

The Social Exclusion of Women in Society: A Socio-Anthropological Study: Al-Khalidiya as a Model

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The topic of social exclusion of women in the community of the Khalidiya region is one of the important topics that attracts attention at all levels and in all societies. That is, to know the social, cultural, psychological and economic problems and obstacles accompanying this social phenomenon of gender discrimination and the marginalisation of women. This has led to instances of poverty and unemployment for the female segment of society. The domination of Masculinity has the clear effect of establishing discrimination against women, which is reflected in preventing women from having educational opportunities. It is one of the effects that contribute to the process of excluding women in society. It is a type of exclusion and marginalisation of women, which is called “The social exclusion of women”. The aim of the current study is to know the effects that contribute to the process of excluding women in the society of Al Khalidiya. The current study relies on the socio-anthropological approach and what is called the integrated approach to sociology and anthropology. It depends on the means of collecting information, the most prominent of which are: observation by participation, interview, records and informants, while the sample is a random sample with a size of 200 researched to obtain basic information and data, which is impossible to get by other means.

Key words: *Social exclusion - Women - Society – Khalidiya.*

Introduction

One of the rare subjects about studying the research community is the topic of social exclusion for women, which is a complex and multi-dimensional process, as it implies a lack or deprivation of resources, rights, goods and services, and the inability to participate in the normal relationships and activities available to women in society, whether in the economic, social, cultural or political fields, as it affects both the quality of women's lives and

achieving cohesion in society. Rather, it can be said that the reality of women working in Iraq in general and the research community in particular may indicate the reality of discrimination against them, especially in employment work in official institutions in the society in which they live. It seems that the influence of the prevailing societal culture still plays its role in devoting the base of women's marginalisation in the field of work to society.

The Problem

Equality is still far from being a social reality, and far from individuals, especially women. But contemporary sociology has put our hands on a concrete meaning for justice and an honest indicator of equality. Equality is the integration of women into the society at the levels: production, consumption, political action, and social interaction. As for inequality, it means excluding, depriving or excluding this participation of women. The issue of social exclusion of women has occupied the minds of many sociologists and anthropologists, because it is a direct reason for dividing societies, including the studied society, the Al-Khalidiya community, and the emergence of hotbeds of tension and division in them. The social exclusion of women works in collision with the integration process. So "social exclusion" does not necessarily mean lack of money, i.e. poverty, although money and income are a key factor in challenging the proportion and form of exclusion, but rather a group of problems and obstacles that accumulate. That produces a woman who is not integrated into her society due to male dominance. "Social exclusion" is a distinct phenomenon of cultural poverty before economic poverty, because without the deprivation of the ability for women to leave the home to work, women would not be exposed to social and economic exclusion, represented by women's poverty and social inequality, and this is an indication of a society's low view of women. As for the research problem, it raises the research questions as follows:

1. Do social and psychological factors have an effect on social life?
2. What is the reason for women not participating in social activities?
3. Does the failure of women to enter education lead to exclusion in society?
4. Is the economic situation of women one of the effects that contribute to the process of excluding women in society?

The Importance

The scientific significance of this research stems from the first two dimensions related to the increase in theoretical knowledge and the social recovery of women in society, and the concept of women's social exclusion, and theoretical trends in this matter.

The importance of this research comes as a qualitative leap from the studies of women. As for the second dimension, which relates to applied knowledge, i.e. field study to reveal the reasons for excluding women in society showing in inequality and the marginalisation of women.

The Aims

1. To clarify the extent of the problem represented by gender discrimination, inequality and its role in excluding women from society.
2. To find out if the economic aspect of poverty is a cause or a consequence of gender inequality.
3. To work out the scientific solutions to reduce the obstacles that have led to the root of the large gender gap in the social, cultural and economic fields.

The Procedures:

The methodological procedures are among the basic steps by which the phenomenon is studied, in an organised and coordinated manner, in order to reach scientific and objective results. The current research methodology was represented by the following:

Study Methodology

The socio-anthropological approach uses social science in its studies, especially in the fields of sociology and anthropology, which is the approach that combines survey and description in sociology, and in anthropology. It is the structural, functional and cognitive approach, and includes field studies that aim to analyse cultures and study societies. Through the vision and idea of this approach, culture is the main pillar of the anthropological study, especially among American scientists. Through this approach the components of culture are analysed. The study benefited from this in collecting field data through note's revival of the study area. It was used many other means as well, including interviews to obtain information and data on the status of women in the researched society.

