

Sociological Study of Household Women Unpaid Work Assessment

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Home always revolves around household women and she has play very crucial role in the house as mother, housekeeper, homemaker andhousewife.her occupational status has been closely associated with the home and family. Family duties have enforced restrictions on their role in social and housework activities. There is a clear conflict between household women and their societal status as housewife and mother. This paper examines sociological study of the household women's unpaid work asChief Cook, Housekeeper, child bearing, taking care of children and taking care of sick family members, home management, Grocery shopping, washing clothes, cleaningand other societal activities.

Objective:To explore the sociological study of household women unpaid housework in existingculture.

Method: We have collected primary data through field survey in face to face interviews, and secondary sources collected from the Internet, books, published articles and journals.

Result indicates that40.6 percent respondents women were illiterate, followed by (53)78 percent respondents were educated they have estimated housework as paid work. The chi square p (0.000) shows the highly significant relationship between educational status and household unpaid work.

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I INTRODUCTION

As we all know Household women occupational status has been closely accompanying with the home and family management. So she constitutes the backbone of the family from antiquity to present society. Household woman plays a very central role in the housework and care activities of the family. She has performed various unpaid Family duties such as cooking, grinding rice, washing utensils, fetching water, cleaning home, sweeping the house, child care, making the beds, mobbing the house, ironing clothes, cleaning the house, grocery shopping, cooking meals, washing vessels, food shopping, laundry, gathering firewood, collecting wild fruits and vegetables, fishing in the streams, looking after family sick members and nursing children without any financial assistants and life security expectation which are considered as unpaid work. All through the day household women are busy with all sorts of arduous unpaid work and these unpaid works have also compulsory restrictions on housewife role in their social position. According to Gershuny study Unpaid work consists of time used as an input in non-market production processes unpaid work is part of a particular mode of provision for human needs (Gershuny, 1983 and 1988). The socioeconomic emancipation of Indian women has itself been a product of changes their lives in family as well as in society. The spread of education has found deep and vital change in the outlook towards women's status. Whereas the statistical analysis test chi square $p (0.000)$ shows the highly significant relationship between respondent's educational status and unpaid work.

Objectives: To explore the sociological study of household women unpaid work in present society.

Meaning of unpaid work: Unpaid work comprises all unproductive activities inside and outside home done by individuals for their own households or for others such as cleaning, washing, cooking care for children and for sick and old people, help in family businesses, and management of family without any remuneration is called unpaid work. These activities are

unproductive in the sense that they use scarce resources to satisfy human wants.

Meaning of the household women: A housewife is a woman her main occupation is running or managing the family's home, making clothes for the family, cooking, cleaning and storing food, buying goods to fulfill the family needs in day to day life, attending to farm labour, tending domestic animals, caring husband, family members and educating, socializing her children, etc. and who is generally not employed outside the home. Housework contributes to the broad project of social reproduction then also they suffer from being both economically and socially invisible in present society.

Need of the study: The present study analyzes the household women performed substantial amount of women's time is devoted to unpaid household work. The productive contribution of women towards household maintenance, provision of the family needs, and bearing and rearing but women housework activities are invisible and ignored by family as well as society due to unpaid. But unpaid Women's work needs economic value for her housework to increase the socio-economic status of household women and their recognition in social position. Because the total value of unpaid household work is approximately the same as the total value of paid work. Commonly as we know when third person means housemaid doing this work he was get the salary for the unpaid activity of a household work, the activity is regarded as work paid work. There is need to assess the household women role in time spent on household works such as cooking, washing and cleaning looking after the family especially sick and elder people without expecting remuneration. There is need to focus on monetary value household work which is considerable for improve the housewife societal status.

II REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The following review of literature comprises paid and Unpaid work some basic facts of time spent for each housework which are discussed from different authors with different title, which studies have been done on household women paid and unpaid work.

