



Women Domestic Workers and their Family Life in Education

Mrs. S. Yamini

Assistant Professor, Department of Commerce, Excel college for Commerce and Science, Komarapalayam, Namakkal, 637303

ABSTRACT

A domestic women worker is a person who works within the employer's family. Domestic work force perform a various of household forces for a family or an individual, from providing care for children and elderly dependents to housekeeping, including cleaning, washing and household maintenance. Other responsibilities may include cooking, laundry and ironing, shopping for food and undertaking other household errands. Such work has always needed to be done but before the Industrial Revolution and the advent of labour saving strategy, it was physically much harder. Mostly women are employed in domestic work. Though the domestic women workers rendering enormous service to their owner. Their situation is workers them to the unorganized workers, they work more but getting less pay. They were not allowed to take leave. According to their wish they were not consider as a workers. Hence in the current paper forces were giving to study the family life of domestic women workers.

Keywords: socio-economic conditions, Domestic Women Workers, Namakkal District.

INTRODUCTION

Some domestic workers live within their employer's household. In some cases, the contribution and skill of servants whose work encompassed complex management tasks in large households have been highly valued. However, for the most part, domestic work, while necessary, is demanding and undervalued. Although legislation protecting domestic workers is in place in many countries, it is often not extensively enforced. In many jurisdictions, domestic work is poorly regulated and domestic workers are subject to serious abuses, including slavery many domestic workers are live-in domestics. Though they often have their own quarters, their accommodations are not usually as comfortable as those reserved for the family members. In some cases, they sleep in the kitchen or small rooms, such as a box room, sometimes located in the basement or attic. Domestic workers may live in their own home, though more often they are "live-in" domestics, meaning that they receive their room and board as part of their salaries. In some countries, because of the large gap between urban and rural incomes, and the lack of employment opportunities in the countryside, even an ordinary middle class urban family can afford to employ a full-time live-in servant. The majority of domestic workers in China, Mexico, India, and other populous developing countries, are people from the rural areas who are employed by urban families.

Domestic work has a long history in India with both men and women working in others homes as servants. The affluent had servants; mostly men with loyalty obligation and patronage bring the salient aspects of this relationship. Caste defined the hierarchy – lower castes performed the dirty work of cleaning while higher caste men cooked. Though domestic work is not a new phenomenon in India, it cannot simply be viewed as an extension of historical feudal culture where the affluent employed 'servants'. Both in the urban and rural contexts, the nature of work and workers have been rapidly changing. The sector now primarily comprises women domestic workers who are not recognized as workers while their work is undervalued. This is primarily due to the gendered notion of housework; value is not ascribed to women's work in their homes, and by extension, even paid work in other's homes is not given any value or regarded as work. It is also undervalued because it is often performed by poor, migrant women from lower castes. All these contribute to the inferior states of their work, both in their own minds and in society. Domestic work, however, is still undervalued. It is looked upon as unskilled because most women have traditionally been considered capable of doing the work, and the skills they are taught by other women in the home are perceived to be innate.

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DOMESTIC WORK

The term domestic service is difficult to define, as the duties of the domestic servants are not so well defined. In common parlance, the term is defined as a person who is engaged in part time or full time domestic work in return for remuneration payable in cash or kind for a fixed period. The terms of employment may be expressed or implied. Domestic service is becoming a major and growing informal sector activity in the urban areas, especially in big cities. It is one of the informal sector activities where the conditions of work are disgusting with long working hours, low pay and absence of job



Dr. REVIMAL KISHANTH, M.Com, M.Phil, Ph.D.,
PRINCIPAL
Excel College for Commerce and Science
Komarapalayam-637 303.