

WIVES' USE OF TIME IN LEISURE

by

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A Thesis Submitted to
the Faculty of the Graduate School at
The University of North Carolina at Greensboro
in Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Master of Science

Greensboro
1980

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HIATT, ANN RENIGAR. Wives' Use of Time in Leisure. (1980)
Directed by: Dr. Jane H. Crow. Pp. 119.

The purposes of this study were to describe the allocation of wives' time to leisure, and to contribute to a more complete understanding of the various factors which affect wives' time spent in leisure in a variety of interaction patterns with other family members. Time use data were collected from 105 randomly selected, rural, two-parent, two-child families. The sample was stratified by age of the youngest child. Wives were asked to recall and record time allocated to leisure activities by all family members during the previous week. Stepwise multiple regression was utilized to test the relationship between wives' time in leisure in five interaction patterns with family members and a number of demographic, economic, and sociological variables.

Descriptive results of the study indicated that the mean time allocation of wives to all leisure activities in all interaction patterns with family members was 50 hours and 6 minutes weekly, or seven hours and nine minutes a day. An examination of means by wives' interaction patterns with family members indicated that wives spent 21 hours and 18 minutes of leisure alone, 11 hours and 18 minutes with husbands, six hours and 36 minutes with one or more children, and eight hours and 30 minutes with the entire family during the week.

The stepwise multiple regression analyses revealed that there was a statistically significant negative relationship between the age of the youngest child and wives' total time in leisure, wives' time with husbands, and wives' time with one or more children. This finding was

contrary to other studies that have indicated a reduction in wives' time in leisure is associated with younger or preschool children.

A statistically significant positive relationship was found between wives' feminism scores and their total time in leisure, time with husbands, and with one or more children. There was no statistically significant relationship indicated between wives' feminism scores and leisure time alone or with the entire family. Wives' time in leisure was not affected by husbands' attitudes toward feminism.

A strong positive relationship was found between hours of husbands' labor force participation and wives' leisure alone. Hours of husbands' labor force participation did not affect wives' leisure in interaction with other family members. None of the independent variables tested affected the leisure time of the entire family.

The major conclusion of this study was that wives' leisure time allocations are influenced by a variety of factors other than the traditionally measured demographic relationships. Because leisure usually occurs within the context of the family, attitudes and perceptions of individual family members merit future consideration. The identification and inclusion of variables that may be related to leisure choices and behavior but have not been examined is extremely vital in order to improve the significance of future research. The author suggested that the development and testing of more accurate methodological techniques of gathering time use data as well as the utilization of larger and more representative samples is necessary in order to improve the statistical accuracy of future studies.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Time is perceived by most Americans as an extremely important resource, different from other resources primarily because it is allocated evenly among individuals, i.e., everyone possess the same amount of time. It is time allocation decisions, how one chooses to use his/her time, that differentiates individuals and determines the satisfactions derived. Choices range from those that are productive in terms of monetary gains to those which are inherently restorative, creative, and enjoyable. It is within the latter category that leisure time has traditionally been classified.

Since the Industrial Revolution, the right to leisure has been defined in relation to the right to work (Dumazedier, 1974). The Protestant work ethic mandated that leisure and recreation could only be justified if it helped to restore individuals for work. Since men have comprised the majority of the labor force, the right to leisure has been claimed by men. Housewives barely had the right to claim the rest required to restore the strength needed to nurture and serve their families. Sullerot (1971) indicated that until recently "women's activities were performed in an atmosphere of moral obligation while their leisure was often spent in a state of quasi-guilt" (Dumazedier, 1974, p. 29). Today, such factors as the women's liberation movement, increases in labor force participation, and educational levels of women have influenced a shift in values toward the acceptance of leisure as a right not only of men, but of women and children.

The use of time for leisure takes place for most individuals within the context of familial roles, which are affected by many forces, both internal and external to the family. Kelly (1975) maintained that "people choose their leisure and develop leisure styles among other people closest to them and in a resource context specific to a time and place" (p. 190). The traditional roles of women as wives and mothers contain inherent constraints that have been found to affect time in leisure and leisure behavior. The right to leisure generally has not been accompanied by a reduction in obligations of most wives and mothers. Dumazadier (1974) conjectured that "in our society, the choice of leisure will always rank second to that of family, occupational or socio-political obligations" (p. 149).

Vanek (1974) reported that the amount of time non-employed wives spend in household work has not decreased over the last fifty years. Time allocation studies of others (Sanik, 1979; Walker & Woods, 1976) confirm this observation. For many wives, additional demands on time result from increased participation in the labor force. An inherent quality of time allocation is its absolute limitations, i.e., allocating time to any specific use limits its availability for other uses. If little reduction in the time allocated to non-market productive activities are expected, reduction in the amount of time available for leisure should occur as increasing proportions of women become employed in the labor market.

Marks (1977) reported two contrasting points of view of the current situation concerning time allocation, energy, and commitment in a family context. The "scarcity" approach stresses that multiple roles, i.e.,

homemaker, mother, employee, wife, may become overdemanding and lead to "role strain" or difficulty in meeting role demands. The "expansion approach" to energy demands posits that in a sympathetic family atmosphere, family-related activities, be they "productive" activities, i.e., leisure pursuits, or household work, can actually produce energy such that even employed wives could perform in multiple roles with ease and happiness.

Scholars within several disciplines have recently focused an increased amount of attention on the study of leisure. Much of the work of economists relating to leisure has centered on the relationship between income and leisure, the classical labor-leisure dichotomy. Sociologists have focused on the affective components of leisure within the family. Social scientists from several disciplines have investigated the relationship between leisure time and selected socio-demographic factors and, more recently, attitudes toward leisure time use and leisure behavior. However, much of this attention has ranged from armchair commentary to isolated examination of descriptive data with little conceptual or theoretical basis. Moreover, few methodologically sound studies have investigated the effects of various economic and sociological factors on time allocation for leisure.

Time allocation decisions can be influenced by individuals' productivity in different activities, their income level, social conditions, stage in the family life cycle, familial roles, and technology, as well as individual and family values, perceptions, and goals. This study will examine the effects of such factors on wives' leisure in an attempt to provide a more comprehensive explanation of wives' time in leisure.

Purposes of the Study

The purposes of this study are: (1) to describe the allocation of wives' time to leisure, and (2) to contribute to a more complete understanding of the various factors which may affect wives' time allocated to leisure alone and in a variety of interaction patterns with other family members. The specific objectives of the study are:

1. To provide descriptive data on the allocation of time by wives in all leisure activities and in various categories of leisure time pursuits:
 - a. Sports
 - b. Entertainment
 - c. Institutional leisure activities
 - d. Crafts and hobbies
 - e. Recreation
 - f. Other leisure activities
2. To examine the relationships between wives' leisure in five interaction patterns and age of wives, education of wives, wives' hours of labor force participation, wives' wage rates, wives' feminism score, husbands' feminism score, husbands' hours of labor force participation, family income, family socioeconomic status, and age of the youngest child. The five interaction patterns are:
 - a. wives' leisure alone
 - b. wives' and husbands' leisure together
 - c. wives' and children's leisure together

- d. leisure time of the entire family
- e. wives' total leisure time.

Definitions

Leisure. A non-work activity which provides direct utility for the individual, has no market substitute, and has a relatively high degree of discretion, or freedom of choice (Becker, 1965, de Grazia, 1964; Dumazadier, 1967; Hawrylyshyn, 1977).

Nurturance-maintenance activities. Home related work that involves caring for, educating, promoting, preserving, and sustaining the individual and includes sleeping, eating, and personal care time.

Employed wives. Those wives who are actively participating in the labor force for monetary remuneration.

Non-employed wives. Those wives who are not actively participating in the labor force for monetary remuneration.

Feminist attitudes. Richey (1972) described feminist attitudes as:

attitudes which are accepting and supportive of the ideas and goals of the women's liberation movement. Basically this includes the belief that women are discriminated against because of their sex and that women should receive equal opportunities in all areas of life. Within the context of the family, feminists favor an equalitarian or egalitarian type of role structure. (p. 5)

Non-feminist attitudes. Richey (1972) described non-feminist attitudes as:

Attitudes which are accepting and supportive of the current role of women as appropriate and satisfactory. Non-feminists evaluate the women's liberation movement as negative, disruptive, and unnecessary. The traditional male-female division of labor within the family setting is congruent with the non-feminist attitudes. (p. 5)

Limitations of the Study

An in-depth examination of the leisure time allocations of husbands, wives, and children would be desirable, but is beyond the scope of this study. Analysis will be limited to time allocated to leisure by wives in rural two-parent, two-child families. Although there are increased incidences of single-parent and childless families, and it may be argued that these families may significantly vary from the traditional two-parent family with children, other studies will be needed to examine the nature of leisure among those families.

During the data collection stage, the person as the homemaker was asked to record all time allocated to leisure activities over the last week by husbands, wives, and all children over the age of six years. The wife was defined as the homemaker in every family, and therefore, reported her family's time use. It may be contended that the wife's perceptions of other family members' leisure time use may differ from their own perceptions. However, several reasons exist that tend to support the method employed: (1) the homemaker is usually the family member who is responsible for knowing the location and activities of other family members; (2) a number of the activities engaged in by other family members are either directly observed or participated in by the homemaker; and (3) the homemakers were instructed to clarify any questions relating to other members' activities during the interviews.

The accuracy of employing a weekly recall of time allocations to leisure activities has been debated by many time-budget researchers

(Lundberg, Komarovsky, & McInerney, 1934; Robinson & Converse, 1972; Szalai, 1972). In this study, the homemakers were provided with an extensive list of activities that would serve as a reminder of the previous seven days' activities and time allocations. In addition, many people have certain systematic cycles of activity that occur daily, weekly, and in some instances annually; these periodic occurrences may serve as reference points for recall (Robinson & Converse, 1972).

An additional limitation is the use of a totally rural sample for the measurement of wives' leisure time allocations. Differences may exist between rural and urban residents as to the kinds and number of leisure activities. However, since this study is primarily concerned with total leisure time allocations and not differences in activity patterns, and because the sample is limited to two-parent, two-children families, this limitation may be of less concern than if a heterogeneous population were being examined.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Conceptualizations of leisure have been a topic of scholarly consideration since the beginning of written word. Dumazadier (1974) stated, "Thought about spare time has a long tradition; it is probably as ancient as work itself" (p. 9). In ancient Greece, pursuits that were considered worthy of the name leisure were intellectual, cultural, and artistic activities. Leisure was regarded as the highest value of life, and work as the lowest. Aristotle regarded leisure as "a state of being in which activity is performed for its own sake" (Kraus, 1971, p. 254).

Dumazadier (1974) and Parker (1971, 1976) are among many who have indicated that in pre-industrial society, work and leisure were not treated as separate entities as they are today. Everyday work periods were often interspersed with periods of singing, story-telling, and casual conversation which may have given work activities an element of recreation. Parker (1976) emphasized, "It was only when work came to be done in a special place, at a special separate time and under special conditions that leisure came to be demanded as a right" (p. 24). The advent of the industrial society of the nineteenth century is often hailed as the time when leisure or "time made free" from factory work came to be of utmost importance. Meyersohn (1972) wrote:

If the Industrial Revolution began by attempting to convert reluctant peasants toward accepting the value of work, it

resulted in developing an emphasis on the value of leisure. One of the major social goals since the height of the Industrial Revolution has been the liberation of man from toil and the striving toward ever-increased periods of free time. (p. 209)

The Protestant work ethic invested work with moral meanings of goodness, morality, status, and a related dignity which still persists for many Americans. Berger (1962) suggested, "though the Protestant Ethic is by no means in its grave, there is growing consensus that the major moral satisfactions in life are to be sought through leisure, not work" (p. 33). Charles Reich in The Greening of America (1970) pointed out that contemporary man is essentially oriented toward a leisure society founded on free time, a diversity of life styles, and growth and self-fulfillment. Human fulfillment is often perceived as the conscious goal of a post-industrial society, whereas, industrial society emphasizes conformity, standardization, and routinization (Murphy, 1974).

The interest in leisure in the United States grew from the controversies spawned during the Industrial Revolution about the relationships of leisure and work and their meanings. Since that time, the study of leisure has become an interdisciplinary topic as increasing numbers of psychologists, sociologists, economists, home economists, and recreation planners and administrators have considered its relevance to their respective fields. The recognized salience of leisure, however, has not yielded a universally accepted definition. As Neulinger (1974) stated:

The term leisure is very much like the term, intelligence: everybody uses it but hardly anyone can agree on what it means. It may be used in different ways and it has different implications depending on how it is being used. (p. 31)

In the following sections of this review of literature, ways in which leisure has been defined and measured will be considered as will factors related to family interaction during leisure activities. The discussion will focus on the following areas: (1) ways in which economists and sociologists have attempted to define and measure leisure; (2) descriptive studies that have measured the amounts of time wives have allocated to leisure; (3) predictive studies that have measured the effects of socio-demographic variables such as age, sex, education, socioeconomic status, occupation, wage rates, marriage, the number and ages of children, and wives' employment on leisure time and leisure activities; and (4) studies that have linked interaction of family members during leisure activities to marital satisfaction, stage in the family life cycle, the influences of roles, and situational resources and constraints within the family.

Economists' Approach to the Study of Leisure

Prior to the 1960's, economists' research relating to leisure was limited to an analysis of the work-leisure dichotomy (Mabry, 1969; Moses, 1962; Perlman, 1966). Economists traditionally did not differentiate between leisure and time spent away from employment for compensation; that is, all time not spent in the labor market was considered to be leisure. Leisure was regarded as yielding utility for the individual, with the assumption that at a high enough wage, workers would opt for more leisure and less work (Melvin, 1974).

