

# A Study on Parent's Attitudes towards the Education of their Daughters

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## Abstract

There have been different factors causing the inequality between male and female in access to education. Among all, the cultural and religious traditions and practices in favor of male domination in ruling the societies or states combined with the poor economy have been the most prominent elements. Girl's enrolment also makes almost half of that of boys in primary level and around one fourth in secondary level as well university. By disaggregating rural, the facts become more shocking, as the girl's enrolment in secondary levels makes one-tenth of boys in rural population. The low percentage is meant to be due to Co-education and different factors, cultural barriers, economical condition, distance to schools, parents favoring boys to education and so on. Educational theories and past related researches also defined the gap between male and female education in different parental attitude to get a status in the societies. The present study designed to recognize the factors, which do affect the parents' attitudes towards their daughters' education. The analysis of data and testing hypotheses was enhanced the research check the validity and reliability in the data. As conclusion to the research was found out that more co-educational institution in society higher will be the unfavorable attitude of parents towards their daughters' education, it was found out that mother are more expecting their daughter's education than fathers and it was found out that less income parents have the lack interest of their daughter's education.

**Key concepts:** parents' attitude, daughters' education, cultural and religious traditions, co-education

**JEL Classification:** I2, I21

## INTRODUCTION

For the solving of existing and emerging issues of the society the importance of female education are appreciated and documented in overall aspects. It is a desire of every parent that their children achieve respectable social status in a society so that they try to educate their children whatever they are educated or uneducated. But unfortunately due to the traditional attitudes of rural people towards female education mostly female are not allowed to get education as compare to male. The ratio of female education in rural areas is very low. Because there is less availability of educational institutions for females and existing institutions do not fulfill the needs of rural families (Haesebaert, et al., 2012). Beside these, there have been more different factors causing the inequality between male and female in access to education. Among all, the cultural and religious traditions and practices in favor of male domination in ruling the societies or states combined with the poor economy have been the most prominent elements. Girls' enrolment also makes almost half of that of boys in primary level and around one fourth in secondary level. By disaggregating rural and urban, the facts become more shocking, as the girls' enrolment in

secondary levels makes one-tenth of boys in rural population. The low percentage is meant to be due to different factors attributed to safety and security matters. Cultural barriers, Economic problems, distance to schools, Parents' favoring boys to education and so on (Purewal & Hashmi, 2015).

The present study was designed for the identification of those factors which are affecting parent attitudes towards the daughter's education. Education is very essential for every individual of the society. The aim of education is overall development of an individual. In this way education means bringing out inherent potential and development of an individual skills and abilities (Khan, Azhar, & Shah, 2011). In fact, it is combination of ideas, facts, traditions, beliefs, recognized theories and philosophies of life. Education is ongoing social process and therefore, to educate an individual, taking into consideration the fact that he/she is the member of the society. It is the one of the major agent of social change which brings change in the traditional outlook of the people. Education is commonly understood as it is a way to enhance the ability through knowledge and skills to complete the task more effectively (Khattak, 2013).

Females can play their role very effectively in family welfare and society development if they are educated. Female literacy is a challenge nowadays specially in developing countries. Every person knows the importance of female education towards to development of family in education, health, and general wellbeing. Instead of the several legitimate safeguards, rules and schemes of the government, the literacy rates of female remain low and unsatisfied in underprivileged areas of rural societies compare to the urban areas. This is because of the various factors including Socio-economic status, parents' attitude, Parents' lack interest towards female education, non-awareness of importance of education, unavailability of educational resources, traditional norms and countless other factors are the major causes which are hurdles in girl's education (Anwer, Iqbal, & Harrison, 2012). The current scenario may be improved if comprehensive awareness programs have been implemented. If awareness increases among these parents' regarding the importance of education specially the female education, they can convert their attitude from negative to positive towards female education. The aims of this study stem from the statement of the problem. Objectives of study separated in General and Specific headings.

