

Empowerment is Essential for Women Inclusion in Politics in Man-Made World

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Pakistan's female population is over half, but their political influence is limited. They have less representation in elections and are often seen as mere symbols rather than promoting gender equality. The country's religious, political, cultural, and social systems contribute to this issue. Ensuring equal participation of men and women in government decisions is crucial for a successful democratic system. Women who feel empowered are more inclined to take part in national democratic processes and political activities. As empowerment increases self-esteem and confidence, women are more inclined to question social conventions and overcome obstacles that have traditionally prevented them from participating fully in politics. The study's goal is to gain a deeper understanding of Pakistani Women's Political engagement and its relationship to political empowerment and trust. Quantitative method methodology is applied for this purpose. Quantitative data was collected from women with the help of questionnaire, 600 questionnaires were distributed out of which 488 were found correct in each and every aspect and for quantitative part simple random sampling was used. This research concludes that women are not empowered enough and not provided enough facilities to be able to participate in politics

1. Introduction

In 17th century, the word “empower” was firstly used which was having the meanings of “authorize, delegate or enable”. Most dictionaries show the pre 20th century definitions of the word empower like “to empower or to give power to”. Empowerment is an evolving idea with many layers especially women’s empowerment (Stein, 1997). Empowerment then tends to be a complex phenomenon. Nevertheless, it depicts the transmission of power from one entity to another in a dynamic way. Empowerment has been a modern concept, implication of it would have been very tough during the age, when democracy and the ideas “government of the People, for the people” having been emerging. The world saw many examples in different countries of the world during the 20th century of political empowerment. These examples were led by the people like Quaid e Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah, Nelson Mandela, Martin Luther King and Mahatma Gandhi. If we saw the word empowerment from the point of view of low powered group. For them the empowerment is to increase their power base. Women empowerment has become a global issue with the passage of time. Great focus of scholars and researchers has been on women development and it has been also studied from political point of view in many countries of the world. United Nations Organization has also laid a huge focus on it. With the passage of time the term “empowerment” has taken the place of term “Development”. In sixties empowerment was a hugely popular term but, in the eighties, it was extensively researched and discussed. The United Nations declared 1975 to be International Women year, and made a major global acknowledgement of women’s unequal participation in development by designating the years 1976 to 1985 as the United Nations Decade for Women leading towards Equality development and peace.

Historically, women's political participation in Pakistan has been very low. Pakistan's constitution gives women full participation in politics. However, their participation in politics at all levels remains low due to cultural and structural barriers that cannot be overlooked in Pakistani society. Women represent almost 50% of the Pakistani population that is not used for national development. Any democratic system cannot run successfully with just half of the population and other half is marginalized. Ideal gendered role of women in Pakistani society is depicted as “Women are carriers of the family name, honor and prestige. Women mean something covered not open. Going outside the home can risk them. It is better to die than to spoil the honor and family name. Furthermore, women are the future mothers. They should be trained enough to take care of their families and children”. In other words, domesticity as women identity appears to be the prominent feature of femininity in Pakistani society (Ali & Akhtar, 2012). The women shouldn't go out. Pakistan’s overall religious, political, cultural, and social system is the main root cause behind the lesser women's representation. Once a woman enters into politics she faces problems from the beginning. People are putting obstacles in her path, threatening her and even

assassinating her character.

From the historical point of view women have actively participated in politics of Pakistan. In subcontinent Begum Shah Nawaz actively participated in politics. In 1931 and in 1935 in Geneva she participated in round table conferences. She was much out spoken about women rights and their quota in assembly in subcontinent. The first, first lady of Pakistan was Begum Raana Liaquat Ali. She was very active in politics. She always tried to lift the social and economic prosperity of women. She also founded all Pakistan women association (APWA) and worked for the betterment of women. There are many other women who actively participated in politics like Begam Shaista, Fatima Jinnah, Begam Salma Tasadduq Hussain, Begaum Mohammad Ali Johar, Begam Waqarunnisa Noon, Nusrat Haroon are many more are the noticeable women in the political sphere of politics and political movement of Pakistan. Pakistan became the trendsetter in the Muslim world and had a distinctive position when Benazir Bhutto became the first prime minister of Pakistan and Dr Fehmeeda Mirza became the speaker of national assembly (Repila, 2013).

Social and special welfare minister had been Samina Khalid, Minister of Information and broadcasting had been Sherry Rehman. Dr. Firdoos Ashiq had been health minister. Hina Rabbani has been foreign affairs minister, Ministry of Information and technology had been led by Anusha Rehman and minister of national health services had been Saira Afzal Tarar (Ali, 2015; Saeed, 2008). Yasmeen Rashid became Health Minister of Punjab and Zartaj Gul minister of state for climate change. Hence mostly these women belong to families which already have political influence or men of these families had already been engage in some sort of political activities. It is also very interesting to see that in some cases men are not able to meet the qualification or criteria of election commission of Pakistan. In that case female members are encouraged to participate in politics to continue their political legacy. Seats reserved for women have also played an important part to encourage women to participate in politics (True et al., 2012).

Regardless of the fact that Pakistan is a developing nation with a growing economy, many women have actively pursued to participate in government and the establishment of a female-oriented civil society. During the 2013 and 2018 general elections, the percentage of women voters grew dramatically. However, still, women are politically marginalized and gender discrimination continues to be the norm. Most importantly for three consecutive years (2012, 2013 and 2014) Pakistan has been ranked second last in the annual Gender Gap Index produced by the World Economic Forum. Again according to the World Economic Forum (“WEF”) Global Gender Gap Report 2016 Pakistan is ranked 143rd out of 144 countries on the gender inequality index. Pakistan ranked 143rd among the places of the world which are consider worst places of women. There is an increasing need for women to claim their political space and for

governments to facilitate women's participation in politics. All women have the right to participate in politics, to express their opinions, and to influence the development of their communities. Although with the passage of time things have improved much for women but still there is a lot of room for improvement yet and politically women in Pakistan have still a long way to go. It is because if women are not around when decisions are made, their interests may not be served.

1.1 Statement of the Problem

Women are 52% of the total population of Pakistan which can play a vital role in development. Interests of men and women are different and even conflicting and therefore women are needed in representative institutions to articulate the interests of women. Woman political participation for the development of Pakistan is the dire need in contemporary world. Despite its importance little attention has been paid by the scholars on political participation which is the sole objective behind the undergoing study. In this study political participation of the women is studied with regard to the empowerment of the women and political trust of the women on the political system of the Pakistan.

2. Literature Review

Imran and Shahzad (2019) explain in their research that the Pervaiz Musharraf period may be treated as a milestone in Pakistani history. He had committed to empowering Pakistan's female strata after taking power in 1999. He increased reserved seats for women to 19 percent in federal and provincial legislatures, and 33 percent in local bodies, through a legal structure directive. Weiss (2001) narrates that in Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and finalize Pakistan's CEDAW report, where greater was given importance on the mandate and work of the National Commission on the Status of Women, and finally articulate and institutionalize a National Policy on Women. Indeed, the current plan states that the "Enhancement of the status of women is essential not only on grounds of equity and human rights but also to meet the goal of sustained growth, human resource development and poverty alleviation".

Sohail (2014) described that women still have difficulties in getting their rights. A society should be established where women are similarly allowed on doing stuff. Women are not taken seriously by men. Women should speak to have their rights. Women competencies need to be brought on a platform. Women doable ought to be shown in a growing country like Pakistan, having burden of billions of mortgages to repay. Both men and women efforts are required to grow to be a developed nation. Women doing jobs are not revered in assessment to ladies preserving solely domestic activities. Strategies must be implemented so that ladies can show their potentials at every indoor and out of doors level. Even residence better halves should be inspired to

show their potential by using involving themselves in creative things to do like crafting or any arts instead of wasting their time in funky gossips. Indoor crafting via female can be a supply of exports by making contacts at worldwide level. Women willing to do job backyard domestic should be given protection and esteem in our society.