The nature of this preference structure between leisure and work for monetary compensation has been pondered since the beginnings of modern economics. In the years from 1850 to 1900, economists calculated that hours of work shortened about 0.3 percent when real income increased one percent (Verdoorn, 1947). The years from 1900 to 1940 were characterized, at least in the United States, by considerable increases in time spent in leisure, whereas from the 1950's until recently, the gain in leisure hours at the expense of work time was "slower" (Kahn & Wiener, 1967). Zuzanek (1974) stated, "in general it seems that in the period after World War II, men in most industrial societies preferred to raise their income (purchasing power) more rapidly than their leisure" (p. 297). Economists' speculations about whether individuals will enjoy increased leisure at the expense of income in the future (Fourastie, 1960; Owen, 1970; Samuelson, 1967) or whether they will decrease their leisure time in an attempt to raise their standards of living still higher (Katona, 1964; Linder, 1970) is a controversy that remains to be settled.

The analysis of the labor-leisure choice ignores the economic value of many types of non-market time use. Becker (1965) pioneered efforts at asserting that a variety of everyday behavior which is neither employment for remuneration nor leisure can yield utility for families. This idea together with the theory that incorporated many types of non-market behavior of families are often referred to as "the new economics of the family." According to Becker (1974):

The so-called new economics of the family emphasizes that the time of different family members is their primary scarce resource and replaces the assumption that families

are passive consumers of what they purchase with an assumption that families both produce and consume objects of choice, called "commodities," using inputs of their own time and purchased goods and services. (pp. 317-318)

This new emphasis mandated revision of the traditional economic definition of leisure. The "new" economics of the family acknowledged the tripartite division of time into labor market work (for remuneration), household production (productive activities in the non-market sphere), and leisure. Leisure, then, would no longer be characterized as being simply residual, discretionary, or time free from work, but as that time which yields direct utility for the individual (as opposed to the utility gained from consuming basic "commodities"), and which has no market substitute.

This theory implies that leisure is the only utility-maximizing use of time per se. If individuals employ maximizing behaviors with regard to their satisfaction, then their use of time would depend on their wage rates, as indicators of the relative productivity in time use, and their income. If the market wage of an individual increases, his/her relative productivity at market work increases, thereby raising the "price" (opportunity cost) of leisure. Thus, as leisure becomes a more expensive good, less of it will be demanded by the individual. On the other hand, if leisure is a normal good (one for which demand increases as incomes rise), then increases in income would cause an increase in the demand for leisure.

These two contradictory effects, the wage effect and the income effect, posit changes in the use of time for leisure by individuals, and more specifically for wives, particularly as more married women

enter the labor force, work longer hours, and command higher wages (because of increases in educational level and job experience). The effects of such factors have been the subject of a few empirical investigations, which will be reported later. In summary, however, it is sufficient to conclude that such factors as wage rates and income are important factors to consider when examining the allocation of time to leisure made by individuals.

Sociologists' Approach to the Study of Leisure

Thorstein Veblen's Theory of the Leisure Class (1899) is often mentioned as the first inquiry into leisure on this continent. His main contribution was to raise the issues of idleness of the higher economic classes by emphasizing the "conspicuous consumption" which he believed to be associated with the availability of leisure time. However, the first extensive empirical sociological inquiry into leisure in the United States was that of Lundberg, Komarovsky, and McInerney, in the 1930's, which examined the amount of time allocated to leisure activities by 2,460 residents of Westchester County, New York. Lundberg et al. (1934) defined leisure as "the time we are free from the more obvious and formal duties which a paid job or other obligatory occupation imposes upon us" (p. 2). This definition raises two issues: (1) that there is an element of comparative freedom in leisure, and (2) that leisure is associated with "time left over" from the necessary obligations of one's life. Definitions similar to this are often referred to as "residual" definitions and imply that leisure can only occur during time that is not allocated to

work activities or obligatory activities. The residual definition is typical of that given in the Dictionary of Sociology (1944): "Leisure is time devoted to work, sleep, and other necessities subtracted from twenty-four hours--which gives the surplus time" (Parker, 1976, p. 18).

A number of sociological investigations that were primarily leisure surveys were conducted during the 1940's and 1950's and employed the "residual" definition of leisure. Samples used were narrowed to reflect leisure patterns by race or social class (Gottlieb, 1957; Hollingshead, 1949; St. Clair & Clayton, 1945). Such studies have revealed that there were differences in the types of leisure activities enjoyed between men and women, middle and working classes, and those of various religious beliefs. Information that described peoples' daily existence had its value, i.e., it yielded insight into societal conditions. Thus, information of this nature could be used in establishing "social indicators." Unfortunately there were methodological shortcomings and dissimilarities among studies that made comparisons difficult. Burdge and Field (1972), Christensen and Yoestling (1972), and Kelly (1974) are among those who believed that very little had been "explained" by the survey and social position studies.

During the 1950's and 1960's authors broadened their definitions of leisure and adopted a multiplicity of approaches to the conceptualization of leisure. Many of the definitions of leisure developed at this time involved value judgements of the participants in determining whether or not they had experienced leisure. Miller and

Robinson (1963) defined leisure as "the complex of self-fulfilling values achieved by the individual as he uses leisure time in self-chosen activities that recreate him" (Kraus, 1978, p. 42). De Grazia's classic work, Of Work, Time, and Leisure (1962), approached leisure as a value system and defined it as "an ideal, a state of being, a condition of man, which few desire and fewer achieve" (p. 5).

Researchers began to investigate leisure in relation to many areas of life. For example, Pieper (1958) investigated the relationship of leisure to religion; Lipset (1960) considered the relationships of politics and leisure; Scheuch (1960) considered leisure in the context of the family; Kaplan (1960) and Wilensky (1960) discussed leisure as it related to influences on individuals; and Parker (1971) analyzed leisure in relation to work. Also, major descriptive studies (Robinson & Converse, 1966; Ward, 1954) utilized more stringent objective methods and methodologically sound sampling techniques to provide a wealth of information concerning how people actually used their leisure time.

During the 1970's sociologists began to make comparisons of the various definitions and conceptualizations of leisure (Dumazedier, 1974; Kraus, 1978; Parker, 1976). In discussing the meanings of leisure, Kaplan (1971) suggested that:

Far more than simply free time or a listing of recreational activities, leisure must be viewed as a central element in culture, with deep and intricate ties to the larger questions of work, family, and politics. (Kraus, 1978, p. 44)

The degree of constraint or obligation in relation to specific leisure activities became of interest to sociologists. Kelly (1972) separated leisure activities into three types:

- (1) unconditional leisure--activity independent of work influence and freely chosen, as an end in itself;
- (2) coordinated leisure--activity which is similar to work in form or content but not required by the job;
- (3) complementary leisure--activity which is independent of work in its form and content but which the need to take part in the activity is influenced by one's work. (p. 55)

The need for the development of leisure theories that would serve as a basis for broad applications and for the formalization and testing of hypotheses began to be recognized. Burch (1969), Burdige and Field (1972), and Kelly (1974) called for more in-depth, social-psychological empirical investigations. The use of satisfaction and attitude scales in determining relationships was deemed necessary and desirable. Kelly (1974) stated: "A leisure sociology attempting to study a comprehensive and complex part of the social scene cannot afford to exclude any major perspective or paradigm" (p. 153).

Researchers next began to investigate the relationships between leisure and the family. According to Orthner (1980):

Nye (1974) identified the "recreational role" as one of the primary new roles of the family and recent research has demonstrated that recreational roles have in fact become rather well institutionalized for both husbands and wives. (p. 2)

The effects of the socialization of children on leisure behavior have been studied by Kelly (1974), Neulinger and Berg (1976), and Orthner and Mancini (1978). Activity patterns and marital satisfaction were considered by Orthner (1975). Occupational roles and marital

interaction in leisure have been investigated by Clark, Nye, and Gecas (1978), Jorgenson (1977), MacPherson (1975), and Orthner and Axelson (1980). The results of these studies will be summarized later in discussing the factors that affect family interaction and leisure.

In summarizing, while there has been a long history of sociological inquiry into the definitions, meanings, and conceptualizations of leisure, few methodologically sound studies based on testable theories were in evidence until the last decade. The interpretation of leisure within the context of the family has led to the consideration of the importance of including a multiplicity of variables such as socio-demographic characteristics, attitudes, family composition, and gender-role expectations in order to better explain leisure behavior.

Empirical Studies of Time Allocated To

Leisure by Wives

The President's Scientific Advisory Committee (1962) emphasized the need for scholarly inquiry into time allocation:

There are many significant aspects of behavior about which systematic data are almost completely lacking. We know something of how people spend their money but almost nothing of how they spend their time. (p. 239)

Although there has been substantial effort in the United States to gather information relating to the allocation of time, only a few studies in the past forty-five years were sufficiently rigorous and multi-purpose in nature to be of much interest. Robinson and Converse (1972) reported that in virtually all of these efforts, the

coded data as well as the raw information have disappeared, so that secondary analysis must be foregone. Therefore, we are dependent on whatever summary tabulations may have been recorded and presented at the time.

Descriptive Studies

One of the earliest studies that yielded comparative data was that of Lundberg, Komarovsky, and McInerney (1934), Leisure: A Suburban Study. A sample of 2,460 volunteers of Westchester County, New York were asked to record their activities for periods ranging from one to seven days. The sample was subdivided into groups based on sex and occupation. Respondents were asked to specifically indicate which activities were "good time patterns" or enjoyable parts of the day. It is believed that this information made it possible for the coders of the raw data to better interpret which activities were indeed leisure activities. Tallies of the responses indicated that employed white-collar women reported having an average of 6.6 hours of leisure a day; blue-collar employed women indicated 5.6 hours; and housewives reported 9.2 hours of leisure daily. Executive/professional, white-collar, and blue-collar men included in the sample reported 6.7, 7.3, and 6.8 hours of leisure per day, respectively.

The Lundberg et al., study had several serious methodological shortcomings. The major limitations included: "recall" over too long a past period; over-representation of women; merging of weekends and weekdays; exclusion of summer months. Also, the effects of the depression years on time use were questionable. Although criticisms

of the study were warranted, it was the first major comprehensive effort and has served as a model for further refinements of methodology.

The next major empirical inquiry was the J. A. Ward study (1954) which was reported in de Grazia's (1962), Of Time, Work and Leisure. This effort was much broader in scope and utilized a national probability sample of over 7,000 households, stratified by sex, average day, Saturday, and Sunday. Data on participation in each of several activities were classified by age, employment, status, car ownership, residence, region, educational level, and family income. Unfortunately, the data bases for these individual categories are not reported and are no longer available. Broad summary figures indicated that all women--both employed and housewives--reported averages of 4.7 leisure hours on average days, 5.3 hours for Saturdays, and 7.1 hours for Sundays. Men spent 3.6 hours in leisure on average days, 5.5 hours on Saturdays, and 7.9 hours on Sundays. The differentials noted between weekdays and weekends suggested that controlling by day of the week was an important consideration. An important limitation of the Ward study was that it was assumed that the hours between 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. were allocated to sleep by all sample members. Respondents were not asked to record any activities between these hours. In addition, summer months were not included.

The study by Robinson and Converse (1965-1966) through the Survey of Research Center at the University of Michigan is considered by many researchers to be the most important and comprehensive time-budget breadth as well as depth of information relating to the time allocated

inquiry in the United States to date. The sample was an urban probability sample that included 1,244 adults from Jackson, Michigan. Many of the methodological shortcomings of the earlier studies were resolved. However, no data for rural areas were collected and summer months were excluded. Analysis of the data revealed an average of 5.1 total leisure hours for employed white-collar women, 5.4 for women laborers, and 7.1 for housewives. Executive/professional men reported an average of 6.0 hours of leisure; white-collar men, 5.9 hours; and male laborers, 6.3 hours spent in leisure daily.

Comparisons of leisure time use as measured by the three major time-budget studies are complicated by the dissimilarities in the ways the data were summarized and reported. Lundberg et al. (1934), and Robinson and Converse (1965-1966) published their results by occupation, whereas Ward (1954) did not. An examination of differences in leisure time between men and women (Table 1) in the Lundbert et al. (1934), and Robinson and Converse (1965-1966) studies revealed that employed women reported fewer leisure hours than their male counterparts in the same occupational groupings in both studies. Also, contrary to the popular opinions that individuals enjoy more leisure time than ever in history, the 1965-1966 data indicated that there had been a reduction of total leisure time. However, differences due to the inconsistencies in methodological techniques cannot be assessed.

The 1965-1966 data collected by Robinson and Converse were included in the cross-national time-budget study of fourteen countries by Alexander Szalai (1972). That monumental effort was noted for its breadth as well as depth of information relating to the time allocated

Table 1
 Comparison of Time-Budget Data of Time
 Allocated to Leisure

Occupational Level	Lundberg et al. (1934)		Robinson and Converse (1965-1966)	
	<u>Women</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Men</u>
Executive/Professional	NA	6.7	NA	6.0
White-collar	6.6	7.3	5.1	5.9
Blue-collar*	5.6	6.8	5.4	6.3
Housewives	9.2	NA	7.1	NA

*Reported as laborers instead of blue-collar in the Robinson and Converse (1965-1966) data.

to work-related variables, education, housework, organizations, child care, social entertainment, shopping, personal needs, active leisure, and passive leisure. The absolute figures for daily leisure time allocations differed significantly from site to site. However, the average daily time allocation to leisure across nations was approximately 4.33 hours per day, but distributed differentially across the weekly work cycle. One of the main functions of the cross-national study is that it provides meaningful insights into different living conditions, social interests, and cultural preferences by examining the relative proportions of time allocated by various people in different walks of life. Szalai (1972) indicated that free time as a

proportion of the 24-hour weekday was 14 percent for employed men, 10 percent for employed women, and 17 percent for housewives. Free time as a proportion of the 24-hour day on days off was 35 percent for employed men, 25 percent for employed women, and 25 percent for housewives. Szalai (1972) stated:

Housewives had decidedly more free time than employed women in all societies. In addition to the obvious differences in work and housework activities, housewives spent more time than employed women on other household and child-care activities, as well as for eating, sleeping, and, of course, almost all free-time activities. Only for education and active sports do employed women spend more leisure time than housewives. (p. 570)

Certain patterns relating to leisure tended to be replicated at all sites. There was a "universal" tendency for greater amounts of free time to be available to people of higher status. With a few exceptions, people of higher education reported more free time, as did people of higher occupational status.

