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**A study on the empowerment of unemployed housewives in
Erode town.**

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A PROJECT REPORT

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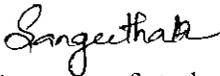


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March, 2010

BONAFIDE CERTIFICATE

Certified that the project report titled '**A STUDY ON THE EMPOWERMENT OF UNEMPLOYED HOUSEWIVES IN ERODE TOWN**' is the bonafide work of Ms. **K.R.SANGEETHA** who carried out the work under my supervision. Certified further that to the best of my knowledge the work reported herein does not form part of any other project report or dissertation on the basis of which a degree or award was conferred on an earlier occasion on this or any other candidate.

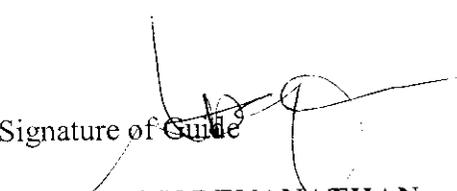


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ABSTRACT

Employment is the main bridge between economic growth and the opportunities of human development. The most fundamental of all economic opportunities, employment or work provides people with incomes that enable them to establish command over a range of goods and services needed to ensure a decent standard of living. People value their work for many reasons beyond income. Work allows them to make a productive contribution to society and to exercise their skills and creativity. It brings strong recognition that fosters self respect and dignity. It also gives them opportunities to participate in collective effort and to interact socially. All the same unemployment is high and growing and the needs and problems of the unemployed housewives represent an important area concerning women's life considerations which needs to be viewed with totality of approach and application.

The study is a descriptive study, carried out by conducting a survey using questionnaire schedule. The respondents were unemployed housewives. Stratified random sampling was used to select 150 samples in Erode town.

In this project there are four important aspects are considered. one aspect is to know the reasons behind their unemployment, the second aspect is to know the willingness of the housewives to get employed ,third aspect is what are the potential of the housewives posed right now and to show that these potentials are unutilized and the final aspect is the ways to empower the unemployed housewives.

It was found from the study that most of the respondents have the some reasons for the reasons behind their employment; the most of the respondent have a desire to get employed as per the qualification, most of the respondent have the potential to help the partner followed by initiate self employment activity, education and experience. The final aspect is the ways to empower the unemployed housewives is found from the respondent's view that they have to develop self reliance and they should go for employment to get empowered.

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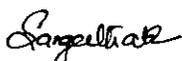


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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background Study

Introduction

The empowerment of women is one of the central issues in the process of development of all developing countries in the world. Historically, women in India are deprived socially and economically compared to men. In the total population, nearly half were females but they accounted for only 34 per cent of the total workers. Disparities between men and women prevails here in education, health, employment and income opportunities, control over assets, personal security and participation in the political process that make women disadvantaged and less empowered, which limits the country's ability to achieve its full potential

Mainstreaming and women's empowerment is central to human development. Empowerment of women could only be achieved if their economic and social status is improved. This could be possible only by adopting definite social and economic policies with a view of total development of women and to make them realize that they have the potential to be strong human beings.

The various articles of our constitution enshrine principle of gender equality. We started giving special attention to the causes of women by the fifth five-year plan. For considering the grievances and preventing the atrocities against women a National Commission for Women (NCW) was set up in 1990. But despite all these measures there should be a strong determination among every man that every woman in this country should be honored. Only then empowerment in its true meaning will be realized.

Women should be allowed to work and should be provided enough safety and support to work. Legislatures such as Equal Remuneration Act, Factories Act: Constitutional safeguards such as maternity relief, and other provisions should be strictly followed. Poverty eradication policies need to be implemented. Macro economic policies would help in this drive. Through economic empowerment women's emancipation could be realized.

“Empowering women is a prerequisite for creating a good nation, when women are empowered, society with stability is assured. Empowerment of women is essential as their value systems lead to the development of a good family, good society and ultimately good nation”. - **Dr.A.P.J. Abdul Kalam**

Erode taluk is a taluk of Erode district of the Indian state of Tamilnadu. The headquarters of the taluk is the town of Erode.

Table 1.1 - Census detail - 2001

Country /State	Population	Female	Sex Ratio		Density	
			1991	2001	1991	2001
India	10270,15,247	495738169	927	933	267	324
Erode	151274	74483	958	971	283	314

i. Population:

The Population of unemployed housewives are 26,277, which constitutes 35.27% of the total female population in Erode town

Significance of Employment among Women

The educational level of women is significant because it improves the chances of employment, and the number of employed women in a country's total labour force has direct bearing on both the GNP (Gross National Product) and the disposable

Disposable income especially in the hands of women, influences food purchase and therefore the nutritional status of the families. The fact that this additional income derived from the paid employment of women provides a logical incentive to restrict the size of the family. It is a debatable issue whether reduction in family size is a pre-condition for female employment or female employment is a pre-condition for reduced family size. It is nevertheless a fact that they are associated phenomena, whether the relationship is caused or not.

Employment and Work Participation Rate:

The work participation rate indicates to a great extent the economic empowerment of women in the society. The status of women is intimately connected with their economic position, which in turn depends on opportunities for participation in economic activities. Education along with participation of women in workforce has been universally recognized as an important element in the adoption of small family norms, which is essential for family planning. There has been a considerable improvement in the entry of women in all sectors of employment in the State. As per the Census results for Tamil Nadu, the Work Participation Rate for females rose from 26.52 per cent in 1981 to 31.32 per cent in 2001, the rate of growth has been faster than for males. However, the number of female workers accounted for 34.72 per cent in the total workforce of 278 lacs in 2001. The corresponding figure for 1991 Census was 34.06 per cent. In the total population, nearly half were females but they accounted for only 34 per cent of the total workers. This proportion has to be improved for ensuring better and all round economic empowerment.