Bano (2009) conducted a study to learn about and to have a look at the scenario of women in Parliament in Pakistan. The focal point of this research is on the position of Pakistani female in the political arena. Throughout the records of Pakistan, the 2002 and present parliament has proven the maximum representation of women. In relative terms, the status of women has improved in contemporary Pakistani society with the passage of time, but the ideal women's empowerment is still a distant dream.

Shami (2009) conducted a study to discover out the historical thought of women political participation in Pakistan. Women participated actively in the Pakistan movement. Ms. Fatima Jinnah was once the first typically regarded figure who participated in the hostility's movement. During the generation of Bhutto women participation used to be also pretty extensive however in the length of Zia's Martial Law the women political participation used to be lean. However, Musharraf's age was once very vital and huge in this regard. He accelerated the seats allocation for the girls in politics both at the district and country wide level. In the history of Pakistan, the female's political participation has long gone through many ups and downs.

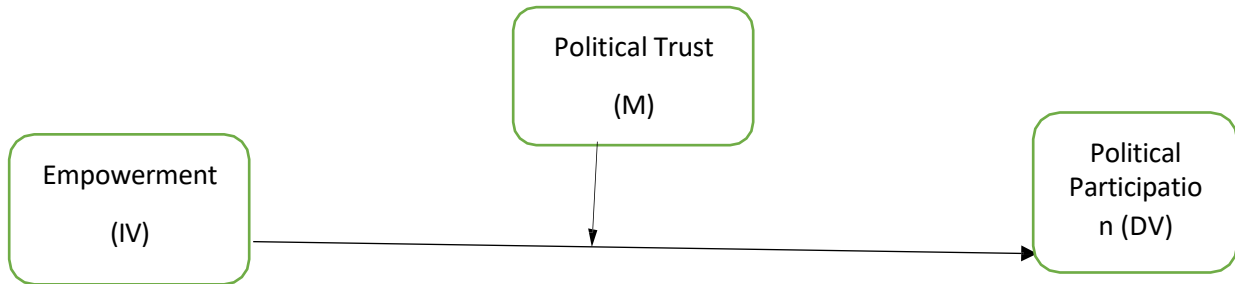
Sumbadze (2008) conducted a study to find out the difference between the representation of women and actual outcome of that particular representation. This study suggested that gender in politics has two sides, and although separate it is associated with each other. One is women's representation and the other is concern for women's issues. Representation increases the likelihood for considering women's issues as well as brings in gender perspective; however, representation on its own cannot guarantee the desired outcome. This study concludes that steps are being taken to increase the representation of the women both at national and international level still their issues are not being addressed adequately. National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW, 2010) in its report suggested that women are not much active despite coming into the field of politics. Although women are brought into political institutions, no effort is made to transform the patriarchal nature and culture of institutions. Therefore, even though it helped a small percentage of women enter the government; their participation was constrained because the structures perpetuating inequality were left intact. This report concludes that women are entering into politics but their performance is not according to that and main reason behind is gender stereo typing. Cahill, Sultana, and Pain (2007) conducted a study to explore the possible hindrance in the women political participation in Pakistan.

Domestic violence and other forms of violence are flourishing in families, society

and also in the state as a means of controlling women. The legal rights of women are curtailed by the introduction of the Shariat law and the Muslim family law, which bestow unequal rights upon men and women in matters regarding inheritance, marriage, guardianship of children, etc. Their subordinate social and legal status and domination by men in the family, society and state obstruct their participation in public life. Hence the patriarchal mind-set is considered to be a key issue in limiting the women political participation in Pakistan. Thanikodi and Sugirtha (2007) investigated the limitations on women political participation and divided these limitations into three broader categories. The first is political such as the masculine model of politics, lack of party support, cooperation with women's organizations and electoral system; the second is ideological and psychological for example traditional roles, lack of confidence, the perception of politics as "dirty" and the role of mass-media; and the last one socioeconomic obstacle which include feminization of poverty and unemployment, the dual burden and lastly, education and training. Philips (2004) In her research, she discusses the fact that over representation of a specific social group results in over-representation of opinion and vice versa.

The lower female representation in political participation leads to a lower representation of women's opinion. What Phillips points out is that women's under-representation in politics needs to be seen as systemic or deliberate discrimination. Implies that factors behind the under-representation of women lie within the framework of society. This article offers more about women's political involvement on a macro level. Pakistan has faced far-reaching obstacles and threats against women within the political sphere. Cases of women who have faced political obstacles include the 2007 assassination of former Prime Minister Ms Benazir Bhutto. Another event involving women's rights activist and Punjab social welfare minister, Ms Zille Huma Usman, who was also publicly assassinated in 2007. Malala Yousafzai, the co-recipient of the 2014 Noble Peace prize; Malala was mainly known for raising awareness for women rights and education rights in her native Swat Valley in Northwest Pakistan. She survived a shot in the head in 2012 (Elashi, 2014). Women are not intentionally not allowed to be the part of political process or activities. We will suffer the loss if a large of population are denied their rights to make decisions and their implementation. This is never ever going to be a productive thing for any country. Every voice that is not given importance, every voice that is not heard goes away from realizing full potential in local and national politics and in the global community (UN Women Report, 2018).

Figure No 1: Research Model



2.1 Research Hypotheses

Following two hypotheses are developed for the research:

H1: Women Empowerment has positive and significant impact of political Participation of Women in Pakistan.

Empowered women are more likely to engage in political activities and participate in the democratic processes of their countries. When women have access to education, economic opportunities, and healthcare, they are better equipped to voice their opinions, advocate for their rights, and run for political office. Empowerment fosters confidence and self-esteem, making women more willing to challenge societal norms and break through the barriers that have historically limited their political engagement.

H2: Political Trust moderates the relationship between women empowerment and women's political Participation.

It posits that, while women's empowerment certainly provides them with the tools and opportunities to participate in the political arena, the level of trust they have in the political system and its actors can either amplify or hinder this effect. When women feel a strong sense of political trust—believing that their government is responsive, accountable, and transparent—they are more likely to translate their empowerment into active political participation.

2.2 Women Empowerment

Empowerment does not give women power, women do already have power but real empowerment is to let this power out (Blanchard, Hersey, & Johnson, 1969). It provides courage to learn skills that will help them to solve the problems in life and it will help to grow society and themselves. Women around the world having tough time to break away from oppression, bondage and ill treatment in society or in the family. Survival of the women is very much difficult without providing them an opportunity to

make decisions, make policies and implementation of politics. Empowerment of women in every sector of life is very important especially political empowerment. It is very necessary to achieve equality of gender in a society and to achieve equality, peace and development (Rajput, 2001). Women political empowerment is the need of the hour. With the political empowerment they can challenge the existing powerful social and governance structure and ideologies. Political empowerment of women helps to decentralize the power to deprived and oppressed. It provides with the power to the persons who have no say in the decision making and policy formulation and implementation. Some measures of empowering women were suggested by (Tiwari, 2001) “primarily focus attention on rejecting all restrictions, controls, limitations, values etc., on the ground that these are imposed on women only by patriarchy and are the revelation of male dominance...”

Despite the fact that Pakistan is a developing country with a thriving economy, many women have made active efforts to participate in government and develop women-oriented civil society. In the last national elections of 2013 and 2018, the proportion of women voters has increased significantly. However, women are politically backward and gender discrimination is common. Most importantly, for three consecutive years (2012, 2013 and 2014), Pakistan ranks second in the World Economic Forum's annual Gender Gap Index. According to the World Economic Forum's (WEF) Global Gender Gap Report 2016, Pakistan ranks 143rd out of 144 countries in the Gender Inequality Index. In terms of women to live, Pakistan is ranked 143rd in the world.

