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Influence of social class and work force engagement on political participation of women

ABSTRACT

In Pakistan, women are believed to be politically inactive due to social, structural, and institutional constraints. The present study analyzed as to how women's social class and workforce engagement influence their political participation. A survey was carried from a sample of 250 women from Renala Khurd, District Okara. Interview schedule was used as a tool of data collection. The findings of this study indicated varying educational attainments of two-third respondents, while nearly a little less than one-fourth women were not literate. Women's educational attainment was significantly associated with their political participation. This is an important finding which underscores the need to enhance female literacy for their political participation. A large proportion of women rated them in middle class. A tiny proportion of women hailed from upper class. A significant proportion of women reported lower class. This is understandable that most of the people rate their class as middle class whenever self-reported criterion is used for one's class. The findings of this study showed that socio-economic and cultural constraints did affect the political participation of respondents. Illiteracy and ignorance turned out major impediment in political participation. Illiteracy and lack of skills constrained women labor force participation, in turn their political behavior and participation. Alternatively, educational attainment and workforce participation was significantly related with political behavior of women. Women who were more engaged in work force were highly aware of the importance of politics and they participated in politics. However, regardless of their work status, women generally faced challenges in participating in politics and political process. Findings of this research underscore the need of policy level interventions to enhance women political participation to ensure healthy democracy in Pakistan.

Introduction

In Pakistan women are believed to be politically inactive and less aware about their political rights. Marginalization of women from politics and political process may mar the real democracy and the process of development in society. Women in developing countries have less access to educational opportunities which is the cause of lower self-esteem in women. (Carlson, 2017) They are forced to stay at home, missing out schooling lessens their interest in politics which causes less participation of women in politics according to a study less participation of women in politics can be traced back to cultural, institutional and socioeconomic factors. Women have more responsibilities of household; due to less education they use to have low self-esteem which is also due to few role models in political fields. (J.Williamberg, 2009)

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Women's class might have differential influence on her political behavior and participation in political process. Educational attainment and work status are considered important aspects of one's class. Despite certain limitations, objective approach is widely used to determine one's class. The current study used both self-reportage and three important aspects of objective approach (educational attainment, occupation and income) to determine as to how women's class influence their political behavior and participation.

The current study was an attempt to analyze women participation in politics. In doing so, the major focus was to know as to how workforce participation and social class influence women participation in politics. A survey was carried out from a sample of 250 women from Renala Khurd, District Okara. Women are the pivot of the axis of society. They play a major role in the development of society and are also the major force behind the participation of great population in society. Women makeup almost half of a society, if they are inactive or morbid part of society then the society is considered as dead. (JUNIK-ŁUNIEWSKA, 2016) If they are socially active and have awareness about civic activities, they would be of great help in developing a successful democratic society. Since the existence of a stable, healthy democratic society is only possible if both men and women actively and consciously play their civic role in driving the cart of a society. (Durr-e-Nayyab, 2011)

Since ages women have been considered as inferior or subordinates to men. There is a huge gender gap in every aspect of society. Women have been deliberately kept subordinated to men in every field of life, whether if it is education or employment, housekeeping or the government. In our society, women have been objectified and limited only to selected sections. (Chaudhary H.U.R, 2011) The trend of limiting and discriminating women is not new but it is can be traced from thousands and hundreds of years ago when the great philosophers Aristotle and Plato gave their views about women. According to Aristotle in *Politics:* "The relationship of male to female by nature is of superior to inferior". (Borghini, 2017) He was also of the view that male is superior and elder than the female who is inferior and younger.

Women have been discriminated in all the periods whether it was ancient, medieval or modern. Traces of discrimination have also been found even in the postmodern times directly or indirectly. Testimony of discrimination can be found in the saying of great philosophers who gave the idea of utopian government. Plato in his *Republic* says that "women are enabled to bring children into the world and bear them which are defined by their gender. They are bound to the private sphere because they have to look after the children, to feed them, to care for them, for their education and protection for several years. Pregnancy makes them inept for the warfare and combat and work. Therefore, they are only limited to the private sphere rather than public. In contrast to women, men are generally stronger and physically fit that is why they are considered suitable for manual labor and war. Because of their strength and fitness, they are also political actors and they keep public spheres in their hand and restrict women to private spheres." (Brisson, 2012) This is why politics is considered as male oriented.

