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## Involvement of working and non-working women in Home activities

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### Abstract

An investigation was carried out to know the involvement of working and non working women in home activities. Two districts were selected i.e. Yeotmal & Parbhani under this Gunj & Bori from pusad and Daithana & Pokharni from Parbhani villages were selected. The total respondents included in the study were 600. It consists of working (300) and non working (300) women sample. Personal Interview method was used for data collection. Statistical techniques *viz.*, frequency and percentage, was used for analyzing the data. The findings revealed It can be expressed from the table that that majority 46.83 per cent of the women were from the age category 31-45 years, It was seen that less than half 39.83 per cent of the women were educated up to school level The major occupation of the selected women was found to be household (50.00 %). The working women were engaged in service i. e. Teacher, Lecturer, Professor, Doctor, Anganwadi workers, ASHA workers, Supervisor, Sarpanch, etc. were less than one third (16.33 %) As far as family type was concerned, joint type of families were seen to be predominant 53.5 per cent, The trend of medium sized (5-8 members) families was found to be in less than half 49.00 per cent of the selected families It was observed that half 50.83 per cent of them had their annual income up to above Rs. 1,00,000/- most of the respondents 93.83 per cent had no membership it was noted that majority of the families 91.33 per cent were having land line/mobile phones that a huge majority 86.16 per cent of the women had no contacts with any extension agent. It is reviewed from the above table that women were involved in the all purchase activities except Farm equipments and Electrical purchasing. Most of the women were purchase of Ornaments and Clothes joint with husband or male. Some of the purchasing issues were manage jointly with male. maximum of the women 62.83, 59.00, 61.16 and 49.33 per cent respectively were participating independently in the activity preparation of food like cleaning & cutting vegetables, Actual preparation of curry, Chapati/bhakri making and Serving food respectively.

**Keywords:** Involvement, working women, home

### Introduction

Homemaking is defined by wood (1926) as the arts and science of organizing, directing family members and controlling the forces and materials of nature through planning the through skilled activity for the optimum development of the family and society.

Working women here are referred to those who are in paid employment. From just a skilled homemaker, women today have acquired skills and capabilities of not just being a homemaker but being at part with their male counterparts. This is the new generation of women, who wants to pursue their dream career. But this life is not bed of roses for all. More conflict arises with the working women. One has to fulfill the demand at work followed by various demands at home. In today's scenario the husband and wife both work towards creating a balance with their work life as well as at home with their children. But is still difficult for women as she has to play multiple role of cook, a family maid, a tutor a nurse as well as cater to the demands of office work. This can leave a working woman stressed and anxious; more if the family is not supportive. Working women in India are faced with lot more challenges than their counterparts in the other part of world. Gupta *et al.* (2018)<sup>[5]</sup>.

Work refers to the participation of individuals in productive activities for which they either receive remuneration (in cash or in kind) for their participation or are unpaid because they are contributors to a family business enterprise. It also includes subsistence production of goods for their own households and non-economic activities such as domestic work, family and elder care, construction or repair of owner occupied buildings and volunteer work for which individuals receive no remuneration (United Nations, 2000).

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### Objectives

1. To study the background characteristics of working women in home activities.
2. To know the type of participation of the working & non working women in different Home activities.

### Methodology

The study was carried out in two Regions of Maharashtra State were selected for the study. This research consist sample of six hundred working and non working women from rural and urban areas. The districts from these regions were purposively selected. These were Parbhani under this villages were Daithana & Pokharni from Marathvada region and Yeotmal the villages were selected Gunj & Bori from Vidarbha region. In the present study the total sample consisted of six hundred working and non working women out of these Three hundred rural women and Three hundred urban women will be selected. Out of Three hundred one hundred and fifty samples for rural area will be selected as working status of women like list of female workers working in different government organizations, non-governmental organizations, private organizations, Insurance Corporation, hospital, agriculture department, horticulture department, education department, Zilla Panchayat, revenue department, Anganwadi workers, farm labour, Farmer, dairy management, goat rearing, shop keeper, tailoring those who are earn etc. and non working will be housewife. Out of three hundred one hundred and fifty samples (urban) will be selected as working status of women like teachers, lectures, labour, entrepreneur, etc. and non working will be housewife.

