

**FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS AND PRACTICES
OF GA RURAL WOMEN AND THEIR INFLUENCE ON
FAMILY WELFARE**

BY

EVELYN BARBARA NELSON



**THIS THESIS IS SUBMITTED TO THE UNIVERSITY OF
GHANA, LEGON, IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE
REQUIREMENT FOR THE AWARD OF M.PHIL HOME
SCIENCE DEGREE**

JUNE, 2013

DECLARATION

I, Evelyn Barbara Nelson, hereby declare that except for references to other people's work which have been duly cited, I have personally undertaken this research project under due supervision. I further affirm that this thesis has neither in whole or part been presented for another degree elsewhere.

EVELYN BARBARA NELSON

Signature.....

(Student)

Prof. Dr. (Mrs.) Laetitia A. P. Hevi -Yiboe

Signature.....

(Major supervisor)



Dr. (Mrs.) Cynthia Gadegbeku

Signature.....

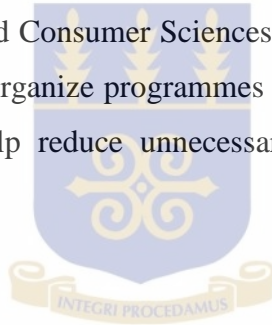
(Co-supervisor)

ABSTRACT

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS AND PRACTICES BY GA RURAL WOMEN AND THEIR INFLUENCE ON FAMILY WELFARE

The study was conducted to find out the financial management systems and practices used by rural women in the Ga East District of the Greater Accra Region and their influence on the welfare of their families. The systematic random sampling technique was used to select 120 respondents from Danfa and Adoteiman for the study. A structured interview schedule was developed and used for data collection. The data were analysed using the Census and Survey Processing (CSPRO 4.1) software and Predictive Analytic software (PSAW 18.1) programmes. The Statistical/Data Analysis (Stata) software programme was used for the regression analysis and the chi-square test, used to test the two null hypotheses. It was hypothesized that: HO₁: There was no relationship between financial management by respondents and family welfare; HO₂: There was no relationship between level of income of respondents and family welfare. Most of the respondents (82%) worked in the informal sector. Respondents received income from various sources with 88% receiving it from their occupations. The study revealed that a greater proportion of the total expenditure (53.9%) was on food and the least expenditure (2.8%) was on non-durable household goods. Respondents used a variety of financial management systems with the main one being the allowance system (36%) and the least used system being the family money management system used by (1%) of the respondents. The respondents also used various financial management practices such as mental planning of expenditure (89%), bulk purchases (33%) and credit purchases (36%). The chi-square test revealed there was a statistically significant relationship between management of finances and family welfare ($\chi^2 = 21.139$ df = 1 p = 0.000) hence the first null hypothesis was rejected. It also revealed there was statistically no significant relationship between household income and family welfare ($\chi^2 = 3.593$ df = 3 p = 0.300) therefore the second null hypothesis was accepted. To find out if any other extraneous variable influenced financial management practices, a logit regression analysis was done. The logit regression analysis revealed that financial management practices (e.g. unplanned spending) and certain demographic characteristics (e.g. respondents' age and

household size) influenced respondents' family welfare both positively and negatively. For instance, women with higher education (e.g. Senior High School Qualification) have 0.12 higher probability of influencing family welfare positively. On the other hand household size relates negatively to family welfare. Therefore if a household size is less by one person, there is a probability of influencing family welfare positively by 0.4 holding all other regressor variables constant. The study revealed that women with high education were more satisfied with their welfare than those with basic or no formal education. It is therefore recommended that rural folk be sensitized by relevant stakeholders like the Ministry of Education to encourage more girls to be educated at least to the Senior High School level. Public health workers and relevant stake holders could intensify their education on family planning methods to help control family size, because the study showed that families with small household size had enhanced welfare than those with large household size. Department of Family and Consumer Sciences of the College of Agriculture and Consumer Sciences of the University of Ghana and other relevant stake holders could organize programmes to enlighten rural women on financial management practices to help reduce unnecessary household expenditures and save money.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Special thanks go to the Almighty God for the great things He has done. I wish to express my sincere gratitude to my supervisors: Prof. Dr. (Mrs.) Laetitia Hevi-Yiboe and Dr. (Mrs.) Cynthia Gadegbeku for their guidance, advice, and useful suggestions that led to the successful completion of this thesis. My appreciation goes to the Chief of Danfa, Nii Afutu Brempong III and the women's organizer Madam Victoria Ababio for their help and support during data collection. With heartfelt gratitude I wish to thank my husband Mr. Robertson Adjei, and a family friend Mr. George Agbenyo for their help, support and encouragement. Finally, I thank all Lecturers of the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences for their constructive criticisms and useful suggestions which also led to the successful completion of this thesis.



DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to God Almighty for His love, care, and protection; to my siblings Dorothy, Godfried and Teresa, my husband Robertson for their help and encouragement and finally to my children Emmanuella and Samuel for their support.

TABLE OF CONTENT

	Page
DECLARATION	ii
ABSTRACT.....	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	v
DEDICATION	vi
TABLE OF CONTENT	vii
LIST OF APPENDICES.....	xi
LIST OF TABLES	xii
LIST OF FIGURES	xiii
LIST OF ACRONYMS	xiv
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 BACKGROUND INFORMATION	1
1.2 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM.....	5
1.3 AIM OF STUDY	5
1.4 SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES.....	5
1.5 HYPOTHESES	6
1.6 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY.....	6
1.7 OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF TERMS	6
CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW.....	8
2.1 INTRODUCTION	8
2.1 CONCEPT OF MANAGEMENT	8
2.2 CONCEPT OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT.....	9
2.2.1 <i>Budgeting</i>	9
2.2.2 <i>Benefits of financial management</i>	10

2.2.3	<i>Effective financial management</i>	11
2.2.4	<i>Family financial problems</i>	13
2.2.5	<i>Successful Money Management Skills</i>	13
2.3	THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE FAMILY	14
2.4	SOURCES OF INCOME OF FAMILIES	15
2.5	EXPENDITURE PATTERNS OF FAMILIES IN GHANA.....	16
2.5.1	<i>Household expenditure</i>	16
2.5.2	<i>Savings of households</i>	19
2.6	OVERVIEW OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT PRACTICES	21
2.7	DIFFERENT FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS USED BY FAMILIES	23
2.7.1	<i>The family money manager system</i>	23
2.7.2	<i>Whole Wage System</i>	24
2.7.3	<i>Allowance system</i>	24
2.7.4	<i>Pooling/Shared Management System</i>	24
2.7.5	<i>Independent Management System</i>	25
2.7.6	<i>The Handout System</i>	25
2.7.7	<i>The Equal Salary System</i>	25
2.8	WELFARE OF FAMILIES	26
2.9	CONCLUSION	27
CHAPTER THREE: METHODOLOGY		28
3.1	INTRODUCTION.....	28
3.2	STUDY DESIGN	28
3.3	STUDY AREA.....	28
3.4	TARGET POPULATION	29
3.5	SAMPLE SIZE & SAMPLING PROCEDURE	29
3.6	INSTRUMENT FOR DATA COLLECTION	31
3.7	PRE-TEST	31
3.8	DATA COLLECTION	31
3.9	DATA ANALYSIS	32

CHAPTER FOUR: RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS.....	33
4.1 INTRODUCTION	33
4.2 SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS	33
4.2.1 <i>Age distribution of respondents</i>	33
4.2.2 <i>Marital status of respondents</i>	34
4.2.3 <i>Ethnic groups</i>	35
4.2.4 <i>Religion</i>	35
4.2.5 <i>Educational levels attained by respondents</i>	36
4.2.6 <i>Type of dwelling and residence status</i>	37
4.2.7 <i>Household size</i>	37
4.2.8 <i>Main occupation of respondents</i>	37
4.3 INCOME OF RESPONDENTS	38
4.3.1 <i>Average Income of Respondents</i>	39
4.4 EXPENDITURE PATTERNS OF RESPONDENTS	40
4.4.1 <i>Average monthly expenditure</i>	40
4.5 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS AND PRACTICES USED BY RESPONDENTS	41
4.5.1 <i>Financial management systems</i>	41
4.5.2 <i>Ways of spending income</i>	45
4.5.3 <i>Household financial decision making</i>	46
4.5.4 <i>Purchases</i>	46
4.5.5 <i>Credit purchases</i>	47
4.5.6 <i>Family savings and loans</i>	49
4.6 EVALUATION	52
4.7 WELFARE OF FAMILY	52
4.7.1 <i>Provision of housing by respondents</i>	53
4.7.2 <i>Families who seek medical treatment</i>	54
4.7.3 <i>Provision of educational needs by respondents</i>	55
4.7.4 <i>Satisfaction from savings</i>	55
4.7.5 <i>Provision of basic needs</i>	57
4.8 TEST OF HYPOTHESES	61

CHAPTER FIVE:SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.	64
5.1 INTRODUCTION	64
5.2 SUMMARY	64
5.3 CONCLUSION	67
5.4 RECOMMENDATION	67
BIBLIOGRAPHY	69

LIST OF APPENDICES

	Page
APPENDIX 1: A STRUCTURED INTERVIEW SCHEDULE	79
APPENDIX 2: WHOQOL-Bref questionnaire.....	90
APPENDIX 3: Descriptive Statistics.....	102

LIST OF TABLES

	Page
Table 3.1 Projected populations from Danfa and Adoteiman.....	30
Table 4.1 Age distribution of respondents	34
Table 4.2 Types of dwelling and residence status	37
Table 4.3 Respondents' source of income	39
Table 4.4 Occupation and income distribution of respondents.....	40
Table 4.5 Average monthly expenditure of respondents	41
Table 4.6 Financial management systems and practices	44
Table 4.7 Plan for expenditure and spending money.....	45
Table 4.8 Credit purchases made by respondents	48
Table 4.9 Frequency of saving by respondents.....	50
Table 4.10 Means of saving money	50
Table 4.11 Investment by respondents.....	51
Table 4.12 Number of persons in a room and occupancy status	53
Table 4.13 Ability to pay for education and satisfaction with provision of education...	55
Table 4.14 Saving money and satisfaction with savings	56
Table 4.15 Satisfaction with provision of basic needs.....	57
Table 4.16 Simple logit regression of determinants of welfare of families.....	58
Table 4.17 Financial management and welfare	62
Table 4.18 Average income and welfare of respondents.....	63
Table 4.19 Descriptive statistics on average monthly expenditure of respondents	102
Table 4.20 Descriptive statistics of factors that influence family welfare.....	103

LIST OF FIGURES

	Page
Figure 4.1: Marital status of respondents.....	34
Figure 4.2 Ethnic groups of respondents	35
Figure 4.3 Educational level attained by respondents	36
Figure 4.4 Occupation of respondents	38
Figure 4.5 Financial management systems used by respondents.....	42

LIST OF ACRONYMS

CED	Committee for Economic Development
CSPro	Census and Survey Processing
DFACS	Department of Family and Consumer Sciences
DSOS	Division of Statistics Office of Statistics
FEFE	Family Economics & Financial Education
GSS	Ghana Statistical Service
GLSS	Ghana Living Standard Survey
ICLS	International Conference Labour Statisticians
IDCEO	Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
NGO	Non-governmental Organisation
NHIS	National Health Insurance Scheme
NSO	National Statistical Office
PSAW	Predictive Analytic Software
ROSCA	Rotating Savings and Credit Association
SSNIT	Social Security and National Insurance Trust
STATA	Statistical/Data Analysis
WHO	World Health Organisation
WHOQOL	World Health Organisation Quality of Life

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background Information

In the past, women played the reproductive role and took care of the family while men played the productive role. The role of women has however changed because of increasing financial needs and woman's own cultural evolution (Nosé, 2010). In addition to performing their reproductive role, women now play an important role in the household economy which is productive role by working in both formal and informal sectors of the economy in order to earn income to support themselves and their families (Agyeman, 2007). They now have major responsibilities for the sustenance and welfare of households and managing of family finance even when they live with a husband (Brown, 1994).

One of the important goals of families worldwide is financial security. This is achieved if money is managed effectively to meet present needs and future goals. Family financial management refers to the day-to-day financial activities necessary to manage income (McGraw-Hill, 2001). Family financial resources come mostly from the family's earned income. Money comes into the family as income in the form of wages, salaries, profit, rent, and remittances. Other sources of income include: social security, pension receipts, educational scholarships, and dividends on investment and interest on savings (Ghana Statistical Service, 2000).

The central objective of financial management is to improve the family's financial well-being (Godwin, 1990:222). Successful money management requires effective coordination of personal financial records, personal financial statements and budgeting activities (McGraw-Hill, 2001). Family financial management focuses on recommended practices such as: setting financial goals, having a budget, keeping lists and records of household inventory, credit cards and insurance policies believed to ensure long-term financial security. Yet studies have found that few people actually implement such practices (Winter & Muske, 2004). Families face a variety of financial tasks, such as preparing a budget, dealing with unforeseen expenses and planning for the future (Leigh and Clark 2000). As a culture we are ignorant of what money is and how to handle it. Ignorant is not lack of intelligence; it is lack of knowledge on a particular subject such as basic principles of managing or making financial decisions for our own family (Ramsey, 2003).

Financial management has several benefits. One benefit is that, it helps minimize personal economic risk that makes people vulnerable to events such as property loss, disability and medical expenses and even premature death (Deacon and Firebaugh, 1988:131). Another benefit of financial management is that, it helps lessen non-financial demands on the family's time, energy, attention and concern for contingencies. Effective management of resources including finances enables individuals and families derive maximum benefit from every resource (Hevi-Yiboe, 2004). For instance with money one can purchase any material needs by individuals or families, or provide for the family in times of emergencies, such as sudden illness.

Financial management within the family is a difficult task for many homes. Several families find out that they run out of financial resources and are helpless at emergency situations (Prokerala, 2013). To address financial management properly, it is important to design a strategy to ensure the proper utilization of funds. Proper management of available resources can bring maximum benefit and satisfaction to individuals and families (Hevi-Yiboe, 2004). Therefore good resource management must be the goal of everyone and every family. A study by Chatzky (2003, as cited in Agyeman, 2007) also reported that one does not have to be a millionaire to be happy, provided one ensures effective management of one's limited income.

The ability to manage is one of the most crucial skills in the world today. In financial management for instance, there is a wide range of resources such as time, money, energy and abilities available to the family to manage (Oppenheim, 1972). However, these resources must be apportioned wisely among the various family needs and desires. For instance, money or family finance is one of the resources that need to be managed well. It is a powerful force in our society and can have a major impact on the success of a family. This is because it has alternate uses and therefore can be used to provide the needs and wants of family members. For instance money must be shared among the many possible needs of the family members.

Money is strategic as individuals and families make their daily financial decisions. It is important in addressing questions relating to economic well-being. For example, how attitudes about money relate to economic success and the relation of economic conditions and its use (Deacon and Firebaugh, 1988). Money can either be a major cause of stress

for many people or provide a way of release for others depending on how it is managed (Park et al, 2002).

Effective financial management in the family can be achieved through various financial management styles. Research suggests that there is no one correct method of handling finances in the family. Family members need to thoughtfully consider their situation and communicate about how best to manage their money. When spouses communicate openly, make decisions together, and have mutual trust and respect, they greatly increase the likelihood that they will manage their finances successfully. On average however, families engage in little systematic financial management such as the existence of a written budget, or financial record keeping (Godwin, 1990); or wives taking the task of ‘family financial officers’ by handling money and allocating income (Godwin 1990) and (Agyeman, 2007). Another financial management system is having joint responsibility of financial management by couples (Godwin 1990). Other means of managing finance as explained by Freeman, (2006), include the following; getting organized, always saving a regular amount of income, having financial goals, paying off debts as quickly as possible and avoiding impulse spending.

