

Factors Affecting Skill Development and Job Opportunities for Young Females: Case Study of Pakistan

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Abstract

The purpose of this study is to investigate the perception of parents towards female technical education. The study interviewed 120 respondents from two villages of Sargodha district. The results explore that 51.9 percent respondents are of view that male supports their parents that's why they prefer son in attaining education. Moreover, in rural areas the parents preferred son while making decision on technical education. 60 percent male respondents are not in favour of female jobs and 45.9 percent male responded that male member did not allow female to start job after getting education.

1. Introduction

Women's decision about participation in labor market is of critical importance in determining living standard, dependency burden and saving pattern in households. Women constitute about half of the total population in Pakistan. But in Pakistan mostly women's work takes place in non-market activities in the home or the informal sector. Factors determining the employment of women are extremely complex. At the individual level women's decision to work is subject to such factors as the availability of jobs, education level and skills. At the aggregate level female labor force participation is largely determined by the factors that are indicative of economic, social and demographic circumstances of the locality under consideration. Human Capital Theory is mainly based on education because it imparts knowledge and skills (Tilak, 1994). Numerous studies showed that investment in education allow the poor to escape from poverty. There are various channels through which education affect the poverty status of the individual. Technical education is considered as the most important type of education for the reduction of poverty because it develops the new abilities and capabilities in the individual which helps them to fit in the changing environment. Technical education enhanced the skill and abilities of the individuals and eventually they hasten economic growth. Women are actively participated in every field of life now a days so it is considered that technical education is also important for female because it enable them to avail the job opportunities and to participate in family and the national. The aim of the present study is to investigate the perception of the parents about female technical education. The study interviewed one hundred and twenty respondents from two villages of Sargodha district. The intension of present study is to explore the perceptions of the male towards female education and employment. Rest study is balanced as; part two explains the data and methodology, part three presents the results of the study and last part concludes the study.

2. Data and Methodology

This study used primary data using a questionnaire, which was developed in order to meet the objectives of the study. Survey was conducted in two villages (Chak 98 S.B & Chak 45 S.B) of Sargodha districts. 120 respondents (fathers and mothers) were interviewed. The study follows the work of Hussin et al., 2005.

3. Results and Discussion

Results of table one shows that 51.9 percent respondents are of view that male supports their parents that's why they prefer son in attaining education, while 22.1 percent are of view that it is just due to the reason because after education male have more job opportunities than female. 13.5 percent responded that they prefer son in attaining education because female get married. The most important thing is that 45.7 percent female responded the reason that it is just due to the factor because male have more job opportunity after education whereas, in male respondents this percentage is 32.8.

Table 1:

Respondents view	Male	Female	Total
Male support parents	42.7	41.9	51.9
After education male have more opportunity for jobs	32.8	45.7	22.1
Female get married	9.4	5.0	13.5
Due to family tradition	12.8	3.2	5.3
Lack of interest in daughter	2.3	4.2	7.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Studies like Draz (1998) concluded that in rural areas the parents preferred son while making decision on technical education. The results of present study are in line with the previous literature of the subject matter.

Table 2:

Response	Male	Female	Total
No	35.9	26.8	31.2
Yes	64.1	73.2	68.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Results of table three explores that respondents are in favour of sewing work for female as 65 percent are in favour of this work, while 13.6 percent are in favour of embroidery and 21.4 percent in knitting.

Table 3:

Type of skill	Male	Female	Total
Sewing	57.2	71.4	65.0
Embroidery	13.2	10.8	13.6
Knitting	29.6	17.8	21.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

The findings of table four concluded that 60 percent male respondents are not in favour of female jobs. These results are corroborating with Naz (1997), Draz (1998), Jaffary (2002) & Hussain et al. (2005).

Table 4:

Response	Male	Female	Total
No	60.0	41.6	57.1
Yes	40.0	58.4	42.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

45.9 percent male responded that male member did not allow female to start job after getting education. The findings of the study are in line with Naz (1997), Chaudhry (2001) & Hussain et al. (2005).

Table 5:

Reasons	Male	Female	Total
Against bradary tradition	31.4	26.7	51.8
Male family members do not allow	45.9	58.9	29.9
Because Islam has forbidden	3.1	2.9	4.6
Due to bad environment	19.6	11.5	13.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

4. Conclusion

This study was designed to investigate the perception of parents towards female technical education. To meet the objectives of the study we interviewed 120 respondents from two villages of Sargodha district. The results explores that 51.9 percent respondents are of view that male supports their parents that's why they prefer son in attaining education. Moreover, in rural areas the parents preferred son while making decision on technical education. 60 percent male respondents are not in favour of female jobs and 45.9 percent male responded that male member did not allow female to start job after getting education.

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