Giddens (1989) in his textbook's Glossary of Important Terms, defines housework as Unpaid work carried on, usually by women, in the home. There are a variety of meanings attributed to the concepts of family and household. However, for present purposes the conceptual issues are not particularly relevant, so for simplicity, family will now be used throughout to indicate a household of blood and/or marriage/cohabiting partnership relations. Rather curiously they regard work done by men in such activities as gardening or repairing the car as done solely for

their own benefit and so paid, while housework is for the benefit of all the family and therefore unpaid. This is also relevant to the informal economy, and to the system of taxation which only recognizes transactions in the formal economy. Another difference is that men do unpaid voluntary work as much as women (Hakim, 1996). Molyneux's (1979) admirable review of the domestic labour debate does show awareness of economic returns to domestic work, but still describes it as unpaid.

¹⁵**Delphy and Leonard (1995)** in this study argue on household women work which is considered as the concept of unpaid work is done for the benefit of others, including housework in this category¹³. Regardless of who contributes most money and who undertakes most household tasks, the family share the benefits of both, though contributions and benefits may not be entirely equally shared (Pahl, 1989; Morris 1995).

¹⁰**Cf. Bruyn-Hundt, (1996, Ch. 3)** this study used two ways to measure and value unpaid work, the input method and the output method. The '*input method*' counts hours worked in unpaid productive activities and assigns a price to it, using a comparable wage rate. *Time use surveys* are mostly used to tackle the quantitative side of the equation. Although there are many methodological problems connected with time use studies, they can in principle be solved by entering into agreements concerning standard definitions etc. The main objection to this method is called the homemakers paradox. The value of the same unpaid task would be higher if done by my boss instead of by me, although I may be the better cook. To one of female workers, especially in so-called female occupations (Luxton, 1997).

¹⁴**Conducted by R.M. Blackburn (1999)** his study indicates housework as unpaid work, especially when it is done by women. An extensive review of the literature revealed domestic work done by women in their own homes is invariably described as unpaid or unwaged. Housework, including childcare, is predominantly the responsibility of women, and the time devoted to these activities limits their opportunities to earn wages or salaries in the formal labour market. This gendered division of labour theoretical error in describing women's domestic work as unpaid, it is the error of applying market concepts to non-market work. Housework is carried out within the domestic economy, not the capitalist market economy. However, the dominance of the capitalist economy in contemporary societies is reflected in its dominance in social analysis, and this has led to the application of market conceptions of pay to the domestic economy. A theoretically unsound, practice of describing housework as unpaid or unwaged. This in turn introduces a gender bias, through undervaluing the economic and social

contributions of women in the domestic economy. In fact housework is paid, in the sense that it carries significant financial rewards for the workers and their families.

¹**Joke Swiebel (1999)** this paper shows on the issue of unpaid work household Women which is focused on unpaid work in national accounts and other statistics. It also attempts to clarify the role that unpaid work should play in socio-economic policy-making. The paper provides time spent for each housework and the differences and similarities of unpaid work between developing and developed economies methods of measuring and assigning the value of unpaid work. An assessment of activities carried out on the theme of unpaid work since the World Summit for Social Development and the World Conference on Women. Finally, the paper provides a systematic inventory of policies with respect to unpaid work, including employment and labour market policies. Recognizing unpaid work in Four elements of modern *gender equality policy* are discussed they are promoting a more equal sharing of unpaid work between women and men, changes in the organization of paid and unpaid work both by women and by men, the provision of public services, such as child care and the commercialization of domestic labour.