The major time-budget studies have enabled researchers to compile massive catalogs of information pertaining to an almost limitless range of activities to which individuals allocate fixed periods of time. Meyersohn (1969), Neulinger (1974), and Robinson and Converse (1972) are among the many who have devoted considerable dialogue to the deliberation of the merits of collecting and compiling time-budget data. Meyersohn (1969) argued that time-budget data have failed to report the issues that are vital to leisure experiences. The quality of the leisure time, choices that people would actually make given the opportunities, and the subjective significance underlying leisure choices have been virtually ignored by the time-budget studies.

However, proponents of the time-budget studies have contended that verification of changes in the structure of society (e.g., the progression of women into the labor force, or the movement of people from farm to city), and the concomitant changes in daily time allocations enable us to better understand the impacts of these changes on the quality of lives of humans (Robinson & Converse, 1972).

Predictive Studies

A number of studies have examined the effects of socio-demographic variables such as age, education, socioeconomic status, occupation, marital status, family size, employment, and wage rate on the time allocated to leisure activities. However, none have included all of these variables, and many have narrowed the relationships to the effects of a few variables on a specific leisure activity or a group of fairly homogeneous activities such as outdoor recreation participation. In the following subsections, the most noteworthy of the studies will be discussed.

Marriage, children, and employment of spouses. Many of the classic essays concerning leisure have discussed the lot of the employed wife in relation to her additional work hours, household work time, and decreased amounts of leisure (de Grazia, 1962; Dumazedier, 1967, 1974; Parker, 1976). Until recently, few empirical studies have investigated the effects of marriage, children, and employment (especially the employment of wives) in explaining the time allocated to leisure. Robinson, Yerby, Feiweger, and Somerick (1977) used the 1965-1966 Robinson and Converse time-budget data to compare the

differences in time allocated to obligatory activities including all employment, housework, child care, sleeping, eating, and personal care and free-time activities. The data were examined to ascertain the extent of differences in time use as men and women enter marriage, have children, and enter the labor force. An overview of sex revealed that men and women generally had equivalent amounts of free time. However, the mean for all women indicated that they spent four times more time in household work and child-care activities (36 hours a week) as did men (eight hours a week). The mean time spent in employment outside the home was twice as high for men as women, so that the total amount of time allocated to "work" per se, was similar for both men and women.

Findings indicated that when successive role burdens imposed by marriage, children, and outside employment were added to the woman's lot, changes in obligatory time versus free time became evident. A summary of the results indicated that marriage significantly reduced wives' free time by an average of 39 minutes a day and increased obligatory time by 54 minutes a day. Other findings regarding wives' time use were that: (1) the existence of one or two children decreased free-time activities by 40 minutes per day; (2) the existence of three or more children decreased free time by an additional 28 minutes a day; (3) the existence of preschool children reduced free time an additional 24 minutes a day; and (4) employment of the wife had the greatest effect on free time, a reduction of 143 minutes of free time a day. For men, marriage reduced free time by 57 minutes. The existence of children, not their number or ages, reduced free time by 32

minutes. Surprisingly, the wife's employment increased the husband's free time by 46 minutes a day.

Bloch (1973) used multiple regression to predict the effects of total number of children and the existence of preschool children on husbands' and wives' time allocations to leisure. A national sample which was a part of the 1964 Productive Americans Study (Morgan et al., 1964) was used to give yearly recall estimates of the time allocated to leisure activities. The total number of children had negative effects on both wives' and husbands' leisure. The existence of preschool children had no effect on wives' leisure, but a negative relationship to husbands' leisure was indicated.

Gronau (1976) used data collected by the Israeli Institute of Applied Social Research to determine the effects of time allocated to market work and household work on leisure. Respondents were asked to recall daily estimates of time allocations to work, household work, and leisure. Results indicated that an increase in the total number of children, or the existence of preschool children, decreased the time allocated to leisure and the time allocated to employment by wives, but increased wives' work at home. For husbands, an increase in the total number of children, but not the existence of preschool children, increased the time allocated to work in the market and to work at home, but decreased time allocated to leisure.

Gronau (1977) employed data collected by the 1972 panel of the Michigan Study of Income Dynamics relating to time usage of 1,281 white married women to explain the time allocated to market work, housework, and leisure. Findings indicated that children have a

negative effect on employed mothers' leisure. After children entered school, more time became available but was diverted into the market instead of allocated to leisure or housework.

Hill et al. (1979) utilized data from the 1978 South Carolina Consumer Panel to determine the effects of selected variables on husbands' and wives' time allocations during the week surveyed. Income and educational levels of the sample members were slightly higher than averages for most South Carolina families. It was observed that the existence of young children reduced wives' contribution to market time, reduced wives' time in leisure, and increased wives' home production efforts. Family size or the existence of preschool children had no effects on husbands' time allocations to leisure. The effects of wives' employment on time allocations were not measured.

Wages and income. Most of the studies by economists have focused on the effects of wage rates and income on the amount of time spent in leisure (Bloch, 1973; Gronau, 1976, 1977; Hill et al., 1979). They have generally found that wage rates are negatively related to wives' leisure and non-wage income is positively related to both wives' and husbands' leisure. Bloch (1973) found that the effect of an increase in husbands' wage rates on leisure was positive for wives and husbands, but just barely so. An increase in wives' wage rates decreased time allocated to leisure and that of husbands, but again, just barely.

Gronau (1976) determined that family income played a dual role in his multiple regression equation. An increase in income increased the demand for home production and wives' leisure. However, it was determined that higher family income may have resulted from an increase

in wives' market activity, which decreased the time allocated to home production and leisure. Thus, women with higher family incomes tended to spend fewer hours in work at home (including child care) and leisure, but the results were not statistically significant.

Gronau (1977) found that when wives were not employed, work at home was negatively affected, but leisure was positively affected by unearned income and husbands' wage rates. A major determinant of the employed woman's time allocations was her wage rate. A higher wage rate negatively affected work at home and leisure. However, the relationship between total family income and leisure was not significant.

Hill et al. (1979) regressed the weekly hours allocated to home production, leisure, and market activities of each spouse against wage rates and non-earned income. An increase in wage rates for both husbands and wives resulted in decreased home production time, but in increases in leisure hours for both spouses. This is contrary to the findings of Bloch (1973) and Gronau (1977). However, no relationship was indicated between a rise in non-wage income and hours in leisure.

Age. It has been postulated that while the effects of age on leisure cannot be discounted, circumstances such as the stage in the family life cycle, the number of hours of employment, and the nature and location of the leisure experience may be stronger influences of leisure (Neulinger, 1974; Parker, 1976). Neulinger's (1974) investigation of the leisure attitudes of 335 subjects found that the younger generation had a greater affinity for leisure than did the older, but that situational factors must also be examined.

The relationship between age and time in leisure has not been found to be consistent across different studies. Berger (1966) believed that some activities increase with age, some decrease, and some fluctuate. Most of the significant findings have been reported for comparisons of specific age groups in specific activities. Havighurst (1957) found age to have a moderate negative relationship to the leisure activity patterns of middle-aged men and women. White (1975) used multiple regression in determining age to be negatively related to both the activity level and the variety of outdoor activities engaged in by a sample of Canadian men. However, he qualified his findings by emphasizing that the nature and setting of the activity could be discounted.

Gronau (1976) indicated no relationship between age and the amount of time wives allocated to leisure. However, more recently, Gronau (1977) and Hill et al. (1979) found a positive relationship between age and the amount of leisure time. Hill et al. (1979) stated:

Older wives work less than younger wives . . . (and) this extra time is distributed between home production and leisure. Meal preparation, shopping time, and leisure of the wife increase with her age, and childcare time diminishes. (p. 7)

Husband's age was found to be inversely related to his time in market work and positively related to his leisure time.

Education. The influence of educational level on the amount of and uses of free time has been discussed at length in sociological inquiries into leisure (de Grazia, 1962; Dumazedier, 1967, 1974; Neulinger, 1974; Parker, 1971, 1976). It has been generally accepted that educational level is an important variable, perhaps because of its

use as an indicator of social class. When interpreting data relating leisure to educational level, it must be kept in mind that the differences found may result from either the types of activities examined or other factors such as social class rather than educational attainment (Neulinger, 1974).

Harry (1972) observed that "education acts as a positive facilitative cause, rather than simply as a permissive condition (of leisure)" (p. 218). Brudge (1969) stated that "education tends to broaden one's perspective on leisure, and income and better paying jobs allow opportunity to explore a variety of leisure pursuits" (p. 273). Helena Strzeminska (Szalai, 1972), in investigating the time-budgets of working women in Poland, observed that the amount of free time increased with increases in educational level. Based on her findings, she reported that on the whole, women with the highest educational status have the largest amount of free time available for themselves.

The multiple regression analyses of Gronau (1976, 1977) and White (1975) have found educational level to be positively related to the amount of time allocated to leisure. Gronau's (1976) examination of the time use of Israeli married women by educational level determined that those women with thirteen or more years of schooling enjoyed an average of 6.08 hours of leisure a day, while women with nine to twelve years of schooling reported 5.78 hours of leisure per day; and women with an educational level of eight years or less indicated an average of only 5.10 total hours of leisure per day. Consistent evidence exists, then, that increases in educational level are associated with more time in leisure. Whether this results from productivity

considerations or tastes has not been fully explored. Common explanations for the discrepancies are centered on the argument that more educated women enjoy higher incomes, because of higher wage rates or of selective mating with more educated men, and may therefore, employ market goods or services in order to lessen household production time and increase time for leisure pursuits.

Socioeconomic status. Through the ages, the enjoyment of leisure (especially as a lifestyle) has been associated with an elite social class. Veblen (1899) coined the term "idle rich" in referring to the "leisure class." Dumazedier (1974) indicated that leisure has always been available in great quantity to aristocrats. However, Max Kaplan (1960) proposed that social class determinants are no longer effective in predicting leisure interests and needs. He contended that increased mobility, the mass media, rising affluence of the masses, and the diffusion of culture has brought varied forms of leisure within the reaches of everyone. Havighurst (1957) maintained that leisure style is more a matter of personal predilection than class differences.

A number of researchers have demonstrated that social class is an important variable in explaining leisure time and the participation in leisure activities (Babchuk & Booth, 1969; Clark, 1956; Hollingshead, 1949; White, 1955). While most of the studies have reported a positive relationship between social class and time in leisure, the variables used to measure social class have been as varied as the findings and the amount of revealed influence. One of the main problems encountered in attempts to measure participation in leisure activities by social class was the fact that many leisure activities (e.g., watching

television, attending movies, picnicing, etc.) were pursued by many different social classes. Unfortunately, the various studies have been so different in sample size, population examined, and activities considered that they are difficult to compare.

Occupation. Two problems have confronted researchers who have used occupation as an independent variable in explaining leisure behavior. The first concerns the issue of separation of occupational level, income, educational level, and social class. One solution has been to combine the variables into an index of social class (Hollingshead & Redlich, 1958). The second problem is related to the issue of finding satisfactory systems of classification. The traditional white-collar and blue-collar dichotomy has been considered outdated by many contemporary researchers (Neulinger, 1974).

Various studies have confirmed that occupational differences are related to preferred ways of spending leisure (Gerstl, 1961; Graham, 1959). Sillitoe's (1969) examination of occupational level and preferences for activities among British workers found that employers, managers, and professional people watched only half as much television but participated nearly twice as often in physical recreation as semi-skilled and unskilled manual workers. Examination of an American sample revealed that the upper-middle class used libraries, had home diversions, and participated in lecture-study groups more often while the lower groups used parks and playgrounds, churches, museums, and community entertainment more often.

Recently, multiple regression has proved a useful statistical tool in determining the amount of variability that is explained by a number

of socio-demographic variables, including occupation. White (1975) analyzed data on 27 socioeconomic characteristics and participation rates for each of 2,969 Canadian households in 26 outdoor recreational activities in determining the relative importance of work versus other variables in explaining individual leisure patterns. His findings indicated that occupation was a relatively unimportant predictor of outdoor recreation participation; instead, age, education, and income were the primary predictors.

Summary. The findings regarding the effects of economic and socio-demographic variables on time allocated to leisure are varied. A summary of the factors that have been related to time wives spent in leisure by Bloch (1973), Gronau (1976, 1977), Hill, Hunt, and Kiker (1979), and Robinson (1977) are included in Table 2.

A comparison of the five studies cited above reveals that generally, family constraints such as marriage and children have been found to reduce both husbands' and wives' time in leisure. Lundberg et al. (1934), Robinson and Converse (1966), Robinson et al. (1977), and Szalai (1972) have found that the employment of wives has a negative relationship to wives' leisure hours. Two studies (Bloch, 1973; Gronau, 1977) determined that wives' wage rates are negatively related to the total amount of wives' leisure. However, one study (Hill et al., 1979) found the relationship between wives' wage rates and wives' leisure to be positive. Of the studies that have examined family income and wives' leisure, most have found no direct relationship between the two. However, Bloch (1973) found a positive relationship between family income and wives' leisure.

Table 2
 Findings of Previous Studies on Factors That
 Influence Wives' Allocation of
 Time to Leisure

Variable	Bloch (1973)	Gronau (1976)	Gronau (1977)	Robinson (1977)	Hill et al. (1979)
	All Wives	All Wives	Employed Wives	All Wives	Women
Wife's Wage	-		-		+
Wife's Education		+1	+	+1	0
Wife's Age		0	+		+
Wife's Employment				-	
Income	+	0	0		0
Husband's Wage	+		+		0
Husband's Education		0	0		0
Husband's Age					-
Husband's Employment				-	
Marital Status				-	
Family Size	-	-	0	-	0
Presence of Pre- school age children	0	-		-	-
R^2		.09	.12		.12

¹Regression coefficient barely significant.

