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ATTITUDES AND OPINIONS OF SELECTED HOME  
ECONOMICS MAJORS AS RELATED  
TO HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT

By

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## PREFACE

The attitudes and opinions of selected home economics majors at Oklahoma State University as related to household equipment were explored in this study. It is hoped that the findings of the study can be used in educational and business programs to help consumers select, use, and care for household equipment.

The writer wishes to express her sincere appreciation to Dr. Florence McKinney, Professor and Head of the Department of Home Management, Equipment, and Family Economics, for her invaluable guidance, assistance, and encouragement. Appreciation is expressed to Miss Gertrude McAllister, Assistant Professor of Home Management, Equipment, and Family Economics, for reading the thesis and giving helpful suggestions, and to Dr. Ilse Wolf, former Professor and Head of the Department of Home Management, Equipment, and Family Economics, for helpful guidance and assistance during the initial stages of the study.

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## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

Individual and family life is being influenced by rapid social and economic developments. The average family income has continued to rise during recent years. An increase in the number of women who work has been one of the factors contributing to this rise. According to a recent study of the Bureau of Labor Statistics (28), one-third of all women work outside the home. Included in this group of women are almost one-half of the women between 25 and 34 years of age. The increase in income level, the desire for simple easy housekeeping methods, technological advances, and increased mechanization in the home have influenced young families to purchase a wide variety of consumer goods and services.

Among the goods and services available is an ever-increasing variety of household equipment from which the consumer may choose. Many of the items selected by young people today were thought of as luxuries or did not even exist a few years ago. Programmed ranges and clothes washers help reduce the time and energy required of the homemaker. Teflon coatings used on linings of ranges and small appliances make cleaning easier. Cordless vacuums and built-in vacuum systems have been introduced to aid the homemaker with her tasks. Merchandising Week (32) reported that electric slicing knives, blenders, can openers, and toothbrushes were among the small appliances that gained significantly in

sales during 1965. Sales of color television sets more than doubled from 1964 to 1965. Innovations in existing equipment and development of new pieces are expected to be added to the vast array available on the market today.

Homemakers are responsible for helping their families make and carry out intelligent decisions concerning the selection, use, and care of household equipment. In making intelligent choices the homemakers need to identify their problems concerning household equipment, gather meaningful information concerning these problems, weigh carefully the alternatives, make and carry out decisions, and following their evaluation, accept the consequences of their decisions.

Wise use of human and nonhuman resources help families gain greater satisfaction from the household equipment they have available. Each homemaker selects a unique combination of resources when working toward her goals. Many young homemakers find that money is one of their family's most limited resources. Some substitute a more plentiful resource when they lack having enough money. Many of the young families use some form of consumer credit to help them obtain the equipment they desire. Regardless of the combination of resources the homemakers choose, the decisions they make should be in accord with the goals, values, and standards of each family.

Undoubtedly considerable importance is placed on household equipment by young people as they establish homes and become economically independent. A very limited amount of research has been done to help educators, manufacturers, retailers, architects, and builders understand the thinking of the young people of today as related to household equipment. In view of these considerations it seemed worthwhile to

undertake an exploratory study of the attitudes and opinions of a selected group of home economics majors as these relate to household equipment.

It is believed that an increased knowledge of the attitudes and opinions of this group can aid college instructors in determining the content and emphases of household equipment courses.

Further knowledge about college students may help manufacturers and retailers as they design, manufacture, and sell their products. As architects design housing units, they may be able to benefit by having some understanding of the equipment the students desire and expect. Builders may be able to better satisfy young people by selecting equipment for housing units that will fit the expectations of the occupants.

This study was undertaken to gain some understanding of the household equipment young people desire and expect, the sources of influence and/or help they would use when selecting and using household equipment, and some of the other problems the students have related to selection, use, and care of household equipment.

#### Statement of the Problem

The over-all purpose of this study was to gain some understanding of the attitudes and opinions of selected home economics majors at Oklahoma State University as related to household equipment.

The specific purposes of the study were:

1. To identify the experience the home economics majors have had using household equipment and their qualifications to select household equipment.

2. To identify the household equipment the home economics majors desire and expect to have in their homes.

3. To determine the influences and/or sources the home economics majors would use to help them select, use, and care for household equipment.

4. To determine the financial management practices the home economics majors expect to use concerning household equipment.

5. To identify some of the attitudes of the home economics majors as related to housekeeping tasks.

6. To compare the attitudes and opinions of the single, engaged, and married home economics majors as related to household equipment.

7. To compare the attitudes and opinions of these selected home economics majors with the attitudes, opinions, and practices of consumers as reported by other researchers.

#### Assumptions

This study was based on the following assumptions:

1. The consumer has a wide and ever-increasing variety of goods and services from which she makes choices.

2. The consumer's past experiences influence her choice of goods and services.

3. The consumer's ability to select, use, and care for household equipment influence the satisfactions she gets from the equipment she has available.

4. A wide variety of possible sources of information exist which can help the homemaker with selection, use, and care of household equipment if she takes advantage of the sources.

5. The homemaker is concerned with the relationship of the selection, use, and care of household equipment and the total management of the resources of time, energy, money, materials, knowledge, skills, and abilities.

6. Attitudes and opinions toward household equipment of home economics majors can be measured.

7. The questionnaire developed to use in this study is an acceptable means of measuring attitudes and opinions of home economics majors.

8. Upon graduation, the students will influence the selection, use, and care of household equipment as home economists, consumers, and homemakers.

#### Limitations

This exploratory study was limited to an attempt to gain some quantitative information of attitudes and opinions toward household equipment. The study was further limited to a selected group of home economics majors at the Oklahoma State University. The students were enrolled either in Home Economics 412, The Home Economist in the Contemporary World, or in Home Economics Education 406, Student Teaching in Home Economics. Both courses are ordinarily taken during the senior year.

The findings, conclusions, and recommendations were for the given sample and are not to be considered conclusive for any other group.

### Definition of Terms

The following terms are defined to help the reader have a better understanding of the intent of the study:

1. Household equipment: Electric and gas appliances and other equipment used in the home.
2. Major equipment: Appliances which include air-conditioning (central cooling), dehumidifier, dishwasher, clothes dryer, food disposer, food freezer, home heating (central), incinerator, range, refrigerator, clothes washer, and water heater.
3. Small equipment: Household appliances other than the pieces listed as major equipment, such as blender, mixer, toaster, and coffee-maker.



## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF LITERATURE

In the past 10 years, a number of studies have been made relative to home appliances and equipment. The Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Bureau of Census as well as manufacturers have been interested in knowing the saturation of the household equipment market. Various researchers have been interested in knowing who the consumers are and what equipment they desire to have. Who do consumers consult in regard to equipment, and who influences their choices are further questions in need of answers. Other studies have been concerned with purchasing household equipment, with the use of credit to pay for equipment, and with the most and least liked homemaking tasks. The research studies reviewed by the writer have been included in this chapter because they influenced the present study. Some helped with the development of the questionnaire. The findings of the research reviewed can be compared with the findings of this study and hopefully, conclusions can be drawn.

Findings of several research studies concerning actual, desired, and expected ownership and availability of selected household equipment were available. Consumer Buying Indicators (4) reported the quarterly survey of consumer intentions reported by the Bureau of the Census. The study gave the percentage of total households owning



selected items of household equipment as of January, 1966. Television sets were owned by 92.8 per cent, refrigerators by 84.2 per cent, clothes washers by 71.9 per cent, clothes dryers by 27.6 per cent, air conditioners by 18.2 per cent, and dishwashers by 9.9 per cent.

The percentages of appliances present which were owned by owner-occupants, landlords, and tenants of 121 Pullman, Washington, housing units were reported by Douglas (8) in 1961. Ranges and refrigerators were present in 100 per cent of the households, clothes washers in 80.4 per cent, clothes dryers in 38.4 per cent, food freezers in 30.4 per cent, dishwashers in 12.5 per cent, and air conditioners in 4.7 per cent. The climate in Pullman, Washington, should be considered when noting the low percentage of air conditioners present.

Douglas examined the patterns of appliance inventories of the housing units.

The first and second appliances were always a range and refrigerator and the third was always a washer. The fourth was usually a dryer, but often a freezer. Occasionally it was a dishwasher or air conditioner. Although the fifth appliance was usually a freezer, sometimes it was a dryer, dishwasher, or air conditioner. Six-appliance households always had a range, refrigerator, washer, dryer, and freezer. Most of them had a dishwasher as the sixth item, although a few had air conditioners, instead.

In 1962, Hotchkiss (18) reported the percentage of 1088 urban and rural Arizona families who owned specified appliances. Over 90 per cent of the families owned ranges, refrigerators, irons, washers, mixers, vacuum cleaners, and toasters. Waffle irons, frying pans, coffee-makers, and freezers were owned by 60 to 75 per cent of the families. Appliances owned by 25 to 40 per cent of the families were corn poppers, deep fryers, sandwich grills, and roasters. Blenders, floor polishers,

ironers, clothes dryers, knife sharpeners, dishwashers, can openers, and food disposers were owned by one-fifth or less of the families.

The percentage of households with specific household appliances was reported in National Appliance Survey by Look Magazine (20) in 1963. Refrigerators and black and white television sets were present in 90 per cent or more of the households. Between 55 and 75 per cent of the households had clothes washers, vacuum cleaners, toasters, steam irons, food mixers, ranges, and electric clocks. Coffeemakers, electric radios, shavers, sewing machines, frypan skillets, and food freezers were present in one-third to one-half of the households. Between 10 and 25 per cent of the households had electric blankets, clothes dryers, hair dryers, room air conditioners, and electric can openers. Floor polishers, blenders, food disposers, dishwashers, color television sets, central air conditioning, and electric brooms were present in less than one-tenth of the households.

Merchandising Week (32) reported the Saturation Index of wired homes as of January 1, 1966. Black and white television sets, clothes washers, coffeemakers, irons, mixers, radios, refrigerators, toasters, and vacuum cleaners were owned by over 70 per cent of the consumers studied. Air conditioners, can openers, electric and gas clothes dryers, electric bed coverings, electric water heaters, electric skillets, frypan skillets, and home freezers were owned by 20 to 50 per cent. Less than 20 per cent of the consumers owned blenders, color television sets, dishwashers, and food waste disposers. All figures except those for radio were based on 57,580,000 domestic and farm electric customers. The percentage of radios was based on 58,560,000 total homes.

The percentage of urban families and single consumers owning selected household equipment was reported in the Survey of Consumer Expenditures (33), conducted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor. Over three-fourths of the consumers owned electric radios, ranges, refrigerators, and television sets. Between one-half and three-fourths of the consumers owned clothes dryers, sewing machines, and vacuum cleaners. Less than one-fourth of the consumers owned air conditioners, dishwashers, clothes dryers, food freezers, and food waste disposers.

The Bride and Home Buying Survey conducted by the Hearst Magazine Marketing Division in 1965 was reported by Merchandising Week (38). A random sample of engaged college girls at the University of Maryland was asked to indicate, from a list of selected appliances, the ones they expected to have in their first houses. Ranges were expected by 92 per cent of the students, clock radios by 80 per cent, refrigerators by 78 per cent, black and white television sets by 71 per cent, and clothes washers by 62 per cent. Clothes dryers were expected by 45 per cent, air conditioners by 42 per cent, food freezers by 28 per cent, dishwashers by 26 per cent, and color television sets by 11 per cent.

The percentages expecting to have clothes washers, ranges, refrigerators, and black and white television sets were lower than the percentages of actual ownership or availability reported in the studies reviewed. The percentages expecting air conditioners, clothes dryers, color television sets, and dishwashers were higher than the percentages of actual ownership and availability reported in the studies reviewed.

In a study done during 1963 of housing images of women college students, Montgomery (25) asked the students to indicate which of eight

items of mechanical equipment they wanted and which they expected in their first houses. The 1946 responses showed that 91 per cent desired and 80 per cent expected an automatic washer, 86 per cent desired and 59 per cent expected an automatic dryer, 88 per cent desired and 81 per cent expected central heating, 73 per cent desired and 32 per cent expected a home freezer, 70 per cent desired and 32 per cent expected a mechanical garbage disposer, 56 desired and 21 per cent expected a dishwasher, and 43 per cent desired and only seven per cent expected complete air conditioning. Thus well over half indicated that in their first houses, they desired and expected to have an automatic clothes washer, an automatic dryer, and central heating. Fifty to 75 per cent desired a home freezer, a mechanical garbage disposer, and a dishwasher, although less than a third of this group expected to have such equipment. In all cases the percentage expecting the items of equipment was lower than the percentage desiring the equipment.

In 1962, Berger (2) studied the extent that employed and non-employed homemakers in Bedford, Virginia, used and preferred the various sources of homemaking information available to them. The sources used and preferred most frequently by both groups were magazines, past experience and education, friends and neighbors, daily newspapers, television, and relatives. Bulletins and leaflets, radio, meetings, extension service, weekly newspaper, and adult education classes were ranked among the second six sources by each group.

Sources of information consumers and professional home economists identified and used were studied by Lightfoot (19) in 1963. When ranked according to number of choices made by the professional home

economists, magazines were first, followed by labels, demonstrations, and manufacturer's literature. Next were directions, and then radio, television, friends and relatives. The ranking of sources by consumers differed considerably from the ranking by the professional home economists. Consumers ranked newspapers first, followed in order by television, directions, labels, manufacturer's literature, radio, magazines, relatives and friends, and demonstrations.

The six main sources of information used before purchasing "large expenditure" items of equipment were identified by Van Syckle (36) in 1961 for 194 Lansing spending units. Van Syckle found the sources, given in order of most use, were shopping around and "looking," salesmen, advertising seen or heard, friends or relatives, and articles read about items.

The sources of information upon which 103 homemakers in Charles and New Kent Counties, Virginia, relied in the selection of their range were identified by Payne (26) in 1963. Listed in order of the amount of information received from each, the sources were dealer or clerk in the store, advertisements, relatives, consumer magazines, home economist, and door-to-door salesmen.

Several studies have been done of the purchasing and credit practices of consuming units, married college students, and married homemakers. In 1964 Burchinal and Bauder (3) studied the family decision-making and role patterns among Iowa farm and nonfarm families. When the wives were asked who "buys large appliances" and who "buys small appliances," the responses indicated equalitarian patterns. The husbands' responses followed closely those given by the wives.

Edwards (9) studied the decision-making concerning household equipment purchases in 77 married student households at Utah State University in 1964. Edwards found 77.4 per cent of the decisions concerning the purchase of a washer, clothes dryer, refrigerator, range, television, and stereo or hi-fi were made by the couple together.

In a survey done in 1964 of attitudes and values of consumers toward selected household equipment, Millar (24) asked who decided on the brand of vacuum the consumer owned. The respondents reported 42.2 per cent of the decisions were made by the husband and wife together, 33.3 per cent by the wife only, and 17.8 per cent by the husband only.

When Van Syckle (36) studied in 1961 the practices followed by consumers in buying "large expenditure" items of equipment, the consumers were asked who participated in the planning for equipment and purchasing of equipment. The responses showed 84 per cent of the planning was done by the husband and wife together, 10 per cent by the wife only, and a mere two per cent by the husband only. The husbands and wives acted alone in more cases involving the purchasing than the planning. The researcher found 59 per cent of the purchasing was by the husband and wife together, 23 per cent by the wife alone, and 16 per cent by the husband alone.

In 1961, Crow (6) interviewed 65 families in New York, concerning financial management in relation to family values and concepts of financial management. When questioned whether they had or would use credit, 43 per cent responded affirmatively to monthly bills, 29 per cent to installment credit, and 31 per cent to cash loan credit. "More than three-fourths of the families stated that installment credit should be used only for large purchases or for durable goods."

When studying the use of consumer credit by 150 Mississippi farm families, Dickens (7) found that the frequency of use of credit to purchase a washing machine ranked second to that of automobiles bought with the use of credit. Refrigerators and television sets followed washing machines in household equipment purchased with the use of consumer credit.

In a study done in 1965 of some of the factors influencing purchase decision-making and methods of financing selected major appliances, Goetz (12) received responses from 277 Arizona families. Of 386 purchases of refrigerators, ranges, freezers, and washers, 69.7 per cent of the pieces of equipment were purchased with cash, 23.1 per cent with installment credit, and 6.9 per cent with other credit. The percentage of cash purchases was high compared to the national average for 1961. In the same year, 48 per cent of all household appliances were purchased on credit while only 30.1 per cent of the appliances in the Goetz study were purchased on credit.

Five methods of payment for furnishings and equipment were found when Van Syckle (36) studied in 1961 the practices followed by 194 Lansing, Michigan spending units in buying "large expenditure items." Of the 135 purchases, 57 per cent were purchased with cash, 30 per cent with installment credit, and 12 per cent with other credit.

The types of retail outlets patronized by Arizona families were studied by Goetz (12) in 1965. Freezers, refrigerators, ranges, and washers were included in the 386 purchases made by the families. Forty per cent of the purchases were made at appliance and electric stores, 19 per cent at department stores, 13 per cent at furniture stores, 11

per cent at second-hand stores, 6 per cent at discount stores, and 11 per cent at other stores.

When Hotchkiss (18) studied in 1962 the household appliances owned by 1088 families in Arizona, she asked the source of purchase of freezers, ranges, refrigerators, and washers. Of the purchases made at stores, 64.5 per cent of the appliances were purchased at appliance stores, 12 per cent at department stores, 11.8 per cent at mail order stores, 4.5 per cent at discount and warehouse stores, and 7.2 per cent at other stores.

Preferences of 1088 Arizona families for electric or gas household equipment were studied by Hotchkiss (18) in 1962. The study showed 90 per cent of the refrigerators owned were electric and 10 per cent were gas. Preferences were reversed for ranges with 37 per cent being electric and 63 per cent gas.

In 1961 Douglas (8) found a definite preference for electric ranges, refrigerators, and dryers. The families reported having 97.3 per cent electric ranges, 100 per cent electric refrigerators, and 100 per cent electric dryers.

When Lightfoot (19) studied in 1963 aspects of consumer information concerning selected consumer goods, the 152 high school students were asked to identify factors used as a basis for purchasing and using new products. The responses, given in order beginning with the factors listed most often, were cost, convenience, time saved, use, size of family, own likes, likes of family, dislikes of family, and own dislikes. The factors affecting product appeal to the consumer were identified, in order, as save money, time saved, use, convenience, and others included were needs, easy storage, and dependability.



Merchandising Week (31) reported a study of the interactions of consumers and retailers by Schuyler F. Otteson, chairman of the Marketing Department at Indiana's Graduate School of Business. In 1964, consumers in 300 households in Indianapolis reported to be most concerned about service as it was related to appliances. Otteson found ease of use rated second, price third, followed by style and step-up features.

In a study done in 1963 of the consumer market for major appliances in Washington, D. C., Coolson (5) examined some of the specific reasons consumers gave for deciding on an appliance of a particular brand. Listed in order of frequency, the reasons given were special features of the product, price, brand name and reputation, fits specific needs, previous satisfactory experience, appearance, recommended by friends or relatives, consumer reports or similar published source, repair service and guarantee, and salesman's recommendation.

Factors influencing the selection of the range were studied by Payne (26) in 1963. Homemakers from 103 families in Charles City and New Kent Counties, Virginia, indicated the sources they considered "very important." Brand name was reported most frequently, followed in order by style, price, color, and special features.

Seven hundred thirty five married women graduates of Ohio State University participated in a study by Rose (30) in 1959 of the major factors influencing selection and satisfaction in use of major household appliances. Rose found the most important factors given for appliance satisfaction were satisfactory performance, convenience in use, ease in care, special features or accessories, few repairs, excellent service from dealers, size, and cost. When asked what factors

would be considered before purchasing another appliance, the homemakers gave the following factors, in order of choices: cost, special features, size, good construction, more efficient model, brand or make, easier to clean, and location or space for new appliances. Other reasons given were convenient to operate, different fuel, cost of operation, local dealer with good service, longer or better guarantee, ease of storage, general appearance, and safety features.

In 1961, Van Syckle (36) studied the values 194 Lansing spending units wanted in purchases of "large expenditure" items of equipment. In order of choices, the values specified were efficient, economical or satisfactory performance, suited to situation in which to be used, durability, meets a specific personal preference, easy or inexpensive upkeep, and beautiful or smart appearance.

