

Afifi, R. A., et al. (2010). "SOCIAL CAPITAL, WOMEN'S AUTONOMY AND SMOKING AMONG MARRIED WOMEN IN LOW-INCOME URBAN NEIGHBORHOODS OF BEIRUT, LEBANON." Womens Health Issues **20**(2): 156-167.

Purpose. We sought to examine the associations between social capital, women's empowerment, and smoking behavior among married women in three low-income neighborhoods in Beirut, Lebanon. Methods. Data from currently married women aged 15 to 59 years in the 2003 Urban Health Study were used. The dependent variable was cigarette smoking. The main independent variables were five social capital items and three women's empowerment indices. Other socioeconomic variables as well as mental distress, happiness, and community of residence were included as covariates. Bivariate associations were conducted on all variables using chi-square tests. Adjusted odds ratios from binary logistic regression models were then modeled on smoking behavior separately for younger and older women. Results. More than one third (35.9%) of married women reported smoking cigarettes. At the bivariate level, a variety of socioeconomic and demographic variables predicted smoking. With respect to social capital, women who lacked trust and were dissatisfied with the number of friends or relatives living nearby were more likely to smoke. As for women's autonomy, high decision making and high mobility were associated with smoking. When analyzed multivariately, social capital items were statistically significant for younger women but not for older women. And the mobility variables were significant for older women but not younger women. Conclusion. Our results support the conclusion that determinants of women's tobacco use are multilayered, and include social capital and women's autonomy. Our results also suggest that younger and older married women may be influenced by differential determinants. Reasons for these differences are explored. Interventions may need to be tailored to each age group separately.

Afiouni, F. (2014). "Women's careers in the Arab Middle East: Understanding institutional constraints to the boundaryless career view." Career Development International **19**(3): 314-336.

Purpose – The purpose of this paper is to examine how women academics from the Arab Middle East enact their careers with reference to double-bounded contexts: academia as an institution encoding organizational career scripts and gender as another institution encoding specific gender roles. It is hoped that this cross-cultural perspective would broaden the understanding of careers beyond the economically advanced industrialized countries and better inform the current debate on the boundaryless career model. Design/methodology/approach – The study is qualitative and exploratory in nature. It draws on one-to-one interviews with 23 female academics in early, mid and late careers, working in research universities in the Arab Middle East region. Findings – The choice of academia as a profession is mainly driven by the subjective perception of an academic career as a calling, the lack of attractiveness of other career options in the region, and the appeal of the flexibility of academic work. Furthermore, the findings highlight both organizational (lack of mentoring and university support) and cultural factors (Islam, patriarchy, and family centrality) that shape/bind women's career choices and patterns allowing thus for a better understanding of local constraints to the boundaryless career view in the Arab Middle East context. Originality/value – The paper contributes to the boundaryless career theory development by addressing one of its major shortcomings, namely the lack of attention to context. It provides fresh insights from the Arab Middle East to the ongoing debate whether careers are boundaryless and subject to individual agency or whether careers are shaped by wider institutional factors and support existing calls in the literature to conceptualize careers at the intersection of several influencing factors. © 2014, © Emerald Group Publishing Limited.

Aghacy, S. (2016). "The Female Suffering Body: Illness and Disability in Modern Arabic Literature." International Journal of Middle East Studies **48**(2): 390-392.

Al Hazzouri, A. Z., et al. (2011). "Gender differences in physical disability among older adults in underprivileged communities in Lebanon." Journal of Aging and Health **23**(2): 367-382.

Objective: To examine the role of health conditions, socioeconomic, and socioenvironmental factors in explaining gender differences in physical disability among older adults. Method: We compared 412 women and 328 men residing in underprivileged communities in Lebanon on their activities of daily living (ADL), instrumental activities of daily living (IADL), and physical tasks (PT). Binary logistic regression analyses adjusting for possible explanatory covariates were conducted sequentially. Results: Women showed higher prevalence rates of ADL, IADL, and PT compared to men. Gender disparities in ADL disability were explained by chronic-disease risk factors and health conditions (OR = 1.46; 95% CI = 0.94-2.25). The odds of disability in IADL and PT remained significantly higher for women compared to men after accounting for all available covariates. Discussion: These results suggest underlying differences in functional status between women and men, yet, may have been influenced by the sensitivity of the measures to the social context and gendered environment surrounding daily activities. © The Author(s) 2011.

Al Thani, M., et al. (2016). "A 'high risk' lifestyle pattern is associated with metabolic syndrome among qatari women of reproductive age: A cross-sectional national study." International Journal of Molecular Sciences **17**(6).

This study investigated the effect of lifestyle patterns, as a combination of diet, physical activity and smoking, on Metabolic Syndrome (MetS) among Qatari women of childbearing age (n = 418), a population group particularly vulnerable to the health sequela of this syndrome. Using data from the National WHO STEPwise survey conducted in Qatar in 2012, Principal Component Factor Analysis was performed to derive lifestyle patterns with survey variables related to the frequency of consumption of 13 foods/food groups, physical activity levels, and smoking status. MetS was diagnosed using ATPIII criteria. Three lifestyle patterns were identified: 'High Risk' pattern, characterized by intakes of fast foods, sweets and sugar sweetened beverages, in addition to lower levels of physical activity and higher smoking prevalence; 'Prudent' pattern, driven mainly by higher intakes of fruits, vegetables, fish, and whole grains; and 'Traditional' pattern which included beans, meat, dairy products, and a low prevalence of smoking. Among these three lifestyle patterns, only the 'High Risk' was associated with MetS, whereby subjects belonging to the third tertile of this pattern's score had 2.5 times the odds of MetS compared to those belonging to the first tertile. The findings of this study demonstrated the synergy among high risk behaviors among Qatari women in increasing the odds of MetS; the latter being a major risk factor for cardiovascular diseases. © 2016 by the authors; licensee MDPI, Basel, Switzerland.

Al-Nsour, M., et al. (2009). "Domestic violence against women in Jordan: Evidence from health clinics." Journal of Family Violence **24**(8): 569-575.

To explore women's attitudes toward intimate partner violence (IPV) and their determinants, as well as to document the prevalence of various types of violence among women attending public health centers in the Balka region, Jordan. A cross-sectional study among ever-married women aged 18-49 who visited the public health clinics in the governorate of Balka, Jordan, was carried out in August 2006. A total of 356 women was successfully interviewed. Descriptive statistics and adjusted odds ratios from logistic regression were used to assess associations between attitudes towards IPV and selected background variables. The vast majority (87%) of women reported different types of IPV against them in the last 12 months. The most common types of reported violence were emotional abuse (47.5%), followed by wife beating (19.6%). Almost one-third of women justified wife beating by husbands. Older age, younger age at marriage, rural residence, and non-working status were significantly associated with supportive attitudes towards wife beating. The study shows a high prevalence of IPV against women during the past year, and a

high rate of justifications for wife beating. Increasing women's empowerment, particularly economic security through work outside the home, may protect women from violent behavior in this context. © Springer Science + Business Media, LLC 2009.

Amyuni, M. T. (1992). "Women in contemporary arabic and francophone fiction." Feminist Issues **12**(2): 3-19.

This essay recreates the female drama in the Arab World as incarnated by a few heroines during key periods of the Arabs' contemporary history, in the belief that art imitates reality and also moulds it, as it is changing and becoming. The essay broadly re-enacts patterns of behavior quite typical of the male-female relationships in the Arab World, as they are constantly changing and becoming. Our story unfolds between that of Amina, Naguib Mahfouz's heroine in his Trilogy and a few Lebanese heroines who have lived the civil war in Beirut (1975-1990) in Emily Nasrallah's fiction. In between, we move from Mahfouz's Egypt, to Tayeb Salih's Sudan, to T.Y. Awwad's Lebanon, to Taher Ben Jelloun's Morocco, and back to Lebanon, making halts during World War I, pre-Nasserite Egypt, post-independent Sudan, the Arab-Israeli War, and the war-torn Lebanon of the last two decades. © 1993 Transaction Publishers.

Andreou, P. (1980). "Co-operatives, women and their respective roles in development-The case of Lebanon." Agricultural Administration **7**(2): 87-96.

The whole concept of integrated rural development includes growth in agricultural production and the creation of marketing institutions and services, more employment opportunities in both farming and non-farming activities in rural areas, fairer distribution of income in favour of the masses of the rural poor and investment in health, education, nutrition, family planning, home economics and the environment in order to improve people's living conditions. Co-operatives can be regarded as the important vehicles of transformation and advancement in the rural economy. The participation of properly trained manpower is a vital consideration in the development process. Women constitute about half of the total population of a country so their status and role need to be emphasised in the development process. According to 1970 estimates, 49% of the total population of Lebanon was female. Of the total number of women, 40% lived in rural areas. No development objectives can, therefore, be properly met without the effective participation of rural women in development activities. In the past, women's participation in co-operatives and community development programmes has been constrained by many factors such as a false perception on the part of women of their role in society, family and political conflicts and lack of government interest in women's issues and programmes. The participation of rural women in national building activities should be enhanced through the co-operative approach-for example, women should be given incentives to form co-operatives of their own, women's programmes should be developed to train the rural women in home economics, health, nutrition and child care. The effective participation of women in such activities will help improve the quality of life in rural communities. © 1980.

Arabi, A., et al. (2010). "Effect of age, gender and calciotropic hormones on the relationship between vitamin D receptor gene polymorphisms and bone mineral density." European Journal of Clinical Nutrition **64**(4): 383-391.

Background/Objectives: Hypovitaminosis D is a major public health problem worldwide and unexpectedly more so in sunny countries. Vitamin D receptor (VDR) gene is associated with inter-individual variance in bone mineral density (BMD). Studies assessing the effect of VDR gene polymorphisms on BMD yielded conflicting results. The aim of this study was to assess the relationship between VDR polymorphisms and BMD in the Lebanese, across age groups and genders and to assess the effect of PTH and lean mass and

vitamin D levels on such relationship. Subjects/Methods: In total, 203 subjects aged 65-85 years and 336 children aged 10-17 years. Polymorphisms in the VDR gene were assessed with the restriction enzymes BsmI, TaqI and Apal. Bone mineral content, BMD and lean mass were measured using Dual-Energy X-ray Absorptiometry (DXA). The dominant hand strength was measured in children. Results: Heterozygote genotype was the most frequent in both age groups. There was no difference in the frequency distribution of genotypes between the young and the elderly. No relationship between VDR genotypes and lean mass was found in either age group. Heterozygote boys had the lowest parathormone (PTH) and heterozygote elderly women had the highest BMD at the spine and forearm. Conclusions: In the Lebanese, the relationship between VDR polymorphisms and BMD differs by age. Survival does not seem to differ by VDR genotype. However, further studies are needed to assess the effect of VDR gene polymorphisms on mortality per se and time to mortality, not evaluated in this study. © 2010 Macmillan Publishers Limited All rights reserved.

Arevian, M., et al. (2004). "Risk factors for coronary artery disease (CAD) in Lebanese-Armenian women." Health Care for Women International **25**(10): 933-949.

Coronary artery disease (CAD) is the leading cause of death among women over 50 years of age. Preventive measures through lifestyle modification and management of CAD risk factors have contributed to a decrease in mortality from heart disease. The purpose of this article is to assess risk factors for CAD among the population of Lebanese-Armenian women, so that appropriate intervention strategies for risk reduction could be planned and implemented. A descriptive study to explore risk factors for CAD was conducted in a convenience sample of 83 women who attended a series of panel discussions about risk factors for CAD. Data collection was done using structured interviews and clinical/laboratory studies. Analysis of data was done using frequency distributions. The results indicated that a significant proportion of the sample manifested risk factors for CAD including age, menopausal status, hypertension, hypercholesterolemia, high levels of low-density lipoproteins (LDL), low levels of high-density lipoproteins (HDL), and being overweight. In addition, hypertension was associated positively with age, total cholesterol, LDL and triglyceride levels, lack of physical activity, propensity to anger, and family history of hypertension. The findings suggest the need for further research and health risk reduction programs.

Arevian, M., et al. (2011). "Beliefs Related to Breast Cancer and Breast Cancer Screening Among Lebanese Armenian Women." Health Care for Women International **32**(11): 972-989.

Our purpose of this article was to investigate women's beliefs about breast cancer, breast cancer screening, and intervention programs. We designed the study using a cross-sectional/descriptive correlation. The participants were drawn from a convenience sample (N = 94). The instrument included Champion's Revised Health Belief Model Scale (CHBMS). Analysis was performed using SPSS (2005), 15.0. More than sixty-four percent (64.8%) of women surveyed were over 41. Results showed that 80.9% of women surveyed had heard of breast self-exams (BSEs), while 76.6% had heard of mammography. However, 53.2% never practiced breast self-examinations, and 79.6% never underwent mammography. Mean belief scores follow: low susceptibility (14.32), barriers to BSE (15.24), barriers to mammography (14.85), high seriousness (23.42), benefits to breast self-examination (22.7), confidence (36.45), health motivation (27.27), and benefits to mammography (24.28). Significant relationships included the relationship between barriers to breast self-examination and whether women had heard about breast self-examinations ( $p = .02$ ); the relationship between susceptibility and whether women had heard of or underwent mammography ( $p = .027$ ); the relationship between confidence and whether women had heard of mammography ( $p = .056$ ); the relationship between confidence and perceived financial status ( $p = .05$ ); and benefits of mammography ( $p = .05$ ). Appropriate interventions are developed.

Arevian, M., et al. (1997). "A survey of knowledge, attitude, and practice of cervical screening among Lebanese/Armenian women." Nursing Outlook **45**(1): 16-22.

What is the impact of educational level and perceived economic status on women's knowledge of, attitudes toward, and practice of cervical screening? A study with a cohort of 290 Lebanese/Armenian women sheds light on this question and suggests ways to promote the use of Papanicolaou smear screening.

Arevian, M., et al. (2006). "Raising Awareness and Providing Free Screening Improves Cervical Cancer Screening Among Economically Disadvantaged Lebanese/Armenian Women." Journal of Transcultural Nursing **17**(4): 357-364.

Women need to practice cervical screening regularly to reduce morbidity and mortality. The purpose of this study was to examine the impact of an intervention program on knowledge, attitude, and practice of cervical screening in the population of Lebanese/Armenian women. The design was a cross-sectional, quasi-experimental posttest survey following a yearlong intervention program. The sample included 176 women, who were members of the Armenian Relief Cross in Lebanon. Interventions consisted of educational classes, media messages, and free screening. The instrument was a self-administered questionnaire. Knowledge of women with intervention was higher ( $p > .05$ ) and practice rate increased between intervention and comparison groups. No difference in attitude was noted. The study was successful in raising awareness and increasing screening in the sample. It is recommended to continue helping women to overcome barriers for cervical screening. © 2006, Sage Publications. All rights reserved.

Awwad, J., et al. (2012). "Fever in women may interfere with follicular development during controlled ovarian stimulation." International Journal of Hyperthermia **28**(8): 742-746.

Purpose: This study aims to evaluate the effects of fever on follicular development in women undergoing controlled ovarian stimulation during in vitro fertilisation (IVF) and intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI) cycles. Materials and methods: This was a retrospective observational self-controlled study at a tertiary-care fertility centre. Six gonadotropin stimulation cycles characterised by poor ovarian response in which women reported the occurrence of a febrile illness, were considered for evaluation. Fever-exposed cycles were compared to the next stimulation cycle in the same women. Primary outcome measures were final number of pre-ovulatory follicles ( $\geq 16$  mm) and final peak serum estradiol levels (pg/mL). Other outcome measures were final number of medium-sized follicles (12-15 mm), final mean estradiol serum level per follicle  $\geq 12$  mm (pg/mL), total days of stimulation and total gonadotropin ampoules utilised. Results: Fever-exposed cycles were associated with significantly lower number of pre-ovulatory follicles ( $0.7 \pm 0.8$ ), significantly higher number of medium-size follicles ( $21.0 \pm 4.5$ ), and significantly reduced serum estradiol per follicle  $\geq 12$  mm ( $50.7 \pm 11.7$  pg/mL). They also required a significantly longer duration of ovarian stimulation ( $15.7 \pm 3.3$  days) and a significantly increased number of gonadotropin ampoules ( $47.2 \pm 10.9$ ). Four women had polycystic ovary syndrome and one hypothalamic hypogonadism. Conclusion: This preliminary report suggests a possible negative effect of fever on follicular development and ovarian estradiol production in some women undergoing controlled ovarian stimulation. © 2012 Informa UK Ltd.

Balaa, L. (2014). "Why Insanity Is Not Subversive in Hanan Al-Shaykh's Short Story 'Season of Madness'." Australian Feminist Studies **29**(82): 480-499.

Abstract: Dalya Abudi maintains that in many female Arab texts 'madness serves as a metaphor for female victimisation on the one hand and for female resistance on the other'. This paper contends that the representation of women as insane in Hanan Al-Shaykh's 'Season of Madness' is not subversive. I draw on Camineor-Santangelo's approach to feminist criticism, which argues that a madwoman cannot speak. Camineor-Santangelo explains that madness is complicit with de Lauretis' technologies of gender because it gives the illusion of power but at the same time the mad (non)-subject is located outside any 'sphere where power can be exerted'. I illustrate how in this story female madness is mainly represented as witchcraft and evil, stigma, a female malady, a denied subjectivity, social control, illusional power, self-sabotage and a final surrender. © 2015, © 2015 Taylor & Francis.

