

The Impact of the Wife's Career on Family Relationships

العمل الوظيفي للزوجة وتأثيره على العلاقة الأسرية

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Abstract:

This research paper aims to shed light on a significant social phenomenon: the role of women in the workforce, which has emerged as a key indicator of innovation stemming from technological and ideological changes in recent years, particularly in Arab societies. In a context where women's development is considered a crucial marker of social progress, perspectives on women's work have varied across different classes, societies, and between supporters and opponents. This is affirmed by sociological studies that suggest women's positions in society reflect the level of social advancement and promotion achieved. Consequently, the shift in women's roles from their traditional, limited positions has been closely linked to broader social changes. Women's participation in the workforce has become a major concern across political, social, and economic spheres, influencing family dynamics and expanding women's societal roles. This expansion has often led to a conflict between their responsibilities as wives, mothers, and employees. Given the theoretical, empirical, and social significance of this issue, this paper seeks to address the challenges faced by working women, highlighting the obstacles that hinder their progress and exploring ways to enhance their contributions to both their families and society, amidst the various both their families and society; amidst the various paradoxes and balances they encounter.

Keywords: Women's career; Women's status; Role conflict; Marital relationship; family problems.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Women, especially mothers are not new to the workforce; they have long been valued for their contributions to the practical, educational and familiar aspects of society as farmers, fighters and family helpers through manual labour and various crafts. They must expose their physical, intellectual, and scientific resources or integrating them in a way that benefits the economy and society in order to initiate its impact on society.

As one of the most important indicators of the changes that have taken place in communities particularly since the advent on the industrial revolution which made it possible for them to participate in the labor market and their job has been indispensable in recent years. In addition, women were interacting with the social milieu that predominated in all cultures that transitioned to industrialization among other social and educational phenomena with a variety of contributing variables. Since women's participation in education , the industrial sector, and modern services; as well as, their penetration into all facets of life at all levels that were previously the domain of men only they become more widespread and elevated and there is no question that their integration into the production process has given them professional experience and expertise. This has led to the addition of new role for them by going out to work and confining them to a narrow space which had numerous effects on them and their families. Therefore, it has increased the scope of their social roles as the wife frequently faces challenging demands. The difficulty of this dual role made her face many and various obstacles and impediments that hindered her from fully presenting her natural message towards her family, as she is the pillar of the home, as she affects the members of her family and society and she is affected by them.

Working without properly coordinating the home needs with everything for care, upbringing and marital life could shake the children's moral and educational foundations and

exacerbate familiar issues. To accomplish the purpose of work, woman worker should use strategies and methods to try establishing a balance between work and the family.

Given the importance of women's work in society, this topic requires a great attention through studies and covering all aspects that may affect it by including problems, obstacles and impediments. This research is concerned with the working mother, who is more exposed than others to conflict between roles due to her many responsibilities as a wife, mother and worker which end up by psychological pressures. In fact, woman work not only affects her, but rather is reflected on her family members in particular.

Therefore, this article focuses on:

The most important strategies for working women and how to reconcile their dual role as mother and employee to reduce and alleviate the issues they encounter. Furthermore, how to balance between work and home.

2. Concepts

The following concepts are explained before discussing the main issues that working women confront and offering ways to balance their multiple roles:

2.1 Working woman

The woman who works outside the home and receives compensation is recognised as a working woman. She fulfils two fundamental tasks in life: that one of the employee and of housewife. (Alili Razika, 2008: 17). There are: a woman whose activities outside the home go beyond the home domain and who integrates work outside the home with family obligations (i.e., a woman with many roles). She blends the duties of employee and housewife, two fundamental positions in life. (Al-Juwair, 1995: 17). As a result, she is the one who assumes the position of a housewife and provides all the necessary care. She also works for pay and is compensated for her physical and mental labor at a particular establishment outside the home.

2.2 Women's work

The work that woman does outside the home and receive a wage for it' is how Camelia and Abdel Fattah defines it. She fulfills two fundamental responsibilities in her Life: being a housewife and working outside the home. (Abdul Fattah Camelia, 1984: 172). According to our research , the term refers to any endeavour or action a women engages in to fulfil her economic, social and other goals in return for monetary wither it is material or moral, physical or intellectual.

