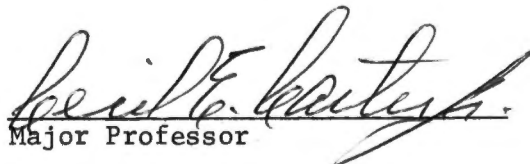


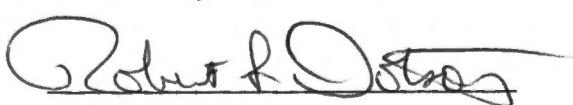
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May 18, 1972

To the Graduate Council:

I am submitting herewith a thesis written by Madeline Lenora Henry entitled "Relationships Between Participation in a Clothing Construction Workshop and Selected Characteristics and Sewing Skills of Low-Income Homemakers in Macon County, Tennessee." I recommend that it be accepted for nine quarter hours of credit in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree Master of Science, with a major in Agricultural Extension Education.


Major Professor

We have read this thesis
and recommend its acceptance:

Accepted for the Council:


Vice Chancellor for
Graduate Studies and Research

RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN PARTICIPATION IN A CLOTHING CONSTRUCTION
WORKSHOP AND SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS AND SEWING SKILLS
OF LOW-INCOME HOMEMAKERS IN MACON COUNTY, TENNESSEE

A Thesis
Presented to
the Graduate Council of
The University of Tennessee

In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Master of Science

by
Madeline Lenora Henry

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ABSTRACT

The major purpose of this study was to determine the influence of selected characteristics, family patterns, economic standards and clothing problems of the low-income homemakers in Macon County on their participation in a clothing construction workshop. Another purpose was to determine changes in homemakers' sewing skills brought about by attendance at a clothing construction workshop.

One hundred low-income homemakers were studied. Fifty participated in a clothing construction workshop. The remaining 50 were selected at random from a list of low-income homemakers, who were not participants in the workshop and were used as a comparison group.

Two questionnaires were used to secure data. One questionnaire was designed to secure information concerning personal, family and other characteristics of low-income homemakers which were thought to influence homemakers' participation in the workshop. This information was secured through personal and group interviews.

The other data collection instrument was designed to determine the degree to which low-income homemakers were able to perform 15 selected sewing skills. Each homemaker completed this checklist before and after the workshop.

Overall Economic Opportunity Homemaker Aids helped the Extension Home Agent in securing data. They also provided transportation for low-income homemakers to attend the clothing construction workshop.

A contingency Table Analysis Program was used to analyze data. This program computed percentages, chi square values and degree of

freedom. Chi square values which achieved the .05 level were accepted as significant. A t test was used to determine significance of differences in pre-test and post-test scores on clothing construction skills.

Major findings of the study were as follows:

1. Participation in the workshop was not influenced by the personal characteristics (marital status, age, education, family income, husbands' occupation, place of residence and number of children) of the homemakers, except type of work performed by the homemakers. Homemakers who worked in a factory tended not to attend the workshop.

2. Participation in the workshop was influenced by the sources of homemaking information used by the homemakers. Participants in the workshop tended to be those who had previously secured homemaking information from either the Extension Service or the Office of Economic Opportunity. Nonparticipants relied primarily upon the Health Department for homemaking information.

3. Participation in the workshop was influenced by homemakers' knowledge of and involvement in community organizations and in events and activities. Workshop participants were more active than non-participants in church work, work of the Office of Economic Opportunity and Home Demonstration Clubs and other community programs.

4. Ownership of sewing equipment had a significant influence on low-income homemakers' participation in a clothing construction workshop. Those homemakers participating owned more pieces of sewing equipment, including sewing machines, than did the nonparticipants.

5. The skills checklist revealed that low-income homemakers participating in the workshop made a significant improvement (post-test over pre-test) in test scores on the 15 clothing construction skills. There was no significant difference in pre-test and post-test scores by homemakers who did not attend the workshop.

Implications and recommendations also were made.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Macon County is located in the north central part of Middle Tennessee bordering the Kentucky state line. Tennessee counties bordering Macon County are Clay and Jackson on the east, Smith and Trousdale on the south and Sumner on the west.

The county is considered rural, although there are two small towns, Lafayette and Red Boiling Springs, within its boundries. The two towns are beginning to become somewhat urbanized in character. Families that have members who work at off-the-farm jobs are moving into new housing areas in and near the two towns.

According to the 1970 Census of Population (advanced report) Macon County has a population of 12,315 persons (19:3).^{*} Lafayette, the county seat, with a population of 2,583 is the larger of the two towns. The nearest major shopping areas, each about 60 miles from Lafayette, are Nashville, Tennessee and Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Since there is no rail, bus, or taxi service, privately owned cars are the major source of transportation. However, there is a small airport and several private locally owned planes are available.

About 10 percent of the working force commute to work outside the county. Locally, there are three garment factories that employ approximately 1,200 women and two other small factories that employ about 400 men. Several very small factories and businesses provide

^{*}Numbers in parentheses refer to numbered references in the bibliography; those after the colon are page numbers.

additional jobs. Although, exact figures were not available, most of the jobs for men within the county are farm or farm related. Over one-half of the women of the county work at public jobs.

According to the 1960 census report, the median family income in Macon County was \$2,055. Only 2.4 percent had an income over \$10,000 per year. Families with incomes under \$1,000 per year made up 25.3 percent of the total families in the county (18:38). About 40 percent of the farm income was from the sale of tobacco and livestock and livestock products. Since the agriculture in the county is diversified, several other agricultural products made up the remainder of the farm income.

Due to the lack of job opportunities in the county many young families have moved to other areas to seek employment. Much effort is presently being made to attract industry into the area which will provide work for the young people.

The median educational level in 1960 for Macon County residents who were 25 or more years old, was just about the seventh grade (7.3). In the past few years some adult education classes have been provided locally by the Office of Economic Opportunity, the County Board of Education and advanced work by area colleges.

I. PROBLEM

Studies show that low-income people are largely nonparticipants in educational programs offered through group methods and mass media. Low-income people in Macon County probably do not differ greatly from

low-income people in surrounding counties and states. They too need special attention from professional workers in order to be able to solve their problems. These people lack basic education, manual skills and the ability to react to the society around them (1:61).

Professional Extension workers too often do not communicate effectively with low-income people. Socially and culturally deprived people are much more easily lost in conversation because of their lack of experiences, knowledge of simple skills and lack of aspirations to change. For these and other reasons, low-income people are often described as hard to reach. It is extremely important to remember the needs, interests and abilities while working with this clientele.

II. NEED FOR STUDY AND PURPOSES

The purpose of this study was to learn more about the personal characteristics, family patterns, economic standards and problems of low-income homemakers in Macon County. It was felt that this information would help Extension Workers to better understand the goals, values and wishes of low-income homemakers. This should be of value to Extension Agents by helping them to plan programs better suited to the needs, interests and abilities of low-income homemakers.

By conducting this study the professional worker hoped to be able to adapt teaching methods and techniques to fit the abilities and needs of the low-income families in Macon County.

III. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

Extension's concern must always be with solving problems and meeting the needs of people. To be able to identify problems and find solutions in order to better meet the needs of the people, objectives need to be formulated.

The following objectives were stated to guide the present study:

1. To determine the influence of selected personal, family and other characteristics of low-income homemakers on their participation in a clothing construction workshop.
2. To determine changes in low-income homemakers' sewing skills brought about by participation in a clothing construction workshop.

IV. LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

The present study was limited to homemakers of low-income families in Macon County, Tennessee. The homemakers studied were: (1) low-income homemakers who attended at least two or more sessions of an eight-session Extension Clothing Construction Workshop held during the fall months of 1970, and constructed at least one fabric item in conjunction with the workshop, (that is, participants) and (2) low-income homemakers who did not attend the workshop but had been interviewed and invited to attend (that is, nonparticipants).

Training at the workshop was limited to simple skills thought to be necessary in order to be able to make garments using a sewing machine.

The study was further limited to questions concerning low-income homemakers' personal and family characteristics and fifteen sewing skills taught in conjunction with the clothing construction workshop.

V. METHOD OF INVESTIGATION

Population and Sample

In 1960 Macon County had a population of 12,197 with 2,187 living in Lafayette and Red Boiling Springs (18:9). The 1960 census also showed that 25.3 percent of the families had an income of less than \$2,000 (18:38) (later figures were not available). Many of these families were concentrated in two areas near the edge of two small towns. Individual poverty families were scattered throughout the county.

The local Welfare Department reported that they had 200 families included in their programs. The Overall Economic Development Center had records of 236 families; 36 of these families were composed of men only. These 236 families were poverty families with whom Overall Economic Opportunity Aids had worked. The Extension Service Expanded Nutrition Program Assistants also had worked with about 200 homemakers in low-income families of Macon County. There was much overlapping of families on these three lists. A list totaling 256 names was made, eliminating duplicates.

The 256 known low-income homemakers included on the list were contacted by mail and by home visits and encouraged to attend a

clothing construction workshop. Of the 256 homemakers contacted, 50 attended the workshop.

The sample for this study included 50 low-income homemakers who attended two or more sessions of an eight-session clothing construction workshop and 50 low-income homemakers who did not attend the workshop (nonparticipants). The nonparticipants were randomly selected from the original list of 206 low-income homemakers not attending the workshop. Names of participants in the workshop were removed from the original list of 256 prior to the selection of nonparticipants.

