

**COMPARING THE DECISION-MAKING POWER OF WOMEN AT
HOUSEHOLD IN RURAL AND URBAN AREAS: A COMPARISON
OF NUCLEAR AND JOINT FAMILIES**



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FINAL APPROVAL OF THESIS

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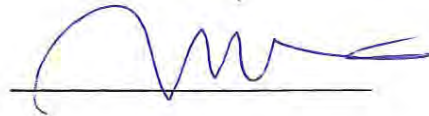
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ABSTRACT

The current research studies the decision-making power of married women residing in Urban Nuclear settings and rural women from joint families. Women faces inequality in different ways within Pakistani society because it is reflected as male dominated. The objective of the study was to check out the decision-making ability and participation of women in nuclear and joint settings of urban and rural areas. Liberal Feminism theory was applied which shows different indicators that hinders women in making decisions. The Quantitative Approach was selected, the universe of the study was F-7/2 sector of Islamabad and Village Ahdi Tehsil Gujar Khan District Rawalpindi because the study is comparative analysis of decision-making power. The respondents were selected through purposive sampling and data was collected with the help of structured interview schedule. After gathering data Statistical Package for Social Sciences 22.0 version was used to analyze the data. Descriptive and Inferential Statistical techniques were applied. Comparative analysis is the core concept of study, So co-relation was examined. The findings of the study showed that Urban women have more decision-making power than rural women. Majority of deciders were elders of the family even if women was educated nevertheless if not employed then depends on elders or on husband for money. To raise women status in society education ought to be made obligatory. Hurdles like male dominancy, conservative thoughts, social and cultural barriers, early marriages should be eradicated to make women independent and free deciders. The result of study stated the correlation among male dominancy and free decision-making right of women with recommendation about raising women status and making them free deciders at the end.

Keywords: *Decision-making power, Urban and rural areas, SPSS, Power, family systems.*

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CHAPTER NO. 1
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Women position in Pakistan

Pakistan is in south of Asia. Pakistan is located at such area which is known as “Patriarchal belt” (Caldwell 1982 as cited by Tabassum 2016). According to the 2017 census its total population is 206 million people where half of the population are mainly women. Pakistani societies are patriarchal, and these patriarchal systems become the hindrance for female in the social, political, economic, and other aspects. In Pakistan women are measured through different aspects either they are single or married such as education, employment, medical facilities, and their involvement in decision-making process of a family. Their overall status is quite low. The status of women in Pakistan is relatively inferior as compared to males. Women perform different roles at different stages of life in form of mother, sister, daughter, wife. Women who are married they must take good care of their kid which is their sole duty. Thus, women are not given equal status.

Raj (2008) argues that women are important part of every society. Women participation in different fields of life can contribute for the progress of any nation or a society. Mostly women are just considered to live within the boundary of their houses they are not allowed to go out whereas it is the male who can get access to anything he wants. Moreover, when it comes to decision making more power is given to men as compared to the women regarding different matters.

Muhammad Ali Jinnah who is the founder of Pakistan gives his ideology for the Pakistani women status. According to the Jinnah “no nation can rise to the height of glory unless their women are side by side with them. It is the crime against humanity that over women are shut up within the four walls of the house as the prisoners. There is no sanction anywhere for the deplorable condition in which over women have to live” Whereas, in Pakistan its opposite things are not same as they should be as stated by founder of Pakistan. Women position is subordinated just because patriarchal values are entrenched in Pakistani societies (Hadi 2017:297).

Moreover, Women faces different challenges when it comes to make decision. Socio-cultural and economic barriers do not allow independently allow women to make decisions. Within male dominated societies male resistance is there which bonds the women to participate in either political or global matters. Gender stereotypes, lack of

support, gender discrimination and time also matters for the women who make decisions.

1.2 Decision making power of women in Pakistan

Pakistan society is a male dominated society where males are given chance to flourish themselves and the other half of the human beings are not given chances to do what they want to. Pakistan is an Islamic republic, and it all laws are based on Islam but when it comes to women it is the culture who defines what is right or wrong from them. The culture of many areas does not allow them to exercise their rights given by Islam and protected by the laws of the country. The patriarchal system has aroused disrespect for the women in Pakistani society (Bhattacharya 179-189: 2014).

Autonomy of women is the instrument of how education influences the use of contraceptives in the developing nations. The decision-making power of women is related to the contraceptive use, but it does not determine the connection between education and contraception. In developing countries fertility and contraception are linked with different indicators of socioeconomic status. Whereas female education and use of contraception plays important role in the development of the country. They hold lower social positions and autonomy than men and this lower level is due to low fertility and autonomy. Education is seen as important factor that arouse autonomy and women status. Autonomy acts as an equilibrium between women education and contraceptive use. Meanwhile in Pakistan this use is lower, but the fertility rate is quite high (Saleem and Bobak, 2005).

Decision-making power of female impacts the utilization of family planning. Married women decision-making power is based on various factors like desire of husband about how much kids he wants and when, Household monthly income and use of contraceptive methods through which they can have say in family planning use (Alemayehu et al. 2020).

Mukhtair and mukhtar Mainly in Pakistani societies women are not allowed to be involved in public realms. Their decision-making power is noted by their thinking level. Women and men both have different levels of needs but for men he had higher chances of decision for his own needs whereas women are given less power to decide.

Furthermore, women ability to decide is affected by his economic and cultural positions those women who live in urban areas they have more power to decide due to the education they have, while living in nuclear family they can exercise this power more but in case of rural its opposite (1991).

Shahnaj states that rural women have low social status. Culture of the societies vary similarly the social status of women also varies depending on the society. Economic dependency makes women substandard, and they are considered burden for a family. In rural areas given education to women is considered against the societal traditions, they are not given proper education and must tolerate the violence. These social positions do not allow them to decide and if they can then they will always be lesser to men (2001).

1.3 Household decision making among family affairs

Individuals living in the house are affected by the decisions taken in the household because the decisions produce flexibility regarding different matters of the house. Decisions made in household concerning different matters like education, health, market purchase impact the members living under one roof differently. Decisions effect the resilience power of the individuals. Women and men decide on different priorities if the women have no say in house, then men decisions are valued. Thus, Decision power impacts the resilience power of women contribution in household or community matters which also impacts the capacities of children (Satrya and Corps 6:2018).

Tiwari (2011) states that women are disregarded in making decision and in leaderships. They are given few opportunities and hardly can exercise the leadership roles. Women are motivated to do submissive roles as compared to male. Moreover, they have no power to make decision of their lives. Marriage is the part of life and once a girl is married, she must be responsible because she has stepped out from her childhood. Decision about marriages should be one's own but they are not allowed to do it and it is the family who decides for them (p.14).

“And they (women) have rights similar to those of (men) over them, and men are a degree above them” (Quran 2:233 as cited in Badawi).

Similarly, Women of rural areas bear more kids, and their marriages last for long time. Their education level is lesser in comparison with semi urban areas. Women in different areas urban and semi urban they have lower power to have says then rural women. Women of rural areas have more children which are considered helpful for parents in economic matters and when they will get old whereas semiurban women want children, but they have low ability to bear them (Cilingiroglu 1991). In rural areas of Pakistan women play a significant role in the income generating activities. They do work in the agricultural sector by working just like males. They also contribute to the social activities for the development of their family by doing different tasks. Still, they have no right to make decision for the resources of family, their marriages and education. In rural areas people are illiterate they have no education which causes bad attitude and ignorance all such issues can be overcome through education which will prevail positivity for women of rural areas. Women status and roles can be raised if they are given proper skills and training for better contribution in agricultural matters. Therefore, women participation in social decisions and agricultural will increase their empowerment level and they will properly cope with monthly budget of the family (Akhtar et al. 2018). Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah in all Pakistan education conference in Karachi stated that “There is no doubt that the future of our state will and must greatly depend on the type of education we give to our children and the way in which we bring them up as future citizens of Pakistan” (Kazmi 2005:93).

1.4 Factors effecting the decision-making power

The present study is about the decision-making power among urban women of nuclear families and rural women of joint families. There are various factors that influence the decision-making abilities of female. Decision making power of women is directly related to the maternal health whereas males view is opposite in this regard. If they are given maternal health facilities and empowerment, then their ability to make decisions will surely increase (Hou and Ma 2013).

Even though children of the married couples have the right to speak besides his/her parents. During socialization or shaping of the child they should be given some right to speak and express their point of views and it is the duty of the guardians or parents

to let them know about right and wrong and teach them about right ways (UkEssays 2018).

Women decision-making and autonomy are directly related with each other. It is noted that women have low level of decision-making power about their personal problems or household matters. The lower level is because of the education they have, size of her household and whether her husband uses alcohol or not. So, to raise women autonomy, Women income generating activates, education and economic level must be endorsed. Formal education of women will help the husband and wife to understand each other and thus this will improve the household and community level (Reggasa and Reggasa 2016).

In household there are several indicators that will indicate that who will become the decision maker. Married women decision making is associated with their family background and it is the education which make them capable to decide and develop better understanding among husband and wife. As it is clearly noted that women participation in household decision matters depend upon their geography, education, and wealth they have. Besides all the factors contributing to the higher level of women most important is education that will not even raise her status but will help her to do further what they desire to (Tutu and ampadu 2018).

Similarly, women of Pakistani societies have confused modernity and traditional culture which has created huge confusion. Women veil is considered as a restricting mark, and they are deprived from their rights in different affairs. In rural areas people have created stricter barriers on the name of Islam but it is not the Islam that is barriers but the cultural values. The thoughts many people in Pakistan and of other religion thinks that Islam is strict religion, but it is not true. Instead of creating hurdles it motivates women to do work of her choose. Whereas in Quran many ayahs and surah have supported and give proof that both women and men important and no one is inferior then the other. Its emphasis on education that should be given to for female and male on equality basis. Moreover, Quran has various verse that shows that women should be given her rights, not treated her as she is inferior and should be given respect.

According to the verse of holy Quran:

“O mankind! Be careful of your duty to your lord who created you from a single soul and from its mate and from them both have spread abroad a multitude of men and women. Be careful of your duty toward Allah in whom you claim (your rights) of one another, and towards the wombs (that bore you). Lo! Allah has been watcher over you.” (An-Nisa 4:1)

Another verse narrated by Anas given by Muhammad (S.a.w) about the blessed marriage is that:

“Whoever marries a woman for her glory, Allah will not increase his, but will bring him humiliation; whoever marries her for her wealth, Allah will not increase his, but place him in poverty; whoever marries her for ancestral claims, Allah will not increase his; but in meanness; whoever marries a woman for nothing but to cast down his eyes, guard his private parts, and join a relationship, Allah will bless them through her and vice versa”

Furthermore, in many societies’ men control women on the name of honor nor does men do this without any hesitation, but his family also restrict women do perform various tasks just because of honor. Her decision-making power, economic status, but they physically are controlled by men. Just because of the honor associated with women and men who are owner of it can do anything to control it. Domestic violence, sexual abuse, murder and beating the women are the violence that are faced by women within the patriarchal societies (Noor 2004:15).

1.5 Statement of the problem

Women of Pakistan are not given their social, economic, and political rights they are living within four walls of house and under the traditional norms. One bitter reality is that cultural values are preferred over the Islamic values even though it is the Islamic republic. Pakistan is the developing country where 40% of people are facing poverty issues. According to united nation development index, out of 189 countries it ranks at 152nd position. Furthermore, global Gender development index ranks Pakistan at 151 positions out of 153 counties and world economic forum states that Pakistan is

dangerous country for the women. Pakistan society is conservative, male dominated that's why women participation in decision making is lower.

