

A STUDY OF FAMILY ADJUSTMENT OF WORKING WOMEN IN RELATION TO AREA OF RESIDENCE AND OCCUPATIONAL STATUS

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I. INTRODUCTION

In the original Sanskrit text, the creation of woman by Tvashtri, the Vulcan of Hindu mythology is described thus: He took the lightness of the leaf and the glance of the fawn, the gaiety of the sun's rays and the tears of the mist, the inconsistency of the wind and the timidity of the hare, the vanity of the peacock and the softness of the down on the throat of the swallow. He added the harshness of the diamond, the sweet flavor of honey, the cruelty of the tiger, the warmth of the fire and the turtle dove, the chill of snow and the chatter of the jay. He melted all these and formed a woman. The position of women was fairly satisfactory at the dawn of civilization during the Vedic age. The society, as a whole, showed proper concern and respect for women allowing them considerable freedom in the different activities of the social and political life. Ordinarily girls were less welcome than boys but nevertheless girls were educated like boys and had to pass through a period of brahmacharya. Many of them became distinguished poets. Women in the Vedic period could be initiated in Vedic studies and were entitled to offer sacrifices to gods; the son was not absolutely necessary for the purpose. The marriage of the daughter was not a difficult problem because the daughter could select her own husband. The dread of widowhood did not very much weigh upon the minds of parents, for the reason that levirate and remarriage were allowed by society and were fairly common. Since girls were married at the age of 16 or 17, the period before marriage was utilized for imparting education to them. For 7 to 8 years before marriage they used to learn by heart the Vedic hymns. Women poets themselves were reported to have been composing hymns. Some of them, were mentioned in the Rig Veda. Lopamudra, Visvavara, Sikata Nivavari and Ghosha contributed to the Vedic hymns. We also come across the names of women scholars such as Sulabha Maitreyi, Vadava Prathiteyi, and Gargi Vachaknavi who had made contributions to the advance of education. The reported searching cross-examination of Yagnavalkya by Gargi shows her high standard of philosophical discourse. Atreyi was another woman student of Vedanta who had studied under the sages Valmiki and Agastya. Besides studying Vedas many of them specialized in purvamimasa, which discussed the diverse problems connected with Vedic sacrifices. Leelavathi assisted her father bhaskaracharya, who was an eminent mathematician. Khana, a woman was a great astronomer of her times. When the reaction against the Vedic sacrificial religion gave a stimulus to philosophical speculations at about 800 BC, women scholars took keen interest in them. One of them happened to be maitreyi, wife of Yagnavalkya. The tradition of women scholars is

mentioned in the puranas. The bhagavata, for instance, refers to two daughters of Dakshayana as experts in theology and philosophy. A Vedic passage, says, "Man is only one half" and he is not complete till he is united with a wife. Our Hindu mythology has a rather beautiful concept of the Ardhanariswara – a half female, half male combination to make the perfect whole : Shiva and Shakti. In referring to a divine couple the name of female is always taken first, for example, Sitaram, Lakshminarayan, Radhakrishna, Gourishankar and so on showing the exalted position held by women. Archaeological evidence especially in the work of Sir John Marshall reveals that before the Aryan invasions, the local population revered the goddess. Merlin Stone in her book : When god was a woman says, "In prehistoric and early historic periods of human development, religions existed in which people revered their Supreme creator as female". Most of the deities of Hindu religion, even today, are females. Education of women received a set back from 300 BC with the introduction of child marriage. The ratio of divorce was found to be high among those who were married at an early age. Women were usually unlettered as they were married at the age of 8 or 9, mostly much before they attained puberty. They were given training in housekeeping at home to equip them for their married life. Society had a general prejudice against female education. During the Muslim rule the practically disappeared. Female education was confined only to the cultured and well-to-do families where the custom of child marriage did not take root. But their number was generally small.

Working Women in India

With the advent of British rule in India and the spread of Western education, remarkable changes have taken place in the Hindu Society Which affected the status and position of women. The traditional idea of woman's proper place was home has undergone a profound change. An educated working woman seldom feels happy with the exclusively onerous task of bearing and rearing children. She also wants to lead a life of her own outside home like her husband where she can breathe the air of freedom and realize her personal ambitions by pursuing a way of new life. It is quite natural, since a qualified or talented woman cannot rest content with her domestic role of a mother and wife, whose world is totally conditioned by a sense of self-abnegation. Indian women do not like the idea of talking jobs or continuing with them after marriage. It can easily be accounted as the traditional concept of different roles for both the sexes in our society, deep-rooted and that our inter-relations with the Western countries have not changed our

