

ROLE OF RURAL WOMEN DECISION MAKING AT HOUSEHOLD LEVEL IN A FAMILY ECONOMY: A BIBLIOMETRIC ANALYSIS

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Abstract

This bibliometric paper presents a comprehensive analysis of scholarly publications related to the intersection of the "family economy" and "women's involvement in decision-making." Leveraging a dataset comprising 136 documents sourced from the Scopus database, this study aims to identify key trends, prominent authors, prolific journals, and emerging themes within this interdisciplinary field. The study offers valuable insights into the evolution of research in family economics and women's decision-making dynamics. It also summarizes the key findings of the bibliometric analysis, offering valuable insights into publication trends, authorship patterns, journal landscape, keyword co-occurrence, and subject area distribution in the field of family economy and women's decision-making. By leveraging these insights, the study contributes to advancing knowledge and addressing the multifaceted challenges associated with economic decision-making within the family unit, ultimately fostering the empowerment and well-being of women in society.

Keywords: Family Economy, Women Decision Making, Bibliometric Analysis, Scopus Database, Research Trends

1. Introduction:

The role of women in decision-making processes within the context of family economies has garnered increasing attention in academic research. This paper employs bibliometric analysis to systematically examine the existing literature on this subject, drawing from a dataset of 136 documents obtained from the Scopus database. By mapping the intellectual landscape, this study seeks to contribute to a deeper understanding of the key themes and emerging patterns within this field (Christina et al., 2021). The empowerment of women, especially in decision-making processes, is integral to achieving sustainable development goals and fostering social equity (Leal Filho - et al., 2023; Jena, 2020; Moreira et al., 2019). Understanding the dynamics of autonomy within households is crucial, as it not only reflects individual agency but also has far-reaching implications for community welfare and progress. The literature on women's autonomy in rural settings serves as the foundation for this study, emphasizing the need to move beyond mere recognition of women's rights to a deeper exploration of the factors influencing their decision-making agency.

Women have played an integral role in the growth of the country. As a mother, she shapes the

character and personality of her children (Nguyen, 2018; Setyaningsih et al., 2019). Consequently, as a housewife, she preserves the productivity of human capital and may add to the national economy (Mustafa et al., 2020). Choosing the preference with freedom causes them to rethink our beliefs and viewpoints and raise awareness of our rights and chances for personal growth in all significant areas (Hermann & Bossle, 2020) of life. Women's freedom to make decisions is an imperative issue which requires to be promptly addressed by everyone (Blankesteyn et al., 2021). The women's decision-making power within households, focusing on factors such as educational attainment, employment, income, and gender-based awareness. It is based on primary information and uses structured survey data from selected study areas (Loi et al., 2022)) that the interference of the women in the decision-making in family matters along with the husband will lead to empowerment of women. Further, the study also concluded with the more empowered women in the family based on the decision-making getting children in schools (education) then on the workplaces (Sirelkhatim & Gangi, 2015).

The decision-making of women and interference on the basis of bargaining power exerted in household matters in getting proper outcomes defines the decision-making among the women. The production and the related consumption based on the spending of money on food-related materials like milk for the children in home found to have more interference of the wife i.e. women in decision making (Tiberius et al., 2023). It also found that the decision-making production only done by women in absence of or without husband lead to in-efficiency taking decision which leads to worst on food related matters (Al-Dajani et al., 2014; Karra et al., 2006; Sihotang et al., 2020). A study conducted in Tanzania on the husband and wife taking decision on agriculture related activities based on the division of authorities among them and data from 1,851 respondents. The results of the analyses revealed that the decision-making power given by the husband and the decision-making authority allocated by women to found have significant and positive relations with women empowerment among the selected households ((Hua & Ren, 2020)) . The mobility influence exerted by women in agriculture innovations in Nigeria and Kenya. The study defined mobility and its impact on women in making decisions in agriculture based on four case studies from the western part of Kenya and the southwestern part of Nigeria along with focus groups for collected related data also based on 32 personal interviews on rural women (Farrokhnia et al., 2022). The result of the study revealed that mobility to make decisions by women is been governed by the norms constructed and accepted in the study area and the strong influence of the same on the women accessing information on agriculture innovation (Motta & Galina, 2023; Sun & Kim, 2022). It concentrated on the decision-making of the women in the household including decisions on healthcare even on latrines for the family members.

