



مركز شؤون المرأة - غزة
WOMEN'S AFFAIRS CENTER - GAZA

Priority Issues of Women in Gaza Strip

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Research on

Priority Issues of Women
in Gaza Strip

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Acknowledgment:

One year after the Israeli offensive on Gaza Strip that left behind mass killing, destruction and displacement. Its serious repercussions are still continuing on the economy and society. Despite the difficult circumstances, which are still afflicting on Gaza Strip and institutions working in it, Women's Affairs Center (WAC) initiatives and efforts to enrich experience of the feminist movement and civil society in Palestine continues to provide decision makers with researches and studies on women's issues, and provide objective information on women priority needs.

There is paramount importance for studies and research in providing valid information and statistics that would contribute in policy formulation, development of strategic plans on women's issues, and advocacy and networking to help in defining priorities for required intervention. WAC is now one of the prominent research centers on the issues of Palestinian women. This study constitutes significant contribution to enrich understanding of women issues, especially in light of the deteriorating situation in Gaza Strip due to the continuing Israeli siege, and decrease in the area of public freedoms at the internal level. All this had its negative impact on the role of the feminist movement and the civil society regarding women's issues and rights.

We hope that this study and its conclusions assist in supporting the struggles of women to attain their natural rights to equality.

On this occasion, we would like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to all who contributed to the completion of this study, and in particular the scientific supervisor, researchers, all concerned individuals, and civil society institutions; that have joined us in the field work, and all those who have participated with opinion and advice.

I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to the supporting institutions, and in particular NDC "NGO Development Center".

Naila Ayesha
Director General

Preface

WAC has consistently worked on the preparation of studies and research on women's issues and needs. In 2009, WAC has initiated the preparation of an in-depth research study on "Defining priority issues for women in Gaza Strip". Where number of levels and sources for information were utilized and addressed including men; since they are partners in decision-making, and their participation was essential to attain insight on their opinions and attitudes regarding women's issues.

This study contributed to deepening the understanding and knowledge of the working group, and partner institutions; where the study was applied after the fieldworkers received theoretical guidance and training by specialized trainer on the subject of scientific research and methodologies.

This one of the issues, the Research and Information Program is trying to mainstream in the civil society and feminist movement, starting with the updating of information on the status of women in the Gaza Strip and the needs, demands and vision of their problems; in addition to, presentation of results and recommendations that would contribute to the formulation of effective intervention strategies for institutions, according to their specialties and work priorities; and also, strengthen the capacity of field researchers by enabling them to participate in the research process; and communicate with women and target groups.

Also, this study contributed to indicating to the advocacy and outreach program of WAC the most important priorities to be worked on, with the preparation and implementation of an intensive awareness campaign on women inheritance rights as the first priority identified by women and men via the focus groups and interviews.

In the general framework; research and information program contribute to improved knowledge-led and informed decision making on women and gender issues.

Hedaya Shamun
Research and Information Program Coordinator

Summary

Women's Affairs Center (WAC) realized the importance of defining the priority issues of women in Gaza Strip under the dynamic changes in political, social, economic and cultural circumstances. The burden on women has increased due to the Israeli offensive following three year long siege of the Gaza Strip. The Israeli offensive on Gaza strip has resulted in catastrophic consequences on the Palestinian people and casted its shadow on women and children, in addition to the deteriorating economic conditions, escalation of poverty rates, and many other negative consequences. Accordingly, WAC realized the essentiality and priority to identify needs of various women sectors, and identify their opinion regarding cases that require the intervention by feminist and international organizations, and governmental entities. The study contained five main elements which are literature review; methodology, procedure and research tools; data collection and analysis; data analysis and analysis; recommendations and lessons learned; and institutional arrangements to follow up the recommendations.

The research has been focused on (64) questions that addressed all issues and problems that the women of Gaza strip suffer from, in order to get insight on the causes of these problems (with direct or indirect) and consequential results, through detailed presentation of the problem tree and presentation of women rights' violations.

The conclusions (verified through the use of quantitative and qualitative tools) reflected priority issues as per women and men desire and according to information sources included in the study, to be as follow. The first issue, which has scored highest percentage, is the denial of women's inheritance and the seizure of their money. The second priority is the stereotype of women in the media. The third issue is the impact of the internal Palestinian situation instability on women. The fourth priority is the vulnerability of women to psychological abuse from neighbors. The fifth priority is the impact of women's problems on the psychosocial situation. And the sixth priority is the coercion of women to do work that does not respect her dignity.

This research is trying to determine the priority issues of women in Gaza Strip; in the context of the whole picture, not a partial picture of one side without the other. The focus was to elicit information from a variety of sources and use multiple research methods to assure transparency and credibility of information. Furthermore, this research aimed at identifying institutional responsibilities to deal with the issues and needs of women in the Gaza Strip.

The main recommendations of the research are a) the priority need for carrying out awareness and educational interventions for women to assure more knowledge and mastery of their rights, especially in relations to rights to inheritance; b) the provision of legal reference that facilitate women attaining legal advice and other forms of intervention; and c) the need for urgent and focused psychosocial interventions for women and men, in order to help them express their views and relief them of the pressures that they face because of the embargo and the deteriorating situation in the Gaza Strip.

The research also recommended a) the importance of organizing advocacy campaigns for women and men, to publicize violence and its forms; need to respect and recognize women, stress that women constitute half the society, and women need for family and community support; and b) the need for networking and cooperation between civil society institutions in order to create job opportunities for young women and men, train and rehabilitate them in their respective competence and potential, and prepare them for the labor market and its requirements.