Financial management in the family is a shared responsibility in most Ghanaian homes. However, there is a considerable variation in the extent to which husbands and wives share the task of providing for material needs in the family. Men usually supply bulky items which meet their long term needs whilst women on the other hand, are expected to put their small, repetitively acquired incomes towards day-to-day needs Oppong, (1983), and Leach (1991 as cited in Brown 1994).

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Women have major responsibilities for the sustenance and welfare of household members, even when they live with a husband. They are also in charge of managing family finances. Literature suggests people have problems managing financial resources. Is this the case with women in Ga East District? There is also lack of information about how women in third world countries including Ghana, actually manage their finances and their influence on the welfare of their households. It is against this background that the researcher wants to investigate how rural women in Ga East District of Greater Accra manage their finances and their influence on family welfare.

1.3 Aim of Study

The aim of the study was to investigate how rural women in Ga East District manage their finances and their influence on the welfare of their families.

1.4 Specific objectives

The specific objectives of the study were to:

1. Identify the various sources of income of respondents.
2. Investigate how women spend their income.
3. Find out the different financial management systems and practices used by women.
4. To investigate how financial management by women influence the welfare of their family members.

1.5 Hypotheses

HO₁: There is no relationship between financial management by respondents and family welfare.

HO₂: There is no relationship between level of income of respondents and family welfare.

1.6 Significance of the study

1. The study would contribute to knowledge on financial management and their influence on the welfare of families.
2. It would serve as a guide for the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences (DFACS) to educate women on financial management.
3. It would also serve as a guide to policy makers when drawing intervention programmes for women.

1.7 Operational Definition of Terms

Financial management-

Managing all household income effectively to achieve satisfaction for every member of the household.

Financial management system-

This is the system couples agree upon in managing their money/income.

Welfare-

Refers to the ability to provide and manage basic needs adequately to satisfy every member of the family.

Individual system-

This is a term used to describe a new financial management system identified in the study. It is a financial management system whereby women take sole responsibility of providing and managing income at home. Women using this system were either single, separated or divorced, or married but living with spouses who do not work.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

This chapter presents a review of relevant literature to the study on a number of topics beginning with the concept of management followed by concept of financial management. It also looked at the role of women in the family, their sources of income, expenditure patterns, financial management practices and systems and welfare.

2.1 Concept of Management

Management occurs in many different situations. In general it is often defined as the wise use of resources to achieve what is wanted. Management is using what you have to get what you want (Hevi-Yiboe, 2004; p.7). It also means utilizing available resources in the best possible manner and also for achieving well defined objectives (Patil, 2012). It can also be defined as a distinct and dynamic process involving the use of different resources for achieving well defined objectives (Patil, 2012). Management is the activity of facing and solving problems. It is a process that involves planning, controlling and evaluating the use of available resources to reach goals. Individuals and households make choices and decisions to use family resources to achieve their goals daily (Stephenson, 1997; p. 94). Families need to recognize the limitation of every resource and manage the available resources wisely to meet individual and family needs and wants and to accomplish their goals (Stephenson, 1997; p. 96).

2.2 Concept of Financial Management

Financial management means putting together the economic resources at hand to make efficient use of them and taking decisions that can successfully help in acquiring more assets for the family (Borade, 2011). Financial management is synonymous to money management. Money management is the process of knowing how money is spent now and in the future (Balance, 2011). This involves setting financial goals, getting organized, and tracking spending to ensure that expenditure does not exceed income, thus avoiding debt. It aims at creating a budget to control spending, saving money regularly, making investment to help achieve financial goals and finally assessing how money was managed (Balance, 2011; IDCEO, 2013).

Every family, whether rich or ordinary, requires a financial plan because financial management is a lifelong process that requires ongoing review (Sherin, 2011). Most people wrongly believe that, financial management is only practicable and desirable for families with high earnings, that families with sizable incomes can only spare enough funds to create financial planning through investing in various investment products (Sherin, 2011). For the purpose of this study, financial management is described as how household income is managed effectively to achieve satisfaction for all household members.

2.2.1 Budgeting

One of the keys to successful money management is having a budget. A budget is a plan for using available money. A budget is necessary no matter the amount of income available. It enables individuals to take critical look at needs and wants before parting

with any money (Hevi-Yiboe, 2004; p.17). Budgeting includes allocating the family income for different spending needs such as bills, food, entertainment and miscellaneous expenses. A budget helps to understand how much money comes into the family and how to spend to avoid debt. A budget also helps to manage credit and to save money for the future (IDCEO, 2013). Budgeting is viewed as most important because it includes using all household funds. It is usually intended to ensure that some money is available for major purchases. It allows an individual to track monthly expenditures so that savings strategies for short and long term goals can be planned. A budget or spending plan helps to gain greater control over the following: financial resources, savings, impulse buying, and emergencies (IDCEO, 2013).

The concept of financial management manifests itself in the way a budget is managed and also how investments are managed. Money management should take into account present and expected future income of a family. Without proper financial management or budgeting, savings and investments will not be possible because spending habits will force a person to invade and destroy savings and investments (IDCEO, 2013).

2.2.2 Benefits of financial management

The central objective of family financial management is to improve the family's financial well-being. This should reflect in the family's way of living such as higher net worth, higher levels of savings and lower debt ratio (Godwin, 1990: 222). But for these to happen then there should be consistency in proper financial management over a period of time.

Financial management helps to reduce risk. It ensures that expenditure is less than income. It includes making allowances for unforeseen circumstances and making savings a priority. It identifies the risk of running out of money (for instance in a month) and also identifies the risk of running out of money in future (Frankle, 2013).

With effective financial management, money is made available to meet short term and long term requirement of the family. Financial management aims at reducing the size of a problem and ensures smooth running of the home (Borade, 2011). Financial management is critical to the success and happiness of any relationship, including marriage. It is a key to a happy family, and goes beyond physical survival. A family's emotional survival depends on financial stability and tranquility (Sherin, 2011). The well-being of a rural household can be quantifiably improved if only one person in that household has adequate knowledge in financial management and also has a savings account. A significantly higher level of well-being is achieved when that person is a woman (Sibley and Liew, 2009).

2.2.3 Effective financial management

Handling finances is a challenge for many families, but it is important to manage money effectively and create a sense of financial security and comfort (Leigh and Clark, 2000). Effective financial management involves calculation of risk, cost and control and maintaining cost of funds at minimum (Borade, 2011). To address financial management very well, a strategy needs to be designed to ensure proper utilization of funds. This prevents wasting available funds (Borade, 2011). Effective money management

prevents a great deal of stress and tension and leads to healthier family functioning (Leigh and Clark, 2000).

Effective financial Management may be achieved through the following means:

1. Couples should identify each other's different values, standards, and goals that influence his/her view of money and its uses and discuss how to manage the family income (Leigh and Clark, 2000).
2. Experiment with different methods of handling finances until a system that works well for the family is achieved. Example, keeping separate accounts, pooling all money, or combine these two practices (Leigh and Clark, 2000; Osteen & Neal 2012).
3. Develop a budget and make joint decisions regarding finances which define each spouse's financial roles and responsibilities (Leigh and Clark, 2000).
4. Purchases made should be appropriate to one's income level and avoid impulse buying as much as possible (Leigh and Clark, 2000).
5. Needs should be separated from wants, and expenses should be kept constant even when income increase (Leigh and Clark, 2000).
6. Discuss the family's financial situation with children as they mature (Leigh and Clark, 2000).
7. Prepare for unforeseen problems by planning how to handle unexpected expenses and financial emergencies by establishing an emergency saving fund (Leigh and Clark, 2000).

2.2.4 Family financial problems

Families face a variety of financial tasks, such as preparing a budget, dealing with unforeseen expenses and planning for the future. Family financial problems are caused by a number of factors. These include: lack of financial understanding which could result in making unwise decisions, personal behavior problems, and relationship problems (Sherin, 2011).

Financial problems caused by personal financial behavior include: impulse buying, excessive materialism, preoccupation with social image, and using money to control others. Other factors of personal financial behaviours are emotions, personality and an individual's attitude toward money (Sherin, 2011).

2.2.5 Successful Money Management Skills

Successful money management skills include:

1. Setting goals which are an important process and following it to help secure a good financial future (Osteen & Neal 2012).
2. Making a monthly budget which is a key to successful money management because it helps to spend money wisely by avoiding impulse buying and spending money within the means of the family (IDCEO, 2013).
3. Keeping a written spending plan to know exactly how money is spent (Osteen & Neal 2012).
4. Saving for the future (IDCEO, 2013).

2.3 The role of women in the family

Women have worked from time immemorial to care for their families. From the dawn of history they have helped to provide food and make clothing for their families (Oppong and Abu, 1987). A study in rural households in Fiji reveals that women assume greater responsibility than men for the management of their household's finances (Sibley and Liew, 2009). They are more likely than men to plan savings and to set financial goals for their households. Women are more competent than men because they are more diligent at managing household expenditures and accepting the principal role in the management of household finances (Sibley and Liew, 2009).

In addition they keep household records such as checking bills that need to be settled and monitoring household expenditure. In other words, women keep written record of household income and expenditure (Sibley and Liew, 2009). They understand their family financial situation better and know how well their households are meeting their current financial commitments (Sibley and Liew, 2009). Women appear to be better at saving money but on the contrary fewer women own bank account (Sibley and Liew, 2009). The role that women play in managing their household finances is necessary to improve the well being of their households (Sibley and Liew, 2009).

Studies show that women are responsible for buying 80% of household goods. As such they have a great deal of influence in the economy and a lot of spending power (McCracken, 2001). They are also often responsible for clothing themselves and their families (McCracken, 2001). Women spend more of their income on their households, for instance on children's education, food, health and clothing

(Agyemang, 2007). Women live under a great deal of pressure and must find ways to feed their families on a limited budget. As a result, they have more purchasing power than ever before even though they still earn significantly less than their male colleagues (McCracken, 2001). Ghanaian women play an important role in the household economy in spite of the difficulties they encounter in the discharge of their duties (Brown, 1994).

Women are still less financially literate than men. In all areas they have a heavier emotional involvement with money than men and have more worries, fears and anxieties about money. They are more likely to be in debt too. Despite all these challenges women are still managing family budgets, paying bills, and making major purchasing decisions (Pine, 2009).

2.4 Sources of income of families

Income is the money received in the form of wages and salaries for work done. Other sources of household income are profits on sale of goods, interest or dividend on investment, rent and other forms of earnings received in a given period of time (Elmblad, 2013). Household members typically derive their income from employment both paid and self-employment (that is wages and salaries); property income, (a major source of this is rent on the ownership of dwellings), income from the production of household services for own consumption; and current transfers received (ICLS, 2003; DSOS, 2007, & GLSS, 2008). In many households there may be more than one individual who is an active member of the labour force. Moreover, such individuals may undertake more than one economic activity during any year, any week, or indeed, at any period of time (GLSS, 2008). Women have also used agriculture and other kinds of trade to earn their income

(Yankey, 2006). Women also earn their income through petty trading and the preparation and sale of food Levin et al (1999 as cited in Yankey, (2006). Other sources of income to the family are remittances which constitute less than 10% of household income, interest on savings, social security and pension receipts. However, the three main sources of household income in Ghana are income from agricultural activities (35%), wage income from employment (29%) and income from self employment (25%) (GLSS, 2008).

On average annual household income in Ghana is about GH¢1,217.00 whilst the average per capita income is almost GH¢400. There are regional differences with Greater Accra region recording the highest of GH¢544.00. Urban localities have higher per capita income than rural localities (GLSS, 2008). Sources of income varied according to the employment status of the household head (Ormsby & Fairchild, 1987).

2.5 Expenditure patterns of families in Ghana

2.5.1 Household expenditure

Household expenditure data has been used extensively to monitor general household living standards and consumption patterns (WHO, 2007). Household expenditure includes all the monies spent on different items which are used to satisfy the needs and wants of family members (ICLS, 2003). According to Ghana Statistical Service Report (GSS 2000), estimates of household income and expenditure are of interest for a wide variety of statistical and analytical purposes. One of the most obvious was the estimation of household welfare and of poverty.

In Ghana, average annual household expenditure is GH¢1,918.00 whilst the mean annual per capita consumption expenditure is GH¢644.00. Regional differences exist with

Greater Accra Region having the highest per capita expenditure of GH¢1,050.00 (GLSS 2008). Major expenditure percentages are helpful when creating a spending plan, but other expenses need to be considered as well. If major expenditure percentages are adjusted according to values, needs and wants, individuals are able to live within their means and have enough money for other expenses as well. Housing, transportation, food and insurance are considered as major household expenses. Housing takes about 30% of income, transportation (20%), food (15%), insurance (7%), and other items takes (28%) (FEFE, 2009). Similarly, DSOS, (2007) found that the highest household expenditures were on food, housing & related expenses, and transportation & communications.

In the Philippines, food accounts for a little more than two-thirds of the family's spending (42.6%); rent (housing) takes 13.6% of the family's spending; transport & communication (7.4%); fuel, light and water (6.5%); education (4.0%); personal care & effects (3.9%); and clothing, footwear & others (2.9%) (NSO, 2003).

Expenditure on food

In Ghana, food expenditure accounts for $\frac{2}{5}$ of total household expenditure: Greater Accra spends about 40% of its total expenditure on food; households in the highest quintile spends about half of the total expenditure on food; and food forms about 60% of the total expenditure of households in the lowest quintile (GLSS, 2008). In the localities, households in urban centres spend about 44% of total expenditure on food, while households in the rural areas spend more than 60% of total expenditure on food (GLSS, 2008). On the contrary, a study by Minot and Dewina (2010) in Ghana, revealed that food production represent 36% of household income while food consumption accounts for

49% of household expenditure. Among food growers barely one-third of them are net sellers of food. They further stated that households that do not grow food (including most urban households), food consumption represents 41% of their budget. In Chile, households spent, on average, 53% while in Mexico households spent an average of 54% of their income on food (Ormsby & Fairchild, 1987) and in Micronesia about $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of total household expenditures in the states was on food (DSOS, 2007).

Expenditure on housing

Expenditure on housing in Ghana averages 2.4% of the total household expenditure. Expenditure on housing is higher in Greater Accra Region than the other regions. According to the standard set by the Ghana Statistical Service, the room occupancy ratio of a household is a measure of housing adequacy. Any room occupancy ratio in excess of two persons per room is an indication of overcrowding (Boamah, 2010).

Other expenditures

Within the non-food expenditure group, transport contributes the highest of 16.7% to the total expenditure. The next most important expenditure groups in terms of amount spent are housing, water, electricity and gas (7.9%), recreation and culture (6.1%), clothing and footwear (8.6%) and education (5.3%) (GLSS, 2008).

Credit

More than 27% of all households owe money or goods to other persons, institutions or businesses and only 6% are able to pay fully a loan in the preceding 12 months. The extent of indebtedness, as measured by the proportion of households taking out loans, is lower in urban areas (24.1 %) than in rural areas (29.8 %). Over half of household loans

come from relatives, friends and neighbours (GLSS, 2008). In Chile, only 19% households had borrowed money during the year (Ormsby & Fairchild, 1987).

