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SHARING OF HOUSEHOLD TASKS BY
EMPLOYED MARRIED COUPLES

THESIS

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The problem of this study was to determine if the sex role identification, age, education, and income of employed married couples were related to their perception of who should and does perform household tasks. The forty-five couples were volunteers from organizations for working women. Each spouse completed a Bem Sex Role Inventory and a Household Task Inventory. Using Chi-square and t-tests no significant differences were found between sex role identification, education level, income level, and the sharing of household tasks. When a Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient was used, age and sharing of household tasks were found to have an inverse relationship with the young sharing more tasks. The study concluded that couples expect household tasks to be shared but females tend to perform the traditional feminine tasks and males the traditional masculine tasks.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Background of the Problem

The male role in the family has traditionally been that of breadwinner while the female role has been that of homemaker and child rearer (3). However, today more women than ever are employed outside the home. Women enter the work force for several reasons. First, women work for economic reasons. Women also work because of a desire for achievement and the satisfaction that comes from using skills and being recognized (6). In three out of five married couples, both spouses work. Women, employed full time, contribute an average of 40 percent of the family income (5).

In 1978 one-half of the married women were employed and by 1990 it is predicted that the percentage will rise to 55 (7). Since 1970 the number of married women in the work force has risen from 18.4 million to 24 million (5).

Women employed in the labor force are still expected to fulfill the traditional role of homemaker and child rearer. Women employed forty or more hours a week in the labor force, in 1968, reported 38.6 hours a week spent in household tasks (4). Married women in the labor force

in 1980 reported spending 26.2 hours a week in housework compared to 11 hours a week for married men (8).

As married women increase their job hours, regular housework hours decrease; yet housework hours for married men do not increase to make up for this decrease. Husbands of full time homemakers do 14 percent of the total housework, while husbands of employed women do 18 percent (10).

Statement of the Problem

The problem of this study was to determine if the sex role identification of employed married couples is related to their perception of who should and does perform certain household tasks. Traditionally the two sex roles have been masculine and feminine. Recently psychologists have begun to consider androgyny as a third sex role. Androgyny is having both feminine and masculine characteristics depending on the situational appropriateness of these various characteristics (2). Household tasks have also been classified as masculine or feminine, with each sex performing the sex-appropriate tasks (1, 5, 8).

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study was to determine if the division of household tasks was related to the sex role identification of a spouse and perception of who should and does perform the tasks. This study also investigated to

what extent age, education, number of children living at home and income, effect sex role identification and the division of household tasks.

Hypotheses

1. Based on the scores of the Bem Sex Role Inventory, women are more androgynous in their sex role identification than men.

2. All women and androgynous men have greater expectations of sharing household tasks than men who identify with the masculine role based on scores of the Bem Sex Role Inventory.

3. Based on the scores of the Bem Sex Role Inventory, androgynous women and men share more of the household tasks than women and men who identify with traditional feminine-masculine roles.

4. Men and women who identify with traditional feminine-masculine roles based on scores on the Bem Sex Role Inventory, perform more of the tasks traditional for their sex than androgynous women and men.

5. There is a relationship between age and the actual sharing of household tasks.

6. There is a relationship between the level of education and the actual sharing of household tasks.

7. There is a relationship between income and the actual sharing of household tasks.

Definition of Terms

Androgyny is the classification of an individual having both feminine and masculine characteristics depending upon the situational appropriateness of these various characteristics (2).

Feminine is the classification of an individual possessing characteristics perceived to be more desirable in society for a female than a male, as gentleness, weakness, delicacy, modesty (2).

Masculine is the classification of an individual possessing characteristics perceived to be more desirable in society for a male than a female, as strength, vigor, aggressive, self-reliant, independent (2).

Household Tasks are activities performed to provide goods and services which the family use (9).

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CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Changing Role of Women Within the Family

Traditionally the role of the male has been that of breadwinner and the role of female that of homemaker and child rearer. Bem (7) states that masculinity is associated with an instrumental orientation, a cognitive focus on getting a job done or a problem solved and a concern for oneself as an individual. Femininity has been associated with an expressive orientation, an affective concern for welfare of others and the harmony of group, and concern for relationships between oneself and others.

Slocuna and Nye (36) state that the provider and housekeeper are well established traditional family roles. The provider obtains goods and services for the family in exchange for own goods and services. The housekeeper takes the goods and prepares and maintains them for the family.

Weitzman (45) says that in the law and in practice, marriage is a contract for the domestic services of a woman, who in return is kept by a husband. The four essential provisions in a traditional marriage contract are 1) husband is head of the household, 2) husband is responsible for

support, 3) wife is responsible for domestic services, and 4) wife is responsible for child care. The law ties women to the traditional sex roles; that is, she takes her social status from the status of her husband. Weitzman (45) also states that if a wife works outside the home, her income enhances the social rank of the husband, not her own.

Historically work in the home has been devalued because no money was received for this work; thus, housework was inferior to paid employment according to Henderson (21). Housework is work that must be done over and over without producing a product.

Today married women work to help support their families. According to Johnson (24), women employed full time, fifty to fifty-two weeks, contributed an average of 40 percent of the family income. Caudle (11) found earnings of the employed wife to be a major contribution to the family income. Over one-half of the employed wives work to meet daily living expenses and to buy "extra" things for the family.

Economic factors which have contributed to the increased labor force participation of women are a need to be self supporting, inflation, changing ideas of what constitutes a decent standard of living and an accelerated demand for female labor through the growth of service and technical jobs (31). Also a desire for achievement and the satisfaction that comes from using skills cause women to seek employment outside the home.

Dual earner families also show a lower incidence of poverty. Johnson (24) reports that in 1978 the median family income for white dual earner families was \$23,300 and that they earned 37 percent more than one earner families. Black dual earner families had a median income of \$19,500 and earned 55 percent more than one earner families, while Hispanic dual earner families had a median income of \$17,900 and earned 59 percent more than one earner families.

Poloma and Garland (34), however, report that the demands of home and family on employed women make it difficult to compete with male colleagues who are not burdened with the daily routine of homemaking. Attempts by employed women to integrate work and home life intensified their worries and concerns (10). Burke and Weir (10) also found that the husbands of employed wives were subject to greater stress and had difficulties because of socialization to fulfill an instrumental function and little socialization in the areas of child care or homemaking.

Performance of Household Tasks by Women

Walker (43) states that full time homemakers spent thirty-five to sixty hours per week performing household work. Household work is defined as those activities which enable the family to operate as a family in the world today or those household activities performed to provide the goods and services which the family uses. Eleven hours a week per

child was spent in child care by the full time homemaker; two hours a day was spent in direct care of young children, while thirty minutes a day was spent for older children. Four to nine hours a day was spent in the company of children. Walker and Woods (42) also found that 72 percent of the total housework was done by full time homemakers and 61 percent by employed women. Employed city homemakers in 1951 spent 4.1 hours a day in household tasks (42). Women employed forty hours or more a week in 1968 reported 38.6 hours a week in household tasks according to Hall (18). Stafford (38) reports that women employed full time spent 26.2 hours per week in household work in 1980.

Smith (37) found that employed wives spent an average of twenty-six hours a week in household tasks. Meal preparation and cleanup took up to 30 percent of the household time for employed women. Care of family was second in amount of time, 15 to 25 percent, followed by 15 percent in clothing care and regular house care.

Haovio-Mannila (19) reports that many working women were more dissatisfied with the participation of husbands in household tasks than with their own status at work, even if the position held was inferior to the job of their husbands. As job hours for the wife increased, regular housework hours decreased without being made up by the husband. Wheeler and Avery (46) found that employed wives were reducing responsibility for feminine tasks yet husbands were not assuming

responsibility for feminine tasks. Hillman, Raskin and Orloff-Kaplan (20) found women would rather do the housework than have to nag and cajole husbands to help. Wives continue performing household tasks because husbands take twice as long and the work looks half as good; husbands do not know how to perform the tasks, and time must be spent teaching the work, which could be used in performing the task (33). Smith (37) found that many women spent so much of their time in household tasks because they shared the same opinion as men that housework was work for women to perform. Role sharing couples, according to Haas (17), reported four problems in sharing the domestic role; 1) disinclination to do non-traditional tasks, 2) discrepancies in housekeeping standards, 3) reluctance by wife to delegate domestic responsibilities, and 4) lack of non-traditional domestic skills.

In order to accomplish household tasks employed women spend less time sleeping, watching TV or reading, and playing with children (38). Angrist (1) reports that some employed women delegate tasks to other family members, such as children, or employ help to meet the demands of household work. Women employed outside the home double the amount of time spent on housework during weekends compared with weekdays, while full time homemakers decrease by 50 percent the time spent in housework on the weekends (40). Men spent

some time in maintenance jobs on the weekend but a relatively larger amount of time is spent participating in leisure activities.

When wives were full time homemakers and husbands were employed outside the home, Walker and Woods (42) found a disparity of how many hours each worked a week. The researchers report that husbands averaged fifty-five hours per week on their jobs, including commuting, and full time homemakers averaged the same amount of time in housework; however, husbands also contributed six hours each week in housework. Full time employed wives, because they continued to do the equivalent of another job by running the house, averaged seventy-one work hours per week to sixty-one hours by the husband (42).

According to Meksner, et al (28) despite fewer hours of housework, the total work load for the employed wife has gone up while the work load of the husband has declined. Szalai (40) states that women with dual roles spent less time daily on the job than men and less time daily on housework than full time homemakers. However, when both job and housework time were summed, employed women spent more time daily working than either employed men or full time homemakers.

Geiken (15) found that authority tasks were the most shared and housekeeping tasks the least shared. According to the researcher the more "mental" the task the more shared, the more "doing" the less shared. More husbands and wives

were willing to share decision making because of the employment of the wife. The incongruity in this sharing of "mental" tasks is that these jobs were once considered masculine not feminine jobs; such as paying bills and keeping the budget.