Fields of the Study

A- The Human Sphere: The human sphere is defined in the Khalidiya area in the Anbar Governorate, and some of them are studied according to the socio-anthropological method.

B- Geographical Domain: Research Limits: The idea of defining the field of research is one of the steps of scientific research as it facilitates the scientific researcher with a sound scientific basis and enables them to reach the results from the scientific indications, which is

commensurate with what the researcher exerts from time and effort in choosing and formulating the research problem. Given the importance of this topic, the study area was determined in the current research for women in the city of Khalidiya in the Anbar province.

Study Tools

It is the socio-anthropological method in which the questionnaire and residence form are used in the study area, moving in its scope, collecting information, categorising and arranging it, then presenting it in a systematic way.

Interview: The interview was relied on during the study steps, and especially with some women during the research period.

Study Sample: During the field work, a random sample was drawn and the sample was taken to obtain additional data and information that the researcher was unable to obtain directly from the research area.

The Basic Concepts of the Research

Social Exclusion : Social exclusion is based on the concept of relative poverty. According to Townsend, it can be said that individuals, families and groups of the population suffer from poverty if they lack the resources necessary to achieve what is the normal level, or at least what is encouraged or agreed upon in the societies to which they belong from, in food quality, living conditions, activities they participate in and the amenities they enjoy (1979, Books, Harmon's worth Penguin). Social exclusion is meant to deprive individuals of equal citizenship rights at all levels: participation in production and consumption, political action, participation in governance, administration, and social interaction (Mok and Lau, 2014).

The ideological shifts of the concept of exclusion have seemed quite clear in Britain after it has been traditionally linked to poverty within conservative propositions. So the modern British definition of exclusion indicates that the individual is considered socially excluded when they wish to participate in generally accepted activities in society, but cannot. It is clear from this definition that “exclusion” is made outside the individual will, or in other words, the eradication of the will resulting from the collision of the individual, including women, with a closed reality that excludes them from their right to fair and coordinated participation (Al-Hawrani, 2012: 235). That social exclusion, whether its causes are objective or subjective, involves total or partial deprivation and negative feelings characterised by frustration, a low perception of the self and behavioural problems and leads to weakness and inability to participate in the life of society (Hamza, 2012, p. 2). Social exclusion and economic exclusion may occur in terms of consumption patterns, that is, what can be

achieved through individuals or what they want to buy, use and consume in their daily lives. Perhaps the exclusion in this case is the lack of a phone, which is the most prominent means of individual, family and social communication (Anthony Goddens, 2005, 394-395).

The Procedural Definition of Social Exclusion: It is deprivation or marginalisation of the rights that humans must enjoy in, resulting in an imbalance in the roles required of them as a result of negative feelings that dominated them characterised by frustration, despair and lack of happiness, which resulted in multifaceted problems such as family disintegration and weak social relations as well as non-participation in social activities.

Social Exclusion of Women: Sophie Bessis explained that there are three dimensions of exclusion: First, the economic dimension, which results directly from poverty, such as exclusion from work, and thus deprivation of regular income. Secondly, the social dimension relates to the individual's position in society, which leads to fragmentation in the social fabric and solidarity. Third, the political dimension, and it relates to the situation of some groups of the population, including women. Bessis believes that one of the reasons for social exclusion in the modern era is to provide poor education for the vast majority of members of society, and to limit quality education to a specific group in society (Bessis, 1995). The causes of social exclusion are characterised by having complex and multiple dimensions, which create many deep problems, which have a long-term impact on women, individuals and society. In the economy, this impact may extend from one generation to the next. Exclusion reflects the absence of the participation of individuals, including women, and the interruption of the role that social networks play in linking societal forces. The interests and voices of the societal powers of the state become more prominent. This accumulates social inequality, and pushes society, including women, to isolation and vulnerability (Komter, 1996: 299-316).