¹² **Margrit Eichler, Kathryn Spracklin (2002)** this study will focus on household work unpaid as well as paid. the nature of household work, and the learning does associated with macro-structural changes as well as changes performance and learning shift depending on whether the work is performed without pay or for pay “Housework is the most important gap within the literature in our context is the almost complete lack of systematic attention paid to the learning that occurs through the performance of household work. The nature of household work shifts constantly due to changes at the macro- and micro-levels. At the macro level changes in world trade patterns, in employment conditions and in housing styles result in new appliances, products, shopping conditions, and un/availability of help that affect greatly what domestic labour is performed within the household and under what conditions (Eichler 1983; Eichler 1985; Eichler 1988a; Eichler 1988b; Eichler 1990; Eichler 1994; Eichler 1997; Eichler et al. 1977; Hayden 1984; Strasser 1982). At the micro level, changes in the life cycle and in other life circumstances require constant adjustments. Moving out of the parents’ home, establishing one’s own first household, marrying, separating, divorcing, having children, gaining or losing custody of children, looking after aged parents or a chronically ill household member, moving into a different type of residence, and so on, all require the acquisition of different skills.

Some other studies reveal similar results such as Women do more housework. This is one of the few social constants we find that holds across time, culture, first world/third world and rural/urban differences, class, race/ethnicity, etc. A small sampling of a huge literature includes (Antill et al. 1996; Arrighi and Maume 2000; Berk 1985; Blair and Lichter 1991; Ferree 1991; Greenstein 1996; Hersch 1991; Hochschild 1989; Kamo and Cohen 1998; Livingstone 2002; Perry-Jenkins and Crouter 1990; Pittman et al. 2001; Pleck 1985; Presser 1994; Rivières-Pigeon et al. 2001; Ross and Mirowsky 1992; Sanchez 1993; South and Spitze 1994; United Nations 1995; Van Willigen and Drentea 2001; Waring 1988; Zuo and Bian 2001). Secondly doing housework are seen as negative (Kandel et al. 1985; Lennon and Rosenfield 1994); Oakley, 1974; (Ross et al. 1983) symbolically expressed in titles such as the “double day, double bind” (Gannage, 1986) and the “double shift” (Hochschild, 1989). Responsibility for unpaid housework and care work is linked to economic vulnerability or poverty, both in the short term and over the long term. (Hewitt and Leach 1993; Kitchen et al. 1991; McDaniel 1993). Women who combine high unpaid work responsibilities with paid work are also said to experience time poverty (Douthitt, 1993). Doing too much housework has been found to lead to depression in both women and men (Glass and Fujimoto 1994). On the other hand, there is an acknowledgement that some household work particularly childcare, but also activities such as cooking may be enjoyable, express love toward family members (DeVault 1987); Ferree, 1991; South and Spitze, 1994), and provide an outlet for creative expressions (Kemmer 2000). While we found no direct study that examined empirically whether skills acquired through household work are applicable on the labour market, there is a literature that deals with mothers teaching children (e.g. Collins, 1998, Smith and Griffith, forthcoming).

¹³**Martha MacDonaldet.,al.**, This study has given new visibility to the ongoing unpaid work done in the home and community, which has traditionally been unrecognized and not considered as work. While love may motivate caregiving, it still takes time, physical exertion, and emotional effort, just as paid work does. They have used recent Canadian data, to examine the time spent by prime-age women and men (25–54) on paid work, childcare, eldercare, household work, volunteering, and education, and then assess its impact on stress and work-life balance. In this paper they focus on outcomes related to stress. Stress has known impacts on both emotional and physical well-being. Their focus is the relationship of unpaid work to stress, both on its own and in combination with other forms of work. This study analyzed by Using multivariate which shows that women’s greater hours of unpaid work contribute to women experiencing more stress than men, and of that work, hours spent on eldercare and housework

are more stressful than those spent on childcare. They also examine the influence of job characteristics and spouses paid and unpaid work time on stress. The double day for women in the workforce and its impact on labor market outcomes, its effect on health and quality of life have only recently been considered (Maria Floro 1995). As most prime-age women in Canada combine paid and unpaid work responsibilities, our research also links directly to the literature on work family balance.

III Methods/ Matrial

Research strategy: We will use a variety of methods to explore our articulated data, this data shows analysis of household women housework. This is generally classified as natural, compulsory, paid and unpaid. It is also cultural productive of homemaker in a household. This research attempt to probe how the understanding of household work is affected by social location. Besides that, there will be several academic papers on each of the phases and one book on the topic of learning through household work throughout the life cycle, whether the work is paid or unpaid.

