

# An Assessment of the Contribution of Women in Household Work

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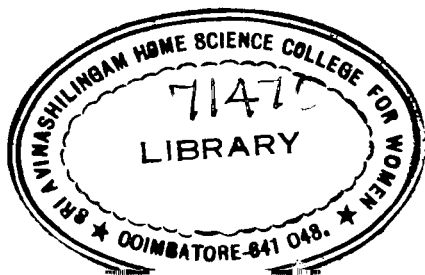
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A Dissertation submitted to the Bharathiar University,  
Through Sri Avinashilingam Home Science Autonomous College for Women,  
Coimbatore, in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the  
Degree of Master of Arts in Economics

**MAY 1987**

# Acknowledgement



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The investigator expresses her sincere thanks and profound gratitude to Tmt.G.Ramathilagam, M.A., M.Phil., Dip. in Ed.(Madras), Professor of Economics, Sri Avinashilingam Home Science Autonomous College for Women, Coimbatore, for her much valuable guidance and keen interest in the progress of this work.

Her sincere thanks are also due to Dr.(Selvi) B.Saraswathi Bhatgi, M.A., Ph.D.(Madras), Professor of Economics and head of the Department for the encouragement given in carrying out the study.

The investigator offers her sincere thanks to Dr.(Tmt) Lakshmi Santha Rajagopal, M.S.(Tennessee), Ph.D.(Madras), Principal, Sri Avinashilingam Home Science College for Women, Coimbatore, for the facilities provided to conduct the dissertation. She also expresses her gratitude to the homemakers who responded to her interview schedule for their full fledged and whole hearted co-operation.

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# Introduction

## INTRODUCTION

The household sector is playing an extremely important role in satisfying many of the basic needs of the population. The value of its production has been estimated at 25 percent to 40 percent of the measured Gross National Product in industrialised countries (Clermont, 1983). There has, therefore, been an increase in interest in assessing the value in economic terms of the goods and services produced by households for their own use or consumption.

Production activities carried out in the household sector for direct household consumption had been defined by Reid as those unpaid activities which are carried on, by and for the members, which activities might be replaced by market goods or paid services, if circumstances such as income, market conditions and personal inclinations permit the service being delegated to someone outside the household group. To distinguish production activities from consumption and social activities, Reid proposes that if an activity is of such a character that it might be delegated to a paid worker then that activity shall be deemed productive. Household work is concerned with food

preparation, cleaning, child-rearing etc., which is universal in all societies. Traditionally household work had been considered the major responsibility of women rather than men. In the execution of these activities, women take the help of other female members and servants rather than that of men folk in the family. Standing and Bandyopadhaya (1985) observe that the normal division of labour within the household is one between female members and between female members and servants rather than between women and men. In addition to the task of food preparation and family care that are essential to the welfare of household members, rural women hold additional responsibility for all the agricultural tasks which relate to the family's food supply, the planting, weeding, manuring, harvesting, winnowing and shelling and storing of crops. They also tend the domestic and farm animals. They also usually take the produce to the market for sale. The evidence available from the time budget studies show that with the passage of time and with all the modernisation that have crept in, the duration of household work has not shortened much, only it has become lighter, that too for the urban women rather than the rural women.

Housework is subject to forces other than those of the market place. Higher consumption standards tend to go with higher expectation about food preparation, home comfort, children's extra education etc. Housework involves sometimes large work inputs at irregular intervals (fruits and vegetables have to be picked and preserved when ripe, an ill household member has to be nursed), or it may require relatively small work inputs but at close intervals (for example, meals usually have to be made available three times a day or more often with young children) which break up the remaining time in portions. Further the household furnishes personalised services and operates with low overhead cost and no distribution costs. Its real output is valued simultaneously in economic, social and personal terms. In valuing the household work the impact of social and personal values must be constantly kept in view.

Though economists do realise that housework adds to welfare and is as productive as the activities carried on in the market sector, still they have not arrived at an acceptable method of evaluating it for the purpose of including it in the national income estimates. Among the many omissions characterising the national income accounts,

the largest single item missing in national accounting is the value of 'housewives services' says Clermont (1983). Murphy (1978) also confirms that "among the many activities excluded from the official GNP statistics, non-market household production ranks, quantitatively at least as one of the more important". Though the value of home production was excluded from GNP estimates, lawyers, economists, sociologists and various other groups in society were interested in estimating the monetary value of time spent in home production in individual circumstances or on a case by case basis. These evaluations have been largely done in developed countries, their methodologies may not be entirely appropriate to the developing countries where people live in different socio-economic, cultural milieu as compared to the developed countries.

The housework that is essential to the society but invisible to the economy (Rily, 1986) should be quantified and valued in monetary terms so that it is acknowledged in national income accounting. At this time when the world had just finished observing the women's decade, the women's basic responsibility of household work should be made more visible and her contribution to welfare through the household sector should also be recognised.

Thus the rationale for assessing the value of household work and production is derived from the premises that the time spent in household work is spent in productive work, hence it should form part of the Gross National Product; the housewives services in the domestic front should be recognised and made visible; methods of measuring household work and production should be standardised in order that national income accounting systems could incorporate them as a component of the Gross National Product; the societal norms that household tasks are female tasks should be revised and male members of the family should be urged to take equal responsibility for housework. The investigator undertook the current exercise of assessing the contribution of women in household work with the specific objectives of

1. Finding out the duration, intensity and pattern of household work;
2. Delineating the pattern of allocation of housework among the household members; and
3. Arriving at estimates of the monetary value of housework.

The study was designed primarily as an exploratory research

aimed at pinpointing the appropriate methodology for valuing housework. The data for the study were collected from hundred urban and rural women in Coimbatore.

It is expected that the methodological insights gained in the study would be valuable to policy makers and data generating bodies and incidentally bring into focus the work done by women towards the maintenance of the family.

# Review of Literature

## II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The studies relating to the topic "assessment of the value of household work" are reviewed under the following heads:

A. Macro level studies

B. Micro level studies

A. Macro level studies:

Riley (1986) in her article on "Essential to the society but invisible to the economy" had given the time and work profile drawn from a few case histories of women and tried to find an answer for the question, which of the women's activities are economic. She says that the work a man does is to make a living. Hence the economic value of his work is acknowledged. On the other hand, we assume that the work a woman does arises out of <sup>o</sup>live and devotion for her family and therefore should not be thought of in economic terms. We also assume that women and children are supported by a working husband and father, if a woman does work outside the home it is only to supplement the husband's income. However today, these assumptions fit the experience of fewer and fewer persons. Economically,

we determine the value of work in relation to GNP that is, by putting a price on it. Most of the work woman perform worldwide does not register in the GNP; therefore we have unconsciously and some time consciously not recognised that the work women perform not only provides essential human services to the world but also has economic value. Societies could not function economically if women ceased doing all the work they do. She says that our economic system and our ideas of work has been shaped predominantly by men's experience, an experience supported historically by a <sup>VP</sup> ~~copy~~ of invisible back-up workers, including women serfs and slaves. This vantage point women's work should be altered and women be allowed to exercise their creativity and energy in areas formerly controlled by men and men should enter the world of human relationships formerly controlled by women. Only then work days and economic remuneration will evolve from a different set of criteria; human usefulness rather than role expectation; work patterns will allow time and energy for leisure and volunteer work for both men and women; parenting and all that it entails will be shared equally by mothers and fathers.

