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## A comparative study to assess the attitude regarding women empowerment among adult population in selected area of Mansa, Punjab

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#### Abstract

If Women in the developing world do not have equal rights, they will not have equal health, it is as simple as that the empowerment of women is not a politically correct cliché, but a living, essential goal for everyone. Thus, the present Study was planned to assess the attitude regarding women empowerment among adult population.

**Objectives:** To assess and compare attitude regarding women empowerment among adult male and female population. To determine the association of attitude regarding women empowerment among adult male and female population with their selected personal variables. Descriptive Comparative survey design was used. A Quantitative Non-Experimental Approach was adopted to conduct the Study. 200 (100 each for male and female) population were selected using non-Probability convenience Sampling Technique. A prevail dated tool comprising Socio demographic variables and to assess the attitude, Likert scale were used to collect the data.

**Results:** 29% males were in age group of 31-35 years and 31% females were in age group 26-30 years. Most of males (77%) and females (80%) are married. Most of males (53%) were self-employed and most of females (64%) were homemaker. The mean difference between attitude scores of males (95) and mean attitude scores of females (150). Most of the males have unfavourable attitude towards women empowerment with t-value of attitude score is 1.96. Most of the males (59%) had unfavourable attitude and females (56%) had moderately favorable attitude towards women empowerment.

Keywords: Women empowerment, adults, homemaker, self-employed, Socio demographic

#### Introduction

The Oxford American Dictionary defines 'empowerment' as to make someone stronger and more confident, esp. in controlling their life and claiming their rights. Women empowerment means to give women power and help them face the challenges of being a woman in society <sup>[1]</sup>. The concept of women's empowerment implicitly assumes that in all societies, men control women, particularly in their households and families' levels. As the evidence that gender equality is important for economic growth, poverty reduction and enhanced human well-being has grown interest in the determinants and correlates of women's empowerment has also grown. This view of women's empowerment is part of a sociological or anthropological conception which recognizes that individuals belong to and are strongly influenced by social activities that are integrated by common ideological or normative systems <sup>[2]</sup>. Women empowerment means that the women have the power or capacity to regulate their life day-to-day lives in the social, political and economic terms – a power which enables them to move from the periphery to the centre stage <sup>[3]</sup>. Without changing attitude of people, social stigma, empower of women and women development could not be achieved. For this the government and non-governmental organizations including media should come forward and play an active role in creating awareness in society. We need to focus particularly on women, because in every society they struggle against gender norms that limit their resources and opportunities for improvement and because we know that women empowerment is a tremendous resource for social change and a broader fight against global poverty<sup>[4]</sup>.

#### Statement

A comparative study to assess the attitude regarding women empowerment among adult population in selected area of Mansa, Punjab.

## Objectives

- 1. To assess and compare attitude regarding women empowerment among adult male and female population.
- 2. To determine the association of attitude regarding women empowerment among adult male and female population with their selected personal variables.

#### **Materials and Methods**

**Research Approach:** Quantitative non-experimental approach

**Research Design:** Descriptive Comparative survey study was used to assess the attitude regarding women empowerment among adult population.

**Setting:** The setting for this research was selected village of Mansa, Punjab.

**Population:** Data was collected from adult population both male and female of village.

**Sampling:** Convenience sampling technique was used to enrol all the adult population in the study

#### **Research Tool**

The first part of the tool consists information about the variables which includes such as Age, Gender, Family

structure, Marital status, Education status of male, Education status of female, Number of children, occupation of male, occupation of female, Family income, educational difference and age of husband as compared to wife age.

In this study the modified attitude scale was used to assess the level of attitude of adult male and female towards the women empowerment.

#### **Data Collection Procedure**

Data collection was done among adult male and female of Nangal village, Mansa. Convenience sampling technique was used. Self-introduction was given to both gender of village, nature and purpose of study was explained to them and report was established with the subjects. Purpose of study was explained to the sample. The confidentiality of their responses was assured. Data was collected by researcher using questionnaire technique for the adult male and female. It was found that took 15-20 minutes to all adult population to fill it. NO problem was faced during data collection. A structured questionnaire for socio demographic variables was used to collect data from adult male and female. Attitude scale were used to assess the attitude regarding women empowerment among adult population selected area of Mansa.

### **Ethical Consideration**

Formal administrative permission was obtained from the Sarpanch of Nangal village.