Out of three hundred one hundred and fifty samples (urban) will be selected as working status of women like teachers, lectures, labour, entrepreneur, etc. and non working will be housewife. Thus the sample comprised of total six hundred women. The respondents were personally interviewed with the help of pre - structured interview schedule.

### Result and Discussion

#### Background characteristics of working and non working women

Personal characteristics of the respondents were studied with the following variables i.e. age and family structure. Socioeconomic characteristics of respondents included main family occupation, education, organizational membership and media ownership. The findings presented in the table 1 indicates that majority 46.83 per cent of the women were from the age category 31-45 years, followed by the category 46-60 years 31.33 per cent while 21.83 per cent women were from the age category 18-30 years. It was seen that less than half 39.83 per cent of the women were educated up to school level, more than one fourth 28.33 per cent of them could illiterate. The percentage of the higher education i. e. graduation and post graduation among selected women was found less than fifteen per cent 7.5 and 10.16 per cent respectively. It was due the reason that fifty (300) of the sample was from rural area. It can be also observed from the table that 14.16 per cent of the women were educated up to Junior College or Diploma level. The study clearly indicates that educational level of the women in the study is fair.

**Table 1:** General profile of the respondents

n = 600

Sr. No.	Particulars	Frequency	%
<b>1</b>	<b>Age (Years)</b>		
	18-30 yrs.	131	21.83
	31-45 yrs.	281	46.83
	46-60 yrs.	188	31.33
<b>2</b>	<b>Education</b>		
	Illiterate	170	28.33
	School level	239	39.83
	Jr. College/ Diploma	085	14.16
	Graduate	045	07.5
	Post Graduate	061	10.16
<b>3</b>	<b>Occupation</b>		
	Farm labour	046	07.66
	Farming	075	12.5
	Service	098	16.33
	Business	050	08.33
	Labours/daily wage	031	05.16
	Household	300	50.00
<b>4</b>	<b>Family Structure</b>		
	<i>a) Family Type</i>		
	Nuclear	275	45.83
	Joint	321	53.5
	Extended	004	0.66
	<i>b) Family size</i>		
	Small (Up to 4 members)	237	39.5
	Medium (5-8 members)	294	49.00
	Large (> 8 members)	069	11.5
<b>5</b>	<b>Family income (Rs.) Per yr.</b>		
	Up to Rs. 30,000.00	022	03.66
	Rs. 30,001.00 to 1,00,000.00	273	45.5
	> Rs.1,00,000.00	305	50.83
<b>6</b>	<b>Organizational membership</b>		
	No membership	563	93.83
	Member of formal/non-formal organization	037	06.16
<b>7</b>	<b>Media ownership</b>		
	Newspaper/magazines	242	40.33
	Radio/transistor	162	27.00
	Television	505	84.16
	Land line /mobile	548	91.33
	Computer/Laptop	130	21.66
<b>8</b>	<b>Extension contacts</b>		
	Always	005	0.83
	Sometime	078	13.00
	Never	517	86.16

The major occupation of the selected women was found to be household (50.00 %). The working women were engaged in service i. e. Teacher, Lecturer, Professor, Doctor, Anganwadi workers, ASHA workers, Supervisor, Sarpanch, etc. were less than one third (16.33 %) while 12.50 per cent of the women were working on their own farms i. e. farming, only 8.33 per cent of them were involved in Business related activities like, Grocery shop, Beauty parlor, Tailoring, Classes (Mehandi, Rangoli, Plates making), selling of agricultural implements, preparation of agricultural edible products at home (turmeric, chilli powder making, masale making etc.), dhal making, selling vegetables, flowers and selling preserves (papad, pickles, vermicelli etc.), and very few of them i.e only 7.66