Data Collection Instruments

Through the careful guidance of the Tennessee Agricultural Extension Education Section and with the aid of Miss Helen Radar, Professor and Leader of Clothing, Tennessee Agricultural Extension Service, a questionnaire was developed. The questionnaire was designed and used to secure information needed to achieve study objectives. A checklist of clothing construction skills also was developed and used both as a pre-test (before the workshop) and a post-test (after the workshop) to measure workshop effectiveness. The fifteen recommended clothing construction skills were modified and/or selected from Tennessee's Recommended Clothing Practice Checklist (form 416c2).

The questionnaire was designed to reveal low-income homemakers' personal characteristics, family characteristics, sewing equipment owned, sewing skills used and other factors thought to influence their participation in educational group meetings.

Collection of Data

The questionnaires and skill checklist forms were administered prior to the beginning of the workshop by the Extension Home Agent, with help from personnel of the Neighborhood Service Center (O.E.O.), through personal interviews and small group meetings. The 50 low-income homemakers who attended the workshop were interviewed at the first session of the workshop. Fifty additional low-income homemakers (referred to as nonparticipants) were selected at random from the remainder of the names on the compiled list of low-income homemakers (explained in the previous section of this study).

At the conclusion of the workshop a post-test using the same skills checklist was completed by the 50 homemakers who attended at least two of the eight workshop meetings and by the 50 homemakers who did not attend any of the workshop meetings but had been previously interviewed (nonparticipants).

VI. DESCRIPTION OF TERMS USED

In order that the researcher may communicate better with those interested in this study, the following terms were described as used in the study.

Participants--low-income homemakers who attended at least two sessions of an eight-session clothing construction workshop conducted in Macon County.

Nonparticipants--low-income homemakers in Macon County who did not attend the clothing construction workshop but had an opportunity to do so.

Low-income--families with an income of less than \$3,000 per year.

Clothing Construction Workshop--a series of eight classes where skills in clothing construction were taught and a garment was completed.

Tasks or skills--ability to perform a designated piece of work.

O.E.O.--Overall Economic Opportunity, a federal program designed to help low-income people.

H.D.C.--Home Demonstration Clubs, adult homemaker clubs, a part of the County Extension Program.

Neighborhood Service Center--a center operated by O.E.O. personnel where low-income people may secure help with homemaking problems.

CHAPTER II

RELATED LITERATURE

I. CHARACTERISTICS OF LOW-INCOME FAMILIES

Priority concerns of America today are focused upon the isolated, less advantaged, and under-utilized people in society (1:60). The problem is big in size because it includes over 15 million Americans who are members of low-income families (12:4). It is big in scope because of many causal factors involved and because solutions are complex (1:61). Low-income families are found all over the nation, in rural, urban and the inner-city.

The Extension Service is responsible for educational programs in home economics for all families. Extension has a continuing interest in strengthening its programs in order to be of greater benefit to families living in low-income areas, many of whom have lost hope because of repeated failures.

The disadvantaged, the poor, the poverty stricken, the deprived, the low-income, the alienated, the under-privileged, plus other terms all seem to communicate about the same idea. Irene Beivers said "There is no exact way of measuring the extent which families are depressed" (2:238). This group of people are generally identified as families with yearly incomes of less than \$3000.

Poverty cannot be reduced to the oversimplification of a lack of income alone, although this is obviously a core factor (3:1). Many

poor families are multi-problem families--made up of individuals with little education, with many health problems, living under crowded conditions and very pessimistic about life (4:23).

Regardless of color, residence or particular beliefs, all poor share a common set of needs tied closely to a severe lack of personal and community resources (3:1). Their aspirations and expectations are usually low no matter where they live--rural, urban or inner-city (16:170). They know they are outside of the mainstream of society. They must have some adequate outside leadership to help them become interested in doing something about their problems (7:6). Other factors such as broken homes, step-parents and step-children also added to the problems of the low-income.

Families headed by a woman are more likely than other families to be in poverty. In 1970, persons in families headed by a woman constituted only 11 percent of all persons in families, but about 37 percent of poor persons (14:20).

II. PRACTICE ADOPTION BY LOW-INCOME FAMILIES

Most individuals do not adopt a new idea immediately after becoming aware of its existence. Studies indicate that although some low-income families showed readiness to adopt new ideas, only half of these actually adopted recommended homemaking practices. They not only adopt more slowly but also a smaller percent of them ever adopt new ideas (8:169).

Five stages in the adoption process most commonly accepted today are: awareness, interest, evaluation, trial, and adoption

(15:15). The low-income person has less exposure to new ideas because of the lack of contact with mass media, low educational level and ability to understand. She is less apt to try a new idea because of fear of failure as well as lack of funds.

There is apt to be an initial lack of interest in, and acceptance of, educational programs on the part of low-income families (21:10). Fear, suspicions, superstitions and feelings of inadequacy reinforced by the reaction of others to them help solidify their subordinate status (1:60).

Low-income homemakers often fail to exercise good judgment and may not accept responsibility. Some feel this is because they have lived with the belief that the woman's role is in the home and the man is the decision maker (2:234). Often the husband must sanction her learning or participation before she will do so.

In an interview with Miss Margaret Morton, Home Demonstration Agent in Knox County, her program in clothing construction with low-income homemakers was discussed (13). She indicated that: "It is so easy to start above them. When you think you are doing well you realize that they do not know what you are saying and you have to start all over." She related that it was difficult to reach these people. Only a few came to her classes at first but more came later. Each time a new person arrived she had to begin all over from the first. Involvement of low-income families in very simple things can have profound effects upon the family (2:234). Training must be a "Show how type" because of lack of information and underdeveloped abilities. The learner needs to be involved in the activity.

Involving low-income homemakers in teaching others is one good way to help them to learn well what is being taught.

III. CLOTHING SELECTION AND CONSTRUCTION BY

LOW-INCOME HOMEMAKERS

Poverty-stricken families often accept inferior quality in clothing due to lack of income and/or knowledge of clothing (9:153). When there is money for clothing among disadvantaged families it is often spent for clothes chosen for their "beauty, colors, and the latest styles rather than durability and fit" (2:237).

Clothes make the poor disappear, so-to-speak. Often clothes worn by the poor are items given to them by individuals, charities or social agencies. These clothes, although used and often a horrid fit, may be of exceptional quality.

Michael Harrington spoke of how clothes make the poor invisible. He said, "Clothes make the poor invisible too! America has the best dressed poverty the world has ever known. For a variety of reasons, the benefits of mass production have been spread much more evenly in this area than in many others. It is much easier in the United States to be decently dressed than it is to be decently housed, fed or doctored. Even people with depressed incomes can look prosperous" (11:5). However, other studies show that family expenditures for clothing ranked fourth in the total living cost of low-income families. Clothing was preceded only by food, shelter and transportation (12:9).

Providing clothing for children can be a burden to low-income families, especially to large families. The main reasons are that

the price range in childrens clothes is much more narrow than that for adults. Also, children tend to wear out or out-grow their clothes, thus necessitating frequent replacement (17:106). This burden of providing clothing for children often brings families with moderate incomes into the low-income living patterns whenever there is a large number of children. These families become more desperate than the families that have been poor from childhood. Their problems often become great and emergency situations develop.

The mother usually has much more influence on the way the clothing money is spent. Homemakers who sew can save money by constructing clothing items for their family. Sewing classes are especially successful in the generation of enthusiasm and in changing behavior of low-income homemakers. The educational clothing workshop fullfills the homemakers desires for low-cost clothing and household items (5:129).

CHAPTER III

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

This chapter includes findings relevant to the personal characteristics of low-income homemakers of Macon County, their participation in organizations, events and activities, their sources of information, their abilities and desires to sew and their practice adoption scores. Comparisons were made between those participating in two or more sessions of a series of clothing construction classes (participants) and those who did not attend (nonparticipants) in an effort to identify factors influencing low-income homemakers to participate in a clothing construction workshop.

I. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' PARTICIPATION IN A CLOTHING CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP AND THEIR PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

Basic information concerning the personal characteristics of low-income homemakers of Macon County was analyzed to provide information needed to plan future programs designed to further assist low-income homemakers. Personal characteristics studied included: (1) marital status, (2) age, (3) education levels, (4) family income, (5) occupation of husband, (6) sources of income, (7) employment status, (8) occupation of homemakers, (9) home ownership status, (10) place of residence, (11) number of children, and (12) number of children living at home.

The purpose of the analysis included in this section was to identify the personal characteristics of low-income homemakers which influenced their participation in a clothing construction workshop.

Marital Status

Percents of all homemakers, workshop participants and non-participants are given in Table I by their marital status. Of all low-income homemakers interviewed, 55 percent were married. Widowed homemakers was the next largest classification (28 percent).

Comparison of workshop participants and nonparticipants revealed that 58 percent of the former and 52 percent of the latter were married homemakers. Widowed homemakers made up 26 percent of the participants and 30 percent of the nonparticipants. The percent of nonparticipants who were single was twice as great (16 percent versus 8 percent) as participants. When tested by chi square these observed differences in participants and nonparticipants, as to their marital status, did not achieve the required .05 level of significance. Homemakers' participation in the clothing construction workshop was not influenced by their marital status.

Ages of Homemakers

Percents of all homemakers, workshop participants and non-participants are given in Table II by age categories. Of all homemakers interviewed 31 percent were over 65 years of age while only 6 percent were under 25. Eighty-nine percent of all homemakers interviewed were 35 years of age or older.