The situation of women in Pakistani societies is not good enough. They are deprived from their rights whether the rights are related to household matters or the equality they want in the society. As in Pakistani societies masculinity prevails so the women are forced to live a life they have not dreamed of because of cultural, religious, and social grading of males. In urban and rural household, they are not independent to make decisions and if so then what are factors that make them independent to decide. The researcher in this research tried to comparative analyze the decision-making power of urban women in nuclear family type with the rural women living in joint families and their abilities to decides.

1.6 Objectives of the study

The study examines the decision-making power and comparison of rural women from extended families and urban women of nuclear settings. The objectives of present study are following:

1. To find out the different levels at which women of urban and rural areas makes decision.
2. To find out the participation of urban and rural women in decision making process in nuclear and joint families.
3. Finding the relationship between decision making power and position of women in household affairs.
4. To find out the Decision-making power women have on basis of their marital status.

1.7 Significance of the study

Research means reinvestigation which challenges the knowledge that is already present and arouse different challenges as well as contributes to the knowledge that is present on a specific social phenomenon. Sometimes the research covers the gap left by the previous researchers and add some interesting questions which can be used by

further researchers to investigate on it. The current study holds different indicators that will help further researchers to carry on with the research from different perspectives. It deals with the comparison of women and their abilities to make decision. It provides the literature of the women place in rural and urban settings because of their involvement in decision making process.

On the other hand, the study gives brief information about the decision-making power which women of rural and urban household can exercise by living in nuclear family or joint family systems. Also, it gives brief detail about the marriage equality, family size and the rights of their health.

CHAPTER NO. 2
REVIEW OF THE RELEVANT LITERATURE

Literature review is based on the international or national research papers or publications. The chapter is of literature review in the present study deals with the knowledge that is already done and what furthers will be needed on it.

2.1 Decision-making power of the women

“Decision making”, according to Webster (1828), “the act or process of deciding something especially with a group of people”. Russo narrate those final decisions are made based on future functioning by chasing certain goals or limits on proposed resources by people for future activities (2014).

Janghorban et.al (2014) states that the decision-making power of women within family is related to the empowerment of females. Whereas empowerment is the ability through which one have the authority to claim its right. For the development of any country talent is necessary and women contribute one half of it Consequently, development of any nations relies on the opportunities given to females by their society. Once they flourish their talents then a country can get benefits from their skills. Women’s empowerment is the process of transformation in some stages of female’s life by elevating their capacity to have enriched life. Empowerment of women is considered important for the gender equality and gender equality can only be attained by keeping gender biasness a side and providing everyone equal rights, Duties, and opportunities.

Kiana argued that in all societies the problems of why women participate are important and how their participation contributes either on financial, social, or cultural level. The female in household matter is reported for making decision within the family. In almost many developing countries giving them education is compulsory whereas women are kept illiterate. Female marriages are important and once they are married opportunities for them to say become minimum and the only thing for which they become responsible are the household responsibilities and having children. Their power of making decision is limited on minor matters like what to cook, House decoration or car color. Men tries to control the women participation and their experience in family matters as they are considered superior. Men’s education prepares the ground for change in the attitude of female and their acceptance for the

norms. Thus, male's participation in household tasks is increased and female's participation in making decisions for family is maximized and this changes the division patterns and finally results in changing the family patterns and adjusting the structure of patriarchal pyramid. Moreover, males' employment, Age, Place of residence also impacts the women's decision-making ability in family. In past female and male bonds were based on arranged duties but as the time is changing and things are getting advance the duties for both are not fixed. Women play different roles at different stages of life. Encouraging their roles and status can enhance their right to participate in decision making.

Mackinnon raised a question that are women humans after the definition given by universal declaration of human rights about who the human being is. If Women are humans, then why are they deprived from their basic rights? Why are they not allowed to study? Why cannot they raise voice in public freely? Why a man with whom they are living beat her, force her to say yes to his demands? Why are they not allowed to make choices to whom they want to marry? And if they are Included in Everyone then why these circumstances take place?

2.2 Decision-making power of women among different nations

Globally Africa is underdeveloped continent where women are facing not only lowest participation in making decisions but also going through poverty problems which stop any of the continent to develop So for the development African women were involved in making decision by giving them opportunities their participation will pave the way for a nation to achieve its development goals. Moreover, individual nations of Africa should create such atmosphere where they can show better performance at all levels starting from family matters to community, state and even nation. Although Nigerians having several government policies is still known as poor nation because of bad government system, Gender inequality in making decisions, violation and because of these issues many Nigerians are unable to get access to good shelter, healthy diet, water etc. To get things better women should be given right to get education and make decisions because it is their right to represent their decision So to break these barriers

women of Uganda and south Africa has given formal rights to participate in political system (Ilesanmi OO, 2018).

In Santiago during a meeting the female leaders and experts say that to continue the change actions is required from men and women who are in power or having authority despite the civil social group who defend the women rights and are not exclusively responsible for the change (Jarroud 2015).

Acharya et.al 2010 explores the association between women's household position and her autonomy in decision making. A study has been conducted in Nepal by using four household factors and how they influence the autonomy of women in making decisions. Her own healthcare, visiting her relatives or friends, purchasing household things or the daily used household needs. Women's autonomy is directly related with her age, Employment, and her kids with whom she is living. Somewhat lack of education also minimizes her power to decide. Women who are rich they can make decisions on buying household things whereas those women who are rich and educated they can make decision about their health as well Similarly women of rural areas have less autonomy in making decision in the measured factors. To improve their positions, they must be involved in education and employment which will not only help them to decide but also will reduce the discrimination between men and women and will empower her to make positive decisions.

In Oman women are empowered but their empowerment is affected due to their interest in domestic affairs. The Oman government ensure that development is not about economic and material aspect but encompasses the social aspects also. The Women of Sohar region in Oman know about their rights and duties and understand their legal and political rights yet they are not socially empowered as it is the social power responsible for causing inequalities among men and women. Women are much better in household and economic decision making rather than social power. To improve their empowerment in social level they must confront the patriarchal system. Role of women in decision making can be improved by their participation in seminar activities, having employment and through agencies which can boost them to improve their empowerment status (Varghese 2011).

Household Decision making also results in domestic violence and intimate partner violence is one of it. Women experience such kind of violence. Effects of intimate partner violence are not temporary they can be permanent or continue till the upcoming generations. Their offspring suffer either directly or indirectly consequences are critical in both cases. Decisions made by both partners and if the women solely made them then chances of intimate partner violence are lower whereas if men made the decisions alone then women suffer from such violence. Furthermore, Women never predicts about how much they suffer but men can predict about women experiencing intimate partner violence (Acharya et al. 2021).

A survey was conducted in Myanmar to reveal that married women from rural or urban areas faces domestic violence. Gender inequalities lead to such kind of violence leaving vulnerable effects on women throughout the life. In patriarchal societies it is most practiced. Societies where men are dominated and have the power to do what they want women are accustomed to enduring the violence. They have no right to decide and power to say anything in their favor or to end such kind of relationship where they not treated well. The study concludes the in Myanmar shows that about two-third of the married women's experiences physical violence. They are not the decider and the impact of violence make them vulnerable. Their activities are associated with negative reactions. This is affecting the status of women by lowering their abilities, ending up their self-esteem and even though threatening their empowering ability (Kabir et al. 2019).

2.3 Married women status in household

Amugsi et al stated that diet is important for the survival of well beings similarly higher dietary diversity is associated with the household decision making power of women and several socio demographic factors plays major role in attainment of higher dietary diversity. In Ghana Women have no right to decide unless she is educated or living in monogamous family as in polygamous family they are enforced to share and live in the limited resources they have. Moreover, existence of co wives can also impact the diet of women. Higher dietary diversity by a woman can be attained by her involvement in decision making power. Intake of healthy diet is

essential as micronutrients malnutrition impact not only the women's health also her infants either they are growing up or she is pregnant. During the pregnancy situation intake of healthy nutritional food is compulsory. If not taken, then both the mother and infant will suffer, this suffering can continue in the upcoming life. Women who participate in household says are more favorable to get higher dietary diversity and this participation is related to her education and either she is living in polygamy or monogamy's family. A study in Bangladesh and Vietnam shows direct association between education and higher DD. Those who have higher education get higher nutritional food. Dietary intake of women can get better if they are given access to get education, encouraged to do monogamous marriages and their household wealth's get better (2016: 2-7 pages).

Hirai, graham, and Sandburg 2016 concluded that In Kenya decision making power of women about purchasing household items is positively associated with betterment of household. To diminish the diseases its necessary to improve the sanitation. Women final says is however positively associated with the improvement in sanitation. Women autonomy, Age, place of residence, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, education is associated with the improvement in sanitation. Furthermore, geographical region plays a key role in providing facilities like those women who lives in urban areas contributes and live in sanitized areas due to improved sanitation facilities while women of rural do not enjoy the facilities by living in unstructured locations.

For women here reproductive health and rights are central part of her life and through her decision-making power she can attain reproductive comfort. In Mettu rural district of southwest Ethiopia several factors influence the women to take decision regarding her reproductive health and rights. Most probably women exercise less power in a relationship because it is the men who is the decider. This gender inequality can be because of women education, employment, economic position or so forth. Due to these reason women become victims of unwanted sexual contact, Gender based violence which ends in transmission of sexual diseases. Female has the right to say about when or how she can give birth to a baby. In urban areas married women have the power to decide whereas in rural community's males decide about sexually and reproductive health or the rights despite women. Women of rural areas have low

power in this perspective. Although within Married couples having access to exercise the reproductive health and rights depends somehow on the knowledge about RHR, communication level between the spouse and understanding. Women who are married to educated person they have more chances to make decision based on the years they have lived with each other and knowledge of male regarding reproductive rights and health of women. Whereas not all married women can do this because of several conditions. To ensure her reproductive wellbeing females should be given access to their reproductive rights (Tadele et al. 2019).

Taylor argues that in many parts of world male domination still exists except for few countries who have raised women status including Europe and America. In few middle easter countries they are treated as men properties, they are not freely allowed to go out with any male member and are locked within the four walls of house and it is the male who make decision for her.

2.4 Women Empowerment and autonomy in decision-making

According to Jahan, Hossain and Mahmud (2015) Decision making power of women is an indicator of her autonomy and empowerment. The study reveals the effects that empowerment has on the decision-making power of women in household. Through empowerment women can achieve different development goals. Women who live in Dhaka, Raj Shahi and Chittagong have more power to make decisions as compared to women of Sylhet division. Sylhet females have less power to decide in any of six factors as mentioned in the study. Education plays fundamental role in women empowerment and many studies show a positive correlation between women's ability to decide and her education. Besides these six-factor healthcare, child's health care, purchasing household needs on large level or either daily basic needs, visiting to friends or family and what to cook today, Age is seen as a contributing factor that impacts the decision-making power of women. Women whose age is between 35 to 45 or above 45 have power to decide in family matters. In urban areas women education impacts here position to say in family matters. For urban females getting education on primary level is not enough they should get education at higher level to improve their position in family. By getting education they can make income and

through income they will have more autonomy and empowerment. Exposure to media and being connected with NGOs also raises her empowerment position by further allowing her to contribute to decision making power within household. If the lady is married, she has less chance to decide because of husband domination in conjugal life except for the reason if she is widow, divorced, lives separately, or have a son as still in urban societies sons are preferred and women having even at least one son are favored over those who have daughter.

