



THE INTERPLAY OF TRADITION AND MODERNITY: A CASE STUDY OF GENDER ROLES IN GEORGIAN SOCIETY

Maia Chkeidze, Ph.D.¹, Tina Gudushauri, Ph. D.²

¹Head of the Department of European Languages and Philology, Professor of Philological Sciences, University of Georgia, Tbilisi, Georgia, USA

²Director of the School of Arts and Humanities, Professor of Cultural Anthropology, University of Georgia, Tbilisi, Georgia, USA

Abstract

The case study of gender roles in Georgian society offers valuable insights into the complexities of societal transformation. The interplay between tradition and modernity reflects the dynamic nature of cultural evolution and the ongoing struggle for gender equality.

Understanding the dynamics of gender roles in Georgia enhances cultural sensitivity. It acknowledges that gender roles are not universal and are deeply influenced by cultural practices, allowing for a more nuanced and context-specific approach to gender studies.

Non-narrative content analysis of respondents' interviews provides empirical grounding for theories and concepts related to gender roles. This empirical foundation strengthens the validity and reliability of the study's findings.

The study can serve as a valuable reference for comparative analyses with other cultural contexts. By highlighting the unique features of gender dynamics in Georgia, it allows for cross-cultural comparisons that enrich our understanding of the diversity of gender experiences globally.

The study contributes to the theoretical frameworks of cultural anthropology, and gender studies. It advances our understanding of how these fields can intersect and mutually inform each other, paving the way for further theoretical development.

Insights gained from the research can inform practical interventions and policies aimed at challenging and reshaping gender norms in Georgia. By identifying specific linguistic and cultural mechanisms, the study offers tangible entry points for interventions promoting gender equity.

The study adopts qualitative methodology to provide a comprehensive understanding of the lived experiences that contribute to the construction and reinforcement of gender roles in Georgia.

In the cultural context of Georgia, we hypothesize that individuals' lived experiences and expressions of gender will reflect a negotiation between cultural expectations and evolving societal dynamics, contributing to a complex and dynamic understanding of gender roles in Georgia.

Keywords

Georgian Society, Tradition, Modernity, Gender roles, Dynamics, Intersectionality

I. Introduction

Georgia, nestled in the Caucasus region, is a nation with a rich tapestry of history, culture, and tradition. In recent years, it has undergone significant social changes, particularly in the realm of gender roles. The interplay between tradition and modernity in shaping these roles provides a fascinating case study of societal evolution.

Traditionally, Georgian society has been patriarchal, with distinct gender roles deeply ingrained in its cultural fabric. Men were expected to be the primary breadwinners, decision-makers, and heads of households, while women were relegated to domestic duties, child-rearing, and supporting their husbands. This traditional framework was reinforced by societal norms, religious beliefs, and familial expectations.

This article delves into the intersection of cultural anthropology and gender studies, providing a comprehensive exploration of how cultural practices, rituals, and social structures shape and are shaped by gender

dynamics. Cultural anthropology equips scholars with ethnographic tools to study these phenomena in specific cultural contexts, while gender studies offer theoretical frameworks to critically analyse power relations, identity constructions, and the social construction of gender (Keesing, 2016).

Cultural anthropology, as a discipline, focuses on the study of cultures and societies. Anthropologists in this field seek to understand the ways in which people live, organize themselves, and construct meaning in their social worlds. Key aspects of cultural anthropology include cultural relativism, kinship and social organization, and symbolic anthropology.

Cultural relativism, a principle rooted in anthropology, challenges individuals to perceive and evaluate cultural practices, beliefs, and norms within their respective contexts, free from ethnocentrism and universal judgments (Atkinson, 1990). This principle celebrates the multifaceted tapestry of human existence, acknowledging the validity and significance of diverse cultural expressions across the world (Kuper, 1999). Kinship and social organization involve exploring kinship systems, family structures, and social arrangements within communities (Rivers, 2012). Symbolic anthropology, on the other hand, focuses on the study of symbols, rituals, and their meanings, which often play a role in constructing and reinforcing gender identities and norms within a society (Deflem, 1991).

