



RESEARCH ARTICLE

A Systematic Literature Review of Modern Women's Roles

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ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
Received: Oct 28, 2024 Accepted: Dec 14, 2024	The field of modern women's research is continuously evolving, and research on women's roles has garnered widespread attention. This study utilizes a systematic analysis of existing articles on modern women's roles, aiming to identify the research themes related to women's family and social roles, as well as to analyze the temporal and spatial distribution of the included articles. The study identifies 2 main themes: family roles and social roles, which further encompass 10 sub-themes. The family roles include the roles of wives, mothers, and daughters, while the social roles cover politics, military, education, religion, professions, law, and customs. Therefore, this study reviews past research on modern female roles, using the Web of Science, Scopus, and Google Scholar databases as well as the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) 2020 standards. A total of 18 papers that were appropriate for the systematic analysis were found using the search method. Finally, recommendations are provided for future scholars' reference.
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Women, Roles Modern Themes Systematic Literature Review	
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INTRODUCTION

Throughout the course of historical development, women have undergone profound changes. The family structure in modern societies has been significantly and most likely irrevocably impacted by women's increasing economic independence (Blossfeld and Kiernan, 2019). The modern women's roles often refer to the various identities and responsibilities that women have assumed in areas such as family and society since modern times. Changes in women's roles during this period are closely related to shifts in social structures, economic development, cultural transformations, and advancements in ideological concepts. Women play multiple roles within the family and society, including those of mothers, wives, and career women, etc. These roles are significant components of women's identities and can be specifically categorized into two types: family roles and social roles.

The family roles of modern women are a complex and multi-faceted concept, primarily encompassing the responsibilities, expectations, and identities that women have assumed within the family since modern times. For a long period in history, women were primarily viewed as homemakers, responsible for household chores, raising children, and managing daily family affairs. This role is often associated with the concept of the "virtuous wife and good mother," emphasizing women's tenderness, obedience, and devotion within the family. These roles can be mainly categorized into those of wives, mothers, and daughters, among others. Scholars have generally assumed that women are submissive sexual objects, loving mothers, and obedient wives (Rosaldo, 1974).

The social roles of modern women refer to the various identities and responsibilities that women have assumed in social life since modern times. Changes in women's social roles during this period are closely related to various factors, including historical, cultural, economic, and political aspects, reflecting a transition from traditional family roles to more active participation in public life. This shift is primarily evident in the fields of politics, economics, and education, etc. Over the past few decades, opinions toward women's responsibilities in society have been shifting in many parts of the world as a result of considerable changes in educational systems and legislation pertaining to women, among other important causes (Loo and Thorpe, 1998).

Problem Statement

This study systematically reviews the articles on modern women's roles and establishes the fundamental research status of modern women's roles. In terms of topic studies on modern women's roles, this will be utilized to identify and fill gaps in the literature, thereby integrating and analyzing existing research on women's roles. The goal of this systematic review is to offer a solid basis for future research in the field of modern women's roles, offer a variety of ideas, and stimulate new research directions. It will provide valuable references for understanding modern women's roles.

METHODS

The Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) is the review approach used in this study. The search databases select Google Scholar, Web of Science, and Scopus. The 4 components of the methodology used are described in this section: publication standards (Moher et al., 2009), the tools employed, the methodical literature review procedure, and the data analysis approach.

PRISMA

The PRISMA guidelines are designed to assist systematic reviewers in openly disclosing the rationale behind the review, the actions taken by the authors, and the conclusions they came to (Page et al., 2021). According to Sierra-Correa and Cantera Kintz (2015), PRISMA is renowned for 3 main advantages: exact screening metrics (inclusion and exclusion criteria); time-limited searches of appropriate databases; and elucidation of research objectives. Therefore, a thorough search for scientific research and coded data pertaining to modern roles for women is made possible via PRISMA.

Resources

For this investigation, 3 trustworthy databases were chosen: Google Scholar, Scopus, and Web of Science.