Mohamed Atef Gaith roles describe it as a model that id based on particular rights and obligations and is connected to a particular social position or group status. In each given circumstance, a person's role is dictated by both his or her own expectations and those of others. Various perspectives have been taken on the idea of role such as role performance: how an individual carries out his role in particular circumstance (Atef Ghaith, Muhammad, 1997: 392-393).The notions in our study can be defined based on aforementioned. Indeed, it is an observable pattern of conduct exemplified by acts and behaviours that fit with the requests of a specific social position.

3. Motives for women working and its different Impacts:

As cultures underwent an ideological and technical transformation, women began to enter the workforce. Nevertheless, different women have different internal and external reasons for their employment. Because of the circumstances and the way society is structured, women entered this area for economic, social, and psychological reasons all at once. Consequently, the following is a summary of their reasons for working: (sali muhammad, bin thaya abdul hay, 2013: 187).

3.2 Economic Motivation

The economic or material motive is among the reasons to work and it is an imposed necessity by the increasing needs of the modern society as the burdens of living and its high cost on the one hand and the aspiration for a better standard on the other have pushed women to go out for work' according to Boutfnousht Mustafa (1984: 19), citing the economic or material motive as one of the most potent reasons why the majority of women turn to working outside the home. ((Boutfnousht Mustafa, 1984: 19) and these reasons vary depending on the woman's personal or family's financial situations. The economic motive is a powerful motivator that pushes the woman to work for a variety of reasons including the need for money because there isn't a breadwinner, poverty, or the husband's unemployment. "most of the time , the man cannot meet all the needs of his family, so the wife goes to work helping her husband with the burdens that he carries alone' the woman say.

In this case, the woman's involvement effectively raises the family's economic standing, which is seen as a powerful motivator for the woman to work. Maryam Salim and associates (1999: 26). In this case, the women's involvement effectively raises the family's economic level, and this considered a strong incentive for woman to go out to work .(Salim Maryam et al., 1999: 26).This is supported by Mustafa Awfi, which found that the majority of married women cite the economic climate along with its different justifications when asked why they work outside the home.Mustafa Awfi, 2003: 15).

3.3. Social motivation

Research has indicated that social incentive plays a significant role in improving the familiar standard of living in order to attain a higher level of education and some pleasures or to rise in social standing. Al-Jowair Ibrahim, 1995: 39). Due to the current shifts in social and economic circumstances in all cultures, feminine participation in the different educational

phases and their emancipation from illiteracy have emerged as a critical social component that enables them to participate in the work. (Dhiyab al-Naqula Jihad, 2011: 75).

As if the backwardness of women's education is what delayed their presence in the arena of social work and reduced their contribution to the development of society., this means that women were not directed to housework from an early age to their ability to enter many fields that were previously the domain of men. As a result, we find that they have become doctors, professors, managers, lawyer, policewomen, officers and soldiers. They also forced the man they competed with and frequently surpassed to relinquish men authority in keeping them in the home. (Muhyiddin Saber, 1987: 187).

A lot of debates emerged about woman education because ' education has become necessary for building the human being and for change, and the social family dynamics are concerned with changing values within societies'.(Madeleine Grawitz, 1984 : 957)

A woman is strongly motivated to obtain rewards of her efforts through a career that pays well and elevates her social standings after completing several years of education and earning certificates after many efforts. Therefore, it may be argued that one of the fundamental tenets of empowering women via education is allowing them to work and engage in social and economic progress alongside males.

Since sociologists believe that people always want to make their voices heard in society, other social motivations can be noted such as the desire to rise in society. This is almost related to female employees who hold university degrees. According to American writer Carne. Cgie, individuals aspire to be noteworthy in their life that tis to carry out a particular task that gives them a sense of identity, presence and being. Consequently, it is normal for women to rush to work in order to elevate their own social standing. Dale Carnegie once said that people aspire to be something noteworthy in their lives, that is, to carry out a certain task that gives them a sense of identity, presence and being. Hence, it is normal for women to

rush to work in order to elevate themselves to a prestigious social class. (Dhiyab al-Naqula Jihad, 2011: 80). Additionally, the security and the familiar welfare is threatened by divorce or the husband's death which forces the wife to rely on her job to provide a decent wage for her family. (Dhiyab al-Naqula Jihad, 2011: 77).