1.2 Problem description:

There are several unemployed housewives in Erode town, Tamilnadu, even though they have potential for employment, reemployment or entrepreneurship. The Population of unemployed housewives in Erode town is 35.27% of the total female population in Erode town. .This study envisages the importance of empowerment of

infer whether they have the willingness to utilize their knowledge to empower them and identify their knowledge to empower them and identify their talents for their better economic productivity through successful employment.

1.3 Need for the project

There is a great need for the empowerment of unemployed housewives.

The some of the basic reasons are

- 1) To understand the women's dreams and desires beyond their female accepted role
- 2) To improve the economical background of family and nation
- 3) To reduce the unemployment rate among women
- 4) To empower them this makes them energetic and passionate and to built their capacities to form their own grassroots' organization
- 5) To provide self-efficacy among the unemployed housewives
- 6) To know what the respondents are looking for their empowerment

1.4 Objectives of the study

- 1) To study the potential of employment among the unemployed housewives in Erode town.
- 2) To study the human resources unutilized among the housewives
- 3) To study the willingness of the housewives to get employed / reemployed /part time employed
- 4) To suggest methods on the above study for empowerment of women

1.5 Scope of the project

Empowerment is now increasingly seen as a process by which the one's without power gain greater control over their lives. This means control over material assets, intellectual resources and ideology. It involves power to, power with and power within.

If they are not empowered, it will create problem like the extent of economic loss due to long spells of unemployment, desires of the housewives are not understood and status of the women gets affected.

The research gains in self-confidence and self-esteem amongst the women, enhanced capacity to articulate their needs and an increased respect in the household

The business environment in India has changed over the years and so have attitudes towards women in business.

To make more women venturing out of homes and their comfort zones to set up business or to get employed.

The economic participation of women—their presence in the workforce in quantitative terms—is important not only for lowering the disproportionate levels of poverty among women, but also as an important step toward raising household income and encouraging economic development in countries as a whole.

Woman is entitled to live in dignity and in freedom from want and from fear. Empowering women is also an indispensable tool for advancing development and reducing poverty. Empowered women contribute to the health and productivity of whole families and communities and to improved prospects for the next generation. When women are empowered, whole families benefit, and these benefits often have ripple effects to future generation

CHAPTER 2

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Summary of Review of Literature

Women's empowerment, issues challenges and strategies By Hajira kumar, Jaimon Varghese says that Empowerment process is one where women begin to re-examine their lives critically and collectively. the process of empowerment enables women to access new information and knowledge, acquire new skills and initiate action aimed at gaining greater control over resources of various kinds.

John C. Flangan (1964), director of project 'Talent', concluded that, "Far from being excellent the education given to our nation's girls is not even adequate to prepare them for effectiveness in appropriate occupations, as responsible citizens or as parents". The result of Flanagan's study indicates that "girls on entering high-school do about as well as, or slightly better than, boys on such tests as arithmetic reasoning, abstract reasoning, reading, comprehension and creativity."

International Center for Research on Women (ICRW), entitled "Impact of Investments in Female Education on Gender Equality," shows that education is a necessary but not sufficient investment to achieve gender equality or improve women's well-being.

The study entitled 'Public Policies for Women in India', edited by Shusheela Kaushik provides a collection of essays based on research and analysis. The volume deals with 13 different public policies for women's development in relation to education and social support. Schemes like Awareness and Income Generation Programmes, meant to promote the self-image of women, help in building confidence and empowering the women to face and overcome the centuries old prejudices. Some

schemes been implemented? Though in operation for more than a decade now, have they been able to perform their tasks? Have they reached out to the bulk of the women in distress?

A study entitled 'Women's Career Development' edited by Barbara A. Gutek, and Laurie Larood, (1986) made inquiries into the goals, preferences and aspirations of college students with respect to the kinds of jobs they hoped, expected, or intended to get after graduation. Women represented an anomaly in the model since they were assumed to select marriage and motherhood as their career. In a little over a decade, this model has become completely outdated, making careers, and women's careers in particular, a research area of increasing importance. The old assumption, the old model, and the old research have given way to newer and revealing inquiries on the subject. The study presents a rich profile of women's careers across a broad survey of professions. Well-executed and original research focuses on what motivates successful women to achieve, how they feel about their jobs, and why their career paths often differ from men's. It lays an excellent in-road for a theory of career development that can encompass women's life experiences.

A study entitled 'Invisible Hands : Women In Home Based Production' edited by Andrea Menefree Singh and Anita Kelles Viitanen (1987) shows that home-based work lay an important role both in a family's and a nation's economy. This is true not just in developing countries but, increasingly, in developed countries as well. However, this productive activity which is largely the preserve of women tends to remain invisible in economic statistics and ignored by legislators and planners further, since they are isolated in their homes, these women workers are extremely vulnerable to exploitation. In this work, collection of original articles examines women's home based production in diverse cultural, occupational and national settings. By focusing on home based work, this publication highlights the interlinkages between individual households and the wider structures and processing of society, calling on attention from activators, planners and scholars alike as well as to all those interested in the problem of women and development.

In Strategic Impact Inquiry on Women's Empowerment India Prepared by Madhuri Narayanan with Geetika Hora, Rewa Mishra, Upendranadh, Madhumita Sarkar and the CARE Impact Measurement and Learning Team July 2005 . The Positive findings related to impact on women's empowerment are Established a new identity as women with agency capable of contributing to improvement of their families' quality of life, Increased confidence and ability to articulate their needs and priorities, Increased participation in decision making in Household and community levels and Increased participation in collective actions that bring benefits to their village and support other members in times of crises.

The 2009 World Survey on the Role of Women in Development addresses the important theme of "Women's control over economic resources and access to financial resources, including microfinance". The World Survey on the Role of Women in Development outlines a number of concrete recommendations in these critical areas, which if adopted, will facilitate women's equitable access to and control over economic and financial resource

Table 2.1: Brief description of the selected studies determining the factors responsible for change in the empowerment level of a woman.