TABLE I
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' PARTICIPATION IN A CLOTHING
CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP AND MARITAL STATUS*

Marital Status	Totals (N = 100)	Workshop Participation	
		Participants (N = 50)	Nonparticipants (N = 50)
Married	55%	58%	52%
Divorced	5	8	2
Widowed	28	26	30
Single	12	8	16
Totals	100	100	100

*Calculated X^2 - 4.4, not significant at .05 level with 3 degrees of freedom. Critical X^2 value = 7.8.

TABLE II
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' PARTICIPATION IN A CLOTHING
CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP AND AGE OF HOMEMAKERS*

Age of Homemakers	Totals (N = 100)	Workshop Participation	
		Participants (N = 50)	Nonparticipants (N = 50)
Under 24	6%	6%	6%
25 - 34	5	2	8
35 - 44	15	24	6
45 - 54	21	18	24
55 - 64	22	22	22
65 and Over	31	28	34
Total	100	100	100

*Calculated $\chi^2 = 10.0$, not significant at .05 level with 5 degrees of freedom. Critical χ^2 value = 11.1.

When participants and nonparticipants were compared more of the former (92 percent) than the latter (86 percent) were over 35, but only 50 percent of the participants compared to 56 percent of the nonparticipants were over 55. When tested by chi square these observed differences in participants and nonparticipants as to their age did not achieve the required .05 significance level. Homemakers' participation in the workshop was not influenced by their ages.

Homemakers' Educational Level

Percents of all homemakers, workshop participants and non-participants are given in Table III by their educational level.

Most homemakers interviewed (85 percent) had an eighth grade education or less, with 27 percent under fifth grade. The average years of school completed by all homemakers interviewed was 6.9.

Comparison of the groups interviewed, revealed that the non-participants had 92 percent with eighth grade education or less while participants had only 78 percent. The former had 28 percent and the latter had 26 percent with less than a fifth grade education. The average years of school completed was 7.1 for participants and 6.6 for nonparticipants. While interviewing the homemakers it was found that several of these had no formal education and did not read or write; this included both participants and nonparticipants. When tested by chi square these observed differences in participants and nonparticipants as to their educational level did not achieve the required .05 significance level. Although the association between workshop participation and educational level was not significant

TABLE III

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' PARTICIPATION IN A CLOTHING
CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP AND EDUCATIONAL LEVEL*

Educational Level	Total (N = 100)	Workshop Participation	
		Participants (N = 50)	Nonparticipants (N = 50)
Under Grade 5	27%	28%	26%
5 - 8	58	50	66
9 - 10	4	6	2
11 and Over	11	16	6
Total	100	100	100
Average	6.9	7.1	6.6

*Calculated $X^2 = 4.41$, not significant at .05 level with 3
degrees of freedom. Critical X^2 value = 7.8.

there were tendencies for those who attended the workshop to have a higher educational level.

Family Income

Percents of all homemakers, workshop participants and non-participants are given in Table IV by their monthly family income. The largest classification of homemakers interviewed showed an income of less than \$100 per month (37 percent), with the second largest being \$100 to 199 per month (35 percent). Of all homemakers interviewed, 72 percent had a total monthly family income of less than \$200. Only 7 percent had a family income over \$300 or above the suggested poverty line (\$3000 per year). Six percent chose not to reveal their income. The average monthly income for all homemakers was \$163 per month. Homemakers who did not participate in the workshop had a monthly family income of \$172 compared to \$153 for participants. When tested by chi square these differences in participants and nonparticipants, as to their monthly family income, did not achieve the .05 significance level. Although the association between workshop participants and income was not significant, there were slight tendencies for those with lower incomes to attend the workshop.

Occupation of Husband

Percent of all homemakers, workshop participants and nonparticipants are given in Table V by the husband's occupation. Of all low-income homemakers interviewed, 44 percent did not have a husband. Husbands that did not work made up the second highest classification (26 percent).

TABLE IV

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' PARTICIPATION IN A CLOTHING
CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP AND FAMILY INCOME*

Family Income In Dollars Per Month	Total (N = 100)	Workshop Participation	
		Participants (N = 50)	Nonparticipants (N = 50)
Under 100	37%	38%	36%
100 - 199	35	34	36
200 - 299	15	14	16
300 - 399	5	4	6
400 - 499	2	0	4
No Resp.	6	10	2
Total	100	100	100
Average	\$163	\$153	\$172

*Calculated $X^2 = 7.31$, not significant at .05 level with 5 degrees of freedom. Critical X^2 value = 11.1.

TABLE V
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' PARTICIPATION IN A CLOTHING
CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP AND OCCUPATION OF HUSBAND*

Occupation of Husband	Total (N = 100)	Workshop Participation	
		Participants (N = 50)	Nonparticipants (N = 50)
Does Not Have Husband	44%	40%	48%
Farmer	9	10	8
Laborer	19	22	16
Professional	2	4	0
Do Not Work	26	24	28
Total	100	100	100

*Calculated $X^2 = 3.57$, not significant at .05 level with 4 degrees of freedom. Critical X^2 value = 9.5.

Only 2 percent worked at professional jobs. The majority (19 percent) of the working husbands were laborers.

Comparison of workshop participants and nonparticipants revealed that 40 percent of the former and 48 percent of the latter did not have husbands. Only 24 percent of husbands of participants and 28 percent of nonparticipants' husbands did not work. Occupations of working husbands of participant homemakers were laborers (22 percent), farmers (10 percent) and professional workers (4 percent). Occupations of working husbands of nonparticipant homemakers were laborers (16 percent), farmers (8 percent), with no professional workers. Thirty-six percent of the participants' husbands were working compared to 24 percent of the nonparticipants' husbands. When tested by chi square these observed differences in participants and nonparticipants as to the occupation of their husbands did not achieve the required .05 significance level. Homemakers participation in the workshop was not significantly influenced by the occupation of their husbands.

Outside Source of Income

Percents of all homemakers, workshop participants and nonparticipants are given in Table VI by the types of income other than employment. Of all low-income homemakers interviewed 32 percent had no "other source" of family income. The largest proportion (23 percent) of homemakers' other family income was from social security. Comparison of the participants and nonparticipants revealed that 36 percent of the former and 28 percent of the latter had no "other source" of family income. Social Security provided income for 30 percent of

TABLE VI

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' PARTICIPATION IN A CLOTHING
CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP AND OTHER SOURCES OF INCOME*

Other Sources of Income	Total (N = 100)	Workshop Participation	
		Participants (N = 50)	Nonparticipants (N = 50)
None	32%	36%	28%
Social Security	33	30	36
Welfare	18	14	22
Pensions	5	4	6
Other	12	16	8
Totals	100	100	100

*Calculated $X^2 = 9.6$ significant at .05 level with 4 degrees
of freedom. Critical X^2 value = 9.5.

the participants and 36 percent of the nonparticipants. Welfare was a source of income for 14 percent of the participants and 22 percent of the nonparticipants. When tested by chi square these observed differences in participants and nonparticipants, as to "other sources" of income, was significant at the .05 level. Homemakers who did not participate in the workshop tended to be receiving income from social security, welfare and/or pensions.

Employment of Homemaker

Percents of all low-income homemakers, workshop participants and nonparticipants are given in Table VII by homemakers who worked away from home. Only 11 percent of all homemakers interviewed worked full-time. The largest percent (87) did not work. Comparison of the participants and nonparticipants revealed that 88 percent of the former and 86 percent of the latter did not work away from home. However, 10 percent of the participants and 12 percent of the nonparticipants worked full-time. Only 2 percent of each worked part-time. When tested by chi square these observed differences in participants and nonparticipants as to work done away from home, did not achieve the required .05 level. Workshop participation was not influenced by homemakers employment outside the home.

Type of Work Performed by Homemaker

Percents of all homemakers, workshop participants and nonparticipants are given in Table VIII by the type work performed outside the home. Of all low-income homemakers interviewed 86 percent did not work. The 3 percent that worked at the O.E.O. Center were all

TABLE VII

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' PARTICIPATION IN A CLOTHING
CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP AND EMPLOYMENT OF HOMEMAKER*

Employment of Homemaker	Total (N = 100)	Workshop Participation	
		Participants (N = 50)	Nonparticipants (N = 50)
Full-Time	11%	10%	12%
Part-Time	2	2	2
Do Not Work	87	88	86
Total	100	100	100

*Calculated $X^2 = 0.10$, not significant at .05 level with 2 degrees of freedom. Critical X^2 value = 6.0.

TABLE VIII

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' PARTICIPATION IN A CLOTHING
CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP AND TYPE OF WORK PERFORMED
BY HOMEMAKER*

Type of Work	Total (N = 100)	Workshop Participation	
		Participants (N = 50)	Nonparticipants (N = 50)
Do Not Work	87%	88%	86%
Factory	6	2	10
O.E.O. Center	3	6	0
Other	4	4	4
Total	100	100	100

*Calculated $X^2 = 9.68$, significant at .05 level with 3 degrees of freedom. Critical $X^2 = 7.8$.

participants. However, 6 percent of all homemakers worked at local factories.

Comparison of the participants and nonparticipants revealed that 88 percent of the former and 86 percent of the latter did not work. Factory workers made up 2 percent of the participants and 10 percent of the nonparticipants. Most full-time factory workers could not attend the workshop because it was conducted during work hours. When tested by chi square these observed differences in participants and nonparticipants as to the type of work they performed achieved the .05 significance level. Workshop participation was associated with type of work performed by the homemaker. Participants who were employed tended to work in occupations which did not prevent their attendance at the workshop.

