

Dissertation Presentation on “A Study on the Impact of Self Help Group on the lives of Women”

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Background

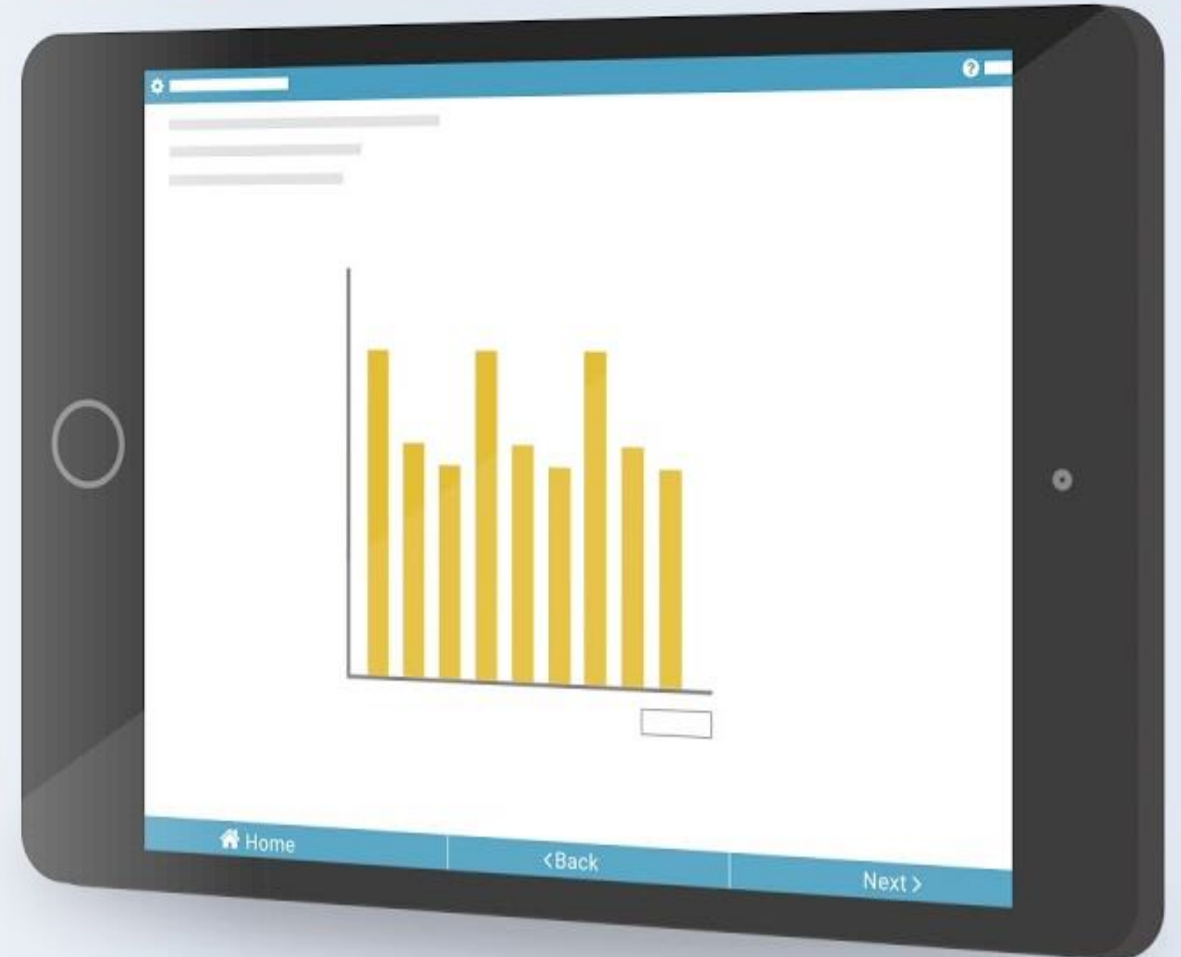
- This study focuses upon the impact of SHGs on the lives of women who are a part of this project and how their life situations differ, better or similar, from those who are not a part of this initiative.
- An SHG is a small group of persons who come together with the intention of finding a solution to a common problem such as medical issues, livelihood generation or watershed management, with a degree of self-sufficiency
- The formation of SHG not only affects the political and economic scenario of a state, but also has a direct impact on the lives of its members.



ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

INITIAL ASSESSMENT

- Rajasthan Grameen Ajeevika Vikas Parishad (RGAVP), RAJEEVIKA was established as an autonomous body in October 2011 under Rajasthan Society Registration Act, 1958.
- The Department of Rural Development, Rajasthan holds the administrative control of the society.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister is the Chairperson of the Society.
- Chief Secretary, Government of Rajasthan is the Chairperson of the Empowered Committee.
- State Mission Director (LPs & SHGs) is the Member Secretary of the Society.
- All rural livelihood programme in the State will be henceforth implemented under the aegis of the RGAVP..



OBJECTIVES:

- To differentiate between circumstances of women who are members of SHGs and women who are not.
- To Financial inclusion through Project Support and Bank Linkages.
- To Facilitate livelihood support through promotion of small and micro enterprises in the areas of farm and non-farm sectors for income enhancement of the poor.
- To Develop skills of rural women



METHODOLOGY:

- a) Overview of Research Design- The type of research undertaken here is qualitative research design. This study focuses upon the socio-economic-political situations of women and their status within their families. Hence, qualitative research design is preferred to quantitative method of research.
- b) Research Site- The survey has been conducted on rural women residing in Kherabad kota
- c) Population of Study- Rural women of Rajasthan where SHGs have been functioning for more than 8 years.
- d) Methods of data collection- The study depends upon the data collected by the researcher through survey. The questionnaire of survey has been annexed at the last in the report. The study also takes into account non-participant observation of attitude of women towards their circumstances and of the ingrained customs and traditions which devoid women of their true empowerment.
- e) Plan for Data Analysis- This study undertakes case study as the method to analyse the data collected as it would help to identify, analyse and interpret the results, qualitatively, obtained from the survey.
- f) Validity/Fairness- The information collected during survey in the questionnaire was filled in the presence of the interviewees by the researcher/interviewer and was duly signed by them
- g) Recruitment Procedure- The researcher was guided by an intermediary to select participants for the survey.
- h) Ethical considerations- The participants were informed of the outcomes of the shared information in the survey. The confidentiality of the information will be maintained along with the privacy of the participants.



SURVEY

Date :

1. नाम

(क) पंजाब

2. उम्र

3. जाति

4. बिकलांग

5. ग्राम

CLUSTER (CLF)

6. वैवाहिक स्थिति

(A) अगर विवाहित है तो शादी की उम्र

(B) अगर विधवा है तो शादी एवं विधवा होने की उम्र

7. घर में कितने सदस्य हैं और कितने कमाने वाले हैं ?

8. (A) आय के स्रोत

(B) कुल कितनी आय है

(C) महीने का औसत खर्च

(D) कितना-कितना पर खर्चा

9. क्या आप स्वयं सेवक सहायता समूह के बारे में जानते हैं ?

10. कितना कारण बताएं आप नहीं जुड़ पाए ?

11. क्या आपको लगता है यह लाभदायक है ?

