

Assessing the Role of Cash Grant for Women Empowerment in Balochistan:

By

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Abstract:

To find the variance due to cash grant 5 beneficiaries from each district were interviewed to fill the questionnaire with difference of receiving cash grant for 1 year 2 years, 3 years and 4 years respectively. Significant results have Women empowerment has been the major issue in developing countries. In Pakistan women rights has been neglected for long time. In this paper it is explored that how Unconditional Cash Transfer (UCT) can play role in enhancing women conditions. Thus they may play vital role in a society as productive individuals. To evaluate the significance of Cash Transfer for the purpose to empower women, data collected through survey method by sampling 150 beneficiaries taken from 30 districts (5 from each district) been taken relating to cash grant and women empowerment. Finally, it is concluded that Unconditional Cash Transfer (UCT) can play pivotal role in providing opportunities to women thus enhancing their power both socially and economically.

Introduction:

Women empowerment is one of the important issues in developing countries. Empowering women brings equality and sustainability thus leads to prosperous society. Women rights have been neglected for long time especially in male dominated society. Being entangled in cultural fabric women have been prevented from exercising free will according to their own needs in patriarchal societies.

Women have no access to enabling opportunities that are keenly required to empower women in any civilized society. Facts and figures indicate

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that she has been deliberately kept in a condition such that she has no safe and sound approach to all the basic needs of life like education, health and family planning. Consequently, she has been made a tool for reproducing children. Her capability has been exploited by all types of immoral traditional and cultural taboos.

Balochistan being least developed province among all others is far beyond the fact and here women are faced with more hurdles compare to other regions in the country.

Traditional backwardness has made it more inflexible and rigid in part of women whereby she is not even free to come out for education.

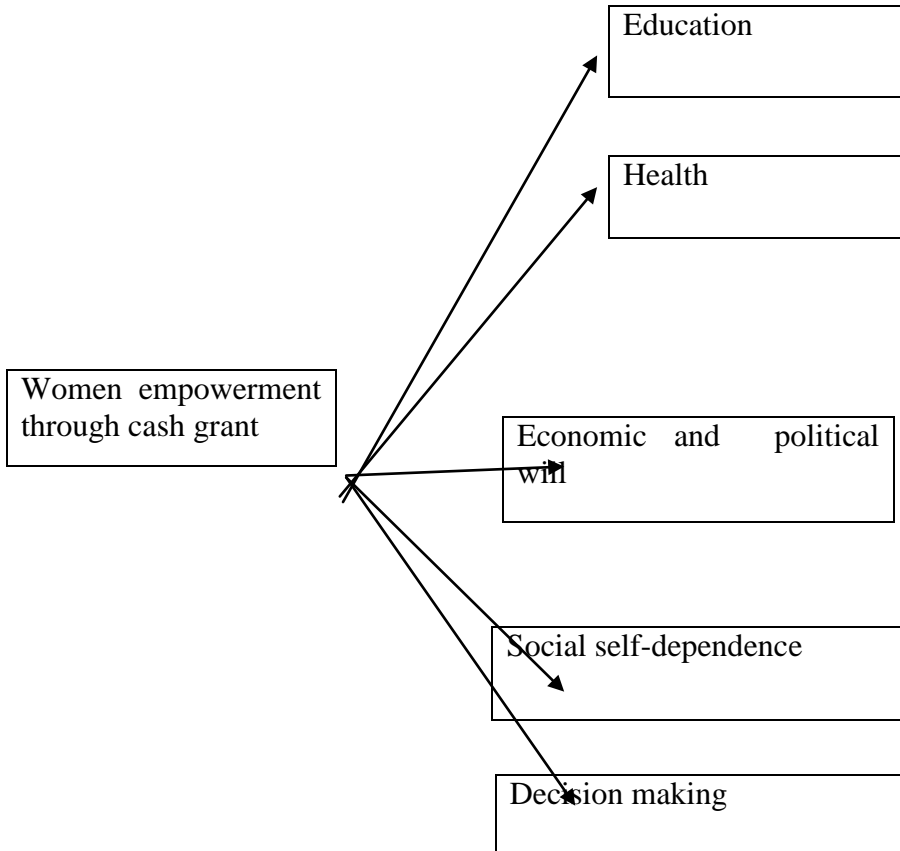
In the perspective of women's control over the decision making freedom and regularities associated with economic development Unconditional Cash Transfer (UCT) may be considered as one of the major and useful beneficial.

