

Life satisfaction of youngest daughters in West Jaintia hills district, Meghalaya

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ABSTRACT

This study explored the Life Satisfaction of the youngest daughters in West Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya. It explored the different experiences encountered by the youngest daughters and the factors that contributed to their different experiences. This study comprised of 30 respondents from age 21 to 60 years. In-depth Interview is used. Findings indicated that most of the youngest daughters are happy and find it helpful for them in their daily life, however some of the individuals faced hard-time experiences with the responsibilities they have to take. The factor led to hard time experiences is because of financial problems and not receiving enough support from the family and for those who are content, it was because their family members are willing to help.

Keywords: *Life Satisfaction, Youngest Daughters, Experiences, Factors Encountered*

According to the data as per provisional census (2012), in West Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya, there are 11 (eleven) districts in which one of the districts is popularly known as the 'Jaintias' or the 'Pnars' and there are other sub tribes like the 'Wars' the 'Bhois' (Karbis), the Hadem of Saitsama area, the Biates of Saipung and the Hmars of Khaddum Village.

Pnar dialect is spoken across the entire district and it serves as a common dialect in communication with the other sub-tribes. West Jaintia Hills District is headquartered at Jowai which is the district's main town. All the important government offices, hospitals, institutions and banks are in Jowai. The total area of the districts is 1693 Sq. kms. The district has a total population of 2, 70,352, of which 1, 34,406 are males and 1, 35,946 females and the density of population is 159.69 per sq.km. Coal mining is one of the main occupations of the people in Jaintia Hills.

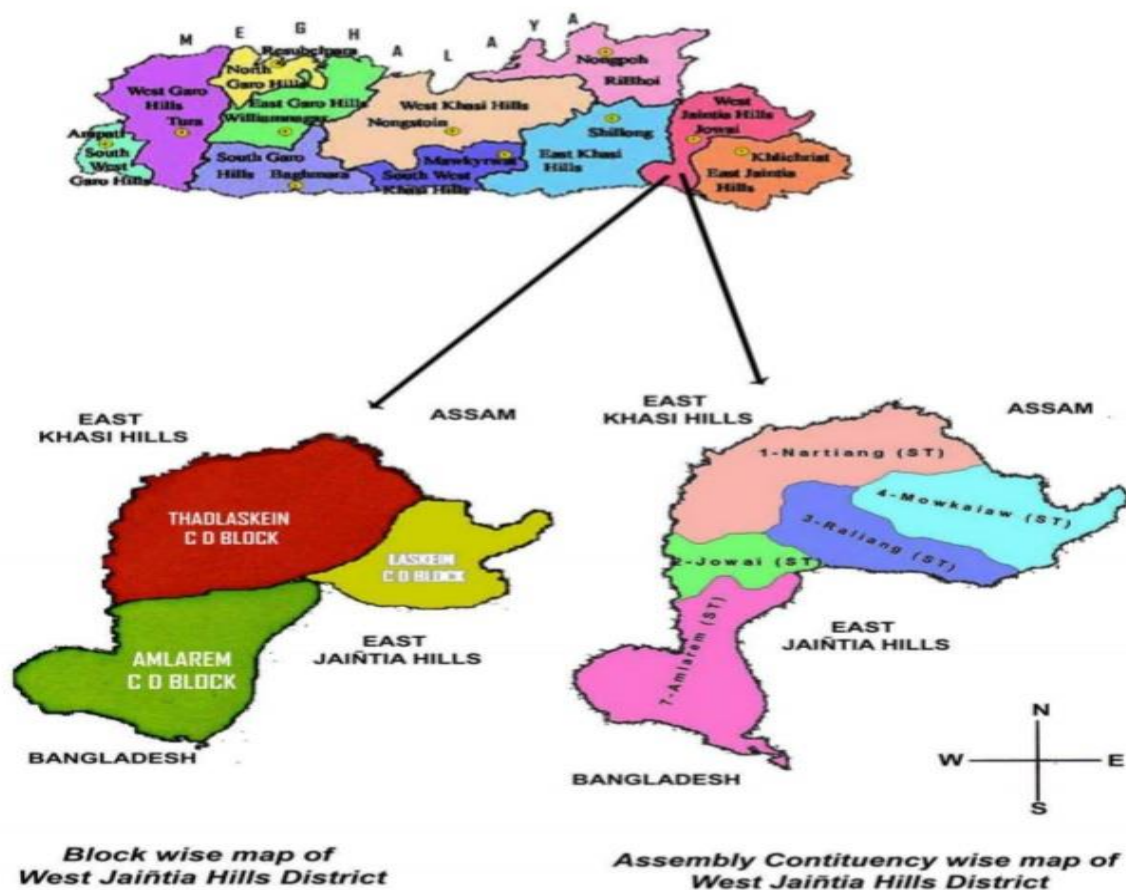
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Women in Indian society