Introduction

1-Introduction

1-1 General Conditions Background

One and a half million Palestinians live in Gaza Strip under the weight of poverty and poor economic conditions; where poverty ratio escalated to reach 80% currently. Israeli occupation authorities have imposed tight siege measures on Palestinian territories and stressed isolation of its population in general, and Gaza Strip and its residents in particular. As a result, size of crisis and humanitarian disaster sustained by Palestinians men and women have doubled and turned Gaza Strip into a large mass prison with its population subjected to arrest and completely stifled its economy (Palestini an Center for Human Rights, 2008)

Gaza Strip residents are suffering from Israeli Occupation violations of international humanitarian law and collective punishment since the beginning of occupation that continued to intensify after second intifada' outbreak in September 2000 and till now. The policy of siege and continuous closure of Gaza Strip, as a method of practice through control of crossings and preventing freedom of travel, education and treatment; is escalating the situation making Gaza Strip like a ticking time bomb. Further more, Israeli occupation violent policies is leading to a widening circle of violence and poverty that is directly reflected on women and children situations (Center for Human Rights, 2008) and has negatively affected women, especially social, economic and psychological consequences

1-2 Background of the Status of Women in Gaza Strip

Gaza Strip inhabitants have been suffering from deteriorating social, political and economic circumstances due to the strict Israeli siege that was inflicted since 20 September 2007, after the Israeli Cabinet decision to consider Gaza Strip a hostile territory. The embargo has contributed substantially and seriously to human rights situation deterioration in Gaza Strip, particularly economic, social and cultural rights. This siege is considered the worst and most severe since Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories in 1967 (Mezan Center for Human Rights, 2007). This deterioration has cast di m shadows on the lives of Palestinian women in Gaza Strip, where habitual, social, psychological, and economic conditions continued to deteriorate. Palestinian women burdens continued to escalate, until they reached catastrophic levels, especially after the Israeli offensive on the Gaza Strip (on 27/12/2008). 110 women and 355 children were killed in the Israeli campaign called "Cast Lead"; while the total number of martyrs of this Israeli offensive was 1,410 Palestinians (Mezan Center for Human Rights, 2009). The war also resulted in the destruction/damage of 763 homes headed by

women, and 10,356 houses headed by men were totally destroyed or partially damaged. This war on the Gaza Strip, which lasted 22 days only, caused forced displacement of 107,330 individuals that lived in these houses (Mezan Center for Human Rights, 2009).

On the other hand; nine-thousand Palestinians are still detained by Israeli occupying forces, including: approximately (69) women and (248) children (Palestinian Center for Human Rights, 2009). The year 2008, also witnessed continuation of violations of the right to life and attacks on personal safety on the hands of Palestinians, where 153 people were killed, including 13 women and 25 children.

There is no doubt that women and children are the weakest link during crises and internal strife situations. Also they are, sometimes, a means of pressure and subject to being. WAC study (2008) identified that the political division left its harmful consequences on every Palestinian family; had its negative impact on family and social relationships; and caused cracks in the relations with the social network of friends, neighbors and acquaintances. All the previous have been reflected on Palestinian women; thus, they became more vulnerable to domestic violence, and to threat by community segments and political parties, due to the chaotic left behind by political and security situation in Gaza Strip.

The previous study identified that domestic violence has increased considerably after the split, due to political affiliation's conflicts or poverty and unemployment. Women found themselves powerless in the face of violence against them. Also many husbands migrated for fear of harassment and arrest (because of the political affiliation to the other parties) and left their families and children alone, thus creating further suffering for women that became households' heads and sole providers.

The study of "psychological and social effects on women suffering from loss" (WAC, 2008) indicated that women, who have lost their children due to factional fighting, suffer from psychological problems; inflammation of the feelings of hatred and lack of acceptance of the other; and fell into a state of isolation, depression and disintegration of family relationships.

Moreover, women suffered relentlessly due to the siege; the poor humanitarian conditions; and ever shortage in medical supplies, medicines and food. During 2008, hundreds of Gaza strip patients were denied treatment and travel. The Palestinian Center for Human Rights. In 2008, has documented the death of 29 female and male patients from Gaza Strip, including 11 women and 5 children. These deaths were due to occupation authorities' denial to or delay in issuing travel permits to Palestinians.

A report issued by "the Palestinian Bureau of Statistics", confirmed that females are almost half the Palestinian society. More than half the women are married. While the percentage of widows is about 6%. Also Palestinian females outlive males by 3 years.

Dr. Loay Shabana (head of the PCB S) said that "the sex ratio is 103 males for every 100 females. Based on the preliminary results of the year 2007 census, 6.4% of women (15 years and over) are widows and 36.8% are spinster s...". Dr. Shabana confirmed that "... the proportion of participation in the workforce during the year 2008 amounted to 11.7% for females and 64% for males in the Gaza Strip ..".

Dr. Shaban also pointed out that "... the poverty rate among families headed by females reached 61.2% versus 56.9% in male-headed households in the Palestinian Territory during 2007. The poverty rate among households headed by women and includes 7 children or more to be 79.7% and 68.6% for families with 5-6 children. The poverty rate has declined in families with fewer children; to be 49.3% for families with 1-2 children in 2007.

With respect to unemployment; according to the definition of "ILO" the percentage of unemployed females (15 years and over) is 23.8% versus 26.5% for males. While unemployment among female, who finished 13 years of schooling and above, is higher than those among men. Since for females it is 34.9% compared to 18.6% for males during the same period of time. As for females, 15 years and over, participation in economic activities, the largest involvement has been in farming activities and fishing at the rate of 27.5%. While in the services sector; the highest participation has been in the area of education; at a rate of 31.7%, followed by health at the rate of 8.8%. (Central Bureau of Statistics, 2009).