The Procedural Definition of the Social Exclusion of Women: It is the deprivation or marginalisation of the rights that women must enjoy in. Exclusion includes all the dimensions like political, economic and social. This affects the direction women can take, which results in multifaceted problems such as the weak social relations of women in their society and the non-participation in community activities.

About Khalidiya: It is a city located in the middle of Iraq. It is away from the capital, Baghdad, by about 80 kilometres, and is located between Ramadi and Fallujah, which is one of the cities of the Anbar region.

The Followed Theory in the Study

The Theory of Relative Deprivation and Its Application to Social Exclusion

The idea of relative deprivation is summarised as follows: People add value to many things in social life like wealth, status, power, security, equality, freedom, however, when they can't achieve the values or one value they aspire to, a state of complacency, anger, and hostility is formed. This position is known as "relative deprivation" and refers to: "The tension that arises from the conflict between what should be and what is actually in relation to satisfying collective values" (Dowse and Hughes: 1982). The crucial issue in the perception of deprivation - as Dowse and Hughes see it - is "ideas" that confirm that people have a gap between what they should get and what they are actually getting or believe they can achieve. An external observer may think that there are worsening forms of deprivation, while the disenfranchised believes that this is the natural order of things. Relative deprivation indicates the degree to which an individual feels disadvantaged and the consequences of this. This is due to the anger and hostility (Dowse and Hughes: 1982: 412). The theory of relative deprivation highlighted vertical social exclusion as an independent variable that produces the state of deprivation as a dependent variable. Exclusion is characterised by the immoral consequences of the will and desire of the powerful to violate the rights of the subject, and the theory also showed that it is the sense of deprivation that represents social exclusion.

Feminist Theory

As for the assumptions on which the feminist movement based its ideology, the most important of them can be summarised in the following (Prof. Dr. Laila Abdel-Wahab, n.d., 14-16):

- 1- Patriarchy is the primary unit in the creation of the subordinate position of women. It is the primary responsibility for the oppression and persecution that women are subjected to.
- 2- Reproduction and its relationships are the main factors in the interpretation of collective oppression. The role of women in childbearing is responsible for the low social status when this role is merely pregnancy and breastfeeding children to care for the family and manage its affairs.
- 3- Based on the previous two assumptions, drawing a feminist strategy must be directed primarily against what I call male supremacy and considering that it is the man who must be faced and struggled against.

Thus, feminist ideology was formed not as they claim to criticize both capitalism and socialism, but to refute the theoretical foundations of Marxism in explaining the causes of gender discrimination and the division of roles between them, within the framework of property relations that have prevailed across various class societies through the social

development that human societies have gone through. Most of the research and studies have derived their theoretical origins from the theoretical heritage of Western and American sociology which emphasizes that the division of labour between the sexes is based on a natural and functional basis at the same time. That is the theoretical origin that formed the reference framework for most studies. The research supports the idea of discrimination and supports the strength and power of men in society and its ability to carry out all different activities. At the same time, it emphasizes the subordination of women and their subordination to the authority of men in society and the family (ibid). In addition to these studies, many of the writings of psychologists guided by the theory of psychoanalysis have also attempted to emphasize the relationship between female and male differences and the consequent behaviour that moves women from the level of professional interests to family and marital stability.

The Theory of Femininity and Contemporary Women

The formation of elements of the components of this project of the theory began with the crystallization of the feminist enlightenment movement (as per Jesse Bernard - contemporary American sociologist in the American society). Her theory has implied that there has been a continuous and diversified growth of writings, defending women's rights and demanding equality with men, by American intellectuals. And their intellectual, literary, and social givings have become ready to nourish the arteries of the theoretical body for the topic of women (Age, n.d.: 238). Their theoretical project, is the following: 1- What do we want to know about women? 2- Why did the reality of women reach what it is now? In light of these questions, those who are interested in this project went to investigate the reality of the woman's position in society to find out the difference of her position to that of men. Then they looked for the reasons for the poor social consideration of women within society, and compared them with the social consideration of men, i.e. to gain knowledge of why the women's social consideration is less than the men's social consideration.

