during first year of marital life</b>							
BPS 18	45(75.0)	0 (0.0)	15 (25.0)	18.839	6	0.004**	0.095
BPS 19	20(71.4)	1 (3.6)	7 (25.0)				
BPS 20	13(68.4)	0 (0.0)	6 (31.6)				
BPS 21	7 (53.8)	3 (23.1)	3 (23.1)				
Total	85(70.8)	4 (3.3)	31 (25.8)				
<b>Decision were considered by husband/ family with the passage of marital life</b>							
BPS 18	50 (83.3)	0 (0.0)	10 (16.4)	13.747	6	0.003**	0.17
BPS 19	23 (82.1)	1 (3.6)	4 (14.3)				
BPS 20	11 (57.9)	0 (0.0)	8 (42.1)				
BPS 21	1(100.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)				
Total	97 (80.8)	1 (0.8)	22 (18.3)				
<b>Decisions were considered After the birth of first baby</b>							
BPS 18	37 (61.7)	5 (8.3)	18 (30.0)	13.757	6	0.032*	0.20
BPS 19	16 (57.1)	5 (17.9)	7 (25.0)				
BPS 20	5 (26.3)	4 (21.1)	10 (52.6)				
BPS 21	11 (84.6)	0 (0.0)	2 (15.4)				
Total	69 (57.5)	14 (11.7)	37 (30.8)				
<b>Decisions were considered After the birth of first baby boy</b>							
BPS 18	29 (48.3)	12 (20.0)	19 (31.7)	13.307	6	0.038*	
BPS 19	19 (67.9)	2 (7.1)	7 (25.0)				
BPS 20	7 (36.8)	2 (10.5)	10 (52.6)				
BPS 21	11 (84.6)	0 (0.0)	2 (15.4)				
Total	66 (55.0)	16 (13.3)	38 (31.7)				

Level of significance, 0.05= \*, 0.010= \*\*, 0.001= \*\*\*

**RESULTS**

Result indicate significant association between (Chi-square=18.839 ; df=6 ; p=0.004) the two variables (married period and decision making power), 75.0% respondents from the group of BPS 18, 71.4% respondents from the group of 19,68.4% and 53.8% accept that decisions regarding family matters were not considered by her husband and his family during starting years of marital life, Decision making power of married university teachers is strongly correlated (r=0.95) with their duration of marriage, The entire respondent (100.0%) in the category of BPS 21 and 83.3% in the category of 18, 82.1% in the category of BPS 19 and 57.9% in the category of 20 accept that with the passage of time their decisions regarding family matters considered by husband and in-laws, Acceptance of decisions is significantly associated with respondent income (Chi-square=13.747 ; df=6 ; p=0.003), the chi-square value show significant association between the basic pay scale and the birth of first baby (Chi-square=13.757 ; df=6 ; p=0.032 ). 84.6% from BPS 21, 61.7% from BPS 18, 57.1% from BPS 19 and 26.3% respondents from BPS 20 expose their feeling about after the birth of first baby their husband and family started considering their decisions regarding family matters, Result indicates significant association between (Chi-square=13.307 ; df=6 ; p=0.038) the two variables. 84.6% respondents from the group of BPS 21 feel that their decisions were considered by husband and in-laws after the birth the birth of first baby, 67.9% from BPS 19, 48.3% from the BPS 19 and 36.8 % from the BPS 20 also accept the mentioned statement.

**DISCUSSION**

South Asian countries more specifically Pakistan is basically a patriarchal society where women are suppressed throughout

children marriages and daily household expenses (Taj, 2004). The study reveals that duration of married life significantly associated with their decision making power at family and their decisions were considered by their husband and family members with the passage of time. The studies demonstrate a new aspect which has a significant effect on decision making power of married working women that is the son preference. Finding of the study illustrate that birth of first baby especially baby boy brings a rapid change in the attitudes of husbands and in-laws towards their opinions and decisions (Chung and D.gupta, 2007).Researcher found that women with one male children have more decision making autonomy than who has no son.

**Conclusion**

South Asian countries more specifically Pakistan is basically a patriarch ally society where women are suppressed throughout their lives, marital status of women provide an opportunity to participate in decision making process but the study demonstrate a new aspect which has a significant effect on decision making power of married working women that is the son preference. Finding of the study illustrate that birth of the first baby especially baby Boy brings a rapid change in the attitude of husband and in-laws towards their opinions and decisions, researcher found that women with one male child have more decision making autonomy than who has no son.

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