

**A CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF SOCIETAL AND GOVERNMENTAL
BEHAVIOR TOWARDS WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN
BALOCHISTAN**

Shah Khalid Baloch

*Lecturer, Gender & Development Studies Department
University of Balochistan, Quetta*

Rubeena Batool

*Lecturer, Gender & Development Studies Department
University of Balochistan, Quetta*

Abstract

It is a universal reality that the role of women is obligatory for the development of any society. *Unfortunately, in Baluchistan women are fronting varied problems that create interruptions in their way of progress. The main goal behind this study is to analyze the societal as well as governmental behavior towards women empowerment. The method of present study is descriptive. The conclusion of this study was drawn from the responses of 100 respondents. It concluded that because of governmental policies and some societal customs and attitudes, women are facing serious problems in society, as the result women are confronting complications in professional and domestic life. On the basis of findings of this study the following recommendations are given (a) Implementation of laws ought to be rigorously monitored. (b) Patriarchal behavior ought to be review about women empowerment and equality in all circles of life. (c) Education ought to be used as a tool for empowering women.*

Key words: Governmental Behavior, Societal Behavior, Women Empowerment.

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Introduction

Women's role in existence of human life is energetic. Diverse societies characterize distinctive roles of women in household, local, national as well as universal points of view. Women's role in a culture settles down the regard as well as status of women in society. Assessment of regard of females in various social orders and ages demonstrate that status of women was more regrettable in old civilizations. Women were viewed as substandard compared to the male partners and they did not embrace any essential privileges. The birth occasion of female baby was not celebrated as a movement of joy. Sometimes, even guardians practiced female infanticide or cover female infant at the occasion of natal. There were no frameworks, which might spare the teen-agers from savageries of existence and unfeeling destiny of women. Females were fully neglected from the privilege of education as well as other essential joys of life. Moreover, the essential contribution of women was deemed to care for just the family affluences and work for their household (Arjun, 2012).

Educational advancement has improved the range of society. Distinctive effect of education on the life of human being is that world has turned into a global village. Strategies regarding to the "human rights", "women rights" as well as privileges of even common inhabitants are available to entirely. In this era females are equally liberal in various ways. In addition, they possess the privilege of education, opportunity to join a profession and autonomy to carry on with a free life as per their own wills. If there should be an occurrence of confronting some issue with respect to the legitimate privileges of women as individual, they have appropriate to communicate judiciary and enroll the case regarding to savage activities of their adversaries. State of Pakistan has executed various strategies to authorize women. Still, in perceptions, numerous women and teen-agers in Pakistan have blames against male associates (Kabeer, 2001).

Analysis of varied cases about women illustrate that women's life in diverge cultural and social surroundings is problematic yet. Occasionally, even existence of a household woman turns out to be extremely troublesome because of various behaviors of male who are their legitimate custodians.

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In certain circumstances, it is seen that notwithstanding retaining freedom by family to acquire advanced education, working at a work environment for procuring at sensible post and holding a connection with an educated and liberal family once in a while does not spare women from some negative behaviors of society (Mohan *et al*, 2000). This study was carried out as a result of observation of similar circumstances.

Literature Review

The issue of gender equality as well as women's empowerment is placed at the highest point of plans over the globe, as gender inequality is across the board in all societies. In developing countries, gender discrimination is exceedingly uncontrolled contrasted with the developed states (Chaudhary *et al*, 2012). Moreover, in Pakistan in general and in Baluchistan in particular the gender-based segregation and inequities are particularly obvious, in spite of the fact that government is working forcefully towards lightening such issues. As a result, low empowerment of women and extreme gender-gap still limits the development process of the nation (Weiss *et al*, 2001). Despite the fact that the country is on the path of development in different respects, the likelihood of its sustainability is in question, given such a huge gender difference .

Pakistan is an Islamic state where laws as well as traditions are likely to exist as indicated by Islamic laws. Undoubtedly, women's status in Islam is magnificent, and Islam gives highly regarded status to women and never proclaim female sub-par compared to men. She is recognized as equivalent accomplice in the reproduction of mankind, qualified for get spousal endowments and keep resources for her security (Rukshanda, 2005).

Appraisal of status of women in Pakistan demonstrates that women are confronting issues. Distinctive researches have brought up issues of women. Protuberant problems brought up by scholars include gender segregation, absence of power or right for decision-making as well as poverty of women (Rashid, 2013).