The research conducted in rural India for several years from 2004 to 2011 aimed at understanding the women's role in asking for basic necessities for hinge with healthcare attitude. The result from the paper showed that a woman in the family has a positive influence in decision-making towards healthcare by bargaining to have latrines for family members ((Neck & Corbett, 2018)). It utilizes a model based on separate spheres of bargaining and finds that an increase in the wife's unearned income raises the threat utility for both spouses (Cole, 1997; Heinonen & Stenholm, 2011;

Vadnjaj& Zupan, 2011). Female autonomy is influenced by economic decision-making within the household, with earned income being more effective in enhancing women's autonomy. Cultural, social, and religious factors also play a role in determining female autonomy ((Jena, 2020))

2. Methodology:

2.1 Data Collection:

The dataset for this bibliometric analysis consists of 136 scholarly documents obtained from the Scopus database. The inclusion criteria encompassed works that explicitly focus on the intersection of family economy and women decision making.

2.2 Data Analysis:

Various bibliometric indicators, including citation counts, publication trends, and authorship patterns, were employed to analyze the dataset. Co-authorship networks and keyword co-occurrence were also explored to discern collaborative networks and thematic clusters.

3. Results:

3.1 Publication Trends:

The analysis revealed a steady increase in publications over the past decade, indicating a growing interest in the field. As a researcher in the field of family economy and women's decision making, the analysis of publication trends over the past decade is instrumental in understanding the evolving landscape of research interest. The steady increase in publications since 2015 as shown in Figure 1 signifies a growing recognition of the importance of this intersection in academia. This trend suggests that scholars and practitioners alike are increasingly engaging with topics related to family economics and women's decision-making dynamics, underscoring the relevance and significance of further exploration in this area.