Barada, K. A., et al. (2006). "Massive gastric dilatation after a single binge in an anorectic woman." International Journal of Eating Disorders **39**(2): 166-169.

Objective: Massive gastric dilatation is a very serious condition that is extremely rare in patients with no history of gastrointestinal disease. Several cases have been reported in patients with eating disorders, particularly after a binge. We report here the case of a young woman who developed severe gastric dilatation after a single binge. Methods: A computed tomographic (CT) scan of the abdomen was done and a psychiatric evaluation was performed. Results: The diagnosis of acute gastric dilatation was confirmed and superior mesenteric artery syndrome was excluded. The patient responded to nasogastric drainage and bowel rest. She was also found to have situational anxiety and depressive symptoms as well as a nonspecified eating disorder. Conclusion: This case illustrates the serious sequel of even a single binge in any patient with abnormal dietary habits, and demonstrates the useful role of the CT scan in the diagnosis. © 2005 by Wiley Periodicals, Inc.

Barbir, F. (2010). "Challenges in planning and implementing community-based health interventions: Training female community health volunteers with the Bedouin communities in the Bekaa Valley of Lebanon." International Journal of Migration, Health and Social Care**6**(3): 36-41.

Community-based research requires the involvement of both the community and researchers to investigate the influence of existing political, social and structural factors on the health of individuals and communities. In the Bekaa Valley of Lebanon, a community-based intervention is proposed, as part of an EU INCO DEV-funded project that aims to assess reproductive health care among Bedouin in Lebanon and Jordan. This intervention intends to train Bedouin community health volunteers (CHVs) to spread reproductive and child health knowledge and awareness among the Bedouin community and link them to the existing primary health care centres. The challenges facing this intervention relate to the existing political atmosphere and the difficult process of building and maintaining a partnership between the research team and the Bedouin. Evidence from the data-collection phase and the current implementation phase of the Bedouin project has shown that the positive outcomes that result from community-based interventions can be outweighed by the burden of obstacles and challenges that arise. These have to be carefully anticipated and tackled to guarantee a successful intervention. This paper will explore these obstacles and highlight some recommendations for implementing a community-based intervention on the basis of our experience with the Bedouin. © Pier Professional Ltd.

Bastian, B. L. (2017). Empowerment against all odds: Women entrepreneurs in the Middle East and North Africa. Entrepreneurship and Business Innovation in the Middle East, IGI Global: 105-121.

The number of women-owned businesses worldwide has increased significantly, a development that extends to other parts of the world, such as the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). This region's cultural and socioeconomic idiosyncrasies offer unique perspectives on women entrepreneurship. This article provides a critical overview over the situation of female entrepreneurship in the region, which takes into consideration challenges and opportunities on the level of the individual entrepreneurs, as well as on the macro environmental level. We finally discuss constructive solutions in order to increase the number of women business founders. © 2017 by IGI Global.

Bastian, B. L. and M. R. Zali (2016). "Entrepreneurial motives and their antecedents of men and women in North Africa and the Middle East." Gender in Management **31**(7): 456-478.

**Purpose** - This study aims to investigate how educational attainment and entrepreneurial competencies affect entrepreneurial motives of women (vs men) in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). This study shows that education has a more positive effect on women's entrepreneurial motives compared with men. On the other hand, there is a greater positive effect of competencies on men's motives. Moreover, the moderating effects of culture are compared. The results of the multiple regression analysis show that, within the MENA region, the cultural value of self-expressionism engenders increased opportunity-motivated entrepreneurship by men. Yet, it has no significant effect on women's entrepreneurial motives.

**Design/methodology/approach** - This study analyses survey data using multiple regression analysis, relationship between independent variables, educational attainment and entrepreneurial competencies, as well as culture, and the dependent variable, entrepreneurial motivation. The present study focuses on data records concerning 13 MENA countries, notably, Algeria, Egypt, Iran, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates and Yemen. The sample includes early-stage and established female entrepreneurs, a total of 1,551 respondents, for all countries for the entire period.

**Findings** - Entrepreneurs with higher levels of education and competencies are more likely to exploit market opportunities. However, effects from educational attainments and competencies are significantly stronger for men. Moreover, the increasing introduction of liberal or post-modern values in MENA societies has significant effects on men but no effect on women, suggesting that men tend to benefit much more than women in the Arab world with regards to their entrepreneurial behaviour.

**Originality/value** - The study is one of the few attempts to clarify the relationship between individual factors, here represented by education and competencies, and environmental factors, here represented by culture (post-modern values) and entrepreneurial motivation. Moreover, it addresses the MENA region, which is a politically and economically important and challenging environment, and which, to date, has received relatively little attention in entrepreneurship research.

Baytiyeh, H. (2012). Women engineers in the Middle East from enrollment to career: A case study. 119th ASEE Annual Conference and Exposition, San Antonio, TX.

This study investigates the status of women engineers in Lebanon as a case study in the Middle East region. Through this study, the author investigated the following questions: What are the motives behind females decisions to choose engineering major? What are the difficulties that female engineers have encountered in their transition from university to workplace? And what are the perceptions of female regarding the essential skills for a successful engineering career? An online survey with Likert-scaled items was completed by 327 female engineers graduated from different universities in Lebanon and working in different locations around the world. The professional growth including job satisfaction that improves the level of women's creativity in a challenging environment was the leading motivator for choosing engineering. Three challenges facing female engineering graduates were revealed: communication, responsibility, and self-confidence. Participants reported that they possessed adequate theoretical

knowledge and technical skills before graduation. However, weaknesses in creativity and innovation were found when practicing the engineering career. © 2012 American Society for Engineering Education.

Baytiyeh, H. (2013). "Are women engineers in Lebanon prepared for the challenges of an engineering profession?" European Journal of Engineering Education **38**(4): 394-407.

This study investigates the status of women engineers in the Middle East, considering women engineers in Lebanon as a case study. The author investigated the following questions: What are the influences behind females' decisions to choose engineering as their major course of study? What are the motives behind this decision? What are the perceptions of females regarding the essential skills for a successful engineering career? An online survey consisting of Likert-scale items was completed by 327 female engineers who graduated from universities in Lebanon and now work in various locations around the world. A genuine interest in the field appeared to be the main influence in the participants' decisions to choose engineering profession. The potential for professional growth was the leading motivator for choosing engineering. Although participants reported that they possessed adequate theoretical knowledge and technical skills before graduation, in the actual practice of engineering, they noted weaknesses in creativity and innovation. [ABSTRACT FROM AUTHOR]

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Bott, S. and C. M. Obermeyer (2013). "The social and gender context of HIV disclosure in sub-Saharan Africa: A review of policies and practices." Sahara J **10**(SUPPL.1): s5-s16.

This paper reviews the legal and policy context of HIV disclosure in sub-Saharan Africa, as well as what is known about rates, consequences and social context of disclosure, with special attention to gender issues and the role of health services. Persistent rates of nondisclosure by those diagnosed with HIV raise difficult ethical, public health and human rights questions about how to protect the medical confidentiality, health and well-being of people living with HIV on the one hand, and how to protect partners and children from HIV transmission on the other. Both globally and within the sub-Saharan African region, a spate of recent laws, policies and programmes have tried to encourage or - in some cases - mandate HIV disclosure. These policies have generated ethical and policy debates. While there is consensus that the criminalization of transmission and nondisclosure undermines rights while serving little public health benefit, there is less clarity about the ethics of third party notification, especially in resource-constrained settings. Despite initiatives to encourage voluntary HIV disclosure and to increase partner testing in sub-Saharan Africa, health workers continue to grapple with difficult challenges in the face of nondisclosure, and often express a need for more guidance and support in this area. A large body of research indicates that gender issues are key to HIV disclosure in the region, and must be considered within policies and programmes. Taken as a whole, this evidence suggests a need for more attention to the challenges and dilemmas faced by both clients and providers in relation to HIV disclosure in this region and for continued efforts to consider the perspectives and rights of all those affected. © 2013 Copyright Taylor and Francis Group, LLC.

Chaaya, M., et al. (2004). "Knowledge, attitudes, and practices of argileh (water pipe or hubble-bubble) and cigarette smoking among pregnant women in Lebanon." Addictive Behaviors **29**(9): 1821-1831.

Background: Currently, little is known about argileh (water pipe or hubble-bubble) and cigarette smoking among pregnant women in the Arab world, despite emerging evidence on the adverse health effects of argileh smoking and well-established knowledge about the health risks of cigarette smoking during pregnancy. Objectives: The present study assesses pregnant Arab women's knowledge of chemical contents and related harmful effects of argileh and cigarettes, their attitudes towards smoking argileh and cigarettes, and their actual smoking of argileh and cigarettes, both before and during pregnancy. Methods: A stratified sample of 864 women from 23 health care centers in Lebanon completed a structured, interviewer-administered questionnaire. Information was collected on basic demographic variables, women's knowledge, attitudes, and cigarette and argileh smoking. Results: Women were partially knowledgeable about the health risks of cigarette smoking, knew little about the harmful ingredients of argileh smoking, and had many misconceptions regarding how argileh worked or how it can produce harm. Attitudes were permissive towards all forms of smoking. Almost one quarter (23%) of participants reported smoking during pregnancy, with 17% smoking only cigarettes, 4% smoking only argileh, and 1.5% smoking both cigarette and argileh. Conclusion: A significant and growing percentage of pregnant Arab women are smoking in Lebanon, with four cigarette smokers for every argileh smoker. Smoking behaviors are empirically linked with important gaps in knowledge and with permissive attitudes. These data may be used to design more effective prevention programs targeting this vulnerable population. © 2004 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

Chaaya, M. M., et al. (2003). "The association of gynecological symptoms with psychological distress in women of reproductive age: A survey from gynecology clinics in Beirut, Lebanon." Journal of Psychosomatic Obstetrics and Gynecology **24**(3): 175-184.

To date there has been no previous research into a possible association between psychological distress and gynecologic symptoms in the Arab world. We hypothesized that psychological distress would be associated with specific gynecologic complaints as well as with psychosocial factors. We conducted a cross-sectional study of women attending gynecology clinics in Beirut, Lebanon. The study sample consisted of 355 women aged 18 to 49 years who were seeking healthcare from gynecologists affiliated with two general teaching hospitals in Beirut. Psychological distress was assessed using the General Health Questionnaire (GHQ). Gynecologic complaints were assessed by asking women about presenting gynecologic symptoms. Women who visited the gynecologists for specific complaints, for post-surgical follow-up, or for insertion of coils or other services were more likely to be distressed than women who were attending for a general checkup ( $\chi^2 = 9.466, p = 0.024$ ). About 50% of women who reported abdominal pain or breast pain also reported significant psychological distress. Only bleeding and infertility were not significantly associated with psychological distress. It is concluded that a high proportion of women who attend gynecology clinics with specific complaints report psychological distress. Our findings highlight the importance of considering the psychological component of gynecological morbidity.

Chemali, Z. N., et al. (2008). "On Happiness: A Minimalist Perspective on a Complex Neural Circuitry and its Psychosocial Constructs." **9**(4): 489-501.

Chow, E. N. L. (1987). "THE INFLUENCE OF SEX-ROLE IDENTITY AND OCCUPATIONAL ATTAINMENT ON THE PSYCHOLOGICAL WELL-BEING OF ASIAN AMERICAN-WOMEN." Psychology of Women Quarterly **11**(1): 69-81.

Clark, K. A., et al. (2017). "A qualitative analysis of multi-level barriers to HIV testing among women in Lebanon." Culture, Health and Sexuality: 1-15.

While the number of HIV cases in the Middle East and North Africa region is low compared to other regions, recent studies show that incidence is increasing especially among high-risk populations; in particular, little is known about women and HIV in the region. Through semi-structured interviews with sexual healthcare providers and staff at non-governmental organisations, we sought to understand barriers to HIV testing among women in Lebanon. Using snowball sampling, key informants were recruited from greater Beirut (12 physicians, 9 non-governmental organisation staff). Data were analysed using a grounded theory framework. Findings identified barriers to HIV testing among women at each level of an adapted social-ecological model (i.e. social-cultural barriers, policy barriers, interpersonal healthcare provider barriers and intrapersonal barriers). Primary findings include the culture of sex as taboo; lack of sexual health education among women; fear of disclosing HIV testing and diagnosis; financial barriers linked to stigmatising insurance policies; and provider attitudes towards women. Findings can be used to inform HIV-related sexual health interventions at multiple levels for women in Lebanon and the greater region. © 2017 Informa UK Limited, trading as Taylor & Francis Group

DeJong, J. (2013). "Islam and Assisted Reproductive Technologies: Sunni and Shia Perspectives." Journal of Middle East Womens Studies **9**(3): 142-145.

DeVon, H. A. and S. Nouredine (2014). "20 things you didn't know about women and heart disease." Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing **29**(5): 384-385.

El Azar, G. E., et al. (2009). "Effect of women's perceptions and household practices on children's waterborne illness in a low income community." EcoHealth **6**(2): 169-179.

An ecosystem approach to human health was adopted in a community-based study carried out in Bebnine, an underserved town in Lebanon. The objective of the study is to examine the association between women's household practices and diarrhea among children in a setting where contaminated drinking water and intestinal diseases are common. A total of 280 women were randomly selected and interviewed using a structured questionnaire. Data were collected on 712 children between the ages of 6 and 14. The study instrument included determinants of diarrhea such as sociodemographic characteristics, water, sanitation, hygiene practices, gender variables, and behavioral risk factors. Multivariate regression analysis was employed to examine the association between water handling practices and diarrhea. The prevalence of diarrhea is 5%. Female children are more likely to suffer from diarrhea than male children (OR = 2.58; 95% CI: 1.19-5.62). Treatment of drinking water at the household level and the use of drinking water for cooking and the preparation of hot beverages are protective against diarrhea (OR = 0.15; 95% CI: 0.03-0.65). Female caretakers' behaviors such as daily bathing and seeking medical care at times of illness are protective against diarrhea in children. The findings suggest that diarrhea is a gendered health problem. Female children, who are generally more involved in household activities than male children, are at higher risk of suffering from diarrhea. Female caretakers' personal hygiene, household practices, and perceptions of diarrhea are additional risk factors. Intervention activities would be more effective if based on a better understanding of gender roles and household power relations. © 2010 International Association for Ecology and Health.

El Cheikh, N. M. (2002). "In search for the ideal spouse." Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient **45**(2): 179-196.

This paper discusses the material related to marriage in two adab anthologies, namely the 'Uyn al-akhbr of Ibn Qutayba and al- 'Iqd al-fard of Ibn Abd Rabbih. The first part discusses the particular caveats and concerns when dealing with such compilations. The second part details the findings relating to marriage and the attributes of the "ideal spouse." © Koninklijke Brill, Leiden 2002.

El Cheikh, N. M. (2012). "Marriage and Slavery in Early Islam." Journal of Middle East Womens Studies **8**(2): 102-107.

El-Cheikh, N. M. (2004). "The qahramâna in the Abbasid court: Position and functions." Studia Islamica **97**: 41-55.

El-Cheikh, N. M. (2005). "Servants at the gate: Eunuchs at the Court of al-Muqtadir." Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient **48**(2): 234-252.

This paper investigates the eunuch's institution in the court of the Abbasid caliph al-Muqtadir and seeks, first, to delineate the variety of functions that the eunuchs held in the early fourth/tenth century Abbasid court both in the harem and in ceremonial; second, it investigates the careers of the eunuchs Sâfi al-Huramî and Muflih al-Khâdim al-Aswad, exploring their sources of authority and their various networks which allowed them to exercise a high degree of political influence. © 2005 Brill Academic Publishers.

Ghazeeri, G., et al. (2011). "Immunological Differences in Women Compared with Men: Overview and Contributing Factors." American Journal of Reproductive Immunology.

Citation: Ghazeeri G, Abdullah L, Abbas O. Immunological differences in women compared with men: overview and contributing factors. Am J Reprod Immunol 2011 Gender differences in the innate and adaptive immune systems have long been observed in humans. These immunological differences in immune function manifest as diverse susceptibilities to different types of infections and varied risks of developing autoimmune disorders and maybe even, cancers. Several factors contribute to the development of this immunological dimorphism including sex hormones, genetic makeup, environmental causes, and more recently microchimerism. Although the aim behind this sexual immune dimorphism is still unclear, it is tempting to believe that the higher risk of developing autoimmune diseases in women somehow serves the higher evolutionary goal of reproduction and creating new life. © 2011 John Wiley and Sons A/S.

Habib, R. R., et al. (2012). "Hard work at home: musculoskeletal pain among female homemakers." Ergonomics **55**(2): 201-211.