Gender differences also undermine femininity. All women have the right to participate in politics, to express their views and to influence the development of their communities. A woman's full and equal engagement with politics leads to a sense of a comprehensive system of government. It is necessary. It is also important to eliminate gender discrimination and gender inequality. There is a growing need for women to assert their political status and for governments to facilitate women's participation in politics. As per Punjab Commission on the status of women report 2017, Pakistan was ranked at 90 out of 144 countries in political empowerment. To improve the overall situation government needs to ensure women political participation and to create an environment where gender sensitive laws which support women political participation can be developed and their complete implementation ensured. It is because if women are not around when decisions are made, their interests may not be served.

2.3 Political Trust

General confidence in governments and their institutions has fallen around the world. According to Blind 2007, community trust in government and democratic structures has been diminishing in all advanced modern democracies since the mid-1960s. The downward trend is ubiquitous, but the pattern and speed of the decline are

different across countries. With the exception of the Netherlands, which has actually demonstrated increased confidence in government from the 1970s to the mid-1990s, all other advanced modern democracies have undergone a reduction in the degree of confidence enjoyed by their national governments. Government trust means the confidence of the public in parliament, the cabinet, the civil service, city authorities, politicians and political parties. Government trust has two elements: one is structural and the other is informal. Institutional considerations include the stability of government institutions, on the other hand, the trust of people such as elected officials. The focus of academics is on the value of public confidence in government in numerous ways. As (Desk, 2013) stresses, "The trust of researchers in government is particularly crucial so that we can recognize how citizens' preferences change and manage government reactions to those expectations." Government confidence is a crucial predictor of the public's underlying sense of politics (Newton & Norris, 2000).

The trustworthy and balanced relationship between the two is reflected by the presence of trust between people and political parties. Trust is an economic lubricant that lowers transaction costs, encourages new ways of partnership and, in general, facilitates business, work, business practices and prosperity (la Porta et al., 1996). One of the most fundamental aspects of the country's success is a trustworthy relation. It is not only socially significant, but also essential, both legally and economically. Owing to the encouragement and protection of government policy and the absence of cooperative actions of individuals, a deep bond of confidence flourishes in the economy. Government success is the act of a political party in terms of the country's economic, social and legal status. Trust is a reflection of government efficiency, as reported (Keele, 2007). In addition, (Carrera, 2012) also claims that confidence in government reflects an assessment of government efficiency, showing whether performance complies with legislation, standards held by the residents of a country. If people are pleased with the success of the government, there is ample confidence built between citizens & government and development. In the other hand, as states are unable to satisfy the mistrust of voters, this leads to political and economic uncertainty, civil conflict and corruption, etc. Public evaluation of successful or poor government regardless of its results and the work undertaken for the nation's goodwill or for the nation's improvement. In addition, if the government meets the citizens' standards, it leads to confidence amongst government and citizens. Scholars agree that the causes and impacts of political faith in government are nuanced. Several scholars in developing countries stress the effect on government confidence of the expectations of people of economic and political success (Kim, 2010).

Institutional context, political culture, and relationship between citizens and states can also be important factors that decide the degree of trust in government (Bouckaert et al., 2005). The institutional output of a nation, political stability and the relationship

of the government with its public, represent the effectiveness of governance. An effective government empowers its institutions, controls political uncertainty through the execution of multiple policies, and establishes a culture of confidence. Newton and Norris (2000) argues that the relationship between individual social trust and political trust is mediated by social and political institutions' effectiveness. The efficiency of institutions influences levels of social trust, this influence is mediated by the view of institutions as more or less 'healthy' by people in the sense of honest, efficient and perhaps even. Strong institutions are critical for social trust since they decrease the risk of confidence. In addition, it is suggested that there may be a way of growing social trust in society and potentially reaping the economic and political advantages of trusting societies.

The way is (1) to increase the efficiency of institutions and (2) to show the standard of education and the financial well-being of the community (Desk, 2013) to indicate that government policies ought to establish productive and trustable relationships between people and government agencies and to help and understand residents and enterprises in order to enforce and implement them.

2.4 Political Trust and Political Participation

If one does not trust the electoral system or political decision-makers, does it make sense to engage in political life? This is one of the perennial problems in political sociology, after a systemic fall in political morale was first recorded in the late 1960s (Levi & Stoker, 2000).

The traditional theory, of course, is that political disaffection (cynicism, alienation) is correlated with a rejection of mainstream or 'conformist' forms of political participation, as Citrin (1974) has already argued, the politically pessimistic should be more inclined to refrain from political action entirely or participate in non-customer actions, often unlawful, such as engaging in sit-ins or protests, or planning for revolt, than those who trust the government. If low levels of political confidence are correlated with low levels of participation, it may be suggested that this pattern poses a threat to the political system's legitimacy, as participation can be considered to be a central aspect of stable democratic political structures (Barber & Brown, 1984). When, on the other hand, institutionalized participation is merely replaced by non-institutionalized modes of participation, government institutions must adapt themselves to new forms of contact with the public (Inglehart & Welzel, 2005; Rosanvallon & Goldhammer, 2008). It is therefore important to decide whether low levels of political confidence are synonymous with a total exclusion from political life, or whether this 'alone' contributes to a shift in the ensembles of political engagement used by people who mistrust. Political trust can be believed to have a positive effect on certain modes of engagement, but not on others. In addition, we recognize that the mechanisms of political

mobilization are the product of a dynamic interplay between different elements: problem salience, attempts to organize, socio-economic standing, civic expertise, desire, encouragement, political opportunity, political confidence and political competence.

Political confidence should always be seen from this point of view as a necessary prerequisite for political involvement to take place, however it cannot be viewed as an adequate prerequisite: political trust should only be anticipated to have a beneficial influence on the level of engagement if paired with other civic tools. While there is a common consensus that political confidence and effectiveness are both essential tools for participation, there is controversy over the essence of this relationship: are the effects of political trust and effectiveness on political participation merely additive or are both attitudes necessary? Some scholars note that political confidence and effectiveness are two important prerequisites, and political activity can only be activated by their shared participation.

3. Research Methodology

Research strategy in the current research is deductive and quantitative, unit of analysis in the current research is individual, target population are women, simple random sampling technique was used in order to collect the data from the respondents, total sample size was selected on the bases of Sekaran (2003) which suggests the sample size must be greater than 30 and less than 500. Snowball sampling technique was used to conduct interviews. Questionnaire was sent to 600 respondents and 488 of total 600 were found correct in each aspect.

Political trust having five dimensions (Competence, Concern, Integrity, Reliability, Fairness / Equity) was measured with the help of scale developed by (Seyd, 2016). Empowerment has four dimensions (Desire of Control, Internal Political Efficacy, Perceived Competence, and Locus of Control). Desire of Control was measured using the scale by (McCutcheon, 2000), Internal Political Efficacy was measured using the scale by (Craig & Maggiotto, 1982), Perceived Competence was measured using the scale by (Florin & Wandersman, 1984), and Locus of Control was measured using the scale by (Levenson, 1974).

4. Data Analysis

4.1 Quantitative

Data was collected with the help of a questionnaire, which was distributed among 600 proposed respondents. Out of which 488 were found correct in each aspect. Target population for the research were women engaged in politics one way or the other. Women empowerment is going to be measured along with political trust and political participation of the women. Women empowerment is independent variable; political trust is mediator variable and political participation is dependent variable.

4.2 Demographics

Table No 1: Age Group

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-------|----------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | 18-28 | 257 | 52.7 | 52.7 | 52.7 |
| | 29-39 | 121 | 24.8 | 24.8 | 77.5 |
| | 40-49 | 68 | 13.9 | 13.9 | 91.4 |
| | 50-Above | 42 | 8.6 | 8.6 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Out of total respondents, 257 are having the age of 18-28 years, which is 52.7% of total questionnaires collected. 121 are having the age of 29-39 years which are 24.8% of total questionnaires collected. 68 respondents are having the age of 40-49 years which is 13.9% of total questionnaires collected. 42 respondents are having the age 50-above, which are 8.6% of total questionnaires collected. During the process of data collection, it is observed that young people are more inclined to respond and participate rather than older people.