Performance of Household Tasks by Men

Evidence suggested that husbands and fathers are still seen as the basic source of strength, unity, ultimate authority, and economic security for the family (2, 35). Women returning to work or school listed spouses as their key support in the family, according to Rice (35). These women also relied on their children to assume some of the responsibility for household tasks. Rice found that spouses of employed women were supportive as long as no behavioral change was demanded or expected on their part. Husbands in the study were supportive emotionally with verbal encouragement, precise, positive suggestions, but did not support the employed wives in actual child care and housework. According to Haovio-Mannila (19), women want more equality and men want more patriarchal orientation in the family. Between one-fourth and two-thirds of all husbands in the United States do not do housework (42). In the evening husbands engage in household tasks when wives are not available (9). Oakley (29) found that husbands had a greater tendency to take part in child care than in housework.

According to Walker (43) husbands of full time homemakers spend six to twenty minutes daily during the week, in direct care of children, and thirty minutes a day on weekends. Hillman, Raskin and Orloff-Kaplan (22) states that fathers saw themselves as babysitters and children saw their fathers this way. This attitude reinforced the traditional sex role of women as the provider of child care, and seemed to imply that mothers had the role of parent. According to Hillman, Raskin and Orloff-Kaplan (22) husbands expressed a willingness to take over the task of playing and reading to children. However, fathers were still reluctant to dress or take care of children when they were sick (41).

Many studies (2, 15, 16, 19, 26, 28, 41) reported an increase in the time husbands spent doing housework when wives worked. Berheide, Berk and Berk (8) found little evidence of husbands contributing more than a minimal amount to housework. When time logs were kept in the study conducted by Meksner, et al (28) it was found that while men reported more time in performing household tasks, they were not doing traditional feminine tasks. Feminine tasks generally must be done daily, are more time consuming and are most affected by employment of the wife. The researchers found that home repairs, maintenance and major construction were the only areas where participation by men out numbered women. In these tasks men averaged 2.5 hours which is equivalent to the time wives devoted to dishwashing. Men

also listed non-physical care of children, marketing, yard and car care as household tasks performed (23, 28). According to Meksner, et al (28), husbands expressed more interest in child care and saw housework as a rarely finished task and one that gave little sense of accomplishment.

Lein (27) states that men were not reluctant to do household tasks but were ambivalent. Men perceive the effort in the home as energy taken from their primary role of breadwinner. Both husbands and wives have difficulty relinquishing responsibility for primary roles. Women see husbands as equals not superiors, yet accept the responsibility of housework and child care, thus maintaining traditional task division (47). According to Stafford, Brookman and Dibana (39), wives continue to do female tasks and husbands do male tasks.

Effects of Sex Role, Age, Race, Children in the Home,
Income, Education and Social Status on
Performance of Household Tasks

Historically and cross-culturally masculinity and femininity represent complementary traits and behaviors (6). Bem, Martyna and Walson (6) state that psychological androgyny denotes the blending of both masculinity and femininity within a single person. Androgynous individuals can engage in any situation without regard for its masculine or feminine stereotype (4).

Beckman and Houser (3) found that women, who were less sex role traditional, performed a smaller proportion of feminine household tasks. However, the sex role identification of women had no effect on the performance of masculine tasks and decision making; these tasks were divided the traditional way. When sex typed individuals, those identifying with traditional masculine and feminine roles, perform sex-cross activities, activities traditionally performed by the opposite sex, they experience discomfort and feel bad about themselves (5). Sex typed individuals tend to avoid doing sex-cross activities. Weingarten (44) states that husbands perform household tasks, not always consciously, so that the work includes tasks less threatening to the masculine self image. Keith and Brubaker (24) report that as men and women age, they become more androgynous and men perform more feminine household tasks.

The ages of a married couple affected the sharing of household tasks. Haovio-Mannila (19) states that role expectation and age were related, with the young and the old sharing the same opinion of what was masculine and what was feminine, while those in the middle were less role typed. Both young men and older men felt that women should perform traditional feminine household tasks, while men between twenty-five and forty-four wanted to leave housework to women, but actually helped more.

Smith (37) found that in Black employed wife couples, the wives favored sharing household tasks more than husbands, while in Chicano couples, wives favored a traditional division of labor more than the husbands did. Egalitarianism in decision making was reported to be the norm within White, Black and Hispanic couples, according to Cromwell and Cromwell (13).

Smith (37) reports that employed mothers spent one hour a day in direct care of children under three and thirty minutes a day with children over three years of age. Also, these women spent three hours daily in the company of their children. Smith found that husbands of working wives spent two times as much time with their children as husbands of full time homemakers; however, husbands of working wives spent three-fifths less time with their children on weekends than husbands of full time homemakers. Families with three or more children were more likely to support the shared housekeeper role, according to Slocuna and Nye (36). Pleck (32) reports that employed husbands spent about 14.5 hours per week in housework, but those with children under eighteen spent 20 hours per week. Working wives spent thirty-one hours per week in housework, except those with children under eighteen, who spent thirty-three hours per week.

Haovio-Mannila (19) reports that education and social strata are correlated to role expectations. Women with less education and in the lower class want women to work to support

the family but also consider the home as the primary place for women. Ericksen, Yancey and Ericksen (14) found that education was a double bind situation for women. Education improves the status of women, thus increasing the probability that they will marry males with even higher status. However, higher status men were not willing to share household tasks, while higher status women want sharing of household tasks. The researchers further pointed out that Black women with a higher education were unlikely to marry Black men with a higher status; thus the women want more sharing in household tasks because of their education and their husbands want less sharing because of the lower status (14). Slocuna and Nye (36) state that men with more education (high school or more) are more likely to accept some responsibility for household tasks. Women with college degrees are more likely to accept shared household responsibilities. Hedges and Barnett (20) report that wives employed in a field that required a high education level did the same amount of housework as wives employed in a field requiring less skill.

Income and the number of hours employed by wives made no difference in the division of household tasks. The more hours a woman was employed outside the home, the less hours she gave to household tasks, but this difference was not made up by family members. Beckman and Houser (3) found that husbands of professional women took over certain feminine tasks but did not share household responsibilities equally. Clark,

Nye and Gacas (12) state that an increase in income for the husband directly reduced the sharing of household tasks and indirectly reduced this sharing by diminishing the employment time of the wife and the housekeeping role expectation for husbands.

Olsen (30) found that social class affected distribution of responsibilities within a family. Assumption of household responsibilities by husbands was least in the higher status family, while middle class husbands accepted more responsibility than either the higher or lower class. Olsen (30) also reports that middle class families exhibited more of a change from traditional family type to a companionship form where the husband helped with household tasks. The researcher further found that husbands still tended to assume more home responsibilities which were usually considered masculine work than the traditional feminine tasks. Slocuna and Nye (36) report that working class families had a rigid division of labor with the husbands in the provider role and the housekeeper and child care role reserved for wives.

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CHAPTER III

METHODS AND PROCEDURES

Sample

The sample for this study consisted of forty-five women employed outside the home and their spouses. Through the Dallas Public Library a list (Appendix A) of thirty-three organizations for working women, in the metroplex, was obtained. Initially twenty-five of these organization presidents were contacted by a letter (Appendix B). The eight organizations not contacted were metroplex branches of the same organizations. The Dallas branch of this organization was selected to participate.

The letter explained the purpose of the study and the criteria for volunteering for participation. Each president was asked to either announce the study at an organizational meeting using a prepared statement from the researcher (Appendix C) or allow the researcher to make a presentation at a meeting explaining the purpose of the study and asking for volunteers. Telephone follow-up calls were made to organization presidents who did not respond within two weeks. Eight organization presidents agreed to present the study to their organizations: Executive Women of Dallas, Business and Professional Women of Dallas, Desk and

Derrick, Home Economists in Business, Insurance Women of Dallas, Women Engineers, Women in Communication, and Women in Transportation. Names and addresses were collected at the meeting and mailed to the researcher. Insurance Women of Dallas made the presentation but received no volunteers.

Instrumentation

The data were collected using an instrument developed by the researcher (Appendix D) and the Bem Sex Role Inventory. The instrument for this study included a household task inventory and demographic data. The Household Task Inventory was developed after reviewing the literature related to household management. The following six major divisions of household tasks were identified: (1) food preparation, (2) household cleaning, (3) laundry, (4) household maintenance, (5) money management, and (6) child care.

The Household Task Inventory is divided into two sections, Section A of part one asks the respondent to identify which spouse should perform specific household tasks. Section B of part one asks the respondent to identify which spouse actually performs the given task in the household.

The demographic data collected included (1) sex, (2) age, (3) racial or ethnic group, (4) number of children in the home and their ages, (5) education, (6) income, (7) occupation, and (8) number of hours employed weekly.

The purpose of the Bem Sex Role Inventory is to characterize a person as masculine, feminine, androgynous or undifferentiated by their identification with masculine and feminine personality characteristics. The inventory consists of a list of sixty words depicting twenty stereotypical masculine characteristics, twenty stereotypical feminine characteristics, and twenty characteristics that serve as fillers.

A characteristic was classified as masculine if it was perceived to be more desirable in society for a man than a woman, and was classified as feminine if it was perceived to be more desirable for a woman than a man. A characteristic was classified as a filler if it was judged by males and females to be no more desirable for one sex than the other (1).

The respondent indicated on a scale of one to seven how well the sixty characteristics described himself or herself. Each person received two major scores; a masculinity and a femininity score. A median split was determined for both the masculinity and femininity scores. People scoring high on masculinity and low on femininity were classified masculine and those low on masculinity and high on femininity were classified feminine. Androgynous people scored high in both masculinity and femininity while undifferentiated people scored low on both masculinity and femininity.

Collection of Data

The data were collected by a mailed questionnaire from October, 1981 through January, 1982, using the list of volunteers obtained by the presidents of the participating organizations. The organizations that participated were Executive Women of Dallas, Business and Professional Women of Dallas, Women in Transportation, Women in Communication, Home Economists in Business, Desk and Derrick, and Women Engineers.

A cover letter, two questionnaires, and a return addressed postage paid envelope were mailed to each volunteer. The cover letter (Appendix E) contained information about who was conducting the study, the purpose of the study, and instructions for completing and returning the questionnaires.

A follow up post card (Appendix F) was mailed to those volunteers not responding after two weeks. A second follow-up letter, (Appendix G) two questionnaires, and a return addressed postage paid envelope were mailed to those not responding to the first follow-up, three weeks after the initial mailing.

Forty-five couples volunteered to answer the questionnaire. Thirty-three couples returned the questionnaire for a 73 percent return rate. All the returned questionnaires were useable.