Gender studies, as an interdisciplinary field, emerged to provide a more nuanced understanding of gender, moving beyond simplistic binary notions of male and female. Key aspects of gender studies include the social construction of gender, intersectionality, and feminist theory.

II. Body

The social construction of gender challenges the idea that gender is strictly determined by biology and explores how societies construct and perpetuate gender norms, roles, and expectations. Intersectionality recognizes that gender intersects with other social categories such as race, class, sexuality, and ethnicity, highlighting the complexity of individuals' experiences. Feminist theory critically examines power relations, patriarchy, and the historical marginalization of women, while also exploring ways to promote gender equity and dismantle oppressive structures (Teitelbaum, 1989).

Examining the dynamics of gender roles in Georgian society through both cultural anthropology and gender studies lenses allows for a rich and nuanced understanding of how cultural practices intersect with gender expectations and how individuals navigate and negotiate their gender identities within this specific cultural context. It illuminates the symbiotic relationship between these two disciplines, enriching our comprehension of the intricate fabric of human societies.

Literature Review

Utilizing the seminal works and esteemed authors serves as an indispensable cornerstone for delving into the intricate nuances of gender dynamics in Georgian society. Through the meticulous synthesis of extant scholarly discourse, our research endeavours stand poised to make substantive contributions to the field, proffering invaluable insights into the multifaceted discourse surrounding contemporary gender roles. This holds especially true within the context of Georgian society, where the amalgamation of tradition, culture, and evolving socio-political landscapes intricately shapes gender norms and behaviours.

Furthermore, the potential implications of our findings extend beyond mere scholarly discourse. They possess the capacity to propel theoretical frameworks forward, elucidating previously obscured facets of gender theory within the Georgian milieu. Moreover, our research stands poised to transcend academia, potentially informing tangible interventions and policy measures aimed at catalysing societal change. By shedding light on prevailing gender inequalities and interrogating entrenched norms, our work has the potential to galvanize social change initiatives, ultimately fostering a more equitable and inclusive Georgian society.

These seminal works served as the guiding framework that underpinned our research endeavours. By drawing upon their rich insights and comprehensive analyses, we established a robust foundation upon which to navigate the intricate landscape of our study. Each work contributed nuanced perspectives and theoretical frameworks that not only informed our approach but also imbued our research with depth and scholarly rigor. Here are some seminal works upon which our research is founded:

Butler (1990) deconstructs traditional conceptions of gender as fixed and innate, instead positing it as a socially constructed phenomenon (p. 77). Through her incisive analysis, Butler challenges the binary framework through which gender has historically been understood, arguing that it is constantly negotiated and enacted through a myriad of cultural, social, and political forces.

Gilligan (1993) revolutionized the field of psychology by challenging traditional theories of moral development that predominantly focused on male experiences. Through a series of compelling case studies and empirical research, Gilligan introduces the concept of an "ethic of care" as a distinct moral voice inherent in women's development (p. 46). Bem (1993) offers a paradigm-shifting examination of the complex interplay between societal constructs and individual identity formation (p. 102-104), while Hooks (2000) challenges common

misconceptions about feminism and articulates its profound relevance to people of all genders and backgrounds (p. 81-83).

It is worth to mention that Connell (2009) offers a nuanced and multifaceted analysis of the ways in which gender shapes social structures, institutions, and individual lives across diverse societies and contexts (p. 135-138). Hochschild (2012) offers a penetrating analysis of the gendered division of labour within households and its implications for working families. Through a combination of in-depth interviews, ethnographic research, and sociological analysis, Hochschild sheds light on the “second shift” - the unpaid domestic labour that predominantly falls on women even as they participate increasingly in the workforce. According to Hochschild (2012), “The Second Shift” exposes the tensions and inequalities that arise from the unequal distribution of labour within families, as well as the impact on individuals' well-being and relationships. Hochschild's analysis highlights the structural barriers and societal expectations that perpetuate gendered divisions of labour, even in ostensibly egalitarian households.