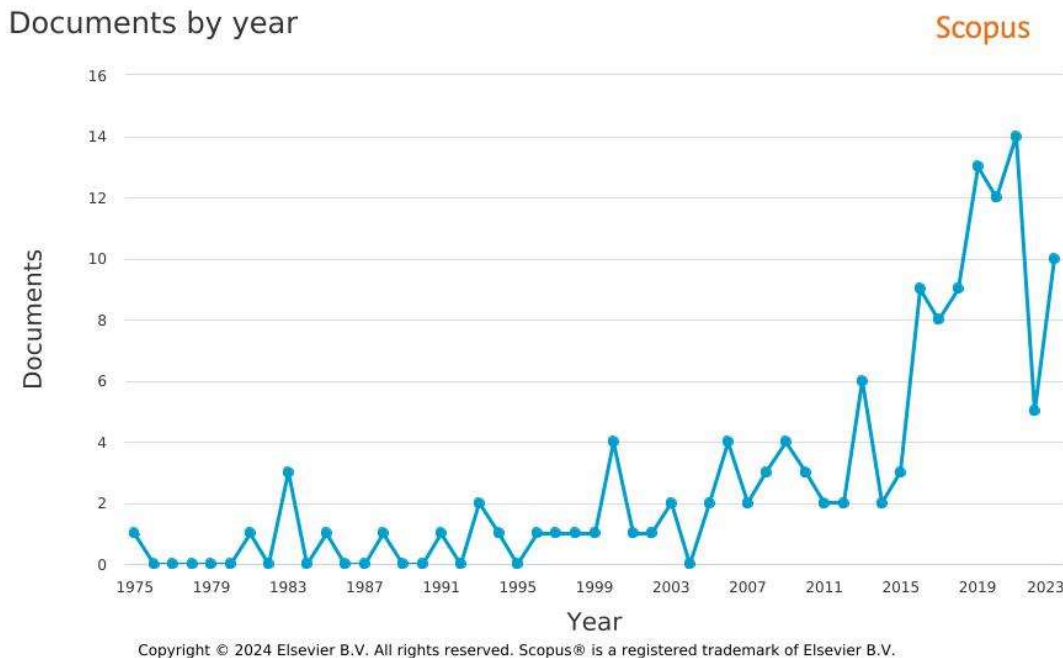


Figure 1. Year-wise documents published

3.2 Authorship Patterns:

Key authors contributing significantly to the literature were identified, shedding light on influential researchers in this domain as shown in Figure 2. Finding important authors who have made substantial contributions to the literature is crucial for scholars examining the complexities of women's decision-making and the family economy. Not only does recognizing renowned researchers honor their accomplishments, but it also provides a window into the dominant discourse in the academic community. Through collective expertise and collaborative effort, researchers can advance the area by connecting with experienced academics, working on projects together, and identifying authorship trends. Hill K, Imami D, Kian A, and Zhilma E are the authors with highest publications in the area of women role in decision making.

Documents by author

Scopus

Compare the document counts for up to 15 authors.

