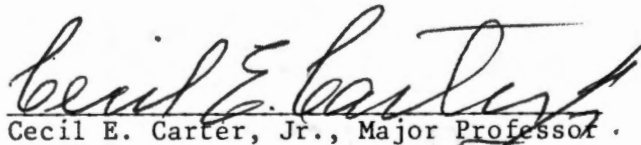


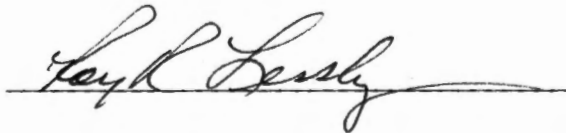
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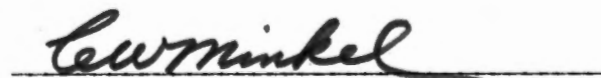

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RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN SELECTED PERSONAL AND FAMILY CHARACTERISTICS
OF TENNESSEE HOMEMAKERS AND THEIR USE OF CLOTHING
CONSTRUCTION PRACTICES

A Thesis
Presented for the
Master of Science
Degree
The University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Berniece Wilson Atkinson

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ABSTRACT

The major purpose of this study was to determine the relationship between the use of recommended clothing construction practices by homemakers and membership in home demonstration clubs, contacts with Extension, employment status and children living at home. Data were obtained from the 1982 Clothing Construction Survey through personal and group interviews with 609 homemakers in 21 Tennessee counties. The "nth" number technique of random sampling was used to select respondents from a mailing list of homemakers.

The Chi-Square (x^2) test and the one-way analysis of variance F test was used to determine relationships between selected dependent and independent variables. The .05 probability level was accepted as being statistically significant.

It was concluded from this study that a positive relationship exists between the use of recommended practices by homemakers and Extension contacts, membership in Home Demonstration Clubs, and having no children living at home. Employment status was not significantly related to total practice use score.

Homemakers who recorded higher numbers of Extension contacts through meetings, office visits, telephone calls and newsletters had a significantly higher practice use score. Study findings also indicated that members of home demonstration clubs used a significantly higher percentage of practices than did nonmembers, and that homemakers

with no children living at home were using recommended practices at a higher level than those with children.

Implications were drawn and recommendations for further study were made.

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CHAPTER I

BACKGROUND AND PROBLEM

I. INTRODUCTION

The Cooperative Extension Service is a unique achievement in American education. It is an agency for change, a catalyst for individual and group action with a history of nearly 70 years of public service (16:1).*

Cooperative Extension was established under the provisions of the 1914 Smith Lever Act to help people identify and solve problems by providing practical and useful information in the areas of Agriculture and Home Economics.

As out of school educators, Extension Home Economists work with local family members in all areas of home Economics including food, nutrition and health; housing and energy; clothing construction and consumerism; family life; stress management; family economics, housing; and interior design.

This study concentrated on a group of randomly selected Tennessee homemakers who provided information about their clothing construction practices. These practices were then analyzed in relation to contacts with Extension, membership in Home Demonstration Clubs, employment, and family configuration.

*Numbers in parenthesis refer to alphabetically numbered references in the Bibliography; those after the colon are page numbers.

Clothing construction was selected as a study because of the important economic and psychological role it plays in the lives of family members in Tennessee. Nationally the cost of clothing for families has continued to rise, but the percentage of family income spent for clothes has remained from 10 to 15 percent (15:183). It is estimated that in 1975 Tennessee families spent about 20 percent of their income for clothing. In a west coast survey of 1102 home sewers, respondents indicated five primary reasons they sew. Almost 34 percent surveyed listed economy as their primary reason. About 30 percent sewed for creativity, 16 percent for fashion, 8 percent for relaxation and 7 percent for gifts (6:16). It is, therefore, important for homemakers to use wise consumer and home construction practices to realize the greatest value and satisfaction from the clothing dollars spent.

II. NEED FOR THE STUDY

Providing Extension programs that are of high quality and meet the needs of the clientele is the major responsibility of every Extension home economist in Tennessee.

To fulfill this responsibility in the area of clothing construction, it was felt that increased knowledge as to the relationship between selected characteristics of homemakers and their use of construction practices would help home economists do a better job of planning their educational programs.

III. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The major purpose of this study was to determine the relationship between the use of recommended clothing construction practices by homemakers and membership in home demonstration clubs, contacts with Extension, employment status, and children living at home. Information from this study will be used by Extension home economists in future program development.

The specific objectives of the study were:

1. To characterize homemakers who sew for their families as to personal and family characteristics, Extension contacts and use of selected clothing construction practices.
2. To determine the relationship between the number of contacts homemakers had with Extension agents and their use of clothing construction practices.
3. To compare home demonstration club members and non-members as to their use of clothing construction practices.
4. To determine the relationship between homemakers employment status and their use of clothing construction practices.
5. To determine the relationship between personal and family characteristics of homemakers and their adoption of recommended clothing construction practices.
6. To determine the relationship between homemakers total mean practice use score and homemakers employment, children living at home, HDC membership, garments made and Extension audience.

IV. LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

This study was limited to data available in the 1982 University of Tennessee Agricultural Extension Service Clothing Construction Survey conducted in the fall of 1982. The data were obtained by Extension agents who conducted personal, group or telephone interviews with 609 homemakers in 21 Tennessee counties.

Clothing construction practices studied were limited to those recommended by the Extension Home Economic Department at The University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

V. DEFINITION OF TERMS

Terms used throughout the remainder of this study have been defined as follows:

1. Extension contacts--methods by which a person is exposed to Extension teaching which in this study include Home Demonstration Club meetings, special interest meetings, office visits, telephone calls, newsletters, publications, etc.

2. HDC member--a person who is enrolled as a member of a Home Demonstration Club (currently known as Extension Homemaker Club).

3. Practice--a research verified or commonly accepted procedure, which will increase the probability of a more desirable outcome if performed on a regular basis.

VI. METHODS AND PROCEDURES

Design

The design for this research was basically a descriptive and correlative ex post facto study of Tennessee homemakers who did at least some construction of clothing items for family members.

Population

The population for this study was Tennessee homemakers who had constructed one or more clothing items during the past 12 months. Data were collected from a total of 609 homemakers residing in 21 of the 95 counties in Tennessee.

Sample

The sample consisted of randomly selected homemakers in each county in which the Home Economist conducted the clothing construction survey. The Extension agent interviewed approximately 30 homemakers either on a personal or group basis. The "nth" number technique of random sampling was used to select respondents from a mailing list of homemakers.

Survey Instrument

The 1982 Tennessee Clothing Construction Survey Instrument (see appendix) was designed by Tennessee Clothing Specialist, Extension Education Specialist and other Extension personnel. Survey forms and procedures were made available to Extension agents in all Tennessee counties during the fall of 1982.

The surveys were designed to secure information on homemakers personal and family characteristics, their use of recommended clothing construction practices, their employment status, membership in HDC, and the number of contacts of various types that they had over a 12 month period with Extension agents.

Analysis of Data

Survey instruments were forwarded to the Extension Education office for computer processing. Descriptive statistics, including frequencies, percents, means and cross tabulations were used to summarize and analyze the survey data. The Chi-Square (x^2) test, and the one-way analysis of variance F test were used to determine relationships between selected dependent and independent variables. The .05 probability level was accepted as being statistically significant.

CHAPTER II

RELATED STUDIES

This review considers available studies related to (1) Home Demonstration Club membership and practice use, (2) employment status as related to practice use, (3) family configuration and practice use, and (4) the relationship between Extension contacts and practice use.

Only a few studies were found that specifically related to the adoption of clothing construction practices. Most studies reviewed were related to other areas of home economics and to farm production practices. However, these studies were reviewed because of the nature of the study and its purpose.

I. RELATED STUDIES REGARDING THE RELATIONSHIP OF HOME DEMONSTRATION CLUB MEMBERSHIP TO RECOMMENDED PRACTICE USE

The purpose of this section was to review studies regarding membership in HD clubs as related to the adoption of recommended practices. Some studies reviewed in this section dealt with areas other than clothing construction, however, findings appear to be relevant to the present study.

Connell, in her 1984 study of clothing consumer practices used by Lauderdale County homemakers, found that HDC members filed complaints with manufacturers when unsatisfied with purchases significantly more frequently than did nonmembers. The same study indicated that HDC membership had no significant influence on the

homemakers use of practices related to clothing inventory, wardrobe planning, clothing expense records, sale purchases or price comparison. It was also shown in this study that HDC members were more likely to read labels before making purchases than were nonmembers. Members were also more likely to make over clothes than were nonmembers (3:147).

In a study of nutritional practices followed by home demonstration homemakers and public housing homemakers, Mary Smith found that home demonstration club members scored considerably higher in following the 16 recommended nutrition practices (11:76). Data from the Stocking study also indicated that HDC members used a greater number of recommended nutrition practices than did other homemaker audiences (14:93).

Phillips found in her study of factors influencing consumer use of credit that, on the average, HDC members had tried more recommended consumer practices than did the nonmembers (10:119).

II. RELATED STUDIES REGARDING THE RELATIONSHIP OF EMPLOYMENT TO RECOMMENDED PRACTICE USE

Only a few studies were available relating employment to clothing construction practice use. Some of the studies reviewed in this section related to other areas of Home Economics and Agriculture, but due to the nature of the study, were felt to be relevant.

Henry found in her study of low income homemakers in Macon County, that only 11 percent of all homemakers interviewed worked full time. When comparing workshop participants and nonparticipants, as to employment,

data revealed that 10 percent of those participating in the workshop and 12 percent of the nonparticipants were employed. In this study, workshop participation was not influenced by homemakers employment outside the home (4:25). Analysis of data in Stinson's interior design study indicated that HDC members differed significantly from general homemakers in employment, family income and home ownership. A significantly higher proportion of HDC members than general homemakers owned their own home. On the other hand, when comparing HDC members and nonmembers as related to employment, it was found that a higher proportion of nonmembers were employed. These homemakers also had a higher family income (13:23). About one-third of the homemakers in Speer's interior design study were employed outside the home. The study revealed that those employed had attended significantly more interior design meetings and had visited the Extension office more frequently, however, they had attended fewer meetings of a general nature. Employment status was not significantly related to practice use (12:68,71).

Webb found in her study that the number of contacts HDC members had with Extension through general meetings was influenced by employment. Those not employed attended significantly more Extension meetings than did employed members. Employment status did not significantly influence attendance at meetings dealing with interior design, telephone calls to the Extension office, home visits received from agents or total Extension contacts. Those homemakers who were employed made significantly more visits to the Extension office. Also revealed in

the study was that a high percent of HDC members, regardless of their employment status, were using recommended interior design practices, indicating no significant relationship between employment and practice use (17:77,82). Connell in her study found that homemakers who attended more general Extension meetings and clothing meetings were less likely to be employed or have been employed within the last year. The number of office visits and telephone calls were not significantly influenced by employment status (3:65).

Mullins found in her study of home management practices used by Benton County homemakers that nonemployed HDC members tended to be more cautious spenders and stayed within their means more frequently than did employed HDC members (9:62).

Hobt's study on budget and record keeping practices revealed that the employment status of the homemaker was not related to practice adoption (5:79).

III. RELATED STUDIES REGARDING HOMEMAKERS WITH CHILDREN LIVING AT HOME AND PRACTICE USE

LaFreniere conducted a study in a three county Michigan area with 86 women who had participated in a television series which taught, "Making a Skirt." A majority of the women interviewed in this study were from 30 to 49 years of age. Eighty percent of those interviewed had children under 18 years of age living at home. Families with children often have a limited budget, therefore it was interesting to note that they wanted to learn to sew as a means of saving money

more often than those with no children. Practice adoption was not broken down by children living at home, but a higher percentage of homemakers in the 30-50 year age group reported a higher percentage of practice adoption than did other age groups. LaFreniere's study found that practice adoption was linked more to experience than to age, education or previous training (7:46).

In Henry's study of low income homemakers in Macon County, she attempted to discover which, if any, personal or family characteristics influenced participation in clothing construction workshops. Findings revealed that the factors of age, marital status, education, family income or husband's occupation had no appreciable influence on participation in clothing workshops. Other variables found not related to participation were homemakers employment status, home ownership, place of residence and number of children.

Participation in the clothing construction workshop was significantly influenced by the type of work done by the homemaker. Homemakers who worked in a factory tended not to attend the workshop (4:66).

In a Benton County study to determine factors influencing home management practice use, Mullins found that the number of members in the family and the ages of children did make a difference in the way a homemaker managed her time, energy, and money. The study also revealed that homemakers who were members of HDC had fewer children at home than did nonmembers. Employed homemakers in this study were found to have more children at home than those who were not employed (9:108).

IV. RELATED STUDIES REGARDING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN EXTENSION CONTACTS AND PRACTICE USE

Some of the studies reviewed in this section dealt with areas other than clothing construction, however the findings appear to be relevant to the present study.

In a study by Speer on characteristics which influence adoption of interior design practices, results revealed that even though HDC members made significantly more Extension contacts, they did not represent a significantly greater use of recommended practices (12:71).

Arnett, in a related study, focused on factors influencing telephone calls and office visits by farmers to the Wilson County Extension office. The results indicated that farmers whose wives were HDC members had significantly more office visits than farmers whose wives were not club members. Club membership of wives had no effect on the number of telephone calls made by farmers to the Extension office (1:97).

Boyce, in her development and testing of a seven unit money management newsletter, found no significant relationship between pre-test and post-test scores of homemakers who used Extension as a source of money management information and those who did not (2:36).

McClemore in a study of Tennessee swine producers as to the relationship Extension contacts had with recommended practice adoptions, found that the number of contacts producers had with Extension was significantly related to their use of 23 of the 25 recommended swine production

practices studied. Producers using the recommended practices had made a significantly larger number of total Extension contacts than those not using the practices (8:69,70).

CHAPTER III

STUDY FINDINGS

Findings of this study were summarized in six tables and are presented in six major sections according to the specific objectives of the study. Results of data analysis are presented in tables and major findings are discussed in each section.

Section I presents findings regarding the general characteristics of homemakers who sew, the number and types of contacts they have with Extension agents and their use of selected clothing construction practices.

Section II presents findings dealing with Extension contacts as related to homemakers use of recommended practices.

Section III presents study findings regarding the relationship between membership in Home Demonstration Clubs and use of clothing construction practices.

Section IV presents findings as to the relationship between homemakers employment and their use of recommended clothing construction practices.

Section V presents study findings regarding the relationship of homemakers having children living at home and their use of recommended construction practices.

Section VI presents study findings as to the relationship between selected personal and family characteristics and total practice use score.

I. CHARACTERISTICS OF TENNESSEE HOMEMAKERS AND THEIR USE OF RECOMMENDED CLOTHING CONSTRUCTION PRACTICES

Findings presented in Table I summarize homemakers use of recommended clothing construction practices, selected personal characteristics and number of Extension contacts. To facilitate evaluation of data this section was organized into four subsections: (1) pattern and fabric selection and pattern alteration, (2) construction techniques, (3) Extension contacts, and (4) personal and family characteristics.

Pattern and Fabric Selection and Pattern Alteration

Findings summarized in this subsection were further classified and presented under the following four paragraph headings: (1) pattern selection, (2) reads fabric board end label information, (3) fabric selection, and (4) pattern alteration.

Pattern selection. Findings presented in Table I indicate that homemakers using the four practices in this area ranged from a low of 30.6 percent to a high of 95.3 percent. Of those surveyed, a high percent (95.3) of the homemakers considered clothing needs before selecting pattern, and 86 percent selected patterns based on construction skills, while only 30.6 percent selected patterns based on sewing difficulty.

