

An article published in The Daily Mail on 31 May 2009 shows there is still a misunderstanding about the situation of working mothers,

A BBC series has shown full-time working women earn up to £369,000 less than men over their careers. Although both start even, by the time they reach their 40s women earn 20% less than men in wages. A survey also shows women's happiness is in steady decline.

Marks & Spencer chairman can't imagine such a situation to be true as women can now access any career opportunities. He insists there are no glass ceilings any more, and women can contemplate any careers from miner to astronaut. He doesn't think being a mother hampers a career and he mentions examples of successful working mothers in his own company.

But the series says this gap in wages increases as soon as women become mothers, and for those who don't there actually happens to be no gap at all. Working mothers have to make more efforts than men to juggle work and family, but it is not financially valued and that hinders their happiness.

Despite common men's beliefs, having children is still a handicap for working women in today's society.

200 words