Name of the paper	Name of the author	Year	Indicators used
Empowerment in Practice: From Analysis to Implementation	Ruth Alsop, Mette Frost Bertelsen & Jeremy Holland	2005	existence of choice, use of choice, achievement of choice
Sustainable Microfinance for Women's Empowerment	Linda Mayoux	2006	credit micro-finance, access to savings, nutrition and health
Tamil Nadu Women's Development Project Completion Evaluation', The Republic of India	IFAD Tamil Nadu	2000	women's mobility, social interaction, employment and access to control over resources.
Women's Economic Decision Making Process in GOLDA project	Rama Saha	2001	Children education, Marriages, Festival, Selling and Purchasing of goods, mobility and economic decision making.
Women making decisions about self-care and recovering from depression	Helen C. Vidler	2005	Household decisions, depression, self-caring and self-agency

CHAPTER 3

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Introduction

Research is a systemized effort in gain knowledge. It can also be referred to as 'the search of knowledge'. Research methodology is a technique used to systematically solve a research problem. It helps the researcher to know which research method and analysis could be utilized to bring out a possible solution for a research problem. The researcher should know why a particular technique to the project.

Research Design

Research design acts as the blueprint for the research by using this framework the researcher moves step by step in to the research process. It constitutes the basic forms for the collection, measurement and analysis of data. Research design stands from the advanced planning of the methods to be adopted for collection of relevant data. Moreover it explains about the techniques to be used in the analysis, keeping in view the objective of the research and availability of staff, time and money. This research design was selected based on the objective on the study and keeping in mind the time and availability of resources for the research.

Research Methodology

The type of research design used in this project was the descriptive research, because, it helps to describe the characteristics of a particular group of people in the town. The characteristics of a group may differ in many ways. Each group may have separate reasons for exhibiting such characteristics. The descriptive study was carried out to seek these reasons. Careful design of descriptive studies was necessary to ensure the complete interpretation of the situation and to ensure minimum bias in the collection of data. The major purpose of descriptive research is description of the state of affairs as it exists at present. The methods of research utilized in descriptive research are survey methods. The facts and information collected are analyzed to make

Sources of Information

There have been mainly two tools of data collection used in the present study. The primary source of data collection in the present study is the questionnaire and demographic data for the unemployed housewives specially designed for the purpose of seeking information on various dimensions relating to the dependent and independent variables in concern with objectives of the research. The questionnaire consisted of twelve questions inquiring various factors related to the objectives of the empowerment of women.

The secondary sources of information regarding details of population of the Erode town, sex ratio are collected from census of Tamilnadu in 2001.



❖ Assumptions

- ❖ The data provided by the respondents reflects the original situation

❖ Constraints and Limitations

- ❖ Due to a limited duration, a detailed and a comprehensive study could not be made.
- ❖ The sample size is limited to 150
- ❖ The trust worthiness of the data provided by the respondents may not be known.
- ❖ The researcher was asked to interview the housewives in Tamil language.

Sampling Design

Probability sampling is that sampling procedure in which each element has a known probability of being included in the sample. The type of probability sampling

Target respondents :

The sample size is 150 unemployed housewives in Erode town

The respondents are divided based on the educational status

Categories	No of persons
Below schooling	25
Schooling	25
Diploma	25
Under graduate	40
Post graduate	25
Others	10

Tools for analysis:

Data has been analyzed using SPSS and tools like percentage analysis, Chi-Square analysis and correlation has been used.

CHAPTER 4

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

This chapter deals with the data analysis and interpretation of the data collected through questionnaire and demographic data of the respondent

General information about the respondent

Table 4.1 Reasons behind the unemployment of the respondent

Reasons	Frequency	Percent
Jobs not available	11	7.3
Difficulties	18	12.0
Personal reasons	58	38.7
Other reasons	63	42.0
Total	150	100.0

The above table gives the reasons behind the unemployment of the respondents. It was found that majority (42%) of the respondents had other reasons for being unemployed followed by 38.7 % of the respondents had personal reasons, 12 % of the respondents had difficulties and minority (7.3%) of the respondent had jobs not available reasons.

From this we can able to interpret that many of the respondent have potential for unemployment but they are unemployed due to some specific reasons. If that reasons are analyzed and if there is any remedies then the respondent can able to be get

Table 4.2 Pattern of job preference of the respondent

Pattern of job preferred	Frequency	Percent
As per qualification	64	42.7
Permanent	40	26.7
Temporary	12	8.0
No preference	34	22.7
Total	150	100.0

The above table gives the Pattern of job preference of the respondents. It was found that majority (42.7%) of the respondents had preferred job as per the qualification followed by 26.7 % of the respondents had preferred permanent job, 22.7 % of the respondents had no preference about the pattern of job and minority (8%) of the respondent had preferred temporary job.

Interpretation:

From this analysis we can able to interpret that many of the housewives want to go for the job as per qualification, this shows that they want job as per the potential they possessed and to reach new heights in the profession of their choice. Many of housewives want to have a permanent job; this shows their eagerness to go for job. Some of the respondents have opted for no preference of the job, this shows their frustrated state due to long period of unemployment. We should take immediate action, to rectify this frustrated state so that their potential should be utilized effectively.

Table 4.3 Respondents opinion about a married female pursuing an employment career

opinion	Frequency	Percent
Desirable	91	60.7
Undesirable	27	18.0
No opinion	32	21.3
Total	150	100.0

The above table gives the opinion of the respondents about a married female going for the. It was found that majority (60.7%) of the respondents had opinion that it is desirable for a married female going for the job only 18 % of the respondents had opinion that it is undesirable for a married female going for the job and 21.3 % of the respondents had no opinion about a married female pursuing an employment career

Interpretation:

From this we can able to infer that many of the housewives like to go to job and this shows their willingness to get employed. It is seen that a majority of females (60.5%) is of those respondents who feel that pursuance of employment career by married female youth is 'Desirable' particularly because they want to make use of their potential to have different identity besides supplementing the family income. This shows that the desirability of being employed was also accepted by the respondents for pursuance of an employment career even after marriage and children.