Analysis of Data

The data collected were analyzed by frequency distribution for each household task in Section A and B of the questionnaire. The Bem Sex Role Inventory was analyzed by computing a mean masculine and feminine score for each subject then using a median split to determine if the respondents were masculine--high masculine mean, low feminine mean; feminine--low masculine mean, high feminine mean; androgynous--high masculine mean, high feminine mean; or undifferentiated--low masculine mean, low feminine mean.

Hypotheses one, six and seven were tested by a chi square test of independence. The .05 level of significance was used to reject the null hypothesis. Hypotheses two, three and four were tested by a t-test for the difference between means for independent samples. The .05 level of significance was used to reject the null hypothesis for a one-tailed test. Hypothesis five was tested by calculating a Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient. The .05 level of significance was used to reject the null hypothesis.

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CHAPTER IV

ANALYSIS OF DATA

Sample Characteristics

The sample of this study consisted of thirty-three married couples who were employed outside the home. Questionnaires were administered to both spouses, thus there were equal numbers of males and females.

The ages of the female respondents are shown in Table I. Six percent of the females were under age twenty-five and over one half the women were between the ages of twenty-

TABLE I
FREQUENCY OF AGE FOR FEMALE RESPONDENTS

N = 33

Age	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Sample
25 years or under	2	6
26-35 years old	18	55
36-45 years old	8	24
46-55 years old	5	15
Total	33	100

six and thirty-five. Twenty-four percent of the women were between thirty-six and forty-five while 15 percent were over forty-six years of age.

The ages of the male respondents are shown in Table II. Three percent of the males were twenty-five years or under.

TABLE II
FREQUENCY OF AGE FOR MALE RESPONDENTS

N = 33

Age	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Sample
25 years or under	1	3
26-35 years old	16	49
36-45 years old	8	24
46-55 years old	8	24
Total	33	100

One-half the males were between twenty-six and thirty-five years of age. Twenty-four percent of the males were in each of the categories of thirty-six to forty-five and forty-six to fifty-five years of age.

Ethnic groups for the female respondents are presented in Table III. Eighty-five percent of the females were Anglo.

TABLE III
ETHNIC GROUP OF FEMALE RESPONDENTS

N = 33

Ethnic Group	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Sample
American Indian	1	3
Anglo	28	85
Asian American	1	3
Black American	1	3
Mexican American	2	6
Total	33	100

Three percent each were American Indian, Asian American, and Black American and 6 percent were Mexican American.

The ethnic groups for the male respondents are shown in Table IV. Ninety-seven percent of the males were Anglo and 3 percent were Black American. The relationship between

TABLE IV
ETHNIC GROUP OF MALE RESPONDENTS

N = 33

Ethnic Group	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Sample
American Indian	0	0
Anglo	32	97
Asian American	0	0
Black American	1	3
Mexican American	0	0
Total	33	100

ethnic group and the sharing of household tasks was not tested because the majority of the male and female respondents were of the same ethnic group.

Seventy percent of the couples had no children living with them, as shown in Table V. Twenty-four percent had one to two children living with them and 6 percent had three to four children. The relationship between having children living at home and the sharing of household tasks was not tested because of the low percentage of couples with children.

TABLE V
NUMBER OF CHILDREN LIVING WITH RESPONDENTS

N = 33

Number of Children	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Sample
None	23	70
1 - 2	8	24
3 - 4	2	6
5 - 6	0	0
7 or more	0	0
Total	33	100

Thirty percent of the couples had children living at home. The ages of these children are shown in Table VI.

TABLE VI
AGE OF CHILDREN LIVING WITH RESPONDENTS

Ages of Children	Number of Children
5 years or older	5
6 - 12 years old	4
13 - 18 years old	3
over 18 years old	2
Total	14

The highest level of education for the female respondents is presented in Table VII. Nine percent of the females had only a high school education. Two-thirds of the females had attended college. Graduate work or advanced degrees were reported by 21 percent.

TABLE VII
HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION FOR FEMALE RESPONDENTS

N = 33

Level of Education	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Sample
High School Graduate	3	9.1
Technical or Business	1	3.0
Some College	10	30.3
College Graduate	12	36.4
Graduate Work	7	21.2
Total	33	100.0

Six percent of the males had only a high school education, as shown in Table VIII. While 60 percent had some

TABLE VIII
HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION FOR MALE RESPONDENTS

N = 33

Level of Education	Number Respondents	Percentage of Sample
High School Graduate	2	6.1
Technical or Business	1	3.0
Some College	10	30.3
College Graduate	9	27.3
Graduate Work	11	33.3
Total	33	100.0

education past high school. Thirty-three percent of the males had attempted graduate work or completed advanced degrees.

The annual family income for the respondents is shown in Table IX. Twelve percent reported incomes between

TABLE IX
ANNUAL INCOME FOR RESPONDENTS

N = 33

Annual Income	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Sample
\$15,000 - \$24,999	1	3.0
\$25,000 - \$34,999	3	9.1
\$35,000 - \$44,999	12	36.4
\$45,000 - \$54,999	9	27.3
\$55,000 or more	8	24.2
Total	33	100.0

\$15,000 and \$34,999. Over one-third made an annual income of \$35,000 to \$44,999. One-half the respondents reported \$45,000 or more in annual income.

The weekly hours of employment for females are presented in Table X. One-half the female respondents worked

TABLE X
HOURS EMPLOYED FOR FEMALE RESPONDENTS

N = 33

Hours Employed Weekly	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Sample
40 hours	18	55
41 - 48 hours	13	39
49 or more hours	2	6
Total	33	100

forty hours a week outside the home. Forty-five percent worked over forty hours a week.

One-third of the males worked forty hours a week, as shown in Table XI. Thirty-six percent worked forty-one to forty-eight hours and 27 percent worked forty-nine or more

TABLE XI
HOURS EMPLOYED FOR MALE RESPONDENTS

N = 33

Hours Employed Weekly	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Sample
40 hours	12	36.4
41 - 48 hours	12	36.4
49 or more hours	9	27.2
Total	33	100.0

hours a week. More of the males, 63.6 percent, worked over forty hours a week compared with 45 percent of the female respondents.

The type of jobs held by both males and females in the study is shown in Table XII. The jobs are listed according to the job titles provided by the respondents on the questionnaire. Five of the females were in traditional feminine jobs; secretary, receptionist, nurse and hair stylist, while two of the males held traditional masculine jobs; truck driver and maintenance mechanic. Four females were employed in jobs once considered masculine; two were attorneys and two were engineers. None of the males were employed in non-traditional jobs.

TABLE XII

JOB DESCRIPTIONS FOR MALES AND FEMALES

Job Title	Number of Males	Number of Females
Accounting Clerk	..	1
Administrative Manager	..	1
Advertising	1	3
Attorney	3	2
Billing Clerk	1	..
Communication Specialist	..	1
Controller	1	..
Customer Service	..	1
Data Processing	1	1
Division Order Analyst	..	1
Engineer	5	2
Financial Analyst	1	..
Form Coordinator Supervisor	1	..
Hair Stylist	..	1
Home Service Advisor	..	2
Inspector	1	..
Main Service Supervisor	1	..
Maintenance Mechanic	1	..
Management	5	1
Media Manager	..	1
Nurse	..	2
Office Manager	..	3
Photographer	1	..
Public Relations	..	3
Public School Administrator	1	..
Receptionist	..	1
Salesperson	6	..
Secretary	..	1
Senior Account Representative	..	2
Senior Community Services Representative	..	1
Telecommunication Staff Manager	1	..
Truck Driver	1	..
Writer	1	2

Household Task Expectations For Female Respondents

The expectations of who should perform certain household tasks for the female respondents are presented in Table XIII. Over one-half of the females indicated that all areas of food preparation should be shared by the husband and wife. In the area of household cleaning over one-half of the females wanted sharing of the tasks; however, all respondents indicated that picking up about the house should be a shared task. Mending the clothes was the only task in the area of laundry where the majority, 69.7 percent of the females, designated that only the wife should perform this task. Most tasks in household maintenance were denoted by one-half the females as should be shared, except for making minor repairs, which was viewed by 63.6 percent as a task which should be performed by husbands only. Over 80 percent of the females specified that money management tasks should be shared. Nine of the female respondents had children living at home, and over one-half indicated that all tasks in the area of child care should be shared. Playing with the children was denoted by all the females as an activity which should be shared. A few females answered that neither spouse should perform specific tasks. These tasks may be viewed as tasks for other members of the family, employed help, or tasks not applicable to apartment dwellers.

TABLE XIII

FEMALE RESPONDENTS' HOUSEHOLD TASK EXPECTATIONS

Household Tasks	Husband		Both		Wife		Neither	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Food Preparation								
Plans the Meals	..	..	21	63.6	11	33.3	1	3.0
Does the Marketing	..	..	28	84.8	5	15.2	..	..
Prepares Meals	..	..	25	75.8	7	21.2	..	..
Does the Dishes	..	..	30	90.9	2	6.1	1	3.0
Empties the Garbage	10	30.3	21	63.6	..	..	2	6.1
Household Cleaning								
Makes the Bed	1	3.0	26	78.8	5	15.2	1	3.0
Dusts the House	..	..	20	60.6	10	30.3	3	9.1
Vacuums the House	1	3.0	26	78.8	3	9.1	3	9.1
Picks up about the House	..	..	33	100.0	..	..	..	..
Mops the Floors	..	..	25	75.8	6	18.2	2	6.1
Laundry								
Mends the Clothes	..	..	8	24.2	23	69.7	2	6.1
Does the Laundry	..	..	20	60.6	11	33.3	2	6.1
Folds the Clothes	..	..	22	66.7	10	30.3	1	3.0
Household Maintenance								
Makes Minor Repairs	21	63.6	11	33.3	..	..	1	3.0
Paints the House	10	30.3	19	57.6	..	..	4	12.1
Does the Yard Work	7	21.2	24	72.7	..	..	2	6.1
Does the Gardening	5	15.6	23	71.9	..	..	4	12.1
Washes the Car(s)	11	33.3	19	57.6	..	..	3	9.1
Money Management								
Plans the Family Budget	..	..	31	93.9	2	6.1	..	..
Manages Family Money	3	9.1	27	81.8	3	9.1	..	..
Choose Home Furnishings	..	..	31	93.9	2	6.1	..	..
Choose Home Appliances	..	..	31	93.9	2	6.1	..	..
Child Care								
Feeds Children	..	..	8	88.9	..	..	1	11.1
Supervises Children School Work	..	..	7	87.5	..	..	1	12.5
Reads to Children	..	..	7	77.8	..	..	2	22.2
Plays with Children	..	..	9	100.0	..	..	..	..
Prepares Children for Bed	..	..	7	77.8	..	..	2	22.2

Household Task Expectations For Male Respondents

Over two-thirds of the male respondents designated that all food preparation tasks should be shared between husbands and wives, as shown in Table XIV. In the area of household cleaning the majority of males indicated that these tasks should be shared, while even more, 93.9 percent, noted that picking up about the house should be a shared activity. Three-fourths of the males specified that mending the clothes should be performed by the wife only, while the other laundry tasks should be shared. Making minor repairs was the one household maintenance task that 78.8 percent of the males indicated should be performed by the husband only. Money management tasks were perceived by three-fourths of the males as tasks which should be shared. Child care tasks were viewed by over half the males as activities to be shared. All of the males perceived supervising the school work of the children, reading to the children and playing with the children as activities to be shared.