Women and Social Exclusion: An Analytical View

As a result of its exclusion, women were exposed to violent influences, and comprehensive political, social, cultural and economic variables. Violent effects manifested in the position of women sitting between the walls of the home. This isolation carries with it social effects that affect the life of women when women fall under the reality of social exclusion by force, away from the features and the conditions for social inclusion as a basis for women. Yet the form of this exclusion may differ here while it is similar there. Exclusion from political participation, deprivation of economic resources and inequality in the distribution of living opportunities as a result of consciously preventing women from participating in social activities. All of these results are indicators of the existence of social exclusion. This is in

addition to poverty and material deprivation, which many consider one of the manifestations of social exclusion. Here, I think that poverty differs from social exclusion and that it resembles it in some aspects, as exclusion may occur to the segment of women in society that are in exclusion and in accumulated deprivation. It is one of the most important reasons for a society's culture represented by male culture, especially since a man has taught a woman the culture of society from the beginning and over time, and it has not been corrected by demand for equality with demand a man and his powers, to have the exploitation of women, their enslavement, and control over their entity, and this penetration in the soul has been around for long generations.

Women and Cultural Exclusion

The Iraqi social culture and its legacies in general, and in the Khalidiya society in particular, bear most of the responsibility of the injustice in limiting the role of women and excluding them from public life, and keeping them away from practical achievement at all levels, in cooperation with the state apparatus with its constitutional, legal and educational institutions. It also bears the responsibility of declining women's culture and depriving them of providing the material and moral means and tools to achieve economic and self-independence from the hegemony of men and the informal social institution (Al-Badri, 2007, No. 1934). Iraqi women have not had prepared for them formal educational programs in the educational institutions. Educational institutions and civil society institutions that deepen their awareness of their rights and motivate them to adhere to them and govern known cultural factors which make females more affected compared to the male. It is so because the family in many cases find that staying in the home is the correct solution for women to avoid concepts of violence that are perpetuated against them, which in turn makes women lose their sense of security, stability and reassurance.

Women and Economic Exclusion

Unemployment is a serious social scourge that disrupts human capabilities and wastes opportunities for growth and economic well-being. The Iraqi economy has faced many problems over the past years. In order to reduce the economic crisis, many effective ways and policies must be followed in Iraq, including the elimination of unemployment because it is the first to reach the segment of women because she is always away from the theatre of life and suffers from marginalisation. It is one of the aspects of social exclusion and because of the recent high terrorist operations experienced by the Anbarian society represented in the Khalidiyah area and the low level of the families standard of living, especially those families that women are responsible for after losing the original breadwinners to murder because of the waves of terrorist violence that has spread in the community, affecting the lives of women and changing social and economic role and result in doing hard work. So that the scientific

qualification specific for women entering the labour market, is one of the pillars of discrimination and shows in the income gained from unqualified work, as well as the level of education linked to fixed income jobs, which forced large numbers of widowed women to work in difficult occupations and under very harsh working conditions (Idami, 2009: 517). The nature of the work performed by women tends to be of low qualification levels.

Presenting and Discussing the Results

Social and Psychological Factors

Preface

Social and psychological factors have significant effects and a prominent role in the social life of society and we will try to focus in this topic on the most important of these factors leading to exclusion of women, especially after the variable conditions witnessed by the Anbarian society represented in the Khalidiya region.

Study Resolution

A questionnaire was designed consisting of two axes, the first of which is related to social data, and the second is related to the social exclusion of women in Khalidiya society. This was done to obtain facts that could not be obtained from other means.

Table 1: Shows the distribution of the research sample according to the social situation

Social Status	Number	Percentage
Married	60	30%
Single	70	35%
Widow	37	18.5%
Divorced	33	16.5%
Total	200	100%

The data of Table (1) above indicates that 60 of the surveyed women are married out of a total of 200, at a rate of 30%, 70 of the surveyed women are not married out of a total of 200, at a rate of 35%. Of the total of 200, 37 respondents indicated that they are widows. Of the total of 200, 33.5% indicated that they were divorced.

Table 2: Shows that are there obstacles for women to participate in social activities

The Answer	The Number	The Percentage
Yes	179	81%
No	21	19%
Total	200	100%

Table 2 above indicates that the large percentage of respondents have obstacles to participation in social activities, as 179 respondents answered 'yes' from a total of 200, at a rate of 81%, that they have obstacles to participate in social activities, while about 21 of them have answered that they have no suffering from obstacles in participating in social activities.