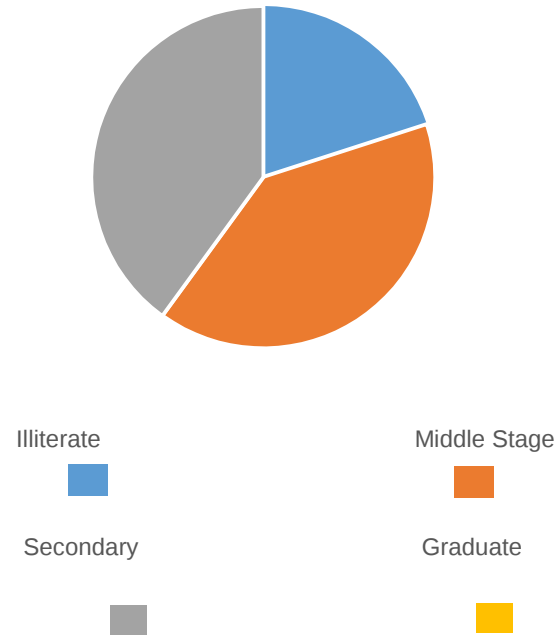
12. क्या आप किसी अन्य संगठन से जुड़ी हुई हैं ?

Findings

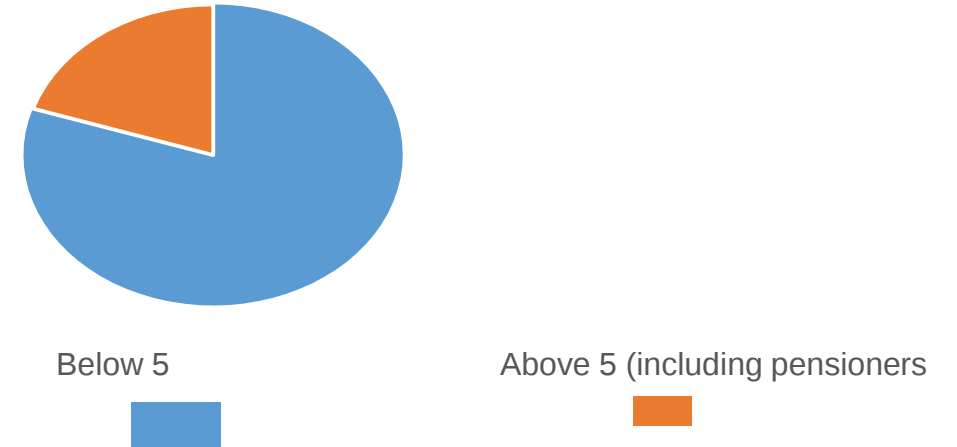
a) Sample Description

Set-1 Women who are members of SHG under RAJEEVIKA project.