Gronau (1976, 1977) and Robinson et al. (1977) found that higher educational levels for wives positively influenced their leisure. Higher educational levels for husbands has not been found to be significantly related to the amount of wives' leisure (Gronau, 1976, 1977; Hill et al., 1979). Studies have determined that older wives enjoy increased amounts of leisure (Gronau, 1977; Hill et al., 1979); but husbands' age was negatively related to wives' leisure time.

Generally, the findings are limited by one or more of the following restrictions. The methodology of many of the studies must be questioned. For example, the validity of using yearly recall as a good estimator of leisure time allocations has been negated by Robinson and Converse (1966) and Szalai (1972). Few studies have attempted to use more than a few variables to explain time allocations to leisure. Studies that have utilized demographic information, economic variables, and sociological variables are virtually non-existent. However, on a more positive note, studies have provided a point of departure for researchers interested in further leisure research. Clearly, much work is needed to better explain factors that affect wives' allocations of time to leisure.

Studies of Family Interaction During Time Allocated to Leisure

Although a few researchers examined the importance of family leisure in the 1950's (Benson, 1952; Gerson, 1960; Locke, 1951), and the classic essays concerning the sociology of leisure devoted full chapters to discussions of leisure within the context of the family

(de Grazia, 1962; Dumazedier, 1967; Kaplan, 1960), very little investigation had been concerned with patterns of leisure behavior among family members until the 1970's. Burch (1969) theorized that although a variety of demographic, socioeconomic, and work-related variables converge to have varying amounts of influence over leisure decisions, the interaction of individuals in specific social, familial, or friendship relationships are likely the most important determinants of leisure behavior.

The focus of much of the research in the 1970's was oriented toward the influences of leisure time and behavior on familial relationships and satisfactions. Popular euphemisms such as "the family that plays together stays together" extolled the virtues of leisure as an important influencer of marital harmony. Parker (1976) stated that "recreation can and should serve to strengthen a family and keep it together; it is possible through leisure time pursuits to maintain family solidarity and unity of purpose" (p. 82).

Orthner (1975) indicated the saliency of scholarly consideration of the relationships between leisure and family life:

It is time to consider the dimensions of leisure in addition to work as an influencing variable in family relations. The ability of leisure to influence the family may be increasing, and if the family is moving toward companionship as a source of marital solidarity, then the leisure factor is of critical importance. (p. 191)

Kelly (1973) verified that the family is the primary setting in which leisure activities occur. His examination of leisure orientations of families in two communities found that at least 60 percent of all of the most important leisure activities of adults were usually

done with family companions. Nye (1974), in discussing and analyzing the role structure of the family, signaled the importance of the family in leisure decision making and recognized the recreational role as an integral part of the family structure: "Recreational activities are primarily group activities and recreational choices are made within a framework of group decision-making and reference group norms and values" (p. 132). Orthner (1976) identified leisure as a source of satisfaction and a means of enhancing interpersonal communications between family members, indicating that lack of interaction time can lead to the lack of understanding between family members.

The following discussion of research that has examined factors that influence family interaction in leisure includes: (1) marital satisfaction and family interaction in leisure, (2) family interaction in leisure as influenced by stage in the family life cycle, (3) family interaction in leisure as influenced by perceptions of acceptable roles, and (4) situational resources and constraints and family interaction in leisure.

Marital Satisfaction and Family Interaction in Leisure

Orthner (1975) examined the relationship between marital satisfaction and the proportion of time husbands and wives spend in leisure activities that require interaction. A sample of 442 upper-middle class husbands and wives recalled the amount of time allocated over one weekend to individual leisure activities (activities that required no communication with others), joint leisure activities (activities that required a high degree of interaction for successful completion of the

activity), and parallel activities (activities that were performed in group settings but which required a minimum of interaction among the participants). Findings indicated that individual activities had negative consequences for marital satisfaction in the first five years of marriage and also in that period when children are usually launched (between eighteen and twenty-three years of marriage). The data indicated that during the periods six years to eleven years of marriage and 12 years to 17 years of marriage, there was no significant relationship between marital satisfaction and joint or parallel leisure activities. However, these were the important parenting years. Interaction between parents and children in leisure activities may have supplanted joint and parallel activities between spouses. Orthner's data did lend support for the postulation that at least some joint and parallel leisure activities between marital partners during the period from six to eighteen years of marriage are needed for the wife to maintain positive inclinations toward the relationship and to avoid feelings of rejection. Husbands who engaged in individual activities during those years did not demonstrate any decline in marital satisfaction.

Orthner (1976) later utilized a middle-class sample to test the hypothesis that interaction in leisure can positively influence the degree of communication between spouses and the degree of family task sharing in settings other than leisure participation. Findings indicated that the relationship was indeed positive but only when mutually desired by the spouses involved, and "only to the extent that communication or role sharing with the other are culturally reinforced or deemed appropriate by the participants" (Orthner, 1976, p. 109). In

addition, significance varied with the extent to which spouses gave exclusive attention to each other. It was reasoned that over the marital career, as others entered or left the relationship (i.e., children), communication may center around others rather than the marital partners.

The results of both studies (Orthner, 1975, 1976) yielded no information about the total amount of leisure interaction time or about any leisure other than during weekends. However, it would seem that for some families, interaction in leisure enhances marital satisfaction and communication, but that stage in the life cycle, roles, and perceptions of the spouses affect the significance of the relationships. The implication that spousal interaction during leisure in the childrearing years is perceived as more important by the wife than by the husband yields support for the importance of this present study.

Family Leisure and Perceptions of Importance of

Family Leisure and the Stage in the Family Life Cycle

Rapoport and Rapoport (1977) related the importance of the stage in the family life cycle to leisure by reporting that the early and middle years of active parenting tend to be distinctive in the leisure lives of most people in that children and the home become the positive centers of interest. Leisure activities tended to drop off first for women, and then for men as the demands of childrearing and other commitments increased.

Kelly (1975) studied the effects of the stage in the family life cycle on orientation to leisure activities in an Oregon community and a Wisconsin community, and found that "the most dramatic change in the

leisure career comes with the birth of children" (p. 187). There was a shift of over 30 percent of the proportion of activities that were unconditional (activities chosen for their own sake) before children were born to complementary (activities constrained by roles) after children were born. Family roles became dominant in the leisure styles of parents. Adults that were not yet married engaged in leisure activities that were more oriented toward personal satisfaction. Pre-parental couples appeared little different from the unmarried, except that they were more likely to engage in leisure activities together. During the postparental years, 20 percent of the role-constrained activities were exchanged for those that were engaged in for their own sake and oriented toward personal satisfaction. During this period, the unconditional and complementary activities were in near balance.

Family Leisure and Perceptions of Acceptable Roles

Families vary in their perceptions of the desirability of interaction and togetherness in leisure. Bell and Healey (1973) have differentiated the leisure behavior of traditional versus more democratic or egalitarian couples. The traditional marriage is based on gender-role segregation with the wife/mother concerned mainly with the domestic activities, and the husband/father with the extra-domestic, economic activities. Leisure for the wife centers around the home, kin, and children, and is precluded by the rigid organization of her life. The husband's leisure usually occurs outside the home in the company of his friends, co-workers, or "male kin." Orthner (1974) maintained that "traditional families are not likely to need a great

deal of leisure to function adequately" (p. 15). The successful operation of such a family is based on defined, separate roles and on limited interaction among the members. Time for introspection and redefinition of the relationship is unnecessary when structural restrictions are not conducive to modification or alteration of roles.

In contrast, the egalitarian marriage is based on the freedom of individuals to experience and express a variety of needs in relation to their individual roles. The spouses engage in a variety of leisure experiences--both individually and together. There is increased emphasis on companionship in many leisure activities, where communication and sharing can occur. For the egalitarian marriage, interaction in leisure is necessary to increase the understanding of the individuals and the importance of shared roles.

Nye (1974) hypothesized that the degree to which spouses perceive societal norms existing in the realm of recreation will both affect and reflect the importance attached to family recreation, but he did not measure the traditional/egalitarian dichotomy. Komarovsky (1962) linked the traditional leisure patterns with the working class and stressed the importance of attitudes toward the joint social life of spouses. Havighurst and Feigenbaum (1959) reported that the working class was generally low in social role and leisure performance. However, many of the empirical studies concerning leisure interaction have employed totally middle-class samples (Orthner, 1975, 1976, 1980). A definite need exists for the empirical documentation of the effects of traditional/egalitarian role orientation on leisure time allocations and behavior.

Kelly (1978) measured the extent to which family role constraints affected leisure choices in 374 families in three towns representing the northeastern, northwestern, and mid-western areas of the United States. Leisure activities were classified as parallel (little interaction involved), convenient (interaction occurred because two or more members happened to be conveniently located at the time), relational (chosen because the relationship and companionship was valued), or role-determined (activities that were primarily in response to the expectations of other persons, usually family members). In all three geographic regions, 62 percent of all leisure activities engaged in were seen as free of role expectations, and 32 percent had family consequences if discontinued. Results indicated that when leisure was measurably role-determined, the constraining role was likely to be family related. Kelly (1978) stated:

With almost one-third of all the "important" activities for adults in the three communities having family-related role expectations, the salience of such roles in adult leisure appears to be a factor that should not be ignored. (p. 54)

It is interesting, however, that even though many activities were normally engaged in with family members, the reasons cited for undertaking the activity were not related to role-constraints. It is important to realize that family members do not feel so pinned down by roles that all satisfactions in leisure are lost.

Neulinger (1974) and Szalai (1972) have reported that wives were not as satisfied with the amount of leisure that they have as were husbands. The amount of this dissatisfaction that is related to role constraints has not been explained. There is a great need for more

research that would compare marital roles and role constraints with the amount of leisure and perceived satisfaction in leisure activities.

Family Leisure and Situational Factors

The increased incidence of egalitarian marriages has been noted among those families in which wives are employed outside the home, and especially among dual-career families. Wives' employment, with the concomitant rise in economic power, together with the increased educational attainment of both men and women, have been cited as reasons for the move toward greater role sharing and egalitarian lifestyles among some couples. Orthner (1980) commented on the privileges and power that some women may realize due to their increased involvement in the labor market:

The privileges women gain may include the ability to influence recreational decision-making and, if preferred, the enhancement of husband-wife interaction, especially during discretionary times. (p. 2)

Empirical studies have found that the wife's employment may reduce her total amount of leisure time (Groce, 1974; Gronau, 1977; Lundberg et al., 1934; Robinson & Converse, 1965-1966; Szalai, 1972), but the effects of the wife's employment on the amount of leisure that is spent with family members has not been investigated. Clark, Gecas, and Nye (1978) and Young and Willmott (1973) found that as hours of husbands' employment increased, the amount of time allocated to family leisure decreased. Unfortunately, no such determination was made for wives.

The first empirical attempt to measure the effects of wives' employment on family interaction was part of a larger study of family relationships and personal adjustment of employed mothers (Nye, 1958).

Survey results of 1,993 mothers in three Washington towns indicated that mothers employed full-time visited less, telephoned less, attended fewer parties, and played cards less often than their non-employed counterparts. However, it was concluded that intra-family and commercial recreation were "not appreciably affected" by the employment of mothers.

Jorgenson (1977) examined the effects of social position and employment of the wife/mother on family leisure time. The non-random sample of 45 families was selected to reflect three social positions. No significant relationship was found between social position and husband/wife leisure, but a positive relationship was indicated between higher social class and total family leisure. Employment of the wife negatively influenced husband/wife leisure, but produced a greater amount of conjoint family leisure. No absolute amounts of time allocated to leisure were reported.

Recently, Orthner and Axelson (1980) examined the relationship between wives' work involvement and their marital sociability. Sociability was determined by the proportion of discretionary time that was allocated to self, spouse, and others. The "role scarcity" model (Marks, 1977) led to the hypothesis that marital sociability was negatively related to wives' employment. Conversely, the "role expansion" model led to the hypothesis that marital sociability was positively related to wives' employment. No significant differences were found until the length of the work week and the stage of the family life cycle were controlled. A positive relationship between marital sociability and employment was found for those wives who enjoyed higher

status occupations and for mothers who were not employed. Low marital sociability was related to those wives employed part-time and childless wives who were not employed.

The researchers indicated support for both hypotheses. Higher proportions of marital companionship activities among those wives in professional-managerial positions as opposed to wives in clerical-sales positions lent support for the role expansion hypothesis. Orthner and Axelson (1980) concluded:

If we assume that the occupational roles of the former (professional-managerial wives) are more demanding, yet more rewarding, it follows that they may also provide the opportunity for greater privileges and more understanding on the part of the husband. (p. 18)

Higher companionship was indicated among employed, childless and post-parental wives. The authors concluded that role accumulation may have positive consequences for wives during periods when role commitments are reduced. Support for the role scarcity hypothesis was indicated by the increased tendency for employed wives to participate to a greater extent in individual activities as compared to the non-employed wives. It was suggested that participation in individual activities may have provided relaxation and compensation from the demands of competing roles. The authors maintained that the reduction of joint companionship activities during the childrearing years among employed wives was further indication of role strain. It was concluded that the companionate marriages were not seriously jeopardized by the employment of wives. Future research was suggested to better explore husbands' responses to wives' employment. The role expansion approach stressed that the existence of a sympathetic atmosphere was essential in avoiding role strain in multiple role situations.

While it cannot be denied that the research by Orthner and Axelson (1980) is a vital contribution in better understanding the effects of wives' employment on interaction between spouses during leisure, the accuracy of using the proportion of the discretionary time allocated to joint leisure activities as a true measure of interaction is questionable. It could be argued that a wife who allocated 80 percent of her discretionary time to joint activities with her spouse, if she possessed only one hour of discretionary time, would hardly be a true indicator of a companionate marriage. Conversely, the wife who allocated only 20 percent of her discretionary time to joint leisure activities may be more indicative of a companionate marriage if she in fact possessed 20 hours of discretionary time.

