Global Journal of Management, Social Sciences and Humanities 92 Vol 7 (1) Jan-March, 2021, PP. 92-114. ISSN 2520-7113 (Print), ISSN 2520-7121 (Online) www.gjmsweb.com. Email:editor@gjmsweb.com. Impact Factor value = 4.739 (SJIF). DOI: https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5767-6229.

A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF ATTITUDE OF LITRATE AND ILLITRATE PARENTS TOWARDS GIRLS EDUCATION: A CASE STUDY OF DISTRICT KHANEWAL.

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ABATRACT-The main objective of this research study is to investigate the views of literate and illiterate parents towards their daughter's education and also know about the problems faced by girls during education. A sample of 200 parents (100 from literate areas and 100 from illiterate side) were taken using convenient sampling method. A sample of 300 teachers were also taken from primary schools of Tehsil Mian Channu. Questionnaire was developed to collect primary data from the respondents. Survey method was used to conduct this research study. 5-points Likert scale was used to analyze the data. The findings of the study show that illiterate parents were reluctant to send their daughters to school and got their early marriage as compared to the educated parents who were eager to send their daughters to the schools and spend money on their education. Thus, we conclude that parents' education is necessary of the education of their daughters' education.

Keywords: Parent's views, girls' education, parental educational level.

paper

| Type of study: | Original Research |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Paper received: | 10.08.2020. |
| Paper accepted: | 15.11.2020 |
| Online published: | 01.01.2021. |

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1. INTRODUCTION:

Parent's positive attitude towards child's education is important in determining school attendance and academic achievement of the child. Favorable attitude towards schooling and education enhance parental involvement in children's present and future studies. Parent's attitude towards their children's education is affected adversely by low socio-economic status. It is expected that the attitude of parents of tribal children will be unfavorable towards education. Parent's attitude is a measure or an index of parental involvement. A child, brought up with affection and care in the least restrictive environment would be able to cope up better with the sighted world. Therefore, the family shapes the social integration of the child more than formal school. Talt (1972) opines that the parents' psychological well-being and the ease or difficulties with which they decipher the cues that facilitate the socialization process influence the personal and social development of the child. It is the parents who exert the major development on the child from birth to maturity. The role of parents in the education of their children needs no emphasis. The educational level of parents, principally of mothers is determining the educational achievement of their children. Greater the involvement of the parents in the education of their children, greater is the degree of achievement in the academic career of their children. Women are self-essential in bringing the fundamental institutions-family, society and school together to achieve a relevant lifelong education for all. Cultural identity and family values are largely passed on to new generation by women (Rao et.al,2001).

1.1. Main Research Problem:

The main problem of this research study is to investigate the that the views of educated and uneducated parents towards the education of their female children.

1.2 Objectives of study:

The main objectives of the study are given below.

To investigate the views of educated and uneducated parents towards their daughter's education

To study the problems faced by girls during their education

To suggest the solution how to reduce these problems.

1.3 Significance of the study:

This study will reveal the views of educated and uneducated parents about girls' education. This study will indicate the problems which are being faced by females' students during their education. As such this study is very important because its results will be useful both for parents but also policy makers to cope with issues being faced by female students and take policy initiative to enhance female literacy rate by encouraging illiterate parents to send their daughters to school for education.

1.4 Delimitation of the study:

This study was conducted in Tehsil Mian Channu of District Khanewal and the study area was divided into two groups. Group A consists of the areas where mostly educated families are living whereas Group B are comprised those areas where mostly illiterate families are living. In Group total 21 localities have been included while in Group B, the number of localities are also 21. The Group A are located in Mian Channu city while Group B localities are located in the rural areas adjoining to Mian Channu Tehsil. Group B localities are considered backward areas due to lack of transport and unavailability of educational institutions.