These seminal works became more than mere references; they became the scaffolding upon which our entire research structure was erected, providing a sturdy framework from which to explore the complexities of our chosen subject matter.

Methodology

The study adopted a qualitative research design to delve deeply into the subjective experiences and cultural nuances surrounding gender roles in Georgian society:

1. A corpus of interviews was collected for non-narrative content analysis.
2. Purposive sampling was employed to ensure a diverse representation of gender, age, socioeconomic backgrounds, and geographic locations within Georgia.

The study, undertaken in 2023, engaged with a cohort of 60 respondents. To cultivate a robust comprehension of gender dynamics, the cohorts were meticulously curated to encapsulate a diverse spectrum of viewpoints. This included individuals spanning various age demographics, gender identities, and geographic locales (rural and urban areas) across the expanse of Georgia. Gender, age, and demographic signs were in equal proportions. Respondents varied from 20 to 83. 60 interviews were analysed.

Each cohort of respondents was approached with sensitivity and cultural awareness, considering the unique socio-cultural context of Georgia. Through in-depth interviews, participant observations, and non-narrative content analysis of interviews, the research aims to elucidate the multifaceted ways in which gender roles are constructed, negotiated, and performed within Georgian society.

Informed consent was obtained from participants, ensuring their voluntary participation and protection of their identities. Ethical guidelines, including confidentiality and respect for cultural practices, were strictly adhered to throughout the research process.

The study employed an intersectional lens to analyse how factors such as age, socioeconomic status, and geographic location intersect with gender, providing a more nuanced understanding of the complexities involved.

In our methodological approach, we harnessed the potency of intersectionality as a conceptual tool (Crenshaw, 1991). It offers a framework exploring the interconnected nature of social categorizations such as race, gender, class, sexuality, and more.

In essence, employing intersectionality as a conceptual tool in research methodology allows for a more comprehensive understanding of social phenomena, individuals, and communities:

Intersectionality posits that individuals embody multiple, intersecting social identities, each of which contributes to their experiences and social positioning. For instance, an individual's experience is shaped not only by their gender but also by factors such as race, class, sexual orientation, disability, and others.

Intersectionality elucidates the intricate interactions between various dimensions of identity, highlighting their mutually constitutive nature. Rather than analysing each identity category in isolation, this framework emphasizes the interconnectedness and mutual reinforcement of diverse identities.

Intersectionality offers analytical tools for scrutinizing systems of oppression and privilege, recognizing the interconnectedness of power structures and the compounded forms of discrimination experienced by individuals at the intersections of multiple identities.

Intersectionality underscores the influence of intersecting identity markers on individuals' lived experiences, emphasizing that no single aspect of identity determines one's reality. Instead, the combination of various identity dimensions shapes access to resources, opportunities, and social recognition.

Intersectionality serves as a valuable tool for understanding social inequality by illuminating the intersections of privilege and oppression within various societal contexts. By considering the complexity of intersecting identities, researchers can attain a more comprehensive understanding of social hierarchies and disparities.

Intersectionality facilitates a critical examination of power dynamics and systems of oppression, enabling researchers to discern the intricate ways in which privilege and disadvantage intersect. This critical lens allows for a more accurate assessment of social hierarchies and the mechanisms through which they are perpetuated.

Intersectionality advocates for inclusivity and diversity by acknowledging and valuing the multiplicity of human experiences. In activism and advocacy efforts, this framework encourages movements to address a broad spectrum of social issues and to be attentive to the unique challenges faced by individuals with intersecting marginalized identities.

