

Women Empowerment: Comparative Study On Role Of Working & Non Working Women In Household Decisions

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ABSTRACT

Since from ancient period it is always consider as the women plays very important role in household activities and it is considered as an integral part of their lives. As a year passes there is transformation came out in their role and which is not only restricted to house hold activities but also acquisition of education and employment opportunities. While handling household activities it is very important for women to get information in terms of different aspects which helps them to take appropriate decisions in this regards. In this research paper major focus is on role of women, who are either working or non working in taking decisions related to household activities like buying expensive things, admission of kids in schools, renovation of house, children marriage etc. Also in this research what is impact of women education, income and family structure on household decisions. Women Empowerment refers to the creation of an environment for women where they can make decision of their own for their personal benefits as well as for the society. The aim of this study is to examine some of the key determinants of women's empowerment relating household decisions.

Keywords: Decision making, Education, Household activities, Management, Working.

INTRODUCTION

‘Women’ the most beautiful creation on the earth. We can feel her passion in form of beloved. We can feel her divinity in form of a mother. We can feel her dedication in form of a wife. We can feel her warmth in form of a friend. We can feel her care in form of a sister. Her heart is so tender, yet she is so tough too. The role of women in the management of household responsibilities is regarded to be of utmost significance within the country since ancient times. Since, the ancient times, this viewpoint has been prevalent among the individuals that women need to be trained in terms of the implementation of household responsibilities. The major cause for the prevalence of this viewpoint is, it was believed that women are not meant to get enrolled in schools to acquire education, nor they are capable of getting engaged in any types of employment opportunities, instead, they should remain within the household and acquire knowledge and information in terms of various types of household but most of decisions are taken by men & in-laws related to these activities. Whereas, in modern period, women began

to recognize the significance of education, employment opportunities and brought about improvements within their overall quality of lives.

Empowerment is meant that give power or authority to someone. Women are important to the family as a mother as well in a society. Empowerment refers to the process of gaining control-over self, over resources and over decision making. Women empowerment is giving legitimate power or authority to perform the tasks. If women empowered they would be able to participate in the planning and decision making tasks and contribute to the development programmes and activities individually. Decision making is regarded as an integral part of the management of household responsibilities. Usually women are the ones, who are required to make all the decisions, whether major or minor. This is normally, when they are living alone with one or two family members. On the other hand, it is also observed that in joint families most of the house holds decisions taken by elder family members that are in-laws also in some cases of joint family women may obtain ideas and suggestions from the other individuals, particularly, when they are residing in joint families. The participation of women in terms of the decision making processes have been understood with regards to decision making in domestic affairs, Regarding Finances, Employment Opportunities, & Participation in Various Tasks and Activities outside the Home.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

According to P.V. Sumitha (2016) women strengthening is a worldwide issue attracting the consideration of specialist. Strengthening is a term widely utilised as a part of the setting of women who are equal partners being developed of the general public and the country.

Sharma, Rao and Sharma (2013) research stated that men dominated in majority of the farm decisions in rural families. Decisions related to buying and selling of land, machines and other agricultural implements, improvements of harvest and livestock management were mainly taken by head of the family or husbands.

According to Asha Begum (2018) In spite of the fact that women constitute half of the aggregate populace of the world, their social monetary and political status is lower than that of men and they are subjected to the oppression and abuse of a specific request for a considerable length of time and accepted even today.

Gogdand and Hembade (2014) findings clearly showed that no women make decisions without the permission of their husband for selling the animals. For milk consumption at home a whole decision is taken by the husband therefore no women make their own decisions.

According to Gopal Krishna (2017) In the previous decade, women were compelled to participate in any social exercises and not considered piece of any basic leadership process in the family. The states of women in provincial and remote zones were still more terrible. In any case, with the evolving times, women are engaged with wage producing exercise.

OBJECTIVES OF STUDY:

1. To understand various decisions at domestic/household levels

2. To understand role of women in household decisions
3. To study the impact of various determinants on household decision making.