#### Results

The present study was carried among Male and Female population of the village. A total of 200 participants were included in study.

 Table 1: Frequency and Percentage Distribution of Male and Female on the level of Attitude

 N=200

Level of attitude	Range	Male (N=100)		Female (N=100)	
		F	%	F	%
Unfavourable	40-94	59	59	00	00
Moderate favourable	95-148	41	41	44	44
Favourable	149-200	00	00	56	56
Maximum Score: 200					

Minimum Score: 40

Data presented in table 1 shows that majority of males (59%) have unfavourable attitude and majority of females (56%) have favourable attitude regarding women empowerment and only most of males (41%) and females (44%) have moderate favourable attitude towards women empowerment.

 Table 2: Range, mean, median and standard deviation of attitude scores of male and female on attitude Scale, N=200

Attitude	Range	Mean	Median	SD
Male (N=100)	70-110	95	94	±6.916
Female (N=100)	120-175	150	149	±10.466
Max Score: 200				

Min Score: 40

The data presented in table 2 indicates that range of attitude scores lies between 70-110 for males and 120-175 among females. The finding further revealed that mean of the attitude score of males regarding women empowerment was 95 (6.916) and females was 150 (10.466). The finding also

revealed median of attitude score of male was 94 and for female was 149.

**Table 3:** Mean, mean difference, standard deviation, standard errorof mean difference and t-value, N=200

Attitude Group	Mean	MD	SDD	SEMD	<b>T-Value</b>		
Males (N=100)	95	55	6.916	1.73	1.96 <sup>s</sup>		
Females(N=100)	150		10.466				
T (198) > 1.645 at 0.05 level of significance							

The data presented in table 3 indicates that the mean difference between attitude score of males (95) and mean attitude score of females was (150) was found to be statistically significant at 0.05 level as evident from t value (198) = 1.645

The above finding indicates that the difference between mean attitude score was true difference. It indicates that there was significant difference between attitude of males and females regarding women empowerment. The data shows that computed chi square values between attitude of males and selected variables age (1.21), marital status (0.75), family structure (0.24), education (0.78), occupation (2.34), family income (2.17), inter spousal differences (0.67), age of husband as compare to wife age (0.10) were found to be statistically not significant at 0.05 level of significance. This revealed that there was no significant association between attitudes of males with selected demographic variables. Thus, attitude of males towards women empowerment is independent of their age, marital status, family structure, education, occupation, family income, inter spousal difference, age of husband as compare to wife age.

The data shows that computed chi square values between attitude of female and selected variables age (10.5), marital status (15.4), family structure (0.51), education (16.0), occupation (0.31), family income (4.14), inter spousal educational difference (1.23), age of husband as compare to wife age (1.46) were found to be significantly at 0.05 level of significance. This revealed that there was no significant association between attitudes of females with selected demographic variables. Thus, attitude if females towards women empowerment is independent of their age, marital status, family structure, education, occupation, family income, inter spousal difference, age of husband as compare to wife age.

## Discussion

Most of the males (59%) had unfavourable attitude and females (56%) had moderately favourable attitude towards women empowerment in the present study, similar results were in the study conducted by Jane Verona in 2013 which shows that males (62%) had unfavourable attitude and females (58%) had moderately favourable attitude towards women empowerment <sup>[5]</sup>.

Findings of present study indicated that that education, marital status are associated with women attitude towards women empowerment. A similar study conducted community of Karnataka shows that demographic variables like education, occupation, marital status, family income are not associated with women attitude towards women empowerment <sup>[6]</sup>.

Present study results shows that that majority of males (59%) have unfavourable attitude and majority of females (56%) have favourable attitude regarding women empowerment, these results are consistent with study conducted by Lupri, E 2019 where 60% males have unfavourable attitude and around 58 females have favourable attitude <sup>[7]</sup>.

## Limitations

The Sample size was small, as many participants were not be able to include in the study due to time limitations, hence a large sample size be required in order to generalize these results to the whole population

## Conclusion

## The study was conducted in Nangal Village of Mansa among 200 adult population. The following conclusion were drawn from the study

 Most of the males (59%) had unfavorable attitude and females (56%) had moderately favorable attitude towards women empowerment. • Attitude of males and females towards women empowerment was independent of the demographic variable that is age, marital status, family structure, education, occupation, family income, inter spousal educational differences, age of husband as compare to wife's age.

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## Conflict of interest: None declared.

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