India is one of the countries where female population is less than the proportion of male population. Women have been about half of the population of the country, but their situation has been unpleasant. For centuries, they have been deliberately denied the opportunities for growth in the name of religion and socio-cultural practices. At the social-political plain, women are not getting freedom in their own homes, repression and unnatural indoctrination, an unequal and inferior status, rigid caste hierarchy and even untouchability. Religious traditions and social institutions have deep bearing on the role and status of women. In Indian society, men are more powerful than women and it was women who are victims of male domination in the respective spheres of life, especially in economic life, over decision making on resources, on the utilization of her earnings and her body (Nirola, 2017).

In the past years, women are treated as individuals who need to hold responsibilities only at home, they are basically in charge of the domestic life; they are in charge in taking care of every individual at home and have to follow the rules and regulations according to the demands of their husband. Women did not get any opportunity to be educated as compared to men. They are considered to be undeserving of achieving things as men, as days pass by, the developing world somehow has given women different opportunities to develop themselves and step out of their houses to gain knowledge and get self-empowerment. Hence, as things emerged, society and men change their point of view and started viewing women differently and that they are as equal as men. Families also became broad-minded and started understanding women differently and provide them with opportunities to live their life better and not on the pressured dominance of men. Women are also known to be multitasking people in these present days because women work both inside and outside of

the house, they manage all the household works at home, they take care of their children and everyone at home and also manage to give their best at what they do be it inside or outside of the house. Though cases about women harassment still exist but that has been improved in many areas and also the government has provided many opportunities for women where they can be improved and helped them be better in their daily lives compare to the past years where they held no status and did not have any rights (Desk, 2020).

Role of women in Meghalaya

In Meghalaya, women have certain opportunity and freedom compared to the other countries and women get all the opportunities to be an educated person and to get the chance to participate in making decisions in the family as well as taking part in many organizations, to be involved in the society and get recognized and they are treated equally. Women in Meghalaya do have many responsibilities at home like taking care of everyone at home, doing all the household works but they also managed to involved in many things in the society as well as in their work place (Wahalng, 2015). A study done by Gupta, Choudhury and Das (2013) on discrimination against women in a matrilineal society and the main purpose of this study is to unravel the veracity of the belief that women are not discriminated against in the Khasi society. The study found out that discrimination against women is an inappropriate reality among the Khasi community of Meghalaya. The Composite Gender Index that was constructed indicates that the intensity of discrimination was greater in health and decision making as compared to the other parameters considered in the study. Though women in Meghalaya enjoyed a special place in their society but there is some part where they did not have rights or position like political system and 'Dorbar' which means a meeting in the society or village, which is meant only for men (Kharbhih).

Development of women in Meghalaya

As the world develops, women in Meghalaya also seems to be developed every year, though they still practice their traditional systems but women have improved in many parts of the society, they started being involve in political positions, some women earned economically more than men, there are many women who become the head of the family (Kumar & Nath, 2007). According to Meghalaya human development report (2008), it was found that women in Meghalaya are in better place and women have rights in many aspects in which women lives with full of respect and honour in the society, they are treated equally at home, work place, society, classroom or colleges etc. A study done by Das and Bezbaruah (2011) was to understand the changes that has taken place in over a period of time among the Khasis in Meghalaya and also its relevance to enquire about the direction to which position and status of women are moving with the development of the society. The result was found that the status of women in these societies were improved based on education, income of the female the gap between male, reduction of poverty, termination of physical violence on womenfolk for comprehensive development and progress of the whole societies.