Reads board end label information. Results revealed that 582 (98.5 percent) of those surveyed bought clothing fabrics compared to only 515 (86.1 percent) who read board end label to determine fiber content,

TABLE I. Selected Characteristics of Tennessee Homemakers, the Number of Extension Contacts and Use of Clothing Construction Practices

Selected Variables	Number of Respondents	Percent
PATTERN AND FABRIC SELECTION AND PATTERN ALTERATION		
<u>Pattern Selection</u>		
Use body measurements to select patterns.		
No	214	35.7
Yes	385	64.3
TOTAL	599	100.0
Consider clothing needs before selecting patterns.		
No	28	4.7
Yes	574	95.3
TOTAL	602	100.0
Select patterns based on construction skills.		
No	81	14.0
Yes	499	86.0
TOTAL	580	100.0
Select patterns based on sewing difficulty.		
No	402	69.4
Yes	177	30.6
TOTAL	579	100.0
<u>Reads Board End Labels</u>		
Buy clothing fabrics.		
No	9	1.5
Yes	582	98.5
TOTAL	591	100.0
Read board end labels for fiber content.		
No	83	13.9
Yes	515	86.1
TOTAL	698	100.0
Read board end labels for care required.		
No	50	8.3
Yes	552	91.7
TOTAL	602	100.0
Read board end labels for special finishes.		
No	217	36.5
Yes	378	63.5
TOTAL	595	100.0
Read board end labels for shrinkage information.		
No	139	23.3
Yes	458	76.7
TOTAL	951	100.0
Ask for permanent care label.		
No	462	78.3
Yes	128	21.7
TOTAL	590	100.0

TABLE I (Continued)

Selected Variables	Number of Respondents	Percent
<u>Fabric Selection</u>		
Consider pattern when selecting fabric.		
No	66	11.0
Yes	533	89.0
TOTAL	599	100.0
Consider grain when selecting fabric		
No	144	24.7
Yes	440	75.3
TOTAL	584	100.0
Consider weight and feel when selecting fabric.		
No	63	10.5
Yes	535	89.5
TOTAL	598	100.0
Consider color when selecting fabrics.		
No	17	2.8
Yes	581	97.2
TOTAL	598	100.0
Consider texture when selecting fabrics.		
No	59	10.0
Yes	532	90.0
TOTAL	591	100.0
Consider garment style when selecting fabrics.		
No	37	6.3
Yes	555	93.8
TOTAL	592	100.0
Consider individual preferences and/or need when selecting fabrics		
No	19	3.3
Yes	565	96.7
TOTAL	584	100.0
<u>Pattern Alteration</u>		
Alter patterns for self and/or family members.		
No	54	9.0
Yes	549	91.0
TOTAL	603	100.0
Alter patterns before cutting garment.		
No	67	11.3
Yes	528	88.7
TOTAL	595	100.0
Cut seam allowances larger for pattern alterations.		
No	148	24.8
Yes	442	75.2
TOTAL	588	100.0

TABLE I (Continued)

Selected Variables	Number of Respondents	Percent
Slash pattern and add extra amounts for pattern alterations.		
No	261	44.4
Yes	327	55.6
TOTAL	588	100.0
Fold out extra amount in pattern for pattern alterations.		
No	191	32.4
Yes	399	67.6
TOTAL	590	100.0
CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES		
<u>Fabric Preparation and Cutting</u>		
Shrink fabric before cutting.		
No	318	52.9
Yes	283	47.1
TOTAL	601	100.0
Cut garments with plain or pinking shears		
Plain	496	82.4
Pinking	106	17.6
TOTAL	602	100.0
Mark construction details with tailor's tacks.		
No	366	62.1
Yes	223	37.9
TOTAL	589	100.0
Mark construction details with tracing carbon.		
No	261	44.2
Yes	329	55.8
TOTAL	590	100.0
Mark construction details with pins.		
No	136	23.1
Yes	453	76.9
TOTAL	589	100.0
<u>Staystitching</u>		
Staystitch neckline.		
No	80	13.3
Yes	522	86.7
TOTAL	602	100.0
Staystitch shoulder.		
No	333	55.6
Yes	266	44.4
TOTAL	599	100.0
Staystitch armseye.		
No	311	51.8
Yes	289	48.2
TOTAL	600	100.0
Staystitch waistline.		
No	380	64.2
Yes	212	35.8
TOTAL	592	100.0
Staystitch side seams.		
No	486	82.1
Yes	106	17.9
TOTAL	592	100.0

TABLE I (Continued)

Selected Variables	Number of Respondents	Percent
Distance staystitching done from seamline.		
One-half inch	168	47.9
One-fourth inch	183	52.1
TOTAL	351	100.0
<u>Interfacing</u>		
Use interfacing.		
No	25	4.3
Yes	559	95.7
TOTAL	584	100.0
Use woven interfacing.		
No	261	45.2
Yes	317	54.8
TOTAL	578	100.0
Use non-woven interfacing.		
No	174	30.2
Yes	403	69.8
TOTAL	577	100.0
Use sew-in interfacing.		
No	217	37.0
Yes	369	63.0
TOTAL	586	100.0
Use fusible interfacing.		
No	198	34.1
Yes	383	65.9
TOTAL	586	100.0
Use interfacings in necklines.		
No	131	22.2
Yes	460	77.8
TOTAL	591	100.0
Use interfacings in collars.		
No	26	4.4
Yes	569	95.6
TOTAL	595	100.0
Use interfacings in cuffs.		
No	81	13.6
Yes	515	86.4
TOTAL	596	100.0
Use interfacings in facings.		
No	74	12.4
Yes	523	87.6
TOTAL	597	100.0
<u>Understitch Where Needed</u>		
Understitch garments.		
No	118	21.3
Yes	437	78.7
TOTAL	555	100.0
Understitch necklines.		
No	151	25.5
Yes	440	74.5
TOTAL	591	100.0

TABLE I (Continued)

Selected Variables	Number of Respondents	Percent
Understitch collars.		
No	196	33.4
Yes	391	66.6
TOTAL	587	100.0
Unterstitch facings.		
No	197	33.3
Yes	395	66.7
TOTAL	592	100.0
Understitch pockets.		
No	358	61.1
Yes	228	38.9
TOTAL	586	100.0
<u>Zipper Application</u>		
Preshrink zipper tape.		
No	474	79.7
Yes	121	20.3
TOTAL	595	100.0
Apply zippers with straight stitching.		
No	66	11.2
Yes	524	88.8
TOTAL	590	100.0
Cover zipper teeth and pull tab when applying.		
No	87	14.6
Yes	508	85.4
TOTAL	595	100.0
<u>Seam Finishes</u>		
Use pinked seam finishes.		
No	215	37.3
Yes	361	62.7
TOTAL	576	100.0
Use pinked and stitched seam finishes.		
No	339	58.8
Yes	238	41.2
TOTAL	577	100.0
Use turned under and stitched seam finishes.		
No	320	57.0
Yes	241	43.0
TOTAL	561	100.0
Use hand overcast seam finishes.		
No	461	81.3
Yes	106	18.7
TOTAL	567	100.0
Use machine overcast seam finishes.		
No	244	41.9
Yes	338	58.1
TOTAL	582	100.0
Use flat felled seam finishes.		
No	406	71.2
Yes	164	28.8
TOTAL	570	100.0

TABLE I (Continued)

Selected Variables	Number of Respondents	Percent
Use French seam finishes.		
No	438	76.6
Yes	134	23.4
TOTAL	572	100.0
Use bound seam finishes.		
No	471	82.9
Yes	97	17.1
TOTAL	568	100.0
Use plain seam finishes on knit fabrics.		
No	152	25.9
Yes	435	74.1
TOTAL	587	100.0
Use edge stitched finishes on knit fabrics.		
No	398	68.5
Yes	183	31.5
TOTAL	581	100.0
Use machine overcast seam finishes on knit fabrics.		
No	443	76.1
Yes	139	23.9
TOTAL	582	100.0
Use machine zig-zagged seam finishes on knit fabrics.		
No	232	39.1
Yes	361	60.9
TOTAL	593	100.0
<u>Hem Construction</u>		
Have hems marked by someone else.		
No	406	69.0
Yes	182	31.0
TOTAL	588	100.0
Consider even width as criteria for a good hem.		
No	24	4.0
Yes	573	96.0
TOTAL	597	100.0
Consider evenly eased fullness as criteria for a good hem.		
No	32	5.4
Yes	562	94.6
TOTAL	594	100.0
Consider a flat hem as criteria for a good hem.		
No	23	3.9
Yes	565	96.1
TOTAL	588	100.0
Consider inconspicuous stitches criteria for a good hem.		
No	37	6.3
Yes	555	93.7
TOTAL	592	100.0

TABLE I (Continued)

Selected Variables	Number of Respondents	Percent
Use hem tape to finish hem edge.		
No	129	21.6
Yes	467	78.4
TOTAL	596	100.0
Use stretch lace to finish hem edge.		
No	129	21.6
Yes	467	78.4
TOTAL	596	100.0
Use pinking to finish a hem edge.		
No	297	50.5
Yes	291	49.5
TOTAL	588	100.0
Use clean finishing to finish hem edge.		
No	169	28.9
Yes	415	71.1
TOTAL	584	100.0
Use bias bound or Hong Kong finish for hem edge.		
No	478	82.1
Yes	104	17.9
TOTAL	582	100.0
Use zig-zagging for hem edge.		
No	204	34.8
Yes	382	65.2
TOTAL	586	100.0
<u>Pressing Techniques</u>		
Make test seam before pressing garment.		
No	316	52.9
Yes	281	47.1
TOTAL	597	100.0
Press each seam and dart before another seam crosses it.		
No	101	16.8
Yes	500	83.2
TOTAL	601	100.0
Have and use special pressing equipment.		
No	343	57.4
Yes	255	42.6
TOTAL	598	100.0
Use a press cloth.		
No	89	14.8
Yes	512	85.2
TOTAL	601	100.0
EXTENSION CONTACTS		
Extension meetings attended on clothing.		
0	219	36.1
1-3	312	51.3
4-16	76	12.6
TOTAL	607	100.0

TABLE I (Continued)

Selected Variables	Number of Respondents	Percent
Visits to the Extension office.		
0	227	37.4
1-3	219	36.0
4-75	161	26.6
TOTAL	607	100.0
Telephone calls to the Extension agent.		
0	186	30.7
1-3	194	31.8
4-60	226	37.5
TOTAL	606	100.0
Newsletters received from Extension.		
0	90	14.8
1-5	163	26.8
6-10	133	22.0
11-15	191	31.4
16-98	31	5.3
TOTAL	608	100.0
<u>Personal and Family Characteristics</u>		
Presently employed outside home.		
No	442	73.7
Yes	158	26.3
TOTAL	600	100.0
Children under 18 at home.		
No	379	63.4
Yes	219	36.6
TOTAL	598	100.0
Member of Home Demonstration Club.		
No	161	26.7
Yes	443	73.3
TOTAL	604	100.0
Garments made past 12 months.		
0-5	218	36.0
6-10	193	31.9
11-85	195	32.1
TOTAL	606	100.0

552 (91.7 percent) read the labels for fabric care requirements, 378 (63.5 percent) read for special finishes and 458 (76.7 percent) read to learn about shrinkage. Of those responding, only 128 or 21.7 percent asked for a permanent care label.

Fabric selection. Use of the 7 practices relating to fabric selection ranged from a low of 75.3 percent to a high of 97.2 percent. Homemakers selecting fabrics considered the fabric, pattern, weight, color, texture, garment style, and personal preference and/or need at a rate of 89.0 percent or greater. In contrast, only 75.3 percent of those surveyed considered the fabric grain when selecting fabric.

Pattern alteration. Results indicated that 549 (91 percent) of those surveyed altered patterns for themselves or family members and 88.7 percent (528) of those responding altered patterns before cutting the garment. More than 75 percent made these alterations by cutting larger seam allowances, 67.6 percent folded out extra amounts in the pattern, while only 55.6 percent slashed the pattern and added extra amounts.

Construction Techniques

Findings presented in this subsection were further classified into eight categories: (1) fabric preparation and cutting, (2) stay-stitching, (3) interfacing, (4) understitching, (5) zipper application, (6) seam finishes, (7) hem construction, and (8) pressing techniques.

Fabric preparation and cutting. Only 283 (47.1 percent) of the 601 homemakers surveyed said they shrink fabrics before cutting. When

cutting garments, 496 (82.4 percent) used plain shears compared to 106 (17.6 percent) using pinking shears. Of the 3 practices related to marking construction details, findings revealed that 223 (37.9 percent) used tailor's tacks, 329 (55.8 percent) used tracing carbon and 453 (76.9 percent) marked details with pins.

Staystitching. Homemakers using the 5 practices relating to staystitching ranged from a low of 17.9 percent to a high of 86.7 percent. Of those surveyed 86.7 percent staystitched necklines, 44.4 percent the shoulders, 48.2 percent the armseye, 35.8 percent the waistline and 17.9 percent the side seam. Of those responding, 47.9 percent staystitched one-half inch from the seamline while 52.1 percent applied this detail at one-fourth inch from the seamline.

Interfacing. Of the homemakers responding, 95.7 percent used interfacing when constructing garments. In looking at the types of interfacing used, data revealed that 54.8 percent of the homemakers used woven interfacing and 69.8 percent used non-woven interfacing. Results further revealed that 63 percent used sew-in type interfacing while 65.9 percent used the fusible type. Use of interfacing in 4 garment locations indicated that 95.6 percent of the homemakers used interfacing in collars, while 87.6 interfaced facings, 86.4 percent used interfacing in cuffs and 77.8 percent used interfacings in necklines.

Understitch where needed. Survey results show that 437 (78.7 percent) of the homemakers responding did understitch garments during

construction. In the 4 areas specified, 74.5 percent understitched necklines, 66.6 percent understitched collars, 66.7 percent understitched facings while only 38.9 percent understitched pockets.

Zipper application. Of the homemakers responding in this area, only 20.3 percent preshrink zipper tape before applying the zipper, while 85.4 covered zipper teeth and pull tab when applying the zipper and 88.8 percent applied zipper with straight stitching.

Seam finishes. Of the 12 practices relating to seam finishes, usage ranged from a low of 18.7 percent to a high of 74.1 percent. Results indicated that 62.7 percent used pinked seam finishes while 41.2 percent used pinked and stitched seam finishes. Of those responding, 43 percent used turned under and stitched seam finishes, while 18.7 percent used hand overcast and 58.1 percent used machine overcast seam finishes. This compares to 28.8 percent using flat felled seam finishes, 23.4 percent using French and 17.1 percent using bound seam finishes. When looking at seam finishes used on knit fabrics, results showed that 74.1 percent used a plain seam finish, 31.5 percent edge stitched the seams, 23.9 percent used a machine overcast and 60.9 percent used a machine zig-zagged seam finish.

Hem construction. Of the homemakers surveyed, only 31 percent had garment hems marked by someone else. In contrast 96 percent of those responding considered an even width, 94.6 percent considered evenly eased fullness, 96.1 percent considered a flat hem, and 93.7 percent considered inconspicuous stitches as criteria for a good hem.

Of the 6 methods used for finishing the hem edge, 78.4 percent used hem tape, 78.4 percent used stretch lace, 49.5 percent used pinking, 71.1 percent used clean finishing, 65.2 percent use zig-zagging and 17.9 percent used bias bound or Hong Kong finish.

Pressing techniques. Of the homemakers responding, 47.1 percent made a test seam before pressing the garment, while 83.2 percent pressed each seam and dart before another seam crossed it. Results indicated that 42.6 percent had and used special pressing equipment and 85.2 percent used a press cloth.

Extension Contacts

Meetings. Of the homemakers responding to the survey, 36.1 percent had attended no Extension meetings on clothing during the preceding 12 months. This compares to 51.3 percent who had attended from 1-3 meetings and 12.6 percent who had attended from 4-16 Extension meetings on clothing.

Office visits. Results indicated that during the past 12 months, 37.4 percent of those responding to the survey had made no visits to the Extension office. This compares to 36 percent who had made from 1-3 visits, and 26.6 percent who had made from 4-75 Extension office visits.

Telephone calls. Of those responding, 30.7 percent had made no calls to the Extension office during the past 12 months. In contrast, 31.8 percent had made from 1-3 calls and 37.5 percent had made from 4-60 telephone calls to the Extension office.

Newsletters. Survey results revealed that 14.8 percent of those surveyed had received no newsletters from Extension during the past 12 months. Of those who had been the recipient of newsletters, 26.8 percent received from 1-5, 22 percent from 6-10, 31.4 percent from 11-15, and 5.3 percent from 16-98 newsletters.

Personal and Family Characteristics

Homemaker characteristics described in this subsection included employment, children, Home Demonstration Club membership and the number of garments made in the past year.

Employment. Data revealed that 26.3 percent of the homemakers surveyed were employed outside the home compared to 73.7 percent who had no outside employment.

Children. Of those surveyed, 36.6 percent of the homemakers had children under 18 years of age living at home while 63.4 percent had no children in this age bracket still living at home.

HDC membership. Results indicated that 73.3 percent of those surveyed were members of a Home Demonstration Club, while only 26.7 percent were not members.

Garments made. In the past 12 months, 36 percent of the homemakers surveyed had made from 0-5 garments. This compares to 31.9 percent who had made from 6-10 garments and 32.1 percent who had made from 11-85 garments.

II. EXTENSION CONTACTS AND THE USE OF RECOMMENDED PRACTICES

The purpose of this section was to present findings regarding the relationship between Extension contacts and the use of clothing construction practices. Data regarding findings are presented in Table II.

Four types of Extension contacts were studied: (1) meetings, (2) office visits, (3) telephone calls, and (4) newsletters received.

There were 76 practices to which homemakers were asked to respond. The practice use score reflects the number of these practices homemakers were using. Use of these practices by respondents ranged from a low of 0 to a high of 74 with a mean score of 47.4.

Extension Meetings Attended

Those homemakers who had not attended any Extension meetings had a mean score of 44.2 in practices used, while those attending 4 or more meetings had a mean score of 50.5. One-way analysis of variance F test indicated that there was a significant relationship between the number of practices used and the number of contacts made with Extension agents. The more Extension contacts homemakers had, the greater the practice use.

Visits to Extension Office

Homemakers who had made no visits to the Extension office had a mean score of 45 in practices used. In contrast, homemakers who had made 1 or more visits had a mean score of 48.4 or greater. Statistical tests indicated that there was a significant relationship between practice use and Extension office visits made. Those who made Extension office

TABLE II. Relationships Between Extension Contacts Made and Use of Clothing Construction Practices

Number and Types of Extension Contacts	Number of Homemakers	Mean Number of Practices Used
Extension Meetings Attended		
Not any	219	44.2
1	118	49.5
2	124	48.5
3	70	48.4
4 and over	76	50.5
TOTAL	607	47.4
Variance Ratio	F = 7.82; p = .000	
Visits to Extension Office		
Not any	227	45.0
1-4	259	49.0
5-10	75	48.4
11 and over	46	48.5
TOTAL	607	47.4
Variance Ratio	F = 5.70; p = .007	
Telephone Calls to Extension Office		
Not any	186	45.2
1-5	267	48.0
6 and over	153	49.0
TOTAL	606	47.4
Variance Ratio	F = 6.02; p = .003	
Newsletters Received		
Not any	90	39.0
1-12	451	48.6
13 and over	67	50.5
TOTAL	608	47.4
Variance Ratio	F = 34.7; p = .000	

visits used a greater number of practices than those homemakers making no visits.

Telephone Calls to Extension Office

Homemakers surveyed who had made no telephone calls to the Extension office had used 45.2 practices, while those making from 1 to 5 calls used 48 practices and those making 6 or more calls had used an average of 49 practices. One-way analysis of variance F test indicated that there was a significant relationship between the number of telephone calls made to the Extension office and practice use. The more telephone calls homemakers made to the Extension office, the greater their practice use.

Newsletters Received

Homemakers who had received no newsletters had used an average of 39 practices, while homemakers who had received from 1 to 12 newsletters were using an average of 48.6 clothing construction practices. Homemakers who had received 13 or more newsletters increased to a mean score of 50.5. Statistical tests revealed that there was a significant relationship between the number of practices used and the number of Extension newsletters received. The more newsletters homemakers received, the greater their practice use.

Table Summary

Analysis of data indicated that there was a significant relationship between the number of Extension meetings attended, office visits

and telephone calls made and newsletters received and the total practice use score. Those homemakers making more contacts with Extension agents were using a larger number of the recommended clothing construction practices than those who did not.

III. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MEMBERSHIP IN HOME DEMONSTRATION CLUBS AND CLOTHING CONSTRUCTION PRACTICES USED

The purpose of this section was to compare members and nonmembers of Home Demonstration Clubs as to their use of recommended clothing construction practices. Practices were grouped under two major subsections. The first subsection includes pattern and fabric selection and pattern alteration. The second subsection deals with construction techniques. Each subsection includes related clothing construction practices. Findings are presented in Table III.

