



FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN IN PAKISTAN

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Abstract

This study focuses on investigating the influence of family(F), spending decision making of own money(SD), spouse finance(SF), personal finance(PF), investment(IN) and belief about money (BAM) on financial empowerment of women in Pakistan. This study used criterion sampling with sample size of 173 males and females who were employed and married as well. Data was collected through administering a questionnaire and analysis was done using Correlation and Regression analysis. It was identified that personal finances, spending decision of own money and spouse finance impact women's financial empowerment negatively whereas investments, belief about money and family effect women's empowerment positively.

Key words: *Women's financial empowerment, Spouse Finance, Personal Finance, Spending decision of own money, Belief about money, Family.*

Introduction

Women hold a share of 49.2% of the total population of Pakistan. According to the United Nations Human Development report (2017), only 7% of the total women hold an account at financial institutions, human development index of female is 0.465 as compare to 0.620 of men, gender inequality index is 0.541, female share of employment in senior and middle management is 4%, expected year of schooling female is 7.8 years as compare to 9.3% of male, and gross national female per capita income is \$1642, as compare to \$8786 of male. The idea of women being financially empowered holds over the minds of people from the last few years. Are women financially empowered in Pakistan and their opinion significance in decision making? This question is heavily dependent on many different variables like geographical location, educational status, gender and marital status, age, etc. Gender equality refers to a stage with both men and

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women have equal say in their financial matters and realize their full potential, rights, responsibilities, and their opinion in making decisions.

Researches show a persistent gap in wealth between men and women. Women's wealth has historically been lower than men's for many reasons which include legal limits on women's property rights and inheritance laws (Deere & Doss, 2006). In 2001, the mean non-pension wealth was \$119,861 for single males and \$112,547 in case of single females (Lyons, Neelakantan, & Scherpf, 2008). Financial decision making by married couples are jointly made and are influenced by individuals opinion. According to Lyons and Yilmazer (2007), differences in spouses' ages, education, and income reflect relative bargaining power within the household and women who are married to relatively older men are also less likely to take on financial risk and make decisions. Health and recruitment studies asked married couples to identify: (1) which spouse is more financially knowledgeable, and (2) which spouse has the "final say" in making financial decisions for the household, resulting in findings that decisions were more likely to be made by the spouse with more financial knowledge, more education, and a higher wage, irrespective of gender.

Conducting this research focuses on areas which are needed to be answered such as whether women in Pakistan own any personal finances and do they own power in making decisions on spending? Do they know about their husband's finances? To what extent religion allows gender to make spending & investment decision? Lastly, what control do women have on making their personal choice over savings, spending, making decisions for themselves and their families? In UAE personal finances of women are controlled by their religious beliefs. Quran clearly guides men to take care for women and provide all the basic necessities to their wives and children. Moreover, women have right to own personal finance and can ask her husband to provide her due share. Therefore, our research focus is gender and marital status role in making financial decisions.

First objective is to examine women access to personal finances and their financial empowerment. Second objective is to examine women spending decision of own money and financial empowerment. Third objective is to consider impact of spouse finances on women financial empowerment. Fourth objective is to study impact of investment and women financial women empowerment. Fifth objective is to examine belief about money and its impact on women financial empowerment. In addition, our sixth objective is to study an existing relationship between family and financial empowerment of women. Moreover, our last objective is to create awareness among policy makers at national and organizational level to enhance the role of women at work for their betterment and make there share count in value addition at personal level and at economy level. Women should be given autonomy at different stages of their life cycle and should encouraged and motivated by their spouses to allow freedom of making right choices and decisions, freedom of opinion, expression and of thought.

Literature Review

Determinants of Financial decision making

Dobbelsteen and Kooreman (1997) in their study analyzed data from the British Household Panel Survey on households' financial management and financial decision-making. Two models were used to explain how finances were organized. The First model used was based on a household production approach according to which behavior is determined by an efficient allocation of time to market work, financial management, and leisure by both the partners. Second model used was game-theoretic in nature, financial management is a linked with bargaining power. Empirical results indicated that financial management is mostly determined by bargaining considerations.

