



ISSN : 2350-0743



RESEARCH ARTICLE

TRANSPARENCY OF DOMESTIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT: A LOOK AT THE EXPERIENCE OF SPOUSE EMPLOYEES AT THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE OF THE 11 DE NOVEMBRO UNIVERSITY

Catarina Moiado¹, Jacinta Varela² and Augusta Nobre^{3,*}

¹Researcher at Faculty of Medicine of the University 11 de Novembro

²Financial chief of Medicine of the University 11 de Novembro

³Assistant Professor of Psychology at High Institute of Education Science of Cabinda

ARTICLE INFO

Article History

Received 10th May, 2023

Received in revised form

16th January, 2024

Accepted 27th May, 2024

Published online 30th June, 2024

Keywords:

Transparency; Financial Management; Spouses.

*Corresponding author:
Catarina Moiado

ABSTRACT

This study addresses the "Transparency of domestic financial management". The aim of the study was to analyze the experiences of spouse employees at the Faculty of Medicine of Universidade 11 de Novembro regarding transparency in domestic financial management. It was a qualitative descriptive exploratory study, using a semi-structured interview. The study population consisted of 59 employees, from which a sample of 12 individuals was randomly selected, depending on their availability to participate in the study and through raffles. Of the 12 participants, 58% were female, who indicated that they shared financial management with their spouses. Of the male participants, 25% indicated that they have non-transparent financial management motivated by distrust with their partners, while 17% have transparent financial management with their spouses motivated by love. The results of the study revealed a disparity regarding the application of the principle of transparency in domestic financial management among Faculty of Medicine of the University 11 de Novembro's employees, with greater relevance among men, which can result in distrust, divorce, and consequently, family disruption.

Copyright©2024, Catarina Moiado et al. This is an open access article distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

Citation: Catarina Moiado, Jacinta Varela and Augusta Nobre. 2024. "Transparency of domestic financial management: a look at the experience of spouse employees at the faculty of medicine of the 11 de novembro university", International Journal of Recent Advances in Multidisciplinary Research, 11, (06), 10084-10088.

INTRODUCTION

The present work is an analysis of the transparency of domestic financial management carried out by individuals working at the Faculty of Medicine of the Onze de Novembro University who share the same roof with their partners. It should be noted that coexistence between peers brings with it some demands from the point of view of sharing aspects related to each person. From this perspective, we choose transparency in the financial management of the home because it often causes disagreements between spouses when it is not done clearly, due to a lack of trust between them. It is our purpose to contribute information that can help in understanding the phenomenon under analysis in light of the information that will be provided throughout our approach. It is worth highlighting that transparency is part of our coexistence, both as a family and in organizations. In our context, we have struggled with several arguments related to coexistence between partners at home where the issue of transparency or non-transparency is felt regardless of the way in which the spouses define the model of communion.

In this study, we focused our attention on individuals who manage nursing homes and were identified at the Faculty of Medicine of Universidade Onze de Novembro where they provide services. Navigating along the same path, we highlight some literature and authors where we find the concept of the word transparency which means clarity, clarity, translucency, purity, crystal, perspicuity, etc. Transparency, and also the quality of what is transparent, a phenomenon by which light rays are observed through certain substances, and the quality of what transmits the truth without adulterating, a transparent plastic sheet that is used in the overhead projector (ILLUSTRATED DICTIONARY, p. 754). In our opinion, transparency reflects what is done clearly both within the family and in organizations. According to Assunção et al, (2017), the word management derives from the Latin "gestio" and means the act of managing business, people or resources in order to achieve defined objectives and goals, efficiently and effectively, through organization, planning, leadership and control of available resources. Set of processes, methods and actions that allow a company to control, analyze and plan its financial activities (COSTA, et al. 2015).

Still according to (Id), management means; act or effect of managing, management. Based on this assumption, it is highlighted that domestic financial management entails several aspects that can result in transparency or lack of transparency. Thus, it is understood that each individual has their own vision or opinion that differs when the focal issue is transparency in financial management at home. For (REIS et al. 2017); The greater role of women in the labor market has brought an additional source of income to families, making women participate more actively in economic decisions. However, the impact of women's inclusion in the job market and the source of supplementary income for the family requires a reorganization of family financial management and the redistribution of roles and responsibilities (Id). Being a household manager is not easy and especially when couples do not plan their day-to-day life together, this situation can lead to distrust of each other and even lead to their separation. With knowledge of the income and expense accounts, a well-structured plan can be drawn up and monitored periodically, thus controlling what was followed and what was not in the planning. Even with good salaries and high eventual income, without financial education you can lose everything. The sooner people understand that making a personal, monthly financial budget and monitoring the fluctuations that occur, the better the results of family or personal financial management will be (DA CRUZ; 2012). It is our purpose to contribute information that can help clarify the reality experienced by nursing home managers when it comes to transparency in financial management in order to understand how it works for each case in which we had the privilege of listening.