Sen and Sen (1985) attempted an analysis of women's domestic work and economic activity using the 32nd round

of the National Sample Survey in India on employment and unemployment, which for the first time provided some data on the duration and composition of domestic work. This survey represented one of the first large scale attempts to investigate and quantify domestic labour. The authors defined domestic work as work involving the transformation of purchase commodities into consumable form as well as maintenance activity. Their analysis showed that the number of women engaged in domestic activities per household increased systematically with the size class of land possessed by household both for the country as a whole and for each state. In 61 percent of rural households that operate less than  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres of land, the need for a cash income and the paucity of owned resources made a significant proportion of women from such households to go out for work. In the remaining 39 percent of rural households with land above  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres, 48 percent of all women were usually engaged in domestic activities. An intervening factor was that the households size itself increased systematically with land holdings. Hence it is possible that as households become larger, both the need for an availability of women to be involved in domestic duties increased giving rise to the above correlation.

The evidence presented by the authors supported the view that women participate in the traditionally defined labour force in response to economic need. However when women "withdraw" from such work, they tend to substitute it with a range of "economic activity" in and around the home and not domestic work alone. Pure involvement in domestic work appears to be the preserve of mainly well-to-do rural women. Nevertheless even in poorer households, married women in the principal child-bearing age group are disproportionately engaged in domestic duties alone. Hence Sen and Sen conclude that both economic need and responsibility for child-care affect women's work but in somewhat different ways. The labour force participation in itself does not significantly improve women's status in the home and that as long as women claims to the household resources continue to be exercised through men, their contribution to the household income will disappear without a trace as it were into the household. Therefore the authors plead for independent access to resources for women through changes in inheritance systems as well as systematic female employment created by the state.

Murphy (1978) attempted a study to assess the value of non-market household production using opportunity cost and market cost estimates. His paper discussed the problem of valuing the time spent on household production and gave a comparative analysis of opportunity cost and market cost estimates.

There were two methods used to value time spent on household production. The first is based on the concept of market costs and other method is based on opportunity cost. According to the concept of market cost, time spent on house-cleaning cooking, home repairs, child-care and so on should be valued at the hourly wage of persons performing the same task in the market because that is the price the household would pay for these services if it purchased them on the market.

The rationale behind the opportunity cost is that individuals allocate their time in much the same way they allocate their income. The marginal wage rate net of taxes represents the value of time spent at work. In equilibrium it also represents the value of time spent in home production. Accordingly time allocated to household tasks was valued at the hourly wage rate net of taxes of the individual performing the task. He presumes that at the margin,

$$W + U_w = W_d + U_d = U_L$$

Where,

$U_w$  = the marginal utility of work

$U_d$  = the marginal utility home production

$U_L$  = the marginal utility of leisure

$W_d$  = wage rate plus utility associated  
with the activity

$W$  = opportunity cost

This equation gives the equilibrium value of time to the utility maximum individual. The author holds that market cost estimate will be more appropriate method of valuation since the GNP itself is measured at market costs.

Taking the U.S. Civilian non-institutional population 16 years old and over in 1960-70, the author had used separate time budget studies to derive estimates of household time use. He wanted to determine whether the difference between the two methods was large enough to justify the

continued debate over which is more appropriate; to examine the time trend of the ratio of home production to the GNP. In that connection the following results were obtained. He found that, opportunity cost estimates of home production exceeded market cost estimates by 1.0 to 3.0 percent of GNP; the ratio of home production to the GNP declined slightly between 1960 and 1970 but in the long run tended towards stability.

These findings did not support the widely held view that household production would continue to decline in relative importance and that relative to market cost estimates, opportunity cost estimates of such production are strongly upward biased. Hence his view was that home production should be valued at market cost mainly because the GNP itself is measured in market value terms.

Murphy (1976) in his study on the value of time spent in home production holds that the monetary value of time spent in home production, especially by housewives is of great interest to lawyers, economists, sociologists and various other groups in society.

The model presented by him has some assumptions,

1. The unit of analysis is the household.

2. Leisure time is explicitly included in the utility function.
3. The basis of imputing a value to the time allocated of home production is determined from the equilibrium conditions of the model.
4. No restrictions are placed on the signs of the marginal utility of work and home production.

His model of the household is subject to both the budget constraint and time constraint assuming that there is one consumption activity and non-market activity, he gives the household's utility functions as,

$$U = U ( z^c, z^n, z^w )$$

where,

$U$  = Total utility

$z^c$  = consumption activity

$z^n$  = Non-market activity

$z^w$  = Work activity

After a series of specifications and manipulations, he gives the following equations for imputing a value of household production.

$$U_2 / \lambda_1 + W = U_3 / \lambda_1 + U_1 f_2^b / \lambda_1 = K$$

where,

$U_2$  = Marginal utility of work time

$U_3$  = Home production time

$\lambda_1$  = Marginal utility of money

$W$  = Household hourly market wage rate net  
of taxes

$U_1 f_2$  = Marginal utility of home produced  
services

$b$  = Household production co-efficient

$K$  = Equilibrium value of time

The above equation says that the equilibrium value of time equals the marginal wage rate plus the monetary value of the marginal utility (disutility) of work which equals the monetary value of the marginal utility (disutility) and the marginal product derived from the time allocated to household production. Hence it provides a basis for imputing a value to household production.

This model, he says provides a more workable method for determining the value of housewives work on a case by case basis.

Clermont (1983) in her book 'Unpaid work in the household had reviewed the economic valuation methods used for measuring unpaid work in the household. She had underlined the need for including household work in the GNP. In her opinion the value of household production meets with many difficulties which primarily arise from the lack of direct market transactions for similar goods and services produced in the market. She has reviewed about 75 economic evaluations of unpaid work inputs in the household or of their counterpart non-market household goods. She has studied only the estimate relating to industrial societies. Specific goals of her study were,

- to outline the variety of evaluation methods which have been applied to unpaid household work in industrialised economics
- to examine the economic foundations of these evaluation methods, particularly with respect to household economic circumstances.
- to illustrate how each method contributes to assessing the relative magnitude of non-market production versus market production.
- to determine whether these evaluation methods contribute to clarifying the mechanisms governing the interactions between market and non-market sectors.

