

Psychosocial Attitudes Towards the Status of Woman in Aden Society- Yemen

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Abstract

Introduction: The study of the attitudes of both sexes towards each of them regarding various social issues, including the status of women in the society is the crucible in which all the social factors that determine these attitudes gather. This study aimed to describe the attitudes of both sexes to make it easier to stand objectively on the extent of agreement or disagreement between them, which makes it possible to stand with the woman's image and her broad features as she sees and as the opposite sex sees her.

Methods: This is a descriptive study in the period 21/12/2022 through 19/01/2023 with a sample of 257 students of medical specialties at the University of Aden (Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Medical Laboratory Sciences, and Nursing) who were targeted with a self-administered questionnaire consisting of 65 items to measure seven fields related to attitudes towards the status of women in Aden society.

Results: Statistical significance is mostly noted for most items of the attitudes' subscales. Furthermore, most of the sexes' attitudes on their items were largely in agreement regarding issues related to women and their status in the family and society.

Conclusion: There are differences between the sexes in their views in some issues related to women's status in the family and society. The current study recommends that similar studies should be conducted in other sectors where the daily friction and stresses are greatest due to the nature of the stereotypical roles of men and women.

Keywords: Attitudes; Psychosocial; Status; Family; Society; Aden; Yemen.

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الاتجاهات النفس- اجتماعية نحو مكانة المرأة في مجتمع عدن- اليمن

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ملخص الدراسة

المقدمة: إن دراسة اتجاهات كلا الجنسين تجاه كل منهما فيما يتعلق بمختلف القضايا الاجتماعية، بما في ذلك مكانة المرأة في المجتمع، هي البوتقة التي تتجمع فيها كافة العوامل الاجتماعية التي تحدد هذه الاتجاهات. وهدفت هذه الدراسة إلى وصف اتجاهات كلا الجنسين لتسهيل الوقوف بموضوعية على مدى الاتفاق أو الاختلاف بين الجنسين نحو مكانة المرأة في المجتمع، مما يجعل من الممكن الوقوف على صورة المرأة وميزاتها الواسعة كما تراها هي، وكما يراها الجنس الآخر.

المنهجية: هذه دراسة وصفية في الفترة 2022/12/21 حتى 2023/01/19 لعينة شملت 257 من الطالبات والطلاب من التخصصات الطبية بجامعة عدن (الطب البشري، طب الأسنان، الصيدلة، علوم المختبرات الطبية، التمريض) والذين تم استهدافهم باستبانة ذاتية التعبئة مكونة من 65 فقرة، تضمنت سبع مجالات تتعلق بالاتجاهات النفس اجتماعية نحو مكانة المرأة في الأسرة والمجتمع.

النتائج: يلاحظ أن الفروق على فقرات مقياس الاتجاهات هي في معظمها ذات دلالة إحصائية، وكانت معظم اتجاهات الجنسين نحو فقراتها متفقة إلى حد كبير فيما يتعلق بالقضايا المتعلقة بالمرأة ومكانتها في الأسرة والمجتمع.

الخلاصة: هناك فروقا بين الجنسين في نظرتهم لبعض القضايا المرتبطة بمكانة المرأة في الأسرة والمجتمع. أوصت الدراسة بضرورة إجراء المزيد من هذه الدراسات مع قطاع آخر في مختلف مرافق العمل، حيث يكون الاحتكاك اليومي والضغط أكبر بسبب طبيعة الأدوار النمطية للرجل والمرأة.

الكلمات المفتاحية: الاتجاهات، النفس اجتماعي، المكانة، الأسرة، المجتمع، عدن، اليمن.

Introduction

Women represent one of the most important topics that occupied the interest of scientists and thinkers, and perhaps among the reasons that formed the pillars of this interest were the differences that can be observed between the sexes in a number of general characteristics, attitudes and features, some of which are cognitive and some are affective [1].

