

TIME USE ANALYSIS: A GENDRE PERESPECTIVE

Mamata Katual¹

Biswajit Bhoi¹

Abstract:

In the context time use time use by men and women, these shows about the fact that:Time-use surveys record information on how people allocate their time across different day-to-day activities. The surveys involve respondents keeping a diary of their activities over one or several representative days for a given period. Women are mostly engaged in household work activities. These household works are unpaid but not unproductive, because these household works are important for maintaining good health and mind of the family members

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¹ Mamta Katual (Student, MA Economics from 2013-15) and Biswajit Bhoi (Assistant Professor of Economics, Department of Economics , CUO, Koraput)

1.1 Introduction

Time-use surveys record information on how people allocate their time across different day-to-day activities. The surveys involve respondents keeping a diary of their activities over one or several representative days for a given period. This information on daily activities is then re-coded into a set of descriptive categories, so that a 24 hours period (or 1440 minutes) can be “split” into a sequence of “primary” activities in which respondents are involved during a day. Many surveys classify activities into “main” or “primary” activities or as “parallel” or “secondary” activities. This is especially important for the identification of the total time dedicated to childcare since parents often combine the provision of care with other activities, for example, watching TV with their child. The answer as to what is the primary or secondary activity will vary across households and countries (see “comparability and data issues”), which suggests that both primary and secondary activities should be taken into account when assessing time spent with children (time use diaries facilitate recording whether activities involved the presence of other people).

Time use data for primary activities is grouped in six broad categories:

(1) Work-related activities include time spent on jobs at full or part-time and/or at studying, or the time spent looking for work. For working people, it includes main and potential second job. Breaks in the work place, as well as the time spent on commuting to work, to school or university are also included.

(2) Unpaid work includes domestic activities except time exclusively spent to care for a child or another person which is separately identified. Unpaid work includes a large range of home-activities such as chores, cleaning, washing, repair work, or caring for pets etc. and non-home activities such as volunteer work (CO14), shopping, etc.

(3) Care work covers the time spent to care for a child or another adult (regardless of whether that person lives in the household). Care work refers here to the provision of personal care but also the supervision and the education of a child, including reading and talking with children, as well as transporting children. Going together to the cinema, watching television with a child, etc. are considered as primary leisure activities with childcare seems as a secondary activity.

(4) Personal care concerns sleeping (but not taking a nap, see below), eating and drinking, and other household, medical, and personal services (hygiene, visits to the doctor, hairdresser, etc.) consumed by the respondent.

(5) Leisure includes a wide range of indoor and outdoor activities such as walking and hiking, sports, entertainment and cultural activities, socializing with friends and family, volunteering, taking a nap, playing games, watching television, using computers, recreational gardening, etc.

(6) Unspecified time includes all activities not covered elsewhere (use of government services, religious and spiritual activities, sexual activities, time spent filling in time use diaries, etc.)

Recently, however, there is a growing realization that unpaid non market activities are also equally important for human welfare as they contribute significantly to the wellbeing of people. A need is therefore felt to collect information on these activities. However, the conventional data collection tools such as census of population, labour force surveys or enterprise surveys are not capable of providing this information. Time use survey is emerging as a very useful tool in this context as this survey provides detailed information on how individuals spend their time, on a daily or weekly basis, and reveal the details of an individual's daily life with a combination of specificity and comprehensiveness not achieved in any other type of social survey.

Time use surveys can contribute to the understanding of the economy and society in several ways. Time use studies were first used in the early 1900s as a means for analyzing various social phenomena and provided comprehensive information on lifestyles of families and patterns of social life as revealed by the allocation of time among several different human activities. Over the years, however, time use studies are increasingly used for estimating the value of household production, allowing for more objective comparison with the overall value of national production. Though time use surveys are useful to both developed and developing economies in improving their statistics on labour use and national income; there is a difference between the objectives of time use studies in developed and developing economies. In developed countries where official statistics provide fairly reliable information on market oriented. Activities, time use studies are used mainly as a source of information on activities not covered by official statistics, such as leisure, household work, family care etc.

