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Large-scale government cash transfer programs have become an important element of social protection and poverty reduction strategies throughout the developing world. Pakistan is no exception; in 2008, Pakistan established the Benazir Income Support Program (BISP) as an unconditional cash transfer targeted at the poorest of the poor. The primary goal of the BISP program is to provide the poorest households in Pakistan with unconditional transfers in order to improve their consumption and investments in children. To attain this goal, it is believed important that the transfers are provided directly to women to ensure the funds are spent as intended. Beyond changes in consumption and investment, directing these transfers to women can also serve to empower women by increasing household resources under their control. We analyze the impacts of Pakistan's BISP program on women's decision-making power within households using data collected between 2011 and 2013 as

the program was rolling out. Using fuzzy regression discontinuity methods to statistically identify impacts, the BISP transfer is found to have substantial, positive impacts on some variables measuring women's decision-making power and empowerment. In this paper we evaluate the impact of microcredit on indicators of women's empowerment in the urban slums of the Karachi district of Pakistan. A household level instrument that contains information on different dimensions of household decisions: child related, health, social mobility, economic and major household purchase decisions was specifically designed and implemented to explore the link between microcredit and women's empowerment. After controlling for endogeneity in our estimation by using proxies for initial levels of empowerment, matching the controls and treated units on observable characteristics and finally instrument for the treatment, this paper finds no difference between the level of empowerment of treated and control units. Participation in the microcredit program is found to be insignificant in explaining all the outcome indicators of empowerment for the sampled households. This study attempts to measure and analyse linkages between women empowerment and resilience to floods in rural Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan. I first derive a measure of resilience and women empowerment using indices. Next, econometric regression models are run and potential interlinkages between the two are tested. Results appear to indicate that the proportion of literate women in a household and education of the household head plays a significant role in empowering women, whereas access to basic amenities, occupation and health status of the household head significantly contribute in increasing the resilience of the household. Lastly, the extent of women empowerment seems to enhance resilience of a household, but not conversely. The condition of women in Pakistan in general has been terribly adverse since the creation of the country, more than 60 years ago. Their plight has not got any better today and they are still considered third rate citizens. The

situation has reached a stage that many women have come to accept this and do not even think of being considered at par with the men in a predominantly male chauvinistic society. Gender differences have been widely observed among developing countries whenever it comes to investigate the position of women on research grounds. Therefore, in current research, the relationship between employment and empowerment is being focused generally and particular attention is paid to the individual's ability to approach job opportunities and working environment at the communal level. Moreover, women's access toward resources and contribution level to the accumulated family earnings within the family units is also observed. The study used primary source of data of 500 households which was collected from four districts of Punjab, Pakistan through a multistage random sampling technique. In this study, four indicators have been chosen in order to measure women empowerment and hierarchical multiple regression was applied to have a look at multiple professions and groupings of empowerment. The findings indicated that women in particularly few professions hold the higher chance of getting empowered, in addition, those particular professional attributes seem interconnected by some of the empowerment indicators. Moreover, the study is meant to foster the debate to improve women empowerment through establishing new job market which provides more opportunities to women especially in the rural areas, which is the most neglected part in developing countries. Papers presented at the Scoping Workshop of the South Asia Hub of the Women's Empowerment Programme sponsored by BRAC University, held from August 18-21, 2006 in Dhaka. Despite recent advances in important aspects of the lives of girls and women, pervasive challenges remain. These challenges reflect widespread deprivations and constraints and include epidemic levels of gender-based violence and discriminatory laws and norms that prevent women from owning property, being