In Rousseau's view, "women are less rational, weaker and dependent ones. He makes women subservient. Men are superior rational and stronger and capable of warfare. They are able to run the government." (lewis, 2018) These were the notions which continued in the postmodern societies and females were continuously considered as subservient to men in all the external affairs of society which were other than private affairs or out home boundary. Because of the influence of these strong notions, women are less represented in the government. Resultantly, they are less aware of their rights and laws. They have less interference in the legislature which makes them vulnerable in the patriarchal or male oriented society. (Ali, 2018)

Women have to struggle more whether it is public or private sphere for the consideration of their wills and voices. They have considered as adjuncts of males and in political sphere they are only propped up by the men. They are seen as people who cannot stand up for their political cause. "Women have been subjugated and oppressed on personal, structural and cultural level". (Arthur H. Miller, 1981) Related to personal level there is a dearth of women who have psycho-social attributes. Other characteristics of women include less courage, low self-esteem, resistant to challenges, irrational, emotional weak, less courage for leadership, less motivation, less desire for competition. On the structural level they are vulnerable to the man's resistance and challenges by them for women on the leadership stage. (Kassa, 2015) Pertaining to cultural level women is stereotypically subjugated because of the constructed and nurtured notions for different gender. They are subordinated to men and are unable to do the chores which are defined for men. It would be considered odd and challenged by the society if women will go against the constructed notions of it.

Due to these constructed and nurtured notions of society for both genders, women often inherently do not take interest in politics; consequently, women become less aware of governmental affairs. (Ali, 2018) They would

have less information about national and international affairs. It is most probable that they would not vote but if they will, there would be less chances of rationality in it. All the socio-cultural beliefs, attitudes, and biases vehemently support the superiority of men and inferiority of women. They also form the integral part of socialization by nurturing the gender constructions which extends in a form of less empowerment and participation in decision making which later on affects their political and social lives. Women are likely to be more employed but they are exploited by fewer wages and their labor is underutilized. (Chaudhary H.U.R, 2011) Yet men are considered as more strong, rational and have powerful decision-making ability; therefore, they are more likely to participate actively in the politics.

Education, access to financial resources, social class, working status, economical condition, traditions, socialization play an integral role in women inclination towards political participation. (J.Williamberg, 2009) They would participate more willingly and actively if they are more socialized, economically strong and have better work conditions. If they have less socialization, they would have low ability of decision making; consequently less participation in political affairs. Less access to financial recourses will also make them empathetic towards political participation. Less empowerment will make the vulnerable to the male oriented society. (L.Macdonagh, 1982)

Working women tend to participate more in the politics. This is because of the reason the working women have more self-reliance, are more confident, have ability to take more decisions for the betterment of their lives in both political and social spheres. Therefore, they have greater tendency to participate in politics. (Kasomo, 2012) Working women have more experience to work in a competent environment; therefore, they are less vulnerable to patriarchal exploitation. They are more aware of their duties and obligations. Due to better literacy they are able to perform civic duties in a better manner as compared to non-working and less literate or illiterate women who are unaware of their civic duties and obligations.

Studies have shown that women tend to show less interest in wars and defense as compared to men. Women are generally more concerned to home affairs or other which affects their work outside the home such as wage gap or harassment and also unequal opportunities to facilities. Because of the reason that "politics" is considered as man oriented affair, that is why generally common women show less interest towards it. (Khan, 2008) Men have to work outside and they have to run the home in common experience which makes them more interested in agencies and several detrimental barriers are there against women interest in politics such as child rearing and housekeeping etc. women are more adept to communion as compared to men which is also a factor women have less interest in politics. There is no unidirectional gender gap, rather studies have shown that every sex is more inclined towards the matter of its interest such as women would be more interested in education and men would be more interested in economics women would be more interested in health affairs as compared to men who would be interested in state affairs. (Kasomo, 2012)