Yemeni women in particular, have undergone major transformations over the last decades [2]. These transformations have been accompanied by countless contradictions and paradoxes that have increased in intensity, because of openness to the outside world and the development of methods of communication [3], which led to the emergence of inconsistent and unorganized cultural elements and cultural standards that no longer functionally fit the social situations in which they are used, thus hindering the individual's efforts to carry out actions that could benefit him and his society [4]. Perhaps this is consistent with the views of Oakley who emphasized that culture has an important role in determining the social status of the individual and of women in particular [5]. As well as the views of Ortner which interpreted the position of women in society in light of the cultural situation that determines the roles they play, which linked culture and the evaluation process in determining women's role and position in society [6]. This evaluation was linked to men's superiority and to women's weak relationship with nature and their roles being more closely linked to the

family than to the external environment, for example the environment of study or work [6].

Studies have indicated that the features of the traditional image of women and the stereotyping of their role and status in the family and society may be the responsibility of the woman herself, or the responsibility of the man and his expectations for this role and the limits he sets for it in light of his attitudes towards the opposite sex [1].

Whatever the case, the numerous studies conducted have shown that there are differences between males and females in some aspects of personality, including attitudes, values, and interests, in addition to the cognitive and emotional aspects [7]. However, researchers have differed in interpreting these differences. Some attributed them to biological determinants, while others have differed in interpreting these differences, others attributed it to cultural and civilizational factors, while a third group attributed it to the interaction between biological determinants and social variables [8]. This means that the various researches have not been able to achieve any degree of conclusiveness aimed at identifying the psychology of women in general and their psychological and social tendencies in particular [9]. whether with regard to their self-responsibility for establishing specific attitudes related to her role and social status, or with regard to the responsibility of society itself to provide the best opportunities for it to establish these attitudes and benefit from them [10].

Hence, the interest of this research was to describe the psychosocial

attitudes towards the status of women in the family and society in Aden Governorate - as a governorate that represents a social fabric mixed with the various cultures of the towns of Yemen as a whole- and since the studies conducted in this regard were of a cultural nature.

However, the main question that the researcher is interested in revolves around whether there are differences between the sexes in their psychosocial attitudes towards the status of women in the family and society in Aden Governorate, southern Yemen. Understanding the nature of the psychosocial attitudes towards the status of women will help to form a comprehensive scientific view of what these attitudes might be. It is a predictive view that paves the way for scientific planning to modify some negative or undesirable attitudes in males or females towards women and their status in the family and society, if it exists, this will practically necessarily contribute to the psychosocial adjustment of young people and guarantee them an important aspect of mental health. Thus, this study aimed to compare the attitudes of male and female students in the medically related specialties towards the status of women in the family and society in Aden Governorate, with an important group of fields related to the status of women and their expected role in family and community life.

Methods

Study design and setting

A descriptive study included students in the medical specialties at the University of Aden (Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Medical

Laboratory Sciences, and Nursing) from 21/12/2022 until 19/01/2023.

Study sample

Participants in this study were selected at a percentage of 15% of all female and male students in the five medical specialties for the academic year 2022 -2023.

Study tools

A self-administered questionnaire was developed by referring to previous studies⁽¹¹⁻¹⁴⁾. Significant credibility and consistency were achieved for the purpose of the present study.

The questionnaire consists of two parts:

- Gender of students.
- Seven fields with 65 items to measure the following fields:
 1. Attitude towards some general thoughts about woman (7 items);
 2. Attitude towards mixing between the sexes (7 items);
 3. Attitude towards women's education (8 items);
 4. Attitude towards women's work (11 items);
 5. Attitude towards marriage and polygamy (12 items);
 6. Attitude towards the role of women in the family (8 items), and
 7. Attitude towards the divorce (12 items).

Each questionnaire item was given a weight according to Likert's four-point scale to estimate the significance of the item and for interpretation of the arithmetic means, the degree of presence of the attitude was judged according to the responses of agree and strongly agree only (the researcher only mentioned the number of those who agree on each item of both sexes, while the number

of those who do not agree represents the remaining number of respondents as suggested by the method scale correction). To assess the clarity and the possibility of applying the study tools to collect data, the pretest study was conducted on 5% of the respondents who were later excluded.