Life of child depends on the decision made by the parents. The quality of life he/she will have regarding education and work depends on what the parents has chosen for their kids. Within family structure mother's decision play important role for the betterment of the kids. Her decisions influence the life of the children directly. In Pakistan child labor is a serious issue. Women say and child labor both have positive relationship. Women decision impact children education. Child labor can be reduced if women are given empowerment to decide about her family life (Majeed and Kiran 2019).

Women say in household matter also rely on the age difference the spouse has. Even though those women who live in Urban settlement within nuclear family they can have more decision power Whereas in urban areas women are more connected with social media which gives them awareness of their exercise and info about the latest things. In Asian countries preference of son is common. In household settings women who give birth to sons are valued and given much respect whereas those who do not have sons they are treated badly sometimes faces domestic violence, given divorce and faces social dishonor. "In Multan, an infant named Samira was poisoned by her mother Ayesha because of the arguments she had with her mother-in-law about not giving birth to a male child and later Ayesha attempted suicide (The Express Tribune 2016)." Women participation in household decision depends on how many sons she has. Those females who gave birth to one or more than one son they have the power to say in the household matters. Moreover, with the birth of sons their haggling power at home gets improved. That is why women desire for son more than daughter because daughters are considered burden and sooner or later, they will get marry.

Furthermore, it is evident that women bearing sons are given space only in matters beside finance which are not of much importance (Javed and Mughal 2018).

Health also impacts the women position in household matters. In Urban India women who gave birth to male child first use clean cooking fuels for their health then those who have daughter first as first-born son entail the gain or loss of intra household position of the mother. Women status depends on the child she has which affects her fuel choice. As if the women have a baby boy, then household will invest in her health by using clean fuel while women with lower status kept on using cheap cooking fuel to control monetary and social factors. In case if it is not the baby boy first then family continues to give birth until its male and in such cases, sex selected abortions take places. Families who are economically not strong they highly desire for a baby boy despite those who are rich. Thus, prevails gender inequality considering using fuel (Kishore and Spears 2011).

According to Deb in past there was joint family system but with passing years but as the years passed nuclear family system has seen in many parts of India. High women fertility and son preference are quite apparent in India and the northern states. Preference of one sex over reflects the gender inequality in India. It is not solely the men or women who decides about family regarding child sex, childcare, desire to limit childbearing but choice of both male and female to decide the family size, sex preference of the newly born, women fertility. Exposures to media, wealth possession and literacy rate of the spouse influences the decision-making process. Males prefer son over daughters which increases the family size in case if they are illiterate most importantly if the female is educated, she can limit the family size but if both are literate but not exposed to media then the situation is quite tough for women to control the family size which results in desire for male child. the study argues that use of drug by male and cash earning of female results in separation of kids or are abandoned by their parents. Increase of wealth and male's literacy can stop the child abandonment across Indian state. This shows the contribution factors that changes the couple decision for their family (2015).

The study conducted in Pakistan explore the involvement of women in their arrangement of marriages and their negotiation towards reproductive decisions. The study explores that those women who in their parents' home are freely allowed to make decisions they after getting married can say to the fertility (Hamid et al. 2011).

2.5 Married and Unmarried Decision-making power

Women are important parts of the family and play important role in the socio-economic progress, but the fact is that they have low power to make decision. Mostly women depend on male or the family decisions. They are considered inferior to men and stuck in the four walls of their houses. Women are not given rights to decide for the education of the children and decision regarding marriage of their child. They only possess power to control the unnatural abortions within family. Married and unmarried women have nonspecific decision-making power in local government and poses masculine decision-making power for income generation. Before visiting any friend, they must take masculine permission and family hold the power for sale and purchase of property. Inequality prevails among the family and thus results in the poor rearing up of the children (Jan and Akhtar 2008).

“Progress for women is the progress for all” (Varghese 2011).

Survey conducted in western Guatemala on married women by asking about the final decision made by her in different household matter. Education and women earning status were key components in it. The report says that in couples where both the spouses are educated, and wife works to earn both have equal rights in final say while in case of spouse where wife does not work or if she/he is uneducated. The study is significant in household having a plan about maternal emergency. Women hold greater power to decide to have greater use of health care services while having a baby. Furthermore, Guatemala male are considered decision makers when the decision itself involves expenses. Women mobility is added as another factor exercised regarding her empowerment and status (Becker 2005).

2.6 Women decision making power in nuclear or joint families

Many socio-cultural factors affect the decision-making power of women including marriage, education, employment, religion, and her family type either its nuclear or joint. Men and women are two sides of one coin, if equal rights and equal power is given to them, they will for sure make this world a place where people could live peacefully. Women hold different decision-making power in the light of the family type. The study was conducted in Srinagar district of azad Jammu and Kashmir state on married women. Decision-making power is exercised by women according to the family type in which she lives. Those women who live in nuclear family they have equal power to make decision and can make decision about the family planning, birth of child, controlling unnatural abortion. Non-specific decision is practiced but if it comes to visit any relative then it is the male who decide. Whereas those women who live within joint family they have power to decide about their or children health and rest of the decisions are made by family or her husband. Decision related to children marriage is masculine while sale or purchase of property matters and visit to any relative decision is made by her family (Sharma et al. 2014).

2.7 Causes of low decision-making power of women

The study in Pakistan shows that many women in Pakistan had more children beyond their ideal number of children. Many women who live in patriarchal society have more children because of socio cultural factors including husband, her in laws and different members of the family. Those women want to give at least two years of gap after giving birth to one kid or want to stop having more kids, but they cannot exercise their will while being in male-controlled family. Meanwhile education can make the difference in fertility behaviors of the spouse regardless of the setup where they are living. Universal education can change the attitudes of the generation. Women having power to make decision regarding their pregnancy have free will to work on their reproductive decision such women are not affected by social nor cultural values. Rational thinking about the childbirth should be developed between the husband and wife so that without any exploitation they can have child they wished for (Syed and Sultan 1999).

According to Profeta (2017) equality in genders will produce favorable effects for the development of the country. Gender equality and development are both interlinked. It is not only men who can play active part in the stability and development of a country but both male and female equal participation are equally part of developmental growth. Women represents half of the nation and their involvement in labour force would give fruitful results. Qualified, less corrupted, and much responsible women will give beneficiary gains to a country. Thus, increase in gender equality will produce diversity, help to increase productive response, and will decrease discrimination.

Assumptions

Pakistan is a developing country which is also known as Islamic republic of Pakistan. Majority of societies are male dominated, and women of Pakistan are living under the old and traditional norms from many years. Due to the male dominancy, they have less participation in economic, social activities. Islam has given them rights but are ignored as culture is more valued and most accepted. Women faces many hurdles and have numerous issues to get access to what they want.

Decision making power is the ability of deciding but this ability is least exercised by the women. They can be deciders but then it depends on their age, family type, exposure to social media. Women of rural areas living in joint families are not freely allowed to decide as equated to women of urban areas living in joint families and both of their decision-making power relies on numerous factors like education, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, marital status. Furthermore, Women play vital role in family, but they are not given proper rights to have says. They face different barriers in making decisions. Urban or semi urban women can decide because of their education, job status, family type whereas rural women are merely given chance to make decisions. Women decision making can be improved by giving them education, raising awareness campaigns about their health, Giving them property rights. Instead of considering them male property they should be treated as human beings and provided such environment where they can live freely and not bound to do what they are not willing to do.

CHAPTER NO. 3

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

This chapter deals with the theoretical framework, where decision-making power exercised by the women of rural and urban areas living in nuclear and joint families. The chapter explain the theory from different point of view and then is applied on the specific context.

3.1 Liberal feminism theory

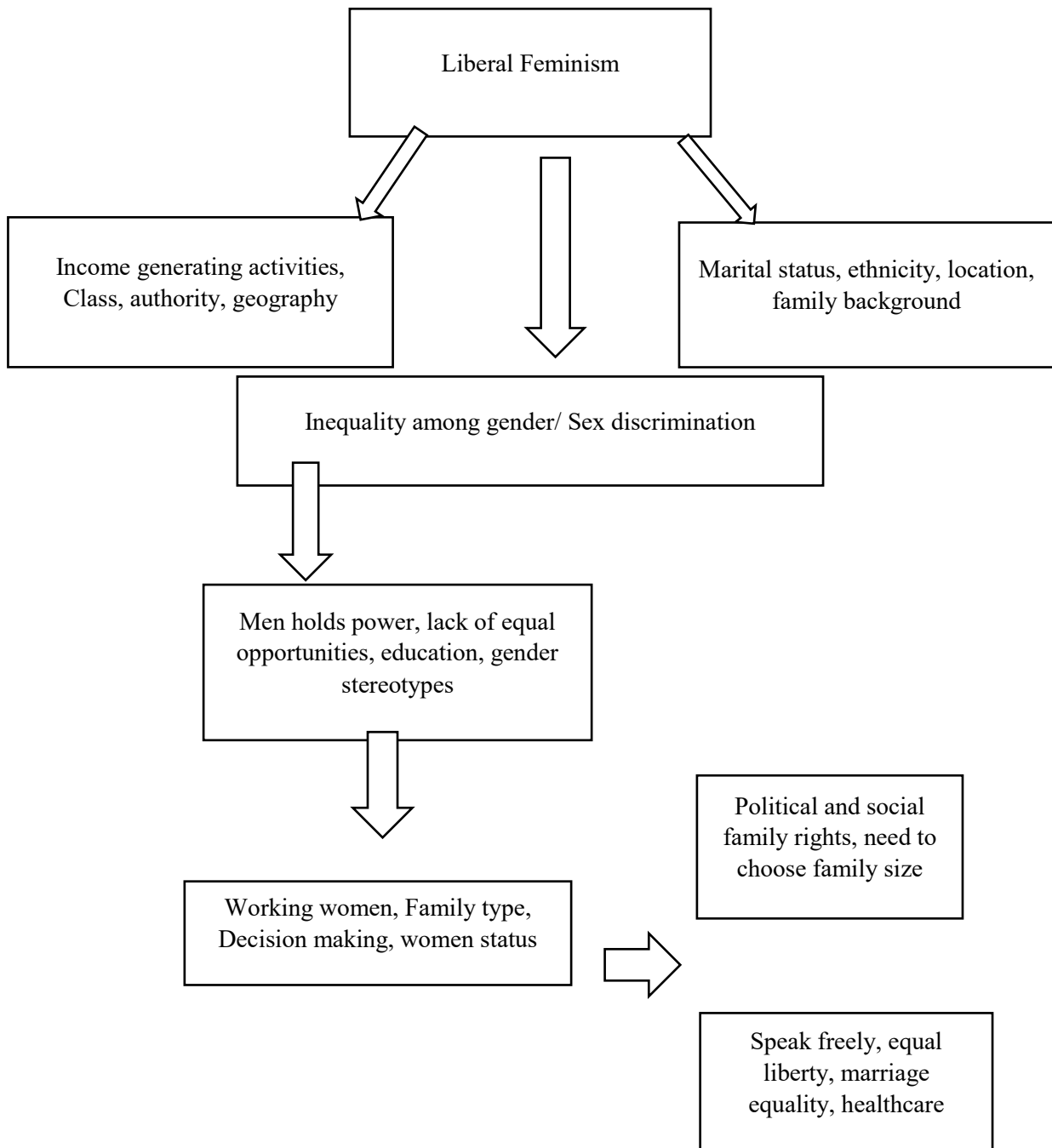
The Liberal feminism started in 18 and 19 century and is continued in the present timing. Liberal feminism main concern was and is still about removing female subordination. Throughout the past it is working on the issues faced by women. The liberal feminism movement at the beginning was represented by Mary Wollstonecraft from 1759 to 1799. She was concerned about women education and for this purpose she writes a justification in which she mentions that women should be given education just like men so that they can grow up to moral and self-directed human beings. Furthermore in 19 century John Stuart mill, Harriet Taylor writes that women involvement in society is important. Taylor said that women should work inside and outside of the houses. Until 1960 after suffrage movement liberal feminism become quite and become active at the time of civil rights. Betty Friedan was first president of liberal feminism movement and wrote many important books about for the progression of feminism. Her main idea mentioned in her *Feminine mystique*, the fountain of age and the second stage was the humanist ideal of androgyny. Many critiques were faced based on racist, classist and heterosexist past.