The most prestigious SCI, SSCI, and AHCI core academic journals in the natural sciences, social sciences, medical sciences, and other study domains are included in Web of Science, one of the biggest and most extensive academic information repositories in the world. Only institutional subscribers can access Scopus, which covers 11,678 publishers and 36,377 journals worldwide. It offers a sophisticated visual tool for carrying out systematic literature reviews by encompassing a range of document types (book series, scholarly journals, and conference proceedings) and subject areas (social sciences, life sciences, health sciences, natural sciences, environmental sciences, agriculture, and biological sciences). A subscription is not necessary to use Google Scholar, which is an open and free search engine. It covers a broad range of publication formats and subject areas and has the ability to immediately index complete texts or metadata. With around 318 million articles from all across the world, Google Scholar contains academic journals, books, conference papers, abstracts, technical reports, preprints, and other types of literature. Bibliographic management programs like EndNote, RefMan, Footnote, and BibTeX are compatible with it. These three databases were chosen for this

research in order to capitalize on their unique capabilities, and this decision forms the basis for the high caliber of the findings.

Systematic Review Process

Identification

Selecting keywords for information retrieval is the main task of the system evaluation process' October 2024 phase. Previous studies, synonyms, dictionaries, and databases recommended relevant keywords related to modern, women, and roles (see Table 1). In the first phase, a total of 50 articles were obtained from Scopus, 216 articles from Google Scholar, and 62 articles from Web of Science. After carefully removing duplicates and unnecessary items, the remaining valid documents are 232 (see Figure 1).

Table 1. Keywords and Information Search Strategy

Database	Keywords
Scopus	TITLE-ABS-KEY({woman}OR{women})AND TITLE-ABS-KEY ({role} OR {roles}) AND TITLE-ABS-KEY ({modern})
Google Scholar	allintitle:"woman"OR"women"AND"role"OR"roles"AND"modern"
Web of Science (WoS)	TI=(((woman) OR (women)) AND ((role) OR (roles)) AND (modern))

Screening

Screening according to the inclusion and exclusion criteria is the second step in the systematic review process (see Table 2). The first guideline is to only include research publications published in journals; books, magazines, preprints, theses, conference proceedings, and review articles are not included. The second requirement is language. Only English-language publications are included in order to get over language barriers and lessen the distortion of meaning brought on by translation. The third criterion is that, given the focus of this study on the theme of modern female roles, only articles employing qualitative research methods are selected.

Table 2. Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria.

Criterion	Included	Excluded
Literature type	Journals (research articles)	Journals (review papers), books, preprints, book chapters, series, theses, and conference proceedings
Language	English	Non-English

Eligibility

Eligibility is defined as: the process of the manual inclusion or exclusion of literature programs based on established standards for research questions and objectives. Every item that was retrieved for this study was carefully examined, and only those that satisfied all the requirements were included. 96 duplicates related to the research question were deleted, and after further deletion of irrelevant articles, the remaining 154 relevant articles were subjected to the next step of eligibility review. Inclusion and exclusion criteria were applied and after manual selection of title, abstract and full text, a total of 18 articles were retained for synthesis (see Figure 1).

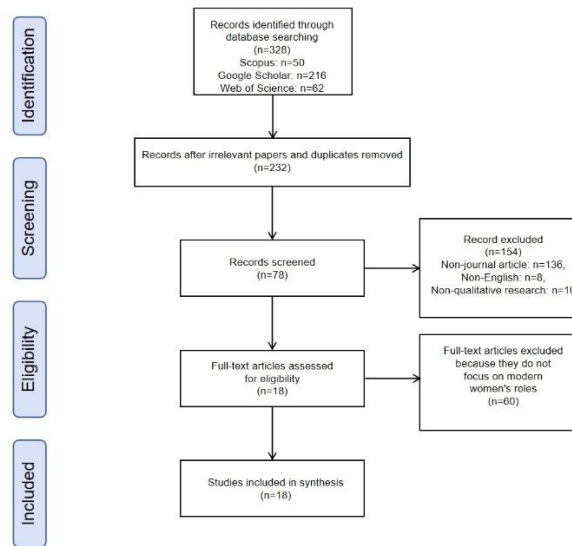


Figure 1. Flow diagram of this review study

Source. Adapted from Moher et al., (2009).