2.5.2 Savings of households

The act of saving money can be very rewarding. Saving is setting some money aside for future use or needs. Savings can be used as an emergency cushion for retirement or for something to reward yourself with, when you complete a goal (GLSS, 2008). Savings is important for security and safety; planning ahead for major expenses and to meet emergencies (Avery & Kennickell, 1991; Chang, 1994).

There are at least three main reasons to save money. These are:

1. Save until you have an emergency.
2. Save for purchases to avoid debt.
3. Save for wealth building (Ramsey, 2003).

However, certain factors were found to be associated with savings by households. Income was found to be positively associated with consumer savings (Avery & Kennickell, 1991; Chang, 1994). Other factors which influenced family savings include age, number of children, type of employment, household size and education (Xiao, 1996).

Just a third of all households in Ghana have savings accounts. Two-fifth of urban households operates savings accounts as against only 22% of their rural counterparts. More males (60%) have savings accounts than females (40%). Rural areas have higher proportions (78%) of households without saving accounts compared to urban areas (61%) (GLSS, 2008). A study by Ormsby & Fairchild, (1987) showed that 23.3% of households saved money. Women use different means of obtaining money for their businesses or

household purposes. This study focuses on only three of such methods: money lenders, susu collectors and susu associations. Another form of obtaining money is through the banks.

Money lenders.

Money lending is one of the oldest forms of making credit available to the family. The family is expected to pay back the money borrowed plus interest charged on it between periods of 3 months to 6 months. The activities of money lenders have reduced considerably, due to the emergence of rural banks, credit union, and susu associations (Steel and Andah, 2003).

Susu collectors.

These are people who collect daily amounts set by each of their clients and return the accumulated amount at the end of the month minus one day's amount as their commission (Steel and Andah, 2003).

Susu associations.

These associations are of two types: these are Rotating Savings and Credit Association and Accumulating Savings.

A Rotating Savings and Credit Association (ROSCA).

Members of this group contribute a fixed amount regularly (for example weekly or monthly) that is allocated to each member in turn (according to lottery, bidding, or other system that the group establishes) (Steel and Andah, 2003).

Accumulating saving.

Members of this group make regular contributions which may be lent to members as loans or paid out under certain circumstances such as death of a family member (Steel and Andah, 2003).

2.6 Overview of financial management practices

Financial management studies show that most families follow few of the normative or “good” financial management practices (Godwin, 1990; 221). Families prove this through their day-to-day activities of paying bills, keeping food on the table, providing clothes and shelter for its members and trying to avoid financial trouble. But it is expected that good management should translate into increased satisfaction (Muske, 1995). Money is active and needs to be managed continually (Ramsey, 2003). The recommended practices have been shown to provide the family with greater wealth accumulation (Hira, 1987). Researchers have noted, however, that often people using the recommended practices fail to do so completely. Things such as putting the budget in writing (Davis & Carr, 1992), or keeping records and then comparing those records to actual expenses were not completed (Godwin, 1990). In a related study, some families had financial expenses, reviewed and evaluated their spending habits but fewer families had written plan of their income and expenditure (Titus et al, 1989).

Families engage in little systematic financial management behavior such as written budget, or record keeping and account management (Godwin, 1990: 222). Mental management was used extensively but only limited amount of written planning was done.

The fact that mental management was so important was an important factor in the development of the individual tools for good management (Muske & Winter, 2004: 82). In a study by Godwin and Carroll (1986, as cited in Godwin, 1990: 222), they found that fewer families had a written budget, a household inventory or explicit financial goals for the next year, whilst a majority of families reported that they discuss some financial goals, kept monthly records of expenditures, and saved a specific amount of money each time they receive income. Families who had written financial plans, written record keeping systems and who had planning horizons of up to a year reports significantly higher net worth than other families (Beutler and Mason, 1987).

Financial planning was positively related to families' net worth, when families estimated their household incomes and expenses, reviewed and evaluated their spending and had relatively concrete plans to achieve those goals. A family's subjective financial well-being is more strongly related to their attitudes and perceptions rather than any observable management behavior (Titus, et al., 1989). Lack of knowledge about principles of financial management and financial matters could explain why some families do not follow recommended financial practices such as setting financial goals, having a budget, keeping lists and records of household inventory, credit cards and insurance policies.

In a study of over 50,000 couples, it was found that the top five financial problems couples experienced involved couples spending money, saving money, making major purchases, debts and use of credit cards (Olson, Olson-Sigg & Larson, 2008). A study in Sweden on gender equality on money and marriage, revealed that couples have a plan

about how to manage their day-to-day finances regardless of whether or not they had joint or separate accounts and each spouse agreed on equal opportunity to the couple's money (Nyman, 1999). The most important influential demographic variables related to financial management practices are education of husband, education of wife and family income (Ormsby & Fairchild, 1987).

2.7 Different financial management systems used by families

There are various financial management systems used by families. These include: family money manager, whole wage system, allowance system, pooling or shared management system, independent management system, handout system and equal salary system Pahl (1983, as cited in Marshall and Wolley, 1993); Hevi-Yiboe, (2004).

2.7.1 The family money manager system

With this system a family member handles majority of the financial transactions for the family (Muske, 1995). Early studies show that the most common financial arrangement in families is for wives to be the "family financial officer" or the primary financial officer. They handle routine tasks such as managing money, paying bills and allocating income (Godwin, 1990). Reasons for having a primary financial manager were that, one spouse may have more expertise, extra time, or a greater desire to manage the finances (Horrock, 2010). Again probably because women are better at budgeting and keeping track of their spending and are also less likely to build up debt on credit card or through a loan because they set priorities and know what the family has to spend on (Barnett, 2010).

2.7.2 Whole Wage System

This is a system where one partner, usually the wife is responsible for managing all finances of the household. She is also responsible for all expenditures except for the personal spending money of the other partner. Both partners have access to money coming into the household, but the wife is responsible for management (Marshall and Wolley, 1993; Osteen & Neal 2012). For instance family financial management by the Effutus of Winneba in Ghana rests solely on the women. The economic fortunes of the family depend on fishing activities of the husband (Brown, 1990). A man gives money to his wife in between fishing season and the wife is expected to manage the money even during the off season. He expects the woman to feed the whole family and also provide other needs of the family for the whole of the ensuing year (Brown, 1990).

2.7.3 Allowance system

In households using this system, the husband gives the wife a set amount of money every week or month to which she adds her own earnings if there are any. The woman is responsible for paying for specific items such as food and clothing while the remainder of the money stays under the control of the husband and he pays for other items such as rent, electricity and water bills. The husband has access to the main source of income; the wife has access to only that part of it which he chooses to give her Pahl (1983, as cited in Marshall and Wolley, 1993); Hevi-Yiboe, (2004).

2.7.4 Pooling/Shared Management System

Families using this system utilize a joint account or common kitty into which all income are paid and from which both can draw. Both husband and wife have access to all

income and responsibility for expenses is shared more or less equally. Families reported that both spouses jointly handle the family finances and are also responsible for financial decision making and implementation (Hira, 1987; Osteen & Neal, 2012). Financial management is a central subject in couple relationship (Horrocks, 2010). Partners placed a high value on the moral characteristics of their spouse. Integrity, honesty, and loyalty were also highly valued attributes (Horrocks, 2010). A study in the United States by Horrocks, (2010), revealed that couples pooled resources together to take care of expenses but each partner has some private money for their own spending and each couple was responsible for some particular expenditure.

2.7.5 Independent Management System

With this system both partners earn income and neither has access to all households' funds because they believe that everything should be kept separately. Each maintains separate control over his/her own income and each partner is responsible for specific items of expenditure Pahl (1983 as cited in Marshall and Wolley, 1993); Osteen & Neal (2012).

2.7.6 The Handout System

This is a system where husbands give money to their wives on daily basis or as and when needed to take care of household expenditure (Hevi-Yiboe, 2004).

2.7.7 The Equal Salary System

Both husband and wife contribute equal amount of money for the up keep of the house (Hevi-Yiboe, 2004; Pine, 2009). But in relationships many women make the short-term spending decisions while their partner plans and invests for the future (Pine, 2009).

2.8 Welfare of families

According to The Oxford Dictionary's (2001), welfare means well-being, happiness, health and prosperity of a person or community. Welfare derives its meaning from "*well* in it's still familiar sense and *fare*, primarily understood as a journey or arrival and also as a supply of food" (Greve, 2008). Welfare can be interpreted in one way in a person's everyday life perspective, and another when looking at it at the societal/macro level. It can be related both to the individual and to the collective and involves material as well as immaterial needs. Moreover, it will often be connected to various interpretations of social justice (Greve 2008). When looking at welfare at the macro level; money can be and is used as an indicator or an instrument for achieving welfare. In economic theory more generally, welfare is seemingly just another word for utility. It is the evaluation assigned by the individual to income or, more generally, to the contribution to our well-being from those goods and services that we can buy with money" (Van Praag & Frijerts, 1999).

In economics, welfare is mainly connected to individual's perception and utility of the use of income. It also refers to how utility can be maximized by choices made by the individual (Walker, 2005). Welfare at its core has something to do with fulfilling essential needs of the individuals and the families. This implies that welfare can change over time, and, to a certain degree, be dependent on the level of income and having a job (Greve, 2008). Essential indicators of welfare are happiness; well-being; capabilities, that is, being capable of attaining high level of education and working to earn income and being capable of managing income; and not living in poverty Tella, et al. (2003; 809 as cited in Greve, 2008). Indicators of welfare as stated by Ormsby & Fairchild, (1987), were; type

of employment, rate of unemployment, level of perceived income adequacy, education levels, levels of debt and savings and percentage of income spent on food.

2.9 Conclusion

From the literature reviewed, financial management means how economic resources are put together and the decisions that are taken for efficient use of these resources. The decisions that families take are the management systems and practices that they use in handling their money. Families use different financial management systems and practices in allocating their income. Some of these practices include setting financial goals, budgeting (mental and written), savings, taking care of day-to-day management of family finances such as paying bills, keeping food on the table, and providing clothes (which are considered as the recommended practices or good management practices), mostly rest on women. It is expected that good management should translate into increased satisfaction. But researchers have noted that often people using the recommended practices fail to do so completely. There seems to be a gap in knowledge about financial management practices and its influence on the welfare of families in developing countries like Ghana. This study hoped to fill this gap in knowledge by accessing financial management systems and practices of Ga rural women and their influence on family welfare.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

Data gathering is crucial in research. It then becomes imperative to select the manner of obtaining data and from whom the data is acquired especially since no amount of analysis can make up for improperly collected data (Tongco, 2007). This chapter provides information on the study design, the study area, target population, sample size, sample and sampling procedure, instrument for data collection, how data was collected and analysed.

3.2 Study design

A cross-sectional study design was used for this study. In this type of research study, either the entire population or a subset of the population is selected. Data is collected from the selected population (respondents) to help answer research questions of interest. The information gathered from the respondents represents what is going on in the entire population at only one point in time (Olsen & George, 2004).

3.3 Study area

The study was carried out at Danfa and Adoteiman in the Ga East District of the Greater Accra Region. Danfa and Adoteiman are twin towns located 27 kilometres (km) north of the capital Accra. These are indigenous Ga communities but have other ethnic groups residing there. The natives moved from Teshie and Nungua (their original homes), which are coastal towns to settle in these new communities in the Accra plains, with the aim of

engaging in subsistence farming. These towns were chosen for the study because the researcher is familiar with these communities and also because of proximity.

3.4 Target population

The target population comprised all women between the ages of 18-60 years in all households in Danfa and Adoteiman. Women were targeted because they have a major responsibility for the sustenance and welfare of household members even when they live with a husband (Brown, 1994). The women in these communities work in both formal and informal sectors of the economy (GSS, 2011).

3.5 Sample size & sampling procedure

A sample is a carefully selected portion of the population, which is considered to be representative of the total population as to the aspects to be investigated and enumerated (Kumekpor, 2002). A proportionate sampling size was selected in each community. The projected population of the two communities was derived from the Ghana Statistical Service. To arrive at a sample size of 120 women, the total sample of women was divided proportionally.

$$\frac{\text{Number of women in specific community}}{\text{Total number of women in two communities}} \times \text{Sample size}$$

$$\text{Danfa} = \frac{677}{1066} \times 120 = 77 \quad \text{Adoteiman} = \frac{389}{1066} \times 120 = 43$$

This is presented in Table 3.1. Thus one hundred and twenty women comprising 77 women from Danfa and 43 women from Adoteiman were the study sample.

Table 3.1 Projected populations from Danfa and Adoteiman

Communities	Female population	Percentage of females (%)	Sample size
Danfa	677	64	77
Adoteiman	389	36	43
Total	1066	100	120

Source: Ghana Statistical Service (2000)

The systematic random sampling technique was used to select respondents for the study. Within this study, numbers were assigned to households in which there were women and then every k^{th} household with a woman willing to be part of the study was chosen for inclusion in the sample. There were 208 households in Danfa and 98 households in Adoteiman (GSS, 2011). To get the k^{th} element, the number of households within a selected community was divided by the proportionate sample size:

$$\frac{\text{Total number of households in community}}{\text{Proportionate sample size}} = k^{\text{th}} \text{ element}$$

$$\text{Danfa} = \frac{208}{77} = 2.7 = 3(\text{every } 3^{\text{rd}} \text{ household})$$

$$\text{Adoteiman} = \frac{91}{43} = 2.1 = 2 (\text{every } 2^{\text{nd}} \text{ household}).$$

In Danfa, a point was selected (that is the first house at the entrance to the village), then every third house was selected till the total sample size of 77 houses with women willing to participate in the study were selected. These women were told the purpose of the study and then with their consent, they were interviewed. In Adoteiman however, the k^{th} element was 2 thus after selecting a starting point, women in every second house were interviewed till the sample size of 43 was attained.

3.6 Instrument for data collection

A structured interview schedule was developed for the study. Structured interviews normally follow a systematic order and give uniformity in the interviewing procedure. This saves time and makes data analysis simpler (Kumekpor, 2002). A structured interview allows for information to be collected from illiterates in their local language. The interview schedule was designed to collect information on the: socio-demographic characteristics, sources of income of respondents, how families spend their income, different financial management systems and practices used by families, and welfare of families (Refer to Appendix 2).

3.7 Pre-test

To ensure reliability, objectivity, and clarity of items in the interview schedule, the instrument was pre-tested on ten women selected from Otinibi in the Ga East District. Otinibi was chosen because the residents have similar characteristics as the study sample. The dominant ethnic group is Gas. The women also work in both formal and informal sectors of the economy. The pre-testing helped to ensure that the questions were clear and well understood by the respondents. Again it helped to determine the average number of interviews that could be made in a day and also the average duration for each interview. After the pre-test a few questions were added to the interview guide. For example, questions to assess the welfare of respondents and questions to find out if respondents reviewed their budget.

3.8 Data collection

Data was collected within a period of six weeks. The interview took place in the morning or afternoon depending on when respondents were available. The respondents were

interviewed at home or at their work places using the structured interview schedule developed. Each interview lasted between 40 to 50 minutes. On average four respondents were interviewed daily. Where necessary the items were interpreted in the local language that is, (Ga, Dangbe, Ewe, or Akan).