educated, and making meaningful decisions about their own lives—such as whether and when to marry or have children. These often violate their most basic rights and are magnified and multiplied by poverty and lack of education. This groundbreaking book distills vast data and hundreds of studies to shed new light on deprivations and constraints facing the voice and agency of women and girls worldwide, and on the associated costs for individuals, families, communities, and global development. The volume presents major new findings about the patterns of constraints and overlapping deprivations and focuses on several areas key to women's empowerment: freedom from violence, sexual and reproductive health and rights, ownership of land and housing, and voice and collective action. It highlights promising reforms and interventions from around the world and lays out an urgent agenda for governments, civil society, development agencies, and other stakeholders, including a call for greater investment in data and knowledge to benchmark progress. It is a socio-legal study about law, empowerment and access to justice for women domestic workers in Pakistan. This study advances the argument that women's lives are shaped by sharp gender and socio-economic disparities leading to unequal power relations vis-a-vis their employers, state and society. Access to justice through formal legal system is very often contingent upon the socio-economic position of the users. Women in domestic service have to negotiate the barriers of poverty and inequality before being able to employ the law as their ally. To analyse the efficacy of formal law as an effective measure for achieving justice for women domestic workers, a small empirical component is also included in the study. These responses from the field open an often closed window into the hidden lives of those who work in the privacy of other households. The voices and experiences of women domestic workers service expose various aspects of domestic service carried out in the privacy of homes. These lived realities also highlight that despite being poor, illiterate and

having no means to recourse justice domestic workers can still not be called as passive victims because in their own ways they resist against oppressive forces and struggle hard for the sake of their families. The study finally argues that in the presence of plural legal frameworks, formal law alone cannot empower women in domestic service. Therefore for an effective implementation of law it is equally pertinent to look into other non-legal strategies so that access to justice can be made possible for these women. It is also essential to study the success of technology use in some of the advanced nations in the Asian region that promote a smarter and well-advanced community. A smarter community in these regions can only be materialized by adopting the latest trends in technology to improve quality of life. Some of these regions need a great emphasis on technology adoption for women empowerment and safety, promoting better health with telemedicine facilities, environment, and disaster prevention with IoT technologies, water treatment and sanitation, and addressing food scarcity issues with smarter precision agriculture. Ultimately, there needs to be more research focused on a smarter and secured community in the Asian region in terms of cultural and socioeconomic factors and technology advancements. ICT Solutions for Improving Smart Communities in Asia explores new possibilities using digital solutions and technologies to create collaborative and smarter communities for advancement in agriculture, the health sector, education centers, human resources, and administrative domains, as well as other areas to improve the overall living standards of people at the community level. This book will cover two main areas: the need for technology development in developing nations, mainly focusing on Asia, and the adoption of some of the advanced regions in Asia as role models for the less developed SAARC regions explicitly. This book is ideally intended for researchers, academicians, IT specialists, regional developers, government officials, practitioners, academicians, and students. Extrait du

résumé . "This paper presents the findings of two national surveys completed in Nepal and Pakistan on women entrepreneurs who are micro-finance clients. It documents and analyses the impact of micro-finance and microenterprise development on the economic and possible social empowerment of women in the two countries, highlighting differences and similarities. The main factors determining the level of women's economic and social empowerment in a country are its cultural and legal environment, and national policy on women's rights and poverty alleviation. Initiatives organized by micro-finance institutions for the provision of financial services and for policy and legal reform are key elements for achieving greater economic and social empowerment. This paper emphasizes the role of micro-finance and microenterprises development in improving the status of women entrepreneurs in Nepal and Pakistan. To state that this type of development can bring about a complete social change may be somewhat unrealistic. However, the findings reported show that micro-finance and microenterprises development may serve as a catalyst towards social change and improve the political and social status of women." This book analyzes the impact of 33% quota for women in local government on women empowerment in Pakistan. Examining the advances made and hurdles faced by women councillors, certain obstacles are identified, which help explain why efforts for mainstreaming gender are not changing gender inequality patterns and reducing gender gaps in Pakistan. Future strategies are proposed for enhancing the impact of women's political participation on women empowerment by institutional transformation. Research Paper (postgraduate) from the year 2014 in the subject Politics - International Politics - Region: South Asia, , course: PhD, language: English, abstract: The importance of political empowerment, political participation and mobilization of women in the Democratic Government are much realized in the world and in Pakistan. Women are more than 50% part of the Pakistan's