Pattern and Fabric Selection and Pattern Alteration

Variables pertaining to this subsection were further divided into four groups. These were: (1) pattern selection, (2) reads fabric board end label information, (3) fabric selection, and (4) pattern alterations.

Pattern selection. Four variables relating directly to pattern selection were incorporated under this heading. These included the selection of patterns based on body measurements, clothing needs, construction skills and sewing difficulty.

Data in Table III show that about 66 percent of the HDC members, compared to almost 60 percent of the nonmembers used body measurements

TABLE III. Relationships Between Membership in Home Demonstration Clubs and Clothing Construction Practices Used

Clothing Construction Practices	HDC Membership Status			
	Nonmember		Member	
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
PATTERN AND FABRIC SELECTION AND PATTERN ALTERATION				
<u>Pattern Selection</u>				
Use body measurements to select patterns.				
No	64	40.3	150	34.2
Yes	95	59.7	288	65.8
TOTAL	159	100.0	438	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 1.58; p = 0.21$			
Selects patterns based on clothing needs.				
No	14	8.7	14	3.2
Yes	147	91.3	425	96.8
TOTAL	161	100.0	439	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 6.84; p = 0.009$			
Selects patterns based on construction skills.				
No	32	20.0	49	11.7
Yes	128	80.0	369	88.3
TOTAL	160	100.0	418	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 5.91; p = 0.015$			
Selects pattern based on sewing difficulty.				
No	104	67.5	297	70.2
Yes	50	32.5	126	29.8
TOTAL	154	100.0	423	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 0.267; p = 0.606$			
<u>Reads Board End Label Information</u>				
Buys clothing fabrics.				
No	3	1.9	5	1.1
Yes	152	98.1	430	98.9
TOTAL	155	100.0	435	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 0.528; p = 0.468$			
Read board end label for fiber content.				
No	43	26.9	39	8.9
Yes	117	73.1	397	91.1
TOTAL	160	100.0	436	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 30.22; p = 0.000$			
Read board end label for care required.				
No	21	13.0	29	6.6
Yes	140	87.0	410	93.6
TOTAL	161	100.0	439	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 5.58; p = 0.018$			
Read board end labels for special finishes.				
No	78	48.8	139	32.1
Yes	82	51.3	294	67.9
TOTAL	160	100.0	433	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 13.25; p = 0.003$			

TABLE III (Continued)

Clothing Construction Practices	HDC Membership Status			
	Nonmember		Member	
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
Read board end label for shrinkage information.				
No	47	29.4	92	21.1
Yes	113	70.6	343	78.9
TOTAL	160	100.0	435	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 3.97; p = 0.046$			
Ask for permanent care label.				
No	123	78.3	338	78.4
Yes	34	21.7	93	21.6
TOTAL	157	100.0	431	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 0.0; p = 1.000$			
<u>Fabric Selection</u>				
When selecting fabric consider pattern recommendations.				
No	30	18.8	36	8.2
Yes	130	81.2	401	91.8
TOTAL	160	100.0	437	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 12.22; p = 0.005$			
When selecting fabric consider grain.				
No	51	32.1	93	22.0
Yes	108	67.9	330	78.0
TOTAL	159	100.0	423	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 5.79; p = 0.016$			
When selecting fabric consider weight and feel.				
No	22	13.8	40	9.2
Yes	127	86.2	397	90.8
TOTAL	159	100.0	437	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 2.26; p = 0.132$			
When selecting fabric consider color.				
No	3	1.9	13	3.0
Yes	158	98.1	422	97.0
TOTAL	161	100.0	435	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 0.569; p = 0.451$			
When selecting fabric consider texture.				
No	19	11.9	39	9.1
Yes	140	88.1	391	90.9
TOTAL	159	100.0	430	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 0.784; p = 0.376$			
When selecting fabric consider garment style.				
No	16	10.1	20	4.6
Yes	143	89.9	411	95.4
TOTAL	159	100.0	431	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 5.05; p = 0.025$			

TABLE III (Continued)

Clothing Construction Practices	HDC Membership Status			
	Nonmember		Member	
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
When selecting fabric consider individual preference and/or need.				
No	9	5.7	10	2.4
Yes	150	94.3	413	97.6
TOTAL	159	100.0	423	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 3.11; p = 0.083$			
Pattern Alterations				
Alter patterns.				
No	19	11.8	35	8.0
Yes	142	88.2	405	92.0
TOTAL	161	100.0	440	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 1.69; p = 0.194$			
Alter patterns before cutting garment.				
No	22	14.1	45	10.3
Yes	134	85.9	392	89.7
TOTAL	156	100.0	437	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 1.30; p = 0.254$			
Alter pattern by cutting larger seams.				
No	45	28.3	100	23.4
Yes	114	71.7	327	76.6
TOTAL	159	100.0	427	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 1.23; p = 0.267$			
Alter pattern by slashing pattern and adding extra amounts.				
No	89	56.3	171	40.0
Yes	69	43.7	257	60.0
TOTAL	158	100.0	428	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 11.88; p = 0.006$			
Alter pattern by folding out extra amount in pattern.				
No	68	43.3	121	28.1
Yes	89	56.7	310	71.9
TOTAL	157	100.0	431	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 11.56; p = 0.007$			
CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES				
Fabric Preparation and Cutting				
Shrink fabric before cutting.				
No	91	56.5	226	51.6
Yes	70	43.5	212	48.4
TOTAL	161	100.0	438	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 0.956; p = 0.328$			
Shears used to cut garments.				
Plain	133	83.1	361	82.0
Pinking	27	16.9	79	18.0
TOTAL	160	100.0	440	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 0.034; p = 0.853$			
Mark construction details with tailor's tacks.				
No	111	69.4	253	59.3
Yes	49	30.6	174	40.7
TOTAL	160	100.0	427	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 4.67; p = 0.031$			

TABLE III (Continued)

Clothing Construction Practices	HDC Membership Status			
	Nonmember		Member	
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
Mark construction details with tracing carbon.				
No	79	49.1	182	42.6
Yes	82	50.9	245	57.4
TOTAL	161	100.0	427	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 1.76; p = 0.190$			
Mark construction details with pins.				
No	35	21.9	101	23.7
Yes	125	78.1	326	76.3
TOTAL	160	100.0	427	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 0; p = 0.730$			
<u>Staystitching</u>				
Staystitch the neckline.				
No	31	19.3	49	11.2
Yes	130	80.7	390	88.8
TOTAL	161	100.0	436	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 5.99; p = 0.014$			
Staystitch the shoulder.				
No	108	67.1	223	51.1
Yes	53	32.9	213	48.9
TOTAL	161	100.0	436	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 11.45; p = 0.001$			
Staystitch the armseye.				
No	90	55.9	221	50.6
Yes	71	44.1	216	49.4
TOTAL	161	100.0	437	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 1.13; p = 0.287$			
Staystitch the waistline.				
No	116	72.0	263	61.3
Yes	45	28.0	166	38.7
TOTAL	161	100.0	429	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 5.42; p = 0.020$			
Staystitch the side seams.				
No	137	85.1	347	80.9
Yes	24	14.9	82	19.1
TOTAL	161	100.0	429	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 1.14; p = 0.287$			
Distance staystitch from seamline.				
One-half inch	41	47.1	127	48.3
One-fourth inch	46	52.9	136	51.7
TOTAL	87	100.0	263	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 0.004; p = 0.949$			

TABLE III (Continued)

Clothing Construction Practices	HDC Membership Status			
	Nonmember		Member	
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
<u>Interfacings</u>				
Use interfacing in garments.				
No	13	8.2	12	2.8
Yes	145	91.8	412	97.2
TOTAL	158	100.0	424	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 6.897$; $p = 0.009$			
Use woven interfacing.				
No	78	48.8	182	43.8
Yes	82	51.3	234	56.3
TOTAL	160	100.0	416	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 0.913$; $p = 0.324$			
Use non-woven interfacing.				
No	54	34.0	119	28.6
Yes	105	66.0	297	71.4
TOTAL	159	100.0	416	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 1.325$; $p = 0.250$			
Use sew-in interfacing.				
No	63	39.4	153	36.1
Yes	97	60.6	271	63.9
TOTAL	160	100.0	424	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 0.408$; $p = 0.523$			
Use fusible interfacing.				
No	55	34.8	142	33.7
Yes	103	65.2	279	66.3
TOTAL	158	100.0	421	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 0.021$; $p = 0.884$			
Use interfacing in neckline.				
No	43	26.7	87	20.3
Yes	118	73.3	341	79.7
TOTAL	161	100.0	428	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 2.411$; $p = 0.121$			
Use interfacing in collars.				
No	13	8.1	13	3.0
Yes	148	91.9	419	97.0
TOTAL	161	100.0	432	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 6.021$; $p = 0.014$			
Use interfacing in cuffs.				
No	29	18.1	52	12.0
Yes	131	81.9	382	88.0
TOTAL	160	100.0	434	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 3.243$; $p = 0.072$			
Use interfacing in facings.				
No	30	18.8	43	9.9
Yes	130	81.3	392	90.1
TOTAL	160	100.0	435	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 7.737$; $p = 0.005$			

TABLE III (Continued)

Clothing Construction Practices	HDC Membership Status			
	Nonmember		Member	
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
<u>Understitching</u>				
Understitch garments.				
No	41	27.0	76	19.0
Yes	111	73.0	325	81.0
TOTAL	152	100.0	401	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 3.784; p = 0.052$			
Understitch neckline				
No	50	31.8	100	23.1
Yes	107	68.2	332	76.9
TOTAL	157	100.0	432	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 4.144; p = 0.042$			
Understitch collars.				
No	59	37.8	136	31.7
Yes	97	62.2	293	68.3
TOTAL	156	100.0	429	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 1.662; p = 0.197$			
Understitch facings.				
No	62	39.2	134	31.0
Yes	96	60.8	298	69.0
TOTAL	158	100.0	432	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 3.164; p = 0.075$			
Understitch pockets.				
No	107	67.7	249	58.5
Yes	51	32.2	177	41.5
TOTAL	158	100.0	426	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 3.782; p = 0.052$			
<u>Zipper Application</u>				
Preshrunk zipper tape.				
No	130	80.7	343	79.4
Yes	31	19.3	89	20.6
TOTAL	161	100.0	432	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 0.062; p = 0.804$			
Zipper applied with straight stitching.				
No	17	10.6	49	11.5
Yes	144	89.4	378	88.5
TOTAL	161	100.0	427	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 0.028; p = 0.867$			
Cover zipper teeth and pull tab.				
No	27	16.8	59	13.7
Yes	134	83.2	373	86.3
TOTAL	161	100.0	432	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 0.683; p = 0.409$			

TABLE III (Continued)

Clothing Construction Practices	HDC Membership Status			
	Nonmember		Member	
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
<u>Seam Finishes</u>				
Pinked seams on woven fabrics.				
No	64	41.0	151	36.1
Yes	92	59.0	267	63.9
TOTAL	156	100.0	418	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 0.965$; $p = 0.326$			
Pinked and stitched seams on woven fabrics.				
No	96	60.8	242	58.0
Yes	62	39.2	175	42.0
TOTAL	158	100.0	417	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 0.248$; $p = 0.619$			
Turned under and stitched seams on woven fabrics.				
No	87	55.4	231	57.5
Yes	70	44.6	171	42.5
TOTAL	157	100.0	402	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 0.119$; $p = 0.730$			
Hand overcast seams on woven fabrics.				
No	136	87.2	323	79.0
Yes	20	12.8	86	21.0
TOTAL	156	100.0	409	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 4.466$; $p = 0.035$			
Machine overcast seams on woven fabric.				
No	75	47.8	168	39.7
Yes	82	52.2	255	60.3
TOTAL	157	100.0	423	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 2.729$; $p = 0.099$			
Flat felled seams on woven fabrics.				
No	123	77.8	281	68.5
Yes	35	22.2	129	31.5
TOTAL	158	100.0	410	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 4.372$; $p = 0.036$			
French seams on woven fabrics.				
No	124	79.0	312	75.5
Yes	33	21.0	101	24.5
TOTAL	157	100.0	413	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 0.568$; $p = 0.451$			
Bound seams on woven fabrics.				
No	142	91.0	327	79.8
Yes	14	9.0	83	20.2
TOTAL	156	100.0	410	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 9.328$; $p = 0.002$			
Plain seams on knit fabrics.				
No	39	24.5	113	26.5
Yes	120	75.5	313	73.5
TOTAL	159	100.0	426	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 0.148$; $p = 0.701$			

TABLE III (Continued)

Clothing Construction Practices	HDC Membership Status			
	Nonmember		Member	
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
Edge stitched seams on knit fabrics.				
No.	113	70.6	284	67.8
Yes	47	29.4	135	32.2
TOTAL	160	100.0	419	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 0.313$; $p = 0.576$			
Machine overcast seams on knit fabrics.				
No	128	80.0	313	74.5
Yes	32	20.0	107	25.5
TOTAL	160	100.0	420	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 1.618$; $p = 0.203$			
Machine zig-zagged seams on knit fabrics.				
No	72	45.0	158	35.7
Yes	88	55.0	273	63.3
TOTAL	160	100.0	431	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 3.073$; $p = 0.079$			
<u>Hem Construction</u>				
Hems in garments marked by others.				
No	107	66.9	299	70.2
Yes	53	33.1	127	29.8
TOTAL	160	100.0	426	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 0.454$; $p = 0.500$			
Good quality hems are even in width.				
No	10	6.3	14	3.2
Yes	150	93.8	421	96.8
TOTAL	160	100.0	435	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 2.049$; $p = 0.152$			
Good quality hems have fullness eased evenly.				
No	12	7.5	19	4.4
Yes	148	92.5	413	95.6
TOTAL	160	100.0	432	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 1.682$; $p = 0.195$			
Good quality hems are flat.				
No	6	3.8	16	3.7
Yes	151	96.2	413	96.3
TOTAL	157	100.0	429	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 0.0$; $p = 1.00$			
Good quality hems have inconspicuous stitches.				
No	14	8.8	22	5.1
Yes	145	91.2	409	94.9
TOTAL	159	100.0	431	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 2.168$; $p = 0.141$			
Finish hem edge with hem tape.				
No	46	28.6	82	18.9
Yes	115	71.4	351	81.1
TOTAL	161	100.0	433	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 5.886$; $p = 0.015$			
Finish hem edge with stretch lace.				
No	45	28.0	83	19.2
Yes	116	72.0	350	80.8
TOTAL	161	100.0	433	100.0
Chi-Square Text	$x^2 = 4.847$; $p = 0.028$			

TABLE III (Continued)

Clothing Construction Practices	HDC Membership Status			
	Nonmember		Member	
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
Finish hem edge with pinking.				
No	80	50.0	216	50.7
Yes	80	50.0	210	49.3
TOTAL	160	100.0	426	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 0.004$; $p = 0.953$			
Finish hem edge with clean finishing.				
No	51	31.9	118	28.0
Yes	109	68.1	304	72.0
TOTAL	160	100.0	422	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 0.683$; $p = 0.409$			
Finish hem edge with bias bound or Hong Kong finish.				
No	140	88.1	336	79.8
Yes	19	11.9	85	20.2
TOTAL	159	100.0	421	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 4.78$; $p = 0.029$			
Finish hem edge with zig-zagging.				
No	56	34.8	147	34.8
Yes	105	65.2	276	65.2
TOTAL	161	100.0	423	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 0.0$; $p = 1.000$			
<u>Pressing Techniques</u>				
Make test seam before pressing garment.				
No	91	56.5	224	51.6
Yes	70	43.5	210	48.4
TOTAL	161	100.0	434	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 0.947$; $p = 0.330$			
Press seam and dart before another seam crosses it.				
No	35	21.7	65	14.8
Yes	126	78.3	373	85.2
TOTAL	161	100.0	438	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 3.458$; $p = 0.068$			
Have and use special pressing equipment.				
No	110	68.3	233	53.6
Yes	51	31.7	202	46.4
TOTAL	161	100.0	435	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 9.88$; $p = 0.002$			
Use a press cloth to prevent shine.				
No	38	23.6	51	11.6
Yes	123	76.4	387	88.4
TOTAL	161	100.0	438	100.0
Chi-Square Test	$x^2 = 12.38$; $p = 0.004$			

as a basis for the selection of patterns. Data also revealed that almost 29 percent of the HDC members, compared to nearly 33 percent of the nonmembers, selected patterns based on sewing difficulty.

Results indicated that almost 97 percent of the HDC members, compared to about 91 percent of the nonmembers, selected patterns based on clothing needs. However, only 88 percent of the members and 80 percent of the nonmembers used construction skills as a basis for pattern selection.

According to the Chi-Square (χ^2) test, membership in home demonstration club was not significantly related to use of body measurements and sewing difficulty as a basis for pattern selection. On the other hand, there was a significant relationship between HDC membership and the selection of patterns based on clothing needs and construction skills. In both of the practices where significance was shown, HDC members were using the practice at a higher percentage than nonmembers.

Reads board end label information. Variables in this area focused on the selection of clothing fabric, which information that is included on fabric board end labels was used as a basis for fabric selection, and whether permanent care labels were requested. Board end label information included reading for fiber content, care required, special finishes and shrinkage information.

Findings revealed that almost all of those surveyed, both members and nonmembers, bought clothing fabrics, and that only 22 percent of both audiences requested permanent care labels. Membership in home

demonstration clubs was not significantly related to the use of these two practices.

When comparing the use of practices relating to using information on fabric board end labels, there were major differences. Ninety-one percent of the HDC members read the label for fiber content compared to only 73 percent of the nonmembers. Board end label information pertaining to care requirements was used by almost 94 percent of HDC members as opposed to 87 percent of the nonmembers, and members used the label for special finishes information considerably more often than nonmembers, 68 percent to 51 percent. Shrinkage information was used by almost 79 percent of the members compared to about 71 percent of the nonmembers.

According to the Chi-Square test (χ^2) each of the variables relating to board end label information showed a significant difference in their use by members and nonmembers. In each instance HDC members were using the practice more frequently than nonmembers.

