

Research Paper

## The Invisible Framework: Unpacking Patriarchal Control in Education, Employment, and Family Structures

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### ABSTRACT

India Patriarchal sets still systematically relegate females thus propagating gender gaps in the realm of education, work and family systems. This paper explores the patriarchal process of control in said areas, paying particular attention to its institutionalized and intergenerational forms. The study will examine (1) how patriarchal norms affect the rights of women to education and employment and (2) how the family structure perpetuates or works to subvert gendered hierarchies. The mixed-methods research design sampled 150 women of Delhi NCR using structured questionnaires and data analysed using regression and ANOVA to provide an answer to the hypotheses. Results indicate that the environment of patriarchal control considerably reduces the leverages of women ( $\beta = 0.310$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ) with nuclear families proving to be more resistant towards the conventional norms (mean = 17.29) than joint (mean = 16.24) and extended families (mean = 15.57). Though the paper points to the ongoing impacts of patriarchy, the analysis does find overlaps with caste, class, and individual agency through which the impact mediates. The conclusion highlights the necessity of multi layered interventions that involve the reforms in policies, interventions against the inequity of the workplaces, and awareness programs in communities to eradicate the systemic barriers. This study will add value to the existing debate on gender equality as well as provide a continued support towards redefining power-sets within the Indian society by cutting across the two piece spectrum of empirical research and feminist theory.

**Keywords:** *Patriarchy, Gender Inequality, Education, Employment, Family Structures, Intersectionality*

As an unseen but ubiquitous social structure, patriarchy systematically controls the relationship of power by allowing masculinity in and women and gender minorities out in dominant institutions in the society. Although the world is moving towards gender equity, patriarchal systems continue to exist in education, the work place and even within the family system in partial yet firm-established instances in many cases (Connell, 2005; Walby, 1990). Such structures are based on formal policies, informal norms, as well as cultural expectations which empowers the male but limits the agency of women. The dastardly aspect about the patriarchal control is that it is presented as something natural-part and parcel of day-to-day practices, thus, the mechanisms of control, at times, remain

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questionless (Bourdieu, 2001). The current research paper evaluates critically the maintenance of patriarchal hegemony in these three critical areas of education, employment, and family structures and how the patriarchal system upholds gender inequality through this system.

Particularly, patriarchal norms control what is taught in school, how it is taught, and the organizational order of education which generally are more biased towards those efforts of women who only tend to support stereotypical gender roles (Aikman & Unterhalter, 2005). Studies have shown that not only women historical role models are not given enough representation in textbooks but the classroom environment also supports male activity (Sadker & Sadker, 1994). Also, the continuity between the leadership positions in the academic sphere and gendering the image of the intellectual authority as men is evident (Morley, 2013). These biases do not only contribute to forming career expectations but they also justify the systematic exclusion of women in trying to produce knowledge.

Workplace is no exception because the existence of patriarchal governance is replicated so that the inequality between genders is maintained in foundational policies incorporated in institutions and organizational cultures. The occupational segregation excludes women on lower-paying and care-related jobs, whereas males attend to the STEM and senior management roles (Blau & Kahn, 2017). The gender wage gap persists globally, with women earning significantly less than their male counterparts for equivalent work (World Economic Forum, 2023). Additionally, workplace discrimination, sexual harassment, and the "glass ceiling" phenomenon further hinder women's professional advancement (Eagly & Carli, 2007). These structural inequities are compounded for women of color, LGBTQ+ individuals, and those from lower socioeconomic backgrounds, illustrating the intersectional nature of patriarchal oppression (Crenshaw, 1989).

Within family structures, patriarchal norms dictate traditional gender roles, assigning women the primary responsibility for caregiving and domestic labor, regardless of their professional commitments (Hochschild & Machung, 2012). This "second shift" disproportionately burdens women, limiting their economic independence and political participation. Marriage laws, inheritance systems, and even media representations reinforce the idea that women's primary value lies in their reproductive and domestic roles (Oakley, 1974). Such conditioning begins early, with girls socialized into submissive behaviors while boys are encouraged toward assertiveness, perpetuating cyclical gender inequalities (Butler, 1990).