Data analysis

The data were collected and analyzed using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) version 25. Descriptive and inferential statistical analyses were made. Chi square test (χ^2) was used to test the significance and differences between the different variables of study. A Critical *P*-Value of 0.05 was considered as statistically significant.

Ethical consideration

This study was approved by the Research and Ethics Committee at the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, University of Aden. Agreement to conduct the study was also approved by the administration of the medical faculties. The study was conducted after obtaining a verbal

informed consent from each participant. Every participant has been assured for the confidentiality of the data and the utilization of the study purpose. It is worth noting that the researchers have no conflict of interest.

Results

A total of 257 participants were included in the study. Males constituted 149 (58.0%), while females were 108 (42.0%). Regarding Bachelor of Medicine, around third (34.4%) were females and 65.6% males. For Faculty of Dentistry, around half was females (54.0%), while males were 46.0%). In the Faculty of Pharmacy, females were only 26.8% vs. 73.2% males. On the other hand, 70.2% of participants from Faculty of Laboratory were females, while males were 29.8%. The great majority from Faculty of Nursing were males (82.6%) compared to only 17.4% females as presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Gender Distribution of Study's Sample

Medical Specialties	Gender				Total	
	Female		Male		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Medicine	24	34.4	46	65.6	70	100
Dentistry	33	54.0	28	46.0	61	100
Pharmacy	15	26.8	41	73.2	56	100
Laboratory	33	70.2	14	29.8	47	100
Nursing	4	17.4	19	82.6	23	100
Total	108	42.0	149	58.0	257	100

Table 2 shows the items that express "attitudes towards general ideas about women", the percentage of those who strongly agree and agree on each item, the χ^2 values and the level of their statistical significance. It is clear from the results

that there are significant differences between male and female students in their attitude towards some of the ideas circulated about women, especially those related to her being a weak creatures ($\chi^2=28.32$; $P<0.001$), that she is less

competent than man ($\chi^2=25.05$; $P <0.001$), women are caused most of life's troubles ($\chi^2=8.07$; $P <0.001$), that she is more capable than men in resisting temptation and seduction ($\chi^2=17.38$; $P <0.001$); a woman is shrewd as a leader

by her instinct ($\chi^2=13.49$; $P <0.001$) and that good woman is rare ($\chi^2=16.32$; $P <0.001$) as seen in Table 2.

Table 2: Gender Differences in Attitudes towards General Ideas about Women

No.	Items	Female (n=108)		Male (n=149)		χ^2	P
		No.	%	No.	%		
1.	Woman is weak creatures.	17	19.3	71	80.7	28.32	<0.001
2.	Woman is less competent than man.	16	19.5	66	80.5	25.05	<0.001
3.	Most of life's troubles are caused by woman.	9	22.0	32	78.0	8.07	0.005
4.	Woman is better able than man to resist temptation and seduction.	84	51.9	78	48.1	17.38	<0.001
5.	A woman is shrewd as a leader by her instinct.	70	53.0	62	47.0	13.49	<0.001
6.	Behind every great, woman is an encouragement.	95	45.2	115	54.8	4.87	0.027
7.	Good woman is rare.	61	33.9	119	66.1	16.32	<0.001

There is a also a statistically significant differences between both sexes we for some items such as mixing of sexes corrupts morals ($\chi^2=26.13$; $P <0.001$), mixing of sexes gives a better chance of choosing a spouse ($\chi^2=14.82$; $P <0.001$), mixing between sexes increases woman's

awareness of the world around her ($\chi^2=35.61$; $P <0.001$), mixing between sexes is possible if both are aware of their limits ($\chi^2=15.93$; $P <0.001$), and not accept the mixing of sexes, whatever the circumstances ($\chi^2=28.41$; $P <0.001$) as is clear in Table 3.

