

## HOW MUCH IS A HOUSEWIFE WORTH

"If you're a stay-at-home wife and mother, you're worth a whopping \$125,900 a year! That's because your mate would have to pay \$2,325 a week to hire people to perform all the jobs you do, according to U.S. government statistics.

A busy mom provides her family with the services of a child care worker, cook, dishwasher, chauffeur, laundry worker, maid and more.

Here's what it would cost to hire someone to do these jobs for a week, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics 1995 Employment and Earnings report:

1. CHILD CARE WORKER - \$182

That's the amount working parents fork out for a fulltime child care worker to look after and feed their children.

2. COOK - \$238

Professional cooks earn an average of \$238 a week. But you could be worth even more if you whip up dishes that could be served at fine restaurants.

3. DISHWASHER AND KITCHEN CLEANER - \$225

That's what an expert makes working full-time in the catering and food preparation business.

4. LAUNDRY WORKER - \$199

You're worth \$199 a week to wash, dry and fold your family's clothes and linens.

5. CHAUFFEUR - \$362

Professional drivers pocket \$362 a week. But you may be worth more since you're at your family's beck and call 24 hours a day.

6. MAID - \$182

Although this is what the average maid earns, it's not a lot to do all the dirty work around the house.

7. RECREATION COORDINATOR - \$303

You should be paid \$303 a week to plan and execute your children's playtime schedule.

8. TUTOR - \$228

You tear your hair out helping your children master the "new math" for free; while a professional tutor rakes in \$228 a week.

9. BOOKKEEPER/SECRETARY - \$389

A clerical worker who balances the books, answers the phone and organizes schedules earns \$389 a week.

Tally all those figures and you'll find you could be earning a cool \$120,900 a year (\$155,280 if you factor in a 3% inflation rate)."

This does not even factor in the spiritual training and mentoring that a mother will do that a hired hand would not. So how much is the love of a stay-at-home mother/wife worth to a family? PRICELESS...PROVERB 31.