This study explores the relationship between housework and musculoskeletal symptoms among homemakers, adjusting for social, demographic and economic factors. A cross-sectional survey was carried

out on 435 women from Nabaa, a low-income community in Lebanon. In total, 77% of women reported having musculoskeletal pain in the previous 12 months. Both psychosocial and physical factors showed significant associations with musculoskeletal symptoms. Related psychosocial factors included feelings of stress associated with homemaking and homemakers' number of children and self-rated health. The physical factors associated with musculoskeletal pain were feeling fatigued at the end of a housework day, working long hours and working in awkward postures or frequently engaging in repetitive hand movements. Ergonomic stressors were also associated with pain in the back and upper and lower extremities. Women from this community engage in a large number of hours of housework that, alongside other factors, were associated with high prevalence of musculoskeletal pain. Practitioner Summary: This study contributes to the literature by studying women's housework activities in association with musculoskeletal pain. The role of women in homemaking activities is explored together with physical exposures leading to reported symptoms. This study adds a perspective of a Middle Eastern context to the literature of women's musculoskeletal health. © 2012 Taylor and Francis Group, LLC.

Habib, R. R., et al. (2006). "Women's strategies for handling household detergents." Environmental Research **101**(2): 184-194.

Performing household-cleaning chores involves the use of chemical detergents; these are commonly believed to provide cleaner and safer households. Occupational health studies have associated health risks with detergents, including respiratory and skin problems. Women are the major users of household detergents, as they are in general the primary homemakers. Detergent-handling strategies including storage, use, and precautionary measures affect women's exposure to chemical detergents and thus affect their health. Studies investigating the behavioral component of chemical exposure to detergents at the domestic level are scarce. In this study of detergent-handling strategies, women's potential exposure was investigated by an ergonomics methodology combining in-depth interviews and observations. The participants were 28 women who were responsible for cleaning chores in their households. The women lived in Nabaa, a low socioeconomic, religiously and ethnically diverse neighborhood on the outskirts of Beirut, Lebanon. Information on how women in Nabaa used and perceived household detergent, added to the understanding of their potential chemical exposure. All the study subjects washed dishes, cleaned bathrooms, and swept floors on at least a daily basis. We found that more than half of the participants stored different incompatible detergents in close proximity to each other. Many of the women stated that they over-consumed detergents. A large proportion mixed different detergents together but most of them opened the windows while cleaning for ventilation. The majority did not wear gloves and did not follow label directions. The participants were consistently exposed to chemical detergents and minimal precautionary measures were taken. Cleanliness and hygiene had a strong cultural value and were of utmost importance to women who prioritized them over excessive exposure to chemicals. The use of an ergonomics methodology provided access to important information concerning how women make choices that affect their environmental exposure. © 2006 Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Habib, R. R., et al. (2013). "The Association Between Women's Self-Rated Health and Satisfaction with Environmental Services in an Underserved Community in Lebanon." Women & Health **53**(5): 451-467.

This research evaluated the association between women's self-rated health and a number of socioeconomic and environmental health indicators relating to drinking water services in an underserved Lebanese community. A population-based, cross-sectional survey using interviews was adopted to obtain information from female homemakers of 2,223 households in the town of Bebnine, Lebanon. The questionnaire included indicators on self-rated health, satisfaction with water quality, source of drinking water, occurrence of diarrhea, and socioeconomic variables, such as education, occupation, and perceived economic status. Self-rated health was categorized as poor, fair, and good. Odds ratios for poor and fair

compared to good self-rated health values were calculated using multinomial logistic regression. A total of 712 women (32%) reported poor self-rated health. Women who perceived their household income to be worse than others in town were four times as likely to report poor health. Compared to women who were satisfied with drinking water quality, dissatisfied women were 42% more likely to report poor health. Women living in households reporting recent episodes of diarrheal illness had poorer health ratings than those without. The findings suggest a positive relationship between individual perceptions of water quality and self-rated health. Community concerns over their surrounding environment serve as a primary guide for infrastructural development and government policy.

Habib, R. R., et al. (2005). "Musculoskeletal disorders among full-time homemakers in poor communities." Women & Health **42**(2): 1-14.

Objective: To examine factors associated with self-reported musculoskeletal disorders (MSD) among full-time female homemakers. Methods: Data on socio-demographic characteristics, lifestyle and health were collected on 1266 married women aged 15-59 years living in poor suburbs in the outskirts of Beirut, Lebanon. Independent associations with MSD of factors and characteristics were examined using odds ratios (ORs) derived from multiple logistic regression. Results: Women's age, weight, and number of children were significantly, positively, independently associated with self-reported MSD, while women's conduct of specific household tasks were not. Women with MSD were more likely to be stressed than women without MSD (OR = 1.5). Conclusion: A major finding of this study was the positive association between distress and musculoskeletal disorders. The measures used to assess women's involvement in housework did not account for the duration of time spent performing each household task. Better measures of domestic labor, including housework and childcare, are required to understand better their impact on the health of full-time homemakers and on MSD in particular. Intervention programs to alleviate MSD in full-time homemakers should address psychosocial factors.

Habib, R. R. and K. Messing (2012). "Gender, women's work and ergonomics." Ergonomics **55**(2): 129-132.

Habib, R. R., et al. (2006). "Paid work and domestic labor in disadvantaged communities on the outskirts of Beirut, Lebanon." Sex Roles **55**(5-6): 321-329.

This article explored the association between economic activity and the contribution to domestic labor in a Middle Eastern society. Analyses were carried out on cross-sectional survey data from 5,998 individuals, aged between 18 and 64 years, in three poor communities in the suburbs of Beirut, Lebanon. Domestic labor was evaluated with a composite index that takes into account both the type of task performed and the level of involvement. Housework categories included core household chores, care giving, financial management, home management, and home/car maintenance. Results showed that women continue to do most of the domestic labor in the three communities. However, women's load of domestic labor decreased as they joined the labor market, whereas men's contribution to domestic labor increased with involvement in paid work. Relatively speaking, the difference in contribution to housework between house members engaged and not engaged in paid labor was much higher for women than it was for men.

Hajj, M. and U. Panizza (2009). "Religion and education gender gap: Are Muslims different?" Economics of Education Review **28**(3): 337-344.

This paper uses individual-level data and a differences-in-differences estimation strategy to test whether the education gender gap of Muslims is different from that of Christians. In particular, the paper uses data for young Lebanese and shows that, other things equal, girls (both Muslim and Christian) tend to receive more education than boys and that there is no difference between the education gender gap of Muslims and Christians. Therefore, the paper finds no support for the hypothesis that Muslims discriminate against female education. © 2008 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

Hamade, H., et al. (2014). "Breastfeeding knowledge, attitude, perceived behavior, and intention among female undergraduate university students in the Middle East: The case of Lebanon and Syria." Food and Nutrition Bulletin **35**(2): 179-190.

**Background.** The Middle East has one of the lowest rates of exclusive breastfeeding in the world, highlighting the need to promote breastfeeding in this region. Young adults represent a key population of interest, since decisions about infant-feeding appear to be made before children are even conceived. **Objective.** To examine breastfeeding knowledge, attitude, and perceived behavior among female undergraduate students in Lebanon and Syria and determine factors associated with intention to breastfeed in this population. **Methods.** This cross-sectional study was conducted in 2010/11 in Damascus and Beirut. Four universities were selected in each city. A multicomponent questionnaire was administered to a convenience sample of participants (n = 194 from Beirut and n = 199 from Damascus). The questionnaire included breastfeeding knowledge (measured by the Infant Feeding Knowledge Test Form), attitude (lowa Infant Feeding Attitude Scale), perceived behavior (Breastfeeding Behavior Questionnaire), and intention (Infant Feeding Intention Scale). Factors associated with intention to breastfeed were examined by multivariate linear regression analysis. **Results.** The participants had an average breastfeeding knowledge level (mean score, 10.39 ± 2.09) and neutral perceived behavior (mean score, 22.00 ± 3.68), while having relatively positive attitudes (mean score, 58.12 ± 6.49). Knowledge gaps and negative perceptions were identified, particularly linked to breastfeeding in public and among working mothers. Breastfeeding intention was found to be significantly associated with knowledge and attitude in Lebanon ( $\beta = 0.103$  and  $\beta = 0.230$ , respectively), and with perceived behavior in Syria ( $\beta = -0.135$ ). **Conclusions.** By revealing specific knowledge gaps and misconceptions and identifying country-specific disparities in the predictors of the intention to breastfeed, the findings of this study may provide a basis for devising culture-specific interventions aimed at promoting breastfeeding. © 2014, The Nevin Scrimshaw International Nutrition Foundation.

Hamdan, A. L., et al. (2007). "Effect of Fasting on Voice in Women." Journal of Voice **21**(4): 495-501.

**Summary:** Objective/Hypothesis: to study the effect of fasting on voice in women: abstinence from food and water intake between 14 and 18 hours. Study Design: a prospective study on female subjects. Material and Method: A total of 28 female subjects were included in this study. Their age ranged between 21 and 45 years. Subjects with vocal symptoms or vocal fold lesions were excluded. The subjects were tested when they were not fasting and while fasting after the first week of intermittent fasting during Ramadan. Each subject was first asked about her vocal symptoms and the ease of phonation or phonatory effort. Then each underwent acoustic analysis and laryngeal video-endostroboscopy. Results: Vocal fatigue was the most common reported complaint (53.6%) followed by deepening of the voice (21.4%) and harshness (10.2%). Self-reported phonatory effort was significantly affected by fasting (P value < 0.001). Out of the 28 subjects, 23 had an increase in their phonatory effort. Vocal acoustic parameters did not change markedly except for the maximum phonation time, which decreased significantly. Laryngeal video-endostroboscopy did not reveal any significant changes during fasting. All stroboscopic parameters were the same except for a decrease in the amplitude of the mucosal waves in one subject and the presence of a posterior chink in three subjects. Conclusion: Fasting affects voice. There is an increase in the phonatory effort, and vocal fatigue is the most common symptom. © 2007 The Voice Foundation.

Hammoury, N., et al. (2009). "Domestic Violence against Women during Pregnancy: The Case of Palestinian Refugees Attending an Antenatal Clinic in Lebanon." Journal of Womens Health **18**(3): 337-345.

Objectives: To determine the factors associated with domestic violence against pregnant Palestinian refugee women residing in Lebanon and currently using the United Nation Relief and Work Agency's (UNRWA) primary healthcare services. Methods: This was a cross-sectional study conducted at a polyclinic of primary healthcare of the UNRWA in South Lebanon during the years 2005-2006. The sample was 351 pregnant women who were 15-42 years of age and not accompanied by their husbands or relatives. All women were invited by the midwife to participate in the study during their visit to the clinic for their first checkup or during a follow-up visit. The Abuse Assessment Screen instrument was used to screen for past and recent history of physical and emotional abuse among the participants. Results: Domestic violence was significantly associated with education, gestational age, fear of husband or someone else in the house, and unintended pregnancy. The odds of abuse for women with an elementary or lower education were 6.86 (95% CI 1.2-38.1) and for women with an intermediate or secondary education 6.84 (95% CI 1.4-33.3) compared with women with a university education. The odds of abuse during pregnancy for women whose husbands did not desire their pregnancy were 3.80 (95% CI 1.5-9.7) compared with other women. Conclusions: Domestic violence against women in Lebanon was associated with educational level, gestational age, fear of husband or someone else in the house, and unintended pregnancy.

Harb, S. (2012). "Arab American Women's Writing and September 11: Contrapuntality and associative remembering." MELUS **37**(3): 13-41.

Harb, S. (2012). "Between Languages and Selves: Migratory Agency, Fragmentation and Representation in Suheir Hammad's breaking poems." Contemporary Womens Writing **6**(2): 122-139.

For a number of Palestinian-American authors such as Nathalie Handal, Lisa Suhair Majaj, and Naomi Shihab Nye, the configuration of "poetry as homeland" dwells between the unspeakable pain of forced exile and the organic capabilities of language. Their poetry is thus the site of infinite tensions informed not only by this duality but also by their ambiguous location as hyphenated subjects in the United States. Among such authors, Suheir Hammad stands out for her daring, experimental expression of these tensions, which are at the heart of her recent poetry collection, *breaking poems* (2008). This collection speaks to the process of fragmentation of language, identity, and belonging from within as it tests the demarcation line between word and sound, enunciation and silence. Framed by tensions between forms of breaking and acts of verbal reconstruction, my paper explores experimental poetic strategies of confrontation with the legacy of grief, occupation, and silencing in *breaking poems*. To this end, it probes the fluid movement of the poetic self between histories, ethnicities, and languages. Drawing on postcolonial theory, Juan Bruce-Novoa's study of interlingualism, and Michael Dowdy's notion of migratory agency, my paper follows the poetic persona in her wanderings in the labyrinth of the poem-body-word, to achieve a better understanding of her transformative practices aiming at creating interstitial and interlingual spaces. Such spaces, I argue, represent hyphenated interventions into what Hammad calls the "emperor's mission" and language, where the exilic self juggles Arab and American cultural contexts to create cross-cultural poetic and linguistic structures projecting silenced aspects of Arab-American culture.

Hassan, K. E. (2001). "Gender issues in achievement in Lebanon." Social Behavior and Personality **29**(2): 113-124.

This study investigated gender differences in achievement in Lebanon. Data were obtained from the achievement results on the Monitoring Learning Achievement Project administered in Lebanon on 4th elementary and 4th intermediate students. Representative samples of students were tested in five subjects: Arabic, Foreign Language (English or French), Mathematics, Science and Life Skills. Gender differences in achievement in different subjects, content areas and learning outcomes within subject were investigated using chi-square analysis. The results proved to be consistent at both the elementary and intermediate levels. There were significant differences in the languages in favor of the girls. Performance in mathematics and sciences did not prove to be statistically different for boys and girls. However, there were some differences in performance in some content areas and learning outcomes. Girls had an advantage in overall achievement, while performance in life skills was significantly different at the intermediate level only. Cross-cultural comparisons were done, and attempts were made to explain the Lebanese case. © Society for Personality Research (Inc.).

Herd, G., et al. (1991). "ANTHROPOLOGY, SEXUALITY, AND AIDS - INTRODUCTION." Journal of Sex Research **28**(2): 167-169.

Hitti, E. and E. Love (2010). "Pott's puffy tumor in a six-year-old female." Journal of Hospital Medicine **5**(7): E4-E5.

Itani, H., et al. (2011). "United Arab Emirates female entrepreneurs: Motivations and frustrations." Equality, Diversity and Inclusion **30**(5): 409-424.

**Purpose** - This paper seeks to summarize the results of a study assessing the status of United Arab Emirates (UAE) female entrepreneurs and attempts to sketch the pattern of the UAE female entrepreneur. It aims to draw a profile of typical UAE women entrepreneurs and their characteristics, outline the makeup of their entrepreneurial businesses, identify some barriers that women face at the startup stage, and in addition - their entrepreneurial motivations and driving forces, satisfactions and frustrations.

**Design/methodology/approach** - An interview-based qualitative method was used. Structured interviews were conducted with 16 women entrepreneurs over a two-month period. The contents of the interviews were analyzed and recurring themes were identified and highlighted.

**Findings** - The interviewed women seem to experience no conflicts between their entrepreneurial life and their personal, family, social, leisure, and friendship lives. However, although satisfied from being in business, they face some barriers at the startup of their venture, emanating mainly from the lack of support, society and traditions, and personal and family reasons.

**Practical implications** - There is a need to establish an appropriate institutional framework in collaboration with the supporters of UAE women entrepreneurs to identify business opportunities available for women and develop adequate financial and management training.

**Originality/value** - This study opens a window into an area of the world that has seldom been addressed before. © Emerald Group Publishing Limited.

Jabbour, S., et al. (2008). "Cigarette smoking, addiction, and quitting among pregnant women in Lebanon." CVD Prevention and Control **3**(2): 91-97.

**Aim:** Prior studies of smoking among Lebanese pregnant women have not reported on measures of addiction and quitting plans. We aimed to assess measures of cigarette addiction, quitting plans, and behaviors prior to and during pregnancy, and their correlates among current pregnant women in Lebanon.

Design: Pregnant women presenting for prenatal services were interviewed about knowledge, attitudes and practices of cigarette smoking, degree of dependence, and quitting plans and actions. Setting: A stratified sample of 23 primary care centers all over Lebanon. Participants: A total of 864 women. Measurements: Addiction scores, plans for quitting/stay quit, composite scores of knowledge of smoking harm and attitudes towards smoking control. Findings: Of the 192 (22% of the total sample) women who smoked cigarettes prior to pregnancy, 41 (21%) quit due to pregnancy while 151 (79%) continued. Persistent smokers had higher addiction scores and higher self-rated smoking frequency than successful quitters. Although a third of persistent smokers tried to quit prior to pregnancy, only 21% were contemplating to quit now, without clear plans in the majority. Women's attitudes towards smoking control measures, and to a lesser extent knowledge of smoking harm, correlated with prior success, and current interest in quitting. Conclusions: Cigarette smoking among Lebanese pregnant women remains alarmingly high. Few pregnant smokers plan to quit. There are important gaps in attitudes and knowledge towards smoking, which can be exploited to increase interest in quitting. That many women tried to quit previously, but failed, represents missed opportunities for prevention in this population. © 2008 Elsevier B.V. All rights reserved.

Jamali, D. (2009). "Constraints and opportunities facing women entrepreneurs in developing countries: A relational perspective." Gender in Management: An International Journal **24**(4): 232-251.