3.9 Data analysis

Data was hand coded and entered into the Census and Survey Processing system (CSPro 4.1) software version. After entering the data in the CSPro it was exported into the Predictive Analytic Software (PSAW 18.1) and Statistical/Data Analysis (Stata 11.2) software programmes for analysis. Data was presented using percentage distribution, tables and graphs and analysed using statistical measures including means, logit regression and chi square test. The logit regression analysis was used to identify the influence of the following factors: age, education, ethnicity, household size and financial management practices on the welfare of families. The chi-square test was used to establish the relationship between study variables.

CHAPTER FOUR

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

4.1 Introduction

The results of the study on financial management systems and practices of women in Danfa and Adoteiman, and their influence on family welfare are presented in this chapter. The findings are presented under the following headings: socio-demographic characteristics, sources of income, expenditure patterns, financial management systems and practices and welfare of family.

4.2 Socio-demographic characteristics of respondents

The demographic characteristics of respondents are presented in this section. These are information about the: age, marital status, ethnic group, religion, educational level attained type of dwelling/residence status, household size and main occupation of respondents.

4.2.1 Age distribution of respondents

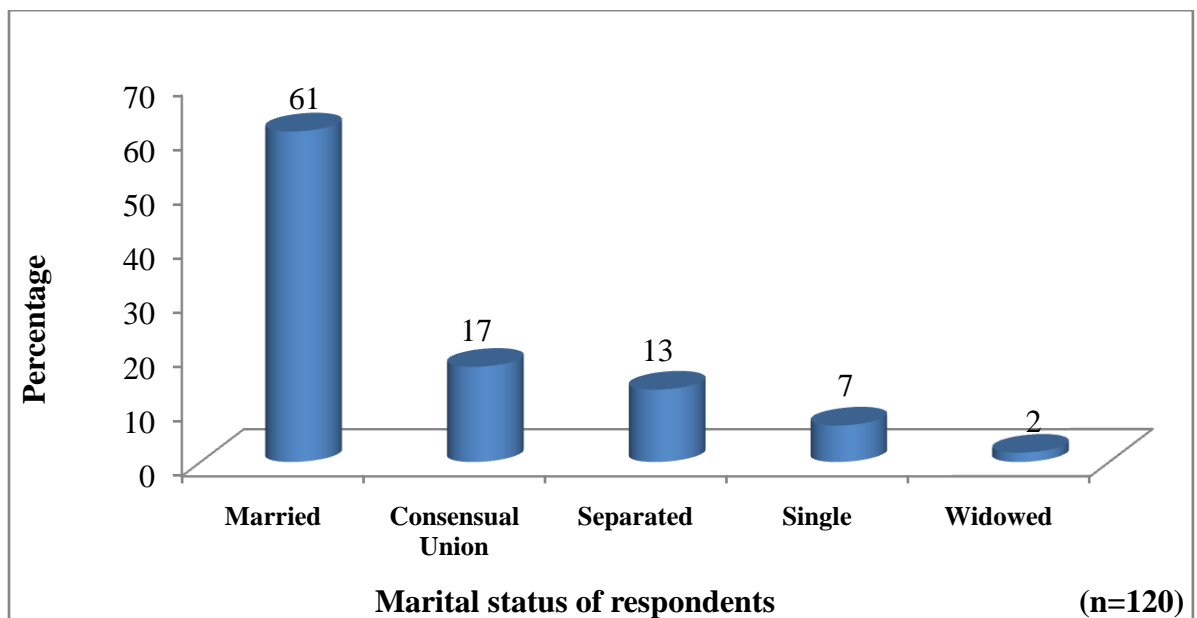
Table 4.1 presents the age distribution of the respondents. The ages of the respondents ranged between 22 to 55 years with the average age being 34.5 years. Majority of the women (73%) were between the ages of 20 to 39. The implication is that these women are still in their active ages and are strong enough to engage in several income generating activities.

Table 4.1 Age distribution of respondents

Age Grouping	N	(%)
20-29	33	28
30-39	54	45
40-49	23	19
50-59	10	8
Total	120	100

4.2.2 Marital status of respondents

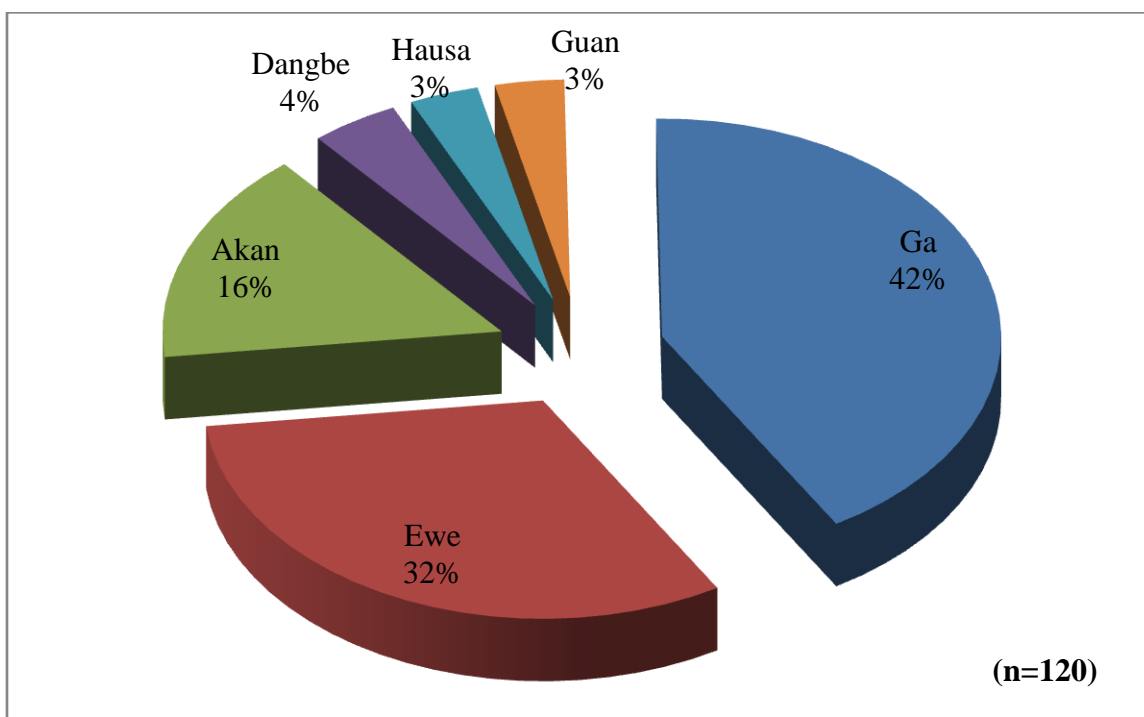
More than half of the women were married (61%), and only 2% were widowed. About 92% of the married women were in monogamous relationships while 8% were in polygamous relationships.

Figure 4.1: Marital status of respondents

4.2.3 Ethnic groups

Findings in Figure 4.2 suggest that although the study was conducted in a predominant Ga ethnic community, there were a variety of respondents belonging to other ethnic groups. The major ethnic groups from the study were Gas (42%), while minorities 3% were, Hausas and Guans respectively.

Figure 4.2 Ethnic groups of respondents



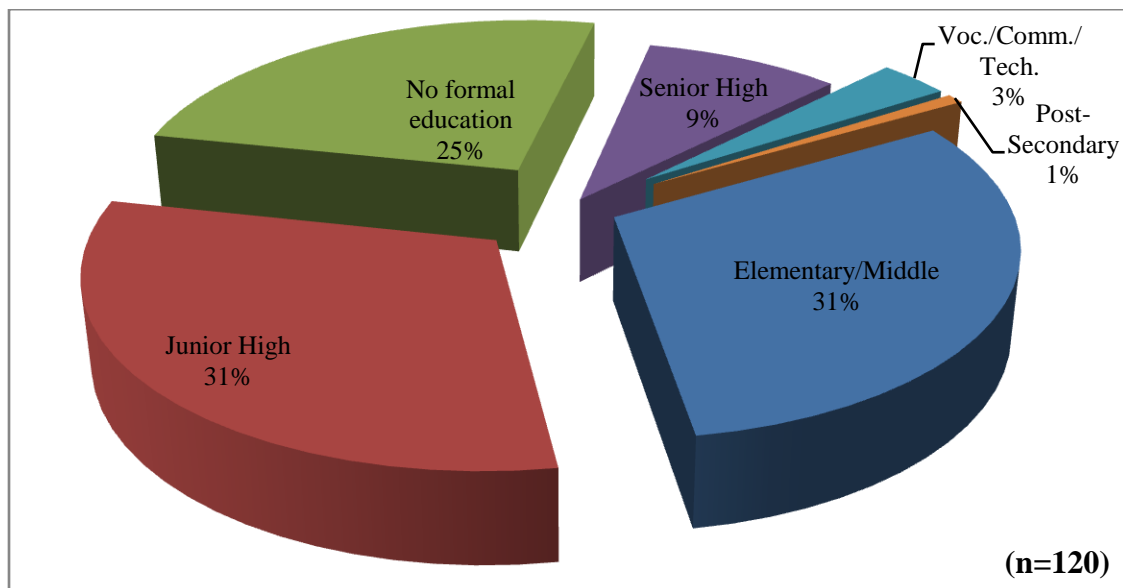
4.2.4 Religion

Majority of the respondents (90%) were Christians and 6% were Moslems. Two percent of the respondents belonged to the traditional religion and the remaining 2% did not belong to any religion.

4.2.5 Educational levels attained by respondents.

Figure 4.3 shows the varied educational backgrounds of respondents. The study sample attained different levels of education ranging from basic to post secondary education, with majority (62%), having only basic education.

Figure 4.3 Educational level attained by respondents



Hilgert, et al., (2003), examined the linkage between knowledge or education and behavior and realized that lack of knowledge about financial management in the household could explain why some families do not follow effective financial management practices. They further indicated that those who have higher levels of education are more likely to engage in financial matters in the households.

4.2.6 Type of dwelling and residence status

Table 4.2 shows a cross tabulation of the type of dwelling that the respondents lived in and their residence status. The findings suggest most respondents (80%) lived in compound houses while (1%) of the respondents lived in kiosk.

Table 4.2 Types of dwelling and residence status

Type of dwelling	Rented		Owned		Family house		Squatting/ Encroaching		Total	
	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)
Compound house	36	86	14	50	44	94	2	67	96	80
Detached house	6	14	14	50	2	4	1	33	23	19
Kiosk	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	1
Total	42	100	28	100	47	100	3	100	120	100

The study revealed that 65% of the respondents did not spend any money on rent or maintenance of the house. They lived in their own houses, family houses or in kiosks. About 37% of the respondents living in compound houses lived in their family houses, whilst (2%) of the respondents lived in uncompleted houses belonging to other persons.

4.2.7 Household size

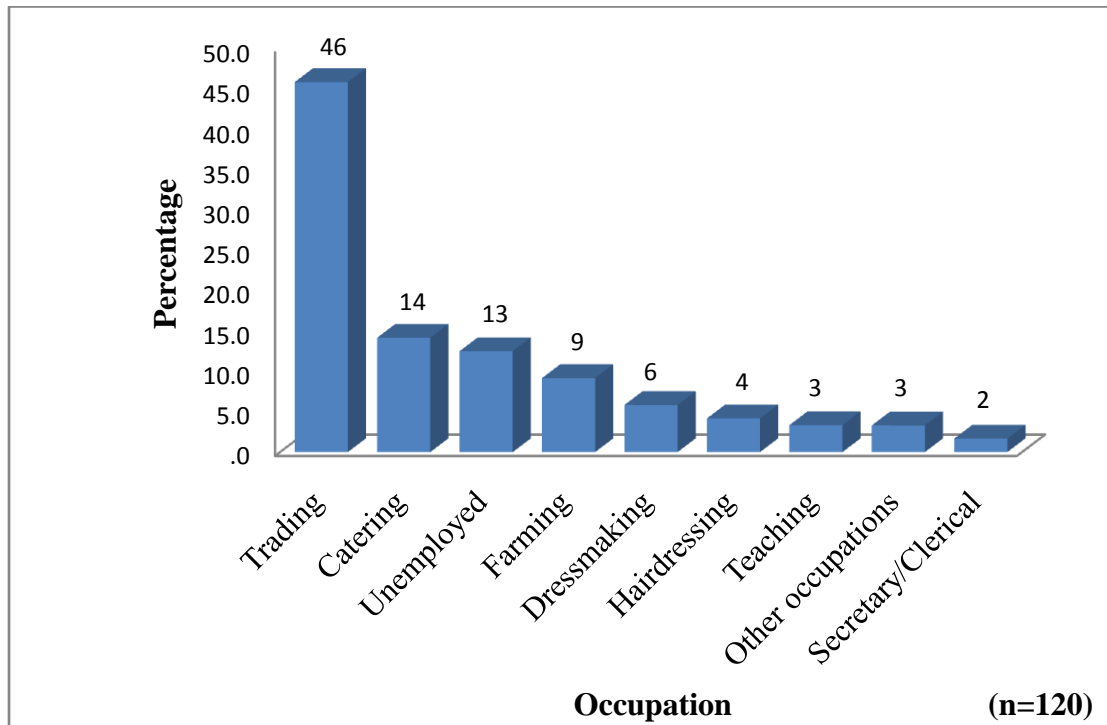
Findings of the study revealed that households' size ranged from 1 to 9 members with the average household size being 4 members. This is similar to the households' size of 4.4 identified in the Ghana Living Standard Survey (GLSS, 2008).

4.2.8 Main occupation of respondents

Figure 4.4 shows respondents' occupation ranged from self employment to public service jobs. Majority of them (82%) worked in the informal sector and only 5% of the women

were in the formal sector. Forty-six percent of those in the informal sector were traders and 3% worked as labourers (other occupations)¹.

Figure 4.4 Occupation of respondents



The findings of this study are consistent with the findings of Agyemang (2004) and Dolphyne (1991) that most Ghanaian women engage in various economic activities such as petty trading, farming, hairdressing and teaching, to generate income for themselves and their families.

4.3 Income of respondents

The sources of respondents' income are presented in Table 4.3. The responses show that respondents received income from a variety of sources with the main source being their

¹ The category of women who belong to other occupations worked as labourers in homes and at building sites as and when their services were needed.

occupation/job (88%) and the least being payment of rent (2%). The findings of the study on sources of income are similar to the findings of (ICLS, 2003; DSOS, 2007, & GLSS, 2008), which stated that households received income from employment (wages and salaries), rent, remittances, and gifts. Majority of respondents (60%) also received items from their husbands in addition to money received to manage the home. The items were detergent, food, clothing (dresses and diapers) and fuel.

Table 4.3 Respondents' source of income

Source of Income	N	(%)
Occupation/job	106	88
Remittances	91	76
Gifts	22	18
Rent	2	2
Husbands' contribution	72	60

Multiple response were observed

4.3.1 Average Income of Respondents

Table 4.4 presents the average monthly income and occupation of respondents. The monthly income of respondents ranged from GH¢20 - GH¢800 and the mean household income was GH¢128.72. The study showed that majority of respondents, (63%) earned up to GH¢50 and about (29%) of these respondents were traders; and 7% earned GH¢150 or more. Respondents indicated that their incomes were not enough to meet all their household needs.

