

WOMEN POLICE: ROLE ADJUSTMENT IN FAMILY

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ABSTRACT:

Historically, women have played an important role in India .The number of female police officers has rapidly increased in the last two decades. Since policing is traditionally a male oriented job, female police officers could face potential gender-based barriers in the workforce. Despite this, the number of female police officers continues to increase .This paper will examine that how to the dual role of police women shows the adjustment in family and cope up with the all adjustment situations and family demands and how the family role performance represents the extent to which women fulfil the obligations and expectations associated with work and family roles. This paper aim to uncover the level of adjustment by married working women within the family.

Keywords: Police Women, dual role, adjustment, family.

INTRODUCTION:

Historically, women have played an important role in India. Women warriors have fought courageously for the honour. More recently, Kiran Bedi, the first woman to join the Indian Police Service in 1972, Despite the critical contributions made by women, there has been little research aimed at understanding the acute difficulties faced by these women, who are very much a part of the society that still does not consider women to be at par with men, especially when it comes to their jobs as police officers, a traditionally male-dominated profession. Women entered the criminal justice system as a response to social forces like societal violence, individual violent behavior, social problems, child abuse, crime against women and children, and poverty, and for better protection of women and juveniles (Horne, 1980). Sherman (1975) claims that women in policing have had an important political, social and economic impact.

DATA, MEASURES & METHODS:

To analyse the role adjustment among married working women in Madhya Pradesh Police, Bhopal we focused on the Using Questionnaires Schedule, group discussion, in our sample

included women's role, their adjustment patterns, type of family and the stage of the family and family task and relationship adjustment were measured by using different sources of data.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the study is to know the role adjustment patterns among the Hindu working women in Madhya Pradesh Police how they give respect to the both levels of adjustment and relationships between work and family.

History of women in Police:

The induction of women in the Indian police system in comparison to other countries is of recent origin. The need for women police in British India was felt during the labor strike in Kanpur, India in 1938 when women workers had to be controlled, and so, women police were appointed in Kanpur in 1939 (Mahajan, 1982). According to Ghosh (1979), the idea of introducing women into the police force in independent India was first contemplated after the Partition of India and Pakistan in 1947 to deal with offenses that victimized women, as in kidnapping, abduction, and rape cases, and in relief camps that housed unattached women and children.

Gender Ideologies and Stereotypes Radical feminism proposes that people live in a patriarchal society. The general public falsely takes male social development as the norm (Mann 2008). The power of patriarchy is present in all aspects of our society. Patriarchy promotes that men are more dominate than women but the position in society and her contribution towards nation as well , she occupies due to the traditions .customs and most important through her own efforts. Women are expected to discharge certain functions. These functions are known as role.

ROLE:

According to Sargent, "A person's role is a pattern or a type of a social behaviour which means situationally appropriate to him in terms of the demands and expectations of those in his group."

Social roles are accordance with the social values, ideals and patterns, when these change and so the concept of the role also changes. The role which is justified at a particular time may not be justified at other time .Women at work in a different role but when she reaches home her role deemed to change at home she is expected to be as wife ,mother and as *bahu* her role changes as per the status.

It is not possible for anyone to perform his/her role fully in accordance with the expectations of the family so adjustment begins as per the situations.

IMPORTANCE OF ROLE AND STATUS:

Man basically is a social animal. His/her individuality cannot be considered in isolation. Every individual makes his or her contribution towards family, community, society and

nation as well in one way or the other. Role as well as expectations and status occupies an important place in person's life.

FAMILY: Family is one of the permanent social institutions which in one form or another is found in almost all societies of the world and said to be the corner stone of the society and Hindu family generally known as patriarchal family. Today modern nuclear family is largely isolated from kin and family side. In the present study is based on study of 100 married police women, with different classes' ii-iii, between the age groups of 21 to 50 years with their education level of High Secondary to Post Graduation. Income ranged from 10,000/- to 50,000/- per month, posted in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, the respondents had been record the type of the family, family stage and area of disagreement at home between spouses.

Table No.1.1: Type of the family:

Type of the family	Distribution of Respondent	
	Frequency	Percentage
Joint Family	32	32
Nuclear Family	52	52
Others/ Extended Family	16	16
Total	100	100

It is found that 52 % are in nuclear family because more members in family more work load, less members in a family work is manageable. 32% of the family prefer to the joint family and others/ extended family because it provide social and emotional, proper care of children and their education when couples are on duty.

Table No.1.2: Family stage:

Family stage	Distribution of Respondent	
	Frequency	Percentage
Need care	27	27
Independent	73	73
Total	100	100.00

As the above table shows the stage of the family 27% there are young /old generations who need care and proper attention from parents or daughter in law. Women at work with dual responsibilities (home office or field) as the table no: 1.1. shows the percentage of the extended family for the same reasons. It shows the patterns of adjustment within the family.

Table No. 1.3. Area of Disagreement at Home Between husband and Wife and how they are resolved.

Disagreement issues	Ranking	Distribution of Respondent	
		Frequency	Percentage
Food	10	10	10
House Work	16	16	16
Time given to spouse	17	17	17
Things on proper Place	14	14	14
Children's study/Education	27	27	27
In Law's Care	16	16	16
Total	100	100	100

As the above table shows being women with dual responsibilities, multiple roles towards family (home and work) is prior at home she is superior but when she reaches/enters home she is wife, mother or daughter in law, sister in law, she has to perform with the multiple role with the expectations of the family.

FINDINGS:

Policing involves a demanding and life-bulling work environment. Most women married to person not in police as male personal don't like to marry women in police; they claim that it was difficult to marry as were not seen as good home maker. It was seen that the husbands of women police have to help a lot in shouldering house hold responsibilities

The current findings on the nuclear, joint and extended families in Bhopal, suggests the adjusting different patterns in Bhopal, like not fully nuclear, not fully joint family, married women is living with her parents or husband's sister is residing at his residence, kins are residing for the safety purpose of the dependent kids to take care. Role adjustments play a central role in the family to cope up with all situations, expectations, emotions, and feeling and to bind with one and all in a family. The police force still presents a strong masculine image, it is undeniable that the number of female police officers has significantly increased

Legal laws, support from the family and from spouse inspire them to join and after selection in same job and its training, awareness of laws interaction with different people factors are the reasons to encourage them to stay in the police force mainly the police working culture are possible factors that give them boast for adjusting patterns at home. Women care about relationships and values more than rules and principles.

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