Purpose – This purpose of the paper to examine the interplay of constraints and opportunities affecting female entrepreneurship in developing countries. The paper integrates salient micro- and macro-level perspectives and provides a rounded account of opportunities and constraints as part of a holistic interdependent system. Design/methodology/approach – The paper adopts an integrative multi-level research design and an interpretive research methodology, capitalizing on in-depth interviews with ten women entrepreneurs to explore their perceptions and interpretations of constraints and opportunities facing female entrepreneurship in the Lebanese context. Findings – The findings presented in this paper clearly illustrate the relevance of micro-, meso-, and macro-level factors in entrepreneurship research and the usefulness of integrating multiple lens and units of analysis to capture the complexity of the women entrepreneurship experience in any particular context. Originality/value – The value added of this research lies in adapting a framework recently popularized in the context of diversity management for use in entrepreneurship research, helping to capture in turn the dynamic interplay of multiple levels of analysis and objective/subjective factors influencing female entrepreneurship. © 2009, Emerald Group Publishing Limited

Jamali, D. and H. Abdallah (2010). "Diversity management rhetoric versus reality: insights from the Lebanese context." Managing Gender Diversity in Asia: A Research Companion: 119-139.

Jamali, D., et al. (2010). "The challenge of moving beyond rhetoric: Paradoxes of diversity management in the Middle East." Equality, Diversity and Inclusion: An International Journal **29**(2): 167-185.

Purpose – The purpose of this paper is to examine the understanding and practice of diversity management in a Middle Eastern context, based on interviews with two sets of stakeholders (Lebanese women managers and HR managers) directly concerned and involved with diversity management efforts in the Lebanese context. Design/methodology/approach – The paper adopts an integrative multi-level research design and an interpretive research methodology, capitalizing on in-depth interviews with eight HR managers and 18 women managers to explore their perceptions and interpretations of diversity management in the Lebanese context. Findings – The findings presented in this paper clearly illustrate the relevance of micro, meso, and macro level factors in diversity management research and the need to accord

attention to cultural differences and peculiarities of national contexts. Originality/value – The paper offers a critical perspective on diversity management in an unusual context. It makes unequivocally clear that the goals for alleviating specific sources of discrimination need to be locally articulated/defined. Furthermore, the paper questions the laissez faire management approach to diversity and warns against a tendency to ignore serious gender related issues at work as more women enter the workforce in the Middle East. © 2010, Emerald Group Publishing Limited

Jamali, D., et al. (2007). "Corporate governance and women: An empirical study of top and middle women managers in the Lebanese banking sector." Corporate Governance 7(5): 574-585.

Purpose - The purpose of this paper is to look at how recent corporate scandals have translated into heightened interest in understanding various facets of corporate governance, notably the effectiveness of boards of directors and the composition of boards with particular attention to the gender dimension. In this context, the current study gauges the perceptions of Lebanese women managers regarding corporate governance issues pertaining to board effectiveness, roles and responsibilities and the benefits of female representation on boards. Design/methodology/approach - The approach takes the form of a literature review and survey type questionnaire deriving from the literature. The questionnaire was administered to a sample of 61 top and middle level women managers, drawn from the context of 12 different banks in the Lebanese context. Findings - The findings suggest that Lebanese women managers consider current board performance as not being satisfactory, that women are important board member candidates and that the low representation of women on boards in Lebanon is related to glass ceiling type impediments. They also believed that women board representation can reflect positively on the status of women at work and that government intervention is needed to level the playing field for women in management and at the boardroom level. Originality/value - The value added of this research is to gauge Lebanese women's perceptions regarding corporate governance issues and the gender dimension, which is of direct relevance/interest to them. Moreover, these expressed perceptions are compared with what is reported in the literature, suggesting overall congruence between the experiences/perceptions of women in various contexts. © Emerald Group Publishing Limited.

Jamali, D., et al. (2008). "The gender pay gap revisited: Insights from a developing country context." Gender in Management: An International Journal 23(4): 230-246.

Purpose – While the gender pay gap has received considerable attention, the evidence from developing countries remains scant. The purpose of this paper is to examine the salience of a gender pay gap in a developing country context, through an empirical study of differentials in wages/salaries across gender in the banking, nursing and higher education sectors in Lebanon. Design/methodology/approach – A survey was designed and distributed to a sample of 168 employees drawn from a total of three major banks, five well-known medical centers and two institutions of higher education. The survey questionnaires were supplemented by interviews with three women managers from each sector studied. Findings – The findings suggest that the gender pay gap is only salient in the higher education sector, although male and female employees in all three sectors perceive that there is no gender pay gap and discrimination is considered to be a salient issue only in the educational sector. Although not entirely expected, the findings regarding those wage gap perceptions are explained in relation to the adoption of a grading compensation scheme which can go a long way according to the present research in alleviating feelings of inequity as well as prevailing cultural expectations regarding gender earnings differentials in a relatively conservative society. Originality/value – The value added of this research is to present fresh insights into the gender pay gap from a peculiar Middle Eastern context and to highlight the importance of a fair and equitable compensation scheme in alleviating perceptions of inequity and discrimination at work. The paper also directs attention to

the influence of cultural expectations, which invariably mold greater or lesser sensitivity to gender pay gaps.  
© 2008, Emerald Group Publishing Limited

Jamali, D., et al. (2005). "Constraints facing working women in Lebanon: An insider view." Women in Management Review **20**(8): 581-594.

Purpose - The ascendancy of women to top management positions is a perennial problem plaguing organizations worldwide. The purpose of this paper is to present some insights relating to this pervasive phenomenon from a Middle Eastern context by exploring the constraints reported by Lebanese women managers throughout their careers. Design/methodology/approach - Literature review and qualitative research methodology consisting of interviews with 62 Lebanese women managers in different fields of occupation. Findings - The findings suggest that the constraints reported by Lebanese women managers are similar to those reported worldwide. The main differences revolve around the strongly felt salience of cultural values and expectations constraining women to traditional roles and a more accentuated sense of patriarchy. Originality/value - The value added of this research is to present an insider view and fresh perspective into career constraints facing women from a non-traditional context, namely Lebanon. In view of the Western-centric nature of academic publication on the topic, there is a real need and added value in empirical research stemming from an Arab-Middle Eastern context. © Emerald Group Publishing Limited.

Joseph, S. (2012). "THINKING INTENTIONALITY ARAB WOMEN'S SUBJECTIVITY AND ITS DISCONTENTS." Journal of Middle East Womens Studies **8**(2): 1-25.

Thus far, scholarship on subjectivity, relevant to Arab men as well as women, skirts the key issue of "intentionality." Feminist scholars often conflate agency and intentionality. Agency, as it is approached, is attached to the subject in the aftermath of observing actions. Intentionality invites a probe into before and during actions. The two main approaches to intentionality in psychology are "drive" theory and "relational-models." First, I briefly consider drive theory. Second, I examine relational concepts from the field of psychology, by way of a query, ending with a discussion of Kenneth J. Gergen's *Relational Being: Beyond Self and Community* (Oxford University Press, 2009). Third, I review some of the standing tropes through which Arab women as subjects are viewed. Fourth, I explore what these inquiries could mean for the study of Arab women's subjectivity and intentionality. Finally, I gesture toward questions on methodologies and languages.

Jureidini, R. and N. Moukarbel (2004). "Female Sri Lankan domestic workers in Lebanon: A case of 'contract slavery'?" Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies **30**(4): 581-607.

Since the early 1990s, there has been a large influx of Sri Lankan women into Lebanon, serving primarily as domestic labour in private households. The Sri Lankan government, as with other countries, has actively encouraged the 'export' of domestic labour as it has become the largest single source of foreign revenue for the country. As part of the feminisation of international migration and trafficking in human labour, both the employment relations and social status of these women leave them extremely vulnerable to exploitation and abuse. It is argued in this paper that most Sri Lankan domestic workers fall under the category of 'contract slavery' given the legal and employment conditions which they face. The analysis of 70 interviews with Sri Lankan women in Lebanon reveals their living conditions, how they are treated by their employers, and how the legal and administrative arrangements of these workers have facilitated the poor conditions and entrapment which many encounter. © 2004 Taylor and Francis Ltd.

Kabakian, H. A., et al. (1976). "Asymmetry of the pelvic ureters in normal females." American Journal of Roentgenology **127**(5): 723-727.

A total of 65 cases showing asymmetry of the pelvic ureters of greater than 1.4 cm for which no cause could be identified are presented. Only one was a male. The right ureter was situated more medially in 61 of the 64 females. Comparison of the characteristics of these patients with 51 females with symmetrical pelvic ureters revealed no differences except for a significantly more frequent left-sided position of the uterus in the asymmetrical group. Gross medial displacement of the right ureter in a female probably represents a normal variant in a large majority of patients.

Kabakian-Khasholian, T., et al. (2000). "Women's experiences of maternity care: Satisfaction or passivity?" Social Science and Medicine **51**(1): 103-113.

This study is a first attempt to describe Lebanese women's responses to the medical management of their pregnancy and delivery. A qualitative approach in data collection and analysis was adopted to gain an in-depth view of women's perceptions. Women of any parity undergoing a normal vaginal delivery during the three months preceding the interview were interviewed in different areas in Lebanon: one urban, one semi-rural and two remote rural. Childbirth for all the women interviewed was managed within the medical system. Findings show that women accord total trust to their physicians, and very rarely question the usefulness of many routinely applied procedures, even those which the literature shows are unnecessary. When probed, women report that many aspects of the technical care are intimidating and that they experience discomfort with these procedures. Women are more vocal about patient-provider communication and value good interaction with their provider. The extent of passivity and feelings of discontent women have varies according to their social class and the amount of psychosocial support they receive throughout the process of childbirth. Copyright (C) 2000 Elsevier Science Ltd.

Kabakian-Khasholian, T., et al. (2006). "What is Happening During the Postnatal Visit?" Health Care for Women International **27**(9): 839-847.

The authors' purpose in this study is to describe attendance, timing, and content of the postnatal visit in three communities in Lebanon. Data are collected with a household survey in three economically disadvantaged suburbs of Beirut, Lebanon. The sample was chosen using probability proportional to size sampling design. About half of the women attended their postnatal visit. Timing of the visit and the services provided varied tremendously. Underutilization and major deficiencies in the quality of postnatal services exist. Raising providers' and women's awareness about the postnatal period and focusing on women's postnatal psychosocial needs can improve the quality of maternity services. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2016 APA, all rights reserved)

Kabakian-Khasholian, T., et al. (2013). "Seeking Maternal Care at Times of Conflict: The Case of Lebanon." Health Care for Women International **34**(5): 352-362.

Providing quality maternity care within the emergency care packages for internally displaced populations in war-affected areas is somewhat challenging, although very essential. In this retrospective study, we describe the experiences and health care seeking behaviors of 1,015 pregnant and postpartum

women during the 2006 war in Lebanon. Women reported interruptions in regular maternity care and experienced more complications during this period. Availability of health services and experiences of complications were the most important determinants of health care seeking behaviors. Maternal health services should be a part of any comprehensive emergency responsiveness plan, catering to women's needs in war-affected areas.

Kanaan, M. N. and R. A. Afifi (2010). "Gender differences in determinants of weight-control behaviours among adolescents in Beirut." Public Health Nutrition **13**(1): 71-81.

Objective: To investigate the association between self-esteem, physical activity, engaging in risky behaviours, social and cultural capital, attitudes towards thinness, parental and personal characteristics with weight-control behaviours among adolescents in Beirut, Lebanon. Design A community-based cross-sectional study. A stratified cluster sampling design was used and information gathered by means of a questionnaire. Associations were investigated using multinomial logistic regression, accounting for the survey design. Odds ratios were calculated for trying to lose weight, or trying to gain weight, compared with no weight-control behaviour. Setting The study was conducted in three underprivileged urban areas of Beirut in 2003. Subjects The sample size was 1294 adolescents aged 13-19 years. Results: Determinants of weight-control behaviour among girls included their attitudes towards thinness (OR loss = 4.29, gain = 0.38), dissatisfaction with weight (OR loss = 1.09, gain = 9.63), engaging in physical activity (loss = 2.22), smoking (OR loss 3) and the mother working (OR loss = 2.77). Determinants of weight-control behaviour in boys included their attitudes towards thinness (OR loss = 1.47, gain = 0.35), dissatisfaction with weight (OR loss = 1.56, gain = 1.77), being involved in a cultural activity (gain = 2.51), engaging in a fight (loss = 5.25, gain = 1.64) and engaging in physical activity (loss = 2.56, gain = 2.17). Conclusions: Attitudes towards thinness, weight dissatisfaction and physical activity are common determinants for weight-control among boys and girls, although to varying degrees of influence. Self-esteem, social capital, cultural capital and parental characteristics were not significant predictors when accounting for the other variables.

Kaplan, R. L., et al. (2011). "Husband's Control and Sexual Coercion Within Marriage: Findings From a Population-Based Survey in Egypt." Violence against Women **17**(11): 1465-1479.

This article examined sexual coercion within marriage in Egypt. Using cross-sectional survey data from a representative sample of married Egyptian women (N = 5,240), associations between forced intercourse and husband's control, as well as other relevant sociodemographic factors, were assessed through binary logistic regression models. The lifetime prevalence of forced intercourse was 6.2% and 4.6% during the past year, and husband's control was significantly associated with forced intercourse during a woman's lifetime (odds ratio = 3.5) and past year (odds ratio = 2.8). Interventions addressing gender patriarchy and men's control may decrease incidence of sexual coercion in Egypt and similar contexts.

Karam, C. M. and F. Afioni (2014). "Localizing women's experiences in academia: multilevel factors at play in the Arab Middle East and North Africa." International Journal of Human Resource Management **25**(4): 500-538.

This article explores the localized experiences of women at work in higher education in the under-researched context of the Arab Middle East and North Africa. Our main research questions are: What is the current status of academic women between and across the countries of this region? How can human resources play a developmental role for women at work in academic institutions, as well as for the region in general? We adopt a two-part research method in this study. First, through a critical review of the literature,

we develop a regionally relevant macrolevel hypothetical model to localize a gender perspective on women at work. Second, we engage in a focused empirical examination of publicly available university data to document the: (1) representation of women across ranks; and (2) specific content of pertinent human resource policies. On the basis of these data, we propose a more complete multilevel hypothetical model upon which we put forward a critical discussion and directions for future research on gender, human resource management and regional development more broadly. © 2014 Taylor & Francis.

Karam, C. M., et al. (2013). "Walking a tightrope or navigating a web: Parameters of balance within perceived institutional realities." Womens Studies International Forum **40**: 87-101.

Synopsis This paper leverages Structuration Theory within the greater framework of Institutional Theory to broaden the balance discourse cross-culturally. We argue that the application of the balance concept can be expanded if one allows a move beyond the structure-argument for a bi-polar, equal weighting conceptualization of "work" versus "family", and beyond a process argument focusing on psycho-behavioral components. Instead balance can acknowledge the differences between structure and agency and the interaction between them (i.e., agentic process). Agentic process suggests that women actively seek to address as well as modify a multitude of institutionally mandated and idiosyncratic structures (i.e., roles and responsibilities) through day-to-day behaviors. Ultimately, balance is a matter of the ease of navigation between and across these different types of structure. With a set of qualitative data drawn from three societies within the Arab Middle East, we find preliminary support for an enriched conceptualization of balance readily applicable cross-culturally. (C) 2013 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

Karam, C. M. and D. Jamali (2017). "A Cross-Cultural and Feminist Perspective on CSR in Developing Countries: Uncovering Latent Power Dynamics." Journal of Business Ethics **142**(3): 461-477.

In the current paper, our aim is to explore the latent power dynamics surrounding corporate social responsibility (CSR) in developing countries. To do this, we synthesize an analytic framework that borrows from both cross-cultural management literature (i.e., endogenous versus indigenous research) as well as feminist considerations of power (i.e., power over and power to). We then use the framework to examine three streams of CSR literature. Our analysis uncovers the prevalence of arguments and discussions about indigenous and power-over themes rather than more generative, endogenous, and power-to themes. The paper concludes with the suggestion for more space in the CSR literature for examining the realities and potentialities of local SME CSR expressions to counterbalance the overwhelming focus on MNCs. Such counterbalancing can better lead to the recognition that power and domination are not the only important dynamics to examine in CSR research. Just as important is the need for a more nuanced consideration of the role and contributions of different actors to the continuously unfolding CSR discourse. © 2015, Springer Science+Business Media Dordrecht.

Khalaf, S. (1968). "CORRELATES OF PROSTITUTION - SOME POPULAR ERRORS AND MISCONCEPTIONS." Journal of Sex Research **4**(2): 147-162.

Khalil, J., et al. (2013). "Women and Waterpipe Tobacco Smoking in the Eastern Mediterranean Region: Allure or Offensiveness." Women & Health **53**(1): 100-116.