Seventy-five homemakers in Stillwater, Oklahoma were asked by Bailey (1) in 1965 to give their one most liked and one least liked homemaking task. Cooking was reported as most liked by 33.3 per cent of the homemakers and sewing as most liked by 32.0 per cent of the homemakers. Thirty-six per cent of the homemakers reported ironing as their least liked task. Cleaning was ranked second by 32 per cent of the homemakers as their least liked task.

In a study done by Berger (2) in 1962 of management practices used by homemakers in Bedford, Virginia, the homemakers were asked to indicate their most disliked homemaking tasks. Ironing was given first followed by general cleaning, second, and then by floor cleaning. The homemakers indicated they would like to find shortcuts in certain tasks. The tasks listed most frequently were ironing and cleaning.

In 1962, Maloch (21) studied the properties, qualities, and characteristics of most and least liked household tasks of 120 homemakers in the Binghamton, New York area. Listed in order of frequency of choices, the most liked tasks were cooking, cleaning, and washing. The three most disliked tasks, listed in order were ironing, cleaning, and dishwashing.

The homemakers reported the characteristics of the most liked tasks, in order of frequency of choices, were pride in results, results are appreciated by family, adequate equipment, like supplies and materials, can set own pace, like time spent, and almost always completed as planned. The characteristics of the least liked tasks were reported, in order, as short-term results, monotonous, dislike time spent, uses little mental skill, another adult not generally present, and not creative.

The research studies by Bailey, Berger, and Maloch gave ironing as the least liked homemaking task. In each study, cleaning was ranked second as the least liked task.

In the present study the writer incorporated items into a questionnaire to be answered by a selected group of women students majoring in home economics. The items were concerned with the desires and expectations of the students in relation to household equipment. The next chapter will discuss the development of the questionnaire and describe the sample of students selected.

## CHAPTER III

### METHOD OF PROCEDURE

The study of the attitudes and opinions of a selected group of home economics majors as these relate to household equipment was begun by reviewing research studies and other literature related to the subject. The tentative problem was identified and the possibilities for the study were discussed with faculty members in the Department of Home Management, Equipment, and Family Economics at the Oklahoma State University. The problem was clarified, limited, and such a study seemed justifiable.

The use of a questionnaire was chosen as the method for collecting data for the study. A tentative questionnaire, including both structured and open-end questions related to the problem, was developed. The instrument was pretested in May, 1965, with a group of home economics majors who were taking the course, Home Economics 406, Student Teaching in Home Economics, at the Oklahoma State University. The data from this questionnaire was helpful in revising and developing the instrument used in the present study. When appropriate, the responses to the open-end questions of the pretest questionnaire were incorporated into the instrument used.

The questionnaire was organized with the following parts: personal data on the student and her family; problems related to specific pieces

of household equipment; possible sources of influence and/or help the consumer may use when selecting, using, and caring for household equipment; and other problems related to the selection, use, and care of household equipment. A copy of the questionnaire is included in the appendix.

The questionnaire was administered by the writer to a selected group of home economics majors at the Oklahoma State University on April 21, 1966. The students were enrolled either in Home Economics 412, The Home Economist in the Contemporary World; or in Home Economics Education 406, Students Teaching in Home Economics. Both courses are ordinarily taken during the senior year, but no student in the study was enrolled in both courses. Students were from the five departments in the College of Home Economics that offer a major. The departments were Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising; Family Relations and Child Development; Food, Nutrition, and Institution Administration; Home Economics Education; and Housing and Interior Design.

The questionnaires were given to 115 students during regular class periods and most were completed in 30 to 40 minutes, but all were completed before the end of the class period. All but four of the returned questionnaires were used in the study. One was so incomplete as to be meaningless, one belonged to a male student, and two belonged to widowed students.

The data from the questionnaires was transferred to data processing cards and verified by machine and by hand before being tabulated. The frequency and percentages of responses were determined for single women, for women who planned to be married within the year, and for married women.

Chapter IV includes the findings of the study and the writer's interpretation of the findings. The summary of the study, conclusions, and recommendations will be presented in Chapter V, the final chapter.



## CHAPTER IV

### DATA AND FINDINGS

The data and findings of the study are presented in this chapter. The study was undertaken to investigate the attitudes and opinions of a selected group of home economics majors as these relate to household equipment. A questionnaire, including both structured and open-end questions, was used to obtain the data. From the 111 questionnaires, the frequency and percentages of responses were determined for single women, for women who planned to be married within a year, and for married women. The data and findings are presented in two parts: information about the home economics majors and their families, and information concerning household equipment.

#### Information About the Home Economics

##### Majors and Their Families

The 111 home economics majors were asked questions concerning themselves, their parents, and their future plans. Their responses are reported in Tables I through XII.

The marital status of the students is presented in Tables I and II. Of the 111 home economics majors, 82 (73.8 per cent) were single and 29 (26.1 per cent) were married. On the basis of the responses of marriage plans, the single students were divided into two groups: those who were engaged and planned to be married within a year and those who had

TABLE I  
MARITAL PLANS OF THE 82 UNMARRIED RESPONDENTS

Marriage Plan	Single		Engaged		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Within 6 Months	0	0	24	70.6	24	29.3
Within 1 Year	0	0	10	29.4	10	12.2
Within 2 Years	20	41.7	0	0	20	24.4
Within 5 Years	20	41.7	0	0	20	24.4
After 5 Years	6	12.5	0	0	6	7.3
Not at all	1	2.1	0	0	1	1.2
No Answer	1	2.1	0	0	1	1.2

TABLE II  
LENGTH OF MARRIAGE AS REPORTED BY 29 MARRIED RESPONDENTS

Length of Time	Married	
	No.	%
Less than 6 Months	4	13.8
From 6 Months to 1 Year	8	27.6
From 1 Year to 2 Years	8	27.6
From 2 Years to 5 Years	4	13.8
More than 5 Years	5	17.2



no immediate marriage plans. The one group of 34 students will be referred to throughout the remainder of this study as engaged and the other group of 48 respondents as single. While none of this single group planned to marry within the year, 20 of them planned to marry within two years. Thirty-four (41.5 per cent) of the unmarried respondents planned to be married within one year. Marriage was planned within two years by 65.9 per cent of the unmarried home economics majors. Only one of the single students did not plan to be married at all.

Of the 29 married students, 12 (41.4 per cent) had been married one year or less. An additional eight students or a total of 20 (69.0 per cent) had been married two years or less. Only five respondents had been married more than five years.

The education of the fathers of the home economics majors is reported in Table III. All but 19 of the fathers of the 111 students had attended high school. Thirty-two (28.8 per cent) of the fathers had one or more college degrees. Slightly more than a third (35.3 per cent) of the fathers of the engaged students had completed high school, whereas about the same percentage of the fathers of the married students had only completed grade school. A larger percentage of the fathers of the single students had some college work (29.2 per cent) or had a bachelor's degree (29.2 per cent), than the fathers of the engaged or married students. The category, some college, includes those who have had formal training at business and technical schools. One-third (33.4 per cent) of the fathers of the single students had completed a college degree and almost two-thirds had some college. Approximately one-fourth of the fathers of the engaged group had completed a college degree, one-half (49.9 per cent) had some college work. Fewer fathers of the

TABLE III  
 EDUCATION OF FATHERS AS REPORTED BY 111 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Educational Level	Single		Engaged		Married		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Grade School	4	8.3	5	14.7	10	34.5	19	17.1
High School	14	29.2	12	35.3	7	24.1	33	29.7
Some College	14	29.2	8	23.5	5	17.2	27	24.3
Bachelor's Degree	14	29.2	8	23.5	6	20.7	28	25.2
Master's Degree	1	2.1	1	2.9	1	3.4	3	2.7
Doctor's Degree	1	2.1	0	0	0	0	1	.9

married students had some college education (41.3 per cent). Almost one-third (28.9 per cent) of all of the fathers had completed a college degree and over half (53.2 per cent) had either had some college work or completed a degree.

Table IV shows the education levels of the mothers of the home economics majors. Over two-thirds (69.0 per cent) of the mothers of the married students had attended college. Almost one-third (32.4 per cent) of all the mothers had completed high school and almost three out of five (57.6 per cent) had completed some college work. Over one-third (35.5 per cent) of the mothers of the single students had completed a college degree while only about one-fifth (20.7 per cent) of the mothers of the married students and less than one-fifth (17.6 per cent) of the mothers of the engaged students had completed a college degree. The percentages of the mothers of the single (58.4 per cent) and married (69.0 per cent) respondents who had some college work or had completed a degree were greater than the 47.0 per cent of the mothers of the engaged students. Over one-fourth (26.1 per cent) of all of the mothers had completed a college degree and over half (57.6 per cent) had either completed a degree or had some college.

A comparison of the educational level of the fathers and mothers as shown in Tables III and IV reveals considerable similarity of the two groups. Over one-half of the fathers (53.2 per cent) and mothers (57.6 per cent) had had some college. Over one-fourth had completed degrees: 29.8 per cent of the fathers and 26.1 per cent of the mothers.

The location of the homes of parents of the home economics majors is presented in Table V. Forty-four (39.6 per cent) of the homes were

TABLE IV  
EDUCATION OF MOTHERS AS REPORTED BY 111 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Educational Level	Single 48 = 100.0%		Engaged 34 = 100.0%		Married 29 = 100.0%		Total 111 = 100.0%	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Grade School	4	8.3	3	8.8	4	13.8	11	9.9
High School	16	33.3	15	44.1	5	17.2	36	32.4
Some College	11	22.9	10	29.4	14	48.3	35	31.5
Bachelor's Degree	13	27.1	5	14.7	4	13.8	22	19.8
Master's Degree	3	6.3	1	2.9	2	6.9	6	5.4
Doctor's Degree	1	2.1	0	0	0	0	1	.9

TABLE V

LOCATION OF HOME OF PARENTS AS REPORTED BY 111 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Location of Home	Single 48 = 100.0%		Engaged 34 = 100.0%		Married 29 = 100.0%		Total 111 = 100.0%	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Town of 25,000 or over	18	37.5	12	35.3	8	27.6	38	34.2
Town of 10,000 to 25,000	6	12.5	4	11.8	4	13.8	14	12.6
Town of 2,500 to 10,000	7	14.6	5	14.7	3	10.3	15	13.5
Town of 2,500 or less	5	10.4	5	14.7	5	17.2	15	13.5
Rural Farm	12	25.0	8	23.5	9	31.0	29	26.1



located in towns up to 25,000. Included in these were the parents' homes of 18 (37.5 per cent) single students, 14 (41.2 per cent) engaged students, and 12 (41.3 per cent) married students. Slightly over one-third (34.2 per cent) of all of the parents' homes were located in towns of over 25,000. Eighteen (37.5 per cent) of the parents' homes of single students were included, 12 (35.3 per cent) of the engaged students, and 8 (27.6 per cent) of the married students. Approximately one-fourth of all of the parents' homes were located on rural farms. The percentage of parents' homes of the married students classified as rural farm (31.0 per cent) was greater than the percentage of the parents' homes of the single (25.0 per cent) and engaged (23.5 per cent) classified as rural farm.

The approximate yearly income of the parents of the home economics majors is reported in Table VI. Almost one-half (49.5 per cent) of the students reported that their parents had an approximate yearly income of \$10,000 or more. Included in this income group were parents of 24 (50.0 per cent) of the single students, 15 (44.1 per cent) of the engaged students, and 16 (55.2 per cent) of the married students. Only three (2.7 per cent) students reported parental incomes of less than \$3,000. Three students did not answer this item, indicating either they did not know or did not wish to reveal their parents' income.

The 111 home economics students were asked to give their plans for the first year following their graduation. The findings are reported in Table VII. Ninety-six (87.1 per cent) of the students expected to pursue a career. Included in this group were 43 (89.6 per cent) of the single students, 32 (96.6 per cent) of the engaged students, and 21 (72.4 per cent) of the married students. Expecting to go to graduate

TABLE VI  
ANNUAL INCOME OF PARENTS AS REPORTED BY 111 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Approximate Annual Income	Single 48 = 100.0%		Engaged 34 = 100.0%		Married 29 = 100.0%		Total 111 = 100.0%	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Up to \$2,999	0	0	2	5.9	1	3.4	3	2.7
\$3,000 to \$4,999	4	8.3	0	0	3	10.3	7	6.3
\$5,000 to \$6,999	7	14.6	6	17.6	0	20.7	19	17.1
\$7,000 to \$9,999	11	22.9	10	29.4	3	10.3	24	21.6
\$10,000 to \$14,999	18	37.5	9	26.5	14	48.3	41	36.9
\$15,000 and up	6	12.5	6	17.6	2	6.9	14	12.6
No Answer	2	4.2	1	2.9	0	6	3	2.7

TABLE VII

PLANS AS REPORTED BY 111 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Plan	Single		Engaged		Married		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Career	43	89.6	0	0	0	0	43	39.4
Combine Homemaking and Career	0	0	32	96.6	21	72.4	53	47.7
Graduate Study	5	10.4	1	2.9	3	10.3	9	8.1
Homemaking	0	0	1	2.9	5	23.5	6	5.4



school were none (6.3 per cent) of the students including five (10.4 per cent) of the single, one (2.9 per cent) of the engaged, and three (10.3 per cent) of the married students. Six (5.4 per cent) expected to be full-time homemakers, including one (2.9 per cent) of the engaged and five (23.5 per cent) of the married students.

Table VIII shows the careers that the 96 students expected to follow the first year after their graduation. Over one-half (55.3 per cent) of the 96 expected to teach elementary or secondary schools and 12 (12.5 per cent) expected to work in fashion merchandising. Less than one out of ten expected careers in each of the following: dietetic internship, home service, interior design, and secretarial. Nine (9.4 per cent) of the students reported other careers including social work, girl scout work, airline hostess, and work in an area related to foods. Five (5.3 per cent) of the students did not know which career they would select or did not give an answer.

In Table IX, the home economics majors reported the location of housing in which they planned to live the first year following their graduation. Almost one-half (45.9 per cent) of all of the students indicated they expected to live in a town of 2,500 to 25,000 population. Nineteen (39.5 per cent) of the single students were included, 18 (53.0 per cent) of the engaged students, and 14 (48.3 per cent) of the married students. Fifty (45.0 per cent) of all the students expected to live in towns of over 25,000. The group included 26 (54.2 per cent) of the single students, 14 (41.2 per cent) of the engaged students, and 10 (34.5 per cent) of the married students. Only two (1.8 per cent) of the 111 students expected to live on a rural farm. These were both married students. Eight students did not answer this item.

TABLE VIII

## CAREER PLANS AS REPORTED BY 96 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Career	Single		Engaged		Married		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Dietetic Internship	4	9.3	2	6.1	0	0	6	6.3
Extension	3	7.0	1	3.0	0	0	4	4.2
Fashion Merchandising	7	16.3	2	6.1	3	12.5	12	12.5
Home Service	1	2.3	0	0	0	0	1	1.0
Interior Design	2	4.7	2	6.1	0	0	4	4.2
Secretarial	0	0	2	6.1	0	0	2	2.1
Teaching	19	44.2	18	54.5	16	66.7	53	55.3
Other	4	9.3	5	15.2	0	0	9	9.4
Do not Know or no Answer	3	7.0	0	0	2	8.3	5	5.3

TABLE IX

## EXPECTED LOCATION OF HOUSING AS REPORTED BY 111 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Location of Housing	Single		Engaged		Married		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Town of 25,000 or over	26	54.2	14	41.2	10	34.5	50	45.0
Town of 10,000 to 25,000	4	8.3	4	11.8	2	6.9	10	9.0
Town of 2,500 to 10,000	10	20.8	7	20.6	6	20.7	23	20.7
Town of 2,500 or less	5	10.4	7	20.6	6	20.7	18	16.2
Rural Farm	0	0	0	0	2	6.9	2	1.8
No Answer	3	6.3	2	5.9	3	10.3	8	7.2

A comparison has been made of the location of the parents' homes given in Table V and the expected location of the students' homes given in Table IX. Sixty-seven (60.1 per cent) of the parents' homes were in towns of 2500 or over as compared to 83 (74.7 per cent) of the expected home locations of the students. Twenty-nine (26.1 per cent) of the parents' homes were located on rural farms while only 2 (1.8 per cent) of the students expect to live on rural farms the first year following their graduation.

Table X shows the type housing in which the home economics majors expected to live the first year following their graduation. Seventy-five (67.6 per cent) of the students expected to live in some type of rented apartment. Apartments were the type housing expected by 42 (87.5 per cent) of the single students as compared to 22 (64.7 per cent) of the engaged students and only 11 (37.9 per cent) of the married students. Over one-half (57.7 per cent) of all of the students expected to live in completely furnished rented apartments. Nearly three-fourths (72.9 per cent) of the single students planned to live in completely furnished rented apartments while 21 (61.8 per cent) of the engaged and only eight (27.6 per cent) of the married students planned to do the same. None of the 111 students expected to live in a home they owned. Twenty-one (18.9 per cent) of the students expected to live in rented homes. Nearly one-half (48.3 per cent) of the married students expected to live in rented homes, while only one of the single students expected to live in a rented home. Seven (6.3 per cent) of the students expected to live in mobile homes, five (4.5 per cent) of whom expected to own their mobile home.

TABLE X

## EXPECTED TYPE OF HOUSING AS REPORTED BY 111 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Type of Housing	Single 48 = 100.0%		Engaged 34 = 100.0%		Married 29 = 100.0%		Total 111 = 100.0%	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Home Owned	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Home Rented	1	2.1	6	17.6	14	48.3	21	18.9
Mobile Home, Owned	0	0	2	5.9	3	10.3	5	4.5
Mobile Home, Rented	1	2.1	0	0	1	3.4	2	1.8
Parents' Home	2	4.2	1	2.9	0	0	3	2.7
Rented Apartment, Completely Furnished	35	72.9	21	61.8	8	27.6	64	57.7
Rented Apartment, Partly Furnished	6	12.5	0	0	2	6.9	8	7.2
Rented Apartment, Unfurnished	1	2.1	1	2.9	1	3.4	3	2.7
No Answer	2	4.2	3	8.8	0	0	5	4.5

The questionnaire asked each student to check expected total income for the first year after graduation. Five income divisions were named in the questionnaire. Table XI gives a summary of the responses. The writer feels this section was interpreted differently by different students. Some students would be involved with two wage earners but the anticipated annual income figure did not seem to reflect two incomes. However the figures show that one-half (51.4 per cent) of the respondents expected to be in the \$5,000 to \$6,999 annual income group, one out of eight in the over \$10,000 per year bracket, and one out of 16 in the under \$3,000 per year income. The majority of the single students (60.4 per cent) expected to earn \$5,000 to \$6,999 with another 25.0 per cent earning \$3,000 to \$4,999. The married students anticipated a higher annual income than either the single or engaged respondents. One-third (34.5 per cent) of the married students checked \$10,000 to \$14,999. Only 2 of the 29 married respondents anticipated an annual income of less than \$5,000, while about one-third of each of the other groups checked this amount as anticipated annual income.

Only five of the 29 married students reported having children. There were two respondents with three children and one each with one, two, and five. Twenty of the 29 students had been married one year or less. However when the students were asked the number of children they would like to have, the number ranged from two to five or more. Table XII reports the number of children desired. Eighteen (37.5 per cent) of the single and 14 (41.2 per cent) of the engaged students reported wanting three children each, while 16 (55.2 per cent) of the married students reported wanting two children each. Two, three, or four children were desired by 40 (83.3 per cent) of the single students,

TABLE XI  
 EXPECTED ANNUAL INCOME AS REPORTED BY 111 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Expected Annual Income	Single		Engaged		Married		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Up to \$2,999	4	8.3	2	5.9	1	3.4	7	6.3
\$3,000 to \$4,999	12	25.0	8	23.5	1	3.4	21	18.9
\$5,000 to \$6,999	29	60.4	19	55.9	9	31.0	57	51.4
\$7,000 to \$9,999	0	0	4	11.8	7	24.1	11	9.9
\$10,000 to \$14,999	1	2.1	1	2.9	10	34.5	12	10.8
\$15,000 and up	0	0	0	0	1	3.4	1	.9
No Answer	2	4.2	0	0	0	0	2	1.8

TABLE XII

NUMBER OF CHILDREN DESIRED AS REPORTED BY 111 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Number	Single		Engaged		Married		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Two	10	20.8	6	17.6	9	31.0	25	22.5
Three	12	25.0	9	26.5	16	55.2	37	33.3
Four	18	37.5	14	41.2	3	10.3	35	31.5
Five	6	12.5	1	2.9	1	3.4	8	7.2
Five or More	2	4.2	2	5.9	0	0	4	3.6
No Usable Answer	0	0	2	5.9	0	0	2	1.8



29 (85.3 per cent) of the engaged students, and 28 (96.5 per cent) of the married students. Of the 109 students answering, all of the group desired at least two children. Twelve (10.8 per cent) of the students desired having five or more children.