Table No 2: Education

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-------|-----------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Intermediate | 33 | 6.8 | 6.8 | 6.8 |
| | Graduation | 226 | 46.3 | 46.3 | 53.1 |
| | Post Graduation | 229 | 46.9 | 46.9 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

33 out of the total respondents are having intermediate which is 6.8% of total questionnaires collected. 226 are graduates which are 46.3% of total questionnaires collected. 228 were post- graduate which are 46.9% of total questionnaires collected.

Table No 3: Profession

| |
|--|
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| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-------|----------------|-----------|---------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Valid | House Wife | 12 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 |
| | Job Holder | 251 | 51.4 | 51.4 | 53.9 |
| | Student | 186 | 38.1 | 38.1 | 92.0 |
| | Business Owner | 19 | 3.9 | 3.9 | 95.9 |
| | Unemployed | 20 | 4.1 | 4.1 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

12 respondents are housewives which is 2.5% of total questionnaires collected. 251 are job holders which is 51.4% of total questionnaires collected. 184 are students which is 38.1% of total questionnaires collected. 19 are a business owner which is 3.9% of total questionnaires collected. 20 were unemployed which is 4.1% of total questionnaires collected.

Table No 4: Income

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-------|-----------------|-----------|---------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Valid | Less than 15000 | 139 | 28.5 | 28.5 | 28.5 |
| | 15001-30000 | 69 | 14.1 | 14.1 | 42.6 |
| | 30001-50000 | 125 | 25.6 | 25.6 | 68.2 |
| | 50001-100000 | 93 | 19.1 | 19.1 | 87.3 |
| | Above 100000 | 62 | 12.7 | 12.7 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

139 of the total respondents are having an income of less than monthly 15000 rupees which is 28.5 percent of the total respondents. 69 are having an income level of monthly 15001-30000 rupees which is 14.1% of total questionnaires collected. 125 of the total respondents which are 25.6% of total questionnaires collected were having an income level of monthly 30001-50001 rupees. 93 of the total respondents which is 19.1% of total questionnaires collected are having a monthly income of 50001-100000 rupees. 62 of the total respondents are having a monthly income of more than 100000 rupees, which is 12.7% of total questionnaires collected.

Table No 5: Marital Status

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-------|----------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Married | 213 | 43.6 | 43.6 | 43.6 |
| | Single | 273 | 55.9 | 55.9 | 99.6 |
| | Widow | 1 | .2 | .2 | 99.8 |
| | Divorced | 1 | .2 | .2 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

43.6 percent of the total respondents are married which is 213 of the total respondents. 55.9 percent are single which 273 of the total respondents. 1 of the respondents is a widow which is 0.2 percent of the total and 1 is divorced which is 0.2 percent of the total.

Following tables shows the answers of the respondents on five points Likert scale from strongly agree to strongly disagree about the questions asked.

Table No 6: Once elected, politicians are given a good training.

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-------|-------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Strongly Agree | 63 | 12.9 | 12.9 | 12.9 |
| | Agree | 91 | 18.6 | 18.6 | 31.6 |
| | Neutral | 58 | 11.9 | 11.9 | 43.4 |
| | Disagree | 186 | 38.1 | 38.1 | 81.6 |
| | Strongly Disagree | 90 | 18.4 | 18.4 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

More than 50% of the respondents thinks that politicians are not provided with the proper training to perform their duties.

Table No 7: In politics, only the most able people get to the top.

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-------|----------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Strongly Agree | 9 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.8 |
| | Agree | 126 | 25.8 | 25.8 | 27.7 |

| | | | | |
|-------------------|-----|-------|-------|-------|
| Neutral | 114 | 23.4 | 23.4 | 51.0 |
| Disagree | 179 | 36.7 | 36.7 | 87.7 |
| Strongly Disagree | 60 | 12.3 | 12.3 | 100.0 |
| Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Most of the respondents disagree with the statement that in Pakistan, only the able people get to the top.

Table No 8: There is not enough scrutiny over how ministers spend public funds.

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-------|-------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Strongly Agree | 157 | 32.2 | 32.2 | 32.2 |
| | Agree | 232 | 47.5 | 47.5 | 79.7 |
| | Neutral | 51 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 90.2 |
| | Disagree | 39 | 8.0 | 8.0 | 98.2 |
| | Strongly Disagree | 9 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

More than 60% of the respondents agree with the statement that proper scrutiny is not done and proper check and balance is not there about the spending of funds.

Table No 9: Political parties ensure that only capable people get selected as election candidates.

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-------|-------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Strongly Agree | 81 | 16.6 | 16.6 | 16.6 |
| | Agree | 92 | 18.9 | 18.9 | 35.5 |
| | Neutral | 55 | 11.3 | 11.3 | 46.7 |
| | Disagree | 160 | 32.8 | 32.8 | 79.5 |
| | Strongly Disagree | 100 | 20.5 | 20.5 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Political parties are not able to pick the most suitable and capable candidate to contest in the elections.

Table No 10: Only politicians who can show they are responding to people s concerns win elections.

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-------|-------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Strongly Agree | 76 | 15.6 | 15.6 | 15.6 |
| | Agree | 164 | 33.6 | 33.6 | 49.2 |
| | Neutral | 96 | 19.7 | 19.7 | 68.9 |
| | Disagree | 111 | 22.7 | 22.7 | 91.6 |
| | Strongly Disagree | 41 | 8.4 | 8.4 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Most of respondents agrees with the fact that the politicians who are concerned about the people win the elections.

Table No 11: The average politician is very like the average citizen.

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-------|-------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Strongly Agree | 34 | 7.0 | 7.0 | 7.0 |
| | Agree | 157 | 32.2 | 32.2 | 39.1 |
| | Neutral | 95 | 19.5 | 19.5 | 58.6 |
| | Disagree | 147 | 30.1 | 30.1 | 88.7 |
| | Strongly Disagree | 55 | 11.3 | 11.3 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Respondents thinks that a politician is not like an ordinary average citizen.

Table No 12: If politicians don t tell the truth, they are likely to get caught out.

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-------|-------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Strongly Agree | 93 | 19.1 | 19.1 | 19.1 |
| | Agree | 127 | 26.0 | 26.0 | 45.1 |
| | Neutral | 82 | 16.8 | 16.8 | 61.9 |
| | Disagree | 132 | 27.0 | 27.0 | 88.9 |
| | Strongly Disagree | 54 | 11.1 | 11.1 | 100.0 |
| Total | | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Respondents agree with the statement that if they are led by politicians they are going to be caught.

Table No 13: There are clear rules about what politicians must disclose.

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-------|-------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Strongly Agree | 62 | 12.7 | 12.7 | 12.7 |
| | Agree | 178 | 36.5 | 36.5 | 49.2 |
| | Neutral | 107 | 21.9 | 21.9 | 71.1 |
| | Disagree | 108 | 22.1 | 22.1 | 93.2 |
| | Strongly Disagree | 33 | 6.8 | 6.8 | 100.0 |
| Total | | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

There are clear rules regarding the disclosure of information from politicians.

Table No 14: There is not enough factual information available to citizens to allow them to judge government decisions.

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-------|-------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Strongly Agree | 117 | 24.0 | 24.0 | 24.0 |
| | Agree | 251 | 51.4 | 51.4 | 75.4 |
| | Neutral | 67 | 13.7 | 13.7 | 89.1 |
| | Disagree | 38 | 7.8 | 7.8 | 96.9 |
| | Strongly Disagree | 15 | 3.1 | 3.1 | 100.0 |
| Total | | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Information are not provided to citizen so that they can judge the decision of the government.

Table No 15: Politicians who admit to mistakes tend to get punished by voters.

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid Strongly Agree | 74 | 15.2 | 15.2 | 15.2 |
| Agree | 129 | 26.4 | 26.4 | 41.6 |
| Neutral | 99 | 20.3 | 20.3 | 61.9 |
| Disagree | 142 | 29.1 | 29.1 | 91.0 |
| Strongly Disagree | 44 | 9.0 | 9.0 | 100.0 |
| Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Respondents have mixed responses regarding the admission of the mistakes by politicians and get punished.