population that is not being utilized in the national development due to social norms, their low skill, less education and less empowerment in the arena of politics. Any democratic system cannot be successful with just 50% of the population while the other 50% is marginalized. The traditional norms about women's activities as noted by different theorists have been remained generation to generation unquestioningly. The general statement in Pakistan is that the political activities belong to the "Public Sphere" and women by nature belong to the "Private Sphere" and "Politics" is something unfamiliar to their nature. This study will explore the underlying restrictions which have hampered the growth of equal opportunities for women to play their role as an active agent of society. In this paper we evaluate the impact of microcredit on indicators of women's empowerment in the urban slums of the Lahore district of Pakistan. A household level instrument that contains information on different dimensions of household decisions: child related, health, social mobility, economic and major household purchase decisions was specifically designed and implemented to explore the link between microcredit and women's empowerment. After controlling for endogeneity in our estimation by using proxies for initial levels of empowerment, matching the controls and treated units on observable characteristics and finally instrumenting for the treatment, this paper finds no difference between the level of empowerment of treated and control units. Participation in the microcredit program is found to be insignificant in explaining all the outcome indicators of empowerment for the sampled households. This Volume Deals Primarily With The Experience Of Partition Refugees In Pakistan. Issues Like Partition Carnage, Pangs Of Displacement, The Challenges Of Resettlement And The Deliberate Policy Of The State And Ruling Elites To Disempower The Muhajirs And Their Reassertion As A Political Force Constitute Some Of The Major Areas Of Concern For This Study. The Meteoric Rise Of The Mqm As A Political Power An D Its

Campaigns Against Feudalism, Sardari System, Intelligence Agencies, As Well As Terrorism And Religious Parties Have Been Dealt With In This Work. Using three case studies, the United Kingdom, Poland, and Pakistan, Rincker shows how decentralization reforms lead to women's empowerment create new institutional offices as power shifts from the national level to a meso-tier level, which is located between the national government and local municipalities. She indicates that three conditions, "the gender policy trifecta," need to be met to achieve this: legislative gender quotas, women's policy agencies, and gender-responsive budgeting. This article empirically investigates whether women's access to economic resources acts as a risk factor or protective factor for spousal (emotional and physical) violence against them, particularly in the case of Pakistan. Using data from Pakistan Demographic and Health Survey (PDHS) 2012 to 2013, we employed logistic regression to investigate this relationship between women's access to economic resources and spousal violence against them by using two indicators: (a) whether she earns money in cash and/or in-kind and (b) whether she owns property. The results indicate that women who earn in cash and/or in-kind face greater violence. Education can reduce the violence against women and family history of violence contributes positively for greater violence. Result also confirms existence of regional disparity in this regard. Based on findings of this study we provide policy suggestions to mitigate the issue of spousal violence against women. The present study was undertaken to highlight the gender disparities of Pakistan as well as at regional and international level. The study, measured the comparative outcome of formal and non-formal system of education in Pakistan. To achieve the desired goal, documentary analysis was considered appropriate. The number of schools and enrollment during the years 2001 to 2004 of the formal system for primary, middle and high level was considered and enrollment during the year 198-1999 and 2004 for Secondary School

Certificate to Ph.D level of non-formal system was considered. Data was analyzed in term of percentage and average. It was found that enrollment of female is less than male in formal system while enrollment of female is higher than male in non-formal system of education in Pakistan. (Contains 16 tables.). In recent years, technology has permeated every aspect of daily life and has drastically increased accessibility and empowerment for all demographics. Smart technologies and mobile applications now have the ability to promote and protect the basic rights of children, women, and men alike. A child's right to education and mental growth or a woman's socio-economic stability and protection from physical, sexual, and emotional abuse can all be attributed to these advancements. Mobile Devices and Smart Gadgets in Human Rights provides emerging research exploring the theoretical and practical applications of technology in relation to human ethical treatment and interactions. Featuring coverage on a broad range of topics such as public safety, augmented reality, and safety apps, this book is ideally designed for researchers, students, activists, academicians, policymakers, and government officials seeking current research on the influence of portable technologies in human rights and ethics. This Chapter explores the history of women's subordination in Pakistan, tracing back to colonial legacies in the Indian subcontinent. It argues that freedom movement uprooted local identity and artificially constructed a new Muslim identity that has further the lower status accorded to women in Pakistan. It examines women's rights through various discourses of class and patriarchy and determination of women's status. Author's abstract: Pakistan fought and gained its' independence from British rule in 1947, yet women in rural areas are still suffering from a patriarchal and patrilineal society. Women such as myself who come from or currently reside in the metropolitan cities in and around Pakistan have access to attaining money, and education. Whereas unfortunately, women in more rural areas face extreme inequality