Bernaseki and Bajtelsmit (2002) reported results related to survey of household finances. Data used was taken from spring 2000 survey at 5 Colorado universities. Sample size of this survey was 319 respondents among them 198 were male and 121 were female. Dobbelsteen and Kooreman (1997) model was used to design a linear equation. This paper found that involvement of women in household finances is positively related to their share of total household income.

Similarly, Woolley (2003) conducted a research to address question "Who gets what in a marriage?" This research has been conducted in 1995 based on a sample of 300 English-speaking couples, with children under 18, in Canada. Data was collected using questionnaire and joint as well as individual interviews were conducted in their homes. She found that partners with greater income have more control over money, and there is less income sharing when one partner, especially the man, has been married before.

Financial knowledge can be another factor that can determine the allocation of financial decision making. Elder and Rudolph (2003) in order to identify the sources of decision-making power within households, made use of data from Health and Retirement Study. They found that regardless of gender, decision is more likely to be made by partner having more financial knowledge, more education and a higher wage.

Hilgert, Hogarth and Beverly (2003) have linked financial knowledge to financial management. They explored the link between financial knowledge and behavior by focusing on 4 activities related to financial management that include credit management, saving, cash-flow management, and investment. They used data of November and December 2001 from the University of Michigan's Surveys of Consumers as well as from the Survey of Consumer Finances. Results showed that households having low cash-flow management index, were low on credit management indexes, saving index and investment index. They had lower financial knowledge than households categorized as high or medium. According to this study financial practices and financial knowledge have significant correlation. Families that are expected to have higher index scores are those who learn a lot from friends, family and personal experience were expected.

A research conducted by Lindamood and Hanna (2006) examines who is having more financial knowledge in male-female couple households. They collected data from four Surveys of Consumer Finances and made use of cross tabulation, means tests and logistic regression and found that financial assets, health, income and education generally predicts which person is more having more financial knowledge.

Bertocchi, Brunetti and Torricelli (2012) examined the factors of household decision power with respect to financial and economic choices. They used data of 1989-2010, provided by Bank of Italy Survey of Household Income and Wealth and selected households with married couple was present. The paper found that the decision-making power over family economics is also determined by differences in human capital and experience and not solely by economic differences.

Johnston, Kassenboehmer, Shields (2015) studied the role of non-economic dimensions in the allocation of financial decision-making, particularly their personality traits, cognitive ability and mental and physical health of both the partners. They used data from the Household, Income and Labor Dynamics in Australia. They restricted their sample to partners aged between 21 and 80 years who were observed between 2005 and 2013. This Study showed that significant determinants of decision maker in a household are wages, employment, age and employment of both female and male partners. They also found that mental health is more important than physical health in explaining that among partners who will be the financial decision-maker. Cognitive ability is another significant predictor that is positively related to financial-decision making. Personality traits are extremely significant predictors of who will be the decision-maker.

Studies have identified various determinants of financial-decision making power among couples that include bargaining power, financial knowledge, Cognitive ability, mental health, physical health, Personality traits, education, income, financial assets, differences in human capital and experience. Among all these variables this study will focus on personal finances, Haq mehr, salary and inheritance may be considered as personal finances in case of women and in case of men, salary and inheritance may be considered as personal finances of men. This research not only focuses on personal finances but also consider spending decision of money that women have access to.

Gender, Financial decision making and Risk aversion

It is a common belief that women are more risk averse as compared to men when it comes to making financial decisions that are risky. This belief can hinder in the way of financial empowerment of women. A women might not get promoted to higher post on the basis of her performance if top management is of the view that men can handle risky financial decision efficiently and that a women will unable to make required risky financial decision. Several researchers have studied the role of gender and risk aversion.

Papke (1998) used data of mature women, from the National Longitudinal Survey which questioned whether respondents have invested DCP mostly in interest bearing assets, stocks or a combination of both. She made use of regression analysis and found out that gender have no impact on investment choices and people who were able to select their investments invested 14 percentage points more in stocks than the people who had no choice at all.

Another study was conducted by Schubert, Brown, Gysler and Wolfgang (1999) to investigate that whether men are less risk averse than women while making financial decisions. They conducted an experiment in which respondents not only made abstract gambling decisions, but also met with financially motivated risky decisions in an investment or insurance context. Experiment was conducted on undergraduates from different fields enrolled in Zurich and the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH). In Contextual frames a sample of 36 males and 32 females was used whereas in Abstract gambling frame there were 40 males and 33 females. In both these frames all possible outcomes were positive. Regression analysis was to analyses data. For reach of the two frames, separate regression was run. Under economic conditions that were controlled, they found that female generally do not make financial choices that are less risky as compared to male subjects.

