

Women's Autonomy: Concept, Measurement and Determinants

*Manisha Viraj Pimpalkhare

Abstract

Women's autonomy presents an intricate area for research as it is a multidimensional concept with multitude of factors influencing it. The paper investigates the autonomy and participation in decision making experienced by women and examines the relationship of autonomy with education. The research presented here is a part of a larger study of 600 women domestic workers in Pune city. This paper examines whether education has an impact upon participation of women in non income decisions. These decisions involve marriage and children related decisions. It is found that education has a significant association with participation in decision making about own marriage, choice of family type after marriage and choice of family size.

Key words: Women's autonomy, women's education