Table 4.4 Occupation and income distribution of respondents

Occupation	Average monthly income									
	>50 GH¢		50-99 GH¢		100-149 GH¢		150+GH¢		Total	
	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)
Trading	30	47	15	67	4	44	3	43	52	50
Farming	10	16	1	5	-	-	-	-	11	11
Dressmaking	4	6	1	5	2	22	-	-	7	7
Catering	13	20	2	9	1	12	1	14	17	17
Hairdressing	3	5	2	9	-	-	-	-	5	5
Teaching	-	-	1	5	-	-	3	43	4	4
Secretary/Clerical	-	-	-	-	2	22	-	-	2	2
Other occupation	4	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
Total	64	100	22	100	9	100	7	100	102	100

$$\chi^2 = 65.36 \quad df = 21 \quad p \text{ value} = 0.0000$$

A chi-square test revealed that there was a statistically significant relationship between occupation of respondents and their income ($\chi^2 = 65.36$ $df = 21$ $p \text{ value} = 0.0000$). The occupation determined the amount of income that respondents received.

4.4 Expenditure patterns of respondents

4.4.1 Average monthly expenditure

This section presents the expenditure patterns of respondents. The study revealed that households spent a greater proportion of total expenditure (53.9%) on food, and the least expenditure (2.8%) on non-durable household goods such as soaps and cleaning materials. This is presented in Table 4.5.

Table 4.5 Average monthly expenditure of respondents

Item	Amount (GH¢)	Percent (%)
Food	228.62	53.9
Education expenses	37.69	8.8
Transportation	31.71	7.4
Fuel and light (electricity, kerosene, wood, gas)	24.65	5.8
Communication (use of mobile phone)	22.04	5.2
Contribution to associations	15.57	3.6
Personal care services	14.31	3.3
Remittance/gift to family members	13.73	3.2
Clothing and textiles	13.41	3.1
Health expenses	12.61	2.9
Non-durable household goods	12.01	2.8

The finding is similar to findings in literature that show the main components of household expenditure are on food, education, transportation and health (Agyemang, 2007; NSO, 2003; Birim Central Municipal, 2006; GLSS, 2008). These are basic needs of all families and households

4.5 Financial management systems and practices used by respondents

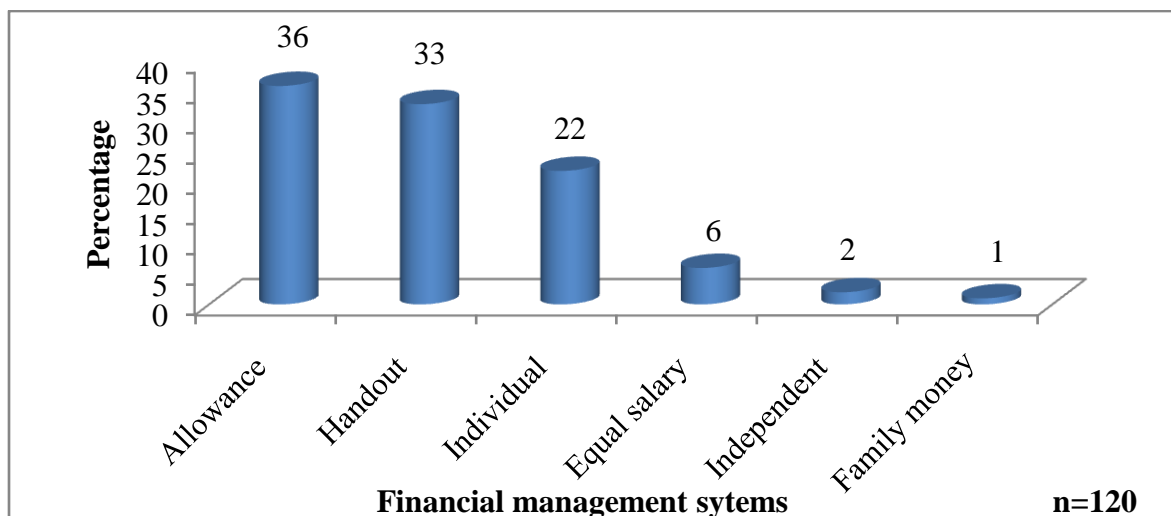
4.5.1 Financial management systems

Couples usually have a system² that they agree on to manage their family income. These systems sometimes determine which financial management practices are used by families. The financial management systems used by respondents are presented in Figure 4.5. The study revealed that respondents used a variety of financial management systems with the main one being the allowance systems (36%) and the least (1%) being the family

² Refer to notes on financial management systems on section 2.7

money manager which was used by only (1%) of the respondents. The findings confirm studies that showed that although couples pooled resources together to take care of expenses, each partner had some private money for their own spending. Partners (in marriage) also maintained separate control over their own income and were responsible for specific items of expenditure Pahl (1983, as cited in Marshall and Wolley, 1993); Horrocks, (2010).

Figure 4.5 Financial management systems used by respondents



A new financial management system was identified in the study. This was termed the “individual system”³ by the researcher. It was used by 22% of respondents (who were mainly women living with spouses who do not work). These women take sole responsibility of providing and managing family income.

Table 4.6 compares the financial management systems and practices used by families and the satisfaction they derived from it in terms of how it influenced the well-being of their families. Some of the financial management practices included: planning what to

³ Refer to the definition of individual system in section 1.5

purchase (mental and written budget), cash, credit and bulk purchases, and savings. The idea of using these financial management practices are that families are expected to be more effective in achieving goals and in getting the greatest possible satisfaction from their income (Granbois, et al., 1986).

An analysis of findings in Table 4.6 suggests that majority of households who used the allowance and handout systems used the financial management practices than those who used the other systems of financial management. These women using the allowance and handout systems received money on regular basis therefore they were able to use the management practices better than the others.

Table 4.6 Financial management systems and practices

Financial management systems		Financial management practices														Satisfaction with financial mgt		Satisfaction with welfare	
		Planned expenditure		Record keeping		Compared prices		Bulk purchases		Credit purchases		Saved money		Evaluation of plan		N	(%)	N	(%)
		N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)				
Allowance		21	17	9	7	42	35	16	13	10	8	31	26	36	30	33	27	17	14
Handout		15	12	2	2	37	31	14	11	16	13	25	21	30	25	27	23	17	14
Individual		14	12	1	1	26	21	8	7	11	9	16	13	16	13	16	13	13	11
Equal		3	3	1	1	7	6	2	2	3	3	5	4	7	6	5	4	4	3
Independent		-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	3	3	2	2	3	3	2	2	3	3
Family money manager		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

To address financial management very well, a strategy needs to be designed to ensure proper utilization of funds and prevent wasting available funds (Borade, 2011). Couples often have differing attitudes and beliefs about family finances. Therefore for effective financial management couples need to experiment different methods of handling finances until a system that works well for the family is achieved (Leigh & Clark 2000).

4.5.2 Ways of spending income

Financial management demands that any available money to the family should be spent wisely in order to derive maximum satisfaction for family members. This section presents information on how money was spent by the study sample. Table 4.7 shows how respondents plan and spend their income.

Table 4.7 Plan for expenditure and spending money

Spending money	Plan of expenditure					
	Written		Mental		Total	
	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)
Plan before spending	11	85	42	39	53	44
Spend when necessary	2	15	65	61	67	56
Total	13	100	107	100	120	100

$$\chi^2 = 9.67 \quad df = 1 \quad p \text{ value} = 0.0018$$

An analysis of the table above using the chi-square test revealed that there is a significant relationship between plan of expenditure and how money was spent ($\chi^2 = 9.67$ $df = 1$ p value = 0.0018). About 44% of the respondents plan before spending. Majority of these did mental instead of written planning of expenditure. This is confirmed in literature that although, a budget is necessary no matter the amount of income available because it

enables individuals to take critical look of their needs and wants before parting with money, majority of families did mental planning (Hevi-Yiboe, 2004 p.17; Muske & Winter, 2004; 82).

4.5.3 Household financial decision making

The management process involves careful decision making to reach goals with the least expenditure of time, energy and money (Sparks, 2008). It is important to make careful decisions and manage wisely the resources available. From the study, majority of the respondents indicated that they decided how to use family income with their spouses before the income was used. About 47% of the respondents decided how to use their family income most often; 17% of the respondents took decisions on the use of their income less often and 36% took separate decisions on the use of family income. Decision making in the family implies that more than one member's suggestion is involved (Sparks, 2008), and families goals, values, needs and wants are considered (FEFE, 2009).

4.5.4 Purchases

Majority of the women (95%) observed good financial management practices as indicated in Table 4.6 such as comparing prices of items before buying and a minority (33%), purchased items for household use in bulk. The items bought in bulk include food, detergents, and clothes. When prices of items are compared before purchases are made, to some extent it enables quality goods to be bought at moderate prices. Bulk buying also saves money in terms of getting bulk goods at reduced prices and also saves money on transportation cost. Besides it enables household goods to be available most of the time.

4.5.5 Credit purchases

About 36% of the women bought household items on credit to supplement their income for the family. Even though credit purchases can affect a family's financial management in the long run because additional money is paid on credit purchases than on cash purchases, it helps to ease a family's burden of being able to provide enough household needs.

On the other hand, credit transactions could be as a result of the absence of a financial budget. Without a budget specifying how available income could be used, wants may be satisfied before realizing that there were needs which have not been satisfied. Respondents made purchases of household items on cash and on credit. Apart from buying on cash, which all the respondents did, 10% of the women bought on credit and made part payment. However, 64% of the women made no credit purchases.

Those who made credit purchases give the following reasons: money not enough for cash purchases (69%), most of the family's needs were met (17%); credit purchases are paid for in installment and does not put stress on family income (9%); and items sold on credit look attractive (5%). Table 4.8 shows how respondents made their credit purchases.

Table 4.8 Credit purchases made by respondents

Purchases	When credit purchases were								Total	
	made						No credit purchase			
	Weekly		Monthly		Occasionally		N	(%)		
	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)
Credit purchases with part payment	2	67	2	50	8	22	-	-	12	10
Credit purchases without part payment	1	33	2	50	28	78	-	-	31	26
No credit purchases	-	-	-	-	-	-	77	100	77	64
Total	3	100	4	100	36	100	77	100	120	100

On the contrary, respondents indicated the effect of credit on financial management. They explained that credit purchase had positive and negative effect on financial management. Twenty-six percent of the respondents indicated that credit purchases had positive effect on their financial management because it helped their families to achieve their goals and (18%) said it affects financial management negatively. However, 56% of the women were neutral. They did not indicate whether credit purchases affect financial management negatively or positively. The following reasons were given by 18% of the respondents to show how credit purchases negatively affect financial management at home:

1. Credit purchases affect future financial planning because it reduces future income for the home, thus preventing the acquisition of certain items in the future (28%).
2. Goods bought on credit are expensive (22%).
3. There is no financial freedom, always paying creditors (33%).

4. If payments are not made on time, it can lead to misunderstanding between creditors and debtors and can bring reproach on the family (17%).

4.5.6 Family savings and loans

Although respondents claimed their income was not enough, majority of them (67%) saved money. This is a good financial management practice. This finding is however contrary to some studies in literature that only a minority of families save money (Ormsby & Fairchild, 1987; Kwahu West Municipal Assembly, 2006; and GLSS, 2008).

The minority of women (33%) who did not save money gave the following reasons for not saving:

1. Income was not sufficient (30%).
2. Money for family use was not sufficient (30%).
3. They do not have money to even take care of all family needs (20%).
4. They do not have any job (10%).
5. They were paying for a loan and therefore did not have excess money to save (10%).

The study went further to assess how frequent respondents saved money. A summary of their responses is presented in Table 4.9. The finding suggests that majority of women (67%) saved some money with most either saving weekly (38%) or monthly (25%). This was similar to findings that majority of women in Ghana save a little money (myjoyonline.com, 2012). Women are often in charge of household finances and because of this, most women try to save despite the little income at their disposal (Barber, 2012). It is expected that regular savings which is necessary helps to meet some of the family's

needs especially during emergency situations. However, only 20% of respondents who saved money were able to handle emergency situations well.

Table 4.9 Frequency of saving by respondents

Frequency of saving	N	(%)
Daily	12	15
Weekly	30	38
Monthly	20	25
Occasionally	18	22
Total	80	100

Means of Saving

Respondents who saved money used different means of saving their money and this is presented in Table 4.10. The study revealed that only 4% of the respondents had multiple means of saving. About 44% of the women saved money with a (ROSCA). The respondents claimed that these associations were formed by small groups of people and were much more reliable than the old system of saving money with susu collectors. However, 10% of the respondents believe that they can save and have full control over their money in a susu box.

Table 4.10 Means of saving money

Means of saving	N	(%)
ROSCA	35	44
Bank	27	34
Susu collector	10	12
In a susu box	8	10
Total	80	100

Investment plans

The investment plans of the women are presented in Table 4.11. Families find a way of creating financial security for the future and this is normally done in a way that is suitable for the family. This study found that women invested their monies in different ventures for their future.

Table 4.11 Investment by respondents

Type of investment	N	(%)
Savings	80	67
Housing project	9	7
Business investment	7	6
Education	6	5
SSNIT	4	3
No investment	14	12
Total	120	100

Multiple responses were observed

The study revealed that majority of the women 88% had some form of investment and most of them (67%), had their investment in the form of savings whilst 3% of the women were specifically relying on (SSNIT) as a form of their financial security for the future. Mean while, 12% of the women do not have any form of investment.

Family Loan

Only 13% of the women took loans from; friends, family members, money lenders and banks for the upkeep of their homes and also for investment in their businesses. The minimum interest paid on the loan in a month was GH¢13 and the maximum interest paid was GH¢22. About 5% of the women took loans from banks; 3% of the women from

family members; another 3% from money lenders; and the remaining 2% took their loan from friends. This finding is similar to that of the GLSS, (2008), that 27% of all households owe money or goods to other persons, institutions or businesses and also over half of household loans come from relatives, friends and neighbours.

4.6 Evaluation

Evaluation as part of the home management process is very important because it helps to assess the progress of a plan. The analysis and effectiveness of the implementation is determined by evaluation (Hevi-Yiboe, 2004). Respondents were asked if they reviewed their budgets and the responses were that 78% of respondents reviewed their budgets and made effort to provide unmet needs. This finding is consistent with Sherin, (2011) that financial planning is a lifelong process that requires ongoing review. The rest of the respondents (22%) said they do not evaluate their budgets but rather plan to provide new needs.

4.7 Welfare of family

This section assesses the welfare of respondents by looking at factors that impact on the welfare of the family. Essential indicators of welfare are happiness; well-being, capabilities that is, being capable of attaining high level of education and working to earn income and being capable of managing income, and not living in poverty (Greve, (2008).Welfare was assessed using the World Health Organization Quality of Life Bref (WHOQOL-BREF) June 1997, (Refer to Appendix 2).

4.7.1 Provision of housing by respondents

As stated earlier, respondents lived in different types of houses but this section looked at the number of people who lived in one room. This was necessary to check the welfare of families in terms of providing accommodation for its members. Table 4.12 presents the number of persons in one room and the residence status of respondents. The study revealed that 44% of families had enough room space (accommodation), which is on the average two persons sleep in one room. By the GSS, 2005 standard, the room occupancy ratio of a household is a measure of housing adequacy. Any room occupancy ratio in excess of two persons per room is an indication of overcrowding (Boamah, 2010). Therefore 56% of families lived in overcrowded room: 21% of these families lived in family houses, another 21% of those who lived in overcrowded rooms were in rented apartments, and 2% lived in uncompleted houses belonging to other people. This could be expected because in our traditional setting, family houses belonged to a large number of people and the houses are mostly overcrowded.