In our context, the lack of transparency in certain homes is notable, due to distrust, lack of true love, cultural issues, which can condition the fluidity of financial management between peers, even involving other family members; The relevance of this work lies in the fact that it allows an exploratory study of the issue under study and analyzes with the contributions of the individuals interviewed about their experiences in the financial management of the home.

General Objective:Analyze the extent to which transparency in financial management at home is part of the coexistence of spouses who are employees of the Faculty of Medicine of Universidade Onze de Novembro. In harmony with the set of insufficiencies that succinctly represent the problematic situation of scientific research, the scientific problem is defined using the following research question: Do the spouses who work at the medical school have transparent financial management in their domestic life? The great challenge of this work is the construction of an approach regarding transparency in domestic financial management as a way of understanding the reality of the coexistence of spouses who work at the Faculty of Medicine and who share the same roof with their partners. Its importance lies in the fact that the topic leads us to an analysis of the practice of transparency, as an ethical aspect that, when well applied, makes spouses more confident in each other, establishing an environment of harmony between partners and with a well-structured family. Navigating along the same path of ideas, we will focus on those aspects that we believe to be relevant in domestic financial management with individuals who could provide information on the issue under discussion.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Relevance of Transparency in Home Financial Management: To manage a home satisfactorily, you need to consider the financial aspect, know how much you earn and how much you pay, and it is essential to know how to organize the accounts, with due dates and amounts, so that there are no interest payments or delays that could harm the good functioning, such as the concern about delaying bills that generate essential goods such as water, electricity, gas, etc. (Castilho, 2015). It is also important to consider expenses such as food, clothing, education, making a list of priorities, and what is really essential for the well-being of those who live in the space. Waste related to these factors can greatly increase the final bill and must be viewed rigorously (Id).

The author mentioned above emphasizes that, for transparent management of financial resources in the home, it is necessary:

- **Setting an objective (Planning):** as a way of organizing ideas and analyzing which ones are best according to the reality of an individual or a family.
- **Analyze:** understand the problems.
- **Solve problems:** when a problem is detected, the best option is to solve it quickly so that it does not progress and become bigger, requiring large-scale repairs, generating high costs and a longer period of time to resolve it.
- **Organize and allocate financial resources:** organize finances and a way to keep them in order, have a financial reserve and a knowledgeable school, for when it is necessary to solve problems or renovate the house.
- **Communicate and direct, lead:** all members of the house must know what their responsibilities are, for this to happen effectively, communication is essential and generally the distribution of these tasks is given by the person responsible for managing the house.
- **Negotiate:** it is a way of bringing benefits to the home without generating high costs when contracting services and negotiation is important so that both parties are aware of the service that will be provided, the cost and the deadline that will be executed.
- **Make quick and accurate decisions:** if necessary when unforeseen events occur and decision-making is essential, knowing the expenses precisely helps to make decisions that will not affect the routine and the budget.
- **Measure and control:** at a time when the country's economy is shaken, it is important to evaluate what is really important to acquire, controlling expenses avoids unnecessary debts, paying in cash is the best way. If it is a large-value purchase, such as a property or a car, the budget must cover this new expense without compromising the payment of routine expenses and possible unforeseen events.

The purpose of ethics is the achievement of happiness, not as an individual good, but as a collective good (Capita, 2021). Given this statement, it can be said that transparency between spouses is a matter of ethics and it must flow to guarantee the well-being between them and those around them. It is also important to highlight that, striving for transparency in the financial management of the home, is an attitude that can convey trust, well-being, complicity that translate into true

love. Respect for individual values guarantees each person the possibility of recognizing the other as a unique being and gives rise to the possibility of harmonious coexistence between people who are different, think differently, have different backgrounds, since respect for the other will have more value than individual issues (DE ANDRADE, 2010). In coexistence between partners, respect must flow in order to maintain healthy those aspects necessary in coexistence between two, such as dialogue, transparency and complicity.

One of the factors that may be related to marital problems arising from financial aspects refers to beliefs and behaviors of men and women in relation to money throughout their lives (DA CRUZ, 2012); Family of origin influences behavior in relation to money (Id).