Fabric selection. Variables in this group included fabric selection based on pattern recommendations, grain, texture, color, weight and feel of fabric, as well as garment style and individual preference and/or need. Almost 92 percent of the HDC members considered pattern recommendations when selecting fabrics. This compared to about 81 percent of the nonmembers following the same practice. Consideration of the fabric grain was a practice used by 78 percent of the HDC members and 68 percent of the nonmembers. Also, about 95 percent of

the members, as opposed to nearly 90 percent of the nonmembers, considered garment style as a criteria for selecting fabric. Those practices related to garment style, fabric grain and pattern recommendations, showed a significant relationship between membership in home demonstration clubs and their use. In each case, members used the practice significantly more often than nonmembers. Variables in fabric selection including the consideration of weight and feel, color, and texture of the fabric as well as considering individual preference and/or need, showed no significant relationship between their use and club membership.

Pattern alterations. Ninety-two percent of the members and about 88 percent of the nonmembers made pattern alterations. Variables in this group included altering patterns before cutting the garment, and whether alterations were made by cutting larger seams, slashing the pattern and adding extra amounts or folding out extra amounts in the pattern. Almost 90 percent of the members and 86 percent of the nonmembers altered patterns before cutting garments. When making the alterations nearly 77 percent of the members and 72 percent of the nonmembers cut larger seams. In comparison, only 60 percent of the members and about 44 percent of the nonmembers made alterations by slashing the pattern and adding extra amounts. Alterations were made by folding out extra amounts in the pattern by almost 72 percent of the members and 57 percent of the nonmembers. There was no significant relationship between those altering patterns, making alterations before

cutting the garment or altering by cutting larger seams and membership in home demonstration clubs. According to the Chi-Square test, there was a significant relationship between the use of variables dealing with altering patterns by slashing the pattern and adding extra amounts and by folding out extra amounts in patterns as a means of altering and HDC membership. In both variables, members were using the practices in greater numbers than nonmembers.

Construction Techniques

Variables relating to this subsection deal with seven recommended construction procedures. These include fabric preparation and cutting, staystitching, interfacing, understitching, zipper application, seam finishes, hem construction and pressing. A comparison of home demonstration club members and nonmembers using recommended practices was made for each procedure.

Fabric preparation and cutting. Variables in this procedure included shrinking fabrics before cutting, shears used to cut garments and whether construction details were marked with tailor's tacks, tracing carbon or pins. Data revealed that members and nonmembers did not differ significantly in shrinking fabric before cutting, the type of shears used to cut garments or the use of tracing carbon and pins to mark construction details.

In contrast, almost 41 percent of the HDC members as opposed to nearly 31 percent of the nonmembers used tailor's tacks to mark construction details. According to the Chi-Square test, there was

a significant relationship between the use of this practice and HDC membership. Members used this practice significantly more often.

Staystitching. Practices related to this construction procedure included staystitching the neckline, shoulder, armseye, waistline, and side seams as well as the distance from the seamline that the staystitching was done. Almost 90 percent of the HDC members staystitched the neckline, while only approximately 81 percent of the nonmembers used this practice. About 50 percent of the members and 33 percent of the nonmembers staystitched the shoulder and almost 39 percent of the members, opposed to 28 percent of the nonmembers, staystitched the waistline. According to Chi-Square test, there was a significant relationship between practice use and membership. Members used these practices significantly more frequently than did nonmembers. There was no significant relationship between the staystitching of the armseye or side seams and club membership. Neither was membership significantly related to the distance staystitching was done from the seamline.

Interfacing. Variables in this area related to the use of interfacing, the type of interfacing used and where in the garment it was applied. The relationship between membership and the use of interfacing in garments was shown to be significant according to the Chi-Square test. Members (97.2 percent) used the practice significantly more often than the nonmembers (91.8 percent) surveyed. There was no significant relationship between club membership and the type of

interfacing used by members and nonmembers, nor in the application of interfacing in garment necklines and cuffs. However, 97 percent of the members opposed to about 92 percent of the nonmembers used interfacing in collars and about 90 percent of the members compared to about 81 percent of the nonmembers surveyed used interfacing in facings. These indicated that there was a significant relationship at .05 or greater between HDC membership and the use of these practices. In both cases, members used the practices significantly more frequently.

Understitching. Variables in this procedure deal with whether or not garments were understitched and areas in which understitching was done. Eighty-one percent of the members compared to 73 percent of the nonmembers did some understitching on garments. Of those understitching, there was a significant relationship between membership and the application of understitching on the neckline. Members were staystitching more frequently and in more of the recommended areas than were nonmembers. There was no significant relationship between HDC membership and understitching on pockets, facings, and collars.

Zipper application. Variables in this group included preshrinking zippers, whether zippers were applied with straight stitching and whether the zipper teeth and pull tab was covered. About 79 percent of the members, in contrast to almost 81 percent of the nonmembers, did preshrink zippers before applying; likewise, about 88 percent of the members and 89 percent of the nonmembers felt that they applied

their zipper with straight stitching. A higher percentage of the members (86.3 percent) than the nonmembers (83.2 percent) did cover the zipper teeth and pull tab when applying zippers. Even though there was some variation in the percent of members and nonmembers using these practices, when tested according to the Chi-Square test, there was no significant relationship between HDC membership and zipper application variables.

Seam finishes. Of the 12 seam finishes recommended for use on woven and knit fabrics, the use of only 3 of these variables had any significant relationship to HDC membership. Twenty-one percent of the HDC members surveyed hand overcast seams on woven fabrics, while only about 13 percent of the nonmembers used this technique. Also, almost 32 percent of the members used flat filled seams on woven fabrics compared to about 22 percent of the nonmembers. A higher percentage of members (20.2 percent) than nonmembers (9 percent) bound seams on woven fabrics. When using the Chi-Square test, there was a significant relationship in the use of these practices and HDC membership. In each variable where significance was indicated, members were using the practice more often. Homemakers using pinked, pinked and stitched, turned and stitched, machine overcast and French seam finishes showed no significant relationship to club membership and the use of these finishes on woven fabrics. Also shown in Table III, there was no relationship to the use of seam finishes recommended for knit fabrics and HDC membership.

Hem construction. Hem construction variables included the practices of having hems marked by others, an even width, the fullness evenly eased, being flat and having inconspicuous stitches. When tested at a probability level of .05, the use of these practices were not significantly related to HDC membership. When looking at hem finishes, however, data indicated that membership had a significant relationship to the use of practices using hem tape, stretch lace and bias bound hem finishes. In both of these, members were using the practice significantly more frequently than nonmembers. There was no significant relationship between the use of pinking, clean finishing or zig-zagging as hem finishes and HDC membership.

Pressing techniques. Variables in this area included making a test seam before pressing garment, press seam and dart before another seam crosses it, own and use special pressing equipment and using a press cloth to prevent shine. There was no significant relationship between membership in home demonstration clubs and making a test seam or pressing seams and darts before another seam crosses it. In contrast, about 46 percent of the members and 32 percent of the nonmembers owned and used special pressing equipment while about 88 percent of the members and 76 percent of the nonmembers used a press cloth to prevent shine. When tested by the Chi-Square test, there was a significant relationship between the use of these two practices and club membership. In each instance, members were using the practice significantly more often.

Table Summary

Findings presented in Table III indicated that a higher proportion of homemakers who were members of home demonstration clubs selected patterns based on clothing needs and construction skills than of the nonmember homemakers. HDC members and nonmembers bought clothing fabrics at about the same rate, however, a higher proportion of the members used all practices dealing with board end label information than of the nonmembers. Both audiences requested permanent care labels at about the same rate.

When selecting fabrics, a higher proportion of the HDC members than nonmembers considered pattern recommendations, grain and garment style. Pattern alterations by both members and nonmembers were made at about the same rate. Of those in both audiences making alterations, members used the four recommended methods of altering more often than did nonmembers. Construction technique practices related to shrinking fabrics and type of shears used revealed no difference in use as to audience type. Members used tailor's tacks as a means of marking construction details more frequently than did nonmembers.

HDC members used staystitching in the neckline, shoulder and waistline more frequently than did nonmembers. A higher percentage of HDC members than nonmembers used interfacing when constructing garments, however, audience type did not influence the type of interfacing used. A greater proportion of the members than nonmembers used interfacing in collars and facings, however the use of

interfacings in other areas of the garment did not differ with audience type. Garments were understitched during construction by a higher percentage of HDC members than by nonmembers. Areas that were understitched more frequently by members was necklines.

Construction practices related to zipper application were used by both HDC members and nonmembers at about the same percentage level. Seam finishes that were hand overcast, flat felled, and bound on woven fabrics were used at a higher level by members than by non members. Other seam finish practices on both woven and knit fabrics revealed that homemakers in both audiences use these techniques at about the same rate.

Home demonstration club members finished the hem edge with hem tape, stretch lace and bias bound finishes more often than did nonmembers. The table also revealed that when pressing, members used special pressing equipment and a press cloth more frequently than nonmembers.

IV. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN EMPLOYMENT AND CLOTHING

CONSTRUCTION PRACTICES USED

The purpose of this section was to compare employed and unemployed homemakers as to their use of recommended clothing construction practices. Practices were grouped under two major subsections. The first subsection includes pattern and fabric selection and pattern alteration. The second subsection deals with construction techniques. Each subsection includes related clothing construction practices. Findings are presented in Table IV.

TABLE IV. Relationships Between Employment and Clothing Construction Practices Used

Clothing Construction Practices	Employment Status				Chi-Square Value	p
	Unemployed		Employed			
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent		
PATTERN AND FABRIC SELECTION AND PATTERN ALTERATION						
<u>Pattern Selection</u>						
Use body measurements to select patterns.						
No	157	39.5	56	28.4		
Yes	240	60.5	141	71.6		
TOTAL	397	100.0	197	100.0	6.60	0.010
Selects patterns based on clothing needs.						
No	17	4.3	11	5.5		
Yes	381	95.7	188	94.5		
TOTAL	398	100.0	199	100.0	0.230	0.632
Selects patterns based on construction skills.						
No	50	13.2	30	15.2		
Yes	330	86.8	167	84.8		
TOTAL	380	100.0	197	100.0	0.309	0.579
Selects patterns based on sewing difficulty.						
No	266	69.5	133	69.6		
Yes	117	30.5	58	30.4		
TOTAL	383	100.0	191	100.0	0.0	1.000
<u>Reads Board End Label Information</u>						
Buys clothing fabrics.						
No	9	2.3	0	0.0		
Yes	383	97.7	195	100.0		
TOTAL	392	100.0	195	100.0	4.54	0.033
Read board end label for fiber content.						
No	54	13.7	28	14.1		
Yes	341	86.3	171	85.9		
TOTAL	395	100.0	199	100.0	0.00	0.994
Read board end label for care required.						
No	35	8.8	15	7.5		
Yes	363	91.2	184	92.5		
TOTAL	398	100.0	199	100.0	0.13	0.715
Read board end labels for special finishes.						
No	139	35.5	77	38.7		
Yes	252	64.5	122	61.3		
TOTAL	391	100.0	199	100.0	0.43	0.510
Read board end label for shrinkage information.						
No	85	21.6	54	27.1		
Yes	308	78.4	145	72.9		
TOTAL	393	100.0	199	100.0	1.93	0.164
Ask for permanent care label.						
No	303	77.5	157	80.9		
Yes	88	22.5	37	19.1		
TOTAL	391	100.0	194	100.0	0.72	0.397

TABLE IV (Continued)

Clothing Construction Practices	Employment Status				Chi-Square Value	p
	Unemployed		Employed			
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent		
<u>Fabric Selection</u>						
When selecting fabric consider pattern recommendations.						
No	41	10.4	24	12.1		
Yes	355	89.6	175	87.9		
TOTAL	396	100.0	199	100.0	0.240	0.624
When selecting fabric consider grain.						
No	92	23.8	52	26.5		
Yes	294	76.2	144	73.5		
TOTAL	386	100.0	196	100.0	0.373	0.541
When selecting fabric consider weight and feel.						
No	33	8.3	30	15.2		
Yes	363	91.7	168	84.8		
TOTAL	396	100.0	198	100.0	5.77	0.016
When selecting fabric consider color.						
No	13	3.3	3	1.5		
Yes	382	96.7	196	98.5		
TOTAL	395	100.0	199	100.0	1.61	0.205
When selecting fabric consider texture.						
No	31	7.9	27	13.8		
Yes	360	92.1	169	86.2		
TOTAL	391	100.0	196	100.0	4.38	0.064
When selecting fabric consider garment style.						
No	22	5.6	15	7.7		
Yes	371	94.4	181	92.3		
TOTAL	393	100.0	196	100.0	0.62	0.431
When selecting fabric consider individual preference and/or need.						
No	14	3.7	5	2.5		
Yes	369	96.3	193	97.5		
TOTAL	383	100.0	198	100.0	0.230	0.631
<u>Pattern Alteration</u>						
Alter patterns.						
No	28	7.0	24	12.1		
Yes	372	93.0	174	87.9		
TOTAL	400	100.0	198	100.0	3.75	0.053
Alter patterns before cutting garments.						
No	38	9.7	27	13.7		
Yes	355	90.3	170	86.3		
TOTAL	393	100.0	197	100.0	1.79	0.181
Alter pattern by cutting larger seams.						
No	85	22.2	59	19.9		
Yes	301	77.8	138	70.1		
TOTAL	387	100.0	197	100.0	3.77	0.052

TABLE IV (Continued)

Clothing Construction Practices	Employment Status				Chi-Square	
	Unemployed		Employed		Value	p
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent		
Alter pattern by slashing pattern and adding extra amounts.						
No	168	43.6	91	46.0		
Yes	217	56.4	107	54.0		
TOTAL	385	100.0	198	100.0	0.20	0.655
Alter pattern by folding out extra amount in pattern.						
No	110	28.3	81	41.3		
Yes	279	71.7	115	58.7		
TOTAL	389	100.0	196	100.0	9.50	0.002
CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES						
<u>Fabric Preparation and Cutting</u>						
Shrink fabric before cutting.						
No	205	51.6	111	55.8		
Yes	192	48.4	88	44.2		
TOTAL	397	100.0	199	100.0	0.75	0.385
Shears used to cut garments.						
Plain	328	82.2	165	83.3		
Pinking	71	17.8	33	16.7		
TOTAL	399	100.0	198	100.0	0.051	0.820
Mark construction details with tailor's tacks.						
No	236	61.1	129	65.2		
Yes	150	38.9	69	34.8		
TOTAL	386	100.0	198	100.0	0.736	0.391
Mark construction details with tracing carbon.						
No	179	46.3	82	41.2		
Yes	208	53.7	117	58.8		
TOTAL	387	100.0	199	100.0	1.159	0.282
Mark construction details with pins.						
No	92	23.9	44	22.1		
Yes	293	76.1	155	77.9		
TOTAL	385	100.0	199	100.0	0.145	0.704
<u>Staystitching</u>						
Staystitch the neckline.						
No	49	12.3	29	14.6		
Yes	350	87.7	169	85.4		
TOTAL	399	100.0	198	100.0	0.46	0.497
Staystitch the shoulder.						
No	208	52.5	122	61.6		
Yes	188	47.5	76	38.4		
TOTAL	396	100.0	198	100.0	4.06	0.044

TABLE IV (Continued)

Clothing Construction Practices	Employment Status				Chi-Square	
	Unemployed		Employed		Value	p
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent		
Staystitch the armseye.						
No	188	47.4	119	60.1		
Yes	209	52.6	79	39.9		
TOTAL	397	100.0	198	100.0	8.09	0.004
Staystitch the waistline.						
No	240	61.4	138	70.1		
Yes	151	38.6	59	29.9		
TOTAL	391	100.0	197	100.0	3.91	0.048
Staystitch the side seams.						
No	312	80.0	170	86.3		
Yes	78	20.0	27	13.7		
TOTAL	390	100.0	197	100.0	3.12	0.078
Distance staystitch from seamline.						
One-half inch	115	48.3	52	47.7		
One-fourth inch	123	51.7	57	52.3		
TOTAL	238	100.0	109	100.0	0.0	1.000
<u>Interfacing</u>						
Use interfacing in garments.						
No	19	4.9	6	3.1		
Yes	369	95.1	186	96.9		
TOTAL	388	100.0	192	100.0	0.60	0.440
Use woven interfacing.						
No	171	45.4	88	44.9		
Yes	206	54.6	108	55.1		
TOTAL	377	100.0	196	100.0	0.00	0.987
Use non-woven interfacing.						
No	111	29.4	63	32.3		
Yes	267	70.6	132	67.7		
TOTAL	378	100.0	195	100.0	0.397	0.529
Use sew-in interfacing.						
No	148	38.5	68	34.3		
Yes	236	61.5	130	65.7		
TOTAL	384	100.0	198	100.0	0.815	0.367
Use fusible interfacing.						
No	143	37.3	54	27.7		
Yes	240	62.7	141	72.3		
TOTAL	383	100.0	195	100.0	4.93	0.026
Use interfacing in neckline.						
No	86	22.1	44	22.2		
Yes	303	77.9	154	77.8		
TOTAL	389	100.0	198	100.0	0.0	1.000

TABLE IV (Continued)

Clothing Construction Practices	Employment Status				Chi-Square Value	p
	Unemployed		Employed			
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent		
Use interfacing in collars.						
No	17	4.3	8	4.0		
Yes	375	95.7	191	96.0		
TOTAL	392	100.0	199	100.0	0.0	1.000
Use interfacing in cuffs.						
No	55	14.0	25	12.6		
Yes	339	86.0	173	87.4		
TOTAL	394	100.0	198	100.0	0.10	0.749
Use interfacing in facings.						
No	42	10.6	31	15.7		
Yes	354	89.4	167	84.3		
TOTAL	396	100.0	198	100.0	2.67	0.102
<u>Understitching</u>						
Understitch garments.						
No	73	20.1	43	23.0		
Yes	291	79.9	144	77.0		
TOTAL	364	100.0	187	100.0	0.48	0.490
Understitch neckline.						
No	94	23.9	57	29.4		
Yes	300	76.1	137	70.6		
TOTAL	394	100.0	194	100.0	1.80	0.18
Understitch collars.						
No	127	32.3	69	36.1		
Yes	266	67.7	122	63.9		
TOTAL	393	100.0	191	100.0	0.675	0.411
Understitch facings.						
No	132	33.5	65	33.3		
Yes	262	66.5	130	66.7		
TOTAL	394	100.0	195	100.0	0.0	1.000
Understitch pockets.						
No	237	60.6	121	62.7		
Yes	154	39.4	72	37.3		
TOTAL	391	100.0	193	100.0	0.16	0.692
<u>Zipper Application</u>						
Preshrunk zipper tape.						
No	308	78.6	164	82.4		
Yes	84	21.4	35	17.6		
TOTAL	392	100.0	199	100.0	0.98	0.321
Zipper applied with straight stitching.						
No	43	11.1	20	10.1		
Yes	344	88.9	179	89.9		
TOTAL	387	100.0	100	100.0	0.06	0.801