3.4. Psychological motivation:

In addition to the aforementioned reasons, one of the primary and significant factors that lead to women working is the desire for self-affirmation, which involves attempting to force their existence in the economic manifestations and their capacity for labour and production. They had goals and objectives that women in this industry strive for, like overcoming their concerns and managing the emotional strain of their loneliness, before they left for work. (Abbawi Zahra, 2015: 103). Women are motivated to work in a variety of occupations because they want to become financially independent, advance in their careers become more politically conscious or to improve their social position. They also want to improve their mental and personal wellbeing and enlarge their educational and personal horizons for self-satisfaction. Women may work because of technological and industrial advancements that generated many kind of jobs that encourage them to do even with the advantage of skill development trainings. (Zayed Ahmed et al., 2002: 48). Moreover, self-motivations are related to women desire to impose their existence, status, and self-confirmation or self-satisfaction by proving her abilities, intelligence, and efficiency with no difference than men even sometimes surpass them. Families inside modern nations, and it is evident that woman's commitment to house become a source of social dispute. Working women have a psychological comfort, a sense of engagement, contribution to workplace and essence of the capacity to achieve. In fact, it boosts women's self-esteem, enhances her capacity to make relationships and promotes her effectiveness regarding making decisions, solving problems and participations..Khalil Mikhail Awad, 2003: 172).Hence, it can be claimed that women

working is symbolized by a number of central requests to emphasize their distinctiveness and to complete them. They are also represented by equality, dignity, and the transformation of civilization in order to determine their existence and disprove the notion that women lack skills to perform works. Al-KhawliSanaa, 2002: 25).

4. Issues and challenges faced by working women:

Nowadays, women have numerous chances to work, achieve equality with men and to be paid due to modern industrial era. Because they now have a distinguished positions and do significant tasks that were previously only for men. Women are no longer in social burdens rather; they play an important role in families and societies. (Michel Andrée, San date: 96)

Despite, researchers in sociology and psychology have talked a lot about working women and indicated that married women face many situations during working because it affects several aspects such as the size of the family as well as in marital relations in addition to its impact on children in the known values and trends. Regarding the number of the family there are numerous interconnected ties particularly the working woman's social and economic standing which make the size of the family complicated. Ibrahim Abdel Fattah Camelia, 1983: 84). Despite voluntarily working, every psychological research has shown that women are susceptible to a variety of psychological disorders because they are preoccupied with their job and the urge to complete it the best they can and with her families, children and home in which the working women experience depression and guilt.

Woman almost experiences fear and anxiety of any internal or external danger. Consequently, she is vulnerable to tension that will be mirrored in her behaviour and actions. These feelings are associated to some other symptoms such as loss of appetite, insomnia and frequent crying. If the depression becomes severe, it may turn into an illness and an inability to work, or familial charges. (SIPILA Halevi, 1976 : 33), Pregnancy, breastfeeding, child care, and properly raising and nurturing the child are woman tasks depending on their age ,

children have different and specific needs and they are attached to their mothers affection or the care she gives them. If a woman has a strong desire to work and feels that her children are preventing her from achieving goals she may be negatively affected to a large extent.

If a woman has a strong desire to join the workforce and feels that her children are preventing her from achieving this, her relationship with them may be negatively affected to a large extent.(Al-Khawli Sanaa, 1984: 100.)Her relationship with her husband is described by taking into consideration his activities and legitimate rights in terms of tenderness and releasing energy, and the man remains able to stress his presence and will with authority in the light of what is related to family affairs. According to one study there is a connection between a man's authority and his class. Yet, a sort of paradox has surfaced. Even while he truly give up a lot of his power to his wife the lower the socioeconomic status the more the husband starts to assert his own complete authority simply because he is a man. Regarding the higher classes, man has more authority over family matters than wife as he have the means to exercise greater control..(Saeed Mohammed Othman, 2009: 31-32), the working women faces several negative effects on families which is related to her inability to do her obligations toward husband and to satisfy his emotional , psychological and material needs by blending roles and fights of power or decision making in the family. Besides, traditions and man position have changed toward working woman recently some are convinced that the best place for a woman is home while others disagree that woman should devote her life only for housekeeping and raising children because may lead woman to neglect her duties as a wife and as a mother or for jealousy for a better success and control. (Dhiyab Al-Naqula Jihad, 2001: 109). Hence, it is probable that a shift in personal relations may be affected by work than woman that they stay home.This determines the direction in which the gender in labor is interpreted, and which human plays a role mainly in earning money while women specialize in housework and family duties concerning paid work, unpaid work and hobbies

