

Gender equality in rural Egypt

A comparative study between two villages in Sharkia and Fayoum governorates.

Dr. Ayman Ahmed Mohamed Hussien, Rural sociology teacher, Rural society and Agricultural guidance branch, Faculty of Agriculture, Zagazig University.

Dr. Amany Hamed Ibrahim Hassan, Sociology and Anthropology teacher, Sociology department, Faculty of Arts, Fayoum University.

Research published in the first international scientific conference entitled " Human Sciences in the 21st Century New Horizons, M2 , Fayoum University, 12-13 March 2012

Summary

The current study mainly aimed to explore the level of gender equity between spouses in some indicators in two different sub-cultures at the developmental level in Sharkia and Fayoum Governorates . The study followed the integrated approach in applied research, so it used the social survey method and the anthropological approach. Samples were taken from two different villages, in terms of development levels, with the random stratified surveying, one of them is high (Akiad) in Sharkia governorate, the other one is low (Sinaru) in Fayoum governorate. Two samples were taken from rural families, with the random regular surveying, counting reached 266 families from (Akiad) ,90 family of (Sinaru) . Data were collected from the surveyed wives by, questionnaire of personal interview, during the month of February 2009; Plus, in- depth interviews with five wives in each village, conducted from the beginning of September 2011 until the end of January 2012.

The results show that there is a qualitative gap in favor of the husbands, specially in (Sinaru) than it is in (Akiad), including the level of education, and all forms of participating in making family decisions. For the practical case, and the unemployment rate, the study found a qualitative gap in favor of husbands, specially in (Akiad) than it is in (Sinaru). For the prevalence of discrimination against women, the results of the two villages were similar, in the fields of, marital family, public activity in the village, work, education, respectively. However, the level of discrimination is higher in (Sinaru) than it is in (Akiad). The majority of these results agree with the cases studied in the two villages.

Key words: qualitative justice; gap of the social gender; rural women; Egypt.

