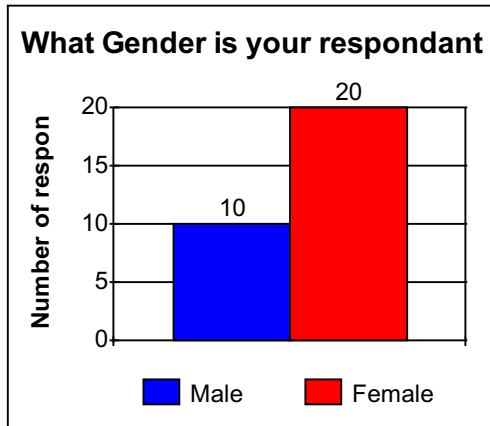
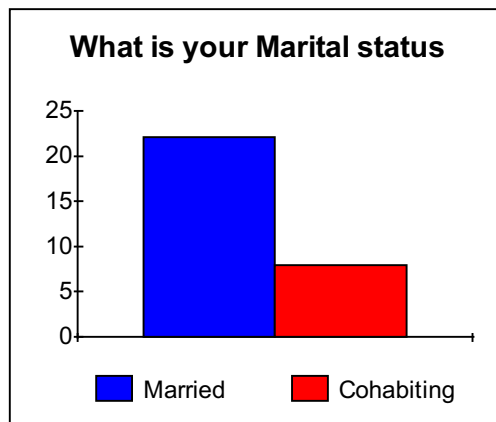


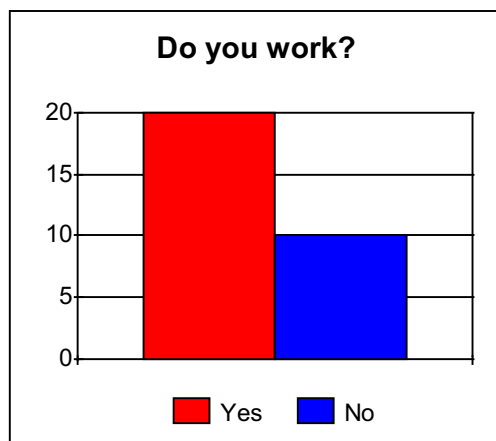
Analysis of Interview Questions



I asked this question so that I would be able to establish a sample that is representative of the working population in Britain

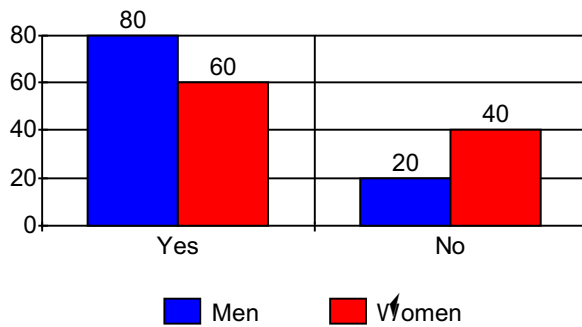


I asked this question because I want to ascertain whether or not marital status has an impact upon conjugal roles. I anticipate that conjugal roles are more likely to be symmetrical among married couples rather than cohabiting couples. This is because-----



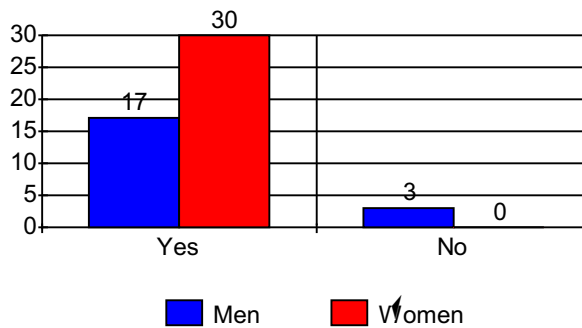
This question relates directly to my hypothesis as I need to identify any possible correlation between paid employment and the amount of housework done by women. I anticipate that paid employment has little or no effect on the amount of work done by women. A supporting sociological study would be that of Duncombe and Marsden, they believed that employment has little impact upon the proportion of household tasks carried out by the women in the family.

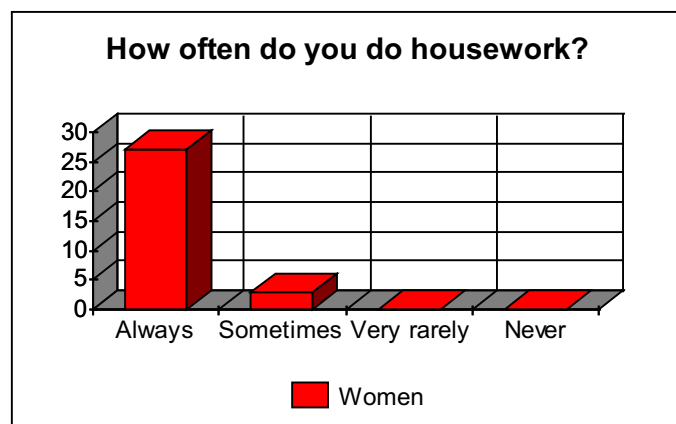
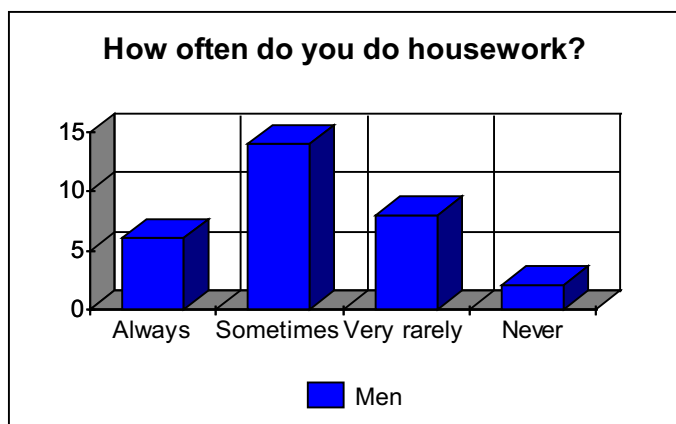
Proportion of Men and women working



