

## **The Role of Women in the Economy: Views of Female Entrepreneurs in Ankara**

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### **Abstract:**

Studies that look at women's role in economic development focus on the multifaceted nature of this role. Women contribute not only through paid work as labor force participants but also through unpaid household labor and informal employment. More recently, researchers/policymakers have also turned their attention to the role of women as entrepreneurs and managers. The role of women in the economy is a controversial issue, especially in countries where traditional views dominate. How women are viewed in the workforce is therefore a key area of research. While previous research has focused on the attitudes of employees toward female managers in various settings, there is little research on how women managers/entrepreneurs, in turn, view female employees and the role of women in the workforce and within the broader economy. The present study thus fills a void in the literature by focusing on the perspectives of women entrepreneurs in Turkey. We interview a small group of women entrepreneurs who are members of the Association of Women Entrepreneurs in Ankara (ANGİKAD) and ask about their views on women's role in the economy as well as their views on various labor market policies that affect female workers.

**Keywords:** Female entrepreneurship, Role of women in the economy, Turkey, ANGİKAD, In-depth interviews.

**JEL Codes:** J16, L26