(DECOCTER Michel et Pichaut François, 1994: 425), In fact, women are associated with both paid and unpaid works and known by a mutual relationship between the two kinds. While, men are associated to paid works and their passions. Women have their housekeeping duties too. This leads to role struggles in which it is hard for a person to do what is expected or anticipated in term of behaviour in most perfect manner. That means, the success of any woman is to balance between work and home and shift roles as a wife, mother and employee as many challenges she has during such situations at once. Mahmoud Jumaa Salma, 2000: 39). Actually, the latter has impacted families' ties and marriage. Regardless the problems those women meet in working the pain of prejudices against women. Many have a negative attitude toward working woman because they don't tolerate the new role that she has taken by owning work and because she becomes competitor to other gender. (Abbawi Al-Zahra, 2015: 105), also facing sexual harassment including the manager or co-workers by using their powers and taking advantage of her weakness or forcing her to accept (Ali Qutb Muhammad, D.S., 72). Harassment can be in different forms and under different expressions like verbal harassment through jokes, embarrassing remarks, physical signs, provocative stars, and sexual inquiries. Moreover, it can involve physical contact and physical harm. Considering that 90% of managers and working staff are men that may harass working women to keep them from being leaders and from competitions. (Y. Zang Jane, Genre, 2000: 48). Besides, they do not accept women driving so harassment are a weapon to expel them from entering these professions. (Sali Samia, 2004: 02). The most notable consequences of sexual harassment include trouble of sleeping, focusing and managing anxiety as well as the impact these issues have on families and children by potentially disturbing the familial relationships and creative process at work. The globalization in labor market had negative effects on women in terms of pay, training and determined workers because of their increased employment in illegal works organisations

such as temporary, part time , casual and work at home because they almost do not receive social security or job security benefits. Women have been negatively impacted by the globalization (2001: 139).

5. Work-family Reconciliation Strategy:

The demands of numerous factors have made it more difficult for women to choose their role in life. On the one hand, customs, cultural norms, and their biological makeup force them to take care of the home and become mothers. However, they are governed by the opportunities that have emerged for them in the realm of employment, work, and pay. Work, marriage, housework, and having and raising children are the five elements that hinder women's choice. Al-Khawli, Sanaa (1984: 90). which led to her playing several roles and having a disrupted division of labour at home (Awad Hassan Ali, 1976: 12).

Among the most crucial methods to reconcile the two roles are:

Woman encountered numerous challenges in workplace that hindered her career path and forced her to take frequent leaves with absence which pushed her to get experience and professional competence she desired. This led her consider strategies and solutions that working women employ to strike a balance between their roles as family and professionals or to demonstrate their value at the two levels. Among the most crucial methods to combine both roles are:

Woman must first improve her standing in family decision making: compared to woman without work one benefit is related to personal state of the working one. Money is significant for them and allows them to take part of familiar decisions, their work and educational achievements alter how authority and control are used toward them. Aboud Iman, 2003: 339)

Feminine power inside families in decision-making is less while being jobless. '(Ramzi Nahid, 2002: 596). In connection to an Egyptian study, the working wife in urban Egyptian society

has more authority over larger population of family decisions.(Salama Muhammad Ali, 2002: 282)But in reality, it is not necessary for a working woman to be able to take familiar decisions because they may be affected by society, customs, traditions , the culture and the educational level of the husband. Furthermore, it is also mentioned that women's awareness of reality grows through time, and their educational or cultural attainments rises. They stand out for their emotional maturity, wealth of life experiences and comprehension of various issues. Consequently, they no longer allow the husband to exercise monopoly power and make choices alone; instead, they encourage dialogue, comprehension, involvement, cooperation and the share of ideas.(Hassoun Tamadhar, 1993: 156-157).

As she progresses in her career, the cycle of the familiar involvement and work decision making and problem solving may widen while at home her life becomes related to take part of every familiar aspects and taking care of children:(Ibrahim Abdel Fattah Camelia, 1999, 263).

