

## Socio-cultural Values and their Effects on Changing Gender Roles

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**Abstract:** This study is designed to investigate relationship among Socio-cultural values and in changing gender role. A sample of 100 urban female in three strata from Faisalabad District selected. The data showed that independent variables such as age, education, family occupations and marital status had significant association with changing role of men and women participation in decision making.

**Key words:** Socio cultural values, changing gender roles

### Introduction

People's basic values and goals are shifting from giving top priority to economic growth and desirable to place increasing emphasis on the quality of life (Inlehart, 1993). Pakistan lives in an Islamic culture and traditions that is many centuries old. Many such customs and traditions that are non-Islamic in origin as well as sprit for example the dowry system, caste system, etc. due to lived in subcontinent with Hindus. Religion has been a very effective instrument of social control among the individual, groups and societies. The religious sanctions further help increasing deviation from religious or said, because religious and cultural norms to a great extent are positively correlated. Personality formation of an individual is very closely related with the culture into which he or she has been socialized. There is no denying the fact that Pakistan like many other countries if the world has began to actively experience the pulls and pressures of industrialization. The values of Pakistani society are more traditional as compared to European countries. In the past, the decision about getting married receiving proper education, securing gainful employment, receiving proper health care and migration are all made for her and not by her but now above participation categories of women have been changed. Telecommunications technology has helped to internationalize and even homogenize much of the culture of modern world. Media is traveling from west to east and from developed to developing world so rapidly that its social impact can easily be observed in a conservation country like Pakistan. Every generation must interpret its past in the light of its own experience to find for itself its relation of life (Abid, 1998).

In the present study on attempt to determine the Socio-cultural values and their effect on acceptance/adoption of traditional values.

### Objectives

- \* To study the prevalent Socio-cultural values of urban women regarding changing men and women's roles.
- \* To study attitude towards women participation in decision making Process.
- \* To investigate the influence of Socio-cultural values and their involvement in changing role of men and women.

*Tejumola et al. (1993)* In their presentation on changing values concerning marriage and family concluded that effect of change of tradition may see imperative if the values expressed are to be neatly fitted in to the location

in which they exist. They concluded finally that observed changes can, however, not be perceived as settled at the moment leave values in a state of flux and dynamic alternatives.

*Nawaz (1994)* In his paper "Gender roles and decision-making in Egyptian families" concluded that over all Egyptian women appears remarkable dependent on their spouses with respect to family decision making. But they participate actively in particular decisions most relevant to them, such as adoption of family planning and fertility. In all most every decision-making autonomy was highest among women who had the most educated and the greatest degree of economic independence and among those living in cities. Participation of urban women in decision making was found higher than rural women.

### Materials and Methods

The present study was conducted in urban area of district Faisalabad. Faisalabad is called "Manchester" of Pakistan. In the present study Faisalabad City was divided into to three strata high, medium and lower. In high strata selected the area Madina Town, in medium strata selected Batala colony and in lower strata selected Dudiwala. In each strata 33 females were selected. Random sampling techniques was applied for the selection of the sample in the universe.

### Results and Discussion

Age is an important characteristic of human being. An individual has to play different roles at various stages of his life. In our study result revealed that 45.0% of respondents fell in age group less than 24 years, 30% fell in age of 25 to 29 years while 25.0% belonged to age 30 and above. Age has non-significant relationship with changing gender roles and women participation in decision making process in Table 2.

Education is considered one of the most important factor for variation in knowledge, attitude and prestige. 12.0% of respondents were illiterate, 18.0% were primary to metric level education, 70.0% had metric above education. Education significant relationship with changing gender roles in both the husband and wife should have a job to contribute in the family, there can be problems in the family if the wife is earning more money than her husband, men should give fifty percent of time required in household chores and women can be good in politics while remain have non-significant relationship. Table 2 revealed that education has significant relation with women participation in decision making in marriage of children and buying and selling of jewelry. While