Methodology: The study is based on primary as well as secondary data sources. The data are useful in attempting to interpret the paid and unpaid work according to respondent, her husband view and family member's views.

Methods: We use descriptive cross sectional study was carried out in Gulbarga city in Karnataka to satisfy objective of research. During the month of September 2013. The study populations were household women (n=100) between the age group of 18- 65 years.

Data collection: we have collected primary Data through pretested questionnaire survey in face to face interviews. This questionnaire involves basic information about sociodemographic characteristics of Respondents (e.g. age, place of birth, marital status, Education, type of family, husband education, husband occupation and family annual income), household women chores, gender equality and child care in family.

Study Design: The researcher was adopting descriptive research design conducted among household women. The study includes only the household women of Gulbarga city.

Study Area: This study carried out in Gulbarga districts in Karnataka, India, on Households women. The researcher visited different areas in Gulbarga City to get the information on household women unpaid and paid housework in their home. The data are useful in attempting to interpret the causes for variations in terms of asset, occupational or educational status.

Sampling size: In sample size 100 household women were interviewed there is every possibility that quite a few household women were missed out from selected area and the number of household women enumerated may not be the exact figure. The survey would certainly reflect the situation of household women in Gulbarga city and meet the requirement of the stated research objective. A pilot study was conducted in randomly selected household with an objective of household women on paid, unpaid and their duties in family life.

Table 1 Respondent and her husband considered housework is paid and unpaid work		Paid		Unpaid		Total	
Respondents Age	Below 30	18	52.9%	16	47.1%	34	100.0%
	31-40	26	78.8%	7	21.2%	33	100.0%
	Above 40	22	78.8%	11	33.3%	33	100.0%
	Total	66	66.0%	34	34.0%	100	100.0%
	P Value	.082					
Respondents Place of Birth	Rural	25	62.5%	15	37.5%	40	100.0%
	Urban	41	68.3%	19	31.7%	60	100.0%
	Total	66	66.0%	34	34.0%	100	100.0%
	P Value	.546					
Respondents Marital Status	Married	63	64.9%	34	35.1%	97	100.0%
	Separated	3	100.0%	0	.0%	3	100.0%
	Total	66	66.0%	34	34.0%	100	100.0%
	P Value	.207					
Respondents Education level	Illiterate	13	40.6%	19	59.4%	32	100.0%
	Literate	53	77.9%	15	22.1%	68	100.0%
	Total	66	66.0%	34	34.0%	100	100.0%
	P Value	.000					
Respondents Type of Family	Joint Family	33	62.3%	20	37.7%	53	100.0%
	Nuclear Family	33	70.2%	14	29.8%	47	100.0%
	Total	66	66.0%	34	34.0%	100	100.0%
	P Value	.402					
Respondents Husband Education Level	Illiterate	14	73.7%	5	26.3%	19	100.0%
	Literate	52	64.2%	29	35.8%	81	100.0%
	Total	66	66.0%	34	34.0%	100	100.0%
	P Value	.432					
Respondents Husband Occupation	Govt Employee	15	57.7%	11	42.3%	26	100.0%
	Private Employee	31	72.1%	12	27.9%	43	100.0%

	Business	20	64.5%	11	35.5%	31	100.0%
	Total	66	66.0%	34	34.0%	100	100.0%
	P Value	.463					
Respondents Family Annual Income	1 Laks to 2 Laks	45	59.2%	31	40.8%	76	100.0%
	3 Laks to 4 Laks	16	84.2%	3	15.8%	19	100.0%
	5 Laks to 6 Laks	5	100.0%	0	.0%	5	100.0%
	Total	66	66.0%	34	34.0%	100	100.0%
	P Value	.031					

Statistical Analysis: The data entry and analysis was done by using the SPSS software where we have calculated chi square analysis was done to test the association between independent and dependent variable for household women and her housework variables. A P-value less than or equal to 0.05 was considered to be statistically significant for a 95% confidence interval.