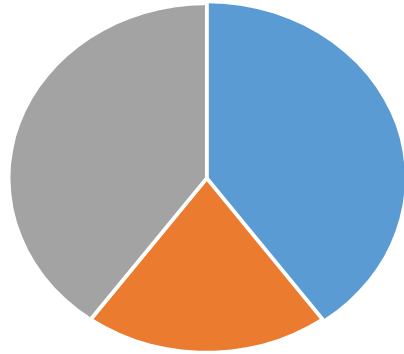
Level of Literacy



Number of Family Members



Caste



General



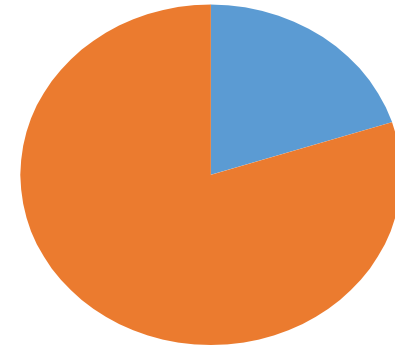
SC



OBC



Age of Marriage



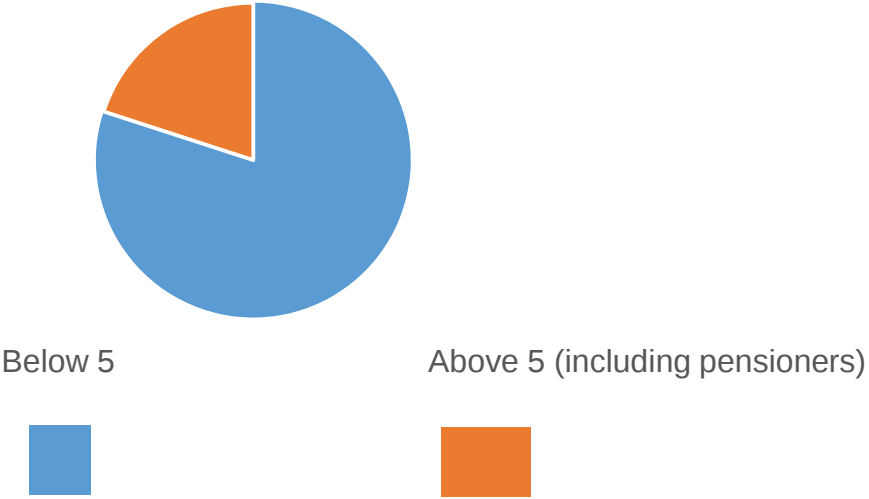
Above 18



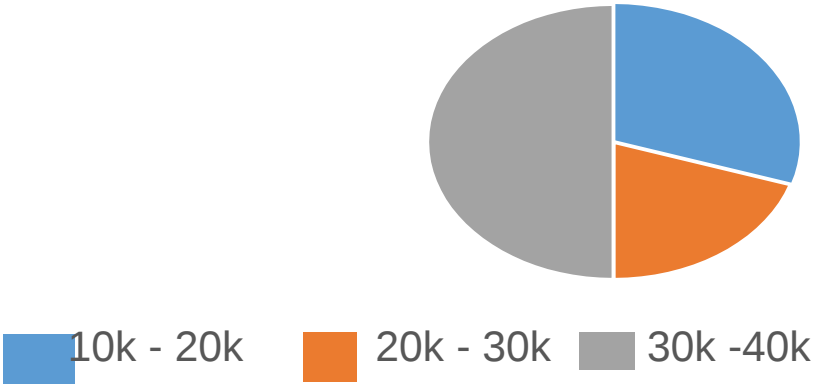
Below 18



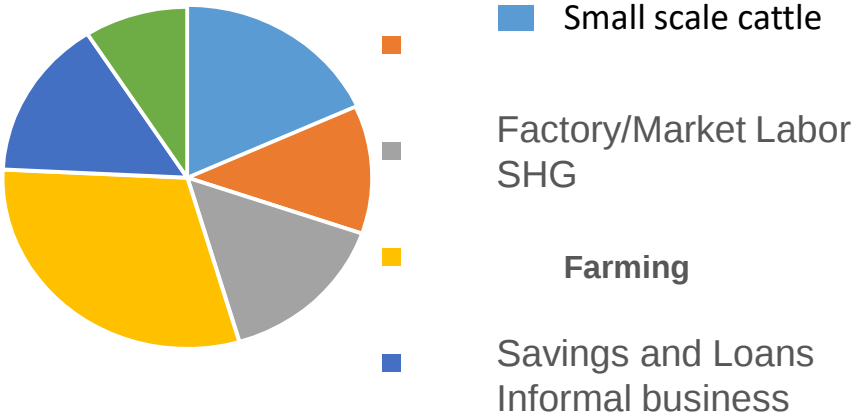