She distinguished between evaluation methods, measuring inputs from those measuring outputs. Evaluations relating to the monetary value of unpaid household work (inputs) are based on the value of equivalent work in the market, that is, on market wages. Wages used as the basis for the imputation are those of substitute household worker or of workers performing in market enterprises functions similar to those performed in the household alternatively wages forgone in the market by unpaid household workers are taken as the basis of the imputation. On the contrary, evaluations based on the market value of household output impute the value of household work on the basis of consumer expenditures for related inputs or on the basis of price of market substitutes. The value of equivalent market goods and services are used as replacement, global or specific of the household product or which are similar to household product. Overall care of infants, of the ill, of the aged in institutions are taken as examples of global replacements; meals at a restaurant, shirts washed and ironed in commercial laundries, commercially prepared jams are taken as examples of specific replacement or equivalents.

According to Clermont, evaluations based on the market value of household output are not numerous because

it is difficult to select in the market equivalent goods and services to be used as price reference. Hence these evaluations meet only the illustrative purpose of giving the relative magnitude of non-market versus market production. She concludes that no single evaluation purpose nor can any simple rule be offered for field workers concerned with the evaluation of unpaid household work. A combination of methods may be more appropriate depending on the purpose of evaluation.

#### B. Micro level studies:

Radha Devi and Ravindran (1985) in their study on working women and household work tested the hypothesis that working women did their household work in lesser time by increasing their efficiency or lessening their burden by getting help from others including husbands. Their study was based on data collected from a group of 434 working women, 266 non-working women in Trivandrum district. Their study showed that compared to non-working women, among working women,

1. a higher proportion spent less time at home activities.
2. a higher proportion expected and received help from their husbands.

3. a lesser proportion believed domestic work as the responsibility of women alone.

Their findings supported the hypothesis that working women utilised the time spent on household work more efficiently compared to their non-working counterparts. However this study could not give evidence on whether working women expected their husbands to share the household responsibilities and if so, in what form this assistance was obtained. The authors conclude that Indian women had been conditioned to accept household work as their primary responsibility from their childhood and that this attitude would take time to change.

Standing and Bandyopadhyaya (1985) had examined the issue of 'women's employment and the household' based on some aspects of the household work carried by the Bengali women. The authors observe that the normal division of labour within the household was one between female members and between female members and servants, rather than between women and men. They observe that since housework is not performed under wage condition, its extent was subject to forces other than those of market place. High consumption standards tended to go with higher expectation

about food preparation, home comfort, children's extra education etc. the employment of domestic servants meant that still a considerable amount of time was spent in overseeing the work of servants. There was an element of arbitrariness about the determination of hours spent on housework. Male participation in domestic work was largely casual and sporadic.

Verma and Kapadia (1987) in their review of researches in women studies conducted in the faculty of Home Science, M.S.University of Baroda (1970-1985) report that increases in outside employment for women did not imply a proportional decline in unpaid household work. On the other hand there was a definite reduction in women's leisure time.

Barta et al (1984) in their Women, Work and Development series entitled 'Fertility, Female Employment and Policy measures in Hungary' had reported on the average daily working time of the economically active females. They were of the view that, under the impact of several factors, that is, social and environmental factors, change in the quality of needs, their differentiation etc. household has become lighter but its duration had not decreased and presumably would not decrease in future either. They found that the traditional division of family labour was still a characteristic feature of present Hungarian society.

In Hungarian society, the mechanisation of housework depend on the financial position of family and the majority who require household services were from the high income group. The services of families use most frequently are, canteen meals, buying, cooking and washing up. Housework as they found out, was mainly done by wife and they were mainly among inactive earners that is homemakers, pensioners and mothers on child care.

The main findings of their study was that the average daily working time of the mothers was more than five hours in addition to two or three hours spent on daily child care. The case of the family as a unit was still a typically female task and husbands were found to participate less in housework.

Molyneux (1982) in the study on state policies and the position of women workers in the peoples Democratic Republic of Yemen, had examined the division of labour at the household level among the members of the family. The study covered 115 respondents in 1976-77. It was found that 68.6 percent were not receiving any help at all from the men in their households. Among 30.4 percent who

received help it was found that the help came mostly from sons or younger brothers and from husbands. The contribution of men to domestic work was restricted to what women described as light tasks, "helping occasionally" with cooking and more shopping. Women had exclusive responsibility for child care. They were caught in the classic problem of double shift.

## Methodology

### III.METHODOLOGY

The methodology for the study on "assessing the contribution of women in household work" is discussed under the following heads:

- A. Selection of the sample
- B. Method of data collection
- C. Model for assessment of household work
- D. Definitions and concepts used in the study
- E. Limitations of the study

#### A.Selection of the sample:

The main purpose of the study was to know how much woman contribute through household work in terms of time and its monetary value. Since a cross section of women were needed for the study, both urban and rural women of Coimbatore were included in the study. A random sample of 100 households was drawn for the study; fifty from urban areas and fifty from rural areas. The urban households were drawn from Sivanandha colony in Coimbatore city which represents a middle class neighbourhood, symbolising the urban dwellers. The rural sample were drawn from Vellekinar, a village which is eight kilometres away from Coimbatore on the Coimbatore-Mettupalayam Highway Road.

### B. Method of data collection:

As the study required data on very sensitive issues like family background, <sup>action</sup> during of hours spent on housework by different members in the household and the impressions of homemakers about the market cost and opportunity cost of housework, they had to be approached personally. Hence the personal interview method was used in the study.

The interview schedule used for the collection of data was pretested for the adequacy of questions and their ability to draw accurate responses. The schedule consisted of questions on general information; expenditure pattern of the households; amount of hours spent by housewives and others on household work by task; and their estimates of what it would cost to put their household members in institutions and the jobs they would be also to take up and the earnings they expected in those jobs. A copy of the interview schedule is given in Appendix.I.

### C. Model for Assessment of Household work:

The household behaviour model have been reconstructed, incorporating the time constraint in addition to the budget constraint (Murphy, 1976). It is argued that a housewife has three choices with respect to allocation of her time; work, leisure and home-production. The housewives derive

negative utility from the time spent at work and home production and positive utility from income. She then seeks to maximise her utility subject to an income constraint. In equilibrium, therefore the marginal valuation of time spent in each one of these activities ought to be the same as others. Hence the investigator decided to value the time spent in household work in terms of opportunity cost and in terms of global replacement cost or market cost.

After a careful perusal of the available studies on household work evaluations (Clermont, 1983, Quah, 1985, Murphy, 1976 and 1978), the investigator decided to derive the opportunity cost and market cost estimates of household work. The opportunity cost estimate was based on the assumption that the hours spent in household work primarily by the homemaker could be alternately used in paid employment. The forgone earnings of the homemaker, therefore represented the value of household work in opportunity cost terms. Incidentally it represented an evaluation involving household work input.