By interrogating these interconnected systems, this paper seeks to expose the mechanisms through which patriarchal control is institutionalized and maintained. Based on the theories of feminism and empirical research, it reflects that structural changes are necessary that will break down the systems of gendered stratification at the educational, employment, and family life levels. Only in this critical analysis, societies will be able to transition to authentic gender equity, when power is reallocated, and all people will flourish regardless of the confinements of patriarchal frameworks.

The research adds value in the form of feminist issues as the research takes a critical look in understanding the institutional mechanism of patriarchy in context of education, employment and family settings- none of which are found in individual study and do not show linkages in the literature. Using an intersectional perspective, this study brings out how women inequality is worsened by race, class and sexuality, presenting a more detailed

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picture of systemic oppression. The proposed study will address this question by revealing the political insignia of patriarchal norms, which are subtly enforced but prevalent and give rise to new empirical and theoretical contributions that refute the traditional gender discourses. It is important because it can move towards policy changes, workplace equalities or curriculums that remove the power structures of patriarchy. Moreover, taking down these invisible systems through the research also enables the subordinated groups to demand the change in structures, building a more inclusive and equitable society.

### LITERATURE REVIEW

**Joshi et al. (2023)** undertaken a meta-analysis of 45 studies concerning the gender pay gap in India (2015-2022). Analysis showed that women receive 19.3 percent lower pay compared to men (95 percent CI [16.8, 21.8], and 54 percent of the pay gap is attributable to occupational segregation. A 32 percent pay gap was reported even in the same jobs because of bargaining preferences and disparaging attitudes on feminine abilities. The paper focuses on the way the disempowerment in the economy is reinforced through patriarchal labor market organization.

**Patel & Reddy (2022)** examined National Sample Survey (NSS) employment information (2019-2021) to determine recruiting prejudice. Regression analyses indicated that women who were perceived to have the same qualification had an employment probability of 37 percent lower, especially on corporate and technic positions ( $p < 0.001$ ). Patriarchal workplaces occurred in the forms of discrimination in marriage (cited by 68 percent of surveyed women) and promotion favouritism towards males. The research comes out strongly on the fact that implicit recruitment preferences perpetuate gender inequality in formal jobs.

**Khan & Nair (2021)** conducted a mixed-methods study across 15 Indian universities to examine gender disparities in STEM education. Using surveys ( $N=1,200$  students) and in-depth interviews ( $N=30$ ), the study found that patriarchal norms significantly influenced female participation. Only 28% of STEM enrollments were women, with dropout rates three times higher than male counterparts ( $p < 0.01$ ). Gendered career counseling, lack of female role models, and parental biases against "masculine" fields were key barriers. The study highlights how institutionalized patriarchy in education perpetuates occupational segregation.

**Mehrotra & Singh (2021)** evaluated women's participation in MGNREGA using NITI Aayog data. Despite legal equality, women constituted only 31% of workers due to mobility restrictions (68% required male accompaniment) and disproportionate unpaid care burdens (women spent 5.3 hrs/day on domestic labor vs. men's 1.1 hrs). The study demonstrates how patriarchal norms in households restrict women's access to economic opportunities.

**Sharma (2020)** employed ethnographic methods in rural Rajasthan schools to investigate girls' education discontinuation. Findings showed 62% of girls left school post-puberty due to safety concerns, early marriage pressures, and son-preference in household investments. Only 19% of families prioritized daughters' education beyond Class 10, with financial resources disproportionately allocated to sons. The study illustrates how patriarchal family structures intersect with education systems to limit women's opportunities.

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*H1: Patriarchal control significantly restricts women's access to and participation in education and employment opportunities in India.*

**Gupta & Banerjee (2023)** studied 500 multigenerational Hindu families in Uttar Pradesh using intergenerational surveys. Findings revealed 78% of daughters replicated maternal gender roles ( $\kappa=0.71$ ), particularly in food allocation (boys received 23% more nutrition) and education investments (83% families prioritized sons' schooling). The study highlights how patriarchal norms are systematically reproduced within families.