Hanna, Gutter and Fan (2014) measured risk tolerance on the basis of economic theory and argued about its relation with risk aversion. Data was collected, using a web-based survey, from 390 finance students from Ohio State University and results were compared with earlier studies using different measures of risk tolerance. They found that there exists no significant correlation between risk aversion and gender.

Women do not make less risky decisions and they are not more risk averse as compared to men (Papke, 1998; Schubert, Brown, Gysler & Wolfgang, 1999; Hanna, Gutter & Fan; 2014). On the other hand results from some researches also show that those women do invest in less risky asset.

Bernasek and Shwiff (2001) Examined whether gender have an impact on the percentage of an individual's defined contribution pension assets invested in stocks. They, for this purpose, collected detailed information in the form of a mail survey on household decision-making from faculty members employed at 5 different universities of Colorado .Sample consisted of 270 observations. They made use of Tobit Regression and found that a lower proportion of pension is invested in stocks by women.

Similarly, Yilmazer and Lyons (2010) explored how investment choices of married men and women are influenced by life-cycle stage and by spouse's control over financial resources in the household. Data from the Survey of Consumer Finances was used. They found that less risky investment is made by married women who have more control over the financial resources and women married to older men are less likely to take on risk. There exists a little evidence that married men's investment decisions are affected by wife's characteristics.

Similarly, de Goeij studied the difference in risk taking decisions of women and men in financial markets on the basis of individual characteristics and systematic factors. Secondary researches were used to derive conclusion. It was found that women are less likely to invest in risky assets than men .One reason identified by him is the difference of characteristics between woman and man. The conclusion was mainly drawn upon the results of past researches.

Previous studies focused on examining risk attitude of men and women while making risky financial decisions. Researchers made use of type of investment in order to examine risk

attitude of men and women but In this study we will used Investment as a variable to investigate its impact on financial empowerment of women.

Family and financial decision making

Hamilton and Catterall (2006) explored the practices related to consumption while focusing on children's influence on consumption decisions of a poor family. Qualitative data was collected through interviews of 30 poor families. Results revealed that children have indirect and direct influence on consumption practices and decisions of a family. Parents make sacrifices to make sure that their children are not stigmatized by poverty and therefore consumption mainly revolves around children in poor families. Some parents place their desires and needs on hold until their children become older.

Kim, Gutter, and Spanglerc (2017) evaluates and drew conclusion of literature and theories related to intra-household financial decisions, partners and financial decision making, financial decision process and family system, financial decisions and children. He discusses that at individual level, most of the counseling and financial education takes place and at household and intra household levels, financial decisions take place. He also concluded that all family members in the household have an effect on financial decisions.

Hamilton and Catterall (2006) studied the variable of family with consumption decisions and found that children do impact consumption decision of a family. Kim, Gutter, and Spanglerc (2017) found that children influence the financial decision of a family. In this study impact of family will be studied on women's financial empowerment.

Studies have shown that children exert influence on consumption and financial decisions of a family. In this study relation between family and women's financial empowerment will be investigated ; whether family have an impact on financial empowerment of women or not.

Belief about money

Jejeebhoy and Sathar (2001) studied the impact of religion and region on autonomy of women, using a sample from Punjab Province of Pakistan and from Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu that are two Indian states .Their Findings suggested that South Asian women are largely excluded from decision making of family, they have limited control and access of resources. Their freedom is strictly constrained and only few women are free from violence and threat at the hands of their spouse. Findings also reveal that women's autonomy is determined by social institution of gender rather than religion or nationality, in region of South Asia.

Another research was conducted by Briegel and Zivkovic (2008) in the United Arab Emirates to investigate the culture and belief of Muslim women with respect to investing, acquiring and managing money. They collected data from unmarried and married students of women's university and from female staff and teachers working in schools of Abu Dhabi to examine the extent to which they manage their personal funds. Results revealed that religious beliefs of men and women residing in UAE have large impact on how personal finances are held and consumed.