Since most of the samples suffer from the presence of obstacles preventing them from participating in social activities, this prompted the researcher to have many questions for the respondents to find out the reasons behind this, and the answers of the respondents were as shown in Table (3) below.

Table 3: Explaining the reasons for not participating in social activities

Reasons for not participating	The Number	The Percentage
Male social factors and culture	121	60.5%
Economic factors	59	29.5%
Political factors	9	4.5%
Psychological factors	11	5.5%
Total	200	100%

The data of Table 3 above indicates that 121 women were surveyed out of a total of 200 (60.5%) answered that social factors and male culture are the main reasons for not participating in social activities. While economic factors also had a clear impact, since 59 female respondents answered this out of a total of 200 (29.5%), showing that economic factors are the second reason for not participating in social activities. 9 respondents of a total of 200 (4.5%) answered it is political factors while 11 out of a total of 200 respondents (5.5%) answered it is psychological factors.

Does not enter education help to exclude women from society?

Table 4: Does failure of women to enter education lead to the social exclusion of women in society?

The Type of Answer	The Number	The Percentage
Yes	165	82.5%
No	35	17.5%
Total	200	100%

It was clear from the table above that 82.5% of those who answered said ‘yes’, there is a strong relationship between not entering education leading to social exclusion of women which is higher than the 17.5% of those who were answered ‘no’ there is no strong relationship between not entering education and the social exclusion of women.

Do psychological effects play a role in excluding women from society and generating social obstacles that affect social construction?

Table 5: Do psychological effects play a role in excluding women from society and generating social obstacles that affect social construction?

The Type of Answer	The Number	The Percentage
Yes	141	70.5%
No	59	29.5%
Total	200	100%

It is clear through the above table in that 70.5% of those who answered said yes, psychological effects play a role in excluding women from society and generating social obstacles that affect social inclusion. It is higher than the proportion of 29.5% of those who answered who said no, psychological effects don’t play a role in excluding women from society and generating social obstacles that affect social inclusion.

Table 6: Do you feel that you are imprisoned inside the walls of the house where you live?

The Type of Answer	The Number	The Percentage
Yes	142	71.0%
No	58	29.0%
Total	200	100%

It is clear from the above table that 71.0% of those who answered said ‘Yes’, to feeling that they are prisoners inside the walls of the house where they live and it is higher than the 29.0% of those who answered ‘No’ in that they do not feel that they are prisoners inside the walls of the house in which they live.

Profession

The profession variable is one of the important variables that have an impact on the answers of the respondents. It is one of the factors that determines the economic status of women. Therefore, the profession studied by women is one of the most important aspects by which women can use the capabilities and skills that women possess, and that leads to a material gain appropriate to life. To clarify this, we will present some indicators via Table 7.

Table 7: Shows the profession practiced by the female respondents

The profession practiced by the samples	Repetition	The Percentage
Government Employee	20	10%
A worker	40	20%
Idle	131	65.5%
student	9	4.5%
Total	200	100%

It is noted from Table (7) above that 20 women out of a total of 200 (10%) are a government employee, while the number of female workers reached 40 (20%), while the largest proportion of respondents were those who are unemployed. Their number was 131 out of a total of 200 (65.5%). The student's profession represented 9 of those researched out of a total of 200 (4.5%).

We conclude from this that most members of the sample are unemployed due to the male culture of the clan society, which makes them feel unequal in rights and duties, resulting in the social exclusion of women.

Table 8: Shows whether the economic situation of women is one of the aspects that contribute to the process of excluding women in society

The Type of the Answer	The Number	The Percentage
Yes	154	77.0%
No	46	23.0%
Total	200	100%

It is clear from the table above that the percentage of those who answered Yes (77.0%) that the economic situation of women is one of the aspects that contribute to the process of excluding women in society is higher than of those who were answered with No (23.0%).

Does poverty have a role in social exclusion?

Table 9: Shows that poverty has a role in the social exclusion of women in society

The Type of Answer	The Number	The Percentage
Yes	142	71.0%
No	58	29.0%
Total	200	100%

It is clear from the above table that of those who answered Yes (71.0%) to poverty having a role in the social exclusion of women in society, which is higher than the 29.0% of those who answered No in indicating the role of poverty in the social exclusion of women in the society.