TABLE IV (Continued)

Clothing Construction Practices	Employment Status				Chi-Square Value	p
	Unemployed		Employed			
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent		
Cover zipper teeth and pull tab.						
No	52	13.2	34	17.3		
Yes	342	86.8	163	82.7		
TOTAL	394	100.0	197	100.0	1.43	0.232
Seam Finishes						
Pinked seams on woven fabrics.						
No	141	37.2	73	37.8		
Yes	238	62.8	120	62.2		
TOTAL	379	100.0	193	100.0	0.00	0.957
Pinked and stitched seams on woven fabrics.						
No	230	60.4	107	55.2		
Yes	151	39.6	87	44.8		
TOTAL	381	100.0	194	100.0	1.23	0.267
Turner under and stitched seams on woven fabrics.						
No	209	56.9	108	56.5		
Yes	158	43.1	83	43.5		
TOTAL	367	100.0	191	100.0	0.00	0.100
Hand overcast seams on woven fabrics.						
No	293	78.3	167	87.4		
Yes	81	21.7	24	12.6		
TOTAL	374	100.0	191	100.0	6.32	0.012
Machine overcast seams on woven fabric.						
No	172	45.0	72	36.9		
Yes	210	55.0	123	63.1		
TOTAL	382	100.0	195	100.0	3.15	0.076
Flat felled seams on woven fabrics.						
No	268	71.8	136	70.1		
Yes	105	28.2	58	29.9		
TOTAL	373	100.0	194	100.0	0.11	0.735
French seams on woven fabrics.						
No	280	74.9	156	80.0		
Yes	94	25.1	39	20.0		
TOTAL	374	100.0	195	100.0	1.61	0.205
Bound seams on woven fabrics.						
No	302	81.0	157	87.0		
Yes	71	19.0	25	13.0		
TOTAL	373	100.0	192	100.0	2.84	0.092
Plain seams on knit fabrics.						
No	92	23.7	59	29.9		
Yes	296	76.3	138	70.1		
TOTAL	388	100.0	197	100.0	2.34	0.126
Edge stitched seams on knit fabrics.						
No	249	65.2	147	74.8		
Yes	133	34.8	50	25.4		
TOTAL	382	100.0	197	100.0	4.92	0.027

TABLE IV (Continued)

Clothing Construction Practices	Employment Status				Chi-Square Value	p
	Unemployed		Employed			
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent		
Machine overcast seams on knit fabrics.						
No	296	77.3	145	74.0		
Yes	87	22.7	51	26.0		
TOTAL	383	100.0	196	100.0	0.61	0.435
Machine zig-zagged seams on knit fabrics.						
No	164	41.9	67	34.0		
Yes	227	58.1	130	66.0		
TOTAL	391	100.0	197	100.0	3.13	0.077
<u>Hem Construction</u>						
Hems in garments marked by others.						
No	265	68.5	139	70.2		
Yes	122	31.5	59	29.8		
TOTAL	387	100.0	198	100.0	0.11	0.739
Good quality hems are even in width.						
No	10	2.5	14	7.0		
Yes	386	97.5	185	93.0		
TOTAL	396	100.0	199	100.0	5.84	0.016
Good quality hems have fullness eased evenly.						
No	17	4.3	15	7.5		
Yes	376	95.7	184	92.5		
TOTAL	393	100.0	199	100.0	2.07	0.150
Good quality hems are flat.						
No	15	3.9	8	4.1		
Yes	373	96.1	189	95.9		
TOTAL	388	100.0	197	100.0	0.0	1.000
Good quality hems have inconspicuous stitches.						
No	25	6.4	11	5.6		
Yes	367	93.6	187	94.4		
TOTAL	392	100.0	198	100.0	0.04	0.832
Finish hem edge with hem tape.						
No	81	20.5	48	24.1		
Yes	315	79.5	151	75.9		
TOTAL	396	100.0	199	100.0	0.84	0.358
Finish hem edge with stretch lace.						
No	73	18.5	55	27.8		
Yes	322	81.5	143	72.2		
TOTAL	395	100.0	198	100.0	6.197	0.013
Finish hem edge with pinking.						
No	202	51.8	94	47.7		
Yes	188	48.2	103	52.3		
TOTAL	390	100.0	197	100.0	0.72	0.398

TABLE IV (Continued)

Clothing Construction Practices	Employment Status				Chi-Square Value	p
	Unemployed		Employed			
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent		
Finish hem edge with clean finishing.						
No	120	31.3	49	24.7		
Yes	264	68.8	149	75.3		
TOTAL	384	100.0	198	100.0	2.37	0.123
Finish hem edge with bias bound or Hong Kong finish.						
No	305	79.6	172	86.9		
Yes	78	20.4	26	13.1		
TOTAL	383	100.0	198	100.0	4.16	0.041
Finish hem edge with zig-zagging.						
No	145	47.6	59	29.8		
Yes	241	62.4	139	70.2		
TOTAL	386	100.0	198	100.0	3.13	0.076
<u>Pressing Techniques</u>						
Make test seam before pressing garment.						
No	193	48.9	122	61.3		
Yes	202	51.1	77	38.7		
TOTAL	395	100.0	199	100.0	7.74	0.005
Press seam and dart before another seam crosses it.						
No	61	15.3	40	20.1		
Yes	338	84.7	159	79.9		
TOTAL	399	100.0	199	100.0	1.86	0.173
Have and use special pressing equipment.						
No	218	54.9	124	62.6		
Yes	179	45.1	74	37.4		
TOTAL	397	100.0	198	100.0	2.91	0.088
Use a press cloth to prevent shine.						
No	60	15.0	29	14.6		
Yes	339	85.0	170	85.4		
TOTAL	399	100.0	199	100.0	0.00	0.977

Pattern and Fabric Selection and Pattern Alteration

Variables pertaining to this subsection were further divided into four areas. These were: (1) pattern selection, (2) fabric board end label information, (3) fabric selection and (4) pattern alteration.

Pattern selection. Four variables relating directly to pattern selection were included under this heading. They were the selection of patterns based on body measurements, clothing needs, construction skills and sewing difficulty.

Findings indicated that only 60.5 percent of the unemployed homemakers compared to 71.6 percent of the homemakers who were employed, used body measurements as a basis for pattern selection. According to the x^2 test, the employed homemakers had a significantly greater use of this practice. Regarding selecting patterns based on clothing needs, construction skills or sewing difficulty, there was no significant relationship between employment status and practice use.

Read board end label information. Variables in this group focused on the selection of clothing fabrics, what board end label information was used as a basis for fabric selection, and whether permanent care labels for fabrics were requested. Data revealed that almost 98 percent of the unemployed and 100 percent of the employed homemakers bought clothing fabrics. According to the x^2 test, the percentage of employed homemakers using this practice was significantly higher than the unemployed homemakers. Board end label information

variables included reading for fiber content, care requirements, special finishes and shrinkage information. According to the χ^2 test, there was no significant relationship to employment and the use of these practices. Data did reveal however that the unemployed homemakers were using board end label information more frequently than those that were employed.

Fabric selection. Recommended practices in this group included consideration of pattern recommendations, grain, weight and feel, color, texture, garment style and individual preference when making fabric selections. Results indicated that there were significantly more unemployed homemakers (91.7 percent) than those who were employed (84.8 percent) using the weight and feel of fabric as criteria for making fabric selections. When comparison was made with other practices in this group, data indicated that unemployed homemakers considered pattern recommendations, grain, texture and garment style more frequently in fabric selections than did the employed homemakers. In contrast, those who were employed more often used as a basis for pattern selection color and individual preference than did those who were unemployed. When tested at a probability level of .05, the use of these practices were not shown to have any significant relationship to the homemakers employment status.

Pattern alterations. Results indicated that 93 percent of the unemployed and almost 88 percent of the employed homemakers made pattern alterations. Of those altering, about 90 percent of the

unemployed and 86 percent of the employed did so before cutting garments.

Methods of pattern alterations used included alterations made by cutting larger seams, slashing pattern and adding extra amounts, and folding out extra amounts in patterns. About 78 percent of the unemployed homemakers compared to 70 percent of those employed made alterations by cutting larger seams. Likewise, unemployed homemakers (71.7 percent) altered patterns more often by folding out extra amounts than did those homemakers who were employed (58.7 percent). According to the χ^2 test, the employment status of the homemakers surveyed had a significant relationship to the methods of pattern alterations used by homemakers. Unemployed homemakers more frequently altered patterns by cutting larger seams and by folding out extra amounts in patterns than did the employed homemakers. There was no significant relationship between employment status and the altering of patterns by slashing and adding extra amounts.

Construction Techniques

Variables relating to this subsection deal with seven recommended construction procedures. These include fabric preparation and cutting, staystitching, interfacing, understitching, zipper application, seam finishes, hem construction and pressing. A comparison of employed and unemployed homemakers using recommended practices was made for each procedure.

Fabric preparation and cutting. Variables in this procedure included shrinking fabrics before cutting, shears used to cut garments and whether construction details were marked with tailor's tacks, tracing carbon or pins. About 48 percent of the unemployed homemakers compared to 44 percent of the employed homemakers shrank fabrics before cutting. About 82 percent of the unemployed and 83 percent of the employed used plain shears to cut garments. These results indicated no significant relationship between the use of these practices and the homemakers employment status.

Results also revealed that there was no significant relationship between the employment status of homemakers and their use of methods marking construction details.

Staystitching. Practices related to this construction procedure included staystitching the neckline, shoulder, armseye, waistline and side seams, as well as the distance from the seamline that the staystitching was done. Results showed that 47.5 percent of the unemployed and 38.4 percent of the employed homemakers staystitched garments at the shoulder. In staystitching the armseye, 52.6 percent of the unemployed homemakers followed this practice, compared to about 40 percent of those employed. Likewise, unemployed homemakers, 38.6 percent, staystitched at the waistline, compared to around 30 percent of those employed homemakers following this practice. According to the x^2 test, a significantly larger proportion of the unemployed homemakers followed these three practices than did those homemakers who were

employed. There was no relationship however between the homemakers use of staystitching at the neckline and side seams, or the distance staystitched from the seamline and employment status.

Interfacing. Variables in this area related to the use of interfacing, the type of interfacing used and where in the garment it was applied. The use of interfacing in garments was not shown to be significantly related to homemakers employment status with 95 percent of the unemployed homemakers and 97 percent of the employed homemakers following this practice. In comparing the type of interfacing used, results indicated that only 62.7 percent of those unemployed compared to 72.3 percent of those employed homemakers used fusible interfacing.

According to the x^2 test, employed homemakers (72.3 percent) used fusible interfacing significantly more frequently than did homemakers who were unemployed (62.7 percent). Results did not show any significant relationship in the use of other types of interfacing, nor in where the interfacing was applied in garments, and homemakers employment status.

Understitching. Variables in this procedure deal with whether or not garments were understitched and areas in which understitching was done. Data revealed that unemployed homemakers understitched garments at a higher percentage rate than did homemakers who were employed. The use of these practices by the two groups when tested by x^2 was not enough to be significantly related to the employment status of the homemakers.

Zipper application. Variables in this group included preshrinking zipper tape, whether zippers were applied with straight stitching and whether zipper teeth and pull tabs were covered. Data indicated that about 82 percent of the employed compared to about 79 percent of the unemployed shrink zipper tape before applying. Almost 90 percent of the employed and 89 percent of the unemployed felt that they applied zippers with straight stitches, while about 83 percent of the employed and 87 percent of the unemployed felt that they properly covered zipper teeth and pull tabs. Though the use of these practices were somewhat varied, when tested at a probability level of .05, employment status was not shown to be related to practice use.

Seam finishes. Of the 12 recommended seam finishes for woven and knit fabrics, homemakers use of only 2 of these practices were shown to be significantly related to their employment status. Almost 22 percent of the unemployed compared to only 13 percent of those employed hand overcast seams on woven fabrics. Likewise, a significantly greater number of unemployed homemakers (34.8 percent) edge stitched seams on knit fabrics than did those employed homemakers (25.4 percent). Other practices dealing with seam finishes indicated no relationship between homemakers employment status and practice use.

Hem construction. Hem construction variables including practices relating to having hems marked by others, quality hems that were an even width, fullness evenly eased, were flat and had inconspicuous

stitches. When each of these practices were tested at a probability level of .05, unemployed homemakers (97.5 percent) used the practice of having good quality hems that were even in width significantly more frequently than did those homemakers who were employed (93.0 percent). Other practices were not shown to have a relationship between homemakers use and their employment status. Of the six variables relating to hem edge finishes, the use of two were found to be related to employment status of the homemakers. Unemployed homemakers (87.5 percent) finished hem edges with stretch lace significantly more frequently than did those who were employed (72.2 percent). Likewise, unemployed homemakers were using the bias bound or Hong Kong finish significantly more frequently (20.4 percent) than were the employed homemakers (13.1 percent). The use of other hem edge finishes was not shown to have any relationship to the homemakers employment status.

Pressing techniques. Variables in this area included making a test seam before pressing garment, pressing seam and dart before another seam crosses it, have and use special pressing equipment and uses a press cloth to prevent shine. About 51 percent of the unemployed homemakers, compared to around 39 percent of those employed, made a test seam before pressing garment. The 15 practices when tested by χ^2 was shown to have a significant relationship to homemakers employment status. The use of other practices relating to pressing techniques were not shown to be significantly related to homemakers employment status.

Table Summary

Findings presented in Table IV indicated that homemakers who were employed used body measurements to select patterns more frequently than did those who were unemployed. Homemakers, employed and unemployed, selected patterns based on clothing needs, construction skills and sewing difficulty at about the same rate. Employed homemakers were more likely to have purchased clothing fabrics than those who were unemployed, however, both groups read board end labels for information at about the same rate. The unemployed homemakers were more likely to have selected fabric by considering pattern recommendations, grain, weight and feel, texture and garment style more frequently than were the employed homemakers. In contrast, the employed homemakers were more likely to have selected fabrics considering color, individual preference and need than were those who were unemployed. The unemployed homemakers altered patterns at a higher rate than did those who were employed, as well as used each of the alteration methods more often. Construction technique practices relating to fabric preparation and cutting were more likely to be used by the unemployed than by the employed homemakers.

Findings showed that the unemployed homemakers were more likely to have marked construction details with tailor's tacks, while the employed homemakers were more likely to have marked details with tracing carbon and pins. The unemployed homemakers were more likely to have staystitched in all areas than were the employed homemakers. Both groups used interfacing in garments at about the same rate,

however, the employed homemaker used fusible interfacing at a higher rate than did those unemployed. The unemployed homemakers were more likely to have understitched garments than were those who were employed. Areas more often understitched by the unemployed homemakers were the necklines, collars, and facings.

Construction practices related to zipper application were used by both employed and unemployed homemakers at about the same rate. Seam finishes that were hand overcast on woven fabrics and edge stitched on knit fabrics were used by a greater proportion of the unemployed homemakers. Other seam finishes were used at about the same rate by both groups. The unemployed homemakers finished hem edges more frequently with stretch lace and a bias bound finish more frequently than did those employed homemakers. Results showed that more unemployed homemakers made a test seam before pressing than did those employed homemakers. They also pressed seams and darts before another seam crosses it as well as had and used special pressing equipment more frequently. There was no difference in the use of a press cloth between the employed and unemployed homemakers.

V. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN WHETHER OR NOT HOMEMAKERS HAD CHILDREN

LIVING AT HOME AND THEIR USE OF CLOTHING

CONSTRUCTION PRACTICES

The purpose of this section was to compare homemakers who did and those who did not have children living at home as to use of recommended clothing construction practices. Results were reported

In Table V under two major subsections. The first subsection includes pattern and fabric selection and pattern alteration. The second subsection deals with construction practices.

Pattern and Fabric Selection and Pattern Alteration

Variables pertaining to this subsection were further divided into four groups. They were (1) pattern selection, (2) fabric board end label information, (3) fabric selection, and (4) pattern alterations. A comparison of practice use by homemakers with children living at home and those with no children at home were discussed in each variable group.

Pattern selection. Four variables relating directly to pattern selection were discussed under this heading. These included the selection of pattern based on body measurements, clothing needs, construction skills, and sewing difficulty.

Data in Table V indicated that 65.6 percent of the homemakers with children, compared to only 63.4 percent of those without children, used body measurements as a basis for pattern selection. Both groups selected patterns based on clothing needs at about the same percentage level, while 31.9 percent of those homemakers with no children at home and 28.2 percent of those with children selected patterns based on sewing difficulty. Results also indicated that about 89 percent of homemakers with no children and 82 percent of those with children selected patterns based on construction skills.

