Social, Cultural and Economic Situation of Female-Headed Households of Imam Khomeini Relief Committee (Tehran Province - 2011)

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Abstract

Female-headed households in Iranian society are supported by various institutions and social, cultural and economic life has undergone several changes during it. This research is to study the social, cultural and economic female-headed households in 2011 in Tehran Imam Khomeini Relief Committee, to underlie access to the latest social, cultural and economic. Statistical society-based Cochran formula was 47,910 households, 256 households were selected in Tehran province. Research method in this research is descriptive survey. Data collection techniques were structural interviews using a questionnaire and a self-made questionnaire has been prepared by the researcher. Sampling method was cluster sampling and simple random. Data were analyzed using SPSS software based on theories of poverty, the feminization of poverty, welfare, psychological and anomie theory and family structure; they respond to questions of this research. The results indicate that female-headed households supported by the Relief Committee in Tehran province are in adverse social, cultural and economic living and necessity the importance of meeting the needs of the officials concerned by the outcome of this research.

Keywords Social, cultural, Imam Khomeini Relief Committee.
Introduction
Female-headed households are among the vulnerable groups of society, sometimes factors such as divorce, death, husband addiction, husband disability, abandonment by immigrant men or whimsy; it is vulnerable to a whole range of society. This group of women as "female-headed households or" self-headed "called society, with problems, difficulties and face many obstacles in life. Careful consideration all aspects and problems of women heads of household and true solutions and principles to support them, among the duties of the institutions and social organizations in each country.
Unfortunately, in our society, women's lives after leaving her husband (because of death, divorce, etc.) are often faced with the uncertainties and risks. Including parenting alone and sometimes hard economic problems, living alone and with depression and despair, as well as false attitude towards divorced women and widows in the absence of their husbands, their social relationships and community involvement is facing with numerous difficulties.
Due to the growing number of female-headed households in recent years, resulting in an increase in divorce rates, the need to pay more attention to this group of people is more tangible. After the victory of the Islamic Revolution and the establishment of social, political and cultural norms based on Islam, the constitution to meet the needs of orphans and female-headed households as vulnerable in the society. Islamic state legislator in accordance with the principle of preserving the family, the social justice, prevention of social corruption and the principle of citizenship is bound to support this group. On the other hand accordance with the teachings of the Shia religion, the rulers of the Islamic Republic are required to pay special attention to people who take charge of Economic and Social Affairs spending failed and experienced a lot of problems. Total listed reasons, has proven the need to protect women heads of households and thereby identify social, cultural and economic them in different periods of time country's planners can provide better social services to this vulnerable group in the community.
Research objectives
The overall objective
Understanding the social, cultural and economic, women-headed households Imam Khomeini Relief Committee in Tehran in order to provide the necessary context to alleviate the problem and meet their basic needs
Specific objectives
- Determine the economic status of women heading households in Tehran's Imam Khomeini Relief Committee
- Determine the social status of women heading households in Tehran's Imam Khomeini Relief Committee
- Determine the cultural status of women heading households in Tehran's Imam Khomeini Relief Committee
Practical objectives
- Providing a platform for careful planning to reduce the vulnerability of female-headed households and the prevention of family
- Preparation services, according to the real needs of female-headed households versus considering making targeted subsidies law
- The expansion of social services and counseling to families pushing towards independence
Identify the basic needs of female-headed households

**Research questions**

**The main question**
How is Economic, social and cultural situation of the head of household women in Tehran's Imam Khomeini Relief Committee?

**Sub questions**
1. How is the economic status of women heads of household, Tehran's Imam Khomeini Relief Committee?
2. How is the social status of female-headed household at province's Imam Khomeini Relief Committee?
3. How is the cultural status of women heads of household at Tehran’s Imam Khomeini Relief Committee?

**Research method**
The methodology of the study is applied and descriptive - is survey. In general, the purpose of applied research to gain knowledge or understanding necessary to determine the means by which need to be resolved. In this type of research goal is to explore new knowledge about the product or process in the fact that certain applications will follow. To be more precise, applied research and scientific problem is an attempt to respond to a problem that exists in the real world. (Khaki, 94, 2008)

Descriptive research involves collecting information for the exam answers to questions about the current status of the study and finally how to determine and report the status quo. Survey research method that transcends a particular fan gathering additional information and its purpose is exploratory, descriptive or explanatory, although mainly used in the questionnaire, but other instruments such as structured interviews and observation is used. (Khaki 104, 2008)

**Statistical society of research**
The study statistical society consisted of all female-headed households in 2011 at Tehran's Imam Khomeini Relief Committee that according to information obtained from the Census Bureau in Tehran Imam Khomeini Relief Committee in 2001, 47,910 households, and these households supported by scattered throughout the province.