- To know about the parents' attitudes and factors which are effecting their daughters' education in UC 8 Manghopir, Gadap Town, Karachi
- To find out that what situations constants in the changing of parents attitudes towards their daughter's education
- To examine the parents' attitudes about the co-education system for their daughter's education
- To find out the expectation of the parents towards their daughters' education
- To find out the relationship between girls education and family income
- Following are the hypotheses of present study
- There is no relationship between educated parents' and prefer daughters' higher education.
- There is no relationship between number of sons and daughters higher education.
- There is no relationship between Co-education system and unfavorable attitude of parents.
- There is no relationship between mother's expectation and daughter higher education.

- There is no relationship between mother's expectation and daughter' education.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

A theoretical framework has great significance while conducting research. It is providing initial evidence, information and knowledge for the understanding about the particular study and activity. The basic aim of review of literature is, to understand the previous work and develop a concrete knowledge about the current study or research. It is also guide or informs the researcher or investigator. A literature reviews for research work functions basically the similar purpose as a guide book for a trip. Both are providing primary evidence and information for conducting the particular activity. Understand the past work and develop a concrete knowledge for current activity or research is the basic aim which a researcher wants to achieve from the literature review. Review of literature also helps the researcher about the areas in which additional research is needed or required (Ayub, 2017).

Conflict theory sees the purpose of education as maintaining social inequality and preserving the power of those who dominate society. Conflict theorist examines the same functions of education as functionalist. Functionalist sees education as a beneficial contribution to an ordered society; however, conflict theorist sees the educational system as perpetuating the status quo by dulling the lower into being obedient workers. Both functionalist and conflict theorist agree that the education system practices sorting, but they disagree about how it enacts that sorting. Functionalists claim that schools sort based upon merit conflict theorists argue that schools sort along distinct class and ethnic lines. According to conflict theorists, schools train those in the working classes to accept their position as a lower-class member of society. Conflict theorist calls this role of education the "hidden curriculum" (Bhatti & Jeffery, 2012). Conflict theorist points to several key factors in defending their position. First, property taxes fund most schools therefore schools in affluent district have more money. Such areas are predominantly white. They can afford to pay higher salaries, attract better teachers, and purchase newer texts and more technology. Students who attend these schools gain substantial advantages in getting into the best colleges and being tracked into higher-paying professions.

Ashraf, Niazi, Masood, and Malik, (2019) conducted study on “gender comparisons” major findings were, Gender is all about defining humans as women, men, not in the sense of body, physiology but in the sense of social construct on in toner words we can say that: “socially constructed characteristic of men and women are called gender, while biologically determination is called sex. People are born male or female but learn to be boys and girls who grow into men and women. This learned behavior makes up gender identity and determines gender roles. Anwar, Tahir, Nusrat, and Khan, (2018) conducted the study on “Gender and education”. In the present world wherever there is talk about education, the gender equality or in other words equal participation of male and female in all aspects of education including the Gender Parity Index (GPI), as a measuring tool, come on the top of the lists of issues and priorities, “Gender is a significant fact in determining who is in school. The lower participation rates of trills in most regions of the world result from a complex mix of both supply and demand factor. Training should also enable five teachers and administrators to develop the ability to identify and effectively respond to conflict, misunderstanding and miscommunication regarding gender issues. It is ought to be mentioned that it is not the education alone to make changes. But the education system can significantly contribute in shaping attitudes and conditions in longer run through providing girls and boys with gender sensitive knowledge and information and eventually achieving gender equality. Although many countries unsuccessful to reject gender inequalities in both secondary and primary education, where needs to positive changes and improvements are seen in the curriculum as well as in the contents of the school text books in terms of gender sensitization since 1980 in many parts of the world. A plenty of research show that educational institutions proved opportunities in exploring the diversity of gender images and roles among teachers and students.