Financial infidelity refers to lies or omitted information about personal or family financial matters. But it involves everything from small acts such as buying a product and lying to your spouse about the real value to hiding a debt that compromises the family's finances and future. Furthermore, the non-disclosure of income or the maintenance of secret savings and accounts without the partner being aware (REIS, et al. 2017). Financial infidelity is as harmful to relationships as sexual infidelity (Id).

METHODOLOGICAL PROCEDURES

In our understanding, they are research tools that help in the collection and presentation of data and information that the researcher wishes to expose. They are chosen carefully, adapting them in order to help answer the problem under study, thus producing a good favorable data analysis, All research involves collecting data from various sources, whatever the methods or techniques used; the two processes through which data can be obtained are direct and indirect documentation (LAKATOS, 2001, p.43). It should be noted that the methodology is a generic set of ordered and disciplined procedures used to acquire organized secure information with the aim of finding solutions to problems, understanding phenomena and predicting future problems. For the present work, the methodological strategy is based on qualitative formulation, placing emphasis on the case study, with the description of facts that allowed us to analyze, describe and fully understand the context that surrounds the problem under discussion.

The qualitative approach incorporates the participation of the investigated subjects themselves (NKUANSAMBU, 2018, p.67). It should be noted that this research is qualitative, exploratory in nature. LF Monegon apud Moreira, (2003), assumes that qualitative research is that which works predominantly with qualitative data, that is, the information collected by the researcher is not expressed in numbers, or else the numbers and conclusions based on them represent a minor role in the analysis. Within such a broad concept, qualitative data includes, in addition to information expressed in oral and written words, also information expressed as paintings, photographs, drawings, films, videotapes and even soundtracks. In generic terms, qualitative research can be associated with the collection and analysis of spoken and written text and direct observation of behavior (Id). Given the above, the spouses were selected randomly; The interviews were carried out with the aid of a magnetophone that allowed

them to be recorded and took place at the Faculty of Medicine in the Department of Scientific Affairs and lasted 10 to 20 minutes. Each interviewee responded privately to their sociodemographic data and all other questions asked without interference or influence from any other element that could divert their line of thought. The selection of this type of approach is justified by the fact that it allows us to make a precise and concise description of the social phenomenon under study, which can contribute to reflection on the topic. It was possible to analyze with them their perception of their reality, and their own experiences; It is also important to highlight that this approach allowed us to understand how people think, feel and act; their experiences, their attitudes and beliefs. For (REIS et al. 2017) highlights that in situations where the man is not employed, or when the family income is insufficient, the role of the man in financial management tends to decrease, with the woman being more often responsible. The author argues that this situation becomes yet another responsibility for the woman who needs to "stretch" the household budget, constituting a stressful situation. Corroborating the author, it should be noted that the role of women in the financial management of the home has a great impact on the maintenance of the family and the relationship between spouses.

Population: Our research involved a population made up of individuals employed by the Faculty of Medicine of the Onze de Novembro University, who work at that institution, as can be seen in the Table 1.

The population comprised a total of 12 individuals, employees of the Faculty of Medicine of the Onze de Novembro University. Of this number, 42% are male and 58% are female. This can clearly demonstrate that they practice financial management with the greatest possible transparency. However, only the results can confirm the above, highlighting that the opposite may also be relevant.

Sample: For (MAYER, 2002), the sample is considered to be a subset of the population, generally much smaller in size, which also has the characteristic of interest. For this research, participants were chosen not for their numerical representation, but rather for their potential to provide data for possible answers that the research sought to answer. To guarantee the internal validity of the study's conclusions and enabling the extrapolation of the results (external validity), we prioritized sample selection criteria (stratified sampling) for our research, we chose 12 spouses who were employees of the Faculty of Medicine years depending on the object of the research be related to transparency in domestic financial management.

The choice of participants who live with their partners was due to the fact that they were aware of the phenomenon under study, which denotes experience of living together, which allowed us to have an idea of the phenomenon under study through their statements provided. The sample subjects consisted of a group of spouses who were employees of the UON Faculty of Medicine, who contributed subsidies that served as support for carrying out this study. A random selection was made based on raffle tickets for each of the interview participants, explaining the reasons why they would take part in the study.

The group was composed of ten (12) individuals, five (5) males and seven (7) females. Of these, five (5) corresponding to 42% are male and seven (7) corresponding to 58% are female. All participants live with their partners, who are workers who earn a monthly financial income.

