



RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS AND EMPOWERMENT AMONG WOMEN BENEFICIARIES OF BENAZIR INCOME SUPPORT PROGRAMME (BISP)

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ABSTRACT

The main objective of this study is to investigate the association between socio-economic status and women empowerment. This study was conducted from Karachi city. The Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) is the large-scale public sector program in Pakistan that targets the poor women by providing unconditional cash transfers which is an effort of women empowerment and poverty alleviation. Present study is an attempt to examine that BISP's beneficiary's empowerment and those who get cash transfers but not empowered due to interference of male family members. No significant research has ever been compiled to measure the degree. Sample of the present study is comprised 80 women empowered beneficiaries =40 ($M=25.23, SD=3.01$), while without empowered beneficiaries = 40 ($M= 27.12, SD= 2.42$) of ages 18 to above those who have national identity cards holders. All Participants of the study were selected from beneficiaries of BISP. The measures were used: a) Personal information form and b) Self-designed closed ended Questionnaire: Part 1 women empowerment with (11 items) part 2. Socio- economic condition with (8 items) schedules for interviews. Research data was statistically examined through



descriptive statistic and Pearson Product Moment Correlation was used to find out the effect of socio- economic status and its relationship with or without empowerment. Findings showed that those women who are dependent on male family members are not empowered which is immense problem to alleviate the poverty.

Key words: Socio- economic status, Women empowerment and Beneficiaries

Introduction

In different cultures most of the women are the victims of communities, law and security affairs, while their financial status is dependent and deprive in different culture. Ladies is by all accounts more weak in public activity as contrast with male. Male are free in catching financial boundaries. Women are also treated unfairly and cannot share in democratic activities equally with men. Therefore, to make democracy sustainable it is necessary that both women and men should take part in the development activities. Women empowerment and financial progress are thoroughly associated in one path, development only can show a key part in vibrant difference between men and women; in the other way, women empowerment forces are the advantage growth.

Druzhynina, Likhonosova, and Lutsenko (2018) studied that empowerment mean is a consequence of complex impression. Though, it entails the transference of authority in an active mode over a period of time. In the 20th century numerous patterns of women empowerment in various nations in the world imitate, while empowerment appears to be a new idea that would not have been probable 200 centuries ago. Empowerment mentions struggles to extend their base of power. The subject of 'women empowerment' is currently a worldwide phenomenon. Meanwhile the source of the United Nations Organization, the issue of women's development has concerned the consideration from the global researchers.

The socio-economic status of women is a significant inclusive development and progress of the country. A study accompanied by Manickaval (1997) indicates that 56% of the women are jobless. Therefore, development of women entrepreneurship is vital to offer economic prospects to women (Sindhu & Geethakutty; 2003). Role and value of group safety networks in creating a welfare system in Pakistan as a under development country, specially, the emphasis is on a specific social safety net – the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) – which goals to decrease deficiency and recover health and education consequences. The BISP practice offers some important policy programs which are significant not merely for refining the value of social safety net package, but also for starting a welfare system (Mumtaz, & Whiteford; 2017).

To eliminate the poverty issues, poverty prevention programs have been applied by several governments of Pakistan. Certain of these programs comprise Social Action Program, People Works Program, and Rural Works Program (Iran, 2003). Pasha, Shah and Rahpoto, (2018) discussed that Governments in Pakistan have also tried various public care webs in this concern



while social safety nets aid precaution their beneficiaries from two significant but adverse properties of welfare. The main consequence is prolonged poverty. Constant welfare can progress enduring inability in a person to effort and produce. Another effect is the deterioration in the ability of a person to work and earn. Socioeconomic comfort resources the blend of group and financial issues that yield the greatest results for a person's wellbeing and welfare which is important for empowerment.

Different experts explain that neediness expected as debilitated life sources particularly for ladies, that larger part of the poor help financial offices through casual organizations. These organizations have a lot of simple methodology interestingly, of ladies. The idea of miniature supporting/little credits is a development and powerful part for destitution decrease, While broad exploration has been directed chiefly on the different jobs and viability of social wellbeing net projects, their significance in the improvement of a more far reaching government assistance framework particularly in low center pay nations has not been investigated in any detail.

Accordingly, the present exploratory examination and investigation concerns .Optional sources are utilized to illuminate the commitment and worth of the BISP in decreasing destitution and further developing wellbeing and training results at the program and public levels without empowering firm choices to be made about its viability. The program mainly tries to minimize negative effects of slow economic growth, food crisis and inflation on the poor, particularly women. The primary sources incorporate effect assessment reports of the BISP for 2011 and 2014 to address its consequences for destitution decrease and on wellbeing and schooling results at the program level (Gazdar and Zuberi :2014). Literature on the two sides of the strengthening "advancement nexus, and contends that the interrelationships are presumably too powerless to possibly be self-supporting, and that persistent approach obligation to fairness for the wellbeing of its own might be expected to achieve equity among people Advancing strengthening is of standard ticular interest to some significant for e NGOs working with unfortunate ladies. Albeit forty years of improvement (1950-90) have yielded significant advantages to ladies, critical orientation holes actually remain. Enhancements in ladies' prosperity are reflected in the behavior.

The examination affirmed that to complete an extensive staggered conclusion of the prosperity of the populace, organizing the main social, monetary and different sorts of indicators is essential. The creators fostered a staggered way to deal with carry out the devices for diagnosing the populace government assistance: at the global, public, provincial, domain and nearby levels. It is demonstrated that financial prohibition is the consequence of the law of the synergetic improvement of the framework, or at least, a regulation that communicates inside fundamental, stable associations between components of the framework that decide the degree of framework collaboration.