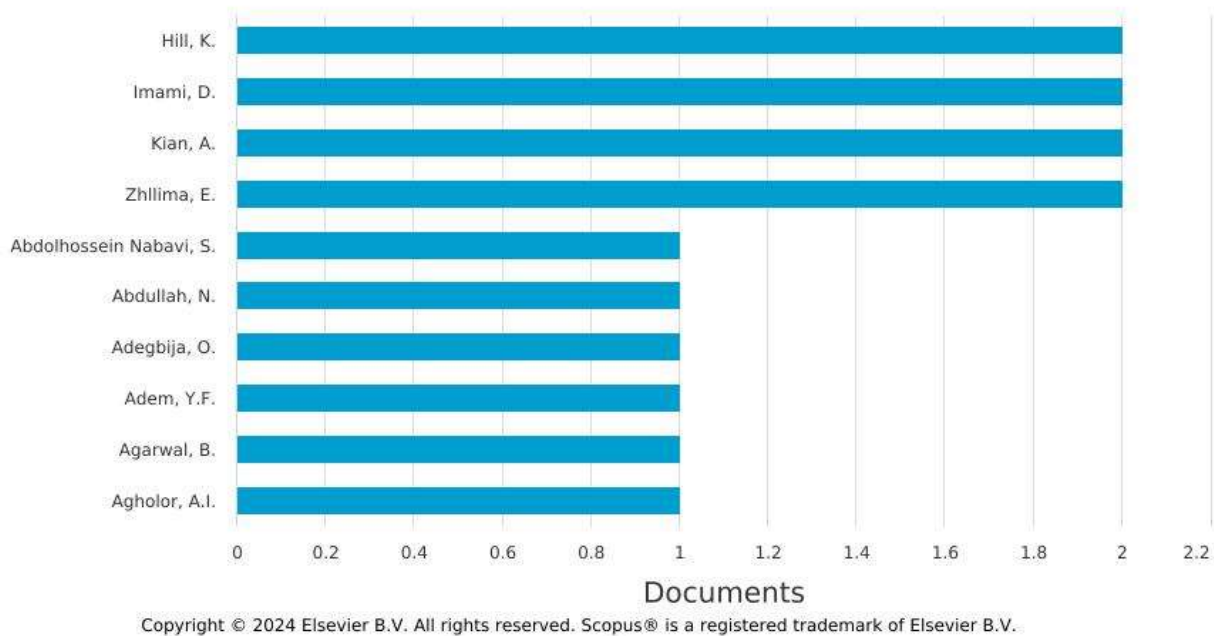


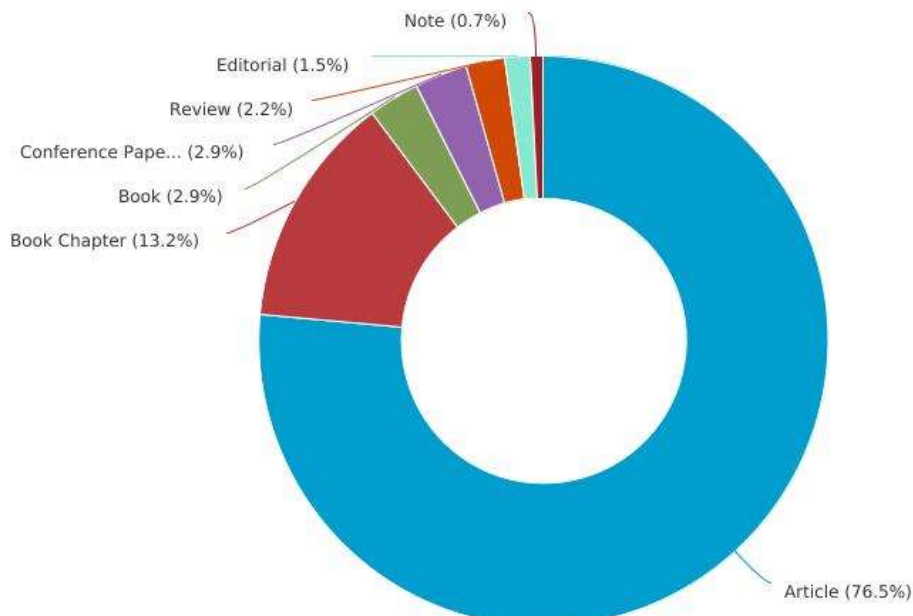
Figure 2. Documents by author

3.3 Journal Landscape:

Prolific journals publishing research on family economy and women's decision-making were identified, showcasing the dissemination patterns within the academic community. The dataset comprises a diverse range of document types, reflecting the multifaceted nature of research on family economy and women's decision-making. The classification of document types provides insights into the varied methodologies and contributions within the scholarly landscape as shown in figure 3 76 percent are research articles followed by 13 percent of book chapters in this area.

Documents by type

Scopus



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Figure 3. Documents by type

3.4 Keyword Co-occurrence:

Commonly co-occurring keywords highlighted thematic clusters, revealing the multidimensional aspects of family economics and women's decision-making dynamics. Examining frequently occurring synonyms within the framework of women's decision-making processes and family economics provides scholars with an insight into the multifaceted and thematic components of the area. Through the identification of these topic clusters, scholars might discern nascent patterns, lacunae in the extant body of literature, and prospective directions for further investigation. Gaining a grasp of keyword co-occurrence improves the analysis's depth and helps to clarify the nuances involved in researching women's decision-making and the family economics.

3.5 Document by subject areas:

The dataset exhibits a broad spectrum of subject areas, highlighting the interdisciplinary nature of research on family economy and women decision making. The following section categorizes the publications based on subject areas, offering insights into the diverse academic domains contributing to the understanding of this intersection. A significant portion of the dataset falls under the economics subject area, emphasizing the financial aspects of family dynamics and the economic decision-making processes that involve women. Research within the business and management subject area focuses on the practical implications of family economy and decision making. This category includes studies that explore the managerial aspects of family-owned businesses and the role of women in these enterprises. Additional subject areas, such as

psychology, anthropology, and education, contribute unique perspectives to the understanding of family economy and women decision-making. The inclusion of various disciplines enriches the interdisciplinary nature of the research field. The diverse distribution across subject areas highlights the multifaceted nature of the topic, necessitating a holistic and interdisciplinary approach to comprehensively address the complexities associated with the family economy and women's decision-making as shown in Figure 4, where social science is the subject area in which highest research is carried out with the keywords followed by medicine 14percent, and business management 12 percent showing the multidisciplinary approach of the topic.