Social Class Inequality and Women's Participation: A Global View

Micheal W. krauss has worked and determine the factors of low participation in politics in terms of lower social class rank. He says that "social class directly affects the participation of a person in politics. Persons related to every class behave differently to politics. Every class has different attitudes, perceptions, prejudices, different goals, and different political philosophies. They are either conservative or liberal." (Krauss, 2015) Socio-political orientations are subjected to aptitude i.e. inclinations or tendency towards political or social issue and these are subjected to the socialization of persons belonging to different social classes. Their ideologies would be the reflection of the prevalent values of a particular social class. In United States there is a concentration of economic and social resources among only few individuals. This unequal distribution of economic resources affects adversely the lives of people who have scanty material resources. (Carlson, 2017)

People at the bottom of social class hierarchy possess less resources and therefore those having fewer resources such as money, education, time, civic kills which are essential for political activity, tend to participate less in politics. Lower rate of education creates inadequate ability to understand the community problems. (Malik, 2011)While where there is an elevated level of education and other social and economic resources, there is a great tendency to develop cognitive abilities related to the political content and direct approach to the political system, thus greater participation in politics. (women's leadreship and political participation.)

There exists a psychological factor that those who belong to lower social class have less political self-efficacy and they develop a psyche that they are unable in controlling social, political and economic opportunities. While the people who belong to higher social class have the ability to navigate the institutions such as the economic and

political systems and they also have ability and self-efficacy in personally controlling the opportunities. (Krauss, 2015)

Global View about Unequal Political Participation of Women

According to an American research study, there are different explanations for why there is less participation of women in politics. There are physiological constraints i.e. women lack psycho-social attributes which are associated with leadership. (L.Macdonagh, 1982) Cultural limitations inhibits women from participating in politics by narrating politics as a male dominated task, therefore most of the women are reluctant to participate directly and they have less awareness about political issues. (Kassa, 2015) There are role constraints against women in participating in politics because their role is divided in households, child rearing i.e. they are socialized into an all-time role of a mother and a wife. They also have to face male connivance against them because males are always ready to secure their power positions and they bare women from entering into mainstream political system.

From the local to the global level, all over the world political participation of women are restricted due to structural, institutional, cultural, and psychological reasons. A UN General assembly's resolution notes that women are not properly represented as voters and they are often marginalized due to lack of proper socio-economic resources e.g. education, health, cultural stereotype, discriminatory laws, practices and attitudes. (Carlson, 2017) They are underrepresented in leading positions and as elected officials. (women's leadreship and political participation.)Many young women have individually made the situation better by overcoming the obstacles by making the benefit for society at large but still there is a large room for the betterment of women in political sphere. (Kaplan, 2016) Many researchers have found the solution that women equal representation in political offices will stimulate the participation of women in politics. Their participation in policy making process will increase the interest of women in politics.

Challenges for Women in Political Participation

According to a UNDP source of information only 22 percent of the world parliamentarians are women. And only 25 out 196 countries of world have women leaders. They are underrepresented on all global, regional and local level. Their voices are not heard at even community level. (Kassa, 2015) There are many obstacles which they face on all levels and have lower say in the political arena. In many cases they are forced to vote as the male family members say and also in favor of clan-oriented parties. They also suffer from proxy voting in which case they are not even allowed to see their ballot paper and their male family member vote on their behalf for they are not allowed to appear in public places. Women are more likely to be poor and prone to economic issues which hinder them to participate in politics. (Khan, 2008) They have less education as compared to men and are bound to familial duties which sometimes prove to be a factor in decreased participation of women in politics. Even if they reach leadership positions, they face sheer prejudice and discriminations because they might be on challenging gender positions and power relations. They face harassment, violence and many other challenges in offices because of challenging the stereotype. (Kassa, 2015)

Women Political Participation: A National View

In Pakistan, although a woman has been elected twice as a prime minister but still there is a huge gap in gender equality for other women in political arena. They are not allowed to vote in some areas. Despite the fact that there is no constitutional bar for women entering in the politics but still the percentage of women entering in the national legislature could not move beyond 10 percent till 2001. (Pateman, 1989) Women who enter in political arena are those belonging from the influential families and are elite groups thus they do not actually represent the ordinary common women who face many structural, institutional, and cultural obstacles while participating in politics. (Dahlerup, 2006)