Muslim woman believe that they have the right to her own money and can even insist that the man give it to her. Husband may not ask his wife to share her money that she inherits or earns but still women do share money with their men. Research indicates that women are interested to learn that how they can handle their money. They also realize that women waste money and they need to control their spending habit.

Jejeebhoy and Sathar (2001) studied the impact of religion on women's autonomy and found that religion do not play any role in shaping women's autonomy then Briegel and Zivkovic (2008) Studied the the impact of religion on personal finances of men and women and found that there exists a relation between religion and personal finances of both men and women.

As research is being conducted in Pakistan where Muslims are in majority so impact of religion will also be investigated on women's financial empowerment. Women in Islam are provided with a number of guidelines in the light of Quran and Hadiths according to which haq mehr is a fundamental religious right of Muslim women therefore Religion may also influence financial empowerment of women. This study will examine weather belief about money have an impact on financial empowerment of women or not.

Hypothesis

H1: If women have an access to personal finances then they will be more financially empowered.

H2: Spending decision of own money by women has an impact on their financial empowerment.

H3: There is an effect of Spouse's finances on Women's financial empowerment.

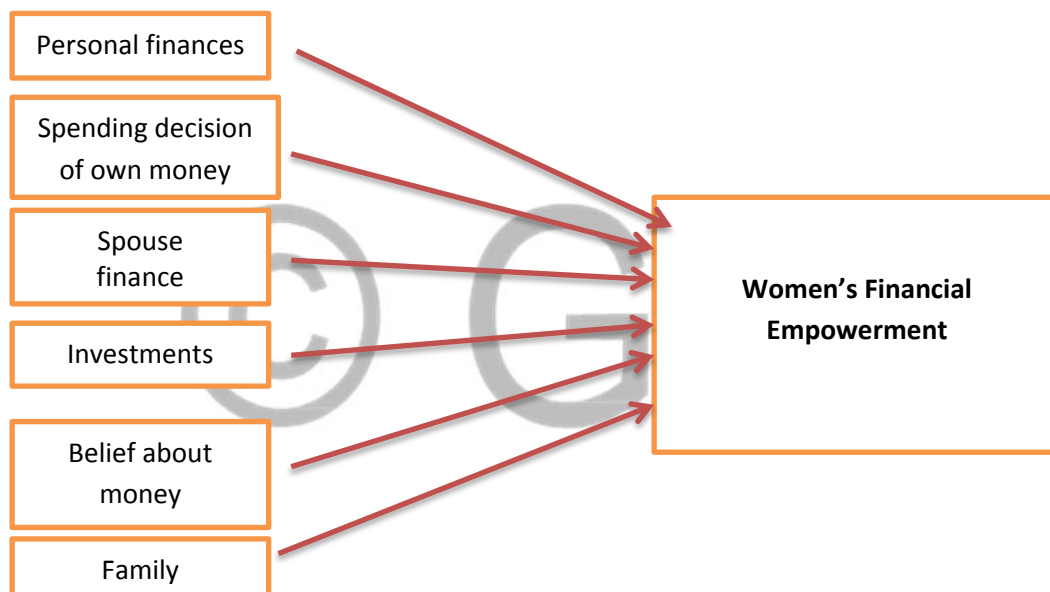
H4: Investments by women and their financial empowerment are positively linked.

H5: Belief about money has an impact on women's financial empowerment.

H6: There exists a relationship between family and financial empowerment of women in Pakistan

Theoretical Framework

Figure 1 Theoretical Framework



Methodology

The aim of the study is to identify the effect of spouse finance, spending decision of own money, investment decision, family and belief about own money, on women financial empowerment. In the study primary data was used and collected through questionnaire from sample size of 173 respondents including Male and Female working in Educational Institution, Embassy, Corporation, Bank and other workplaces. 200 questionnaires were distributed in Islamabad, Rawalpindi and Other cities, out of which 173 were received back, the rest uncollected.