Some tasks were expected by the males to be performed by neither spouse. Children, other family members or employed help could be expected to be responsible for the tasks.

TABLE XIV

MALE RESPONDENTS' HOUSEHOLD TASK EXPECTATIONS

Household Tasks	Husband		Both		Wife		Neither	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Food Preparation								
Plans the Meals	..	..	22	66.7	11	33.3	..	..
Does the Marketing	..	..	27	81.8	6	18.2	..	..
Prepares the Meals	..	..	24	72.7	9	27.3	..	..
Does the Dishes	..	..	29	90.6	3	9.4	..	..
Empties the Garbage	11	33.3	20	60.6	..	..	2	6.1
Household Cleaning								
Makes the Beds	1	3.0	23	69.7	8	24.2	1	3.0
Dusts the House	..	..	20	60.6	12	36.4	1	3.0
Vacuums the House	2	6.1	25	75.8	6	18.2	..	..
Picks up about the House	..	..	31	93.9	2	6.1	..	..
Mops the Floors	2	6.3	21	65.6	8	25.0	1	3.1
Laundry								
Mends the Clothes	..	..	8	24.2	25	75.8	..	..
Does the Laundry	..	..	21	63.6	12	36.4	..	..
Folds the Clothes	..	..	25	75.8	8	24.2	..	..
Household Maintenance								
Makes Minor Repairs	26	78.8	7	21.2	..	..	..	..
Paints the House	16	50.0	14	43.8	..	..	..	..
Does the Yard Work	15	46.9	17	53.1	..	..	..	..
Does the Gardening	4	12.5	27	84.4	..	..	1	3.1
Washes the Car(s)	14	43.8	17	53.1	..	..	1	3.1
Money Management								
Plans the Family Budget	3	9.1	28	84.8	2	6.1	..	..
Manages Family Money	4	12.1	24	72.7	5	15.2	..	..
Choose Home Furnishings	..	..	26	78.8	7	21.2	..	..
Choose Home Appliances	..	..	28	84.8	5	15.2	..	..
Child Care								
Feeds Children	..	..	5	62.5	2	25.0	1	12.5
Supervises Children School Work	..	..	8	100.0	..	..	..	..
Reads to Children	..	..	8	100.0	..	..	..	..
Plays with Children	..	..	8	100.0	..	..	..	..
Prepares Children for Bed	..	..	5	71.4	1	14.3	1	14.3

Actual Performance of Household Tasks For Female Respondents

Female participants response to who actually performs particular household tasks in their homes is presented in Table XV. Four out of five tasks in the area of food preparation were performed by the wife more than the husband according to the female respondents. One-fourth of the females indicated that food preparation tasks were shared except for emptying the garbage. Emptying the garbage was reported by 63.7 percent of the females as being performed by husbands more than wives.

In the area of household cleaning four of the five tasks were reported performed by over 50 percent of the females. Vacuuming the house was indicated by the female respondents as being performed by 24.3 percent of the husbands more than the wives, shared by 21.2 percent and performed by 36.4 percent of the wives more than the husbands. A majority, 87.8 percent, of the females reported that mending the clothes was performed more often by wives than husbands. Two-thirds of the females denoted that the other laundry tasks were performed by wives more than husbands.

Household maintenance tasks were reported as performed by husbands more than wives in all five tasks. One-half the females indicated that planning the family budget and choosing home furnishings were shared tasks and 75.8 percent shared the selection of home appliances. One-third shared family money management tasks.

TABLE XV

FEMALE RESPONDENTS' PERFORMANCE OF HOUSEHOLD TASKS

Household Tasks	Husband Only		Husband More Than Wife		Husband & Wife About Same		Wife More Than Husband		Wife Only		Some Other Person		Not Applicable	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Food Preparation														
Plans the Meals	1	3.0	..	..	8	24.2	15	45.5	8	24.2	1	3.0	..	..
Does the Marketing	..	..	3	9.1	11	33.3	15	45.5	4	12.1	..	..	..	..
Prepares the Meals	1	3.0	2	6.1	8	24.2	14	42.4	7	21.2	1	3.0	..	..
Does the Dishes	1	3.0	5	15.2	8	24.2	12	36.4	6	18.2	1	3.0	..	..
Empties the Garbage	9	27.3	12	36.4	6	18.2	2	6.1	1	3.0	3	9.1	..	..
Household Cleaning														
Makes the Beds	2	6.1	2	6.1	8	24.2	13	39.4	5	15.2	2	6.1	1	3.0
Dusts the House	..	..	2	6.1	5	15.2	8	24.2	12	36.4	6	18.2	..	..
Vacuums the House	3	9.1	5	15.2	7	21.2	9	27.3	3	9.1	6	18.2	..	..
Picks up About the House	..	..	3	9.1	10	30.3	16	48.5	4	12.1	..	..	..	..
Mops the Floors	2	6.1	2	6.1	4	12.1	9	27.3	9	27.3	6	18.2	1	3.0
Laundry														
Mends the Clothes	..	..	..	..	3	9.1	8	24.2	21	63.6	1	3.0	..	..
Does the Laundry	1	3.0	1	3.0	6	18.2	11	33.3	12	36.4	2	6.1	..	..
Folds the Clothes	..	..	1	3.0	8	24.2	11	33.3	11	33.3	2	6.1	..	..
Household Maintenance														
Makes Minor Repairs	17	51.5	12	36.4	2	6.1	..	..	..	..	2	6.1	..	..
Paints the House	5	15.2	8	24.2	4	12.1	4	12.1	..	..	6	18.2	6	18.2
Does the Yardwork	9	27.3	11	33.3	7	21.2	2	6.1	..	..	2	6.1	2	6.1
Does the Gardening	6	18.2	9	27.3	6	18.2	1	3.0	3	9.1	..	..	8	24.2
Washes the Car	8	24.2	8	24.2	10	30.3	2	6.1	..	..	4	12.1	1	3.0
Money Management														
Plans Family Budget	1	3.0	5	15.2	17	51.5	7	21.2	2	6.1	..	..	1	3.0
Manages Family Money	3	9.1	5	15.2	13	39.4	6	18.2	6	18.2	..	..	..	..
Chooses Home Furnishings	..	..	3	9.1	20	60.6	8	24.2	2	6.1	..	..	..	..
Chooses Home Appliances	..	..	2	6.1	25	75.8	4	12.1	2	6.1	..	..	..	..
Child Care														
Feeds the Children	..	..	..	..	4	44.4	4	44.4	..	..	..	..	1	11.1
Supervises Childrens Schoolwork	..	..	..	..	3	37.5	3	37.5	..	..	..	..	2	25.0
Reads to Children	..	..	..	..	3	33.3	3	33.3	1	11.1	..	..	2	22.2
Plays with Children	..	..	1	11.1	5	55.6	3	33.3	..	..	..	..	..	..
Prepares Children for Bed	..	..	..	..	3	33.3	4	44.4	..	..	..	..	2	22.2

In the area of child care for the nine females with children living at home, over one-third indicated that the tasks were shared by husband and wife. Playing with the children was reported by 55.6 percent as a shared activity. Over one-third of the respondents indicated that all five child care tasks were performed more by the wife than the husband.

Some females reported that tasks were performed by some other person, such as children, other family members, or employed help. Some tasks were not applicable for apartment dwellers.

Actual Performance of Household Tasks For Male Respondents

Two-thirds of the males specified that three of the five food preparation tasks were performed by the wife more than the husband, as shown in Table XVI. Doing the dishes was reported as shared by one-third of the males. Emptying the garbage was indicated by 57.6 percent as being performed by husbands more than wives. In the area of household cleaning, making the beds, dusting the house, and mopping the floors, were indicated by two-thirds of the males as being performed by wives more than husbands. Vacuuming the house was performed by 24.2 percent of the husbands more than wives, shared by 27.3 percent, and performed by 39.4 more wives than husbands.