Home Ownership

Percents of all homemakers, workshop participants and nonparticipants are given in Table IX by home ownership. Of all low-income homemakers interviewed 62 percent owned their homes, while 35 percent rented homes. Comparison of the participants and nonparticipants revealed that 58 percent of the former and 66 percent of the latter owned their homes. The percent of participants who rented their homes exceeded that of the nonparticipants by 14 percent (42 Versus 28). When tested by chi square the observed differences in participants and nonparticipants as to their home ownership did not achieve the required .05 significance level. Although the associations between workshop participation and home ownership was not significant, there

TABLE IX

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' PARTICIPATION IN A CLOTHING
CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP AND HOME OWNERSHIP*

Home Ownership	Total (N = 100)	Workshop Participation	
		Participants (N = 50)	Nonparticipants (N = 50)
Rent	35%	42%	28%
Own	62	58	66
Other	3	0	6
Total	100	100	100

*Calculated $X^2 = 4.66$, not significant at .05 level with 2
degrees of freedom. Critical X^2 value = 6.0.

were tendencies for those who rented their homes to attend the workshop.

Place of Residence

Percents of all homemakers, workshop participants and non-participants are given in Table X by place of residence. Farm residents made up the highest percent (38) of all low-income homemakers interviewed. Urban residents made up the second highest classification (30 percent). Rural non-farm residents only contributed 29 percent.

Comparison of the participants and nonparticipants revealed that 38 percent of both groups lived on the farm. The second classification of rural non-farm showed participants 28 percent and nonparticipants 30 percent. More participants (32 percent) were urban compared to nonparticipants (28 percent). When tested by chi square these observed differences in participants and nonparticipants as to place of residents did not achieve the required .05 significance level. Workshop participation was not influenced by the homemakers place of residence.

Number of Children

Percents of all homemakers, workshop participants and non-participants are given in Table XI by the number of children in the family. Of all homemakers interviewed 46 percent had one to four children. Over five children in the family made up the next largest classification (29 percent). Only 25 percent of all homemakers had no children. The average number of children per family was 2.85.

Comparison of the participants and nonparticipants revealed that 52 percent of the former and 40 percent of the latter had from

TABLE X

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' PARTICIPATION IN A CLOTHING
CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP AND PLACE OF RESIDENCE*

Place of Residence	Total (N = 100)	Workshop Participation	
		Participants (N = 50)	Nonparticipants (N = 50)
Farm	38%	38%	38%
Non-farm	29	28	30
Urban	30	32	28
No Resp.	2	2	4
Total	100	100	100

*Calculated $X^2 = .07$, not significant at .05 level, with 2 degrees of freedom. Critical X^2 value = 6.0. No responses were excluded from the analysis.

TABLE XI

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' PARTICIPATION IN A CLOTHING
CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP AND NUMBER OF CHILDREN

Number of Children*	Total (N = 100)	Workshop Participation	
		Participants (N = 50)	Nonparticipants (N = 50)
None	25%	16%	34%
1 - 4	46	52	40
5 or More	29	32	26
Total	100	100	100
Average	2.85	3.22	2.48

*Calculated $X^2 = 4.3$, not significant at .05 level with 2
degrees of freedom. Critical X^2 value = 6.0.

one to four children. The category over five children in the family made up 32 percent of the participants and 26 percent of the non-participants. Participants had an average of 3.22 children per homemaker while nonparticipants only had an average of 2.48.

When tested by chi square these observed differences in participants and nonparticipants as to number of children in the family did not achieve the required .05 significance level. Although the associations between workshop participation and the number of children in the family was not significant, workshop participants averaged almost one child more than the nonparticipants (3.2 compared to 2.5).

Number of Children Living at Home

Percent of all homemakers, workshop participants and nonparticipants are given in Table XII by the number of children living at home. Of all low-income homemakers 50 percent did not have children living at home. Forty-three percent of all the homemakers had from one to four children at home.

Comparison of the participants and nonparticipants revealed that 42 percent of the former and 58 percent of the latter had no children living at home. Half of the participants had from one to four children at home compared to 36 percent of nonparticipants.

When tested by chi square these observed differences in participants and nonparticipants as to the number of children living at home did not achieve the required .05 significance level. Workshop participation was not influenced by the number of children living at home.

TABLE XII

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' PARTICIPATION IN A CLOTHING
CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP AND CHILDREN LIVING AT HOME*

Children Living At Home	Total (N = 100)	Workshop Participation	
		Participants (N = 50)	Nonparticipants (N = 50)
None	50%	42%	58%
1 - 4	43	50	36
5 and Over	7	8	6
Total	100	100	100

*Calculated $X^2 = 2.6$, not significant at .05 level with 2
degrees of freedom. Critical X^2 value = 6.0.

II. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' PARTICIPATION IN A CLOTHING CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP AND SOURCES OF HOMEMAKING INFORMATION

The purpose of the analysis included in this section was to determine whether or not sources of homemaker information about homemaking practices influenced their participation in the clothing construction workshop. Workshop participants and nonparticipants were also compared as to their attitude and opinions concerning the usefulness of homemaking information received from various sources.

Mass Media Sources

Percents of all low-income homemakers, workshop participants and nonparticipants are given in Table XIII by each type of mass media available in their homes. Of all homemakers interviewed, 91 percent had a television in their home. Radios was the next largest classification (90 percent). Only small percents of homemakers received magazines (11 percent) or a newspaper (20 percent).

Comparison of participants and nonparticipants revealed that 90 percent of the former and 92 percent of the latter had a television in their home. Radios were owned by 88 percent of the participants and 92 percent of the nonparticipants. However, magazines and newspapers were received by 32 percent of the participants and 30 percent of the nonparticipants. When tested by chi square these observed differences in participants and nonparticipants, as to having each of these four types of mass media (radio, television, newspaper and magazines) in their homes, did not achieve the required .05 level.

TABLE XIII

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION AND
EACH OF FIVE MASS MEDIA SOURCES OF INFORMATION
AVAILABLE IN THEIR HOMES

Mass Media	Total (N = 100)	Workshop Participation		χ^2 **
		Participants (N = 50)	Nonparticipants (N = 50)	
Radio	90%*	(Yes) 88%*	92%*	.11
Television	91	90	92	.00
Magazine	11	10	12	.11
Newspaper	20	22	18	.09

*Percents do not add to 100 since all homemakers responded yes or no depending upon whether or not each mass media was available in their home.

**Chi square values were computed for each mass medium. None of the χ^2 values achieved the .05 significance level. Critical χ^2 values for one degree of freedom at the .05 level = 3.8.

Homemaker participation was not influenced by the availability of mass media in their homes.

Homemakers' Use of Three Agencies for Homemaking Information

Percents of all homemakers, workshop participants and non-participants who used each of three agencies as sources of homemaking information are given in Table XIV. Of all low-income homemakers interviewed 97 percent received educational materials from the Overall Economic Organization, 96 percent received educational information from the Home Agent and 53 percent received educational information from the County Health Department.

Comparison of the participants and nonparticipants revealed that 98 percent of the former and 96 percent of the latter received educational information from the O.E.O. Office. Information from the Home Agent was received by 94 percent of the participants and 98 percent of the nonparticipants. Thirty-six percent of the participants and 70 percent of the nonparticipants received educational information from the Health Department. The chi square test revealed that a significantly (.001 level) greater proportion of the nonparticipants than of the workshop participants used the County Health Department as a source of homemaking information. Almost all of the participants and nonparticipants were using the O.E.O. and the Extension Service as sources of homemaking information.

When tested by chi square those observed differences in participants and nonparticipants, as to receiving materials from the Home Agent and O.E.O. Office, was not significant at the required .05 level. No tendencies were indicated.

TABLE XIV

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' PARTICIPATION IN A CLOTHING
CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP AND USE OF THREE AGENCIES AS
SOURCES OF HOMEMAKING INFORMATION

Educational Agencies	Total (N = 100)	Workshop Participation		χ^2 **
		Participants (N = 50)	Nonparticipants (N = 50)	
O.E.O.	97%*	(Yes) 98%*	96%*	.49
Health Office	53	36	70	11.10***
Home Agent	96	94	98	1.33

*Percents do not add to 100 since all homemakers responded yes or no depending upon whether or not each of the agencies had been used as a source of homemaking information.

**Chi square values were computed for each agency.

***Statistically significant at the .001 level.

Most Helpful Source of Information

Percents of all homemakers, workshop participants and nonparticipants are given in Table XV by the most helpful sources of information. Of all low-income homemakers interviewed 38 percent listed television as being the most helpful source of information. Radio was rated as the next highest source (29 percent) and Home Demonstration Club was ranked in third place (17 percent) as being the most helpful source of information.

Comparison of participants and nonparticipants revealed that the former ranked Home Demonstration Club first (32 percent), T.V. second (30 percent), and radio third (20 percent). Nonparticipants ranked T.V. first (46 percent), radio second (38 percent) and Extension publications third (10 percent). When tested by chi square these observed differences in participants and nonparticipants as to the most helpful source of information were significant at the .001 level. Data indicated that a greater proportion of participants were associated directly or individually to the Home Demonstration Clubs of Macon County. Nonparticipants tended to depend upon television and radio for homemaking information rather than groups such as Home Demonstration Clubs.

III. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION AND THEIR PARTICIPATION IN OTHER COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES, ORGANIZATIONS AND EVENTS

The purpose of this section was to determine whether low-income homemakers' participation in the clothing constructions workshop

TABLE XV

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' PARTICIPATION IN A CLOTHING
CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP AND THE MOST HELPFUL
SOURCE OF INFORMATION*

Most Helpful Source of Information	Total (N = 100)	Workshop Participation	
		Participants (N = 50)	Nonparticipants (N = 50)
Radio	29%	20%	38%
Television	38	30	46
Ext. Pub.	10	10	10
Pub. Other Agencies	2	4	0
H.D.C.	17	32	2
Combinations	4	4	4
Total	100	100	100

*Calculated $X^2 = 22.59$, significant at .001 level. Critical X^2 at .001 level with 5 degrees of freedom = 20.5.

was influenced by their participation in other community activities organizations and events.