Table No 16: If politicians go back on promises made to voters, they get punished at elections.

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid Strongly Agree | 80 | 16.4 | 16.4 | 16.4 |
| Agree | 159 | 32.6 | 32.6 | 49.0 |
| Neutral | 116 | 23.8 | 23.8 | 72.7 |
| Disagree | 101 | 20.7 | 20.7 | 93.4 |
| Strongly Disagree | 32 | 6.6 | 6.6 | 100.0 |
| Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Table No 17: Politicians must respond to voters; if voters change their minds, so must politicians.

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid Strongly Agree | 68 | 13.9 | 13.9 | 13.9 |
| Agree | 224 | 45.9 | 45.9 | 59.8 |
| Neutral | 127 | 26.0 | 26.0 | 85.9 |
| Disagree | 54 | 11.1 | 11.1 | 96.9 |
| Strongly Disagree | 15 | 3.1 | 3.1 | 100.0 |
| Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

If politicians do not fulfill their promises are punished by voters in elections. Mostly respondents agree that if voters change their minds so politicians also should change their mind.

Table No 18: Governments that favor some social groups over others will not last in office for long.

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid Strongly Agree | 50 | 10.2 | 10.2 | 10.2 |
| Agree | 208 | 42.6 | 42.6 | 52.9 |
| Neutral | 127 | 26.0 | 26.0 | 78.9 |
| Disagree | 87 | 17.8 | 17.8 | 96.7 |
| Strongly Disagree | 16 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 100.0 |
| Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Respondents agree that government who favors social groups last longer in the office.

Table No 19: I enjoy having control over my own destiny.

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid Strongly Agree | 99 | 20.3 | 20.3 | 20.3 |
| Agree | 262 | 53.7 | 53.7 | 74.0 |
| Neutral | 88 | 18.0 | 18.0 | 92.0 |
| Disagree | 31 | 6.4 | 6.4 | 98.4 |
| Strongly Disagree | 8 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 100.0 |
| Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Most of the respondents enjoys control over their own destiny.

Table No 20: I like to get a good idea of what a job is all about before I begin.

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid Strongly Agree | 65 | 13.3 | 13.3 | 13.3 |
| Agree | 266 | 54.5 | 54.5 | 67.8 |
| Neutral | 92 | 18.9 | 18.9 | 86.7 |
| Disagree | 58 | 11.9 | 11.9 | 98.6 |
| Strongly Disagree | 7 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 100.0 |
| Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Most the respondents like to have a good idea what job is about before begin.

Table No 21: I try to avoid situation in which someone else tells me what to do.

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid Strongly Agree | 128 | 26.2 | 26.2 | 26.2 |
| Agree | 263 | 53.9 | 53.9 | 80.1 |
| Neutral | 73 | 15.0 | 15.0 | 95.1 |
| Disagree | 20 | 4.1 | 4.1 | 99.2 |
| Strongly Disagree | 4 | .8 | .8 | 100.0 |
| Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Most respondent try to avoid the situations in which someone tells what to do.

Table No 22: I would rather someone else take over the leadership role when I am involved in a group project.

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid Strongly Agree | 68 | 13.9 | 13.9 | 13.9 |
| Agree | 203 | 41.6 | 41.6 | 55.5 |
| Neutral | 111 | 22.7 | 22.7 | 78.3 |
| Disagree | 95 | 19.5 | 19.5 | 97.7 |
| Strongly Disagree | 11 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 100.0 |
| Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Most respondents agree that they are not interested much in the leadership role when they are involved in projects.

Table No 23: People like me don't have any say about what the government does.

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid Strongly Agree | 51 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 |
| Agree | 160 | 32.8 | 32.8 | 43.2 |
| Neutral | 135 | 27.7 | 27.7 | 70.9 |
| Disagree | 117 | 24.0 | 24.0 | 94.9 |
| Strongly Disagree | 25 | 5.1 | 5.1 | 100.0 |
| Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Most respondents agree with the statement, that they have not any say what government does.

Table No 23: Sometimes politics and government seem so complicated that a person like me can't really understand what's going on.

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid Strongly Agree | 46 | 9.4 | 9.4 | 9.4 |
| Agree | 160 | 32.8 | 32.8 | 42.2 |
| Neutral | 126 | 25.8 | 25.8 | 68.0 |
| Disagree | 127 | 26.0 | 26.0 | 94.1 |
| Strongly Disagree | 29 | 5.9 | 5.9 | 100.0 |
| Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Respondents agree that sometimes government issues are so complicated that they are not able to understand.

Table No 24: Voting is the only way that a person like me can have any say about how the government runs things.

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid Strongly Agree | 90 | 18.4 | 18.4 | 18.4 |
| Agree | 224 | 45.9 | 45.9 | 64.3 |
| Neutral | 95 | 19.5 | 19.5 | 83.8 |
| Disagree | 57 | 11.7 | 11.7 | 95.5 |
| Strongly Disagree | 22 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 100.0 |
| Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Most of the respondent's rates very highly of voting that it is the way to have a say about how the government handles the government.

Table No 25: I find it very hard to talk about politics in front of a group.

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid Strongly Agree | 74 | 15.2 | 15.2 | 15.2 |
| Agree | 208 | 42.6 | 42.6 | 57.8 |
| Neutral | 102 | 20.9 | 20.9 | 78.7 |
| Disagree | 85 | 17.4 | 17.4 | 96.1 |
| Strongly Disagree | 19 | 3.9 | 3.9 | 100.0 |
| Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Most respondents find it very hard to talk in front of people about politics.

Table No 26: Other people usually follow my political ideas.

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid Strongly Agree | 65 | 13.3 | 13.3 | 13.3 |
| Agree | 159 | 32.6 | 32.6 | 45.9 |
| Neutral | 87 | 17.8 | 17.8 | 63.7 |
| Disagree | 137 | 28.1 | 28.1 | 91.8 |
| Strongly Disagree | 40 | 8.2 | 8.2 | 100.0 |
| Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Respondents have mixed responses about the following of their political ideas by others.

Table No 27: I am often a leader in groups.

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid Strongly Agree | 26 | 5.3 | 5.3 | 5.3 |
| Agree | 127 | 26.0 | 26.0 | 31.4 |
| Neutral | 196 | 40.2 | 40.2 | 71.5 |
| Disagree | 121 | 24.8 | 24.8 | 96.3 |
| Strongly Disagree | 18 | 3.7 | 3.7 | 100.0 |
| Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

More respondents have neutrals responses about being leader in a group.

Table No 28: I can usually organize people to get things done.

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid Strongly Agree | 59 | 12.1 | 12.1 | 12.1 |
| Agree | 216 | 44.3 | 44.3 | 56.4 |
| Neutral | 129 | 26.4 | 26.4 | 82.8 |
| Disagree | 75 | 15.4 | 15.4 | 98.2 |
| Strongly Disagree | 9 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 100.0 |
| Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Most respondent agree that to get things done they can organize people.

Table No 29: I often participate in neighborhood/community groups.

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid Strongly Agree | 79 | 16.2 | 16.2 | 16.2 |
| Agree | 277 | 56.8 | 56.8 | 73.0 |
| Neutral | 91 | 18.6 | 18.6 | 91.6 |
| Disagree | 35 | 7.2 | 7.2 | 98.8 |
| Strongly Disagree | 6 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 100.0 |
| Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Most respondents tend to participate in community groups.

Table No 30: I am usually able to protect my personal interests.

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid Strongly Agree | 53 | 10.9 | 10.9 | 10.9 |
| Agree | 201 | 41.2 | 41.2 | 52.0 |
| Neutral | 141 | 28.9 | 28.9 | 80.9 |
| Disagree | 80 | 16.4 | 16.4 | 97.3 |
| Strongly Disagree | 13 | 2.7 | 2.7 | 100.0 |
| Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Most respondents are able to protect their personal interests.

Table No 31: My life is determined by my own actions.