Time use statistics here are used mainly for measuring unpaid activities performed at home, to analyze the relationships between market and domestic labour, and to serve as a basis for quantifying domestic work in monetary terms comparable to production included in national accounts. India is

likely to soon begin an unusual approach to measuring employment that may also better capture women's contribution to employment and the economy.

Yet despite these profound social changes, the male breadwinner /female caregiver model of the 20th century is alive and well in 21st century Australia and many workplace cultures are made in the image of the full-time, male worker unencumbered by care responsibilities. Australian women work around this image and the practices it embeds – while doing around twice as much caring and domestic work as men (Craig, 2005).

1.2 Justification of The Study

The most commonly used measure of economic and social well-being is the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Yet, in recent years there has been increasingly widespread acknowledgement by leading economists of the shortcomings of the GDP as a comprehensive measure of progress. Indeed, as an aggregation of the market value of all goods and services, the GDP was not intended, even by its architects, as a composite index of economic welfare and prosperity. Using GDP levels and growth rates to measure progress takes no account of the value of unpaid work, free time, and natural resource assets. It does not allow policy makers to distinguish the costs and benefits of different economic activities, and it masks changes in income distribution. Such fundamental omissions and limitations render the GDP an inadequate measure of social and economic well-being.

When the GDP is misused in this way, it frequently sends misleading and inaccurate signals to policy makers that can result in the depletion of vital resources and investment in economic activities that carry hidden social and environmental costs. Economic values of parenting, unpaid housework, home food preparation and all forms of volunteer work remain invisible in the economic accounts.

Omitting the value of unpaid work and free time from our measures of progress has important implications for the changing role of women in the economy, who have entered the paid workforce in growing numbers without a corresponding decline in their share of work. Indeed, the main cause of this is the women have experienced an increase in their total work load and an absolute loss of leisure time.

1.3 Review of Literature

Job sharing, compressed workweeks, and flexi place are relatively new work arrangements, so less is known about their uses and outcomes. Flextime has been the focus of relatively more research than other types of alternative work arrangements. Thus, the literature review focuses on the consequences of flextime use and the characteristics of workers who use flextime.

A study on “Gender Differences in Use of Alternative Full-Time Work Arrangements by Married Workers” found that many firms now offer alternative work arrangements to help full-time employees resolve time conflicts between work and family (LS Denna, et al, 2002). The 1997 Current Population Survey supplement on work schedules is used to investigate gender differences in personal, family, and work factors associated with flextime use among married full-time workers. Data collected from a local firm are also used to explore gender differences in flextime and other alternative work arrangements, the reasons behind these choices, and the degree of satisfaction workers have with such schedules. Some gender differences are found in the determinants of flextime use as well as in the reasons employees give for using other alternative work arrangements. Women are more likely to use alternative work schedules to reduce work-family conflict, whereas men are more likely to use them to enhance personal productivity.

Time-use data by Rachel Krantz (2009), show that on average Americans spend more than 20 hours per week working for their own household without pay on tasks that might be done by a paid worker; women spend more time at such unpaid household work American.

Gender Inequalities in Time Use: The Distribution of Caring, Housework and Employment Among Women and Men in Ireland (2005), This report uses data from the Irish National Time-Use Survey conducted in 2005. This nationally representative survey utilizes time-use diaries of nearly 600 households (or 1,089 individuals) to gather information on paid and unpaid labour. Time-use diaries are excellently suited to providing data on time spent on unpaid work. Research participants were asked to complete a diary for two days: one week day and one weekend day. They were asked to indicate what activities they were involved in for each 15 minute period throughout the two days. Through this it became possible to gain valuable insights into the distribution of time spent on paid and unpaid labour in Ireland.