METHODOLOGY

Research type	Descriptive
Scope of research	Working & nonworking women role in household decisions from Nashik city
Data Collection	<p>Primary source: Questionnaire-In this method Google form with approx 20 questions has been prepared and shared to get response.</p> <p>Secondary Source: Published or unpublished data, books, magazines, newspaper, trade journals</p>
Population	Women from Nashik City
Sample Size	150
Sampling Techniques	Stratified Simple random
Data analysis tools	Pie chart & chi square test

Table 1: Research Methodology

DATA ANALYSIS & INTERPRETATION

The term demographics refer to particular characteristics of a population. Demographic information **provides data regarding research participants** and is necessary for the determination of whether the individuals in a particular study are a representative sample of the target population for generalization purposes.

Most of working women 46 (61.3%) falls under the income upto 35000 and very few falls under other category of income. It shows that standard living cost of Nashik city is quiet average. While carrying out survey it has been found that maximum working women 57(76%) are in 20- 40 age category while in case of non working 61(81%) are in 20-50 age category. It is observed that non working women's 62(82.67%)opinion & suggestions are always consider for taking decisions as compared working women 48(64%). In both working 34(45.33%) & nonworking 45(60%) intra- household family structure is mostly nuclear family with children. As per as education qualification concern, it has been observed that maximum working women having post graduation qualification 46(61.33%) and then graduation 16(21.33%),In case of nonworking women also maximum women having Graduation 28(337.33%) and Post graduation 19(25.33%), this shows that though women's are having good qualification till they prefer to stay at home to handle household responsibilities by their wish or by family force.

Monthly Income

Working						non working	
up to 15000	15000-25000	25000-35000	35000-45000	45000-55000	other	No income	upto 15000
14	23	9	7	16	6	73	2
18.7	30.7	12.0	9.3	21.3	8.0	97.3	2.7

Age Group									
Working					Non Working				
20-30	30-40	40-50	50-60	other	20-30	30-40	40-50	50-60	other
16	41	15	3	0	15	18	28	11	3
21.33	54.67	20.00	4.00	0.00	20	24	37.33	14.6	4

Your opinion & views are taken in house hold related decisions					
Working			Non working		
Always	Rarely	not at all	Always	Rarely	not at all
48	24	6	62	13	0
64	32	8	82.67	17.33	0

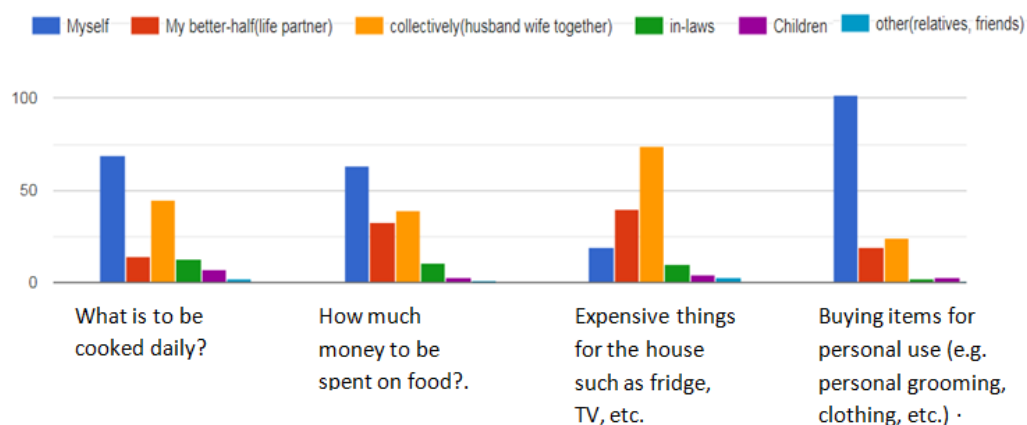
Nature of Intra-Household Family					
Working			Non working		
Unipersonal Nuclear (without Children)	Nuclear (with Children)	Joint Family	Unipersonal Nuclear (without Children)	Nuclear (with Children)	Joint Family
9	34	32	8	45	22
12.00	45.33	42.67	10.67	60.00	29.33

Education Background									
Working					Non working				
Upto 10th	12th	Graduation	Post graduation	Other:	Upto 10th	12th	Graduation	Post graduation	Other:
5	2	16	46	6	16	10	28	19	2
6.67	2.67	21.33	61.33	8.00	21.3	13.3	37.33	25.33	2.67