2. LITRATURE REVIEW:

Wazir (2005) has stated that in order to earn living it is necessary for the girls to be educated in the backward areas. If they are educated, they have more chances to earn money and spend life in an easy way. Child mortality and monthly income are effected by female educational level. Higher the educational level more is monthly income and low mortality rate of her children. On the other hand, the lower educational level, less monthly income and higher the mortality rate. It has been revealed in health reports that higher the female educational level the lower the fertility rate where the family planning is necessary. It was seen in the research reports that there were early marriages in the areas where female education was neglected. In these areas, there were higher fertility rates and the family size was large and contraception practice was low. On the other hand, where the female education was high, there was trend of late marriages. The fertility rate was slow and family size was small and there was increase trend in contraception.

Sameena (2005) revealed that in Ghana parental educational level and their income level was co-related to their children education. Mother educational level was much effective and necessary for the children educational.

According to Awan (2014) woman and man are two sides of a coin. They cannot exist without one another. Woman education can not only provide us an educated society but it also helps us to eliminate a large number of evils like unemployment of human capital. Social peace is also a fruit of women education. There are three rules that are played by a woman in her life in which certain duties are associated with her. Her first moral duty is to be a good daughter. Her second moral duty is to be a good while her third and most important duty is to be a good mother.

Awan and Iqbal (2015) said that education gives the sense to a mother that what a woman should be in actual. Education also provides the woman a sense of their rights. Women are considered as a weaker segment of society and due to which they are facing a large number of problems orthodox social norms and religious practices. Society cannot exploit the educated women in an easy way. As she will be aware of her rights because of education, so she will do her best to defend herself against any type of exploitation. Education of her children is her first and foremost duty and obligation. A child future mostly depends only education that he gets in his / her early age of 5 to 12 years. These years determine his / her future education. These years are mostly spent in the lap or company of his / her mother. So If Mother will be educated then she will transform the child tp a good direction that will be helpful in his / her future education. So education will make woman responsible to make their husband, father, son / daughter happier. So it is clear that women should be educated to make them a good member of the society.

Awan and Sheikh (2015) said that women play very important role in any society. So there is great importance of women education. The following are duties that are performed by educated women. Educated woman is conversant with her duties as a citizen. Educated woman is aware of her duties and norms that are attached to her. She nurtures children who are future generation. Educated mother gives the educated society which is her great contribution to country's development. Mothers education has a great impact on her child. So mother education determines the specification of society. Educated mother develops tolerance among her children. Uneducated mothers are more superstitious by nature. They cannot do best for her child. So they are unable to serve the society and country in a positive way. Basic medical knowledge is necessary for an educated mother to save their children from different diseases. Educated mother will give the healthy child and healthy society. Uneducated women cannot be a good wife because she cannot understand her husband. Educated wife is refined matured and resourceful. An educated woman can get job if she faced financial problems. So she can provide helping hands to her husband.

Shaheen and Awan (2020) emphasized that more educational institutions should be open for female students. But there is no need of education that is imparted onlu to men. There is a large number of girls that are to stay at home after marriages. So they should be thought subjects like domestic Sciences, nursing, child health and embroidery at school and college level. These subjects will be more helpful for girls instead of physics, chemistry, biology etc. Girls should be taught that how they can manage their homes. They should be given education that will be helpful to look after their homes. Such types of education should be provided to the woman. In order to sustain the economic growth and to eradicate poverty the women should be empowered in Pakistan.

3.RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

3.1. Research Design:

This is an exploratory research study in which we used primary data which was collected through a structured questionnaire and scheduled interviews from target population. Questionnaire and scheduled interviews were used as research tool for collection of data. The population of the student was Tehsil Mian Channu of District Khanewal from where 50 literates and 50 illiterate parents were selected randomly. Similarly, 300 teachers were also selected from different schools to investigate the behaviour of literate and literate parents about the education of their children. The questionnaire contains two parts: first part deals with information about the respondents while second part consisted of questions. Total number of questions were 30. The questionnaire was tested and validated through pilot testing. A good research relies on validity and reliability of its instruments and the procedure adopted to conduct the study. If the methods employed are not valid and reliable, the data is at best worthless, and at worst, misleading. Research instruments were carefully tested in Mian Channu before data collection, so that accurate and reliable information can be collected from the respondents. The process of data collection was completed during six month period from August 2018 to Feburary,2019. The data was processed through SPSS Software.