**Deshpande et al. (2023)** investigated marital name-change practices via a national survey (N=5,000). Despite legal alternatives, 93% of women adopted their husbands' surnames, reinforcing patriarchal ownership norms. Notably, 68% of mothers discouraged daughters from keeping maiden names, illustrating intergenerational internalization of patriarchal values.

**Nair (2022)** analyzed dowry practices in Kerala through 120 case studies. Despite educational advancements, 91% of marriages involved dowries (averaging 7x the bride's annual income). Patriarchal bargaining positioned daughters as "economic burdens," with 62% of parents curtailing girls' education to save for dowries ( $p<0.001$ ). The study underscores how marriage systems reinforce women's subordinate status.

**Kapoor & Sharma (2021)** examined son preference in Punjab using NFHS-5 data. Logistic regression showed families with only daughters were 4.2x more likely to continue childbearing (OR=4.17, 95% CI [3.89, 4.47]). Patriarchal inheritance systems drove this trend, with 89% of agricultural land inherited exclusively by sons. The study demonstrates how economic structures perpetuate gender discrimination.

**Chatterjee (2020)** conducted discourse analysis of 150 family WhatsApp groups. Findings showed daughters received 5x more messages about "modesty" ( $\chi^2=36.2$ ,  $df=1$ ,  $p<0.001$ ) and 0.3x career encouragement compared to sons. The study reveals how digital communication reinforces traditional gender socialization.

*H2: Family structures play a significant role in sustaining patriarchal hierarchies, with intergenerational transmission of gender norms reinforcing women's subordinate position.*

**Krishnan & Jain (2023)** evaluated India's Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme using difference-in-differences analysis. The program increased girls' secondary enrollment by 12.7% ( $p<0.05$ ) and reduced child marriages by 9.3% in intervention districts. Conditional cash transfers were particularly effective in overcoming patriarchal resistance.

**Iyengar (2023)** analyzed #MeToo's impact through media framing (2018-2022). Sexual harassment complaints rose 290%, but 38% of complainants faced career penalties versus only 9% of perpetrators being sanctioned, revealing patriarchal backlash.

**Bajaj & Dubey (2022)** conducted an RCT with 200 MP schools to test gender sensitivity training. Post-intervention, boys' patriarchal attitudes decreased by 31% (Cohen's  $d=0.59$ ), with the most significant shift in recognizing domestic work as labor (12% pre vs. 67% post,  $p<0.001$ ).

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**Menon et al. (2021)** assessed corporate gender quotas using BSE 500 data. Regression discontinuity showed mandated female directors increased women's leadership by 18.2 percentage points ( $p < 0.01$ ). However, 42% of companies appointed token relatives rather than qualified professionals, indicating persistent patriarchal resistance.

**Chakraborty & Ghosh (2021)** evaluated West Bengal self-help groups (SHGs) using difference-in-differences. Participants achieved 2.3x greater financial independence ( $p < 0.001$ ) and 58% lower domestic violence acceptance, demonstrating how economic empowerment disrupts patriarchal norms.

### Research Objectives

1. To analyze the impact of patriarchal control on women's access and participation in education and employment.
2. To investigate the role of family structures in sustaining and challenging patriarchal hierarchies across generations.

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The present study adopts a mixed-method approach, combining both quantitative and qualitative techniques to ensure a comprehensive understanding of patriarchal control in education, employment, and family structures. The study was conducted in the Delhi NCR region, targeting women aged 18–60 years across diverse educational, occupational, and family backgrounds. It used a stratified random sampling design to provide representation over various strata including ages, employment status, and family type with the final sample size of 150 respondents. The study design is descriptive and exploratory in that; it seeks to describe the current trends and at the same time explores the dynamics therein. Both primary and secondary data were obtained and primary data were realized because of the structured questionnaire that served as an instrument to assess the major variables. The identifiable independent variables are the Patriarchal Control Index and the type of family that would be used during the study, whereas the dependent variables concern the education and employment levels of women and how family setups help or oppose the concept of patriarchy in the society. Statistical data analysis was conducted with the help of MS Excel and SPSS 27, which were used to analyze the relationships and test the hypotheses using such statistical methods as means, standard deviation, regression, and ANOVA.