Intersectionality holds practical implications for policymaking by urging the development of policies that account for the intersecting dimensions of identity. This approach ensures that interventions are not only effective but also inclusive, thereby addressing the diverse needs and experiences of marginalized groups.

Here's how intersectionality was employed as a conceptual tool in research methodology:

The application of intersectionality facilitated a nuanced examination of the multifaceted nature of social identities and their impact on individual experiences. This approach transcended singular factor analyses by exploring the interplay and interconnections between various dimensions of identity, thereby offering a more holistic comprehension of individuals' lived realities.

Research methodologies were enhanced through the adoption of inclusive sampling techniques that accounted for the diverse array of identities and experiences within the study population. This deliberate inclusivity ensured that the research sample adequately represented the intersectional diversity inherent within society, consequently yielding findings that were both representative and nuanced.

The integration of intersectionality into data collection methodologies entailed posing intricate inquiries aimed at elucidating the complex intersections and potential influences of various identities on outcomes. Subsequent analysis of collected data through an intersectional lens facilitated the identification of nuanced patterns, disparities, and subtleties that might otherwise have been overlooked.

Intersectionality underscored the significance of contextual factors in shaping individual experiences. Research methodologies informed by this framework delved into the socio-historical and cultural contexts that shaped the perception and experience of intersecting identities, thereby enriching the interpretation of findings.

Intersectionality addressed ethical considerations by acknowledging the intricate nature of identity and advocating against the oversimplification or generalization of experiences based on singular factors. This ethical stance underscored the imperative of respecting the complexity and diversity inherent within individuals' lived experiences.

In sum, the incorporation of intersectionality as a conceptual framework in research methodology facilitates a more comprehensive understanding of social phenomena, individuals, and communities by acknowledging the complexity and interconnectedness of social identities and experiences.

III. Results and Discussion

In our investigation, we meticulously analysed the respondents' interviews to uncover a rich array of insights pertaining to various dimensions of gender dynamics within households and the broader societal landscape. Specifically, our exploration homed in on four key focal points:

Percentage of Women in the Workforce:

Through rigorous examination of the respondents' interviews, we sought to delineate the extent of female participation in the workforce across different sectors and industries. By meticulously cataloguing instances where women were actively engaged in employment, we aimed to construct a comprehensive understanding of the workforce composition and the evolving role of women within it.

Distribution of Traditional vs. Modern Gender Roles in Households:

Our inquiry delved deeply into the intricate dynamics of gender roles within households, meticulously delineating the distribution between traditional and modern roles assumed by individuals. Through meticulous analysis of the respondents' accounts, we sought to elucidate the extent to which traditional gender norms persisted, juxtaposed against emergent trends towards more egalitarian distributions of household responsibilities.

Educational Attainment Among Women:

With a keen eye towards discerning patterns of educational attainment, we meticulously examined the respondents' testimonies to ascertain the educational trajectories of women within the studied population. By meticulously cataloguing instances of educational attainment among female respondents, we aimed to gain nuanced insights into the evolving educational landscape and its implications for gender dynamics.

Division of Household Chores Between Genders:

Our investigation entailed a granular examination of the division of household chores, meticulously cataloguing the allocation of domestic responsibilities between genders as articulated by the respondents. Through scrutiny of the narratives, we sought to delineate prevailing patterns of chore distribution, shedding light on the nuanced interplay between gender norms, cultural expectations, and individual agency.

By methodically parsing through the respondents' interviews with a keen analytical lens, our research endeavours to offer a nuanced and comprehensive portrayal of gender dynamics across various facets of societal life. Through meticulous attention to detail and a commitment to capturing the diverse array of experiences and perspectives, we aim to contribute meaningfully to the scholarly discourse surrounding gender roles and relations.

The following visual representations showcase the intricacies of gender role dynamics between urban and rural areas within Georgia:

Area Type	Percentage of Women in Workforce
Urban	67%
Rural	38%

Table # 1 - Percentage of Women in the Workforce.