Participation in Other Activities

Percents of all homemakers interviewed, workshop participants and nonparticipants are given in Table XVI by their participation in other activities. Of all low-income homemakers interviewed 78 percent attended church regularly, 76 percent had friends in Home Demonstration Clubs, 61 percent visited the O.E.O. Center regularly and 58 percent discussed home improvement with others.

Comparison of workshop participants and nonparticipants revealed that in all categories the former participated more in all activities listed. Participants attended church more regularly (88 percent compared to nonparticipants 68 percent), and had more friends in Home Demonstration Clubs (92 percent compared to nonparticipants 60 percent). Participants (90 percent) visited the O.E.O. Center regularly compared to 32 percent of nonparticipants, and a larger percent of participants (66 percent) discussed home improvement with others as compared to nonparticipants (50 percent). When tested by chi square these observed differences in participants and nonparticipants, as to their church attendance and discussion of home improvement with others, did not achieve the required .05 significance level. Observed differences between participants and nonparticipants, as to regular visits to the O.E.O. Center, and as to having friends in H.D.C., was significant at the .001 level. This indicated that workshop participation was significantly related to homemakers regularly

TABLE XVI

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' PARTICIPATION IN A CLOTHING
CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP AND PARTICIPATION
IN OTHER ACTIVITIES

Participation In Other Activities	Total (N = 100)	Workshop Participation		χ^2 ***
		Participants (N = 50)	Nonparticipants (N = 50)	
Attend Church Regularly	78%*	(Yes) 88%*	68%*	3.70
Visit O.E.O. Center Regularly	61	90	32	37.20***
Discuss Home Imp. With Others	58	66	50	1.72
Have Friends in H.D.C.	76	92	60	11.88***
Average	68	84	53	

*Percents do not add to 100 since homemakers responded yes or no depending upon their participation in each of the activities, organizations or events.

**Chi square was computed for each activity, organization or event.

***Statistically significant at the .001 level.

visiting the O.E.O. Center and having friends in H.D.C. Data indicated that homemakers workshop participation was influenced by visits to the O.E.O. Center and having friends who were members of H.D.C.

Knowledge of Extension Office

Percents of all homemakers, workshop participants and non-participants are given in Table XVII as to their knowledge of the Extension Office by visiting or knowing its location. Of all homemakers interviewed only 23 percent had ever visited the Extension Office but 78 percent knew its location.

Comparison of the participants and nonparticipants revealed that 42 percent of the former and only 4 percent of the latter had visited the office. The comparison revealed that 94 percent of the participants and 64 percent of the nonparticipants knew the location of the Extension Office. When tested by chi square these observed differences in participants and nonparticipants, as to their visiting the Extension Office, was significant at the .001 level. Knowledge of the location of the Extension Office was also significantly related to workshop participation (.01 level). Homemakers' participation was influenced by having knowledge concerning the location of the Extension Office and having visited in that office.

4-H Club Association

Percents of all low-income homemakers, workshop participants and nonparticipants are given in Table XVIII by association with 4-H Clubs (homemakers having been members or having children who were or had been 4-H members). Of all homemakers interviewed, 36 percent

TABLE XVII

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' PARTICIPATION IN A CLOTHING
CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP AND THEIR KNOWLEDGE
OF THE EXTENSION OFFICE

Knowledge of Extension Office	Total (N = 100)	Workshop Participation		χ^2 **
		Participants (N = 50)	Nonparticipants (N = 50)	
Had Visited Extension Office	23%*	42%*	4%*	20.14***
Knew Location of Extension Office	78	92	64	9.40****

*Percents do not add to 100 since all homemakers responded to each of the questions.

**Chi square was computed for yes - no responses to each question.

***Significant at .001 level.

****Significant at .01 level.

TABLE XVIII
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' PARTICIPATION IN
A CLOTHING CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP AND
THEIR 4-H PARTICIPATION

4-H Participation	Total (N = 100)	Workshop Participation		χ^2 **
		Participants (N = 50)	Nonparticipants (N = 50)	
Even in 4-H	36%*	22%*	76%*	.00
Children Presently in 4-H	25	26	24	.00
Children Ever in 4-H	50	48	52	.01

*Positive answers only. Percents based on 100.

**Calculated χ^2 value for each of the three categories was not significant at the .05 level.

had been members while 50 percent of their children had been members. Only 25 percent of the homemakers' children were members of 4-H Clubs at the time interviews were conducted.

Comparison of participants and nonparticipants revealed that 22 percent of the former as compared to 76 percent of the latter had been 4-H Club members. The percents were closer as to children ever having been 4-H members (48 percent) of the participants and 52 percent of the nonparticipants. Only 26 percent of the participants and 24 percent of the nonparticipants had children presently in 4-H Clubs. When tested by chi square these observed differences between participants and nonparticipants, as to ever having been 4-H members and as to having children presently or ever in 4-H Clubs, was not significant at the required .05 level. Homemakers' workshop participation was not influenced by their having been 4-H members or having children who were 4-H members.

Most Helpful Person

Percents of all low-income homemakers, workshop participants and nonparticipants are given in Table XIX by individuals the homemakers considered to be the most helpful to them. Of all homemakers interviewed, 40 percent considered the homemakers aids as being the most helpful and 31 percent considered the Home Agent as the person most helpful to them. Neighbors were the next largest classification (22 percent). Comparison of the participants and nonparticipants revealed that 50 percent of the former and 30 percent of the latter rated the Homemakers aids as being the most helpful

TABLE XIX

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' PARTICIPATION IN A CLOTHING
CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP AND PERSONS CONSIDERED
MOST HELPFUL*

Most Helpful Person	Total (N = 100)	Workshop Participation	
		Participants (N = 50)	Nonparticipants (N = 50)
Neighbor	22%	4%	40%
Home Agent	31	42	20
Welfare Agent	1	0	2
Home Ec. Teacher	3	2	4
Health Department Representative	1	0	2
Homemakers Aid (O.E.O.)	40	50	30
Other	2	2	2
Total	100	100	100

*Calculated $X^2 = 22.71$, significant at .001 level. Critical X^2
at .001 level with 6 degrees of freedom = 22.45.

person. The Home Agent was rated as the most helpful person by 42 percent of the participants and 20 percent of the nonparticipants. Neighbors were rated highest by nonparticipants (40 percent). When tested by chi square these observed differences in participants and nonparticipants, as to the person who had been most helpful to them, were significant at the .001 level. Homemakers' participation in the workshop was influenced by their favorable attitudes toward the Homemakers Aids and the Home Agent.

IV. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION AND AVAILABILITY OF SEWING EQUIPMENT AND THEIR PERCEPTIONS AS TO THEIR SEWING SKILLS

The purpose of this section was to determine whether homemakers' workshop participation was influenced by the availability of sewing equipment in the home and by their perceptions of their own sewing skills.

Sewing Machine Ownership

Percents of all low-income homemakers, workshop participants and nonparticipants are given in Table XX by sewing machine ownership. Of all homemakers interviewed, 61 percent owned an electric (41 percent) or manual (20 percent) sewing machine.

Comparison of the participants and nonparticipants revealed that 62 percent of the former and 60 percent of the latter owned some type of sewing machine. A higher percentage of participants (50 percent) than of nonparticipants (32 percent) owned an electric sewing

TABLE XX

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' PARTICIPATION IN A CLOTHING
CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP AND SEWING MACHINE OWNERSHIP*

Sewing Machine Ownership**	Total (N = 100)	Workshop Participation	
		Participants (N = 50)	Nonparticipants (N = 50)
Electric	41%	50%	32%
Manual	20	12	28
None	39	38	40
Total	100	100	100

*Calculated $X^2 = 5.17$, not significant at .05 level with 2 degrees of freedom.

**Condition or usability of machines was not known.

machine. When tested by chi square those observed differences in participants and nonparticipants as to their ownership of a sewing machine, did not achieve the required .05 level. Although the association between workshop participants and sewing machine ownership was not significant, there were tendencies for those who owned a sewing machine to attend the workshop.

Ownership of Small Sewing Equipment

Percents of all homemakers, workshop participants and non-participants are given in Table XXI by the number of small sewing equipment items owned. (This sewing equipment included such items as pins, needles, iron, scissors). Of all homemakers interviewed, 51 percent owned five or more pieces of sewing equipment listed. Owning one to two pieces of equipment was the next highest classification (24 percent). Three to four pieces of sewing equipment was owned by 23 percent of the homemakers.

Comparison of the participants and nonparticipants revealed that 68 percent of the former as compared to 34 percent of the latter owned five or more pieces of small sewing equipment. Thirty-two percent of the participants and 62 percent of the nonparticipants reported having from one to four small items needed for sewing. When tested by chi square these observed differences in participants and nonparticipants as to owning small sewing equipment, were significant at the .01 level. Workshop participation was significantly related to the number of pieces of sewing equipment owned. Workshop participation was influenced by ownership of small sewing equipment.