basic attitude very much. The entry of married women into the labour force in India has led to a conflict between the two roles of woman – that of a house wife and that of an earning member. As regards the motivation of work, money is an important factor. The need for extra income for the maintenance of family coupled with the demand for labour from the work sphere is the greatest incentive for the female worker of the present day. Now –a-days most of the educated women do not like to be economic burdens of their families or more bed-fellows to their husbands. We are now witnessing a transitional period in the status of women in India. Women are employed both in organized and unorganized sectors as professionals, skilled and unskilled. Indian women are employed as diplomats, ministers, doctors, vice-chancellors, professors, engineers, lawyers, officers, clerks etc. Women are also found in the fields of police service, military and postal services. All this is due to changes in the traditional system and cultural values of Hindu Society. There have been remarkable changes in the status and position of women in India in the last century especially after Independence. Employment is entirely a new field for women folk. In the olden days it was the monopoly of males. Though the status of woman is considerably improved as compared to the past, it cannot be regarded as being emancipated from the old traditions and customs. Hindus did not favour Women taking up jobs of various types. The traditional attitude is still persisting in the Indian society. Notwithstanding the traditional idea. Women are compelled to go for jobs as there is pressure from family side for financial reasons.

II. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE:

Joshi (1990) pointed out that family and work environment are the two factors that contribute to the enhancement of problems for employed women, and between the two, the non-job factors or family related factors weigh more importantly for women. Sekaran (1992) revealed that as compared to their counterparts of the world, Indian working women face a lot of difficulties in managing their work and life. For most of the working women, instrumental support is in the form of hired domestic help or female members of extended families. Although hired domestic help in urban areas have been noted to be expensive and unreliable, they still continue to be major source of support for the growing number of nuclear families who live far from their relatives. Ms. Hina Ahmed Hashmi, Ms. Maryam Khurshid and Dr. Ishtiaq Hassan (2006) found that working married women have to face more problems in their married life as compared to non-working married women. The results further show that highly educated working and non-working married women can perform well in their married life and they are free from depression as compared to educated working and non-working married women. Nathawat and Mathur (1993) found that working women reported significantly better marital adjustment and subjective wellbeing than housewives; they also scored higher than housewives in general health, life satisfaction and self-esteem measures. Kausar (2003) studied the effect of personality traits and socio-economic status on marital adjustment in working women and found no

difference between marital adjustment of working women of low, middle and high socio-economic background and attributed that personality trait could be the factor liable for the marital adjustment in working and non-working female rather being the socio-economic factor. Similar non-significant marital differences in working and non-working women of Port Harcourt metropolis was reported by Nigeria-Tamunoimama Jamabo and Ordu (2012). Thakur and Misra (1999) studied the well-being experiences of 196 employed and 54 unemployed women. It was found that the unemployed women received significantly more social support, in spite of that, the well-being measures indicating mental health was better in employed women. Sahu and Rath (2003) studies self-efficacy and wellbeing in working and non-working women in urban areas and found positive correlation between self-efficacy and wellbeing and added that marriage employment and parenthood are associated with good mental and physical health. Rastogi and Kashyap (2001) reported better mental health of employed woman. Shah and Varsnney (1982) found that married women were more maladjusted as compared to unmarried. The unmarried were more in favour of equality of women than married women, while married women were more in favour of birth control as compared to unmarried women. Goanker (1992) examined the levels of frustration among married women with permanent employment in government, semi government, and private organizations. Ss were 400 women working in different organizations in Greater Bombay, and were classified into 3 groups on the basis of per capita income. Ss were nearly similarly distributed in the 3 types of organizations of their employment in respect of scores on Chauhan and Tiwari's Frustration test. Frustration was significantly higher in low per capita income group, and it decreased with an increase in per capita income. Asha (1994) studied the problems of elderly women. A sample of 30 elderly employed women nearing retirement (aged 50-60 years) and 38 unemployed women of the same age group administered adjustment inventory and personal data schedule. Results reveal that the employed elderly Ss were more anxious and depressed whereas unemployed elderly Ss manifested inferiority mania and paranoia.

III. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

- To study and compare between urban and rural working women with regards to their family adjustment.
- To study and compare between teachers and administrators working women with regards to their family adjustment.
- To study the interaction effect between Area of Residence and Occupational Status working women with regards to their family adjustment.

IV. HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY:

- There will be no significant difference between urban and rural working women with regards to their family adjustment.
- There will be no significant difference between teachers and administrators working women with

regards to their family adjustment.

