Kenya

Respondents perceive a significant gap in women’s real opportunities to run for elected office – with 17% believing this is easy for women compared to 62% who see it as easy for men. They also agree that it is easier for men to be hired as skilled workers and to buy property in their name and believe that women generally have less control over their lives, including on decisions about who to marry and over their personal finances.

The majority (59%) agree that a woman should be free to refuse sex with her husband/partner, but 28% say there are acceptable circumstances for someone to hit their spouse or partner. Most (68%) agree that women call attention to themselves based on how they dress, and 30% agree that it is appropriate for men to discuss a female colleague’s appearance at work. Meanwhile, 15% believe that women feel unsafe at home, and 17% think most women feel unsafe in public.

Most respondents (74%) think women are typically portrayed in traditional roles in the media – as a wife, mother or caregiver – and slightly more (79%) believe that men are also typically portrayed in traditional roles – such as providing for the family, as a leader or businessman.

Regarding roles in society, 72% of respondents believe that women should work less and devote more time to caring for their family; 36% agree that a man’s job is to earn money while a woman’s is to look after the house and the family; and 44% agree that it is natural for men to earn more than women as they should be the main providers. Another 23% agree that men should be paid more than women for the same job, and 26% believe that a woman should not earn more than her husband. Despite these prevailing attitudes, 62% of respondents consider having a paid job to be the best way for a woman to be independent.

In times of scarcity, 31% of respondents agree that men should have more right to a job, and 26% believe they should have more right to food. Respondents believe that women have less access to basic health care and quality education, and 19% consider family planning services to be inadequate.

The majority (80%) of respondents in Kenya believe it is essential for society to treat women and men as equals. In terms of their country’s future success, participants prioritize more affordable primary health care for women (95%), more respect for women’s rights (95%), more access to higher education for women (92%) and equal pay for equal work (92%).
Kenya

**TABLE 1**

**Perceptions: Percentage of respondents who agree with the statement**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Perceptions</th>
<th>% FOR MOST WOMEN</th>
<th>% FOR MOST MEN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In general, it is easy for most women/most men to get a quality education</td>
<td>34.5</td>
<td>44.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In general, it is easy for most women/most men to be hired as skilled workers</td>
<td>30.6</td>
<td>38.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In general, it is easy for most women/most men to run for elected office</td>
<td>16.8</td>
<td>61.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In general, it is easy for women/men to buy property in their own name</td>
<td>30.1</td>
<td>72.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In general, most women/men have control over their decision on who to marry</td>
<td>37.4</td>
<td>56.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In general, most women/men have control over their lives</td>
<td>39.2</td>
<td>56.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In general, most women/men have control over their personal finances</td>
<td>41.3</td>
<td>67.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TABLE 2**

**Perceptions: Percentage of respondents who agree with each statement**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Perceptions</th>
<th>% POOR/ UNSAFE</th>
<th>% ADEQUATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In general, the quality of basic health care for women is ...</td>
<td>12.7</td>
<td>50.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In general, the quality of basic health care for men is ...</td>
<td>19.4</td>
<td>53.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In general, the quality of basic health care for you is ..</td>
<td>11.9</td>
<td>46.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The quality of family planning services is ...</td>
<td>18.6</td>
<td>39.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In general, do most women feel safe when they are in their home (by safe, we mean &quot;free from physical, mental, or emotional harm&quot;)?</td>
<td>15.3</td>
<td>45.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In general, do most women feel safe when they are in public spaces (by safe, we mean &quot;free from physical, mental, or emotional harm&quot;)?</td>
<td>17.3</td>
<td>50.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Kenya

**FIGURE 1**

**Attitudes:** Percentage of respondents who agree with each statement

- **87.3%** It is important for women to have access to family planning
- **17.3%** When a mother works for pay, the children suffer
- **21.3%** When a father works for pay, the children suffer
- **23.0%** For the same job, men should be paid more than women
- **25.7%** A woman should not earn more than her husband
- **58.9%** A woman should be free to refuse sex with her husband/partner
- **27.9%** There are acceptable circumstances for someone to hit their spouse or partner
- **68.0%** Women call attention to themselves based on how they dress
- **30.2%** It is appropriate for men to discuss a female colleague’s appearance at work
- **80.3%** It is essential for society to treat women as equal to men
- **73.7%** In the media in my country, women are typically portrayed in traditional roles such as caregiver, etc.
- **78.9%** In the media in my country, men are typically portrayed in traditional roles such as provider for the family, etc.
Kenya

**FIGURE 2**

**Future ideal:** In your opinion, how important is each of the following to your country’s future?

(Completely important + somewhat important)

- More opportunities for women in business: 90.7%
- More opportunities for women in politics: 77.8%
- More access to higher education for women: 92.2%
- More respect for women’s rights in all areas: 94.6%
- More affordable primary health care for women: 94.8%
- Equal pay for equal work, regardless of a person’s gender: 92.1%

**FIGURE 3**

**Societal roles and priorities:** Percentage of respondents who agree with each statement

- It is more important for a boy to get a university education than a girl: 11.9%
- A man’s job is to earn money; a woman’s job is to look after the house and the family: 35.7%
- Women should work less and devote more time to caring for their family: 72.2%
- It is natural for men to earn more than women, as they should be the main providers: 43.5%
- Women should be free to make choices regarding marriage – if they marry at all as well as when and whom they marry: 85.6%
- When jobs are scarce, men should have more right to a job than women: 31.1%
- In times of food shortages, priority should be given to men: 25.8%
- In general, men are better business executives than women: 33.0%
- Service jobs (i.e., secretarial, administrative, cleaning) are better suited to women: 48.8%
- In general, men are better political leaders than women: 47.6%
- Having a paid job is the best way for a woman to be an independent person: 61.7%