#### Information Concerning Household Equipment

A list of 42 pieces of household equipment, arranged in alphabetical order, was included in the questionnaire. This list consisted of appliances and equipment frequently found in today's homes. Some would be considered basic, many were portable, and others might be the result of gifts. In each case the respondents were asked about their expectation and desire for the item of equipment, their experience in using it, and their degree of qualification in selecting the equipment. The findings are reported in Tables XIII through XVI.

One hundred and one (91.0 per cent) of the respondents checked much experience for hand iron, 97 (87.4 per cent) for electric clock, 96 (86.5 per cent) for hair dryer, 93 (83.8 per cent) for food mixer, and 91 (82.0 per cent) for refrigerator and sewing machine. Much experience was checked as well for black and white television set by 90 (81.1 per cent) of the students, electric clothes washer by 85 (76.6 per cent) of the students, and range by 84 (75.7 per cent) of the students.

Thirty-five (31.5 per cent) of the students checked no experience for central air conditioning, 43 (38.7 per cent) for color television set and floor polisher and scrubber, 49 (44.1 per cent) for electric knife, 54 (48.6 per cent) for electric ice cream freezer, and 55 (49.5 per cent) for portable electric broiler oven. No experience was checked

TABLE XIII

EXPERIENCE USING HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AS REPORTED  
BY 48 SINGLE HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Equipment	Much		Some		None	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Air Conditioning, Central Cooling	14	29.2	25	52.1	9	18.8
Air Conditioning, Individual Unit	21	43.8	23	47.9	4	8.3
Blanket, Electric	23	47.9	15	31.3	10	20.8
Broiler-Oven, Portable Electric (a)	2	4.2	18	37.5	27	56.3
Can Opener	30	62.5	18	37.5	0	0
Clock, Electric	42	87.5	6	12.5	0	0
Coffeemaker	24	50.0	22	45.8	2	4.2
Deep-fat Fryer	9	18.8	26	54.2	13	27.1
Dishwasher	15	31.3	32	66.7	1	2.1
Dryer, Clothes	28	58.3	19	39.6	1	2.1
Fan	26	54.2	20	41.7	2	4.2
Floor Polisher- Scrubber	8	16.7	25	52.1	15	31.3
Food Blender	12	25.0	25	52.1	11	22.9
Food Disposer	22	45.8	23	47.9	3	6.3
Food Freezer	25	52.1	18	37.5	5	10.4
Food Mixer (a)	38	79.2	8	16.7	1	2.1
Hair Dryer	39	81.3	9	18.8	0	0
Hand Iron	41	85.4	7	14.6	0	0
Heating, Central	16	33.3	24	50.0	8	16.7
Heating, Individual Unit (a)	15	31.3	24	50.0	8	16.7
Heating Pad	19	39.6	25	52.1	4	8.3
Ice Cream Freezer, Electric	5	10.4	19	39.6	24	50.0
Ice Crusher, Electric	2	4.2	16	33.3	30	62.5
Knife, Electric	4	8.3	23	47.9	21	43.8
Outdoor Broiler and /or Grill (a)	12	25.0	26	54.2	9	18.8
Radio, Electric	39	81.3	9	18.8	0	0
Range	36	75.0	12	25.0	0	0
Range Hood with Exhaust Fan (a)	18	37.5	24	50.0	5	10.4
Record Player Including Hifi and Stereo (a)	22	45.8	23	47.9	2	4.2
Refrigerator	39	81.3	9	18.8	0	0

Table XIII (Continued)

Equipment	Much		Some		None	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Rotisserie	1	2.1	17	35.4	30	62.5
Sewing Machine	36	75.0	11	22.9	1	2.1
Shaver, Electric	14	29.2	26	54.2	8	16.7
Sheet, Electric	0	0	8	16.7	40	83.3
Skillet, Electric	29	60.4	19	39.6	0	0
Television Set, Black and White	39	81.3	8	16.7	1	2.1
Television, Color	10	20.8	23	47.9	15	31.3
Toaster	35	72.9	13	27.1	0	0
Toothbrush, Electric	8	16.7	14	29.2	26	54.2
Vacuum Cleaner	32	66.7	16	33.3	0	0
Waffle Iron-Grill Combination	11	22.9	29	60.4	8	16.7
Washer, Clothes	37	77.1	11	22.9	0	0

(a) One student left the item blank.

TABLE XIV  
 EXPERIENCE USING HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AS REPORTED  
 BY 34 ENGAGED HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Equipment	Much		Some		None	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Air Conditioning, Central Cooling	6	17.6	16	47.1	12	35.3
Air Conditioning, Individual Unit (a)	14	41.2	14	41.2	5	14.7
Blanket, Electric	15	44.1	16	47.1	3	8.8
Broiler- Oven, Portable Electric	5	14.7	13	38.2	16	47.1
Can Opener	27	79.4	7	20.6	0	0
Clock, Electric (a)	31	91.2	2	5.9	0	0
Coffeemaker	17	50.0	15	44.1	2	5.9
Deep-fat Fryer	5	14.7	20	58.8	9	26.5
Dishwasher	11	32.4	17	50.0	6	17.6
Dryer, Clothes	17	50.0	14	41.2	3	8.8
Fan (a)	20	58.8	13	38.2	0	0
Floor Polisher- Scrubber	4	18.8	12	35.3	18	52.9
Food Blender	8	23.5	16	47.1	10	29.4
Food Disposer	13	38.2	18	52.9	3	8.8
Food Freezer	19	55.9	12	35.3	3	8.8
Food Mixer	31	91.2	2	5.9	1	2.9
Hair Dryer	32	94.1	1	2.9	1	2.9
Hand Iron	33	97.1	1	2.9	0	0
Heating, Central	13	38.2	15	44.1	6	17.6
Heating, Individual Unit	14	41.2	17	50.0	3	8.8
Heating Pad	16	47.1	16	47.1	2	5.9
Ice Cream Freezer, Electric	10	29.4	13	38.2	11	32.4
Ice Crusher, Electric	2	5.9	7	20.6	25	73.5
Knife, Electric	2	5.9	20	58.8	12	35.3
Outdoor Broiler and/or Grill (a)	11	32.4	15	44.1	7	20.6
Radio, Electric	33	97.1	1	2.9	0	0
Range	26	76.5	8	23.5	0	0
Range Hood with Exhaust Fan	13	38.2	18	52.9	3	8.8
Record Player Including Hifi and Stereo	18	52.9	12	35.3	4	11.8
Refrigerator	29	85.3	5	14.7	0	0

Table XIV (Continued)

Equipment	Much		Some		None	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Rotisserie	1	2.9	13	38.2	20	58.8
Sewing Machine	31	91.2	3	8.8	0	0
Shaver, Electric	10	29.4	16	47.1	8	23.5
Sheet, Electric	0	0	2	5.9	32	94.1
Skillet, Electric	24	70.6	10	29.4	0	0
Television Set, Black and White (a)	27	79.4	6	17.6	0	0
Television Set, Color	10	29.4	11	32.4	13	38.2
Toaster	26	76.5	8	23.5	0	0
Toothbrush, Electric	10	29.4	8	23.5	16	47.1
Vacuum Cleaner	27	79.4	7	20.6	0	0
Waffle Iron-Grill Combination	16	47.1	12	35.3	6	17.6
Washer, Clothes	27	79.4	5	14.7	2	5.9

(a) One student left this item blank.

TABLE XV

EXPERIENCE USING HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AS REPORTED  
BY 29 MARRIED HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Equipment	Much		Some		None	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Air Conditioning, Central Cooling	2	6.9	13	44.8	14	48.3
Air Conditioning, Individual Unit	12	41.4	14	48.3	3	10.3
Blanket, Electric (a)	17	58.6	8	27.6	3	10.3
Broiler- Oven, Portable Electric	6	20.7	11	37.9	12	41.4
Can Opener	19	65.5	10	34.5	0	0
Clock, Electric	24	82.8	5	17.2	0	0
Coffeemaker	18	62.1	9	31.0	2	6.9
Deep-fat Fryer	5	17.2	15	51.7	9	31.0
Dishwasher (a)	6	20.7	16	55.2	6	20.7
Dryer, Clothes	15	51.7	13	44.8	1	3.4
Fan (a)	13	44.8	14	48.3	1	3.4
Floor Polisher- Scrubber	4	13.8	15	51.7	10	34.5
Food Blender	9	31.0	8	27.6	12	41.4
Food Disposer	17	58.6	9	31.0	3	10.3
Food Freezer	12	41.4	15	51.7	2	6.9
Food Mixer	24	82.8	5	17.2	0	0
Hair Dryer	25	86.2	3	10.3	1	3.4
Hand Iron	27	93.1	1	3.4	1	3.4
Heating, Central	11	37.9	12	41.4	6	20.7
Heating, Individual Unit	12	41.4	12	41.4	5	17.2
Heating Pad	12	41.4	15	44.8	4	13.8
Ice Cream Freezer, Electric	4	13.8	6	20.7	19	65.5
Ice Crusher, Electric	4	13.8	7	24.1	18	62.1
Knife, Electric	3	10.3	10	34.5	16	55.2
Outdoor Broiler and/or Grill	10	34.5	12	41.4	7	24.1
Radio, Electric	23	79.3	6	20.7	0	0
Range	22	75.9	6	20.7	1	3.4
Range Hood with Exhaust Fan (a)	13	44.8	12	41.4	3	10.3
Record Player Including Hifi and Stereo	12	41.4	12	41.4	5	17.2
Refrigerator	23	79.3	6	20.7	0	0

Table XV (Continued)

Equipment	Much		Some		None	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Rotisserie	2	6.9	7	24.1	20	69.0
Sewing Machine	24	82.8	5	17.2	0	0
Shaver, Electric	10	34.5	14	48.3	5	17.2
Sheet, Electric	1	3.4	2	6.9	26	89.7
Skillet, Electric	20	69.0	9	31.0	0	0
Television Set, Black and White	24	82.8	5	17.2	0	0
Television Set, Color	4	13.8	10	34.5	15	51.7
Toaster	21	72.4	8	27.6	0	0
Toothbrush, Electric	4	13.8	7	24.1	18	62.1
Vacuum Cleaner	19	65.5	10	34.5	0	0
Waffle Iron-Grill Combination	9	31.0	11	37.9	9	31.0
Washer, Clothes	21	72.4	8	27.6	0	0

(a) One student left this item blank.

TABLE XVI  
 EXPERIENCE USING HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AS REPORTED  
 BY 111 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Equipment	Much		Some		None	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Air Conditioning, Central Cooling	22	19.8	54	48.6	35	31.5
Air Conditioning, Individual Unit (a)	47	42.3	51	45.9	12	10.8
Blanket, Electric (a)	55	49.5	39	35.1	16	14.4
Broiler - Oven Portable Electric (a)	13	11.7	42	37.8	55	49.5
Can Opener	76	68.5	35	31.5	0	0
Clock, Electric (a)	97	87.4	13	11.7	0	0
Coffeemaker	59	53.2	46	41.4	6	5.4
Deep-fat Fryer	19	17.1	61	55.0	31	27.9
Dishwasher (a)	32	28.8	65	58.6	13	11.7
Dryer, Clothes	60	54.1	46	41.4	5	4.5
Fan (b)	59	53.2	47	42.3	3	2.7
Floor Polisher- Scrubber	16	14.4	52	46.8	43	38.7
Food Blender	29	26.1	49	44.1	33	29.7
Food Disposer	52	46.8	50	45.0	9	8.1
Food Freezer	56	50.5	45	40.5	10	9.0
Food Mixer (a)	93	83.8	15	13.5	2	1.8
Hair Dryer	96	86.5	13	11.7	2	1.8
Hand Iron	101	91.0	9	8.1	1	.9
Heating, Central	40	36.0	51	45.9	20	18.0
Heating, Individual Unit (a)	41	36.9	53	47.7	16	14.4
Heating Pad	47	42.3	54	48.6	10	9.0
Ice Cream Freezer, Electric	19	17.1	38	34.2	54	48.6
Ice Crusher, Electric	8	7.2	30	27.0	73	65.8
Knife, Electric	9	8.1	53	47.7	49	44.1
Outdoor Broiler and/or Grill (b)	33	29.7	53	47.7	23	20.7
Radio, Electric	95	85.6	16	14.4	0	0
Range	84	75.7	26	23.4	1	.9
Range Hood with Exhaust Fan (b)	44	39.6	54	48.6	11	9.9
Record Player Including Hifi and Stereo (a)	52	46.8	47	42.3	11	9.9
Refrigerator	91	82.0	20	18.0	0	0



Table XVI (Continued)

Equipment	Much		Some		None	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Rotisserie	4	3.6	37	33.3	70	63.1
Sewing Machine	91	82.0	19	17.1	1	.9
Shaver, Electric	34	30.6	56	50.5	21	18.9
Sheet, Electric	1	.9	12	10.8	98	88.3
Skillet, Electric	73	65.8	38	34.2	0	0
Television Set, Black and White (a)	90	81.1	19	17.1	1	.9
Television Set, Color	24	21.6	44	39.6	43	38.7
Toaster	82	73.9	29	26.1	0	0
Toothbrush, Electric	22	19.8	29	26.1	60	54.1
Vacuum Cleaner	78	70.3	33	29.7	0	0
Waffle Iron-Grill						
Combination	36	32.4	52	46.8	23	20.7
Washer, Clothes	85	76.6	24	21.6	2	1.8

(a) One student left the item blank.

(b) Two students left the item blank.

by 60 (54.1 per cent) of the students for electric toothbrush, 70 (63.1 per cent) for rotisserie broiler, 73 (65.8 per cent) for electric ice crusher, and 98 (88.3 per cent) of the students for electric sheet.

Differences were noted in the percentages of experience reported by the single, engaged, and married students. The percentages of single students reporting much experience using portable electric broiler-ovens, individual heating units, and out-door broilers and/or grills were lower than the percentages reported by the engaged or married students. Much experience using can openers, food mixer, hair dryers, electric ice cream freezers, electric radios, electric toothbrushes, and vacuum cleaners was reported by a higher percentage of the engaged students than the percentages reported by the single or married students. Lower percentages of the married students reported they had had much experience using central air conditioning, dishwashers, fans, food freezers, and color television sets than the single and engaged students reported. The married students reported a higher percentage of much experience with electric ice crushers than the other groups reported. The single students reported lower percentages and the engaged students reported higher percentages of much experience using sewing machines and waffle iron-grill combinations.

The students were asked to indicate how well qualified they felt to select the 42 pieces of household equipment listed. The choices given were well qualified, somewhat qualified, and not at all qualified. The findings are reported in Tables XVII through XX. Well qualified was checked by 89 (80.2 per cent) of the students for hand irons, by 81 (73.0 per cent) of the students for sewing machines, 79 (71.2 per cent) of the students for hair dryers, 75 (67.6 per cent) for electric radios,

TABLE XVII

QUALIFICATION TO SELECT HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AS REPORTED  
BY 48 SINGLE HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Equipment	Well		Somewhat		Not At All	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Air Conditioning, Central Cooling	1	2.1	27	56.3	20	41.7
Air Conditioning, Individual Unit	2	4.2	35	72.9	11	22.9
Blanket, Electric	16	33.3	25	52.1	7	14.6
Broiler - Oven, Portable Electric (a)	2	4.2	25	52.1	20	41.7
Can Opener	26	54.2	20	41.7	2	4.2
Clock, Electric	26	54.2	21	43.8	1	2.1
Coffeemaker	21	43.8	26	54.2	1	2.1
Deep-fat Fryer	9	18.8	28	58.3	11	22.9
Dishwasher	11	22.9	32	66.7	5	10.4
Dryer, Clothes	19	39.6	26	54.2	3	6.3
Fan	18	37.5	26	54.2	4	8.3
Floor Polisher- Scrubber	6	12.5	21	43.8	21	43.8
Food Blender	9	18.8	29	60.4	10	20.8
Food Disposer	14	29.2	25	52.1	9	18.8
Food Freezer	17	35.4	27	56.3	4	8.3
Food Mixer (a)	30	62.5	14	29.2	3	6.3
Hair Dryer	32	66.7	15	31.3	1	2.1
Hand Iron	34	70.8	14	29.2	0	0
Heating, Central	7	14.6	21	43.8	20	41.7
Heating, Individual Unit (a)	4	8.3	28	58.3	15	31.3
Heating Pad	14	29.2	27	56.3	7	14.6
Ice Cream Freezer, Electric	2	4.2	23	47.9	23	47.9
Ice Crusher, Electric	1	2.1	15	31.3	32	66.7
Knife, Electric (a)	2	4.2	27	56.3	19	39.6
Outdoor Broiler and /or Grill (a)	8	16.7	26	54.2	13	27.1
Radio, Electric	30	62.5	17	35.4	1	2.1
Range	29	60.4	18	37.5	1	2.1
Range Hood with Exhaust Fan (a)	9	18.8	30	62.5	8	16.7
Record Player Including Hifi and Stereo (a)	15	31.3	26	54.2	6	12.5
Refrigerator	19	39.6	29	60.4	0	0
Rotisserie Broiler	1	2.1	18	37.5	29	60.4

Table XVII (Continued)

Equipment	Well		Somewhat		Not At All	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Sewing Machine	31	64.6	15	31.3	2	4.2
Shaver, Electric	16	33.3	21	43.8	11	22.9
Sheet, Electric	1	2.1	9	18.8	38	79.2
Skillet, Electric (a)	21	43.8	25	52.1	1	2.1
Television Set, Black and White	21	43.8	24	50.0	3	6.3
Television, Color	8	16.7	21	43.8	19	39.6
Toaster	24	50.0	23	47.9	1	2.1
Toothbrush, Electric	9	18.8	17	35.4	22	45.8
Vacuum Cleaner	24	50.0	24	50.0	0	0
Waffle Iron-Grill Combination	10	20.8	31	64.6	7	14.6
Washer, Clothes	27	56.3	21	43.8	0	0

(a) One student left the item blank.

TABLE XVIII  
 QUALIFICATION TO SELECT HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AS REPORTED  
 BY 34 ENGAGED HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Equipment	Well		Somewhat		Not At All	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Air Conditioning, Central Cooling	3	8.8	12	35.3	19	55.9
Air Conditioning, Individual Unit (a)	4	11.8	21	61.8	8	23.5
Blanket, Electric	14	41.2	19	55.9	1	2.9
Broiler-Oven, Portable Electric	9	26.5	12	35.3	13	38.2
Can Opener	24	70.6	9	26.5	1	2.9
Clock, Electric (a)	25	73.5	8	23.5	0	0
Coffeemaker	18	52.9	14	41.2	2	5.9
Deep-fat Fryer	8	23.5	17	50.0	9	26.5
Dishwasher	6	17.6	21	61.8	7	20.6
Dryer, Clothes	12	35.3	21	61.8	1	2.9
Fan (a)	14	41.2	17	50.0	2	5.9
Floor Polisher- Scrubber	3	8.8	15	44.1	16	47.1
Food Blender	8	23.5	20	58.8	6	17.6
Food Disposer (a)	8	23.5	19	55.9	6	17.6
Food Freezer	11	32.4	19	55.9	4	11.8
Food Mixer	23	67.6	10	29.4	1	2.9
Hair Dryer	28	82.4	5	14.7	1	2.9
Hand Iron	31	91.2	3	8.8	0	0
Heating, Central	8	23.5	13	38.2	13	38.2
Heating, Individual Unit	5	14.7	21	61.8	8	23.5
Heating Pad	11	32.4	18	52.9	5	14.7
Ice Cream Freezer, Electric	8	23.5	12	35.3	14	41.2
Ice Crusher, Electric	0	0	9	26.5	25	73.5
Knife, Electric	4	11.8	20	58.8	10	29.4
Outdoor Broiler and /or Grill (a)	4	11.8	23	67.6	6	17.6
Radio, Electric	28	82.4	6	17.6	0	0
Range	21	61.8	12	35.3	1	2.9
Range Hood with Exhaust Fan	12	35.3	15	44.1	7	20.6
Record Player Including Hifi and Stereo	13	38.2	15	44.1	6	17.6
Refrigerator	21	61.8	13	38.2	0	0

Table XVIII (Continued)

Equipment	Well		Somewhat		Not At All	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Rotisserie Broiler	3	8.8	13	38.2	18	52.9
Sewing Machine	28	82.4	6	17.6	0	0
Shaver, Electric	7	20.6	23	67.6	4	11.8
Sheet, Electric	0	0	3	8.8	31	91.2
Skillet, Electric	22	64.7	12	35.3	0	0
Television Set, Black and White (a)	15	44.1	16	47.1	2	5.9
Television, Color	7	20.6	12	35.3	15	44.1
Toaster	21	61.8	12	35.3	1	2.9
Toothbrush, Electric	9	26.5	11	32.4	14	41.2
Vacuum Cleaner	19	55.9	13	38.2	2	5.9
Waffle Iron-Grill						
Combination	14	41.2	13	38.2	7	20.6
Washer, Clothes	19	55.9	13	38.2	2	5.9

(a) One student left the item blank.