**Data collection tools**
a questionnaire was used to collect data. The questionnaire was self-designed questionnaire after design, providing teachers and the necessary amendments have been used.

**Methods of data collection**
A statistical analysis process consists of two major parts. The first step is displaying and summarizing the data, to focus our attention on the important characteristics of data and unnecessary details. But the second part, to extract and deduce some general points about the phenomenon under study is used. The first part includes descriptive statistics (Descriptive statistics) and the second part contains methods is called inferential statistics. (Inferential statistics)

Descriptive statistics to categorize, summarize, explain, interpret and graphic display data refers to data communication researcher. The role of descriptive statistics, statistical analysis as the first
step in the process is crucial. Descriptive statistics to summarize the data, it reveals important characteristics necessary ideas in mind researcher for the second stage provide statistical analysis (statistical) and the overall distribution of our community to adopt statistical methods. In this study, descriptive statistics to characterize the social, cultural and economic female-headed households is used.

**Method of data analysis**

In this thesis the researcher only intended to describe the social, cultural and economic female-headed households in Tehran's Imam Khomeini Relief Committee and descriptive statistics for this purpose and operation of the software spss is used to analyze the data.

**Research findings**

Based on 256 questionnaires were distributed among female-headed households Relief Committee in Tehran province revealed the following information.

**Specifications statistical society**

According to the theory of the feminization of poverty, female-headed households are poorer day by day because of the low level of education and lack of suitable employment for their livelihoods every day is difficult. Relief Committee in Tehran province target population group of women heads of households put under social protection that have the following characteristics.

- In the case of female-headed households Tehran province has the highest rate of education at the elementary level, (No. 65) and has no permanent job and represent this important time in their poverty. Poverty time when combined with material poverty increases the vulnerability of this group of women.
- The frequency of older the respondents, the lowest rate in the age group 15-25 years (n = 4) and most common age group 45-36 years. (No. 77)
- The education level of respondents, the lowest frequency in the bachelor degree level (number 3) is and most common primary education level. (No. 65)
- Employment status of the respondents, the less frequent the self-employed drivers (number 1) and the most frequent job without reply. (130)
- Cost of respondents is the lowest frequency of household expenditure in non-responder (n = 3) and the most frequent is the Department of Housing. (No. 111)
- Home ownership respondents, is the lowest rate in mortgage housing situation (number 2) and most frequent in group housing is rental property. (No. 114)
- Amount of the rent respondents, the lowest rate in more than 400 dollars rent (n = 4) and the most frequent answer is no rent to groups. (93)
- Income respondents is the lowest rate steady source of income and subsidies (number 2) and most frequent source of income for the groups is continuous. (147)
- Access to health care respondents, the lowest frequency in the group of non-response (number 1) and the occurrence of the group is yes. (No. 204)
- The frequency of the number of years covered by the Relief Committee of
respondents is the lowest frequency of the item without response (2 patients), most of the years covered by between 1 and 5 years. (109 people)

- Prevalence of respondent’s economic problems, economic problems in the group tuition is the lowest frequency (number 1) and is the most frequent economic problems related to housing. (132)

Results obtained, based on research findings

1. How is Economic, Social and Cultural situation of female-headed households at Tehran's Imam Khomeini Relief Committee?

According to the five main research theory, the theory of poverty, the feminization of poverty, welfare, psychological and anomie theory and structure of the family on the one hand and gather statistical data to obtain the frequency distribution in the form of social, cultural and economic female-headed households on the other hand, it can be said based on the frequency distribution of data showed low social status of women heading households in Tehran province and numerical percentage to account for up to 83.5. Low economic status families and 93.7 percent is allocated to the numerical totals. Low cultural status families and 85 percent number shows the frequency distribution of the situation.

This problem suggests that social, cultural and economic of women heads of family at Tehran Province is not desirable. Low literacy, a large number of family members, low family income, rising costs as a result of implementation of targeted subsidies, high cost of rental housing, lack of jobs, lack of ability to solve problems and reduce the amount of pension received from Relief Committee puts planners need serious intervention to regulate the status of women heading households in Tehran.