Table 2: Demographic Data

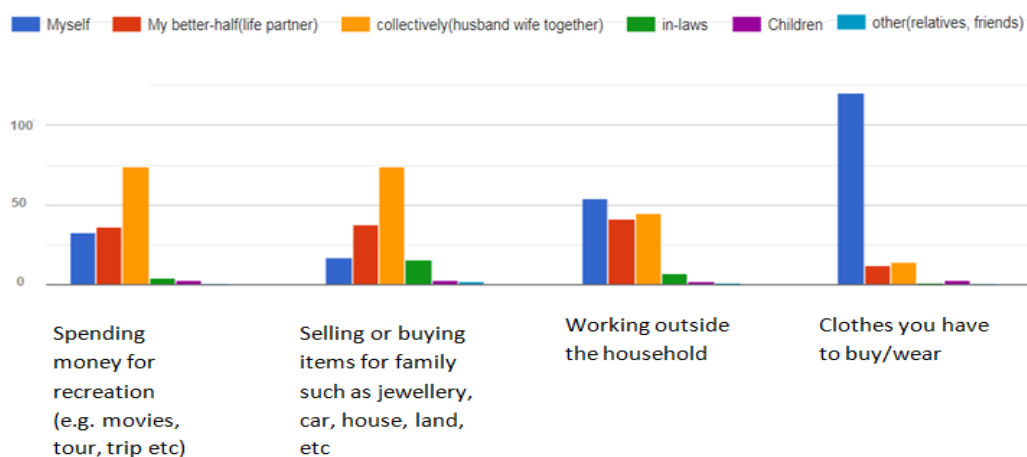
Role of women in household activities decisions

A) Both Working & Non working women together



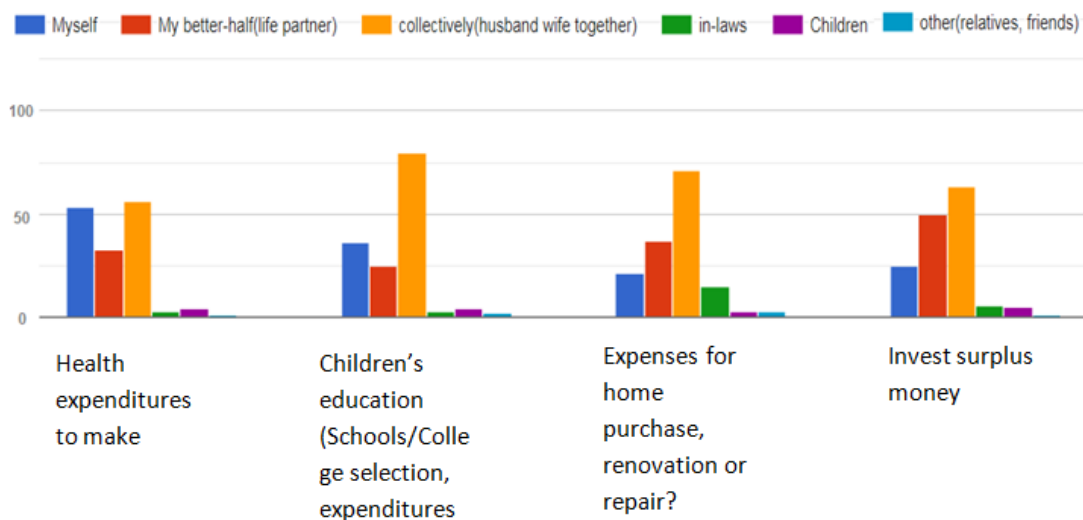
Graph no.1 Household Decisions (a)

It has been observed from above graph that both working & nonworking women takes their own decisions that also means that they have freedom to decide what to cook on daily basis, money that they need spend on food & personal grooming for themselves. When it is case expensive things to buy then both husband & wife have discussion on it then decide together about final buying of items.