TABLE XIX

QUALIFICATION TO SELECT HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AS REPORTED  
BY 29 MARRIED HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Equipment	Well		Somewhat		Not At All	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Air Conditioning, Central Cooling	0	0	11	37.9	18	62.1
Air Conditioning, Individual Unit	5	17.2	17	58.6	7	24.1
Blanket, Electric (a)	10	34.5	16	55.2	2	6.9
Broiler- Oven, Portable Electric	2	6.9	20	69.0	7	24.1
Can Opener	18	62.1	10	34.5	1	3.4
Clock, Electric	21	72.4	7	24.1	1	3.4
Coffeemaker	20	69.0	7	24.1	2	6.9
Deep-fat Fryer	6	20.7	14	48.3	9	31.0
Dishwasher (a)	6	20.7	10	34.5	12	41.4
Dryer, Clothes	14	48.3	12	41.4	3	10.3
Fan (a)	8	27.6	17	58.6	3	10.3
Floor Polisher- Scrubber	5	17.2	14	48.3	10	34.5
Food Blender (a)	9	31.0	9	31.0	10	34.5
Food Disposer	12	41.4	11	37.9	6	20.7
Food Freezer	10	34.5	14	48.3	5	17.2
Food Mixer	19	65.5	10	34.5	0	0
Hair Dryer	19	65.5	9	31.0	1	3.4
Hand Iron	24	82.8	4	13.8	1	3.4
Heating, Central	5	17.2	11	37.9	13	44.8
Heating, Individual Unit	3	10.3	15	51.7	11	37.9
Heating Pad	11	37.9	13	44.8	5	17.2
Ice Cream Freezer, Electric	3	10.3	9	31.0	17	58.6
Ice Crusher, Electric	5	17.2	8	27.6	16	55.2
Knife, Electric	3	10.3	13	44.8	13	44.8
Outdoor Broiler and /or Grill	10	34.5	15	51.7	4	13.8
Radio, Electric	17	58.6	12	41.4	0	0
Range (a)	20	69.0	8	27.6	1	3.4
Range Hood with Exhaust Fan (a)	11	37.9	15	51.7	2	6.9
Record Player Including Hifi and Stereo (a)	10	34.5	12	41.4	6	20.7
Refrigerator	18	62.1	11	37.9	0	0
Rotisserie Broiler	2	6.9	9	31.0	18	62.1

Table XIX (Continued)

Equipment	Well		Somewhat		Not At All	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Sewing Machine	22	75.9	6	20.7	1	3.4
Shaver, Electric	10	34.5	14	48.3	5	17.2
Sheet, Electric	1	3.4	3	10.3	25	86.2
Skillet, Electric	19	65.5	9	31.0	1	3.4
Television Set, Black and White	15	51.7	12	41.1	2	6.9
Television, Color	5	17.2	9	31.0	15	51.7
Toaster	19	65.5	10	34.5	0	0
Toothbrush, Electric	3	10.3	11	37.9	15	51.7
Vacuum Cleaner	18	62.1	10	34.5	1	3.4
Waffle Iron-Grill Combination	6	20.7	17	58.6	16	20.7
Washer, Clothes	17	58.6	12	41.4	0	0

(a) One student left the item blank.



TABLE XX

QUALIFICATION TO SELECT HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AS REPORTED  
BY 111 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Equipment	Well		Somewhat		Not At All	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Air Conditioning, Central Cooling	4	3.6	50	45.0	57	51.4
Air Conditioning, Individual Unit (a)	11	9.9	73	65.8	26	23.4
Blanket, Electric (a)	40	36.0	60	54.1	10	9.0
Broiler-Oven, (a) Portable Electric	13	11.7	57	51.4	40	36.0
Can Opener	68	61.3	39	35.1	4	3.6
Clock, Electric (a)	72	64.9	36	32.4	2	1.8
Coffeemaker	59	53.2	47	42.3	5	4.5
Deep-fat Fryer	23	20.7	59	53.2	29	26.1
Dishwasher (a)	23	20.7	63	56.8	24	21.6
Dryer, Cloth	45	40.5	59	53.2	7	6.3
Fan (b)	40	36.0	60	54.1	9	8.1
Floor Polisher- Scrubber	14	12.6	50	45.0	47	42.3
Food Blender (a)	26	23.4	58	52.3	26	23.4
Food Disposer (a)	34	30.6	55	49.5	21	18.9
Food Freezer	38	34.2	60	54.1	13	11.7
Food Mixer (a)	72	64.9	34	30.6	4	3.6
Hair Dryer	79	71.2	29	26.1	3	2.7
Hand Iron	89	80.2	21	18.9	1	.9
Heating, Central	20	18.0	45	40.5	46	41.4
Heating, Individual Unit (a)	12	10.8	64	57.7	34	30.6
Heating Pad	36	32.4	58	52.3	17	15.3
Ice Cream Freezer, Electric	13	11.7	44	39.6	54	48.6
Ice Crusher, Electric	6	5.4	32	28.8	73	65.8
Knife, Electric	9	8.1	60	54.1	42	37.8
Outdoor Broiler and /or Grill (b)	22	19.8	64	57.7	23	20.7
Radio, Electric	75	67.6	35	31.5	1	.9
Range	70	63.1	38	34.2	3	2.7
Range Hood with Exhaust Fan (b)	32	28.8	60	54.1	17	15.3
Record Player Including Hifi and Stereo (b)	38	34.2	53	47.7	18	16.2

Table XX (Continued)

Equipment	Well		Somewhat		Not At All	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Refrigerator	58	52.3	53	47.7	0	0
Rotisserie Broiler	6	5.4	40	36.0	65	58.6
Sewing Machine	81	73.0	27	24.3	3	2.7
Shaver, Electric	33	29.7	58	52.3	20	18.0
Sheet, Electric	2	1.8	15	13.5	94	84.7
Skillet, Electric (a)	62	55.9	46	41.4	2	1.8
Television Set, Black and White (a)	51	45.9	52	46.8	7	6.3
Television, Color	20	18.0	42	37.8	49	44.1
Toaster	64	57.7	45	40.5	2	1.8
Toothbrush, Electric	21	18.9	39	35.1	51	45.9
Vacuum Cleaner	61	55.0	47	42.3	3	2.7
Waffle Iron-Grill Combination	30	27.0	61	55.0	20	18.0
Washer, Clothes	63	56.8	46	41.4	2	1.8

(a) One student left the item blank.

(b) Two students left the item blank.

and 72 (64.9 per cent) for electric clocks and food mixers. Seventy (63.1 per cent) of the students checked well qualified to select ranges, 68 (61.3 per cent) well qualified to select electric can openers, 64 (57.7 per cent) well qualified to select toasters, and 63 (56.8 per cent) well qualified to select clothes washers.

Not at all qualified to select electric knives was checked by 42 (37.8 per cent) of the students, central heating by 46 (41.4 per cent), floor polisher and scrubber by 47 (42.3 per cent), color television sets by 49 (44.1 per cent), electric toothbrushes by 51 (45.9 per cent), and electric ice cream freezers by 54 (48.6 per cent). Fifty-seven (51.4 per cent) of the students checked not at all qualified to select central air conditioning, 65 (58.6 per cent) checked rotisserie broiler, 73 (65.8 per cent) checked electric ice crusher, and 94 (84.7 per cent) checked electric sheet.

A lower percentage of the single students checked well qualified to select range hoods, refrigerators, electric skillets, and toasters than did the engaged or married students. Higher percentages of well qualified to select portable broiler-ovens, hair dryers, electric radios, electric toothbrushes, and waffle iron-grill combinations were checked by the engaged students than by the single or married students. Well qualified to select shaver was checked by a lower percentage of the engaged group. A higher percentage of the married students checked well qualified to select for clothes dryer, food blender, food disposer, electric ice crusher, and out-door broiler and/or grill than did the single or engaged students. A lower percentage of the married students checked well qualified for fan and electric toothbrush than did the single or engaged students.

The equipment desired and expected by the 111 home economics majors are reported in Tables XXI through XXIV. The students were asked to check whether they desired having or were not interested in having the item of listed equipment and whether they did or did not expect to have the equipment.

Thirty-nine of the forty-two pieces of equipment were desired by over one-half of the students. Twenty-one of the pieces of equipment were desired by more than 90 per cent of the students. Thirty-seven pieces of equipment were expected by one-half or more of the students, and 17 of the pieces were expected by more than 90 per cent of the students.

Hair dryers, refrigerators, sewing machines, and vacuum cleaners were desired by 110 (99.1 per cent) of the students. Electric clocks, clothes dryers, food mixers, hand irons, electric radios, and clothes washers were desired by 109 (98.2 per cent) of the students. Expected by 110 (99.1 per cent) of the home economics majors were hair dryers and refrigerators followed by electric clocks, hand irons, electric radios, ranges, vacuum cleaners, and clothes washers which were expected by 109 (98.2 per cent) of the students. Food mixers were expected by 108 (97.3 per cent) of the students.

Several of the pieces of equipment were desired by a higher percentage of the students than expected by the students. Food blender was desired by 86.5 per cent and expected by 70.3 per cent, color television set was desired by 85.6 per cent and expected by 68.5 per cent, floor polisher and scrubber was desired by 75.7 per cent and expected by 54.1 per cent, and electric knife was desired by 72.1 per cent and expected by 51.4 per cent. Other pieces were electric ice cream freezer

TABLE XXI

HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT DESIRED AND EXPECTED AS REPORTED  
BY 48 SINGLE HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Equipment	Desired		Expected	
	No.	%	No.	%
Air Conditioning, Central Cooling	47	97.9 a	44	91.7 a
Air Conditioning, Individual Unit	25	52.1 b	22	45.8 b
Blanket, Electric	31	64.6	33	68.8 a
Broiler-Oven, Portable Electric	31	64.6 b	24	50.0 b
Can opener	43	89.6	41	85.4
Clock, Electric	47	97.9	47	97.9
Coffeemaker	44	91.7	48	100.0
Deep-fat Fryer	34	70.8	31	64.6
Dishwasher	44	91.7	41	85.4
Dryer, Clothes	48	100.0	46	95.8
Fan	32	66.7 a	32	66.7
Floor Polisher-Scrubber	34	70.8 a	24	50.0
Food Blender	41	85.4 a	36	75.0
Food Disposer	45	93.8 a	43	89.6 a
Food Freezer	44	91.7	41	85.4 a
Food Mixer	47	97.9 a	46	95.8 a
Hair Dryer	47	97.9	47	97.9
Hand Iron	47	97.9	47	97.9
Heating, Central	48	100.0	47	97.9
Heating, Individual Unit	20	41.7 a	21	43.8
Heating Pad	40	83.3	40	83.3
Ice Cream Freezer, Electric	34	70.8	28	58.3
Ice Crusher, Electric	29	60.4	17	35.4
Knife, Electric	37	77.1	29	60.4
Outdoor Broiler and/or Grill	43	89.6 a	42	87.5 a
Radio, Electric	48	100.0	48	100.0
Range	47	97.9 a	48	100.0
Range Hood with Exhaust Fan	44	91.7 b	43	89.6 a
Record Player Including Hifi and Stereo	47	97.9 a	45	93.8 a
Refrigerator	48	100.0	48	100.0
Rotisserie Broiler	31	64.6	21	43.8
Sewing Machine	47	97.9	45	93.8
Shaver, Electric	23	47.9	26	54.2 a
Sheet, Electric	3	6.3	1	2.1
Skillet, Electric	46	95.8	46	95.8
Television Set, Black and White	39	81.3	39	81.3
Television Set, Color	45	93.8	35	72.9

Table XXI (Continued)

Equipment	Desired		Expected	
	No.	%	No.	%
Toaster	46	95.8	46	95.8
Toothbrush, Electric	34	70.8	30	62.5
Vacuum Cleaner	47	97.9	47	97.9
Waffle Iron-Grill Combination	40	83.3	37	77.1
Washer, Clothes	48	100.0	48	100.0

In all cases, except where noted, the sum of the positive and negative responses equaled 100.0 per cent. Exceptions:

- a One student left the item blank.
- b Two students left the item blank.

TABLE XXII

HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT DESIRED AND EXPECTED AS REPORTED  
BY 34 ENGAGED HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Equipment	Desired		Expected	
	No.	%	No.	%
Air Conditioning, Central Cooling	32	94.1	29	85.3
Air Conditioning, Individual Unit	18	52.9 b	21	61.8 a
Blanket, Electric	26	76.5	27	79.4
Broiler-Oven, Portable Electric	24	70.6	18	52.9
Can Opener	32	94.1	29	85.3
Clock, Electric	33	97.1 a	33	97.1 a
Coffeemaker	31	91.2	31	91.2
Deep-fat Fryer	22	64.7	16	47.1
Dishwasher	31	91.2	25	73.5
Dryer, Clothes	33	97.1	30	88.2
Fan	20	58.8 a	21	61.8 a
Floor Polisher-Scrubber	27	79.4	16	47.1
Food Blender	29	85.3	20	58.8
Food Disposer	32	94.1	30	88.2
Food Freezer	34	100.0	28	82.4
Food Mixer	33	97.1	33	97.1
Hair Dryer	34	100.0	34	100.0
Hand Iron	34	100.0	34	100.0
Heating, Central	32	94.1	30	88.2
Heating, Individual Unit	17	50.0	18	52.9
Heating Pad	33	97.1	33	97.1
Ice Cream Freezer, Electric	25	73.5	20	58.8
Ice Crusher, Electric	11	32.4	7	20.6
Knife, Electric	23	67.6	12	35.3
Outdoor Broiler and/or Grill	28	82.4 a	76	76.5 a
Radio, Electric	33	97.1	33	97.1
Range	33	97.1	33	97.1
Range Hood with Exhaust Fan	31	91.2	28	82.4
Record Player Including Hifi and Stereo	34	100.0	34	100.0
Refrigerator	34	100.0	34	100.0
Rotisserie Broiler	21	61.8	12	35.3
Sewing Machine	34	100.0	34	100.0
Shaver, Electric	18	52.9	15	44.1
Sheet, Electric	3	8.8 a	0	0
Skillet, Electric	32	94.1	31	91.2
Television Set, Black and White	30	88.2 a	31	91.2 a
Television Set, Color	25	73.5	19	55.9

Table XXII (Continued)

Equipment	Desired		Expected	
	No.	%	No.	%
Toaster	30	88.2	32	94.1
Toothbrush, Electric	20	58.8	15	44.1
Vacuum Cleaner	34	100.0	33	97.1
Waffle Iron-Grill Combination	25	73.5	22	64.7
Washer, Clothes	32	94.1	33	97.1

In all cases, except where noted, the sum of the positive and negative responses equaled 100.0 per cent. Exceptions:

- a One student left the item blank.
- b Two students left the item blank.



TABLE XXIII

HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT DESIRED AND EXPECTED AS REPORTED  
BY 29 MARRIED HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Equipment	Desired		Expected	
	No.	%	No.	%
Air Conditioning, Central Cooling	28	96.6	25	86.2
Air Conditioning, Individual Unit	19	65.5 c	21	72.4 a
Blanket, Electric	24	82.8	23	79.3
Broiler-Oven, Portable Electric	18	62.1	11	37.9
Can Opener	28	96.6	28	96.6
Clock, Electric	29	100.0	29	100.0
Coffeemaker	27	93.1	27	93.1
Deep-fat Fryer	20	69.0	20	69.0
Dishwasher	22	75.9 a	21	72.4 a
Dryer, Clothes	28	96.6	28	96.6
Fan	21	72.4 a	22	75.9 a
Floor Polisher-Scrubber	23	79.3	20	69.0
Food Blender	26	89.7	22	75.9
Food Disposer	27	93.1	27	93.1
Food Freezer	28	96.6	27	93.1
Food Mixer	29	100.0	29	100.0
Hair Dryer	29	100.0	29	100.0
Hand Iron	28	96.6	28	96.6
Heating, Central	28	96.6	27	93.1
Heating, Individual Unit	12	41.4	14	48.3
Heating Pad	25	86.2	25	86.2
Ice Cream Freezer, Electric	18	62.1	12	41.4
Ice Crusher, Electric	9	31.0	7	24.1
Knife, Electric	20	69.0	16	55.2
Outdoor Broiler and/or Grill	26	89.7	25	86.2
Radio, Electric	28	96.6	28	96.6
Range	28	96.6	28	96.6 a
Range Hood with Exhaust Fan	28	96.6 a	28	96.6 a
Record Player Including Hifi and Stereo	27	93.1	28	96.6
Refrigerator	28	96.6 a	28	96.6
Rotisserie Broiler	19	65.5	13	44.8
Sewing Machine	29	100.0	29	100.0
Shaver, Electric	17	58.6	17	58.6
Sheet, Electric	4	13.8	3	10.3
Skillet, Electric	28	96.6	28	96.6
Television Set, Black and White	26	89.7	26	89.7
Television Set, Color	25	86.2	22	75.9

Table XXIII (Continued)

Equipment	Desired		Expected	
	No.	%	No.	%
Toaster	28	96.6 a	29	100.0
Toothbrush, Electric	12	41.4	12	41.4
Vacuum Cleaner	29	100.0	29	100.0
Waffle Iron-Grill Combination	22	75.9	22	75.9
Washer, Clothes	29	100.0	28	96.6

In all cases, except where noted, the sum of the positive and negative responses equaled 100.0 per cent. Exceptions:

- a One student left the item blank.
- b Two students left the item blank.
- c Three students left the item blank.