To summarize the literature that has examined leisure within the context of the family, the following conclusions can be made. First, the family has been considered the primary location of leisure behavior and the primary influencer of attitudes (Kelly, 1973). The recreational role has been deemed as one of the most important functions of the family (Nye, 1974). The stage in the life cycle has been determined as an important influencer of leisure location, orientation, and interaction (Kelly, 1975; Orthner, 1975).

Secondly, husband/wife interaction in joint leisure activities has been found to be related to marital satisfaction, especially in the first years of marriage and during those years after the children have been launched (Orthner, 1975). It has been determined that wives are more likely than husbands to consider interaction in leisure essential to the maintenance of the marriage, especially during the parental years.

Thirdly, marital interaction may enhance overall communication and task sharing in the marriage if it is perceived as desirable by both partners and is culturally acceptable (Orthner, 1976). However, different individuals and families may vary in their need of interaction in joint leisure activities depending upon the traditional/egalitarian orientations (Orthner, 1974). Kelly (1978) has demonstrated that certain leisure activities may be perceived as role-constrained, especially during the parental years. More information is needed regarding the satisfactions or dissatisfactions connected with role-related leisure.

Fourthly, leisure interaction may be facilitated or constrained by outside forces such as the employment of spouses, hours of employment, occupational level, or social placement (Clark, Gecas, & Nye, 1978; Jorgenson, 1977; Orthner & Axelson, 1980).

Although most of the significant research relating to leisure and the family has been completed in the last ten years, much remains to be explained. The call for the formulation and testing of theories relating to leisure (Burch, 1969; Kelly, 1974) remains a prime directive for social scientists.

CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

This study utilized data that is a part of an interstate comparison of time use of families. It was designed, in part, by Kathryn Walker and her associates at Cornell University. Much of the methodology was tested in Walker's 1967-1968 study and revised for the 1977 study. The basic design of interviewing two-parent, two-child families, stratified by the age of the youngest child, was decided upon as a result of the 1967-1968 study. Much of the methodology was standardized for use in other states.

Sampling Area

In order to comply with Kathryn Walker's requirements, a sampling area that would yield a sample of rural residents without proximity to or access to large metropolitan areas in North Carolina was necessary. Because of travel time and expense, it was decided to limit the sampling area to one rural county in North Carolina. Pamlico County, a rural county of 338 square miles in Eastern North Carolina, was selected by Mohammed Abdel-Ghany and Deborah Godwin, who were responsible for North Carolina's contribution to the larger interstate data bank.

Selection of Sample

A population of two-parent, two-child families in Pamlico County, North Carolina was established by first conducting a survey within the four county schools. A total of 228 families were included in the final population. Thirty-five families in each of the five categories stratified by age of the youngest child were randomly selected to provide for replacement families should any of the first 21 families in each category be unable or ineligible to participate. The five age categories were: under one year, one year, two to five years, six to eleven years, and twelve to seventeen years.

Interview Procedure

The interviewer contacted families by telephone in the order in which they were randomly selected. If the family composition was accurate and the family agreed to be interviewed, the date and time of interview were arranged. A total of 105 cooperating families participated.

To control for variations in time use during different seasons of the year, the year of 1977 was divided into three four-month periods and thirty-five families were interviewed in each period.

Two interviews were conducted to gather all of the necessary information. Two copies of the leisure instrument and the feminism scale were left with the homemaker after the first interview with the instructions for each spouse to complete them without collusion. If the homemaker had any questions about the leisure activities of the other family

days. This information was recorded in raw numbers of hours under the thirteen possible categories of interaction.

The interaction categories selected by this researcher for analysis included: (1) total amount of wives' leisure spent alone; (2) total amount of wives' and husbands' leisure spent together; (3) total amount of wives' and children's leisure spent together; (4) total amount of leisure spent by entire family together; and (5) total amount of wives' leisure.

Attitudes Toward Feminism Scale

The Attitudes Toward Feminism Scale (Appendix B), developed by Richey (1972), was utilized to obtain information on husbands' and wives' attitudes toward gender roles. A Likert-type scale consisting of 55 relatively extreme positive or negative statements concerning the economic, domestic, political-legal, and social status of women was utilized. A rotated factor matrix identified the factors within the scale and supported its construct validity. The reliability of the scale in the original study, calculated by an odd-even split-half method, was +.87. Both husbands and wives were asked to separately report without collusion their feelings about each attitude statement by checking one of five responses: strongly agree, agree, undecided, disagree, and strongly disagree. A score was assigned to each spouse by calculating the mean of his or her scores on each of the 55 items.

Interview Schedule

Developed by Walker (1976), this instrument elicited information about demographic characteristics such as age, education, wage rates,

income, occupation, hours of employment, as well as other descriptive information (e.g., unusual family conditions, unusual weather conditions, home ownership, household equipment, etc.).

Socioeconomic Status Index

The socioeconomic status of families in the sample was calculated by using Hollingshead's Two Factor Index of Social Position (1958). Educational level and occupation are necessary in Hollingshead's estimation to statistically calculate one's position in society (Appendix C). For the purposes of this study, family socioeconomic levels were calculated by using the husbands' occupations and educational attainment since 70 percent of all wives in the sample were not employed in the labor force. The computed scores were employed in the multiple regression analyses as one of the ten independent variables.

Analysis of Data

First, descriptive information about the amount of time spent by wives in the six leisure activity categories (see Appendix A) are reported. These time patterns are reported for each of the five interaction patterns, as well as totals for all activity categories and all leisure interaction patterns. Numbers of wives and the amount of time are reported, as well as mean time, maximum time, and standard deviation for each activity category, all leisure, and each interaction pattern.

Secondly, multiple regression is utilized to test the relationship between the five interaction patterns and the following independent

variables: (1) wives' age; (2) wives' education; (3) wives' market work; (4) wives' wage rate; (5) wives' attitude toward feminism; (6) husbands' market work; (7) husbands' attitude toward feminism; (8) family income; (9) family socioeconomic status; and (10) age of the youngest child.

Multiple regression has been defined by Kerlinger and Pedhazur (1973) as "a method of analyzing the collective and separate contributions of two or more independent variables, X_1 , to the variation of a dependent variable, Y " (p. 3). The interpretation of the regression equations center on the following:

1. unstandardized regression coefficients, or b values, which are used to discern the direction and magnitude of the partial relationship between each of the independent variables and the dependent variable;
2. The F value for b which indicates whether b is statistically different from 0;
3. the standardized regression coefficient, or Betas (B), which are used to discern the relative "importance" of each of the independent variables; and
4. the F value for the whole equation, which indicates whether the regression of the dependent variables on the independent variables is statistically significant.

The following is an example of a regression equation:

$$L = a + b_1A_1 + b_2E_2 + b_3MW_3 + b_4WW_4 + b_5FW_5 + b_6MH_6 + b_7FH_7 + b_8I_8 + b_9SES_9 + b_{10}AYC_{10}$$

where: A = age of the wife

E = education of the wife

MW = market work of the wife

WW = wage rate of the wife

FW = feminism score of the wife

MH = market work of the husband

FH = feminism score of the husband

I = family income

SES = socioeconomic status

AYC = age of the youngest child

L = leisure time of the wife spent alone.

In each of the five regression equations the same set of independent variables are available for entry into the equation by the stepwise procedure. The five dependent variables are the wives' leisure in the five interaction patterns.

CHAPTER IV

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The purposes of this study were (1) to provide descriptive data pertaining to wives' time allocated to leisure, and (2) investigate the relationship between selected independent variables and wives' time allocated to leisure in five interaction patterns. Information was gathered on selected demographic characteristics of the respondents: age, educational attainment, occupation, wage rates, family income, and husbands' and wives' time allocated to the labor force. Husbands' educational attainment and husbands' occupations were employed to derive an index of social position which was used to indicate the family socioeconomic status. Additional information was gathered on husbands' and wives' attitudes toward gender roles and a score (called the feminism score) was computed for each respondent.

The findings are reported in three parts: (1) characteristics of the sample; (2) description of wives' allocation of time to leisure in sports, entertainment activities, institutional leisure activities, crafts and hobbies, recreation, and other leisure activities in five family interaction patterns; and (3) results of five stepwise multiple regression equations that examined the relationships between selected independent variables and the time allocated to leisure by wives in the five family interaction patterns:

1. wives' leisure alone;
2. wives' and husbands' leisure together;
3. wives' and one or more children together;
4. leisure time of the entire family; and
5. wives' total leisure.

Description of Sample

The study employed a randomly selected sample of 105 two-parent, two-child families in Pamlico County, North Carolina. The sample was stratified by age of the youngest child into five categories: those with children under one year of age, one year, two to five years, six to eleven years, and twelve to seventeen years of age. The information was gathered during three four-month periods in 1977; thirty-five families were interviewed in each period in order to account for variations in time use during the different seasons of the year. Following is a descriptive analysis of the selected demographic and personal characteristics of the sample.

Age of Wives

The ages of wives as reported in Table 3 ranged from a low of 19 to a high of 55 years. Only 11.4 percent of the wives were under 25 years of age, and 18.1 percent were over 40 years of age. Wives between the ages of 25 and 40 years represented 70 percent of the sample, with the largest group comprised of those wives between the ages of 25 and 29 years. The mean age of wives was 32.5 years.

Table 3
Age of Wives

Age Category	Number	Percent of Sample
Under 25	12	11.4
25-29	29	27.6
30-34	27	17.2
35-39	18	11.4
40-44	11	8.6
45-49	4	2.9
50-55	<u>4</u>	<u>2.9</u>
Totals	105	100.0

Note. Mean age = 32.5 years.

Educational Attainment of Wives

Only 13.3 percent of all wives had not completed 12 years of education. Sixty percent had completed high school, and 26.7 percent reported the attainment of some education beyond high school or were college graduates. The median educational attainment was 12.1 years (see Table 4).

Wives' Hours of Labor Force Participation

Approximately 70 percent of all wives in the sample reported no labor force participation for wages (see Table 5). This is higher than the national percentage of mothers with children who were not in the labor force in 1977 (U.S. Department of Commerce, Statistical Abstract

Table 4
Education of Wives

Education in Years	Number	Percent
5 Years	2	1.9
10 Years	12	11.4
12 Years	63	60.0
13 Years	20	19.0
16 Years	<u>8</u>	<u>7.6</u>
Totals	105	100.0

Note. Median school years completed = 12.1.

Table 5
Wives' Hours of Labor Force Participation

Hours of Market Work Weekly	Number	Percent
0 Hours	73	69.5
Less than 10	1	1.0
10-20 Hours	6	6.0
21-30 Hours	7	6.4
31-40 Hours	14	13.3
Greater than 40	<u>4</u>	<u>3.8</u>
Totals	105	100.0

of the United States, 1979). However, given the fact that 60 percent of the sample wives had children under the age of six years old, this percentage of non-employed mothers does not seem atypical.

A total of 14 wives (13.3 percent of the sample) indicated that they worked less than 30 hours during the week that they were interviewed. Similarly, 14 wives reported that they worked between 31 and 40 hours and only four wives allocated more than 40 hours to labor force participation (see Table 5).

Wage Rates of Wives

Because approximately 70 percent of wives in the sample reported no hours of labor force participation, the same percentage reported no earned wages. Of those wives who were employed, 9.5 percent indicated an hourly wage of under \$3.00 an hour. The percentage of wives who reported earnings between \$3.00 and \$4.99 an hour was 13.3 percent. Eight wives or 7.6 percent of the sample indicated earnings over \$5.00 an hour. The mean wage of wives was \$1.23 an hour, which reflected the large percentage of wives who were not participating in the labor force. The mean wage of employed wives was \$4.04 an hour (see Table 6).

Husbands' Hours of Labor Force Participation

Only ten husbands (9.5 percent) reported working less than 40 hours per week, and two of those (1.9 percent) indicated no participation in the labor force during the week interviewed. Husbands who worked between 40 and 49 hours during the week comprised the largest group (43.8 percent) of the sample. However, 34 (32.4 percent) indicated that they had worked between 50 and 69 hours, and 15 husbands

Table 6
Wives' Wage Rates

Hourly Wages	Number	Percent
No Wages Earned	73	69.5
\$1.00 - \$1.99	2	1.9
\$2.00 - \$2.99	8	7.6
\$3.00 - \$3.99	9	8.6
\$4.00 - \$4.99	5	4.8
Over \$5.00 an Hour	8	7.6
Totals	105	100.0

Note. Mean hourly wage for all wives = \$1.23.
Mean hourly wage for employed wives = \$4.04.

(14.3 percent) worked more than 70 hours. The maximum number of hours worked was 90. Husbands' hours of labor force participation are reported in Table 7. The relatively high number of hours allocated by husbands to the labor force may be explained by the fact that several husbands indicated that they were fishermen who often stay at sea for more than one day at a time and farmers who also exhibit seasonal employment periods.

Husbands' and Wives' Feminism Scores

A comparison of husbands' and wives' feminism scores may be determined by examining Table 8. The mean feminism score for husbands was 3.2, whereas the mean score for wives was 3.5. In general, this indicates that husbands, as expected, tended to be more traditionally oriented than wives.

Table 7

Husbands' Hours of Labor Force Participation

Hours of Market Work	Number	Percent
0 Hours	2	1.9
Less than 40 Hours	8	7.6
40 to 49 Hours	46	43.8
50 to 69 Hours	34	32.4
More than 70 Hours	15	14.3
Totals	105	100.0

Note. Mean hours of labor force participation by husbands = 49.5.

Table 8

Comparison of Husbands' and Wives' Feminism Scores

Score	Husbands		Wives	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1-1.99	0	0.0	0	0.0
2-2.99	9	8.6	4	3.8
3-3.99	61	58.1	44	41.9
4-5	35	33.3	57	54.3
Totals	105	100.0	105	100.0

Note. Husbands' Mean Score = 3.2; Wives' Mean Score = 3.5.