The data presented in the chart illustrates the disparity in the workforce participation rates of women between urban and rural areas. It reveals that in urban settings, 67% of women are actively engaged in the workforce, whereas in rural areas, this figure drops to 38%. This discrepancy highlights a significant contrast in the employment opportunities and economic participation available to women in different geographical contexts.

Area Type	Traditional Roles	Modern Roles
Urban	25%	68%
Rural	75%	25%

Table # 2 - Distribution of Traditional vs. Modern Gender Roles in Households

The chart presents a detailed breakdown of the distribution of households based on their adherence to either traditional gender roles or the adoption of more modern and flexible roles, distinguishing between urban and rural areas.

In urban settings, 25% of households uphold traditional gender roles, while a significant majority, 68%, embrace modern roles. Conversely, in rural areas, the prevalence of traditional gender roles is notably higher, with 75% of households following this pattern, whereas only 25% have transitioned to modern roles. This data provides valuable insights into the evolving dynamics of gender roles within households across different geographic contexts.

Year	Urban	Rural
2012	50%	30%
2015	52%	33%
2017	55%	35%
2023	70%	40%

Table # 3 - Educational Attainment Among Women

The line graph illustrates the progression of educational attainment among women in both urban and rural areas across multiple years, highlighting the upward trend in educational achievement in both settings.

In 2012, 50% of women in urban areas and 30% in rural areas had attained a certain level of education. Over the years, there has been a steady increase, with the educational attainment rate among urban women rising to 52% in 2015, 55% in 2017, and a significant leap to 70% in 2023. Similarly, rural areas have also experienced a consistent growth in educational attainment, albeit at a slightly slower pace, reaching 33% in 2015, 35% in 2017, and 40% in 2023.

This trend underscores the positive strides made in educational opportunities for women in both urban and rural contexts, reflecting a broader societal shift towards prioritizing and investing in women's education.

Area Type	Household Chores by Women	Household Chores by Men
Urban	45%	55%
Rural	62%	45%

Table # 4 - Division of Household Chores Between Genders

The chart provides an insightful breakdown of the division of household chores between genders, distinguishing between urban and rural households. It delineates the percentage of household chores carried out by women and men in each respective setting.

In urban areas, women take on 45% of the household chores, while men handle 55%. Conversely, in rural settings, there is a more significant disparity, with women shouldering 62% of the household chores, leaving men responsible for 45%.

This data sheds light on the prevailing gender dynamics within households across different geographic contexts, reflecting varying degrees of gender role expectations and distribution of domestic responsibilities.

In the diverse landscape of Georgia, disparities in perceptions of gender roles between urban and rural areas are influenced by a multitude of interconnected factors, spanning cultural traditions, educational accessibility, economic structures, and exposure to evolving societal paradigms.

Urban environments often serve as hubs of progressive ideas and educational opportunities, fostering a climate of openness towards a spectrum of gender roles. This exposure to modern influences typically translates into greater acceptance of non-traditional gender roles, expanded female participation in the workforce, and a heightened emphasis on gender equality initiatives. Conversely, rural communities frequently maintain entrenched traditional values and customs, resulting in more conservative attitudes towards gender roles. Women in rural areas may encounter limited educational pathways, reinforced reliance on traditional familial roles, and fewer opportunities for economic engagement beyond traditional sectors.

Such disparities in gender role perceptions manifest across various spheres of life, influencing family dynamics, educational trajectories, and employment opportunities. Efforts to bridge these divergent perceptions entail multifaceted interventions, encompassing educational outreach programs, community awareness campaigns, and targeted economic development initiatives aimed at empowering women and fostering gender equality across urban and rural landscapes.