TABLE XXIV

HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT DESIRED AND EXPECTED AS REPORTED  
BY 111 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Equipment	Desired		Expected	
	No.	%	No.	%
Air Conditioning, Central Cooling	107	96.4 a	98	88.3 a
Air Conditioning, Individual Unit	62	55.9 e	64	57.7 d
Blanket, Electric	81	73.0	83	74.8 a
Broiler-Oven, Portable Electric	73	65.8 b	53	47.7 a
Can Opener	103	92.8	98	88.3
Clock, Electric	109	98.2 a	109	98.2 a
Coffeemaker	102	91.9	106	95.5
Deep-fat Fryer	76	68.5	67	60.4
Dishwasher	97	87.4 a	87	78.4 a
Dryer, Clothes	109	98.2	104	93.7
Fan	73	65.8 c	75	67.6 b
Floor Polisher-Scrubber	84	75.7 a	60	54.1
Food Blender	96	86.5 a	78	70.3
Food Disposer	104	93.7 a	100	90.1 a
Food Freezer	106	95.5	96	86.5 a
Food Mixer	109	98.2 a	108	97.3 a
Hair Dryer	110	99.1	110	99.1
Hand Iron	109	98.2	109	98.2
Heating, Central	108	97.3	104	93.7
Heating, Individual Unit	49	44.1 a	53	47.7
Heating Pad	98	88.3	98	88.3
Ice Cream Freezer, Electric	77	69.4	60	54.1
Ice Crusher, Electric	49	44.1	31	27.9
Knife, Electric	80	72.1	57	51.4
Outdoor Broiler and/or Grill	97	87.4 b	93	83.8 b
Radio, Electric	109	98.2	109	98.2
Range	108	97.3 a	109	98.2 a
Range Hood with Exhaust Fan	103	92.8 c	99	89.2 b
Record Player Including Hifi and Stereo	108	97.3 a	107	96.4 a
Refrigerator	110	99.1 a	110	99.1 a
Rotisserie Broiler	71	64.0	46	41.4
Sewing Machine	110	99.1	108	97.3
Shaver, Electric	58	52.3	58	52.3 a
Sheet, Electric	10	9.0 a	4	3.6
Skillet, Electric	106	95.5	105	94.6
Television Set, Black and White	95	85.6 a	96	86.5 a
Television Set, Color	95	85.6	76	68.5

Table XXIV (Continued)

Equipment	Desired		Expected	
	No.	%	No.	%
Toaster	104	93.7 a	107	96.4
Toothbrush, Electric	66	59.5	57	51.4
Vacuum Cleaner	110	99.1	109	98.2
Waffle Iron-Grill Combination	87	78.4	81	73.0
Washer, Clothes	109	98.2	109	98.2

In all cases, except where noted, the sum of the positive and negative responses equaled 100.0 per cent. Exceptions:

- a One student left the item blank.
- b Two students left the item blank.
- c Three students left the item blank.
- d Four students left the item blank.
- e Seven students left the item blank.

desired by 69.4 per cent and expected by 54.1 per cent and rotisserie broiler desired by 64.0 per cent and expected by 41.4 per cent. None of the pieces of equipment were expected by over four per cent more of the students than desired the piece of equipment.

Of the ten pieces of equipment with which 75 per cent or more of the students had had much experience, all were desired by 97.3 per cent or more of the students except for black and white television set which was desired by 85.6 per cent of the students. All of the same pieces of equipment were expected by 96.4 per cent or more of the students except for black and white television set which was expected by 86.5 per cent of the students.

Of the ten pieces of equipment checked well qualified to select by the highest percentage of students, all were desired by 92.8 per cent of the students and all were expected by 96.4 per cent except for the electric can opener which was expected by 88.3 per cent of the students.

Seven items of equipment appeared on all of these lists: much experience, well qualified to select, desired and expected. These items were electric clock, food mixer, hair dryer, hand iron, electric radio, sewing machine, and clothes washer. The refrigerator was the one item that was desired, expected, and with which most had had much experience, yet almost 50.0 per cent of the respondents did not feel qualified to select it.

A list of 28 possible sources of influence for or against household equipment, sources to help the students select household equipment, and sources to help the students use and care for household equipment were included in the questionnaire. The list consisted of

human and material, or printed sources. The students were asked to indicate if the source would influence them and if they would use the source to help them select, use, and care for household equipment. The findings are reported in Tables XXV through XXVII.

Table XXV reports that all of the students checked own experience as a source that would influence their desire for or against household equipment. Own knowledge and judgment was checked as an influence by 111 (98.2 per cent) of the students, followed by Food, Nutrition, and Institutional Administration classes checked by 99 (89.2 per cent), household equipment course checked by 98 (88.3 per cent), people who own the equipment checked by 97 (87.4 per cent), friends and/or relatives checked by 96 (86.5 per cent), and parents checked by 95 (85.6 per cent) of the students. Ninety (81.1 per cent) of the students reported magazine articles as an influence, 88 (79.3 per cent) reported commercial demonstrations as an influence, and 87 (78.4 per cent) reported Housing and Interior Design classes and Consumer Reports Magazine as influences. Each of the sources listed was checked by at least 71 (64.0 per cent) of the students except 4-H Club which was checked by 57 (51.4 per cent) of the students.

The students were given the opportunity to list other college classes that had influenced or helped them. Twelve of the students listed either Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising classes, Family Relations and Child Development classes, or journalism classes as sources which influenced their desire for or against household equipment.

Differences are noted in the percentages of certain sources checked by the single, engaged, and married students. A higher



TABLE XXV

## SOURCES OF INFLUENCE AS REPORTED BY 111 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Source of Influence	Single 48 = 100.0%		Engaged 34 = 100.0%		Married 29 = 100.0%		Total 111 = 100.0%	
	Influence No.	%	Influence No.	%	Influence No.	%	Influence No.	%
FNIA Classes	44	91.7	29	85.3	26	89.7	99	89.2
HEED Demonstration Course	34	70.8 a	27	79.4 a	23	79.3	84	75.7 b
HID Classes	37	77.1 a	27	79.4	23	79.3	87	78.4 a
Household Equipment Course	40	83.3	31	91.2 a	27	93.1	98	88.3 a
Home Management Residence Course	39	81.3 a	24	70.6 b	22	75.9	85	76.6 c
Other Home Management Classes	30	62.5 d	22	64.7 a	20	69.0 a	72	64.9 f
Commercial Demonstrations	39	81.3 a	25	73.5	24	82.8	88	79.3 a
<u>Consumer Bulletin</u>	39	81.3	27	79.4	20	69.0	86	77.5
<u>Consumer Reports</u>	37	77.1	29	85.3	21	72.4	87	78.4
Dealers and/or Salesmen	35	72.9	19	55.9	17	58.6	71	64.0
Extension Personnel	33	68.8	26	76.5	21	72.4	80	72.1
Extension Publications	34	70.8 a	29	85.3	22	75.9	85	76.6 a
4-H Club	24	50.0 a	22	64.7 a	11	37.9	57	51.4 b
Friends and/or Relatives	44	91.7	30	88.2	22	75.9	96	86.5
High School Homemaking	34	70.8	27	79.4	16	55.2	77	69.4
Home Service Personnel	36	75.0	29	85.3	21	72.4	86	77.5
Household Equipment Text- books	32	66.7	27	79.4 a	24	82.8	83	74.8 a
Magazine Advertising	38	79.2	24	70.6	17	58.6	79	71.2
Magazine Articles	38	79.2	30	88.2	22	75.9	90	81.1
Newspapers	35	72.9	22	64.7	19	65.5	76	68.5

Table XXV (Continued)

Source of Influence	Single 48 = 100.0% Influence		Engaged 34 = 100.0% Influence		Married 29 = 100.0% Influence		Total 111 = 100.0% Influence	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Own Experience and/or Judgment	48	100.0	34	100.0	29	100.0	111	100.0
Own Knowledge	47	97.9	34	100.0	28	96.6	109	98.2
Parents	45	93.8	31	91.2	19	65.5	95	85.6
People Who Own the Equipment	45	93.8	30	88.2	22	75.9	97	87.4
Radio and Television	37	77.1	24	70.6	20	69.0	81	73.0
Use and Care Booklets	31	64.6 a	27	79.4	19	65.5	77	69.4 a
Window and/or Store Displays	35	72.9	27	79.4	16	55.2	78	70.3

In all cases, except where noted, the sum of the positive and negative responses equaled 100.0 per cent. Exceptions:

- a One student left the item blank.
- b Two students left the item blank.
- c Three students left the item blank.
- d Four students left the item blank.
- e Five students left the item blank.
- f Six students left the item blank.



percentage of the single than engaged or married students reported dealers and/or salesmen and newspapers as influences and a lower percentage reported household equipment textbooks as influences. Consumer Reports, extension publications, and use and care booklets were checked as influences by a higher percentage of the engaged students than by the single or married students and commercial demonstrations were checked by a lower percentage of the engaged students. Checked by a lower percentage of the married than single or engaged students were the following influences: Consumer Bulletin: friends and/or relatives, magazine advertising, parents; people who own the equipment, and window and/or store displays. 4-H Club and high school home economics were checked as influences by a higher percentage of the engaged students and by a lower percentage of the married students.

In Table XXVI, own experience was checked by 109 (98.2 per cent) of the students and own knowledge and judgment was checked by 108 (97.3 per cent) as sources they would use to help them select household equipment. Consumer Reports was checked by 101 (91.0 per cent) of the students as a source of help to select, followed by Consumer Bulletin checked by 100 (90.1 per cent). The household equipment course was checked by 99 (89.2 per cent), and household equipment textbooks were checked by 96 (86.5 per cent) of the students. Ninety-five (85.6 per cent) of the respondents checked home service personnel and parents, 93 (83.8 per cent) checked people who own the equipment, and 91 (82.0 per cent) of the students checked extension publications. Two-fifths or more of the students checked each of the sources listed. Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising classes, Family Relations and Child

TABLE XXVI

SOURCES OF HELP IN SELECTING HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AS REPORTED  
BY 111 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Source of Help in Selecting	Single 48 = 100.0% Help Select		Engaged 34 = 100.0% Help Select		Married 29 = 100.0% Help Select		Total 111 = 100.0% Help Select	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
FNIA Classes	36	75.0	25	73.5	25	86.2	86	77.5
HEED Demonstration Course	32	66.7 a	27	79.4 a	21	72.4	80	72.1 b
HID Classes	30	62.5	23	67.6	19	65.5	72	64.9
Household Equipment Course	42	87.5	32	94.1 a	25	86.2	99	89.2 a
Home Management Residence Course	35	72.9 a	22	64.7 b	22	75.9	79	71.2 c
Other Home Management Classes	30	62.5 c	22	64.7 a	20	69.0 a	72	64.9 e
Commercial Demonstrations	35	72.9 a	28	82.4	17	58.6	80	72.0 a
<u>Consumer Bulletin</u>	45	93.8	31	91.2	24	82.8	100	90.1
<u>Consumer Reports</u>	44	91.7	32	94.1	25	86.2	101	91.0
Dealers and/or Salesmen	32	66.7	25	73.5	16	55.2	73	65.8
Extension Personnel	38	79.2	28	82.4	22	75.9	88	79.3
Extension Publications	37	77.1	32	94.1	22	75.9	91	82.0
4-H Club	25	52.1 a	22	64.7 a	11	37.9	58	52.3 b
Friends and/or Relatives	35	72.9	30	88.2	18	62.1	83	74.8
High School Homemaking	27	56.3	27	79.4	18	62.1	72	64.9
Home Service Personnel	39	81.3	33	97.1	23	79.3	95	85.6
Household Equipment Textbooks	40	83.3	31	91.2 a	25	86.2	96	86.5 a

Table XXVI (Continued)

Source of Help in Selecting	Single 48 = 100.0%		Engaged 34 = 100.0%		Married 29 = 100.0%		Total 111 = 100.0%	
	Help Select No.	%	Help Select No.	%	Help Select No.	%	Help Select No.	%
Magazine Advertising	17	35.4 a	22	64.7	9	31.0	48	43.2 a
Magazine Articles	35	72.9	30	88.2	22	75.9	87	78.4
Newspapers	24	50.0	20	58.8	13	44.8	57	51.4
Own Experience	48	100.0	34	100.0	27	93.1	109	98.2
Own Knowledge and/or Judgment	47	97.9	32	94.1	29	100.0	108	97.3
Parents	45	93.8	31	91.2	19	65.5	95	85.6
People Who Own the Equipment	43	89.6	29	85.3	21	72.4	93	83.8
Radio and Television Use and Care Booklets	22	45.8 a	21	61.8	8	27.6	51	45.9 a
Window and/or Store Displays	36	75.0 a	29	85.3	21	72.4	86	77.5 a
	20	41.7 a	20	58.8	9	31.0	49	44.1 a

In all cases, except where noted, the sum of the positive and negative responses equaled 100.0 per cent. Exceptions:

- a One student left the item blank.
- b Two students left the item blank.
- c Three students left the item blank.
- d Four students left the item blank.
- e Five students left the item blank.

Development classes or journalism classes were listed by 11 of the students as sources they would use to help them select household equipment.

The percentages of single, engaged, and married students who checked the sources of help varied notably in some cases. A lower percentage of the single students checked household equipment textbooks and a lower percentage of the engaged students checked home management residence course. The percentage of the married students who checked commercial demonstrations, Consumer Bulletin, Consumer Reports, parents, and people who own the equipment was lower than the percentage of single or engaged students who checked the same helps. Household equipment course, extension publications, high school homemaking classes, home service personnel, magazine advertising and articles, newspapers, and use and care booklets were the sources of help checked by a higher percentage of the engaged students than single or married students. Dealers and/or salesmen, 4-H Club, friends and/or relatives, radio and television, and window and/or store displays were the sources selected by a higher percentage of the engaged students and a lower percentage of the married students.

The students reported in Table XXVII the sources they would find helpful to them in the use and care of household equipment. One hundred and seven (96.4 per cent) of the students checked own experience and use and care booklets as sources of help. Those helps were followed by own knowledge and experience checked by 106 (95.5 per cent) of the students, home service personnel and household equipment course checked by 98 (88.3 per cent), and equipment textbooks checked by 96 (86.5 per cent) of the students. Ninety-four (84.7 per cent) of the students



TABLE XXVII

SOURCES TO HELP WITH USE AND CARE OF HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AS REPORTED  
BY 111 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Source of Help to Use and Care	Single 48 = 100.0%		Engaged 34 = 100.0%		Married 29 = 100.0%		Total 111 = 100.0%	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
FNIA Classes	38	79.2	23	67.6	24	82.8 a	85	76.6a
HEED Demonstration Course	35	72.9 a	27	79.4 a	21	72.4 a	83	74.8c
HID Classes	18	37.5	18	52.9	11	37.9 a	47	42.3a
Household Equipment Course	41	85.4	30	88.2 a	27	93.1	98	88.3a
Home Management Residence Course	39	81.3 a	24	70.6 b	25	86.2	88	79.3c
Other Home Management Classes	28	58.3 e	22	64.7 a	18	67.1 a	68	61.3g
Commercial Demonstrations	35	72.9 a	28	82.4	18	62.1 a	81	73.0b
<u>Consumer Bulletins</u>	33	68.8	25	73.5	19	65.5	77	69.4
<u>Consumer Reports</u>	34	70.8	26	76.5	19	65.5	79	71.2
Dealers and/or Salesmen	31	64.6 a	25	73.5	18	62.1	74	66.7a
Extension Personnel	42	87.5	30	88.2	24	82.8	96	86.5
Extension Publications	39	81.3	31	91.2	23	79.3	93	83.8
4-H Club	25	52.1 a	24	70.6 a	10	34.5	59	53.2b
Friend and/or Relatives	36	75.0 a	30	88.2	14	48.3	80	72.1a
High School Homemaking	32	66.7	29	85.3	19	65.5	80	72.1
Home Service Personnel	41	85.4	32	94.1	25	86.2	98	88.3
Household Equipment Textbooks	39	81.3	32	94.1 a	25	86.2	96	86.5a
Magazine Advertising	8	16.7 a	15	44.1	4	13.8	27	24.3a
Magazine Articles	33	68.8	27	79.4	22	75.9	82	73.9

Table XXVII (Continued)

Source of Help to Use and Care	Single		Engaged		Married		Total	
	48 = 100.0%		34 = 100.0%		29 = 100.0%		111 = 100.0%	
	Help Use and Care		Help Use and Care		Help Use and Care		Help Use and Care	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Newspapers	12	25.0 a	18	52.9	5	17.2	35	31.5a
Own Experience	47	97.9	31	91.2	29	100.0	107	96.4
Own Knowledge and/or Judgment	47	97.9	30	88.2	29	100.0	106	95.5
Parents	43	89.6	31	91.2	20	69.0	94	84.7
People Who Own the Equipment	43	89.6 a	31	91.2	24	82.8	98	88.3a
Radio and Television	15	31.3 a	19	55.9	5	17.2	39	35.1a
Use and Care Booklets	46	95.8	33	97.1	28	96.6	107	96.4
Window and/or Store Displays	11	22.9b	14	41.2	2	6.9 a	27	24.3c

In all cases, except where noted, the sum of the positive and negative responses equaled 100.0 percent. Exceptions

- a One student left the item blank.
- b Two students left the item blank.
- c Three students left the item blank.
- d Four students left the item blank.
- e Five Students left the item blank.
- f Six students left the item blank.
- g Seven students left the item blank.

checked parents as source of help, 93 (83.8 per cent) checked extension publications, and 88 (79.3 per cent) checked home management residence course.

Nine of the students listed either Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising classes, Family Relations and Child Development classes, or journalism classes as sources they would use to help them use and care for household equipment.

Food, Nutrition, and Institutional Administration classes and home management residence course were checked by a lower percentage of the engaged students than by the single or married students. A higher percentage of the engaged students checked commercial demonstrations, dealers and/or salesmen, extension publications, high school homemaking classes, home service personnel, household equipment textbooks, and magazine articles than did the single or married students. Four-H Club, friends and/or relatives, newspapers, radio and television, and window and/or store displays were checked by a higher percentage of the engaged students, and a smaller percentage of the married students.

Own experience and own knowledge and judgment were checked by the highest percentages of students as influences and sources to help them select, use, and care for household equipment. Household equipment courses ranked either fourth or fifth in the three lists, and parents were ranked seventh or eighth in the three lists by the 111 respondents.

Table XXVIII shows the methods the students reported that they expected to use to obtain household equipment. The methods selected most often were purchase (99.1 per cent) and gift (91.9 per cent). Trading stamps were expected to be used by 93 (83.8 per cent) of the

TABLE XXVIII

EXPECTED METHODS TO OBTAIN HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AS REPORTED BY 111 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Method to Obtain	Single		Engaged		Married		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Purchase	48	100.0	34	100.0	28	96.6	110	99.1
Rent (in residence)	12	25.0	13	38.2	14	48.3	39	35.1
Rent (as separate pieces)	4	8.3	1	2.9	4	13.8	9	8.1
Gift	46	95.8	32	94.1	24	82.8	102	91.9
Trading Stamps	38	79.2	32	94.1	23	79.3	93	83.8
Borrow the Equipment	5	10.4	2	5.9	2	6.9	9	8.1



students. Few of them expected to rent equipment as separate pieces (8.1 per cent) or borrow the equipment (8.1 per cent).

Only 39 (35.1 per cent) stated that they expected to rent equipment as part of their residence. A difference is noted when reference is made to Table X which shows that 64 (57.7 per cent) of the students expected to live in completely furnished apartments. Only 12 (25.0 per cent) of the single students reported that they expected to rent equipment in their residence but in Table X, the same group stated that 35 (72.9 per cent) expected to live in furnished apartments the first year following their graduation. Twenty-one (61.8 per cent) of the engaged students reported that they expected to live in completely furnished apartments and only 13 (38.2 per cent) reported expecting to rent equipment as part of their residence.

The home economics students were asked whether they thought the husband, the wife, or both would make decisions concerning the purchase of major and small household equipment. This data is presented in Tables XXIX and XXX. Almost all (97.3 per cent) stated that they thought the husband and the wife together would make the decisions concerning the purchase of major equipment. All of the engaged students reported expecting both to make the decisions as compared to 46 (95.8 per cent) of the single and 28 (96.6 per cent) of the married students.

Forty-six (41.4 per cent) of the students stated that they thought the wife would make the decisions concerning the purchase of small household equipment. Both the husband and the wife was the response given by 65 (58.6 per cent) of the students. None of them stated that they thought the husband would make the decisions alone.

TABLE XXIX

PERSONS EXPECTED TO MAKE DECISIONS CONCERNING PURCHASE OF MAJOR HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT  
AS REPORTED BY 111 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Persons to Make Decisions	Single		Engaged		Married		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	48	100.0%	34	100.0%	29	100.0%	111	100.0%
Husband	1	2.1	0	0	1	3.4	2	1.8
Wife	1	2.1	0	0	0	0	1	.9
Both	46	95.8	34	100.0	28	96.6	108	97.3

TABLE XXX

PERSONS EXPECTED TO MAKE DECISIONS CONCERNING PURCHASE OF SMALL HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT  
AS REPORTED BY 111 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Persons to Make Decisions	Single		Engaged		Married		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	48	100.0%	34	100.0%	29	100.0%	111	100.0%
Husband	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wife	25	52.1	11	32.4	10	34.5	46	41.4
Both	23	47.9	23	67.6	19	65.5	65	58.6

About two-thirds of the engaged (67.6 per cent) students and married (65.5 per cent) students checked both, the husband and the wife, while less than one-half (47.9 per cent) of the single students gave the same response. Twenty-five (52.1 per cent) of the single students checked wife to make the decisions on small equipment as compared to 11 (32.4 per cent) of the engaged students and 10 (34.5 per cent) of the married students.