There are certain tribes in Meghalaya with some uniqueness and peculiarities in terms of social and culture values. The Jaintias are one of the unique societies and cultures; the original residents of Jaintia Hills were known as Syntengs and later become Jaintias. It is in the most eastern part of Meghalaya with a unique tradition and cultural diversity. One of their uniqueness is the practice of matrilineal system where they have a traditional marriage that is very distinctive called the 'night visit marriage system' (NVS). In this marital ceremony, the husband comes to his wife's house after dusk and leaves for his mother's house before dawn and maintains this practice (Chakrabarty & Choudhury, 1996). However, in this matrilineal succession, women inherited titles and names from their mothers, and

pass them on to their daughters (Lewis, 2018). Their family consists of a woman, her brother or uncle, and their children, that is, her sons and daughters who are the man's nephews and nieces (Kharkrang, 2012). In Matrilineal system, the uncle played a huge role in his family even when he got married and stayed with his family because the uncle becomes the cultural father to his family till his death, the responsibility and function in the family will be in the hands of uncle but not in the biological father (Kharkrang, 2012). According to Meghalaya human development report (2008) it was found that, in a matrilineal society women have the rights on their children, they have rights on their property and for men they have rights on the property of their sister and niece. For traditional rights and for traditional practice on any ceremonies will be in the hands of the biological men of the family and also taken charge of by them.

Women role in Jaintia

Jaintia society also practice matrilineal systems where the children takes after the surname of the mother and women and in Jaintia women are known as to be a power of force because she played a huge role in supporting her children based on everything about their needs. In Jaintia, most of the educated people are women and there seem to be many of them in schools or colleges compared to boys and the reason could be girls will be at home and boys will have to move out of the house when they grow up (Kharbhih). The Jaintia women are known to be hard working, they contribute in many aspects to the family profits by engaging themselves in different economic activities as well as helping in agriculture trade and most of the women Jaintia are strong physically, mentally and emotionally. In Jaintia society, a high respect for women is accorded, at home women take care of the nursing and rearing of the children, supervision of the domestic activities, attending to the sick aged parents and other relatives in distress, all this is considered to be the duties of the youngest daughter. Though women enjoyed a higher distinct status but yet restrictions were enforced especially in political affairs (Passah & Sarma, 2002). At present, many women are also involved in political affairs and be leaders where many changes and development are taking place. There are also many associations that were formed by women, where they provided help for women in certain areas especially in making them feel powerful, safe and secure in the society.

Role of youngest daughter in Khasi and Jaintia

Khasi and Jaintia are very well known on their unique matrilineal system where the children use their mother's surname, Khasi and Jaintia women have a strong position where they have equal rights in the society. In Khasi and Jaintia, the property of their parents is inherited by the youngest daughter who is known as 'KaKhatduh'. The youngest daughter is weighed down with the responsibility to look after her parents and the entire elderly individuals in the family by providing them their needs and care (Bhaumik, 2013). The youngest daughters played a huge role in Khasi or Jaintia culture and one of the aspects of Khasi or Jaintia matrilineal society that has been most misunderstood, exploited and difficult to understand was "Kakhatduh" (youngest daughter) should be made custodian of the family property and religion of the family identity. The position and status of Kakhatduh is that she is the only custodian of the property, propitiate the family ancestors, however, the management but the decision making will be entirely in the hands of her uncles or her brothers (Kharkrang, 2012). According to the studies of Wahalng (2015) also stated that the traditional inheritance of property will be to the youngest daughter and the practice continue till date which everything about the property will be taken responsibility by the youngest daughter while for other daughters will be given according to the wish of their parents or their youngest sister as a gift. Many questions arise on why 'KaKhatduh' youngest daughter

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the only one who is responsible for the property and not on the other daughters of the family although inheritance can also be according to the will of the parents, but going with the traditional belief, it is a belief that the youngest daughter will live longer and the last person to be at home and she is responsible not only for the property but everything in the family (Kharkrang, 2012).