While taking a gander at effect of money give on ladies' strengthening in Mexico, Adato et al (2000) likewise found that the money exchanged abatements the recurrence of spouses' individual basic leadership with respect to class participation, youngster dress, medical treatment, food expenditure and major house repairs. It may create opportunities in such a way that women may enjoy equal rights and most importantly the right of making decision by her. Unconditional Cash Transfer not only enhances her status but also produce long lasting impacts on her person as one of the productive and functional unit in the society. It play pivotal role in the acknowledgment of women's importance inside the family relating to food expenses, child clothing, medical health treatment and major hose repairs. Laura and Rubio (2005) assessing the immediate viability of the money exchange for human capital improvement likewise discovered backhanded long haul constructive outcomes of lessening sexual orientation imbalances and ladies' choices making in different examinations.

Similarly, Standing (2008) observed that cash transfers allowed the recipients to make strategic choices for themselves and had a classic benefit of basic economic security. One of the key importance of unconditional Cash Transfer is that it is given unconditionally without any type of hardship. Thus it helps in providing bargaining power and authority to utilize cash according to her will. Interestingly, it has gained support from all spheres of community. As far as it transparency is concerned, self-corrective and adaptive approach has been made to get fair results.

Methodology:

Theoretical frame:



Sample Criterion:

The data was collected through survey method. A sample of 150 women beneficiaries was taken from 30 districts (5 from each district). The sampling procedure was based on convenience. To find the variance due to cash grant 5 beneficiaries from each district were interviewed to fill the questionnaire with difference of receiving cash grant for 1 year 2years, 3 years and 4 years respectively.

Instrument:

The information has been gathered through organized poll. An organized poll was composed which incorporates inquiries to quantify the four primary factors for ladies strengthening in Balochistan. Every one of them was shut finished inquiries. The survey depended on Likert five point scale which measured the high and low measurement of all the autonomous means independent and ward means dependent factors (1=strongly disagree to 5=strongly agree).

The questionnaire emphasizes direct measures of empowerment such as decision-making power and control over assets, especially cash grant. The questionnaire included information on the individual's role in household decision-making around income generation; consumption; access to and control over productive assets; access to and control over cash grant; individual leadership and influence in the family.

Table 1. The Variables included in each category are listed below:

Dependent Variable	Constitutive Definition	Operation Definition
Access to cash grant	Impact of cash grant	Measured by Likert five point scale: 1= strongly disagree and 5= strongly agree
Access to social justice	Help from relatives, family members, friends and parents regarding harassment and violence	Measured by Likert five point scale: 1= strongly disagree and 5= strongly agree
Dependency on husband	Financial support from husband	Measured by Likert five point scale: 1= strongly disagree and 5= strongly agree
Freedom of mobility	Freedom to visit native village, market or worship place.	Measured by Likert five point scale: 1= strongly disagree and 5= strongly agree
Freedom to make decisions about family	Freedom to make decision regarding their family issues	Measured by Likert five point scale: 1= strongly disagree and 5= strongly agree
Freedom to make decisions about oneself	Freedom to make decision regarding their own selves	Measured by Likert five point scale: 1= strongly disagree and 5= strongly agree
Freedom to utilize cash	Freedom to make choices for utilization of cash grant	Measured by Likert five point scale: 1= strongly disagree and 5= strongly agree
Protection from harassment and violence	No of cases with respect to harassment and violence	Measured by Likert five point scale: 1= strongly disagree and 5= strongly agree
		Measured by Likert five point scale: 1= strongly disagree and 5= strongly agree

Research Hypothesis:

In order to understand the impacts of cash grant, two hypotheses are being tested using quantitative information which is one of the aims of research.