Methodology

Quantitative methodology was used. Survey was used as research technique. Interview schedule thorough questionnaire was used for data collection. In this study data was collected from the women belonging to different work force organizations having different social class, also different levels of education from being illiterate to primary, secondary and higher education. Interviews were scheduled with the women who were illiterate and were unable to fill the questionnaire. Women from Tehsil Renala Khurd District Okara were taken as population of research. Simple random sampling technique was used because of scarcity of time and convenience.

Results

Demographic characteristics of all the respondents are given in the following table. Data shows that only a little less than one fourth women were illiterate and a good proportion of women were working women. A large proportion of women were as per their reportage hailed from middle class. A tiny proportion was from upper class. A significant proportion of women reported lower class. More than half of the respondents reported having two earning members in their house. Study also reveals that a large chunk of women was married and working women. Among working women, more than half of them were associated with teaching profession.

Table 1: Demographic Characteristics

Variables	f	%
Education		
Primary	36	14.4
Secondary	72	28.8
Higher	86	34.4
Illiterate	56	22.4
Earning Member of House		
One	70	28
Two	150	60
Three	17	6.8
More	13	5.2
Occupation		
Health Professional	16	6.4
Teaching Profession	65	26
Marketing	18	7.2
Administrative	18	7.2
Housewife/Nonworking	133	53.2
Social Class		
Upper	18	7.2
Middle	132	52.8
Upper Middle	28	11.2
Lower Middle	54	21.6
Lower	18	7.2
Current Marital Status		
Currently Married	182	72.8
Divorced	32	12.8
Widowed	11	4.4
Unmarried	25	10
House you are Living in		
Own	170	68
Rented	59	23.6
With Relative	21	8.4
Plot size of the House		
1-5 Marla	99	39.6
5-10 Marla	140	56
Above 10 Marla	11	4.4
Household Income		
10-20,000	29	11.6
20,000-40,000	104	42
40,000-60,000	92	36
ABOVE 60,000	24	9.6
Consumer Durables		
All Luxurious Durables((car, bike, AC, Washing machine, jewelry, E.K)	38	15.2
Middle luxurious durables(bike, washing machine, electric fans, gas stove, iron	114	45.6
Only essentials durables (gas stove, iron, electric fans)	98	39.2

Table 2 presents education profile of the respondents.

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Primary	36	14.4	14.4	14.4
Secondary	72	28.8	28.8	43.2
Higher	86	34.4	34.4	77.6
Illiterate	56	22.4	22.4	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 3 shows the division of women according to their professions.

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent

Health professionals	16	6.4	6.4	6.4
Teaching	65	26.0	26.0	32.4
Administration	18	7.2	7.2	39.6
marketing professional	18	7.2	7.2	46.8
non working/housewife	133	53.2	53.2	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 3: Occupation

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
1 member	70	28.0	28.0	28.0
2 members	150	60.0	60.0	88.0
3 members	17	6.8	6.8	94.8
more than 3 members	13	5.2	5.2	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 4: Earning members of house

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
10000-20000	29	11.6	11.6	11.6
20001-40000	105	42.0	42.0	53.6
40001-60000	92	36.8	36.8	90.4
above 60,000	24	9.6	9.6	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 5. Household income

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
1-5	99	39.6	39.6	39.6
5.1-10	140	56.0	56.0	95.6
above 10	11	4.4	4.4	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 6: Plot size of the house

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
all luxurious durables(car, bike, AC, Washing machine, jewelry, E.K)	38	15.2	15.2	15.2
middle luxurious durables(bike, washing machine, electric fans, gas stove, iron)	114	45.6	45.6	60.8
only essentials durables (gas stove, iron, electric fans)	98	39.2	39.2	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 7: Consumer durables; car, bike, AC, washing machine, electric kitchen appliances, pedestal fans, iron, sewing machine, gold jewelry, gas stove