According to the results of study conducted by Akhter (2011) that women confront violence at various stages throughout their life. This adversely influences personality of women, harms physical and mental wellbeing and pulverizes productivity and creativity of their endeavors.

Ayesha (2013) has described, that illiteracy rate of women, absence of health amenities in various territories and absence of any source of revenue for family unit women make issues for women. In general, male is dominated in

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controlling on women in decision-making in regards to imperative choices identified with lives of women. Feeble power for decision- making as well as segregation amongst women and men is very usual in Pakistan. No right to work for earning and expulsion of property privilege by drastic makes life unsavory for females. Moreover, no safety to move amenably in the community, doing obligations at household and in addition at work place, no regard for divorced person, reliance on spouse afterward wedding, and no regard for females who raise voice for equity are essential complications of females in Pakistan. Diverse determinants are behind the complications of women. Rudimentary factor is male- dominancy in almost entire matters of household. In addition, low literacy rate of women, absence of women empowerment as well as outdated patterns of society to disgrace women at diverse stages and phases of lifetime.

Emaan Baloch (2017) has described that in Baluchistan the first barrier in the way of women empowerment is illiteracy, and in Baluchistan women's economic opportunities remain controlled by religious, cultural and social barriers.

It is a universal truth that women who are bounded by dissimilar issues, concerning to their society or household cannot do their duties productively and perfectly. The present situation is an impediment on the path of progress as well as uplift of women's status in society. It calls Governments as well as other welfare organizations to take practical measures for women empowerment because the empowerment of women gives a basis for empowerment of entire society and the women empowerment gives insights, energy, leadership, helping children and men of their households and also can enhance and improve their worth of being.

Methodology

The present study is a descriptive study in nature as it tries to analyze the societal as well as governmental behavior towards women empowerment in Baluchistan. The targeted group of the present study was women who belong to Baluchistan. The research universe of the present study was so extensive. Consequently, the present study was delimited to the Quetta city of Baluchistan only. Moreover, the present study was delimited to the women or girls who were studying at University of Baluchistan. As far as selection of the targeted group and research population is concerned, it was assumed that study area is accessible and the literate women could give proper responses of queries designed for this research as contrary to the low educated and illiterate women. Questionnaire was adopted as tool for data gathering in this study and the questionnaire was comprised on close- ended queries.

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100 respondents were selected by using convenience sampling technique. The process of data scrutiny was performed using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences.

Data Presentation, Analysis and Discussion

The following Table 1, explains some views interrogated concerning to the societal behavior towards women empowerment in Baluchistan. The results of Table 1, illustrate that a significant majority of the respondents (63%) were disagreed that the birth of female baby is celebrated as a movement of happiness. But (35%) of the respondents were agreed. Whereas, a vast majority of the respondents (70%) were disagreed that girls get education without any disregard. The research findings of Dr. Rajeshwari M. Shettar (2015) also support this fact that in Asia, some socio-cultural factors discourage women's access to higher education therefore a very small number of girls attend colleges and universities.

As mentioned in Table 1, a majority of the respondents (72%) were disagreed that women can speak freely about domestic as well as social matters. Whereas, an overwhelming majority (88%) of the respondents indicated that women possess the right to vote in elections. In addition, the results of Table 1 show that a majority of the respondents (83%) were disagreed that women are allowed to select their spouse by self in their society. But (13%) respondents were agreed that women possess the right to select their husband by self. Likewise, results as showed in Raazia *et al* (2015) study, that the view of a girl regarding to her nuptial was not acceptable in their families.

The results of Table 1, further demonstrate that a majority (85%) of the respondents replied, that they can attend freely outing programs outside the home. Whereas, a significant majority of the respondents (84%) were disagreed that women are equally authorized for decision-making in household and social matters. In addition, a majority (62%) of the respondents were disagreed with statement that women are acceptable to do any job. While (32%) respondents were agreed that women are permissible to do any job. The study findings of Martin *et al* (2013) support this, that woman who work in male-dominated occupations face challenges that differ from those who work in more gender-balanced and female-dominated occupations. These challenges affect their retention and career success .