Table 4.12 Number of persons in a room and occupancy status

Number of persons in a room	Residence/Occupancy status									
	Rented		Owned		Family house		Squatting		Total	
	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)
One person	3	7	0	0	3	7	0	0	6	5
Two persons	13	62	15	54	18	38	1	33	47	39
Three to eight	26	31	13	46	26	55	2	67	67	56
Total	42	100	28	100	47	100	3	100	120	100

The phenomenon of paying for rent in advance may also be a factor why some families lived in overcrowded rooms because they could not afford to pay for houses with enough room space for their families. As stated earlier in this study, 65% of the respondents did not spend any money on either rent or maintenance of their houses, yet 56% of the respondents could not provide enough room space for their families. Therefore housing as aspect of family welfare was not well catered for by majority of the families. On the other hand, respondents could be ignorant about the room occupancy ratio as specified by GSS, (2005), so providing enough room space for family members was not their priority. The provision of enough room space should be a priority for families in order to improve the well-being of family members.

4.7.2 Families who seek medical treatment

The study revealed that majority of the women (82%) sought medical treatment at the clinic or hospital almost always, because there is a clinic at Danfa, (17%) sought medical treatment less often while (1%) of respondents did not seek medical treatment at the clinic or hospital. To further access the welfare of the respondents in terms of their health, their levels of satisfaction with their provision of medical treatment was assessed. Eighty-three (83%) of the respondents were satisfied with their provision of medical treatment while (17%) of the respondents were not satisfied with the provision of medical treatment. About 29% of respondents used National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) to access medical treatment. Good health for family members is one of the key elements of family welfare. Since majority of the respondents were able to provide good health for their families, then it was sign of good welfare.

4.7.3 Provision of educational needs by respondents

Table 4.13 below shows how well respondents were able to pay for education of family members and the satisfaction derived from provision of educational needs of family members. Even though 25% of the women had no formal education and 62% had attained only basic education, yet they saw the need to educate their children. This decision is in the right direction since education is the key to success. Majority of the women (92%) were able to pay for the education of their family member most often and were satisfied with the provision of educational needs. There was however, no statistically significant relationship between ability to pay for education and the satisfaction with the provision of health needs. A reason for respondents' ability to afford education was because of free education in public schools. Education of family members enhances financial decision making and thus helps to improve family welfare.

Table 4.13 Ability to pay for education and satisfaction with provision of education

Able to pay for education	Satisfaction with provision of education					
	Satisfied		Not satisfied		Total	
	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)
Most often	92	100	19	68	111	93
Less often	-	-	9	32	9	7
Total	92	100	28	100	120	100

4.7.4 Satisfaction from savings

Savings represent the part of income which is not used in the present but serves as a reliable source of income in the case where regular income was not available. It also enables families to have sound mind because they can handle emergencies well. Table 4.14 presents respondents opinion about their satisfaction with saving money.

Respondents were asked to indicate how well they were satisfied with their savings. About 79% of respondents indicated that they were not satisfied with their savings whilst only 21% of respondents indicated that they were satisfied with their savings. There was statistically significant relationship between savings and satisfaction with savings ($\chi^2 = 12.227$ df =1 p<0.0004). A savings survey undertaken by Banking on change, a partnership between Barclays, Care International UK and Plan UK (2012), found that majority of women in Ghana save a little money each month.

Table 4.14 Saving money and satisfaction with savings

Satisfaction with savings	Saving money					
	Saved		Do not save		Total	
	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)
Satisfied	24	30	1	2	25	21
Not satisfied	56	70	39	98	95	79
Total	80	100	40	100	120	100

$$\chi^2 = 12.227 \text{ df} = 1 \text{ p} < 0.0004$$

About 56% of those who saved were not satisfied with their savings. About 34% of respondents saved between GH¢30 and GH¢80 a month, 22% of the women saved occasionally and they normally reinvest their savings in their business, and (44%) respondents saved money with a Rotating Savings and Credit Association (ROSCA) could only receive the bulk of their savings based on the terms of payment agreed by the group (for example weekly or monthly). Furthermore, 12% of the respondents saved money with a susu collector and 10% of the respondents saved in a susu box at home. These two groups (saving with susu collectors and saving in susu box) use their money

any time they want. The above facts from the data confirm that respondents did not handle financial emergencies adequately.

4.7.5 Provision of basic needs

It is the wish of most families to provide its members with their basic needs as a way of improving the welfare of their members. As stated earlier, respondents set priorities when they provided the needs of their families. This section looks at the basic needs provided by the families and the satisfactions derived from the use of these needs.

Table 4.15 Satisfaction with provision of basic needs

Basic needs	Satisfaction with needs					
	Not satisfied		Satisfied		Total	
	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)
Food	4	3	116	97	120	100
Clothing	16	13	104	87	120	100
Room space	48	40	72	60	120	100
Health	20	17	100	83	120	100
Education	24	24	76	76	100	100
Savings	96	80	24	20	120	100
Handling emergencies	99	82	21	18	120	100

$$\chi^2 = 316.354 \quad df = 6 \quad p = 0.000$$

The findings show that with the exception of savings and handling emergencies, majority of respondents were satisfied with the provision of their basic needs. There was statistically significant relationship between provision of basic needs and satisfaction with basic needs ($\chi^2 = 316.354 \quad df = 6 \quad p = 0.000$).

The simple logit regression was used to investigate how some social characteristics of respondents and financial management practices that they used influenced the welfare of their families. The dependent variable was welfare of families. The details are presented in the Table 4.16 below.

Table 4.16 Simple logit regression of determinants of welfare of families

Variable	Coefficient	Average Partial Marginal Effects
Age	0.3283(0.412)***	0.0253
Satisfaction with management of finances	7.7859(0.387)***	0.3817
Household size	-0.4834(0.203)***	-0.0372
Household income	-0.0463(0.010)***	-0.0036
Husband's age	-0.2841(0.036)***	-0.0219
Unplanned spending	1.5583(0.495)***	0.125
<i>Ethnicity</i>		
Dangbe	-8.2336(1.250)***	-0.5098
Akan	-5.8467(2.775)***	-0.3702
Ewe	-1.4627(1.993)	-0.1221
<i>Religious affiliation</i>		
Other religions	-3.3614(1.098)***	-0.2758
Type of dwellings		
Detached	2.8771(1.098)***	0.1883
Residence status		
Owned	-4.0354(0.383)***	-0.2739
Family house	-0.195(0.979)	-0.0152
<i>Educational level</i>		
Elementary/Middle education	1.5575(0.472)***	0.1002
Junior High School	-4.147(2.683)*	-0.2295
Senior High School	2.2615(0.592)***	0.1229
Voc./Comm. education	-4.5221(1.941)***	-0.3473
Intercept	11.7647(4.777)***	
Pseudo R – Squared	0.4973	
Log pseudo likelihood	-16.991934	

* Significant at 10%; ** Significant at 5%; *** Significant at 1%. Robust standard errors in parentheses in column 2

The analysis of the logit regression revealed that some variables had positive influence while others had negative influence on the well-being of families. The variables that had positive influence were: age of respondents, satisfaction with management of finances, unplanned spending, ethnicity (Ga ethnic group), type of dwelling (detached), and educational level (Elementary/Middle and Senior high school). The following were the variables which had negative influence on the well-being of families: household size, household income, ethnicity (Dangbe, Akan and Ewe), residence status, and educational level (Junior high and Voc/Comm. school).

Age

There was a positive relationship between the age of the respondents and welfare. This implies that being a year older can bring an improvement in welfare of respondents. This is attributed to the fact that as people grow, they mature and gain more experience in handling situations and therefore take decisions that helps to bring satisfaction.

Satisfaction with management of own finances

Again, there is a positive relationship between welfare and the independent variable 'satisfaction with management of own finances'; that is a woman who managed her finances well was more likely to have positive influence on her family's welfare as compared to a woman who do not manage her finances well. This shows that financial management is good and therefore had positive influence on the welfare of families.

Unplanned spending

Interestingly, women who did not plan before spending or spend as and when necessary were also found to have positive influence on the welfare of their families. This group of

women constitutes about 56% of the total sample. Even though they did not plan before spending, they observed some financial management practices which had positive influence on the welfare of their families. For instance 53% of them compared prices of goods before buying, about 51% of them provided basic needs before other items and 27% bought goods on credit to supplement their household needs.

Household size

Household size relates negatively with the dependent variable ‘welfare of families’. If a household size is less by one person, there is a higher probability of having a positive influence on welfare of the family. In other words the study indicates that for households to have improved welfare, the household size should be less than four.

Ethnicity

With ethnicity, the Ga ethnic group was used as a reference to Dangbe, Akan and Ewe⁴. Ga ethnic group were more likely to have positive influence on their welfare than other ethnic groups in the study. The Gas’ might have more sense of belonging and access to ownership (house or farm land) because they are the indigenous ethnic group.

Type of dwelling and occupancy status

Women dwelling in detached houses have positive influence on their families’ welfare compared to women living in compound and hut houses. Interestingly women who own and live in their houses did not have positive influence on their families’ welfare (that is

⁴ *Ethnicity variable is a discrete variable; therefore the responses become variables which are referred to as dummy variables (each response was re-coded as a variable). Therefore the variable which was not included in the regression became the reference variable of which the others were compared. Variables without asterisk are the same as the reference variable.*

their occupancy status did not influence their welfare positively). Owning a house is therefore not a guarantee for happiness, therefore to increase welfare of families owning a house should not be an issue.

Educational level

Women with Elementary/Middle school and Senior High School background had improved welfare as compared to women who had attained education up to the Junior High and Vocational/ Commercial School levels.

4.8 Test of hypotheses

Two null hypotheses were postulated for the study. HO₁: There is no relationship between financial management by respondents and family welfare and HO₂: There is no relationship between level of income of respondents and family welfare. A chi-square test was used to test the hypotheses.

Hypothesis 1

Table 4.17 shows the relationship between financial management and family welfare. The result showed there was statistically significant relationship between financial management and family welfare ($\chi^2 = 21.139$ df = 1 p = 0.000). Therefore the null hypothesis was rejected. This result showed that financial management does enhance family welfare. Women who managed their finances well had a higher probability of having enhanced welfare as compared to women who did not manage their finances well.

Table 4.17 Financial management and welfare

Financial management	Welfare					
	Not satisfied		Satisfied		Total	
	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)
Not satisfied	31	48	5	10	36	30
Satisfied	34	52	50	90	84	70
Total	65	100	55	100	120	100

$$\chi^2 = 21.139 \quad df = 1 \quad p = 0.000$$

Hypothesis 2

Table 4.18 shows average income and welfare of respondents. The result showed that there was no statistically significant relationship between level of income of respondents and welfare ($\chi^2 = 3.593 \quad df = 3 \quad p = 0.300$). The null hypothesis was therefore accepted. This means that income did not determine welfare of families, therefore other factors other than income had positive influence on the welfare of families. The analysis from the two hypotheses revealed that to be satisfied with life is not an issue of money because, there was no relationship between household income and welfare of families but rather how the available income would be managed to satisfy the family was the issue.

Table 4.18 Average income and welfare of respondents

Average income	Welfare					
	Not satisfied		Satisfied		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
>50 GHC	39	72	28	55	67	63
50-99 GHC	9	16	13	25	22	21
100-149GHC	3	6	6	12	9	9
150+GHC	3	6	4	8	7	7
Total	54	100	51	100	105	100

$$\chi^2 = 3.593 \quad df = 3 \quad p = 0.300$$

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

This chapter presents a brief summary of this study. It also draws conclusions and gives recommendations for future research.

5.2 Summary

The study was conducted to find out financial management systems and practices used by rural women in the Ga East District of the Greater Accra Region and their influence on the welfare of their families. The specific objectives of the study were to: identify the various sources of income of respondents, investigate how women spend their income, examine the different financial management systems and practices used by women and assess how income management by women influence the welfare of their members. It was hypothesized that: HO₁: There was no relationship between financial management by respondents and family welfare; and HO₂: There was no relationship between level of income of respondents and family welfare.

The systematic random sampling technique was used to select respondents from Danfa and Adoteiman for the study. A structured interview schedule was developed and used for the data collection. The data were analysed using the Census and Survey Processing (CSPro 4.1) software and Predictive Analytic software (PSAW 18.1) programmes. The Statistical/Data Analysis (Stata) software programme was used for the regression analysis to find out the contribution of selected variables to the welfare of the households and the chi-square statistical test was used to test the two null hypotheses. The data was

presented in the form of frequency and percentage distribution tables, graphs and pie charts.

Respondents' ages ranged from 22 to 55 years, with their average age being 34.5 years. More than half of the women (61%) were married and 62% had basic education. The average household size was 4.0. Majority of the respondents, (80%) lived in compound houses, 39% owned houses. Most of the respondents (82%) worked in the informal sector. The mean household income was GH¢128.72 per month. Respondents received income from various sources with 88% receiving from their occupation. The study revealed that greater proportion of total expenditure was on food (53.9%) and the least expenditure of (2.8%) was on non-durable household goods such as soaps and cleaning materials.

The respondents used a variety of financial management systems with the main one being the allowance system and the least used system being the family money manager system. The respondents also practiced various financial management practices including mental planning of expenditure (89%). Only one-third of the women (33%) bought household goods in bulk. Respondents gave priority to basic needs when purchasing items for the home. About 36% of the respondents bought household items on credit to supplement what they buy on cash. Two-thirds of the women (67%) saved money but majority of them were not satisfied with their savings. The women had some investments in the form of savings, buildings, business investment and education of their children. About 79% of the respondents indicated that they could not handle emergencies well because of insufficient savings. With regards to evaluation of plan as part of good management

practice, 78% of the women indicated that they evaluated their plans. A number of factors influenced the welfare of families. These are: age of respondents, management of finances, household size, household income, type of dwelling, ethnicity and educational level of respondents.

Two null hypotheses were tested using the chi-square test. The chi-square test revealed that there was a positive relationship between management of finances and welfare, therefore the first null hypothesis was rejected. Women who were able to manage their finances well had a higher probability of having enhanced welfare as compared to women who did not manage their finances well. The chi-square test was used again to test the second null hypothesis and it revealed there was statistically no significant relationship between household income and family welfare. The null hypothesis stating that there is no relationship between level of income of respondents and family welfare was therefore accepted.

The logit regression analysis revealed that some variables had positive influence while others had negative influence on the well-being of families. The variables that had positive influence were: age of respondents, satisfaction with management of finances, unplanned spending, ethnicity (Ga ethnic group), type of dwelling (detached houses), and educational level (Elementary/Middle and Senior high school). The following variables had negative influence on the well-being of families: household size, household income, ethnicity (Dangbe, Akan and Ewe), residence status, and educational level (Junior High and Vocational/Commercial School).

5.3 Conclusion

In conclusion, Ga rural women in Danfa and Adoteiman used various financial management systems such as allowance, handout, individual and equal salary systems; and financial management practices such as planning expenditure, saving money, making bulk purchases and evaluating financial plans. Their financial management practices influenced their family welfare both positively and negatively. Family income was low and the use of credit which seems to contribute to family welfare was also low. In addition to their financial management practices certain demographic characteristics like age of respondents, residence occupancy, ethnicity and education also influenced family expenditure which influenced family welfare.

5.4 Recommendation

In the light of these findings it is recommended that:

1. Since the study revealed that women who attained education up to the Senior High School level or higher were more satisfied with life than those who had informal education, it is suggested that the rural folk be sensitized by relevant stakeholders (for example, Ministry of Education) through programmes like music and cultural festivals, counseling programs in schools to educate the girl child and encourage more girls to be educated. In addition financial management should be incorporated into the school curriculum from the Junior High School level so that in future they could manage their finances better.
2. It was also realized that a greater proportion of household expenditure was on food. It is suggested that relevant stakeholders e.g. the Ministry of Agriculture,

NGO's should encourage rural women to engage in small scale farming and other income generating activities to help increase the family income and also reduce expenditure on food.