Differences in matrilineal and patriarchal

There are many differences in matrilineal and patriarchal system in which people played on their role but the main difference among these two systems were in matrilineal system children take the title of their mother and descent membership and siblings shared equal descent membership. Every responsibility is passed through the female and uncle and the uncle will passed through his sister's son. The father of the family did not get authority that belongs to the descent family but the mother's brother will get all the authority. Whereas in patriarchal system, all the authority and descent membership is passed through the males and everything will be passed on from the father of the family to the sons. In patriarchal system male become the leader and the head for the family (Barnard, 2020).

The study done by Gneezy, Leonard, & list (2009) tried to find out the gender differences in competition and the respondents were both from matrilineal and patriarchal societies. The goal of this study is to observe a difference in competitiveness within men and women by using simple experimental task. It was found in the experimental task that they were matched with a participant from the other group who was performing the same task at the same time in another area.

The study done by Machimu and Minde (2010) investigated Rural Girl's educational challenges in Tanzania particularly the matrilineal society (Luguru) where women hold very influential positions in terms of property rights influencing their daily life. Therefore, the study examined the influenced matrilineal system in girl's education. The finding shows numbers of rural girls who are enrolled in secondary schools is increasing and at risk of drop out compared with the boys. Pregnancy, early marriage, also girls mostly engaged in domestic chores noted to be the contributing factors. The study finds out those women in Luguru society needing educated female students because women seem to have a strong authority in term of inheritance.

In many aspects the world has been developed but Meghalaya is still in their strong roots of their practice in matrilineal system but with the advent of Christianity, urbanization and modernization, this system of marriage is losing its ground. The Jaintias refuse to accept that their societies are truly matriarchal. Though descent is reckoned through the female line, yet man is the head of the family but there are some families where the 'kni' Uncle lost the authority and responsibility that he used to have from his family, regular visiting to his family place started vanishing. Men started working and earned for their wives and not for their biological families anymore, the original faith and the traditional practices started to fade away as Christianity takes place. According to Kharkrang, he stated that Jaintia people have more preserved in the customs compared to Khasi people and property is inherited from the mother to the youngest daughter and the youngest daughter has to take the responsibility in the family and women are energetic and hard-working people till date (Kharkrang, 2012).

Advent of Christianity brought a change and transformation in many areas of people beliefs and practices towards their living. People started having new belief systems and faith and it

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breaks the unity in many aspects but the advent of Christianity also help people improved their way of living and people improved in education and have more knowledge on their living. Although many people believed on the change of Christianity where people started living a new life and updated themselves in many areas but there are still some people who they called 'Niemtre or Niem-Khasi' who has a strong believed and practice in their traditional way of living.

Life satisfaction

Life satisfaction is a multidimensional concept related to psychological and environmental life condition. Life satisfaction in general applied to the pleasure that an individual gets from his/her life. It is measurement of well-being assessed in terms of mood, satisfaction with relationship, achieved goals, self-concept, and self-perceived ability to cope with one's daily life. (Telman and Unsal, 2004).

An assessment done by Jan and Masood (2017) on life satisfaction among women in Jammu and Kashmir and this study was to evaluate life satisfaction among women and to find out the influence of socio-personal characteristics of women with their life satisfaction. The results found that women have average level of life satisfaction at all age levels. It is also found that with an increase in age, life satisfaction of the women decreases, and with an increase in personal income, the life satisfaction of the women increases.

A study done by Desai and Thakar (2016) on Depression and life satisfaction among women with reference to expulsion by the family and this study aim at finding out the impact of depression on life satisfaction of women expelled by the family and it revealed that depression had significant impact on life satisfaction among women in general. Less depressed women reported higher level of life satisfaction than moderately and highly depressed women.

Problem statement

The position and status of "Kakhatduh" (youngest daughter) is that she is the only custodian of the property and it is believing that a person who lives long in the family has to manage the family but control of decision-making is in the hands of the uncles or her brothers (Kharkrang, 2012).