The market cost estimate of household work was derived using the global replacement approach, rather than the specific replacement approach. In the socio-economic-cultural milieu characterising the Indian setup, the practise

of eating out in restaurants, getting clothes washed and ironed in commercial laundries, use of commercially prepared foods etc., have not yet become common place. Hence, it was decided to use the global replacement approach where the homemaker-respondent was asked to indicate the cost of putting up her family members in institutions, either in hostels or in hotels and from this figure the cost of inputs in household production was deducted to get an estimate of the market cost of household work.

#### D. Definitions and concepts used in the study:

##### Household work:

The term household work had been defined to include those unpaid activities which are carried on, by and for the members, which activities might be replaced by market conditions of goods and paid services, if circumstances such as income, market conditions and personal inclinations permit the service being delegated to someone outside household group.

##### Opportunity cost:

The term opportunity cost is defined as forgone earnings in any alternate employment that the homemaker could have taken up.

**Market cost:**

The term market cost refers to the cost involved in the global replacement of the services of the homemaker.

**E.Limitations of the study:**

The study is mainly exploratory in nature. The findings would have more validity only if the study were done on larger samples. Out of the several approaches to evaluations the study had tried only two of them. Hence the conclusions of the study could also be verified by using other approaches. The study had to use primary data since it was done at the micro-level. There might be recall and personal biases and hence the conclusions need to be confirmed in other situations.

The results of the study are presented and discussed in the next chapter on results and discussions.

## Results and Discussion

#### IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of the study on an assessment of the contribution of women in household production are presented and discussed under the following heads:-

- A. Background information of the households;
- B. Pattern and Duration of house work;
- C. Assessment of Household work - Market cost; and opportunity cost estimate; and
- D. Estimates of the value of leisure time activities.

##### A. Background information of the households:

The households were grouped into five subgroups viz, Urban households with no child (UHH-No child); Urban households with one child (UHH-1 child); Urban households with two children (UHH-2 children); Rural households with one child (RHH-1 child); and Rural households with two children (RHH-2 children) for purpose of analysis.

In all the families that were studied the home maker was not engaged in gainful employment outside home. Hence the analysis of variation in domestic work between the gainfully employed home-makers and others could not be carried out.

The households were studied for the type of families, nature of ownership of residence, religion, family size, age composition, marital status of members, education, occupation and expenditure. Regarding the denomination of religion, all the households surveyed were Hindus except for one which happened to be a Muslim family. The head of the household in all but two cases was the male member. The details under other heads are discussed as under:

The nature of ownership of the residence of households is given in Table I.

TABLE I

## OWNERSHIP OF RESIDENCE IN SAMPLE HOUSEHOLDS

S.No.	Household group	Residence		Total
		Owned	Rented	
1	UHH-No child	16	9	25
2	UHH-1 child	11	7	18
3	UHH-2 child	5	2	7
4	RHH-1 child	23	2	25
5	RHH-2 child	24	1	25
	Total	79	21	100

Seventy-nine percent of the families studied were living in own premises, only 21 percent reported that they were living in rented buildings. Against 36 percent of the urban households which were living in rented buildings, only six percent of rural households reported so.

The family structure of the sample is presented in Table II.



TABLE II

## FAMILY STRUCTURE IN SAMPLE HOUSEHOLDS

S.No.	Household group	Type of family			Total
		Nuclear	Joint	Extended	
1	UHH-No child	22	3	-	25
2	UHH-1 child	14	3	1	18
3	UHH-2 child	7	-	-	7
4	RHH-1 child	24	1	-	25
5	RHH-2 child	21	4	-	25
	Total	88	11	1	100

The study of family structure confirmed the general trend that joint family system is on the verge of disappearance. In the sample only 12 percent of the families were either joint or extended, and 88 percent remained nuclear.

Table III gives information on family size of sample.

TABLE III

## DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLDS BY FAMILY SIZE

S. No.	Family size	Number of families reporting in					Total
		UHH-No child	UHH-1 child	UHH-2 child	RHH-1 child	RHH-2 child	
1	2	6	-	-	-	-	6
2	3	10	8	-	14	-	32
3	4	6	4	7	9	21	47
4	5	2	4	1	2	2	10
5	6	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	7	1	2	-	-	1	4
7	8	-	-	-	-	1	1
							100

Except for five percent of the families which had relatively large families comprising of either seven or eight members, all the others had conformed to the family norm with two to five members per family. The norm of one child per family was found in twenty two percent of the families. In this group the proportion of rural households (28 percent) was higher than the proportion of urban households (16 percent). This showed that the concept of small family norm was more popular in the rural areas than in urban areas.

Table IV gives details of the marital status of members in sample households.

TABLE IV

## MARITAL STATUS OF MEMBERS IN THE SAMPLE HOUSEHOLD

S.No.	Household group	Marital status		Total
		Married	Widowed	
1	UHH-No child	50	2	52
2	UHH-1 child	39	2	41
3	UHH-2 child	12	1	13
4	RHH-1 child	52	-	52
5	RHH-2 child	52	-	52
Total		205	5	210

The marital status of the adult members in the sample households showed that except for five widowed people all others were married. Of the five widowed women, two were heading their households.

The age distribution of population in the sample is given in Table V.

TABLE V  
AGE COMPOSITION OF THE SAMPLE POPULATION

		Distribution of the Population													
S.No.	Age Group	UHH-No child		UHH-1 child		UHH-2 child		RHH-1 child		RHH-2 child		Total		All	
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female		
1	0-4	1	-	1	2	-	-	3	10	13	7	18	19	37 (9.68)	
2	4-9	-	-	3	1	1	1	6	3	11	10	21	15	36 (9.42)	
3	10-14	-	1	5	3	3	3	2	2	4	5	14	14	28 (7.32)	
4	15-19	5	8	7	8	3	1	3	4	-	1	18	22	40 (10.47)	
5	20-25	6	8	3	5	1	2	3	10	4	3	17	28	45 (11.78)	
6	26-29	1	4	-	2	-	-	2	7	5	15	8	28	36 (9.42)	
7	30-34	7	1	3	2	-	1	9	6	18	6	37	16	53 (13.87)	
8	35-39	-	3	2	2	1	2	6	2	1	-	10	9	19 (4.97)	
9	40-44	2	3	3	4	1	3	4	1	3	1	13	12	25 (6.54)	
10	45-49	4	7	5	6	2	-	2	2	-	-	13	15	28 (7.32)	
11	50-54	4	2	4	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	11	3	14 (3.66)	
12	55-59	5	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	5	11 (2.87)	
13	60 and above	5	1	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	7	4	11 (2.87)	
Total		40	43	38	37	14	14	41	47	60	49	193	190	383	

Foot Note: Figures in brackets indicate percentages to total.

The educational status of the population is studied in respect of two groups, that is those who have completed their studies and those who are still studying. In effect the first one describes educational status in the sense of stock and the second one describes it in the flow~~sense~~sense. Tables VI and VII give details on educational status of the population.