Moreover, Liberal feminism focuses on the achievement of gender equality such as education given to both male and female and prevails better and equal working condition. It aims to provide equal rights and opportunities to women. The movement contends that society has wrong beliefs about women that they hold lower position then men and faces discrimination in various aspects. It emphasizes on the public world where women and men both are given equal rights. It depicts that private life also hinders the public equality. Its main characteristics is that it supports marriage considering equal partnership, women rights for abortion, male involvement in caring child and those obstacles like domestic violence, sexual harassment that become barriers for women to achieve equal level such barriers should be removed.

According to liberal feminism, Women private life influences their public status. They should be given political, legislative rights and exercise the power of choice. Many causes of suppression are faced by them on basis of education, individuality, gender, sexual nature, and other factors that influences personality. Its main believe was to provide females same education, decent lives, and families that males want. Across many societies in Pakistan women right to make decision is ignored as they live in the male dominated settlements. They are merely allowed to decide depending upon different indicators that are culturally, socially important for them to have there says in different family matters. The feminism struggles for achievement of gender equality through the means of political, social, and legal.

The present theory shows that, Society cannot get benefit from only men, but women participation also contributes to its benefit. Women and men both are of equal worth, education and profession are of equal importance for both, keeping women away from their rights will affect their abilities to perform various task in households and in public areas. Both the equal and social change will not be revolutionary but grateful which will provide a gradual change. The theoretical framework provides the view that how gender inequality can influence the human. Although women and men are different by women are not inferior. If equal chances, opportunities, and rights are given to them then it will stimulate the stability and prosperity in households and in societies by lower the women subordination. The theory focuses on achieving gender equality for women. Due to the patriarchal societies' women are restricted in the household goings-on which impact their identity, role, and status. Male should contribute to domestic tasks which will produce cultural change and gender equality.

3.2 Model of liberal feminism theory



Source: Self Constructed

3.3 Application

Women are an integral part of every society. Women should be equally house makers, have children and pursue for their careers. Entrance in political sphere will provoke some change for them. Liberal feminist emphasis on families where male dominancy suppresses their femininity. Women are rational members and child learn gender roles from their family. They get inspiration from family members. The role models can be wisely taken and changed if children are given education, better role models and motivated to achieve best for them. Women of Pakistan societies are considered male property. They are hardly allowed to speak for themselves, children and if they raise a voice their status of being good women will change. In family's women should be given freedom to do paid job and make decisions of their own choice regarding marriage and childbirth. For a fruitful relationship there should be equality and flexibility among both the gender.

Residing in rural or urban areas with nuclear or joint family system. Many studies have shown that the family structures are rapidly changing, and people are preferring nuclear families where they can have access to live freely. Those women who live in rural areas they face hurdles in making decisions about themselves or their family because of their education, socio economic, reproduction, employment, or family background. Moreover, Subordination of women starts from private life's when they face restriction. They should participate in economic doings which will help them to prevail equality in the household. Women faces so many issues and inequality just by living in male dominated societies.

In traditional societies working women are not supported, they are considered as bad mothers and cannot take care of their household responsibilities. Women faces a lot of issues if she is working women like lack of time, childcare, household responsibilities, relationship issues, healthcare. Thus, besides such problems they can establish equilibrium between work and home and successful balance can help them to fulfil their responsibilities of home and career.

Women who live in urban or semi urban structures are aware of inequality and discrimination than rural women. In majority women of rural areas are not allowed to

decide and if they have such ability then different factors contribute to give them such position. Similarly, if the women status is changed and they are given access to education, healthcare, household purchases, deciding for their children, then inequality barriers could be shacked and equality among genders will prevail. Such issues can be overcome by assisting women in her daily affairs, raising awareness about marriage equality, family size.

3.4 Propositions

In the light of above theoretical framework, few prepositions have been drawn that are given below:

1. Women residing in urban area within nuclear family faces less restrictions than the rural women living in the joint family.
2. Education, Political rights, job status, marital equality are important factors that plays major role to raise women status in the patriarchal society.
3. Women who are given freedom, encouragement and support can better perform their task and play a part in progress of the family and society.
4. Gender inequality and male dominancy are major barriers for women to have their says inside the home or in outside realm.

3.5 Hypothesis

Alternative hypothesis H_a

The hypothesis is that Urban women have more decision-making in nuclear families then rural women have in joint families.

Null hypothesis H_0

Urban women have less decision-making in nuclear families then rural women have in joint families.

CHAPTER NO. 4
CONCEPTUALIZATION AND OPERATIONALIZATION

4.1 Conceptualization

Conceptualization is the process of forming mental picture about the concepts. A method through which the key concepts are examined, defined, and explained with help of the literature that is already available. In this research four concepts are conceptualized and explained with the reference of various researchers.

4.1.1 Decision

According to Buchanan and O'Connell (2006), the decisions is the process which start when the thoughtful observations are ended, and the actions begin. The process of making up of someone's mind. According to Merriam webster (1828) the word decision is a Latin word decision to decision and from decider to decide which means "the act or process of deciding" reaching a conclusion after discussion.

4.1.2 Power

Power is Latin word which means the right one has legally or officially to make an act (Webster 1828). Sepasi defined power as the ability that empowers a person to do what he wants to. It helps in the goal achievement and provides a person or groups the authority to change the mindset and compartment for others (2016).

4.1.3 Decision-making power

The term decision-making was originated in between 1950-20 and is defined as the process in which different people either in group or not make choices (Dictionary 2021).

Decision making is the thoughtful process through which numerous alternatives are developed and then from the generated alternatives one is selected for a specific purpose. It is done by the unspoken knowledge, through the overt education or the beliefs that the person has (Hallo et al. 2020).

Furthermore, decision-making is a vast term in which women can also participate. Participation of both male and female in numerous social affairs will develop the society, help in the resources provision, and hence results in the achieving gender equality hence women will be able to make decisions freely instead of just staying at the edge they will be treated as main beings (UN 1997).

4.1.4 Household

Household consisted of a family who live together under the same roof (Webster 1828). The term household is based on the people living in it, things required in it like food, income. Within it many people are connected and have intimacy with each other. All those people are known as informal group members. It the place where men or either women have the power or is known as the house head and all the members living in it share the food, share one plot, and generate income (Beaman and Dillon 2011).

It is the basic unit of social, economic, and geographic process. Where decision is made about numerous matters such as education, health care, take-home pay, production of the things (UN 2017).

4.2 Operationalization

The process of explaining, precisely measuring or describing the concepts in perspective with the current research. A process of clarification in which conceptual definition of the problems related to statements in research are defined. The researcher cleared the phenomena with the help of theoretical framework and the data collected.

4.2.1 Decision

The researcher has analyzed data by married women to find out decision making power such as access to education, will to participate in family matters, marital inequality, Decision about reproductive health, child life, rights to decide in urban and rural area.

In question no. 14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27 and 28 researcher conduct data about access to education, free will to take part in family affairs, contraceptive methods, financial problems, and marital inequality with measurement of three-point scale of great extent, some extent and not at all. While question no. 29,31 and 33 showed the dependency level of women such as from whom she gets money, final decider of family and the hindrance women had to face while making decisions.

Furthermore, researcher got demographics of respondent with the help of question no. 1,2,3,4,5, 6,7,8,9,10,11,12 and 13 just to get accurate information based on research

topic. The responses as the study were proportional study which showed data of fifty urban and fifty rural respondents.

4.2.2 Power

In question no. 30 the researcher finds out the power holder one who has authority within the family with the measurement of five-pointed scale of father-in-law, mother-in-law, Husband, yourself, or any other person. The responses showed women as authoritative. Whereas in question no. 32 researcher analyses the person who have power to decide for children with the measurement of five-point scale that is elders, husband, herself, spouse together or someone else with family member. Mostly responses showed that spouse together are the decider of kid's life.

In question no 44 and 45 the researcher analysis the power of women to give solution of problems and education makes women stronger with the measurement of three-point scale great extent, to some extent and not at all. The urban and rural women both to some extent holds the power to give solution but mostly rural women hold this ability and mostly women in urban as well rural were educated.

4.2.3 Decision-making

In question no. 34 and 35 the researcher examined the economic stability of women and money usage with the measurement of two-point scale. In question no. 36 the researcher finds out that early marriages deprive the social status of women with the measurement of three-point scale to great extent, to some extent or not at all.

Furthermore, in question no. 37 researcher examined the need of permission by women to visit relatives or friends with the measurement of three-point scale to great extent, to some extent and not at all. Mostly responses were measured into some extent level.

In question no. 39 and 41 the researcher analyses the right exercised by women to decide for their reproductive rights and decision ability they had to decide for themselves with three-point scale measurement to great extent, to some extent and not at all. Mostly urban and rural responses were to some extent they have will to exercise their rights to decide.

The researcher in question no. 48 analyses the ability of women to manage things in better ways with the measurement of three-point scale of to great extent, to some extent and not at all. Where Urban women percentage to manage things is 34% and rural women is 24% measured in the scale of to some extent.

4.2.4 Household

In question no 35,38,40,42,43,46 researcher wanted to know the impediments in daily life of women with measurement scale of to great extent, to some extent and not at all. The questions were asked to get accurate no of responses from respondents. By findings, Urban women were more economical stable then the rural women, to some extent women from rural and urban area support their families in decision making while percentage of urban women in this matter is higher than from rural women, Both urban and rural women agree that mutual understanding to great extent is important for happy family, in response of question no 43 mostly rural women were forced to do as per directed by family where to some extent decisions of elders were imposed on urban women, Furthermore researcher find out that to great extent healthy relations are established by mutual understanding.

In question no 47 researcher is supposed to find out that whether women face problem for not taking part in family affairs by which researcher find out that mostly urban women were free and did not face any such problem while to some extent most of rural women faced such issues.

In question no 50 researcher analysis the satisfaction level of women with their lives by using to great extent, to some extent and not at all scale on both urban and rural women and the findings showed that to some extent urban and rural women were satisfied with their lives.

CHAPTER NO. 5
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The chapter deals with the systematic way of conducting the research which planned by researcher through identifying specific information regarding the topic of research. In methodology techniques are formed based on the nature of study. The present research topic is “Comparative analysis of decision-making power among urban and rural women: study of nuclear and joint families” as the research topic finds out the ability or power hold to exercise their rights to make says. It focuses on the present situation of women concerning their rights to decide. The research is reinforced by using the following methods, tools, and techniques to collect unswerving and effective information.