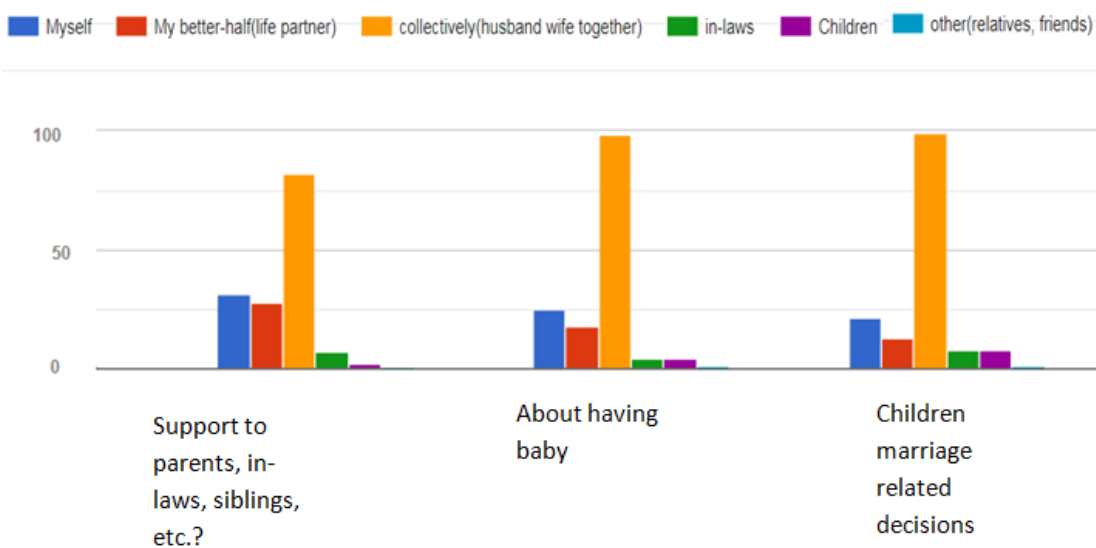
Graph no.2 Household Decisions (b)

It has been observed from above graph that both working & nonworking women takes their own decisions that also means that they have freedom to decide what to what to wear and buy cloths but decisions related financial & going female to work outsides such decisions are taken collectively.



Graph no.3 Household Decisions (c)

It has been observed from above graph that both working & nonworking women decisions related to health expenditure, children's education, expenses for purchase/renovation of house and investing surplus amount are taken collectively mostly.



Graph no.4 Household Decisions (d)

It has been observed from above graph that both working & nonworking women's decisions related to support to parents, in-laws, siblings, and children's marriage and above having baby are taken collectively mostly

B) Comparative Study of Working & Non working women

Particulars	Women type	Myself	My better-half(life partner)	collectively (husband wife together)	in-laws	Children	other (relatives, friends)	Interpretation
What is to be cooked daily	Working Women	32	4	28	7	2	2	it is observed that nonworking women 37 (49.33%) have more freedom to decide what to cook daily over working women 32(42.67%). As non working women have enough time to think & cook food which is liked by everyone as she knows others choices very well.
	%	42.67	5.33	37.33	9.33	2.67	2.67	
	Non working Women	37	10	17	6	5	0	
	%	49.33	13.33	22.67	8.00	6.67	0.00	
money to be spent on food?.	Working Women	34	8	25	6	1	1	Working women 34(45.33%) have more freedom to decide expenses on food as compared to Non working 29 (38.67%). Working women are usually involved in economic activities of buying/selling offline/online on regular basis In case nonworking women it is observed that their better half always decided expenses.
	%	45.33	10.67	33.33	8.00	1.33	1.33	
	Non working Women	29	25	14	5	2	0	
	%	38.67	33.33	18.67	6.67	2.67	0.00	
buying expensive things for the	Working Women	9	18	41	5	0	2	Collective decisions taken for buying expensive items in both case of women.

household such as radio, TV, etc.	%	12.0	24.0	54.7	6.7	0.0	2.7	But it is also observed that in better half of both nonworking 22(29.33%) & working 18(24%) also takes decisions by their own. These both type of ladies have very less freedom in this type of decision
	Non working Women	10	22	33	5	4	1	
	%	13.33	29.33	44.00	6.67	5.33	1.33	
buying items for personal use (e.g. personal grooming, clothing, etc.)	Working Women	52	7	14	2	0	0	when it times to decide on personal grooming then both working 52(69.33%) & non working 50(66.67%) have freedom to decide.
	%	69.33	9.33	18.67	2.67	0.00	0.00	
	Non working Women	50	12	10	0	3	0	
	%	66.67	16.00	13.33	0.00	4.00	0.00	
spending money for recreation (e.g. movies, tour, trip etc)?	Working Women	18	16	41	0	0	0	Very few working 18(24%) & nonworking 15(20%) decides on movie, trip & tour. Usually this decision taken in collective way Working 41(54.7%) & non working 33(44%).
	%	24.0	21.3	54.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	
	Non working Women	15	20	33	4	3	0	
	%	20.00	26.67	44.00	5.33	4.00	0.00	
selling or buying items for family such as	Working Women	7	19	37	9	1	2	Very few working 7(9.33%) & nonworking 10(13.33%) decides on selling /buying of jewellery, TV etc.
	%	9.33	25.33	49.33	12.00	1.33	2.67	