All of this draws a clear picture of Palestinian women's reality; where their suffering has reached its maximum as a result of Israeli occupation and its repeated attacks on the Gaza Strip, or the impact on the economic conditions and escalation of poverty ratio. Also increased Palestinian women burdens towards their families and children. In addition, women lack the sense of security and safety, due to the unstable situation in the Gaza Strip.

1-3 Research Problem

Women, in the Gaza Strip, suffer from violence, coercion and deprivation. These sufferings are inflicted by the immediate and extended family, the social network (such as: neighbors, friends), community (including civil society organization s,

service providers, unions, private sector workplaces, schools and universities, governmental institutions that provide education, health and legal services), and international institutions that are providing humanitarian assistance. The se parties have become a cause of problems to women rather than source of protection. In addition, women suffer from occupation violence and its consequences; the siege and the repeated attacks on Gaza Strip. Finally, they suffer from the political instability, the failure to achieve a just peace in the region and the global financial crisis and its negative impact on unemployment, poverty and denial of services.

There is growing evidence on the presence of a relation between the currently problems of women in Gaza Strip and poor knowledge of women's issues and priorities needs, and the required interventions by governmental institutions, which suffer from lack of professional and financial resources. The civil society organizations, as well as, are characterized by weak management skills and ideology required for change.

This research necessity and importance evolve from being the first attempt to deal with the full picture of women's issues in Gaza Strip, to identify priorities; to improve the level of understanding, decisions and policies based on the knowledge of stakeholders.

Accordingly; this research seeks to identify priorities women's issues within an integrated and comprehensive framework of women's problems, their direct and indirect causes, and their implications.

1-4 Research Questions

Try to seek answers to questions raised under the themes: the problems of women; and causes direct and indirect causes; and their effects. It consists of 64 research questions are as follows:

1-The problems of women:

1-1 Occupation violence:

- 1-1-1 The extent of women vulnerability to being killed during the repeated Israeli aggressions.
- 1-1-2 The extent of women's vulnerability to various injuries during the repeated Israeli aggressions.
- 1-1-3 The extent of women's exposure to different types of disability during the repeated Israeli aggressions.
- 1-1-3-1 The ability of women with special needs to adapt to difficult circumstances (siege and war).
- 1-1-3-2 The effectiveness of NGOs in contributing to solving women with special needs problems.
- 1-1-4 The extent of women vulnerability to loss of a close family member during the Israeli attack s.
- 1-1-5 The extent of women vulnerability to displacement during the Israeli attacks.
- 1-1-6 The impact of the Israeli attacks on the private space for women. (women privacy)

1-2 Domestic violence:

- 1-2-1 The extent of women vulnerability to domestic physically abuse.
- 1-2-2 The extent of women vulnerability to sexual abuse within the family.
- 1-2-3 The extent of women vulnerability to emotional or psychological abuse within family.
- 1-2-4 The extent of women vulnerability to being robbed of their own funds and inheritance.
- 1-2-5 The extent of women vulnerability to the threat of violence from a family member.
- 1-2-6 The extent of women vulnerability to being killed on the so-called "honor killing" of a family member.
- 1-2-7 The extent of women vulnerability to incest by a family member.
- 1-2-8 The extent of women vulnerability to divorce against her will
- 1-2-9 The extent of wife vulnerability to offensive and obscene language in front of others.
- 1-2-10 The extent of wife vulnerability to suppression and silencing.
- 1-2-11 The extent of wife vulnerability to irony and criticism of appearance and behavior.
- 1-2-12 The extent of wife vulnerability to control and prosecution and the control of her circle of acquaintances.
- 1-2-13 The extent of women vulnerability to be isolated from her family.

1-3 Social network violence (friends, neighbors and tribe)

- 1-3-1 The extent of women vulnerability to psychological abuse from neighbors.
- 1-3-2 The extent of women vulnerability to tribal pressure (marriage-divorce)
- 1-3-3 The extent of women vulnerability to harassment and social curiosity from relatives and neighbors (interference with privacy).

1-4 Community violence: (Presented as 1-4 in Chapter 4)

- 1-4.1 The extent of vulnerability of women to rape.
- 1-4.2 The extent of vulnerability of women to repeat tempt
- 1-4.3 The extent of vulnerability of women to sexual harassment.
- 1-4.4 The extent of stereotyping of women in media as female.
- 1-4.5 The extent of limitation of women's areas of work

1-5 Coercion:

- 1-5-1 The extent of women coercion to early marriage.
- 1-5-2 The extent of women coercion not to marry.
- 1-5-3 The extent of women coercion to do work that does not respect their dignity.
- 1-5-4 The extent of women coercion on multiple marriages (martyrs' wives and divorced).
- 1-5-5 The extent of women coercion to leave home.

1-6 Deprivation:

- 1-6-1 The extent of women denial from education.
- 1-6-2 The extent of women denial from basic needs (food, drink and clothing).
- 1-6-3 The extent of women denial from access to sources of information on available services.
- 1-6-4 The extent of women denial from financial resources.
- 1-6-5 The extent of denial of women from basic services.
- 1-6-6 The extent of women denial from participation in union work
- 1-6-7 The extent of women denial from participation in decision-making in the family and community.
- 1-6-8 The extent of denial of divorced women's right to children custody.