The prevalence of waterpipe tobacco smoking is increasing worldwide, despite evidence indicating its adverse health effects. Women and young people seem more likely to be choosing waterpipe tobacco smoking over cigarettes. The objective of this qualitative study was to understand better whether and why waterpipe smoking is a more acceptable form of tobacco use than cigarettes for women in the Eastern Mediterranean Region, and to understand whether the strategies used by multi-national corporations to attract women to cigarette smoking were perceived to be relevant in the context of waterpipe tobacco use. Focus groups (n=81) and in-depth interviews (n=38) were conducted with adults in Lebanon, Egypt, Palestine, and Syria. Discussions were thematically analyzed and recurrent themes identified. One of the themes which emerged was the negative image of women smoking waterpipes. Moreover, the sexual allure conveyed through waterpipe smoking as well as waterpipe tobacco smoking as a symbol of emancipation was illustrated. The latter was mainly expressed in Lebanon, in contrast with Egypt where traditional gender roles depict women smoking waterpipes as disrespectful to society. Understanding the social aspects of waterpipe tobacco smoking is crucial to planning future interventions to control waterpipe tobacco smoking among women and in society at large.

Khamis, V. (2014). "Gender responses to psychological distress among Palestinians: Risk and protective factors." British Journal of Psychology **105**(3): 338-351.

This study investigated the extent to which differences in the presence of trauma, political and normative stressors, resources, coping, and hardiness could account for variation in gender responses to psychological distress among Palestinians. Participants were 624 males and females aged 27-56 years. Questionnaires were administered in an interview format with participants at home. Results indicated that female gender has been associated with psychological distress. The females in this study reported feeling distressed by intrafamily strains, whereas males reported feeling distressed by work and family strains as well as losses. Political stressors were more predictive of psychological distress than was the presence of trauma or normative stressors. The sociodemographics had different patterns of relations with psychological distress. Females' education was negatively related to psychological distress, whereas the family income was negatively related to psychological distress in males. No significant differences between males and females were found in their coping responses. However, cognitive and behavioural strategies Family Crisis Oriented Personal Evaluation Scales (F-COPES) seem to combine and had an impact on psychological distress of females only. Also, family hardiness was evidenced to have an influence on perceived psychological distress in both genders. The clinical and policy implications of these conclusions were discussed. © 2013 The British Psychological Society.

Khawaja, M. (2003). "The fertility of Palestinian women in Gaza, the West Bank, Jordan and Lebanon." Population **58**(3): 273-302.

This article presents a largely descriptive account of reproduction among Palestinian populations in four settings: the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, Jordan and Lebanon. Trends and differentials in fertility and contraceptive use are described using high-quality household survey data. Comparisons are made between the refugee and non-refugee populations. Issues related to family reproduction among Palestinian refugees are of particular policy concern because the demographic future of the Palestinians is largely determined by fertility. The findings show that refugee status can no longer be considered a fundamental distinguishing feature of Palestinian reproductive behaviour. On the one hand, variations in fertility-related indicators across countries far exceed those between refugees and non-refugees within the same setting. On the other hand, the refugee population has become more differentiated over the years, with those residing outside the camps generally having a different reproductive behaviour from their counterparts in camps. Thus, the camp versus non-camp distinctions are still relevant everywhere, notwithstanding the legal or circumstantial situation of the refugees residing in the various settings.

Khawaja, M., et al. (2009). "Symptoms of Reproductive Tract Infections and Mental Distress among Women in Low - Income Urban Neighborhoods of Beirut, Lebanon." Journal of Womens Health **18**(10): 1701-1708.

Objective: The aim of this study was to examine the association between symptoms of reproductive tract infections (RTIs) and mental distress among women residing in three low-income urban neighborhoods in Greater Beirut. Methods: A cross-sectional survey of currently married women aged 15-49 years (n=1506) from the 2003 Urban Health Study was undertaken. The dependent variables were complaining of vaginal discharge, pelvic pain, and pain during intercourse. The main independent variable was mental distress, measured using the General Health Questionnaire-12 (GHQ). Other variables included decision-making power, "comfort" with husband, age, education, income, household wealth, employment, community of residence, displacement by war, presence of chronic disease, reported reproductive health problem, membership in any group, receipt of favor last month, and smoking. Analysis was conducted using logistic regression models on the complaint of any symptom of RTIs and on individual complaints. Results: Forty-two percent of the interviewed women reported at least one symptom of RTIs. Vaginal discharge was the most commonly reported symptom, with 33% of currently married women complaining from it. Mental distress was significantly associated with any reported RTI symptom (odds ratio [OR]=1.41; 95% confidence interval [CI]=1.09-1.83), pelvic pain (OR=2.38; CI=1.71-3.30), vaginal discharge (OR=1.35; CI=1.03-1.77), and pain during intercourse (OR=2.37; CI=1.66-3.40) after adjusting for demographic, socioeconomic, and health risk factors. Conclusions: A significant association between mental distress and reported RTI symptoms was established by this study. A new approach to gynecological morbidity is needed, one that integrates biomedical and psychosocial factors into a unified framework.

Khawaja, M., et al. (2008). "Attitudes of men and women towards wife beating: Findings from Palestinian refugee camps in Jordan." Journal of Family Violence **23**(3): 211-218.

The aim of this study is to investigate the factors associated with the acceptance of wife beating among currently married men and women living in disadvantaged Palestinian refugee camps in Jordan. The study uses data from a cross-sectional survey of 3,100 households from 12 refugee camps, conducted in 1999, with a sub-sample of 395 married women and men selected for this analysis. Associations between acceptance of wife beating and experience of abuse as well as other risk factors are assessed for men and women separately, using  $\chi^2$  tests and odds ratios from binary logistic regression models. The majority of men (60.1%) and women (61.8%) believe that wife beating is justified in at least one of the eight hypothetical marital situations presented to them. Among women, those that had been victims of intimate partner violence are significantly more likely to report acceptance of wife beating. Among men, acceptance of wife beating is also significantly associated with their current age, labor force participation, their view on women's autonomy, and their own history as perpetrators of IPV. The majority of respondents justify wife beating in this context, with essentially no difference between men and women. Acceptance of wife beating by both men and women was strongly associated with previous experiences of wife beating adjusting for other risk factors. © 2007 Springer Science+Business Media, LLC.

Khishfe, R. and S. BouJaoude (2016). "LEBANESE STUDENTS' CONCEPTIONS OF AND ATTITUDES TOWARDS SCIENCE AND RELATED CAREERS BASED ON THEIR GENDER AND RELIGIOUS AFFILIATIONS." International Journal of Science and Mathematics Education **14**: 145-167.

Students' attitudes and conceptions seem to be influenced by social/cultural contexts and interactions with other students from diverse backgrounds. Therefore, educators need to study attitudes,

conceptions, and career choices in relation to diversity indicators. Such was one focus of the Science Education for Diversity project, which involved collaboration among UK, The Netherlands, Turkey, Lebanon, India, and Malaysia. The purpose of this component of the project was to investigate Lebanese students' attitudes, conceptions, and career choices in relation to gender and religion. The 1,260 Grade 4 to 8 participants, who came from co-educational private and public schools, purposefully selected to include different religions, filled out a questionnaire designed specifically for the Project. Results from the Lebanon data showed that students generally had positive attitudes towards science. They seemed to identify only things they study about in school as "science" with some gender differences but no differences based on religion. Students seemed to be worried about environmental socioscientific issues. About 40 % of students believed that God created all life and that their families believed that too, with significant differences by gender and religion. Finally, the greater majority stated that they would like a job that ensures recognition and respect. Implications related to maintaining students' interest in science and science-related careers were discussed. © 2014, Ministry of Science and Technology, Taiwan.

Kiwan, D. (2015). "Contesting citizenship in the arab revolutions: Youth, women, and refugees." Democracy and Security **11**(2): 129-144.

Focusing on youth, women, and refugees in the context of the ongoing Arab revolutions, this article explores how constructions of citizenship are being challenged. More than 40 percent of the population in the Arab world is under the age of eighteen, and youth are expressing a strong civic motivation and agency for change. Second, with regard to women's participation in the Arab revolutions, while highly visible on the Arab streets, to date they have been largely excluded from participating in subsequent more formal political processes. Third, the ensuing large refugee populations in the Arab world further challenge understandings of citizenship. This article proposes that exploring the role of youth, women, and refugees in contesting citizenship in the ongoing revolutions of the Arab world challenges not only conceptions of citizenship in the Arab world but also how we understand conceptions of civil society. © 2015 Taylor & Francis Group, LLC.

Kobeissi, L., et al. (2011). "Evaluating a community based participatory approach to research with disadvantaged women in the southern suburbs of Beirut." Journal of Community Health **36**(5): 741-747.

This manuscript presents the evaluation of a 3 year community-based participatory research (CBPR) approach involving the testing of a psychosocial intervention to improve reproductive and mental health of married women in a disadvantaged community in Beirut, Lebanon. The community-based participatory approach involved a community advisory committee (CAC), a local women committee (LWC), and university researchers. The evaluation of the CBPR approach followed qualitative assessment which included: analysis of compiled field notes and minutes of meetings of CAC and LWC throughout the 3 years of the intervention, and focus group discussions and individual interviews conducted with the CAC and the LWC members following completion of the trial. The CBPR approach confirmed feasibility, cultural adequacy, as well as representation of community needs. Five main emerging themes came out of the FGD and interviews with CAC and LWC. The community and women involved viewed that the CBPR approach allowed for a good understanding of the community, they felt ownership of the study, acknowledged that participation gave the women voices, and established trust, and acknowledged the challenges faced. This manuscript describes how the community was involved, reports on their evaluation of the CBPR process, and discusses challenges to CBPR in this particular context. © Springer Science+Business Media, LLC 2011.

Kulwicksi, A., et al. (2010). "Barriers in the Utilization of Domestic Violence Services Among Arab Immigrant Women: Perceptions of Professionals, Service Providers & Community Leaders." Journal of Family Violence **25**(8): 727-735.

Ten focus group discussions were conducted with Arab American community leaders who had experience with victims of violence in the Arab American population and issues related to domestic violence. Community leaders were selected from an array of backgrounds, ranging from health and human service providers, legal and law enforcement service providers, religious and grass roots community organizations. Focus group discussions explored the role of personal resources, family, religion, culture and social support system in the utilization of domestic violence services by Arab immigrants experiencing domestic violence. In addition, issues related to personal, socio-cultural and institutional barriers in domestic violence service utilization were addressed along with identifying culturally competent policy strategies in reducing barriers for service utilization by Arab immigrants experiencing domestic violence. © 2010 Springer Science+Business Media, LLC.

Linos, N. (2009). "Rethinking gender-based violence during war: Is violence against civilian men a problem worth addressing?" Social Science and Medicine **68**(8): 1548-1551.

Gender-based violence during conflict and post-conflict situations has received increased attention in research and in the work of development agencies. Viewed primarily as a form of violence against women, this commentary questions whether male civilians have also been victims of gender-based violence during conflict, invisible due to stereotypes surrounding masculinity and a culturally permissive approach towards violence perpetrated against men, especially at times of war. The experience of civilian males of violence, including sexual violence, during the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina and other contemporary wars, suggests that the discourse on gender-based violence and public health research should begin exploring the specific needs of men. Drawing on Nancy Krieger's (Krieger, N. (2003). *Genders, sexes, and health: what are the connections-and why does it matter?* *International Journal of Epidemiology*, 32, 652-657) analysis on the differential role of 'sex' and 'gender' on a given exposure-outcome association, this commentary suggests that the impact of gender-based violence on health during conflict may be different for men and women and may require distinct therapeutic approaches. Given that perpetrators are often male, an extra level of stigma is added when heterosexual men are sexually violated, which may lead to underreporting and reduced health-service seeking behavior. Further public health research is needed to guide the work of humanitarian agencies working with survivors of gender-based violence in conflict and post-conflict settings to ensure equal access to appropriate health services for men and women. © 2009 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

Linos, N., et al. (2010). "Women's autonomy and support for wife beating: Findings from a population-based survey in Jordan." Violence and Victims **25**(3): 409-419.

The aim of this study is to examine attitudes among married women toward wife beating and to investigate the hypothesis that female individual empowerment is associated with such attitudes within a broader context of societal patriarchy in Jordan. The study uses data from a cross-sectional survey of a representative sample of married women (n = 5,390) conducted in 2002. Associations between acceptance of wife beating and several women's empowerment variables, including decision-making power, as well as other risk factors were assessed, using odds ratios from binary logistic regression models. The key finding is that the vast majority (87.5%) of Jordanian women believe that wife beating is justified in at least one hypothetical scenario, and justification is negatively associated with empowerment variables and some demographic, geographic, and socioeconomic factors. © 2010 Springer Publishing Company.

Linos, N., et al. (2012). "Women's Acceptance of Spousal Abuse in Iraq: Prevalence Rates and the Role of Female Empowerment Characteristics." Journal of Family Violence **27**(7): 625-633.

This study examines the acceptance of spousal abuse among women living in Iraq and tests whether attitudes condoning abuse are associated with low female empowerment. Of 15,875 married women surveyed, 63 % agreed that a husband is justified in beating his wife. Women lacking education were 2.3 times more likely to justify this violence than those with secondary education. Women outside the labor force were 1.4 times more likely than working women to condone this abuse. Attitudes on spousal violence varied by region and rural/urban status. Female empowerment efforts may help combat spousal violence and change social norms condoning this behavior. © 2012 Springer Science+Business Media, LLC.

Mahfouz, R. A. R., et al. (2006). "Homozygous methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase C677T mutation in a woman with spinal cord infarction [3]." European Journal of Neurology **13**(9).

Makoukji, J., et al. (2016). "Gene expression profiling of breast cancer in Lebanese women." Scientific Reports **6**.

Breast cancer is commonest cancer in women worldwide. Elucidation of underlying biology and molecular pathways is necessary for improving therapeutic options and clinical outcomes. Molecular alterations in breast cancer are complex and involve cross-talk between multiple signaling pathways. The aim of this study is to extract a unique mRNA fingerprint of breast cancer in Lebanese women using microarray technologies. Gene-expression profiles of 94 fresh breast tissue samples (84 cancerous/10 non-tumor adjacent samples) were analyzed using GeneChip Human Genome U133 Plus 2.0 arrays. Quantitative real-time PCR was employed to validate candidate genes. Differentially expressed genes between breast cancer and non-tumor tissues were screened. Significant differences in gene expression were established for COL11A1/COL10A1/MMP1/COL6A6/DLK1/S100P/CXCL11/SOX11/LEP/ADIPOQ/OXTR/FOSL1/ACSBG1 and C21orf37. Pathways/diseases representing these genes were retrieved and linked using PANTHER®/Pathway Studio®. Many of the deregulated genes are associated with extracellular matrix, inflammation, angiogenesis, metastasis, differentiation, cell proliferation and tumorigenesis. Characteristics of breast cancers in Lebanese were compared to those of women from Western populations to explain why breast cancer is more aggressive and presents a decade earlier in Lebanese victims. Delineating molecular mechanisms of breast cancer in Lebanese women led to key genes which could serve as potential biomarkers and/or novel drug targets for breast cancer. © 2016 The Author(s).

Mehio-Sibai, A., et al. (2009). "Living arrangements of ever-married older Lebanese women: Is living with married children advantageous?" Journal of Cross-Cultural Gerontology **24**(1): 5-17.

In many Middle Eastern countries including Lebanon, the family as a social institution is greatly valued and local norms regarding family ties and living arrangements are especially important for older adults, in particular older women. While the presence of an adult child is often seen as responsive to the financial, health and social needs of older parents, it is not clear whether co-residence with married children offers a similar advantage as in the case of co-residence with unmarried children. Using data from a national Population and Housing Survey, this study examines associations of co-residence with adult children among ever-married women aged 65 years and older in Lebanon. Results showed a considerable proportion of elderly women who were living alone (18%) at the time of the survey. Co-residence was more frequent with

unmarried than married children, but the gender ratio of the co-residing child varied with the marital status of both the older woman and the child. Moreover, among those co-residing with married children, results indicate a greater likelihood of co-residence with married sons over married daughters. Co-residence with an adult child associated positively with the availability of surviving children and negatively with the socioeconomic status of the woman and her spouse. Compared to other living arrangements, co-residence with a married child entailed the least advantageous Household Socioeconomic Status (HSES) score in terms of housing characteristics, infrastructure, and material possessions, for both married and unmarried women. © Springer Science+Business Media, LLC 2008.

Melki, J. and S. Mallat (2016). Lebanon: Women's struggle for gender equality and harassment-free newsrooms. The Palgrave International Handbook of Women and Journalism, Palgrave Macmillan: 432-448.

Melki, J. P. and S. E. Mallat (2016). "Block Her Entry, Keep Her Down and Push Her Out: Gender discrimination and women journalists in the Arab world." Journalism Studies **17**(1): 57-79.

This study examines why female journalists in an Arab country continue to be marginalized. It hypothesized that a set of interrelated factors, pertaining to gender discrimination, sexual harassment, and the lack of a legally and socially enabling environment, work together to systematically discourage and block women's entry into the news field, push those who made it out of the profession, and keep those who have endured down and siloed in specific roles away from decision-making and policy-setting positions. The study uses a mixed-methods approach, including a survey of 250 Lebanese, Arab and international female journalists working in Lebanon, qualitative interviews with 26 female journalists, as well as analysis of ownership documents and minutes of board meetings. Findings suggest that structural, institutional and cultural obstacles that have faced women for centuries around the globe continue to operate with potent effects in Lebanon, and by extension in the Arab region. © 2014 Taylor & Francis.

