A study on domestic problems faced by women scientists in Hisar district of Haryana

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Abstract

Violence against women within the family is a global phenomenon. However, its ramifications are more complex and its intensity much greater in India. The most pathetic aspect of such atrocities is domestic violence. Female foeticide and female infanticide are basically socio-cultural problems and not just a law and order problem. The study was conducted in Hisar district of Haryana state. A sample of 100 women scientists were selected randomly from CCSHAU, GJUS&T and LLRUVAS, Hisar purposively as per objectives of the study. It is revealed that Age of the respondent was found highly significantly associated with level of domestic problems faced by respondents. Low levels of domestic problems were faced by majority of respondents who belonged to young age group. 13% of the respondents reported mother in law to be the one who indulged in domestic violence followed by 4% respondents reported that husbands who indulged in domestic violence.

Introduction

The rapid pace of economic development has increased the demand for educated female labour force almost in all fields. This new phenomena has also given economic power in the hands of women for which they were earlier totally dependents on males. It is surprising that 'although women have earned 37% of all science PhDs awarded by Indian institutions, they hold fewer than 15% of science faculty positions. Out of India's 114,000 or so government scientists, fewer than 16,000 are women. In fact, it is also surprising that in the 52-year history of India's highest Science Award, the CSIR Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize, among the 463 recipients of the award, only 14 have so far been women, a mere 3%. Therefore, while low participation of women in scientific research continues to be a matter of concern to both academicians and policymakers alike, another question that has assumed topical importance, not only in India, but the world over (Sinha and Sinha, 2011). For instance, women's studies have worked tirelessly at bringing about policy change at macro socio-economic level through the instrument of the state. Further women scientists are different from other working women, because they are consistently serious and dedicated researchers. They often strain domestic happiness and their own health to the breaking point as they work for hours in the quest of answers to the burning queries. In view of this the present study was designed with following specific objective:

-To discern social factors associated with the domestic problems of women scientist

Methodology

The study was conducted in Hisar district of Haryana state. The district Hisar was selected purposively, because of more universities. The study has been conducted in CCS HAU, GJUS&T and LLRUVAS, Hisar, Haryana as maximum number of women scientists were available here. Purposive and random sampling technique has been followed for the present study. The sampling design is presented and sampling procedure is described in the following sub-head: The state Haryana comprises 21 districts. Among the districts, Hisar district was selected purposively for the present study. Hisar district has three Universities namely, CCS HAU, GJUS&T and LUVAS. A sample of 100 women scientists were selected randomly from CCSHAU, GJUS&T and LLRUVAS, Hisar purposively as per objectives of the study.

Results and Discussion

The analysis revealed that the family members are taking care of the children of 74% of the women scientists followed by servant (11%) and day care centre (6%). Rest 5% took care of the children themselves and 4% of the women scientist had no children (Table 1).

Table 1: Distribution of respondents as per child care arrangement

S. No.	Child care arrangement	Frequency	%tage
1.	Care by family members	74	74
2.	Servant	11	11
3.	Day care centre	6	6
4.	No kid	4	4
5.	Self	5	5

Women scientists were satisfied with the child care arrangement (63%) followed by 19% who were somewhat satisfied (Table 2). Rest 9% of the women scientists were somewhat unsatisfied with the childcare arrangement followed by 6% of the women scientist who were not at all satisfied with the childcare arrangement, 3% of the women were unable to decide. These finding are in accordance with Dashora (2013).

Table 2: Child care arrangement with level of satisfaction

S. No.	Level of satisfaction (regarding child care arrangement)	Frequency	%tage
1.	Satisfied	63	63
2.	Somewhat satisfied	19	19
3.	Undecided	3	3
4.	Somewhat unsatisfied	9	9
5.	Not satisfied	6	6

The domestic problems faced by the respondents clearly indicated (Table 3) that work overload was followed by the problem of unequal division of household work and by ambivalent expectations of the family. Other problems reported in this regard were non availability of servant, marriage and motherhood, role conflict followed by unsatisfactory child care arrangement and non supporting attitude of the husband. These finding are in accordance with the findings of Vijaypariya (2001), Sahoo and Pradhan, (2007) .

Age of the respondent was found highly significantly associated with level of domestic problems faced by respondents. Low levels of domestic problems were faced by majority of respondents who belonged to young age group. Respondents who belonged to middle age group had high level (54.80%) of domestic problems. On the other hand medium (48.94%) levels of domestic problems were faced by respondents who belong to old age group. High significant association found between caste and domestic problems of the respondents. More than half of the respondent from general caste (54.50%) had low level of domestic problems, on the other hand majority of the respondent who belong to Special Backward Class (69.20%) and Schedule Caste (61.10%) were facing high level of domestic problems. Educational level of the respondent was found significantly associated with domestic problems. Respondents who graduated up to post-graduate level had low level of domestic problems in contrast high level of domestic problems faced by doctorate (36.25%). On the other hand, *36.36%* each were educated with other professional qualification had low and medium level of domestic problems. These finding are in accordance with the finding of Rayaprol

Table 3: Domestic problems faced by the respondents   (N=100)