Several key dynamics shape the contrasting landscape of gender roles between urban and rural areas in Georgia:

Rural communities often uphold deeply rooted traditional values, reinforcing gender roles where women primarily oversee household responsibilities. Urban areas, by contrast, experience greater exposure to modern influences, resulting in a broader spectrum of gender roles and opportunities for women in education, employment, and decision-making.

Urban environments typically offer a more diverse range of employment opportunities, transcending traditional gender roles and providing women with avenues for economic empowerment. In rural settings, economic activities may be more limited, centred around agriculture or specific industries, thus perpetuating traditional gender norms.

Urban centres boast better access to educational resources, empowering women with opportunities for higher education and exposure to diverse perspectives, thereby challenging traditional gender roles. Conversely, limited access to education in rural areas can reinforce traditional gender norms and hinder women's socioeconomic advancement.

Urban settings, characterized by cosmopolitanism and cultural diversity, often exhibit greater acceptance of non-traditional gender roles, reflecting a more progressive outlook. In contrast, rural areas may uphold more conservative social norms, maintaining traditional gender roles within familial and communal structures.

Urban areas typically enjoy broader access to media channels and technological advancements, facilitating exposure to diverse perspectives on gender roles. This exposure can contribute to the erosion of traditional beliefs and the adoption of more progressive attitudes towards gender roles. Conversely, limited access to such resources in rural areas may impede the pace of change in gender role perceptions.

Addressing these disparities requires concerted efforts, including educational initiatives, community engagement strategies, and economic empowerment programs tailored to the unique contexts of urban and rural communities. By empowering women, promoting gender equality, and fostering dialogue across diverse societal landscapes, Georgia can endeavour towards a more equitable and inclusive future.

In our investigative pursuit, we meticulously delved into the insights gleaned from the interviews conducted with our respondents, focusing keenly on several key dimensions pertaining to the perceptions of gender roles across generational cohorts. Specifically, our inquiry centred on elucidating the contrasting perspectives between older and younger generations, particularly regarding:

Attitudes Towards Traditional Gender Roles:

Through an exhaustive examination of the respondents' narratives, we endeavoured to delineate the prevailing attitudes towards traditional gender roles within distinct generational cohorts. By scrutinizing the articulations and reflections offered by individuals across different age groups, we aimed to unearth the nuanced nuances in the acceptance, rejection, or adaptation of traditional gender norms.

Educational Influence on Gender Role Perception:

Our exploration entailed a meticulous examination of the impact of educational attainment on the perception of gender roles. By dissecting the testimonies provided by respondents across varying educational backgrounds, we sought to discern the ways in which formal education shapes perspectives on gender roles, fostering either adherence to or divergence from traditional norms.

Workforce Participation Trends:

With a discerning eye towards discerning trends in workforce participation, we meticulously analysed the narratives to delineate the differential patterns of engagement between older and younger generations. By charting the trajectories of labour force participation across different age cohorts, we aimed to uncover evolving trends in occupational engagement and the factors influencing such dynamics.

Views on Shared Household Responsibilities:

Our investigation also encompassed a meticulous examination of attitudes towards shared household responsibilities across generational lines. Through detailed scrutiny of the respondents' reflections on domestic duties and familial roles, we sought to elucidate the evolving dynamics in the allocation of household chores and caregiving responsibilities between older and younger generations.

Through a rigorous interrogation of the respondents' interviews, our research endeavours to offer a comprehensive and nuanced exploration of the multifaceted dimensions surrounding perceptions of gender roles across divergent generational cohorts. By meticulously parsing through the narratives with a keen analytical lens, we aim to contribute meaningfully to the scholarly discourse on intergenerational dynamics and the evolving landscape of gender relations.

Below are the data visualizations depicting the differences in the perception of gender roles between older and younger generations:

Generation	Embracing Traditional Roles	Challenging Traditional Roles
Older	78%	32%
Younger	22%	75%

Table # 5 - Attitudes Towards Traditional Gender Roles

The chart delineates the divergent attitudes held by older and younger generations regarding traditional gender roles. It provides insights into the percentage of individuals within each generation who either embrace or challenge these traditional roles.

