

***A SOCIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF INTER-GENERATIONAL  
CHANGES IN DECISION MAKING PROCESS OF WOMEN IN  
QATAR***

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# QATAR



- Islamic culture is predominant in Qatar and country is less influenced by westernisation
- Men engage in the public sphere more frequently than women.
- Schooling in Qatar is gender segregated but women have scored high in academics
- Women comprise two-third of the student body at Qatar University.
- Women are receiving government scholarships to study abroad.
- Also 52% of the total workforces in Qatar are women. Women in Qatar are contributing to various service sectors as education, health, journalism, tourism etc.
- Women are not allowed to obtain a driver's license without the permission of her husband.

# Objectives

- The major aim of the study was to find whether there is difference between new generation and older generation housewives with regard to decision making capacity in family

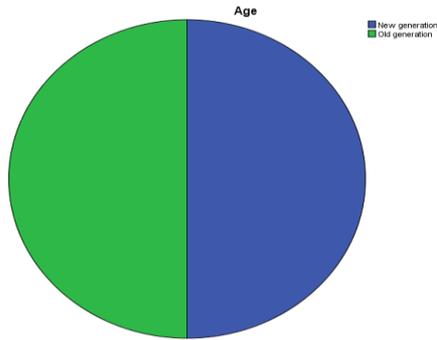
## **Specific Objectives**

- To analyse the intergenerational difference in the decisions regarding education
- To understand the intergenerational difference in the decisions regarding marriage.
- To find out the intergenerational difference in decisions regarding family budgeting
- To analyse the decision making process of women regarding food preparation and purchase

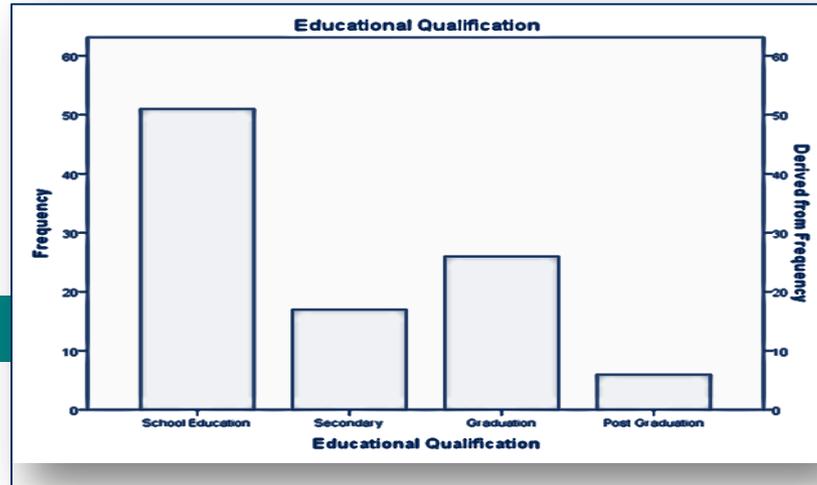
# Methodology

- **QUANTITATIVE CUM QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS**
- **COMPARATIVE DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS.**
- **INTERVIEW METHOD**
- **THE DATA WAS COLLECTED FROM 100 RESPONDENTS THROUGH SNOWBALL SAMPLING.**
- **SAMPLE POPULATION -MARRIED WOMEN OF TWO SUCCESSIVE GENERATIONS.**
- **EMPLOYING TESTIMONIAL INTERVIEWS WITH THE WOMEN OF NEW GENERATION AND OLD GENERATION OF ARAB WOMEN, STUDY OFFERS IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS OF THE CHANGES IN DECISION MAKING PATTERNS OF WOMEN IN FAMILY.**
- **DATA WAS COLLECTED CODED AND ANALYZED USING S.P.S.S**

## DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

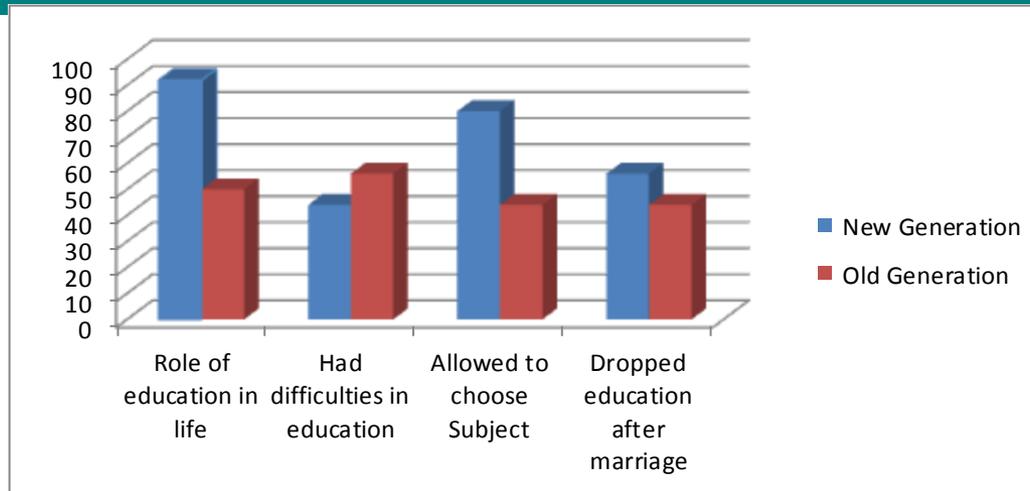


• The respondents were from new generation and old generation



- 76 percent of the respondents were from joint family and 24 percent were from the nuclear family.
- 65 percent of the women are unemployed and 35 percent of the respondents are employed
- Most of them are involved in teaching and clerical jobs.