2-The direct causes of the problems of women:

- 2-1 The impact of Israeli occupation presence, violent practices and aggressions against Palestinian people in general, and Palestinian women in particular.
- 2-2 The dominance of patriarchal culture over Palestinian society, including: social customs and traditions.
- 2-3 The control of social trends that are biased against women (unjust and gender inequality) at family level which give preference to males over females, or in the workplace in the form of wages discrimination.
- 2-4 The poverty level in the Palestinian society (90%).
- 2-5 The availability of required materials and high prices.
- 2-6 The existence of feminist leaderships in decision-making and strategies planning positions.
- 2-7 The fragility of the civil society, its ability to represent women, and weakness of women's issues lobbying and advocacy campaigns.
- 2-8 The vulnerability of the media in documenting and exposing occupation crimes against women, family, property and livelihoods.

3-Indirect causes:

- 3-1 The impact of political situations stability in the region on women.
- 3-2 The impact of imposed Israeli siege over Gaza Strip on women.
- 3-3 The impact of Palestinian internal situation instability on women.
- 3-4 The impact of imposed international isolation on Gaza Strip since the victory of "Hamas" movement in 2006 legislative elections.
- 3-5 The impact of the absence of a sound legal environment to serve women's issues.
- 3-6 The impact of the global financial crisis and its economic repercussions on women.
- 3-7 The impact of high population increases on women.

4-Impact:

- 4-1 The extent of discrimination between males and females.
- 4-2 The extent of women's positive image in the media.
- 4-3 The impact of women's problems on the psychosocial situation.

4-4 The impact of women's problems on health condition.

4-5 The extent of women marginalization and poor utilization as a human resource in the community developmental process.

4-6 The increasing gap between knowledge and application for women.

5-Governmental Institutes and Civil Society Organizations Response

5-1 The extent to which government institutions contribute to solving the problems of women

5-2 The extent to which civil society organizations contribute to solving the problems of women

1-5 Research Objectives

This research aims to:

- Identify important indicators for the women's sector.
- Identify priorities for women's issues in the Gaza Strip; within the context of an integrated and comprehensive picture of the women's sector.
- Support for policy-making and interventions in feminist organizations based on knowledge that enable meeting the needs of women in the Gaza Strip.
- Determine institutional responsibilities in dealing with their issues and needs of women in the Gaza Strip.

1-6 Research Reference Framework

- The research targets women victims of human rights violations in Gaza Strip.
- The research is based on cause and effect, and deals with the full picture, including direct and indirect causes, the problems that reflect women's situation and the effects of these problems.
- The protection of women from three major problems: violence, duress/coercion and deprivation.
- Promotion of stakeholders' active participation in all research stages.
- Take advantage of documents and previous local and international studies reviewed in all research stages.
- Adopt the triangulation-examination-validation approach in collecting information required to answer the research questions. Where every question was answered through the integration of information from more than one source (questionnaire, interview, focus group, and observation).

1-7 Research Ethical Considerations

All ethical obligations have been taken into consideration in this research, where female and male participants (women and men) privileges were considered, they were informed of the dates and time for filling the questionnaire, the research objectives were explained to them, and they were assured of obtained information confidentiality. It was emphasized that the questionnaires are filled out without names or any indication of the respondents' identity. During the focus groups, participants' permission to record the sessions on table has been attained. There were no objections to that.

The respondents' privacy, values, opinions and decisions were respected. Number of respondents' requested not to complete filling the questionnaire, their desire was respected. On the other hand, there was higher demand on filling the questionnaire in some groups; this was accommodated for without jeopardizing the research sample.

This research also attempted to provide information for target group, throughout the sessions and workshops, at the level of understanding and awareness, no psychological harm or otherwise was inflicted on them. We have respected their views and ideas with transparency and high credibility.

In addition to handling respondents, women and men, with equality and justice, we took into account their culture and environment to which they belong. All participants done so due to their willingness, and without coercion or pressure.

1-8 Research Report Layout

The research report contains six chapters that are interrelated in a logical sequence. Chapter I: Introduction; includes comprehensive background on Gaza Strip, the situation of women, research problem, research questions, research importance, research framework and report content. Chapter II: presents the theoretical framework and literature review of previous studies. Chapter III: details research methodology and steps, and research tools. Chapter IV: includes data and information collection and analysis, and interpretation of results. Chapter V: reflects the findings, recommendations and lessons learned. Chapter VI reflects the institutional arrangements to implement the recommendations. The report of the research also supplements and references.



Literature Review

2-Literature Review

2-1 Introduction

This research will address the full picture of the situation of human rights and gender for women in the Gaza Strip; and based on the direct and indirect problems of women, and influences which are reflected in these problems on their lives. Accordingly; reviewed the literature in the period from 2005 to 2009; to diagnose the situation of Palestinian women, and to identify the political, economic, social, cultural and legal impact on women in the Gaza Strip.

2-2 Literature Review Methodology and Procedure

The research team adopted several methods for collecting women's related literature. Several feminist and human rights organizations were visited, in order to obtain the documents and studies they have on women. Institutions were contacted via their web pages. Also media have been followed. Finally conducted online research on issues of Palestinian women during the years 2005-2009.

All information obtained from the studies and work papers were examined and content analyzed in accordance with the problem tree, which was developed as bases for identifying problems and needs assessment. Accordingly, in the remaining part of this chapter, the reviewed literature is categorized as follows:

- The problems of women victims of human rights violations in the Gaza Strip.
- The direct causes of these problems. - The indirect causes of these problems. - The impact of these problems and their implications on human rights situation of women in the Gaza Strip.

2-3 Results of Literature Review and Analysis:

2-3-1 Women problems:

In consistency with the internationally recognized human rights principles; and according to WAC vision as a knowledge-base center, women at risk in Gaza Strip must be protected from violence and its multiple forms: duress, coercion, and deprivation.

