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SOCIAL PROBLEMS OF WOMEN IN URBAN AREAS: SYSTEMATIC RESEARCH, CAUSES, AND SOLUTIONS

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Abstract

This article focuses on a systematic research study that examines the social problems faced by women in urban areas. By shedding light on the causes and proposing solutions, the study aims to address the unique challenges encountered by urban women. Key issues explored include gender inequality, access to resources, violence, and disparities in education and healthcare. The article emphasizes the importance of targeted interventions, community engagement, and policy reforms to empower urban women and create more inclusive urban environments.

Keywords: *social problems, women, urban areas, systematic research, causes, solutions, gender inequality, access to resources, violence, education, healthcare, urban environments.*

Introduction

During the transition to a market economy, a huge number of factories occupied by women labor, as a result of the closure of manufacturing enterprises, many of the women were left without work and forced to do things that did not require various professional qualifications for the economic support of the family. These, in turn, negatively affected the healthy lifestyle in the family, women's health, child rearing and women's reproductive status (Ganiyeva Gulnora Jamoliddinovna 1991–2005).

On March 23, 2023, the law on “Amendments and additions to certain legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan in connection with further improvement of the system of reliable protection of rights, freedoms and legitimate

interests of women and children” was adopted. Its adoption was desperately needed today. According to the Information Service of the Supreme Court, in 2022 alone, 469 people in Uzbekistan were punished for sexual violence against minors. Of these, 23 individuals were punished with substances to satisfy the sexual need in an unnatural way in relation to the person who was revealed to be guilty of not reaching the age of 14 and more than four times – 99 under the age of fourteen. 249 individuals were punished for having sex with a person under the age of 16. 7 persons were punished for having sex with a person between the ages of 16 and 18 by giving material values or by obtaining property interest. 91 individuals were punished for indecent acts against a person under the age of sixteen (Nemolchi.uz.

Anti-violence community project. Available from: <https://t.me/SukutSaqlama/2689>. (Accessed 20 November 2023).

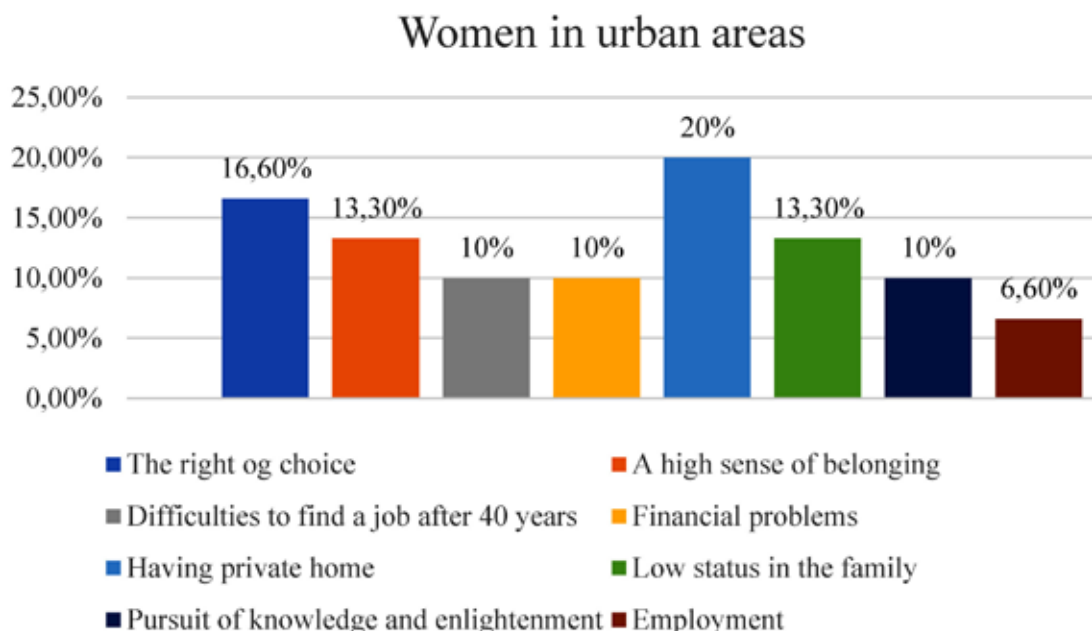
The law increased penalties for violence. For instance, the law introduced administrative and criminal liability for “domestic violence” (article 1261), which is relevant today (Sociological study of the research institute “family and women”. April-September 2022). In particular, based on the most modern international norms for the protection of the rights of women and children and foreign experience, administrative and criminal liability was established for physical violence, as well as economic and psychological violence. New penalties were also introduced on issues seen as an urgent problem, such as “forcing a

person to have sex” (Art. 121), “disclosing information that belittles the honor and dignity of a person and reflects the secret aspects of human life” (Art. 1413), mandatory involvement in paid public works (Art. 281) as a measure ensuring the fulfillment of alimony obligations (Konstantinova V. 1998).