Table 4.4 Respondents reason for getting employed now:

Reasons for employment	Frequency	Percent
Different identity	57	38.0
Income support	45	30.0
Other reasons	48	32.0

The above table gives the respondents reasons for getting employed now. It was found that majority (38%) of the respondents want to have different identity due to employment, only 30 % of the respondents want to have income support as the reasons behind their employment and 32 % of the respondents have some other reasons behind their employment

Interpretation:

This shows that the housewives wanted to create their own identity by showing their talents and they have some other reasons like getting bored which makes them to get employed. They want to make use of their potential to have different identity besides supplementing the family income. This shows the women’s dreams and desires beyond their female accepted role and their ability to improve the economical background of family and nation.

Table 4.5 Respondents opinion about type of job suitable to homemakers:

Job suitable to homemakers	Frequency	Percent
Working in a concern	43	28.7
Self employment	43	28.7
All job suitable	53	35.3
Other reasons	11	7.3
Total	150	100.0

The above table gives the respondents opinion about type of job suitable to homemakers. It was found that majority (35.3 %) of the respondents opinion is that all jobs are suitable to homemakers. The respondents had opted (43 %) equally for both self employment and working in a concern and only minority (7.3%) of the respondents had opted for some other job which is suitable to homemakers

Interpretation:

This shows the confidence level of the housewives that the women are suitable to all type of jobs. This infers that majority of the respondents were of the view that no difference was to be found between males and females for any kind of job. They can able to prove their talent by working in a concern and prove their efficiency and leadership quality posed by them in self employment

Table 4.6 Respondents view about the obstacles in self employment:

Obstacles in self employment	Frequency	Percent
lack of role model	56	37.3
Finance	30	20.0
Social position	33	22.0
Entrepreneurship	31	20.7
Total	150	100.0

The above table gives the respondents view about the obstacles in self employment. The majority (37.3%) of the respondents had lack of role model has the obstacles in self employment followed by entrepreneurship, social position and finance.

Interpretation:

From this analysis we can interpret that for doing self employment the finance is not a major obstacles ,only few cannot able to get loans or financial support .If there is proper role model many respondent can able to do self employment. Some of the respondent view is the social position hinders them to do self employment and some view that the entrepreneurship quality is lacking which becomes the obstacles in self employment.

Table 4.7 Respondents opinion about the ways to empower women:

Ways to empower women	Frequency	Percent
value yourself	22	14.7
career advancement	24	16.0
encourage risk taking	11	7.3
self reliance	26	17.3
union to consolidate strength	21	14.0
Conquering fears	20	13.3
going for job	26	17.3
Total	150	100.0

The above table gives the respondents opinion about the ways to empower women. 17.3 % of the respondent had opted both for self reliance and going for job are the ways to empower women. 16 % of the respondent had opted for career advancement, followed by Value yourself, union to consolidate strength, conquering fears and only minority (7.3%) had opted for encourage risk taking has a means to empower women.

Interpretation:

From this analysis we can able to interpret that if women develop especially self reliance and if they go for job they can able to empower them. This shows that the strength of reliance on one's power. From this analysis we can able to interpret that if women develop especially self reliance and if they go for job they can able to empower them. Mainly, they want to bring about substantial change in the position of women by themselves and through employment and also through career advancement. This shows that the power or control is not granted to them by other agencies, rather they themselves must obtain it. When there is an increase in her income, security of work and assets in her name through employment, she starts feeling economically strong, independent and autonomous. Without economic strength they will never empower.

Demographic information of the respondent:

Table 4.8 Age of the respondent

Age	Frequency	Percent
Below 20	8	5.3
20 to 29	59	39.3
30 to 39	48	32.0
40 to 49	28	18.7
Above 50	7	4.7
Total	150	100.0

On analysis of the above table , the majority(39.3%) of the respondent belongs to the age group of 20 to 29,followed by 30 to 39,40 to 49 below 20 and then above 50 years.

Table 4.9 Educational status of the respondent

Educational status	Frequency	Percent
Below schooling	25	16.7
Schooling	25	16.7
Diploma	25	16.7
Under graduate	40	26.7
Post graduate	25	16.7
Other	10	6.7
Total	150	100.0

On analysis of the above table , the majority (26.7%)of the educational status of the respondent belong to undergraduate followed by (16.7%) belong to schooling ,diploma and post graduate and (6.7%) belong to other categories. This shows the educational level attained by the respondent.

Table 4.10 Working experience of the respondent

	Frequency	Percent
Less than 5	112	74.7
5 to 10	27	18.0
11 to 15	9	6.0
above 15	2	1.3
Total	150	100.0

On analysis of the above table , the majority(74.7%) of the working experience of the respondent belong to less than 5 years followed by (18%)belong to 5 to 10 years of working experience, (6%) belong to 10 to 15 years of working experience, (1.3%) belong to above 10 years of working experience. This shows our traditional role of housewives, who are mostly unemployed after marriage.

Table 4.11 No of children for the respondent

No of Children	Frequency	Percent
no children	12	8.0
One	54	36.0
Two	71	47.3
more than 2	13	8.7
Total	150	100.0

On analysis of the above table , the majority (47.3%) of the respondent have two children, followed by 36 % have one children,8.7 % have more than two children and 8% have no children. This shows that the majority of the respondent's family size is four.

Table 4.12 Respondent husband's education

Husband education	Frequency	Percent
Below schooling	4	2.7
Schooling	22	14.7
Diploma	28	18.7
Under graduate	51	34.0
Post graduate	41	27.3
Other	4	2.7
Total	150	100.0

On analysis of the above table, the majority (34%) of the respondent husband's education belongs to under graduate, followed by postgraduate (27.3%), diploma(18.7%) , schooling(14.7%) below schooling(4%)and (2.7%)belongs to other category. This shows the educational level attained by the respondents husband.