Quality Appraisal

The study was quality assessed utilizing the Mixed Methods Assessment Tool (MMAT) (Hong et al., 2018) to ensure that the selected articles had appropriate methods and analyses. An essential evaluation tool for systematic reviews of mixed studies is the MMAT. Qualitative research, non-randomized studies, randomized controlled trials, mixed methods research, and quantitative descriptive research are the five study categories that are evaluated by this instrument (Hong et al., 2018). These five study designs' quality criteria were separately applied to the chosen articles. MMAT was used to strengthen the following criteria: whether the research questions were appropriate for providing sufficient data, whether there was sufficient qualitative data collection to address the research questions, and the coherence of analysis, data collection, qualitative data sources, and interpretations. This was done in order to confirm that the chosen qualitative sources had sound methodologies and comprehensive analyses.

The included articles were carefully reviewed and examined, with an emphasis on their analysis and techniques, in order to evaluate their methodological rigor and analysis. The MMAT, which assessed analysis and sampling consistency, served as a guide for the article evaluation (see Table 3). The five categories of research discussed above were used to evaluate these articles, and the available answers were "Yes," "No," and "Don't know or cannot tell." The evaluation of these papers was carried out once their methodologies and analyses satisfied a minimum of three requirements. Mutual agreement served as the foundation for all evaluation conclusions (Shaffril et al., 2021). The retention of these 18 articles was confirmed since they all satisfied at least three requirements.

Table 3. Criteria for evaluating the included articles' methodological and analytical rigor

Research design	Methodological quality criteria
Qualitative	QA1: Is the research question appropriately answered with the qualitative approach?
	QA2: Is the research question adequately addressed with the methods of qualitative data collection?
	QA3: Do the data yield adequate findings?

	QA4: Do the data sufficiently substantiate the result interpretation?
	QA5: Are the analysis, collection, qualitative data sources, and interpretation coherent?

Source. Hong et al. (2018)

Data Analytic Strategy

This study ultimately included 18 relevant articles, which were analyzed and discussed. The systematic data extraction process consisted of 3 steps: first, reviewing the article titles; second, reviewing the article abstracts; and finally, reviewing the entire articles. Each item of data chosen for this study was subjected to quality tests. Both deductive and inductive thematic analysis were used to develop appropriate themes and sub-themes. This review was based on deductive, which involves processing data using established themes that are supposed to be represented in the data based on theory or existing knowledge. On the other hand, inductive analysis allowed for the identification of themes in the data as well as the discovery of relevant themes, concepts, or ideas to generate sub-themes within the themes that were previously found.

RESULTS

Of the 18 articles included, 2 focus on Japan (Watanabe, 2011; Nagata, 2004), 2 articles focus on Uzbekistan (kizi , 2022; qizi and Raximova, 2023), 12 articles each for one country: the United States (Ehrenreich, and Schlafly, 2006), Pakistan (Ahmed, and Ahmed, 2022), Thailand (Richardson and Roberts, 2020), Brunei (Yussof, 2021), Australia (Evans, 013), India (Pillai, 1986), Sudan (Hayes, 1975), Venice (Bernardi and Pompermaier, 2019), the United Kingdom (Erickson, 2007), and France (Cattelona, 1993). Two papers focused on two countries: United States and Japan (Mettler, 2014), and United States and Italy (Egelman, 2000).