Table 3: Gender Differences in Attitudes towards Mixing between Sexes

No.	Items	Female (n=108)		Male (n=149)		χ^2	P
		No.	%	No.	%		
1.	Mixing of sexes corrupts morals.	40	28.0	103	72.0	26.13	<0.001
2.	Mixing of sexes refines the morals of both.	54	48.6	57	51.4	3.52	0.061
3.	Mixing of sexes gives a better chance of choosing a spouse.	74	52.9	66	47.1	14.82	<0.001
4.	Mixing between sexes increases woman's awareness of the world around her.	89	56.7	68	43.3	35.61	<0.001
5.	Mixing between sexes reduces behavioral deviations.	37	49.3	38	50.7	2.32	0.127
6.	Mixing between sexes is possible if both are aware of their limits.	93	49.5	95	50.5	15.93	<0.001
7.	I do not accept the mixing of sexes, whatever the circumstances.	12	16.2	62	83.8	28.41	<0.001

There are differences between the sexes on some items of “attitudes towards women's education”: education of a girl reduces her femininity ($\chi^2=17.26$; $P<0.001$), education of a girl delays the age of her marriage ($\chi^2=23.61$; $P<0.001$), girl's education reduces her chance of marriage ($\chi^2=14.84$; $P<0.001$), girls'

education should be restricted to specific areas ($\chi^2=12.45$; $P<0.001$), gender equality in the stages of education is obligatory ($\chi^2=6.24$; $P<0.001$), education makes a woman superior to her husband ($\chi^2=25.31$; $P<0.001$), and divorce cases among educated women more than others ($\chi^2=17.18$; $P<0.001$).

Table 4: Gender Differences in Attitudes towards Women's Education

No.	Items	Female (n=108)		Male (n=149)		χ^2	P
		No.	%	No.	%		
1.	Education of a girl reduces her femininity.	8	16.0	42	84.0	17.26	<0.001
2.	Education of a girl delays the age of her marriage.	28	25.0	84	75.0	23.61	<0.001
3.	Education of a girl reduces her chance of marriage.	21	25.0	63	75.0	14.84	<0.001
4.	Youth are reluctant to marry the educated girl.	33	36.3	58	63.7	1.92	0.166
5.	Girls' education should be restricted to specific areas.	30	28.8	74	71.2	12.45	<0.001
6.	Gender equality in the stages of education is obligatory.	87	46.8	99	53.2	6.24	0.013
7.	Education makes a woman superior to her husband.	23	22.8	78	77.2	25.31	<0.001
8.	Divorce cases among educated women more than others.	28	26.7	77	73.3	17.18	<0.001

Table (5) shows the differences of those who were strongly agree and agree on each item of “attitudes towards women's work”, where there are significant differences between sexes on most of the items, not accept women's work ($\chi^2=22.97$; $P<0.001$), women's work causes many problems ($\chi^2=14.84$; $P=0.000$), women are not fit for managerial positions ($\chi^2=15.12$; $P<0.001$), women's work raises the economic level of the family ($\chi^2=15.69$; $P<0.001$), woman's work makes her rebel against her husband ($\chi^2=22.41$; $P<0.001$), women's work

leads to the disintegration of the family ($\chi^2=18.03$; $P<0.001$), a woman's work makes her fall short of her family duties ($\chi^2=37.56$; $P<0.001$), women cannot reconcile the demands of work and family ($\chi^2=24.31$; $P<0.001$), no objection to a woman working before marriage ($\chi^2=13.93$; $P<0.001$), and no objection to a woman working if she does not have children ($\chi^2=15.53$; $P<0.001$). Only one non-statistically significant difference was encountered with item related to that woman's work is obligatory if the husband is unable to earn ($\chi^2=1.07$; $P=0.301$).