Documents by subject area

Scopus

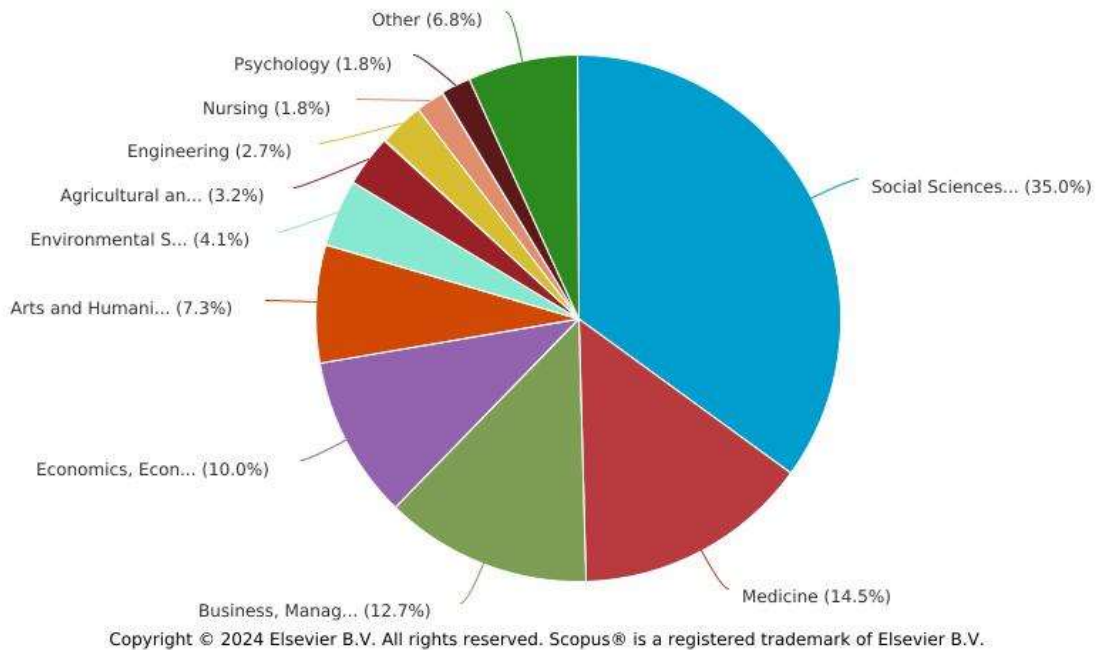


Figure 4. Subject area-wise documents published

Key words co-occurrence

A keyword co-occurrence chart visually represents the frequency with which certain keywords appear together in the same documents. It helps identify relationships and patterns between keywords, showcasing which terms tend to appear together more frequently. Each keyword is represented by a node (a circle) in the chart. The size of the node corresponds to the frequency of that keyword in the dataset. "Family Economy", "Women Decision Making," "Gender Roles," "Financial Literacy". Thicker lines connect, for instance, "Family Economy" and "Women Decision Making," indicating a strong association between these two keywords. "Gender Roles" and "Financial Literacy" form a distinct cluster, suggesting that these concepts are often discussed together in the literature.

The connections between nodes are represented by edges (lines). An edge between two nodes indicates that those keywords co-occur in the same documents. Cooccurrence and all keywords with each keyword having a minimum key occurrence of 10 times in all the 136 documents. The keywords decision making with female and human are studies in a cluster, decision making, attitude , economics and socio economics are the factors studied more recently.