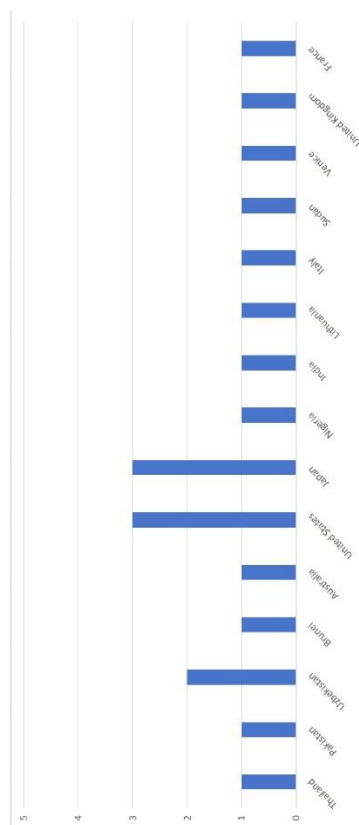


Figure 2. The nations where the included studies were conducted

The review found that the majority of authors provided thematic descriptions of the role of modern women. In the 18 included articles, this study identified 2 main themes: family roles and social roles, under which 10 sub-themes were generated, all relevant to the primary research question. The sub-themes related to family roles include the roles of wives, mothers, and daughters, while the sub-themes related to social roles encompass the roles in politics, military, education, religion, professions, law, and customs (see Figure 3).

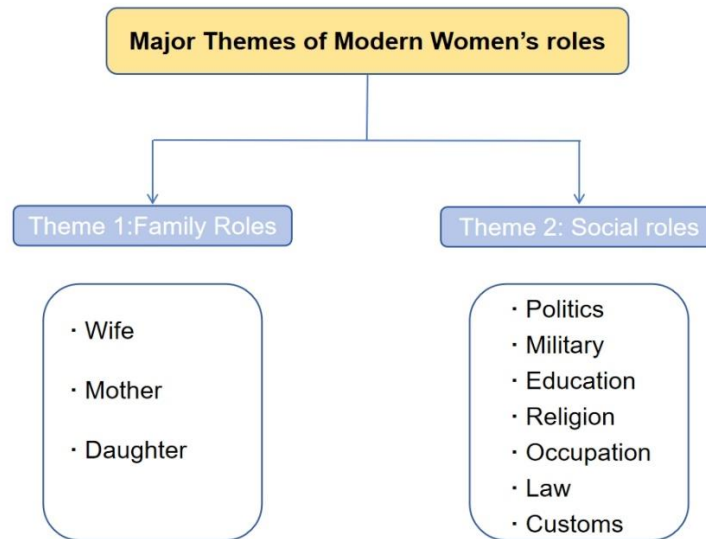


Figure 3. Summary of Modern Women's Roles

Of these, 8 focused on family roles (Ahmed, 2022; qizi and Raximova, 2023; Yussof, 2021; Ehrenreich and Schlafly, 2006; Pillai, 1986; Egelman, 2000; Hayes, 1975; Erickson, 2007).

18 articles focus on social roles (Richardson, and Roberts, 2020; Ahmed and Ahmed, 2022; qizi and Raximova, 2023; Yussof, 2021; Evans, 2013; Ehrenreich and Schlafly, 2006; Watanabe, 2011; Adetunji, 2013; kizi 2022; Pillai, 1986; Jurénienè, 2007; Nagata, 2004; Egelman, 2000; Hayes, 1975; Bernardi and Pompermaier, 2019; Erickson, 2007; Cattelona, 1993).

With regard to the publication dates of the included articles, 6 of them were published in the last five years (Richardson, and Roberts, 2020; Ahmed and Ahmed, 2022; qizi and Raximova, 2023; Yussof, 2021; kizi 2022; Bernardi and Pompermaier, 2019). And 12 were published 5 years ago (Evans, 2013; Ehrenreich and Schlafly, 2006; Watanabe, 2011; Mettler, 2014; Adetunji, 2013; Pillai, 1986; Jurénienè, 2007; Nagata, 2004; Egelman, 2000; Hayes, 1975; Erickson, 2007; Cattelona, 1993).