per cent women were working on others' farms as farm labour and very negligible 5.16 per cent women were working as labour like, home servant, hotel servant etc. As far as family type was concerned, joint type of families were seen to be predominant 53.5 per cent, followed by nuclear type families 45.83 per cent and lastly very negligible percentage of extended families 0.66 per cent were found. It is clear from the data that the trend of nuclear families has been decreasing. The trend of medium sized (5-8 members) families was found to be in less than half 49.00 per cent of the selected families, while small sized (up to 4 members) families were also nearly equal i. e. 39.5 per cent and lastly it was noted that few of them 11.5 per cent had large families comprising > 8 members. The annual income of the respondent families was categorized under three income groups as up to Rs. 30,000/-, between Rs. 30,001/- to Rs. 1,00,000/- and above Rs. 1,00,000/-. It was observed that half 50.83 per cent of them had their annual income up to above Rs. 1,00,000/- whereas 45.5 per cent of them had their annual between Rs. 30,001 to Rs. 1,00,000/- and only few of the families 3.66 per cent had the annual income up to Rs. 30,000/-. It is due to the fact that most of the families were having their occupation as service, farming, and business.

As regards organizational membership of the respondents, it can be stated from the table, that most of the respondents 93.83 per cent had no membership while very few 6.16 per cent of them had membership of formal/non-formal organization. In case of media ownership, it was noted that majority of the families 91.33 per cent were having land line/mobile phones, 84.16 per cent of them were having television, less than half of them 40.33 per cent were having news paper/magazines. Only 27.00 per cent of the respondents listening the programmes on radio/transistor, whereas computer/laptop owning families were 21.66 per cent. Hence it can be concluded that media ownership was quite good among the selected respondents.

As far as extension contacts of the respondents were concerned, it can be depicted that a huge majority 86.16 per cent of the women had no contacts with any extension agent whereas 13.00 per cent of the women had extension contacts sometimes only, The percentages for always extension contacts were very less i.e. 0.83. So it can be said that extension contacts of the selected women was found to be very low.

#### Type of participation of the respondents in home activities

Household workload of the homemakers constitutes activities given in the Table 2. The information about type of participation of the respondents in 25 home related activities was shown. This participation was categorized as independent participation, participation joint with female; joint with male and no participation.

It can be expressed from the table that maximum of the women 62.83, 59.00, 61.16 and 49.33 per cent respectively were participating independently in the activity preparation of food like cleaning & cutting vegetables, Actual preparation of curry, Chapati/ bhakri making and Serving food respectively. Only 21.33, 21.16, 21.16 and 18.16 per cent respectively of them were found to be participating joint with females in above food activities. Very negligible percentage 7.5, 4.66, 2.33 & 3.5 per cent of the respondents was participating joint with males in the food activities. It was indicates in table 2 that only 8.33, 15.16, 15.33 & 29.00 per cent of respondents were not involved in this food activities.

It is also clear from the table that the clothing activities washing and subsequently drying of clothes women were performed by independently in greater proportion 62.00 and 61.83 per cent. It is also noted that 25.66 & 25.66 per cent one third of the respondents were not involved in these activities. Only 11.66 & 11.83 per cent of the women were participating joint with females. While very few 0.66 & 0.66 per cent of them were involved in this activity joint with male.