4. DATA ANALYSIS:

4.1 Analysis of respondents' statements:

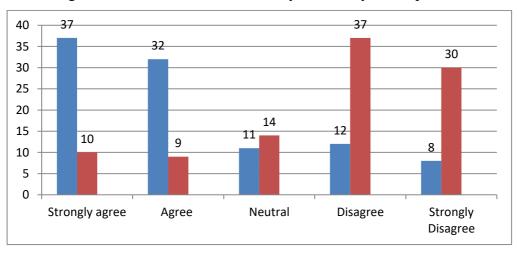
The results of respondents are given in the following tables:-

| 1. Statement | Response | Frequency | | | Mean score | | |
|---------------------|----------|-----------|----|----|------------|------|------|
| | | GA | | GB | | GA | GB |
| | | F | % | F | % | | |
| Girls' education is | Strongly | 37 | 37 | 10 | 10 | 3.78 | 2.32 |
| necessary for the | Agree | | | | | | |
| development of the | Agree | 32 | 32 | 9 | 9 | | |
| society. | Neutral | 11 | 11 | 14 | 14 | | |
| | Disagree | 12 | 12 | 37 | 37 | | |
| | Strongly | 8 | 8 | 30 | 30 | | |
| | Disagree | | | | | | |

Table 1: Girls education is necessary for development of society

The results also shown in Figure 1:

Figure.1: Girls education is necessary for society development



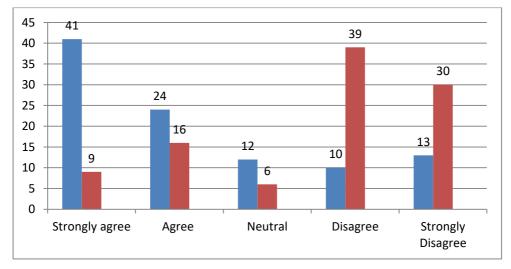
Explanation of the results 69% participants from group A and 19% participants from group B are agree with this statement. 11% participants from group A and 14% participants from group B are neutral with this statement. On the other hand, 20% participants from group A and 67% participants from group

B are disagree with this statement. The mean score of the statement i.e Girls' education is necessary for the development of the society for group A is 3.78 and for group B is 2.32.

| 2. Statement | Response | Frequency | | | Mean score | | |
|-----------------------|----------|-----------|----|----|------------|------|------|
| | | GA | | GB | GA | | GB |
| | | F | % | F | % | | |
| Education makes the | Strongly | 41 | 41 | 9 | 9 | 3.70 | 2.35 |
| girls good citizen of | Agree | | | | | | |
| the society. | Agree | 24 | 24 | 16 | 16 | | |
| | Neutral | 12 | 12 | 6 | 6 | | |
| | Disagree | 10 | 10 | 39 | 39 | | |
| | Strongly | 13 | 13 | 30 | 30 | | |
| | Disagree | | | | | | |

Table.2 Education makes the girls good citizens of society

Figure 2 Education makes the girls good citizens of society



Explanation of the results: 65% participants from group A and 25% participants from group B are agree with this statement. 12% participants from group A and 6% participants from group B are neutral with this statement. On the other hand, 23% participants from group A and 69% participants from group B are disagree with this statement. The mean score of the statement i.e Education makes the girls good citizen of the society for group A is 3.70 and for group B is 2.35

| 3. Statement | Levels | Frequency | | | Mean score | | |
|-----------------------|----------|-----------|----|----|------------|------|------|
| | | GA | | GB | GA | | GB |
| | | F | % | F | % | | |
| Parents should send | Strongly | 42 | 42 | 40 | 40 | 4.12 | 4.11 |
| their sons to schools | Agree | | | | | | |
| and girls should be | Agree | 44 | 44 | 46 | 46 | | |
| allowed to perform | Neutral | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 | | |
| home tasks only. | Disagree | 6 | 6 | 5 | 5 | | |
| | Strongly | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | | |
| | Disagree | | | | | | |