jewelry, car, house, land, etc	Non working Women	10	19	37	7	2	0	Usually this decision taken in collective way Working 37(49.33%) & non working 37(49.33%).
	%	13.33	25.33	49.33	9.33	2.67	0.00	
working outside the household	Working Women	28	16	27	3	0	1	Nonworking women 26(34.67%) have freedom to decide to do job but to care kids they have scarifies their career where working women are 28(37.33%). In this case also decision taken collectively by looking family financial situation.
	%	37.33	21.33	36.00	4.00	0.00	1.33	
	Non working Women	26	25	18	4	2	0	
	%	34.67	33.33	24.00	5.33	2.67	0.00	
what clothes you have to buy/wearer	Working Women	62	3	9	0	1	0	When it times to decide on what cloths to wear & buy then both working 62(82.67%) & non working 58(77.33%) have freedom to decide. There is very little interfere by others in this case.
	%	82.67	4.00	12.00	0.00	1.33	0.00	
	Non working Women	58	9	5	1	2	0	
	%	77.33	12.00	6.67	1.33	2.67	0.00	
what health expenditures to make?	Working Women	34	11	28	1	0	1	Working women 34(45.33%) have more freedom to decide health as compared to nonworking 19(25.33%). Working women are usually involved in economic activities
	%	45.33	14.67	37.33	1.33	0.00	1.33	
	Non working Women	19	22	28	2	4	0	

	%	25.33	29.33	37.33	2.67	5.33	0.00	and them aware about various health policies through online & offline mode.
Children's education (Schools/ College selection, expenditures such as tuition, uniforms, stationer itemsetc.)? ·	Working Women	21	8	43	1	0	2	collective decisions are taken for deciding children education related decisions which is 43(57.33%) in case of working & 37(49.44%) in case on non working which shows that in nonworking women case many times decisions are taken by husband
	%	28.00	10.67	57.33	1.33	0.00	2.67	
	Non working Women	15	17	37	2	4	0	
	%	20.00	22.67	49.33	2.67	5.33	0.00	
Expense for home purchase, reinovation or repair? ·	Working Women	13	15	37	8	0	2	collective decisions are taken for deciding home purchasing, renovations related decisions which is 37(49.33%) in case of working & 34(45.33%) in case on non working
	%	17.33	20.00	49.33	10.67	0.00	2.67	
	Non working Women	8	22	34	7	3	1	
	%	10.67	29.33	45.33	9.33	4.00	1.33	
where to invest surplus money?	Working Women	17	18	35	4	0	1	Working women 17(22.67%) have little bit more freedom over nonworking 8(10.67%) also collective decisions are taken for surplus amount investment
	%	22.67	24.00	46.67	5.33	0.00	1.33	
	Non working	8	32	28	2	5	0	

	Wome n							which is 35(46.67%) in case of working & 28(37.33%) in case on non working.
	%	10.67	42.67	37.33	2.67	6.67	0.00	
when giving support to parents, in-laws, siblings, etc.?	Worki ng Wome n	20	8	43	4	0	0	Working women 20(26.67%) have more freedom as compared to non working women 11(14.67%) in this type of decision. Most of time collective decisions taken in both the case of women as their husbands also feel care for their in- laws too
	%	26.67	10.67	57.33	5.33	0.00	0.00	
	Non workin g Wome n	11	20	39	3	2	0	
	%	14.67	26.67	52.00	4.00	2.67	0.00	
about having baby	Worki ng Wome n	18	8	46	2	1	0	Collective decisions are taken for having baby which is 46(61.33%) in case of working & 52(69.33%) in case on non working. Where working women by themselves have 18(24%) freedom
	%	24.00	10.67	61.33	2.67	1.33	0.00	
	Non workin g Wome n	7	10	52	2	3	1	
	%	9.33	13.33	69.33	2.67	4.00	1.33	
Children marriage related decisions	Worki ng Wome n	14	6	49	4	1	1	Collective decisions are taken for kids marriage which is 49(65.33%) in case of working & 50(66.67%) in case on non working. Where working women by themselves have 14(18.67%) freedom as compared to non working women
	%	18.67	8.00	65.33	5.33	1.33	1.33	
	Non workin g Wome n	7	7	50	4	7	0	
	%	9.33	9.33	66.67	5.33	9.33	0.00	