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TABLE 1: SOCIETAL BEHAVIOR TOWARDS WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

S.No	Views/Opinions	% of answers	Uncertain	Disagreed
		Agreed		
1	Birth of female baby is celebrated as a movement of happiness.	35%	02%	63%
2	Girls get higher education without any social disregard.	27%	03%	70%
3	Women can speak freely about domestic as well as societal matters.	23%	5%	72%
4	Women possess the right to vote in elections.	88%	10%	2%
5	Women are allowed to select their life partner (spouse) by self.	13%	04%	83%
6	Women are acceptable to do any job.	32%	06%	62%
7	Women are equally authorized for decision-making in household as well as social matters.	09%	07%	84%
8	Women can attend freely outing programs outside the home.	04%	11%	85%
9	Women texture comfortable at work places.	39%	03%	58%

The following Table 2 explains some opinions interrogated on the subject of governmental behavior towards women empowerment in Baluchistan. The results of Table 2, elaborates that certain efforts of government were affirmative towards

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women empowerment. Unfortunately, it was also viewed that in many circles of life the endeavors of government were undesirable to empower women as well as backing them to give highly regarded status in society.

As pointed out in Table 2, a significant majority (89%) of the respondents were disagreed with this statement that governmental laws give guarantee to women’s right in property of parents. In addition, the results indicate that (48%) respondents said that government did not offer educational facilities to females equally to males. Whereas (45%) respondents were agreed that government offers equal educational amenities to males and females.

As mentioned in Table 2, a majority (61%) of the respondents replied that government did not organize any noteworthy capacity-building and skill development program for women development. In addition, a vast majority (66%) of the participants responded that governmental policies did not ensure women’s fairly participation in social, economic and political fields. Whereas, an overwhelming majority (90%) of the respondents replied, that government did not provide highly potential job opportunities to women equally to men. This statement is confirmed by the Ayesha (2013) study where she described, that absence of job opportunities for women, lack of welfare programs and non-availability of educational and standard health facilities for women are leading deterrent factors on the way of women empowerment.

TABLE 2: GOVERNMENTAL BEHAVIOR TOWARDS WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

S.No	Views/Opinions	% of answers		
		Agreed	Uncertain	Disagreed
1	Government offers educational facilities to females equally to males.	45%	07%	48%
2	Governmental laws give guarantee of women’s right in property of parents.	2%	09%	89%
3	Government organized different capacity- building and skill development	35%	04%	61%

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	programs for women development.			
4	Government initiated varied welfare programs for well-being of women.	22%	09%	69%
5	Governmental policies give guarantee of women's fairly participation in social, economic and political fields.	09%	25%	66%
6	Government provides highly potential job opportunities to women equally to men.	08%	02%	90%
7	Government took each likely action to eliminate all gender inequalities and gaps relating to women's livelihoods.	29%	36%	35%
8	Governmental laws give equal status to men and women in all circles of life.	55%	03%	42%
9	Government provides men and women equal access to standard health-care services.	47%	12%	41%
10	Government initiated varied programs and policies for developing women's entrepreneurship.	04%	65%	31%

Conclusion

The present study highlighted the societal and governmental attitudes towards women empowerment. Unluckily, it was observed that in many circles of life the behavior of government and society was undesirable to empower women as well as backing them to give highly regarded status in society. The findings of this

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study pointed out that there were many discouraging factors on the way of women empowerment such as sadness on the birth occasion of female baby, societal disregard about women's education, lack of decision-making in domestic matters and absence of choice concerning to the selection of spouse. Whereas, women were holding the right to vote in elections and to some extent they were feeling comfortable at work places.

In addition, it was noted that the efforts of government was unappealing to give reverential status to women in Baluchistan. Mainly, the non-existence of educational facilities, absence of capacity- building and skill development programs, dearth of job opportunities, disobliging attitude towards fairly participation in social, economic and political fields and the absence of legal guarantee for women's right in property of parents were found as leading hampering determinants on the way of women progress.

Recommendations

1. The present study has pointed out that females are not provided educational facilities equally to males. Consequently, it is suggested that provincial government ensure the promotion of girls education without gender discrimination and all educational facilities ought to be provided to educational institutions especially to girl's schools, colleges and universities.
2. The findings of the present study indicated that rules were not practiced appropriately. Thus, Government of Baluchistan requires to observe the application of women privileges in varied social edifices.
3. The results of this study revealed that noteworthy capacity- building and welfare projects are not initiated for women empowerment. Therefore, it is recommended that Government of Baluchistan needs to organize varied welfare programs for women development.
4. The results of this study has explored that women's many issues are associated with attitude of family and society. Subsequently, it is recommended that Government needs to plan behavioral training for male members of society and to sensitize them to behave with women politely as well as give them significance in decision-making.
5. The outcomes of present study have indicated that females are not offered job opportunities appropriately. Therefore, it is suggested that Government

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ought to provide job opportunities to women equally to men devoid of gender disparity.

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