TABLE XVI
MALE RESPONDENTS' PERFORMANCE OF HOUSEHOLD TASKS

Household Tasks	Husband Only		Husband More Than Wife		Husband & Wife About Same		Wife More Than Husband		Wife Only		Some Other Person		Not Applicable	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Food Preparation														
Plans the Meals	..	..	1	3.0	7	21.2	15	45.5	8	24.2	2	6.1	..	..
Does the Marketing	..	..	2	6.1	8	24.2	18	54.5	4	12.1	1	3.0	..	..
Prepares the Meals	1	3.1	1	3.1	4	12.5	18	56.3	6	18.8	2	6.3	..	..
Does the Dishes	1	3.0	4	12.1	12	36.4	12	36.4	1	3.0	2	6.1	1	3.0
Empties the Garbage	6	18.2	13	39.4	7	21.2	2	6.1	1	3.0	4	12.1	..	..
Household Cleaning														
Makes the Beds	1	3.0	2	6.1	8	24.2	15	45.5	6	18.2	..	..	1	3.0
Dusts the House	1	3.0	1	3.0	3	9.1	13	39.4	9	27.3	6	18.2	..	..
Vacuum the House	1	3.0	7	21.2	9	27.3	10	30.3	3	9.1	3	9.1	..	..
Picks up About the House	1	3.0	3	9.1	13	39.4	13	39.4	3	9.1	..	..	..	..
Mops the Floors	..	..	4	12.1	4	12.1	14	42.4	7	21.2	4	12.1	..	..
Laundry														
Mends the Clothes	..	..	..	..	3	9.1	8	24.2	22	66.7	..	..	..	..
Does the Laundry	1	3.0	2	6.1	3	9.1	14	42.4	12	36.4	1	3.0	..	..
Folds the Clothes	..	..	..	..	10	30.3	12	36.4	10	30.3	1	3.0	..	..
Household Maintenance														
Makes Minor Repairs	21	63.6	11	33.3	1	3.0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Paints the House	11	33.3	8	24.2	8	24.2	..	..	..	..	1	3.0	5	15.2
Does the Yardwork	13	39.4	13	39.4	3	9.1	1	3.0	..	..	..	..	3	9.1
Does the Gardening	6	18.2	9	27.3	6	18.2	3	9.1	1	3.0	..	..	8	24.2
Washes the Car	9	27.3	11	33.3	11	33.3	..	..	1	3.0	..	..	1	3.0
Money Management														
Plans Family Budget	1	3.1	4	12.5	22	68.8	2	6.3	3	9.4	..	..	..	..
Manages Family Money	2	6.1	8	24.2	12	36.4	6	18.2	5	15.2	..	..	..	..
Chooses Home Furnishings	..	..	4	12.1	16	48.5	10	30.3	3	9.1	..	..	..	..
Chooses Home Appliances	..	..	1	3.0	21	63.6	7	21.2	4	12.1	..	..	..	..
Child Care														
Feeds the Children	..	..	..	..	1	11.1	5	55.6	1	11.1	..	..	2	22.2
Supervises Childrens Schoolwork	..	..	1	11.1	3	33.3	3	33.3	..	..	..	..	2	22.2
Reads to Children	..	..	1	11.1	1	11.1	4	44.4	1	11.1	..	..	2	22.2
Plays with Children	..	..	2	22.2	3	33.3	3	33.3	..	..	..	..	1	11.1
Prepares Children for Bed	1	11.1	..	..	1	11.1	5	55.6	..	..	..	..	2	22.2

The majority of males, 66.7 percent, designated mending the clothes as a task performed by wives only. Three-fourths of the males indicated that wives more than husbands do the other laundry tasks. One-third of the males shared folding the clothes while 66.7 percent specified that wives performed the task more than husbands. All household maintenance tasks were indicated as being performed by over two-thirds of the husbands more than the wives. Making minor repairs was reported as being performed by 96.9 percent more husbands than wives. One-third of the males indicated that the task of washing the car was a shared activity. In the area of money management, planning the family budget and selecting home appliances were denoted as shared by two-thirds. Managing the family budget was indicated as performed by one-third of the husbands more than wives, one-third shared the task, and one-third reported the task performed by wives more than husbands.

In the area of child care, feeding the children, reading to the children, and preparing the children for bed were reported by over one-half the males as tasks performed by wives more than husbands. One-third of the males viewed supervising the school work of children and playing with the children as shared activities.

Some activities were indicated as performed by some other person, such as, children, other family members, or employed help. In the area of child care some tasks were

not applicable because of the age of the children and in household maintenance some tasks did not apply to apartment dwellers.

Respondents Scores on Bem Sex Role Inventory

Using the Bem Sex Role Inventory the respondents were classified as masculine, feminine, androgynous, or undifferentiated. Eighteen percent of the females were classified as masculine, while 33.3 percent were feminine, as shown in Table XVII. Over one-fifth of the females were classified

TABLE XVII

BEM SEX ROLE CLASSIFICATION FOR FEMALE AND MALE RESPONDENTS

Sex Roles	Females		Males	
	N	%	N	%
Masculine	6	18.2	14	42.4
Feminine	11	33.3	8	24.2
Androgynous	8	24.2	6	18.2
Undifferentiated	8	24.2	5	15.2
Total	33	99.9	33	100.0

as androgynous and over one-fifth undifferentiated. Forty-two percent of the males were classified masculine, while 24.2 percent were feminine. Eighteen percent of the males were classified as androgynous while 15.2 percent were undifferentiated.

Androgynous Males and Females Actual
Performance of Household Tasks

The actual performance of household tasks for androgynous males and females is shown in Table XVIII. In the area of food preparation, one-third of the androgynous males and females shared planning the meals. Doing the marketing, preparing the meals, doing the dishes, and emptying the garbage were all indicated as shared by 28.6 percent. The task of making the beds was shared by one-third of the androgynous males and females, while 14.3 percent shared mopping the floor. The other three household cleaning tasks were shared by 28.6 percent.

One-fifth of the androgynous males and females shared folding the clothes, while 14.3 percent shared the other two laundry tasks. Fifty percent reported sharing washing the car and one-fifth sharing doing the yard work and gardening. The other two household maintenance tasks were reported shared by 7.1 percent. Two of the money management tasks were indicated as shared by one-half the androgynous males and females. Managing the family money was reported as shared by 42.9 percent and choosing home furnishings by 35.7 percent. Only three of the androgynous males and females had children living at home. The performance of child care tasks are shown in Table XVIII.

Some tasks were indicated as performed by some other person or not applicable. These tasks may have been the responsibility of children or employed help.

TABLE XVIII

ANDROGYNOUS MALES AND FEMALES PERFORMANCE OF HOUSEHOLD TASKS

Household Tasks	Husband Only		Husband More Than Wife		Husband & Wife About Same		Wife More Than Husband		Wife Only		Some Other Person		Not Applicable	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Food Preparation														
Plans the Meals	..	..	..	35.7	5	64.3	9	64.3	..	..	..	..	..	..
Does the Marketing	..	..	1	7.1	4	28.6	9	64.3	..	..	..	..	..	..
Prepares the Meals	..	..	..	28.6	4	28.6	9	64.3	1	7.1	..	..	..	..
Does the Dishes	..	..	1	7.1	4	28.6	7	50.0	..	..	2	14.3	..	..
Empties the Garbage	4	28.6	4	28.6	4	28.6	1	7.1	..	..	1	7.1	..	..
Household Cleaning														
Makes the Beds	..	..	..	35.7	5	42.9	6	35.7	2	14.3	1	7.1	..	..
Dusts the House	..	..	1	7.1	4	28.6	5	35.7	..	..	4	28.6	..	..
Vacuums the House	..	..	2	14.3	4	28.6	3	21.4	1	7.1	4	28.6	..	..
Picks up About the House	..	..	1	7.1	4	28.6	9	64.3	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mops the Floors	..	..	2	14.3	2	14.3	7	50.0	..	..	3	21.4	..	..
Laundry														
Mends the Clothes	..	..	..	14.3	2	14.3	5	35.7	7	50.0	..	..	..	..
Does the Laundry	..	..	..	14.3	2	14.3	8	57.1	3	21.4	1	7.1	..	..
Folds the Clothes	..	..	..	21.4	3	21.4	7	50.0	3	21.4	1	7.1	..	..
Household Maintenance														
Makes Minor Repairs	9	64.3	4	28.6	1	7.1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Paints the House	5	35.7	4	28.6	1	7.1	2	14.3	..	..	2	14.3	..	..
Does the Yardwork	5	35.7	5	35.7	3	21.4	..	..	..	..	1	7.1	..	..
Does the Gardening	4	28.6	5	35.7	3	21.4	..	..	1	7.1	..	..	1	7.1
Washes the Car	4	28.6	3	21.4	7	50.0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Money Management														
Plans Family Budget	..	..	3	21.4	8	57.1	3	21.4	..	..	..	..	..	..
Manages Family Money	2	14.3	2	14.3	6	42.9	4	28.6	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chooses Home Furnishings	..	..	2	14.3	5	35.7	6	42.9	1	7.1	..	..	..	..
Chooses Home Appliances	..	..	..	..	9	64.3	3	21.4	2	14.3	..	..	..	..
Child Care														
Feeds the Children	..	..	..	33.3	1	33.3	1	33.3	..	..	..	..	1	33.3
Supervises Childrens Schoolwork	..	..	1	50.0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	50.0
Reads to Children	..	..	..	33.3	1	33.3	..	..	1	33.3	..	..	..	..
Plays with Children	..	..	2	66.7	1	33.3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Prepares Children for Bed	1	33.3	..	..	1	33.3	1	33.3	..	..	..	..	..	..

Masculine Males and Feminine Females Actual
Performance of Household Tasks

The performance of household tasks by masculine males and feminine females is shown in Table XIX. In the area of food preparation the four tasks traditionally feminine were indicated as being performed by wives more than husbands by over 50 percent. Emptying the garbage, the traditionally masculine task, was reported performed by 64.0 percent of the husbands more than wives. Three tasks in the traditionally feminine area of household cleaning were indicated by over one-half the respondents as being performed by the wives more than the husbands. Picking up the house and vacuuming were designated by 48 percent as being performed by wives more than husbands. All three tasks in the laundry area were specified, by three-fourths, as being performed by wives more than husbands.

Doing the gardening was the only one of the five household maintenance tasks that less than one-half the respondents did not denote as being performed by the husbands more than wives. Managing the family money was indicated by one-half the masculine males and feminine females as being performed by wives more than husbands. The three other money management tasks were specified as shared by over one-half the males and females.