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid Strongly Agree | 78 | 16.0 | 16.0 | 16.0 |
| Agree | 279 | 57.2 | 57.2 | 73.2 |
| Neutral | 79 | 16.2 | 16.2 | 89.3 |
| Disagree | 43 | 8.8 | 8.8 | 98.2 |
| Strongly Disagree | 9 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 100.0 |
| Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Respondents agree that their actions determine their life.

Table No 32: I can pretty much determine what will happen in my life.

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid Strongly Agree | 127 | 26.0 | 26.0 | 26.0 |
| Agree | 243 | 49.8 | 49.8 | 75.8 |
| Neutral | 82 | 16.8 | 16.8 | 92.6 |
| Disagree | 29 | 5.9 | 5.9 | 98.6 |
| Strongly Disagree | 7 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 100.0 |
| Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Most respondents are confident that they can determine the future of their life.

Table No 32: When I make plans, I am almost certain to make them work.

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid Strongly Agree | 76 | 15.6 | 15.6 | 15.6 |
| Agree | 200 | 41.0 | 41.0 | 56.6 |
| Neutral | 130 | 26.6 | 26.6 | 83.2 |
| Disagree | 67 | 13.7 | 13.7 | 96.9 |
| Strongly Disagree | 15 | 3.1 | 3.1 | 100.0 |
| Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Respondents agrees that they can make their plans work certainly.

Table No 33: When I get what I want, it's usually because I worked hard for it.

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid Strongly Agree | 88 | 18.0 | 18.0 | 18.0 |
| Agree | 285 | 58.4 | 58.4 | 76.4 |
| Neutral | 83 | 17.0 | 17.0 | 93.4 |
| Disagree | 24 | 4.9 | 4.9 | 98.4 |
| Strongly Disagree | 8 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 100.0 |
| Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Mostly respondents agree that they usually get what they want if they have worked hard for it.

Table No 34: I attend meetings/activities organized by political Parties.

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid Strongly Agree | 116 | 23.8 | 23.8 | 23.8 |
| Agree | 246 | 50.4 | 50.4 | 74.2 |
| Neutral | 92 | 18.9 | 18.9 | 93.0 |
| Disagree | 28 | 5.7 | 5.7 | 98.8 |
| Strongly Disagree | 6 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 100.0 |
| Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Table No 35: I actively defend my point of view in conversations on political issues.

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid Strongly Agree | 39 | 8.0 | 8.0 | 8.0 |
| Agree | 100 | 20.5 | 20.5 | 28.5 |
| Neutral | 111 | 22.7 | 22.7 | 51.2 |
| Disagree | 179 | 36.7 | 36.7 | 87.9 |
| Strongly Disagree | 59 | 12.1 | 12.1 | 100.0 |
| Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Mostly respondent do not defend their view in political conversations.

Table No 36: I attend talks or debates on political issues.

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid Strongly Agree | 71 | 14.5 | 14.5 | 14.5 |
| Agree | 207 | 42.4 | 42.4 | 57.0 |
| Neutral | 114 | 23.4 | 23.4 | 80.3 |
| Disagree | 76 | 15.6 | 15.6 | 95.9 |
| Strongly Disagree | 20 | 4.1 | 4.1 | 100.0 |
| Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Respondents do attend talks and debates on political issues.

Table No 37: I am a member of/collaborate in meetings/activities organized by political parties.

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid Strongly Agree | 50 | 10.2 | 10.2 | 10.2 |
| Agree | 146 | 29.9 | 29.9 | 40.2 |
| Neutral | 110 | 22.5 | 22.5 | 62.7 |
| Disagree | 139 | 28.5 | 28.5 | 91.2 |
| Strongly Disagree | 43 | 8.8 | 8.8 | 100.0 |
| Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Table No 38: I actively participate in the various electoral processes (vote, attend rallies, know the election manifestos of the parties, etc.)

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid Strongly Agree | 31 | 6.4 | 6.4 | 6.4 |
| Agree | 79 | 16.2 | 16.2 | 22.5 |
| Neutral | 111 | 22.7 | 22.7 | 45.3 |
| Disagree | 191 | 39.1 | 39.1 | 84.4 |
| Strongly Disagree | 76 | 15.6 | 15.6 | 100.0 |
| Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Respondents do not participate in the political electoral processes.

Table No 39: I take part in activities/actions that promote political change.

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid Strongly Agree | 47 | 9.6 | 9.6 | 9.6 |
| Agree | 119 | 24.4 | 24.4 | 34.0 |
| Neutral | 113 | 23.2 | 23.2 | 57.2 |
| Disagree | 153 | 31.4 | 31.4 | 88.5 |
| Strongly Disagree | 56 | 11.5 | 11.5 | 100.0 |
| Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Table No 40: I participate in organizing activities/actions that promote politics.

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid Strongly Agree | 36 | 7.4 | 7.4 | 7.4 |
| Agree | 148 | 30.3 | 30.3 | 37.7 |
| Neutral | 136 | 27.9 | 27.9 | 65.6 |
| Disagree | 125 | 25.6 | 25.6 | 91.2 |
| Strongly Disagree | 43 | 8.8 | 8.8 | 100.0 |
| Total | 488 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

4.3 Data Normality Test

For the purpose of data estimation, common and fundamental assumption is normality (Bai & Ng, 2005). In order to test normality different techniques can be used (Drezner & Turel, 2011) (Drezner & Turel, 2011). Data analysis techniques to be applied also depends upon the data distribution (Wang et al., 2004). Skewness and Kurtosis can be used to test the normality. If data has high value of kurtosis or is highly skewed then data is non-normal (Rindskof & Shikyo, 2010). Data being not normally distributed can affect the process of estimation (Hall & Wang, 2005).

4.4 Skewness and Kurtosis

Skewness and kurtosis are recommended by researchers in order to test the normality (Hair et al., 2010). To measure the symmetrical of the data skewness is used (Rindskof & Shikyo, 2010). Skewness also shows that data is negatively or positively tilted, for this purpose it provides numeric values. On the other hand kurtosis measure to what extent distribution of the data is peaked or flat (Rindskof & Shikyo, 2010). Different criteria are recommended by researchers to employ skewness and kurtosis to

test the normality of the data distribution. The values of skewness and kurtosis should range between +3 and -3 in order to achieve normal distribution of the data (Hair et al., 2013).

Table No 41: Descriptive Statistics

| | N | Mean | Skewness | | Kurtosis | |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|
| | Statistic | Statistic | Statistic | Std. Error | Statistic | Std. Error |
| Political_Trust | 488 | 2.7464 | -.158 | .111 | -.173 | .221 |
| Empowerment | 488 | 2.4484 | .030 | .111 | 2.430 | .221 |
| Political_Participation | 488 | 2.9040 | -.108 | .111 | -.217 | .221 |
| Valid N (listwise) | 488 | | | | | |

Above table shows the results of skewness and kurtosis. All the values of skewness and kurtosis are within the acceptable range.

4.5 Factor Analysis

In order to explore or ratify the structure of latent variables, factor analysis is an important technique (Haier et al., 2010). There are two types of factor analysis; confirmatory factor analysis and exploratory factor analysis. When the purpose is to identify dimensions' exploratory factor analysis is used (Haier et al., 2010). On the other hand, when the purpose is to confirm measurement model with already tested theory confirmatory factor analysis is applied. In the underlying study already test measures have been applied and confirmatory factor analysis is employed. Before the confirmatory factor analysis two assumptions have to be fulfilled, test of Sphericity and sample adequacy. Sample adequacy shows that the adequate number of observations is there to conduct the confirmatory factor analysis, and for this Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) test is used and applied in this research. Its values range between 0 and 1 and close to 1 shows the adequacy of the data (Anastasiadou, 2011). To test the interdependent and correlation of sub-scales test of sphericity is applied (Field, 2010).