Number of Income Generating Members



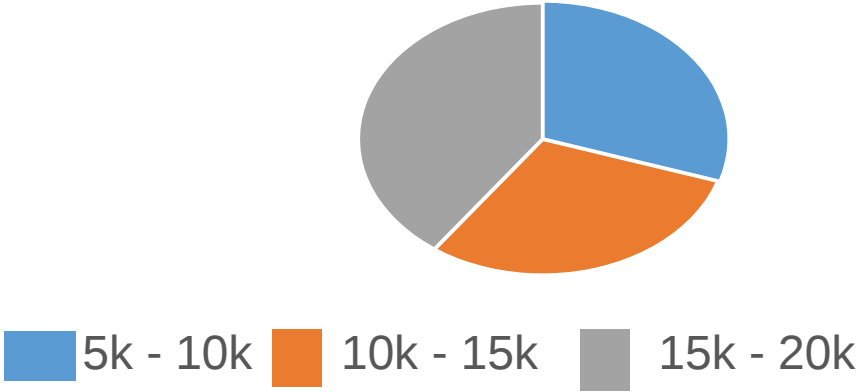
Total Income



Sources of Income

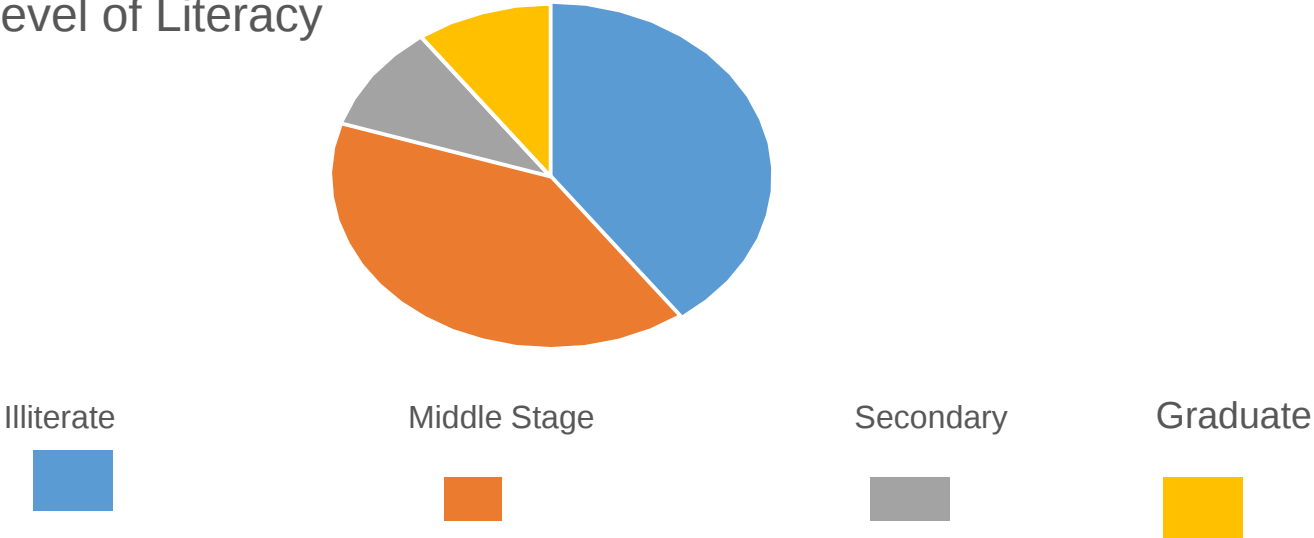


Total Monthly Expenditure



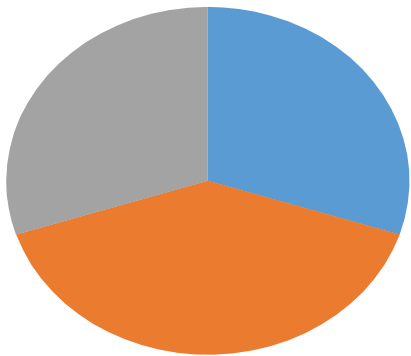
Set-2 Women who are not the members of any group.

Level of Literacy



Source: [illegible]