TABLE XXI

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' PARTICIPATION IN A CLOTHING
CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP AND OWNERSHIP OF
SMALL SEWING EQUIPMENT*

Ownership of Small Sewing Equipment	Total (N = 100)	Workshop Participation	
		Participants (N = 50)	Nonparticipants (N = 50)
None	2%	0%	4%
1 - 2 Items	24	18	30
3 - 4 Items	23	14	32
5 or More	51	68	34
Total	100	100	100

*Calculated $\chi^2 = 12.33$, significant at .01 level. Critical χ^2
at .01 level with 3 degrees of freedom = 11.3.

Perception of Sewing Skills

Percents of all low-income homemakers, workshop participants and nonparticipants are given in Table XXII by homemakers' perception of their sewing skills before the workshop. Of all the homemakers interviewed, only 10 percent felt they could sew very well in contrast to 20 percent who had never used a sewing machine. The ability to sew very little made up the highest category (39 percent). Twenty-nine percent felt they could sew some but not very well.

Comparison of participants and nonparticipants revealed that 16 percent of the former and 24 percent of the latter had never used a sewing machine. Only 10 percent of both participants and nonparticipants felt they could sew very well. The highest category was homemakers who felt they could sew very little (participants 40 percent and nonparticipants 38 percent). Thirty-four percent of the participants and 24 percent of the nonparticipants felt they could sew some but not very well. When tested by chi square the observed differences between participants and nonparticipants as to their felt abilities to sew, was not significant at the required .05 level. Workshop participation was not influenced by homemakers' perception of their sewing skills.

Fabric Items Made (Sewn)

Percents of all homemakers, workshop participants and nonparticipants, are given in Table XXIII by the fabric items which they had made. Of all low-income homemakers interviewed, 69 percent had made household items and 65 percent had made garments for themselves or other members of the family.

TABLE XXII

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' PARTICIPATION IN A CLOTHING
CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP AND PERCEPTIONS OF SEWING SKILLS*

Perception of Sewing Skills	Total (N = 100)	Workshop Participation	
		Participants (N = 50)	Nonparticipants (N = 50)
Never Used A Machine	20%	16%	24%
Very Little	39	40	38
Not Very Well	29	34	24
Very Well	10	10	10
No Response	2	0	4
Total	100	100	100

*Calculated $X^2 = 2.07$, not significant at .05 level with 3 degrees of freedom. Critical X^2 value = 7.8. "No response" category was not included in computing X^2 value.

TABLE XXIII

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' PARTICIPATION IN A CLOTHING
CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP AND HAVING SEWN EITHER
GARMENTS OR HOUSEHOLD ITEMS*

Fabric Items Made (sewn)	Total (N = 100)	Workshop Participation		χ^2 Values
		Participants (N = 50)	Nonparticipants (N = 50)	
Garments	65%	(Yes) 76%	54%	3.91***
Household Items	69	76	62	1.35**

*Percents do not add to 100 since all homemakers responded to each of the questions. Only yes answers were shown.

**Calculated $\chi^2 = 1.35$, not significant at .05 level with 1 degree of freedom.

***Calculated $\chi^2 = 3.91$, significant at .05 level. Critical χ^2 at .05 level with 1 degree of freedom = 3.84.

Comparison of participants and nonparticipants revealed that 76 percent of the former had made both household items and garments while 62 percent of the latter had made household items and 54 percent had made garments. When tested by chi square the observed differences between participants and nonparticipants as to having sewn household items did not achieve the .05 significance level. However, the observed differences between participants and nonparticipants, as to having made garments, was significant at the .05 level. Homemakers' participation in the workshop was influenced by having previously sewn items of clothing.

Desire to Improve Sewing Skills

Table XXIV gives the percents of all low-income homemakers, workshop participants and nonparticipants by their desire to improve their sewing skills. Of all homemakers interviewed, 87 percent wished to improve their sewing skills.

Comparison of participants and nonparticipants revealed that 98 percent of the former and 76 percent of the latter showed a desire to improve sewing skills. When tested by chi square analysis these observed differences between participants and nonparticipants, as to their desire to improve sewing skills, were found to be significant at the .01 level. Homemakers' workshop participation was influenced by a desire to improve their sewing skills.

Amount Spent on Clothing for Herself

Percents of homemakers, workshop participants and nonparticipants, are given in Table XXV by the amount of money spent on clothes

TABLE XXIV

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' PARTICIPATION IN A CLOTHING
CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP AND THEIR DESIRE TO IMPROVE
SEWING SKILLS*

Desire To Improve Sewing Skills	Total (N = 100)	Workshop Participation	
		Participants (N = 50)	Nonparticipants (N = 50)
Yes	87%	98%	76%
No	11	2	20
No Response	2	0	4
Total	100	100	100

*Calculated $X^2 = 6.73$, significant at .01 level. Critical X^2 at .01 level with 1 degree of freedom = 6.63. "No responses" were not included when X^2 value was computed.

TABLE XXV

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' PARTICIPATION IN A CLOTHING
CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP AND AMOUNT SPENT ON
CLOTHING FOR THEMSELVES*

Amount Spent On Clothes For Self**	Total (N = 100)	Workshop Participation	
		Participants (N = 50)	Nonparticipants (N = 50)
None	25%	18%	32%
1 - 10	54	58	50
11 - 25	17	16	18
25 - 50	3	6	0
51 - Over	1	2	0
Total	100	100	100

*Calculated $\chi^2 = 10.39$, significant at .02 level. Critical χ^2
at .02 level with 3 degrees of freedom = 9.83.

**In dollars over a six-month period.

for themselves. Of all low-income homemakers interviewed, 54 percent spent from one to ten dollars on clothing for themselves over a six-month period. Those homemakers that spent no money on clothing for themselves made up 25 percent of the total. Only 21 percent spent over ten dollars in six months on clothing for themselves.

Comparison of participants and nonparticipants revealed that 58 percent of the former and 50 percent of the latter spent from one to ten dollars on clothing for themselves. However, only 18 percent of the participants compared to 32 percent of the nonparticipants spent no money on clothes for themselves. Whereas 24 percent of the participants and 18 percent of the nonparticipants spent over ten dollars on clothing for themselves in six months. When tested by chi square analysis, these observed differences between participants and nonparticipants, as to the amount of money spent on clothing for themselves, was significant at the .02 level. This indicates that workshop participation was significantly related to the amount of money the homemakers spent on clothing for themselves. Homemakers workshop participation was influenced by the amount of money the participant had spent on herself for clothing during the past six months. Participants spent more money than did nonparticipants.

Amount Spent on Clothing for Family

Percents of all homemakers, workshop participants and nonparticipants are given in Table XXVI by the amount of money spent on clothing for family. Sixty percent of all homemakers spent from 1 to 25 dollars for family clothing during the previous six-month

TABLE XXVI

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' PARTICIPATION IN A CLOTHING
CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP AND AMOUNT SPENT
ON CLOTHING FOR FAMILY*

Amount Spent On Clothing For Family**	Total (N = 100)	Workshop Participation	
		Participants (N = 50)	Nonparticipants (N = 50)
None	21%	12%	30%
1 - 25	65	64	66
26 - 50	8	12	4
51 and Over	6	2	0
Total	100	100	100

*Calculated $\chi^2 = 12.03$, significant at .01 level, critical χ^2
at .01 level with 3 degrees of freedom = 11.34.

**In dollars, over a six-month period.

period. Not any money was spent for family clothing by 21 percent of the homemakers. Only 14 percent spent over 25 dollars on clothing for their families.

Comparison of participants and nonparticipants revealed that 64 percent of the former and 66 percent of the latter spent from 1 to 25 dollars for family clothing. Only 12 percent of the participants as compared to 30 percent of the nonparticipants spent no money for family clothing. A large proportion of participants (14 percent versus 4 percent) than nonparticipants spent over 25 dollars for family clothing. When tested by chi square these observed differences in participants and nonparticipants, as to the amount of money spent for family clothing, was significant at the .01 level. Homemakers' workshop participation was influenced by the amount of money spent for clothing by the family during the past six months. Participants' families spent more money for clothing than did nonparticipants'.

V. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION AND IMPROVEMENT IN SEWING SKILLS

The purpose of this section was to determine the extent to which workshop participants improved sewing skills. Nonparticipants were used as a control or comparison group.

Skill competency scores of all low-income homemakers, workshop participants and nonparticipants, are given in Table XXVII by mean pre-test and post-test scores on 15 sewing tasks. Scores on each skill ranged from 0 to 2 (0 = unable to perform the practice, 1 = could perform the skill to some extent but "not very well", 2 = could perform the skill adequately or "very well").

TABLE XXVII

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOMEMAKERS' PARTICIPATION IN A CLOTHING CONSTRUCTION
WORKSHOP AND IMPROVEMENT IN SEWING TASKS OR SKILLS

Sewing Task or Skill	Mean Scores*					
	Workshop Participants**			Nonparticipants***		
	Pre-Test (N = 50)	Post-Test (N = 50)	Increase	Pre-Test (N = 50)	Post-Test (N = 50)	Increase
1. Use a Pattern	.76	1.34	.58	.70	.76	.06
2. Determine Size Pattern	.66	.98	.32	.66	.68	.02
3. Take Body Measurements	.76	1.34	.58	.70	.76	.06
4. Alter Pattern	.26	.44	.18	.48	.44	-.04
5. Straighten Fabric	.94	1.52	.58	.94	.98	.04
6. Mark Curved Areas	.70	1.16	.46	.76	.78	.02
7. Staystitch edges	.54	.90	.36	.54	.54	.00
8. Use Interfacing	.54	.72	.18	.52	.50	-.02
9. Make Darts	.96	1.40	.44	.90	.90	.00
10. Trim Seams	.72	1.00	.28	.84	.86	.02

TABLE XXVII (continued)

Sewing Task or Skill	Mean Scores*					
	Workshop Participants**			Nonparticipants***		
	Pre-Test (N = 50)	Post-Test (N = 50)	Increase	Pre-Test (N = 50)	Post-Test (N = 50)	Increase
11. Finish Edges of Facings	.72	.94	.22	.80	.78	-.02
12. Use Pressing Equipment	.50	.98	.48	.76	.80	.04
13. Prevent Gathers in Sleeves	.76	1.20	.44	.82	.82	.00
14. Understitch	.54	1.38	.84	.66	1.24	.58
15. Put in Hem	1.38	1.72	.34	1.24	1.24	.00
Average Score	.72	1.13	.41	.72	.81	.09

*Skill competency scores ranged from 0 to 2 (0 = Unable to perform the skill; 1 = Could perform the skill to some extent but "not very well"; 2 = Could perform the skill adequately or very well).