Table 3: Comparative Study

HYPOTHESIS TESTING1

H0: Woman empowerment in household decisions does not depends respect on her working status

H1: Woman empowerment in household decisions does not depends on her working status

	Yes	No	Marginal Row Totals
Working	62 (53.5) [1.35]	13 (21.5) [3.36]	75
Non Working	45 (53.5) [1.35]	30 (21.5) [3.36]	75
Marginal Column Totals	107	43	150 (Grand Total)

Table 4: Chi square hypothesis testing1

Calculated Chi square value=9.4219

Critical Chi square value =3.841

Hence calculated value of chi square test is greater than critical value hence Null hypothesis rejected and alternative hypothesis Accepted.

HYPOTHESIS TESTING2

H0: There is no impact of women suggestions & opinions on economic related decisions

H1: There is impact of women suggestions & opinions on economic related decisions

	Economic Decisions	Non Economic Decisions	Marginal Row Totals
Always	17 (37.50) [11.21]	58 (37.50) [11.21]	75
Rarely	58 (37.50) [11.21]	17 (37.50) [11.21]	75
Marginal Column Totals	75	75	150 (Grand Total)

Table 5: Chi square hypothesis testing1

Calculated Chi square value=44.8219

Critical Chi square value =3.841

Hence calculated value of chi square test is greater than critical value hence Null hypothesis rejected and alternative hypothesis Accepted.

FINDINGS:

- Most of working women falls under the income up to 35000 and very few falls under other category of income. It shows that standard living cost of Nashik city is quiet average.
- Maximum working women are in 20- 40 age category while in case of non working are in 20-50 age category.
- It is observed that non working women's opinion & suggestions are always consider for taking decisions as compared working women.
- In both working & nonworking intra- household family structure is mostly nuclear family with children.
- As per as education qualification concern, it has been observed that maximum working women having post graduation qualification and then graduation, In case of nonworking women also maximum women having Graduation and Post graduation ,this shows that though women's are having good qualification till they prefer to stay at home to handle household responsibilities by their wish or by family force.
- It has been observed from above graph that both working & nonworking women takes their own decisions that also means that they have freedom to decide what to cook on daily basis, money that they need spend on food & personal grooming for themselves. When it is case expensive things to buy then both husband & wife have discussion on it then decide together about final buying of items.
- It has been observed from above graph that both working & nonworking women takes their own decisions that also means that they have freedom to decide what to what to wear and buy cloths but decisions related financial & going female to work outsides such decisions are taken collectively.
- It has been observed from above graph that both working & nonworking women decisions related to health expenditure, children's education, expenses for purchase/renovation of house and investing surplus amount are taken collectively mostly.
- It has been observed from above graph that both working & nonworking women's decisions related to support to parents, in-laws, siblings, and children's marriage and above having baby are taken collectively mostly
- Nonworking women have more freedom to decide what to cook daily over working women .As non working women have enough time to think & cook food which is liked by everyone as she knows others choices very well.
- It is also found that few decisions which related to financial like surplus amount investment, purchasing of costly things, children related decisions are usually taken in collective method where both husband & wife part of such important decisions.
- Today's era is modern era so in many families freedom given to both working & nonworking women to takes their own decisions related their personal grooming .

CONCLUSION

To conclude, it appears that though women have significant contribution in economic activities and having good education qualification till it is observed that women in the study area do not enjoy a high degree of autonomy in decision making in the family.

Women are given freedom to take their own decisions in the matters like decoration of house, purchasing of food items, what to cook on daily basis, expenses on their own grooming etc. Some decisions like deciding children schools/college for admission, children marriage, having kids, renovation of house, purchasing of new house /land/car and giving support to in-laws, parent & siblings were women enjoy limited freedom as most of these decisions are taken by both husband & wife collectively. It is also observed that financial related decisions finally lie with male of family. It is also observed that Education and improvement in their economic independence also help in increasing women's involvement in decision making in family.

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