Buzdar and Ali (2011) conducted a study on, “Parents’ Attitude toward Daughters’ Education in Tribal Area of Dera Ghazi Khan (Pakistan)”. These studies drew a clear line of demarcation between the opinions of have and have not. For instance, a person running his own madrasa showed a negative attitude towards government schools for girls and he emphasized only on the religious education for girls for sack of knowledge. Whereas people from lower classes had an entirely different view regarding girls education they said that girls school

education was as much important as their religious knowledge. In the light of findings the opinion of parents regarding significance of education are categorized into two categories. The first set of parents response that, unavailability of resources like school building, teachers, and transport also pose urban centers on the other hand people with lower background remain settled in the tribal area but they have a strong desire that the government should provide these facilities at their door step so that they are able to educate their daughters as much as possible (Sarwar, 2016). The second set of parent emphasized only on the religious education of the girls when dug deeper it was revealed that only a handful madrasas was available in the tribal area of D.G Khan having significantly lower number of girls going there and learning only the skill of reciting the holy Quran without any comprehension. People from this group strictly follow their cultural and tradition and do not think the comprehension of the holy Quran as important they only want to stick with their tradition of learning the recitation of holy Quran, moreover no mechanism is available in these madrasas to promote madrasa students through the main stream government school in the region. This study recommended that availability of the public schools for the girls with proper building, proper sewerage, qualified teachers, transportation facility, books and stationary will help change the mind of the people belonging to the second group. Government should register these madrasas so that students from these madrasas may be promoted to the public schools and proper schooling may be provided to them. This step will provide students opportunity to receive education from madrasas as well as school.

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In the method of quantitative research the data are analyzed through the help of numerical, mathematical and statistical techniques which is collected through questionnaire, polls and surveys. It is also emphasize objective measurements of the data and employed quantitative theoretical and methodological principles and techniques and statistics (Babbie, 2010). “Exploratory is a process that promise to develop on accurate picture of the research objectives, is a control elements of qualitative research and according to some theorists but also in modifying and testing hypothesis and theories. Exploratory research defines certain concepts to formulate hypothesis to operational variables” (Sarantakos, 1998, p. 114).

Money, resources hearing and limited time, it is not possible for the researcher to cover the whole population of the universe so a sample is drawn. A sample is a set of items, scores of observations selected from a population or set of selected subjects for study draw accounts to some principles of sampling for sample it is assumed that it possessing all the characteristics of the general population on universe. It is define as a set of respondent (people) who are selected from an entire population for the purpose of a research. A sample is some part of a larger body specially selected to represent the whole. Sampling is the process by which this part is chosen. Sampling then is taking any portion of a population or universe as representative of that population or universe.

Here, it is impossible for the researcher to study the whole population of the universe due to short period of time and resources. The Gadap town one of the largest town of the Karachi city and it has various union councils. According to survey of (2001) the total population of the town is almost 289564. The researcher has chosen the union council 08 (UC 8) for the research area according to 1998 census the total population of UC Manghopir is 36,754. The size of sample drawn from total population of three villages which is 2600 and draw 5% (130) sample from entire population. Sample size of present study is 130 respondents 130 because sample is a smaller part which represents the whole population.

In this study researcher used in first stage "Simple Random Sampling method" for the selection of areas (Goth) in UC 08. And in second stage the researcher used "Accidental Sampling Method" for data collection. A set of questions which is developed in organized and systematic manner for the purpose of gaining data and information from the respondents. Questionnaire is a documented content of questions and other type of items designed to analysis of information in appropriate manner (Babbie.1994, p. 58). In the present study the researcher has adopted questionnaire.

### **Pre-Testing**

Before the data collected the efficiency reliability and accuracy of the questions repaired and arranged is checked in order in order to get accurate and reliable answer the pre-testing is an important step in the social researcher. Pre-testing is a minor test of single elements of results, research instruments and is primarily used to check ultimate mechanical problems of this instrument.

The researcher collected the data from 15 respondents for the pre-testing to know the mechanical problems of the instrument and verifying the reliable answers.

In the present study the researcher adopted simple tables and contingency tables, to identify the various characteristics and present data. Method of data analysis is an important task for a researcher. The validity and reliability of any type of research work strongly depends on method of data analysis which is adopted by the researcher. generally social research for data analysis employed statistical methods of statistical analysis that are employer by social research to find the reliability and validity of the hypothesis and to study the relationship between the variable and hypothesis is not tested directly between the independent variable understudy (Paul & Sinha, 2016).