DISCUSSION

Of the 18 articles included, 2 themes were identified: the role of the family and the role of society. A total of 10 sub-themes were generated under the themes that addressed the primary research question. 8 articles focused on women's family roles, leading to the development of 3 sub-themes under family roles: the roles of wives, mothers, and daughters (see Table 4). The other 18 articles focused on social roles, resulting in 7 sub-themes under social roles: roles in politics, military, education, religion, professions, law, and customs (see Table 5)

Table 4. Findings for the theme of family roles

Authors	Theme Sub- theme	Family		
		Wife	Mother	Daughter
Richardson and Roberts (2020)				
Ahmed and Ahmed (2022)		√	√	√
qizi and Raximova (2023)				√
Yussof (2021)			√	
Evans (2013)				
Ehrenreich and Schlafly (2006)		√	√	
Watanabe (2011)				
Mettler (2014)				
Adetunji (2013)				
kizi (2022)				
Pillai (1986)			√	√
Jurėnienė (2007)				
Nagata (2004)				
Egelman (2000)		√		√
Hayes (1975)		√		
Bernardi and Pompermaier (2019)				
Erickson (2007)		√		
Cattelona (1993)				

Table 5. Findings for the theme of social roles

Authors	The me Sub- the me	Society						
		Politi cs	Milita ry	Educati on	Religi on	Occupati on	La w	Custo ms
Richardson and Roberts (2020)						√		
Ahmed (2022)					√			
Qizi and Raximova (2023)				√				
Yussof (2021)				√	√			
Evans (2013)			√					
Ehrenreich (2006)		√	√			√		
Watanabe (2011)				√		√		
Mettler (2014)		√						
Adetunji (2013)					√			
kizi (2022)		√						
Pillai (1986)		√		√		√		
Jurėnienė (2007)		√						

Nagata (2004)							√	
Egelman (2000)				√		√		
Hayes (1975)								√
Bernardi (2019)						√		
Erickson (2007)							√	
Cattelona (1993)							√	

Within the theme family roles, it is divided into 3 sub-themes, the roles of wives, mothers and daughters. 5 of the articles focus on the role of the wife (Ahmed 2022; Ehrenreich and Schlafly, 2006; Egelman, 2000; Hayes, 1975; Erickson, 2007), 4 articles focus on the role of the mother (Ahmed, 2022; Yussof, 2021; Ehrenreich and Schlafly, 2006; Pillai, 1986), and 4 articles focus on the role of daughter (Ahmed, 2022; qizi and Raximova, 2023; Pillai, 1986; Egelman, 2000).

In the theme social roles, it is divided into 7 sub-themes, namely the roles of politics, military, education, religion, professions, law, and customs. 5 of the articles focus on the role of politics (Ehrenreich and 2006; Mettler, 2014; kizi, 2022; Pillai, 1986; Jurèniènè, 2007), 2 articles focus on the role of the military (Evans, 2013; Ehrenreich and Schlafly, 2006), 5 articles focus on the role of education (qizi and Raximova, 2023; Yussof, 2021; Watanabe, 2011; Pillai, 1986; Egelman, 2000), 3 articles focus on the role of religion (Ahmed, 2022; Yussof, 2021; Adetunji, 2013), 6 articles focusing on the role of professions (Richardson, & Roberts, 2020; Ehrenreich and Schlafly, 2006; Watanabe, 2011; Pillai, 1986; Egelman, 2000; Bernardi, & Pompermaier, 2019), 3 focuses on the role of the law (Nagata, 2004; Erickson, 2007; Cattelona, 1993), and 1 focuses on the role of custom (Hayes, 1975).

Family roles and their sub-themes

The first family role sub-theme is the wife. The values and beliefs learned by Italian-American women during childhood include becoming a good wife, taking care of their husbands and children, and maintaining a beautiful home. This represents the cultural burden they carry from a young age. However, as adults, they hope to pursue the challenges of a career, reflecting the conflict in the role of being a wife (Egelman, 2000), Women in Islam have the right to choose their husbands and to marry freely the person they desire. If their husbands abuse them, fail to fulfill their responsibilities, or if there are any other troubles in the marriage, women have the right to seek a divorce (Ahmed, 2022). The American feminist movement launched a troubling campaign that made the role of the full-time housewife financially untenable and socially scorned, with some even calling for the repeal of the dependent-homemaking-wife pattern as a violation of the principle of equality (Ehrenreich and Schlafly, 2006).

