

Education (honors to above honors)	0.689**	2.775***
Age (18-25)	0.147	15.28***
Age (26-35)	-0.201	17.97***
Age (36-45)	0.196	20.84***
Age (45+)	-1.142	21.97***

However, the difference between earning women and not earning women education value are 1.989 & 1.217 on 5% significance of coefficients. It has indicated that earning women may keep an impact on participation in household decision making more than not earning women. Financial independence makes more value so earning women can participate in household decision making. Besides, age 45+ has showed a significant result in both earning and not earning women with participation of household decision making. As earning women are financially solvent so when they are in higher age, their value in decision making has been increased more. But, in the case of not earning women, when their age increases, their value in family has been decreased more. So, age plays a very significant impact on women participation in household decision making in both earning and not earning women.

Table 5

	Earning	Not Earning
Education (honors to above honors)	1.989**	1.217**
Age (18-25)	-38.143	-.104
Age (26-35)	-19.415	1.860
Age (36-45)	.800	2.661
Age (45+)	16.375***	-3.728**

Correlation Analysis

- 1st Correlation

H0: Giving opinion on financial matter of the family has no strong relation with participation in household decision making

H1: Giving opinion on financial matter of the family has strong relation with participation in household decision making

Table 6

Correlations

Participation of Women in Family Decision Making	Giving Opinion on Financial Matters in Family
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Participation of Women in Family Decision Making	Pearson Correlation	1	.761**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	135	135
Giving Opinion on Financial Matters in Family	Pearson Correlation	.761**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	135	135

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

The correlation between Participation of Women in Family Decision Making and Giving Opinion on Financial Matters in Family is 0.761 refers that Participation of Women in Family Decision Making and Giving Opinion on Financial Matters in Family are highly positively correlated which is statistically significant on 95% confidence interval. That means null hypothesis is rejected and alternative hypothesis is accepted. Because P value is tested at the significant level 0.01 so, it is showed from above correlation is that participating in family decision making has strong relation with giving opinion on financial matter in family.

- **2nd Correlation**

H0: Wearing own choice dress has no strong relation with participation of women in family decision making.

H1: Wearing own choice dress has strong relation with participation of women in family decision making.

Table 7

Correlations

		Participation of Women in Family Decision Making	Wearing Own choice Dress
Participation of Women in Family Decision Making	Pearson Correlation	1	.391**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	135	135
Wearing Own choice Dress	Pearson Correlation	.391**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	135	135

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

The correlation between Participation of Women in Family Decision Making and Wearing Own Choice Dress is 0.391 refers that Participation of Women in Family Decision Making and Wearing Own Choice Dress are weakly correlated which is statistically significant on 95% confidence interval. That means null hypothesis is accepted and alternative hypothesis is rejected. So, it is showed from above correlation is that participating in family decision making has no strong relation with wearing own choice dress.

- **3rd Correlation**

Table 8

Correlations

		Participation of Women in Family Decision Making	Participating to Decide Daily Life Cooking and Marketing Stuffs
Participation of Women in Family Decision Making	Pearson Correlation	1	.359**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	135	135
Participating to Decide Daily Life Cooking and Marketing Stuffs	Pearson Correlation	.359**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	135	135

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

The correlation between Participation of Women in Family Decision Making and is 0.359 Participating to Decide Daily Life Cooking and Marketing Stuffs refers that Participation of Women in Family Decision Making and Participating to Decide Daily Life Cooking and Marketing Stuffs are weakly correlated which is statistically significant on 95% confidence interval. So, it is showed from above correlation is that participating in family decision making has no strong relation with Participating in Decide Daily Life Cooking and Marketing Stuffs.

From these correlation analyses, it comes out that participation of women in household decision making is strongly related with giving opinion on financial matters in family. But, the matter of wearing own choice-able dress and daily life cooking, marketing stuffs have not much important relation with household decision making of women. So, the women who give their opinion on financial matters of their family can participate in household decision making strongly.

Qualitative Analysis

The socio economic condition of women in Bangladesh is so vulnerable. The present era is not much female friendly than the past era. In the present society, women are facing problems for patriarchal structure of society, social factors such as illiteracy, economic dependence on male partners within family, superstitions about women empowerment, religion etc. Though women are educated more day by day, they can't utilize their education in practical life. Patriarchic societal system is one of the biggest barriers for women participation in household decision making. Men get all the priorities & facilities in every aspect just because of their gender identity. In fact, Participation in household decision making is unimaginable where women may not be allowed to take their own decisions most of the time.

One of the women interviewed Neelima Rahman, (32 years) shared her experience. She introduced herself as a housewife. Her family didn't allow her to continue higher study though she was a brighter student than his brother. Her family was economically solvent to contribute her study but it was a dissipation to contribute in girls' education, according to her family. She added that she couldn't take part in decision making in her father's family as well as at in-laws. She had 2 children but she was not allowed to take any decisions about them because of her less educational qualification. But, as her brother-in-law's wife was highly educated, her opinion was accepted on the family matters. Education is a prime factor to participate in household decision making according to Neelima Rahman. She also mentioned that male domination and patriarchic laws were further reasons which create barrier to decision making of women.

