


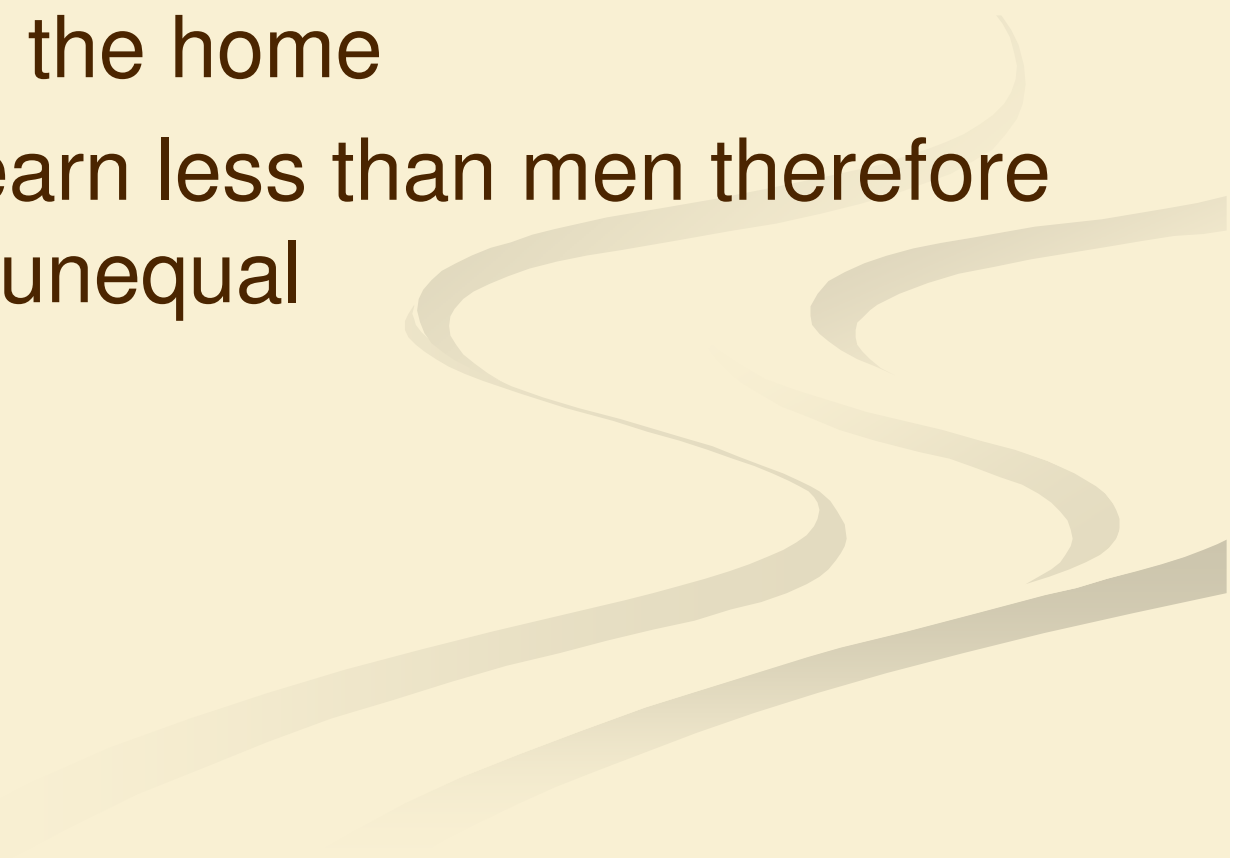
Paid work & decision making

Power & the family

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More paid work = more equality?

- Gershuny (1994)– the trend towards equality
 - Wives not working do 83% of housework
 - Wives working full-time do 73%
 - The longer the wife works full time, the more housework the man does
 - Equality of parents' relationship impacts on the children
 - Still tend to do different tasks
 - Changes are due to changing social values

- Crompton (1997)
 - Increasing earning power of women, lead to changes in the home
 - Women still earn less than men therefore roles are still unequal
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Commercialisation of housework

- Silver (1987), Schor (1993)
- Housework has become commercialised – goods & services now produced outside the home
- Women working can afford to buy these goods & services

BUT – are remaining chores shared equally?

Dual Burden

- Women have acquired 2 roles instead of one
- Ferri & Smith (1996) – women being in paid work has little impact on division of labour – women still take responsibility for childcare in 96% of households
- Morris (1990) – unemployed men will avoid domestic work
 - Seen as “women’s work”

Lesbian Couples

- Dunne (1999) – in heterosexual partnerships gender roles are ingrained
 - “gender scripts”
 - Lesbian relationships tend to be more symmetrical because there is less pressure to conform to traditional gender scripts