TABLE VI

EDUCATIONAL STATUS OF THOSE WHO HAVE COMPLETED THEIR STUDIES IN THE  
SAMPLE POPULATION

S.No.	Educational status	UHH-No child		UHH-1 child		UHH-2 child		RHH-1 child		RHH-2 child		TOTAL		
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	All
1.	Illiterate	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	1	3	3	6 (2.62)
2.	Primary school	-	1	-	2	-	-	6	17	7	25	13	45	58 (25.32)
3.	High School	3	6	3	3	2	4	13	5	19	-	40	18	58 (25.32)
4.	Higher Secondary	6	10	1	5	1	2	10	-	4	-	22	17	39 (17.03)
5.	Collegiate	22	14	13	10	3	2	1	-	-	-	39	26	65 (28.38)
6.	Professional/ Technical	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3 (1.31)
Total		31	31	19	20	7	8	30	22	30	25	117	106	223 (

TABLE VII  
EDUCATIONAL STATUS OF THE SAMPLE POPULATION OF THOSE WHO ARE STUDYING

S.No.	Educational status	Number mentioning													
		UHH-No		UHH-1		UHH-2		RHH-1		RHH-2		Total			
		child		child		child		child		child		M	F	All	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	All	
1.	Primary school	1	1	2	2	1	1	10	6	25	15	39	25	64 (48.85)	
2.	High school	-	1	5	3	4	3	1	9	-	1	10	17	27 (17.64)	
3.	Higher Secondary	2	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	6 (3.92)	
4.	Collegiate	5	10	4	7	1	2	-	-	-	-	10	19	29 (18.95)	
5.	Professional/ Technical	1	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	5 (3.26)	
Total		9	12	16	15	6	6	11	15	25	16	67	64	131	

The analysis of the educational status showed that the sample is highly literate and educated. Except for six people in the rural families, all others have had some education. In the rural households, education virtually stopped at the higher secondary level and higher education was entirely an urban phenomenon.

The educational status of the home-makers was analysed separately. It is reported in Table VIII.

TABLE VIII

## EDUCATIONAL STATUS OF THE MOME-MAKERS

---

S.No.	Educational level	Numbers reporting
1	Illiterate	1
2	Primary	44
3	High School	23
4	Higher Secondary	17
5	Collegiate	15
		---
	Total	100

---

When the home-makers were asked to give the details of the employment which they could take up outside along with the earnings which they expect with such employment, they would obviously base their response on their educational attainment. Hence the educational status of the home-makers was studied separately. Except for one home maker who was illiterate, all others were educated to some extent. Forty four percent had primary education, 23 percent high school education, 17 percent higher secondary education and 15 percent had collegiate education.

The occupational status of the heads of the house-holds in the sample is given in Table IX.

TABLE IX

## OCCUPATIONAL STATUS OF THE HEADS IN SAMPLE HOUSEHOLDS

S.No.	Occupation	Number of families reporting in					Total
		UHH-No child	UHH-1 child	UHH-2 child	RHH-1 child	RHH-2 child	
1	Agriculturists	1	-	-	-	-	1
2	Industrial Labourers	-	-	-	3	12	15
3	Office assistants in private firms	11	-	2	-	-	13
4	Supervisors/Exe- cutives in Indus- tries	2	3	-	-	-	5
5	University/ College teachers	-	2	-	-	-	2
6	Government servants	5	2	1	7	3	18
7	Professionals	-	1	-	-	-	1
8	Self-employed in business	5	8	4	6	4	27
9	Bank employees	1	2	-	1	-	4
10	Transport Workers	-	-	-	3	4	7
11	Construction workers	-	-	-	2	2	4
12	Caste-operation	-	-	-	3	-	3
Total		25	18	7	25	25	100

The analysis of occupation status of the heads of sample household revealed that except for one household which reported agriculture as the major economic activity, all others were employed in manufacturing industries, education, transport and other sectors. There was a clear shift of the sample population away from the primary sector towards industrial and tertiary sectors. Hence the location specific classification of the households into rural and urban did not have any substantive significance. The nature of economic activity was almost the same for both the groups.

The terms of infrastructure which is likely to influence domestic work like retail shops and use of labour saving appliances, both the groups of families appear to have an equal degree of access, when we judge them on the basis of their economic activities which is mostly urban oriented.

In the aggregate, 27 percent of the household heads were self-employed in business; 18 percent were government servants; another 18 percent were working as clerical people or as supervisors or executives in industrial units and 15 percent were working as industrial labourers, among the others.

Income represents command over purchasing power for the households is a major determinant of the status of households as also the emphasis or value that they place on household work. Income status of the households is given in Table X.

TABLE X  
INCOME STATUS OF THE SAMPLE HOUSEHOLDS

(in Rupees per month)

S.No.	Household group	Per capita Income	Per capita Income passed on to family Pool	Per capita pooled income as percentage of per capita Income
1	UHH-No child	650	540	83.07
2	UHH-1 child	730	600	82.19
3	UHH-2 child	450	390	86.66
4	RHH-1 child	170	170	100.00
5	RHH-2 child	140	140	100.00
Total-Aggregate		400	370	92.5

For the sample as a whole the per capita income worked out to Rs.400 per month of which Rs.370 (92.5 percent) was passed on to the family pool.

The per capita income of rural households was considerably lower than per capita income of urban households. The increase in the family size invariably led to a fall in the per capita income. The urban households withheld a part of their income from the family pool while, the rural households passed on their entire incomes to the family pool. This was perhaps necessitated by the very low level of rural incomes.

The per capita expenditure of various household groups in relation to the per capita pooled income is presented in Table XI.

TABLE XI

## PER CAPITA HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE OF THE SAMPLE

S.No.	Household group	Per capita pooled income	Per capita Expenditure	Per capita expenditure as a percentage of pooled income
1	UHH-No child	540	447	82.77
2	UHH-1 child	600	465	77.15
3	UHH-2 child	390	310	79.48
4	RHH-1 child	170	155	91.17
5	RHH-2 child	140	122	87.14
Total-Aggregate		370	280	75.67

In the aggregate three-fourth of the per capita pooled income was spent on consumption goods and services.

The composition of the household expenditure for the sub groups in the sample is shown in Table XII.