RESULTS

The answers obtained through interviews established with interviewees from the Faculty of Medicine served as the basis for the construction of axes that allow observing, for each question, the most prominent contents with the aim of assisting in grouping and classification procedures, which allowed the creation of axes that were necessary for inferences, analysis and interpretation of content analysis data. In order to expose the responses that revealed the content, we highlight 4 thematic axes, namely:

Table 1. Representation of the population universe

| Population | Gender | | | | Total | |
|--|--------|-----|--------|-----|-------|-----|
| | Male | | Female | | M/F | |
| | Fr. | % | Fr. | % | Fr. | % |
| Spouses who are employees of the Faculty of Medicine | 5 | 42% | 7 | 58% | 12 | 100 |
| TOTAL | 5 | 42% | 7 | 58% | 12 | 100 |

Table 2. Sample stratification

| Sample extracts | Gender | | | | Total | |
|--|--------|----|--------|----|-------|-----|
| | Male | | Female | | Total | |
| | Fr. | % | Fr. | % | Fr. | % |
| Spouses employees of the UON Faculty of Medicine | 5 | 42 | 7 | 58 | 12 | 100 |

Axis 1 – Transparency in domestic financial management; **Axis 2** – Sharing of monthly income; **Axis 3** – Sharing of expenses, **Axis 4**- Financial education of children.

As for axis-1, transparency in the financial management of the home, of the 12 individuals interviewed, 58% of females revealed that they practiced transparent management, while 42% reported that they practiced non-transparent management for reasons of distrust towards their partner. Concerning males, 25% revealed the practice of non-transparent financial management due to distrust of their partner, while 17% revealed transparent management because when love speaks louder, nothing can be hidden from the partner. With regard to the Sharing of monthly income axis, 58% said they made everything clear about their bank accounts, 25% said they only did so in a limited way and 17% said they practiced transparency, avoiding distrust between partners. With regard to axis-3, participation in expenses, 58% of females expressed a positive contribution to household expenses, with 42% of males also contributing to expenses. Looking at the Financial education of children axis, most men and women responded that there was a need to educate their children at an appropriate age about financial management, only a minority stated that their involvement was not necessary. However, given the facts, we can see that domestic financial management is carried out with greater transparency by women compared to men, taking into account some subjective factors that reflect our reality.

DISCUSSION OF THE INTERVIEWS RESULTS

To better inform the reader about the positions of those researched in relation to the interview question, during the analysis for the construction of texts, some reports were inserted articulating them with theoretical references and our concerns. The purpose of these articulations was to awaken our object of study, in particular, based on defined axes for our reflection. Next, we will discuss data relating to axis 1 – Transparency in domestic financial management; was defined with the aim of understanding from the interviewees' reports the extent to which transparency flows in their coexistence. This issue can be highlighted according to the following report:

"Between spouses transparency must flow otherwise it will not go ahead because where there is love, trust and complicity, there is harmony" To this end, it was possible to realize that transparency in the financial management of the home is carried out with greater transparency by female individuals to the detriment of male individuals. Therefore, it highlights that in situations where the man is not employed, or when the family income is insufficient, the man's role in financial management tends to decrease, with the woman being more often in charge (REIS et al. 2017). Corroborating with the author, and notable in our context, women who manage their homes with limited support from their partner, are able to create a source of income to maintain the well-being of their offspring. With regard to axis 2- Sharing of monthly income; It was found that our interviewees, both male and female, both share the income, with greater income, although male individuals tend to do so in a limited way due to issues of distrust.

To manage a home satisfactorily, you need to consider the financial aspect, know how much you earn and how much you pay, and it is essential to know how to organize the accounts, with due dates and amounts, so that there are no interest payments or delays that could harm the good functioning, such as the concern about delaying bills that generate essential goods such as water, electricity, gas, etc. (CASTILHO, 2015). The sooner people understand that making a personal, monthly financial budget and monitoring the fluctuations that occur, the better the results of family or personal financial management will be (DA CRUZ; 2012). The author's statement corroborates the following argument:

"Spouses can share bank accounts without harming anyone." It should be noted that sharing monthly income depends largely on consensus between peers, there are partners who prefer to make everything clear when it comes to sharing monthly income by sharing bank accounts, many share their accounts without any suspicions. For others, they do it individually, aware of their responsibility in domestic management. Regarding the cost sharing axis, according to the interviewees, it was possible to observe that both men and women contribute positively to household expenses. In accordance with this aspect, interviewee number 1 points out the following. "Household expenses must be shared because everyone has a monthly income. So it can't just be one person taking over". The purpose of ethics is the achievement of happiness, not as an individual good, but as a collective good (CAPITA, 2021).

One of the factors that may be related to marital problems arising from financial aspects refers to beliefs and behaviors of men and women in relation to money throughout their lives; The family of origin influences behavior in relation to money (DA CRUZ; 2012).