**Statistical test of significance (t test) showed that homemakers attending the workshop made a significant improvement in test scores (post-test over pre-test) on the 15 sewing skills, $P < .001$.

***Homemakers who did not attend the workshop did not show a significant improvement in test scores (post-test over pre-test) on the 15 sewing skills. However, a very slight improvement in test score was noted.

Comparison of participants and nonparticipants revealed that their pre-test scores averaged the same (0.72). Average post-test scores for the participants was 1.13 (an increase of .41) compared to .81 for nonparticipants. Participants averaged .32 points higher on post-test scores than did nonparticipants.

Pre-test scores for participants ranged from .26 to .96 and post-test scores ranged from a low of .44 to a high of 1.72. Increase in scores as a result of workshop participation ranged from .18 to .84.

The highest scores were achieved by both participants and nonparticipants in tasks which were considered easy to perform, (putting in a hem, straightening fabrics and making darts). Lack of funds for patterns, interfacing, and pressing equipment may account for lower scores on skills involving the usage of these items. Participants had a lower pre-test score on the task of "altering a pattern" than for any other task. Workshop participants made the greatest increase in score on "under-stitching." Participants increased their scores on each of the 15 tasks.

The t test of significance showed that differences in pre-test and post-test scores, made by homemakers on the 15 skills did achieve the .001 level of significance. Nonparticipants' scores on the 15 skills (pre-test and post-test) did not differ significantly. Homemakers who participated in the workshop did improve their clothing construction skills.

CHAPTER IV

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

I. PURPOSE AND SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

Purpose

The major purpose of this study was to determine the relationship between low-income homemakers' participation in a clothing construction workshop and their personal characteristics, family patterns, economic standards and clothing problems. Another purpose was to determine changes in homemakers' sewing skills as a result of participation in the clothing construction workshop. It was believed that this information would help Extension Home Agents plan programs better suited to the needs and abilities of low-income homemakers.

Specific Objectives

Specific objectives of the study were as follows:

1. To determine the influence of selected personal family and other characteristics of low-income homemakers on their participation in a clothing construction workshop.
2. To determine changes in low-income homemakers' sewing skills brought about by participation in a clothing construction workshop.

II. METHOD OF INVESTIGATION

Population and Sample

The population included 256 low-income homemakers living in

Macon County, Tennessee. Data were secured from 100 of these low-income homemakers. Fifty of these were low-income homemakers who attended a clothing construction workshop. The comparison group consisted of 50 low-income homemakers who were invited to participate in the workshop but chose not to do so (nonparticipants).

Collection of Data

Two interview schedules were used to collect data. One was designed to secure information concerning personal, family and other characteristics of low-income homemakers which were thought to influence the homemakers' participation in the workshop. This information was secured through either personal or group interviews.

The other data collection instrument was designed to determine the degree to which low-income homemakers were able to perform 15 selected sewing skills. Both a pre-test and a post-test were completed by workshop participants and nonparticipants. Pre-tests were completed prior to the workshop and post-tests were completed following the workshop. Scores on pre- and post-tests were computed using the following scale to arrive at a score on homemakers ability to perform each of the 15 skills: homemakers who felt unable to perform the skill did not receive any points for that skill; homemakers who felt that they could perform the skill, but not very well, received a score of one for that skill; homemakers who felt they could perform the skill adequately (very well) received two points for the skill. Scores on each of the 15 skills were summed to arrive at the homemakers' total skill adoption score.

Analysis of Data

The completed interview schedules were coded and responses recorded on code sheets. Data were punched on data processing cards. Twenty-seven independent variables were identified and used in the analysis. Computations were made by The University of Tennessee computing center. A contingency table analysis program was used. This program computed percentages, chi square values and degrees of freedom. Chi square values which achieved the .05 level were accepted as significant.

III. SUMMARY OF MAJOR FINDINGS

Major findings were classified and presented under headings relating the objectives of the study.

Relationship Between Low-income Homemakers' Participation in a Clothing Construction Workshop and Personal Characteristics

Low-income homemakers' workshop participation was not significantly influenced by the following personal characteristics: (1) marital status, (2) age of homemaker, (3) educational level, (4) monthly family income, (5) husbands' occupation, (6) outside source of income, (7) employment of homemaker, (8) home ownership, (9) place of residence, (10) number of children, and (11) number of children living at home.

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.

Relationship Between Low-income Homemakers' Workshop Participation
and Sources of Information

1. Low-income homemakers' workshop participation was not significantly influenced by the availability of mass media (radio, television, magazines and newspapers) in the home.

2. Low-income homemakers' workshop participation was significantly influenced by the educational agency (Home Agent, O.E.O., Health Department) which they used as a source of homemaking information. Nonparticipants in the workshop relied upon the Health Office for this type of information.

3. Low-income homemakers' participation in a clothing construction workshop was significantly influenced by the source of information they considered most helpful. Participants felt that Home Demonstration Clubs provided the most helpful information. Nonparticipants considered mass media as their most helpful source of homemaking information.

Relationship Between Low-income Homemakers' Workshop and Organizations,
Activities and Events

1. Low-income homemakers' workshop participation was significantly influenced by participation in community activities. The workshop participants were more active than nonparticipants in church, O.E.O., community programs and also discussed home improvement with others and had friends in H.D.C.

2. Low-income homemakers' workshop participation was significantly influenced by their knowledge of the Extension Office. A greater

proportion of participants than of nonparticipants knew where the office was located and had visited the Extension Office.

3. Low-income homemakers' workshop participation was not significantly influenced by their having been 4-H members or by having children who were members.

4. Low-income homemakers' workshop participants considered the Homemaker Aids as the most helpful person and the Extension Home Agent as the second most helpful. Nonparticipants considered their neighbor as the person providing most helpful homemaking information.

Relationship Between Homemakers' Workshop Participation and Availability of Sewing Equipment and Homemakers' Perception as to Their Sewing Skills

1. Low-income homemakers' workshop participation was significantly influenced by ownership of a sewing machine. More participants than nonparticipants owned machines.

2. Low-income homemakers' workshop participation was significantly influenced by ownership of small sewing equipment. Participants in the workshop owned a larger number of small sewing items than did nonparticipants.

3. Low-income homemakers' workshop participation was not significantly influenced by their own perceptions of their sewing skills. Both groups felt their sewing skills were not very well developed.

4. Low-income homemakers' workshop participation was significantly influenced by having previously sewn items of clothing.

Participants tended to be those who had previously sewn fabric items.

5. Low-income homemakers' workshop participation was significantly influenced by their desire to improve sewing skills. Although both groups had a desire to improve their sewing skills, a greater proportion of workshop participants than of nonparticipants indicated this desire to improve.

6. Low-income homemakers' workshop participation was significantly influenced by amount of money spent on themselves for clothing. Participants spent more money on themselves for clothing than did nonparticipants.

7. Low-income homemakers' workshop participation was significantly influenced by the amount of money the family spent on clothing. Participants' family spent more money for clothing than did nonparticipants.

Relationship Between Homemakers' Participation and Improvement in Sewing Skills

Pre-test scores on low-income homemakers' use of 15 sewing skills were the same for workshop participants and nonparticipants. Nonparticipants' increase in scores (post-test over pre-test) was 0.09 (from .72 to .81) compared to an increase of .41 (from .72 to 1.13) by workshop participants.

The t test of significance showed that differences in pre-test and post-test scores made by homemakers on the 15 skills did achieve the .001 level of significance. Nonparticipants' scores on the 15 skills (pre-test and post-test) did not differ significantly. Homemakers

who participated in the workshop did improve their clothing construction skills.

IV. IMPLICATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings of the study, the following implications and recommendations were made:

1. Findings of the study showed that the most helpful source of information was through the Home Demonstration Clubs, television and radio. This implies that these three sources of disbursing educational information are very important. Becuase of these findings it is recommended that Extension and other educational groups spend more time working with organized clubs, and try for more television and radio time to be used in planning and carrying out educational programs.

2. Findings of the study showed that low-income homemakers' workshop participation was influenced by participation in community organizations, events and activities and discussions with others. This implies that homemakers who participate in one activity are more interested in participating in other activities and events. It is recommended that Extension personnel involve low-income homemakers in planning local community activities and events.

3. Findings of the study showed that the ownership of sewing equipment and some ability to use the equipment did influence low-income homemakers' participation in a clothing construction workshop. Findings also showed that the desire to improve sewing skills influenced participation. Implications are that ownership of equipment creates

a desire to learn how to use it. Since the findings showed that the participants in the workshop spent more money for clothing both for themselves and their families, a desire to sew in order to stretch the family clothing budget might be implied. Extension Agents should plan workshops yearly for low-income homemakers in clothing construction and clothing and fabric selection and buymanship of clothing and fabrics. Workshops in related fields also might be helpful for low-income homemakers.