In Sudan, female genital mutilation causes significant harm to women, and after marriage, husbands may check women's virginity through it, which is seen as a way to protect the honor of the wives and their husbands. This practice reflects the inequality in the status of spouses and the subordination of wives (Hayes, 1975). In early modern England, the tension between actual possession and legal rights within marriage was particularly problematic due to the concealed rules of common law, which technically considered married women's property to belong to her husband. Even though their property was not technically theirs, wives had to consider it their own in order to live a better life (Erickson, 2007).

The second sub-theme of family roles is the role of mother. Islam recognizes that women have multiple responsibilities, but the role of a mother is one of the most important. In helping children grow and become effective, helpful members of society, mothers are seen as role models (Ahmed,

2022). In the United States, there is a reluctance to recognize and value the unpaid work women do at home, such as caring for children. Feminists advocate for taxpayers to provide childcare for women at various income levels to alleviate the societal pressure on mothers to care for their own infants (Ehrenreich and Schlafly, 2006). India has historically respected the role of mothers, with most social organizations venerating mother goddesses in the form of icons; mothers set the standard for women in society (Pillai, 1986). Mohammad Hilmy Baihaqy Yussof (2021) analyzed the importance of women's education to our society, as she is the one who raises future men and women. They are the primary school of society. The foundational principles of being a good person and moral education are primarily led by mothers, who are naturally the first teachers and educators for every human being.

The third sub-theme of family roles is daughter. In Islam, girls must be listened to, recognized, and praised across society to represent their views and choices regarding the future and human development. Compared to boys, daughters also have the right to receive an education and pursue what they enjoy (Ahmed, 022). In ancient India, daughters were often unwelcome, with a strong preference for sons; Over the time period, some perspectives affirmed the value of daughters, as wives and mothers were highly regarded, leading to respect and affection for daughters as well (Pillai, 1986). In Italian immigrant families in the United States, daughters grew up in a new environment, and their work and educational experiences allowed many young women to break free from traditional parental constraints and integrate into American life (Egelman, 2000). There are many obstacles to education for girls in Uzbekistan. Gender discrepancies in educational chances are caused by a combination of gender bias, poverty, cultural norms, and discrimination. For many girls and women, this leads to lower enrollment rates, greater dropout rates, and restricted access to high-quality education. Therefore, while advocating for more educational opportunities, girls also need to promote gender equality (qizi and Raximova, 2023).

Social roles and their sub-themes

The first social role sub-theme is politics. Increasing economic possibilities for women, removing legal obstacles to advancement, protecting women from abuse and assault, eradicating demeaning stereotypes and images, and extending social support for women and their families are all goals of the U.S. feminist movement with many improvements especially in changing cultural attitudes toward women and expanding career opportunities (Ehrenreich and Schlafly, 2006). In India, where a large number of women stay out of politics and trade union activities, the political status of women is rising, but most Indian men still follow traditional roles. In order to achieve true gender equality, traditional male roles must not become a model for women to follow. Both male and female roles must be transformed (Pillai, 1986). Meghan Warner Mettler (2014) talked about the significance of gender in foreign policy and how racial and national power disparities hinder international feminist solidarity initiatives. Durдона Muhammadi kizi Abduraimova (2022) analyzed the historical foundations of women's rights, the circumstances and issues at various points in time, the development of contemporary strategies in this field, and current changes. Virginija Jurėnienė (2007) discussed the female's movement in Lithuania by analyzing the limitations on women's rights, demonstrating the positive shift in the country in terms of educating for gender equality, and demonstrating that women in politics further discusses the situation of women in the labor market.