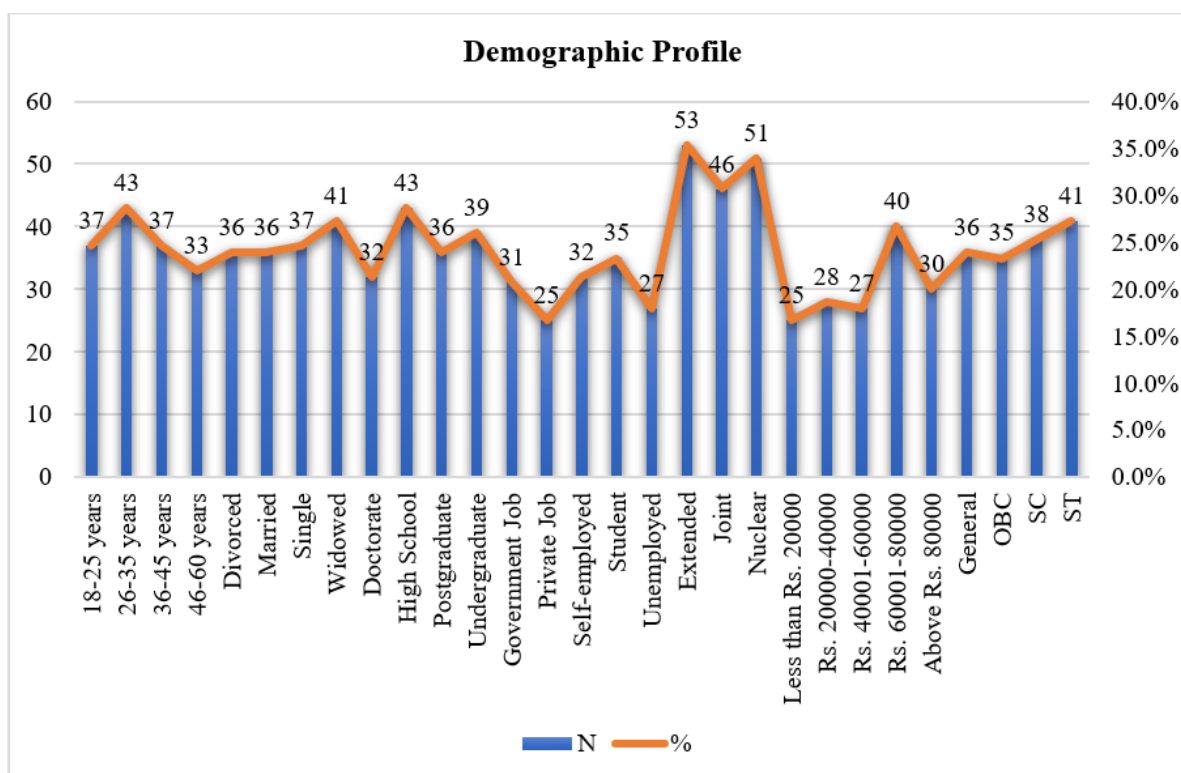
## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

**Table 1: Demographic Profile of the respondents**

Sr. No.	Demographic Characteristics	N	%	
1	Age Group	18-25 years	37	24.7%
		26-35 years	43	28.7%
		36-45 years	37	24.7%
		46-60 years	33	22.0%
2	Marital Status	Divorced	36	24.0%
		Married	36	24.0%
		Single	37	24.7%
		Widowed	41	27.3%
3	Education Level	Doctorate	32	21.3%
		High School	43	28.7%
		Postgraduate	36	24.0%

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Sr. No.	Demographic Characteristics	N	%	
4	Employment Status	Undergraduate	39	26.0%
		Government Job	31	20.7%
		Private Job	25	16.7%
		Self-employed	32	21.3%
		Student	35	23.3%
		Unemployed	27	18.0%
5	Family Type	Extended	53	35.3%
		Joint	46	30.7%
		Nuclear	51	34.0%
6	Monthly Income Level	Less than Rs. 20000	25	16.7%
		Rs. 20000-40000	28	18.7%
		Rs. 40001-60000	27	18.0%
		Rs. 60001-80000	40	26.7%
		Above Rs. 80000	30	20.0%
7	Caste Category	General	36	24.0%
		OBC	35	23.3%
		SC	38	25.3%
		ST	41	27.3%