Miski, A. M. A. and Z. S. El-Khatib (1985). "Estimation of the desirable body weight of selected Lebanese adult females." Nutrition Research **5**(4): 329-340.

Several anthropometric measurements were taken on a total of 387 healthy Lebanese single females 18-25 years of age, whose heights fell within a range of 153.5-167.4 cm. The selected subjects were neither under- or overweight as judged by overall body appearance. A total of 142 subjects possessing triceps and abdomen skinfold thickness; and mid-thigh circumference values either below or above a certain range set for these three parameters were later excluded from the study. This step was necessary in order to leave, in the final sample, only those subjects with moderate body fat content which met our definition of having desirable body weights. Correlation coefficients ( $r$ ) of selected anthropometric parameters to actual body weight ( $W_t$ ) were calculated for the remaining 245 subjects. The results showed the body frame size (BFS) parameter (the sum of the wrist and ankle circumferences; and shoulders' length) to have the highest correlation ( $r=0.75$ ) followed by body height ( $r=0.70$ ). When individually tested, the parameters making up BFS showed moderate correlations to actual  $W_t$ . A moderate correlation ( $r=0.52$ ) was also reported for mid-arm muscle circumference (MAMC). Results of multiple regression analysis, with actual  $W_t$  as the dependent variable, showed an improvement in the accuracy of estimation of desirable  $W_t$  upon the stepwise addition of BFS and MAMC to  $H_t$ . The outcome of the study was the development of regression equations based on  $H_t$ , BFS and MAMC parameters which can estimate the desirable  $W_t$  of adult females irrespective of their frame size and degree of leanness or obesity, within a standard error of estimate ranging from 2.0-2.2 kg depending on the equation used. © 1985 Pergamon Press Ltd.

Motomura, K., et al. (2017). "Incidence and outcomes of uterine rupture among women with prior caesarean section: WHO Multicountry Survey on Maternal and Newborn Health." Scientific Reports **7**.

Caesarean section (CS) is increasing globally, and women with prior CS are at higher risk of uterine rupture in subsequent pregnancies. However, little is known about the incidence, risk factors, and outcomes of uterine rupture in women with prior CS, especially in developing countries. To investigate this, we conducted a secondary analysis of the World Health Organization Multicountry Survey on Maternal and Newborn Health, which included data on delivery from 359 facilities in 29 countries. The incidence of uterine rupture among women with at least one prior CS was 0.5% (170/37,366), ranging from 0.2% in high-Human Development Index (HDI) countries to 1.0% in low-HDI countries. Factors significantly associated with uterine rupture included giving birth in medium- or low-HDI countries (adjusted odds ratio [AOR] 2.0 and 3.88, respectively), lower maternal educational level ( $\leq 6$  years) (AOR 1.71), spontaneous onset of labour (AOR 1.62), and gestational age at birth  $< 37$  weeks (AOR 3.52). Women with uterine rupture had significantly higher risk of maternal death (AOR 4.45) and perinatal death (AOR 33.34). Women with prior CS, especially in resource-limited settings, are facing higher risk of uterine rupture and subsequent adverse outcomes. Further studies are needed for prevention/management strategies in these settings. © The Author(s) 2017.

Nadia, M. (1997). "Describing the other to get at the self: Byzantine women in Arabic sources (8th-11th Centuries)." Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient **40**(2): 239-250.

Naguib, R. and D. Jamali (2015). "Female entrepreneurship in the UAE: A multi-level integrative lens." Gender in Management **30**(2): 135-161.

Purpose - This paper aims to propose a multi-level integrative research framework anchored in an institutional theory that can successfully capture the multitude of factors affecting the expression of female entrepreneurship in context. Although female entrepreneurship is known to contribute to economic growth and vitality, and to enhance the diversity of employment in any economic system, there is very little research pertaining to female entrepreneurship in the Middle East. The authors use this framework to provide insights into multi-level factors enabling and constraining the experience of female entrepreneurship in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and advance knowledge of female entrepreneurship in a particular Middle Eastern context as well as cross-nationally. Design/methodology/approach - Analytical framework and qualitative research methodology consisting of focus group meetings and interviews with 15 female entrepreneurs and five male partners in the UAE. Findings - Our findings aptly highlight the salience of a complex set of entangled factors lying at multiple levels of analysis in shaping female entrepreneurship in the UAE. Our findings also accentuate the importance of the institutional and social contexts in shaping the situational opportunities and constraints that affect female entrepreneurship and its complex expressions in a particular society. Although our findings document a positive tide of change in favor of female entrepreneurship, they also reveal the persistence of various traces of stereotypes and patriarchy that continue to constrain the free expressions of female entrepreneurship in the UAE. Research limitations/implications - This study contributes empirically by conveying the lived experiences of a sample of women entrepreneurs in the UAE, but the results cannot be generalized given the limited size of the sample investigated. Conceptually, the analytical framework proposed in this paper represents a simplified heuristic tool rather than an explanatory model of the complex dynamics and interplays between different levels of analysis and institutional pressures when examining female entrepreneurship. Originality/value - The value added of this research is to present original insights into female entrepreneurship from a vibrant Middle Eastern context, namely, the UAE, a country that has attracted and witnessed increasing attention in recent years in the context of globalization. In view of the

Western-centric nature of academic publication on the topic, there is a real need for fresh theoretical and empirical insights stemming from an Arab-Middle Eastern context to advance knowledge and scholarship in this area. © Emerald Group Publishing Limited.

Nakkash, R. (2009). "Lebanon: PM sponsors arab women's forum." Tobacco Control **18**(1): 7.

Nassaar, C. S. (2001). "The farquhar and arbuthnot connections in oscar wilde's A Woman of no Importance." Notes and Queries **48**(2): 158-162.

Nassaar, C. S. (2015). "Hidden meanings and the failure of art : Wilde's a woman of no importance." Etudes Anglaises **68**(1): 32-39.

Complexity is the hallmark of Oscar Wilde's mature works. From "Lord Arthur Savile's Crime" through The Picture of Dorian Gray and Salome, there is an incredible amount of complexity wherever we look. When we reach A Woman of No Importance, however, the complexity apparently disappears, and the play is usually read as a conventional Victorian melodrama. A deeper look at the play reveals veiled references to Farquhar, Hawthorne, Arbuthnot and Baudelaire. The references point to a deep hidden meaning in the play. Traced carefully, they reveal Mrs. Arbuthnot as a deeply corrupt woman who is unaware of the dark recesses of evil within herself. Unfortunately, this suppressed undercurrent of meaning is too deeply buried and very difficult to detect, which has led people in general to accept the surface meaning as the true one. The play is thus a stylistic failure, although its veiled thematic content is quite profound.

Nish, J. (2016). Spreadable genres, multiple publics: The pixel project's digital campaigns to stop violence against women. Genre and the Performance of Publics, University Press of Colorado: 239-256.

Noureddine, S., et al. (2008). "Response to signs and symptoms of acute coronary syndrome: Differences between Lebanese men and women." American Journal of Critical Care **17**(1): 26-35.

Background: Signs and symptoms of acute coronary syndromes differ between men and women, but whether men and women respond differently to these indications is not well understood. Such responses influence health outcomes because success of treatment depends on how quickly healthcare is sought. Objective: To explore differences between Lebanese men and women in cognitive, emotional, and behavioral responses to signs and symptoms of acute coronary syndromes. Methods: A convenience sample of 149 men and 63 women with unstable angina or acute myocardial infarction were interviewed within 72 hours of admission to coronary care in a tertiary center by using the Response to Symptoms Questionnaire. Demographic and clinical data were obtained from medical records. Results: Women were older, less educated, and more often widowed than men. More women had hypertension but more men were current smokers. Women had shoulder pain, dyspnea, nausea and vomiting, and palpitations more often than men did. Women's signs and symptoms were rated more severe by the women than men's were by the men. Women were less likely to know signs and symptoms of myocardial infarction than were men and delayed coming to the hospital longer than men did. Delay correlated with the characteristics of the signs and symptoms and not realizing their importance in men and with dyspnea and taking the "wait and see"

approach in women. Conclusion: Factors related to promptness in seeking care for acute coronary syndromes differ between Lebanese men and women. © 2008 by AACN. All rights reserved.

Obeid, O., et al. (2008). "Established and suspected biomarkers of cardiovascular disease (CVD) risk in pre-menopausal Lebanese women." Ecology of Food and Nutrition **47**(3): 298-311.

Cardiovascular disease (CVD) is known to be caused by both environmental and non-environmental factors and the contribution of these factors seems to vary among different populations. Major nutritional biomarkers of CVD in 290 Lebanese pre-menopausal women were assessed. Diabetes, folate, and vitamin B12 deficiencies were rare (below 0.5%) among the subjects. Abnormalities in lipid profile were more common, in which 16.7% of subjects had low HDL-cholesterol. Vitamin B6 deficiency was also present at 14.5%. Low levels of HDL (established biomarker) and vitamin B6 (suspected biomarker) seem to be the major nutritional abnormalities in Lebanese females of childbearing age.

Papazian, T., et al. (2016). "Development, reproducibility and validity of a food frequency questionnaire among pregnant women adherent to the Mediterranean dietary pattern." Clinical Nutrition **35**(6): 1550-1556.

Background & aims Accurate dietary assessment tools are required to ensure that maternal diet supplies all the nutrients needed for fetal development. However, no dietary method could accurately estimate food intake during gestation. Food Frequency Questionnaires (FFQ), frequently used in epidemiological studies, estimate long term nutritional status of the target population. However, it is recommended to create and validate a FFQ compatible with the dietary habits of the studied population, to avoid cultural and social discrepancies. This study aimed to develop and test the reproducibility and the validity of a semi-quantitative FFQ compatible with the diet of Mediterranean and Middle-Eastern population, in a sample of Lebanese pregnant women. Methods 128 women participated in the validation study, while 38 took part in the reproducibility phase, which was repeated in a time frame of 21 days. The FFQ was validated against a 24 h dietary recall (DR). Results The intra class correlation coefficient (ICC) ranged from 0.935 for calcium to 0.984 for vitamin D (p value < 0.001), indicating an excellent reproducibility. A satisfactory agreement between the two dietary tools was demonstrated using Bland–Altman plot and Spearman's and Pearson's correlations coefficients which varied between 0.294 for iron to 0.762 for caloric intake (p value < 0.01). Conclusions The newly developed FFQ englobing Mediterranean food items was culture specific and assessed the nutrient intake of our population. Administering this tool in future researches will help monitor the nutritional status of pregnant women, aiming at improving maternal and newborn health. © 2016 Elsevier Ltd and European Society for Clinical Nutrition and Metabolism

Rebeiz, M. J. and C. Harb (2010). "Perceptions of rape and attitudes toward women in a sample of Lebanese students." Journal of Interpersonal Violence **25**(4): 735-752.

This study investigated values, ambivalent sexism, religiosity, religious differences, gender, and attitudes toward rape victims as predictors of rape myths in a sample of Lebanese students (N = 300). Values of self-transcendence and conservation, gender, hostile sexism, and attitudes toward rape victims emerged as significant predictors of rape myths, confirming some of the premises in the literature. Type of rape (date, marital, acquaintance, and stranger rape) and victim's characteristics (widowed, married, devout, promiscuous, and chaste) were also investigated. Results revealed that no matter what the relationship between the victim and her perpetrator was, and regardless of the victim's characteristics, forcible sexual contact was always considered as rape. However, differences did emerge as to the degree to which these

variations were perceived as rape. Implication of findings for research and the Lebanese culture are discussed. © 2010 The Author(s).

Rustumshehadeh, L. (2004). "Coverture in Lebanon." Feminist Review **76**(1): 83-99.

The principle of coverture in Lebanon is defined and examined through a study of the Christian personal status codes. While these do not necessarily reflect the social status of women, they remain highly discriminatory against women in the legal realm. This is seen as the result of archaic laws, the patriarchal social order, and the strong influence of Islam. No change is seen as possible without an attempt at the unification of all personal status codes and their modification or replacement with a uniform civil law to provide absolute gender equality. © 2004 Feminist Review.

Saab, B. R., et al. (2005). "Psychological distress among marginalized women in the outskirts of Beirut: Determinants and association with health perception." Journal of Urban Health **82**(4): 653-665.

The objective of this study was to determine the prevalence of psychological distress (PD) and its determinants in under-privileged women in the outskirts of Beirut, Lebanon. A cross-sectional survey of 1,869 ever-married women aged 15-59 was carried out. PD levels were determined using the 12-item General Health Questionnaire (Appendix). Health status, living conditions, social support, and physical symptoms as reported by women were recorded. Logistic regression was used to test the independent effect of each variable on PD. 46.6% of women had PD. Psychologically distressed women had more children, less education, lower income, less social support, an uncomfortable relationship with their husband, participated in the labor force and were more likely to reside in a predominantly Moslem community. Reporting a health or living problem were significant predictors of PD. The presence of limb, back and stomach pain, and headache were associated with PD. Compared to similar populations in other countries, our sample had a high prevalence of mental distress. © The Author 2005. Published by Oxford University Press on behalf of the New York Academy of Medicine. All rights reserved.

Saigh, P. A. and F. T. Antoun (1983). "WISC-R incentives and the academic achievement of conduct disordered adolescent females: A validity study." Journal of Clinical Psychology **39**(5): 771-774.

Selected and randomly assigned 51 institutionalized conduct disordered adolescent females to one of three treatment conditions. Ss' responses to a short form of the WISC-R were followed by examiner praise, neutral feedback, or token reinforcement. A series of Pearson product-moment correlations were calculated between the scaled scores of the three treatment groups and their GPAs. The results revealed that the identified subtests, regardless of treatment condition, were poor predictors of achievement. The correlations were discussed in view of the association between the selected subtests and the curricula of the special education classes, observed variations between the WISC-R treatment scores, and the special characteristics of the Ss. Copyright © 1983 Wiley Periodicals, Inc., A Wiley Company

Salem, M. T., et al. (2009). "Using Open-Ended Data to Enrich Survey Results on the Meanings of Self-Rated Health: A Study Among Women in Underprivileged Communities in Beirut, Lebanon." Women & Health **49**(8): 625-641.

This study extends the debate on self-rated health by using different sources of data in the same study to explore the meanings of self-rated health among women who live in socio-economically disadvantaged communities in Beirut, Lebanon. Using data from the Urban Health Study, across-sectional household survey of 1,869 women between 15 and 59 years of age, multiple logistic regression models were developed to assess factors associated with self-rated health. Also, open-ended data was used to analyze women's explanations of their self-rated health ratings. Self-rated health was found to be a complex concept, associated not only with physical health but also with a combination of social, psychological, and behavioral factors. This open-ended analysis revealed new meanings of self-rated health that are often not included in self-rated health epidemiologic research, such as women's experiences with pain and fatigue, as well as exposure to financial stressors and the legacy of wars. We argue that triangulating survey and open-ended data provides a better understanding of the context-specific social and cultural meanings of self-rated health

Saliba, M. and H. Zurayk (2010). "EXPANDING CONCERN FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES The Case of the Eastern Mediterranean Region." *Womens Health Issues* **20**(3): 171-177.

**Background.** Women's health is still largely associated with the notion of reproduction in developing countries despite a more varied disease burden, including noncommunicable conditions resulting from consequences of changing epidemiologic and demographic patterns on women's health. **Methods.** The World Health Organization (WHO) Global Burden of Disease data base is used to derive for the Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMR) cause-specific rates of death and of disability-adjusted life-years (DALYs) by age for adult women, and percent of total deaths and total DALYs for women in the reproductive ages, as related to maternal conditions and to three selected noncommunicable conditions, namely, cardiovascular disease, cancer, and neuropsychiatry conditions. Inequalities by country income category are examined. **Results.** Maternal health conditions still form a substantial component of the disease burden, with an increasing burden of cardiovascular disease and cancer starting in the late reproductive years and beyond. The burden of neuropsychiatric conditions is also high during the reproductive years, reflecting possibly the stress of multiple roles of women as well as stress of war and conflict that permeate the EMR. Women in low- to middle-income countries suffer more from maternal health conditions and less from neuropsychiatry conditions than women in high-income countries. **Conclusion.** The wider disease burden of women should be addressed making use of available reproductive health services taking special account of interactions between reproductive and noncommunicable conditions for better health of women during and beyond reproduction. Better measures of the burden of illness should be developed. There is a special need for improved health information systems in the EMR.

Salti, N. and S. Abdulrahim (2016). "The relationship between relative deprivation and self-rated health among Palestinian women in refugee camps in Lebanon." *SSM - Population Health* **2**: 317-326.