Table 4.13 Respondent Husband's monthly income

Husband monthly income	Frequency	Percent
less than 5000	11	7.3
5000 to 10000	24	16.0
10000 to 15000	30	20.0
15000 to 20000	34	22.7
Above 20000	51	34.0
Total	150	100.0

On analysis of the above table, the majority (34%) of the respondent husband's monthly income was above 20000 per month, followed by (22.7%) belong to Rs.15000 to Rs.20000,(20%) belong to Rs.10000 to Rs.15000,(16%) belong to Rs.5000 to

Rs.10000 and (7.3%) belong to less than 5000 category. This shows that the majority of the respondent's husband's income is sufficient.

Table 4.14 Respondent husband's employment

Husband's employment	Frequency	Percent
Self employment	38	25.3
Entrepreneur	26	17.3
Government employment	45	30.0
Private employment	41	27.3
Total	150	100.0

On analysis of the above table, the majority (30%) of the respondent husband's employment was government employment, followed by (27.3%) for private employment, (25.3 %) was self employment and (17.3%) was entrepreneur.

Respondent's potential

Table 4.15 Respondent ranking for the potential possessed by them

Potential	Helping partner		Experience		Society		Initiate self employment		Qualification		
	Rank	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%
1		42	28.0	14	9.3	30	20.0	38	25.3	23	15.3
2		26	17.3	30	20.0	26	17.3	26	17.3	38	25.3
3		29	19.3	20	13.3	29	19.3	20	13.3	38	25.3
4		16	10.7	15	10.0	17	11.3	27	18.0	22	14.7
5		8	5.3	9	6.0	10	6.7	7	4.7	6	4.0
0		29	19.3	62	41.3	38	25.3	32	21.3	23	15.3
		150	100	150	100	150	100	150	100	150	100

On analyzing the above table majority (28%) of the housewives have ranked one for helping their partner has their potential, (20%) have ranked 2 for having

initiating self employment activity,(25.3%) have ranked 2 and 3 for qualification and majority of them ranked zero for working society

From this we can able to infer that majority of the housewives potential are utilized for helping their partner.. Even though they have the potential for initiating self employment, they can't able to do because of obstacles. This shows that their potential is utilized only within the family and the family accepted role and even though they have well educational background has their potential, the respondent don't have any experience.

Table 4.16 Cross tabulation between potential- helping the partner with husband employment

Potential	1		2		3		4		5		0		Total
Self employment	12	32%	6	16%	8	21%	3	8%	2	5%	7	18%	38
Entrepreneur	10	38%	7	27%	2	8%	2	8%	1	4%	4	15%	26
Government employment	13	29%	4	9%	7	16%	8	18%	4	9%	9	20%	45
Private employment	7	17%	9	22%	12	29%	3	7%	1	2%	9	22%	41
Total	42		26		29		16		8		29		150

On analyzing this table many of the housewives potential especially in helping the partner ranks 1 when their husband employment type is entrepreneur(38%) ,self employment(32%) and government(29%). when husbands employment is private majority of the housewives ranked 3 for helping the partner as their potential.

From this we can able to infer that majority of the housewives potential is utilized for helping the partner especially in self employment and entrepreneur. This shows the respondent's potential are utilized to economic upliftment of the partner and

Table 4.17 Cross tabulation between housewives potential- initiate self employment activity and husband's employment

Husband's employment	Initiate self employment activity												Total
	1		2		3		4		5		0		
Self employment	9	24%	8	21%	5	13%	5	13%	0	0%	11	29%	38
Entrepreneur	7	27%	3	12%	4	15%	5	19%	1	4%	6	23%	26
Government employment	15	33%	9	20%	7	16%	8	18%	3	7%	3	7%	45
Private employment	7	17%	6	15%	4	10%	9	22%	3	7%	12	29%	41
Total	38		26		20		27		7		32		150

On analyzing this majority (33%) of the housewives potential on initiating self employment activity ranks one for government employment , ranks 1 for entrepreneur , ranks 0 for self employment and ranks 0 for private employment

From this we can able to infer that majority of the housewives potential is to initiate self employment activity when their husband's employment is government employment and entrepreneur. This shows that when the income of the partner is stable, the respondent's curiosity to initiate self employment is increasing.

Table 4.18 Cross tabulation for educational status and housewives potential qualification of the respondent:

Educational	Qualification												Total
	1		2		3		4		5		0		
Below schooling	0	0%	1	4%	5	20%	3	12%	2	8%	14	56%	25
Schooling	1	4%	4	16%	5	20%	6	24%	2	8%	7	28%	25
Diploma	6	24%	6	24%	12	48%	1	4%	0	0%	0	0%	25
Under graduate	4	10%	16	40%	11	28%	6	15%	2	5%	1	3%	40
Post graduate	7	28%	9	36%	4	16%	5	20%	0	0%	0	0%	25
Other	5	50%	2	20%	1	10%	1	10%	0	0%	1	10%	10
Total		23		38		38		22		6		23	150

On analyzing the above table majority of the housewives potential for qualification have ranked 1 for diploma ,ranked 2 for undergraduate, ranked 3 for diploma, ranked 4 for schooling , ranked 5 to schooling and ranked 0 for below schooling

Chi-Square Test for the above table:

Null Hypothesis (H_0) : There is no significant relationship between educational status and potential qualification of the respondent.

Alternative Hypothesis (H_1) : There is close significant relationship between educational status and potential qualification of the respondent.

Degrees of freedom 25

Level of significance is 0.05

The calculated value is 86.251

The tabulated value is 37.65

The calculated value is 86.251 is greater than the tabulated value is 37.65 for 25 degrees of freedom at 0.05 level of significance. We can reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternate hypothesis.