Table 9
Annual Family Income

Annual Dollar Income	Number	Percent
Under \$5,000	3	2.9
\$5,000 - \$9,999	9	8.6
\$10,000 - \$14,999	39	37.1
\$15,000 - \$19,999	29	27.6
\$20,000 - \$29,999	11	10.5
\$30,000 - \$39,999	10	9.5
Greater Than \$40,000	<u>4</u>	<u>3.8</u>
Totals	105	100.0

Note. Mean Family Income = \$18,550; Minimum = \$4,500; Maximum = \$62,500

Socioeconomic Status

The distribution of families across the range of scores on the socioeconomic status index was relatively even. That is, 27 families were classified in the top two levels, upper-middle or upper class; about 33 families were in the lower two strata, lower-middle class or lower class; and the remaining 43 families were classified in the middle three socioeconomic status levels (see Table 10). However, the majority of the families in the middle group were classified on the lower strata representing middle class.

Given that the sampling area was a rural Southern area, a skewing toward the lower levels of socioeconomic status is not surprising. The

Table 10
Family Socioeconomic Status

Socioeconomic Level	Number	Percent
Level I	5	4.8
Level II	22	21.0
Level III	3	2.9
Level IV	7	6.7
Level V	33	31.4
Level VI	30	28.6
Level VII	<u>3</u>	<u>2.9</u>
Totals	103	98.1

Note. Occupation not reported by 2 (1.9 percent) families.

dispersion of the sample throughout the ranges of the index does indicate that no one socioeconomic level was omitted from the sample.

Summary

Demographic characteristics such as age of wives and socioeconomic status appeared normally distributed and conformed to the characteristics that one would expect of a rural Southern sample. Only 13.3 percent of the wives had not completed at least 12 years of schooling. However, the median number of years completed was 12.1 which is similar to the median years of education for all residents of North Carolina (U.S. Department of Commerce, Statistical Abstract of the United States, 1979).

Approximately 54.3 percent of the wives had feminism scores that indicated they responded favorably to most items included on the instrument that were supportive of the feminist ideology regarding sex roles. As expected, husbands were more traditionally oriented toward sex roles than wives.

Almost 70 percent of the wives were not employed in the labor force. However, recall that the sample was stratified by age of the youngest child, and 60 percent of all wives in the sample had children under the age of six years. The mean wage rate of wives was quite low (\$1.23 per hour) due to the fact that only 30 percent of all wives were employed. The mean wage of employed wives was \$4.04 an hour.

Husbands' hours of labor force participation was quite high with a mean of 49.5 hours per week. Approximately 74 percent worked in excess of 50 hours per week. However, the seasonal nature of the occupations of farming and fishing that are typical of Eastern North Carolina may have influenced the results.

Descriptive Results of Leisure Time Allocations

The Leisure Interaction Instrument (see Appendix A) was utilized to compute wives' time allocations in five interactive patterns: (1) wives' leisure alone; (2) wives' and husbands' leisure together; (3) wives' leisure with one or both children; (4) leisure of the entire family; and (5) wives' total leisure. The numbers of wives who allocated time to six categories of leisure activities: (1) sports activities; (2) entertainment activities; (3) institutional activities; (4) crafts and hobbies; (5) recreational activities; and (6) other leisure

activities and the amount of time allocated by interaction pattern are reported in Tables 11 through 16. In addition, total husbands' time allocated to leisure in any family interaction pattern as reported by wives is included for comparison purposes.

Time Allocated to Sports Activities Weekly

Sports activities included those that required active participation such as swimming, fishing, tennis, bowling, etc., as well as attending athletic events as a spectator. As reported in Table 11, a total of 78 wives indicated that they allocated no leisure time to sports activities during the week sampled. The maximum amount of time allocated was 900 minutes or 15 hours. The mean time allocation for all wives to sports activities was 60.7 minutes per week. By comparison, husbands allocated more leisure time to sports activities than did wives. The maximum time allocation by husbands was 48 hours and the mean was 185 minutes or three hours and five minutes per week. However, 60 husbands indicated that they spent no time in sports activities during the week.

Wives alone. An examination of the time allocated to leisure by wives alone reveals that 93 wives indicated no time was allocated to sports activities alone. The maximum time allocation was 180 minutes or three hours for the week, and the mean for the sample was 13.7 minutes.

Wives with husbands. One-hundred wives indicated no time spent in sports activities with husbands. The maximum allocation to sports with husbands was 11 hours by one wife. The mean was 13 minutes.

Table 11
 Wives' Time Allocations to Sports Activities
 By Interaction Pattern

Time Allocated Weekly	Interaction Pattern					
	Wives Alone	Wives With Husbands	Wives With One Or More Children	Wives With Whole Family	Wives Total	Husbands Total
0 Minutes	93	100	101	94	78	60
Less than 1 Hour	0	0	0	0	1	1
1 Hour-2 Hours, 59 Minutes	8	0	3	4	8	8
3 Hours-5 Hours, 59 Minutes	4	3	1	4	12	16
6 Hours-11 Hours, 59 Minutes	0	1	0	3	5	13
12 Hours-17 Hours, 59 Minutes	0	0	0	0	1	4
More than 18 Hours	0	0	0	0	0	3
Totals	105	105	105	105	105	105
Mean (Minutes)	13.7	13.0	3.4	24.0	60.7	184.5
Standard Deviation (Minutes)	41.8	7.3	20.1	81.5	140.2	140.2
Maximum (Minutes)	180	660	180	450	900	2880
Maximum (Hours)	3	11	3	7.5	15	48

Wives with one or more children. Wives with one or more children was the interaction pattern that wives allocated the least leisure time in the sports activities category. The mean time allocation was 3.4 minutes for the week, and 101 wives allocated no time at all to sports with their children. The maximum time allocation was 180 minutes or three hours by one wife.

Wives with the whole family. Although 94 wives allocated no time to leisure in sports activities with the whole family, the mean time allocation was 24.0 minutes which makes this interaction pattern the one with the largest time allocation in the sports category. The maximum time allocation was 450 minutes or seven hours and 30 minutes.

Time Allocated to Entertainment Activities Weekly

The Entertainment Activities category included universally popular activities such as visiting family and friends, reading books and magazines, listening to radio, and watching television. The wives' total mean time in any interaction pattern was 1,675.2 minutes or 27 hours and 55 minutes. The mean for husbands in any interaction pattern was 1,232 minutes or 20 hours and 32 minutes. The maximum time allocation by wives was 94 hours and by husbands, 95 hours. Only six wives indicated no time allocated to entertainment activities, whereas ten husbands enjoyed no leisure time in entertainment activities (see Table 12).

Wives alone. Wives indicated that they spent more time alone in entertainment activities than any other interaction pattern. The mean was 790.9 minutes or approximately 13 hours and 11 minutes. The

Table 12
Wives' Time Allocations to Entertainment

Activities by Interaction Pattern

Time Allocated Weekly	Interaction Pattern					
	Wives Alone	Wives With Husbands	Wives With One Or More Children	Wives With Whole Family	Wives Total	Husbands Total
0 Minutes	22	42	70	57	6	10
Less Than 1 Hour	0	0	1	0	0	0
1 Hour-2 Hours, 59 Minutes	2	11	7	6	1	5
3 Hours-5 Hours, 59 Minutes	12	11	11	12	4	7
6 Hours-11 Hours, 59 Minutes	23	22	9	13	11	14
12 Hours-17 Hours, 59 Minutes	17	11	3	9	14	17
18 Hours-23 Hours, 59 Minutes	6	4	1	5	13	15
24 Hours-35 Hours, 59 Minutes	18	3	2	2	26	19
36 Hours-48 Hours	3	1	1	1	15	12
More Than 48 Hours	2	0	0	0	15	6
Totals	105	105	105	105	105	105
Mean (Minutes)	790.9	339.4	171.4	271.5	1675.2	1232.0
Standard Deviation (Minutes)	791.5	444.3	411.0	461.5	1235.7	1012.7
Maximum (Minutes)	4860	2280	2700	2400	5640	5700
Maximum (Hours)	81	38	45	40	94	95

maximum time allocation by wives alone was 81 hours for the week. However, 22 wives indicated that they spent no time alone in entertainment activities.

Wives with husbands. Forty-two wives allocated no time to entertainment activities with husbands. The mean time allocation was 339.4 minutes or five hours and 39 minutes. The maximum was 2,280 minutes or 38 hours spent by one couple together in entertainment activities during the week.

Wives with one or more children. The interaction pattern of wives with one or more children was again the pattern in which the mean time allocation (171.4 minutes or two hours and 51 minutes) was the least. Seventy wives reported no time so allocated. However, the maximum was 2,700 minutes or 45 hours.

Wives with the whole family. Only 57 wives reported that no time was spent by the entire family in entertainment activities during the week. The mean was 271.5 minutes or four hours and 32 minutes, and the maximum reported was 2,400 minutes or 40 hours.

Time Allocated to Institutional Activities Weekly

Institutional activities included attending club meetings, church activities, family reunions, as well as donating time to volunteer activities. A total of 46 wives and 57 husbands allocated no time to institutional activities (see Table 13). The mean allocation by wives was 151.8 minutes or two hours and 32 minutes. For husbands, the mean allocation reported was 107.9 minutes or one hour and 48 minutes. The maximum allocations were 1,080 minutes or 18 hours by wives and 765 minutes or 12 hours and 45 minutes by husbands.

Table 13

Wives' Time Allocations to Institutional
Activities by Interaction Pattern

Time Allocated Weekly	Interaction Pattern					
	Wives Alone	Wives With Husbands	Wives With One Or More Children	Wives With Whole Family	Wives Total	Husbands Total
0 Minutes	76	97	92	76	46	57
Less Than 1 Hour	0	0	0	0	0	0
1 Hour - 2 Hours, 59 Minutes	14	5	7	17	20	21
3 Hours-5 Hours, 59 Minutes	9	2	4	9	21	16
6 Hours-11 Hours, 59 Minutes	6	1	1	3	16	9
12 Hours-17 Hours, 59 Minutes	0	0	0	0	1	2
More Than 18 Hours	0	0	1	0	1	0
Totals	105	105	105	105	105	105
Mean (Minutes)	59.4	12.9	28.6	47.7	151.8	107.9
Standard Deviation (Minutes)	121.9	49.7	120.9	93.4	196.2	159.6
Maximum (Minutes)	600	360	1080	420	1080	765
Maximum (Hours)	10	6	18	7	18	12.75

Wives alone. The interaction pattern of wives alone had the highest mean time allocation (59.4 minutes) of all interaction patterns for time allocated to institutional activities. This was anticipated by the researcher as most organizational participation (other than church activities) is usually on an individual basis. The maximum amount of time allocated to institutional activities alone was 600 minutes or 10 hours. However, 76 wives indicated that they spent no time alone in institutional activities during the week.

Wives with husbands. Only eight wives indicated allocating time with husbands to institutional activities, and 97 wives reported zero time in this category. Accordingly, the mean time was 12.9 minutes. The maximum was 360 minutes or six hours for one couple.

Wives with one or more children. Ninety-two wives reported no time allocated to institutional activities with one or more children. The mean was 28.6 minutes. However, the maximum time allocation by one family was 1,080 minutes or 18 hours.

Wives with the whole family. Of the 105 families in the sample, 29 allocated some time to institutional activities together. However, 76 wives reported that no time was allocated as a family, to that end. The mean time allocation was 47.7 minutes. The maximum reported was 420 minutes or seven hours.

Time Allocated to Crafts and Hobbies

A total of 63 wives allocated some time to crafts and hobbies in one or more of the interaction patterns. However, responses indicated that 42 wives and 89 husbands spent no time in crafts and hobbies. The

mean for wives was 222.7 minutes or three hours and 43 minutes, and 30.6 for husbands. The maximum amount of time spent by any wife in crafts and hobbies was 1,260 minutes or 21 hours for the week. The maximum for husbands was 480 minutes or eight hours (see Table 14).

Wives alone. Clearly, the interaction pattern most important in describing time allocated to crafts and hobbies was wives alone. Only 44 wives indicated that no time was allocated to crafts and hobbies alone. The mean time allocation for the week sampled was 211.6 minutes or approximately three hours and 32 minutes. The maximum time allocation was 1,280 minutes or 21 hours.

Wives with husbands. Only two wives and husbands spent time in crafts and hobbies together, as 103 wives reported no time allocation to this interaction pattern. Therefore, the mean was 5.7 minutes. The maximum time allocation by husbands and wives to crafts and hobbies was 360 minutes or six hours.

Wives with one or more children. This interaction pattern exhibited an extremely low mean of 2.9 minutes as 103 wives reported no time was allocated to crafts and hobbies with any of their children. The maximum was 180 minutes or three hours.

Wives with the whole family. Again, 103 wives indicated that no time was spent with the whole family in crafts and hobbies. The mean was 2.6 minutes and the maximum time allocation was 180 minutes or three hours.

Time Allocated to Recreational Table 14

Wives' Time Allocations to Crafts and Hobbies

By Interaction Pattern

Time Allocated Weekly	Interaction Pattern					
	Wives Alone	Wives With Husbands	Wives With One Or More Children	Wives With Whole Family	Wives Total	Husbands Total
0 Minutes	44	103	103	103	42	89
Less Than 1 Hour	0	0	0	0	0	0
1 Hour-2 Hours, 59 Minutes	23	0	1	1	22	5
3 Hours-5 Hours, 59 Minutes	10	1	1	1	12	9
6 Hours-11 Hours, 59 Minutes	18	1	0	0	19	2
12 Hours-17 Hours, 59 Minutes	6	0	0	0	5	0
More Than 18 Hours	4	0	0	0	5	0
Totals	105	105	105	105	105	105
Mean (Minutes)	211.6	5.7	2.9	2.6	222.7	30.6
Standard Deviation (Minutes)	300.8	42.0	21.9	19.56	310.3	85.1
Maximum (Minutes)	1260	360	180	180	1260	480
Maximum (Hours)	21	6	3	3	21	8

Time Allocated to Recreational Activities

Recreational activities included playing indoor and outdoor games, walking, picnicking, camping, etc. Of the 105 families included in the sample, 71 wives and 72 husbands allocated no leisure time to activities included in this category. The mean time allocation for wives in any interaction pattern with family members was 90.7 minutes or one hour and 31 minutes. For husbands, the mean was 92.7 minutes or one hour and 33 minutes. The maximum time allocation was 1,200 minutes (20 hours) for wives and 960 minutes (16 hours) for husbands (see Table 15).