Age of Marriage



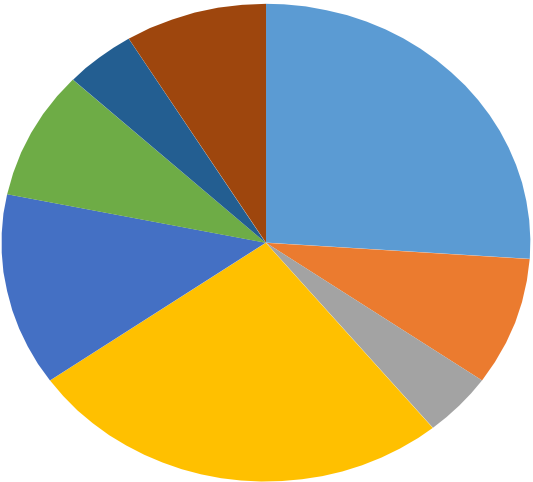
Below 10y

10y - 15y

15y - 20y



Sources of Income



Small scale Cattle Rearing

Factory/Market Labor

Truck Driving Pension

Politics

Pension

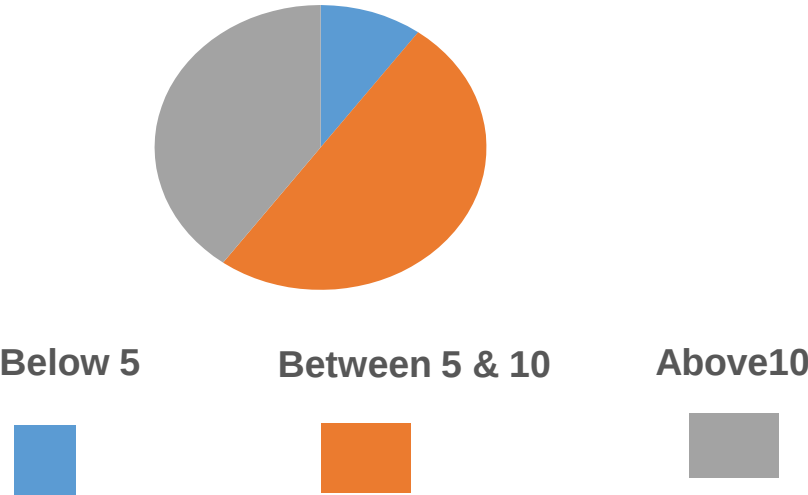
Money Lending

Private Job

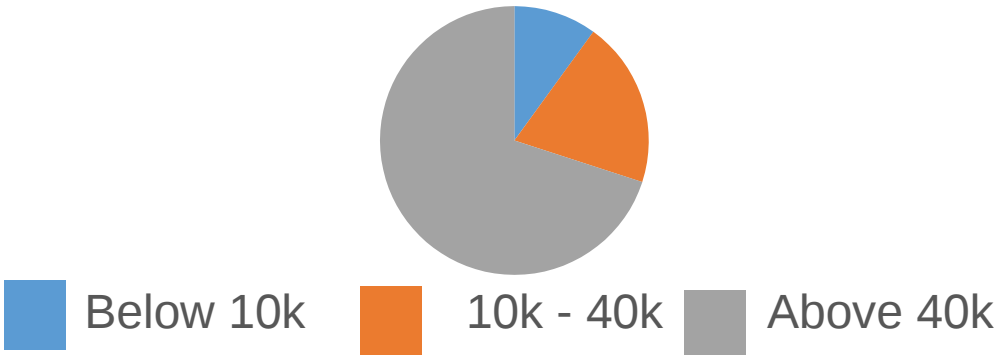


Caste- All belong to OBC category

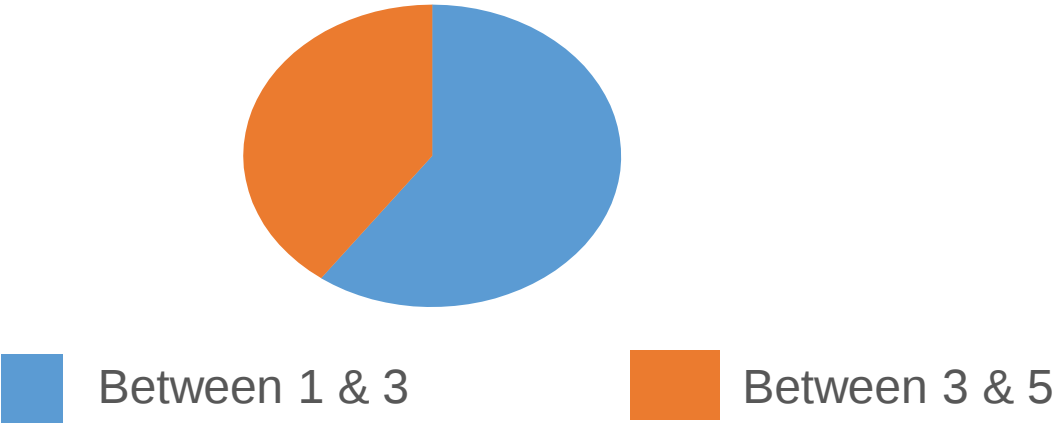
Number of Family Members



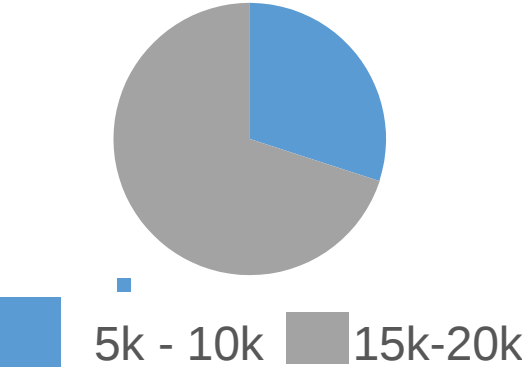
Total Income



Number of Incoming Generating Members



Total Monthly Expenditure



a) **Content Analysis**

The participants of the case study are divided into two sets: one who form a part of an SHG and one who do not belong to any SHG. The participants are not coded for the study, though their identity will remain confidential. The responses of the participants will be used to obtain answers for the questions under consideration. The responses obtained for the questions 6 (A) to 8 (C) have been represented through charts. The responses procured for the rest of the questions will be used qualitatively in a collective form because the responses for these questions of each set exhibited similar reactions respectively.



Political Analysis

The political benefits for the women forming Set-1 has not reached beyond the accessibility to government schemes. IAY, MGNREGA, and NSBM (G) are the major schemes which women could avail themselves of. The political representation of women or their community has remained low.

Private Sphere



The responses in both sets showcase that becoming economically independent does not guarantee an improvement in the status of women. Under socio-economic analysis, we observe that women have a more significant say in family decisions; however, the numbers are few to come on a concurrence. Most women from both sets expressed dissatisfaction that only male family members were responsible for making important decisions. For the participants belonging to