From this we can able to infer that there is dependency between educational status of the respondent and potential of qualification. When they have well educational background, they have the confidence for having the potential of qualification

Table 4.19 Cross tabulation for reasons of unemployment with respondent husband's monthly income

Reasons	Husband monthly income					Total
	less than 5000	5000 to 10000	10000 to 15000	15000 to 20000	above 20000	
Jobs not available	0	1	4	6	0	11
Personal reasons	1	12	8	14	23	58
Difficulties	3	4	8	2	1	18
Other reasons	7	7	10	12	27	63
Total	11	24	30	34	51	150

Chi-Square Test for the above table:

Null Hypothesis (H_0) : There is no significant relationship between reasons behind unemployment of the respondent and husband's monthly income.

Alternative Hypothesis (H_1) : There is close significant relationship between reasons behind unemployment of the respondent and husband's monthly income.

Degrees of freedom 12

Level of significance is 0.05

The calculated value is 34.1

Since the calculated value of the respondent is greater than the tabulated value. We can reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternate hypothesis. There is dependency between the reasons behind the respondent's unemployment and the monthly income of the husband.

From this we can able to infer that if the husband's monthly income is more the respondents are unemployed especially with personal reasons. The income of the husband's monthly income plays a decisive role regarding the respondent's reasons for unemployment.

Table 4.20 Cross tabulation for husband's type of employment and the period of unemployment of the respondent

Husband's employment	Unemployment			Total
	more than 10 years	5 to 10 years	less than 5years	
Self employment	23	3	12	38
Entrepreneur	16	5	5	26
Government employment	24	9	12	45
Private employment	11	13	17	41
Total	74	30	46	150

Chi-Square Test for the above table:

Null Hypothesis (H_0) : There is no significant relationship between husband's employment and the period of unemployment.

Alternative Hypothesis (H_1) : There is close significant relationship between husband's employment and the period of unemployment.

Degrees of freedom 6

Level of significance is 0.05

The calculated value is 14.619

The calculated value is 14.619 and the tabulated value is 12.592 for the two variables unemployment period of the respondent and type of husband employment. Since the calculated value is greater than the tabulated value, they are dependent. We can reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternate hypothesis.

From this we can able to interpret that when the stability of husband's employment is high the period of unemployment of the respondent is more.

Table 4.21 Cross tabulation for the age of the respondent and opinion about a married female pursuing an employment career

Age of the respondent	Opinion			Total
	Desirable	Undesirable	No opinion	
Below 20	5	2	1	8
20 to 29	37	9	13	59
30 to 39	27	10	11	48
40 to 49	17	5	6	28
Above 50	5	1	1	7
Total	91	27	32	150

Chi-Square Test for the above table:

Null Hypothesis (H_0) : There is no significant relationship between age of the respondent and opinion about a married female pursuing an employment career.

Alternative Hypothesis (H_1) : There is close significant relationship between age of the respondent and opinion about a married female pursuing an employment career.

Degrees of freedom 8

Level of significance is 0.05

The calculated value is 1.592.

The tabulated value is 15.51

The tabulated value is 15.51 which are greater than calculated value so the two variables age and opinion are independent. We can accept the null hypothesis and reject the alternate hypothesis.

From this we can able to infer that whatever the age of the respondent they have the opinion that the desirability for going to job is possible. This shows the eagerness of the respondent to go for job. This shows that the desirability of being employed was also accepted by the respondents to show their potential and the willingness to get employed.

Table 4.22 Cross tabulation about the brought up of the respondent with obstacles for the self employment

Brought up of the respondent	Obstacles for self employment				Total
	lack of role model	Finance	Social position	entrepreneurs hip	
Urban	10	8	7	4	29
Semi urban	29	13	17	16	75
Rural	17	9	9	11	46
Total	56	30	33	31	150

This cross tabulation shows that majority of the respondent find obstacles as lack of role models for doing self employment when consider all the three cases of the brought up of the respondent.

Chi-Square Test for the above table:

Null Hypothesis (H_0) : There is no significant relationship between brought up of the respondent and obstacles for the self employment.

Alternative Hypothesis (H_1) : There is close significant relationship between brought up of the respondent and obstacles for the

Degrees of freedom 6

Level of significance is 0.05

The calculated value is 2.319

The tabulated value is 12.592

When we go for chi square analysis we find the calculated value is 2.319 and the tabulated value is 12.592 for 0.05 level of significance. From this we can interpret that this two variables are independent. We can accept the null hypothesis and reject the alternate hypothesis.

From this we can able to infer that irrespective of the brought up of the respondent, there is obstacles in self employment. If these obstacles are removed, then possibility of self employment is more.

Table 4.23 Cross tabulation between problems faced due to unemployment and reasons for Getting employed now

Problems faced due to unemployment	Reasons for getting employed			Total
	Different identity	Income support	Other reasons	
Monetary	12	7	3	22
Independence lack	8	9	6	23
Depression	5	5	3	13
Unutilization of education	12	4	12	28
Other problem	6	3	5	14
No problem	14	17	19	50
Total	57	45	48	150

Table 4.24 Correlations values for problems faced due to unemployment and reasons for Getting employed now

Correlations		problems	Employed
Problems	Pearson Correlation	1	.178*
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.029
	N	150	150
Employed	Pearson Correlation	.178*	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.029	
	N	150	150

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

On analyzing the above table we can able to infer that there is weak positive correlation between the problems faced out of unemployment and reasons for getting employed now. This shows that only some respondent have relation with problems faced out of employment and reasons for getting employed now.