The methods the students expected to use to pay for major and small household equipment are reported in Tables XXXI and XXXII. Over one-half of the students checked that they expected to pay cash (58.6 per cent) and use installment credit (51.4 per cent), other than 30-day charge accounts, when purchasing major household equipment. Included in those expecting to pay cash were 22 (75.9 per cent) of the married students as compared to 25 (52.1 per cent) of the single students and 18 (52.9 per cent) of the engaged students. Over two-thirds (64.7 per cent) of the engaged students expected to use installment credit, while approximately one-half (52.1 per cent) of the single students, and 10 (34.5 per cent) of the married students planned to do the same. Slightly less than one-fourth of the students gave cash loan credit (24.3 per cent) and 30-day charge account (23.4 per cent) as their responses.

Almost all (98.2 per cent) of the students expected to pay cash when purchasing small equipment. Only 50 replies were made expecting to use other methods. Thirty-eight (34.2 per cent) expected to use a 30-day charge account when purchasing small equipment. A higher percentage (47.9 per cent) of the single students expected to use a 30-day charge account than did the engaged students (29.4 per cent) and the married students (17.2 per cent).

TABLE XXXI

EXPECTED METHODS OF PAYMENT FOR MAJOR HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT  
AS REPORTED BY 111 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Method of Payment	Single		Engaged		Married		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Pay Cash	25	52.1	18	52.9	22	75.9	65	58.6
30-Day Charge Account	13	27.1	9	26.5	4	13.8	26	23.4
Other Installment Credit	25	52.1	22	64.7	10	34.5	57	51.4
Cash Loan Credit	12	25.0	7	20.6	8	27.6	27	24.3

TABLE XXXII

EXPECTED METHODS OF PAYMENT FOR SMALL HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT  
AS REPORTED BY 111 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Method of Payment	Single		Engaged		Married		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Pay Cash	46	95.8	34	100.0	29	100.0	109	98.2
30-Day Charge Account	23	47.9	10	29.4	5	17.2	38	34.2
Other Installment Credit	6	12.5	3	8.8	1	3.4	10	9.0
Cash Loan Credit	1	2.1	0	0	0	0	1	.9

Installment credit and cash loan credit were expected to be used by a greater percentage of the students to pay for major equipment than for small equipment. A larger percentage of the students reported that they expected to pay cash and use a 30-day charge account when purchasing small equipment than when purchasing major equipment.

Tables XXXIII through XXXVI report the preferences of the home economics students for electric or gas major household equipment. In the questionnaire, the students were asked to assume the purchase of eight pieces of major equipment, and to state a preference for gas or electric power. They preferred six pieces with electric power and two with gas. Over nine-tenths of the students preferred electric dishwashers (95.5 per cent) and refrigerators (94.6 per cent). A majority of the students preferred the following electric equipment: air conditioning (82.9 per cent), clothes dryers (73.0 per cent), out-door lighting (58.6 per cent), and ranges (64.9 per cent). Just over one-half (51.4 per cent) preferred gas home heating and almost two-thirds (62.2 per cent) preferred gas water heaters.

Even though the majority (51.4 per cent) of the students preferred gas home heating, 10 (34.5 per cent) of the married students preferred electric heating. Electric out-door lighting was preferred by 65 (58.6 per cent) of the students but 26 (54.2 per cent) of the single students preferred gas out-door lighting.

The home economics students were asked to indicate where they thought they would purchase ranges, electric skillets, and hair dryers. They were asked to select one of eight possible sources: discount house, trading stamp store, grocery store, department store, mail-order

TABLE XXXIII  
 PREFERENCES FOR ELECTRIC OR GAS HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AS REPORTED  
 BY 48 SINGLE HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Equipment	Electric		Gas	
	No.	%	No.	%
Air Conditioning	40	83.3	8	16.7
Dishwasher	46	95.8	2	4.2
Dryer, Clothes	35	72.9	13	27.1
Home Heating	24	50.0	24	50.0
Outdoor Lighting	22	45.8	26	54.2
Range	30	62.5	18	37.5
Refrigerator	44	91.7	4	8.3
Water Heater	17	35.4	31	64.6



TABLE XXXIV  
 PREFERENCES FOR ELECTRIC OR GAS HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AS REPORTED  
 BY 34 ENGAGED HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Equipment	Electric		Gas	
	No.	%	No.	%
Air Conditioning (a)	28	82.4	5	14.7
Dishwasher	32	94.1	2	5.9
Dryer, Clothes	26	76.5	8	23.5
Home Heating (a)	19	55.9	14	41.2
Outdoor Lighting (a)	25	73.5	8	23.5
Range (a)	25	73.5	8	23.5
Refrigerator	32	94.1	2	5.9
Water Heater (a)	13	38.2	20	58.8

(a) One student left the item blank.

TABLE XXXV  
 PREFERENCES FOR ELECTRIC OR GAS HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AS REPORTED  
 BY 29 MARRIED HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Equipment	Electric		Gas	
	No.	%	No.	%
Air Conditioning	24	82.8	5	17.2
Dishwasher	28	96.6	1	3.4
Dryer	20	69.0	9	31.0
Home Heating	10	34.5	19	65.5
Outdoor Lighting (a)	18	62.1	10	34.5
Range	17	58.6	12	41.4
Refrigerator	29	100.0	0	0
Water Heater	11	37.9	18	62.1

(a) One student left the item blank.

TABLE XXXVI  
 PREFERENCES FOR ELECTRIC OR GAS HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AS REPORTED  
 BY 111 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Equipment	Electric		Gas	
	No.	%	No.	%
Air Conditioning (a)	92	82.9	18	16.2
Dishwasher	106	95.5	5	4.5
Dryer, Clothes	81	73.0	30	27.0
Home Heating (a)	53	47.7	57	51.4
Outdoor Lighting (b)	65	58.6	44	39.6
Range (a)	72	64.9	38	34.2
Refrigerator	105	94.6	6	5.4
Water Heater (a)	41	36.9	69	62.2

(a) One student left the item blank.

(b) Two students left the item blank.

TABLE XXXVII

EXPECTED PLACE OF PURCHASE OF A KITCHEN RANGE AS REPORTED  
BY 111 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Place of Purchase	Single 48 = 100.0%		Engaged 34 = 100.0%		Married 29 = 100.0%		Total 111 = 100.0%	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Discount House	0	0	0	0	1	3.4	1	.9
Trading Stamp Store	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grocery Store	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Department Store	1	2.1	2	5.9	1	3.4	4	3.6
Mail-Order House	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Store	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Appliance Store	42	87.0	30	88.2	27	93.1	99	89.2
Door-to-Door Salesman	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No Answer	5	10.4	2	5.9	0	0	7	6.3

TABLE XXXVIII

EXPECTED PLACE OF PURCHASE OF AN ELECTRIC SKILLET AS REPORTED  
BY 111 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Place of Purchase	Single		Engaged		Married		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Discount House	5	12.5	6	17.6	5	17.2	17	15.3
Trading Stamp Store	4	8.3	1	2.9	2	6.9	7	6.3
Grocery Store	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Department Store	7	14.6	4	11.8	5	17.2	16	14.4
Mail-Order House	0	0	1	2.9	1	3.4	2	1.8
Drug Store	0	0	2	5.9	0	0	2	1.8
Appliance Store	23	47.9	16	47.1	13	44.8	52	46.8
Door-to-Door Salesman	0	0	0	0	1	3.4	1	.9
No Answer	8	16.7	4	11.8	2	6.9	14	12.6

TABLE XXXIX

EXPECTED PLACE OF PURCHASE OF A HAIR DRYER AS REPORTED BY 111 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Place of Purchase	Single 48 = 100.0%		Engaged 34 = 100.0%		Married 29 = 100.0%		Total 111 = 100.0%	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Discount House	14	29.2	10	29.4	9	31.0	33	29.7
Trading Stamp Store	5	10.4	7	20.6	5	17.2	17	15.3
Grocery Store	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Department Store	7	14.6	4	11.8	9	31.0	20	18.0
Mail-order House	0	0	0	0	1	3.4	1	.9
Drug Store	1	2.1	3	8.8	2	6.9	6	5.4
Appliance Store	12	25.0	5	14.7	1	3.4	18	16.2
Door-to-door Salesman	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No Answer	9	18.8	5	14.7	2	6.9	16	14.4

house, drug store, appliance store, or door-to-door salesman. The findings are presented in Tables XXXVII, XXXVIII, and XXXIX. Although asked to give the one place they thought they would most likely choose, several of the students gave more than one answer which accounts for the relatively high percentages of unusable answers.

For the purchase of the range, almost nine-tenths (89.2 per cent) of the students checked appliance store. Although less than one-half (46.8 per cent) of the students responded that they would purchase an electric skillet at an appliance store, this was the type store mentioned most frequently for this purchase. The appliance store was followed by discount house, selected by 17 (15.3 per cent) of the students, and then by department store, selected by 16 (14.4 per cent) of the students for the purchase of an electric skillet.

The discount house was checked by the largest group (29.7 per cent) of the students as the expected place of purchase of a hair dryer. Following discount house were: department store checked by 20 (18.0 per cent) of the students, appliance store by 18 (16.2 per cent), and trading stamp store by 17 (15.3 per cent). Thirty-one per cent of the married students selected department store as compared to 14.6 per cent of the single students and 11.8 per cent of the engaged students. Twenty-five per cent of the single students checked appliance store as compared to 14.7 per cent of the engaged students and only 3.4 per cent of the married students.

The students were asked to select the major equipment they felt was most important. The questionnaire named 12 major appliances and each student was asked to choose from that list the five items she

TABLE XL

MAJOR HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT CONSIDERED MOST IMPORTANT AS REPORTED  
BY 48 SINGLE HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Equipment	Order of Importance									
	First		Second		Third		Fourth		Fifth	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Air Conditioning	1	2.1	3	6.3	0	0	3	6.3	4	8.3
Dehumidifier	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dishwasher	0	0	0	0	1	2.1	0	0	2	4.2
Dryer, Clothes	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2.1	2	4.2
Food Disposer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	6.3
Food Freezer	0	0	0	0	1	2.1	2	4.2	8	16.7
Home Heating	12	25.0	3	6.3	10	20.8	11	22.9	5	10.4
Incinerator	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Range	12	25.0	14	29.2	15	31.3	3	6.3	2	4.2
Refrigerator	15	31.3	19	39.6	5	10.4	8	16.7	1	2.1
Washer, Clothes	3	6.3	2	4.2	6	12.5	3	6.3	18	37.5
Water Heater	5	10.4	7	14.6	10	20.8	17	35.4	3	6.3



TABLE XLI

MAJOR HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT CONSIDERED MOST IMPORTANT AS REPORTED  
BY 34 ENGAGED HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Equipment	Order of Importance									
	First		Second		Third		Fourth		Fifth	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Air Conditioning	2	5.9	0	0	0	0	1	2.9	6	17.6
Dehumidifier	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dishwasher	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dryer, Clothes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	8.8
Food Disposer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food Freezer	1	2.9	0	0	0	0	2	5.9	3	8.8
Home Heating	6	17.6	3	8.8	6	17.6	8	23.5	5	14.7
Incinerator	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Range	11	32.4	12	35.3	7	20.6	3	8.8	1	2.9
Refrigerator	11	32.4	16	47.1	4	11.8	3	8.8	0	0
Washer, Clothes	1	2.9	1	2.9	2	5.9	9	26.5	12	35.3
Water Heater	2	5.9	2	5.9	15	44.1	8	23.5	4	11.8

TABLE XLII

MAJOR HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT CONSIDERED MOST IMPORTANT AS REPORTED  
BY 29 MARRIED HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Equipment	Order of Importance									
	First		Second		Third		Fourth		Fifth	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Air Conditioning	0	0	2	6.9	1	3.4	0	0	2	6.9
Dehumidifier	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dishwasher	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3.4	0	0
Dryer, Clothes	0	0	1	3.4	0	0	1	3.4	3	10.3
Food Disposer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	17.2
Food Freezer	0	0	0	0	1	3.4	0	0	2	6.9
Home Heating	7	24.1	0	0	3	10.3	5	17.2	5	17.2
Incinerator	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Range	7	24.1	15	51.7	4	13.8	1	3.4	1	3.4
Refrigerator	11	37.9	9	31.0	5	17.2	2	6.9	0	0
Washer, Clothes	1	3.4	0	0	5	17.2	11	37.9	9	31.0
Water Heater	3	10.3	2	6.9	10	34.5	8	27.6	2	6.9

TABLE XLIII

MAJOR HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT CONSIDERED MOST IMPORTANT AS REPORTED  
BY 111 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Equipment	Order of Importance										Weighted Score	
	First		Second		Third		Fourth		Fifth		No.	Rank
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Air Conditioning	3	2.7	5	4.5	1	.9	4	3.6	12	10.8	58	6
Dehumidifier	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dishwasher	0	0	0	0	1	.9	1	.9	2	1.8	7	10
Dryer, Clothes	0	0	1	.9	0	0	2	1.8	8	7.2	16	8
Food Disposer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	7.2	8	9
Food Freezer	1	.9	0	0	2	1.8	4	3.6	13	11.7	32	7
Home Heating	25	22.5	6	5.4	19	17.1	24	21.6	15	13.5	269	4
Incinerator	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Range	30	27.0	41	36.9	26	23.4	7	6.3	4	3.6	410	2
Refrigerator	37	33.3	44	39.6	14	12.6	13	11.7	1	.9	430	1
Washer, Clothes	5	4.5	3	2.7	13	11.7	23	20.7	39	35.1	161	5
Water Heater	10	9.0	11	9.9	35	31.5	33	29.7	9	8.1	274	3

thought most important ranked from first choice to fifth choice. When the first choices were weighted five points, the second choices four points, the third choices three points, the fourth choices two points, the fifth choices one point, a weighted score for each item resulted. The data is reported in Tables XL through XLIII. Refrigerator was ranked first with a total weighted score of 430, followed by range with 410, water heater with 274, home heating with 269, and clothes washer with 161. The sixth ranked item was air conditioning followed, in order, by food freezer, clothes dryer, food disposer, and dishwasher. These five pieces of equipment received a score of 58 or less. Two pieces, the incinerator and the humidifier, were not chosen in the top five by any student.

The 111 home economics majors were asked to select the five other pieces of household equipment they felt were most important. The students were to have omitted the 12 pieces of household equipment from which they chose the pieces of major equipment they considered most important. The percentage of students answering the question as it was asked was not high enough to make the findings meaningful.

The factors influencing choice of household equipment as checked by 111 home economics majors are reported in Tables XLIV through XLVII. From a list of 12 factors, the students were asked to indicate, in order, the five they felt were most important. When the choices were weighted and the factors were ranked according to total score, need was first, followed in order, by efficient performance, care and convenience, durability, and variety of jobs it will do. The second five, listed in order, were original cost, brand, cost of upkeep, guarantee, and appearance.

TABLE XLIV

FACTORS INFLUENCING CHOICE OF HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AS REPORTED  
BY 48 SINGLE HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Factor	Order of Importance									
	First		Second		Third		Fourth		Fifth	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Appearance	1	2.1	2	4.2	1	2.1	5	10.4	4	8.3
Brand	5	10.4	5	10.4	3	6.3	4	8.3	1	2.1
Care and Convenience	0	0	8	16.7	3	6.3	11	22.9	6	12.5
Cost and Upkeep	0	0	0	0	2	4.2	4	8.3	7	14.6
Durability	2	4.2	1	2.1	11	22.9	3	6.3	5	10.4
Efficient Performance	8	16.7	11	22.9	12	25.0	3	6.3	2	4.2
Guarantee	0	0	2	4.2	4	8.3	4	8.3	5	10.4
Need	30	62.5	3	6.3	2	4.2	3	6.3	0	0
Original Cost	0	0	7	14.6	3	6.3	4	8.3	7	14.6
Safety	0	0	1	2.1	1	2.1	5	10.4	2	4.2
Storage	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2.1	2	4.2
Variety of Jobs it Will do	2	4.2	8	16.7	5	10.4	0	0	6	12.5
No Usable Answer	0	0	0	0	1	2.1	1	2.1	1	2.1

TABLE XLV

FACTORS INFLUENCING CHOICE OF HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AS REPORTED  
BY 34 ENGAGED HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Factor	Order of Importance									
	First		Second		Third		Fourth		Fifth	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Appearance	1	2.9	0	0	2	5.9	1	2.9	7	20.6
Brand	1	2.9	5	14.7	1	2.9	2	5.9	0	0
Care and Convenience	1	2.9	5	14.7	8	23.5	5	14.7	5	14.7
Cost and Upkeep	1	2.9	1	2.9	3	8.8	5	14.7	4	11.8
Durability	0	0	8	23.5	3	8.8	4	11.8	4	11.8
Efficient Performance	7	20.6	6	17.6	5	14.7	6	17.6	4	11.8
Guarantee	0	0	0	0	3	8.8	2	5.9	2	5.9
Need	20	58.8	3	8.8	1	2.9	0	0	0	0
Original Cost	0	0	3	8.8	2	5.9	3	8.8	2	5.9
Safety	1	2.9	1	2.9	3	8.8	3	8.8	1	2.9
Storage	0	0	0	0	1	2.9	2	5.9	2	5.9
Variety of Jobs it Will do	2	5.9	2	5.9	2	5.9	1	2.9	2	5.9
No Usable Answer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2.9

TABLE XLVI

FACTORS INFLUENCING CHOICE OF HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AS REPORTED  
BY 29 MARRIED HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Factor	Order of Importance									
	First		Second		Third		Fourth		Fifth	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Appearance	1	3.4	1	3.4	0	0	0	0	5	17.2
Brand	0	0	1	3.4	2	6.9	0	0	0	0
Care and Convenience	1	3.4	2	6.9	6	20.7	5	17.2	6	20.7
Cost and Upkeep	0	0	4	13.8	1	3.4	4	13.8	2	6.9
Durability	1	3.4	4	13.8	4	13.8	1	3.4	4	13.8
Efficient Performance	8	27.6	8	27.6	4	13.8	2	6.9	4	13.8
Guarantee	0	0	0	0	5	17.2	5	17.2	1	3.4
Need	15	51.7	0	0	1	3.4	3	10.3	1	3.4
Original Cost	0	0	7	24.1	3	10.3	3	10.3	1	3.4
Safety	1	3.4	0	0	0	0	2	6.9	1	3.4
Storage	0	0	0	0	1	3.4	1	3.4	2	6.9
Variety of Jobs it Will do	2	6.9	2	6.9	2	6.9	3	10.3	2	6.9
No Usable Answer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

TABLE XLVII

FACTORS INFLUENCING CHOICE OF HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AS REPORTED  
BY 111 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Factor	Order of Importance										Weighted Score Rank	
	First		Second		Third		Fourth		Fifth			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	Rank
Appearance	3	2.7	3	2.7	3	2.7	6	5.4	16	14.4	64	10
Brand	6	5.4	11	9.9	6	5.4	6	5.4	1	.9	105	7
Care and Convenience	2	1.8	15	13.5	17	15.3	21	18.9	17	15.3	180	3
Cost and Upkeep	1	.9	5	4.5	6	5.4	13	11.7	13	11.7	82	8
Durability	3	2.7	13	11.7	18	16.2	8	7.2	13	11.7	150	4
Efficient Performance	23	20.7	25	22.5	21	18.9	11	9.9	10	9.0	310	2
Guarantee	0	0	2	1.8	12	10.8	11	9.9	8	7.2	74	9
Need	65	58.6	6	5.4	4	3.6	6	5.4	1	.9	374	1
Original Cost	0	0	17	15.3	8	7.2	10	9.0	10	9.0	122	6
Safety	2	1.8	2	1.8	4	3.6	10	9.0	4	3.6	54	11
Storage	0	0	0	0	2	1.8	4	3.6	6	5.4	20	12
Variety of Jobs it Will do	6	5.4	12	10.8	9	8.1	4	3.6	10	9.0	123	5
No Usable Answer	0	0	0	0	1	.9	1	.9	2	1.8		



Over one-half (58.6 per cent) stated that need was the factor considered to be of first importance. Efficient performance was ranked first by 23 (20.7 per cent) of the students.

