



### **Stay-at-home women**

Sarah: Wentworth, do you think woman's place is the home?

W: I don't really think so, because who can afford to bring up a family with a single wage today? My sister for example, intended to devote the next ten years to looking after her children, so did she. She realizes today that she sacrificed a promising career to look after her kids, and she has felt somewhat trapped ever since she stopped working to bring up her children.

Sarah: Well, ten years is far too long nowadays to even hope returning to work after, especially for a woman. Another thing is that a woman's work is never over, even when her husband helps her, because being a stay-at-home woman is already a full time job!

W: You're right Sarah, I could note this when my wife stopped working to look after our two kids. She tried at the beginning to combine work and family but it was too difficult without help, so we decided she would stop working for two years and we would take an au-pair afterwards.

Sarah: I can understand. Some women find it unrewarding to stay at home all day, and many young mothers that I know get depressed when their world is limited to housework, babies and the weekly shopping jaunt.

W: On the other hand, when you spend your days tied to a checkout in a supermarket, bringing up your children can be much more satisfying, so between two exhausting tasks, most women would choose and enjoy actively looking after the children.

Sarah: Of course, if you take strenuous jobs as examples. But the better jobs women can get, the more likely they are to go out to work. Anyway, being a housewife seems to be a thing of the past. Conversely, there are more house husbands than there used to be.



**GLOSSARY:**

Stay-at-home women	Young mothers
To afford	Housework
To bring up	Babies
To intend to	the weekly shopping jaunt
To devote	a checkout
To look after	Exhausting tasks
To sacrifice	strenuous jobs
To feel/felt/felt	A housewife
To be trapped	The past
To hope	House husbands
Returning to work	Somewhat
To note	Far too long
To try	Never over
To combine	Afterwards
To get depressed	Unrewarding
To limit	On the other hand
To choose	Tied
To enjoy	Actively
The home	Conversely
A single wage : un seul salaire	
A promising career	
A full time job	
An au-pair	



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