TABLE XII  
COMPOSITION OF HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE

S. No.	Item	Expenditure in Percentage					Aggre- gate
		UHH-No child	UHH-1 child	UHH-2 child	RHH-1 child	RHH-2 child	
1.	Cereals, grams and cereal substitutes	17.33	16.70	17.71	23.04	24.00	19.75
2.	Milk and milk products	15.90	15.32	19.44	14.69	12.29	15.52
3.	Edible oil	5.18	5.08	5.98	9.26	8.38	6.77
4.	Meat, fish and egg	2.22	3.26	0.28	4.92	4.69	3.07
5.	Vegetables	9.30	9.18	11.21	11.15	11.54	10.47
6.	Fruits and nuts	3.34	2.90	4.48	2.77	2.44	3.18
7.	Sugar salt and spices	5.05	5.6	5.78	6.16	6.61	5.82
8.	Beverages	8.21	5.54	6.03	4.30	6.69	6.15
9.	Fuel and light	8.34	6.97	8.85	9.40	8.92	8.59
10.	Clothing and footwear	1.95	4.61	2.12	1.75	1.87	2.46
11.	Pan tobacco and intoxicates	0.26	0.61	0.42	0.83	0.82	0.57
12.	Miscellaneous goods and services	9.30	7.58	7.53	9.40	9.80	8.72
13.	Rents	10.50	14.08	6.90	0.87	0.45	6.56
14.	Taxes	1.56	0.63	1.95	0.14	0.41	0.93
15.	Durable goods	1.56	1.94	1.32	1.26	1.09	1.44
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

According to Sen and Sen (1985) domestic work to a considerable extent involves the transformation of purchased commodities into consumable form, as well as maintenance activity. Home makers do these activities on their own or hire help for the whole or part of their activities. The sample households which have enlisted paid help for performing domestic work were enumerated and the details are given in Table XIII.

TABLE XIII

## HOUSEHOLDS ENLISTING PAID DOMESTIC HELP

S.No.	Household group	Number of households with paid help	Households with paid help as percentage of total
1	UHH-No child (25)	15	60
2	UHH-1 child (18)	15	83
3	UHH-2 child ( 7)	6	85
4	RHH-1 child (25)	Nil	-
5	RHH-2 child (25)	Nil	-
	Total (100)	36	36

Paid domestic help was a phenomenon that was observed only in the urban areas. In the rural areas no paid help was reported. The domestic work was done by the family members themselves. Seventy-two percent of the urban households engaged some kind of domestic help or other.

The details of paid help in regard to the nature of their employment and wages per month are given in Table XIV.

TABLE XIV  
 CHARACTERISTICS OF PAID HELP

S.No.	Sex	Nature of employment		Wages per month (in Rs.)	
		Part Time	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time
1	Male	1	-	100	-
2	Female	33	2	154	207.50
3	All persons	34	2	157	207.50

Except for two domestic servants, all were working as a part-time domestic helpers in the urban households. The mean wages including the payment in kind worked out to about Rs.150 per month for part-time home servants. The full-time domestic servants earned Rs.60 more that is, about Rs.210 per month.

#### B. Patterns and Duration of Household work:

Since the main purpose of the study was assessing the value of household work in monetary terms, the hours spent on household work in terms of various tasks; of people doing them were studied and tabulated carefully so as to get an idea of the extent of time involved in house work. Table XV give the distribution of average daily hours of household by task.

TABLE XV  
 AVERAGE DAILY HOURS OF HOUSEHOLD WORK BY TASK

(In hours and minutes)

S. No.	Activity	Average daily hours of household work in					Aggre- gate
		UHH-No child	UHH-1 child	UHH-2 child	RHH-1 child	RHH-2 child	
1	Food-preparation	3.40	4.30	3.10	3.05	4.00	3.40
2	House-cleaning	3.20	3.20	2.05	1.45	1.50	2.20
3	Clothing-main- tenance	2.30	2.30	2.10	1.15	2.30	2.10
4	Family care	1.00	1.00	0.50	0.05	1.20	1.00
5	Others *	2.00	1.30	2.55	0.20	1.40	1.40
	Total	11.50	12.50	10.30	6.30	10.40	10.10

\* Others include shopping, Gardening etc.

The number of hours spent on household work varied from 6.30 hours to 12.50 hours per day. The urban households with one child were spending twice the amount of time on household work as the rural households with one child. On an average per day 10 hours was devoted to household work. Out of the time of 10 hours and 10 minutes spent on household work, 3 hours and 40 minutes were devoted to food preparation; 2 hours and 20 minutes to house cleaning; 2 hours and 10 minutes to clothing maintenance; one hour on family care and one hour and 40 minutes on other tasks such as shopping, book keeping and gardening.

The load of household work was, by and large, borne by the home-maker with marginal support from other members of the household and domestic help. The nature of distribution of household work among the members of household and paid help is presented in Table XVI.

TABLE XVI

AVERAGE DAILY HOURS OF HOUSEHOLD WORK PERFORMED BY VARIOUS  
HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS AND PAID HELP

(In hours and Minutes)

S.No.	Members	Daily hours of household work					Aggregate
		UHH-No child	UHH-1 child	UHH-2 child	RHH-1 child	RHH-2 child	
1	Home-maker	6.52	7.11	5.47	6.22	10.28	7.26
2	Other female members	0.43	1.02	0.38	0.04	-	0.24
3	Husband	0.28	-	0.32	0.04	0.06	0.12
4	Other male members	0.14	0.15	0.13	-	0.06	0.12
5	Paid help	3.33	4.22	3.10	-	-	1.56
Total		11.50	12.50	10.30	6.30	10.40	10.10

The major burden of the household work was on the shoulders of the home-maker. The other members in the household rendered only very nominal help. In the aggregate out of about ten hours of household work, 48 minutes of work was all the assistance that was rendered by other members of the household, while the assistance given by the paid help amounted to two hours, the remaining seven and odd hours of work was the responsibility of the home-maker. The rural home-maker was the most affected, in that she did not virtually receive any help worth the name from her family members and paid help was also absent. In terms of the number of hours put in, the rural home-maker with two children had the maximum load of ten hours and twenty eight minutes.

An analysis of the distribution of the burden of household work among members, in percentage terms is given in Table XVII.

TABLE XVII

## DISTRIBUTION OF THE BURDEN OF HOUSEHOLD WORK AMONG MEMBERS

S.No.	Member	Percentage share in the household work					Aggregate
		UHH-No child	UHH-1 child	UHH-2 child	RHH-1 child	RHH-2 child	
1	Home-maker	58	56	55	98	98	73
2	Other female members	6	8	6	1	-	4
3	Husband	4	-	5	1	1	2
4	Other male members	2	2	2	-	1	2
5	Paid help	30	34	32	-	-	10
Total		100	100	100	100	100	100

In the urban households nearly one-third of the household work (32 percent) was turned out by paid helpers, with the remaining work done by the family members. The home-maker did between 55-58 percent of the household work. The help given by the husband ranged to five percent. The help given by other female members ranged between six and eight percent and the help given by other male members was only two percent. In the rural households, as mentioned earlier, it was the home-maker who virtually held the fort. She received only two percent of assistance from the members of her family. In the aggregate the home maker did 73 percent of the household work, the paid help contributed to 19 percent of the household work and other members in the family the remaining 8 percent.