5.1 Research Design

In the present research quantitative approach has been selected in which data is systematical collected from the field and is depicted in numerical form. For the information primary as well as secondary sources were reviewed in which journals, books and different websites related to the data were used and the interviewed schedule was sincerely used to get appropriate information. Thus, after understanding it is described in tabular form.

5.2 Universe of the study

The universe of the study are rural women from Village Ahdi district Rawalpindi and urban women from F-7/2 sector of Islamabad. As Islamabad is the capital of Islamic republic of Pakistan and District Rawalpindi is known as twin city of Islamabad where a village was selected to collect data from rural women. As both the areas have great diversity of people so variety of respondents can be contacted easily.

5.3 Target population

The targeted population are the married urban nuclear women and rural joint females of different ages starting from 18 up to 50 above having different experiences regarding there Says in different matters of household. The reason of choosing Urban and rural areas is that women are having different lives, performing variety of roles based on different variables such as education, job, health, family background, childcare and so on. Hence the study is a comparative analysis of decision-making power among married women residing in urban nuclear and rural joint families.

5.4 Sampling Technique

Sampling is known as the half of the population selected by the researcher from the whole population and in this research Half of rural and urban married women were selected. Structured Interview schedule was used due to family system. Moreover, Purposive sampling technique was used in the present research. A Structured Interview schedule was constructed to obtain information about women of urban and rural area because of low information about them and were helped to better understand the questions based on which researcher could obtain information that will accomplish the aim of research.

5.5 Sample size

The sample size is limited up to total 100 respondents, 50 from urban settings of F-7/2 sector and 50 from rural area of Punjab district Rawalpindi. This sample size was enough to know the problems that women face in numerous household matters.

5.6 Data collection tools

Structured Interview schedule was constructed based on different questions related to the decision-making ability of married women from rural and urban area. The close ended questionnaire was used to collect information. The method was used in the whole interview guide from demographic profile of married women to their ability and power of making decision. Furthermore, the researcher used direct, personal, and indirect contacts to get the required information for the research.

5.7 Data collection techniques

The Structured interviewed schedule was used as a data collection technique which was considered convenient because not the women were educated specially those who live in rural area. To help them understand the concept better and get the information that is meant to be taken.

5.8 Data analysis tools

For data analysis tool SPSS (Statistical technique for Social Sciences) version 22.0 was used which is basically used in quantitative research and the current research is based on quantitative approach So, the researcher used SPSS to sum up the values that

were taken from field. Moreover, for data analysis Inferential and descriptive statistical data technique SPSS technique was applied in current research.

5.9 Pre-testing

About 10 formal structured interview schedules were pre-tested 5 from rural and 5 from urban area. After pre-testing, few changes were made and created it more friendly for respondents So that they can give their responses in better way.

5.10 The limitation and opportunities of study

For every research there are some limitations that should be kept in mind while doing research and some opportunities that are fruitful for a researcher. In the present research there was lack of time to carry it much better than it is. As the research is comparative analysis of married women decision-making power only women views were taken besides men should be taken as part of the research. When it comes to opportunities the researcher confidence was boosted while taking interviews and moving in field to collect data, it makes researcher to carry on the study in an organized way.

5.11 Ethical concerns

While conducting a research ethical concern holds great importance. The research was academic based. Data is gathered for study purpose So researcher assure the respondents that the data they provide will be kept confidential which will not harm them. Furthermore, comfortable environment, support and assistance was given to respondents to accomplish the data collection purpose successfully.

CHAPTER NO 6

RESULTS

This chapter deals with the descriptive and inferential statistics which investigate the collected data and test the hypothesis.

Section A: The Descriptive Analysis of Data

Table 1 Age distribution of respondent

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	Below 20	4	8	2	4
2	21-30	8	16	12	24
3	31-40	25	50	14	28
4	41-50	11	22	11	22
5	Above 50	4	8	11	22

The table no 1 showed the age distribution of the respondents. While collecting data from rural and urban areas different women of different ages were interviewed. Where data of urban and rural women was recorded separately as shown in above table and the combined data was also taken. Where the table showed that 50% of urban women and 28% of rural women belong from the age of 31-40 years. The table concluded that majority of women who participated were from 31-40 years.

Table 2 Employment status of respondent

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	Yes	35	70	11	22
2	No	15	30	39	78

The table no 2 showed the employment status of the respondents from urban and rural area. Where 70% of urban women were employed and rest 30% were not working women. Whereas 22% of rural women were working women and rest 78% were unemployed. The table concludes that majority of urban women were employed and majority of rural were unemployed.

Table 3 Educational level of respondent

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	illiterate	1	2	6	12
2	Primary	1	2	11	22
3	Matric	2	4	11	22
4	Intermediate	9	18	5	10
5	Graduation	11	22	8	16
6	Masters	14	28	3	6
7	Above masters	12	24	3	6

The table no 3 showed educational level of women residing in urban and rural areas. Where in Urban area women were 2% were illiterate, 2% have just get primary education, 4% completed their matric, 18% were intermediate, 22% were graduated, 28% had education of masters and the rest 24% have education above from masters. Furthermore, in rural context majority of women had completed primary or matric. The table concluded that 28% urban women were graduated, and all were educated whereas highest percentage of rural women was 22% which was of those women who cleared there matric.

Table 4 Respondents Job nature

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	Student	6	12	2	4
2	Government	18	36	4	8
3	Private	16	32	10	20
4	Unemployed	8	16	32	66
5	Another	2	4	1	2

The Table no 4 showed the urban and rural women Jobs nature, where in urban area 12% women were students, 36% of women are government employees, 32% work are doing private jobs, 16% are unemployed and rely on their elders or husband and 4% of women do some other kind of jobs or not work at all. Whereas the tabled showed that 66% of rural women were unemployed. So, the table concluded that highest percentage of rural women are unemployed, and majority of urban women were working women.

Table 5 Family structure of Respondent

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	Nuclear	50	100	50	100
2	Joint	50	100	50	100

The table 5 showed the family structure of women, where 100% of women lives in nuclear family settings and 100% of women lives within joint settings. The table concluded that for the comparative study the data was taken from half urban nuclear women and half rural joint women.

Table 6 Residence of Respondent

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	Rural	50	100	50	100
2	Urban	50	100	50	100

The table 6 showed the area of women Where from 100 total sample 50 of women lives in rural area and 50 of women resided in urban areas. The conclusion of table showed that as the study was comparative study so urban and rural both women were equally given chances to participate.

Table 7 Family Background of Respondent

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	Independent	32	64	24	48
2	Dependent	18	36	26	52

The table no 7 showed the family background of women they were raised in, where 64% of urban women are independent before marriage, they enjoyed freedom fully while 36% of women were dependent on their family members before marriage. Meanwhile 48% of rural women were independent and 52 were dependent. So, the table concludes that majority of urban women were independent and rural women were dependent.

Table 8 Respondent's husband job nature

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	Government	17	34	4	8
2	Private	18	36	14	28
3	Business	8	16	13	26
4	Agriculture	2	4	13	26
5	Any other	5	10	6	12

The table no 8 showed the jobs nature of married women. where in urban context 34% were government employees, 36% were doing private jobs, 16% of women husband were doing their own business, 4% were doing jobs related with agriculture and 10% were doing work. The conclusion of table showed that 36% of women husband in urban area were private job worker and 26% of husband from rural area had their own business.

Table 9 Monthly income of Respondent

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	Below 20000	3	6	6	12
2	21000-30000	10	20	17	34
3	31000-40000	9	18	12	24
4	41000-50000	28	56	4	8
5	Above 50000	0	0	11	22

The table no 9 showed the monthly income of families of urban and rural women, where majority of urban women have monthly income from 41000-50000 and 34% of rural women monthly income was 21000-30000. The table showed that 56% of urban family income was above 50000 and 22% of rural families earn 50000 within month so urban women earn more than rural women.

Table 10 Current family status of Respondent

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	Parents	2	4	1	2
2	in laws	11	22	23	46
3	husband	37	74	24	48
4	Relatives	0	0	2	4

The table no. 10 showed the current family status of women, where 4% of respondents live with their parents, 22% of respondents live with in laws, 74% of respondents live with their husbands and none of respondents reside with their relatives. The table concludes that majority of women living in nuclear setting live with their husband and in rural settings only 48% live with their husbands.

Table 11 Respondents Family Head

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	Father-in-law	6	12	4	8
2	Mother-in-law	4	8	8	16
3	Husband	39	78	23	46
4	You	1	2	4	8
5	Another	0	0	10	20

The table no. 11 showed the head of urban and rural families, where 12% of respondent's family heads were fathers-in-law, 8% of respondent's family head were mothers-in-law, 78% of head of families of urban house were husbands, 2% of Respondents own their families and none of respondents' family head were others. Additionally, in rural settings only 46% of husbands were heads of the family and else family was headed by father-in-law, mother-in-law, or any other family member. The conclusion of the table showed that most family head are husbands.

Table 12 Health status of Respondent

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	very good	16	32	4	8
2	Good	20	40	14	28
3	Moderate	14	28	26	52
4	Bad	0	0	5	10
5	Very bad	0	0	1	2

The table no.12 showed the health status of respondents, where 32% of urban women enjoys very good health, 40% have good health status, 28% have moderate health conditions, in rural women 28% have good health, 52% have moderate health conditions. The conclusion of the table showed that majority of rural women have moderate health conditions whereas 40% of urban women are enjoying healthy lifestyle.

Table 13 Respondents family size

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	One	6	12	4	8
2	Two	21	42	6	12
3	Three	12	24	12	24
4	Four	6	12	11	22
5	Five	1	2	9	18
6	Above five	4	8	8	16

The table no.13 showed the childbirth of Respondents, where 12% of urban and 8% of rural respondents have one child, 42% of urban and 12% rural Respondents have two children, 24% urban and 24% rural have three children, 12% urban and 22% rural women have four kids, 2% from urban and 18% of rural respondents have five kids and 8% urban and 16% rural women have more than five kids. The conclusion of the table stated that, women of urban area prefer less kids birth as compared to rural women.

Table 14 Access of Respondent to get desire Education

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	34	68	14	26
2	To some extent	15	30	14	26
3	Not at all	1	2	24	48

The table no. 14 showed the access women of urban and rural area must get education, where 68% of urban Respondents have great extent of education and 48% of rural respondents have not at all access to education. The table concludes that urban women were more educated as compared to rural women.

Table 15 Free will of Respondent to take part in family affair

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	34	68	23	46
2	To some extent	15	30	16	32
3	Not at all	1	2	11	22

The table no.15 showed the free will of women from urban and rural to participate in family affairs, where in context of urban family settings 68% of Respondents have free great extent to participate, 30% have some extent to participate and 2% of

Respondents have no will participate Besides urban women in rural settings 46% women had greater chance of participation in family matters, 32% have only to some extent and 22% of women had access to participate. The table concludes that the urban women are given more chance to participate then the rural women.

Table 16 Family Fear of Respondent in making decision

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	7	14	24	48
2	To some extent	20	40	22	44
3	Not at all	23	46	4	8

The table no.16 showed the fear women had of family in making decisions, where 14% of urban Respondents and 48% of rural women to great extent fear in making decision, 40% urban women and 44% of rural female have some extent fear of families in making decisions, 46% of Respondents not at all fear in making decision. The table concludes that urban women are nor afraid from families while making decisions, but rural women do hesitate or fear from elders in making decisions.