Another respondent Samira Jahan (27 years) was a private job holder who lived in Mohammadpur with her in-laws. She mentioned that educated and financially independent women were facing embarrassing situation when they tried to participate in household decision making. Samira stated, "Before marriage all my decisions have taken by my parents and after marriage it is my husband who takes all. Though I am taking important decisions at workplace but my opinion is not accepted in household decision making. My parents along with my in laws believe that whatever may be the qualification of women, they can't think rationally. So, according to them women should not be allowed in decision making". In accordance with her, superstition about women had an important obstacle to participate in decision making. She shared a point of view that men saw women as their competitor because of this they felt threatening when women tried to give her opinion or did something according to her own choices.

49 years old Jhuma Akhter was a housewife, lived in Mirpur with her husband and 3 sons. She shares, "I was only 19 years old when I got married. That time, I was very young to understand about my own rights in every aspect. My husband decided everything along with my mother-in-laws. After some years later, I tried to do something according to my choice. Also I provided suggestions about household matters. But nothing was accepted from my husband". Her participation in decision making was valued when she was growing old more. She mentioned that she was the main decision maker in her house in several matters like shopping, menu selection for meal, financial matters, children matters etc. According to her, early marriage had created barrier for women participation in household decision making. Because of early marriage

she couldn't make herself confident and couldn't gather proper knowledge, which were actually important for making decisions.

Respondent Shayla Ruksana (37 years) was a widow, lived in Uttora with her in-laws and child. She was the prime decision maker in her family after her husband's death. She was running a business currently. She shared her views about women participation in household decision making. According to Shayla, her decisions got priority in the family because she was well known about her rights. She mentioned that she was respected for her business reputation in her family. She contributed financially in family and tried to make decisions from the beginning of her married life. For that reason, also after her husband's death, her in-laws relied to her in every household matters.

Entrepreneur Jarin Ferdoushy (25 Years) lived with her parents and siblings at Dhanmondi. She started her business in online and established two showrooms at present. She stated that even though she still hadn't completed her study, her parents involved her in every decision making. And sometimes, her relatives came to her for opinion on different matters. She mentioned that not only higher education, financial contribution etc but also unbiased environment along with equal mentality influences on women participation in household decision making.

There are many literatures which indicate different factors about women participation in household decision making. In Ghana, a study described that the factors of woman participation in household decision making were not limited to age, education, parity, occupation and religion. They found out sex of household head, residence, household wealth index, presence of co-wives, number of children less than 5 years and numbers of household members etc were the main factors of women participation in household decision making (Amugsi et. al., 2016). On the other hand, in Nepal, Women autonomy in terms of decision making was positively associated with their age, employment and number of living children (Archarya et. al., 2010). Similarly, in rural community of Bangladesh, women education, income, occupation, gender-based awareness had a significant effect on household decision-making (Sultana et. al., 2011). However researchers from this study found that age, education, family type, financial independence, superstition about women, patriarchal society were the main factors which affected women participation in household decision making in Dhaka city, the capital of Bangladesh.

Recommendation

- As the findings has indicated that higher educated women can participate more in decision making. Hence, women education rate should be increased in tertiary level so that women can build their confidence and self esteem which will be resulted to increase their participation rate in household decision making.

- As mentioned earlier that financial independence can create more the capability in decision making of women in household. So, women should be encouraged to make their selves financially independent for assembling their participation valuable in household decision making.
- Case studies have indicated that domination of patriarchy society is one of the major obstacles of women participation in household decision making. People should raise their voice against domination and support women to grow.
- World Bank (Development for Peace, 2018) reported that gender equality would solve the problems of gender discrimination. So, government should take necessary steps to increase gender equality to ensure women participation in household decision making.
- Superstitions need to be overcome about women participation in household decision making and highlight the negative side of not being able to participate in decision making of women.
- Media can keep a vital role to decrease gender based violence (Lucia, 2022). So, media should forward a few steps to make more awareness contents for spreading positivity about women participation in decision making.

Conclusion

This study is formulated on the experience of women in terms of participation in household decision making in Dhaka city. It is found that education, aging, family type, marital status, financial independence etc are the factors of not being able to participate in household decision making of women. In family women are called potential mother and homemaker. For a family, women play fundamental role for house caring and child rearing. But from this study, researchers found that a large number of women still are simply unaware about their right of making decisions. A woman not only keeps vital role for making a commendable family but also making a consolidated nation In this era of development, women's visible involvement in decision-making will strengthen the acceleration of sustainable developmental goals on the society. Bangladesh government tries to break the barrier for women and make opportunities for them so that they can contribute in decision making from all aspects. Moreover, gender discrimination is deep rooted in our patriarchal society which can be spotted in household sector too.

Discrimination is another factor which has been felt by women for their low participation in household decision making. Such discriminatory practices must be removed from household so that the women can prove their capability of making decisions with their opinion and ideas.

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