Questionnaire consists of two sections 1st for demographic variable and 2nd for questions related to Women Financial Empowerment. Questionnaire consists of 75 questions, 8 for measuring Personal finances, 21 for measuring Spending decision of own money, 14 for Spouse Finances, 15 for Investment, 7 for Belief about money, 4 for Family, and 6 questions for measuring

Women empowerment. Sample size in the study included 54.9% Female and 45.1% Male. Out of the 173 respondents, 61 belonged to the age group of 20-30 and 31-41 each. 25 respondents belonged to the age group 42-52, 22 from the age group of 53-63, and remaining belonged to the age group of 64 years and above. Income level of 51 respondents fall in the range Rs.20,000-Rs.40,000, 17 fall under the second category range Rs.41,000-Rs.61,000, 36 respondents fall under the 3rd category range Rs.62,000-Rs.82,000, 26 respondents income range is Rs.83,000-Rs.103,000 and 43 fall under the 5th category range Rs.103,001 and above. 67 respondents were working in Educational Institution, 2 were from Embassy, 27 from Corporations, 6 from Banking sector, and 71 from other workplace backgrounds. In addition to, 113 of the total respondents were from Islamabad, 35 from Rawalpindi & 25 from other cities of Pakistan

Data Analysis

Normality Test

In the preliminary analysis, descriptive statistics are displayed in table below. The descriptive analysis shows that value of variable's mean ranges from 3.4377 to 4.8918 whereas, standard deviation ranges from 0.61 to 1.15. To check normality of data, skewness and kurtosis values lies in the range of -3 to +3 that is acceptable according to Ghasemi and Zahediasl (2012).

Table 1: Mean, Standard deviation, Skewness and Kurtosis

Descriptive Statistics									
	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation	Skewness		Kurtosis	
	Statistic	Statistic	Statistic	Statistic	Statistic	Statistic	Std. Error	Statistic	Std. Error
PF	173	1.75	6.00	4.5773	.93642	-.552	.185	-.288	.367
SD	173	1.43	6.00	3.6270	.95752	-.209	.185	-.551	.367
SF	173	1.00	6.00	3.4377	1.15274	-.602	.185	-.400	.367
IN	173	2.20	6.00	4.4235	.69701	-.593	.185	.531	.367
BAM	173	2.14	6.00	4.8918	.61655	-.779	.185	1.809	.367
F	173	1.00	6.00	4.2052	1.11240	-.693	.185	.272	.367
WR	173	1.00	6.00	4.6994	1.00107	-.964	.185	1.042	.367
Valid N (listwise)	173								

Test of Reliability

To test reliability Cronbach Alpha was used with acceptable values of alpha ranging from 0.70 to 0.95 according to Tavakol and Dennick (2011). The results of Table 2 shows that all variables except belief about money have Cronbach alpha greater than 0.7 i.e. Personal Finance 0.736, Spending decision of own money 0.889, Spouse finance 0.900, Investment 0.757, Family 0.703 and that of Women Financial empowerment is 0.831.

Table 2: Reliability

Variables	Cronbach Alpha
Personal Finance	0.736
Spending decision of own money	0.889
Spouse Finance	0.900
Investment	0.757
Belief about money	0.571
Family	0.703
Women Financial Empowerment	0.831

Convergent and Discriminant Validity:

AVE value of 0.5 or higher indicates good convergent validity; this level or higher indicates that the construct explains 50% or more than 50% of the variance of its items on average according Sarstedt, Ringle and Hair (2017). Table AVE for Personal Finance, Investment, Spending decision of own money, Spouse Finance, Family and Women Financial empowerment is greater than 0.5 so convergent validity is confirmed. AVE value for Belief about money and Investment is 0.369 and 0.368 respectively that is below 0.5 and does not confirm convergent validity. Few items are needed to be dropped to achieve convergent validity. Discriminant validity is also confirmed as MSV values are less than AVE.

Table 3: Average variance extracted

Constructs	AVE(average variance extracted)
Personal Finance	0.312449
Spending decision of own money	0.280864
Spouse finance	0.41675
Investment	0.187991
Belief about money	0.13212
Family	0.441006
Women Financial Empowerment	0.463152