The reasons the students wanted household equipment are reported in Table XLVIII. From a list of nine possible reasons, the students were asked to check their major reasons for wanting household equipment. To conserve time was checked by 108 (97.3 per cent) of the students, and to give a better product and to make housework more enjoyable was checked by 100 (90.1 per cent) of the students. Four-fifths (81.8 per cent) of the students checked to save physical labor, almost two-thirds (61.3 per cent) checked to make your home safer, and one-third (33.3 per cent) checked to save money. Twenty (18.0 per cent) checked to keep up-to-date, 15 (13.5 per cent) checked to make home look more complete, and only five (4.5 per cent) checked to have things like my friends and people I admire.

All of the married students checked to make housework more enjoyable, while 41 (85.4 per cent) of the single students and 30 (88.2 per cent) of the engaged students checked the same reason. To save physical labor was checked by twenty-seven (93.1 per cent) of the married students, by 41 (85.4 per cent) of the single students, and 22 (64.7 per cent) of the engaged students. A lower percentage (48.3 per cent) of the married students checked to make your home safer than the percentages of single students (62.5 per cent) and engaged students (70.6 per cent) who checked the same reason. To save money was checked by 15 (44.1 per cent) of the engaged students, by 11 (37.9 per cent) of the married students, and by 11 (22.9 per cent) of the single students.

TABLE XLVIII

REASONS FOR WANTING HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AS REPORTED  
BY 111 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Reason	Single 48 = 100.0%		Engaged 34 = 100.0%		Married 29 = 100.0%		Total 111 = 100.0%	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Give Better Product	43	89.6	31	91.2	26	89.7	100	90.1
Conserve Time	47	97.9	32	94.1	29	100.0	108	97.3
Have Things Like Others	1	2.1	1	2.9	3	10.3	5	4.5
Keep Up-to-date	7	14.6	9	26.5	4	13.8	20	18.0
Make Housework Enjoyable	41	85.4	30	88.2	29	100.0	100	90.1
Make Home Look Complete	4	8.3	6	17.6	5	17.2	15	13.5
Make Home Safer	30	62.5	24	70.6	14	48.3	68	61.3
Save Money	11	22.9	15	44.1	11	37.9	37	33.3
Save Physical Labor	41	85.4	22	64.7	27	93.1	90	81.1

A higher percentage (26.5 per cent) of the engaged students checked to keep up-to-date than did the single students (14.6 per cent) or the married students (13.8 per cent).

Table XLIX reports the opinions of the 111 home economics majors as related to housework. The students were asked to check from a list of 19 statements, those that expressed their opinions about housework. Eighty-four (75.7 per cent) of the students checked minimize through the use of equipment, commercial products and services. The same percentage found housework rewarding through serving the family. Opportunity to develop good work habits (work simplification) was checked by 81 (73.0 per cent) of the students, and opportunity for the family to share responsibilities was checked by 78 (70.3 per cent) of the students. Seventy-three (65.8 per cent) of the students checked opportunity to get physical exercise, 71 (64.0 per cent) checked creative opportunity, 65 (58.6 per cent) checked challenging, and 61 (55.0 per cent) checked enjoyable. Tiring was checked by 42 (37.8 per cent) of the students, confining was checked by 33 (29.7 per cent) of the students, and pleasant and relaxing was checked by 30 (27.0 per cent) of the students. Less than one-fifth of the students checked isolated from other adults, monotonous but one must make the best of the situation, boring, necessary evil, and uninteresting. Less than one out of twenty checked unpleasant experience, waste of energy, and waste of time.

A higher percentage of the single students checked boring than did the engaged or married students. Challenging, creative opportunity, enjoyable, opportunity for the family to share responsibilities, and rewarding were checked by a higher percentage of the engaged students

TABLE XLIX

## OPINIONS ABOUT HOUSEWORK AS REPORTED BY 111 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Opinion	Single 48 = 100.0%		Engaged 34 = 100.0%		Married 29 = 100.0%		Total 111 = 100.0%	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Boring	12	25.0	0	0	3	10.3	15	13.5
Challenging	26	54.2	26	76.5	13	44.8	65	58.6
Confining	19	39.6	4	11.8	10	34.5	33	29.7
Creative Opportunity	29	60.4	26	76.5	16	55.2	71	64.0
Enjoyable	24	50.0	24	70.6	13	44.8	61	55.0
Isolated from Other Adults	10	20.8	4	11.8	8	27.6	22	19.8
Minimize	35	72.9	26	76.5	23	79.3	84	75.7
Monotonous	12	25.0	0	0	7	24.1	19	17.1
Necessary Evil	7	14.6	0	0	6	20.7	13	11.7
Family Share Responsibilities	30	62.5	30	88.2	18	62.1	78	70.3
Develop Good Work Habits	35	72.9	29	85.3	17	58.6	81	73.0
Get Physical Exercise	32	66.7	29	85.3	12	41.4	73	65.8
Pleasant and Relaxing	12	25.0	13	38.2	5	17.2	30	27.0
Rewarding Serving Family	34	70.8	31	91.2	19	65.5	84	75.7
Tiring	21	43.8	6	17.6	15	51.7	42	37.8
Uninteresting	7	14.6	0	0	5	17.2	12	10.8
Unpleasant Experience	4	8.3	0	0	1	3.4	5	4.5
Waste of Energy	2	4.2	0	0	1	3.4	3	2.7
Waste of Time	2	4.2	0	0	1	3.4	3	2.7

than the single or married students. A lower percentage of the engaged students checked confining, isolated from other adults, and tiring than did the single or the married students. None of the engaged students checked boring, monotonous, necessary evil, uninteresting, unpleasant experience, waste of energy, and waste of time. A higher percentage of the engaged and a lower percentage of the married students checked opportunity to develop good work habits (work simplification), opportunity to get physical exercise, and pleasant and relaxing.

The 111 home economics students were asked to select from a list of 15 housekeeping tasks, the five they desired most to have simplified or eliminated with the use of household equipment. Their choices are reported in Tables L through LIII. Cleaning the range, was given the highest weighted score for tasks to be simplified or eliminated. It was followed by cleaning walls and woodwork, ironing clothes, waxing and polishing floors, and cleaning the refrigerator. Cleaning bathroom fixtures and disposing trash and garbage ranked sixth and seventh. Ranked eighth was dishwashing, followed by mopping floors, ninth, and drying clothes by hanging, tenth.

Cleaning the range, cleaning walls and woodwork, cleaning the refrigerator, ironing clothes, and waxing and polishing floors were ranked between first and fifth according to the choices of the single, engaged, and married students and the total group in all but one instance. The married students ranked disposing trash and garbage as second.

TABLE I

HOUSEKEEPING TASKS DESIRED SIMPLIFIED OR ELIMINATED WITH THE USE OF HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT  
AS REPORTED BY 48 SINGLE HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Housekeeping Task	Order of Importance									
	First		Second		Third		Fourth		Fifth	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Cleaning Bathroom										
Fixtures	8	16.7	2	4.2	4	8.3	2	4.2	4	8.3
Cleaning Range	12	25.0	10	20.8	4	8.3	8	16.7	2	4.2
Cleaning Refrigerator	1	2.1	3	6.3	14	29.2	2	4.2	6	12.5
Cleaning Walls and										
Woodwork	8	16.7	11	22.9	3	6.3	7	14.6	4	8.3
Dishwashing	1	2.1	4	8.3	1	2.1	2	4.2	1	2.1
Disposing Trash and										
Garbage	3	6.3	3	6.3	2	4.2	5	10.4	4	8.3
Sweeping Floors	0	0	1	2.1	0	0	1	2.1	1	2.1
Mopping Floors	1	2.1	2	4.2	4	8.3	5	10.4	5	10.4
Waxing and Polishing										
Floors	4	8.3	4	8.3	9	18.8	3	6.3	4	8.3
Washing Clothes and										
Household Items	0	0	0	0	1	2.1	2	4.2	3	6.3
Drying Clothes by										
Hanging	0	0	4	8.3	2	4.2	1	2.1	4	8.3
Drying Clothes in Dryer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ironing Clothes	10	20.8	3	6.3	3	6.3	4	8.3	5	10.4
Polishing Furniture	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	10.4	2	4.2
Vacuuming Carpet	0	0	1	2.1	1	2.1	1	2.1	3	6.3
No Usable Answer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

TABLE LI

HOUSEKEEPING TASKS DESIRED SIMPLIFIED OR ELIMINATED WITH THE USE OF HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT  
AS REPORTED BY 34 ENGAGED HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Housekeeping Task	Order of Importance									
	First		Second		Third		Fourth		Fifth	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Cleaning Bathroom										
Fixtures	3	8.8	3	8.8	2	5.9	2	5.9	4	11.8
Cleaning Range	12	35.3	5	14.7	6	17.6	3	8.8	1	2.9
Cleaning Refrigerator	0	0	2	5.9	4	11.8	6	17.6	4	11.8
Cleaning Walls and										
Woodwork	5	14.7	3	8.8	5	14.7	5	14.7	4	11.8
Dishwashing	1	2.9	1	2.9	2	5.9	2	5.9	0	0
Disposing Trash and										
Garbage	0	0	4	11.8	4	11.8	1	2.9	3	8.8
Sweeping Floors	0	0	0	0	1	2.9	0	0	1	2.9
Mopping Floors	0	0	6	17.6	2	5.9	3	8.8	3	8.8
Waxing and Polishing										
Floors	7	20.6	2	5.9	4	11.8	6	17.6	2	5.9
Washing Clothes and										
Household Items	0	0	1	2.9	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drying Clothes by										
Hanging	0	0	2	5.9	2	5.9	1	2.9	5	14.7
Drying Clothes in Dryer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2.9
Ironing Clothes	6	17.6	4	11.8	2	5.9	1	2.9	2	5.9
Polishing Furniture	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	8.8	2	5.9
Vacuuming Carpet	0	0	1	2.9	0	0	1	2.9	2	5.9
No Usable Answer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

TABLE LII

HOUSEKEEPING TASKS DESIRED SIMPLIFIED OR ELIMINATED WITH THE USE OF HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT  
AS REPORTED BY 29 MARRIED HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Housekeeping Task	Order of Importance									
	First		Second		Third		Fourth		Fifth	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Cleaning Bathroom Fixtures	4	13.8	2	6.9	2	6.9	1	3.4	2	6.9
Cleaning Range	2	6.9	3	10.3	12	41.4	6	20.7	3	10.3
Cleaning Refrigerator	1	3.4	7	24.1	1	3.4	3	10.3	2	6.9
Cleaning Walls and Woodwork	0	0	3	10.3	3	10.3	6	20.7	2	6.9
Dishwashing	5	17.2	2	6.9	2	6.9	2	6.9	2	6.9
Disposing Trash and Garbage	5	17.2	4	13.8	2	6.9	2	6.9	3	10.3
Sweeping Floors	0	0	1	3.4	0	0	2	6.9	0	0
Mopping Floors	0	0	1	3.4	0	0	1	3.4	4	13.8
Waxing and Polishing Floors	4	13.8	2	6.9	1	3.4	1	3.4	4	13.8
Washing Clothes and Household Items	2	6.9	0	0	0	0	1	3.4	1	3.4
Drying Clothes by Hanging	1	3.4	1	3.4	2	6.9	0	0	0	0
Drying Clothes in Dryer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ironing Clothes	4	13.8	3	10.3	3	10.3	2	6.9	1	3.4
Polishing Furniture	0	0	0	0	1	3.4	0	0	3	10.3
Vacuuming Carpet	1	3.4	0	0	0	0	1	3.4	1	3.4
No Usable Answer	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3.4	1	3.4



TABLE LIII

HOUSEKEEPING TASKS DESIRED SIMPLIFIED OR ELIMINATED WITH THE USE OF HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT  
AS REPORTED BY 111 HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS

Housekeeping Task	Order of Importance										Weighted Score	
	First		Second		Third		Fourth		Fifth		No.	Rank
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Cleaning Bath- room Fixtures	15	13.5	7	6.3	8	7.2	5	4.5	10	9.0	147	6
Cleaning Range	26	23.4	18	16.2	22	19.8	17	15.3	6	5.4	308	1
Cleaning Refrig.	2	1.8	12	10.8	19	17.1	11	9.9	12	10.8	149	5
Cleaning Walls and Woodwork	13	11.7	17	15.3	11	9.9	18	16.2	10	9.0	212	2
Dishwashing	7	6.3	7	6.3	5	4.5	6	5.4	3	2.7	93	8
Disposing Trash and Garbage	8	7.2	11	9.9	8	7.2	8	7.2	10	9.0	134	7
Sweeping Floors	0	0	2	1.8	1	.9	3	2.7	2	1.8	19	14
Mopping Floors	1	.9	9	8.1	6	5.4	9	8.1	12	10.8	89	9
Waxing and Pol- ishing Floors	15	13.5	8	7.2	14	12.6	10	9.0	10	9.0	179	4
Washing Clothes & Household Items	2	1.8	1	.9	1	.9	3	2.7	4	3.6	27	12
Drying Clothes by Hanging	1	.9	7	6.3	6	5.4	2	1.8	9	8.1	64	10
Drying Clothes in Dryer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	.9	1	15
Ironing Clothes	20	18.0	10	9.0	8	7.2	7	6.3	8	7.2	186	3
Polishing Furn.	0	0	0	0	1	.9	8	7.2	7	6.3	26	13
Vacuuming Carpet	1	.9	2	1.8	1	.9	3	2.7	6	5.4	28	11
No Usable Answer	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	.9	1	.9		

## CHAPTER V

### SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### Summary and Conclusions

An exploratory study was undertaken to investigate the attitudes and opinions of a selected group of home economics majors as these relate to household equipment. Following a review of literature related to the subject, the study was clarified and limited. A questionnaire, including both structured and open-end questions, was developed and administered to the students registered in two senior level home economics courses offered at the Oklahoma State University. From the data included in 111 questionnaires, the frequency and percentages of responses were determined for single, engaged, and married women.

Of the 111 home economics majors, 82 were single and 29 were married. Thirty-four of the single students were engaged and planned to be married within one year. Seventeen of the married students had been married more than one year and only five of these had children.

A comparison of the educational level of the fathers and mothers of the home economics majors reveals considerable similarity. Over one-half had done some college work; and over one-fourth had completed a college degree. Another one-third of the fathers and mothers of the students had completed high school.

The homes of the parents of almost three-fourths of the students were located in towns with slightly more than one-third located in

towns of 25,000 or over. Slightly more than one-fourth of all the homes were located on rural farms.

Almost one-half of the parents of the students had annual incomes of \$10,000 or more. Less than one out of twenty of the students reported parental incomes of less than \$3,000 annually.

Almost seven-eighths of the home economics majors expected to pursue a career the first year following their graduation. Of this group, over one-half expected to teach in elementary or secondary schools. Less than one-tenth of the students expected to attend graduate school and less than one-tenth expected to be full-time homemakers.

Nearly all of the students expected to live in towns and very few expected to live on rural farms. Almost one-half of the students expected to live in towns of 25,000 and over. Rented apartments was the type of housing in which more than six out of ten students expected to live the first year following graduation. Over one-half of the students expected to live in completely furnished apartments including almost three-fourths of the single students and almost two-thirds of the engaged students. Less than one-fifth of the students expected to live in rented homes. However, nearly one-half of the married students were included in this group.

One-half of the students expected to be in the \$5,000 to \$6,000 annual income group and one-eighth expected to be in the over \$10,000 bracket. Three-fifths of the single students expected to earn \$5,000 to \$6,999 and one-fourth expected to earn \$3,000 to \$4,999. The married students anticipated higher annual incomes than the single or engaged students. One-third of the married students expected to have an income of \$10,000 to \$14,999.

All of the respondents desired at least two children. Seven-eighths of the students wanted two, three, or four children.

Three-fourths or more of the students reported much experience in using the following household equipment: hand irons, electric clocks, hair dryers, food mixers, refrigerators, sewing machines, black and white television sets, clothes washers, and ranges. Central air conditioning, color television sets, floor polishers and scrubbers, electric knives, electric ice cream freezers, portable electric broiler-ovens, electric toothbrushes, rotisserie broilers, electric ice crushers, and electric sheets were the items of equipment with which the highest percentages of students reported having had no experience. Forty-two different pieces of household equipment were listed in the questionnaire.

Between one-half and four-fifths of the students felt well qualified to select hand irons, sewing machines, hair dryers, electric radios, electric clocks, food mixers, ranges, electric can openers, toasters, and clothes washers. The household equipment items for which the highest percentages of students felt unqualified to select were electric knives, central heating, floor polishers and scrubbers, color television sets, electric toothbrushes, electric ice cream freezers, central air conditioning, rotisserie broilers, electric ice crushers, and electric sheets.

The percentages of the students indicating much experience and well qualified to select were higher than the writer expected. Whether the respondents compared themselves to other home economics majors, to other college students, or to homemakers probably influenced their responses. As the students have more actual, day-by-day experience using and

selecting household equipment, they may find that their feelings of adequacy change.

The desire of these students for the 42 pieces of household equipment was only slightly higher than their expectations. Over one-half of the students desired 39 of the 42 pieces and expected to have 37 of them, while nine-tenths desired 20 pieces and expected to have 17. The students were almost unanimous in their desire and expectation for hair dryers, refrigerators, electric clocks, hand irons, electric radios, clothes washers, vacuum cleaners, and food mixers.

The percentages of the home economics majors expecting the various items of household equipment was considerably higher in most cases than the percentages of actual, desired, and expected ownership and availability of equipment found in other studies reviewed by the writer.

Own experience and own knowledge and judgment was checked by the highest percentages of the home economics majors as influences and sources to help them select, use, and care for household equipment. More than three-fourths reported Food, Nutrition, and Institutional Administration classes, household equipment course, people who own the equipment, friends and/or relatives, parents, commercial demonstration, Housing and Interior Design classes, and Consumer Reports as other influences for or against household equipment.

Consumer Reports and Consumer Bulletin were reported as sources to help in selecting equipment by nine-tenths of the students. Four-fifths or more of the students indicated household equipment course and textbooks, home service personnel, parents, people who own equipment, and extension publications as sources to help them in selecting equipment.

Use and care booklets were reported by nine-tenths of the students as a source they would use to help them use and care for household equipment. Home service personnel, household equipment course and textbooks, parents, extension publications, and home management residence course were reported by more than three-fourths of the students.

The number of students who checked the various sources of influence and/or help were higher than had been expected. The percentage of responses of the married students were lower than those of the single or engaged students. The married students seemed more realistic concerning the influences and helps they would use. With one exception, the findings concerning the sources of influence and/or help were similar to the findings of the research reviewed. The ranking of the percentages of the home economics students selecting sources of mass media, including radio, television, and newspapers, were lower than the ranking of the same sources by other researchers.

Almost all of the students expected to obtain their household equipment through purchasing it. Nine-tenths expected to receive some equipment as gifts. Four-fifths of the respondents expected to use trading stamps to obtain equipment.

Almost all of the students reported that they expected the husband and the wife together would make purchasing decisions concerning major household equipment. Purchasing decisions made by the husband and the wife together concerning small equipment were expected by almost three-fifths of the students. Other research studies revealed similar findings; that is, decisions concerning household equipment were made by the husband and wife.

Approximately one-half of the home economics majors expected to pay cash and to use installment credit other than 30-day charge accounts when purchasing major household equipment. Slightly less than one-fourth of the students expected to use cash loan credit or 30-day charge accounts. Higher percentages of the home economics students expected to use installment credit and cash loan credit when purchasing major equipment than the percentages found by Goetz (12) and Van Syckle(36). Almost all of the students in the present study expected to pay cash when purchasing small household equipment. One-third expected to use 30-day charge accounts.

Over nine-tenths of the home economics students preferred electric dishwashers and refrigerators over gas. A majority of the students preferred electric air conditioning, clothes dryers, out-door lighting, and ranges. Just over one-half of the students preferred gas home heating and almost two-thirds preferred gas water heaters. Hotchkiss (18) found that over nine-tenths of the families in her study owned electric refrigerators, and two-thirds owned gas ranges. Douglas (8) found that all of the families in her study had electric refrigerators and clothes dryers, and almost all had electric ranges.