Therefore "KaKhatduh" (youngest daughter) has so many responsibilities because she has to take care of everyone in the family; property according to the command of elderly people and also, she has to manage with her personal work. So, the study wants to explore the life satisfaction of youngest daughters and the different experiences they encountered along with the factors that contribute to their different experiences.

Research questions

1. How is the life Satisfaction of the youngest daughters in West Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya?
2. What are the different experiences encountered by the youngest daughters in West Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya?
3. What are the factors that contribute to the different experiences of the youngest daughters in West Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya?

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Research objective

1. To explore the life satisfaction of the youngest daughters in West Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya.
2. To identify the different experiences encountered by the youngest daughters in West Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya.
3. To identify the factors that contributes to the different experiences of the youngest daughters in West Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya.

Operational definition

Life satisfaction in general applied to the pleasure that an individual gets from his/her life. It is measure of well-being assessed in terms of mood, satisfaction with relationship, achieved goals, self-concept, and self-perceived ability to cope with one's daily life. (Telman and Unsal, 2004).

According to Merriam (2017), youngest daughter is the least old daughter in the family or the youngest daughter child or member of the family.

According to Cambridge Dictionary, Experience is the process of getting knowledge or skill from doing, seeing, or feeling about things.

According to Cambridge dictionary, Factors is a fact or situation that influences the result of something.

Significance of the study

The findings will help us understand the life satisfaction of the youngest daughters in West Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya. It will also give an understanding of the different experiences that the youngest daughters encountered and the factors that contribute to their different experiences. This will also add to the germane on the indigenous concept of West Jaintia culture.

Not much research has been done on this topic in West Jaintia, Meghalaya, so the researcher conducted a study on this topic to get a clearer idea on the life satisfaction and the different experiences the youngest daughters come across and the factors that contribute to their experiences. The researcher also hopes that it will help the future researchers who wish to pursue this topic in detail.

METHODOLOGY

Area of the study: The research conducted in West Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya

Research design: It is an exploratory study in which the researcher used Qualitative method.

Sample size: The sample size consists of 30 participants.

Sampling Unit: The population of the present study consists to the youngest daughter, aged of 21 to 60.

Sampling Method: For the present study, simple random sampling.

Data Collection Method:

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Demographic Data sheet: A data sheet was designed by the researchers to bring out information on the socio demographic background of the respondents. The schedule includes the detail like name (initial), age, education, religion, ordinal position in the family.

Tool

1. In-depth Interview (Self-made Questions)
 - Data Analysis: Thematic Analysis
 - Braun and Clarke (2006) define thematic analysis as a method where in a data, identifying, analyzing and reporting patterns is the process.”
 - Braun and Clarke (2006) provide six-phase guide, i.e. a). Become familiar with data b). Generate initial codes c). Search for themes d). Review themes e). Define themes f). Write up.
 - Ethical Considerations:
 - a. The participants were informed beforehand about the purpose of the research.
 - b. The participation is voluntary.
 - c. Participants have the right to withdraw anytime from the study.
 - d. Anonymity of identity.
 - e. Respondents’ records will be destroyed after the final submission of the study.

Findings

Table 1: Showing the total respondents

Sl. No	Number of respondents
1	30 respondents

The table 1above shows the total number of respondents.

Table 2: Showing the number of the respondent Occupation

Number of the Respondent	Occupation
6	Housewife
4	Government Servant
6	Teachers
2	Nurses
9	Farmers
3	Business
Total- 30	

In table 2, it shows the number of the respondents’ occupation where 6 respondents are housewives, 4 respondents are government servants, 6 respondents are teachers, 2 respondents are nurses, 9 respondents are farmers and 3 respondents are business persons.

Introduction of the findings

The findings of life satisfaction of youngest daughters in West Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya and the different experiences encountered by each individual and the factors that contributes to their different experiences which included 30 respondents. There are also some youngest daughters who give advice and suggestion for the upcoming youngest daughters based on their experiences to live and handle the entire situation as youngest daughters. There are quoting of their different experience and opinion below:

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A. Respondents who are happy being the youngest daughters

There are 14 respondents said that they are happy being the youngest daughter because God created them to be in that position and also the love, they received from the family is special for them.