Table 4: Maximum shared variance

	Constructs	Estimate	MSV
Spending Decision	Personal Finance	0.666	0.443556
Spouse Finance	personal Finance	0.541	0.292681
Investment	personal Finance	0.624	0.389376
Belief About Money	personal Finance	0.213	0.045369
Spouse Finance	Investment	0.323	0.104329

personal Finance	Family	0.283	0.080089
Belief About Money	Family	0.236	0.055696
Investment	Belief About Money	0.527	0.277729
Investment	Family	0.309	0.095481
spouse Finance	Belief About Money	0.046	0.002116
Spouse Finance	Family	0.423	0.178929
spending Decision	Investment	0.257	0.066049
Spending Decision	Family	0.401	0.160801
Spending Decision	Belief About Money	0.058	0.003364
Spending Decision	Spouse Finance	0.543	0.294849
Family	Women financial Empowerment	0.136	0.018496
Belief about Money	Women financial Empowerment	0.546	0.298116
Investment	Women financial Empowerment	0.215	0.046225
Spouse Finance	Women financial Empowerment	0.08	0.0064
Spending Decision	Women financial Empowerment	-0.018	0.000324
Personal Finance	Women financial Empowerment	-0.034	0.001156

Model Evaluation

For component analysis KMO values, communalities and factor loading was done. All Indicators had communalities greater than 0.5 but those indicators having KMO value less than 0.6 and loading less than 0.6 were eliminated to improve model fit. Table 4 shows values of CMIN (chi-square),CMIN/DF, goodness of fit index(GFI),Normed fit index (NFI),comparative fit index (CFI), root mean square error approximation (RMSEA) and Adjusted goodness of fit index .

Figure2: Model evaluation

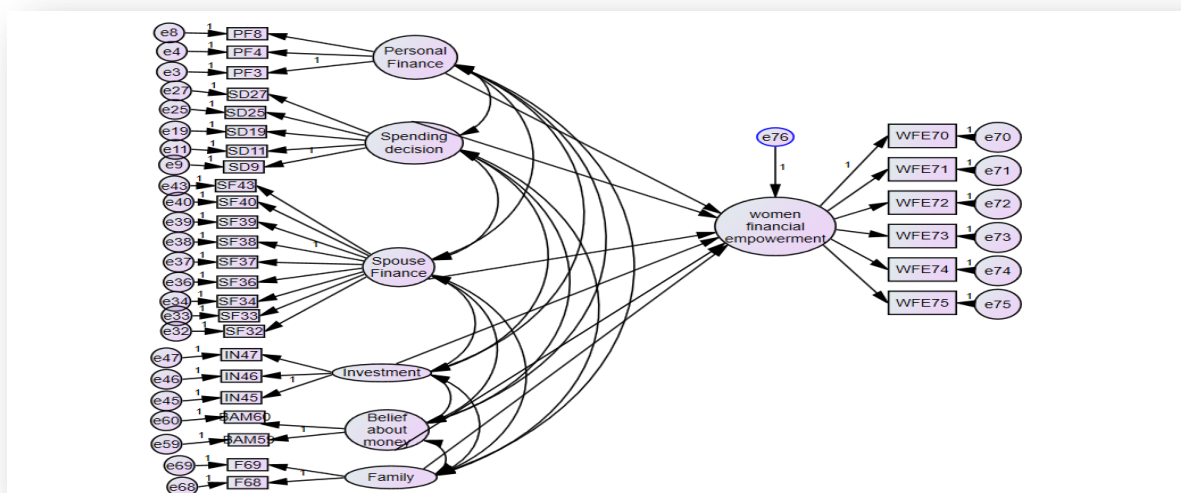


Table 5: Model Fit Indices

Model	CMIN	CMIN/DF	CFI	GFI	AGFI	RMSEA	NFI
Values	785.167	2.045	.776	0.660	0.589	0.10	.647

Note. CMIN/DF = chi-square/degree of freedom ratio; GFI = goodness of fit index; AGFI =adjusted goodness of fit index; NFI = normed fit index; CFI = comparative fit index; RMSEA = root mean square of approximation.

The acceptable value of CMIN/DF (chi square/degree of freedom ratio) ranges from 2 to 5, In case of RMSEA value should be less than 0.0. For AGFI ,GFI,NFI and CFI value should be less than .90 according to Hair et.al (2006).Table 5 indicates that model indices show goodness of fit by satisfying the model fit threshold indices of CMIN/DF, CFI, NFI, AGFI and GFI whereas, RMSEA is slightly higher than 0.08.