5.1. Seeking help from the husband, relatives, or specialized institutions:

The family is regarded as a conventional organization for socially raising children. The husband must assist the wife in taking care of children if she is working and unable to stay home or looking for the help of relatives or specialized institutions to pick them and take care during her absences (Ali Laila, 2006: 232). Therefore, working mothers leave children with her mothers or sisters or mothers in law or sisters in law according to her relation with them in order to feel that they are safe and which is socially acceptable. If not possible some turns to their neighbors in exchange for a certain amount of money, a present or certain service the neighbor offers alternative care during the mother absence or official and private institutions with appropriate conditions for its establishment like nurseries and kindergartens specially designed for working mothers that relieve her of many of her daily problems and burdens.(Dhiyab al-Naqula Jihad, 2011: 53).Moreover, that aids help child in

socialization process and it is the purpose of these children houses that give them comfort and an enjoyable environment while their parents are away generally children are from their first months of life till five years conformed to a certain legal and health requirements. This place is equipped with toys for plays that attract children and encourage them to spend their times with games, having fun and learning the basic principles that connect them with others (Girgis Michel Girgis, 2005: 288). These institutional goals are teach children good behaviours that fit the social norms .kindergarten attendees are superior to those who did not in all aspects of growth with the various programs that children practice and its effects on their behaviours according to certain research. (Kamel Ahmed Suhair, 1999: 84).

However, 'Haifa Fawzy Al-Kubra' concluded in her research that most mothers rely on relatives like grandparents instead of nurseries since they are afraid of these institutions. for instance as Fawzi Al-Kubra Haifa, DS, 348). Concerning the housework, working mothers depend on modern manners of cooking than traditional methods which is time consuming and takes a lot of efforts that may inhibit her from professional responsibilities. Hence, the availability of contemporary technological devices like vacuum cleaners, dishwashers and washing machines that have flooded in every part of families due to industrial advancements as well as a variety of communication tools like printers, smartphones, computers and internet are facilitators for moving from housework to profession with minimum efforts and time. Women can buy modern household essentials that facilitate her job and may improve the familial living. (Madawi Najia, 2014: 136). In fact, such technologies are important and necessary tools for helping the wife to balance the indoor and outdoor areas.(Abdul Hamid Al-Sayed Mansour, Zakaria Ahmed Al-Sharbiny, 2000: 144).

Commercial opportunities like preserved foods allow women to work and shift roles as mother, wife and employee. Another manner that may help is having independent housing

which is preferred by families mainly in modern era and to avoid problems with the family of the husband as well as to move from traditional thinking and cultural values that oppose working women and to agree sharing roles and responsibilities between spouses mainly regarding children. Sociologists are attracted to the topic of working woman in which mixing roles may disturb familial growth .Even housekeeping is a feministic task why husbands do not assist wife?

Nonetheless, one of the main causes of familiar issues is that women bear all the burdens and the absence of the cooperation in domestic aspects of serving the family and meeting their needs.This validates that husband may help in cooking, cleaning, dishwashing and children care which is not a flaw of interiority. (Ma'an Omar, 2000: 18).

6. CONCLUSION

Women walked into workforce primary and fundamentally as a result of industrialisation which gave them numerous options , help them to get a social recognition and to establish their place in the society.By doing that , personal social bonds toward others broaden their culture in this step.In order to advance society they mobilise all of the energy of human labour and its productive services in a progress that contributes to the production. Due to significant roles that women have historically played in determining independence and the familial stability such giving birth, caring for , watching over children, raising and educating them and meeting the familial needs. This new circumstance resulted in a challenge in social status and social functions of women.In addition , they play a vital and unique role in raising generations by enhancing their educational opportunities which increased their employment and their willingness to take new social roles over centuries. Despite the benefits that women have received from working in many countries, women still confront many challenges at work. Some of them are personal as fear of failure at home and profession. Working in such factories may alter domestic duties as being the pillar of the family, push

apart social ties and destroy the relationships between husband and wife and mother with her children as was stated by Samuel Smiles, an English scholar and one of the leaders of the English Renaissance, in a debate of women's labor. (Jihad Diab al-Naqula, 2011, 103). Both positive and bad effects on women's personalities stemmed their freedom which is manifested in their shift from being housewives to formidable competitors to men in professions. working e enabled people be active in shaping society, developing their humanity ,personalities, and achieving their objectives. Moreover, occupation gives individuals a social worth, develops their personality and their aptitude to cooperate others, gives them the resources to attain social position, and makes them more useful in the society. Women feel more stable and content and their confidence rises while working . They also feel more financially independent by swapping attitudes, practices, and personal tests. Therefore, to conclude we can note that the role of mutuality and collaboration for married working women differs based on many factors such as cultural values, the type and hours of work, the husband's support of his working wife, the size of the family and the number of children, their capacity to assist with household routines, the presence of relatives and friends who may be able to help during the working hours, the availability of childcare services like nurseries and kindergartens, time management, and imposing woman personality. Yet, certain gaps still discovered that may stop women from doing their best work.

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