Table 4.25 Cross tabulation for difficulties in getting job and job preference of the respondent

Difficulties in getting job	Preference				Total
	As per qualification	Permanent	Temporary	No preference	
High competition	11	6	0	2	19
No reasonable salary	6	4	3	0	13
Corruption	2	1	1	0	4
Influence needed	5	2	1	1	9
Demand for bond	7	2	0	1	10
Timing not suitable	17	10	3	8	38
Confidence lack	4	3	2	5	14
Other reasons	3	7	1	3	14
No difficulties	9	5	1	14	29
Total	64	40	12	34	150

Table 4.26 Correlation between difficulties in getting job and job preference

Correlation		Difficultie s	Preference
Difficulties	Pearson Correlation	1	.297**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	150	150
preference	Pearson Correlation	.297**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	150	150

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

On analyzing the above table we can able to interpret that there is a moderate correlation between difficulties in getting job and job preference. Majority of the respondent say that the difficulties faced is the time not suitable. If there if flexible working time and if the job is suitable to their qualification majority of the respondent will get employed .and if respondent finds no difficulties in getting job they mainly say that they don't prefer any type of job.

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION

This chapter deals with the summary of findings, suggestions and recommendations, conclusion and directions for future research.

5.1 Summary of findings

On the basis of the analysis of the data collected through the interview schedule from the respondents the following points can be inferred.

General information of the respondents

The majority (42%) of the respondent had other reasons for the reasons behind the unemployment of the respondents. From this we can able to interpret that many of the respondent have potential for employment but they are unemployed due to some specific reasons. If that reasons are analyzed and if we find solution to the reasons behind unemployment then the respondent can able to be get employed and the utilization of the potential is possible.

The majority (42.7%) of the respondents had preferred job as per the qualification. From this analysis we can able to interpret that many of the housewives want to go for the job as per qualification, this shows that they want job as per the potential they possessed and to reach new heights in the profession of their choice. Many of housewives want to have a permanent job; this shows their eagerness to go for job. Some of the respondents have opted for no preference of the job, this shows their frustrated state due to long period of unemployment. We should take immediate action, to rectify this frustrated state so that their potential should be utilized effectively.

The majority (60.7%) of the respondents had opinion that it is desirable for a married female going for the job. From this we can able to infer that many of the housewives like to go to job and this shows their willingness to get employed. This shows that the desirability of being employed was also accepted by the respondents for pursuance of an employment career even after marriage and children.

The majority (38%) of the respondents want to have different identity due to employment. This shows that the housewives wanted to create their own identity by showing their talents. They want to make use of their potential to have different identity besides supplementing the family income. This shows the women's dreams and desires beyond their female accepted role and their ability to improve the economical background of family and nation.

The majority (35.3 %) of the respondent's opinion is that all jobs are suitable to homemakers. This shows the confidence level of the housewives that the women are suitable to all type of jobs. This infers that majority of the respondents were of the view that no difference was to be found between males and females for any kind of job. They can able to prove their talent by working in a concern and prove their efficiency and leadership quality posed by them through self employment .

The majority (37.3%) of the respondents had lack of role model has the obstacles in self employment. From this analysis we can interpret that for doing self employment the finance is not a major obstacles ,only few cannot able to get loans or financial support .If there is proper role model many respondent can able to do self employment. Some of the respondent view is the social position hinders them to do self employment and some view that the entrepreneurship quality is lacking which becomes the obstacles in self employment.

The majority (17.3 %) of the respondent had opted both for self reliance and going for job are the ways to empower women. This shows that the strength of reliance on one's power. From this analysis we can able to interpret that if women develop especially self reliance and if they go for job they can able to empower them. Mainly,

and through employment and also through career advancement. This shows that the power or control is not granted to them by other agencies, rather they themselves must obtain it. When there is an increase in her income, security of work and assets in her name through employment, she starts feeling economically strong, independent and autonomous. Without economic strength they will never empower.

Demographic information of the respondent:

The majority (39.3%) of the respondent belongs to the age group of 20 to 29.

The majority (26.7%) of the educational status of the respondent belong to undergraduate. This shows the educational level attained by the respondent.

The majority (74.7%) of the working experience of the respondent belong to less than 5 years. This shows our traditional role of housewives, who are mostly unemployed after marriage.

The majority (47.3%) of the respondent have two children. This shows that the majority of the respondent's family size is four.

The majority (34%) of the respondent husband's education belongs to under graduate. This shows the educational level attained by the respondent's husband.

The majority (34%) of the respondent husband's monthly income was above Rs.20000 per month. This shows that the majority of the respondent's husband's income is sufficient.

The majority (30%) of the respondent husband's employment was government employment.

Respondent's potential

The majority (28%) of the housewives have ranked one for helping their partner has their potential. The majority (25.3%) have ranked one for initiating self employment activity as their potential. From this we can able to infer that majority of the housewives potential are utilized for helping their partner.. Even though they have the potential for initiating self employment, they can't able to do because of obstacles. This shows that their potential is utilized only within the family and the family accepted role.

The majority (41.3%) of the housewives have ranked zero for having experience has their potential. The majority (25.3%) have ranked two and three for having qualification as their potential. This shows that even though they have well educational background has their potential, the respondent don't have any experience.

The majority (38%) of the respondent have ranked one for entrepreneur when we do cross tabulation between potential- helping the partner with husband employment From this we can able to infer that majority of the housewives potential is utilized for helping the partner especially in self employment and entrepreneur. This shows the respondent's potential is utilized to economic upliftment of the partner and sharing the burden of the partner especially in business.

The majority (33%) of the respondent have ranked one for government employment when we do Cross tabulation between housewives potential- initiate self employment activity and husband's employment From this we can able to infer that majority of the housewives potential is to initiate self employment activity when their husband's employment is government employment and entrepreneur. This shows that when the income of the partner is stable, the respondent's curiosity to initiate self employment is increasing.

