



SELF-EMPLOYMENT AND WOMEN: AN INSIDER'S TESTIMONIES

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Abstract: This article emerges out of my long association with home-based working women (HBWW) of Karachi. The paper aims at bringing together researches done to comprehend the nature and outcome of women's work and to assess the impact of work on women. The paper's major focus is to seek an insight of home-based work –an invisible work' through the narratives of women who, similar to their work, also remain invisible. Through women's life-stories narrated to me, this paper unfolds a fresh conceptualization of women's home-based work as an instrument of exploitation and not of emancipation.

Keywords: Home-based working women, women's paid work, women & poverty, invisible work, self-employed women