- There will be no interaction effect between Area of Residence and Occupational status of working women with regards to their family adjustment.

V. SAMPLE

For the present study random sampling technique was used for the selection of the participants. The sample was consisted of 120. Sample was categorized as under.

A1 (Urban)	A2 (Rural)	Total	
B ₁ (Teachers)	30	30	60
B ₂ (Administrators)	30	30	60
Total	60	60	120

VI. VARIABLES

In present study the nature of variable was given in the following table:

Name of Variable	Nature of Variable	Number of Variable	Level of Variable
Area of Residence	Independent Variable	2	Urban Rural
Occupational Status	Independent Variable	2	Teachers Administrator
Family Adjustment	Dependent Variable	1	Family Adjustment

VII. TOOL

Family adjustment inventory for working women by Vishwa Vijay Singh Family adjustment inventory for working is originally constructed in English version by Vishwa Vijay Singh and it is adapted by Dr. Parul Shukla and Dr. D.J. Panchal. There are 84 items and 5 areas of adjustment such as self adjustment, family adjustment, adjustment with children, adjustment with husband and adjustment with elders and relatives. Test retest reliability of the test is 0.80. The validity of the test is determined by the score of this test and the score of problem check list. The validity of the test is determined by the score of this test and the score of problem check list. The validity is 0.52.

VIII. PROCEDURE

Family adjustment inventory for working women by Vishwa Vijay Singh were administered simultaneously in individual setting after giving adequate instructions and establishing rapport. All the precautions were taken during the test administration as per manual also. Scoring of test was done as per manual of test.

IX. STATISTICAL ANALYSIS:

To find out main and interaction effect of Area of Residence and Occupational Status on scores of Family Adjustment Two way analysis of variance was used.

10. Result and discussion:

Table: 1 Showing Results of ANOVA on Family Adjustment of Various Groups

Source of Variation	Sum of Square	df	Mean sum of Square	f	Level of significant
Ass	4208.008	1	4208.008	9.31	.01
Bss	1762.874	1	1762.874	3.90	.05
AxBss	1804.988	1	1804.988	3.99	.05
Error	52414.138	116	451.84		
Tss	6019.008	119			

Table: 2

Showing Means Scores of Family Adjustment of Variable-A (Area of Residence)

	A1(Urban)	A2 (Rural)
Mean	124.68	113
N	60	60

Table: 3

Showing Means Scores of Family Adjustment of Variable-B (Occupational status)

	B1 (Teacher)	B2 (Administrator)
Mean	119.71	117.96
N	60	60

Table : 4

Showing Means Scores of Family Adjustment of Variable-AxB (Area of Residence X Occupational Status)

		A1 (Urban)	A2 (Rural)
B1 (Teacher)	Mean	125.30	114.13
	N	30	30
B2 (Administrator)	Mean	124.06	118.86
	N	30	30

F ratio for Family adjustment on Area of residence (Ass) is 9.31, which is significant at .01 level. It means urban working women is significantly differ on Family adjustment as compared to rural working women. Table 2. Shows the mean scores of urban working women is 124.68 on Family adjustment and mean scores of rural working women is 113 on Family adjustment. It is clearly said that significant difference is exists between urban and rural working women on Family adjustment. Urban working women have better family adjustment as compare to rural working women.

F ratio for Family adjustment on Occupational status (Bss) is 3.90, which is significant t .05 level. It means women teachers significantly is differ on Family adjustment as compare to women administrators. Table 3 shows the mean scores of women teachers is 119.71 on Family adjustment and mean scores of women administrator is 117.96 on

Family adjustment. It is clearly said that significant difference is exists between teachers and administrators working women on Family adjustment. Women Teachers have better family adjustment as compare to women administrator.

F ratio for Family adjustment on Area of residence and occupational Status (A x Bss) is 3.94. Which is significant at .05 level. It means significant interaction effect is exists between Area of residence and Occupational Status on Family adjustment. Table 4 shows the mean scores of urban women teachers is 125.30, urban women administrators is 124.06, rural women teachers is 114.13 and rural women administrator is 118.86 on Family adjustment. It is clearly said that significant difference is exists between area of residence and Occupational Status of working women on Family adjustment. Urban working women teachers have better family Adjustment than remaining groups of women.

X. CONCLUSION

1. Urban working women have better family adjustment as compare to rural women
2. Women Teachers have better family adjustment as compare to women administrator.
3. Urban working women teachers have better family Adjustment than remaining groups of women.

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