A) Violence and its multiple forms

Occupation violence:

Palestinian women have been subject to repeated Israeli attacks in their private and public sphere. The recent Israeli offensive on the Gaza Strip was the most severe, where (108) women have been killed, (19) Palestinian women were killed in Gaza by the incursions and shelling during the period from January to November 2008. (97) Palestinian women are languishing in Israeli jails, of which (4) are from the Gaza Strip. (39) Palestinian women have been killed in the internal fights events. In addition, (6) women were killed during the incidents of disorder and chaos in 2006 & 2007. Also, the Israeli siege imposed on the Gaza Strip has caused the death of 13 women, a result of denial from travel to receive treatment abroad (Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, 2009).

The results of "Had el Qazzaz" (2005) study about 2005 violence, indicates that one of every five women in Gaza Strip came under direct injury of money and life as a result of Israeli attacks. Also, three of every four women in the Gaza Strip had been victims of fear or anxiety due to Israeli attacks in the past years. And one of every two women suffered direct injury by occupation; represented in injury to life of which 24% cases of death, and one of every five women have been victims of direct harm due to vandalism of homes; including 14% cases of complete house demolition, and 57% partial damage.

Domestic Violence

One of every five women in the Gaza Strip is victim of physical violence. One of every three women is subjected to psychological violence and verbal abuse, including libel and slander. One of every ten women suffers from social violence and abuse social. The study showed the existence of multiple forms of violence, including: violence against widows, divorced and elder women. The study, also, found that women can diagnose and determine the causes and mechanisms exist out of the cycle of violence, and there is an urgent need to listen to the voices of women victims; else feminist organizations would be trapped in a vicious circle (Center for Women's Affairs, 2005).

A study by "Community Voice" (2008) entitled "Violence against women", identified that 74.6% of women respondents have witnessed a form of violence against women, whether verbal, physical, sexual, economic or legal violence; and accounted that 42.3% of them have been victims of various forms violence. This, according to their point of view, is due to: poverty, widespread unemployment, customs and traditions, and political conditions in general.

In the same context (but on the issue of inheritance denial), "Layla El-Mdalal" (2005) affirmed that there is injustice befallen on women in the form of inheritance denial. Where the vast majority of her research sample agreed that the family system in the Palestinian society is unfair to women, with high prejudice as a result of society masculinity, male preference over female, and in difference to women's rights in general. On the other hand, the study pointed out that, there is ignorance and lack of women awareness of legal action to file legal suits for attaining their inheritance. According to a study by PCB S (2008), only 7.7% of Palestinian women own a house or property.

B) Coercion

Divorce is influenced by dominant social tradition in the Palestinian community. This is reflected in the traditional way of marrying of children. Where marriage is conducted by the will of parents in exile of the free choice of both spouses, early marriage of boys and girls alike, and the impact of family intervention on all their resolutions of the spouses. The study, also, noted that divorce is considered an authoritarian tool against women. This makes prevention of divorcerisks fall under the domestic and community violence that restricts women potential, limits their freedom and threatens their lives. The study confirmed, divorce occurrence is a negative option that has a devastating impact on divorced woman; due to lack of availability of legal and social protection for her. Also divorce would have devastating effects on children, and destroy their future (WAC, 2005). The Center for women's Legal research and consulting (2007) in a paper entitled "The phenomenon of early marriage in the Gaza Strip", confirmed that schools dropout is an important factor in early marriage, and at the same time one of the most important outcomes. Thus, the relationship between the two is moot. The study showed the impact of early marriage on the health, psychological and social status of women. Early marriage also increases the rates of divorce among young couples.

c) Deprivation

WAC study (2008) on "women entrepreneurs" indicated that the main difficulties and challenges they face are culture of shame, customs and traditions, marketing difficulties, and exploitation by traders. The type of support they need is material, legal, social and psychological. A study by Palestine Economic Policy Research institute (2005) identified that

financial support is the most important requirement for Palestinian women to start a project.

In the process of assessing the needs for women and girls in Sloan area - Jerusalem governorate; "Sama Oidah" noted that attaining an employment opportunities is one of the most important needs for women, followed by the need to raise community awareness on gender issues, then educational and re-creation al programs for women, then legal services for women victims of violence, and finally capacity building of girls and young women on various life skills. Also women need for better educational services ... in particular educational facilities in schools, and the opening of secondary schools (Center for Women's Studies, 2008).

According to PCBS (2007), The unemployment rate for women during the year 2001 amounted to about 14.1%, and continued to grow during the years 2003, 2004 and 2005 to reach 18% in the second quarter of 2007.

The study titled "the needs of women and men after the war on Gaza" by UNIFEM (2009) identified that there is equal concern among women regarding domestic and Israeli occupation violence. Domestic violence has increased more among families that relocated from their place of original domicile to other places, and in the southern parts of Gaza Strip. Domestic violence is the main problem facing the safety of women and girls in society; while general and political violence is the fundamental problem facing the security and safety of men and boys. There are no legal or public mechanisms that can protect men and women' victims of social and political violence in the Gaza Strip. Violence against men is a public offense, while violence against women is considered a private family issue. Housewives are the most disadvantaged community segment regarding access to basic needs and comprehensive protection from violence.

UNIFEM (2009), in the same study, noted that there is a preference to satisfy the needs of boys when there is shortage of food in the family, and the ones with lowest priority are the elderly. After the war, the time spent by women in cooking has become less; due to the limited availability of cooking gas and the decline in food security.