The author Assunção (2017) highlights that materially, the principle of transparency aims to promote an ideal state of accessibility, intelligibility and reliability... In accordance with the author's words, it is important to highlight that the lack of true love, cultural issues can condition fluidity in management financial between partners, even involving other family members; Therefore, it is necessary to focus on education in the financial management of the home without hesitation, which would be a relevant aspect for a healthy coexistence between partners. Looking at axis-4, Children's financial education, most men and women responded that there was a need to educate their children at an appropriate age about financial management. "Taking into account the author's words (DA CRUZ; 2012), the sooner people understand that making a personal, monthly financial budget and monitoring the fluctuations that occur, the better the results of family or personal financial management will be "In our opinion, everything starts from education, education starts from the cradle. Bank accounts must be shared with children as long as they are at an appropriate age, thus ensuring fully transparent management, avoiding disagreements between family members. After the discussion, we set out the final considerations resulting from the analysis and description of those aspects considered relevant and which gave shape to this work.

CONCLUSION

The results indicated that 58% of domestic financial management is carried out by women; Regardless of the monthly income of each partner, expenses must be distributed according to the monthly plan. In this reflection, we sought to demonstrate how interviewees view the issue of transparency in domestic financial management. Mostly, men were those who said they preferred shared financial management less, citing the fact that they did not feed addictions to their partners. Furthermore, there were a minority of those who argued that there was a need for transparency in domestic management, thus avoiding distrust, divorce and family disruption. The evidence referenced here demonstrated that ethically financial transparency can be relevant when there is dialogue, trust and complicity. It should be noted that in the context of a family, financial income must be shared between the spouses, thus providing a healthy environment between members who live under the same roof. Between partners there must be trust and transparency so that love can flow in all aspects of married life. We live in a sexist society where the man thinks he can do everything before the woman or vice versa, and, when it comes to financial management, when there are doubts and we cannot talk about true love. In this sense, this work analyzed how spouses manage family income through questions asked directly to the target audience and according to the answers that were given clearly and bluntly.

Regarding the monthly income of the interviewees, it was possible to see that both salaries are sacred but it depends on how it is managed. Both are managers, and when there is no transparency in all aspects, there is no true love. Financial management must be done with the participation of children, and it is necessary to educate them by making them understand when their parents are available to satisfy their wishes and when not. It's all part of education, education starts from the cradle. Bank accounts are shared without any constraints, and management is completely transparent. However, there should be no pathological love for money. However, the following is suggested: 1) Solve interpersonal problems, 2) Organize and allocate financial resources without hesitation, 3) Trust each other, 4) Make quick and accurate decisions clearly, 5) Measure and control expenses 6) That domestic financial management is carried out with the participation of children, at appropriate ages and it is necessary to educate them, making them understand when there is financial availability and when not.

REFERENCES

- ASSUNÇÃO, Matheus Carneiro; ARANA, Aline; KUBERSKY, Ângela Aparecida; DE MEDEIROS, Iviny Fabris; O princípio da transparência no direito financeiro brasileiro, 2017.
- CAPITA, Flaviano Luemba; A decadência da relação Ética-Economia como Fundamento da crise económica e social em Angola.2021.
- CASTILHO, Ana Cristina Barbosa Quiessi; Administração no lar, 2015.
- COSTA, Érico da Silva, DE AQUINO, Luz Marina A. Poddis, DEMARCHI, Luciana; Gestão Financeira,2015.
- DA CRUZ; Bruna Heloísa; Gestão financeira pessoal: Uma aplicação prática, 2012.
- DE ANDRADE, Zilda Aparecida de Freitas; Gestão da Ética nas organizações, Possibilidades aos profissionais de relações públicas e comunicação organizacional, 2010.
- PORTO EDITORA; Dicionário Ilustrado de Língua Portuguesa; 2012.
- LAKATOS, E. M. MARCONI, M.A; Técnicas de pesquisa. São Paulo, Atlas, 2004. Fundamentos da Metodologia Científica.
- MAYER, Fernando de Pol; Introdução a Estatística e conceito de amostragem 2002. Disponível em <https://leg.ufpr.br>
- LF, Menegon; Procedimentos Metodológicos, 2003. Disponível em www.teses.usp.br
- NKUANSAMBU, Afonso; Metodologias de Investigação Científica, 2018.
- REIS, Aline Henriques, REIS Marta Sousa, SIMIONI Priscila, BENEDITTI Thais Barbosa, NEUFEID, Carmem Beatriz; O gerenciamento da renda familiar por jovens casais, 2017. Available on www.pepsic.bvsalud.org