Table 5: Gender Differences in Attitudes Towards Women's Work

No.	Items	Female (n=108)		Male (n=149)		χ^2	P
		No.	%	No.	%		
1.	I do not accept women's work.	6	12.0	44	88.0	22.97	<0.001
2.	Women's work causes many problems.	21	25.0	63	75.0	14.84	<0.001
3.	Women are not fit for managerial positions.	19	24.1	60	75.9	15.12	<0.001
4.	The woman's work is obligatory if the husband is unable to earn.	68	39.8	103	60.2	1.07	0.301
5.	Women's work raises the economic level of the family.	101	47.6	111	52.4	15.69	<0.001
6.	A woman's work makes her rebel against her husband.	17	20.7	65	79.3	22.41	<0.001
7.	Women's work leads to the disintegration of the family.	11	18.3	49	81.7	18.03	<0.001
8.	A woman's work makes her fall short of her family duties.	36	25.2	107	74.8	37.56	<0.001
9.	Women cannot reconcile the demands of work and family.	23	23.0	77	77.0	24.31	<0.001
10.	There is no objection to a woman working before marriage.	97	48.0	105	52.0	13.93	<0.001
11.	There is no objection to a woman working if she does not have children.	97	48.5	103	51.5	15.53	<0.001

Table 6 includes data on “attitudes towards marriage and polygamy”. There are non-significant differences between the sexes with seven items respectively: the consent of the woman is a prerequisite for consummating the marriage ($\chi^2=2.03$; $P= 0.154$), marriage restricts women's freedom ($\chi^2=0.01$; $P= 0.918$), a girl may not marry without the consent of her guardian ($\chi^2=0.35$; $P= 0.555$), marriage of a citizen to a non-citizen (foreign) must be prevented ($\chi^2=1.05$; $P= 0.306$), marriage of a female citizen to a non-citizen (foreign) must be prevented ($\chi^2=2.89$; $P= 0.089$), necessary to marry a non-citizen, it is better to be Arabic ($\chi^2=0.44$; $P= 0.508$), the expensive dowry raises the

value of a woman upon her marriage ($\chi^2=1.86$; $P= 0.173$). On the other hand, there are statistically significant differences between the sexes with five following items: high dowry is the cause of spinsterhood ($\chi^2=3.80$; $P=0.051$), the working woman must share the marriage expenses ($\chi^2=7.97$; $P= 0.005$), no objection to polygamy as a solution to the problem of spinsterhood ($\chi^2=45.6$; $P<0.001$), a citizen girl has the right to marry a non-citizen ($\chi^2=6.28$; $P= 0.012$), a man marrying more than one wife is an insult to a woman ($\chi^2=38.6$; $P<0.001$).

Table 6: Gender Differences in Attitudes towards Marriage and Polygamy

No.	Items	Female (n=108)		Male (n=149)		χ^2	P
		No.	%	No.	%		
1.	The consent of the woman is a prerequisite for consummating the marriage.	104	43.2	137	56.8	2.03	0.154
2.	Marriage restricts women's freedom.	42	42.4	57	57.6	0.01	0.918
3.	A girl may not marry without the consent of her guardian.	97	41.5	137	58.5	0.35	0.555
4.	High dowry is the cause of spinsterhood.	88	39.6	134	60.4	3.80	0.051
5.	The working woman must share the marriage expenses.	46	33.8	90	66.2	7.97	0.005
6.	There is no objection to polygamy as a solution to the problem of spinsterhood.	25	20.3	98	79.7	45.6	<0.001
7.	Marriage of a citizen to a non-citizen (foreign) must be prevented.	25	36.8	43	63.2	1.05	0.306
8.	Marriage of a female citizen to a non-citizen (foreign) must be prevented.	31	34.8	58	65.2	2.89	0.089
9.	If it is necessary to marry a non-citizen, it is better to be Arabic.	85	43.1	112	56.9	0.44	0.508
10.	A citizen girl has the right to marry a non-citizen.	82	47.4	91	52.6	6.28	0.012
11.	A man marrying more than one wife is an insult to a woman.	66	66.0	34	34.0	38.6	<0.001
12.	The expensive dowry raises the value of a woman upon her marriage.	32	49.2	33	50.8	1.86	0.173

