

PROBLEMS RELATED TO THE ATTITUDE OF SOCIETY AND FAMILY/ Social Factors

Dual responsibility: The major problems for working wives arise out of the dual responsibilities of the working women-domestic work and the office work. Though more and more women are coming out in search of paid employment and their families also need their income, the attitude towards women and their role in the family has not undergone much change. Women continue to be perceived as weak, inferior, and second-class citizens. Even today, looking after the family and children is generally perceived to be the primary responsibility of women.

Working women and children: With the State retreating from its minimum responsibilities of providing welfare measures and privatisation of basic services like health, education etc, women are forced to spend more time and energies on these responsibilities towards their children and other family members. **Control over income:** Even though many women work, not many of them have any control over the income they earn. A great majority of them have to hand over their salary to their husbands or in-laws. They are not supposed to manage their own income. The amount is spent for home. In some cases they are not given even the pocket money or the amount to buy things for their personal use. Thus employment still does not mean control over money or economic independence for the women.

Restrictions on movement: In some cases the freedom of movement of the working women is also restricted. She is allowed only to go to the place of work. If she is late by half-an hour, she is answerable. She is not allowed to go out alone. If she wants to go, younger sister-in-law or someone else accompanies her. Some women express that if they have to work late in the office, their husbands or the in-laws misunderstand them. She is badly rebuked and a big fuss is made of it.

References

Eswari, M. (2009). Problems faced by the working women in the era of globalization.