

# Rajni Wadhwa

Rajni Wadhwa, 54, balances work and family life in Delhi. Wadhwa reclines on a plush couch in her sprawling pouche house in Delhi, e and entitlement. She holds her latest iPhone in one hand, scrolling through messages "Housewives really do nothing," she said with a dismissive wave of her hand. "What they do can be done by a maid for 10,000 rupees a month," she continued as she counted currency notes in her house after she finished cooking and started getting ready to head to the tutoring center.

Wadhwa runs a tutoring center called Learning Point in East Delhi, India. Wadhwa started Learning Point at her home in 2007 as a response to the lack of quality education in the area. She saw a need for a center where children could receive individual attention and support to excel academically. With a background in teaching, she decided to use her skills to help the children in her community.

"I began working in my teens to support my family," Wadhwa said, her words filled with purpose." However, it is generally expected that a woman will quit working after she gets married and will be a homemaker. I felt very uneasy when I stopped tutoring after I got married, so I began again, " she said.

The center began with just a few students, but over time, it became a popular destination for parents looking for a better education for their children. Today, Learning Point has over 50 students, ranging from first grade to tenth grade. Wadhwa's dedication to her students is unwavering.

"I started Learning Point because I saw an opportunity in my community. I wanted to create a space where children could come and learn without distractions," Wadhwa said.

Her students are equally passionate about their education. They arrive at the center eager to learn and ready to work hard. Wadhwa's teaching style is focused on individual attention, and she works closely with each child to understand their strengths and weaknesses. She then tailors her lessons to meet their unique needs. "My teacher, Rajni Ma'am, is the best. She helps me with my homework and teaches me things I don't understand in class," said Neha, a student at Learning Point.

Parents in the community praise her for her impact on their children's education. "Before my daughter started coming to Learning Point, she struggled in school. But since she started coming here, her grades have improved significantly.

Rajni Ma'am is an excellent teacher," said Sunita, a parent of one of Wadhwa's students.

Wadhwa's journey has been challenging. Running a tutoring center in a low-income area comes with its difficulties. Financial constraints make it challenging to provide the best resources and materials for the students.

"Running a tutoring center is not easy, but I do it because I believe in the power of education. Every child deserves the opportunity to learn and grow," she said.

Despite the challenges, Wadhwa has big plans for the future of Learning Point. She hopes to expand the center to reach even more children in the community. Her dream is to create a space where children can come and receive a quality education, regardless of their background or financial situation. "I want to make Learning Point a place where every child in the community can come and learn. I want to provide the best education possible so these children can reach their full potential," she said.

When Wadhwa leaves the center for the day, she has to rush home to do household work. It's evening. Wadhwa rushed around her home; she was frantic and energetic. She is a woman on a mission, her eyes focused and determined as she moves from task to task. "I constantly drive and shuffle between the coaching institute and home," Wadhwa said, her voice filled with urgency. "There are some tasks at home that you must do on your own and can't leave to maids. But I manage to balance both worlds and am proud of it," she said.

As she spoke, her hands moved with practiced ease, folding clothes and preparing meals with fluidity. Despite the demands of her double shifts – one at the tutoring center and one at home - Wadhwa feels satisfied. Her husband runs the household expenditure, but she accumulated money to send her son to the US without a scholarship for his master's degree, a huge expense for a family in India.

"All I wanted was that my son (Ankush) should have the best degree among all his cousins and be in the best country," she said with a haughty wave of her hand. "Now he is in the US and earns the most amongst all his cousins," she continued. "When I last went there, he surprised me with a car and bought me a Coach luggage bag," she added.

Ankush graduated from George Washington University two years ago and now works with a technology company. Her pride in his achievements is evident in every word she speaks. "I must go and call him," she said, checking the time on her latest Apple watch. "It must be morning in Virginia. Wadhwa feels she has more say in household and financial matters at home because she earns money equal to her husband. She adds that she is considered wiser, more educated, and more liberated compared to her sisters, who are homemakers.