### **RESULTS & ANALYSIS**

Out of the total respondents, 44% are Male and 66% respondents are Female. So the above analysis reveals that majority of the respondents are Females, it shows that highest number of frequency with 56%. Similarly, out of total respondents 5% of the respondent's age is 20-24, 15% of the respondent's age is 25-29, 29% of the respondent's age is 30-34, and 51% of the respondent's age is 35-39+. Out of total respondents 43% of the respondent's native language is sindhi and 25% is balochi and 32% respondents are belongs to others languages like pushtoo, barohi, Punjabi and urdu. Out of total respondents 33% of the respondents are illiterate, 14% have primary, 17% have middle, 12% have matriculation, 12% have inter and 12% have graduation qualification. Out of total respondents 86% of the respondents are spouse living status, 6.50% of the respondents are separated, 2% are widowed and 5.50% are widower. Out of total respondents 25% are government servant, 13% are private servant, 31% respondents have own business, 26% females are housewife and 5% of the respondents' is driving and farming. Out of total respondents 07% of the above respondent's have only one child, 13% respondents' have two children, 17% have three, 24% have four children, 14% have five children, 12% have six children and 13% respondents' have more than seven children. Out of total respondents 78% of the above respondents' say that their children getting education, 10% respondents' children are jobless, 04% respondents' children doing own

business, 03% in government service and 05% respondents' children have other current status. Out of total respondents 79% are living in 1 to 2 rooms, 17% respondents have 3 to 4 rooms in their house and 04% respondents say that they have 5 rooms in their house. Out of total respondents 82% of the above respondents say that 1 to 2 family members are working. 12% say that their 3 to 4 family members are working, 08% respondents say that their 5 family members are working for earning.

58% of the respondents said that their monthly household income is less than Rs. 10000, 22% of the above respondents said that their monthly household income is between Rs. 10,001-15,000, 8% of the above respondents say that their monthly household income is between Rs. 15001-20000 and 12% of respondents said that their monthly household income Rs. 21000 and above. Out of total respondents 30% of respondents said yes, 65% said no and 5% said can't say when they asked about their family income enough for educational and other expenses. Out of total respondents 42% of the respondents' all children goes to school, 52% respondents' some children goes to school and unfortunately 6% respondents said that their children does not go to school. Out of total respondents 44% respondents said that only one daughter are enrolled in school, 35% response two daughters, 7% response three daughters and 14% respondents said that not any daughter enrolled in school or college. Out of total respondents, 91% of the above respondents said they have less than 10,000 expenses for their children' education in month and 09% respondents said that they have more than 10,001 expenses for their children' education in month. Out of total respondents 10% of the above respondents said that their children will get good job without completing education, 73% respondents are disagreed about it and 17% can't say regarding this question. Out of total respondents 83% of the respondents like their daughters' education and 17% respondents are against of daughters' education.

Out of total respondents 07% of the respondents said that their daughter should get middle level of education, 17% response matriculation, 39% response intermediate, 24% are graduation and 14% desire for master level of education for their daughters. Out of total respondents 25% of the respondents response "Yes", 65% response "No" and 10% response "Sometimes" when they asked about participation in school and college activities. Out of

total respondents 46% of the respondents have knowledge about co-education system, 52% respondents don't have awareness regarding Co-education system. Out of total respondents 20% of the respondents said that they like co-education system, 77% respondents don't like co-education system and some respondents are not able to give any answer regarding this question. Out of total respondents 15% of the respondents said that they are preferred co-education for their daughters, 62% are not preferred and 23% respondents are not able to give yes or no. Out of total respondents 24% of the respondents said that they will prefer daughter, 55% prefer son and 21% none of both when they will stack in economic crises. Out of total respondents 22% respondents select daughters, 49% respondents select sons, 24% respondents select both and some respondents can't say regarding this question. Out of total respondents 54% of the respondents said "Yes", 32% said "No" and 14% respondents can't say when they asked regarding they have believe that their daughter will get as much education as you would like for them to have. Out of total respondents 45% of the respondents said that they will give permission to their daughter to get higher education on own choice, 47% are not allow their gathers. Out of total respondents 57% of the respondents said that they will marry their daughter, 28% respondents will allow their daughters to university after completing intermediate level of education. Out of total respondents 19% of the respondents said that they consult with daughters, 53% are not consulted with daughters and 28% respondents are sometimes consulted with daughters in different issues. Out of total respondents 46% of the respondents said that they have remain informed to great extent about daughters activates, 44% are to some extent and 10% not to all when they asked the same question. Out of total respondents 41% of the respondents said that they often interact with their children, 39% are sometimes and 20% respondents are rarely interact with their children. Out of total respondents 52% of the respondents said that they spend most of time with their family, 35% respondents spent most of time with children and 13% are with friends. Out of total respondents 12% of the respondents said that they want to spend leisure time with daughters, 5% with son, and 70% with both.