The majority of the housewives potential for qualification have ranked one for diploma when we do cross tabulation for educational status and housewives potential

Finding from Chi-Square Test and correlation

When we do Chi-Square Test for educational status and housewives potential qualification. We have association between the two. This shows that when they have well educational qualification, they have the confidence for having the potential of qualification

When we do Chi-Square Test for reasons of unemployment with respondent husband's monthly income. We have association between the two. This shows that if the husband's monthly income is more the respondents are unemployed especially with personal reasons. The income of the husband's monthly income plays a decisive role regarding the respondent's reasons for unemployment.

When we do Chi-Square Test for husband's type of employment and the period of unemployment of the respondent we have association between the two. This shows that when the stability of husband's employment is high the period of unemployment of the respondent is more.

When we do Chi-Square Test for the age of the respondent and opinion about a married female pursuing an employment career we don't have any association between them. This shows that whatever the age of the respondent they have the opinion that the desirability for going to job is possible. This shows that the desirability of being employed was also accepted by the respondents to show their potential and the willingness to get employed.

When we do Chi-Square Test for the brought up of the respondent with obstacles for the self employment we don't have any association between them this shows that irrespective of the brought up of the respondent, there is obstacles in self employment. If these obstacles are removed, then possibility of self employment is more.

When we do correlation between problems faced due to unemployment and reasons for getting employed now there is weak positive correlation between them. This shows that only some respondent have relation with problems faced out of employment and reasons for getting employed now.

When we do correlation between difficulties in getting job and job preference of the respondent there is a moderate correlation between them. Majority of the respondent say that the difficulties faced is the time not suitable. If there is flexible working time and if the job is suitable to their qualification majority of the respondent will get employed .and if respondent finds no difficulties in getting job they mainly say that they don't prefer any type of job.

5.2 Suggestions and recommendation:

1) Encourage the respondent to utilize their knowledge and potential apart from the family accepted role by the family members and the society. This encouragement triggers them to go for employment to show their talents and potential.

2) The lack of affordable childcare continues to be a major barrier to women's employment .Increase the ability of women to participate in the full time employment by ensuring the availability of affordable child care at reasonable cost and equal treatment in the work place. This makes them to work comfortably in work place.

3). The voluntary organizations have to supplement the efforts of the government. The schemes introduced by government will be reached effectively if it reach the people through the voluntary organization.

4) The women entrepreneur development is important for accelerating industrialization in India. Women entrepreneurs create new jobs for themselves and others and by being different also provide society with different solutions to management, organization and business problems as well as to the exploitation of entrepreneurial opportunities.

5) Listen to the voice of women entrepreneurs .Various self-employment schemes can be organized by the women's organizations. They can help the women to establish industrial co-operatives for the production of those goods and services for which the demand is rising.

6) Women's Economic Activity should be reflected in Statistics. This makes to adopt appropriate measures to identify and address the negative impacts of the economic and financial crisis on women and maintain adequate levels of funding for gender equality and the empowerment of women;

5.3 Conclusion

It was found from the study that most of the respondents have a desire to get employed as per the qualification to show their potential and want to get different identity. They can do self employment, if there is sufficient role model. When we consider about the ways to empower them, most of the respondent have opted for self reliance and going for job. It was also found that there exists an association between husband's type of employment and the period of unemployment of the respondent. The finding of the study can be used as a basis to promote women's inherent strength and positive self-image, which enables them to face any difficult situation through their employment.

APPENDIX

A study on the empowerment of unemployed housewives in Erode town, Tamilnadu.

1) Give reasons for being unemployed.

- a) Jobs not available
- b) Personal reasons
- c) Difficulties faced in getting employment
- d) Other reasons

2) What problems do you face out of your unemployment?

- a) Monetary problems
- b) Lack of independence
- c) Depression
- d) Unutilization of education
- e) Other problem
- g) Do not face any problem

3) What are the difficulties in getting job?

- a) High competition
- b) No reasonable salary
- c) Corruption
- d) Influence is needed
- e) Demand for bond
- f) Timing not suitable
- g) Lack of confidence
- h) Other reasons
- i) No such difficulties

4) What is your pattern of job preference?

- a) Job as per qualification
- b) Permanent job
- c) Temporary job
- d) No preference

5) What are the steps needed to enhance chances for job opportunities?

- a) New courses
- b) Undergo training
- c) Through competitive exam
- d) Personality development
- e) Self employment
- f) Others

6) Your opinion about a married female pursuing an employment career.

- a) Desirable
- b) Undesirable

7) Your total period of time unemployed after graduation.

- a) More than 10 years
- b) 10 to 5 years
- c) Less than 5 years

8) Give reasons for getting employed now

- a) Wanted to make different identity
- b) Secondary income support
- c) Some other reasons

9) Rank the potential you have right now

- a) Helping my partner
- b) Years of working experience
- c) Work for society
- d) Initiate self employment activity
- e) Qualification

10) Type of job suitable to homemakers

- a) Working in a concern
- b) Self employment
- c) All jobs suitable
- d) Other reasons

11) What are the obstacles in self-employment?

- a) Lack of role models
- b) Access to finance
- c) Social position
- d) Entrepreneurship

12) What are the ways to empower Women ?

- a) Value yourself
- b) Prepare for career advancement
- c) Encourage risk taking
- d) Develop self-reliance
- e) Efforts to form union to consolidate strength
- f) Conquering fears
- g) Going for job

Demographic factors

Age of the respondent: Below 20 20-29 30-39 40-49 above 50

Educational status: Below Schooling

Schooling

Diploma

Under graduate

Post graduate

Other

Years of working experience: less than 5 6 to 10 11 to 15 above 15

No of children: no one two more than two

Educational status of husband: Below Schooling

Schooling

Diploma

Undergraduate

Post graduate

Other

Monthly Income of husband: less than 5000 5000 to 10000

10000 to 15000 15000 to 20000

above 20000

Employment of husband: Self-employment

Entrepreneur

Government employment

Private employment

Brought up of respondent: urban semi urban rural

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