The second social role sub-theme is the military. The U.S. military is well on its way to achieving gender integration, although this cannot be said to be comparable to the abolition of war, which has been a very important feminist priority, and further gender integration in the military continues. (Ehrenreich and Schlafly, 2006). Lance Corporal Hannah Evans (2013) explored how women's employment in the Australian military is evolving and the policy changes that are causing this shift. Women's employment in the army has been progressively impacted by the nature of strategic policies and national and international initiatives. The nature of current operations must be

considered, the complexity of the tasks performed by women must be acknowledged, and policies should be based on tactical needs and what this paper calls "policy values," not just on the pursuit of gender equality and equal representation for women.

The third social role sub-theme is education. Ms. Yoshioka, a pioneer of vocational education for women in modern Japan, was appointed as the only female member of the Education Advisory Board and promoted educational reform in Japan (Watanabe, 2011). In India, there are official curricula for both primary and secondary schools describing the general objectives of education and specific objectives for different subjects. These curricula point out the importance of making students aware of issues related to gender equality (Pillai, 1986). With the increase in female education, with more and more women of Italian descent, women in the American workplace have gained employment opportunities and subsequently occupied higher positions in the career structure (Egelman, 2000). Progress in the improvement of women's right to education, the results of female enrollment in improving education, the current status of women's access to education and the challenges they face, and also provide facilities to attract more women to education (qizi and Raximova, 2023). Mohammad Hilmy Baihaqy Yussof (2021) examined the important role Muslim women play in education as well as the problems and difficulties they have when trying to contribute to the creation of a contemporary educational system.

The fourth social role sub-theme is religion. Islam recognizes the many responsibilities of women in society and ensures that they are respected and dedicated according to their status. Islam views women as good mothers, pious daughters, faithful wives, and equal sisters. (Ahmed, 2022). This study examines various aspects of women's lives in Islamic societies, including their social and religious rights, educational and employment opportunities. It highlights how crucial it is to comprehend the various experiences Muslim women have in various settings. The paper also discusses prominent Muslim women who play significant roles in social development and explores the status of Muslim women in the modern world. The teachings of Islam value and empower education and Knowledge acquisition is equally promoted for men and women. Muslim women play a crucial role in education, and Mohammad Hilmy Baihaqy Yussof (2021) examined the problems and obstacles they encounter in carrying out their responsibilities in the advancement of Muslim education. It will also address the challenges and problems they encounter while contributing to the advancement of modern educational systems. In Nigeria, Adelowo Felix Adetunji (2013) aimed to demonstrate the importance of women in Yoruba indigenous religion, particularly in the worship of Sango, the thunder god. Despite the fact that women cannot hold certain positions in this worship, this article emphasizes their role as lead singers who chant about the gods involved. Although women cannot play a leading role in politics, they play a unique role in national development.

The fifth social role sub-theme is professions. Women in the U.S. are unfairly treated in the professions, women earn less, and women are overwhelmed with family matters, highlighting the inequality between men and women (Ehrenreich and Schlafly, 2006). Ms. Yoshioka, the founder of Tokyo Women's Medical University, contributed to the recent history of medicine in Japan by establishing a medical school for women and organizing study groups for women doctors (Watanabe, 2011). In India, women and men participate equally in the work of life, which is the basis of equality. However, women often have the responsibility of caring for their husbands and children, and in order to achieve equality between men and women, women and men need to play dual roles-one at work and one active role in the family (Pillai, 1986).

William S. Egelman (2000) summarized the role of women of Italian descent in the American occupations in terms of numbers, education, age, and culture, as well as their impact on women in the American community. In early modern Venice, women were heavily involved in the hotel and lodging industry. and had a positive impact (Bernardi and Pompermaier, 2019). Thai women have contributed greatly to agricultural development, and despite their positive perceptions of their

abilities, they continue to suffer from gender inequality, a perception that seems to hinder participants' sense of empowerment in the agricultural labor force. Going forward, Thai women should be empowered more (Richardson and Roberts, 2020).