Comparing the findings of an exploratory pilot study on time use carried out during 1999-2000 with the official employment statistics for that year, Professor Hirway and her colleague showed that “a time-use survey can provide improved estimates of, and better information on, the workforce in a developing country, particularly capturing women’s participation in informal employment, including subsistence production.”

1.4 Objective of the Study

- To investigate the time spent on unpaid and paid work by men and women and analyse the economic impact of time use.

1.5 Research Question

- Why the measurement of the unpaid house hold work of the women is important?
- Why the participation of woman in the total labour workforce is low ?

1.6 Data Sources and Methodology

This study is based on the primary data. In total 50 samples has been collected from the Koraput urban area. Purposive sampling method has been used to select the samples due to time limitation. For the analysis of data various statistical tools like tables, figures, average, percentage method etc have been used.

4.2 Time Use in Care by Men and Woman

TABLE 4.2.1

CARE DIARY(in average)		
CARE DIARY	Time spend by man (hrs.)	Time spend by woman (hrs.)
Child care	0.5	1.5
Elder care	0.8	1.2
Guide in study to children	0.6	1.8
Baby care	0.4	2.1
Ill-person care	0.9	1.5

Guest care	1.1	1.5
TOTAL	4.3	9.6

Source: Primary data

Table 4.2.1 shows the time use in care by men and women. Taking care of family members and guests is mainly the responsibility of women, though men also contribute their time for family care. Men have some contribution in ill person care and guest care. Child care, baby care and elder care are mostly done by women. It is the responsibility of only women to take care of them. Because most of the women are housewives and family responsibility lies on them. Men are unable to devote much time in these activities because most of the time they remain out of the house for job. The time use in care by men and women is shown in the figure 4.2.1. From the figure it is clear that the involvement of women in this activity is quite significant in comparison to men. So, women get less time for outdoor activities.

4.3 WELL BEING STATUS OF RESPONDENTS

TABLE: 4.2.2

WELL BEING STATUS			
CATEGORY	YES(%)	NO(%)	TOTAL
GOOD HEALTH CONDITION	82	18	100
DIFFICULTY IN PHYSICAL ACTIVITY	28	72	100
FIT FOR HARD WORK	80	20	100
ANY DISEASES	32	68	100

Source: Primary data

Table 4.2.2 shows the well being status of respondents who are mostly women. As majority of respondents are young, they have good health condition and they are fit for hard work without having any difficulty in doing physical activities. But 32% of women suffer from some lifestyle diseases like diabetes, blood pressure, back pain, head ache, body ache etc. Some of the women are suffering from asthma, sinusitis, eosinophilia, rheumatism, arthritis etc. They are not able to

do hard work. Hence in their families men are involved in the household activities. But these types of households are countable. The well being status of women is shown in the figure 4.2.2. From this figure we can get a clear idea about the health condition of women in our survey area.

4.4 UNPAID WORK ACTIVITY: AVERAGE TIME SPENT BY MAN AND WOMAN

TABLE4.2.3

Category	Hours Spend Man	Hours Spend By Woman
Cooking	1	3.2
Washing	0.8	3.1
Maintaining House	0.5	2.2
Watching TV	1	2.4
Gossiping	1.2	1.8
Talking On Mobile	1	0.7
Internet	1	0.6
Healthcare	2.1	1
Total	8.9	15

Source: Primary Survey

Table 4.2.3 shows the time spent on unpaid work activities by men and women. I have taken cooking, washing, maintaining house, watching TV, gossiping, talking on mobile, internet and healthcare as unpaid work in my survey. There are many more unpaid work activities but due to time constraint it was not possible to take all these activities. So I have selected some general activities. From the above table we can clearly see that women devote more time than men in unpaid work activities. Most of their time is spent on cooking and doing household work like washing and maintaining house. The average time spent by women on cooking, washing and maintaining house are 3.2, 3.1 and 2.2 hours per day respectively. Whereas average time spent by men on these activities are 1, 0.8 and 0.5 hours per day respectively which is very low compared to women. But women are spending more time on watching television and gossiping than men. In case of mobile and internet men are ahead of women. On an average men spend 8.9 hours a day where as women spend 15 hours a day in unpaid work activities. Though these works are unpaid but they are productive in the sense that they are essential for day to day life.

