

WOMEN'S VOICE AND LEADERSHIP

PAKISTAN

URBAN WORKING WOMEN IN PAKISTAN

By: NOW Communities Karachi

SNAPSHOTS

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Brief of Urban Working Women in Pakistan

Economically sound and active persons are better able to secure his or her future through savings, asset building and by using other social protection measures. It has been observed that great gender disparity exists in our social and cultural setup. It has been observed that women who are active and economically sound inside or

outside the household, are not as empowered as their male counterparts to secure their future. They have no control on their earnings and income at the family level as well as at the job level the wages are less as compared to their male counter part.

Methodology:

- Quantitative through structured questionnaire with 175 LHWs and 25 LHS of all 7 districts of Karachi.
- Qualitative through exploratory interview and case studies.

Findings:

- Spouses of 34.2% of the respondents do not contribute to the family income because they either don't work, currently unemployed, or are retired.
- Large number of respondents have control on spending of their income but have limited decision making on how to spend.
- 65.3% of the respondents think that women or wives should be the in-charge of spending in the household.
- A total of 66.8% of the respondents failed to do any saving despite the service of two decades.
- Total 42.6% respondents spend their salary for the fulfilment of their children's need.
- Same percentage (98.5%) have claimed that the life style of their family has improved since they started working.
- Only 25.7% respondents have managed to acquire some assets with their incomes.
- 46% of the respondents have property in their maternal family and some has a share in that property.
- All of the respondents share the opinion that women, in Pakistan, do experience various kinds of violence.
- 20% of the respondents have themselves experienced violence.
- A total 9.9% of the respondents think that if they experience violence, their family wouldn't help or save them.
- A total of 69.3% women shared that they have witnessed women around them experiencing violence.
- Majority of the respondents who have experienced violence though that the job has improved their situation.

- 97% of the respondents believe that economic empowerment of women will prevent violence against women.
- Total 98.5% respondents shared that Sindh has laws regarding the prevention from the violence however, majority of the respondents do not know about the law name and statement.

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