The sixth social role sub-theme is law. Mary Lowise Nagata (2004) discussed women's role in leadership, inheritance, and succession in the urban setting of early modern Kyoto, as well as the legal issues included and differences in social status. And it analyzes in detail the issue of heir selection and the issue of retirement and marriage, concluding that forms of both men and women are impacted by marriage property law in a variety of profound ways. Amy Louise Erickson (2007) summarized the law in England and made a comparison of the rest of the Nordic countries he summarized English law and a review of the law in other Nordic countries, Amy Louise Erickson drew out the issue of property ownership for married women in England and the extent to which the distribution of property affects real-life women. georg'ann Cattelona (1993) analyzed the role of early modern law-making and adjudication in regulating female sexuality for Maasai women.

The seventh social role sub-theme is custom. Female genital mutilation, a traditional Sudanese social custom that serves to regulate female sexuality, has been declining as women's education and culture have advanced and their status has risen. The confinement of women by social conventions is gradually diminishing (Rose, 1975).

LIMITATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In this review, there are a number of gaps in our understanding of the issues surrounding the roles of modern women, and this review identifies specific areas that require further research attention.

First, while the PRISMA methodology is applicable to studying the roles of modern women, however, a more thorough systematic assessment approach is still required. The current review primarily aims to empirical articles in English that employ qualitative methods, which can be found in databases such as Scopus, Google Scholar, and Web of Science. Future research should be intended to expand these parameters for a more comprehensive review.

Second, the historical materials regarding the modern women's roles reviewed in this article will continue to be uncovered over time. As more historical materials become available, researchers will be able to conduct deeper analyses. Therefore, future studies should aim to cover a wider range of research material.

Third, this study only included qualitative research methodology and did not incorporate quantitative or mixed research methodology. Additionally, no theories or models were used to guide the research, which limits the ability to derive more accurate conclusions regarding the influencing factors of modern women's roles. There is great potential for future research to contribute to enriching the literature and expanding its theoretical horizon.

Fourth, the articles reviewed in this study placed greater emphasis on the social roles of modern women; however, family roles are also an important component of their identities. Therefore, it is recommended that future research focus on the family roles of modern women to address this gap, enrich the understanding of women's roles, and expand the relevant research fields.

CONCLUSION

This study employed the PRISMA systematic review method to conduct an in-depth review of 18 pieces of literature on the issues surrounding modern women's roles. It included an examination of the main roles studied, identified research themes, and analyzed the temporal and spatial distribution of the 18 articles. Furthermore, this review identified 2 main themes in the existing literature regarding modern women's roles: family roles and social roles. Under these themes, 10 sub-themes emerged, with family roles including the roles of wives, mothers, and daughters, and

social roles encompassing politics, military, education, religion, professions, law, and customs. This finding indicates that researchers have produced relatively few results regarding the family roles of modern women, focusing more on their social roles. Therefore, further exploration of the family roles of modern women is warranted. In addition, tables and figures outlining the topics are provided in this article as a reference for future research.

Moreover, this review offers several recommendations for future studies. First, Need for a more complete and enriched approach to systematic reviews to thoroughly revisit the research on modern women's roles in the future. Second, it is recommended that future studies should use a variety of quality assessment tools to evaluate included articles. Quality assessment involves more than just finding the perfect article, it also helps to identify articles that meet the purpose of the journal (Shaffril et al. 2021). Third, researchers should be encouraged to explore more historical materials to broaden the research field. Fourth, there is a need for more extensive research on the family roles of modern women.

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE: The author, Lan Yang, is a PhD candidate currently studying at the Center for History, Politics and International Affairs Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia. Her main areas of specialization are women's history and Chinese history. She has completed the article Challenges and Efforts of Modern Chinese Urban Women in Romantic Relationships in Happy Home Magazine (1936-1949) (Published Dec. 2024), and she has published A Review of Women's Body Emancipation in the Early Republic of China.

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