Problem Identification Through Questionnaires.

We conducted social surveys for the purpose of systematic research of women’s problems. A survey of a total of 300 women between the ages of 35–55 and 300 girls between the ages of 15–18 in the Mirzo Ulugbek district of Tashkent city were asked what the problems that plague women today are.

Figure 1. *Opinion of women’s in urban areas*



The problem that afflicts women living in an urban area the most is that it is having a private home. 20% of respondents noted that it was that was the biggest problem that is transverse in front of them today. For comparison, this rate in rural area was 6.6 percent for women. Next is that they do not have the right to choose. Women said that they do not always have the right to choose when it comes to working or not, making decisive decisions in the family. 13.3% of women argued that their status in the family was at a low level, especially the situation of discriminating them by their mother-in-law, humiliating them in treatment, limiting the freedom of

choice by the mother-in-law even in small matters, that this attitude of the mother-in-law to the bride in most cases leads to the women of the rural area had not mentioned the issue. It is possible that they don’t look at it as the biggest problem that torments them. We also touched on this question separately during the research work to get an answer to this question. According to him, 300 women living in the Namangan region, Mingbulak district were asked “Does your mother-in-law respect you and your opinions in the family?” 71% of respondents said yes and 29% said no. It is said that the relationship of the bride and mother-in-law in this area is

relatively good, and the cowardice is higher between them.

13.3% of women in the urban area say that one of the main problems today is the high feeling of women's immortality. One of the participants in the survey was entrepreneur Zukhra Khusanova "women are getting lazier, I am an entrepreneur. When I set up my sewing shop, I first invited the women of my near neighborhood to work. However, many of them did not come to work with different excuses. As long as they needed both – work and money. I think they got used to the help being given from the neighborhood, from the state, this is my personal opinion. Of course, not all women are like that. Our women who are on the poor list and receive government assistance but are also in constant motion are blind, but unfortunately these aids help them stand on their feet, so at the same time, they are constantly trying to be financially self-sufficient. there are those who do not understand what they should do. This surprises me", – she said.

10% of women claimed that finding a job after the age of 40 was difficult. One of the respondents, Svetlana Mirhalikova, said "I am a makeup artist and now I am 52 years old. But, you know, finding a job after 40 is a problem for our women. This is an crystal clear reality. Personally, I myself have been denied several times, saying that my age is not right. I know this is prohibited by law but for some reason I have not complained to the relevant authorities. Maybe later I thought that I would work in the organization and it would have a negative impact on the relationship," she says. It means that some women may not consciously use their rights even when they know their rights. As long as Article 6 of the Labor Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan provides that all citizens, regardless of race, nationality, gender, as well as age, have equal opportunities to have and use labor rights. Any restrictions in the field of labor relations are not allowed depending on the ability of employees to work and other aspects of their work that are not related to the results of their work, and these are marked as discrimination (Article 6 of the Labor Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan). As mentioned above, in the case of Svetlana Mirhalikova, it was concluded that it is necessary to ensure the rights of the woman first and

help her to get a job in another organization. But for this, first of all, it is necessary to teach the rights of women in the society through extensive propaganda work, and to make sure that their rights are guaranteed in such cases.

Another interesting piece of information from the survey was that 10% of women in urban areas said that the pursuit of science among women was low. One of the respondents, Feruza Nurmukhammedova, said: "in my opinion, most of our women have forgotten to live their lives. There are many cases of analyzing the lives of others. Reading a book, going to a movie or theater, doing some kind of sports are more beneficial to both – their health and spirituality". In such cases, the actions of a woman who has a higher education at the age of 71 by the end of the 2023 academic year should be shown as an example to other women. In 2023, Chinnigul Dostkhojaeva studied at the Nukus branch of the Uzbekistan State Institute of Arts and Culture, and at the age of 71, graduated bachelor's degree in "Musical Instrument Performance. "My dream was to get a higher education. I have reached my dream. I devoted 50 years of my life to the field of art. My dream now is to enter the master's degree," says Chinnigul Dostkhojaeva.