IV Results

The above table number 1 try to explain about the analysis undertaken between the age of respondent and their husbands view on household women housework. Housework is basically considered as unpaid. The data of total 100 respondents in the age groups of 18 to 65 years were analyzed. Out of this the majority of the respondents were in age group between 31-40 and above 40(78 percent) and 52 percent were in 18 to 30 years age considered the housework is paid work. Figure 2 explains about the urban and rural area, it was found that one third or 22(62.5 percent) among 66 respondents considered housework is paid work their place of birth is rural, followed by 41 Whereas 68.3 percent belonging to urban area. The chi square p .546 indicates that no significant relationship between place of birth and respondents views on household work.

Figure 3 presents respondents marital status which we are categorized as married and separated among all 64 percent respondents are married, 3 percent separated women considered as paid work. The chi square p .207 indicates that no significant relationship between marital status and respondents views on household work. The socioeconomic and educational inequalities women face lot of problems in her day to day life activities. We have categorized education variable as illiterate, literate among all the respondent's majority of respondents that is 78 percent are literate, considered housework as paid work. One fourth means 40 percent respondents are illiterate. The chi square p value (0.000) shows that highly significant relationship between educational status and respondents views. Here we found nuclear type families more respondents were likely to estimate household work as paid work, that is 70

percent respondents were from Nuclear family and 62 percent respondents belongs to joint family. p value (.402) shows that no significant relationship between type of family and respondents views. The husband's education is an important characteristic, which has strong association with the education of household women. figure 6 indicates education level of respondent's husband which presents 73 percent respondents husband are illiterate and estimate housework as paid work followed by 64 percent are literate. The chi square p value (.432) shows that no significant relationship between educational status and respondents views.

Table 1 figure 7 presents occupational status of respondent's husband. Here we classified occupation as **Govt Employee, Private Employee and Business**, majority of respondents husband engage in private employee that is 72 percent, 64.5 percent are belongs to private occupation and 58 percent husbands are from Government employee deliberate housework as paid work. The chi square p value (.463) shows that no significant relationship between employment of respondents husband and respondents views. The Respondents family income is basic need for everyone to sustain their life. So in this variable we categorized as **1 Laks to 2 Laks, 3 Laks to 4 Laks and 5 Laks to 6 Laks**. Out of 100 respondents 66 women are assumed paid remaining 44 percent respondents are considered as unpaid. So here we have mentioned housework is paid answers respondents among all (45) 59 percent belongs first category, (16) 84 percent belongs to second category of annual income and (n=5)100 percent belongs to third category of respondents assumed housework as paid work.

V Conclusion

There are many reasons for thinking household women position in household. In this study we have highlighted a number of issues related to paid and unpaid Housework of women. As my point of view Household women spend more time in unpaid household duties such as shopping, cooking, cleaning, and in particular on the time at which these tasks are more importance to household activities, for this context household women have less social position and significant amount of help from her husband and family members due to less education of Indian housewife. Certainly, there are some housewives among women at all educational levels, but irrespective of the family duties restrictions, most housewives shoulder the vast majority of the unpaid family work, and few have a domestic cleaner. Hence, the popular notion of today's housewives as shares household activities with family members in order to see gender equality, or in form of learning etc., We found that the impact of an unpaid work rarely has an association with time, interest, money and dedication towards family. This is an important gender equality

difference, which may reflect gendered spheres of responsibility. It became significant amount of help to household women to lead their life with social dignity with all respective responsibility.

VI Suggestions

We have to force to rethink of our assumptions that women should get respectable position in family and society with their housework dignity. It needs to create awareness of housework importance among household women, it also needs to injects the people mind in the way of social norm may have been change in place at some point paid and unpaid activities of individual whether they are male or female.

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