Seven of the masculine males and feminine females had children living at home. Over one-half indicated that feeding the children and preparing the children for bed

TABLE XIX
 MASCULINE MALES AND FEMININE FEMALES
 PERFORMANCE OF HOUSEHOLD TASKS

Household Tasks	Husband Only		Husband More Than Wife		Husband & Wife About Same		Wife More Than Husband		Wife Only		Some Other Person		Not Applicable	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
<u>Food Preparation</u>														
Plans the Meals	..	..	1	4.0	4	16.0	10	40.0	8	32.0	2	8.0	..	..
Does the Marketing	..	..	2	8.0	5	20.0	13	52.0	4	16.0	1	4.0	..	..
Prepares the Meals	1	4.0	2	8.0	1	4.0	14	56.0	5	20.0	2	8.0	..	..
Does the Dishes	1	4.0	2	8.0	6	24.0	8	32.0	6	24.0	1	4.0	..	4.0
Empties the Garbage	5	20.0	11	44.0	3	12.0	2	8.0	2	8.0	2	8.0	..	..
<u>Household Cleaning</u>														
Makes the Beds	1	4.0	3	12.0	5	20.0	9	36.0	6	24.0	1	4.0	..	..
Dusts the House	1	4.0	..	..	2	8.0	6	24.0	10	40.0	6	24.0	..	..
Vacuums the House	1	4.0	4	16.0	5	20.0	9	36.0	3	12.0	3	12.0	..	..
Picks up About the House	1	4.0	3	12.0	9	36.0	7	28.0	5	20.0	..	..	..	..
Mops the Floors	..	..	2	8.0	4	16.0	6	24.0	8	32.0	5	20.0	..	..
<u>Laundry</u>														
Mends the Clothes	..	..	..	..	2	8.0	7	28.0	16	64.0	..	..	..	..
Does the Laundry	1	4.0	2	8.0	2	8.0	12	48.0	7	28.0	1	4.0	..	..
Folds the Clothes	..	..	..	..	6	24.0	10	40.0	8	32.0	1	4.0	..	..
<u>Household Maintenance</u>														
Makes Minor Repairs	16	64.0	9	36.0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Paints the House	5	20.0	10	40.0	4	16.0	1	4.0	..	..	..	..	..	..
Does the Yardwork	8	32.0	12	48.0	2	8.0	1	4.0	..	..	..	..	..	8.0
Does the Gardening	5	20.0	6	24.0	4	16.0	2	8.0	2	8.0	..	..	6	24.0
Washes the Car	7	28.0	7	28.0	7	28.0	..	..	1	4.0	2	8.0	1	4.0
<u>Money Management</u>														
Plans Family Budget	1	4.0	1	4.0	16	64.0	4	16.0	3	12.0	..	..	..	..
Manages Family Money	2	8.0	4	16.0	6	24.0	6	24.0	7	28.0	..	..	..	..
Chooses Home Furnishings	..	..	3	12.0	16	64.0	4	16.0	2	8.0	..	..	..	..
Chooses Home Appliances	..	..	2	8.0	18	72.0	4	16.0	1	4.0	..	..	..	..
<u>Child Care</u>														
Feeds the Children	..	..	..	..	1	4.0	5	20.0	..	..	..	..	1	4.0
Supervises Childrens Schoolwork	..	..	..	..	2	8.0	2	8.0	..	..	..	..	3	12.0
Reads to Children	..	..	..	..	1	4.0	3	12.0	..	..	..	..	3	12.0
Plays with Children	..	..	1	4.0	3	12.0	3	12.0	..	..	..	..	..	..
Prepares Children for Bed	..	..	..	..	1	4.0	4	16.0	..	..	..	..	2	8.0

were tasks performed by wives more than husbands. Playing with the children was reported by 42.9 percent as a shared activity.

A few tasks were noted as performed by some other person or not applicable. Some of these tasks could have been performed by other family members, or employed help, or not applicable to apartment dwellers.

Analysis of Hypotheses

Hypothesis 1--Based on the scores of the Bem Sex Role Inventory, women are more androgynous in their sex role identification than men.

Eight females, 24.2 percent, and six males, 18.2 percent, were classified as androgynous as shown in Table XX. Twenty-five females, 75.8 percent, and twenty-seven males, 81.8 percent, were classified as non-androgynous (masculine,

TABLE XX
CHI-SQUARE ANALYSIS OF NON-ANDROGYNOUS
AND ANDROGYNOUS MALES AND FEMALES

Sex	Non-Androgynous		Androgynous	
	N	%	N	%
Females	25	37.9	8	12.1
Males	27	40.9	6	9.1
Total Group	52	78.8	14	21.2

$\chi^2 = 0.09$ 1df P = 0.76

feminine and undifferentiated). Using chi-square, it was found that there was no significant difference, at the .05

level, between the number of androgynous females and males in the sample. The hypothesis was not accepted.

Hypothesis 2--All women and androgynous men have greater expectations of sharing household tasks than men who identify with the masculine role based on scores of the Bem Sex Role Inventory.

The number of tasks expected to be shared were counted for the fourteen males classified as masculine and the thirty-nine females and androgynous men. A t-test analysis was performed as shown in Table XXI. The hypothesis was not

TABLE XXI

ANALYSIS OF HOUSEHOLD TASK SHARING EXPECTATIONS
OF MASCULINE MALES AND ALL FEMALES
AND ANDROGYNOUS MALES

Sex Role Identification	N	Mean	SD	df	t-value
Males with Masculine Bem Scores	14	16.42	5.89	51	-0.21
All Females and Males with Androgynous Bem Scores	39	16.79	5.35		

accepted because there was no significant difference, at the .05 level, between the expectation of sharing household tasks for masculine males and all females and androgynous males.

Hypothesis 3--Based on the scores of the Bem Sex Role Inventory, androgynous women and men share more of the household tasks than women and men who identify with traditional feminine-masculine roles.

There were fourteen androgynous males and females and twenty-five masculine males and feminine females according to Bem scores. The number of tasks actually shared were counted for this group and a t-test was used for analysis, as shown in Table XXII. No significant difference, at the .05 level, was found between the actual sharing of household

TABLE XXII

ANALYSIS OF ACTUAL SHARING OF HOUSEHOLD TASK
FOR ANDROGYNOUS MALES AND FEMALES AND
MASCULINE MALES AND FEMININE FEMALES

Sex Role Identification	N	Mean	SD	df	t-value
Androgynous Males and Females	14	6.71	4.14	37	1.12
Masculine Males and Feminine Females	25	5.40	3.13		

tasks for androgynous males and females and the masculine males and feminine females. The hypothesis was not accepted.

Hypothesis 4--Men and women who identify with traditional feminine-masculine roles based on scores on the Bem Sex Role Inventory perform more of the tasks traditional for their sex than androgynous women and men.

There were fourteen androgynous males and females and twenty-five masculine males and feminine females in this sample. The number of tasks indicated as performed by husbands more than wives or husbands only were counted and a t-test was performed, as presented in Table XXIII. There was

TABLE XXIII

ANALYSIS OF HOUSEHOLD TASKS, PERFORMED BY HUSBANDS MORE THAN WIVES, FOR ANDROGYNOUS MALES AND FEMALES AND MASCULINE MALES AND FEMININE FEMALES

Sex Role Identification	N	Mean	SD	df	t-value
Masculine Males and Feminine Females	25	5.72	2.15	37	0.29
Androgynous Males and Females	14	5.50	2.41		

no significant difference, at the .05 level, found between the number of tasks performed by the husband more than the wife among androgynous males and females and masculine males and feminine females.

The number of tasks indicated as performed by wives more than husbands or wives only, for androgynous males and females and masculine males and feminine females, were counted and a t-test was used for analysis, as shown in Table XXIV. There was no significant difference, at the .05

TABLE XXIV

ANALYSIS OF HOUSEHOLD TASKS, PERFORMED BY WIVES MORE THAN HUSBANDS, FOR ANDROGYNOUS MALES AND FEMALES AND MASCULINE MALES AND FEMININE FEMALES

Sex Role Identification	N	Mean	SD	df	t-value
Masculine Males and Feminine Females	25	10.24	4.48	37	0.77
Androgynous Males and Females	14	9.14	3.88		

level, between the number of tasks performed by the wife more than the husband among androgynous males and females and masculine males and feminine females. The hypothesis was not accepted because no significant difference, at the .05 level, was found between either the number of tasks performed by the husband more than the wife or the wife more than the husband between androgynous males and females and masculine males and feminine females.

Hypothesis 5--There is a relationship between age and actual sharing of household tasks.

Hypothesis five was analyzed by calculating a Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient. For the sixty-six cases the number of shared tasks reported were counted. A coefficient of -0.41 was computed which is significant at the 0.0001 level. The hypothesis was accepted. The coefficient indicated that there was an inverse relationship with the younger people sharing more tasks and the older people sharing fewer tasks.

Hypothesis 6--There is a relationship between the level of education and the actual sharing of household tasks.

A count was made, for all respondents, of the number of tasks reported as shared. The range was zero to thirteen. The shared tasks were then classified into high sharing, average sharing, and low sharing. High sharing was the upper 25 percent, average sharing was the middle 50 percent, and low sharing was the lower 25 percent. In this sample high

sharing was performing more than eight tasks, average sharing was performing more than four and less than eight tasks, and low sharing was performing less than four tasks. The respondents were classified into two educational levels, without a college degree (high school graduate, technical, business or some college) or with a college degree (college graduate, graduate work or other). Using the grade levels of the respondents and the actual sharing classifications, a chi-square analysis was performed as shown in Table XXV.

TABLE XXV

CHI-SQUARE ANALYSIS OF EDUCATION LEVEL AND
THE ACTUAL SHARING OF HOUSEHOLD TASKS

Education Level	Household Task Sharing					
	Low		Average		High	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
No College Degree	9	13.6	12	18.2	6	9.1
College Degree	6	9.1	20	30.2	13	19.7
Total	15	22.7	32	48.5	19	28.8

$$x^2 = 3.09 \quad 2df \quad P = 0.21$$

No significant difference at the .05 level was found between the level of education of the respondents and the sharing of household tasks. The hypothesis was not accepted.

Hypothesis 7--There is a relationship between income and the actual sharing of household tasks.

The same classification of household task sharing used in hypothesis six was used in hypothesis seven. Income

levels for the respondents were classified as earning \$44,999 or less and earning \$45,000 or more.

Using the income levels of the respondents and the actual sharing classifications, a chi-square analysis was performed, as shown in Table XXVI. The hypothesis was not

TABLE XXVI
CHI-SQUARE ANALYSIS OF INCOME AND ACTUAL
SHARING OF HOUSEHOLD TASKS

Income Level	Household Task Sharing					
	Low		Average		High	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
\$44,999 or less	10	15.2	15	22.7	5	7.6
\$45,000 or more	5	7.6	17	25.8	14	21.2
Total	15	22.7	32	48.5	19	28.8

$$x^2 = 5.55 \quad 2df \quad P = 0.06$$

accepted because there was no significant difference, at the .05 level, found between income level and actual sharing of household tasks.

CHAPTER V

SUMMARY, DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Summary

This study was concerned with the division of household tasks among employed married couples. The purpose of the study was to determine if the division of household tasks was related to the sex role identification of the spouses, age, number of children living at home, education or income.

