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QUALITY LIFE OF A HOME MAKER –AN EXPERIENCE

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ABSTRACT

A Home Maker can contribute to the inclusive economic growth, undergoes struggles at different levels within the boundaries of family, come out successfully by upbringing the Prestige, Social Status, Education ,Values ,Satisfaction and Sense of belongingness in a family ,in the same fashion as a professional contributes to the inclusive economic growth of society and while doing so , the discrimination and struggles they undergo and come out successfully. Paper speaks on experiential wisdom of a home maker and make others to understand the respect she should command in the society.

KEY WORDS: Home maker, Role Clarity, Administrator, Human Resource, Goal Setting, Relationship Management, Customer Satisfaction

INTRODUCTION

It is my Honour and privilege to contribute a small paper in a National Seminar on "Expurgate of Gender Discrimination of Work Place towards inclusive Economic Growth" First of all I would like to express through this paper some of my views ,to share my out look based on my individual experience on home making along with other professionals who are contributing papers to this seminar.

1.A home maker according to me is like oxygen to a family. She has to execute various roles as a wife, daughter in law, mother, daughter, sister, mother in law, grand mother in one dimension as a Head of a family,as an Administrator, as a financier, as an educator and so on so forth.

2.Job of a home maker starts from early in the morning and ends at late in the night. When I took decision to take up this job 30 years back initially I had a little hard time. Being educated I had an inclination of entering in to job. I did a job for an year. I realized it is not yielding the desired satisfaction either to me or to the people connected with me in both professional and personal life. So I took a conscious decision of taking up the job of a home maker. Several times I asked my self have I took right decision of staying at home without doing any job .I was clear once if a take a decision it is like neither you can hug yourself or cry on your own shoulder. At that time I have only one small asset with me . It was my faith. Faith is a small word but has supreme implications. Problem in today's world the way I understand is we have doubts in our faith and have full faith in our doubts.

3.Once I decided to be a home maker I set few goals for myself.
A) I should facilitate growth of my husband in his career for which I took all household responsibilities giving him enough free time to focus on his organization, job and career .
B) Second goal I set myself was to bring up my son according to his choices and providing him the best within my means.
C) Third goal was to focus on well being of elders in the family and to maintain healthy relationships with relatives, friends and people surrounding me.
D) Keeping welfare of the family as motto to maintain financial discipline prioritizing needs and wants.
E) Another personal goal I set for my self was to keep my home, neat, clean ,hygienic as I believe cleanliness is Godliness.

While implementing and executing my set goals I did face few conflicts. Some of them include
Opinion differences between Husband and Wife,
Opinion differences between Mother in law and Daughter in law
Between Demand and Supply of Resources
Between needs and wants
Relationship priorities etc.

While facing these conflicts I realized it is more important to have balance of mind not in theory but in practice, Patience not in theory but in practice, Sweetness in communication and that to putting it in practice, Calmness in approach in varieties of situations . I did commit few slips initially but in long run when I look back above mentioned traits became my assets in maintaining healthy relations and bringing peace and harmony in home front. For most of the people it may appear trivial but it is important to note that engaging maid servants and getting best out of them, while buying provisions to the house getting best products out of them in the most optimum quantity, with out exceeding your set budget, attending to guests relations, friends, specially at unexpected times etc , by keeping calmness is a herculean task .My husband and son being management people I understood few terminologies they use. A house maker should be a good time manager, an intelligent human resource manager, a good marketing manager, a good operations manager, a good receptionist ,a good finance manager, a good quality manager, a good administrator, and what not.
Many people have asked me are you not wasting your knowledge and time by being in the house and doing all these normal household chores. I introspected on this and this is my opinion

1.It is true that this job of mine is 24 hours a day and 365 days a year. No holidays, no pay .Some times I feel no recognition also. Why should I have a cool mind and impress when I have the capacity to express my feeling of anger.

2.Several times I asked my self have I took right decision of staying at home without doing any job .Answer came to me from within .A foundation stone to a building never seen outwardly,a back bone to a body never appears out side, a creator of the universe is never seen with eyes out side. So a home maker.Life is all about living for one another. Affection is more important than perfection. Real happiness lies in making others happy is my concept of making a home sweet home and life meaningful.

3.Relations cannot be understood by the language of money alone .Some investments never give profit in terms of tangible money but they make us rich . Affection and love you get from family by being a sincere house maker make you rich. Your family, family discipline ,values, reputation and friends are your investments. Members of such house automatically radiate success in whatever field they are in and the credit automatically goes to home maker. More over a home maker is boss of her home with affection and need not answer any one from outside and no fear of retirement.

4.According to me it is not how much big building you are living in but how happy the home is. There is a saying one can judge a woman by seeing the house she keeps. Services of a home maker cannot be scaled or measured or quantified in terms of currency units. She looses her own identity in serving people in her home like a sugar cube when placed in milk looses its identity as a cube but make the entire milk sweet. Once I factor (ego) goes,love,affection,compassion permeates in all issues. She becomes self in every self. Her journey can be termed as from selfishness to selflessness and from selflessness to Selfness. All this can be understood only by heart and not mind alone.

5.My answer to all the people who asked me the question I reply I am proud to be a house maker . I am utilizing my knowledge ,skill and energy for the development of people whom I care and intern cherish happiness in their development in the society. I am working from home .That is the only difference between me and professionals working out side their homes. Faith I had initially on myself in taking a decision of remaining a housemaker gave me rich dividends. Most of the time my husband says adaptability is the characteristic feature of a successful management professional. I am practicing it in my day to day life.

I sincerely thank once again all organizers of KKC institutions,Puttur for giving platform to a house maker to express her views through this paper and for giving an opportunity to scan through papers of other competent professionals and their views on what is happening in the society and at work place for economic growth. This is my first paper after more than 30 years of leading a life in the boundaries of home making activity.