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Own	170	68.0	68.0	68.0
Rented	59	23.6	23.6	91.6
with relative	21	8.4	8.4	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 8: House you're living in

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
currently married	182	72.8	72.8	72.8
Divorced	32	12.8	12.8	85.6
Widowed	11	4.4	4.4	90.0
Unmarried	25	10.0	10.0	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 9: Current marital status

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Upper	18	7.2	7.2	7.2
Middle	132	52.8	52.8	60.0

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
upper middle	28	11.2	11.2	71.2
lower middle	54	21.6	21.6	92.8
Lower	18	7.2	7.2	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 10: Self reported class

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Yes	199	79.6	79.6	79.6
No	51	20.4	20.4	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 11: Did you vote in the last election

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
own choice	168	67.2	84.0	84.0
Father	18	7.2	9.0	93.0
Brother	5	2.0	2.5	95.5
Husband	9	3.6	4.5	100.0
Total	200	80.0	100.0	
Missing	50	20.0		
Total	250	100.0		

Table 12: If voted, then upon whom instructions.

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Gender	13	5.2	26.0	26.0
no access to polling station	28	11.2	56.0	82.0
not permitted by family	9	3.6	18.0	100.0
Total	50	20.0	100.0	
Missing	200	80.0		
Total	250	100.0		

Table 13: If no, then reason.

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
very interested	127	50.8	50.8	50.8
somewhat interested	66	26.4	26.4	77.2
not at all interested	57	22.8	22.8	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 14: How interested are you in politics?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Yes	109	43.6	43.6	43.6
don't know	69	27.6	27.6	71.2
No	72	28.8	28.8	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 15: Do you think familial duties prevent women from entering into politics?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
strongly agree	81	32.4	32.4	32.4
Agree	95	38.0	38.0	70.4
Disagree	68	27.2	27.2	97.6
strongly disagree	6	2.4	2.4	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 16: Women should be responsible for majority of house chores and childcare?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
very important	153	61.2	61.2	61.2
somewhat important	39	15.6	15.6	76.8
not important at all	58	23.2	23.2	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 17: How important are politics to you?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
own choice	193	77.2	77.2	77.2
Father	19	7.6	7.6	84.8
Brother	14	5.6	5.6	90.4
Husband	24	9.6	9.6	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 18: In your view upon whom choice female should vote?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Yes	58	23.2	23.2	23.2
No	192	76.8	76.8	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 19: Do you think elections are only men's job?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
very important	159	63.6	63.6	63.6
somewhat important	50	20.0	20.0	83.6
not important at all	41	16.4	16.4	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 20: To you how far women's participation is important for democracy?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
very frequently	120	48.0	48.0	48.0
Sometimes	105	42.0	42.0	90.0
not at all	25	10.0	10.0	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 21: how frequently do you watch news?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Yes	128	51.2	51.2	51.2
No	122	48.8	48.8	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 22: Do you follow international news as closely as domestic news?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
news channels	155	62.0	62.0	62.0
reading newspaper	23	9.2	9.2	71.2
talk shows	6	2.4	2.4	73.6
discussion with peers	34	13.6	13.6	87.2
All	32	12.8	12.8	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 23 source of news

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
PPP	8	3.2	3.2	3.2
PTI	113	45.2	45.2	48.4
PMLN	123	49.2	49.2	97.6
OTHER	6	2.4	2.4	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 24: What is your political affiliation?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
strongly agree	71	28.4	28.4	28.4
Agree	85	34.0	34.0	62.4
Disagree	70	28.0	28.0	90.4
strongly disagree	24	9.6	9.6	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 25: I strongly support my political party by wearing badge during elections?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
strongly agree	80	32.0	32.0	32.0
Agree	79	31.6	31.6	63.6
Disagree	79	31.6	31.6	95.2
strongly disagree	12	4.8	4.8	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 26: I convince other females to vote for my party?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
strongly agree	71	28.4	28.4	28.4
Agree	84	33.6	33.6	62.0
Disagree	77	30.8	30.8	92.8
strongly disagree	18	7.2	7.2	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 27: I go on campaigns for my party leader during elections