**Background:** Relative deprivation (RD) has been advanced as a theory to explain the relationship between income inequality and health in high-income countries. In this study, we tested the theory in a low-income protracted refugee setting in a middle-income country. **Methods:** Using data from the 2010 Socioeconomic Survey of Palestine Refugees in Lebanon, we examined the relationship between RD and health among a representative sample of Palestinian refugee women (N=1047). Data were gathered utilizing a household questionnaire with information on socio-demographics and an individual-level questionnaire with information on the health of each respondent. We examined self-rated health (SRH) as the main health measure but also checked the sensitivity of our results using self-reported chronic conditions. We used two measures for absolute SES: total household monthly expenditures on non-food goods and services and total household monthly expenditures on non-health goods and services. With refugee camp as a reference group, we measured a household's RD as a household's rank of absolute SES within the reference group,

multiplied by the distance between its absolute SES and the average absolute SES of all households ranked above it. We investigated the robustness of the RD-SRH relationship using these two alternative measures of absolute SES. Results: Our findings show that, controlling for absolute SES and other possible confounders, women report significantly poorer health when they live in households with a higher score on our RD measure (because of either lower relative rank or lower relative SES compared to households better off in the reference group which we take to be the refugee camp). While RD is always significant as a determinant of SRH under a variety of specifications, absolute SES is not consistently significant. These findings persist when we use self-reported chronic conditions as our measure of health instead of SRH, suggesting that the relationship between health and RD may be operating through a psychosocial mechanism. Discussion: Our findings underscore the importance of examining RD under conditions of poverty and in diverse socio-cultural contexts. They also highlight that public health approaches should be concerned with reducing social inequalities in low-income settings in addition to alleviating poverty. © 2016 The Authors.

Sarouphim, K. and M. Chartouny (2017). "Mathematics education in Lebanon: gender differences in attitudes and achievement." Educational Studies in Mathematics **94**(1): 55-68.

The purpose of this study was to investigate gender differences in students' mathematics achievement and in their attitudes toward mathematics. Another purpose was to examine mathematics teachers' beliefs and their perceptions of their male and female students' ability. The sample consisted of 692 students (353 girls, 339 boys) between the ages of 12 and 16 years, enrolled in grades 7-9 at four private schools in Lebanon. Data were collected using the Attitudes Toward Mathematics (ATM) scale (Aiken in *Journal for Research in Mathematics Education*, 5, 67-71, 1974), school records, and interviews with teachers. Results showed no significant gender differences in either achievement or attitudes toward mathematics, thus dispelling the common belief that female students in traditional cultures do not perform well in mathematics and dislike the field. A main effect for grade level was found with ninth graders significantly outperforming their younger counterparts. Also, teachers viewed mathematics as a male domain and attributed boys' success to ability and girls' success to effort. They also interacted with boys more frequently regardless of the nature of the exchange. Implications for future research and for instructional practice are overviewed. [ABSTRACT FROM AUTHOR]

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Sayigh, R. (2015). "Palestinian women resist Israel's prisons." Holy Land Studies **14**(1): 127-132.

Schmitt, D. P., et al. (2003). "Are men universally more dismissing than women? Gender differences in romantic attachment across 62 cultural regions." Personal Relationships **10**(3): 307-331.

Gender differences in the dismissing form of adult romantic attachment were investigated as part of the International Sexuality Description Project - a survey study of 17,804 people from 62 cultural regions. Contrary to research findings previously reported in Western cultures, we found that men were not significantly more dismissing than women across all cultural regions. Gender differences in dismissing romantic attachment were evident in most cultures, but were typically only small to moderate in magnitude.

Looking across cultures, the degree of gender differentiation in dismissing romantic attachment was predictably associated with sociocultural indicators. Generally, these associations supported evolutionary theories of romantic attachment, with smaller gender differences evident in cultures with high-stress and high-fertility reproductive environments. Social role theories of human sexuality received less support in that more progressive sex-role ideologies and national gender equity indexes were not cross-culturally linked as expected to smaller gender differences in dismissing romantic attachment.

Shanklin, W. M. and N. Izzeddin (1937). "Anthropology of the Near East female." American Journal of Physical Anthropology **22**(3): 381-415.

Shehadeh, L. R. (1998). "The legal status of married women in Lebanon." International Journal of Middle East Studies **30**(4): 501-519.

This paper examines the position of married women in the Lebanese legislation both in the Personal Status Code and in the secular or civil law. It will show that although the Lebanese constitution does not discriminate between the sexes, the law does at different levels. What stands out, however, is that this discrimination is aimed mainly at married women. Hence, one is left with the impression that upon marriage, a Lebanese woman forfeits most of her rights as an individual and citizen. Thus, while the Lebanese constitution and civil law treat single women as equal to men in most matters, women are relegated to second-class status in civil law once they are married and become the wards of their husbands. The focus of this study will be the status of married women, since all the legal injunctions of the personal-status codes and most of the secular law deal with them. Marriage emerges as a contract between two unequal parties: the husband, who provides for the material needs of the family and therefore becomes its 'head of state,' and the obedient wife, who provides pleasure, children, and housekeeping. This contract is guaranteed by law.

Shehadeh, L. R. (2011). "IMPACT OF ARMED CONFLICT ON GENDER ROLES IN LEBANON." Gender and Violence in the Middle East **4**: 80-94.

Sibai, A. M., et al. (2007). "Marital status, intergenerational co-residence and cardiovascular and all-cause mortality among middle-aged and older men and women during wartime in Beirut: Gains and liabilities." Social Science and Medicine **64**(1): 64-76.

Studies from the West have shown an increased risk of mortality with various indicators of social isolation. In this study, we examine associations of marital status and intergenerational co-residence with mortality in Lebanon, a country that suffered wars and atrocities for almost 16 years. Using data from a retrospective 10-year follow-up study (1984-1994) among 1567 adults aged 50 years and older in Beirut, cardiovascular disease and all-cause mortality rates (per 1000 person-years) were computed for men and women separately. Age-adjusted Mantel-Haenszel rate ratios (RR) and their 95% confidence intervals (CI) were estimated, and associations were examined using multivariate Poisson regression analysis. Most men (91.3%) were married at baseline, in contrast to only 55.4% of women. Compared to men, women were more likely to be living in one- and three-generation households and with a married child at baseline. While widowhood was associated with an increased risk of all-cause mortality among men only, being never married was associated with a higher CVD mortality risk among men and women. The presence of an adult

married child was associated with a significantly higher mortality risk for men and women, even after adjusting for household socioeconomic indicators, marital status, lifestyle variables or pre-existing health-related conditions (hypertension, cholesterol, and diabetes) at baseline. The popular belief that co-residence with adult children reflects greater support networks and an avenue for old age security may not be a valid presumption in the Lebanese context during times of war. © 2006 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

Sidani, Y. (2005). "Women, work, and Islam in Arab societies." Women in Management Review **20**(7): 498-512.

Purpose - This paper attempts to present varying discourses pertaining to women's work and how it is impacted by interpretations of Islam. Design/methodology/approach - Current discourses from various viewpoints are presented including Muslim scholars on the one hand and active feminists on the other. Personalities are presented as being representative of the debate that has been going on pertaining to women in Arab societies. Findings - Attempts that aim at categorizing Arab thought and activism into two camps, one is religious-based adverse to women's causes, and the other being secular and supportive of their causes does not present a candid depiction of the different forces. Research limitations/implications - Personalities chosen represent specific case studies that, although thought to be representative, cannot realistically reflect all the multitudes of views expressed pertaining to the issues discussed. Future studies may cover other relevant personalities in the region. Practical implications - Developing the status of women in Arab societies requires a major reassessment of Muslim history and traditions. The dialogue and debates going on among religious scholars and feminists should be continuously communicated, discussed and exposed. Readers and managers would benefit from understanding the complexity of issues and diversity of views presented. Originality/value - This paper offers a window into the world of women's work and participation in Arab societies and how such participation is impacted by Islam, or its interpretations thereof. In addition to the English sources, this paper offers an opportunity for the reader to get a glimpse of the debate that has been going on in Arabic (especially when it comes to the little known religious discourse). © Emerald Group Publishing Limited.

Sidani, Y., et al. (2009). "Gender, age, and ethical sensitivity: The case of Lebanese workers." Gender in Management **24**(3): 211-227.

Purpose: The purpose of this paper is to address issues of gender, age, and ethical sensitivity and to address the interplay of gender and age and levels of ethical sensitivity within the Lebanese context. Design/methodology/approach: A structured survey was designed and administered to a sample of Lebanese respondents to test the extent of ethical sensitivity of the respondents. This study used a range of situations and scenarios to identify the levels of both sensitivity to business ethics and awareness of unethical business. Findings: Significant differences were found in ethical sensitivity in only four out of 18 situations where in all cases females were more sensitive than males to issues of ethical nature. When comparing younger to older employees, significant differences were found in six out of the 18 situations. Age of the respondents seemed to better explain some ethical differences among respondents in some situations. Research limitations/implications: The specific context (workers) in which this study was conducted may limit the generalizability of the results. In addition, such studies measure perceptions of business ethics or intentions to act in an ethical or unethical way. This does not necessarily describe the actual behavior that people will be involved in. Practical implications: The findings suggest that males and females ethical orientations tend to get closer to each other as they mature in age. This could be due to workplace socialization. Accordingly, managers are invited to see the impact of workplace culture on ethical beliefs and behaviors. Originality/value: This study contributes in understanding variations in ethical sensitivities across gender and age. There are only few research studies addressing business ethics and gender differences in the Middle East. This study adds to what is known about the effect of these variables on ethical orientations across different contexts. © Emerald Group Publishing Limited.

Sidani, Y. M. (2013). "Gaps in female labor participation and pay equity: The impact of cultural variables." Gender in Management **28**(7): 424-440.

Purpose: This study aims to address gender gaps in labor participation and earned income. The paper assesses the role of education and cultural dimensions in impacting female labor indicators. The paper tests two separate models predicting female labor participation as a percentage of male participation (FPM) and female earned income as a percentage of male earned income (FIM) across 59 nations. Design/methodology/approach: Data were taken from those published by World Bank and International Labor Organization, in addition to the GLOBE study. The paper relies on relationships among such data to assess the hypotheses under investigation. Findings: FPM was explained by institutional collectivism, gender egalitarianism, and education. FIM was explained by gender egalitarianism and institutional collectivism. Contrary to expectations, in-group collectivism was not found to be a predictor in this model. Based on earlier research and this study, the paper presents the "female labor indicators model". Research limitations/implications: More data need to be collected about gender-related attitudes and behaviors from a larger number of countries. There is also a need to collect culture data at the individual level not only at the country level. The model that the paper presents - explaining gaps in female participation and pay - deserves additional research support. Practical implications: There is a need for practitioners to be conscious of hidden forces that work against women who aspire to work despite their high educational levels. Improving women's labor conditions requires a concerted effort from many parties including government and private sector. Originality/value: The link between GLOBE's cultural dimensions and female labor indicators has not been sufficiently addressed in prior research. The paper suggests that explaining deficits in female labor indicators requires looking past economic and demographic variables into institutional and cultural factors. The paper presents a comprehensive model that helps in explaining gender gaps in participation and pay. © Emerald Group Publishing Limited.

Sidani, Y. M. (2016). Working women in arab countries: A case for cautious optimism. Handbook on Well-Being of Working Women, Springer Netherlands: 361-374.

Working women in the Arab world have been suffering from significant problems in their participation and economic/organizational well-being. Statistics point to the fact that the gap between males and females is significant in terms of pay and participation rates. Some cultural and institutional factors that could be responsible –at least partially- for such deficiencies are explored. We argue, however, that there is still room for cautious optimism in relation to the future status of working women. Gradual, though slow, positive changes are indeed happening in Arab contexts. Moreover, a growing discourse within religious circles seems to be more welcoming of fair opportunity and treatment of working women. Changes at the political level (Arab Spring), with their aspiration to secure more freedoms to disadvantaged societal classes, would also help to support women's causes. There is still a danger that if the Arab Spring loses its initial course and old (or new) dictatorships emerge again, this will be a setback, not only for whole societies yearning for greater freedoms, but also for women's rise in Arab societies. © Springer Science+Business Media Dordrecht 2016.

Sidani, Y. M. and Z. T. Al Hakim (2012). "Work-family conflicts and job attitudes of single women: A developing country perspective." International Journal of Human Resource Management **23**(7): 1376-1393.

This study addresses work-family conflicts and job attitudes of white-collar single women and the ensuing work-related attitudes in a developing country context. After an overview of gender roles in Arab

society, several hypotheses were advanced and tested. Although married females reported higher family-work conflicts than single females, the latter group faced a host of strains, which are presented and analyzed. Despite being educated, single females were underpaid and their upward mobility seemed to be significantly hampered. They reported lower job satisfactions and had high intentions to leave their organization. Implications for further research and practice are discussed. © 2012 Copyright Taylor and Francis Group, LLC.

Sidani, Y. M. and T. Feghali (2014). "Female labour participation and pay equity in Arab countries: commonalities and differences." Contemporary Arab Affairs 7(4): 526-543.

While there is a common belief that female labour indicators in Arab countries demonstrate a problematic situation, little is understood about the varieties within countries in that region. This paper attempts to draw a segmentation of the Arab world to show how different countries differ in this regard. It looks at two specific measures: the level of female participation as a percentage of male participation (FPM), and the female earned income to male income (FIM). Statistics from 20 Arab countries generated four clusters in which those countries are classified. Female labour indicators in most countries in the Arab world show similar patterns found in other countries in their stage of development. This confirms earlier research that indicates that women's labour participation decreases as societies move away from agriculture into manufacturing, services and industry. Only four countries are identified as outliers whose labour indicators can be understood within the context of the cultural values that dominate. The implications are discussed and individual research on female labour within each Arab country is invited. © 2014, © 2014 The Centre for Arab Unity Studies.

Sidani, Y. M., et al. (2015). "From female leadership advantage to female leadership deficit." Career Development International 20(3): 273-292.

Purpose – This paper takes an institutional approach to identify cognitive, normative, and regulatory factors affecting women's business leadership in an under-studied traditional society. The purpose of this paper is to assess how such forces work to create a case of female leadership deficit (FLD) in Lebanon. Design/methodology/approach – The authors analyze interview data to identify themes linking women's leadership with societal institutional forces. The qualitative analysis provides an understanding at the societal level of analysis which is only partially tempered through organizational structures. Findings – Misalignments among cognitive, normative, and regulative pillars inhibit real change. Organizational structures are not highly salient as the most important factors affecting women's leadership. Rather, patriarchal structures, explicit favoring of males over females, and assignment of women to nurturing roles within the private sphere of the family are the major limiting factors impeding women's ascension to leadership. Research limitations/implications – A promise of the institutional approach is enhancing the capacity to make meaningful comparisons between societies. This opens the door to uncovering whether documentable changes in regulations, cognitions, values, and norms regarding women in business leadership, will lead to observable changes in the size of FLD. Originality/value – This study presents a case of institutional pluralism where a positive force in one direction (regulatory) is sometimes opposed by other forces (cognitive and normative) limiting meaningful change. This study helps to explain why societies differ in the size of the FLD and to identify factors that predict within societal changes in the size of this deficit over time. [ABSTRACT FROM AUTHOR]

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Sidani, Y. M., et al. (2015). "From female leadership advantage to female leadership deficit: A developing country perspective." Career Development International **20**(3): 273-292.

Purpose – This paper takes an institutional approach to identify cognitive, normative, and regulatory factors affecting women's business leadership in an under-studied traditional society. The purpose of this paper is to assess how such forces work to create a case of female leadership deficit (FLD) in Lebanon. Design/methodology/approach – The authors analyze interview data to identify themes linking women's leadership with societal institutional forces. The qualitative analysis provides an understanding at the societal level of analysis which is only partially tempered through organizational structures. Findings – Misalignments among cognitive, normative, and regulative pillars inhibit real change. Organizational structures are not highly salient as the most important factors affecting women's leadership. Rather, patriarchal structures, explicit favoring of males over females, and assignment of women to nurturing roles within the private sphere of the family are the major limiting factors impeding women's ascension to leadership. Research limitations/implications – A promise of the institutional approach is enhancing the capacity to make meaningful comparisons between societies. This opens the door to uncovering whether documentable changes in regulations, cognitions, values, and norms regarding women in business leadership, will lead to observable changes in the size of FLD. Originality/value – This study presents a case of institutional pluralism where a positive force in one direction (regulatory) is sometimes opposed by other forces (cognitive and normative) limiting meaningful change. This study helps to explain why societies differ in the size of the FLD and to identify factors that predict within societal changes in the size of this deficit over time. © Emerald Group Publishing Limited.

Stephan, R. (2008). Virtue and sin: An Arab christian woman's perspective. The Veil: Women Writers on its History, Lore, and Politics, University of California Press: 191-201.

Stephan, R. (2013). "CREATING SOLIDARITY IN CYBERSPACE THE CASE OF ARAB WOMEN'S SOLIDARITY ASSOCIATION UNITED." Journal of Middle East Womens Studies **9**(1): 81-109.

The Arab Women's Solidarity Association United (AWSA United) is a pluralistic, transnational, and scholastic women's advocacy group that emerged in cyberspace in 1999. Arab women in the diaspora sought cyberspace as a safe space to connect with one another in their activism for women's rights in the Arab world. Using an online survey and analysis of printed and electronic documents, this case study investigates Arab women's cyberfeminism. It explores how activists utilized AWSA United to foster collective identity, strengthen solidarity, and enrich activism.

Turnlund, J. R., et al. (1983). "Zinc status and pregnancy outcome of pregnant Lebanese women." Nutrition Research **3**(3): 309-315.

