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Research Proposal

Throughout history, people have been communicating and interacting with each other and forming relationships. Family is one of the relationships, which is a basic social unit.

Additionally, people have been working first to survive and later to maintain basic needs. Work and family balance, especially for females, became rising issue as women began to participate more in the work field since the 19th century. This is because women have a desire to fulfill one's dream, while maintaining the domesticity spontaneously, which women throughout history did. As a female and a student, I hope to become a designer and a mother, therefore I became interested in this topic. As I researched more about work-family balance, I found out that the eastern and western work-family balance is different. Western countries such as the United Kingdom and Sweden are more supportive for women to work and raise children that allows all employees to flourish at home and at work by flexible work, mentoring to childcare, and paid leave. On the other hand, eastern countries', like South Korea and Japan, companies are less supportive for women to work when they bear a child; most companies even recommend them to retire on financial grounds. Thus, I came up with the specific question: Which country, South Korea or Sweden, more effectively supports working women according to government policy and people's perception? I've searched through google scholar therefore all of my sources are

reliable sources such as books and research papers. For example, from the newspaper article, I was able to reinforce others and my perception of how South Koreans view working women and how Sweden supports working women such as tax exemption. Moreover, through google scholar, I came across with a book that lucidly demonstrates the government policies that actively supports working-mom such as “Maternity benefits”, “Abolished worker discrimination based on the basis of pregnancy”, and “Paid leave extended to 360 days and “sick” leave for temporary care of children increased to 60 days”since 1937.