Education of parents'	Likes higher education for their daughters			Total
	Get Marriage	Allow to University Edu.	Can't say	
Illiterate to Middle level	45 (47.2)	28 (23.0)	10 (12.8)	83

Metric to Graduation level	26 (26.8)	8 (13.0)	10 (7.23)	47
Total	74	36	20	130

Calculated value of chi square= 4.98

Table value of chi square at 2df and 0.05 level of significance is= 5.99

Co-efficient of correlation= 0.19

The calculated value of chi square with 2 degree of freedom and 0.05 level of significance is (4.98) less than its table value (5.99) therefore, the null hypothesis is accepted and its alternate hypothesis is rejected. The relationship between the educated parents and prefer daughters' high education is 0.19 that shows positively weak relationship between variables.

Numbers of Sons	Number of daughters studying			Total
	1	2 to 3	None of them	
1 to 4	40 (34.6)	30 (33.4)	9 (10.9)	79
More than 5	17 (22.4)	25 (21.6)	9 (7.06)	51
Total	57	55	18	130

Calculated value of chi square= 3.88

Table value of chi square at 2df and 0.05 level of significance is= 5.99

Co-efficient of correlation= 0.17

The calculated value of chi square with 2 degree of freedom and 0.05 level of significance is (3.88) less than its table value (5.99) therefore, the null hypothesis is accepted and its alternate hypothesis is rejected. The relationship between the number of sons and daughters' education is 0.19 that shows positively weak relationship between variables.

Like Co-education system	Prefer daughter in Co-education system			Total
	Yes	No	Can't say	
Yes	10 (3.80)	09 (16.0)	07 (6.20)	26
No	09 (15.20)	71 (64.0)	24 (24.8)	104
Total	19	80	31	130

Calculated value of chi square= 16.60

Table value of chi square at 2df and 0.05 level of significance is= 5.99

Co-efficient of correlation= 0.33

The calculated value of chi square with 2 degree of freedom and 0.05 level of significance is (16.60) greater than its table value (5.99) therefore, the alternate hypothesis is accepted and its null hypothesis is rejected.

The relationship as indicated by the value of co-efficient of correlation is 0.19 that shows positively weak relationship between variables.

Gender	Expectation of daughter's education			Total
	Yes	No	Can't say	
Mother	45 (35.5)	10 (21.3)	11 (9.14)	66
Father	25 (34.5)	32 (20.7)	07 (8.86)	64
Total	70	42	18	130

Calculated value of chi square= 18.1

Table value of chi square at 2df and 0.05 level of significance is= 5.99

Co-efficient of correlation= 0.12

The calculated value of chi square with 2 degree of freedom and 0.05 level of significance is (18.1) greater than its table value (5.99) therefore, the alternate hypothesis is accepted and its null hypothesis is rejected. The relationship as indicated by the value of co-efficient of correlation is 0.12 that shows positively weak relationship between variables.

Lower income	Interest in daughters education			Total
	Daughter	Son.	None of both	
Less than 10,000	20 (25.0)	64 (58.2)	21 (21.8)	105
10,001 and above	11 (5.96)	8 (13.8)	6 (5.19)	25
Total	31	72	27	130

Calculated value of chi square= 8.48

Table value of chi square at 2df and 0.05 level of significance is= 5.99

Co-efficient of correlation= 0.24

The calculated value of chi square with 2 degree of freedom and 0.05 level of significance is (8.84) greater than its table value (5.99) therefore, the alternate hypothesis is accepted and its null hypothesis is rejected. The relationship between as indicated by the value of co-efficient of correlation is 0.24 that shows positively weak relationship between variables.