TABLE V. Relationships Between Whether or not Homemakers had Children Living at Home and Their Use of Clothing Construction Practices

Clothing Construction Practices	Children Living at Home				Chi-Square Value	p
	No		Yes			
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent		
PATTERN AND FABRIC SELECTION AND PATTERN ALTERATION						
<u>Pattern Selection</u>						
Use body measurements to select patterns.						
No	137	36.6	75	34.4		
Yes	237	63.4	143	65.6		
TOTAL	374	100.0	218	100.0	0.21	0.648
Selects patterns based on clothing needs.						
No	19	5.0	9	4.1		
Yes	358	95.0	209	95.9		
TOTAL	377	100.0	218	100.0	0.09	0.760
Selects patterns based on construction skills.						
No	41	11.3	39	18.3		
Yes	321	88.7	174	81.7		
TOTAL	362	100.0	213	100.0	4.89	0.027
Selects patterns based on sewing difficulty.						
No	248	68.1	150	71.8		
Yes	116	31.9	59	28.2		
TOTAL	364	100.0	209	100.0	0.67	0.415
<u>Reads Board End Label Information</u>						
Buy clothing fabrics.						
No	4	1.1	5	2.4		
Yes	370	98.9	206	97.6		
TOTAL	374	100.0	211	100.0	0.77	0.380
Read board end label for fiber content.						
No	46	12.2	36	10.7		
Yes	330	87.8	180	83.3		
TOTAL	376	100.0	216	100.0	1.90	0.168
Read board end label for care required.						
No	28	7.4	22	10.1		
Yes	349	92.6	196	89.9		
TOTAL	377	100.0	218	100.0	0.95	0.329
Read board end labels for special finishes.						
No	117	31.5	98	45.2		
Yes	254	68.5	119	54.8		
TOTAL	371	100.0	217	100.0	10.4	0.001
Read board end label for shrinkage information.						
No	66	17.7	73	33.5		
Yes	306	82.3	145	66.5		
TOTAL	372	100.0	218	100.0	18.06	0.000

TABLE V (Continued)

Clothing Construction Practices	Children Living at Home				Chi-Square Value	p
	No		Yes			
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent		
Ask for permanent care label.						
No	284	76.5	174	82.1		
Yes	87	23.5	38	17.9		
TOTAL	371	100.0	212	100.0	2.13	0.145
<u>Fabric Selection</u>						
When selecting fabric consider pattern recommendations.						
No	42	11.2	22	10.0		
Yes	332	88.8	197	90.0		
TOTAL	374	100.0	219	100.0	0.10	0.756
When selecting fabric consider grain.						
No	75	20.5	69	32.2		
Yes	291	79.5	145	67.8		
TOTAL	366	100.0	214	100.0	9.37	0.002
When selecting fabric consider weight and feel.						
No	28	7.5	35	16.0		
Yes	345	92.5	184	84.0		
TOTAL	373	100.0	219	100.0	9.55	0.002
When selecting fabric consider color.						
No	9	2.4	7	3.2		
Yes	367	97.6	209	96.8		
TOTAL	376	100.0	216	100.0	0.12	0.727
When selecting fabric consider texture.						
No	23	6.2	35	16.3		
Yes	347	93.8	180	83.7		
TOTAL	370	100.0	215	100.0	14.31	0.002
When selecting fabric consider garment style.						
No	18	4.8	19	8.8		
Yes	354	95.2	196	91.2		
TOTAL	372	100.0	215	100.0	3.04	0.081
When selecting fabric consider individual preference and/or need.						
No	12	3.3	7	3.3		
Yes	352	96.7	208	96.7		
TOTAL	364	100.0	215	100.0	0.0	1.000
<u>Pattern Alterations</u>						
Alter patterns.						
No	25	6.6	27	12.3		
Yes	352	93.4	192	87.7		
TOTAL	377	100.0	219	100.0	4.95	0.026
Alter patterns before cutting garment.						
No	32	8.6	33	15.2		
Yes	339	91.4	184	84.8		
TOTAL	371	100.0	217	100.0	5.38	0.020

TABLE V (Continued)

Clothing Construction Practices	Children Living at Home				Chi-Square Value	p
	No		Yes			
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent		
Alter pattern by cutting larger seams.						
No	85	23.2	60	27.9		
Yes	282	76.8	155	72.1		
TOTAL	367	100.0	215	100.0	1.39	0.239
Alter pattern by slashing pattern and adding extra amounts.						
No	148	40.4	110	51.2		
Yes	218	59.6	105	48.8		
TOTAL	366	100.0	215	100.0	5.88	0.015
Alter pattern by folding out amount in pattern.						
No	98	26.7	92	42.6		
Yes	269	73.3	124	57.4		
TOTAL	367	100.0	216	100.0	14.91	0.001
CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES						
<u>Fabric Preparation and Cutting</u>						
Shrink fabric before cutting.						
No	188	50.1	127	58.0		
Yes	187	49.9	92	42.0		
TOTAL	375	100.0	219	100.0	3.19	0.077
Shears used to cut garments.						
Plain	308	81.7	183	83.9		
Pinking	69	18.3	35	16.1		
TOTAL	377	100.0	218	100.0	0.34	0.559
Mark construction details with tailor's tacks.						
No	218	59.7	146	67.3		
Yes	147	40.3	71	32.7		
TOTAL	365	100.0	217	100.0	3.00	0.083
Mark construction details with tracing carbon.						
No	165	45.0	94	43.3		
Yes	202	55.0	123	56.7		
TOTAL	367	100.0	217	100.0	0.08	0.765
Mark construction details with pins.						
No	81	22.2	55	25.3		
Yes	284	77.8	162	74.7		
TOTAL	365	100.0	217	100.0	0.59	0.442
<u>Staystitching</u>						
Staystitch the neckline.						
No	42	11.1	35	16.1		
Yes	336	88.9	182	83.9		
TOTAL	378	100.0	217	100.0	2.65	0.103

TABLE V (Continued)

Clothing Construction Practices	Children Living at Home				Chi-Square Value	p
	No		Yes			
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent		
Staystitch the shoulder.						
No	190	50.7	138	63.6		
Yes	185	49.3	79	36.4		
TOTAL	375	100.0	217	100.0	8.78	0.003
Staystitch the armseye.						
No	176	46.8	129	59.4		
Yes	200	53.2	88	40.6		
TOTAL	376	100.0	217	100.0	8.30	0.004
Staystitch the waistline.						
No	224	60.7	152	70.0		
Yes	145	39.3	65	30.0		
TOTAL	369	100.0	217	100.0	4.78	0.029
Staystitch the side seams.						
No	286	77.7	194	89.4		
Yes	82	22.3	23	10.6		
TOTAL	368	100.0	217	100.0	11.87	0.006
Distance staystitch from seamline.						
One-half inch	109	50.0	58	45.3		
One-fourth inch	109	50.0	70	54.7		
TOTAL	218	100.0	128	100.0	0.53	0.465
<u>Interfacings</u>						
Use interfacing in garments.						
No	15	4.1	10	4.7		
Yes	350	95.9	203	95.3		
TOTAL	365	100.0	213	100.0	0.01	0.903
Use woven interfacing.						
No	148	41.3	110	51.6		
Yes	210	58.7	103	48.4		
TOTAL	358	100.0	213	100.0	5.31	0.021
Use non-woven interfacing.						
No	106	29.9	68	31.3		
Yes	248	70.1	149	68.7		
TOTAL	354	100.0	217	100.0	0.07	0.797
Use sew-in interfacing.						
No	119	32.8	95	43.8		
Yes	244	67.2	122	56.2		
TOTAL	363	100.0	217	100.0	6.59	0.010
Use fusible interfacing.						
No	138	38.4	58	26.7		
Yes	221	61.6	159	73.3		
TOTAL	359	100.0	217	100.0	7.75	0.005

TABLE V (Continued)

Clothing Construction Practices	Children Living at Home				Chi-Square Value	p
	No		Yes			
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent		
Use interfacing in neckline.						
No	61	16.6	69	31.8		
Yes	307	83.4	148	68.2		
TOTAL	368	100.0	217	100.0	17.43	0.000
Use interfacing in collars.						
No	11	3.0	14	6.5		
Yes	361	97.0	203	93.5		
TOTAL	372	100.0	217	100.0	3.30	0.069
Use interfacing in cuffs.						
No	41	11.1	39	17.8		
Yes	330	88.9	180	82.2		
TOTAL	371	100.0	219	100.0	4.80	0.028
Use interfacing in facings.						
No	32	8.6	41	18.7		
Yes	341	91.4	178	81.3		
TOTAL	373	100.0	219	100.0	12.21	0.005
<u>Understitch Where Needed</u>						
Understitch garments						
No	60	17.5	56	27.1		
Yes	282	82.5	151	72.9		
TOTAL	342	100.0	207	100.0	6.44	0.011
Understitch neckline.						
No	75	20.3	76	35.2		
Yes	295	79.7	140	64.8		
TOTAL	370	100.0	216	100.0	15.09	0.001
Understitch collars.						
No	110	30.0	85	39.5		
Yes	257	70.0	130	60.5		
TOTAL	367	100.0	215	100.0	5.14	0.023
Understitch facings.						
No	107	28.9	89	41.0		
Yes	263	71.1	128	59.0		
TOTAL	370	100.0	217	100.0	8.46	0.003
Understitch pockets.						
No	204	55.7	153	70.8		
Yes	162	44.3	63	29.2		
TOTAL	366	100.0	216	100.0	12.42	0.004
<u>Zipper Application</u>						
Preshrunk zipper tape.						
No	283	76.5	188	85.8		
Yes	87	23.5	31	14.2		
TOTAL	370	100.0	219	100.0	6.94	0.008

TABLE V (Continued)

Clothing Construction Practices	Children Living at Home				Chi-Square Value	p
	No		Yes			
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent		
Zipper applied with straight stitch.						
No	35	9.6	28	12.8		
Yes	331	90.4	190	87.2		
TOTAL	366	100.0	218	100.0	1.21	0.272
Cover zipper teeth and pull tab.						
No	49	13.2	37	17.1		
Yes	323	86.8	180	82.9		
TOTAL	372	100.0	217	100.0	1.36	0.244
<u>Seam Finishes</u>						
Pinked seams on woven fabrics.						
No	128	36.0	84	39.3		
Yes	228	64.0	130	60.7		
TOTAL	356	100.0	214	100.0	0.49	0.484
Pinked and stitched seams on woven fabrics.						
No	204	57.0	131	60.9		
Yes	154	43.0	84	39.1		
TOTAL	358	100.0	215	100.0	0.71	0.401
Turned under and stitched seams on woven fabrics.						
No	194	56.6	121	56.8		
Yes	149	43.4	92	43.2		
TOTAL	343	100.0	213	100.0	0.0	1.000
Hand overcast seams on woven fabric.						
No	270	77.1	188	88.3		
Yes	80	22.9	25	11.7		
TOTAL	350	100.0	213	100.0	10.07	0.001
Machine overcast seams on woven fabric.						
No	151	42.2	93	42.9		
Yes	207	57.8	124	57.1		
TOTAL	358	100.0	217	100.0	0.01	0.942
Flat felled seams on woven fabric.						
No	242	69.1	160	74.4		
Yes	108	30.9	55	25.6		
TOTAL	350	100.0	215	100.0	1.56	0.212
French seams on woven fabrics.						
No	263	74.9	171	79.2		
Yes	88	25.1	45	20.8		
TOTAL	351	100.0	216	100.0	1.11	0.292
Bound seams on woven fabrics.						
No	276	79.3	191	88.8		
Yes	72	20.7	24	11.2		
TOTAL	348	100.0	215	100.0	7.87	0.005

TABLE V (Continued)

Clothing Construction Practices	Children Living at Home				Chi-Square Value	p
	No		Yes			
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent		
Plain seams on knit fabrics.						
No	96	26.4	55	25.1		
Yes	268	73.6	164	74.9		
TOTAL	364	100.0	219	100.0	0.06	0.811
Edge stitched seams on knit fabrics.						
No	229	63.6	165	76.0		
Yes	131	36.4	52	24.0		
TOTAL	360	100.0	217	100.0	9.08	0.002
Machine overcast seams on knit fabric.						
No	273	75.8	166	76.5		
Yes	87	24.2	51	23.5		
TOTAL	360	100.0	217	100.0	0.01	0.936
Machine zig-zagged seams on knit fabric.						
No	147	39.8	82	37.8		
Yes	222	60.2	135	62.2		
TOTAL	369	100.0	217	100.0	0.16	0.687
<u>Hem Construction</u>						
Hems in garments marked by others.						
No	247	67.9	155	70.8		
Yes	117	32.1	64	29.2		
TOTAL	364	100.0	219	100.0	0.416	0.519
Good quality hems are even in width.						
No	11	2.9	13	5.9		
Yes	363	97.1	206	94.1		
TOTAL	374	100.0	219	100.0	2.47	0.116
Good quality hems have fullness eased evenly.						
No	18	4.9	13	5.9		
Yes	353	95.1	206	94.1		
TOTAL	371	100.0	219	100.0	0.144	0.740
Good quality hems are flat.						
No	11	3.0	11	5.1		
Yes	356	97.0	205	94.9		
TOTAL	367	100.0	216	100.0	1.12	0.290
Good quality hems have inconspicuous stitches.						
No	19	5.1	17	7.8		
Yes	351	94.9	201	92.2		
TOTAL	370	100.0	218	100.0	1.26	0.261
Finish hem edge with hem tape.						
No	65	17.3	64	29.4		
Yes	310	82.7	154	70.6		
TOTAL	375	100.0	218	100.0	11.01	0.001

TABLE V (Continued)

Clothing Construction Practices	Children Living at Home				Chi-Square Value	p
	No		Yes			
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent		
Finish hem edge with stretch lace.						
No	58	15.5	69	31.8		
Yes	316	84.5	148	68.2		
TOTAL	374	100.0	217	100.0	20.64	0.000
Finish hem edge with pinking.						
No	181	49.2	113	52.1		
Yes	187	50.8	104	47.9		
TOTAL	368	100.0	217	100.0	0.35	0.555
Finish hem edge with clean finish.						
No	104	28.7	64	29.5		
Yes	259	71.3	153	70.5		
TOTAL	363	100.0	217	100.0	0.01	0.903
Finish hem edge with bias bound or Hong Kong finish.						
No	289	79.8	186	85.7		
Yes	73	20.2	31	14.3		
TOTAL	362	100.0	217	100.0	2.80	0.095
Finish hem edge with zig-zagging.						
No	138	37.7	66	30.6		
Yes	228	62.3	150	69.4		
TOTAL	366	100.0	216	100.0	2.74	0.098
<u>Pressing Techniques</u>						
Make test seam before pressing garment.						
No	173	46.4	141	64.4		
Yes	200	53.6	78	35.6		
TOTAL	373	100.0	219	100.0	17.24	0.000
Press seam and dart before another seam crosses it.						
No	50	13.3	51	23.3		
Yes	327	86.7	168	76.7		
TOTAL	377	100.0	219	100.0	9.19	0.002
Have and use special pressing equipment.						
No	196	52.4	145	66.2		
Yes	178	47.6	74	33.8		
TOTAL	374	100.0	219	100.0	10.21	0.001
Use a press cloth to prevent shine.						
No	41	10.9	46	21.0		
Yes	336	89.1	173	79.0		
TOTAL	377	100.0	219	100.0	10.60	0.001

According to the Chi-Square test (χ^2), children living at home had no significant relationship to the use of body measurements, clothing needs and sewing difficulty as a basis for pattern selection. In contrast, there was a significant relationship between children living at home and selection of patterns based on construction skills. Homemakers with no children used this practice at a higher percentage rate than did homemakers with children.

Read board end label information. Variables in this area focused on the selection of clothing fabrics, board end label information used and whether permanent care labels were requested.

Survey results indicated that almost all of those surveyed, 99 percent of homemakers without children and 98 percent of those with children, bought clothing fabrics. When comparing the use of practices relating to information on board end labels, homemakers with no children living at home used these practices at a higher percentage rate than did homemakers with children. Homemakers with no children (88 percent) read board end labels for fiber content compared to 83 percent of those with children. Likewise, 93 percent of those without children looked for care required while only 90 percent of those with children followed this practice. Board end label information pertaining to special finishes was used by 68.5 percent of homemakers with no children, compared to 54.8 percent of those homemakers with children. Shrinkage information was used by 82.3 percent of homemakers without children compared to 66.5 percent of those with children, and 23.5

percent of those with no children and 17.9 percent of those with children requested permanent care labels.

According to the Chi-Square test (χ^2), homemakers with no children used the practices relating to the board end labels information for special finish and shrinkage information at a significantly higher rate than did homemakers with children. Other variables in this group was not significantly related to children living at home.

Fabric selection. Variables in this group included fabric selection based on pattern recommendation, grain, weight and feel, color, texture, garment style and individual preference or need. Ninety percent of the homemakers with children and 89 percent of those with no children used pattern recommendations as a basis for pattern selection. Almost 80 percent of the homemakers with no children and 68 percent of those with children considered the fabric grains. Likewise, homemakers with no children (92.5 percent) considered weight and feel of fabric at a higher rate than did those with children at home (84 percent). Both groups considered color when selecting fabric at about the same rate, however, texture was used as a consideration by 94 percent of homemakers with no children, compared to only 84 percent of those with children. There was no major difference in the percentages of the two groups considering garment style and individual preference or need when buying clothing fabrics.

When tested at a probability level of .05, results showed that homemakers with no children living at home considered grain, weight

and feel and texture when selecting fabric at a significantly higher percentage than did those with children living at home.

Pattern alterations. Survey results revealed that 93.4 percent of the homemakers with no children and 87.7 percent of those with children altered patterns. When comparing the use of pattern alteration methods, data revealed that homemakers with no children used all alteration methods at a higher rate than did homemakers with children at home. About 91 percent of the homemakers with no children and 85 percent of those with children altered patterns before cutting garments. This compared to about 77 percent of those with no children and 72 percent of those with children who made alterations by cutting larger seams. A higher percentage of homemakers with no children (59.6 percent) than homemakers with children (48.8 percent) made alterations by slashing patterns and adding extra amounts. Homemakers with no children (73.3 percent) altered patterns by folding out extra amounts in patterns at a higher rate than did homemakers with children (57.4 percent). According to the Chi-Square test, there was a significant relationship between the percentage of homemakers altering patterns and children living at home. There was also a significant relationship between homemakers having children living at home and the altering of patterns before cutting garments, as well as altering patterns by slashing patterns and adding extra amounts and by folding out amounts in patterns. In each situation homemakers with no children living at home used these variables at a

higher percentage than those homemakers with children living at home.

Construction Techniques

Variables relating to this subsection deal with seven recommended clothing construction procedures. These include fabric preparation and cutting, staystitching, interfacing, understitching, zipper application, seam finishes, hem applications, and pressing. A comparison of homemakers with children living at home and those with no children at home was made for each practice.

Fabric preparation and cutting. Variables in this area included shrinking fabric before cutting, type of shears used to cut garments and methods of marking construction details. Data indicated that about 50 percent of homemakers with no children and 42 percent of homemakers with children shrank fabric before cutting. Both groups used plain shears to cut garments at about the same rate. When comparing the methods of marking construction details, findings showed that about 40 percent of homemakers with no children and 33 percent of those with children marked construction details with tailor's tacks. On the other hand, 55 percent of those with no children compared to 57 percent of those with children used tracing carbon to mark details. Seventy-eight percent of the homemakers with no children and 75 percent of those with children marked details with pins. When these differences were tested by Chi-Square, there was no relationship between the homemakers using these practices and children living at home.