3. Public health workers should also intensify their education on family planning methods to help control household size, because the study showed that household size relates negatively to welfare of families. This implies that the less the size of the household the more families would have enhanced welfare.
4. Relevant stake holders including Department of Family and Consumer Sciences of the College of Agriculture and Consumer Sciences of the University of Ghana and NGO'S could organize training programmes to enlighten the women on financial management practices to help reduce unnecessary household expenditure.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Agyemang, D., (2007). A Comparative study of Financial Management Practices of Women in the Formal and Informal Sectors at Dodowa. A Thesis presented to the University of Ghana in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the award of Master of Philosophy Degree in Family Resources Management.
- Avery R. B., & Kennickell A. B., (1991). Household Savings in the U.S. Review of Income and Wealth. Vol. 37 Issue 4.
- Balance T., (2011). Money Management. Balance Track. Retrieved from <http://www.balancetrack.org/moneymanagement/podcast.html>
- Barber R., (2012). Global Community Investment, Barclays. Retrieved March 10, 2012, from <http://www.huffintonpast.cp.uk/newwsinternational-womens-day>
- Barclays, Care International UK and Plan UK., (2012). Myjoyonline.com March 9, 2012. Retrieved from <http://www.business.myjoyonline.com/page/news/20120382955.php&contentid>
- Barnett, L., (2010). Why women are better handling the family cash. Retrieved May 28, 2013, from <http://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/162497/why-women-are-better-handling-the-family-cash>
- Beutler, I. F. & Mason, G. W., (1987). Family cash-flow budgeting. Home Economics

Research Journal, 16(1)

Birim Central Municipal, (2006). Retrieved August 2, 2012, from

http://www.birimcentral.ghanadistricts.gov.gh/?arrow=asp&_id=69

Boamah, N. A., (2010). Housing Affordability in Ghana: A Focus on Kumasi and

Tamale. Ethiopian Journal of Environmental Studies and Management. Vol. 3 No.

3.

Borade, G., (2011). Retrieved from

<http://www.buzzle.com/articles/financial-management-styles-and-techniques.html>

Brown, C. K., (1994). Gender Roles in Household Allocation of Resources and Decision-

Making in Ghana.The family and Development Programme, University of Ghana.

Chang, Y. R., (1994). Saving Behaviour of US 1980's; Results from the 1983 and 1986

Survey of consumer finance. Retrieved October 24, 2013, from

<http://www.afcpe.org/assets/pdf/vol53.pdf> 24-10-13.

Chatzky, J., (2012). The Ten Commandments of Financial Happiness. Retrieved from

<http://www.chatzky.ten.commandments.financial.happiness>.

Davis, E.P. and Carr, R. A., (1992). Budgeting Practices over the Life Cycle. Retrieved

October 24, 2013, from

<http://www.academic.research.microsoft.com/Paper/6375264.spx>

Deacon, R. E. and Firebaugh, F. M., (1988). Family Resource Management. Principles and Applications, Second Edition. Allyn and Bacon, Inc.

Division of Statistics Office of Statistics, (DSOS)., (November 2007). Budget and Economic Management, Overseas Development Assistance and Compact Management Federated States of Micronesia, Palikir, Pohnpei FM 96941

Elmblad, S., (2013). Financial Software Guide, About.com Guide. Retrieved May 7, 2013, from <http://www.financialsoft.about.com/bio/Shelley-Elmblad=70326.html>

Edmonds, M., (2013). How stuff works, Inc. Retrieved May 7, 2013, from <http://www.howstuffworks.com/men-women-roles-changing.html>

Family Economics & Financial Education, (September, 2009). Take Charge America, Inc., University of Arizona.

Frankle, N., (2013). WealthPilgrim. Retrieved May 19, 2013, from <http://www.wealthpilgrim.com/what-is-money-management/>

Freeman, S., (2006). Retrieved July 24, 2011, from <http://www.sheilafreemanconsulting.biz/index.htm>

Ghana Statistical Service, (2000). Ghana Living Standard Survey: Report of the fourth round (GLSS 4)

GhanaStatistical Service, (2008). Ghana Living Standard Survey: Report of the fifth round (GLSS 5).

- Godwin, D. D., (1990). Family Financial Management Vol. 39, No. 2 (Apr., 1990). pp. 221-228. Athens: National Council on Family Relations.
Retrieved from <http://www.jstor.org/stable/585728>.
- Granbois, D. H., Rosen, D. L., & Acito, F., (1986). A Developmental Study of Family Financial Management Practices in Advances in Consumer Research Volume 13, eds. Richard J. Lutz, Provo, UT : Association for Consumer Research. Pp. 170-174.
- Greve, B., (2008). What is welfare? Central European Journal of Public Policy. Vol. 2 No. 1. Roskilde University.
- Hevi- Yiboe, L. A. P., (2004). Family Resource Management in Action. The Shepherd Printing Press, Accra.
- Hilgert, M. A., Hogarth, J. M. and Beverly, S. G. (2003). Household financial management: The connection between knowledge and behavior. Federal Reserve Bulletin July, 2003.
- Hira, T. K. (1987). Satisfaction with money management practices among dual earner households. *Journal of Home Economics*, 79, 19-22.
- Horrocks, A. M., (2010). Financial Management Practices and Conflict Management Styles of Couples in Great Marriages (Master's Thesis, Utah State University)
- Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (IDCEO), (2013).

International Conferences of Labour Statisticians, (ICLS), (3rd December 2003). United Nations.

Kwahu West Municipal Assembly, (2006). Retrieved May 9, 2013, from http://kwahuwest.ghanadistricts.gov.gh/?arrow=atd&_=79&sa=2146

Leigh, S. and Clark, J. A., (2000). Financial Decision Making in Step Families. Outreach and Extension, University of Missouri Extension – Colombia. pp 1-6.

Marshall, J. J. & Wolley, F., (1993). “What’s Mine is Mine And What’s Yours is Ours: Challenging the Income Pooling Assumptions”, in Advances in Consumer Research Volume 20, eds Leigh Alister and Michael L. Rothschild, Provo, UT: Association for Consumer Research, Page: 541-545.

McCracken, M., (2001). Women as Consumers. UNPAC, The Netherlands.

Minot, N. and Dewina, R., (2010). Impact of Food Price Changes on Household Welfare in Ghana. International Food Policy Research Institute, Washington, DC, USA.

Muske, G., (1995). Family Financial Management: A Case Study from the Perspective of the Money Manager. Journal of the Family Economics and Resource Management Division of AAFC. Iowa State University. pp 120-135.

National Statistics Office, (NSO), (2003). Family Income and Expenditure Survey, Volume 1. Republic of the Philippines, Manila.

Nosé, C., (2010). The role of modern women in the family structure. Retrieved from

<http://www.online-guide.nosecnet.com>

- Nyman, C. (1999). Gender equality in ‘The Most Equal Country in the world’? Money and Marriage in Sweden. *Sociological Review*, 47, 766-793.doi: 101111/1467-954x.00195
- Olsen, C. & George, D. M. (2004). Cross-Sectional study design and data analysis. College Entrance Examination Board.
- Olson, D. H., Olson-Sigg, A., & Larson, P. J. (2008). The couples check up. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson.
- Oppenheim, I., (1972). Management of the Modern Home. Macmillan Publishing Co., Inc.
- Opong, C. and Abu, K., (1987). Seven Roles of Women: Impact on Education, Migration and Employment on Ghanaian Mothers, ILO, (Geneva).
- Ormsby, P. and Fairchild, T., (1987). Perceived Income Adequacy and Selected Financial Management Practices among Families in Chile and Mexico. *Socila Indicators Research* 19, 317-327. D. Reidel Publishing Company.
- Osteen, S. R. and Neal, R. A., (2012). Couples and Money: Let’s Talk about it. Oklahoma State University. pp. T-4201-5.
- Owusu-Ansah, D., (November 1994). “The Position of Women”. *A Country Study: Ghana* (La Verle Berry, editor). Library of Congress Federal Research Division.

- Patil, M., (2012). Management Functions and Process. Gaurav Akrani. Retrieved April 29, 2012, from <http://kalyan.city.blogspot.com/2010/06/management-functions-process-management.html>
- Park, J., Turnbull, A. P. and Turnbull, H. R., (2002). Impacts of Poverty on Quality of life in Families of Children with Disabilities. Vol.68. No. 2, University of Kansas. pp. 151-170.
- Pine, K. J., (2009). Report on a Survey into Female Economic Behavior and the Emotion Regulatory Role of Spending. Sheconomics Survey Report. University of Hertfordshire. pp. 4-5.
- ProKerala., (2013). Tips on maintaining the financial balance in the family. Retrieved January 14, 2012, from <http://www.prokerala.com/relationships/family-financial-planning.php>
- Ramsey, D., (2003). Financial Peace Revisited. Marriage, singles, kids and families. Penguin Putnam, Inc., New York.
- Sherin, D., (2011). Cathy Pareto & Associates, Inc. Retrieved from <http://www.cathypareto.com/>
- Sparks, L., (2008). Family Decision Making. In W. Donsbach (Ed.) the International Encyclopedia of Communication, 4, (pp. 1729-1733). Oxford, UK and Malden, MA. Retrieved April 6, 2012, from <http://www.chapman.edu/our-faulty/lisa-sparks.com>.

- Steel, W. F. and Andah, D. O., (2003). Rural and Micro Finance Regulation in Ghana: Implications for Development and Performance of the Industry. The Africa Region Working Paper Series. Pp 15- 16
- Stephenson, M. J., (1997). Managing Family Resources. Fact Sheet 710, University of Maryland. Adapted from “The Family Manages,” Cooperative Extension Service, University of Kentucky.
- Sykes, A.O., (n.d). An Introduction to Regression Analysis. *The Inaugural Coase Lecture* Retrieved October 24, 2013, from http://www.law.uchigo.edu/files/20.Sykes_Regresion
- The McGraw-Hill companies, Inc., (2001). Money Management Strategy: Financial Statement and Budgeting. Irwin/McGraw-Hill.
- Titus, P. M., Fanslow, A. M. and Hira, T. K., (1989). Effect of Financial Management Knowledge of Household Money Managers on Behaviours and Financial Outputs. Journal of Vocational Home Economics Education Volume 7, Number 1, Spring 1989, Iowa State University.
- Tongco, M. D. C., (2007). A Journal of Plants, People, and Applied Research. Purposive Sampling as a tool for Informant Selection. Retrieved from <http://www.scholarspace.manoa.hawaii.edu/bitstream/handle/10125/227/i1547-3465-05-147.pdf?sequence=4>
- Van Praag, B.M.S. and Frijters, P. (1999). “The measurement of welfare and well-being.

The Leyden approach.” In *foundations of Hedonic Psychology: Scientific Perspectives on Enjoyment and Suffering*, ed. D. Kahneman, E. Diener, and N. Schwarz. New York: Russel Sage Foundation.

Vasisht, A. K., (n.d). Logit and Pobit Analysis. I. A. S. R. I., Library Avenue, New Delhi-110 012. Retrieved July 11, 2012 <http://www.mailtoamitvasisht@iasri.res.in>

Walker, R. (2005). Social Security and Welfare: Concepts and Comparisons. Berkshire: Open University Press.

Winter, M. and Muske, G., (2004). Personal Financial Management Education: An Alternative Paradigm Vol. 15(2) Association for Financial Counseling and Planning Education. pp.70-88.

W H O, (2007). Assessing the Reliability of Household Expenditure Data: Results of the World Health Survey.

W H O, (1997). Quality of Life-BREF (WHOQOL-BREF).

Xiao, J. J., (1996). Effects of Family Income and Life Cycle Stages on Financial Asset Ownership. University of Rhode Island. Association for Financial Counseling and Planning Education, pp 21-3.

Yankey, S. B., (2006). The Financial Contribution of Women to their Households in Some Selected Communities in the Central Region. A Thesis presented to the University of Ghana in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the award of Master of Philosophy Degree in Home Science.

LIST OF APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1**A STRUCTURED INTERVIEW SCHEDULE****A STRUCTURED INTERVIEW SCHEDULE ON FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT****SYSTEMS AND PRACTICES OF GA RURAL WOMEN AND THEIR****INFLUENCE ON FAMILY WELFARE**

I am a student at the University of Ghana, Legon. I would be grateful if you could provide answers to the following questions to enable me satisfy the requirements for obtaining M.Phil in Family Resource Management. All information gathered will be treated as confidential. Thank you.

Section A. Socio-Demographic Information

1. Name of respondent (optional).....
2. Place of Residence.....
3. Age (in completed years).....
4. What is your marital Status?
5. If married, state the type of marriage.....
6. Which ethnic group do you belong to?
7. What is your religious affiliation?
8. What is the highest education you received?
9. Do you work for pay or profit?
10. If no, why don't you work?
11. If yes, what is your occupation?
12. Type of Dwelling?

13. Do you own the house?
14. How many members are in your household?
15. Which members of the household helps with house work?

Member of household	Area of help	How often does he/she help

16. What is your husband's age?
17. What is the occupation of your husband?
18. If he is retired, what is he doing now?

Section B: Systems of Financial Management/ Sources of Finance

19. What financial management system do you use?

20. What are your main sources of income?

21. What is your average weekly income?
 GH¢.....

22. Do you receive money from your husband for housekeeping?

.....

23. If yes, how much do you receive on average in a week?

GH¢.....

24. Do you receive other items from your husband?

.....

25. If yes, what other items do you receive from your husband to manage the home?

.....

.....

.....

26. If no, does he buy items for the home?

.....

.....

.....

27. If yes, how often does he bring these items to the home?

.....

.....

.....

28. How much of your income do you contribute for housekeeping?

GH¢.....

29. What proportion of your income do you contribute?

.....

30. Who else contributes money for the up keep of your home?

.....

.....

.....

31. What is the amount of money that he/she contributes?

GH¢.....

Section C: Family Expenditure

32. How much do you and your family spend a **MONTH** on the following items?

No.	Item	Amount GH¢
1.	Food and drinks for home consumption	
2.	Food and drinks consumed outside of the house	
3.	Communication (eg. telephone, mobile phone, internet)	
4.	Transport (e.g. train, bus, taxis, school transport fees)	
5.	Housing (eg. rent, maintenance, etc)	
6.	Fuel and light (eg. electricity, kerosene, wood, gas, match, charcoal, batteries)	
7.	Non-durable household goods (eg. soaps, antiseptics, cleaning materials)	
8.	Recreation and entertainment (eg. CDs, DVDs, books, news papers)	
9.	Personal care services (eg. haircut, hair dressing, nails, etc)	
10.	Contribution to associations(eg. churches, funeral societies etc)	
11.	Remittance / gift (s) to other family members	
12.	Interest on loan (if any)	
13.	Clothing and textiles (diapers, foot wear, bags etc)	
14a.	Health expenses (e.g. fees to doctors, and cost of medicine).	
14b.	Do you use NHIS?	
15.	Education (eg. school uniform, school supplies, school fees)	
16.	Others	

33. Do you discuss how to spend money with your husband/family members?

.....

34. How do you spend your personal money (not pool money)?

.....

.....

.....

35. Do you know how your husband spends his personal money?

.....