In other words, the final results of this study show that it is in charge of social organizations to institutionalize social development in the country is still a long way ahead of them and the need to eliminate parallel activities and the expansion of social services to a depth of female-headed families, reduce problems of this group of Islamic society. In this case, the spread of poverty among female-headed households have been prevented, family structure and high integration of women to manage stress and conflict will be less. Results of research based on theories imaginable.

2. How is the social situation of female-headed households and reduce Tehran's Imam Khomeini Relief Committee and meet the basic needs?

Results of research and findings of descriptive statistics show that status and reducing the problems and needs of female-headed households are directly related Relief Committee in Tehran province. In explaining the results, based on welfare theory and the theory of anomie and family structure, the family formed the core of society and the protection of public health and family welfare is the top priority of the two theories.

In this regard, in recent years, coupled with the necessary discussions to achieve sustainable development needs of today's societal needs Iran, promoting the welfare and quality of life in keeping with the social status of the family is an integral part of this process is defined.

It can be said about the social conditions of women-headed households that according to information obtained frequency distribution data indicated the low social status of
women heading households in Tehran. Negative social attitudes towards women heads of household, children anxiously about the future, despite the divorced women (over 34%) among families and damage with this social phenomenon and the lack wife (over 47%) the existence of specific issues families are social and family structure will undergo major changes.

In this regard, the lack of proper social status, low social connections and vulnerable families against crises and social damage, a large crowd of family, being alone in doing housework and low levels of social welfare and family quality of implies that would be welfare issues of women heads of household and family structure in Tehran is more serious.

3. How is cultural situation of female-headed households and reduce Tehran's Imam Khomeini Relief Committee and meet the basic needs?

Results of research and findings of descriptive statistics show that between situations of cultural and reducing the problems and needs of female-headed households at Relief Committee in Tehran province are directly related.

Based on the results obtained on the basis of psychological theory; existence of multiple problems caused different roles for female-headed households live management by women and resulted in the prevalence of stress and role conflict to fulfill their responsibility. This problem is the most important cultural issues of women heads of household for efficient management of the family.

Previous studies have shown the inability to solve problems, the preceding material needs of social and emotional needs, how to socialize and how to consult, lack of apps of concern about their future leisure and cultural issues facing women and children from the most basic household head of Tehran Province.

Low level of education families (more than 50% of cycles and are less literate) lack of proper program for the use of leisure time (more than 50% of families spend spare time is watching TV) and the inability to deal with diverse responsibilities for handling problems due to the influx of life has led to female-headed households are faced with numerous cultural problems. Issues of children training, social interactions, level of education and literacy of women-headed households has led to a good life do not come from the department.

The sum of these factors has caused the lives of women heads of households to manage different roles to play. In situations the role of family man, in situations of affectionate mother, while the children's friends and in other situations management roles and other roles that they play an effective function in extremely difficult for female-headed households. In this context, workshops, life skills training and expert advice can empower them in this respect and the development of culture are female-headed households.

4. How is Economic situation of female-headed households and reduce Tehran's Imam Khomeini Relief Committee and meet the basic needs?

Results of research and findings of descriptive statistics show that between economic status and decreasing the problems and needs of female-headed households OF Relief
Committee in Tehran province are directly related. Based on the results obtained under the doctrine of poverty and the feminization of poverty, gradually developed poverty among female-headed families and the increase in the poor population among the families. Lack of access to employment opportunities in front of men, low wages and poverty is one of the main issues of the theory. According to these theories, major problems of women heads of families in economic difficulties are lack of knowledge for economic affairs of the family, high costs and lack of sufficient income, lack of livelihood in family strategy, lack of access to productive resources and employment. In this regard, it seems appropriate in the case of female-headed families have the economic support, learn appropriate coping strategies and resources and facilitate the employment of access, suffer the least damage.

According to information gathered in Tehran is low economic status of women heads of households and the housing problem families was the most important economic problem, second problem affect economic livelihoods and more difficult for women heads of family. In this way, these two problems more than 85 percent is allocated to women's economic problems.

Low-income families, high costs of rent, the cost of illness, low pension and the lack of suitable employment, including factors recognized in the context of the economic situation of female-headed households Tehran province that special attention should be on empowering and creating jobs makes them inevitable.