#### C. Assessment of Household work - Market cost and Opportunity

##### Cost Estimates:

Estimates of the value of household work in monetary terms were attempted from two angles: Valuation based on household work input; and Valuation based on household work output. The estimates derived by using the first approach was called the opportunity cost of household work. The investigator found that the household work involved a time

expenditure of about 10 hours per day as against the official working hours in any manufacturing establishment which was legally stipulated as 8 hours per day. The household work, thus was if anything on par with work in any manufacturing sector, allowing for the relaxation and rest periods. Following the models of consumer behaviour which consider households as being subject to both the budget constraint and time constraint, the marginal valuation of time spent in house hold work is the same as the marginal valuation of time spent in outside work and time enjoyed as leisure, in equilibrium (Murphy, 1976). In this context, using the expected average earnings of the home-maker in alternate employment for assessing the monetary value of the household work becomes only appropriate.

The second approach toward the assessment of household work attempts to give the market cost or value of household work. Adopting from Clermont 1985, the investigator used the global replacement method to estimate the market cost of household work. The homemakers were asked to give the cost of maintaining their members in boarding institutions or hotels, depending on their age and from this figure, the cost of material inputs used up in household production were deducted to arrive at the market cost estimate of household work.

The opportunity cost and market cost estimates of household work for the sample are presented in Table XVIII.

TABLE XVIII

## OPPORTUNITY COST AND MARKET COST ESTIMATES OF HOUSEHOLD WORK

(In Rs. per month)

S.No.	Household group	Market cost estimate	Opportunity cost estimate
1	UHH-No child	891	594
2	UHH-1 child	642	426
3	UHH-2 child	868	616
4	RHH-1 child	678	426
5	RHH-2 child	1000	397
	Aggregate	820	500

The market cost estimate of the household work for the entire sample was Rs.820 per month, while the opportunity cost was Rs.500 per month. Within the groups, the urban households with one child had the lowest value for the market cost estimate of household work at Rs.642 per month. In the opportunity cost estimates, rural households with two children had the lowest value of Rs.397 per month attached to the household work performed by them. The opportunity cost estimate were everywhere lower than the market cost estimates indicating that the value of household work output was much higher than the value of household work inputs, implying that the household work was a highly productive proposition.

If the mid-point of the two estimates were taken as the mean estimate of the value of household work, it came to Rs.660 per month. If the monetary value of household work were added to the household and per capita incomes, an idea of the extent of omission involved in income computation by ignoring the household work becomes evident. Table XIX gives the extent of addition that the household work, makes to the household income and per capita income of the sample.

TABLE XIX

ADDITION TO THE HOUSEHOLD AND PER CAPITA INCOMES ARISING  
FROM HOUSEWORK ESTIMATES

(In Rs. per month)

S.No.	Item	In terms of income	In terms of per capita income
1	Mean income	1520	400
2	Mean opportunity cost estimate of Household Work (I)	500	130
3	Mean Market cost estimate of household Work (II)	820	215
4	Percentage increase in household income resulting from estimate I	33	33
5	Percentage increase in household income resulting from estimate II	54	54

The net addition made by the household work to the household incomes ranged from 33-54 percent in the two approaches. If an average were struck between these two estimates, it amounted to 43.5 percent of the mean household income or per capita income in the sample. Clearly there is a strong case for making household work visible and imputing its value as a part of national income accounting.

**D. Estimate of the value of Leisure Time Activities:**

Besides the household activities of food preparation, house upkeep, clothing maintenance and family care, many households in the sample were engaged in productive activities in their leisure time resulting in production of consumable goods like pickles, vadagam, curry powder or jam and they were also engaged in tailoring, basket-making or coaching children. Details of the number of families engaged in these activities in their spare time are given in Table XX.

TABLE XX

## LEISURE TIME ACTIVITIES IN THE SAMPLE HOUSEHOLDS

S.No.	Item/Activity	Number of households reporting					Aggre- gate
		UHH-No child	UHH-1 child	UHH-2 child	RHH-1 child	RHH-2 child	
-----							
Item of Production							
1.	Pickles	22	6	6	12	8	54
2.	Curry powder	8	1	2	-	-	11
3.	Vadagams	19	9	3	-	-	31
4.	Jam	-	2	1	-	-	3
-----							
	Total	49	18	12	12	8	99
=====							
Activities:							
1.	Tailoring	7	10	3	-	-	20
2.	Basket making	-	1	1	3	5	10
3.	Coaching children	-	9	3	-	-	12
-----							
	Total	7	20	7	3	5	42
-----							

Pickles and vadagam making were the most popular items of household production; curry powder came next and last was the jam making. The rural house holds, however, were found making only pickles. Tailoring as a spare time activity was reported in 20 households in the sample. It was, however, exclusively an urban activity. Making of wire baskets was reported by another 10 households. In the urban households coaching children became an important spare time activity in 12 of the 25 urban families which had children.

The approximate number of hours spent on the leisure time activities were recorded per year and they are given in Table XXI.

The sample households were spending about 4,280 hours per annum on the spare time pursuits which in terms of hours per month came upto 357 hours per month or 36 hours per household per month that is on an average 9 hours of time per week per household was devoted to spare time activities. The monetary value of this time spent in spare time activities was worked out using the market cost and opportunity cost estimate of household work derived earlier. This was done following Murphy (1976) who had pointed out in his household behaviour model that in equilibrium the marginal valuation of hours spent in outside work, household work and leisure time activities are the same. According to the market cost estimate the monetary value of one hour of work was Rs.3 and according to the opportunity cost estimate, the monetary value of an hour's work was Re.1.70. In market cost terms, therefore, the value of the spare time activities was reckoned as Rs.108 per month, whereas in opportunity cost terms it was Rs.61.20- If we take the mid-point of these two estimates as the average of value of spare time activities, it amounts to Rs.85 per month.

Thus the study brought to light the contribution of women to household work. The work at household was as demanding as work in any manufacturing establishment in

terms of time (10 hours per day). In monetary terms the value of this time was reckoned as Rs.660 per month. The value of leisure time activities was estimated as Rs.85 per month. Against the mean household income of Rs.1520 per month, the addition made by household work to the welfare of the household members was as high as 49 percent of their household income.

## *Summary and Conclusion*

## V. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The household sector plays an important role in satisfying the basic needs of population. Though the economists do realise that housework adds to welfare, they still have not arrived at an acceptable method of evaluating it for the purpose of including it in the national income estimates. The largest single item missing in national accounting is housewives services, says Clermont, 1983. Thus to make the housewives services more visible and find out the monetary value of housework, the investigator undertook the current study.

The current study on assessing the contribution of women in household work was undertaken with the objectives of

1. Finding out the duration, intensity and pattern of household work;
2. Delineating the pattern of allocation of household work among the household members and
3. Arriving at estimates of the monetary value of household work.