There is a big drop in housewives' sources of income after the war compared to men. Before the war, 20% of women and 10% of men affirmed that they relied on the relief and assistance from UNRWA as a primary source of income. While, 40% of men and women depended on "the international relief agency" as a secondary source of income before and after the war. There is a consensus between men and women that wives bear a greater burden, than their husbands, in the provision of a secondary income for the family.

Conclusions

Based on review and analysis of relevant literature, problems of women in the Gaza Strip can be summarized as follows:

- Violence problems: This includes all forms of violence against women; namely:
 - Occupation violence: the killing, injury, disability, loss, and displacement.
 - Family violence: physical, sexual, emotional or psychological abuse, economic abuse, threats of violence, murder on the background of the so-called "family honor", incest, early marriage, and divorce.
 - Community violence: rape, sexual harassment, stereotyping of women, and stereotyping of women's work in specific areas.
 - Social violence: insulting and obscene language directed to the wife in front of others, suppression, silencing, ridicule, appearance and behavior criticism, control, prosecution, circle of acquaintances control, and isolating from family.
- Coercion: where women suffer from coercion in several forms and levels:
 - Forced early marriage.
 - Coercion not to marry.
 - Coercion on work that does not respect the dignity of women.
 - Coercion on polygamy - Example: (martyr's wives of the).
 - Coercion on migration from their homes.
- Deprivation: women suffering from:
 - Deprivation from education.
 - Deprivation from basic needs (food, drink, and clothing).
 - Denial of access to information resources about available services.
 - Deprivation from financial resources, and access to material resources.
 - Deprived from participation in union work.
 - Deprived of participation in decision-making in the family and community.

2-3-2 Direct Causes

Human Rights Watch (2006) noted in its report on "Violence against Palestinian Women and Girls" that only a limited percentage of rape cases are brought up to justice, and that Palestinian judiciary system imposes onerous burdens of proof and legal procedures on rape victims, which practically shuts the door in front of filing of complaints. In practice, the possibility of filing complaints. This reflects the laws paralysis and lack of effectiveness, which negatively affects the prevalence of violence and expansion of its constituency. The Human Rights Watch has asked the Palestinian National Authority, as an urgent priority, to work on the prevention of violence against women and girls, and promote accountability for crimes of violence, through effective investigation and prosecution. Furthermore, the need to enact laws that criminalize all forms of domestic violence, and to repeal legal provisions that perpetuate violence against women and girls or tolerance towards them. The report pointed out that: "The Palestinian National Authority" considers security within the context of occupation only, and completely ignores actual security problems threatening women in their homes. And as such, PNA not only refrains from taking the necessary measures to prevent violence against women, and to investigate incidents, and punish perpetrators, which puts the lives of women and their health at stake; but also deny the victims from rights defined by the international law of human rights, including their right of non-discrimination and the effective judicial treatment of inflicted abuses.

Some of the direct causes of women's problems in Gaza Strip are extreme poverty, which they live in and try to circumvent to achieve acceptable living. WAC (2006) study entitled "the reality of women in rural areas in Mawasi - Rafah" noted that women living in extreme poverty continue to look for a source of security and protection for their families, through the request for basic needs that meet the minimum living requirements. The study showed the poor conditions of women and their sense of social isolation, despite the Israeli withdrawal, and Azn suffer from psychological effects of the Israeli occupation and settlers from the barriers and insulation inspections and violations of the dignity and freedoms and their families. so; demanded intensified psychological support, and they asked the women's institutions interested in helping them through projects generating income, and empowerment; as the poverty cycle for women and makes them vulnerable to multiple types of violence, and forced them to accept lower levels of opportunity and treatment; in order to obtain a little for themselves and their families, and even makes them skipping their needs as women in order to provide a living for their children and care for them.

Loai Shabana and Jawad El-Saleh (2008), in a study entitled "The challenges of women's participation in the labor market and the interventions that", presented that Women participation in the workforce is generally low in the Palestinian territories, and it is particularly low in the production process, especially in the Gaza Strip. The study also demonstrated that the low female participation is due to social, cultural and economic reasons, resulting in the limited number of economic activities that they compete in.

In the context of women's participation in the media field and their ability to cover women's issues, the successive series of events and the instability of the situation in the Gaza Strip has led to an unprecedented setback for Palestinian media women, has offered Hedaya Shamoun (2009) presented the sad professional reality of Palestinian media women in Gaza Strip, where 53 out of a total 1001 lost their position in the broadcast, printed and visual media. As a result of June 2007 events, many media institutions were closed down, which caused a serious unprecedented setback in the history of Palestinian media-women. The study showed that 49.2% of Palestinian media-women work without a contract that protects their rights. The study results identified that there is a general sense of discrimination between females and males in the media field, where 23.7% of them confirmed this feeling. The journalists union is also discriminative against women, since 84.7% of media-women do not have membership in the journalists union; also there is no representation of women in the union board.

Nima Abu Helo (2008), in the study entitled: "social skills and their relationship to decision-making for women leaders in the Palestinian civil society", explained the importance of women leaders' role in the Palestinian society. The study showed that 67.1% of women leaders in Palestinian civil society have good level of social skills, with social control skill having the highest rate for social skills (81.2%), followed by social expression (65.4%), and social sensitivity came in last (49.8%). The study also noted that women leaders in the Palestinian civil society have high level of ability to take decisions (76.5%).

Salwa Thabet (2006) and Nima Abu Helo (2008) have indicated that civil society organizations' (CSOs) role in the development of Palestinian women is good. The CSOs are still focused on meeting women practical needs, such as: health services, relief and the requirements of daily life, but did not focus enough on the development aspect. As well as, the presence of role differences in CSOs with respect to preparing, training and developing of Palestinian women; due, mainly, to sex variable.