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
To great extent	54	21.6	21.6	21.6
to some extent	107	42.8	42.8	64.4
Not at all	89	35.6	35.6	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 28: When there is a local community issue there is always an opportunity to your opinion?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
To great extent	65	26.0	26.0	26.0
to some extent	89	35.6	35.6	61.6
Not at all	96	38.4	38.4	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 29: Have you ever voluntarily participated in community work?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Yes	105	42.0	42.0	42.0
to some extent	69	27.6	27.6	69.6
Not at all	76	30.4	30.4	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 30: Do you think females should work with political parties as political workers ?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Yes	39	15.6	15.6	15.6
to some extent	124	49.6	49.6	65.2
Not at all	87	34.8	34.8	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 31: Do you have access to political leader of your community?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
To great extent	61	24.4	24.4	24.4
to some extent	99	39.6	39.6	64.0
No at all	90	36.0	36.0	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 32: Have you ever organized people for political action?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
To great extent	112	44.8	44.8	44.8
to some extent	57	22.8	22.8	67.6
Not at all	81	32.4	32.4	100.0
Total	250	100.0	100.0	

Table 33: Do you think vote casting is primary obligation of every citizen?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
To great extent	59	23.6	23.6	23.6
to some extent	134	53.6	53.6	77.2
Not at all	57	22.8	22.8	100.0

Total	250	100.0	100.0

Table 34: Are you satisfied with the work of current government?

The main results which were found during research were

1. Only 79.6% women voted and out of which 67% voted by their own choice and 32% voted by the choice of their male family members.
2. 50.8% of women were interested in politics. Others were not very interested in politics.
3. 48% watch news frequently while only 51% of them watch international news as closely as domestic news.
4. 43.6% women think that familial duties prevent women from entering in politics and 70% of them are staunch proponents of females being primarily responsible for their household work and child care.
5. 61% of women think that politics is important. And 23.2% think that elections are only men's job while 63.6 % think that women's participation in politics is important for democracy.
6. Only 62% women support their political party by wearing badges and 63% convince other women to vote for their party.
7. 61% of them participate in campaigns while 26% of the voluntarily participate and 24 % of women have voluntarily organized people for political action.
8. 42 % of the women are of the view that there is no harm if women work as political workers.
9. 44.8% women think that vote casting is the primary obligation of every citizen.
10. Through regression analysis it is found that there is 30% influence of social class on political participation of women.
11. Work force engagement also influences 14% on political participation of women.
12. There is 20% Influence of education on political participation of women in politics.

Conclusion

This research was carried out in order to know the influence of social class and work force engagement on political participation of women. Socio-economic and cultural factors which create hindrance in political participation of women were analyzed. Results of the research revealed that there is an influence of social class on political participation of women. Also, the women who had identity independent of their homes i.e. they were working women, helped in their empowerment and they participated more in politics as compared to the women who were nonworking. Influence of education, household income and social class affects greatly the political participation of women.

Hypothesis of the research i.e. "there is an association between women's educational attainment and their political participation. There is an association between women's class and their political participation Women's engagement in white collar occupation is associated with their political participation" is proved when results reveal that there is influence of social class and of work force engagement on political participation of women. Working women are more likely to participate in politics as compared to the non-working women. Difference in participation has been better explained by the Resource Theory. Increase in resources help in increased participation in politics. Some groups who are even deficient of resources also participate in politics in response to their group consciousness. (Arthur H. Miller, 1981) In this research it gets to know that non-working women and women belonging to lower social class also participate in politics but only to the extent of vote casting. They are told by their family or the influential persons of their town to caste vote in their favor. They are given some incentive for vote casting which compel them to vote for the particular leader. Apart from that they have no civic skills and they are not even concerned about it. Women, who are not educated, do not have concerns about politics and they don't think it important for their lives and also do not possess any awareness about political education. (Ghulam Dastageer, 2018) On the other hand, women who are educated, working women are well aware of their rights and have better civic skills, political knowledge, and sense of obligation, political attitude and political affiliation.

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