36. If yes what does he spend it on?

.....

.....

.....

Section D: Family Savings and loan

37. Do you save any money?

.....

38. If yes, how often do you save?

.....

.....

.....

39. Where do you save?

.....
.....
.....

40. If you do not save money explain why?

.....
.....
.....

41. Have you ever taken a loan?

.....
.....

42. If yes for what purpose?

.....
.....
.....

43. Where did you take the loan?

.....
.....
.....

44. What financial security are you building for your old age and for your children?

.....
.....
.....

Section E: How respondents spend their income

45. How do you spend your money? (Planning)

.....
.....
.....

46. Do you write your expenditure?

.....
.....
.....
.....

47. If there isn't enough money what will you spend on? List them in order of priority:

.....
.....
.....

48. Why are these important?

.....
.....
.....
.....

49. Which of the above (q49) do you provide without much difficulty?

.....
.....

.....
.....

50. Which of them (q49) do you provide with much difficulty?

.....
.....
.....
.....

51. What happens to unmet needs? (Evaluation of plan)

.....
.....
.....
.....

52. Do you buy items in bulk?

.....
.....

53. If yes, which items are these?

.....
.....
.....
.....

54. How do you buy things you need?

.....
.....
.....

55. If on credit/part payment, why?

.....
.....
.....

56. How often do you buy on credit?

.....
.....
.....

57. Does buying on credit affect management in the home?

.....
.....
.....
.....

58. If yes how?

.....
.....
.....
.....

59. Do you compare prices before buying items and personal care?

.....

.....

.....

Section F: Welfare of family

60. How satisfied are you with the provision of the following needs in the house?

1=Not at all, 2=Not Satisfied, 3=Satisfied, 4=Very Satisfied

Item	1	2	3	4
Food (quantity)				
Clothing				
Space in room				
Health				
Education				
Savings				
How well are you able to handle emergencies				

61. (a) How many people sleep in one room?

.....

(b) How often do you seek medical treatment when sick?

.....

.....

.....

62. Are you able to provide the following items for household members?

Item	1. Always	2. Most often	3. Often	4. Less often	5. Not at all	6. Other specify
Breakfast						
Lunch						
Supper						
School fees on time						
Utilities on time						
Clothing						
Medical bills						
All other household needs						

63. How satisfied are you with management of your finances?

.....

.....

.....

64. How satisfied are you with your life as a whole, example general well being, happiness, and work?

.....

.....

.....

APPENDIX 2

WHOQOL-Bref questionnaire

Sample of WHOQOL-Bref questionnaire adapted to measure family welfare.

WHOQOL-BREF

June 1997

U.S. Version



University of Washington
Seattle, Washington
United States of America

Emblem: Soul Catcher: a Northwest Coast Indian symbol of physical and mental well-being. Artist: Marvin Oliver

WHOQOL – BREF

About You

Before you begin we would like to ask you to answer a few general questions about yourself by circling the correct answer or by filling in the space provided.

1. What is your gender? Male Female
2. What is your date of birth? _____ / _____ / _____
Day Month Year
3. What is the highest education you received? None at all Elementary High School College
4. What is your marital status? Single Married Living as Married Separated Divorced Widowed
5. Are you currently ill? Yes No
6. If something is wrong with your health, what do you think it is?
Illness Problem

Instructions

This questionnaire asks how you feel about your quality of life, health, or other areas of your life. Please answer all questions. If you are unsure about which response to give to a question, please choose the one that appears most appropriate. This can often be your first response.

Please keep in mind your standards, hopes, pleasures and concerns. We ask you to think about your life in the last two weeks. For example, thinking about the last two weeks, a question might ask:

Do you get the kind of support that you need from others?

<i>(Please circle the number)</i>					
For office use	Not at all	A little	Moderately	Mostly	Completely
	1	2	3	4	5
<p>Do you get the kind of support from others that you need?</p> <p>You should circle the number that best fits how much support you got from others over the last two weeks. So you would circle the number four (4) if you got a great deal of support from others.</p>					
<i>(Please circle the number)</i>					
For office use	Not at all	A little	Moderately	Mostly	Completely
	1	2	3	(4)	5
<p>Do you get the kind of support from others that you need?</p> <p>You would circle number one (1) if you did not get any of the support that you needed from others in the last two weeks.</p>					
<i>(Please circle the number)</i>					
For office use	Not at all	A little	Moderately	Mostly	Completely
	(1)	2	3	4	5
<p>Please read each question, assess your feelings, and circle the number on the scale that gives the best answer for you for each question.</p> <p>1. How would you rate your quality of life?</p>					
<i>(Please circle the number)</i>					
For office use	Very poor	Poor	Neither poor nor good	Good	Very good
G1/G1.1	1	2	3	4	5
<p>2. How satisfied are you with your health?</p>					
<i>(Please circle the number)</i>					
For office use	Very dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Satisfied	Very satisfied
G4 / G2.3	1	2	3	4	5

The following questions ask about how much you have experienced certain things in the last two weeks.					
<i>(Please circle the number)</i>					
For office use	Not at all	A little	A moderate amount	Very much	An extreme amount
F1.4/ F1.2.5	1	2	3	4	5
3. To what extent do you feel that physical pain prevents you from doing what you need to do?					
	1	2	3	4	5
4. How much do you need any medical treatment to function in your daily life?					
F11.3/F13.1.4	1	2	3	4	5
5. How much do you enjoy life?					
F4.1/F6.1.2	1	2	3	4	
6. To what extent do you feel your life to be meaningful?					
F24.2/F29.13	1	2	3	4	5
<i>(Please circle the number)</i>					
For office use	Not at all	Slightly	A moderate amount	Very much	Extremely
	1	2	3	4	5
7. How well are you able to concentrate?					
F5.2/F7.1.6	1	2	3	4	5
<i>(Please circle the number)</i>					
For office use	Not at all	Slightly	A moderate amount	Very much	Extremely
	1	2	3	4	5

8. How safe do you feel in your daily life?					
F16.1/F20.1.2	1	2	3	4	5
9. How healthy is your physical environment?					
F22.1/F27.1.2	1	2	3	4	5
The following questions ask about how completely you experience or were able to do certain things in the last two weeks.					
<i>(Please circle the number)</i>					
For office use	Not at all	A little	Moderately	Mostly	Completely
	1	2	3	4	5
10. Do you have enough energy for everyday life?					
F2.1/F2.1.1	1	2	3	4	5
11. Are you able to accept your bodily appearance?					
F7.1/F9.1.2	1	2	3	4	5
12. Have you enough money to meet your needs?					
F18.1/F23.1.1	1	2	3	4	5
13. How available to you is the information that you need in your day-to-day life?					
F20.1/F25.1.1	1	2	3	4	5
14. To what extent do you have the opportunity for leisure activities?					
F21.1/F26.1.2	1	2	3	4	5

15. How well are you able to get around?					
<i>(Please circle the number)</i>					
For office use	Very poor	Poor	Neither poor nor well	Well	Very well
F9.1/F11.1.1	1	2	3	4	5
The following questions ask you to say how good or satisfied you have felt about various aspects of your life over the last two weeks.					
<i>(Please circle the number)</i>					
For office use	Very dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Satisfied	Very satisfied
	1	2	3	4	5
16. How satisfied are you with your sleep?					
F3.3/F4.2.2	1	2	3	4	5
17. How satisfied are you with your ability to perform your daily living activities?					
F10.3/F12.2.3	1	2	3	4	5
18. How satisfied are you with your capacity for work?					
F12.4/F16.2.1	1	2	3	4	5
19. How satisfied are you with your abilities?					
F6.4/F8.2.2	1	2	3	4	5
20. How satisfied are you with your personal relationships?					
F13.3/F17.2.3	1	2	3	4	5
21. How satisfied are you with your sex life?					
F15.3/F3.2.1	1	2	3	4	5

22. How satisfied are you with the support you get from your friends?					
F14.4/F18.2.5	1	2	3	4	5
<i>(Please circle the number)</i>					
For office use	Very dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Satisfied	Very satisfied
	1	2	3	4	5
23. How satisfied are with the conditions of your living place?					
F17.3/F21.2.2	1	2	3	4	5
24. How satisfied are you with your access to health services?					
F19.3/F24.2.1	1	2	3	4	5
25. How satisfied are you with your mode of transportation?					
F.23.3/F28.2.2	1	2	3	4	5
The following question refers to how often you have felt or experienced certain things in the last two weeks.					
26. How often do you have negative feelings, such as blue mood, despair, anxiety, depression?					
<i>(Please circle the number)</i>					
For office use	Never	Seldom	Quite often	Very often	Always
F8.1/F10.1.2	1	2	3	4	5

Did someone help you to fill out this form? *(Please circle Yes or No)*

How long did it take to fill out this form?

WHOQOL-BREF SCORING

The WHOQOL-Bref, still in field trials, is a subset of 26 items taken from the WHOQOL-100. The same steps for the scoring WHOQOL-100 should be followed to achieve scores for the Bref. Although scoring the Bref is identical to scoring the WHOQOL-100, there are some differences that need to be addressed:

- The WHOQOL-Bref does not have facet scores
- Mean substitutions are recommended for Domain 1 Physical Health and Domain 4 Environment if no more than one item is coded missing
- Only three items need to be reversed before scoring

The WHOQOL-Bref (Field Trial Version) produces a profile with four domain scores and two individually scored items about an individual's overall perception of quality of life and health. The four domain scores are scaled in a positive direction with higher scores indicating a higher quality of life. Three items of the Bref must be reversed before scoring. They can be seen in the Table below, indicated by the “- (reverse)” denotation in the Direction of scaling column.

Scoring Domains of the WHOQOL-BREF

Domains and questions 23.6/BREF		Direction of scaling	Raw domain score	Raw item score
Overall Quality of Life and General Health			...(2-10)	
G1.1/B1	How would you rate your quality of life?	-		...(1-5)
G2.3/B2	How satisfied are you with your health?	-		...(1-5)
Domain 1	Physical Health		...(7-35)	...(1-5)
F1.2.5/B3	To what extent do you feel that physical pain prevents you from doing what you need to do?	-(reverse)		...(1-5)
F13.1.4/B4	How much do you need medical treatment to function in your daily life?	-(reverse)		...(1-5)

F2.1.1/B10	Do you have enough energy for everyday life	-		...(1-5)
F11.1.1/B15	How well are you able to get around?	-		...(1-5)
F4.1.1/B16	How satisfied are you with your sleep?	-		...(1-5)
F12.2.3/B17	How satisfied are you with your ability to perform your daily living activities.	-		...(1-5)
F16.2.1/B18	How satisfied are you with your capacity for work	-		...(1-5)
Domain 2	Psychological	-	...(6-30)	
F6.1.2/B5	How much do you enjoy life?	-		...(1-5)
F29.1.3/B6	To what extent do you feel your life to be meaningful?	-		...(1-5)
F7.1.6/B7	How well are you able to concentrate?	-		...(1-5)
F9.1.2/B11	Are you able to accept your body appearance?	-		...(1-5)
F8.2.1/B19	How satisfied are with yourself?	-		...(1-5)
F10.1.2/B26	How often do you have negative feelings such as blue mood, despair, anxiety, depression?	-(reverse)		...(1-5)
Domain 3	Social Relationships	-	...(3-15)	
F17.1.3/B20	How satisfied are you with your personal relationships?	-		...(1-5)
F3.2.1/B21	How satisfied are you with your sex life?	-		...(1-5)
F18.2.5/B22	How satisfied are you with the support you get from your friends?	-		...(1-5)
Domain 4	Environment	-	...(8-40)	
F20.1.2/B8	How safe do you feel in your daily life?	-		...(1-5)
F27.1.2/B9	How healthy is your physical environment?	-		...(1-5)
F23.1.1/B12	Have you enough money to meet your needs?	-		...(1-5)
F25.1.1/B13	How available to you is the information that you need in your day-to-day life?	-		...(1-5)

F26.1.2.2/B14	To what extent do you have the opportunity for leisure activities?	-		...(1-5)
F21.2.2/B23	How satisfied are you with the condition of your living place?	-		...(1-5)
F24.2.1/B24	How satisfied are you with your access to health services?	-		...(1-5)
F28.2.2/B25	How satisfied are you with your transport?	-		...(1-5)

If no more than one item from the Physical Health or Environment domains has been coded as missing, we recommend that a domain score be calculated by substituting a person specific average across the completed items in the same scale. For example, if a respondent does not have a value for item B16, *How satisfied are you with your sleep?* in the Physical Health domain, but has answered all of the other items in that domain, then the value for item B16 would be the average of the remaining 6 items. If two or more items are coded missing in these two domains, the domain score should be calculated, likewise if any items are coded missing in the *Psychological and Social Relationships* domains, a domain score for that respondent would not be calculated.

After item recording and handling of missing data, a raw score is computed by a simple algebraic sum of each item in each of the four domains. Once complete, check the frequencies of each domain to be sure that the scores are within the correct range indicated in Table *Raw domain score* column. The next step is to transform each raw scale score using the given formula. The possible raw score ranges for each domain are as follows: *Physical Health = 28, Psychological=24, Social Relationships=12, and Environment=32.*

SCORING EXERCISE AND TEST DATASET FOR THE WHOQOL-BREF INSTRUMENT

The purpose of this scoring exercise is to help WHOQOL-Bref users to evaluate results from each step in the process of calculating the Domain summary scores of the

instrument. This exercise was created for SPSS users, but with minor modifications, can be adapted for other computer programs or can be useful for those scoring the survey manually

APPENDIX 3**Descriptive Statistics****Table 4.19 Descriptive statistics on average monthly expenditure of respondents**

Monthly Consumption	Obs.	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min.	Max.
Food and Drink	120	228.62	138.5729	10	860
Communication	120	22.04	19.02382	0	90
Transport	120	31.74	44.69439	0	380
Housing	120	8.11	18.06747	0	140
Fuel and Light	120	24.65	15.83404	0	80
Personal Care Products	120	12.01	7.108399	0	40
Recreation and Entertainment	119	1.36	3.857045	0	25
Personal Care Services	120	14.31	9.698649	0	60
Contribution to Associations	119	15.57	20.67282	0	160
Remittances/Gifts	120	13.73	36.22194	0	300
Interest on Loans	119	3.19	20.59179	0	180
Clothing and Textiles	120	40.23	53.858	0	300
Health	120	37.83	76.49884	0	500
Education	120	113.08	150.8347	0	1300

Table 4.20 Descriptive statistics of factors that influence family welfare

Variable	No of Obs.	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min.	Max.
Age	120	34.5333	8.4525	22	55
Satisfaction with management of finances	120	0.4583	0.5004	0	1
Household Size	119	4.0000	1.78519	1	9
Household Income	72	128.7222	79.6834	30	370
Husband's Age	101	40.1782	9.3887	24	70
Unplanned spending	120	0.5417	0.5004	0	1
Dangbe	120	0.0417	0.2007	0	1
Akan	120	0.1583	0.3666	0	1
Ewe	120	0.3167	0.4671	0	1
Other Religions	120	0.0167	0.1286	0	1
Detached house	120	0.1917	0.3953	0	1
Owned (house)	120	0.2333	0.4247	0	1
Family House	120	0.3917	0.4902	0	1
Elementary/Middle Education	120	0.3083	0.4637	0	1
Junior High School	120	0.3083	0.4637	0	1
Senior High School	120	0.0917	0.2898	0	1
Voc./Comm./Technical Education	120	0.0333	0.1803	0	1