## Discussion

There is wide spread research body, theories and various researches have been concluded that there is wide gap has been emerging since the world is now a global village where, without education the low chances of living standards. In this way the parent's attitudes more important to be change for their daughter's education. Female education in the present era most important for

serve the society as well develops the country. The way parents act in the home and raise their children as large effect on how children will indication in social institution. Many social scientist claims that parents attitudes towards their education of their daughter is more subjected to lack interest in daughters education especially those areas which covered from traditionally order, rules and regulation.

The methodological problem is another challenge to select the study. The researcher has selected quantitative study to explore and highlighting the problem in the particular area as well those areas where the same condition of the parents' attitude occur. The lottery technique of sample random sampling and accidental sampling method are used for the selection of Goths and respondents. Questionnaire is a major tool for collection of respondents' response and common statistical methods are used for data analysis. From this particular study the researcher came to many conclusions like parents have low or high income they expect the best possible education for their daughters and have been found very concentrated and serious towards it, but in some circumstance they fail to meet the recommendation such as co-educational system, expectation of their daughter's education and education expenses. In this study every aspect of their decisions is covered suggestions have been given to tackle them.

## CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The present research was planned and conducted to find out what are the factors effecting female's education in this modern era where the education is one of the leading way of human life. The attitudes of parents is somehow also influence their daughters' education, specially low level of income of household, less availability of educational resources like educational institutes, transport facilities. Co-education systems are a major challenge in our society which is directly related to parent's unfavorable attitude for the education of their daughters. In this modern era various organizations are working for female education in rural areas where female considered as house working lady, now it's time to work more on parent's attitude towards their daughter's education. The data acquired have been analyzed and following conclusion have been made.

- It was found out that there is no relationship between educated parents and preferring their daughters higher education over the university, it's simply

clarifies that lack of transport and influence attitude of parents either educated or uneducated parents will not prefer their daughter to get higher education over the university.

- It was found out that there is no relationship between number of son and daughters higher education; the parents support their daughters' education at the intermediate level. There is no change in opinion about their children education.
- It was found that more co-education in society higher will be unfavorable attitude of parents towards their daughters' education. Because the co-education system are strongly neglected by countryside people and they are not allow their daughter to get education in co-educational institutes.
- It was found out that less income parents have the lack interest in their daughters' education, because in critical times parents always support their sons to get education and help them in running the family's situation.

There is wide scope of the research on this particular topic. In the view of the researcher of this study on parents attitude towards their daughters' education could be done on large scale, parents should aware about this problem and how they should solve issues related it.

- The particular area which has selected by the researcher faced many difficulties for female education, the government and private schools are established, parents prefer their daughters to get education in their own area's institution. Because that there is a common problem of transports, parents who have own transports they are definitely prefer their daughters to get education in different places but those parents who have lack transport also neglect their daughters' education. So that it is a wide gap between transport system and female education. Parents should work on proper transport to avoid this problem and female students feel free to get education.
- Educational institutions should establish separated for boys and girls so that the unfavorable attitude of parents towards their daughters' education can be removed.
- One the challenge of particular area is the low income and unemployment both are influence female education. Because parents have less income they do not have budget for their children' educational

expenditure. So that educational institution should build a corner for supporting those student who want to get education but have less income or not enough income to complete academic education.

- Government should take some initiatives to make some compulsory programs for the parents in order to take more interest in their daughters' education.
- The government colleges are near for each area so that so that government should upgrade colleges as university standards to give free education for females.
- Media should introduce such programs where they should discuss about the importance of a parental role in their children's education.
- Religious values to be integrated in order to share importance of parent in child's life, Imposing decisions on children should be discouraged
- Culture background is one of the major resistances to get female education in any rural areas. So there should bring to change in traditionally orders and resistance as possible, to face the world's challenges in education.
- Educationist should set panels and talk to both the parents about developing a healthy relationship with their daughters.

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