The data were collected through a researcher developed questionnaire and the Bem Sex Role Inventory. (Appendix D) The researcher developed questionnaire consisted of twenty-seven household tasks in six major areas, (1) food preparation, (2) household cleaning, (3) laundry, (4) household maintenance, (5) money management, and (6) child care. The Household Task Inventory was divided into two sections. The first section asked the respondents to identify which spouse should perform a specific household task, and the second section asked the respondents to identify which spouse actually performed the given task.

The Bem Sex Role Inventory consisted of sixty words depicting twenty stereotypical masculine characteristics, twenty stereotypical feminine characteristics, and twenty

characteristics not strongly identified as masculine or feminine. The respondent was asked to indicate on a scale of one to seven how well the sixty characteristics described himself or herself.

The sample for the study was obtained through organizations for working women. Twenty-five organizations were contacted by letter asking for volunteers. Eight organizations sought volunteers, and forty-five couples agreed to answer the questionnaire.

Questionnaires were mailed to those volunteering for the study. Thirty-three couples returned the questionnaires. The data were analyzed by frequencies, Chi-square, t-tests and Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient.

Seventy-nine percent of the female respondents were between the ages of twenty-six and forty-five, while 73 percent of the males were between twenty-six and forty-five. The majority of the males and females respondents were Anglo and had no children living at home (70 percent). Fifty-seven percent of the females and 60 percent of the males had a college degree or higher education. The majority, 87 percent, of the respondents had incomes of \$35,000 or more. One-half the females were employed forty hours a week while 36 percent of the males were employed forty hours a week.

The majority of the female respondents indicated that all household tasks should be shared. However, 69.7

percent perceived mending the clothes as a task which should be performed by the wife only, and 63.6 percent indicated that making minor household repairs should be done by husbands only. Over one-half the male respondents reported that the majority of household tasks should be shared. Mending the clothes was the one task indicated by 75.8 percent as a wife only activity. Making minor repairs and painting the house were reported by the majority of males as a husband only tasks.

The actual performance of household tasks by the female respondents indicates that the traditionally feminine tasks were performed by the majority of females. Emptying the garbage, making minor repairs, doing the yardwork, and washing the car were indicated by one-half the females as tasks performed by husbands more than wives. Sharing of tasks was reported by one-half the females in the area of planning the family budget and choosing home furnishings and appliances.

One-half the male respondents reported that traditional female jobs were performed by the wife more than the husband. Traditional masculine jobs, such as emptying the garbage, making minor repairs, painting the house, doing the yardwork and gardening, and washing the car were indicated as being performed by the majority of husbands more than

wives. Planning the family budget and choosing home furnishings and appliances were reported as shared tasks by over one-half the males.

Using the Bem Sex Role Inventory the respondents were classified according to sex role identification. Thirty-three percent of the females identified with the traditional feminine role, and 42.4 percent of the males identified with the traditional masculine role. Androgynous females accounted for 24.2 percent of the sample and androgynous males 18.2 percent.

Androgynous males and females indicated that the majority of wives perform the traditional female household tasks more often than husbands. The traditionally male tasks, emptying the garbage, making minor repairs, painting the house, doing the yardwork and gardening, were reported by over one-half the androgynous males and females as being performed more by the husband than the wife. Washing the car, planning the family budget and choosing home appliances were indicated by over one-half the androgynous males and females as shared tasks.

Masculine males and feminine females reported that the traditional female tasks were performed by the wife more than the husband. Over one-half the masculine males and feminine females indicated that traditional masculine tasks, emptying the garbage, painting the house, doing the yardwork, and

washing the car were performed more often by the husband than the wife. All reported making minor repairs as a task performed by the husband more than the wife. Planning the family budget, and choosing home furnishings and appliances were indicated as shared tasks by over one-half the masculine males and feminine females.

When the respondents scores on the Bem Sex Role Inventory were analyzed by chi-square, no significant difference was found between the number of females and males classified as androgynous. No significant difference was found by t-test analysis in the expectations of sharing household tasks between all women, androgynous men, and men who identify with the masculine role. The actual sharing of household tasks by androgynous women and men was found by t-test analysis to be no greater than the sharing of tasks between those men and women who identify with traditional masculine-feminine roles.

A Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient was used to analyze the relationship between age and the actual sharing of household tasks. A relationship was found between age and sharing household tasks with the younger respondents sharing tasks more than the older respondents.

Chi-square was used to analyze the relationship between the level of education and the actual sharing of household tasks and also the relationship between income

level and the actual sharing of household tasks. No significant relationship was found with either variable.

Discussion

Male and female respondents in this study indicated household tasks were performed according to traditional masculine-feminine job identification. When both females and males were asked who should perform the five tasks in the area of food preparation, the majority perceived these tasks as jobs to be shared by both spouses. In the households of the respondents, however, the four female traditional food preparation tasks were performed by the females, and the traditional masculine task of emptying the garbage was performed more often by the husband.

The androgynous males and females reported that food preparation tasks were performed along traditional divisions. However, androgynous males and females did not report these tasks as being performed by the wife only but as wife more than husband, with one-fourth indicating the tasks as shared. Masculine males and feminine females performed those food preparation tasks appropriate for their sex role identification, with one-fifth reporting the four female traditional tasks as being performed by the wife only. While the majority viewed food preparation tasks as tasks to be shared, most still performed these tasks along traditional lines. Only the androgynous respondents in this study appear

to be moving toward sharing in that none of the food preparation tasks were performed by the wife or husband only and one-fourth already shared the tasks.

In the area of household cleaning, males and females expected the five tasks to be shared. However, these tasks were reported by the majority of males and females as being performed in the home by the wife, who traditionally does these tasks. One-fourth did report sharing the tasks of making the beds, vacuuming the house, and picking up about the house. The androgynous males and females reported that one-fourth shared the performance of the household cleaning tasks, and the majority reported the tasks being performed by the wife more than the husband. None of the androgynous males and females reported these tasks as being performed by the wife only. Masculine males and feminine females reported household cleaning tasks as being performed by the wives. One-third, however, reported sharing the task of picking up about the house.

In the area of household cleaning an indication toward sharing is seen among the respondents of this study. All view the tasks as jobs to be shared, and one-fourth do share three of the five tasks. The tasks in this area are more flexible in that they do not all have to be performed daily or at a set time; thus the tasks can be fitted in around a work schedule.

The majority of males and females reported that doing the laundry and folding the clothes should be shared tasks. However, mending the clothes was expected to be a task performed by the wife only, by the majority of males and females. Actual performance of the tasks showed that mending the clothes was performed by the wife only, in the majority of households. The same results were reported by the androgynous males and females and the masculine males and feminine females. The other laundry tasks were reported by the males, the females and masculine males and feminine females as being performed by females, which is traditional. Mending the clothes is the only one of the female household tasks indicated by all respondents as a task to be performed by the wife. This task is probably only performed by the females because women have traditionally been taught to sew while men have not.

In the area of household maintenance the females and the males reported that four of the five tasks should be shared, and the majority indicated that the husband only should perform making minor repairs. In actual performance all five household maintenance tasks were performed by the husband more than the wife which is the traditional division. The androgynous males and females also reported the tasks as being performed by the husband more than the wife, except washing the car, which was shared by one-half the respondents. Masculine males and feminine females also

reported traditional performance of the household maintenance. Making minor repairs was the one task never performed by wives among the masculine males and feminine females.

Household maintenance tasks are tasks which can be delayed and are performed infrequently. Husbands may perform more of these tasks because they can be postponed until the weekend when more time is available and when other tasks are being performed by the wife. Making minor repairs is the only one of the masculine tasks which both females and males perceive as a task for husbands only. This is probably because the males have been taught these skills traditionally and the females have not.

The four money management tasks were perceived as shared tasks by the majority of both males and females. These tasks, except for managing the family money, were reported shared by over one-half the males and females. Over one-half the androgynous males and females reported sharing money management tasks except for choosing home furnishings. The majority of masculine males and feminine females also reported sharing money management tasks except for managing the family budget. Money management has traditionally been considered a masculine task. This area of household tasks probably has the most sharing because now both spouse earn the money so both decide how to spend the money, whereas traditionally the men earned the money and decided how to spend the money.

Of the few couples who did have children living at home the majority of males and females indicated that the child care tasks should be shared. One-third of the females reported that the five tasks were shared with none reporting the tasks as being performed by the wife only. The males reported that child care tasks were performed by the wife more than the husband but not the wife only. Only three androgynous males and females had children living at home. One-third reported sharing the child care tasks while over the majority reported supervising the school work of the children and playing with the children as being performed more often by the husband. The majority of masculine males and feminine females reported feeding the children and preparing the children for bed as tasks performed more by the wife than by the husband. None of the child care tasks were reported as performed by the wife only.

The findings of this study were similar to the study by Meksner, et al (4) where men reported doing household tasks but the tasks were not the traditional feminine tasks. Some of the males in this study might not perform more feminine tasks because many of these tasks must be performed regularly and not postponed and more males than females in this sample work over forty hours a week. Also males may lack the skill to perform the feminine tasks so it is easier for the spouse with the skill to perform the tasks.

The males may perform few tasks because of a disinclination to do non-traditional tasks, a discrepancy in housekeeping standards, a reluctance of a wife to delegate domestic responsibility and a lack of non-traditional domestic responsibility (2). The males in this study reported doing more home repair and maintenance, yard and car care tasks similar to the findings of Holmstorm and Meksner, et al (3, 4). The males might perform these tasks more often because they possess the skills which the females might not. Also these tasks do not have to be performed regularly and can be postponed until the time is available, which might fit with the longer work hours of the males.

Geiken (1) found that authority tasks were the most shared and housekeeping the least shared. Similar findings were found in this study. Most of the household tasks were performed by the females, even those females who identified with an androgynous sex role. Most of the money management tasks were shared, even by the masculine males and feminine females. As Geiken (1) stated, these tasks were once considered masculine not feminine jobs.

In the area of child care, even though few in the sample had children, the males were more likely to read, play or supervise schoolwork than to feed or put children to bed. These findings were similar to those of Holmstorm, Meksner, et al, and Oakley (3, 4, 5). No significant difference was

found between sex role, age, education level, and income level and the sharing of household tasks.