Table 10: Explains the reasons leading to poverty and social exclusion

The Reasons	The Number	The Percentage
Submission to male domination	90	45%
Attention to procreation and child care	50	25%
Family care and work as a housewife.	41	20.5%
Formation of females not to go out to work	19	9.5%
Total	200	100%

The data of Table 10 above indicates that; 90 women who were surveyed out of a total of 200 (45%) answered that submission to male domination was one of the reasons leading to women's poverty and social exclusion. Whereas the interest in procreation and child care came to 50 respondents out of a total of 200 (25%). While 41 respondents from a total of 200 (20.5%) answered that the care and work for the family is done by a housewife. 19 respondents out of a total of 200 (9.5%) answered that raising females not to leave for work was one of the reasons leading to women's poverty and exclusion from society.

Results

1. It was found through the study that from the 60 women who were surveyed out of a total of 200, (30%) were married, i.e. 70 out of 200 women. There was about 35% of the women that were unmarried, about 18.5% are widows, and about 16.5% were divorced.
2. It was found from the study that a large percentage of female respondents have obstacles to participation in social activities, as 179 respondents answered, from a total of 200 (81%), that they have obstacles to participate in social activities, while only 21 of those researched (19%) say they have no obstacles in participating in social activities.
3. The study found that 121 out of a total of 200 (60.5%) answered that social factors and male culture are the main reasons for not participating in social activities, while economic factors had a clear impact, as 59 (29.5%) women answered that economic factors are the second reason for not participating in social activities, while 9 respondents (4.5%) mentioned

political factors while answering. 11 of those researched (5.5%) said psychological factors are involved.

4. It emerged from the study that 82.5% of those who answered said Yes, there is a strong relationship between not entering education and this leading to social exclusion of women which is higher than the 17.5% of those who answered No, there is no strong relationship between lack of education and the social exclusion of women.

5. It was found through the study that 70.5% answered Yes, psychological effects play a role in excluding women from society and generating social obstacles that affect social inclusion. It is higher than the proportion of those who answered No (29.5%), psychological effects don't play a role in excluding women from society and generating social obstacles that affect social inclusion.

6. The study found that 71.0% answered Yes, we feel imprisoned inside the walls of the house where we live and it is higher than the 29.0% of those who answered No, we do not feel that they are prisoners inside the walls of the house in which they live.

7. It became clear through the study that 20 female respondents (10%) are a government employee, while the number of female workers reached 40 (20%), while the largest proportion of female respondents were unemployed and amounted to 131 female respondents out of a total of 200 (65.5%). The student profession represented 9 respondents out of a total of 200 (4.5%).

8. It was found that 77.0% answered Yes, the economic status of women is one of the aspects that contribute to the process of excluding women in society, which is higher than the 23.0% of those who were answered with No, the economic situation of women is not one of the aspects that contribute to the process of exclusion in society.

9. It was found from the research that 71.0% answered Yes to poverty having a role in the social exclusion of women in society, which is higher than the 29.0% who answered No to the role of poverty in the social exclusion of women In the community.

10. It was found from the research that 90 of the women who were surveyed (45%) answered that submission to male domination was one of the reasons leading to women's poverty and social exclusion. Whereas the interest in reproduction and child care came to 50 respondents (25%). 41 respondents (20.5%) answered that the care and work of the family is done by a housewife and it was one of the reasons leading to women's poverty and exclusion from society. While 19 respondents (9.5%) answered that raising females not to leave for work was one of the reasons leading to women's poverty and exclusion from society.

Recommendations

1. We recommend directing the efforts of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs to reduce the gap for women who suffer from marginalisation in society.

2. We recommend that social welfare departments and institutions take their role by providing remunerative wages for unemployed women.



3. We recommend building and providing suitable housing for widows to get out of their psychological crisis and providing all safety requirements or providing them with facilities for this purpose.

The suggestions

1. Conducting social and anthropological research on the problems facing women and their integration into society.
2. Supporting research and encouraging researchers to continue scientific communication, especially research related to women, and to address the problem of social exclusion.
3. The necessity of conducting lectures through social access channels on creating opportunities for social integration of women with their social environment.

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