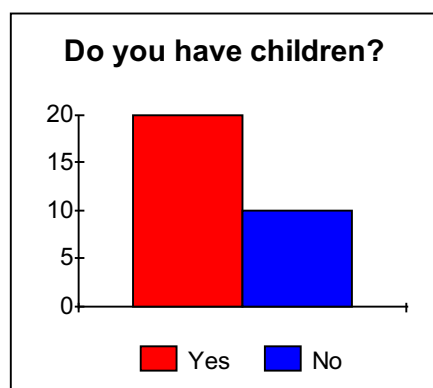
I used this question because men may use the fact that they work as an excuse for not contributing to housework however if the women are able divide their time between paid employment as well as housework there is no reason why men should not be able to do the same.

Do you do Housework?





This question produced results that justified my hypothesis because as can be seen above contribution to housework is a regular for women the majority of them stated that they always do housework. However for men it is not as definite as their responses varied.



I asked this question because in some cultures there is a tendency for the, children of contribute to household tasks so this may influence the amount of housework done by the couple .Also Duncombe and Marsden would

Generally speaking who carries out the following tasks?

Household task	Male	Female	Both	Neither	The children
Washing the car	20	4	2	2	
Ironing	5	16	5	1	
Laundry	2	19	3	0	
Washing the dishes	6	9	8	2	5
Hovering the house	5	14	6	0	5
Gardening	8	8	7	7	
Cooking	2	15	12	1	
D.I.Y	27	3	0	0	

I used this question to identify how household tasks are divided and also to see if the stereotypical roles within the home associated with women still existed.

As can be seen in this table the majority of contribution to housework is still in stereotypical areas. These stereotypical areas are in bold font. For example only 2 men out of a sample of 30 people said they do cooking in the home in comparison to 15 women. However it is interesting to see the increasing number of people that share tasks between themselves. This supports Wilmott and Young's Symmetrical family which states that there is an increase in equality within the home. However structuring my question in this way is problematic because it doesn't show how often tasks are shared and this makes it difficult to ascertain the extent to which the family is symmetrical.

I also discovered that some men perceived contribution to household tasks as doing what is theirs in the home for example ironing **just** their shirts or washing **just** their dishes.

In your opinion are household tasks more equal now than they were 30 years ago?

Most of my respondents agreed that household tasks are more equal. However there were variations in reasons as to why this may be.

The most common response I received was that women have more professional roles in society. Sociologist Sue Sharpe contributes to our understanding of why this may be. She studied changes in girl's attitudes and aspirations in the 1970's and 1990's. She found a growth in the girl's personal horizons, they placed a great stress on equality with men and emphasized on a woman's ability to stand on her own two feet. Such aspirations in education help women achieve professional roles to show this independence. Duncombe and Marsden would argue that along with these 'professional roles' women also carried out emotional labour as well as housework. This they called, the Triple Shift. This supports my hypothesis because it elaborates on the type of work carried out by women in the home.

Another common response I received was that men and women now have similar ideals, an idea of sharing has emerged. This shows that a change has taken place in the relationship between husbands and wives. This evidence supports Wilmott and Young's concept of the Symmetrical Family which states that husbands and wives regard each other as equal and share domestic tasks. However, my hypothesis clarified the extent to which this is so. My findings have cast doubt on the credibility of the Symmetrical family because housework is more equal but still not completely equal because women still do the majority of household tasks. There has been some progress but social attitudes are very slow to infiltrate main stream culture. This is evident from responses such as housework is for women. This shows that stereotypical values still exist.

It is dependent on the household as to who does what because it varies. This response allowed me to identify the fact that there are cultural differences in contribution to household tasks. For example, it is common in eastern societies such as India, Japan for the woman to take care of the house. The man is the head of the house domestically. These are traditional values and changes in this would be frowned upon.

In conclusion it is agreed that women do more housework however the contribution made by men is increasing due to changes in social attitudes.

Evaluation

From my findings I have been able to conclude that my theoretical assumption to some degree is correct because my findings supported my hypothesis, in that women do the majority of housework. However a number of mediating factors were highlighted in my research. These are the fact that there has been an increase in the proportion of men contributing to housework due to changes in social values and also the introduction of household appliances are invented to remove the drudgery from carrying out housework. This makes it easier and less time consuming for women. I believe that my research method of structured interviewing was suitable because However many methodological flaws were highlighted in my research. It was a

Some may criticise my research or findings for being sexually biased in favour of females however an advantage of the method I selected is that it is replicable. If my research has been conducted in an appropriate manner then similar results should be obtained.