## Batool *et al*: Socio-cultural Values and their Effects on Changing Gender Role

**Table 1: Association between age, education, marital status and family occupation with changing gender roles**

Changing role of Gender	Age $\chi^2_{(df)}$	Education $\chi^2_{(df)}$	Marital Status $\chi^2_{(df)}$	Family occupation $\chi^2_{(df)}$
Both the husband and wife should have a job to contribute financially in the family	1.0809 <sub>(4)</sub>	12.54579** <sub>(4)</sub>	0.25277 <sub>(2)</sub>	0.94989 <sub>(2)</sub>
There can be no problems in the family if the wife is earning more money than her husband	4.34511 <sub>(4)</sub>	12.61819** <sub>(4)</sub>	7.83433** <sub>(2)</sub>	1.29097 <sub>(2)</sub>
Men should give fifty percent of time required in household chores	4.38892 <sub>(4)</sub>	20.82666** <sub>(4)</sub>	7.52031* <sub>(2)</sub>	6.501005* <sub>(2)</sub>
A daughter should be given the right to get her share in her father's property	0.26416 <sub>(4)</sub>	1.31413 <sub>(4)</sub>	0.15510 <sub>(2)</sub>	0.07225 <sub>(2)</sub>
Women can be good in politics	1.667542 <sub>(4)</sub>	20.82666*** <sub>(4)</sub>	1.42339 <sub>(2)</sub>	0.08007 <sub>(2)</sub>
Men on the whole make better political leaders than women	2.51515 <sub>(4)</sub>	1.90047 <sub>(4)</sub>	0.04775 <sub>(2)</sub>	1.99488 <sub>(2)</sub>
Men are better decision maker than women	3.62368 <sub>(4)</sub>	2.45369 <sub>(4)</sub>	0.27041 <sub>(2)</sub>	1.17658 <sub>(2)</sub>

\* $\chi^2 = 0.05$  or 5% \*\* $\chi^2 = 0.01$  or 10%

**Table 2: Association between age, education, marital status and family occupation with women participation in decision making**

Participation in decision-mark	Age $\chi^2_{(df)}$	Education $\chi^2_{(df)}$	Marital status $\chi^2_{(df)}$	Family occupation $\chi^2_{(df)}$
Provision for the family's daily needs	0.81442 <sub>(2)</sub>	6.40291 <sub>(4)</sub>	22.52748** <sub>(2)</sub>	0.81442 <sub>(2)</sub>
Education of children	2.65394 <sub>(2)</sub>	3.2223 <sub>(4)</sub>	53.33062** <sub>(2)</sub>	22.65394 <sub>(2)</sub>
Marriage of children	1.67821 <sub>(2)</sub>	8.45152 <sub>(4)</sub>	3.49490 <sub>(2)</sub>	1.67821 <sub>(2)</sub>
Buying and selling of assets	2.23894 <sub>(2)</sub>	6.56629 <sub>(4)</sub>	10.26219** <sub>(2)</sub>	2.23894 <sub>(2)</sub>
Buying and selling of jewelry	3.304809 <sub>(2)</sub>	10.03372 <sub>(4)</sub> *	8.92715 <sub>(2)</sub> *	3.04809 <sub>(2)</sub>
Work/employment related issues	3.50871 <sub>(2)</sub>	5.48551 <sub>(4)</sub>	8.74124 <sub>(2)</sub> **	3.50871 <sub>(2)</sub>
Major expenses	3.78311 <sub>(2)</sub>	3.60623 <sub>(4)</sub>	0.95104 <sub>(2)</sub>	3.78311 <sub>(2)</sub>

\*\* $\chi^2 = 0.05$  or 5% \*\*\* $\chi^2 = 0.10$  or 10%

provisions for the family's daily needs, education of children, buying and selling of assets, work employment related issues and major expenses have no significant relationship. 46.0% of respondents were married, 48.0% were unmarried while 6.0% were separate, widowed and divorced. Marital status has significant relationship with changing gender roles in there can be problems in the family if the wife is earning more money than her husband and men should give fifty percent of time required in household chores while remaining have non significant relationship. Marital status of responders has significant relationship with women participation in decision making process in provision for the family's daily needs, buying and selling of assets, buying and selling of jewelry and work employment related issues, while marriage of children has nonsignificant relationship. Occupation as a specific activity with a marked values which an individual continually pursues for purpose of obtaining a steady flow of income. 79.0% of respondents family occupation was non significant, 21.0% belonged to agriculturist occupation category. Family occupation has significant relationship with

changing gender roles in men should give spent of time required in household chores. While remaining have non significant relationship. Family occupation has non significant relationship with women participation in decision making process.

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