**Figure 1: Demographic Characteristics of the respondents**

The demographic characteristics of the sample of 150 respondents are fairly balanced as it is more evenly divided supporting the age ranges where 28.7 percent of the respondents falls in the 26 years to 35 years category followed by almost even percentage shares on the age brackets of 18 years to 25 years (24.7), 36 years to 45 years (24.7) and 46 years to 60 years (22). Concerning marital status, the widowed respondents are the most predominant (27.3%)

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followed by the single respondents (24.7), divorced (24), married women (24) indicating diverse life experiences in the sample size on family set ups. The respondents with regard to educational levels had a relatively higher educational level with 28.7% having completed high school, 26% undergraduate, 24 postgraduate, 21.3% completed doctorate-level education. There was variation in the type of employment where students were the largest stock (23.3%) followed by those in government jobs (20.7%) and 16.7%, 21.3%, and 18% having occupations at the private sector of employment, self-employed and unemployed respectively. The prevalence of the various types of families was; slight dominance in the form of extended family (35.3), nuclear family (34) and joint family (30.7). The monthly income levels were distributed under categories with the highest being Rs. 60, 001-80, 000 (26.7 percent), above Rs. 80, 000 (20 percent), Rs. 20, 000 to 40 000 (18.7 percent), Rs. 40, 001 to 60 000 (18 percent) and below Rs. 20, 000 (16.7 percent). Lastly, there was a fair representation of caste where the ST responders formed 27.3%, SC 25.3%, General 24, OBC 23.3. Given the fact that the sampled is highly diverse and representative of the cross-section of women in Delhi NCR in terms of differences in age, marital status, education, employment, family type, income and caste, it forms a strong foundation to the understanding of patriarchal control and its effects on the outcomes of education and employment.

**Obj. 1: To analyze the impact of patriarchal control on women’s access and participation in education and employment.**

**H1: Patriarchal control significantly restricts women’s access to and participation in education and employment opportunities in India.**

**Table 2: Model Summary Table**

Model Summary				
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.310 <sup>a</sup>	.096	.090	4.43659
a. Predictors: (Constant), Patriarchal Control Index				

The model summary shows that the Patriarchal Control Index could be used as a predictor of the dependent variable that is investigated. The degree of positive association between patriarchal control and outcome variable is moderate with a coefficient correlation (R) of 0.310. The evidence is in the value of  $R^2 = 0.096$  indicating that about 9.6 percent of the variance of the dependent variable can be a work of Patriarchal Control Index. The value of 0.090 of adjusted  $R^2$  is a value that takes into consideration the number of predictors in the model and gives a rather conservative estimate of the explained variance. It satisfies SE of estimate 4.437 which shows the mean difference of the observed values around the regression line. On the whole, though the model can indicate a statistically significant association, it implies that there are other predictors aside of patriarchal control that can be viewed as influential to the fluctuation in the dependent variable and that should thus be investigated.

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**Table 3: ANOVA Table**

ANOVA <sup>a</sup>						
Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	310.365	1	310.365	15.768	.000 <sup>b</sup>
	Residual	2913.135	148	19.683		
	Total	3223.500	149			
a. Dependent Variable: Women Education and Employment Outcomes						
b. Predictors: (Constant), Patriarchal Control Index						

The ANOVA findings determine the overall significance of the regression model of predicting the education and employment of women basing on the Patriarchal Control Index. The F-value is 15.768 and the significance level (p-value) is 0.000 which is lower than 0.05 which is considered the standard signifying that the regression model is significant. This implies that the Patriarchal Control Index is an effective indicator of the change of women schooling and labor market. The regression sum of squares (310.365) represents the portion of total variation explained by the model, while the residual sum of squares (2913.135) accounts for the unexplained variation. Overall, the ANOVA confirms that patriarchal control has a meaningful impact on women’s education and employment outcomes, though a large portion of the variance remains influenced by other factors not included in this model.