There are clear differences between the sexes in most of the items of "attitudes towards the role of women in the family", especially with regard to management of family affairs is the responsibility of the husband alone ($\chi^2=4.91$; $P= 0.027$), a woman must completely obey her husband ($\chi^2=5.68$; $P= 0.017$), home affairs are the domain of women alone ($\chi^2=9.04$; $P= 0.003$), a woman should not dispose of her money without her husband's permission ($\chi^2=29.9$;

$P<0.001$), a woman should not hold her husband accountable for his actions ($\chi^2=25.2$; $P<0.001$), the wife has the right to refuse to live with her husband's family ($\chi^2=40.2$; $P<0.001$). There are no significant differences between the sexes on the item a woman must accept her husband's spending on his parents or the needy of his family ($\chi^2=2.18$; $P= 0.140$), and a working woman must contribute to the household expenses ($\chi^2=0.96$; $P= 0.328$).

Table 7: Gender Differences in Attitudes towards the Role of Women in the Family

No.	Items	Female (n=108)		Male (n=149)		χ^2	P
		No	%	No	%		
1.	Management of family affairs is the responsibility of the husband alone.	22	31.0	49	69.0	4.91	0.027
2.	A woman must completely obey her husband.	67	37.2	113	62.8	5.68	0.017
3.	Home affairs are the domain of women alone.	13	24.1	41	75.9	9.04	0.003
4.	A woman should not dispose of her money without her husband's permission.	26	23.0	87	77.0	29.9	0.000
5.	A woman should not hold her husband accountable for his actions.	20	21.5	73	78.5	25.2	0.000
6.	A woman must accept her husband's spending on his parents or the needy of his family.	92	44.2	116	55.8	2.18	0.140
7.	The wife has the right to refuse to live with her husband's family.	83	60.1	55	39.9	40.2	0.000
8.	A working woman must contribute to the household expenses.	80	44.0	102	56.0	0.96	0.328

It is clear from table 8 that there are clear statistical significant differences between the sexes regarding the following items respectively: divorce must be at the will of the husband alone ($\chi^2=13.2$; $P<0.001$), a woman's disobedience to her husband is not a sufficient justification for divorce ($\chi^2=5.05$; $P=0.025$), a man's marriage to another woman is not a justification for the first divorce ($\chi^2=37.3$; $P<0.001$), a husband's abandonment of his wife is better than divorcing her ($\chi^2=13.9$; $P<0.001$), women's work and economic independence are a major reason for divorce ($\chi^2=30.4$; $P<0.001$), does the wife's increased use of social media lead to disagreement and then divorce? ($\chi^2=13.8$; $P<0.001$). On the

other hand, are no significant statistical differences between the sexes on the following items respectively: divorce is the solution to the ongoing disputes between spouses ($\chi^2=1.41$; $P=0.236$), husband's infertility is a sufficient reason for divorce ($\chi^2=1.83$; $P=0.0277$), wife's infertility is a sufficient reason for divorce ($\chi^2=0.29$; $P=0.864$), the failure of one of the spouses to fulfill his obligations towards the other is not a justification to divorce the first wife ($\chi^2=0.14$; $P=0.705$), awareness of each of the spouses of his rights and duties limits divorce ($\chi^2=1.03$; $P=0.311$), does the husband's increased use of social media lead to disagreement and then divorce? ($\chi^2=1.58$; $P=0.209$).