Regarding women role in political participation, Al-Masri and Elslim (2008) study emphasized that Palestinian women's political participation was weak, (48.4%) of the total sample. Divorced women are more educated. Women members in political parties are the most involved in political action. The most important impediments to women political participation, in order of importance, are self-constraints, followed by religious obstacles, then political obstacles, then socio-cultural constraints, then economic barriers, and lastly legal obstacles.

Hedayah Shamun (2006) showed that the proportion of female members in political parties is 15%, compared to 85% of women that have no affiliation to any political party. About 42% of women believe that work in the politics improves their status in society; while 37% consider that political participation will not lead to a positive impact in women's lives. As for participation obstacles, they were represented in the private sphere of the family and surroundings, and the general sphere represented in the dominant culture, economic conditions, and legal discrimination.

Halal Mannan (2006) in her study entitled: "The participation of women in local councils in the Gaza Strip", offered an analysis from gender perspective, which stated that the main bottleneck for women appointment is the non-binding resolution to include female member in all the local councils. The problem is that this decision was not implemented, since it lacked binding implementation mechanisms. The study also showed that the proportion women representation in local bodies does not indicate or imply active participation. The study found that 85.6% of women did not feel any positive role for local councils in their lives, The municipalities did not have special interest in developing the status of women, as 73.3% of researched women indicated.

Conclusions

Based on review and analysis of relevant literature, direct causes of women's' problems in the Gaza Strip can be summarized as follows:

- The presence of Israeli occupation and its violent practices and aggressions against the Palestinian people in general; and Palestinian women in particular.
- The dominant male culture in Palestinian society, including customs and traditions.
- The control of biased anti-women social trends (injustice and gender inequality), at family level with male preference over female or at workplace with wages discrimination.
- Rising poverty levels in the Palestinian society (90%).
- Necessary materials shortage and high prices.
- Women leadership's lack of presence in decision-making and strategies planning positions.
- Information sources shortage about available services.
- Civil society fragility of and its ability to represent women, and weak lobbying and advocacy campaigns on women's issues.
- Media weakness in documenting and exposing the crimes of occupation against women and the family, poverty and livelihoods.

2-3-3 Indirect Causes

Women and Armed Struggle "Women and armed conflict" study presented in the First Conference of Arab Women Organization (2006), stated that international conventions affirmed human rights respect in times of peace and war. Beijing platform for Action identified (adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women) that the lack of respect for women human rights, and the inadequate promotion and protection of these rights, is "a matter of serious concern". The Platform for Action reaffirmed that women human rights are part of the international human rights; and that the full enjoyment of all human rights is critical for women empowerment and the enjoyment of autonomy.

Ghada Abu Giap (2008) in a study on "The impact of the siege on the Palestinian family from women standpoint" noted to the deterioration of families economic situations with or on the level of household head loss of work or the level of family monthly income decrease. Also, families are suffering from debt accumulation and rising prices of commodity and goods due to the siege. As for the siege impact on the social status of the family; 28.3% of sample has indicated increase in early marriage incidence and on the other side forced number of young men to postpone marriage. Also 30.5% of females in sample indicate the occurrence of divorce within their families. At the level of Palestinian families psychological situations, 60.5% of the sample expressed that violence against women and children has increased during the period of the siege. Examined sample also noted an increase in nervousness, tension and anxiety within families. As for education; students' failure rates have increased, attaining low grades, associated with increase schools drop out rate.

With respect to health status, the study pointed out that 58.7% of the sample thought that the siege has caused individual's

inability to receive treatment abroad, as well as the inability to afford treatment costs. As for CSOs role, 35.5% of the sample believes that CSOs are fulfilling its role in mitigating the effects of the siege on families, with 18.7% on the level of violence against women and children, and the economic situation of Palestinian families.

According to UNRWA, 44.9% of pregnant women in the Gaza Strip suffer from iron deficiency which causes anemia, as a result of the deteriorating quality of health care in the occupied Palestinian territories during 2007, and as a result of restrictions imposed by Israel on Palestinians freedom of movement (Youssef Ibrahim, 2008).

In a survey on health providers and beneficiaries, the results indicated that the proportion of health problems because of childhood and maternity care or family planning or births is 17.5% in the Palestinian territories, with 18.7% for West Bank and 14.4% for Gaza Strip. When examining health problems in incidences and distribution on patients (according to the health sector, which went to for a medical consultation) data indicate that the highest percentage of patients (26.9%) going to the government sector were for maternal and child care, family planning, or giving birth. With regard to the private sector, 14.4% of visits were due to maternal and child care, family planning or giving birth. As for clinics and health care centers, they provided pregnancy care service by 24.8%. With regard to non-governmental organizations, the proportion of visits due to maternity and childhood, family planning, or giving birth is 22.5%, and the service provides for pregnancy care women is 66.1% (Central Bureau of Statistics, 2005).

WAC (2008), in a study entitled "The impact of the siege and the political division on family and social relationships in the Gaza Strip", affirmed that domestic violence has increased significantly after the split, because of differences in political affiliations or because of poverty and unemployment resulting from the siege. The split has ripped apart bonds in many families.

WAC (2007) a study entitled: "Women in the Gaza Strip: the siege; impoverishment; and security disorder", indicated that the majority of women opposed internal strife and became restrained and anxious of draining of their mobility in the public sphere, and loss of safety factor in private and public lives. The study also reflected women vulnerability, almost daily over many months, to bombardment, and the effects of the siege that deprived the population of most basic needs. The continuing situation of impoverishment is both cause and result of domestic violence prevalence; thereby increasing the suffering of women and their children.