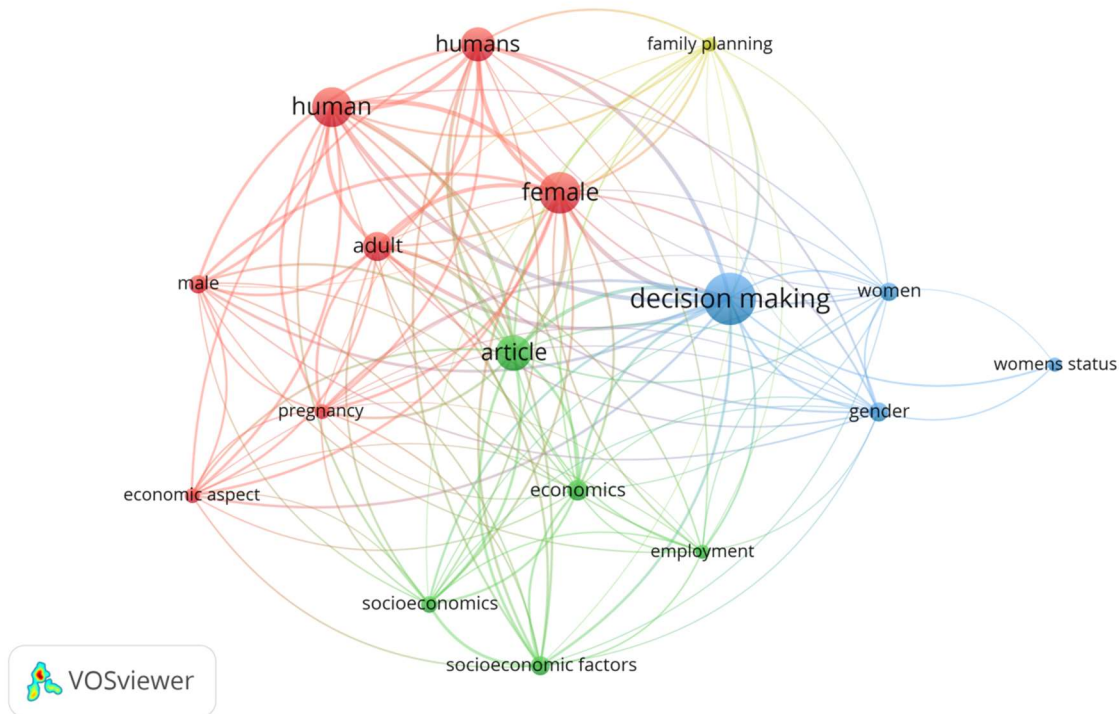


Figure 5. Co-occurrence and author keywords

Minimum co-occurrence of author keywords is 3 times in all the documents 17 such keywords co-occur.

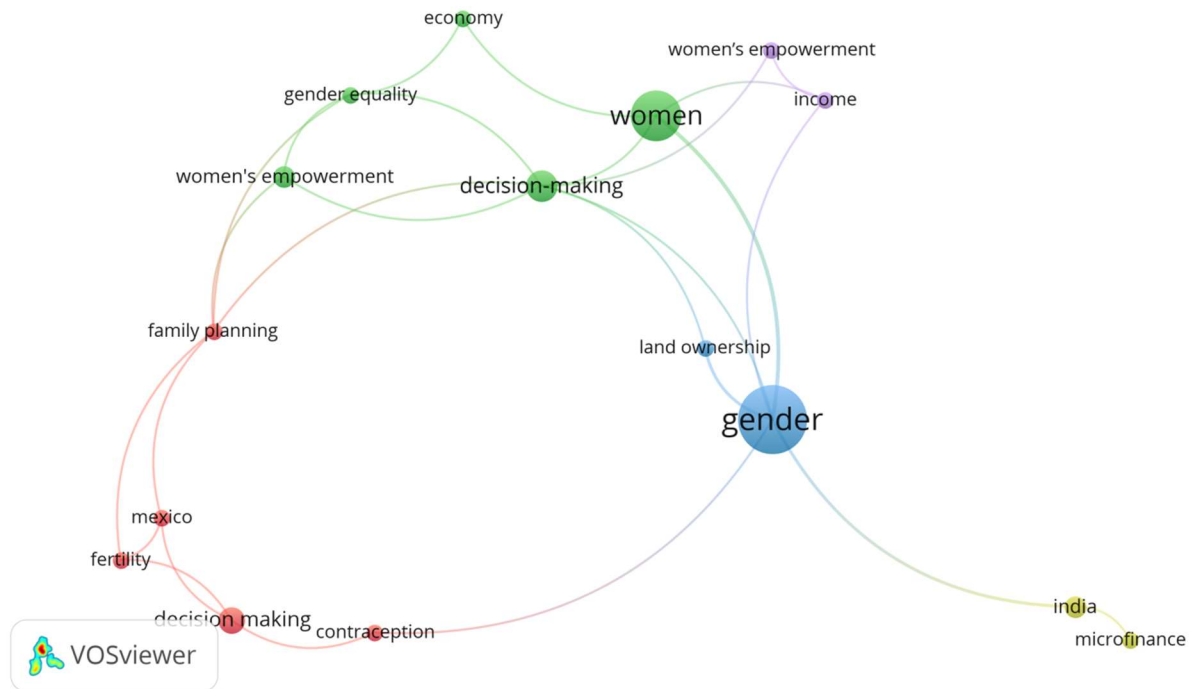


Figure 6 Co occurrence author keywords

According to the information given, there is considerable overlap and concentration of particular themes or topics within the dataset, with the lowest co-occurrence of author keywords being three times in all the documents and 17 such keywords co-occurring. This degree of co-occurrence indicates a strong correlation between these topics, which may point to important areas of interest or shared research goals for academics that study women's decision-making and the family economics. Researchers can gain deeper insights into the thematic clusters and multidimensional aspects of the research field by analysing these co-occurring keywords in conjunction with other bibliometric indicators. This can help researchers identify emerging trends, research gaps, and potential directions for future investigation.