Table 3: Boys should be sent to schools and girls should manage homes

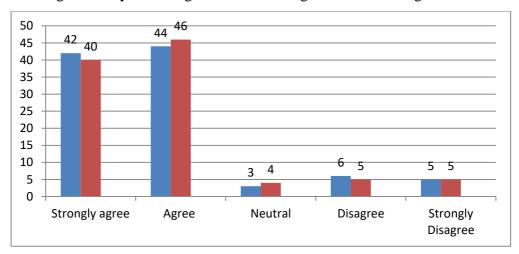


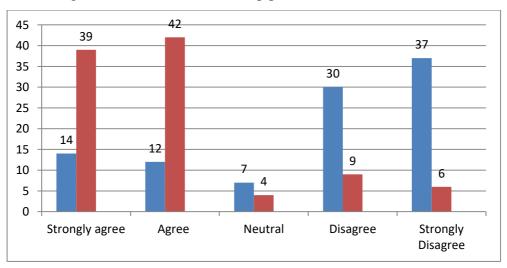
Figure 3 Boys should go to schools and girls should manage homes

Explanation of the results:86% participants from group A and 86% participants from group B are agree with this statement. 3% participants from group A and 4% participants from group B are neutral with this statement. On the other hand 11% participants from group A and 10% participants from group B are disagree with this statement. The mean score of the statement i.e Parents should send their sons to schools and girls should be allowed to perform home tasks only for group A is 4.12 and for group B is 4.11.

| 4.Statement | Levels | Frequency | | | Mean score | | |
|------------------------|----------|-----------|----|----|------------|------|------|
| | | GA | | GB | GA | | GB |
| | | F | % | F | % | | |
| The main task of the | Strongly | 14 | 14 | 39 | 39 | 2.36 | 3.99 |
| girls is to work at | Agree | | | | | | |
| home and in field with | Agree | 12 | 12 | 42 | 42 | | |
| her parents instead of | Neutral | 7 | 7 | 4 | 4 | | |
| getting education. | Disagree | 30 | 30 | 9 | 9 | | |
| | Strongly | 37 | 37 | 6 | 6 | | |
| | Disagree | | | | | | |

Table 4: Girls main task to help parents at home and at farms

Figure 4: Girls main task to help parents at home and at farms



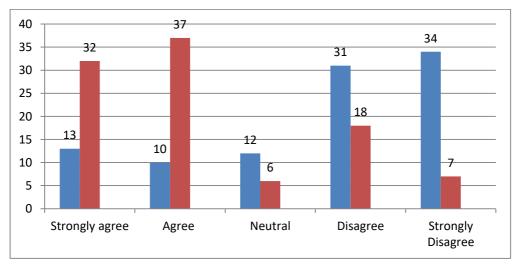
Explanation of the results: 26% participants from group A and 81% participants from group B are agree with this statement. 7% participants from group A and 4% participants from group B are neutral with this statement. On

the other hand, 67% participants from group A and 15% participants from group B are disagree with this statement. The mean score of the statement i.e The main task of the girls is to work at home and in field with her parents instead of getting education for group A is 2.36 and for group B is 3.99.

| 5. Statement | Levels | Frequency | | | Mean score | | |
|-----------------------|----------|-----------|----|----|------------|------|------|
| | | GA | | GB | GA | | GB |
| | | F | % | F | % | | |
| .Girls are considered | Strongly | 13 | 13 | 32 | 32 | 2.34 | 3.69 |
| as a burden for the | Agree | | | | | | |
| parents and parents | Agree | 10 | 10 | 37 | 37 | | |
| don't send them to | Neutral | 12 | 12 | 6 | 6 | | |
| schools as the girls | Disagree | 31 | 31 | 18 | 18 | | |
| have to go in her in | Strongly | 34 | 34 | 7 | 7 | | |
| laws home. | Disagree | | | | | | |

Table 5 Girls are considered as burden for parents

Figure 5: Girls are considered as burden for parents



Explanation of the results: 23% participants from group A and 69% participants from group B are agree with this statement. 12% participants from group A and 6% participants from group B are neutral with this statement. On the other hand, 65% participants from group A and 25% participants from group B are disagree with this statement. The mean score of the statement i.e Girls are considered as a burden for the parents and parents don't send them to schools as the girls have to go in her in laws home for group A is 2.34 and for group B is 3.69.