Table 17 Respondents Awareness about contraceptive methods

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	30	60	14	28
2	To some extent	20	40	17	34
3	Not at all	0	0	19	38

The table no. 17 showed the awareness women had concerning contraceptive methods, where 60% of urban respondents are to great extent of aware of contraceptive method, 40% were to some extent aware and 0% of respondents were not at all aware of contraceptive method. Whereas in rural area 28% know about the contraceptive method,34% were to some extent familiar and 38% were not aware of it. The conclusion of the table stated thar majority of the rural respondents had no awareness about the contraceptive method.

Table 18 Financial problem faced by respondent in pursuing aim

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	6	12	5	10
2	To some extent	25	50	27	54
3	Not at all	19	38	18	36

The table no. 18 showed that the financial problem faced by females in pursuing aims. In urban settings 12% of women faced financial problem to pursue their aims, 50% to some extent faces such issue and 38% of women did not have any such problem. While 10% of women from rural areas to great extent faces financial issue to meet pursue their aims, 54% of Respondents to some extent faces the problem in pursuing aims and 36% did not had any such problem in pursing aims. The table concludes that to some extent both rural and urban women faced the financial problem in pursing aims.

Table 19 Male dominance hurdle for female in deciding

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	21	42	16	32
2	To some extent	26	52	22	44
3	Not at all	3	6	12	24

The table no. 19 showed that the male dominance which creates hurdles for females, where 42% of Urban Respondents to great extent, 52% to some extent and 6% not at all agreed that male dominance create hurdles. Whereas the rural respondents 32% to great extent, 44% to some extent and 24% not at all agreed that male dominance restrict women. The table concluded that majority of urban and rural women stated that male dominance creates hurdles.

Table 20 Respondent's empowerment within nuclear family

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	35	70	28	56
2	To some extent	15	30	15	30
3	Not at all	0	0	7	14

The table no. 20 showed that empowerment women had by residing in nuclear settings, in urban women 70% of Respondents to great extent and 30% to some extent women were empowered by living in nuclear setting Whereas 56% of rural women to great extent, 30% to some extent and 14% not at all gained empowerment by residing in nuclear families. The table concludes that nuclear family to great extent empowers women lives

Table 21 Satisfaction of Respondents about their life

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	19	38	10	20
2	To some extent	30	60	32	64
3	Not at all	1	2	8	16

The table no.21 showed the satisfaction of respondents within their life, where 32% of urban women to great extent, 60% to some extent and 2% were not at all satisfied with their lives Whereas 20% of rural women to great extent, 64% to some extent and 16% not at all were satisfied with their lives. The conclusion of the table stated that 60% of women live their life that they wish.

Table 22 Effect of marital inequality on socialization of child

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	28	56	31	62
2	To some extent	18	36	15	30
3	Not at all	4	8	4	8

The table no.22 showed that the marital inequality effecting the child socialization, where 58% of urban Respondents to great extent, 36% to some extent and 8% not at all stated that marital inequality effects the socialization of child While 62% of rural women stated that inequality in marriage effects child socialization. The table concludes that majority of urban and rural women stated that marital inequality effects child socialization.

Table 23 Respondent's support for family while making sole decisions

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	12	24	13	26
2	To some extent	21	42	19	38
3	Not at all	17	34	18	36

The table no.23 showed the support women gave to families in sole decision. In urban women 24% of Respondents to great extent, 42% to some extent and 34% not at all supported their families in sole decision, while in rural context 26% to great extent, 38% to some extent and 36% not at all supported the families in sole decision. The conclusion of the table stated that majority of urban and rural women to some extent supports their families in making sole decisions.

Table 24 Respondents decision-making ability on basis of resources

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	22	44	27	54
2	To some extent	27	54	21	42
3	Not at all	1	2	2	4

The table no.24 showed that the decision-making ability of respondent on basis of resources they have, where 44% of urban respondents to great extent, 54% to some extent and 2% not at all stated that decision-making ability is impacted by the basic resources while 54% of rural respondents to great extent, 42% to some extent and 4% not at all agrees that resources for female effects their lives. The table concludes that resources for female in urban have to some extent impact on their decision-making ability but rural women ability to decide is highly effected.

Table 25 Economically strong women have improved skills in deciding

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	28	56	25	50
2	To some extent	22	44	24	48
3	Not at all	0	0	1	2

The table no. 25 showed that the skills economically strong women in making decision, where 56% of urban and 50% of rural respondents to great extent had improved skills in deciding, 44% of urban and 48% of rural women to some extent and 0% of urban and 2% of rural women not at all had improved of skills of making

decision due to their economic status. The conclusion of the table stated that economically women had improved skills in deciding.

Table 26 Religious education decreases dominancy

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	28	56	32	64
2	To some extent	22	44	16	32
3	Not at all	0	0	2	4

The table no.26 showed that decrease in dominancy due to proper religious education, where 56% of urban and 64% of rural respondents to great extent, 44% of urban and 32% of rural respondents to some extent and 4% from rural and 0% from urban not at all stated that decreases in dominancy could be due to proper religious education. The table concludes majority of rural and urban women to great extent agreed that proper religious education decreases dominancy.

Table 27 Respondents Access to social media

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	23	46	13	26
2	To some extent	23	46	14	28
3	Not at all	4	8	23	46

The table no. 27 showed access of women to social media, where 46% of Respondents from urban and 26% from rural area to great had access to social media, 46% of urban and 28% of rural women to some extent had access to social media and 8% of respondents from urban and 46% from rural not at all had access to social media. The conclusion of the table stated that majority of the urban women are familiar with the usage of social media as compared to rural women.

Table 28 Family owner of Respondent

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	Husband	20	40	12	24
2	Father-in-law	8	16	17	34
3	Mother-in-law	21	42	21	42
4	You	1	2	0	0

The table no. 28 showed the owner of the family of respondent, where 16% of urban and 24% of rural respondents own their family with their husbands, 40% in urban setting and 34% in rural area families are owned by fathers-in-law, 42% of urban and rural families of respondents were owned by mother-in-law and only 1% of respondents were those who own their families as they wanted to. The table concludes

that most of mother-in-law in rural setting own the families whereas in urban setting husband takeover most responsibilities.

Table 29 From whom the respondent take money

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	Father-in-law	19	38	19	38
2	Mother-in-law	2	4	12	24
3	Husband	5	10	10	20
4	Your own	22	44	9	18
5	Any other	2	4	0	0

The table no.29 showed that who gave money to the respondent, where 38% of urban and 38% of rural respondents get money from their fathers-in-law, 4% of urban and 24% of rural get money from their mothers-in-law, 10% of urban and 20% of rural respondents get money from husbands, 44% of urban and 18% of rural women are self-employed whereas 2% of urban and 0% of rural receive it through other means. The table concluded that majority of women from urban and rural get money from father-in-law.

Table 30 Power holder in family of Respondents

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	In laws	9	18	13	26
2	Husband	5	10	9	18
3	Yourself	24	48	17	34
4	Another	12	24	11	22

The table no 30. Showed the person having power in family, where 18% in laws, 10% husbands, 48% women by themselves and 24% other members have authority within household matters while in rural area 26% of in laws, 18% of husbands, 34% women themselves and 22% other members are power holders in families. The conclusion of the table is that majority of women themselves are power holders either in nuclear or joint family systems.

Table 31 Final decider of the respondent's family

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	Elders	8	16	21	42
2	Husband	36	72	17	34
3	Your own decision	5	10	10	20
4	Spouse together	1	2	2	4

The table no. 31 showed the final deciders of family, where in urban nuclear family system 16% of elders, 72% of husbands, 10% women by themselves and only 2% have hold to make decisions Whereas in rural joint family system respondents stated that 42% of elders, 34% of husbands, 20% on their own and 4% spouse together were

final decider of family. The conclusion of the table stated that majority of decisions are made by husbands in urban families while in rural household elders are final deciders.

Table 32 Person having power to decide for children

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	Elders	7	14	23	46
2	Husband	13	26	11	22
3	Your own decision	8	16	4	8
4	Spouse together	22	44	12	24

The table no. 32 showed the person having authority to decides for the children. Where 30% of family elders are deciders of child, 23% respondents stated that husbands decide for kids, 13% are women decisions, 345 of spouse together make the decisions. The conclusions of the table showed that majority of decisions are made by elders.

Table 33 Hindrance faced by women in deciding

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	Male dominancy	18	36	10	20
2	lake of education	23	46	12	26
3	participation level	7	14	12	24
4	Childbirth	2	4	14	28
5	Another	0	0	1	2

The table no. 33 showed the hindrance that women face in their life to make decisions. Where 36% of respondents from urban nuclear household and 20% from rural joint family stated it is the male dominancy, 46% of urban and 26% of rural women cannot decide due to lake of education, 14% of urban and 24% of rural do not participate in families, 4% of urban and 28% of rural respondent said that it is the childbirth that is responsible for not making decisions and 2% rural respondents stated that it can be another reason. The table concluded that major issue is lake of education acting as a barrier in women ways to be a decider.

Table 34 Respondent will to spend amount freely

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	9	18	10	20
2	To some extent	34	68	23	46
3	Not at all	7	14	17	34

The table no. 34 showed the female who can spend money freely, where 18% of urban respondents have stated to great extent, 68% to some extent and 14% of respondents stated not at all they are allowed to spend money freely. Moreover, 20% of rural to great extent spend money as they wanted to, 46% to some extent and 34% stated not at all they can spend money freely. The conclusion of the table showed that to some extent women of nuclear and joint families could spend money freely.

Table 35 Economic stability of respondent

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	23	46	20	40
2	To some extent	20	40	21	42
3	Not at all	7	14	9	18

The table no. 35 showed the economic stability of women. Where 46% of urban and 40% of rural women were to great extent, 40% of urban and 42% of rural respondents stated to some extent and 14% of urban women and 18% of rural women stated not at all are economically stable. The table concludes that majority of women were economically strong.

Table 36 Early marriages deprive status of respondent

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	12	24	13	26
2	To some extent	33	66	23	46
3	Not at all	5	10	14	28

The table no. 36 showed the deprivation in women status due to early marriages, where 24% of urban respondents stated to great extent, 66% stated to some extent and 10% of respondents stated not at all early marriages deprives women rights. Furthermore, in rural settings 26% to great extent, 46% to some extent and 28% stated not at all. The conclusion of the table showed that majority of women stated to some extent early marriages deprive women status.

Table 37 Permission needed to respondent for visiting relatives

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	3	6	7	14
2	To some extent	27	54	26	52
3	Not at all	20	40	17	34

The table no. 37 showed the permission required by women to visit relatives, where 6% of respondents stated to great extent, 54% to some extent and 40% of women not at all requires permission to visit their relatives whereas 14% of rural respondents to great extent, 52% to some extent and 34% not at all needed any permission to visit their families. The table concludes that majority of women are independent in this regard.

Table 38 Respondent sustenance for family in different affairs

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	13	26	12	24
2	To some extent	33	66	35	70
3	Not at all	4	8	3	6

The table no. 38 showed how much women supported their family in different matters. Where 26% of women from urban and 24% of rural female stated to great extent, 66% of urban respondents and 70% of rural respondents stated to some extent whereas 8% of urban and 6% of rural stated that not at all women provide sustenance to their families in different matters. The table concluded that majority of nuclear urban and extended rural women stated that to some extent they need permission to visit their relatives.