Staystitching. Practices related to this construction procedure included staystitching the neckline, shoulder, armseye, waistline, side seams and the distance stitching was done from the seamline. About 89 percent of the homemakers with no children and 84 percent of those with children staystitched garments at the neckline. Likewise, 49 percent with no children and 36 percent with children staystitched at the shoulder. Results also indicated that 53 percent of those with no children and 41 percent of those with children staystitched at the armseye. About 39 percent of those with no children and 30 percent of those with children staystitched the waistline, while only 22 percent of those with no children and 11 percent of those with children staystitched the side seams. Fifty percent of the homemakers with no children and 55 percent of those with children staystitched one-fourth inch from the seamline.

According to the Chi-Square test, there was a significant relationship between many of the practices used and children at home. Homemakers with no children staystitched the shoulder, armseye, waistline and side seams at a significantly higher percentage than did those with children at home. There was no relationship between children at home and those who staystitched the neckline and the distance from seamline that staystitching was done.

Interfacing. Variables in this area related to the use of interfacing, the type of interfacing used and where in the garment it was applied. Both groups used interfacing in garments at about

the-same percentage rate. About 59 percent of the homemakers with no children and 48 percent of those with children used woven interfacing compared to 70 percent of those with no children and 69 percent of those with children using non-woven interfacing. Sew in interfacing was used by 67 percent of the homemakers with no children and 56 percent of those with children. However, 62 percent of homemakers with no children used fusible interfacing compared to 73 percent of those with children. Results indicated that 83 percent of the homemakers with no children used interfacing in neckline compared to 68 percent of those with children. Likewise, a higher percentage of the homemakers with no children (97 percent) than those with children (93.5 percent) used interfacing in collars. Homemakers with no children (89 percent) opposed to 82 percent of those with children applied interfacing in cuffs and 91 percent of homemakers with no children opposed to only 81 percent of those with children used interfacing in facings. When tested at a probability level of .05, results showed that there was a significant relationship to the use of these practices and children living at home. Homemakers with no children at home used woven interfacing, sew-in interfacing and applied interfacing to neckline, cuffs and facings at a significantly higher percentage than those homemakers with children at home. On the other hand, homemakers with children at home used fusible interfacing at a significantly higher percentage than those with no children at home.

Understitching. Variables in this procedure deal with whether or not garments were understitched and areas of the garment in which understitching was done. About 83 percent of the homemakers with no children understitched garments compared to about 73 percent of those with children. Homemakers with no children understitched the neckline, collar, facings and pockets at a significantly higher percentage than did those with children. When tested according to Chi-Square, results indicated a significant relationship to practice use and children living at home. In each area those homemakers with no children were using the practice at a significantly higher rate than those homemakers with children.

Zipper application. Variables in this group included preshrinking zippers, zippers applied with straight stitching, zipper teeth and pull tab covered. About 24 percent of the homemakers with no children and 14 percent of the homemakers with children preshrink zipper tapes. This compared to 90 percent of the homemakers with no children and 87 percent of those with children who felt that they applied zippers with straight stitching. Likewise, 87 percent of those with no children and 83 percent of those with children covered zipper teeth and pull tab. Even though homemakers with no children used these practices more frequently than those with children, when tested by Chi-Square, only the practice on preshrinking zippers was found to have a significant relationship as to its use and children living at home. Homemakers with no children were using this practice at a significantly higher percentage than those with children.

- Seam finishes. Of the 12 seam finishes recommended for use on woven and knit fabrics, homemakers with no children used 11 of them at a higher percentage rate than did those homemakers with children living at home. When looking for those with a probability level of .05 or greater, only three of these practices were shown to have any significant relationship between their use and children living at home. About 23 percent of the homemakers with no children and 12 percent of those with children hand overcast seams on woven fabric. Likewise, 21 percent of those with no children and 11 percent of those with children at home bound seams on woven fabrics while 36 percent of those with no children and 24 percent of those with children edge stitched seams on knit fabrics. In each of the practices where significance was shown, homemakers with no children living at home were using them at a greater percentage rate than those homemakers with children.

Hem construction. Hem construction variables included the practices of having hems marked by others, hems an even width, the fullness evenly eased, flat, and having been applied with inconspicuous stitches. Results show that homemakers with no children used these practices at a slightly higher percentage than did those with children at home. When tested at a probability level of .05, there was shown to be no significant relationship to practice use and homemakers having children living at home. When looking at hem finish practices, data indicated that out of the six practices given, only two were shown to have any significant relationship as to use and children living

at home. Results showed that 83 percent of the homemakers with no children and 71 percent of those with children were finishing hem edges with hem tape. Likewise, 85 percent of the homemakers with no children and 68 percent of those with children were finishing hem edges with stretch lace. Homemakers with no children living at home were using these practices at a significantly higher percentage than those with children. There was no significant relationship between use of finishing hem edges by pinking, clean finishing, bias bound, or zig-zagging and children living at home.

Pressing techniques. Variables in this area included making a test seam before pressing garment, press seam and dart before another seam crosses it, own and use special pressing equipment and using a press cloth to prevent shine. About 54 percent of the homemakers with no children opposed to only 36 percent of those with children made a test seam before pressing garments. Likewise, 87 percent of those with no children and 77 percent of those with children pressed seams and darts before another seam crosses it. When comparing the percentage of homemakers who had and used special pressing equipment, it was found that 48 percent of the homemakers with no children and 34 percent of those with children followed this practice. Also, 89 percent of those with no children and 79 percent of those with children used a press cloth to prevent shine.

Regarding each of these variables, results indicated that there was a definite relationship between the use of these practices and

children living at home. In each instance the homemakers with no children were using the practices at a significantly higher percentage than those with children living at home.

Table Summary

Findings presented in Table V revealed that homemakers with children living at home had no significant relationship to their use of body measurements, clothing needs and sewing difficulty as a basis for pattern selection. Results did indicate, however, that homemakers with no children living at home selected patterns based on construction skills at a significantly higher percentage than did homemakers with children living at home. Homemakers with and without children living at home bought clothing fabrics at about the same percentage level. When following recommendations for reading board end labels, homemakers with no children read labels for information on special finishes and shrinkage information at a significantly higher rate than those with children. Other practices relating to board end label information use was not significantly related to children living at home.

When comparing the use of practices relating to fabric selection, data revealed that homemakers with no children living at home considered grain, weight and feel, and texture when selecting fabric at a significantly higher percentage than did those with children living at home. There was no significant relationship between children living at home and homemakers who considered garment style and individual preference or need when buying clothing fabrics.

Homemakers with no children living at home altered patterns at a significantly higher percentage than did those with children living at home. Homemakers with no children also altered patterns before cutting garments, by slashing patterns and adding extra amounts and by folding out extra amounts in patterns at a significantly higher percentage than homemakers with children at home.

In the subsection relating to clothing construction techniques, results revealed that there was no relationship between having children living at home and the use of practices dealing with fabric preparation.

In practices dealing with staystitching, results indicated that homemakers with no children living at home staystitched the shoulder, armseye, waistline and side seams at a significantly higher percentage than did those with children at home. There was no significant difference in the use of other staystitching practices and children living at home.

The homemakers with no children living at home used woven and sew-in interfacing, and applied interfacing to necklines, cuffs and facings at a significantly higher percentage than did those with children. In contrast, homemakers with children at home used fusible interfacing at a significantly higher rate than those with no children.

Data from construction practices related to understitching indicated that in each instance, homemakers with no children were using these practices at a significantly higher rate than were those with children.

In construction practices relating to zipper application, data revealed that even though homemakers with no children were using practices

more frequently than were those with children, only the practice of shrinking zippers was found to have a significant relationship to use by homemakers and children at home. Homemakers with no children were using this practice at a higher rate than those with children.

Seam finishes that were hand overcast, bound and edge stitched were used by a greater proportion of homemakers with no children than those with children. Other seam finish practices were used at about the same rate by both groups.

Data revealed that of the practices dealing with hem construction only two of them had a significant relationship between practice use and children at home. Homemakers with no children finished hem edges with hem tape and stretch lace at a significantly higher rate than did their counterparts with children.

Construction practices related to pressing techniques were used by homemakers with no children living at home at a significantly higher rate than by those with children.

VI. RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN PERSONAL AND FAMILY CHARACTERISTICS OF HOMEMAKERS AND THEIR PRACTICE USE SCORE

The purpose of Table VI was to evaluate the relationship between personal and family characteristics and their use of recommended practices. Characteristics were broken down into five areas: (1) employment, (2) children living at home, (3) HDC membership, (4) garments made in the past 12 months, and (5) Extension audience.

TABLE VI. Relationships Between Selected Personal and Family Characteristics and Homemakers Total Practice Use Score

Selected Personal and Family Characteristics	Number	Practice Use Score
Employed outside home.		
No	442	47.9
Yes	158	47.6
TOTAL	600	47.8
Variance Ratio	F = .088; p = .766	
Children under 18 living at home.		
No	379	49.2
Yes	219	45.4
TOTAL	598	47.8
Variance Ratio	F = 18.7; p = .000	
Member of HDC		
No	161	45.2
Yes	443	48.5
TOTAL	604	47.7
Variance Ratio	F = 11.5; p = .007	
Number of garments made in past 12 months.		
Not any	42	38.9
1-5	176	44.5
6-12	233	48.4
13-22	93	51.0
23-84	60	52.1
85 and over	2	52.5
TOTAL	606	47.4
Variance Ratio	F = 13.1; p = .000	
Extension Audience		
HDC Member	455	48.4
4-H Parent	38	43.2
Special Interest	78	45.4
Senior Citizen	15	44.5
Housing Project	1	48.0
TOTAL	587	47.5
Variance Ratio	F = 3.22; p = .013	

There were 76 practices to which homemakers were asked to respond. The practice use score reflects the number of these practices homemakers were using. Use of these practices by respondents ranged from a low of 0 to a high of 74 with a mean score of 47.4.

Employment. Those homemakers who were not employed outside the home had a mean practice use score of 47.9, while those who were employed had a mean score of 47.6. The one-way analysis of variance F test indicated that there was no significant relationship between homemakers total practice use score and employment.

Children living at home. Homemakers surveyed who had no children living at home used an average of 49.2 of the 76 recommended clothing practices. This compared to a mean score of 45.4 by homemakers who did have children living at home. When tested at a probability level of .05, results showed a significant relationship between practice use and whether or not there were children living at home. Those who had no children living at home used significantly more practices.

HDC membership. Homemakers responding to the survey who were not HDC members had a mean practice use score of 45.2. This compares to a mean practice use score of 48.5 for homemakers who were HDC members. A one-way analysis of variance F test indicated that there was a significant relationship between the total number of practices used and HDC membership. Those who were HDC members used more practices.

Garments made. Homemakers surveyed who had not made any garments in the past 12 months had a mean practice use score of 38.9, while those who had made from 1 to 5 garments had a score of 44.5. Homemakers who had made from 6 to 12 garments had a score of 48.4 practices used while those who had made from 13 to 85 or more garments had scores that ranged from 51.0 to 52.5. When these scores were tested at a .05 probability level, there was a significant relationship between the number of garments made and total practices used. The more garments homemakers made, the greater the number of clothing practices used.

Extension audience. Data revealed that of the homemakers surveyed, HDC members had a higher total practice use score (48.4) than did those in other audience groups. The audience of 4-H parents used fewer practices (43.2) than did the other audience consisting of special interest, senior citizen and housing project homemakers. Statistical data from the one-way analysis of variance F test indicated that there was a significant relationship between Extension audience and practice use. Of the five Extension audiences surveyed, HDC members used a larger number of practices than did any of the other audiences.

Table Summary

Homemakers employment status was not found to be significantly related to the homemakers use of recommended clothing construction practices.

Findings did indicate, however, that there was a significant relationship between total practices used by homemakers and whether or not there were children living at home. Those homemakers with no children living at home used significantly more practices.

HDC membership was also found to be significantly related to total practice use by homemakers. Results indicated that those homemakers who were members of HDC used more of the recommended practices than did nonmembers.

Analysis of table findings show that homemakers who had made more garments during the past 12 months also used more of the recommended practices.

Extension audience type was also found to be significantly related to the total practices used by homemakers. HDC members used more of the recommended practices than did any of the other audiences.

CHAPTER IV

SUMMARY OF MAJOR FINDINGS, IMPLICATIONS

I. PURPOSE AND SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

Purpose

The purpose of this study was to determine whether there was a significant relationship between the use of recommended clothing construction practices by homemakers and membership in home demonstration clubs, employment, children living at home or Extension contacts.

Specific Objectives

The specific objectives of the study were:

1. To characterize homemakers who sew for their families as to personal and family characteristics, Extension contacts and use of selected clothing construction practices.
2. To determine the relationship between the number of contacts homemakers had with Extension agents and their use of clothing construction practices.
3. To compare home demonstration club members and non members as to their use of clothing construction practices.
4. To determine the relationship between homemakers employment status and their use of clothing construction practices.
5. To determine the relationship between personal and family characteristics of homemakers and their adoption of recommended clothing construction practices.

6. To determine the relationship between homemakers total practice use score and homemakers employment, children living at home, HDC membership, garments made and Extension audience.

II. METHOD OF INVESTIGATION

The population for this study was Tennessee homemakers who had constructed one or more clothing items during the last 12 months. Data were collected by County Extension Home Economists from a total of 609 homemakers residing in 21 of the 95 counties in Tennessee.

The sample consisted of randomly selected homemakers in each county participating. The Extension agent interviewed approximately 30 homemakers either on a personal or group basis. The "nth" number technique of random sampling was used to select respondents from a mailing list of homemakers.

III. METHOD OF ANALYSIS

Completed survey responses were forwarded to the Extension Education office for computer processing. Descriptive statistics including frequencies, percents, means and cross tabulations were used to summarize and analyze survey data. The Chi-Square (x^2) test and the one-way analysis of variance F test were used to determine relationships between selected dependent and independent variables. The .05 probability level was accepted as being statistically significant.

IV. MAJOR FINDINGS

Selected Characteristics of Tennessee Homemakers

1. Findings indicated that 26.3 percent of the homemakers surveyed were employed outside the home and 73.7 percent had no outside employment.

2. Of the homemakers surveyed, 36.6 percent had children under 18 years of age living at home.

3. Data revealed that 73.3 percent of those surveyed were members of Home Demonstration Clubs.

Relationship of Extension Contacts and the Use of Clothing Construction Practices

1. Homemakers who attended one or more Extension meetings during the previous 12 months used a significantly higher number of practices than those who had not attended any meetings.

2. Homemakers who made one or more visits to the Extension office during the previous 12 months had a significantly higher practice use score than homemakers making no visits.

3. Homemakers making one or more telephone calls to the Extension office in the past 12 months had a significantly higher practice use score than those homemakers who made no calls.

4. Homemakers receiving one or more Extension newsletters during the previous 12 months had a significantly higher practice use score than did homemakers who had received no newsletters.

A Comparison of Home Demonstration Club Members and

Non-Members as to Their Use of Clothing

Construction Practices

1. Homemakers who were HDC members selected patterns and clothing based on clothing needs and construction skills more frequently than nonmembers.

2. HDC membership was not found to be significantly related to the purchase of clothing fabric or the requesting of permanent care labels.

3. HDC members used all of the practices relating to the fabric board end label information at a significantly higher rate than did nonmembers.

4. HDC members were more likely to select fabric based on pattern recommendations, grain and garment style than were nonmembers. Other variables related to fabric selection showed no relationship to HDC membership and practice use.

5. There was no significant difference in members and nonmembers who were altering patterns. Of the homemakers who were making pattern alterations, HDC members made alterations by slashing pattern and adding extra amounts and by folding out extra amount in patterns at a significantly higher rate than did nonmembers.

6. HDC membership was not significantly related to those homemakers who were shrinking fabric before cutting or the type of shears used to cut fabrics. In marking construction details, HDC members used tailor's tacks significantly more frequently than nonmembers.

The use of pins and tracing carbon to mark construction details did not have a significant relationship as to their use and HDC membership.

7. Of the six practices related to staystitching in clothing construction, HDC members staystitched the neckline, shoulder, and the waistline at a significantly higher rate.

8. HDC members used three of the nine recommended practices related to interfacing at a significantly higher percentage than did nonmembers. Members were more likely than nonmembers to use interfacing, to interface collars and to interface facings.

9. HDC members were more likely than nonmembers to understitch garments during construction. The area that was understitched more frequently by members was the neckline.

10. Findings indicated that there was no significant relationship in the use of practices related to zipper application and HDC membership.

11. Three of the 12 practices relating to seam finishes were used by a significantly higher percentage of HDC members than nonmembers.

12. Of the 11 practices dealing with hem construction, HDC members finished the hem edge with hem tape, stretch lace and bias bound finishes more frequently than did nonmembers. Other practices indicated no relationship between HDC membership and practice use.

13. Findings indicated that of the four practices related to pressing techniques, the use of a press cloth and special pressing equipment was used by significantly more members than nonmembers. Others had no relationship to members and practice use.

Relationship Between Employment and Clothing

Construction Practices Used

1. Of the four practices relating to pattern selection, employed homemakers used body measurements to select patterns at a significantly higher rate than did those who were not employed. Use of other practices showed no relationship to employment status.

2. Employed homemakers were more likely than those unemployed to buy clothing fabrics, however, both groups read board end labels for information at about the same rate.

3. There was no significant relationship between employment of homemakers and their use of six of the seven fabric selection practices. The unemployed homemakers considered weight and feel when selecting fabric significantly more often than did those employed.

4. Unemployed homemakers altered patterns at a significantly higher rate than did those who were employed. Of those altering patterns the unemployed homemakers cut larger seams and folded out extra amounts in pattern more frequently than did the employed homemakers. Use of other practices relating to pattern alteration was not affected by employment.

5. Employment of homemakers had no significant relationship to the practices used in relation to fabric preparation and cutting.

6. Of the six practices relating to staystitching, three were used at a significantly higher rate by those homemakers who were unemployed. Employment status had no relation to use of other practices.

7. Homemaker employment status had no relationship to the use of eight of the nine practices concerning interfacing. The employed homemakers were using fusible interfacing significantly more frequently than those who were unemployed.