The arrangement of assessment marks of populace government assistance is summed up considering its staggered aspect. The complex of not entirely set in stone, affected by which the degree of populace government assistance changes. The creators substitute systemic and applied parts of the decision of a staggered way to deal with measure the government assistance through the balance of the adverse consequences of prohibition and the advancement of populace improvement in various districts. The directed examinations permitted to affirm the outcomes acquired with respect to the selection of instruments to defeat existing issues and disparities in the public arena. The presentation of a surprised way to deal with assess the government assistance could straightforwardly influence to the degree of life nature of the public and moderate financial turn of events.

Avoidance of provincial disparities being developed and dismissal processes occurring in the state is possible considering from the different mark of perspectives on the particularity of financial advancement of every area. Checking of the soundness of the public networks activities and legislative associations could guarantee the accomplishment of an excellent expectation for everyday comforts of the public, which empower every individual from the local area to execute their own reasonable narrow minded improvement objectives, which trigger the circle of input with a multiplicative beneficial outcome. Though pointing perseveres along the appearances of the early program (for example by recognizable proof of poor), any effect on ladies will be difficult to decide except if orientation disaggregated information are gathered under the different subprograms. There seems, by all accounts, to be no specific reasoning for remembering orientation issues for the plan and execution of the program when the change program is carried out, whether ladies benefit from this plan relies completely upon whether they are considered 'meriting' under the new focusing on instrument when it is presented. If this is not possible to execute women empowerment is massive challenge.

Method

Participants

Sample of the study was 80 women beneficiaries of Benazir Income Support Program (BISP). They were recruited from different areas of the Karachi city. Sample of the existing study was divided into two groups: Group 1, beneficiaries empower by financial aid = 40 and Group 2, beneficiaries not empower by financial aid due to interference of male family members = 40). The age of the respondents ranged between 18 years and above those women who have national identity card holders.

Description of Measures

a) Demographic Information Form



Personal information was acquired by items directing the respondent's age, gender, residence, family structure financial status, and family income, etc.

b) Self-designed closed ended Questionnaire

This questionnaire designed on the base of Likert scale which was included two parts of questionnaire .

- I. Women empowerment with (11 items)
- II. Socio- economic condition with (8 items) schedules for interviews

Procedure

Questionnaire was separately administrated to women beneficiaries of BISP in Karachi city Sindh province. Researcher approached to the beneficiaries get consent for data collection. After getting consent from them, examiner briefed about the validation of the study and sure them data will entirely use for research and their answers will not be exposed in front of others. Then Personal Information form and Self-designed closed ended Questionnaire measures were administered.

Scoring and statistical analysis

After completing the data collection, socio economic status and women empowerment items were scored according to standardized scoring procedures. The data analysis was carried out through Statistical Package for Social Sciences Version 22 (SPSS; V.22). Descriptive statistics was carried out to describe the frequencies and percentages. Further on Pearson Product Moment Correlation for investigating strength of relationship among variables.

RESULTS

Table: 1

Mean and standard deviation of empowerment of two groups

<i>Group</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>Std. Deviation</i>
<i>1*</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>25.23</i>	<i>3.01</i>
<i>2**</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>27.12</i>	<i>2.42</i>

*Empowered women **without empowered women
Mean age is women with empower (mean= 25.23, SD= 3.01) and women without empower (mean = 27.12, SD= 2.42).



Table: II
Independent sample tests for, Empower for equality of means

<i>Empower</i>	<i>t</i>	<i>df</i>	<i>Empower Sig.(2tailed)</i>
<i>equal variances assumed</i>	-3.355	198	.001
<i>equal variance Not assumed</i>	-3.355	195.076	.001

Table III
Shows women empower of two groups

<i>Empower</i>	<i>T</i>	<i>Df</i>	<i>sig (2-taild)</i>
<i>Equal variance assumed</i>	1.782	198	0.076
<i>Not equal variance assumed</i>	1.782	198	0.076

DISCUSSION

This study conducted on the basis of women empowerment and socioeconomic status, distribution of funds is major problem and requires careful interpretation on any level Table II indicates that test was found to be statistically significant ($t = -3.355$, $df = 198$; $p < .05$) means values of two groups are significant. Result indicates that there is a significant difference among empowered beneficiaries by financial aid and without empowered beneficiaries by financial aid. Table III



was found to be statistically non-significant ($t = 1.782$, $df = 198$; $p > .05$) both beneficiaries are not financial empowered.

Findings indicate that mean age of the participants are empowered beneficiaries =40 ($M=25.23, SD=3.01$), while without empowered beneficiaries = 40 ($M= 27.12, SD= 2.42$). The response rate to the both measure remained at 97.32 % which reveal the interest of beneficiaries to point out their problems. Result shows that empowered beneficiaries and without empowered beneficiaries both are expressively quick but there is difference. Empowered beneficiaries are on better level they are specifically passing their live better; they can achieve, identify and confront their problems by their own manners. Although the positive effect on ladies' portability and political voice, a gentle effect is found on ladies' dealing power and orientation standards i.e., including ladies in dynamic by their spouses and brutality against ladies. The outcomes uncover that following two years of mediation, there was no critical effect on ladies' strengthening; in any case, following 5 and 8 years, there was a significant effect, particularly on ladies' portability, their contribution in direction, and casting a ballot conduct. As compare to without empowered beneficiaries because their male family members are not cooperative.

Further study revealed that empowered beneficiaries progress sensible attitude to adjust the conducts, and outlook realization clearly seems. Moreover, this study has several other multiple outcomes that would help in policy making for women empowerment.



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