. Correlation

Table6: Pearson Correlation

Women's Financial Empowerment	
Personal Finance	0.04
Spending decision of own money	0.002
Spouse's Finance	0.034
Investment	.236**
Belief about money	.373**
Family	.209**

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

Table 6 shows that Family, Belief about money and Investment have positive significant relationship with Women's financial empowerment at 0.01 level with points .209 , .373 and .236 respectively ,whereas Personal Finance, Spending decision of own money and spouse's finance have insignificant impact on Women's Financial empowerment

Regression

Table 7: Regression

Model	Coefficients		t	Sig.	Results
	Unstandardized Coefficients				
	B	Std. Error			
(Constant)	1.530	.665	2.300	.023	
Personal Finance	-.076	.102	-.748	.456	Rejected
Spending decision of own money	-.038	.094	-.409	.683	Accepted
Spouse's Financed	-.010	.075	-.128	.898	Accepted
Investments	.220	.127	1.731	.085	Accepted
Belief about money	.501	.128	3.909	.000	Accepted
Family	.063	.078	.811	.419	Accepted

$$Y = \alpha - \beta (\text{Personal Finance}) - \beta (\text{Spending Decision of own money}) - \beta (\text{Spouse finance}) +$$

$$\beta (\text{Investment}) + \beta (\text{Belief about money}) + \beta (\text{Family})$$

$$Y = \alpha - .076 (\text{PF}) - .038 (\text{SD}) - .010 (\text{SF}) + .220 (\text{IN}) + .501 (\text{BAM}) + .063 (\text{F})$$

$$\text{S.E } (.665) \quad (.102) \quad (.094) \quad (.075) \quad (.127) \quad (.128) \quad (.078)$$

$$\text{t-value } (2.300) \quad (-.748) \quad (-.409) \quad (-.128) \quad (1.731) \quad (3.909) \quad (.811)$$

Table 7 shows that women's financial empowerment is influenced due to personal finance, spending decision of own money, spouse finance, investment, belief about money and family at the rate of -7.6%, -3.8%, -1%, 22%, 50.1% and 6.3% due to change in personal.

t-value of a variable should be greater than or equals to |2|. As shown by above, t-value for personal finance, spending decision of own money, spouse finance, and family is less than 2 so they have insignificant impact on women's financial empowerment. In case of Belief about money t-value is 3.909 and for investment it is 1.7 that is close to 2 so we can say that they have significant impact on women's financial empowerment.

Findings and conclusion

The findings of this study provided substantial evidence and it shows that when men will have an access to personal finances then that will have a negative impact on women financial empowerment; this finding is inconsistent with Elder and Rudolph (2003). Findings also show that may the women have access to their personal finance but even then they will not be financially empowered. Reasons might cultural influences and male dominated society where females do earn but do not have the authority to make decisions. Women's autonomy in decision making is scattered between considerable and highly restricted. Whereas, men involvement shows a dominant role in family decision making in Pakistan (Framurz & Kiani, 2003). According to Smith et al (2010), the portion of earnings contributed by male strongly shows that husband is more likely to make financial decisions and spouse will be in charge of family finances.

Spouse finance is negatively correlated with financial empowerment of women. Pakistan society's culture and norms give more power to male dominance in making all decisions of life, especially in rural Pakistan where majority of the people are living, there the mind set of people has not changed since many decades. In urban areas people mind set is changing positively, women are working and earning for their families to meet the increasing expenses, but still they do not make important decisions in life whether financial or household. Women in a society lack the cognitive ability to trust their own self and lack the ability to make decisions on their own. Thus, they are dependent on their male counterpart and they are not appreciated when they take decisions on their own by family in the first hand and society latter and remain least encouraged. In our study we found out that when response of men were being taken and asked about their personal finances like managing their own money, family's money, a budget that they follow and more, they confident about it and strongly agreed, but other hand, they disagreed that women are better at managing or saving money than men. Whereas, female respondents were more confident about their personal finances and making decisions. They believed in savings, being responsible for own finances and managing and saving money by themselves. It shows the perspective of men way of thinking in our society which is needed to be changed in a positive way. To make balance in our society and to cope with today's era women should be self-financed and be responsible for their own actions.

Investment if increases then financial empowerment of women will also improve. If women are trusted and are well financed and encouraged to make investments then they will be financially empowered. Women Beliefs about money have a positive impact on Women financial empowerment; this finding is consistent with Briegel and Zivkovic (2008). Correct application of Islamic laws encourages women rights, materially improve their status, as well as, give assurance to them for economic security (Aslam & Kazmi, 2009). Family and women financial empowerment are correlated but their correlation is very low. Based on the results from regression and correlation we accept H2, H3, H4, H5, H6 and reject H1.