These unpaid works are very important for maintaining a good health and mind. Though these works are unpaid they are not unproductive and cannot be neglected. Because women are engaged most of their time in doing such unpaid activities, they are not able to spend more time on outdoor or paid work activities.

4.4 PERCEPTION OF TIME USE BY WOMAN

PERCEPTION OF TIME USE(IN PERCENTAGE)		
Category	Yes	No
Feeling work burden	52	48
Enjoy work	70	30
Feeling shortage of time	67	33
Feeling irritated	48	52
Need help of family members in housework	90	10
Assist family members in work	14	86
Most housework done by woman	98	2
Want job	66	34
Like to do work	88	12
Able to complete work everyday	10	90
Feeling trapped in housework	60	40
Feeling domestic violence	16	84
Get leisure time	80	20
Like homework	60	30

Source: Primary data

Table 4.2.4 shows the perception of time use by women. Whether women are housewives or working women, in 98% of cases the house work is mainly done by them. 90% women need the help of family members for their housework, but only in 14% of families women can get assistance from their family members. 70% women enjoy doing housework because they are housewives but 30% of women are not enjoying housework because of over burden of both housework and job work. 67% feel shortage of time and 52% feel the work burden. 48% women

feel the house work irritating because they are unpaid and time consuming. Only about 10% of women are able to complete their daily routine work and 60% feel trapped in housework. In spite of work pressure 80% women are able to get leisure time. 88% women like to be engaged in work. 60% women are more interested in homework than office work. In spite of work burden 66% women want job for improvement of their socioeconomic standard. About 16% women are facing domestic violence but the rest women take part in decision making and get respect in their families. From the above table we can analyse that the condition of working women are worse than housewives due to overburden of both house work and job work. They have to maintain both housework and job work. They have to make a balance between these two. So they feel shortage of time and irritating due to work pressure. Most of the women like to watch TV in their leisure time. Some of them also like tailoring, weaving, sleeping, gossiping etc. in their leisure time

4.5 TIME USE IN PAID WORK ACTIVITY BY MAN AND WOMAN

TABLE 4.2.5

PAID WORK ACTIVITY IN AVG		
Paid work	Hours spend by man	Hours spend by woman
Govt	8.2	8
Private	9.1	8.5
Business	9.5	5.5
Agriculture	10.1	8.2
TOTAL	36.9	30.2

Source: Primary data

Table 4.2.5 shows the average time use in paid work activities by men and women. Here we have taken mainly four types of paid work activities i.e. govt. job, private job, own business and agricultural activities. From the above table we can see that the average time spent by men and women on govt. job are almost equal i.e., 8.2 for men and 8 for women. In case of private job

there is a slight difference. In case of private job men spend in average 9.1 hours and women spend 8.5 hours per day. If we take into account the time spent in business, it can be seen that the time use by men in this case is almost double in comparison to women i.e., 9.5 hours in case of men and 5.5 hours in case of women on an average. In agricultural activities also men spend more time than women i.e., in average 10.1 hours spent by men where women spend in average 8.2 hours per day. From the above table it can be seen that the total average time spent by men in paid work activities is more than women i.e., 36.9 hours in average in case of men and 30.2 hours in average in case of women. This time use in paid work activities can be illustrated in the figure 4.2.5

4.6 INVOLVEMENT IN HOUSEHOLD WORK BY MAN AND WOMAN

TABLE 4.2.6 HOUSEHOLD WORK

category	Percentage
Man	0
Woman	48
Family Members	8
House Maid	18
Woman & House Maid	26
TOTAL	100