With these objectives, the study was undertaken in the rural and urban areas of Coimbatore city. The sample of hundred households were selected at random, fifty from urban area and fifty from rural area.

The urban sample was drawn from Sivanandha Colony in Coimbatore city and the rural sample from Vellakinar, a village near Coimbatore city. The data for the study was collected from housewives using the personal interview method. For assessing the value of household work in monetary terms, the opportunity cost (Work input) approach and market cost (Work output) approach were used.

#### ASSESSMENT OF HOUSEHOLD WORK:

The expected average earnings of the homemaker in alternate employment was used for assessing the monetary value of household work in opportunity cost approach. For estimating the market cost of household work of household work, global replacement method was used, wherein the homemakers were asked to give the cost of maintaining their members in boarding institutions or hotels and from this estimates the cost of materials inputs used up in household production were subtracted to arrive at the market cost estimates of household work. The mean of the two estimates was considered as the value of the contribution made through household production to the households and economic welfare.

The main findings of the study are:

## GENERAL INFORMATION:

Except for two households, all were male headed households. Seventy-nine of the households were living in owned premises. Only 12 percent of the households were living as joint or extended families. Nine-five of the households had conformed to small family norm with 2-5 members per family. All the members were highly literate and educated except for 6 people in the rural families. Only one homemaker was illetrate, 44 percent of them had primary education 23 percent high school education, 17 percent higher secondary education, 15 percent had collegiate education. Twenty-seven percent of the heads of households were self-employed in business; 18 percent were government servants, another 18 percent were employed as clerical assistance or as supervisors or executives in industrial units and 15 percent were working as industrial labourers, among others. The per capita income of the sample households worked out to Rs.400 per month of which Rs.370 (92.5 percent) was passed on to the family pool. In the aggregate three-fourths (Rs.280 per month) of the per capital pooled income was spent on consumption goods and services. Paid domestic help, as a phenomenon was observed only in the urban households. Seventy-two percent

of the urban households engaged some kind of domestic help or other. Except for two domestic servants, the others were working on a part time basis. Their mean ages including their payment in kind was Rs.150 per month.

#### PATTERN AND DURATION OF HOUSEHOLD WORK:

Household work was classified by activity into five main groups: food preparation, house cleaning, clothing maintenance, family care and others (which included shopping gardening, and book keeping). On an average in the sample as a whole, 10 hours and 10 minutes per day was spent on household work per day. Three hours and forty minutes were devoted to food preparation; two hours and twenty minutes to house cleaning; two hours and ten minutes to clothing maintenance; one hour on family care and one hour and forty minutes on other task. Among the sub-groups the rural households with one child had the least amount of time (six and a half hours per day) devoted to household work; whereas the urban households with one child, were spending the largest amount of time (Twelve hours and fifty minutes) on the household work.

The major burden of household work was on the homemaker. Out of about ten hours of household work, forty-eight minutes of work was all the assistance that was rendered by other members of household. The assistance given by the paid help amounted to two hours; the remaining seven and an half hours (73 percent) of work was done by the homemaker. The rural homemaker was the most affected, in that she did not virtually receive any help from her family members and paid help was also absent. In the urban households nearly one-third of household work was turned out by paid helper, the homemaker did between 55-58 percent of the household work.

The opportunity cost estimate of household work was Rs.820 per month for the whole sample. It varied between Rs.642 (urban household with one child) to Rs.1000 (Rural household with 2 children). The opportunity cost estimate for the whole group was worked out at Rs.500, with the estimate varying between Rs.397 (Rural household with 2 children) to Rs.616 (urban household with 2 children). The mean estimate of the value of household work, that is the mid point of the two estimates was Rs.660 per month, that is, on an average the household work turned out per month was of the value of Rs.660 per household. The value

of spare time activities was derived as Rs.85 per household per month. Adding them both the household activities were found to contribute to the extent of 49 percent of the households incomes.

#### CONCLUSIONS:

The contribution made through household production to family welfare was as high as half of the households income. This contribution which is primarily made by the homemaker needs all the recognition and must be brought into more visibility. The income accounting procedures should also be reviewed to include the real contribution made in household production to nation's welfare. The national income statisticians should commission more such studies for standardising the procedure from imputing the value of housewives services in national income.

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## Appendices



7. Family Members:

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S.No.	Name	Age	Sex	Marital status	Education		Occupation	Income per annum	Contri- bution of the family
					Studied upto	Stuyding in			

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## 8. Income from other sources:

1. Rent
2. Business
3. Farm
4. Any other

9. Total family income per month in Rs.

10. Income contributed to family pool.

11. Family expenditure pattern

S.No.	Item	Amount spent per month
1.	Cereals	
2.	Grams	
3.	Gereal substitutes	
4.	Milk and products	
5.	Edible oil	
6.	Meat, fish and egg	
7.	Vegetables	
8.	Fruits and nuts	
9.	Sugar	
10.	Salt	
11.	Spices	
12.	Beverages	
13.	Fuel and light	
14.	Clothing	
15.	Foot wear	
16.	Pan, tobacco, intoxicants	

- 17. Mix goods and services
- 18. Rents
- 19. Taxes
- 20. Durable goods

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II. INFORMATION ABOUT PAID SERVICES:

1. Have you employed any paid help to look after your household work:

Yes	No
If yes, why	If No, why

2. If paid help is employed give the details below:

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S.No.	Person employed	Sex	Age	Part time	Full time	Monthly pay	Pay in kind	Money value
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IV. List the activities in which you get the help of your family members:

S.No.	Activity	Person Performing	Hours performed per day
1.	Preparation for cooking		
2.	Cooking		
3.	Washing the utensils		
4.	Dusting		
5.	Sweeping		
6.	Mopping		
7.	Washing		
8.	Ironing		
9.	Child and family health care		
10.	Gardening		
11.	Shopping (daily necessitites)		
12.	Any other		

## V.Details of household production

1. If you produce the following for your family, Give the details relating to them

S.No.	Item	Time in hours spent per month/year
1.	Pickles	
2.	Curry powder	
3.	Pappadas	
4.	Cakes	
5.	Vadagam	
6.	Jam	
7.	Squash	
8.	Any other	

2. Please give details on your leisure time activites:

S.No.	Activity	Time spent per week
1.	Tailoring	
2.	Basket making	
3.	Embrøidery work	
4.	Coaching children	

- VI. What do you think will be the cost of maintenance excluding room rent and incidental expenses if you were to put,
- a. Your school male child in boarding school :
  - b. Female child in boarding in school :
  - c. Your son in college hostel :
  - d. Your daughter in college hostel :
  - e. An adult member in working hostel :
  - f. An adult member in hotel :
  - g. If your entire family were to eat out throughout a month ;
2. If you were to be gainfully employed during the hours which you now currently devote to household work, mention
- a. Activity/nature of employment:
  - b. The amount of earnings expected per month :