8. Employment had no significant relationship to the use of understitching practices by homemakers.

9. Construction practices regarding zipper application were used by both employed and unemployed homemakers at about the same rate.

10. Unemployed homemakers used hand overcast and edge stitched seam finishes at a significantly higher rate than those who were employed. Use of eight other seam finish practices were not related to employment status.

11. Of the 11 practices relating to hem construction, only having good quality hems and finishing hem edges with stretch lace were related to employment. In both instances unemployed homemakers used them at a significantly higher level.

12. Unemployed homemakers made test seams before pressing at a significantly higher rate than those who were employed. Other practices relating to pressing was not affected by employment status.

Relationship Between Homemakers With Children Living at Home and Clothing Construction Practices Used

1. Homemakers with no children selected patterns based on construction skills at a significantly higher level than did homemakers with children. Other practices related to pattern selection did not significantly differ between the two groups.

2. Homemakers with no children read board end labels of fabrics for special finishes and shrinkage information more frequently than those having children at home. Use of the other four practices relating to fabric board end label information was not significantly related to having children living at home.

3. When selecting fabric, homemakers with no children living at home considered grain, weight and feel, and texture at a significantly higher percentage than did those with children. There was no significant relationship between having children living at home and homemakers use of practices regarding garment style, pattern recommendations, color and individual preference or need and fabric selection.

4. Homemakers with no children altered patterns at a significantly higher rate than did those with children. There was also a significantly higher percentage of homemakers with no children altering patterns before cutting garments, making alterations by slashing patterns and adding extra amounts, and by folding out amounts in the pattern.

5. There was no relationship between homemakers having children living at home and the use of five practices dealing with fabric preparation and cutting.

6. Homemakers with no children living at home used four of the six practices relating to staystitching at a significantly higher level than did those homemakers with children.

7. Homemakers with no children used woven, sew-in interfacing at a significantly higher rate than did those with children. In contrast,

homemakers with children were using fusible interfacing at a significantly higher rate than their counterparts with no children. Interfacing in garment neckline, cuffs and facings was applied significantly more often by homemakers with no children. Application of interfacing in collars did not differ significantly between the two groups

8. Homemakers with no children used each of the five practices relating to understitching in garments at a significantly higher rate than did those homemakers with children.

9. Homemakers with no children preshrink zipper tape at a significantly higher percentage than those with children. Use of other zipper application practices were not affected by children living at home.

10. Seam finishes that were hand overcast, bound, and edge stitched were used by a significantly greater proportion of homemakers with no children than those with children. Other seam finish practices were used at about the same rate by both groups.

11. Of the 11 practices relating to hem construction, homemakers with no children finished hem edges with hem tape and stretch lace at a significantly higher rate than those with children. The other nine showed no significant relationship between practice use and children living at home.

12. All of the construction practices related to pressing techniques were used by homemakers with no children living at home at a significantly higher rate than by those with children.

Relationships Between Personal and Family Characteristics

of Homemakers and Their Practice Use Scores

1. Homemakers employment status was not significantly related to the homemakers use of recommended clothing construction practices.
2. Homemakers with no children living at home used significantly more of the recommended practices than did those homemakers with children living at home.
3. Homemakers who were members of Home Demonstration Clubs were using a significantly greater number of practices than were nonmembers.
4. As the number of garments made by homemakers increased, so did the total number of practices used.
5. Extension audience type was significantly related to the total number of practices used by homemakers. HDC members had a higher total practice use score than did any of the other audiences.

V. IMPLICATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

As Extension contacts increased, use of clothing construction practices by homemakers generally increased. One implication of this finding is that contacts by Extension agents have a positive influence on clientele's use of recommended clothing construction practices. Data show that there was no great differences in the types of contacts made and in the total practices used. Therefore, it would seem that the type of contact made is not so important as the contact itself. It is recommended that Extension agents should employ all available methods of reaching clientele including mass media, meetings, office visits, telephone calls, publications, and personal contacts.

Homemakers interviewed who were Home Demonstration Club members used a significantly higher number of recommended practices than did the nonmembers. One implication is that HDC membership had a positive influence on homemakers adoption of recommended practices. Other implications could be that use of practices may not be so much related to HDC membership as to Extension contacts, since it would seem likely that HDC members had more Extension contacts than other audiences. The same results may have occurred if a larger number of nonmembers with similar Extension contacts had been surveyed. These results might have also occurred because the traditional HDC member is older, and more experienced in this area than other audiences surveyed. It is recommended, therefore, that Extension agents try to increase their contacts with younger, nontraditional audiences.

The employment status of homemakers was not significantly related to the total number of recommended clothing construction practices used.

Even though the total number of practices used, and employment status was not related, findings indicated that the employed homemakers were using body measurements to select patterns and were buying clothing fabric at a significantly higher level than the unemployed. This could imply that the employed homemakers had a greater need for clothing and therefore made more purchases. It is also interesting to note that the unemployed homemakers were altering patterns at a significantly higher rate. Since those who were employed used more body measurements and fewer alterations, it could be implied that employed people had

less time for alterations and therefore made fewer. It might also imply that the employed homemaker would have more money to spend and would purchase a new pattern instead of making alterations. Study findings also indicated a positive relationship between employment status of homemakers and use of practices relating to hems and pressing. This could imply that by the time the employed homemakers were to this point in the construction process, time became a factor. It is recommended that Extension make an effort to teach these working women acceptable time saving techniques. Since employed homemakers do indicate a need and interest in sewing, more effort should be made to reach these homemakers.

Study findings indicated a positive relationship between homemakers with children living at home and total construction practices used. Homemakers with no children were using a significantly higher percentage of total practices than were those with children. This could mean that homemakers with no children are older and have more time to sew than do those with children. It could also be implied that the homemakers with no children sew for enjoyment rather than because of need. The traditional Home Demonstration Club member has been one that could fit into this category, therefore, Extension contacts may also have had some bearing on this outcome.

It would also seem that the homemakers with children would need to be more interested in sewing because of economic needs. It is recommended, therefore, that Extension agents should search for new ways of reaching this audience. Because of the time limitations these

homemakers generally have, much consideration should be given to using teaching methods that will improve the quantity and quality of clothing in the shortest time possible.

VI. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER STUDY

1. Future studies should be conducted using equal numbers of non-Extension and Extension clientele to better determine the influence Extension contacts has on practice adoption.
2. Studies in the future should have a more equal distribution of employed and unemployed homemakers to better evaluate specific needs unique to the employed homemakers.
3. Further studies should be made with families who have children living at home to determine Extension teaching methods that would promote greater use of clothing construction practices.

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APPENDIX

1982 Clothing Construction Survey*
(See Instructions on Separate Page)



Card # 1
(1)

Name of County _____ TEMIS Code No. _____
(2) (3) (4)

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Do you sew for yourself and/or other family members? _____ (1 = no; 2 = yes)
(8)
2. Do you select and buy patterns for yourself and/or family members? _____ (1 = no; 2 = yes)
(9)

Note to agent: If the answer is no to either of the above questions this interview should be terminated or the Consumer Survey form should be used with this homemaker.

II. SELECTION OF PATTERN AND FABRICS AND ALTERATION OF PATTERNS

- A. Use Body Measurements to Select Patterns:
Do you regularly take body measurements to select the correct body type and pattern size?
_____ (1 = no; 2 = yes; 9 = DNA)
(10)
- B. Consider Clothing Needs and Construction Skills Before Selecting Patterns:
 1. Do you usually select patterns based upon:
 - a. Clothing needs? _____ (1 = no; 2 = yes; 9 = DNA)
(11)
 - b. Your construction skills? _____ (1 = no; 2 = yes; 9 = DNA)
(12)
 2. Do you usually select patterns which are easy to sew or those with difficult details?
_____ (1 = easy; 2 = difficult; 9 = DNA)
(13)
- C. Read and Consider Board End Label Information Before Buying Fabric:
 1. Do you buy clothing fabrics for yourself and/or family members? _____ (1 = no; 2 = yes)
(14)
 2. Which of the following board end label information do you read and consider before selecting fabrics:

a. Fiber content? _____ (1 = no; 2 = yes) (15)	c. Special Finishes? _____ (1 = no; 2 = yes) (17)
b. Care required? _____ (1 = no; 2 = yes) (16)	d. Shrinkage information? _____ (1 = no; 2 = yes) (18)
 3. Do you ask for a permanent care label if the sales person does not voluntarily give it to you? _____ (1 = no; 2 = yes; 9 = DNA)
(19)
- D. Consider the Individual as Well as the Pattern Before Selecting Fabric:
 1. When you select fabric, do you consider:

a. Pattern recommendations? _____ (1 = no; 2 = yes; 9 = DNA) (20)	d. Color of fabric? _____ (1 = no; 2 = yes; 9 = DNA) (23)
b. Fabric woven or knitted "on grain"? _____ (1 = no; 2 = yes; 9 = DNA) (21)	e. Texture of fabric? _____ (1 = no; 2 = yes; 9 = DNA) (24)
c. Fabric weight and "feel"? _____ (1 = no; 2 = yes; 9 = DNA) (22)	f. Garment style? _____ (1 = no; 2 = yes; 9 = DNA) (25)
 - g. Individual preferences and/or needs? _____ (1 = no; 2 = yes)
(26)
- E. Alter Pattern Before Cutting Garment:
 1. Do you alter patterns for yourself and/or family members? _____ (1 = no; 2 = yes)
(27)
 2. Do you alter patterns before cutting a garment? _____ (1 = no; 2 = yes; 9 = DNA)
(28)
 3. Which method(s) do you use to alter a pattern:
 - a. Cut seam allowance larger? _____ (1 = no; 2 = yes)
(29)
 - b. Slash pattern and add extra amount? _____ (1 = no; 2 = yes)
(30)
 - c. Fold out extra amount in pattern? _____ (1 = no; 2 = yes)
(31)

Coding Instructions

1. Fill each column with a number and right justify.
2. A zero (0) = none.
3. A nine (9) = DNA (does not apply) or don't know.

III. CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES

- A. Consider the Fabric when Preparing and Cutting Garments:
- Do you shrink fabric before cutting? (1 = no; 2 = yes)
(32)
 - Do you cut garments with plain or pinking shears? (1 = plain; 2 = pinking)
(33)
 - Do you mark construction details with:
 - Tailor's tacks? (1 = no; 2 = yes)
(34)
 - Tracing carbon? (1 = no; 2 = yes)
(35)
 - Pins? (1 = no; 2 = yes)
(36)
- B. Consider the Fabric when Staystitching:
- When you staystitch, do you staystitch the following areas:

a. Neckline? <u> </u> (1 = no; 2 = yes) (37)	d. Waistline? <u> </u> (1 = no; 2 = yes) (40)
b. Shoulder? <u> </u> (1 = no; 2 = yes) (38)	e. Side Seams? <u> </u> (1 = no; 2 = yes) (41)
c. Armscye? <u> </u> (1 = no; 2 = yes) (39)	
 - How far away from seamline do you staystitch? (1 = $\frac{1}{2}$ inch; 2 = $\frac{3}{4}$ inch; 3 = $\frac{1}{8}$ inch)
(42)
- C. Interface Outer Garment Fabric in Areas Where Needed:
- Do you use interfacing in your garments? (1 = no; 2 = yes)
(43)
 - What type of interfacing(s) do you use:

a. Woven? <u> </u> (1 = no; 2 = yes) (44)	c. Sew-in? <u> </u> (1 = no; 2 = yes) (46)
b. Non-woven? <u> </u> (1 = no; 2 = yes) (45)	d. Fusible? <u> </u> (1 = no; 2 = yes) (47)
 - Where in garments do you use interfacings:

a. Neckline? <u> </u> (1 = no; 2 = yes) (48)	c. Cuffs? <u> </u> (1 = no; 2 = yes) (50)
b. Collars? <u> </u> (1 = no; 2 = yes) (49)	d. Facings? <u> </u> (1 = no; 2 = yes) (51)
- D. Understitch Garment in Areas Where Needed:
- Do you understitch garments? (1 = no; 2 = yes)
(52)
 - Do you understitch in the following areas of a garment:

a. Neckline <u> </u> (1 = no; 2 = yes) (53)	c. Facings? <u> </u> (1 = no; 2 = yes) (55)
b. Collars? <u> </u> (1 = no; 2 = yes) (54)	d. Pockets? <u> </u> (1 = no; 2 = yes) (56)
- E. Preshrink Zipper Tape and Apply Zipper Properly:
- Which procedures do you use in zipper application:
- Preshrink zipper tape? (1 = no; 2 = yes)
(57)
 - Make stitching straight? (1 = no; 2 = yes)
(58)
 - Cover zipper teeth and pull tab? (1 = no; 2 = yes)
(59)
- F. Match Seam Finishes to the Fabric:
- When using woven fabrics, which of the following seam finish(es) do you use:

a. Pinked? <u> </u> (1 = no; 2 = yes) (60)	e. Machine overcast? <u> </u> (1 = no; 2 = yes) (64)
b. Pinked and stitched? <u> </u> (1 = no; 2 = yes) (61)	f. Flat felled? <u> </u> (1 = no; 2 = yes) (65)
c. Turned under and stitched? <u> </u> (1 = no; 2 = yes) (62)	g. French? <u> </u> (1 = no; 2 = yes) (66)
d. Hand overcast? <u> </u> (1 = no; 2 = yes) (63)	h. Bound? <u> </u> (1 = no; 2 = yes) (67)
 - When using knit fabrics, which type of seam finish(es) do you use:

a. Plain? <u> </u> (1 = no; 2 = yes) (68)	c. Machine overcast? <u> </u> (1 = no; 2 = yes) (70)
b. Edge stitched? <u> </u> (1 = no; 2 = yes) (69)	d. Machine zigzagged? <u> </u> (1 = no; 2 = yes) (71)

3

County TEMIS No.
(2) (3) (4)Card # 2
(1)

G. Construct Garment Hems to Meet Generally Accepted Criteria of Quality Standards:

1. Do you have hems in your garments marked by someone else? (1 = no; 2 = yes)
(7)
2. Do you consider the following criteria as standards for a good hem:
 - a. Even in width? (1 = no; 2 = yes) (8)
 - b. Fullness eased evenly? (1 = no; 2 = yes) (9)
 - c. Flat, not bulky? (1 = no; 2 = yes) (10)
 - d. Inconspicuous stitches? (1 = no; 2 = yes) (11)
3. Have you used the following methods to finish a hem edge:
 - a. Hem tape? (1 = no; 2 = yes) (12)
 - b. Stretch lace? (1 = no; 2 = yes) (13)
 - c. Pinking? (1 = no; 2 = yes) (14)
 - d. Clean finishing? (1 = no; 2 = yes) (15)
 - e. Bias bound or Hong-King finish? (1 = no; 2 = yes) (16)
 - f. Zigzagging? (1 = no; 2 = yes) (17)

H. Press Fabric During Construction of the Garment:

1. Do you make a test seam to check the pressing techniques before pressing the garment fabric? (1 = no; 2 = yes)
(18)
2. Do you press each seam and dart before another seam crosses it? (1 = no; 2 = yes)
(19)
3. Do you have and use special equipment for pressing seams and darts? (1 = no; 2 = yes)
(20)
4. Do you use a press cloth to prevent shine? (1 = no; 2 = yes)
(21)

IV. SOURCES OF INFORMATION ABOUT FABRICS AND CLOTHING CONSTRUCTION

A. Mass Media:

Which mass media source, if any, have been most helpful in:

- a. Providing useful information about fabrics? (1 = radio; 2 = TV; 3 = newspaper; 4 = magazine; 5 = Extension publications; 9 = DNA (not a source))
(22)
- b. Providing useful information about clothing construction? (1 = radio; 2 = TV; 3 = newspaper; 4 = magazine; 5 = Extension publications; 9 = DNA)
(23)

B. Personal and/or Group Instruction:

Which of the following sources of instructions were used during the past 12-months to obtain information about:

- a. Fabrics:
 1. Extension agent? (1 = no; 2 = yes) (24)
 2. Home Economics teacher? (1 = no; 2 = yes) (25)
 3. Commercial classes? (1 = no; 2 = yes) (26)
 4. HDC Project leader? (1 = no; 2 = yes) (27)
- b. Clothing construction:
 1. Extension agent? (1 = no; 2 = yes) (28)
 2. Home Economics teacher? (1 = no; 2 = yes) (29)
 3. Commercial classes? (1 = no; 2 = yes) (30)
 4. HDC Project leader? (1 = no; 2 = yes) (31)

V. ESTIMATED NUMBER OF CONTACTS THE HOMEMAKER HAD WITH EXTENSION AGENTS DURING THE PAST 12-MONTHS

Note: The agent and/or homemaker should estimate the number of contacts the homemaker had with Extension agents over the past 12-months (fill in actual numbers and right justify).

1. Number of Extension meetings attended on clothing?
(32) (33)
2. Number of visits made to the Extension office?
(34) (35)
3. Number of telephone calls made to the Extension office?
(36) (37)
4. Number of newsletters received from Extension?
(38) (39)

VI. INFORMATION ABOUT THE HOMEMAKER AND FAMILY

1. Are you presently employed outside the home? (1 = no; 2 = yes)
(40)
2. Were you employed outside the home at any time during the past year? (1 = no; 2 = yes)
(41)
3. Do you have children under 18 living at home? (1 = no; 2 = yes)
(42)

VITA

Berniece Wilson Atkinson was born in Overton County, Tennessee, on November 10, 1944, to Joe Hollis and Gladys Wilson. She attended public school in Overton and Putnam Counties and graduated from Monterey High School in 1963. She attended Tennessee Technological University, majoring in Home Economics Education and graduated in June of 1967, with a Bachelor of Science degree.

Berniece was employed on August 1, 1967, by the University of Tennessee Agricultural Extension Service as a 4-H agent in Cumberland County. In May of 1969, she became the Adult Home Economics Agent. She was promoted to Associate Extension Agent in 1975 and to Extension Agent in 1983.

Berniece is a member of Gamma Sigma Delta, the National Honorary Agriculture Society; Epsilon Sigma Phi, The National Extension Fraternity; The Associations for Extension Home Economists; and the American Home Economics Association.

She was married to J. D. Atkinson in 1968. They have three sons, James and Jason, age 17, and Jon, age 12.