Table No 42: KMO and Bartlett's Test

| | | |
|--|--------------------|----------|
| Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy. | | .881 |
| Bartlett's Test of Sphericity | Approx. Chi-Square | 6227.598 |
| | Df | 666 |
| | Sig. | .000 |

Result of KMO and Bartlett's test shows that both the conditions are fulfilled. Value of KMO is greater than the cutoff value of 0.70 (Hair et al., 2010) and Bartlett test has fulfilled the condition of significance level less than 0.05.

4.6 Fitness of the Overall Measurement Model and Validity Test

Finding of measurement model, validity of measures and fitness of measurement model are presented in this section.

Validity shows whether the construct is measuring what is intended by the researcher to measure (Admiral et al., 2011). Construct validity is of two types convergent validity and discriminant validity. Contrastingly, discriminant validity demonstrates the amount to which one measure is not connected with other measures (Sekaran, & Bougie, 2010). Convergent validity assesses the extent to which scales are significantly linked with one another (Malhotra, 2002). There should be a difference between the indicators of each variable and the indicators of all other variables (Sekaran & Bougie, 2010). Confirmatory Factor Analysis and Fit Indices of the Measurement Model

Figure No 2: CFA Test

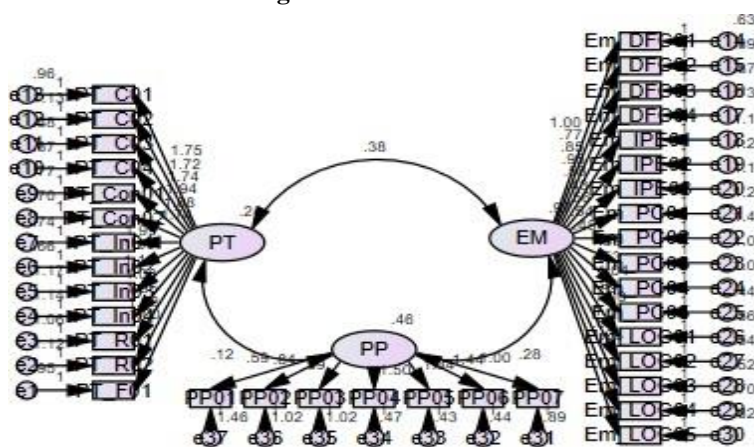


Table No 43: Model Fitness Ratios

| Fit indices | Recommended value | Actual value |
|-------------|-------------------|--------------|
| GFI | ≥ 0.90 | 0.913 |
| RFI | ≥ 0.90 | 0.898 |
| IFI | ≥ 0.90 | 0.964 |
| CFI | ≥ 0.90 | 0.961 |
| TLI | ≥ 0.90 | 0.967 |
| SRMR | ≤ 0.09 | 0.052 |

GFI value of measurement model is 0.900. Value close to one show that the model is fit. RFI's value is .915. IFI's (Incremental Fit Index) value is 0.864. TLI (Tucker-Lewis Index) value is 0.893. CFI's (Comparative Fit Index) value is 0.915 and SRMR is 0.052.

Shah and Goldstein (2006) Reviewed 93 articles which reported the fit indices, which shows the ranges of values reported in the literature of different fit indices. GFI ranges between (0.75,0.99), TLI ranges between (0.73,1.07), CFI ranges between (0.88,1.00), IFI ranges Between (0.88,0.98) and SRMR ranges between (0.01,0.14).

In the current study already tested measured are used, in order to confirm the structure of the factors CFA has been conducted in AMOS. To test the model fit CFA is a theory-driven approach (Schneider et al., 2006) (Graham et al., 2003). To check the model fit different strategies are suggested by researchers. It is better to use the two-indexed strategy rather than one indexed strategy to determine the model fit (Hair et al., 2010; Hu & Bentler, 1999). Two- indexed strategy is used in the current research in order to determine the model fit.

Table No 44: Factor Loading and AVE values

| Construct | Dimensions | Factor Loadings | AVE |
|-----------|-----------------|-----------------|---------|
| | Fairness/Equity | 0.745 | 0.54402 |
| | Reliability | 0.647 | |
| | | 0.841 | |

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Political Trust | Integrity | 0.744 |
| | | 0.665 |
| | | 0.758 |
| | | 0.749 |
| | Concern | 0.712 |
| | | 0.725 |
| | Competence | 0.713 |
| | | 0.673 |
| | | 0.728 |
| | | 0.858 |

| Construct | Dimensions | Factor Loadings | AVE |
|--------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| Empowerment | Desire for Control | 0.579 | 0.515949 |
| | | 0.628 | |
| | | 0.667 | |
| | | 0.774 | |

| | Internal Political Efficacy | 0.875 | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| | | 0.735 | |
| | | 0.549 | |
| | Perceived Competence | 0.624 | |
| | | 0.572 | |
| | | 0.551 | |
| | | 0.763 | |
| | | 0.84 | |
| | Locus of Control | 0.765 | |
| | | 0.809 | |
| | | 0.834 | |
| | | 0.721 | |
| | | 0.792 | |
| Construct | | Factor Loadings | AVE |
| Political Participation | | 0.609 | 0.577344 |
| | | 0.826 | |
| | | 0.809 | |
| | | 0.827 | |
| | | 0.781 | |

| | | |
|--|-------|--|
| | 0.731 | |
| | 0.711 | |

4.7 Convergent Validity

Convergent validity is an assumption of Confirmatory factor analysis, which test the data set on the bases of prior theory (Mueller, 1996). In order to fulfil this assumption factor loading and average variance extracted are used. The value of average variance extracted and factor loading should be greater or equal to 0.50 (Hair et al., 2010). Values of Factor loadings and average variance extracted are well within the recommended range in the current research.

Discriminant Validity

Other form of validity to be fulfilled in confirmatory factor analysis is discriminant validity, which test the extent to which a construct is different from other construct (Malhotra & Birks, 2007). In this validity square root of AVE of a construct is compared with the paired correlation (Bove et al., 2009, p. 702), the value of square root of AVE must be greater than the values of squared multiple correlations (Hair et al., 2010). In current research value of square root of AVE is greater than the squared correlation.

Reliability of the Measures

Internal consistency of the data is called as reliability of the data, which means the ability of the measure to produce results over time (Admiral et al., 2010). Cronbach Alpha is used to check the reliability of the measure. The value of Cronbach Alpha ranges from 1 to 0, the value of 0.70 or greater is considered for the data to be reliable (Nunnally & Bernstein, 1994). In the current research values of Cronbach Alpha for each construct is within the acceptable range.

Table No 45: Reliability Statistics

| Variable Name | Cronbach's Alpha | N of Items |
|--------------------------------|------------------|------------|
| Empowerment | .783 | 17 |
| Political Trust | .741 | 13 |
| Political Participation | .847 | 7 |

4.8 Correlation

Table No 46: Correlations

| | | Political Participation | Political Trust | Empowerment |
|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Political Participation | Pearson Correlation | 1 | .206** | .264** |
| | Sig. (2-tailed) | | .000 | .000 |
| | N | 488 | 488 | 488 |
| Political Trust | Pearson Correlation | .206** | 1 | .295** |
| | Sig. (2-tailed) | .000 | | .000 |
| | N | 488 | 488 | 488 |
| Empowerment | Pearson Correlation | .264** | .295** | 1 |
| | Sig. (2-tailed) | .000 | .000 | |
| | N | 488 | 488 | 488 |

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

The value of AVE should be greater than .50 (Bagozzi & Yi, 1988). The analysis of convergent and discriminant validity which indicates that it lies above the .50 it range from 0.515949 to 0.577344 and the value of correlation ranges between 0.206 to 0.264 which shows that the condition of discriminant validity is also fulfilled.