Sr. No	Statements	Yes		Rank
		Frequency	Percentage	
1.	Work overload	41	41.00	I
2.	Unequal division of household work	39	39.00	II
3.	Ambivalent expectations of the family	32	32.00	III
4.	Non availability of servant or expensive domestic servant	27	27.00	IV
5.	Marriage and motherhood (husbands expectations and childcare)	23	23.00	V
6.	Role conflict (incompatibility of home and job roles)	18	18.00	VI
7.	Unsatisfactory child care arrange	17	17.00	VII
8.	Non supporting attitude of the husband	07	07.00	VIII

Table 4: Domestic problems faced by respondents as per variables

Age (in years)	Low	Medium	High	Total
Young (<35)	14 (63.64)	3 (13.64)	5 (22.72)	22 (22.00)
Middle (36-50)	8 (25.80)	6 (19.40)	17 (54.80)	31 (31.00)
Old (>50)	12 (25.53)	23 (48.94)	12 (25.53)	47 (47.00)
	$x^2 = 21.140**$		C = 0.418	
Caste				
General	24 (54.50)	12 (27.30)	8 (18.20)	44 (44.00)
S.B.C.	2 (15.40)	2 (15.40)	9 (69.20)	13 (13.00)
Backward Classes	6 (24.00)	13 (52.00)	6 (24.00)	25 (25.00)
Scheduled Castes	2 (11.10)	5 (27.80)	11 (61.10)	18 (18.00)
	$x^2 = 27.561**$		C = 0.465	
Education				
Post graduate	7 (77.80)	—	2 (22.20)	9 (9.00)
Doctorate	23 (28.75)	28 (35.00)	29 (36.25)	80 (80.00)
Other professional qualification	4 (36.36)	4 (36.36)	3 (27.28)	11 (11.00)
	$x^2 = 9.543*$		C = 0.295	
Family type				
Nuclear	22 (34.90)	22 (34.90)	19 (30.20)	63 (63.00)
Joint	12 (32.43)	10 (27.03)	15 (40.54)	37 (37.00)
	$x^2 = 1.235$		C = 0.110	
Family size (in members)				
Small (up to 4)	15 (42.86)	10 (28.57)	10 (28.57)	35 (35.00)
Medium (5-6)	8 (28.57)	8 (28.57)	12 (42.86)	28 (28.00)
Large (above 7)	11 (29.73)	14 (37.84)	12 (32.43)	37 (37.00)
	$x^2 = 2.850$		C = 0.166	
Marital status				
Unmarried	1 (33.30)	—	2 (66.70)	3 (3.00)
Married	28 (30.40)	32 (34.80)	32 (34.80)	92 (92.00)
Divorced	2 (100.00)	—	—	2 (2.00)
Widow	3 (100.00)	—	—	3 (3.00)
	$x^2 = 6.389$		C = 0.245	
Mass Media Exposure				
Low	9 (40.90)	5 (22.70)	8 (36.40)	22 (22.00)
Medium	11 (19.60)	23 (41.10)	22 (39.30)	56 (56.00)
High	14 (63.60)	4 (18.20)	4 (18.20)	22 (22.00)
	$x^2 = 14.846*$		C = 0.360	
Social participation				
Low	10 (43.50)	5 (21.70)	8 (34.80)	23 (23.00)
Medium	15 (27.30)	22 (40.00)	18 (32.70)	55 (55.00)
High	9 (40.90)	5 (22.70)	8 (36.40)	22 (22.00)
	$x^2 = 4.163$		C = 0.200	
Occupation (self)				
Professor	6 (18.75)	15 (46.87)	11 (34.38)	32 (32.00)
Associate Professor	13 (48.14)	7 (25.93)	7 (25.93)	27 (27.00)
Assistant Professor	15 (36.60)	10 (24.40)	16 (39.00)	41 (41.00)
	$x^2 = 7.948$		C = 0.271	
Service Experience				
<10 Year	8 (29.63)	7 (25.93)	12 (44.44)	27 (27.00)
10-20 Year	8 (33.34)	11 (45.83)	5 (20.83)	24 (24.00)
20-30 Year	12 (41.40)	9 (31.00)	8 (27.60)	29 (29.00)
>30 Year	6 (30.00)	5 (25.00)	9 (45.00)	20 (20.00)
	$x^2 = 5.927$		C = 0.237	
Family income				
Low (<10L)	8 (28.57)	5 (17.86)	15 (53.57)	28 (28.00)
Medium (11-15L)	18 (38.30)	17 (36.17)	12 (25.53)	47 (47.00)
High (>15L)	8 (32.00)	10 (40.00)	7 (28.00)	25 (25.00)
	$x^2 = 7.443$		C = 0.263	

(2011) and Bhat (2014).

Non-significant association was found between type of family and family size. Significant association was found between mass media exposure and domestic problems faced by respondents. Respondent with low level of mass-media exposure had low and high level of domestic problems in contrast majority of respondents with high level of mass-media exposure had low level of domestic problems. Level of social participation was found non-significantly associated with domestic problems. Non-significant association was found between occupational status of respondents, service experience, and family income. These finding are in accordance with the findings of Sinha and Sinha (2011).

The data presented in table 5 revealed that 13% of the respondents reported mother in law to be the one who indulged in domestic violence followed by 4% respondents reported that husbands who indulged in domestic violence.

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