**Table 2:** Type of participation of the respondents in home activities

n = 600

Sr. No.	Activity	Independent		Joint with female		Joint with male		No participation	
		Frequency	(%)	Frequency	(%)	Frequency	(%)	Frequency	(%)
<b>Food preparation</b>									
1	Cleaning & cutting vegetables	377	62.83	128	21.33	45	07.5	50	08.33
2	Actual preparation of curry	354	59.00	127	21.16	28	04.66	91	15.16
3	Chapati/ bhakri making	367	61.16	127	21.16	14	02.33	92	15.33
4	Serving food	296	49.33	109	18.16	21	03.5	174	29.00
<b>Clothing</b>									
5	Washing	372	62.00	70	11.66	04	0.66	154	25.66
6	Drying	371	61.83	71	11.83	04	0.66	154	25.66
7	Cleaning housing	364	60.66	109	18.16	20	03.33	107	17.83
8	Cleaning surrounding	365	60.83	109	18.16	17	02.83	109	18.16
9	Mopping floor	353	58.83	88	14.66	03	000.5	156	26.00
10	Fetching water	86	14.33	28	04.66	6	01.00	480	80.00
11	House decoration	305	50.83	57	09.5	14	02.33	224	37.33
12	Child care	209	34.83	104	17.33	41	06.83	246	41.00
13	Sending to tuition	40	06.66	10	01.66	20	03.33	530	88.33
14	Getting them ready for school	397	66.16	21	03.5	41	06.83	141	23.50
15	Sending to school	52	08.66	23	03.83	16	02.66	509	84.83
16	Helping/Supervising children in study	109	18.16	14	02.33	16	02.66	461	76.83
<b>Purchasing</b>									
17	Vegetable purchasing	203	33.83	70	11.66	48	08.00	279	46.50
18	Grain purchasing	84	14.00	25	04.16	127	21.16	364	60.66
19	Grocery purchasing	92	15.33	23	03.83	136	22.66	349	58.16
20	Utensil purchasing	125	20.83	12	02.00	58	09.66	405	67.50
21	Medicine purchasing	80	13.33	09	01.5	109	18.16	402	67.00
22	Ornaments purchasing	67	11.16	11	01.83	238	39.66	284	47.33

23	Cloth purchasing	86	14.33	11	01.83	255	42.5	248	41.33
24	Farm equipments purchasing	08	01.33	00	00	08	01.33	584	97.33
25	Electrical purchasing	29	04.83	00	00	20	03.33	551	91.83

Cleaning housing, Cleaning surrounding, Mopping floor, Fetching water and House decoration was another activity in which 60.66, 60.83, 58.83, 14.33 and 50.83 per cent respectively of the women were involved independently. The percentages of their participation joint with female were very low i.e. 18.16, 14.66, 4.66 and 9.5 per cent respectively. But very negligible per cent were observed i.e. 3.33, 2.83, 5.0, 1.00 and 2.33 per cent participation joint with male on same activities. One third of the respondents were not involved in the above activities i.e. 17.83, 18.16, 26.00, 80.00 and 37.33 per cent respectively. When the reason was asked to the respondents, they replied that these activities are not for the male but only working women husband are help to their wife. It is concluded that food preparation, clothing and housing activities were dominated by housewives.

As evident from table 2 overwhelming majority 88.33, 84.83 and 76.83 per cent respectively of the women were found to be not participating in the children education i.e. Sending to tuition, Sending to school and Helping/Supervising children in study. In the activity Child care, Sending to tuition, getting them ready for school, sending to school and Helping/Supervising children Only 34.83, 6.66, 66.16, 8.66 and 18.16 per cent respectively of them were carrying this activity independently. Very negligible percentage 17.33, 1.66, 3.5, 3.83 & 2.33 and 6.83, 3.33 & 2.66 16 per cent respectively respondents were doing these activities joint with female and joint with male.

In case of the financial activity Vegetable purchasing, Grain purchasing, Grocery purchasing, Utensil purchasing, Medicine purchasing, Ornaments purchasing, Cloth purchasing, Farm equipments purchasing, Electrical purchasing also majority (46.50%, 60.66%, 58.16%, 67.50%, 47.33%, 97.33% and 91.83%) of the women were not purchasing this activity whereas 33.83, 14.00, 15.33, 20.82 and 13.33 per cent of them were purchasing independently in the some activities i.e. Vegetable purchasing, Grain purchasing, Grocery purchasing, Utensil purchasing, Medicine purchasing and one third of the respondent 39.66 and 42.5 per cent involved joint with male in the Ornaments and Cloth purchasing. Very negligible percentage 11.66, 4.16, 3.83, 2.00 respondent were purchasing this activities joint with female.

It is reviewed from the above table that women were involved in the all purchase activities except Farm equipments and Electrical purchasing. Most of the women were purchase of Ornaments and Clothes joint with husband or male. Some of the purchasing issues were manage jointly with male.

The reason for maximum no participation may be that the activities may be attributed to the fact that they are performed outside the home requiring more of social contact and generally dealt by male members.

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