4. Discussion:

The discussion section interprets the results, emphasizing significant trends, potential research gaps, and the implications of the findings. It also offers suggestions for future research directions. The results of this bibliometric analysis provide insightful information on the changing field of study on the dynamics of women's decision-making and the family economy. Over the last ten years, there has been a consistent rise in publications, which suggests that academics are beginning to recognise the significance of this intersection. This pattern suggests that academic focus is shifting towards comprehending the intricacies of women's responsibilities in family economic decision-making. The statement underscores the relevance and significance of conducting additional research in this field by reflecting the broader societal interest in gender dynamics and financial decision-making processes. Authorship patterns highlight significant authors and

academics who have shaped the conversation about women's decision-making and family economics. Acknowledging these experts offers insights into collaborative networks and prevailing research themes within the academic community in addition to paying tribute to their efforts. Through locating renowned writers such as Hill K, Imami D, Kian A, and Zhilma E, researchers can establish connections with seasoned scholars, encourage teamwork, and advance the discipline as a whole.

The various diffusion patterns within the academic community are illustrated by the analysis of the journal landscape. A diverse range of approaches and contributions are employed in the study of women's decision-making and the family economics, as evidenced by the abundance of research articles and book chapters. The research field is interdisciplinary because to its diversity, encompassing viewpoints from several fields such as education, psychology, anthropology, business, and economics. The understanding of women's responsibilities and family dynamics is enhanced by this kind of interdisciplinary involvement, which makes a comprehensive approach to addressing the intricacies of economic decision-making within the family unit necessary.

Thematic clusters and multifaceted facets of women's decision-making dynamics and family economics are revealed by keyword co-occurrence analysis. Identifying frequently occurring keywords like "Family Economy," "Women Decision Making," "Gender Roles," and "Financial Literacy" draws attention to how these ideas are related throughout the literature. Furthermore, the formation of thematic clusters such as "Financial Literacy" and "Gender Roles" points to recurrent themes and common study interests among academics. Researchers can contribute to the growth of knowledge in this field by identifying research gaps, emerging trends, and prospective directions for further investigation by distinguishing these patterns.

The articles' distribution according to subject areas emphasises how multidisciplinary research on women's decision-making and family economics is. The multidisciplinary landscape is enhanced by contributions from a variety of academic disciplines, including psychology, anthropology, and education, even if economics and business management still dominate the scholarly conversation. The variety of topics covered here is a reflection of the intricate interactions between social, cultural, and economic elements that shape women's decision-making in the framework of the family. Researchers can develop a thorough grasp of the complex nature of family dynamics and women's responsibilities in economic decision-making by combining findings from diverse fields.

5. Conclusion:

This bibliometric analysis provides a comprehensive overview of the research landscape surrounding family economy and women decision making. The findings contribute valuable insights for scholars, policymakers, and practitioners interested in this evolving interdisciplinary field. To sum up, this bibliometric analysis offers a thorough picture of the distribution of subject areas, authorship patterns, journal landscape, research trends, and keyword co-occurrence in the field of family economy and women's decision-making. Over the last ten years, there has been a consistent rise in publications, which indicates that academics are becoming more interested in comprehending women's participation in family economic decision-making. The examination of

key authors reveals prominent scholars who are influencing the discourse in this field, and the varied dissemination patterns among journals demonstrate the multidisciplinary nature of the research area.

Thematic clusters and recurrent themes are revealed by keyword co-occurrence analysis, providing insights into the conceptual connections among ideas in the literature. This analysis contributes to the advancement of knowledge in this field by making it easier to identify research gaps, emerging patterns, and viable directions for future exploration. Furthermore, the papers' subject-wise distribution highlights the multidisciplinary participation of academics from diverse fields, enhancing our knowledge of family dynamics and the responsibilities played by women in economic decision-making.

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