Table 39 Free will of respondent to exercise their rights to decide

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	6	12	9	18
2	To some extent	35	70	24	48
3	Not at all	9	18	17	34

The table no. 39 showed female status who were set free to exercise their rights to make decisions, where 12% of urban respondents stated to great extent, 53% to some extent and 18% not at all they are set free to exercise their right of becoming deciders. Moreover, 18% of rural respondents to great extent, 48% to some extent and 34% not at all are set free to exercise their rights to decide. The conclusion of the table showed that to some extent majorities of urban and rural women are set free to exercise their rights of making decisions.

Table 40 Influence of respondents' family in wellbeing of child

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	28	56	25	50
2	To some extent	21	42	13	26
3	Not at all	1	2	12	24

The table no. 40 showed the family system that influences the wellbeing of child, where 56% of urban respondents stated to great extent, 42% to some extent and 2% not at all stated that wellbeing of child was influenced by respondents' family. Whereas 50% of rural respondents to great extent, 26% to some extent and 24% not at all stated that family influences child's wellbeing. The table concluded that child life is impacted by the family systems.

Table 41 Respondent right to make decision about their reproductive health

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	19	38	16	32
2	To some extent	30	60	31	62
3	Not at all	1	2	3	6

The table no. 41 showed the women rights to exercise their reproductive rights, where 38% of urban and 32% of rural respondents to great extent freely decide about their reproductive rights, 60% of urban and 62% of rural respondents stated to some extent and 2% of urban and 6% of rural not at all exercise their rights to choose. The conclusion of the table showed that majority of women stated to some extent they can decide about their reproductive health.

Table 42 Impact of mutual understanding on respondents' family

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	36	72	27	54
2	To some extent	14	28	17	34
3	Not at all	0	0	6	12

The table no. 42 showed the importance of mutual understanding for families, where 72% of urban and 54% of rural respondents to great extent, 28% of urban women and 34% of rural women stated to some extent and 12% of rural women not at all stated that mutual understanding within families impact the families. The conclusion of the table showed that majority of urban and rural women opinions were same that mutual understanding is important.

Table 43 Enforcement of decisions on respondent by family

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	8	16	19	38
2	To some extent	22	44	15	30
3	Not at all	20	40	16	32

The table no. 43 showed the enforcement of decisions on respondent by family, where 16% of urban women and 38% of rural women to great extent, 15% of urban and 30% of rural respondents to some extent and 40% of urban respondent and 32% of rural respondent stated not at all families enforced decision on women. The table concluded that majority of urban and rural women said that families did not impose rules on them.

Table 44 Respondent's authority to give solution of the problem

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	18	36	14	28
2	To some extent	27	54	33	66
3	Not at all	5	10	3	6

The table no. 44 showed the respondents authority to give solutions to the problems, where 36% of urban respondents, 28% of rural respondents to great extent, 54% of

urban women, 66% of rural respondents to some extent and 10% of urban and 6% of rural respondents stated not at all they had authority to give solutions within the family issues. The conclusion of the table showed that majority of women from nuclear and joint household to some extent could give solutions of the problems.

Table 45 Education helps respondent to know their rights

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	26	52	29	58
2	To some extent	23	46	12	24
3	Not at all	1	2	9	18

The table no. 45 showed the education helps women in getting awareness about their rights. Where in urban area 52% of respondents to great extent, 46% of respondents to some extent and % of women not at all education help to know women about their rights whereas in rural area 58% to great extent, 24% to some extent and 18% not at all stated that education help women to know about their rights The conclusion of the table showed that majority of women agreed that education helps women to become stronger.

Table 46 Mutual understanding develop healthy relationships

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	36	72	34	68
2	To some extent	13	26	13	26
3	Not at all	1	2	3	6

The table no. 46 showed the mutual understanding among spouse that establishes healthy relations among families. Where 72% of urban respondents stated to great extent, 26% of women stated to some extent and 2% of respondents stated not at all. While the rural respondent's majority 68% stated to great extent, 26% to some extent and 6% not at all. The conclusion of the table showed that majority of women have great extent agreed that mutual understanding is important for families.

Table 47 Respondent faced problem for not taking part in family matters

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	5	10	16	32
2	To some extent	16	32	20	40
3	Not at all	29	58	14	28

The table no. 47 showed the women who faced problems for not taking part in family affairs. Where, 10% of urban respondents to great extent, 32% of females to some extent and 58% of women stated not at all. Whereas 32% of rural respondents to great extent, 40% to some extent and 28% not at all taking interest in family matters is problematic. The table concludes that majority of women did not face any trouble for not taking part in family matters.

Table 48 Handling of respondent in daily affairs

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	15	30	18	36
2	To some extent	34	68	24	48
3	Not at all	1	2	8	16

The table no. 48 showed the ways women manages things. Where 30% of urban women stated to great extent, 68% to some extent and 2% not at all. Whereas 36% of rural respondents to great extent, 48% to some extent and 16% not at all females handles the daily household affairs. The conclusion of the table is that majority of women to some extent manages things in better ways.

Table 49 Mother decision influence the child life

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	28	56	26	52
2	To some extent	21	42	22	44
3	Not at all	1	2	2	4

The table no. 49 showed that mother's decision impact the child life. Where 56% of urban respondents stated to great extent mothers impact kids' life by the decisions they made, 43% of respondents stated to some extent and 5% of respondents stated not at all. Whereas 52% of rural women stated to great extent, 44% to some extent and 4% not at all mothers effect the children life. The conclusion of the table showed that most of the women agree that child life is influenced by mothers' decisions.

Table 50 Satisfaction level of respondent's life

Sr. No	Category	Urban		Rural	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	To great extent	15	30	13	26
2	To some extent	31	62	31	62
3	Not at all	4	8	6	12

The table no. 50 showed the women satisfaction with their lives. Where 62% majority of urban and rural women stated to some extent they are satisfied with their lives,30% of urban and 26% of rural women to great extent and 8% of urban and 12% rural respondent were not at all happy. The table concludes that majority of women to some extents are satisfied with their lives.

Section B: Inferential Statistics

Table 51 Decision-making ability of women

Category	N	Mean	Variance
Access to get desired education	100	1.75	.654
Will to take part in family affairs	100	1.61	.483
Fear of husband or in laws in making decisions	100	2.36	.455
Aware of contraceptive methods	100	1.75	.573
Have you faced financial problem to pursue desired aims	100	2.26	.417
Male dominancy creates hurdles	100	1.78	.476
Nuclear family empowers the women	100	1.44	.390
Are you living a life you wished for	100	1.80	.343
Is socialization of child effected by marital inequality	100	1.49	.414
Do you support your family in deciding solely	100	2.10	.596
If resources for female increase does their ability to decide will increase	100	1.54	.312
Economically strong women have improved skills in making decisions	100	1.48	.272
Proper religious education decreases dominancy	100	1.42	.286
Your access to social media	100	1.92	.660

Table 52 Dependency of the respondent

Category	N	Mean	Variance
Family is owned by you	100	2.25	.654
From whom you get money	100	2.45	1.765
Who have power in family	100	2.68	1.250
Final decider of the family	100	1.93	.591
Person having power to decide for the children	100	2.50	1.545
Most noted Hinderance in women way to make decision	100	2.34	1.378
Spend money freely	100	2.10	.616

Table 53 Impediments in daily life of women

Category	N	Mean	Variance
Are you economically stable	100	1.73	.522
Early marriage deprives social status of women	100	1.94	.441
Need permission to visit relatives	100	2.27	.401
Your support for your family in different affairs	100	1.82	.291
Females set free to exercise their rights to decide	100	2.11	.402
Family system influences the wellbeing of child	100	1.60	.505
Rights to decide about your reproductive health	100	1.69	.297
Mutual understanding is important for happy family	100	1.43	.369
Family imposes decisions on you	100	2.09	.628
Power to give solutions of the problems	100	1.76	.346
Education makes women stronger	100	1.55	.452
Healthy relations are established by mutual understanding	100	1.34	.307
Faced problems for not taking part in family affairs	100	2.22	.598
Managing things in better ways	100	1.76	.366
Spend money freely	100	2.10	.616
Mothers' decision ability impacts child life	100	1.49	.313
Satisfaction with the life respondent lives	100	1.82	.351

The table no 51,52 and 53 showed the descriptive analysis of the variables, Where:

- Decision-making ability of women
- Dependency of the respondents
- Impediments in daily life of women

The total number of respondents were one hundred fifty women from urban and fifty from rural. The value of the responses was taken through the collective mean of the variables.

1. Hypothesis-1: Urban women have more decision-making in nuclear families than rural women have in joint families.

2. Hypothesis-2: Urban women have less decision-making in nuclear families than rural women have in joint families.

3. Hypothesis-3: Decision-making power is higher among urban nuclear women from rural joint women.

Table 54 Correlation among decision-making ability of women, dependency and impediments while making decisions.

Category		Final decider of the family	Female set free to exercise their rights to decide
Final decider of the family	Pearson Correlation	1	-.032
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.751
	N	100	100
Female set free to exercise	Pearson	-.032	1

their rights to decide	Correlation		
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.751	
	N	100	100

The table no 54 showed the correlation among Decision making ability, dependency and impediments women faces in their daily life.

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

* . Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

The values that have the Pearson Correlation Sig Value is if less than 0.05 then there is the correlation among the variables. The conclusion of the table showed that the Pearson correlation value lies in between 0.05 to 1 then variables are strongly correlated and if nearer 1 then it is the perfect correlation value. All the values are near to 1 and above 0.05 which stats that all variables are strongly correlated with each other. Male dominancy create hurdles for female is correlated with the final decider of family and females set free to exercise their rights to decide. Male dominancy effects the female's rights in making decisions.

Comparison of Rural and Urban women

Table 55 Rural Women decision-making power

Category	N	Mean
Will to take part in family affairs	50	1.76
Male dominancy creates hurdles	50	1.92
Final decider of the family	50	1.88
Females set free to exercise their rights to decide	50	2.16

Table 56. Urban women decision-making power

Category	N	Mean
Will to take part in family affairs	50	1.46
Male dominancy creates hurdles	50	1.64
Final decider of the family	50	1.98
Females set free to exercise their rights to decide	50	2.06

The table no 53 and 54 showed that in rural settings 23% of women to great extent have will to take part in family, 22% to some extent agrees that male dominancy create hurdles in women way, 21% of family final deciders are elders and 24% of women are set free to exercise their rights to decide. Whereas on the other hand in urban areas 28% have great extent to take part in family affairs, 26% agrees that male dominancy is hurdle in women way, 36% of women husbands are final deciders and 35% of women are set free to exercise their rights to decide. The table concludes that out of 50% Women in both settings many facilities are availed by the urban women in comparison to rural women Because of their family structure but besides this overall male are dominant in both settings which to some extent act as barriers in women life in different dimensions.