Table 8: Gender Differences in Attitudes towards the Divorce

No.	Items	Female (n=108)		Male (n=149)		χ^2	P
		No	%	No	%		
1.	Divorce must be at the will of the husband alone.	12	21.1	45	78.9	13.2	<0.001
2.	Divorce is the solution to the ongoing disputes between spouses.	41	47.1	46	52.9	1.41	0.236
3.	A woman's disobedience to her husband is not a sufficient justification for divorce.	52	50.5	51	49.5	5.05	0.025
4.	The husband's infertility is a sufficient reason for divorce.	18	35.3	33	64.7	1.83	0.277
5.	The wife's infertility is a sufficient reason for divorce.	19	43.2	25	56.8	0.29	0.864
6.	The failure of one of the spouses to fulfill his obligations towards the other is not a justification to divorce the first wife.	46	40.7	67	59.3	0.14	0.705
7.	A man's marriage to another woman is not a justification for the first divorce.	54	29.8	127	70.2	37.3	<0.001
8.	A husband's abandonment of his wife is better than divorcing her.	23	26.1	65	73.9	13.9	<0.001
9.	Awareness of each of the spouses of his rights and duties limits divorce.	101	43.0	134	57.0	1.03	0.311
10.	Women's work and economic independence are a major reason for divorce.	10	14.3	60	85.7	30.4	<0.001
11.	Does the husband's increased use of social media lead to disagreement and then divorce?	65	39.2	101	60.8	1.58	0.209
12.	Does the wife's increased use of social media lead to disagreement and then divorce?	65	34.9	121	65.1	13.8	<0.001

Discussion

It was clear from the research's results that there are differences between the sexes in their views of women's status in the family and society. Such differences on the items of the attitudes' subscales are mostly statistically significant. Most of the sexes' attitudes were largely in disagreement regarding some issues related to women and their status in the family and society. Perhaps this is due to the deep social change that is occurring in the Yemeni society leading to the multiplicity and

difference of gender roles in society, and the widening of differences between the sexes due to religious, cultural concepts, customs, and traditions, and its continued expansion of the stereotype associated with the status of women in the family and society.

One of the most important manifestations of social transformation that can be monitored in the Yemeni family, especially with regard to women, is their

transformation from the extended family to the mostly nuclear family, and migration and displacement to the city of Aden [15] as well as the relative change in the status in the family as a result of women's education and work, such that patriarchal authority changed from absolute authority to relative authority that may differ from one family to another [16]. Another transformation occurred is the role and status of women in the family and in society.

The relative increase in divorce rates [17] is one of the concerns that the research addressed in the study by identifying the attitudes of sample members of both sexes towards this phenomenon, as well as the role of women in the family. The war created a societal rift that widened over time, at the family level and at the community level, as the phenomenon of divorce expanded. In Yemen, the rate is frighteningly high, especially in recent years, as the war and its economic, social, and psychological repercussions have had the main impact on the outbreak of family problems between spouses, many of which led to the annulment of their marriage contract or confirmation of divorce, very early in their relationship [2].

The results (Tables 7, 8) reflect a clear discrepancy regarding issues related to the wife's role in the family and the problems that may result that may lead to divorce, including the woman's sole management of household affairs, the working woman's contribution to family expenses, and the extent of the woman's right to hold her husband accountable for his actions. This is in

addition to women's economic independence, disobedience to their husbands, and polygamy as justifications for divorce. Whatever the case may be, studies should not lead us to assume that there is a conflict between male and female because they are complementary and not contradictory [17]. and this is evident in the context of the family, and the family that includes male and female and the harmony, integration and cohesion that is embodied between them [12]. In other words, it is not possible to talk about women in isolation from men and vice versa. Relations between the sexes are based on complementarity [17].

Evidently, both sexes are the essence of the family, which if reconciled, the entire society can be reconciled, any defect or contradiction in their directions exposes this family to disintegration and rupture [18]. Therefore, it is difficult for this social organization to perform its functions fully, in balance and compatibility between the personality of male and female in general and their psychosocial tendencies in particular which is an urgent and necessary requirement because it reflects positively on the manifestations of harmony and psychological health of the family as a whole and protects it from error or deviation [18]. To sum-up, the attitudes and values were of great importance in supporting the family entity and evaluating the status of women in the entire society [17].

Conclusion

The results of this study showed that there are statistically significant differences between the sexes in their view of some issues related to women's status in the family and society. Such differences between the sexes in most psychosocial attitudes towards women and their status in society or in the family structure should be considered through the cultural heritage and customs but in the way of not affecting the status and role of both sexes in the cohesive and comprehensive structure of the family and society. The current study recommends that similar studies should be conducted in other sectors where the daily friction and stresses are greatest due to the nature of the stereotypical roles of men and women.

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