Wives alone. Only seven wives reported any time allocated to recreational activities alone. The mean for wives alone was 6.0 minutes. The maximum time allocation was 180 minutes or three hours for wives alone in recreational activities.

Wives with husbands. Wives with husbands was the interaction pattern in which the least time was allocated to recreational activities. The mean was 2.4 minutes as 101 wives reported no time spent with husbands in recreation. The maximum was 75 minutes or one hour and 15 minutes.

Wives with one or more children. Wives with one or more children was the interaction pattern to which wives devoted most time in the recreational activities category. Nineteen wives reported time spent with children; the mean was 53.1 minutes, and the maximum allocation was 840 minutes or 14 hours.

Table 15
 Wives' Time Allocations to Recreation Activities
 By Interaction Pattern

Time Allocated Weekly	Interaction Pattern					
	Wives Alone	Wives With Husbands	Wives With One Or More Children	Wives With Whole Family	Wives Total	Husbands Total
0 Minutes	98	101	86	91	71	72
Less Than 1 Hour	2	0	2	0	1	0
1 Hour-2 Hours, 59 Minutes	3	4	5	8	14	13
3 Hours-5 Hours, 59 Minutes	2	0	6	4	9	9
6 Hours-11 Hours, 59 Minutes	0	0	4	2	8	7
12 Hours-17 Hours, 59 Minutes	0	0	2	0	1	4
More Than 18 Hours	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals	105	105	105	105	105	105
Mean (Minutes)	6.0	2.4	53.1	24.6	90.7	92.7
Standard Deviation (Minutes)	27.7	12.3	153.0	76.6	196.0	201.4
Maximum (Minutes)	180	75	840	420	1200	960
Maximum (Hours)	3	1.25	14	7	20	16

Wives with the whole family. A total of 91 wives indicated that they allocated no leisure time to recreational activities with the whole family. The mean was 24.6 minutes, and the maximum allocation was 420 minutes or seven hours.

Time Allocated to Other Leisure Activities

The Other Leisure Activities category included activities such as casual conversation between family members, playing informally, shopping for pleasure, riding in an automobile for pleasure, taking naps, relaxing, engaging in affectional activities. Time allocations in interaction patterns in this category were reported by all but 27 wives and 32 husbands in the sample (see Table 16). The mean time allocation for wives was 803.2 minutes (approximately 13 hours and 23 minutes) and 608.7 minutes (approximately ten hours and nine minutes) for husbands. The maximum time allocated to this category by wives was 6,360 minutes (approximately 106 hours during the week) and 5,580 hours by husbands (approximately 93 hours).

Wives alone. Although 53 wives indicated no time spent in this alone category, the mean was 193.3 minutes or approximately three hours and 13 minutes. The maximum reported was 2,490 minutes or approximately 41 hours and 30 minutes by one wife.

Wives with husbands. As might be expected by the nature of the activities included in this category, the interaction pattern of wives and husbands exhibited the highest mean (320.0 minutes or five hours and 20 minutes). Two couples reported spending more than 48 hours during the week in leisure time in this category. The maximum was 4,020

Table 16

Wives' Time Allocations to Other Leisure
Activities by Interaction Pattern

Time Allocated Weekly	Interaction Pattern					
	Wives Alone	Wives With Husbands	Wives With One Or More Children	Wives With Whole Family	Wives Total	Husbands Total
0 Minutes	53	57	81	70	27	32
Less Than 1 Hour	1	1	1	0	1	1
1 Hour-2 Hours, 59 Minutes	23	8	8	10	10	15
3 Hours-5 Hours, 59 Minutes	6	11	6	10	13	9
6 Hours-11 Hours, 59 Minutes	14	10	3	8	15	17
12 Hours-17 Hours, 59 Minutes	4	9	0	2	15	13
18 Hours-23 Hours, 59 Minutes	0	5	1	5	8	4
24 Hours-35 Hours, 59 Minutes	3	2	5	0	5	8
36 Hours-48 Hours	1	0	1	0	4	2
More Than 48 Hours	0	2	0	0	7	4
Totals	105	105	105	105	105	105
Mean (Minutes)	193.3	320.0	136.1	141.4	803.2	608.7
Standard Deviation (Minutes)	387.8	594.3	416.7	304.0	1167.6	961.4
Maximum (Minutes)	2490	4020	2160	1320	6360	5580
Maximum (Hours)	41.5	67	36	22	106	93

minutes (67 hours). However, 57 wives reported that no time was spent with husbands in any activities included in the Other Leisure Activities category.

Wives with one or more children. A total of 81 wives reported that no time was allocated to leisure with one or more children in other leisure pursuits. The mean was 136.1 minutes or approximately two hours and 16 minutes. The maximum indicated was 2,160 minutes or 36 hours by one wife.

Wives with the whole family. Seventy wives indicated that no time was allocated to leisure with the whole family in the Other Leisure Activities category. The mean time was 141.4 minutes (approximately two hours and 21 minutes); the maximum time allocation was 1,320 minutes or 22 hours.

Summary

Wives' Time Allocations to the Six Leisure Categories

Very few wives allocated any time at all to sports activities. Of those who did, the interaction pattern of wives and the whole family exhibited the largest mean (24.0 minutes). Wives alone and wives with husbands were very similar with means of 13.7 and 13.0 minutes, respectively. Only four wives spent time with one or more children in sports activities. The mean for this group was 3.4 minutes, and the maximum time spent by any wife with one or more children was three hours for the week.

The interaction pattern of wives alone exhibited the highest mean of possible interaction patterns in three leisure categories: (1) Entertainment Activities (13 hours and 11 minutes), (2) Institutional Activities (59.4 minutes), and (3) Crafts and Hobbies (three hours and 32 minutes). Wives spent an average of five hours and 39 minutes with husbands, two hours and 51 minutes with one or more children, and four hours and 32 minutes with the whole family in Entertainment Activities. However, wives spent less than an hour with husbands, children, or with the whole family in Institutional Activities or Crafts and Hobbies.

Few wives reported spending any time in Recreational Activities. The interaction pattern that exhibited the highest mean was wives with one or more children (53.1 minutes). Only four wives in the entire sample reported spending any time at all with husbands in Recreational Activities. However, wives reported spending an average of five hours and 20 minutes with husbands in Other Leisure Activities. More time was reportedly spent alone (three hours and 13 minutes) than with children (two hours and 16 minutes) or with the whole family (two hours and 21 minutes) in the Other Leisure Activities category.

Wives Time Allocations By Interaction Pattern

Table 17 indicates time allocations by wives' interaction patterns when all six leisure categories were totaled. The interaction pattern that exhibited the highest mean was wives alone (21.3 hours). Only seven wives indicated having no leisure time alone.

The mean for husbands and wives together was 11.3 hours. However, 30 wives (29 percent of the sample) indicated that they had no leisure

Table 17

Wives' Total Time Allocations to Leisure
By Interaction Pattern

Time Allocated Weekly	Interaction Pattern					Wives Total
	Wives Alone	Wives With Husbands	Wives With One Or More Children	Wives With Whole Family		
0 Minutes	7	30	48	37		1
Less Than 1 Hour	0	1	0	0		0
1 Hour-2 Hours, 59 Minutes	5	7	9	7		1
3 Hours-5 Hours, 59 Minutes	7	7	17	11		2
6 Hours-11 Hours, 59 Minutes	13	22	17	25		5
12 Hours-17 Hours, 59 Minutes	18	10	4	8		6
18 Hours-23 Hours, 59 Minutes	14	10	2	6		8
24 Hours-35 Hours, 59 Minutes	22	14	3	5		18
36 Hours-47 Hours, 59 Minutes	13	4	1	5		23
More Than 48 Hours	6	0	4	1		44
Totals	105	105	105	105		105
Mean (Hours)	21.3	11.3	6.6	8.5		50.1
Standard Deviation (Hours)	16.2	.8	18.8	12.0		34.6
Maximum (Hours)	81.0	75.0	78.0	49.0		193.0

time with husbands alone. More time was allocated by wives to leisure with the whole family (8.5 hours) than to leisure with one or more children (6.6 hours). A total of 37 wives (35 percent of the sample) reported that no time was spent by the entire family together in any of the leisure activities, and 48 wives (46 percent) reported that they spent no time in leisure activities with either of their children during the week.

Wives' Total Leisure Time Allocations

One wife reported having absolutely no leisure in any interaction pattern. The mean amount of wives' leisure time in all interaction patterns was 50.1 hours, or a daily average of 7.2 hours (see Table 17). Since 70 percent of the sample was not employed in the labor force, this mean is comparable to that obtained by Robinson and Converse (1965-1966) of 7.1 hours daily for housewives. The mean for the Lundberg et al., study (1934) for housewives was 9.2 hours daily.

On the average, the women in this sample of rural North Carolina residents enjoyed much more leisure than the average women as indicated by Szalai's (1972) international time study of 4.33 hours of leisure per day.

Results of Regression Analyses

Stepwise multiple regression analyses were utilized to examine the relationships between the independent variables: (1) age of wives, (2) education of wives, (3) hours of labor force participation of wives, (4) wives' wage rates, (5) wives' feminism score, (6) husbands'

feminism score, (7) labor force participation of husbands, (8) family income, (9) socioeconomic status, and (10) age of youngest child and five interaction patterns of wives and family members in leisure time activities. The stepwise regression technique computes the regression coefficients for the set of independent variables in the order in which they best explain the variability of the dependent variable.

Stepwise Regression Analysis for Wives' Time Allocated to Leisure Alone

Approximately 15 percent ($F = 5.97$, $p < .01$) of the variability in wives' leisure alone was explained by the set of independent variables: market work of husbands, wives' feminism score, and market work of wives. However, among these, only the market work of husbands was statistically significant ($< .01$), and the relationship was a positive one. Wives' feminism score was positively related, whereas market work of wives was negatively related, but neither at the .05 level (see Table 18).

Socioeconomic status, wives' educational level, age of wives, husbands' feminism score, and family income were entered, but were not statistically significant enough to be included in the equation. The standard error was 907.81 which is approximately 15 hours and 13 minutes.

Stepwise Regression Analysis for Wives' Time Allocated to Leisure with Husbands

Age of the youngest child and wives' feminism score explained approximately eight percent ($F = 4.18$, $p < .05$) of the variability in wives' time allocations to leisure with their husbands (see Table 19).

Table 18

Results of Stepwise Multiple Regression Analysis
For Wives' Time Allocated to Leisure Alone

Variable	b	Beta	Standard Error of b	F
Market Work of Husbands	20.64452	0.33734	5.69224	13.154**
Wives' Feminism Score	228.5176	0.11293	186.58490	1.500
Market Work of Wives	-5.086111	-0.08934	5.26642	0.933
Constant	-495.3531			

$$R^2 = 0.15052$$

$$F = 5.97$$

Standard Error = 907.80999

**Significant at .01 level

Table 19

Results of Stepwise Multiple Regression Analysis
For Wives' Time Allocated to Leisure

With Husbands

Variable	b	Beta	Standard Error of b	F
Age of Youngest Child	-32.29682	-0.19871	15.06493	4.316**
Wives' Feminism Score	296.6357	0.17191	165.05340	3.230*
Constant	-179.4360			

$$R^2 = 0.07572$$

$$F = 4.8$$

Standard Error = 803.55813

**Significant at .05 level

*Significant at .10 level

The age of the youngest child was negatively related at the .05 level. That is, as the youngest child's age increases one year, the wife loses approximately 33 minutes of leisure per week. The relationship between wives' feminism score and wives' leisure with husbands was positive at the .10 level. The more feminist a wife's attitudes, the more leisure she spends with her husband. However, the standard error was 803.56 which indicates a plus or minus deviation of 13 hours and 39 minutes.

Stepwise Regression Analysis of Wives' Time
Allocated to Leisure With One or More Children

The R^2 of .103 indicated that approximately 10 percent ($F = 3.88$, $p < .05$) of the variability in wives' time allocated to leisure with one or more children could be explained by the independent variables age of the youngest child, wives' feminism score, and husbands' feminism score (see Table 20). The relationship between wives' time in leisure

Table 20

Results of Stepwise Multiple Regression Analysis
For Wives' Time Allocated to Leisure With
One or More Children

Variable	b	Beta	Standard Error of b	F
Age of Youngest Child	-36.42418	-0.24393	14.13778	6.638**
Wives' Feminism Score	425.0504	0.25981	222.74147	3.641*
Husbands' Feminism Score	-214.8005	-0.12985	224.67303	0.914
Constant	-178.1964			

$R^2 = 0.10329$
 $F = 3.88$

Standard Error = 754.10
**Significant at .05 level
*Significant at .10 level

with children and the age of the youngest child was a negative one ($< .05$), as was husbands' feminism score. However, husbands' feminism score was not statistically significant. Wives' feminism score was positively related at the .10 level.

Other independent variables were entered, but were not statistically significant. The standard error of 754.10 indicated that the "average error" was 12 hours and 57 minutes.

Stepwise Regression Analysis for Wives' Time Allocated to Leisure With the Whole Family

None of the independent variables utilized were statistically significantly related to wives' time allocated to leisure with the whole family. The three variables that entered the equation first were wage rate of wives, socioeconomic status, and wives' feminism scores, respectively (see Table 21). The R^2 of .045 indicated that only four percent of the variability was explained by the three variables. The standard error was 708.99.

