



Empirical Investigation of Multi-dimensional Gender Inequality in Pakistan: a Case Study of Punjab

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Abstract

Developing nations, having economies in juvenile stage, are facing internal problems along with challenging issues on international level. Gender inequality is one of the critical subjects among those many problems. It refers to hidden disparity among individuals. A quite common phenomenon faced all around the globe, Pakistan is facing this problem in all aspects of life. It include but not limited to inequalities in paying rewards to labors, overall working conditions of labor market and provision of necessities (food, education and health). Theses all issues emerge due to unequal resource distribution during the phase of policy fabrication. Current study was designed to examine the gender status in Punjab province of Pakistan covering aspects like education, labor force participation and health sector. Secondary data was collected from Punjab Statistics Development, Federal Bureau of Statistics and other private and public organizations. Literacy rate was taken as output variable whereas, input variables included; infant mortality male-female ratio, male-female school enrolment ratio and male-female labor force participation ratio. Co-integration was exercised to conduct analysis. Results showed that there is gender biasness in literacy rate, labor force participation rate and enrollment ratio. Gender biasness is more in rural areas than urban areas. In addition to this, there is a positive relationship between literacy rate, primary school teachers, primary enrollment and labor force participation rate whereas a negative relationship exist between literacy rate and infant mortality rate.

Keywords: Gender inequality; Punjab; case study; multidimensional.