As it can be seen from the survey numbers, our broad-minded women who work on themselves, believing that spiritual growth and knowledge acquisition are always important, want not only themselves and others to live an active lifestyle. Increasing the number of such thinking women in the society is an urgent demand of today.

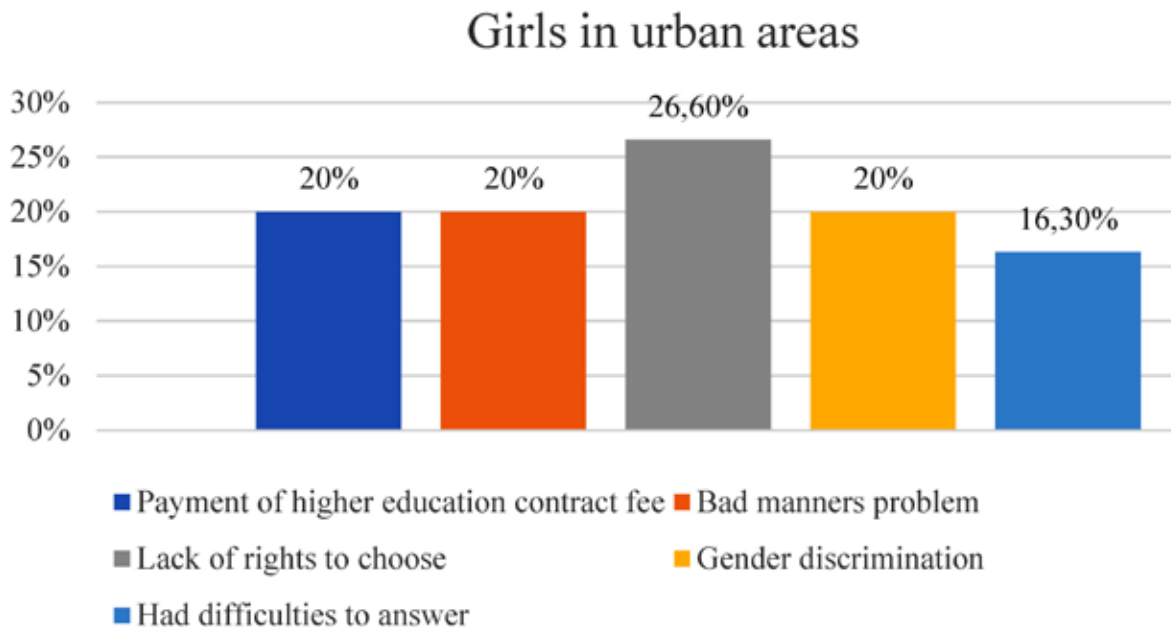
15–18-year-old girls in the city were also asked, "What problem do you think is common among girls of your age?"

Most of the girls, 26.6%, said that they do not have the right to choose. They made it clear that their opinion is not taken into account when it comes to choosing the type of education and studying at higher education, choosing a profession, when and whom to marry. 20% of them are thinking about paying the contract fee for higher education. One of the interviewees says: "That's why I have to take into account the amount of the contract fee when choosing a higher education institution", another says "I can't study if I sign a contract". The same percentage of girls said that lack of

education and immorality are becoming the main problem among their peers today. 20% of girls in the rural area gave this answer. 16.3%

of respondents had difficulty answering. In comparison, 23.3% of girls in rural areas had difficulty answering the question.

Figure 2. *Opinion of girls' in urban areas*



According to the survey, most of the problems reported by women are employment and financial stability and the right to choose. The education of women and girls, becoming a specialist in a certain field, and having a permanent job will provide them with both mental peace and financial freedom.

Conclusion

In conclusion, in solving the problems related to women, joint cooperation of the general public and law promotion bodies is necessary. Studying it in sufficient scientific and practical detail, Society should understand that violence against women is violence against humanity. Because women are physically and mentally fragile due to biolog-

ical reasons. They should be protected from violence and abuse.

Based on the above problems, the following recommendations can be made:

- to prepare social roles and establish their continuous promotion, promoting the holiness of the family, the spiritual pillar of the female family;
- to conduct more spiritual and educational conversations in the cross section of families;
- increase media activity against the vices of violence;
- strengthening the protection of property and material rights;
- strengthen the process of scientific study of the roots of the origin of cases of violence against women.

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