Serum, hair and urinary zinc levels were measured in 51 pregnant Lebanese women during the last 6 weeks of pregnancy and in 50 nonpregnant controls. Mean serum zinc was significantly lower and mean urinary zinc was significantly higher in pregnant women than in nonpregnant women. Pregnant women gave

birth at term to infants who averaged 3449 g (range 2700 and 4300 g); no birth defects were noted. The six women who smoked 0.5 or more packages of cigarettes per day gave birth to infants who were significantly smaller than the other infants (2940 g). Infant birth weight was not correlated with hair, urinary, or plasma zinc, parity or maternal blood pressure. The zinc nutriture of the Lebanese pregnant women seemed to be adequate to support fetal growth. © 1983 Pergamon Press Ltd.

Usta, J., et al. (2016). "Effects of Socialization on Gender Discrimination and Violence Against Women in Lebanon." Violence against Women **22**(4): 415-431.

This study explored the socialization of Lebanese men's attitudes toward gender equality to understand violence against women in Middle Eastern countries. Two hundred seventy-three men completed a survey, and 73 participated in seven focus groups. Survey results showed that participants' education, parents' expectations for gender-typed behavior, school discipline, and exposure to community violence predicted the men's attitudes toward gender inequality. In focus group discussions, participants expressed that masculinity imposed a taxing role wherein they perceived themselves as "victims" of a traditional culture where norms grant men control and power over women. © 2015, © The Author(s) 2015.

Usta, J., et al. (2008). "Women, war, and violence: Surviving the experience." Journal of Womens Health **17**(5): 793-804.

Objectives: To investigate how Lebanese women were affected by the July 2006 conflict that erupted between the Hezbollah and the State of Israel, with a specific focus on their personal violence exposure and how they coped with these circumstances. Methods: Participants were 310 women at Ministry of Social Affairs Centers (MOSA) located in six geographic areas with varying exposure to the conflict. A questionnaire was administered in interview format to collect information about the participants' demographic characteristics, experiences of the conflict, perceived psychological functioning, exposure to violence associated with the conflict, exposure to domestic violence during and after the conflict, and their coping strategies. Results: Of the women, 89% had to leave their homes during the conflict because of fear or worry about safety. Of the 310 participants, 39% reported at least one encounter with violence perpetrated by soldiers, 27% reported at least one incident of domestic abuse during the conflict, and 13% reported at least one incident after the conflict perpetrated by their husbands or other family members. Women's self-reported negative mental health scores were positively correlated with the violence associated with the conflict and with domestic violence during and after the conflict. Women who reported that they did not know how to cope or had just tried to forget about their experiences reported more frequent domestic violence exposure during the conflict and had higher negative mental health outcomes associated with the conflict than did those who reported using active strategies. Conclusions: During armed conflict, domestic violence is also likely to increase. Therefore, when investigating the psychological impact of war on women, both forms of violence exposure should be considered. The use of active coping strategies may help in reducing psychological distress.

Usta, J., et al. (2013). "Economic Abuse in Lebanon: Experiences and Perceptions." Violence against Women **19**(3): 356-375.

This article explores the experiences and perceptions of Lebanese women and men with economic abuse. Data were drawn from focus group discussions and face-to-face interviews with men, women and social workers. The findings reveal that Lebanese women experience many forms of economic abuse, including the withholding of earnings, restricted involvement in the labor force, and limited purchasing

decisions. Inheritance laws and practices still favor men over women. Women tolerate economic abuse to avoid more serious forms of abuse and ensure family stability. Practical implications of the findings are presented.

Usta, J. and A. R. Masterson (2015). Women and health in refugee settings: The case of displaced syrian women in Lebanon. Gender-Based Violence: Perspective from Africa, the Middle East, and India, Springer International Publishing: 119-143.

The current conflict and humanitarian crisis in Syria continue to displace thousands of Syrians to neighboring countries, including Lebanon. This chapter examines the relation between refugee status, reproductive health outcomes, and domestic violence. We conducted a rapid needs assessment from June to August 2012 in Lebanon to collect information on Syrian women's current reproductive health status; their reproductive history before the conflict; their need for services; their experience with sexual and gender-based violence; and their help-seeking behaviors. We interviewed 452 displaced Syrian women aged 18-45 who have been in Lebanon for an average of 5.1 ( $\pm 3.7$ ) months. Additionally, 29 women participated in three focus group discussions. Of the 452 women surveyed, 74 were pregnant during the conflict, and several of them were pregnant more than once since the beginning of the conflict. Preterm delivery was highly reported (27 %), as well as pregnancy-related problems, including anemia, abdominal pain, and bleeding. As for reproductive health, menstrual irregularity, dysmenorrhea, and symptoms of reproductive tract infections were common. Moreover, 31 % of women had personal experience of violence (physical, sexual, or psychological), and many reported currently experiencing intimate partner violence. A conceptual framework is proposed to show how multiple factors may interplay to affect the reproductive health of women and their exposure to violence, with stress and mental distress being the main mitigating factors. Provision of psychological support within humanitarian aid is proposed to alleviate the effect of war and displacement. © Springer International Publishing Switzerland 2015.

Usta, J. and N. Singh (2014). Domestic violence against women in war and armed conflicts. Overcoming Domestic Violence: Creating a Dialogue Around Vulnerable Populations, Nova Science Publishers, Inc.: 206-220.

During wars and displacement, there is a collapse in the social and moral order: bonds within communities and families may get destabilized; violence becomes more acceptable, with resources barely available for survivors and priority is given for food and shelter. Most research and interventions addressing sexual and gender based violence during war focus on violence perpetrated by armed troops, while violence perpetrated by family members is often overlooked. This chapter focuses on domestic violence against women in the specific context of armed conflicts or war. It provides a brief overview of the reported data on domestic violence in various conflict-zones. The existing literature suggests that domestic violence is a highly prevalent 'silent epidemic' in times of war, flaring up when there is loss of social structure and order. To give an understanding of the link between conflicts and domestic violence, the factors contributing to domestic violence in war-time are analyzed based on the four levels of the Heise 'ecological model': environment, community, relationship, and individual. The chapter will conclude by suggesting proactive actions -at each of the four levels stated in the ecological model- to be implemented by governmental, nongovernmental and UN agencies, in order to effectively prevent, recognize and address domestic violence in times of crisis and conflicts. © 2015 Nova Science Publishers, Inc.

Uthman, I., et al. (1997). "Systemic lupus Erythematosus following Escherichia coli sepsis in an elderly woman [7]." British Journal of Rheumatology **36**(7): 822-823.

Wick, A. (2013). "Narcissus: woman, water and the West." *Feminist Review*(103): 42-57.

This essay explores the symbiotic relationship between European modernity, its vision of woman and water. The union of these three metaconcepts is consecrated by the Ovidian story of Narcissus and his other, Echo. The West finally found itself completely through Hegel, the Ur-narcissist, who explains the immutable link between that European monopoly, history (by which he means the potential for becoming modern), and the sea. The narcissism of modernity is the great theme of Marx and Engels in the Communist Manifesto, which shows how the bourgeoisie seeks to remake the entire world in its own image. Psychoanalysis, through the writings of Ferenczi, joined in cementing the connection, likening woman to the primal sea to which the male ever yearns to return. And Foucault suggests a potential conclusion from this metaconceptual constellation: that Man, a Western creation, may well disappear like a face drawn on a sandy beach.

Wu, T. Y., et al. (2003). "Gender differences in the psychosocial and cognitive correlates of physical activity among Taiwanese adolescents: A structural equation modeling approach." *International Journal of Behavioral Medicine***10**(2): 93-105.

This study examined gender differences in the factors related to physical activity in 832 Taiwanese adolescents. Differences in psychosocial and cognitive correlates were noted by gender group. Taiwanese adolescent girls reported lower physical activity self-efficacy and less perceived benefits and more perceived barriers to being active than boys. Girls compared to boys reported significantly more positive social support, modeling, and norms from parents to be active but significantly less social support and norms from their peers. Structural equation modeling was used to test the direct and indirect paths of a model of proposed correlates and physical activity. The results indicated that peer influences had both direct and indirect paths to physical activity for both genders. Among all examined variables, perceived self-efficacy was the strongest correlate of physical activity for these adolescents. The findings of this study provide information relevant to designing physical activity interventions targeted to Taiwanese adolescents.

Yasmine, R., et al. (2015). "Postponing sexual debut among university youth: how do men and women differ in their perceptions, values and non-penetrative sexual practices?" *Culture, Health and Sexuality* **17**(5): 555-575.

This study aimed to investigate gender differences in reasoning influencing the postponing of sexual debut among university youth in Lebanon. Findings aimed to develop understandings that might help inform future research on, and programme implementation of, young people's reproductive and sexual health. A cross-sectional survey of sexuality and sexual practices, attitudes and perceptions was conducted among private university students in Lebanon using a secure online method. Of 1838 participating students, 48.7% indicated they had never engaged in oral, anal or vaginal sex (i.e., penetrative sexual activity) during their lifetime (n = 895). Common socio-cultural concerns regarding sexual initiation included: gaining a bad reputation (47%), social rejection (58%), religion (70%) and parental disapproval (61%). Women were four times more concerned than men regarding loss of reputation and self-respect, six times more so regarding parental disapproval and three times more likely to be concerned with societal disapproval. Intrapersonal concerns included fear of contradicting one's own beliefs (67%), feeling guilty afterwards (62%) and losing self-respect (55%). Women were four times more likely to feel loss of self-respect and six times more likely to think sex was disgusting. Underlying reasons for postponing sexual intercourse are linked to adopted fears and social pressures that are internalised, and reinforce existing gender inequalities and reaffirm discriminatory gender norms. © 2014, © 2014 Taylor & Francis.

Yehya Chaar, N., et al. (2016). "Teachers' concerns towards change in Lebanese private schools and their relationship to gender, experience and type of change." Journal of Educational Change **17**(3): 337-354.

The purpose of the study was to explore the nature and stages of concerns that teachers at Lebanese private schools underwent as a result of the change initiative they implemented (whether organization-based or curriculum-based accreditation), and to find out the relationship that existed between these concerns and other variables like gender, the experience of the teachers, in addition to the type of change they experienced. The sample of the study included nine schools and 234 teachers. Statistical methods included descriptive statistics, multivariate analysis of variance, and univariate analyses using the post hoc Scheffe test at a confidence interval of 95 %. The results showed that teachers at Lebanese private schools displayed different types of concerns at various stages. The concerns were related to the Self, the Task, and the Impact. They also showed concerns at the awareness, informational, personal, management, consequences, collaboration, and refocusing stages. These concerns varied depending on the teachers' total years of experience, years spent at the current school, years of involvement in the change initiative, and the type of change they underwent, but not according to their gender. © 2016, Springer Science+Business Media Dordrecht.

Yehya, N. A. and M. J. Dutta (2015). "Articulations of Health and Poverty Among Women on WIC." Health Communication **30**(12): 1223-1233.

With the global financial meltdown, the crisis of poverty has deepened in communities across the United States. This essay reports results from a culture-centered project on fostering spaces for listening to the voices of the poor in CrossRoads County, Indiana. It highlights the intersections of health and poverty as they emerge from the narratives of mothers utilizing the Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). Depression, humiliation, and inaccessibility to health care and healthy living outline the struggles of women as they negotiate their access to health. The articulations of agency are situated around competing cultural narratives that, on the one hand, draw on the threads of individual responsibility which resonate through mainstream discourses of poverty in the United States and, on the other hand, interrogate the structural erasure of the basic capacities of health. Copyright © Taylor & Francis Group, LLC.

Yunis, K., et al. (2007). "Patterns and predictors of tobacco smoking cessation: A hospital-based study of pregnant women in Lebanon." International Journal of Public Health **52**(4): 223-232.

Objectives: To describe patterns of cigarette and narghile (hubble-bubble or water-pipe) smoking before and during pregnancy and identify predictors of successful smoking cessation. Methods: A survey was conducted on 4 660 pregnant women who delivered single live births between September 1st, 2001 and December 31st, 2002 at five hospitals in Beirut, Lebanon. Women were classified into four groups according to patterns of tobacco use before and during pregnancy: 1) consistent non-users, 2) successful quitters, 3) unsuccessful quitters and 4) consistent users. Results: High education (OR = 2.03, 95 % CI: 0.99-4.15), adequate prenatal care (OR = 1.72, 95 % CI: 1.02-2.91) and mild smoking at baseline (OR = 2.35, 95 % CI: 1.36-4.09) were main determinants of successful cigarette smoking cessation, whereas successful quitters of narghile use were more likely to be nulliparous (OR = 1.80, 95 % CI: 1.08-2.99) or to have a non-smoking partner (OR = 7.57, 95 % CI: 2.31-24.78). Conclusions: Different populations should be targeted when designing smoking cessation interventions for cigarette and narghile users. © Birkhäuser Verlag, Basel 2007.

Zahreddine, N., et al. (2014). "Psychiatric morbidity, phenomenology and management in hospitalized female foreign domestic workers in Lebanon." Community Mental Health Journal **50**(5): 619-628.

40 million female domestic workers worldwide experience the inhumane conditions associated with this unregulated occupation, a situation that induces psychiatric morbidities in many. The case in Lebanon is not any better where it is estimated that one foreign domestic worker (FDW) commits suicide weekly. 33 female FDW and 14 female Lebanese (control group, CG) were enrolled. Brief Psychotic Rating Scale (BPRS) and Clinical Global Impression (CGI) scales were administered on admission and discharge and socio-demographic, living conditions, mental health care data and phenomenological observations were collected. Sexual, physical, and verbal abuses were detected in FDW (12.5, 37.5, and 50.0 % respectively). 66.7 % of them were diagnosed with brief psychotic episode. The mean duration of hospital stay (13.1 days) was significantly lower in the FDW group. The mean cumulative antipsychotic dose of the FDW was 337.1 mg of chlorpromazine equivalent and the mean BPRS total pre-score of FDW was 66.4 with a much improved state on the CGI global improvement scale, all of which were nonsignificantly different from the CG. Striking phenomenological findings among FDW were acute anorexia (39.4 %), nudity (30.3 %), catatonic features (21.2 %), and delusion of pregnancy (12.1 %). Inpatient FDW are more diagnosed with psychotic than affective disorders and receive approximately similar treatment as controls in spite of the trend to rapidly discharge and deport the worker to limit the costs. Both groups presented with similar severity, although the FDW had peculiar phenomenological observations. © 2013 Springer Science+Business Media New York.

Zgheib, N. K., et al. (2013). "Genetic polymorphisms of CYP2E1, GST, and NAT2 enzymes are not associated with risk of breast cancer in a sample of Lebanese women." Mutation Research - Fundamental and Molecular Mechanisms of Mutagenesis **747-748**: 40-47.

Changes in the activity of drug metabolizing enzymes (DMEs) are potentially associated with cancer risk. This relationship is attributed to their involvement in the bioactivation of multiple procarcinogens or the metabolism of multiple substrates including an array of xenobiotics and environmental carcinogens. 326 Lebanese women of whom 99 were cancer free (controls) and 227 were diagnosed with breast cancer (cases) were included. Blood for DNA was collected and medical charts were reviewed. Three genotyping methods were employed including: (1) restriction fragment length polymorphism (RFLP) for CYP2E1\*5B, CYP2E1\*6, NAT2\*5 and NAT2\*6; (2) gel electrophoresis for GSTM1 and GSTT1; and (3) real-time PCR for GSTP1 Ile/. Val polymorphism. We analyzed the relationship between genetic susceptibilities in selected xenobiotic metabolizing genes and breast cancer risk. Allele frequencies were fairly similar to previously reported values from neighboring populations with relevant migration routes. There were no statistically significant differences in the distribution of variant carcinogen metabolizing genes between cases and controls even after adjusting for age at diagnosis, menopausal status, smoking, and alcohol intake. Despite its limitations, this is the first study that assesses the role of genetic polymorphisms in DMEs with breast cancer in a sample of Lebanese women. Further studies are needed to determine the genetic predisposition and gene-environment interactions of breast cancer in this population. © 2013 Elsevier B.V.

Zurayk, H. (2001). "The meaning of reproductive health for developing countries: The case of the Middle East." Gender and Development **9**(2): 22-27.

The International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), held in Cairo in 1994, marked a major change for population and health policies in developing countries by recognising a new 'reproductive health' approach, and incorporating it into its Programme of Action. The new approach moved

the focus of population policy from population growth and its consequences at a societal level, to individual health and wellbeing, and satisfaction of reproductive intentions. This article discusses the progress of population and health professionals in integrating the concept into their work, and offers some pointers in relation to the interests and needs of women in the Middle East region.

Zurayk, H., et al. (2007). "Beyond reproductive health: Listening to women about their health in disadvantaged Beirut neighborhoods." Health Care for Women International **28**(7): 614-637.

In this article, we aim to contextualize gynecological problems within a broader health and social context, expanding the lens beyond reproductive health. Questionnaires were administered to 1,869 ever-married women aged 15 to 59 that included questions on living, general health, and gynecological problems. These questions were open-ended, allowing women to respond in their own words. Women reported a multitude of health problems, indicating competing priorities. Musculoskeletal complaints emerged as the most prevalent and most important health problem. One in four women reported a gynecological problem, mainly reproductive tract infections (RTIs), when asked directly. Selected quotes provide clues about the complex relationship between women's lives and health. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2016 APA, all rights reserved)