Among the older generation, a significant majority, comprising 78%, tend to embrace traditional gender roles, while a smaller portion, constituting 32%, display a tendency to challenge these roles. Conversely, the younger generation exhibits a markedly different outlook, with only 22% embracing traditional roles and a substantial majority, reaching 75%, actively challenging such norms.

This data underscores the generational shift in societal attitudes towards gender roles, highlighting a growing inclination among younger individuals to question and redefine traditional gender norms.

Generation	High Education Level	Low Education Level
Older	25%	80%
Younger	75%	28%

Table # 6 - Educational Influence on Gender Role Perception

The chart provides a comparative view of how education levels influence the perception of gender roles across different generations. It highlights the percentage of individuals within each generation categorized by their educational attainment - either high or low - and their corresponding outlook on gender roles.

Among the older generation, those with higher education levels constitute 25% and display a tendency to challenge traditional gender roles, while the majority, comprising 80% with lower education levels, tend to adhere to traditional gender norms. In contrast, the younger generation exhibits a contrasting pattern, with 75% of individuals with higher education levels challenging traditional gender roles, whereas only 28% of those with lower education levels demonstrate a similar inclination.

This data underscores the significant impact of education on shaping attitudes towards gender roles within different generational cohorts, highlighting a trend towards greater acceptance of gender equality among individuals with higher levels of education, particularly among the younger demographic.

Generation	Percentage
Older	33%
Younger	64%

Table # 7 - Workforce Participation Trends

The chart presents a snapshot of the evolving trend in women's participation in the workforce across different generations. It showcases the percentage of women from each generational cohort actively engaged in employment.

Among the older generation, 33% of women are participating in the workforce, reflecting historical trends and societal norms prevalent during their working years. In contrast, the younger generation demonstrates a significant increase in workforce participation, with 64% of women actively engaged in employment. This data indicates a notable shift towards greater workforce inclusion and opportunities for women in the modern era compared to previous generations.

Overall, the chart underscores the changing landscape of women's involvement in the workforce, highlighting a positive trend towards increased participation and empowerment among younger generations.

Generation	Agree	Disagree
Older	25%	75%
Younger	60%	40%

Table # 8 - Views on Shared Household Responsibilities

The chart offers insights into the contrasting viewpoints held by older and younger generations regarding shared household responsibilities. It delineates the percentage of individuals within each generation who either agree or disagree with the notion of distributing household duties.

Among the older generation, only 25% express agreement with the idea of shared household responsibilities, while a substantial majority, comprising 75%, disagree with this concept. Conversely, the younger generation demonstrates a more favourable outlook towards shared responsibilities, with 60% expressing agreement and 40% dissenting.

This data underscores the generational shift in attitudes towards gender roles within the household, highlighting a growing acceptance among younger individuals of the importance of equitable distribution of domestic duties.

In Georgia, the landscape of gender role perceptions undergoes a dynamic interplay between older and younger generations, reflecting the nuanced evolution of social, cultural, and economic dynamics over time.

Older Generations:

Within the realm of traditional gender roles, older generations often adhere steadfastly to prescribed norms where distinct responsibilities are delineated along gender lines. Women typically shoulder the mantle of household management, caregiving, and nurturing familial bonds, while men are traditionally designated as primary providers and decision-makers within the family unit.

The fabric of conservative values tightly woven into the societal tapestry finds resonance among older generations, underscoring a deep-seated adherence to established norms that uphold traditional gender roles. Such values often derive from entrenched cultural legacies and historical contexts, perpetuating a steadfast commitment to age-old gender norms.

The educational landscape of older generations may be characterized by limited opportunities for formal learning, compared to the educational access afforded to their younger counterparts. This disparity in exposure to diverse intellectual discourse may contribute to the preservation of more conservative perspectives on gender roles among older individuals.