4. Findings of the study showed that low-income homemakers' who participated in the workshop had higher skills adoption scores for all 15 clothing skills. Indications are that low-income homemakers have the ability to learn simple sewing skills when taught in a workshop. Additional workshops for these same homemakers might be planned with more advanced skills involved. Also, these homemakers might be involved in helping teach other low-income homemakers the basic sewing skills in workshops planned for beginners.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER STUDY

1. Similar studies should be conducted in Macon County in other home improvement areas.

2. A similar study should be conducted in other Tennessee counties using the same selected factors used in the present study and in the same area to compare low-income groups.

3. A similar study should be conducted to investigate the relative effectiveness of different approaches taken to try to increase participation by low-income homemakers.

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APPENDIXES

APPENDIX A

MACON COUNTY CLOTHING SURVEY

GENERAL INFORMATION

Name _____ Address _____

In which age group do you belong? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Under 20
- ☐ b. 20-24
- ☐ c. 25-34
- ☐ d. 35-44
- ☐ e. 45-54
- ☐ f. 55-64
- ☐ g. 65 or above

How many children do you have? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Not any
- ☐ b. One
- ☐ c. Two
- ☐ d. Three
- ☐ e. Four
- ☐ f. Five
- ☐ g. Six
- ☐ h. Over Six

How many children do you have living in your home at the present time? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Not any
- ☐ b. One
- ☐ c. Two
- ☐ d. Three
- ☐ e. Four
- ☐ f. Five
- ☐ g. Six
- ☐ h. Over Six

How many children do you have who are between the ages of 9 and 19? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Not any
- ☐ b. One
- ☐ c. Two

- ☐ d. Three
- ☐ e. Four
- ☐ f. Five
- ☐ g. Six
- ☐ h. Over six

How many children do you have attending school? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Not any
- ☐ b. One
- ☐ c. Two
- ☐ d. Three
- ☐ e. Four
- ☐ f. Five
- ☐ g. Six
- ☐ h. Over Six

Do you have any children who are presently a member of a 4-H Club?
(Check one)

- ☐ a. Yes
- ☐ b. No

Have any of your children ever belonged to a 4-H Club? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Yes
- ☐ b. No

Were you ever a member of a 4-H Club? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Yes
- ☐ b. No

Do you attend church regularly? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Yes
- ☐ b. No

Do you go to the Community Service Center regularly? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Yes
- ☐ b. No

Do you know where the Home Agent's office is located? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Yes
- ☐ b. No

Have you ever been in the Home Agent's office? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Yes
- ☐ b. No

Are any of your close friends a member of a home demonstration club? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Yes
- ☐ b. No

What is the major occupation of your husband? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Do not have a husband
- ☐ b. Full time-farmer
- ☐ c. Part-time farmer
- ☐ d. Laborer
- ☐ e. Professional
- ☐ f. Business
- ☐ g. Retired
- ☐ h. Disabled
- ☐ i. Unemployed
- ☐ j. Other (Specify _____)

From what sources (other than employment of family) do you receive income? (Check all that apply).

- ☐ a. Old age assistance
- ☐ b. Social Security
- ☐ c. Aid to dependent children
- ☐ d. Assistance from your children
- ☐ e. Other (Specify _____)

What is your approximate Monthly family income? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Less than \$100.
- ☐ b. Between \$100 and \$200.
- ☐ c. Over \$200 but less than \$300.
- ☐ d. Over \$300 but less than \$400.
- ☐ e. Over \$400 but less than \$500.
- ☐ f. Over \$500 per month.

Where is your home located? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Farm
- ☐ b. Rural non-farm
- ☐ c. Urban
- ☐ d. Other (Specify _____)

Do you own or rent your home? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Rent
- ☐ b. Own
- ☐ c. Other (Specify _____)

Do you work outside the home? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Full-time (40 hours or more per week)
- ☐ b. Part-time (Less than 40 hours per week)
- ☐ c. None (Do not work outside the home)

What type of work do you do? _____

What is your marital status? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Married
- ☐ b. Divorced
- ☐ c. Widowed (Husband deceased)
- ☐ d. Unmarried
- ☐ e. Other (Specify _____)

What is the highest grade you completed in school? (Circle one)

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Have you ever made any item (sewn) for you household using a sewing machine? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Yes
- ☐ b. No

Have you ever made any item (sewn) of clothing for yourself or any other member of your family? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Yes
- ☐ b. No

How well do you feel that you can sew? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Have never used a sewing machine.
- ☐ b. Have used a sewing machine only a very limited amount.
- ☐ c. Have used a sewing machine a great deal but do not feel that I am very good at it.
- ☐ d. Can make almost any item of clothing I want to make with a sewing machine.

Would you like to improve your ability to sew? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Yes
- ☐ b. No

Do you have a sewing machine? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Yes-electric
- ☐ b. Yes-manual
- ☐ c. No

What of the following items do you have in your home? (Check all that you have)

- ☐ a. Scissors
- ☐ b. Pins
- ☐ c. Needles
- ☐ d. Iron
- ☐ e. Patterns
- ☐ f. Ironing board
- ☐ g. Thread
- ☐ h. Zipper foot
- ☐ i. Measuring tape
- ☐ j. Pinking shears
- ☐ k. Tracing wheel and paper

In the past six months, approximately how much money have you spent on clothing for yourself? (Write in the number of dollars)

_____ dollars

In the past six months, approximately how much money has your total family spent on clothing? (Write in the number of dollars)

_____ dollars

Do you plan to attend the clothing workshop to be held at the Community Service Center? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Yes
- ☐ b. No

If you plan to attend the clothing workshop please answer the following three questions:

A. Will you make an item of clothing for yourself? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Yes
- ☐ b. No

B. Will you make an item of clothing for a child? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Yes
☐ b. No

C. Will you make a household item? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Yes
☐ b. No

In which of the following subjects would you like to have information or help from the home agent? (Check all that apply)

- ☐ a. Food preparation (cooking)
☐ b. Food preservation (canning, freezing)
☐ c. Nutrition
☐ d. Arts and crafts
☐ e. Home management
☐ f. Interior design
☐ g. Other (Please specify) _____
☐ h. None of the above

Do you purchase a local news paper regularly? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Yes
☐ b. No

Do you have a radio in your home? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Yes
☐ b. No

Do you have a T.V. set in your home? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Yes
☐ b. No

Do you subscribe to one or more magazines which provides information about the home? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Yes
☐ b. No

During the past year have you talked to anyone about ways to improve your home or family life? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Yes
- ☐ b. No

Have you, within the past year, gotten any kind of publications from the home agent or her office? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Yes
- ☐ b. No

Have you, within the past year, gotten information from the county health office? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Yes
- ☐ b. No

Have you, within the past year, gotten information from the O.E. O. Center? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Yes
- ☐ b. No

Which of the following has been the most helpful source of information about ways to improve your home? (Check only one)

- ☐ a. Radio
- ☐ b. Newspaper
- ☐ c. Magazines
- ☐ d. T.V.
- ☐ e. Publications from the home agent
- ☐ f. Publications from other agencies
- ☐ g. Home demonstration club

Who has been most helpful to you, within the past year, concerning ways to improve living conditions in your home? (Check one)

- ☐ a. Neighbor or friend
- ☐ b. Welfare agencies
- ☐ c. Home Agent
- ☐ d. Home Economics teacher
- ☐ e. Health Department
- ☐ f. Homemaker Aid
- ☐ g. Other (Specify _____)

APPENDIX B

MACON COUNTY CLOTHING SKILLS CHECKLIST

Name _____ Address _____

How well do you feel you can perform each of the following fifteen sewing tasks or skills:

	Check One		
	VERY WELL	NOT VERY WELL	NOT AT ALL
1. Use a pattern when making an item of clothing?			
2. Determine what size pattern to use?			
3. Take body measurements?			
4. Alter pattern?			
5. Straighten fabric before cutting?			
6. Mark curved areas (neckline, armseye, etc.) on the cut garment?			
7. Staystitch edges of the neck, shoulder, under- arms, skirt, bodice and wasteline, and sleeve cap?			
8. Use interfacing on collars, neckline, button- hole areas, and cuffs?			
9. Make darts?			
10. Trim seams in collars, neckline, cuffs, pockets and front facing?			
11. Finish the unnotched edges of facing?			
12. Use following pressing equipment: ham, sleeve, roll, point presser, pressing mit?			
13. Prevent gathers when setting in sleeves?			

14. Understitch the neckline, pockets and facings?

15. Put in a hem?

VITA

Madeline Lenora Henry was born at Burke, Tennessee (Cumberland County) on November 28, 1927. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ulysses G. Henry, had three additional children, Harry, Hubert and Mary Josephine. The family moved to a farm near Crossville, Tennessee in 1930. Mr. Henry passed away in 1955. Mrs. Henry lives in Crossville.

Madeline attended primary school in Bathel and Crossville. She attended Cumberland County High School where she graduated in 1947. She graduated from The University of Tennessee in June 1952 with a Bachelor of Science in Home Economics.

Madeline taught school three years. She taught Home Economics two years and English and Chemistry one year.

In 1954 Madeline was employed as Home Agent in Sevier County, Tennessee. In 1955 she transferred to Macon County, Tennessee, where she has worked over 16 years. In June 1972 she received the Master of Science degree with a major in Agricultural Extension Education.