Table 1: the results obtained, based on the effective factors and theories selected

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<tr>
<th>Obtained results</th>
<th>Selected theories</th>
<th>Effective elements</th>
<th>Name of situation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The diversity of age, female-headed households</td>
<td>Welfare theory</td>
<td>Age Number of dependents</td>
<td>Social</td>
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<tr>
<td>The large family crowd</td>
<td>Anomie theory</td>
<td>Health</td>
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<td>Death of a spouse and divorce women</td>
<td>Family Structure</td>
<td>Number of marriages</td>
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<td>Being alone in doing housework</td>
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<td>Kind of support</td>
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<td>Lack of social connections</td>
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<td>reason service utilization</td>
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<td>Lack of proper social</td>
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<td>Home Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low levels of social welfare and quality of life</td>
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<td>Years of support</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Women at risk of physical health</td>
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<td>Access to health facilities</td>
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Research recommendations

- Due to this we know the problems of poverty in female-headed households were than male-headed households. Operating poverty has the direct and indirect impact on the cultural, social as well as ecological situation of the family. Many of these women suffer social and financial security. Among approximately one million and seven hundred thousand households in the country, only 28,274 people were covered by the insurance plan. In addition, time poverty, among other issues is other problem of the women. So that research showed that the more time women spent on work that is the time leads to poverty and neglect of the cultural, education and training and the children. On the other hand, it has often been ignored in the case of female-headed households, mental and emotional needs them. According to the survey, anguish and insecurity, female-headed households most concerned about their future and their children.
- To handle the situation of these women, in addition to a multiplicity of decisions that need to be harnessed and parallel activities of institutions like Imam Khomeini Relief Committee, Welfare organizations and NGOs should be avoided; real assistance should be considered in the context of empowerment. The process of women's empowerment in the context of social development issues of great importance, so that the developed countries have cited it as the main strategy.
- This is a way for the participation of women in social activities. Female-headed households compared to other women, from education and training and technical skills are low. Therefore, there is a higher probability that these women even if economic activity in low-wage jobs and are working.
The purpose of any application that female-headed households fall in its context, must be empowerment and not merely limited financial assistance to them; the main problem in the recapitalization of financial support, lack of appropriate funding and lack of funding to support women heads of households.

One of the important ways to empower women heads of households, pushing them assistance with advocacy organizations to services and social insurance. Social insurance plan these women, in addition to helping to improve the security of life and reduce them in managing mental health, can be used as a strong backing to support them in difficult conditions and during aging and morbidity in the future.

Investigating the problems and provide appropriate solutions to improve the lives of women heads of household can make the appropriate changes in the lives of women heads of households.

Address the problems of economic, social and cultural rights of women to obtain decent jobs and offering effective strategies supervisor households in this area could be grounds for further action.

Satisfaction with the services provided to their female-headed households, will affect the committee and also assess the level of service and quality measures.

Investigate the factors affecting self-sufficiency and self-employed women heads of households and finding solutions to problems of considerable obstacles and to regulate the employment of women heads of households.

Supporting organizations address the problems of female-headed households and provide appropriate solutions to improve their performance at the macro level can give a certain coherence to social planning in the country.

Research limitations
In this study, a researcher for the proper conduct research and gather information on the problems and constraints faced by the most important of them are as follows:

- Considering that in female-headed households is very complex sociological problems in the selected items, a researcher with problems and subjects responded to items were not free.
- According to the research community make governing a society whose culture as it is, there was a question about the culture of resistance that sometimes give participants the correct answer.
- Despite the efforts of researchers and interviewers to participants' satisfaction and their motivation is very important that the results of this study, again, it seems that a number of subjects responded to items with carelessness.
- Given that sample with an error rate of 95 percent to 0.05 and 256 people have been determined and scholars debate the feasibility of the poor has made its own, it seems that the example above is not sufficient for Relief Committee in Tehran province should increase the sample size, although researchers have tried using multistage cluster sampling method proportional to population size, the samples to introduce as much as possible.
- Considering that social and cultural structure so that many respondents to select the items of income and therefore have considerable practice. It seems that the either should be or changes in items that adjustments be made on the views of people as subjects. The society
under study distribution according to areas of difficult access to one of the limitations of this study.

- Gaining the trust of female-headed households to complete the questionnaire was a problem of this research.
- Given that most women heads of household were illiterate or had low literacy levels, this issue will have to be questioning every single question for people to read and therefore time-consuming questionnaires were completed.
- Because of cultural poverty and keeping some people refused the right answers.
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