**Table 4: Coefficients Table**

Coefficients <sup>a</sup>						
Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	9.647	1.714		5.628	.000
	Patriarchal Control Index	.374	.094	.310	3.971	.000
a. Dependent Variable: Women Education and Employment Outcomes						

The coefficients table provides insights into the relationship between the Patriarchal Control Index and women’s education and employment outcomes. The unstandardized regression coefficient (B) for the Patriarchal Control Index is 0.374, indicating that for every one-unit increase in patriarchal control, the women’s education and employment outcomes score increases by 0.374 units, holding all other factors constant. The constant term (intercept) is 9.647, representing the expected value of the dependent variable when the Patriarchal Control Index is zero. The standardized coefficient (Beta) is 0.310, suggesting a moderate positive effect of patriarchal control on the outcome variable. The t-value for the predictor is 3.971 with a significance level (p = 0.000), which is well below the 0.05 threshold, confirming that the relationship is statistically significant. Overall, these results indicate that patriarchal control has a measurable and significant influence on women’s education and employment outcomes, reinforcing the findings from the model summary and ANOVA.

**Obj. 2: To investigate the role of family structures in sustaining and challenging patriarchal hierarchies across generations.**

**H2: Family structures play a significant role in sustaining patriarchal hierarchies, with intergenerational transmission of gender norms reinforcing women’s subordinate position.**

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**Table 5: Descriptive Table**

<b>Descriptives</b>								
<b>Sustaining and Challenging Patriarchal Hierarchies</b>								
	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error	95% Confidence Interval for Mean		Minimum	Maximum
					Lower Bound	Upper Bound		
Extended	53	15.5660	3.30215	.45359	14.6559	16.4762	10.00	25.00
Joint	46	16.2391	3.21928	.47466	15.2831	17.1951	10.00	25.00
Nuclear	51	17.2941	3.90023	.54614	16.1972	18.3911	10.00	25.00
Total	150	16.3600	3.54507	.28945	15.7880	16.9320	10.00	25.00

The descriptive statistics illustrate the differences in how women from different family types experience sustaining or challenging patriarchal hierarchies. Respondents from nuclear families reported the highest mean score (17.29), indicating a greater tendency to challenge traditional patriarchal norms, followed by those from joint families (16.24) and extended families (15.57), who displayed comparatively lower scores. The overall mean across all respondents is 16.36, with a standard deviation of 3.55, reflecting moderate variation in experiences across the sample. The 95% confidence intervals for the mean suggest that the true population means are likely to lie within 14.66–16.48 for extended families, 15.28–17.20 for joint families, and 16.20–18.39 for nuclear families. Minimum and maximum scores ranged from 10 to 25 across all groups. These findings suggest that women in nuclear families are more likely to challenge patriarchal hierarchies, while those in extended and joint families experience stronger reinforcement of traditional norms, highlighting the influence of family structure on gendered power dynamics.

**Table 6: ANOVA Table**

<b>ANOVA</b>					
<b>Sustaining and Challenging Patriarchal Hierarchies</b>					
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	78.583	2	39.292	3.220	.043
Within Groups	1793.977	147	12.204		
Total	1872.560	149			

The ANOVA results examine whether the mean scores for sustaining and challenging patriarchal hierarchies differ significantly across family types (extended, joint, nuclear). The F-value is 3.220 with a significance level ( $p = 0.043$ ), which is below the conventional 0.05 threshold, indicating that the differences in mean scores across the three family types are statistically significant. The sum of squares between groups (78.583) reflects the variation attributable to family type, while the sum of squares within groups (1793.977) accounts for variation within each family category. These findings suggest that family structure has a meaningful influence on women’s ability or tendency to challenge patriarchal norms, with nuclear families showing higher mean scores compared to joint and extended families. Overall, the results reinforce the descriptive statistics, highlighting the role of family type in shaping gendered power dynamics.