Set-2, most of the responses showcased the helplessness of women in making their own decisions. The male members of the family, especially husbands, do not allow women of their families to step out of the household responsibilities. The main concern lies in the 'apparently' low capability of women to understand the intricacies of the public sphere.



Discussion

The data collected for the study, through interviews, concretize the literature background undertaken for the study. The evolution of SHGs to dismantle the meta-narratives built under the social structure and gendered role of families has helped start the transformation, which can take generations to materialize. Women are individually trying their best to bring change in their own lives and the lives of their future generations.

Conclusion

The following points will be able to summarize and streamline the thoughts I came across throughout my Dissertation

Education and economic empowerment are the two pressing issues that immediately affect women's lives and have the capacity to alter them. A study conducted in the Pune found that when women become economically independent and powerful, the practice of dowry diminishes to the point that they may refuse to marry into a household that requires it.

Gender Sensitization: The qualitative analysis of the above Case study guides us in designing and implementing sensitization programs for the opposite gender. The plan should focus on developing a curriculum that will help men understand the actual being of a woman and women's marginalization and poor conditions. Empowerment can achieve its desired results only when parallel efforts are put into attitudinal change.

As a non-participant observer, a thought has risen on linking Social Entrepreneurs with SHGs. With these two fields booming simultaneously in the current scenario, a significant contribution can be made toward the growth and development of the state and country as a whole.