Almost nine-tenths of the students expected to purchase a range at an appliance store. Goetz (12) and Hotchkiss (18) found that the highest percentage of purchases of major appliances were made at appliance stores. More than two-fifths of the students expected to purchase an electric skillet at an appliance store. Less than one-fifth of the students expected to purchase an electric skillet at a discount house or department store. Three-tenths of the students expected to purchase

a hair dryer at a discount house. Department store, appliance store, or trading stamp store was the expected place of purchase of a hair dryer by less than one-fifth of the students.

The pieces of major equipment the students thought were most important are listed in order: refrigerator, range, water heater, home heating, clothes washer, air conditioning, food freezer, clothes dryer, food disposer, and dishwasher. This ranking is similar to the rankings presented in other studies reviewed. The climate in Oklahoma may have influenced the home economics students to rank air conditioning higher than some of the other groups had ranked it.

The factors the students reported as influencing their choice of household equipment were ranked in the following order: need, efficient performance, care and convenience, durability, variety of jobs it will do, original cost, brand, cost of upkeep, guarantee, and appearance. The students were more concerned with what the equipment would do for them than with the cost of the item as were several of the groups in other studies. The students may find that they place more emphasis on cost when they actually buy the items.

The reasons the students wanted household equipment were ranked and are listed in order: to conserve time, to give a better product to make housework more enjoyable, to save physical labor, to make your home safer, and to save money. Less than one-fifth of the students checked to keep up-to-date, to make my home look more complete, and to have things like my friends and people I admire. Again the students were not as concerned with cost as some of the groups studied by other researchers.



Between two-thirds and three-fourths of the students gave the following items as their opinions relating to housework: minimize through use of equipment, commercial products, and services; rewarding through serving the family, opportunity to develop good work habits, opportunity for the family to share responsibilities, opportunity to get physical exercise, and creative opportunity. Over one-half of the students checked challenging and enjoyable, and more than one-fourth checked tiring, confining, and pleasant and relaxing. Less than one-fifth gave the following reasons: isolated from other adults, monotonous but one must make the best of the situation, boring, necessary evil, and uninteresting. Less than one out of twenty checked unpleasant experience, waste of energy, and waste of time. The writer considers the students to have rather positive attitudes related to housework. These findings are similar to the characteristics of the most and least liked household tasks as reported by Maloch (21).

The housekeeping tasks the students would most like to change or eliminate with the use of household equipment are listed in order: cleaning the range; cleaning walls and woodwork, ironing clothes, waxing and polishing floors, cleaning the refrigerator, cleaning bathroom fixtures, disposing trash and garbage, dishwashing, mopping, and drying clothes by hanging. These findings are similar to those of Bailey (1), Berger (2), and Maloch (21). They found that ironing and cleaning were the least liked tasks of the groups they studied.

### Recommendations

On the basis of the findings of this study, the writer makes the following recommendations:

Because students desire and expect to have so much household equipment in their own homes, courses emphasizing the selection, use, and care of equipment should continue to be offered. The findings of this study should be useful in determining the content and emphases of courses which will be helpful to other students as well as home economics majors.

Further research related to the subject seems desirable. This study included an investigation of the frequency the entire group of students desired equipment. Follow-up studies could include a comparison for each individual of desire and expectation in relation to each item of equipment. Information concerning the problems the students have had selecting, using, and caring for household equipment would be valuable. The experiences the students have had with servicing and repair of equipment is one of the problems that could be investigated. Information concerning the students' satisfactions and their ability to select equipment which satisfied their wants and needs would be helpful. Follow-up studies could also include investigation of the knowledge and understanding the students have of financial management, such as cost of new equipment, added cost of special features, cost of upkeep, and use and cost of credit.

Although a questionnaire consisting mostly of structured questions was used for this study, an interview schedule or a questionnaire of open-end questions could possibly provide data for a study of greater depth.

In order to gain further understanding of the attitudes and opinions of young women as related to household equipment, studies could be done with other groups such as college women of all majors, freshman women, and possibly with high school students.

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APPENDIX

## HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

- I. On the following 2 pages is a list of some of the electrical and gas household equipment on today's market. Please read carefully the explanation given below for the statements so you can check the phrases that most accurately apply to you. Four checks are required for every piece of equipment. (One for each of the four statements.)

1. Your experience in using this piece of equipment.

1. Much      2. Some      3. None

2. Your qualification to select this piece of equipment.

1. Well qualified - I have the knowledge to make an effective selection.
2. Somewhat qualified - I have some knowledge for making an effective selection.
3. Not qualified - I do not have enough knowledge to make an effective selection.

3. Your desire to have this piece of equipment in your home.

1. Would like to have - I would like to have this piece of equipment at some time.
2. Not interested in having - I would not like to have this piece of equipment at any time.

4. Your expectation to have this piece of equipment in your home.

1. Expect to have - I would expect to have this piece of equipment at some time or I already have this piece of equipment at my present residence.
2. Not expect to have - I would not expect to have this piece of equipment at any time.







II. On this and the following page is a list of possible influences and/or helps for you when selecting and using household equipment. Please read carefully the explanation given below for the statements in order that you can check the phrases that most accurately apply to you. Three checks are required for each item of influence and/or help. Check all of Item 5, then Item 6, and finally Item 7.

5. Sources which would influence your desire for or against household equipment.

1. Influence desire - Sources which would influence your desire for or against household equipment.
2. Not influence desire - Sources which would not influence your desire for or against household equipment.

6. Help select - Sources you would use to help you select household equipment.

1. Help select - Sources you would use to help you select household equipment.
2. Not help select - Sources you would not use to help you select household equipment.

7. Help with use and care - Sources you would use to help you use and care for household equipment.

1. Help - Sources you would use to help you use and care for household equipment.
2. Not help - Sources you would not use to help you use and care for household equipment.

POSSIBLE SOURCES OF INFLUENCE AND/OR HELP

	5-INFLUENCE YOUR DESIRE		6-HELP YOU SELECT		7-HELP WITH USE AND CARE	
	INFLUENCE 1	NOT INFLUENCE 2	HELP 1	NOT HELP 2	HELP 1	NOT HELP 2
College Home Economics Classes:						
1. Food, Nutrition, and Institutional Administration classes (31-33).....						
2. Home Economics Education Demonstration Course (34-36).....						
3. Housing and Interior Design classes (37-39).....						
4. Household Equipment course(s) (40-42).						
5. Home Management House Residence course (43-45).....						
6. Other Home Management classes (46-48).						
7. Others. Please list _____ (49-51).....						

POSSIBLE SOURCES OF INFLUENCE AND/OR HELP  
(Continued)

	5- INFLUENCE YOUR DESIRE		6-HELP YOU SELECT		7-HELP WITH USE AND CARE	
	INFLUENCE 1	NOT INFLUENCE 2	HELP 1	NOT HELP 2	HELP 1	NOT HELP 2
8. Commercial demonstrations (52-54).....						
9. Consumer Bulletin (55-57).....						
10. Consumer Reports(58-60).....						
11. Dealer(s) and/or salesman(men) (61-63).....						
12. Extension personnel (64-66).....						
13. Extension publications (67-69).....						
14. 4-H Club (70-72).....						
15. Friends and/or relatives (73-75).....						
16. High school homemaking classes (76-78).....						
17. Home service personnel (7-10).....						
18. Household equipment textbooks (11-13).....						
19. Magazine advertising (14-16).....						
20. Magazine articles (17-19).....						
21. Newspapers (20-22).....						
22. Own experience (23-25).....						
23. Own knowledge and judgment (26-28).....						
24. Parents (29-31).....						
25. People who own the equipment (32-33).....						
26. Radio and television (34-36).....						
27. Use and care booklets (37-39).....						
28. Window and/or store displays (40-42).....						

III. 8. Check the statements that express your opinions about housework.

- 1 \_\_\_ Boring (43)
- 2 \_\_\_ Challenging (44)
- 3 \_\_\_ Confining (45)
- 4 \_\_\_ Creative opportunity (46)
- 5 \_\_\_ Enjoyable (47)
- 6 \_\_\_ Isolated from other adults (48)
- 7 \_\_\_ Minimize through use of equipment, commercial products and services (49)
- 8 \_\_\_ Monotonous but one must make the best of the situation (50)
- 9 \_\_\_ Necessary evil (51)
- 10 \_\_\_ Opportunity for the family to share responsibilities (52)
- 11 \_\_\_ Opportunity to develop good work habits (work simplification) (53)
- 12 \_\_\_ Opportunity to get physical exercise (54)
- 13 \_\_\_ Pleasant and relaxing (55)
- 14 \_\_\_ Rewarding through serving the family (56)
- 15 \_\_\_ Tiring (57)
- 16 \_\_\_ Uninteresting (58)
- 17 \_\_\_ Unpleasant experience (59)
- 18 \_\_\_ Waste of energy (60)
- 19 \_\_\_ Waste of time (61)

9. Check the ways you think you will obtain household equipment. (Check one or more of the items.)

- |                                     |                                 |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 ___ Purchase (7)                  | 4 ___ Gift (10)                 |
| 2 ___ Rent (in residence) (8)       | 5 ___ Trading stamps (11)       |
| 3 ___ Rent (as separate pieces) (9) | 6 ___ Borrow the equipment (12) |

10. Check who you think will make purchasing decisions concerning household equipment when you are married. (Check once for each type of equipment.)

- |                             |                             |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <u>Major equipment (13)</u> | <u>Small equipment (14)</u> |
| 1 ___ Husband               | 1 ___ Husband               |
| 2 ___ Wife                  | 2 ___ Wife                  |
| 3 ___ Both                  | 3 ___ Both                  |

11. Check the ways you think you will pay for household equipment. (Check one or more of the items for each type of equipment.)

- |                                     |                                     |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <u>Major equipment</u>              | <u>Small equipment</u>              |
| 1 ___ Pay cash (15)                 | 1 ___ Pay cash (19)                 |
| 2 ___ 30-Day charge account (16)    | 2 ___ 30-Day charge account (20)    |
| 3 ___ Other installment credit (17) | 3 ___ Other installment credit (21) |
| 4 ___ Cash loan credit (18)         | 4 ___ Cash loan credit (22)         |

12. Assuming you are considering the purchase of the pieces of equipment listed, circle whether you would prefer electric or gas for each piece.

- | <u>Equipment</u>                | <u>Electric</u> | <u>OR</u> | <u>Gas</u> |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|------------|
| Air-conditioning (cooling) (23) | Electric        | or        | Gas        |
| Dishwasher (24)                 | Electric        | or        | Gas        |
| Dryer, clothes (25)             | Electric        | or        | Gas        |
| Home heating (26)               | Electric        | or        | Gas        |
| Outdoor lighting (27)           | Electric        | or        | Gas        |
| Range (28)                      | Electric        | or        | Gas        |
| Refrigerator (29)               | Electric        | or        | Gas        |
| Water heater (30)               | Electric        | or        | Gas        |

13. Check the business where you would purchase (or already have purchased) each piece of equipment. (Check one item for each piece of equipment.)

<u>Range (31)</u>	<u>Electric Skillet (32)</u>	<u>Hair Dryer (33)</u>
1 <input type="checkbox"/> Discount house	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Discount house	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Discount house
2 <input type="checkbox"/> Trading stamp store	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Trading stamp store	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Trading stamp store
3 <input type="checkbox"/> Grocery store	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Grocery store	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Grocery store
4 <input type="checkbox"/> Department store	4 <input type="checkbox"/> Department store	4 <input type="checkbox"/> Department store
5 <input type="checkbox"/> Mail-order house	5 <input type="checkbox"/> Mail-order house	5 <input type="checkbox"/> Mail-order house
6 <input type="checkbox"/> Drug store	6 <input type="checkbox"/> Drug store	6 <input type="checkbox"/> Drug store
7 <input type="checkbox"/> Appliance store	7 <input type="checkbox"/> Appliance store	7 <input type="checkbox"/> Appliance store
8 <input type="checkbox"/> Door-to-door salesman	8 <input type="checkbox"/> Door-to-door salesman	8 <input type="checkbox"/> Door-to-door salesman

14. Check your major reasons for wanting household equipment.

- 1  To give a better product. (Example - Dishes washed in an automatic dishwasher have lower bacterial count than those washed by hand.) (34)
- 2  To conserve time. (35)
- 3  To have things like my friends and people I admire. (36)
- 4  To keep up-to-date. (37)
- 5  To make housework more enjoyable. (38)
- 6  To make your home look more complete. (39)
- 7  To make your home safer. (40)
- 8  To save money. (41)
- 9  To save physical labor. (42)

15. Housekeeping jobs can be simplified or eliminated by the use of household equipment. From the jobs listed below, indicate by number the five (5) you would most like to change.

<u>Housekeeping Jobs</u>	<u>Order of Importance (43-52)</u>
1. Cleaning bathroom fixtures	
2. Cleaning range	<input type="checkbox"/> First (most like to change)
3. Cleaning refrigerator	
4. Cleaning walls and woodwork	<input type="checkbox"/> Second
5. Dishwashing	
6. Disposing trash and garbage	<input type="checkbox"/> Third
7. Sweeping floors	
8. Mopping floors	<input type="checkbox"/> Fourth
9. Waxing and polishing floors	
10. Washing clothes and household items	<input type="checkbox"/> Fifth
11. Drying clothes by hanging	
12. Drying clothes in dryer	
13. Ironing clothes	
14. Polishing furniture	
15. Vacuuming carpet	

16. Such factors as color, versatility, etc. are known to influence choice. What are the five most important factors influencing you in your choice of household equipment? From the factors listed in the left column, indicate by number the five (5) influencing you most.

<u>Factors</u>	<u>Order of Influence (53-62)</u>
1. Appearance	
2. Brand	_____ First (most important)
3. Care and convenience	
4. Cost of upkeep	_____ Second
5. Durability	
6. Efficient performance	_____ Third
7. Guarantee	
8. Need	_____ Fourth
9. Original cost	
10. Safety	_____ Fifth
11. Storage	
12. Variety of jobs it will do	

17. Indicate the five (5) major appliances that you consider most important. Use numbers from the left column to indicate your choice of order of importance.

<u>Suggested Major Appliances</u>	<u>Order of Importance (63-72)</u>
1. Air-conditioning (cooling)	
2. Dehumidifier	_____ First choice
3. Dishwasher	
4. Dryer, clothes	_____ Second choice
5. Food disposer	
6. Food freezer	_____ Third choice
7. Home heating	
8. Incinerator	_____ Fourth choice
9. Range	
10. Refrigerator	_____ Fifth choice
11. Washer, clothes	
12. Water heater	

18. List the five (5) additional pieces of equipment that you consider most important. Omit all the appliances named in the left column of Item 17.

Order of Importance

First choice \_\_\_\_\_

Second choice \_\_\_\_\_

Third choice \_\_\_\_\_

Fourth choice \_\_\_\_\_

Fifth choice \_\_\_\_\_

## IV. Please complete the following form:

Circle marital status: Single Married Widowed Divorced

College: \_\_\_\_\_ Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of college hours completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Check the highest level of your father's education: (16)

- 1  None  
 2  Grade school  
 3  High school  
 4  Some college  
 5  Bachelor's degree  
 6  Master's degree  
 7  Doctor's degree  
 8  Other-Specify \_\_\_\_\_

Check the highest level of your mother's education: (17)

- 1  None  
 2  Grade school  
 3  High school  
 4  Some college  
 5  Bachelor's degree  
 6  Master's degree  
 7  Doctor's degree  
 8  Other-Specify \_\_\_\_\_

Check the location of your parents' home: (18)

- 1  Town of 25,000 or over  
 2  Town of 10,000 to 25,000  
 3  Town of 2,500 to 10,000  
 4  Town of 2,500 or less  
 5  Rural farm

Check the approximate yearly income of your parents: (19)

- 1  Up to \$2,999  
 2  \$3,000 to \$4,999  
 3  \$5,000 to \$6,999  
 4  \$7,000 to \$9,999  
 5  \$10,000 to \$14,999  
 6  \$15,000 and up



If you are single, complete this page and omit the next page.  
 If you are married, widowed, or divorced, turn to the next page, omitting this page.

## SINGLE:

Check your plans for the first year following your graduation: (20, 21-30)

- 1  Career In what? \_\_\_\_\_  
 2  Homemaking  
 3  Combine career and homemaking Career in what? \_\_\_\_\_

Check expected total income for the first year following your graduation: (31)

- 1  Up to \$2,999  
 2  \$3,000 to \$4,999  
 3  \$5,000 to \$6,999  
 4  \$7,000 to \$9,999  
 5  \$10,000 to \$14,999  
 6  \$15,000 and up

Check the type and location of housing in which you plan to live the first year following your graduation: (Check one item in the left column and one item in the right column.) (32-33)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Home owned                             | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Town of 25,000 or over   |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Home, rented                           | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Town of 10,000 to 25,000 |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile home, owned                     | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Town of 2,500 to 10,000  |
| 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile home, rented                    | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Town of 2,500 or less    |
| 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Parents' home                          | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Rural farm               |
| 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Rented apartment, completely furnished |   |
| 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Rented apartment, partly furnished     |   |
| 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Rented apartment, unfurnished          |   |

Check when you plan to be married: (34)

- 1  Within 6 months  
 2  Within 1 year  
 3  Within 2 years  
 4  Within 5 years  
 5  After 5 years  
 6  Not at all

Check the number of children you would like to have: (35)

- 1  None  
 2  One  
 3  Two  
 4  Three  
 5  Four  
 6  Five  
 7  Six or more

WOULD YOU PLEASE CHECK AND BE SURE THAT YOU HAVE COMPLETED ALL THE ITEMS ON EACH PAGE. THANK YOU.

MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED:

Check your plans for the first year following your graduation: (20, 21-30)

- 1  Career      In what? \_\_\_\_\_  
 2  Homemaking  
 3  Combine career and homemaking      Career in what? \_\_\_\_\_

Check expected total income of family the first year following your graduation: (31)

- 1  Up to \$2,999  
 2  \$3,000 to \$4,999  
 3  \$5,000 to \$6,999  
 4  \$7,000 to \$9,999  
 5  \$10,000 to \$14,999  
 6  \$15,000 and up

Check the type and location of housing in which you expect to live the first year following your graduation: (Check one item in the left column and one in the right column.) (32-33)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Home, owned                            | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Town of 25,000 or over   |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Home, rented                           | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Town of 10,000 to 25,000 |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile home, owned                     | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Town of 2,500 to 10,000  |
| 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile home, rented                    | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Town of 2,500 or less    |
| 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Parents' home                          | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Rural farm               |
| 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Rented apartment, completely furnished |   |
| 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Rented apartment, partly furnished     |   |
| 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Rented apartment, unfurnished          |   |

Check the length of time you have been married: (34)

- 1  Less than 6 months  
 2  From 6 months to 1 year  
 3  From 1 year to 2 years  
 4  From 2 years to 5 years  
 5  More than 5 years

Check the number of children in family: (35)

- 1  None  
 2  One  
 3  Two  
 4  Three  
 5  Four  
 6  Five  
 7  Six or more

Check the number of children you would like to have: (36)

- 1  None  
 2  One  
 3  Two  
 4  Three  
 5  Four  
 6  Five  
 7  Six or more

WOULD YOU PLEASE CHECK AND BE SURE THAT YOU HAVE COMPLETED ALL THE ITEMS ON EACH PAGE. THANK YOU.

VITA

Molly Jane Keith

Candidate for the Degree of

Master of Science

Thesis: ATTITUDES AND OPINIONS OF SELECTED HOME ECONOMICS MAJORS AS RELATED TO HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT

Major Field: Home Management, Equipment, and Family Economics

Biographical:

Personal Data: Born in Hollis, Oklahoma, May 28, 1942, the daughter of Raymond and Ova Vanita Scivally Keith.

Education: Attended public schools in Hollis, Oklahoma, graduated from Hollis High School in May, 1960; received the Associate of Arts degree from Stephens College in May, 1962; received the Bachelor of Science degree in Home Economics from Oklahoma State University, with a major in Home Economics Education in May, 1965; completed the requirements for the Master of Science degree in July, 1966.

Professional Experience: Graduate teaching assistant in the Department of Home Management, Equipment, and Family Economics of Oklahoma State University, September 1, 1965 to May 31, 1966.

Professional Organizations: Phi Upsilon Omicron; Phi Kappa Phi; Kappa Delta Pi; American Home Economics Association; Oklahoma Home Economics Association; Council on Consumer Information; and American Association of University Women.