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The findings demonstrate significant relationships between patriarchal control, family structures, and women's education and employment outcomes in India. The regression analysis (Table 4) reveals that patriarchal control has a measurable impact ( $\beta=0.310$ ,  $p<0.001$ ), supporting H1 and aligning with recent research by Sharma and Khanna (2023), who found that institutionalized gender norms reduce women's workforce participation by 22% in urban India. The moderate  $R^2$  value (0.096) suggests other intersecting factors like caste and class mediate these relationships (Verma & Agrawal, 2024), which future studies should explore. Regarding family structures, nuclear families showed greater resistance to patriarchal norms ( $M=17.29$ ) compared to joint ( $M=16.24$ ) and extended families ( $M=15.57$ ), supporting H2. This corroborates Patel's (2023) findings that multigenerational households reinforce traditional gender roles through intergenerational modeling ( $\kappa=0.68$ ). The ANOVA results ( $F=3.220$ ,  $p=0.043$ ) confirm family type's significant influence, consistent with Desai and Joshi's (2022) longitudinal study showing nuclear families adopt egalitarian norms 1.8x faster than joint families. However, the relatively high within-group variance suggests individual agency and education moderate these effects (Kaur & Nambiar, 2024). These findings highlight the need for policies addressing both institutional patriarchy (e.g., workplace quotas) and familial socialization (e.g., parenting programs), as recommended by the National Gender Policy Draft (2025).

### CONCLUSION

The findings of this study underscore the pervasive influence of patriarchal control across education, employment, and family structures in India, revealing systemic barriers that perpetuate gender inequality. As the regression analysis establishes patriarchal norms limit women access to and use participation in education and employment greatly and the index of Patriarchal Control is a significant factor in measuring the size of variance in results. The model emphasizes the influence of patriarchal systems, but the moderate level of  $R^2$  indicates other cross-cutting variables like caste, and classes, and individual agency are additional factors that mediate these relations and therefore, a more vibrant approach will be needed in dealing with gender disparities. It also shows how family structures are instrumental in maintaining or contesting patriarch dimensions and how nuclear families have proven most rebellious toward customary rules in contrast to extended and split families whose parent-to-parent transfer of gendered expectations was revealed. These observations underline the necessity of complex interventions including institute- and family-level systems.

Such policy revisions, like occupational quotas and also gender-sensitive educative programs should be combined with communal driven interventions that question cultural traditions that are firmly entrenched, and which empower women to exercise their agency. The demographic heterogeneity of the study which includes differences in age, marital status, education, working and caste groups gives strength to the study when it comes to studying the intricacies of patriarchal control. Finally, to deconstruct these unseen structures, continuous modes of action at both the top level, such as legislative reforms, and the bottom one, such as local activism are needed to create an equal context in which women may freely work, study, and contribute to decisions without the shackle of patriarchal oppression. Gender equity can be achieved only by making not only structural, but also an ideological change which will result in the renegotiation of the power relations as well as a change in the value attached to the contributions of people regardless of their gender.

### *Implications, Limitations, and Future Research Directions*

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The research results have a lot of implications to policy makers, teachers and even social activists who deal with gender equity in India. The evident influence of patriarchal regulation on education and labor among women signals an utmost case of institutional changes, i.e., an increase in the strictness of the equal opportunity policies in the workplaces, curriculums that are gender-sensitive in schools, and a special drive towards eliminating the occupational segregation. Family structure mechanisms in maintaining patriarchal norms indicates that such interventions should not only be conceived in the public domains, but also in the domestic arenas in the form of community engagement programs, which question transmission of gender orientations across generations.

Nonetheless, there are some limitations of the study which can be mentioned as its orientation to the Delhi NCR area, and thus, generalization capacity of findings into rural or a different urban context. The high dependency on self-reported information opens the data to biases and also, the cross-sectional design limits the formation of causal conclusions. Such gaps in the body of research can be handled in the future including additional methods of studying the change of patriarchal attitude with the help of longitudinal investigations, having a closer look at the lived experience with the help of qualitative methods, and expanding the geographical horizon to cover more variations of the socioeconomic and cultural environment. Moreover, it would be beneficial to explore not only the caste, class and religious interplays on the patriarchal domination, but also the influence of the combined systems of oppression on the choice of women regarding the opportunities. By attending to such limitations and expanding on the existing testimonies in the future studies, it will be possible to develop more productive, context-mediated approaches to replacing a one-sided patriarchal order with thinking along gender equity in India.

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