1. Economic Advancement Hypothesis:

BISP unconditional cash grant will improve the economic condition of women by promoting the economic advancement and increasing their productive resources thus it is supposed to improve the skills and employment opportunities.

2. Power and Agency Hypothesis:

BISP unconditional cash grant will strengthen women's status by increasing the bargaining power of women's within household and wide throughout community. This will enhance women's self-confidence and self-esteem which will provide help in building their character and will later on enhance their role in society and their ability to engage in decision-making in the family matters."

Results and Discussion:

In model 01, Value of $r=0.251$ which indicates a positive relation between Period of receiving cash grant and Freedom to make decision about oneself. Increase in one variable will also increase the other variable. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2 tailed). Significance level from data is 0.002 which is less than 0.01 and it lies in acceptance range.

In model 02, Value of $r=0.294$ which indicates a positive relation between Period of receiving cash grant and Freedom to make decision about family. Increase in one variable will also increase the other variable. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (1 tailed). Significance level from data is 0.000 which is less than 0.01 and it lies in acceptance range.

In model 03, Value of $r=0.193$ which indicates a positive relation between Period of receiving cash grant and Protection from harassment and violence. Increase in one variable will also increase the other variable. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (1 tailed). Significance level from data is 0.009 which is less than 0.01 and it lies in acceptance range.

In model 04, Value of $r=0.037$ which indicates a positive relation between Period of receiving cash grant and Access to social justice. Increase in one variable will also increase the other variable. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (1 tailed). Significance level from data is 0.327 which is greater than 0.01 and it lies in rejection region. So, we don't have sufficient evidence to support our null hypothesis.

In model 05, Value of $r=0.386$ which indicates a positive relation between Period of receiving cash grant and Access to social justice. Increase in one variable will also increase the other variable. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (1 tailed). Significance level from data is 0.000 which is less than 0.01 and it lies in acceptance region.

In model 06, Value of $r=0.064$ which indicates a positive relation between Period of receiving cash grant and Access to social justice. Increase in one variable will also increase the other variable. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (1 tailed). Significance level from data is 0.217 which is greater than 0.01 and it lies in rejection region. So, we don't have sufficient evidence to support our null hypothesis.

In model 07, Value of $r=0.637$ which indicates a positive relation between Access to cash and Freedom to make decision about oneself. Increase in one variable will also increase the other variable. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (1 tailed). Significance level from data is 0.000 which is less than 0.01 and it lies in acceptance region.

In model 08, Value of $r=0.606$ which indicates a positive relation between Access to cash and Freedom to make decision about family. Increase in one variable will also increase the other variable. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (1 tailed). Significance level from data is 0.000 which is less than 0.01 and it lies in acceptance region.

In model 09, Value of $r=0.553$ which indicates a positive relation between Access to cash and Protection from harassment and violence. Increase in one variable will also increase the other variable. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (1 tailed). Significance level from data is 0.000 which is less than 0.01 and it lies in acceptance region.

In model 10, Value of $r=0.148$ which indicates a positive relation between Access to cash and Access to social justice. Increase in one variable will also increase the other variable. Correlation is not significant at the 0.01 level (1 tailed). Significance level from data is 0.036 which is greater than 0.01 and it lies in rejection region.

In model 11, Value of $r=0.552$ which indicates a positive relation between Access to cash and Dependency on husband for financial support. Increase in one variable will also increase the other variable. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (1 tailed). Significance level from data is 0.000 which is less than 0.01 and it lies in acceptance region. This shows that

amount of cash grant is not sufficient to support the beneficiary and she is still dependent on her husband.

In model 12, Value of $r=0.284$ which indicates a positive relation between Access to cash and Freedom of mobility. Increase in one variable will also increase the other variable. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (1 tailed). Significance level from data is 0.000 which is less than 0.01 and it lies in acceptance region.

In model 13, Value of $r=0.713$ which indicates a positive relation between Freedom to utilize cash and Freedom to make decision about oneself. Increase in one variable will also increase the other variable. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (1 tailed). Significance level from data is 0.000 which is less than 0.01 and it lies in acceptance region.