5.Summary of results:

Education plays an important role for the progress of the country and nation. Islam gives equal importance to male and female education. The main objectives of this research study are to know about the views of literate and illiterate parents towards their daughters' education and to know about the problems faced by girls during education. A sample of 200 parents (100 from literate areas and 100 from illiterate side) were taken using convenience sampling. Questionnaire was used as research tool to collect primary data from the respondents. Survey method was used to conduct this research study. Girls are not educated because of large sized family and only boys are allowed to get education (Group A 4.04 and Group B 2.56). Girls drop out ratio is more as compared to boys drop out ratio (Group A 2.98 and Group B 3.82). Long distance between home and school is a big problem so parents don't send their daughters to schools (Group A 3.98 and Group B 3.87). It's better for the girls to provide helping hands with their mothers in household activity than to get education (Group A 2.44 and Group B 3.73). Population welfare department should play its role to decrease the family size. This department should create

the sense the small families are helpful to educate all the children. Parents should not prefer the sons or daughters on not sending them to schools. Girls should not be dropped out from the schools on gender discrimination. School distance is also a main problem for the parents to send their daughter to schools. So schools should be constructed near to population so that girls may get education without any hesitation. Early age marriages should be discouraged. In this way people will send their daughters to schools instead of marriages.

6.FINDINGS OF STUDY:

Findings are in the form mean scores of groups A and group B, which are briefly explained as under: -

Girls' education is necessary for the development of the society (Group A 3.78 and Group B 2.32). Education makes the girls good citizen of the society (Group A 3.7 and Group B 2.35). Parents should send their sons to schools and girls should be allowed to perform home tasks only (Group A 4.12 and Group B 4.11). The main task of the girls is to work at home and in field with her parents instead of getting education (Group A 2.36 and Group B 3.99). Girls are considered as a burden for the parents and parents don't send them to schools as the girls have to go in her in laws home (Group A 2.34 and Group B 3.69). Girls are not educated because of large sized family and only boys are allowed to get education (Group A 4.04 and Group B 2.56). Girls drop out ratio is more as compared to boys drop out ratio (Group A 2.98 and Group B 3.82). Long distance between home and school is a big problem so parents don't send their daughters to schools (Group A 3.98 and Group B 3.87). It's better for the girls to provide helping hands with their mothers in household activity than to get education (Group A 2.44 and Group B 3.73). Girls should

look after their younger in the absence of parents and don't get education (Group A 2.57 and Group B 3.54). Girls should be married at early age instead of getting education (Group A 2.20 and Group B 3.87). Girls should not be sent to schools as society does not think it good and girls' character is considered not good (Group A 2.12 and Group B 3.65). Girls' education and career should not be influenced by their parents (Group A 3.44 and Group B 2.06). Only basic knowledge like just writing and reading is sufficient for the girls (Group A 2.28 and Group B 3.84). Spending on girl's education is wastage of money (Group A 2.31 and Group B 3.78). Educated girls have more chances of marriage in well to do family as compared to uneducated girls (Group A 2.10 and Group B 3.5). Family customs are also main hindrance in the girls education in backward areas (Group A 2.37 and Group B 3.72). Domestic tasks like cooking, dusting, washing, etc are essential for girls instead of getting education (Group A 2.03 and Group B 3.78). Boys' education is more important than girls' education so girls should not be educated (Group A 2.37 and Group B 3.02). Parental educational level is closely related to girl's education so higher the parental educational level, higher the girl's educational level (Group A 3.58 and Group B 3.30). It is difficult to provide pick and drop by the parents so girls are forced to leave the schools (Group A 2.15 and Group B 3.88). Media shows negative impact of girls' education so uneducated parents are reluctant to send their daughters to schools. So media is responsible for low literacy rate of girls' education (Group A 3.69 and Group B 3.94). Parental lack of interest in their daughter's education is the major cause of girls' low literacy rate and drop out (Group A 2.33 and Group B 3.61). In order to support their family girls are forced to leave the schools (Group A 2.44 and Group B 3.9). There are no chances of