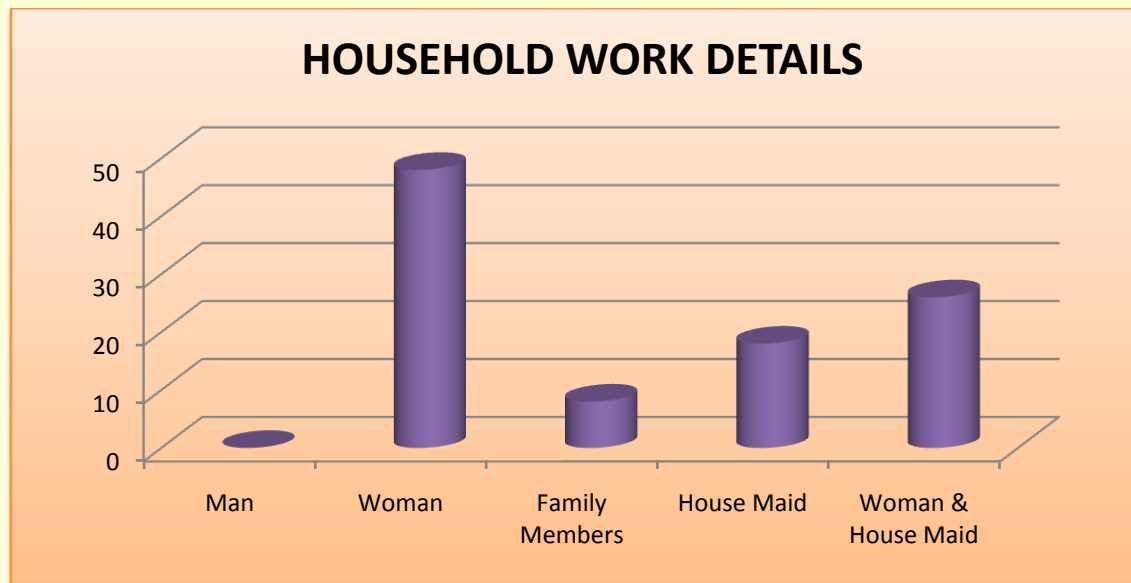
Source: Primary survey

Table 4.2.6 shows time use in household work by men and women. The above table indicates that household work is done only by women. Men are not responsible for household work though in a few cases women are helped by family members. In case of 48% of women household work is done by themselves. In case of 8% of families women are helped by family members in household work. In 18 % of families housework is done by housemaids and in 26 % of families although there are housemaids, women of the families also have to do some of the household works like cooking and child care by themselves. In high income group or in families where women are working the household work is done by housemaids. But the housemaids do only

some selected works like washing utensils, clothes, sweeping and in a few cases cooking. But the rest of the household works are done by women. So whether there is housemaid or not, women have to take the responsibility of household work. The involvement of men and women in household work is shown in figure 4.2.6.

4.6 INVOLVEMENT IN HOUSEHOLD WORK BY MAN AND WOMAN

FIGURE 4.2.6



CONCLUSION

The empowerment of women is of vital issues in the progression and improvement of countries all over the world so also their participation in formal working record system. Koraput district has a magnificent custom of recognizing the significance of empowering women over a number of decades. Time-use surveys record information on how people allocate their time across different day-to-day activities. The surveys involve respondents keeping a diary of their activities over one or several representative days for a given period. Women are mostly engaged in household work activities. These household works are unpaid but not unproductive, because these household works are important for maintaining good health and mind of the family members. It is the woman who takes the responsibility of family members, elders and children.

For this reason women cannot involve themselves more in outdoor activities or job work. The present study attempts to measure these unpaid activities. This study is based on fifty samples collected by a survey. Purposive simple random techniques have been adopted for the survey method. This study found that most of the works done by women are unpaid but productive and not counted in national income. The most work done by women are not in a formalize way.

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