In model 14, Value of $r=0.593$ which indicates a positive relation between Freedom to utilize cash and Freedom to make decision about family. Increase in one variable will also increase the other variable. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (1 tailed). Significance level from data is 0.000 which is less than 0.01 and it lies in acceptance region.

In model 15, Value of $r=0.536$ which indicates a positive relation between Freedom to utilize cash and Protection from harassment and violence. Increase in one variable will also increase the other variable. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (1 tailed). Significance level from data is 0.000 which is less than 0.01 and it lies in acceptance region.

In model 16, Value of $r=0.139$ which indicates a positive relation between Freedom to utilize cash and Access to social justice. Increase in one variable will also increase the other variable. Correlation is not significant at the 0.01 level (1 tailed). Significance level from data is 0.045 which is greater than 0.01 and it lies in rejection region.

In model 17, Value of $r=0.500$ which indicates a positive relation between Freedom to utilize cash and Dependency on husband for financial support. Increase in one variable will also increase the other variable. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (1 tailed). Significance level from data is 0.000 which is less than 0.01 and it lies in acceptance region. This again shows the insufficiency of cash grant to fulfill the financial requirements of the beneficiaries.

In model 18, Value of $r=0.301$ which indicates a positive relation between Freedom to utilize cash and Freedom of mobility. Increase in one variable will also increase the other variable. Correlation is significant at the 0.01

level (1 tailed). Significance level from data is 0.000 which is less than 0.01 and it lies in acceptance region.

In model 19 a separate test was conducted to test the relationship between access to social justice and protection from harassment and violence. Because in our previous tests for relations between access to social justice and cash grant, there were no significant evidences to reject our null hypothesis. In above cases significant values were in rejection region. Thus to find out the factors contributing in protection from harassment, we can identify a relationship between access to social justice and protection from harassment and violence.

Here Value of $r=0.505$ which indicates a positive relation between access to social justice and protection from harassment and violence. Increase in one variable will also increase the other variable. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (1 tailed). Significance level from data is 0.000 which is less than 0.01 and it lies in acceptance region.

Analysis:

Correlation when applied statistically it is found significant results in model 1 between Period of receiving cash grant and Freedom to make decision about oneself. Similarly significant results were found between access to social justice and protection from harassment and violence and cash grant in model 19. In model 10, Value of $r=0.148$ which indicates a positive relation between Access to cash and Access to social justice. Increase in one variable will also increase the other variable. Correlation is not significant at the 0.01 level (1 tailed). Significance level from data is 0.036 which is greater than 0.01 and it lies in rejection region.

In model 16, Value of $r=0.139$ which indicates a positive relation between Freedom to utilize cash and Access to social justice. Increase in one variable will also increase the other variable. Correlation is not significant at the 0.01 level (1 tailed). Significance level from data is 0.045 which is greater than 0.01 and it lies in rejection region.

In model 18, Value of $r=0.301$ which indicates a positive relation between Freedom to utilize cash and Freedom of mobility. Increase in one variable will also increase the other variable. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (1 tailed). Significance level from data is 0.000 which is less than 0.01 and it lies in acceptance region.

Most of the statistical analysis show significant results which show positive correlation between women empowerment and unconditional cash grant.

Conclusion and Future Implications:

Empowering women and giving rights to them may bring prosperity and sustainability to the society. Cash grant is one of the important sources of enhancing women's role in the society. Economic empowerment is the important aim of cash grant, thus it helps in upbringing their children. Cash Grant would also help them in regulating their well-being by promoting health and educational expenses of family and regulating their household commodities.

We locate a slight move in intra-family unit relations with the subjective research demonstrating that ladies can feel engaged by their commitments to the family spending plan and their diminished reliance on their spouses. The assessment recommends a little move in group recognitions in regards to the versatility of ladies, with groups tolerating that ladies can go to gather the exchange themselves. This is bolstered by quantitative confirmation recommending that receipt of the BISP money exchange has improved the probability of ladies being allowed to visit companions' homes, close-by business sectors and love spots or religious places alone.

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