From this study it can be concluded that males and females believe that household tasks should be shared by both spouses, yet in actual practice the wife performs most of the household tasks. Husbands tend to perform traditional male household tasks. People with an androgynous sex role classification are moving toward more sharing of household tasks than masculine males and feminine females. Also, it can be concluded that mending the clothes and making minor repairs are the most sex-typed of all the household tasks in both expectation of performance and actual performance. Money management is the most shared of all areas of household tasks.

Recommendations

A larger sample might be beneficial in further studies. With a larger sample there could be a wider variation in sex role identification, age, racial identification, education, and income level.

With a larger sample of couples with children, further studies could be done on the affect of children in the home. Some possible areas of investigation could be the affect the number of children has on sharing of household tasks and the affect the ages of the children has on sharing of tasks.

Also, which tasks are performed by children and whether the tasks are sex traditional could be observed.

Further studies might investigate some of the reasons why there is not more sharing of household tasks among employed couples. Some of the possible reasons to look at are lack of skills, stress from performing non-traditional roles, or the wife not desiring to give up the homemaker role.

Another area to investigate would be to compare responses of individual couples about who should and who does perform certain household tasks. These responses could be studied to see if similar performance patterns are being reported within couples.

Sex role identification of individual couples could be studied. After determining the sex role identification for each spouse, the affect on the performance of household tasks could be observed.

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APPENDIX A
LIST OF WORKING WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

LIST OF WORKING WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

1. American Association of University Women - Dallas
- *2. American Association of University Women -
Richardson Branch
- *3. American Association of University Women - Irving
- *4. American Association of University Women - Garland
- *5. American Association of University Women -
Grand Prairie
6. American Business Women's Association -
Big D Chapter
- *7. American Business Women's Association -
Dallas Chapter
- *8. American Business Women's Association -
Oak Cliff Chapter
- *9. American Business Women's Association -
Carrollton/Farmers Branch
10. American Society of Women Accountants
11. American Women in Radio and Television
12. Association of Legal Secretaries - Dallas
- *13. Association of Legal Secretaries - Mesquite/Garland
14. Beauticians Association - Dallas
15. Business and Professional Women's Club of Dallas
16. Business and Professional Women's Club of Richardson
17. Black Business and Professional Women's Club
18. Dallas Chapter of National Association for
Professional Saleswomen
19. Dallas Women Lawyers
20. Desk and Derrick Club
21. Electrical Womens Round Table - North Texas Chapter
22. Executive Women of Dallas
23. Home Economist in Business
24. Insurance Women of Dallas
25. Mexican American Business and Professional
Women's Club
26. National Association of Railway Business Women
27. National Association of Women in Construction
28. Society of Women Engineers
29. Women's Association of Allied Beverage Industry
30. Women's Council of Realtors
31. Women in Communication
32. Women of the Motion Picture Industry
33. Women's Transportation Club of Dallas

* These clubs were not contacted.

APPENDIX B
LETTER TO PRESIDENTS OF ORGANIZATIONS

I am a graduate student at North Texas State University in the School of Home Economics, conducting research on the changes in gender role perception and its affect on the sharing of the homemaker role. The group selected for this study are couples who are both employed forty hours outside the home.

You are being contacted because I am seeking volunteers from working women's organizations to take part in this study. Enclosed is an overview of the purposes of the study and the criteria for participation which could be presented at one of your meetings. If you prefer I am willing to come and make the presentation myself. Those interested could sign up on the enclosed sheet, giving name and address and the questionnaires would be mailed to them. These names and addresses could be returned to me in the enclosed, self-addressed envelope.

I would like to have all questionnaires returned to me by the end of September or the first week of October. To meet this deadline this request for volunteers would need to be presented at a meeting at the end of August or beginning of September, so that I may get the questionnaires mailed and returned to me. Hopefully, your organization will be having a meeting during this time, when the majority of your members will be present. If you are willing to ask for volunteers from your organization would you please contact me at 351-4194 so that I may know how many organizations are presenting my study proposal.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Mary Anne Gentry

P.S. Your name is the most current listing with the Dallas Public Library as President of this organization, if you no longer hold this office would you pass this request to the new President.

APPENDIX C
STUDY PRESENTATION FOR ORGANIZATIONS

A graduate student at North Texas State University, in the School of Home Economics is conducting research on working couples. The purpose of this study is to determine the relationship between personality characteristics in regards to gender role and the affect on the sharing of the home-makers role. That is, do the personality characteristics of men and women still fit masculine or feminine stereotypes and if there is a change, is this change also seen in the expectation and performance of household tasks. Those volunteering to take part in this study need to be married, and both spouses must be working full-time outside the home. If you volunteer for this study you will also be volunteering your husband. Each spouse is asked to fill out a separate, but identical questionnaire. It should take about 30 minutes to complete the questionnaire. All material will be confidential. If you are interested in taking the questionnaire please sign up giving your name and address. The questionnaires will be mailed to you along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Thank you for taking the time to answer the questionnaires.

NAME

ADDRESS

APPENDIX D
QUESTIONNAIRE

PART I HOUSEHOLD TASKS EXPECTATIONS AND PERFORMANCE

INSTRUCTIONS: Below is a list of tasks covering six major areas of household work. You will be responding to each task in two different ways.

- A. First, please indicate by checking the appropriate box whether you expect the husband, wife, both or neither to perform the household task.
- B. Second, please indicate by checking the appropriate box who actually performs the task in your own home, husband only, husband more than wife, husband and wife about the same, wife more than husband, wife only, some other person, or not applicable.

	A. Who should do the task?				B. Who actually does the task?						
	HUSBAND	BOTH	WIFE	NEITHER	HUSBAND ONLY	HUSBAND MORE THAN WIFE	HUSBAND & WIFE ABOUT SAME	WIFE MORE THAN HUSBAND	WIFE ONLY	SOME OTHER PERSON	NOT APPLICABLE
1. Plans the meals.											
2. Makes the bed											
3. Mends the clothes											
4. Makes minor repairs (plumbing, electrical)											
5. Does the marketing											
6. Dusts the house											
7. Plans the family budget											
8. Paints the house											
9. Prepares the meals											
10. Vacuums the house											
11. Does the laundry											
12. Does the yardwork											

PART II

INSTRUCTIONS: Below is a list of terms. We would like you to use these characteristics in order to describe yourself. That is, we would like you to indicate, on a scale from 1 to 7, how true of you these various characteristics are. Please do not leave any characteristics unmarked.

- MARK 1 if never or almost never true
 2 if usually not true
 3 if sometimes but unfrequently true
 4 if occasionally true
 5 if often true
 6 if usually true
 7 if always or almost always true

Self-reliant		Reliable		Warm	
Yielding		Analytical		Solemn	
Helpful		Sympathetic		Willing to take a stand	
Defends own beliefs		Jealous		Tender	
Cheerful		Has leadership abilities		Friendly	
Moody		Sensitive to the needs of others		Aggressive	
Independent		Truthful		Gullible	
Shy		Willing to take risks		Inefficient	
Conscientious		Understanding		Acts as a leader	
Athletic		Secretive		Childlike	
Affectionate		Makes decisions easily		Adaptable	
Theatrical		Compassionate		Individualistic	
Assertive		Sincere		Does not use harsh language	
Flatterable		Self-sufficient		Unsystematic	
Happy		Eager to soothe hurt feelings		Competitive	
Strong personality		Conceited		Loves children	
Loyal		Dominant		Tactful	
Unpredictable		Soft-spoken		Ambitious	
Forceful		Likable		Gentle	
Feminine		Masculine		Conventional	

PART III

INSTRUCTIONS: Circle the number which indicates your answer to each question.

1. What is your sex?

female 1
male 2

2. What is your age?

25 years or under 1
26-35 2
36-45 3
46-55 4
56-65 5
over 65 6

3. What is your racial or ethnic group?

American Indian 1
Anglo 2
Asian American 3
Black American 4
Mexican American 5
Other 6

(specify other)

4. a. How many children do you have living with you?

none 1
1-2 2
3-4 3
5-6 4
7 or more 5
(if none, skip to question 5)

b. How old are the children living in your home?
(circle as many as apply)

5 years or under 1
6-12 2
13-18 3
over 18 4

5. What is your highest level of education?

8 years or less 1
some high school 2
high school graduate 3
technical or business 4
some college 5
college graduate 6
graduate work 7
other 8

(specify other)

6. What is your annual family income?

4,999 or under 1
5,000-14,999 2
15,000-24,999 3
25,000-34,999 4
35,000-44,999 5
45,000-54,999 6
55,000 or more 7

7. How many hours weekly are you employed outside the home?

40 hours 1
41-48 2
49 or more 3

8. a. What is your occupation-
what kind of job do you do?

b. What is your job title?

c. In what type of business,
industry or organization
is it?

APPENDIX E
COVER LETTER

Dear Participant,

As a graduate student in the School of Home Economics at North Texas State University I am conducting a survey of working couples who are both employed at least forty hours a week. The purpose of this study is to determine if there is a relationship between working couples perception of personality characteristics and their participation in household tasks.

The questionnaire for this study is designed so that questions can be answered 1) by placing the appropriate number in the space provided, 2) checking the appropriate box, or 3) circling the number. Each spouse will fill out his or her own questionnaire to reflect his or her attitudes and behavior. Please complete the questionnaires and return them by _____ in the enclosed self addressed postage paid return envelope. The code number on the questionnaires are for follow-up purposes only. All information provided will be kept confidential.

Thank you for taking time to complete this questionnaire.

Sincerely,

Mary Anne Gentry
Graduate Student

Joyce Nies
Assistant Professor

APPENDIX F
FOLLOW-UP POSTCARD

APPENDIX G
SECOND FOLLOW-UP LETTER

Dear Participant:

Remember that questionnaire you received on working couples and their sharing of household tasks? We need your help in compiling information about how couples are handling the homemakers' role when both work.

We realize that your questionnaire maybe in the mail to us. If so disregard this letter.

In order for the study to reflect different views of role sharing it is vital that all respond to the questionnaire. Your response is important as a reflection of how couples are coping with employment in the labor force and the tasks necessary with running a home.

We are enclosing another questionnaire and postage paid envelope for your convenience. Please take the time right now to fill out the questionnaire and return it.

Thank you for your time and cooperation.

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