Stepwise Regression Analysis for Wives' Total Time Allocated to Leisure

Approximately 11 percent of the variability in wives' total time allocated to leisure was explained by the set of independent variables: wives' feminism score, age of the youngest child, and husbands' feminism score ($F = 4.25$, $p < .05$). Recall that wives' total time in leisure included time spent in leisure by wives alone or in any interaction pattern with family members (see Table 22).

Wives' feminism score was positively related at the .01 level, whereas age of the youngest child was negatively related at the .05

Table 21
 Results of Stepwise Multiple Regression Analysis
 For Wives' Time Allocated to Leisure
 With the Whole Family

Variable	b	Beta	Standard Error of b	F
Wage Rate of Wives	0.535397	0.16077	0.33118	2.614
Socioeconomic Status	7.342465	0.14050	5.19700	1.997
Wives' Feminism Score	146.1576	0.09808	145.02471	1.016
Constant	-385.0040			

$$R^2 = 0.04455$$

$$F = 1.56$$

$$\text{Standard Error} = 708.99834$$

Table 22
 Results of Stepwise Multiple Regression Analysis
 For Wives' Total Time Allocated to Leisure

Variable	b	Beta	Standard Error of b	F
Wives' Feminism Score	1551.218	0.35856	586.15736	7.004**
Age of Youngest Child	-73.69299	-0.18663	37.20441	3.923*
Husbands' Feminism Score	-771.1001	-0.17628	591.24039	1.701
Constant	519.888			

$$R^2 = 0.11197$$

$$F = 4.25^*$$

$$\text{Standard Error} = 1984.47$$

**Significant at .01 level

*Significant at .05 level

level. Husbands' feminism score was negatively related but was not statistically significant. The standard error of 1,984.47 indicated a plus or minus deviation of 33 hours and eight minutes in the prediction process.

Summary and Discussion

Empirical studies that have examined the use of time in leisure have traditionally used either demographic, economic, or sociological variables in the explanatory process. This study utilized a combination of demographic, economic, and sociological variables in an attempt to provide a more complete understanding of wives' use of time in leisure. Findings indicated that a demographic variable, age of the youngest child, an economic variable, hours of husbands' labor force participation, and a sociological variables, wives' attitudes toward feminism, were statistically significant in explaining wives' use of time in leisure, but in different family interaction patterns.

The statistical relationships between the selected independent variables and wives' time in leisure are reported in Table 23. Unfortunately, the explanatory power of the variables was moderate to poor and the standard error of the estimates were relatively high. This indicates that improvement could be made in the specification of the relationships and measurement of the variables. Recall that the leisure time variables were measured by the weekly recall technique, resulting in dependent variables that surely contain measurement error that is acceptable as long as no source of bias toward under- or overestimation was introduced. However, some interesting statistically significant relationships were determined.

Table 23
 Summary Table of Factors Related to Wives' Time
 Allocated to Leisure in Five
 Interaction Patterns

Independent Variables	Interaction Patterns				
	Alone	With Husband	With One Or More Children	With Whole Family	Wives' Total
Wives' Feminism Score	0	+	+	0	+
Husbands' Feminism Score	0	0	0	0	0
Age of Youngest Child	0	-	-	0	-
Age of Wives	0	0	0	0	0
Education of Wives	0	0	0	0	0
Wives' Wage Rates	0	0	0	0	0
Wives' Hours of Labor Force Participation	0	0	0	0	0
Husbands' Hours of Labor Force Participation	+	0	0	0	0
Family Income	0	0	0	0	0
Socioeconomic Status	0	0	0	0	0

***Significant at .01 level.

**Significant at .05 level.

*Significant at .10 level.

A major finding of this study was that a reduction in wives' total leisure, leisure with husbands, and with both children, occurred as the youngest child becomes older. Researchers Bloch (1973), Gronau (1976), Hill et al. (1979), and Robinson et al. (1977) found that the presence of younger children, especially preschool children, had negative effects on wives' time in leisure.

A statistically significant negative relationship between the age of the youngest child and wives' time in leisure occurred in three of the five interaction patterns: wives' leisure with husbands, wives' leisure with one or more children, and wives' total leisure in any interaction pattern. The analysis indicated that for every year older the youngest child becomes, wives' leisure with husbands decreased 32 minutes a week, wives' leisure with one or more children decreased 37 minutes a week, and wives' total leisure decreased one hour and 13 minutes a week. No statistically significant relationship between age of the youngest child and wives' time in leisure alone or with the whole family was indicated.

Traditional ideas that wives with young children are harried and pressed for time because of the physical and emotional investments in meeting the needs of her children were not supported by this study. Perhaps as the youngest child grows older and undertakes more activities outside the home, mothers are increasingly involved in the production of transportation or other support activities that facilitate the child's extra-familial activities.

Although a number of authors have maintained that attitudes toward traditional versus egalitarian sex roles affect the amount of leisure

time as well as interaction during leisure time (Bell & Healey, 1973; Nye, 1974; Orthner, 1975), no previous studies have empirically examined the relationship between leisure time and husbands' and wives' attitudes toward familial roles. The results of this study suggest that it is one of the most important indicators of differences in leisure time use.

The more feminist a wife is, the more likely she is to spend time in leisure with her husband and time in leisure with one or more of her children. There was also a statistically significant relationship between wives' attitudes toward feminism and their total time in leisure. However, there was no statistically significant relationship indicated between wives' feminist attitudes and leisure time alone or with the entire family. Wives' time in leisure was not affected by husbands' attitudes toward feminism.

Theorists have suggested that more egalitarian wives and husbands need time together to redefine their roles, assert their companionship, and share meaningful experiences (Orthner, 1975). Marks (1977) proposed that more egalitarian wives do not allow role and other constraints to intervene or take precedence over leisure. Another explanation suggests that wives with higher feminism scores perceive that they have more "power" to determine allocations for themselves. Indeed, the dynamics of the relationship between attitudes toward familial roles and leisure is a viable area of concern for future investigation.

No statistically significant relationships between ages or educational levels of wives and their time in leisure were indicated by this study; whereas, Gronau (1976, 1977), Hill et al. (1979), Robinson et al. (1977), and Szalai (1977) indicated positive relationships. The

stratification of the sample by age of the youngest child and the inclusion of that variable in the regression analysis may have affected the results relating ages of wives and time in leisure. Thus, when the effects of other factors are controlled, perhaps age and educational level are relatively insignificant in explaining wives' leisure time use.

No statistically significant relationship was found between wives' wage rates and wives' time allocated to leisure in any of the interaction patterns. Few studies have examined the relationship between these variables, but in those that have, a statistically significant relationship occurred. Bloch (1973) and Gronau (1977) found a negative relationship between wives' increased wages and wives' time allocated to leisure. Hill et al. (1979) determined that there was a positive relationship between increased wage rates and leisure time. The small number of wives in the labor force in this sample (30 percent) as well as utilization of the weekly recall procedure for measuring leisure time may have influenced the outcome of the present study.

The classic essays of de Grazia (1962), Dumazadier (1967, 1976), and Parker (1976) maintained that employed women enjoyed less leisure time than their unemployed counterparts. The statistical analysis of Robinson et al. (1977) determined that employment reduced wives' free time by 143 minutes per day. However, this study found no statistically significant relationship between the hours of wives' employment and the amount of time allocated to leisure, which may be related to the high percentage of the sample wives who were full-time homemakers.

A strong positive relationship was found between hours of husbands' labor force participation and wives' leisure alone, a plausible result since the husbands' absence from the home due to labor force participation may effectively prohibit joint leisure activities. However, husbands' employment hours did not influence wives' leisure with husbands, children, or leisure with the whole family. This finding is contrary to those of Clark, Gecas, and Nye (1978), and Young and Willmott (1973), who determined that as husbands' hours of employment increase, the amount of family leisure time decreases.

There was no statistically significant relationship indicated between family income and wives' leisure time in any interaction pattern. Gronau (1976, 1977) also found no relationship between the two. However, Bloch (1973) and Hill et al. (1979) found positive relationships between family income (by combining wives' and husbands' wage rates) and increased amounts of leisure time.

Although a number of researchers have successfully related social class and time in leisure (Babchuk & Booth, 1969; Clark, 1956, Hollingshead, 1949; White, 1955), findings of this study indicated no relationship between family socioeconomic status and wives' time in leisure. Havighurst's (1957) observation that leisure is more a matter of personal predilection than class differences may very well be accurate for members of this sample. However, socioeconomic status was calculated utilizing husbands' occupations and educational levels (see Methodology). It is conceivable that this method is more reflective of husbands' social status than that of wives, and does not accurately capture the effects of such on their leisure activities.

In general, findings of this study indicate that a multidisciplinary approach to the examination of factors that affect leisure time use is a valid one and may yield interesting results. Because leisure occurs for most individuals within the context of the family, interaction patterns between family members during leisure time is an important input into the measurement process. Interestingly, this study found that none of the independent variables affected leisure time of husbands, wives, and children as a family unit. This indicates that factors inherent in the family structure (i.e., decision-making, roles, group norms, and values, as well as economic considerations and situational factors) are potentially powerful sources of influence and should be given considerable attention in future research.

The findings of this study can be summarized as follows:

(1) Some of wives' time allocated among the six leisure activities

CHAPTER V

Wives' categories reveal that wives allocated little time to

SUMMARY

sports activities (60.7 minutes per week) or recreational

The primary purposes of the study were to describe the allocation of wives' time to leisure, and to contribute to a more complete understanding of the various factors which may affect wives' time spent in leisure in a variety of family interaction patterns. The study utilized data that was North Carolina's contribution to a larger interstate comparison of time use of families. The subjects were wives from 105 randomly selected two-parent, two-child families in Pamlico County, North Carolina. The sample was stratified by age of the youngest child.

The leisure instrument (Appendix A) was utilized to gather information pertaining to wives' time allocations to six categories of leisure activities and to examine wives' time allocations in five interaction patterns: (1) wives alone, (2) wives and husbands, (3) wives with one or more children, (4) wives with the whole family, and (5) wives' total leisure.

Data on husbands' and wives' attitudes toward sex roles were collected using a scale developed by Richey (1972), and are called feminism scores. The feminism scores, wives' age, wives' educational level, wives' market work, husbands' market work, family income, socioeconomic status, and age of the youngest child were utilized as independent variables in five stepwise multiple regression analyses. The five interaction patterns of wives' time in leisure were employed as the dependent variables.

The findings of this study can be summarized as follows:

- (1) Means of wives' time allocated among the six leisure activities' categories reveal that wives allocated little time to sports activities (60.7 minutes per week) or recreational activities (one hour and 30.7 minutes per week). The entertainment leisure activities category had the highest means for wives' weekly leisure alone (13 hours and 12 minutes), wives with one or more children (two hours and 51 minutes), and wives with the whole family (four hours and 52 minutes). Wives and husbands spent the most time (five hours and 33 minutes weekly) in the activity category entitled other leisure activities.
- (2) An examination of wives' total weekly leisure time allocations by interaction pattern indicates that wives spent the most time alone (21 hours and 18 minutes). Wives indicated that they spent a total of 11 hours and 18 minutes weekly with husbands, six hours and 36 minutes weekly with one or more children, eight hours and 30 minutes with the whole family in leisure pursuits. The mean amount of wives' leisure in all leisure categories and all interaction patterns was 50 hours and six minutes weekly or an average of seven hours and nine minutes per day.
- (3) The stepwise multiple regression analyses revealed a statistically significant negative relationship between the age of the youngest child and wives' total time in leisure, wives' time with husbands, and wives' time with one or more children.

This finding was contrary to other studies that have indicated a reduction of wives' time in leisure activities is associated with younger or preschool children.

- (4) A statistically significant positive relationship between wives' feminism scores and their total time in leisure, time with husbands, and time with one or more children was found. However, no relationship was found between wives' feminism scores and leisure time with the whole family or leisure time alone.
- (5) A strong positive relationship was found between hours of husbands' labor force participation and wives' leisure alone. However, no statistically significant relationship was determined between husbands' hours of labor force participation and wives' leisure in any of the remaining interaction patterns.

The major conclusion of this study was that wives' leisure time allocations are influenced by a variety of factors other than the traditionally measured demographic relationships. When freed of traditional sex-role stereotypes and concomitant constraints imposed by rigid role definitions, wives feel freer to enjoy leisure, perhaps even at the expense of household work requirements. Individuals' leisure time use may be more a function of individuals' attitudes and perceptions about roles than any socioeconomic or demographic characteristics. Clearly, the single most important demographic characteristic is age of the youngest child. As the youngest child grows older, wives enjoy less leisure time. However, none of the factors examined

affected wives' time in leisure with the whole family. This is an indication that there are important factors which are related to time in leisure that are yet to be identified and examined.

Suggestions for Future Research

After fifty years of empirical inquiry into leisure time, correctly defining and precisely measuring time-use patterns and allocations remain as issues of primary concern to researchers. Thorough examination of time-budget gathering techniques such as weekly recall, daily recall, time diary, and observational techniques as well as the development of new methods is greatly needed in order to improve the statistical accuracy of future studies.

The identification and inclusion of variables that may be related to leisure choices and behavior, but have not been examined, is extremely vital in order to improve the significance of future research. This study utilized a combination of demographic, economic, and sociological variables that had never been considered together in one study. Additional socio-psychological and economic variables are yet to be identified. A variable that would more accurately reflect the true value of wives' time, especially for those wives who are not actively participating in the labor force, is greatly needed. In addition, a measure of social status that would incorporate both husbands' and wives' characteristics would more accurately reflect contemporary families, especially among those families that are inclined toward egalitarianism.

Larger and more representative samples are needed to more accurately measure time-use patterns and better assess factors that may affect leisure time allocations among heterogeneous populations. The leisure time of members of families of alternative family forms--single individuals, single parents, and the elderly--also needs further examination.

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APPENDIX A

LEISURE INSTRUMENT