“Since, God was the one who put me here and who make me be the youngest so I accept it and I am happy.” (In-depth interview/RP, 42, Graduate, Farmer, 13 march, 2020.)

“According to me, I am happy because I got love from everyone.” (In-depth Interview/ KS, 32, Graduate, Government servant, 17 March, 2020.)

“Hhhhhhh, I don’t know what to say but yes I am happy but there are so many hard times in life and before I don’t understand but Now, I realize everything.” (In-depth Interview/IR, 54, 12, Teacher, 17 March, 2020.)

B. Opinion of the respondents who can’t decide as yet about their satisfaction

Whereas 11 respondents who said that sometimes they are happy and sometimes they are not happy, it depends on the situation that they have to face.

“In some point I am happy about it but in some I am not happy because it’s hard when your siblings don’t understand.” (In-depth interview/MP, 26, Graduate, Housewife, 13 March, 2020.)

“Ok, so for me I didn’t feel proud about it nor happy about it but as youngest it’s hard especially when you get a bad brother who didn’t behaved well because other people, they can kick them off but I can’t do that, he’s my brother at the end. I have two brothers that I have to take care like that right now.” (In-depth Interview/ MD, 41, 9, Housewife, 13 March, 2020.)

“Hhhhhmmmm... So, since I am the youngest so I have to be here and do all the things that I have to do. So, I don’t know whether I am happy or not (Laughing).” (In-depth Interview/AP, 37, Bachelor, Government servant, 13 March, 2020.)

C. Opinion of the respondents who are not happy being the youngest daughters

There are 5 respondents who said that it is hard for them and they are not happy with being the youngest daughter in the family.

“Actually, for me, I feel like I am not the youngest daughter because I stand alone on my own feet, my brother and sister didn’t help me in anything. And my parents love their son a lot and everything that belongs to me they give it to him. So, it’s hard for me.” (In-depth interview/SL, 50, Illiterate, farmer 17 march, 2020).

“Hhhhhmm.. It’s hard when you are alone to support the family. I lost my parents when I was young so it hard to look after at everyone in the family. Most of the time is all about struggling and being sad.” (In-depth Interview/ TS, 52, Illiterate, farmer, 17 March, 2020.)

“Ok (Smiling). Its fine but it’s hard when you siblings don’t understand and I am not happy about it.” (In-depth Interview/ YS, 37, Graduate, Housewife, 13 March, 2020.)

Different experiences encountered by the youngest daughter

Overall view of the respondents

Overall, the 30 respondents shared about the responsibility that they have to take as a youngest daughter based on culture prospective was that to take care of their parents, uncles, brothers and support everyone in the family with full of love and kindness.

“We as pnar and khasi our culture taught us that whatever that belong to our parents should go to the youngest daughter and a youngest we should take care and looked after it and parents and everyone in the family. And we should also continue doing this to our children. And as a youngest we should have the heart of welcoming everyone especially to our uncles, we should not be rude to them and in case, if they want to stayed with us, we should allow them. So I don’t know what to say about me being happy or not because I am going with the culture.” (In-depth interview/ GP, 31, 12, Government servant, 13 March, 2020)

Well, according to the culture we have to take care the entire family be it property or family members. Well, now that I have started working, I have to help them financially, physically and mentally like I have to look after everything.” (In-depth Interview/ CMP, 28, Graduate, Business, 13 March, 20120).

“So, as a youngest daughter, we have to take care of the family and especially our parents. For other sibling they will have their own family so they only visit sometime but for us, we have to do everything like for me even for my brothers and uncle I have to take care so not only parents (Laughing).” (In-depth Interview/ RP, 42, Graduate, Farmer, 13 March, 2020.)”

Good experience of the youngest daughters in west Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya

Respondents shared on their good experiences being youngest daughters and they received special love and cared from everyone in the family; siblings visit often even when they have their own family, brothers used to help in hard times.

“As for now all my siblings are with me so every work is equal. I am blessed to have my entire family member because they all understand and help in everything so they are my good experience.” (In-depth interview/ RW, 33, BSc nursing, Nurse, 17 March, 2020)

“It’s a hard work but we have to fight for it like the business that my family run through, I was the only one who know how to manage it so me that is the good experience. As for now, I don’t really experience it because I am someone who never give up instead I fighting for it.” (In-depth Interview/ EL, 23, 12, Housewife, 13 March, 2020).