## Intergenerational decision making difference in the field of education

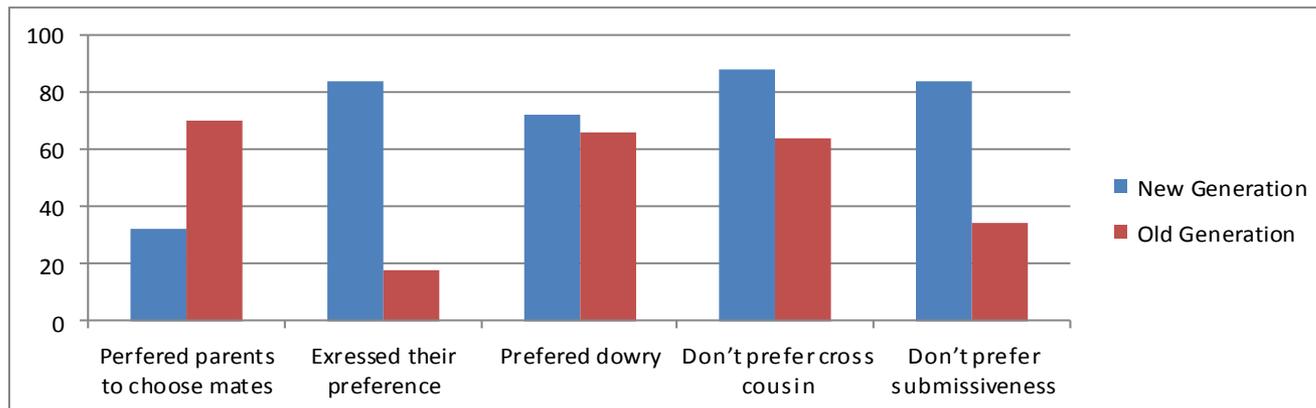


- The study reveals that the younger generation does not have much difficulties in achieving their education. 56% of the women from older generation faced difficulties in achieving their education and 44% does not have any difficulties in achieving their education.

- The old generations faced difficulty in achieving education because the factors as early marriage financial difficulties of the parents, lack of motivation etc.
- The women from younger generation have opportunity to take decisions about their education whereas the women from older generation were submissive to the patriarch and women's education was not at all relevant in families.
- 80% of the women from new generation were allowed to take choices regarding education and 20% were not allowed to take choices.

- While from the respondents of older generation 44% were allowed to take choices of education and 56% were not allowed to take choices of education. This shows that there has been intergenerational changes in the decision making process of women.
- The study also revealed that that 56% of the respondents from younger generation dropped their education after marriage and 44% continued their education after marriage.
- And 68% from older generation dropped their education after marriage and 32% continued their education
- Most of the women dropped their higher education after their marriage and women are submissive to the husband. While comparing, the younger respondents are more involved in decision making about their children's education.

## Intergenerational difference in decisions regarding Marriage



- While comparing the new generation and the old generation 70% of the women from old generation accepted the mates according to their parent's choice and just 30% said that their marriage is arranged with their consent.
- Most of the women from younger generation have expressed their preferences

- Majority of women from both age groups do not prefer cross cousin marriages.
- 64 percent of the women from older generation have opinion that parents should select the mate for their children while 73 percent women from younger generation preferred joint consultation.
- Most of the women from both generation preferred dowry because it is a matter of prestige to the family.
- 84 percent of the women from new generation don't prefer to be submissive to their husband and from the old generation most of them prefer to be submissive.
- All the respondents from the younger generation preferred divorce, if wife and husband cannot get along with each other.

## Intergenerational difference in decisions regarding family budgeting

- Women from new generation responded that husband and wife jointly decides about family budget including the educational expense of children. Whereas most of the women from old generation responded that husband decides family budget
- 72 percent of the women from new generation said that they are allowed to use their income and 28 percent said that they are not allowed to use income.
- Women from old generation are economically deprived and 78 percent said that they are not allowed to use their own income.

## **Intergenerational difference in decisions regarding food preferences and purchase**

- The women from both generations are equally empowered to take decisions at home regarding food preferences.
- 44 percent of the women from old generation said that their husband shops the essentials where as women from new generation are interested in shopping and 80 percent said that they themselves shop the essentials.
- 68 percent of the women from old generation and 48 percent of the woman from old generation said that they are not allowed to travel alone.
- 86 percent of the women from old generation said that their husband restricted freedom of movement.
- Compared with that women from new generation have better freedom

- 48 percent of women from new generation were allowed to drive car.
- The women from older generation prefer homely food which is good for health and just 24percent preferred fast food.
- 84 percent of the women from old generation said that they interfere in the food habits of children.
- 76 percent of women from new generation prefer fast food and they prefer to hang out with friends in restaurants and malls
- The young women purchase food of their own interest from malls and other hypermarkets.

# Recommendations

- **Public education**
- **Flexible work environment**
- **Legal Reforms**
- **Political and Social Involvement**

# **Conclusion**

- **There has been intergenerational changes in the decision making process of married women in Qatar.**
- **The young women prioritized education as prime aspect. The old generations faced difficulty in achieving education because the factors as early marriage financial difficulties of the parents, lack of motivation etc.**
- **Parental preference and choices are important in the life of women from old generation. The women from old generation prefer to be submissive to their husband whereas women from young generation don't prefer to be submissive. The women from young generation are better educated and ambitious and they enjoy freedom than old generation.**
- **With related to the marriage preference women from younger generation have expressed their views about the life partner but the women from old generation were submissive to the patriarch. Most of the women from new generation preferred divorce if there is adjustment problems between husband and wife.**
- **The women from both generations are equally empowered to take decisions at home regarding food preferences. Women from old generation said that family budget was decided by husband and women from young generation mentioned about egalitarian role in decision making. Men restricted the freedom of movement.**

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**THANK YOU**