jobs so parents are not ready to educate the girls (Group A 2.39 and Group B 3.7). Sexual harassment is also the main reason of not seeing the girls to schools (Group A 3.99 and Group B 4.01). Demographic situation is also responsible for lower rate of girls' low literacy rate (Group A 3.73 and Group B 3.84). Social restrictions for the girls' education is due to uneducated parents in the illiterate families (Group A 3.86 and Group B 3.73). Government takes steps to uplift low literacy rate (Group A 2.13 and Group B 2.51). Coeducation is also the main reason of not sending the girls to the schools (Group A 2.31 and Group B 3.89). Consolidated schools are also big hurdle for the girl's education especially in rural areas (Group A 2.16 and Group B 3.44). Educated girls have relations with her fellows. So that's why they are not sent to schools (Group A 2.19 and Group B 3.82). Educated mothers can be more helpful as compared to uneducated mothers (Group A 4.06 and Group B 2.06). Poverty is also major cause of not sending the girls to schools especially in backward areas (Group A 3.93 and Group B 3.95). Parents are not satisfied with teacher's attitude so they don't send their daughters to the schools (Group A 3.66 and Group B 3.91).

7. CONCLUSIONS:

From this study it is concluded that parental educational level is very important for the education of female students. The results of this study show that educated parents were much serious to send their daughter to schools. They were eager that their daughters will do a job. They were ready to spend on the education of their daughter with open hands. On the other hands, the parents that were not educated were against female education they think that it is useless to spend money on their daughters to school. They were habitual to marry their daughters in early ages in order to reduce their financial burden.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS:

We would like to make the following recommendations in the light of our findings and conclusions: -

• It is necessary to encourage less educated families that daughters are not burden for them, .they are blessing of Allah and possess unique qualities which can be helpful for their families.

• Population welfare department should play its role to decrease population growth rate. This department should create the sense the small families are helpful to educate all the children.

• Parents should not prefer sons to send and daughters not to sending to schools. Girl's should not be dropped out from the schools on the basis of gender discrimination.

• School distance is also a main problem for the parents to send their daughter to schools. So schools should be constructed near to populated areas so that girls may get education without any problems.

- Early age marriages should be discouraged. In this way people will send their daughters to schools instead of marriages.
- Government should make legislation on early marriages of the females. Secondary education should be made compulsory for marriage.
- It is necessary to alter the mentality of the people which think that spending on girls' education is wastage or money.
- Society should encourage the girls' education instead of criticism.
- It is necessary to educate the illiterate parents. If they are educated they will send their daughters to schools.
- For the above mentioned problem the government should set up literacy centers in rural areas to educate such parents.

- Government should provide pick and drop facility to the girls belonging to remote areas. In this way, parents will be ready to send their daughters to schools.
- Parents should take interest in their daughters' education. For this purpose, he stories of successful woman should be telecasted on media.
- Government should provide employment to the educated girls. It will encourage to send their daughters to schools.
- Sexual harassment laws should be implemented strictly so that parents may feel satisfaction on the sending the daughter to schools.
- Media should play its role to promote female education.
- Co-education in rural areas should be banned. In this way, people will send their daughters to schools.
- Islamic scholars should make sense in the people. They should tell that Islam gives equally stress on education irrespective of the gender.
- Government should give scholarships to the girls.

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CONTRIBUTION OF AUTHORS AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

This research work was conducted in collaboration between two authors.

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