and prejudice due to their gender and Pakistan's current views on women's rights. I believe no nation can progress as a whole unless women of the country are treated equally and given the same opportunities as men. To do this, Pakistani women must play a significant role in the societies development. In my recent travels back to Pakistan, I encountered women from rural areas and was disappointed to see basic rights such as the right to education, and the right to make decisions was denied regularly. Despite the hard work and creativity exhibited by the women in creating handicrafts such as Rilli, Ajrak, and Embroidery to support their families, they lack respect, value, and importance compared to men. In this thesis, I would like to examine and appreciate the creative work of Pakistan's women despite the challenges they face daily. Pakistan's women are no less important than those in other countries, and it is my intention in this thesis as a Pakistani woman, to recognize their work through graphic design initiatives in an effort to empower and support change. Due to the lack of public information regarding Pakistani women's handicrafts, I decided to make a documentary to share the day-to-day life of women with those outside Pakistan. This documentary showcases my research as well as my personal experiences from traveling to Pakistan. It is my intention that this documentary will campaign for women's rights, promote their art, and generate a more global awareness of the creativity and skill within the small towns and villages of my homeland The main objective of the present study was to check out the association between the level of education and women empowerment among rural women in rural areas of District Gujrat, Pakistan. ... [Description of data collection and analysis methods] ... Major findings of the study showed that there is an association between level of education and women empowerment. A fearless memoir about tribal life in Pakistan—and the act of violence that inspired one ambitious young woman to pursue a life of activism and female empowerment “Khalida Brohi understands the true nature

of honor. She is fearless in her pursuit of justice and equality.”—Malala Yousafzai, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize

From a young age, Khalida Brohi was raised to believe in the sanctity of arranged marriage. Her mother was forced to marry a thirteen-year-old boy when she was only nine; Khalida herself was promised as a bride before she was even born. But her father refused to let her become a child bride. He was a man who believed in education, not just for himself but for his daughters, and Khalida grew up thinking she would become the first female doctor in her small village. Khalida thought her life was proceeding on an unusual track for a woman of her circumstances, but one whose path was orderly and straightforward. Everything shifted for Khalida when she found out that her beloved cousin had been murdered by her uncle in a tradition known as “honor killing.” Her cousin’s crime? She had fallen in love with a man who was not her betrothed. This moment ignited the spark in Khalida Brohi that inspired a globe-spanning career as an activist, beginning at the age of sixteen. From a tiny cement-roofed room in Karachi where she was allowed ten minutes of computer use per day, Brohi started a Facebook campaign that went viral. From there, she created a foundation focused on empowering the lives of women in rural communities through education and employment opportunities, while crucially working to change the minds of their male partners, fathers, and brothers. This book is the story of how Brohi, while only a girl herself, shone her light on the women and girls of Pakistan, despite the hurdles and threats she faced along the way. And ultimately, she learned that the only way to eradicate the parts of a culture she despised was to fully embrace the parts of it that she loved. Praise for *I Should Have Honor* “Khalida Brohi’s moving story is a testament to what is possible no matter the odds. In her courageous activism and now in *I Should Have Honor*, Khalida gives a voice to the women and girls who are denied their own by society. This book is a true act of

