Refugees women at Al-Salt governorate: Opportunities and challenges for the role of social work in Jordan
Research Team

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Project Title: Refugees women at Al Salt governorate: opportunities and challenges for the role of social work in Jordan.

Research main questions:

- What is the impact of displacement on women’s role within family?
- What services offered for women refugees in the host community?
- What are the challenges/ issues face by social work intervention with women?
- To what extent working with women refugees offer opportunities for social work in Jordan?
Project Location: Salt, Al-Balqa Governorate, Jordan
Research Rationale

- Research projects about Syrian refugees in Al Salt were not found.

- Community based organizations and local NGOs need to develop social work's roles in Al Salt.
The research team utilized a mixed-method approach that included quantitative and qualitative approaches as the following:

1- Desk Review.

2. Questionnaires with 107 Syrian women.

3- In-depth Interviews with:
   • Seven Syrian women.
   • Four social workers.
   • Two parliament members.

4- Students diary.
Desk Review

- The situation of Syrian women before and after the war.
- The role and responsibilities of women, girls, boys and men.
- Gender dimensions of accessing mental health and psychosocial support - Factors and vulnerability.
- Syrian women employment situation in Jordan.
Activity 2: Field trip to a refugee camp and a human aid or welfare aid organization

Heteen Palestinian refugee camp
The Jordanian women's union
Activity 3: Discussions with four social workers

- Asmaa Abu Hazeem

- Walaa Al-Rasheed.
- Abeer Kloub.
- Asmahan Sarhan.
Activity 4: Qualitative discussions and quantitative questionnaires with Syrian women
Activity 5: Workshop on cultural competences interview and research ethics
Activity 6: Workshop on analyzing qualitative data
Activity 7: Workshop on writing an academic research paper
Activity 8: Workshop on critical thinking
Activity 9: 2.1.9 An orientation workshop on analysis quantitative data using SPSS
Findings Dissemination

- Local and international conferences (IFSW international Social Work Conference - 2020).
- Workshops.
Findings Publications

*Locally:
  - Human and Social Sciences (8 months).
  - The Social Science Journal (12 months).

* Regionally:
  - Al-Najah University (10 months).

*Internationally:
  - The University of Applied Science Neubrandenburg (?).
  - UK International social work.
The impact of the project on students: Agency Level

- Improving emotional intelligence and stress management skills.
- Improving time management skills.
- Strengthen communication and negotiation skills.
- Increasing self-esteem.
- Increasing research skills.
- Strengthen intercultural competences.
- Increasing skills and knowledge on research ethics, semi-structured interviews, critical thinking, writing a research paper, analyzing quantitative and qualitative data.
Outcomes for teaching

- Conducting Life skills programs (Active listening, communication, emotional intelligence, and stress management).

- Enrolling students in advanced and specialized internship programs.

- Teaching students advocacy skills for community members to change their attitudes or behaviors, and governmental entities that take decisions on procedures, regulations, and policies.

- Practicing the non-discrimination principle by involving students in interventions with GBV perpetrators, LGBT cases, and prisoners.

- Teaching students how to localize social work in Jordan based on the context, history, culture, and religion by learning intercultural competencies, and how to adapt the international guidelines and SOPs to be more suitable and effective for Jordan’s context and using Arabic slang.
Outcomes for teaching

- Conducting psychosocial and self-care activities for students.

- Conducting an informal meeting between students is important to get know each other.

- Strengthen students' understanding of the do-no-harm principle through conducting lectures, workshops, and fieldwork is essential.
The thematic approaches

- Anti-discriminatory approach.

- Strengths-based approach.
Challenges:

- The limited time frame.
- Reaching the targeted population.
- Transportation and long distances to read the targeted populations.
- Balancing between attending lectures and collecting data.
- Implementing multi-years project.
- Conducting advanced training program before starting field work.