“Good experiences were when my siblings came and they help especially when parents are there so came often and helped and also they use to encourage my children to be good and taught them to be good person and they use to share anything which they have to me. So I am happy about that.” (In-depth Interview/PS, 60, illiterate, Farmer, 17, March, 2020).

Hard time experience of the youngest daughters in west Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya

Whereas, 11 respondents shared that it is hard when they have to be the only one who supports the family financially as well as taking care of everyone in the family. And it is harder when their siblings are not willing to understand and help. It is also hard for them when their husband is not there with them.

“So personally, the hardest things they I go through was, when both my parents are old and they are sick every time and since my other siblings have their own family and they can’t always be there with me to helped me, they came to visit but its different with me who have to take care of them day and night. And the hardest things was, When I have to go for work as a farmer person but I also have to take care of my parents and even if I didn’t go it won’t be enough money for the family in needs. So for me that is the hardest thing as a youngest. But if other siblings are willing to help then it is much better but when they are not then it’s hard.” (In-depth interview/MB, 55, Illiterate, Farmer, 17 March, 2020).

“Since I am very poor so there is no good experience for me. But I am blessed to have a good health. But it’s hard because I can’t effort to support my children to go to schools so I am sad about it because I have to work for everyone in the family to provide food for them.” (In-depth Interview/ SB,51, Illiterate, Farmer, 17 March, 2020).

“So for me there is no good experience as yet because I lost my parents when I was young and even my husband so for me most of the time it was a hard-time experience because I have to struggle all alone for the family.” (In-depth Interview/ TL, 48, Illiterate, Farmer, 17 March, 2020).

The factors that contribute to their different experiences

The respondents shared that the presence of their parents with them helped because their parents love and support helped them grow every day. Whereas, having siblings who do not understand and helped them created hard time for them and also having financial problem make it hard for them to manage.

“Well, siblings having negative thoughts can be one and they are not willing to understand and helped, it’s hard to support because I am poor.” (In-depth interview/ BL, 23, Graduate, working, 17 March, 2020).

“Well, can’t really say because it about culture but it will be better if we get siblings who will help and not be jealous instead understand more.” (In-depth Interview/ TS, 48,12, Teacher,17 March,2020).

“I am the only one in the family who have to support, it’s difficult and I have to take care of everyone as well. The problem is because I am poor.” (In-depth Interview/ YP, 23, Bachelor, Housewife, 13 March, 2020).

Key words from the youngest daughter to the upcoming youngest daughter

There are many responsibilities for a youngest daughter to take but as a youngest daughter, put God first, do not be proud of it, respect everyone in the family with love and care, understand your parents and take a good care of them, take care of your uncles and brothers even if they do not help you, be kind, be strong emotionally, mentally, physical, study hard in your studies while life still permits, this is to make it easier for you to support your family in future and get married with a man who understands you and your family.

“Aaaaaahhh...for the youngest daughter, I feel like according to my experiences, for the youngest daughter in future they should search for a person who is good for their marriage, who knows how to respect their parents, who can understand the hardship that we as youngest daughter have to faced in order for the youngest to get some help and able to take care of our parents in proper way like we can exchange who will go for work and who will

stay at home to take care of mother or father and who is willing to love and understand my parents like I do till their last day.” (In-depth Interview/ SB, 51, Illiterate, Farmer, 17 March, 2020)

So, Hhhmmmm. I will say not only for the youngest but for everyone that every things shouldn't only be to the youngest but they should all live equally, they should be there for one another for anything and respect and help each other. And even for the boys once you have family learned to be and do well to your family so that they won't kick you off and it will be easier for your sister. (In-depth Interview/ IR, 54, 12, Teacher, 17 March, 2020)

“According to my experience, I will like to say know how to respect others, study hard in your studies to get a better job and be able to stand on your feet to support your family and that's the greatest thing you can do.” (In-depth Interview/ PS, 47, Bachelor, Teacher, 17 March, 2020).