honor.”—Sheryl Sandberg, COO of Facebook and founder of LeanIn.Org and OptionB.Org The separation between Pakistan and India in 1947 was a direct result of the struggle between two different religious groups in the region; Hindus, and Muslims. Of all the provinces split, Punjab was the only one province that was split between the two nations. This division caused one of the biggest migrations in history, affecting about 10 million people.¹ People left behind their homes, their lives, and beloved religious buildings to start fresh in a new, unknown land. This intermingling of people at the time of the partition, resulted in a displaced variety of cultural and religious practices. To this day, Punjab's rural population suffers from caste system marriages, female infanticide, and oppression of women, including a lack of educational opportunities for females. Many rural families believe that if their women are educated, social risk can rise. In some cases, these ancient cultural traditions are mistakenly thought to be religious obligations. 77.1% of Kasur district's population lives in rural areas and 47.64% of Kasur's population is female.² Of the rural female population, only 32.7% are literate, compared to 55.2% of the males.³ More than half of the female population in Kasur is thus deprived of an education as a result, and many are married at a young age with expectations to start a family. These young women cannot read or write the language they speak, and many become victims of domestic violence. A design for a skill development institution is suggested to address the social, cultural and economical challenges faced by the impoverished female population of rural Punjab, Pakistan. The proposal is situated in the town of Kasur with a program aimed at teaching independence. Pakistan performs poorly with respect to gender equality, women's empowerment, and other gender-related indicators. Few studies in Pakistan measure the multiple dimensions of empowerment along which women are marginalized or disenfranchised, particularly in the country's rural areas. Even fewer studies address the gender gaps in

empowerment levels of men and women. This paper calculates a Women's Disempowerment Index to examine women's control over production, resources, income, household decisions, and time burden. The index is based on a slightly modified methodology than that used for WEAI calculation by Alkire et al. (2012). The analysis is based on a sample of 2,090 households in the rural areas of Pakistan. Data used for the study were collected in three rounds of the Pakistan Rural Household Panel Survey from 2012-2014 by International Food Policy Research Institute/ Innovative Development Strategies for its Pakistan Strategy Support Program. The results show low empowerment levels of only 17 percent for women in the rural areas of Pakistan. The results also show very low empowerment of women in all indicators and domains except the time burden/workload indicator. We then analyze women's disempowerment by subsamples based on individual and household characteristics. We also calculate disempowerment levels among men and compare it to disempowerment levels among women. Comparison within the household reveals large disparities in empowerment levels among men and women. In a comparative analysis, men are found to be more empowered in domains of production, income, and autonomy. Both men and women were found to be most disempowered in access to and control over resources. The paper provides a baseline for tracking women's empowerment over time and identifies areas that need to be strengthened through policy interventions. The economic and political empowerment of women continues to be a central focus for development agencies worldwide; access to medical care, education and employment, as well as women's reproductive rights remain key factors effecting women's autonomy. Feminisms, Empowerment and Development explores what women are doing to change their own personal circumstances whilst providing an in-depth analysis of collective action and institutionalized mechanisms aimed at changing structural

relations. Drawing on unique, original research and approaching empowerment as a complex process of negotiation, rather than a linear sequence of inputs and outcomes, this crucial collection highlights the difficulty of creating common agendas for the advancement of women's power and rights, and argues for a more nuanced, context-based approach to development theory and practice. An indispensable text for anyone interested in gender and development, this book shows that policies and approaches to development that view women as instrumental to other objectives will never promote women's empowerment as they fail to address the structures by which gender inequality is perpetuated over time. This book grounds the education of women and girls in the realities of their lives and experience in diverse areas of the developing world. The case studies range from the Arakambut of Peru to the changing experience of racialized education in South Africa. The contributors take issue with the World Bank's view that the education of girls and women is important primarily as a cost-effective mechanism for making women more economically productive. This book is for those who are concerned with the deteriorating situation of women in Pakistan and wish to obtain an overview of the legal and practical changes which have been introduced to improve their condition. A critical analysis of the continuous and increasing misinterpretations of the principles of Islam through legal acceptance is presented. Several references to laws which have been recently changed and have an effect on women's lives have been added, including alterations to the Criminal Procedure Code 1898 and Pakistan Penal Code 1860, such as the introduction of the death penalty for gang-rape. There are a variety of contexts in which the empowerment of women in Pakistan can be considered, but none is more critical than law: how women's legal rights are framed is fundamental to considering how best to advance women's empowerment. After situating women's legal rights in Pakistan, this report reviews key features of recent legislation affecting women's rights, explores

the controversies surrounding this legislation, and elaborates on ongoing challenges to develop further legislation, particularly in light of opposition from Islamist groups. While the legal empowerment of women in Pakistan has seen progress, far more must be done to enable the laws passed to be implemented, bring Pakistan into conformity with the goals and ideals of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), and secure an environment where women in Pakistan have viable choices in their own lives.