4.8 Test of Hypotheses

Table No 49: Test of Hypotheses

| | | | Estimate | S.E. | C.R. | P | Label |
|-------------------------|------|-------------|----------|------|-------|-----|-------|
| Political_Participation | <--- | Empowerment | .661 | .211 | 5.382 | *** | par_1 |

Above tables shows that empowerment has positive and significant impact on Political participation of women. With estimate 0.661 and P value is within acceptable range. The hypothesis suggests that empowerment has a positive and significant impact on the political participation of women. This discussion explores the various dimensions of empowerment and its relationship with political participation, highlighting the evidence that supports this hypothesis. Empowerment refers to the process of enabling individuals, in this case, women, to gain control over their lives, make decisions, and actively participate in society. Political participation encompasses activities such as voting, running for office, joining political parties or organizations, and engaging in political campaigns. Empowerment acts as a catalyst for political participation by providing women with the necessary tools, resources, and confidence to engage in political processes. Empowerment enhances women's agency, which is their ability to make independent choices and take action. When women feel empowered, they develop a sense of self-efficacy, believing that their actions can bring about change. This increased agency and self-efficacy

motivate women to participate in political activities and seek leadership roles. By empowering women, societies create an environment where women feel empowered to contribute to political decision-making processes. Empowerment helps women overcome barriers and challenges that restrict their political participation. It addresses gendered norms and biases that limit women's access to political opportunities. Empowering women includes providing education, training, and mentorship programs that build their knowledge and skills necessary for political engagement. By empowering women to challenge societal norms and expectations, they can actively participate in politics without fear of discrimination or marginalization. Empowerment fosters the creation of networks and alliances among women in politics. When women are empowered, they can connect with like-minded individuals, share experiences, and collectively advocate for their interests. These networks provide support, encouragement, and information-sharing, which further enhances women's political

participation. Empowered women can collaborate and form coalitions to amplify their voices and influence policy decisions. Empowerment enables women to shape policy agendas and prioritize issues that directly affect women's lives. When empowered women are involved in political decision-making, they bring diverse perspectives and experiences, leading to the inclusion of women-centric policies. Empowerment ensures that women's concerns, such as gender equality, reproductive rights, and violence against women, are given due attention, thereby increasing women's political participation. The relationship between empowerment and political participation is cyclical and reinforces itself. As women become more politically engaged and participate in decision-making processes, their empowerment further strengthens. Their experiences in politics provide them with additional knowledge, skills, and networks, further enhancing their empowerment. This positive feedback loop contributes to sustained political participation among women.

Table No 50: Test of Hypotheses

| | | | Estimate | S.E. | C.R. | P | Label |
|-------------------------|------|-----------------|----------|------|-------|-----|-------|
| Political_Participation | <--- | Political_Trust | .553 | .173 | 3.625 | *** | par_2 |

Political trust refers to the belief and confidence that individuals have in political institutions, leaders, and processes. It encompasses trust in government, political parties, elected representatives, and the overall democratic system. When individuals trust the political system, they are more likely to engage in political activities, including voting, joining political organizations, and participating in political campaigns. Political trust creates an enabling environment for women's political participation. Political trust contributes to building confidence and political efficacy among women. When women trust political institutions, they are more likely to believe that their political engagement can make a difference. Trust in the system instills a sense of efficacy, empowering women to actively participate in politics, voice their concerns, and seek

leadership roles. Political trust provides women with the belief that their participation will be meaningful and impactful. Political trust helps overcome barriers and challenges that discourage women's political participation. In many societies, women face unique obstacles, including discrimination, marginalization, and gender biases. However, when there is a high level of political trust, women are more likely to navigate these barriers

and engage in political activities. Trust in the political system reduces skepticism, cynicism, and mistrust that may discourage women from participating in politics. Political trust is closely linked to the perceived legitimacy and inclusiveness of political processes. When women trust that political institutions are inclusive and represent their interests, they are more likely to participate. Trust in the system is reinforced when women see their concerns being addressed, policies being formulated in a fair and inclusive manner, and their voices being heard. This perceived legitimacy and inclusiveness encourage women to actively engage in politics. Political trust plays a crucial role in mobilizing women for collective action and political participation. When women have trust in political institutions, they are more likely to respond to calls for participation, engage in social movements, and join campaigns focused on women's rights and gender equality. Trust provides a sense of security and assurance that their efforts will yield positive outcomes, leading to increased political participation among women. The relationship between political trust and political participation is reciprocal and reinforcing. As women actively participate in politics, their trust in the system increases. They witness the impact of their actions, observe positive changes, and develop stronger trust in political institutions. This positive feedback loop between political trust and participation creates a virtuous cycle that encourages sustained engagement among women. The hypothesis that political trust has a positive and significant impact on the political participation of women is supported by various factors. Trust in political institutions and processes creates an enabling environment for women's political engagement. It builds confidence, overcomes barriers, fosters inclusiveness, and mobilizes women for collective action. Trust in the system reinforces women's political participation and contributes to the overall strengthening of democratic governance. Efforts to enhance political trust among women can lead to greater participation, representation, and empowerment of women in politics.

Table No 51: Test of Hypotheses

| | | Estimate | S.E. | C.R. | P | Label |
|-------------------------|------------------|----------|------|--------|------|-------|
| Political_Participation | <--- Interaction | -.653 | .071 | -2.853 | .004 | par_3 |

The hypothesis suggests that the interaction between political empowerment and political trust has a negative and significant impact on the political participation of women. This discussion explores the relationship between these two factors and their combined effect on women's political participation, highlighting the factors that support this hypothesis. Political empowerment involves initiatives aimed at increasing women's representation and influence in political decision-making, while political trust refers to the confidence and belief individuals have in political institutions, leaders,



and processes. The interaction between these factors can shape women's political participation. The negative impact of the interaction between political empowerment and political trust on women's political participation may result from inertia and a reliance on existing political structures. When women have high levels of political empowerment and trust in the system, they may be more inclined to maintain the status quo and rely on established political institutions and leaders. This can lead to a reduced motivation for active political participation, potentially limiting their engagement. Women may become less inclined to question or challenge the actions or decisions of political institutions and leaders. This lack of critical assessment can limit the depth of their political engagement, impeding their active participation and potentially hindering the advancement of their interests and concerns. The combination of political empowerment and high levels of political trust can also lead to complacency and reduced motivation for women to engage in political activities. If women believe that the existing system adequately represents their interests and addresses their concerns, they may be less motivated to actively participate, assuming that their empowerment has already been achieved. This complacency can dampen their political participation despite being politically empowered. Political empowerment often involves mobilizing women at the grassroots level and encouraging their active involvement in political processes. However, the interaction with high political trust can diminish the drive for grassroots mobilization. When women trust existing political institutions and leaders, they may rely more on top-down approaches, diminishing the importance of grassroots movements and reducing the broader-based engagement of women. The impact of the interaction between political empowerment and political trust on women's political participation may vary depending on contextual factors. Cultural norms, institutional structures, historical context, and the specific sociopolitical environment can influence the relationship between these factors. It is essential to consider these contextual factors to gain a more nuanced understanding of how the interaction affects women's political participation.

5. Conclusion

Empowering women is not only important for household activities but also complete development of nations. It has been also the central and focused point of many countries. Women political empowerment is the need of the hour. With the political empowerment they can challenge the existing powerful social and governance structure and ideologies. Political empowerment of women helps to decentralize the power to deprived and oppressed. It provides with the power to the persons who have no say in the decision making and policy formulation and implementation. Empowering of women politically will not only be beneficial for the betterment of the women but also for the betterment of the country as a whole. In reality women are politically backward

and gender discrimination is common. Trust on the political system is a vital for participation in politics, and in Pakistan, women do not trust political system much, which is the biggest factor of less political participation of the women. Empowering women do encourage women to participate in politics but lack of trust on political system hinders them to participate in politics. In this research it is seen that empowering women can enhance their political participation and can make them an important part for the progress of Pakistan, but political trust negatively moderates the relationship between empowerment and political participation of the women. It means political trust should also be much focused and steps should be taken to improve it. As women have not much resources to actively participate in politics, and lack of awareness is also a constraint. Women are deprived economically and do not have much sources to information, in this regard social media can play an important role. Women can be made realize about the importance of the participation in politics. They can be provided with platforms on social media to make them aware and also to build their trust on political system.

6. References

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