CHAPTER NO 7
DISCUSSION, CONCLUSION AND
RECOMMENDATION

7.1. Discussion:

In Pakistan women are not considered as dominating figures and it is the male who dominates the society. Women are deprived from their basic rights they are not allowed to stand up for their rights. Mostly it is seen that it is the female who faces a lot of injustice and yet is forced to bow in front of males. For the development it is the female who also contributes because development is not done by males only. Women are important and talented figures of nation either they belong from rural or urban areas if their skills are polished and training sessions are arranged for them, they can learn a lot and as a result can flourish the society. Besides this it is hard but true that only few feminists and some women fight and work for the achievement of their rights and many because of cultural and societal norms just gave up.

Gender inequality is seen as an important factor in not allowing the women to make decisions about them or for their families. In case they are allowed then under few terms or conditions designed by the authorized person of house they must decide. However, in Pakistani societies women are deprived due to cultural values and societal structures. For example, Malala Yousafzai who raises voice for the educational rights of women and while living in male dominated society demanding women rights, raises voice is considered a crime. She was harmed and just to stop her to not speak up people tried to kill her. It is the Pakistani women who faces violence of different kinds just for the survival, for her kids and for her family. Their life is not as simple as those ladies who lives in country where equality prevails. They are dependent and bound to stay in the four walls of house, enjoy their life while in staying there. Furthermore, they are not allowed to work and if they do then have to face issues like harassment, inequality and must be stronger than before to achieve their desired aim.

Women status and role is measured by her education level, employment status, her health status and participation in different either household or affairs beyond household boundary. In the present research Women decision making ability is compared whether urban women living in nuclear settings are more decision maker or the rural females are who live in joint families. Many indicators contribute to raising up her status for the decision making such as autonomy, empowerment, Childbirth,

Employment status, her previous family background, education status, participation level. A report that has been published by United Nation Development Program (UNDP), In 2012 for the Gender Inequality Index (GII) ranks the Pakistan at 123rd position out of 148 countries which is the rack up throughout South Asia (UNDP 2013). This as a result shows how women are treated in Pakistan and about their status level which is so poor in the South Asia.

A comparative analysis among the females of rural and urban area shows that women are not illiterate many have passed graduation, like 53% of women are living in nuclear settings, 46% of women are employed, 55% of women are independent in their life which gives them freedom to exercise their decision-making power, 52% of women have free will to participate in family affairs and only 12% faces fear barrier in making decision. So as Pakistan is considered male dominant society 48% of women states that it is the husband who make final decision no matter either they within laws or in any of the setting it the male who is dominant.

Women in Pakistan are facing issues that hinder their abilities in different ways. Furthermore, 53% lives in nuclear, 52% urban, 47% joint and 48% rural yet it is the male who is the final decider. Women faces issues that bond them to stay within the four walls of home but more importantly patriarchy is fading their abilities and sticking them to do what males says and not allowed to practice matters freely.

7.2 Key Findings:

1. The research findings are done on urban and rural women where total number of respondents were hundred and fifty were from urban area and fifty from rural area.
2. It was estimated that of 50% of urban women were in age between 31-40 whereas 28% of rural women fall in this category.
3. 70% of urban women were employed whereas 30% were unemployed and 78% of rural women were unemployed and only 22% were employed.
4. 36% urban women where government job holder rest were also working women only 16% of urban women were not doing any job and 66% of rural women is of those who don't do any job.

5. According to the independency status 64% of urban women were independent while in household 48% of rural women were independent.
6. In urban setting 78% of nuclear family head were husbands and 46% of husbands take hold of their families in rural joint families.
7. 40% of respondents in urban households enjoy good health else urban women also were healthy whereas in rural area 52% have moderate health status⁰⁹.
8. Urban women about 42% prefer two kids as compared to rural women
9. 68% of urban and 26% of rural women are educated up to their own desire.
10. 60% of urban respondents had knowledge about contraceptive methods while only 28% of rural women know about it.
11. In urban area 40% of urban women to some extent fear from their families in making decision and 44% of rural women fears to decide on their own.
12. In making decision about family 68% of urban women take part and 46% of rural women showed their interest in it. Furthermore, 50% of urban women faces problem in pursuing their desired aims and 54% majority of rural women also faces such issues.
13. In nuclear family empowering women suggested that 70% of urban women and 56% of rural women agrees that nuclear family empowers women.
14. Child socialization is impacted by marital inequality. 56% of urban women to great extent agree with it while 42% of rural women to great extent approved it right.
15. 42% of urban women to some extent support family in making sole decisions and 38% of rural women also provide sustenance to their family.
16. According to the findings 54% of urban women to some extent believes that increasing resources for women increases their deciding ability.
17. Total 56% of urban and 50% of rural women up to great extent agree that economically strong women have improved skills in making decision.
18. The data findings clearly showed that 44% of urban women earn themselves but the rural women depend on elders for money.
19. In urban household 44% of spouse together are final decider for kids and in rural settings 46% of elders are deciders in rural families.

20. 66% of urban women to some extent show that early marriages deprive women status and 46% rural women to some extent agree with it.
21. Many findings about family influencing child's well-being in urban women were 56% to great extent and rural were 50%.
22. 72% of women to great extent agree that mutual understanding is important for happy life and 54% of rural women were also satisfied with this statement.
23. On the other hand, 52% of urban women to great extent believes that education help women to get awareness about their basic or legal rights and 58% of rural women to great extent agree with it.
24. 40% of women from rural area to some extent and 32% to great extent faces issues for not taking part in family affairs as compared to urban women.
25. Total 61% of urban and rural women are satisfied with their lives in urban and rural residences.

7.3 Conclusion:

Women empowerment and autonomy are the linked up with the decision-making ability of women. These indicators help women to participate and ask for the right which will give her freedom to walk freely in the world dominated by males. In the context of Urban and rural women both have ability and power to decide but it varies depending on their education, job status, husband job and position, participation level, sons she gives birth and many more. The present study says that urban women are more empowered and deciders those women who resides in rural and under patriarchal settings. In Islamabad sectors women are working ladies and independent. They faces vary few barriers in doings or during their says while in context of rural female they are not allowed to take part due to cultural and social norms and if they are due then it depends on their status, roles, previous family background.

Women of urban areas are much better then rural, yet both are same. They are living in a society that is male dominated and all the decisions are finalized through them even when it comes to their own selves still, they rely on males. Being employed socially and culturally constructed pigeonholes cannot be vanished. Women of urban are living life that they wished to the rural women but in both the settings males are dominant and as we know that Pakistan is patriarchal society so, more time and much

work is needed to prevail equality and create an environment where women can live life of their own.

In our society religion and cultural norms are so deeply rooted that cutting them out or changing people mind is quite difficulty. The study showed that women opinions are not much different, but it depends on their residence that either they can practice their rights or not. Urban women as compared to rural are not dependent due to the free will they have been given to exercise their right while rural women do not enjoy such status. Furthermore, nuclear family gives much empowerment to women. They can make decisions about their reproductive rights and have free will to decide, but the findings illustrate those urban women have more power in this regard then rural women have.

Decision-making power is an important factor that can be a peaceful and helps in development of healthy and strong relations. Satisfaction in it can contributes to the happy lifestyles and the study findings showed that both rural and urban women are to some extent satisfied with their life's. Whereas hindrance, burden, emotional and physical sickness of women in household can causes disturbance not in their own life's but also to the people that are associated with them.

7.4 Suggestions:

Decision-making is the ability that is significant for the even consecutively of family affairs.

- Education is important. It should be for everyone. Women should be given free will to get educated in whatever domain they want to.
- Women of rural areas should be given rights of equality too as enjoyed to some extent by urban women.
- Concept of early marriages should not be supported, and women should be given freedom to make such important decision for themselves.
- Mutual understanding provokes happiness So to live happily and peacefully its very important for families.

- Women participation should be ensured in family or even matters outside from family.
- Husbands should be made aware of dominancy and the unseen difficulties that women face because of it.
- Women should be given freedom to decide instead of being enforced by the decision of family of any other person.
- Decision about child's life should be made by the parents especially by couple together to remove the gap in them.
- Women should be given proper rights in their life and should not be taken for granted.

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ANNEXURE

Comparing the decision-making power of women at household in rural and urban areas: A comparative analysis Nuclear and joint families



By

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Introduction

I Iqra Hameed research student at department of sociology, Quaid-i-Azam university Islamabad Pakistan conducting research on “comparing the decision-making power of women at household in rural and urban areas” in perspective of women residing in nuclear and joint families. I assure that the information provided will be kept confidential and is only used for research purpose. Therefore, I request you to support my research and want your valuable response in it. Thankyou!

Section A: Demographic Profile

Q no 1 Age distribution of the respondent

Below 20	21-30	31-40	41-50	Above 50
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Q no 2 Education level

illiterate	Primary	Matric	Intermediate	Graduation	Masters	Above masters
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Q no 3 Employment status

Yes	No
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Q no 4 Nature of your job

Student	Government	Private	Unemployment	Any other
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Q no 5 Family Structure

Nuclear	Joint
---------	-------

Q no 6 Residence

Rural	Urban
-------	-------

Q no 7 Family background

Independent	Dependent
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Q no 8 Your husbands' job

Government	Private	Business	Agriculture	Any other
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Q no 9 Monthly income

Below 20,000	21000-30000	31000-40000	41000-50000	Above 50000
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Q no 10 Current Family status

Parents	In laws	Husband	Relatives	Any other
---------	---------	---------	-----------	-----------

Q no 11 Who is the Head of your family?

Father-in-Law	Mother-in-Law	Husband	You	Any other
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Q no 12 What is your Health status?

Very good	Good	Moderate	Bad	Very bad
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Q no 13 How many children you have

One	Two	Three	Four	Five	Above Five
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Section B: Decision making ability of the women's:

S. No	Category	Response		
		To great extent	To some extent	Not at all
14	Access to get the education you want to take			
15	Free will to participate in family affairs			
16	Fear of husband or in laws in making decisions			
17	Aware of contraceptive method			
18	Have you ever faced problem of financial support in pursuing your desired aim			
19	Male dominancy creates hurdles for female			
20	Nuclear family gave empowers the women			
21	Are you living a life that you always wished to live			
22	Marital inequality effects the socialization of the child			
23	Your support your family in deciding solely			
24	If resources for female increase does their ability to decide will increase			
25	Economically strong women have improved skills in making decisions			
26	Proper religious education decreases dominancy			
27	Access to social media			
28	Family is owned by whom			

Section no C Dependency of the respondent

29	From whom you get money	Husband	Father-in-law	Mother-in-law	You	
30	Who holds power in your family	Father-in-law	Mother-in-law	Husband	Your own	Any other
31	Final decider of the family	In laws	Husband	Yourselves	Any other	
32	Person having power to decide for the children	Elders	Husband	Your own decision	Spouse together	Someone else with any family member
33	Most noted hinderance in women way to make decisions	Male dominancy	Lake of education	Participation level	Childbirth	Any other

Section D Impediments in daily life of women

	Category	Responses		
		To great extent	To some extent	Not at all
34	Spend money freely			
35	Are you economically stable			
36	Early marriage deprives social status of women			
37	Need permission to visit relatives			
38	Your support for your family in different affairs			
39	Female set free to exercise their right to decide			
40	Family system influence wellbeing of child			
41	Female Right to decide about your reproductive health			
42	Mutual understanding important for happy successful family.			
43	Family imposes rules on you.			
44	Power to give solution of the problem			
45	Education helps women to become stronger			
46	Healthy relations are established by mutual understanding			
47	Faced problems for not taking part in family affairs			
48	Manage things in better ways			
49	Mothers' decision ability impacts the child life			
50	How much you are satisfied with your live			