Informed by a wealth of life experiences accrued over decades, the perceptions of gender roles among older generations are deeply imbued with the ethos of their formative years. Such perspectives are intricately intertwined with societal expectations prevalent during their upbringing, shaping entrenched beliefs and attitudes towards gender roles.

Younger Generations:

In stark contrast to their older counterparts, younger generations in Georgia espouse progressive ideals that challenge the traditional paradigm of gender roles. Embracing a more egalitarian ethos, they advocate fervently for greater gender equality, rejecting the confines of rigid gender stereotypes.

Buoyed by expanded avenues for education and exposure to global influences facilitated by advancements in technology and media, younger individuals exhibit a proclivity towards open-mindedness and a willingness to embrace diverse perspectives on gender roles.

Elevating aspirations beyond the confines of traditional gender expectations, younger generations, particularly women, harbour ambitions for careers and professional pursuits outside the traditional domestic realm. Younger generations' engagement in advocacy and activism and utilization of social media platforms serve as potent tools in dismantling stereotypes and fostering inclusivity within society.

Efforts to bridge the generational chasm in perceptions of gender roles encompass multifaceted strategies, including educational initiatives, awareness campaigns, and policy interventions aimed at fostering equality. Central to this endeavour is the cultivation of inter-generational dialogue and mutual understanding, which serve as linchpins in fostering respect for diverse perspectives on gender roles within the rich tapestry of Georgian society. The conceptualization of gender roles within Georgian society is deeply ingrained within the intricate tapestry of cultural, societal, and historical contexts, exerting a significant influence on the perceptions and normative expectations regarding the roles and behaviours ascribed to individuals based on their gender identity.

Throughout the annals of history, Georgian societal norms have adhered steadfastly to traditional gender paradigms, delineating men primarily as providers and guardians, while women have been predominantly relegated to roles associated with caregiving and domestic management. These entrenched gender dichotomies find reinforcement within the structures of traditional familial arrangements, wherein patriarchal norms dictate the assumption of leadership positions by men, juxtaposed with women's primary engagement in domestic affairs and childcare obligations.

Furthermore, cultural customs, ceremonial practices, and ritualistic observances serve as potent vehicles for the dissemination and reinforcement of traditional gender norms, effectively moulding perceptions of expected conduct and obligations predicated upon one's gender within the communal framework. These socio-cultural manifestations imbue gender-specific roles with symbolic significance, thus perpetuating societal expectations surrounding gendered comportment.

Nevertheless, the winds of change have begun to permeate the societal landscape of Georgia, catalysed by a confluence of factors including evolving socio-economic dynamics, educational advancements, urbanization trends, and the global dissemination of progressive ideologies. This paradigmatic shift has engendered a discernible movement towards the interrogation and contestation of traditional gender roles, heralding a burgeoning discourse advocating for gender equality and the reconceptualization of the roles and responsibilities assigned to men and women within societal constructs.

IV. Conclusion

In the wake of modernization, Georgian society has experienced a gradual shift towards more egalitarian gender dynamics. Urbanization and increased access to education have played pivotal roles in challenging traditional gender norms. Women have entered the workforce in larger numbers, pursued higher education, and asserted their rights to equality and autonomy.

One area where the interplay between tradition and modernity is particularly evident is in the realm of family dynamics. While patriarchal structures persist in many rural areas and conservative households, urban centres have witnessed a more pronounced departure from traditional gender roles.

Moreover, there has been a growing emphasis on gender equality and women's empowerment in Georgia's legal and political spheres. However, despite the strides towards gender equality, challenges remain. Deep-seated cultural attitudes and societal expectations continue to exert influence, particularly in rural and conservative communities.

Nevertheless, the ongoing evolution of gender roles in Georgian society highlights the complex interplay between tradition and modernity. While traditional norms provide a sense of continuity and identity, they must be re-examined considering changing social realities.

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