DISCUSSION

In this chapter, the result of the discussion is discussed on the similarity of other literature with this study on the life satisfaction of the youngest daughters in West Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya. The experiences they encountered as a youngest daughter and also the factors that contributed to their different experiences and with a suggestion and advice for the upcoming youngest daughters were also discussed. Culture perception and aspects based on the responsibility of the youngest daughters will also discuss below:

Discussion on the life satisfaction of the youngest daughter in West Jaintia hills district

The findings show that most of the individuals are happy being the youngest daughters because they received special love and care from their family and also their siblings are there to help them in their times of need and they also believed that God have put them in that position for a purpose. Whereas, some people stated that sometimes they are happy and sometimes they are unhappy because sometimes they received help from siblings, which make it easier for them but sometime they have to be alone and take all the responsibilities which they find it hard. Few people also stated that it is hard for them to be the youngest daughters when they are alone to support the family financially, physically and emotionally. According to the assessment done by Jan and Masood (2017) it also stated that women have average level of life satisfaction at all age level and as their age increase their life satisfaction decrease whereas, with an increase of personal income their overall life satisfaction also increase. According to the study of Jadh AN (2013) it stated that working women and housewives are not differing significant from each other in their life satisfaction based on the age, educational level and number of children.

Different experiences encountered by the youngest daughter in West Jaintia hills district

The findings show that as Youngest Daughters in West Jaintia they have to take care of their parents, brothers, uncles, property and also support everyone in the family in times of need. The position and the status of the youngest daughters (ka khatduh) is that she is the only custodian of the property and she has to manage the family but decision making will be in the hands of the uncles or her brothers (Kharkrang, 2012). Some respondents stated that it was a good experience for them to take all the responsibilities because it helps them grow in their life as well as when they siblings helped them, they feel good. And some respondents stated that it is hard when the youngest alone have to support the family financially, physically and emotionally and also when the siblings are not willing to understand them in

any situation. Jaintia women were energetic and hard-working peoples and the youngest daughters have to take responsibility in the family (Kharkrang,2012).

Factors that contribute to the different experiences of the youngest daughter in West Jaintia hills district

The respondents stated that the presence of their parents helped them because their parents' love and support helped them grow every day. Whereas, having siblings who do not understand and helped them created a hard time for them and also having financial problem make it hard for them to manage (See finding, factors) which stated by the respondents. The study done by Garling and Gamble stated that when people have less stable in their life satisfaction, it affect individual everyday life (Garling and Gamble, 2017).

Key words from the youngest daughter to the upcoming youngest daughter in West Jaintia hills district

There are many responsibilities as a youngest daughter but as the youngest daughter, put God first, do not be proud of it, respect everyone in the family with love and care, understand your parents and take a good care of them, take care of your uncles and brothers even if they do not help you, be kind, be strong emotionally, mentally, physical, study hard in your studies when you still have time, to make it easier for you to support your family in future and get marry with a man who understand you and your family (See finding, key words) which stated by the respondent.

CONCLUSION

The following conclusion and recommendation are being presented for future implementation and for future research.

Overall, the finding indicates that most of the youngest daughters are happy being a youngest daughter because they received special love and cared from their family and they believed that God put them in that position for a purpose. Most of the youngest daughters, it was found out that the responsibilities that they have to do were to take care of their parents, brothers, uncles and helped the family members in time of needs in which some of the youngest daughters find it hard and some find it helpful for them to grow in their life.

The researcher also found out that those who faced hard time experiences being the youngest daughters were mostly because of financial problem, when they have to support the family alone and other siblings did not help or understand them in times of need and also when the husband is not the family. And for those who have good time experience is because their siblings are willing to help and be with them in anytime.

Recommendation

The study found some of the recommendation stated by the Youngest Daughters in West Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya:

1. Be strong emotionally and mentally.
2. Have patience, respect and love everyone in your family in any situation.
3. Work hard in your studies.
4. In future, marry someone who understands you and loves your parents.
5. Do not be proud of being a youngest daughter share with other siblings on what you have.

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Conflict of Interest

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