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Appendix

Communalities

	Initial	Extraction
		n
I know my monthly household income and living expenses	1.000	.831
I manage my own money	1.000	.803
I manage my Family's money	1.000	.803
I know where all important financial papers are	1.000	.707
I have a bank account in my own name	1.000	.755
I have an ATM card	1.000	.833
I have a credit card in my name	1.000	.728
I have a budget that I follow	1.000	.759
I spend money on groceries	1.000	.784
I spend money on clothing for myself	1.000	.669
I spend money on clothing for my family	1.000	.805
I spend money on jewelry	1.000	.716
I spend money on purchase of items for my home (Furniture,Appliances etc)	1.000	.732
I spend money on my personal expenses (manicure,exercise etc)	1.000	.704
I spend money on entertainment (eating out,cinema,holidays etc)	1.000	.652
I spend money on luxury items other than jewelry (cars,mobiles etc)	1.000	.745
I spend money house payments (mortgage payments)	1.000	.679
I spend money on car payments	1.000	.722
I spend money on household bills (electricity , water,gas etc)	1.000	.809
I spend money on stock market Investments	1.000	.700
I spend money on real estate investments	1.000	.757
I spend money on my spouse's business	1.000	.696
I spend money on my own business	1.000	.735
I spend money on my education	1.000	.729
I spend on my children's education	1.000	.775
I spend money on transportation (car,tax)	1.000	.720
I pay salary to maid and/or other servants	1.000	.708
I spend money on charity	1.000	.580
I spend money on repayment of personal loans	1.000	.766
I know what my spouse does with his money	1.000	.824
I know how much money my spouse makes each month	1.000	.828
I know how much money my spouse saves each month	1.000	.829
My spouse knows how much money I spend each month	1.000	.858
My spouse knows how much money I earn each month	1.000	.846
My spouse looks after my money for me	1.000	.772

My spouse make the financial decisions regarding large purchases such as house, car etc.	1.000	.825
I sometimes have arguments at home about money	1.000	.657
I receive an allowance from my spouse	1.000	.725
I often ask my spouse for money	1.000	.857
My spouse often ask me for money	1.000	.754
I spend money and not tell my spouse	1.000	.776
I need to ask permission when I spend money	1.000	.664
My spouse and I talk about money matters	1.000	.776
I have a financial goal	1.000	.666
I know how to budget	1.000	.799
I make and use a budget	1.000	.839
I collect assets such as gold so that I might think one day to sell it and keep the cash.	1.000	.717
Financial Independence is important for me.(Enough money to live without working)	1.000	.773
I Would be interested in learning how to invest my money so that I can get a monthly allowance.	1.000	.778
I want to start my own business.	1.000	.671
I save at least 10% of my monthly income	1.000	.719
I live within my means (do not go into debt).	1.000	.767
I have a credit card /debt card	1.000	.737
I know what my saving and investing objectives are.	1.000	.732
I know how to use the internet and other resources for financial planning.	1.000	.755
I am confident in my knowledge of finances and economy.	1.000	.795
I would like to learn how to invest and budget my money	1.000	.695
I have a plan to pay for my children's private education	1.000	.730
I know what the Quran says about money	1.000	.793
My religion influence the way I spend money	1.000	.748
I think schools should teach students how to invest money and how to save it	1.000	.680
The women in my family manage their money well	1.000	.771
Managing your money an important life skill.	1.000	.639
Money brings happiness for me.	1.000	.749
I think husband and wife should share all their money.	1.000	.799
I know how my mother spends her money.	1.000	.698
I teach my children how to take care of money.	1.000	.809
I give my children an allowance (a specific amount of money every week or month)	1.000	.849
My children know how to handle money	1.000	.776
Women are responsible enough to take care of their own money.	1.000	.705

Women should make decisions about how money should be spent.	1.000	.797
Women should have their own bank accounts.	1.000	.800
Women should be responsible for their own finances.	1.000	.788
Women are better at managing money than men.	1.000	.812
Women are better at saving money than men.	1.000	.805

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

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