Mona Al-Shehnia (2006) in a study on "cultural transformations and their impact on the phenomenon of violence against women in Palestinian society," explained that violence against women manifestations are: physical, economic, verbal, mental, sexual and moral. As for the level of violence against women in society; varies depending on the number of variables; either: a woman's age, level of education, type of family and place of residence, where violence practiced more on young women in age, less educated, and living in extended family, as well as women in the villages. The study showed varying causes of violence; which was most important: social reasons, followed by cultural and economic causes and legal reasons.

Woman Center for Research and Development (2008) in a survey on "The impact of cuts salaries of Palestinian women", identified that about 77% of the households (which were provided for by women before salaries cutting) have been deprived of such support. The poll showed that 89.2% of respondents do not have other source(s) of income. At the social level, the negative effect on working females' family and social relations ranges between 50 to 90%, and about 78.7% did not receive any external aid. Finally; show that the 44.5% of the sample had been negatively affected by political choices due to siege.

Center for Women's Legal Research and Consulting (2007) in a study titled: "Discrimination in men and women punishment for the crime of adultery", stated that, Islamic law has equated between men and women; while applied law discriminates in the sentence to be tough on adulterous wife and diluted on adulterer husband. The study also recommended the stopping of discrimination against women as reflected in some laws, because such discrimination is contrary to the protection of human rights in Palestinian society, and constitutes a blatant attack on women's rights.

Euro - Mediterranean Human Rights Network (2006) in the research titled "achieving gender equality in the Euro - Mediterranean area: change is possible and necessary" clarified that, change is both possible and necessary. The research questions the prevailing stereotypes image of the region, which is drawn by conservative, static, and rigid religious and traditions that are subject to change that women suffer from oppression, and we are not aware of what is going on around them. The research shows that change is possible and that the most sensitive issues for women relating to: family law, domestic violence, the rights associated with pregnancy and child birth, and the struggle to achieve gender equality. The research shows that change is necessary because of the economic and social changes experienced by the communities.

Karem Nashwan (2005) in a critical and comparative study on the "Draft Law of Personal Status" noted that, family law, although numerous, clear discriminate between men and women on the basis of sex, especially since the inherited laws

have been developed with masculine context and are representative of the economic, history, and Social historical trends. They all contributed to the masculine structure of family relations causing the most serious violations in the family in general and to women in particular. With the comprehensive Palestine legislative revolution witnessed since the election of the Legislative Council in 1996 and today has sought the feminist movement, and with the support of political parties, to develop family laws on the ladder of priorities within the legal requirement by amending and standardizing, which promoted equality between men and women.

Conclusions

Based on review and analysis of relevant literature, in direct causes of women's problems in the Gaza Strip can be summarized as follows:

- Political instability in the region.
- Israeli siege imposed on the Gaza Strip.
- Instability of the internal Palestinian situation.
- International isolation imposed on the Gaza Strip since the victory of " Hamas " movement in 2006 legislative elections.
- The lack of a sound legal environment that serves women's issues.
- The global financial crisis and its economic repercussions.
- High population growth (3.4 %).

Fadl Abu Hein (2008) in a study titled: " the Israeli siege and its psychological effects on the Palestinian population in Gaza," states that 55% of the population suffered from average anxiety, and 42% of cases of average depression, and both need psychological guidance and intervention. 12% of the population suffers from serious concern, and 9% suffer from severe depression and are, thus are in dire/urgent need for treatment, psychiatry, recreational places, and self expression in light of siege. And the resulting internal divisions drew Palestinian society and resulted in the case of hatred and revenge towards each other. And that 60% of parents have become more violent and nervous against the mother, 77% of mothers have become more nervous with the father and children due to the siege, 84% of mothers have become more fearful and isolated than before.

In the context of the effects of war on the mental health of the parents Rawya Hamam (2009) showed that the average number of parents exposure to traumatic events amounted to approximately 14 traumatic event per individual, and that 95% of males were exposed to traumatic events compared to 98% for females, and accounted for 97.2% of the parents did not feel safe in their homes during the war, and they are not able to protect their loved ones.

"Mervat Mokbel and Wafa Younis (2008) study highlighted the "psychological and social effects of women losing the irons for security chaos and by the Israeli occupation" that women are the subject of study, the need for psychological support more than financial support to support them. The study also emphasizes that feelings of hatred and revenge and the non-acceptance of others is still raging in the hearts of mothers suffering from loss, and have mixed feelings toward the ir children's deaths result of the fighting between the "open" and "Hamas" as it did not feel proud; the fact that their children are not martyrs.

Amal Taleb (2008) in the study entitled: "the degree of satisfaction of basic needs and their relationship to degree of marital harmony," identified that need for self-esteem got the highest degree of satisfaction, while the need for security came as the very least required need; as a result of incursions and assassinations, as well as a result of interior conflicts and internal fighting. This result came in contrary to the view of the "Maslow" that fulfillment of basic needs be greater than the saturation in the needs of higher education.

Slama Zuaiter" (2007) through the study entitled: "The sociological dimension of women's work and its impact on the ir position in society that" showed that, women's work contributed to the social status distinguished them, and the existence of a direct correlation between the values different sociological dimension to the work of women.

In the context of women's health; as explained Shabana (2009) that the abortion rate of 7.1% in the Palestinian territories, by 6.4% in the West Bank and 8.1% in Gaza Strip in 2005 and 2006, and the percentage of Caesarean sections recorded in the hospital, "healing" reached 32% at the end of the year 2008 and 29% in January 2009 of all births that took place in these months, the average rate in normal conditions was up to 15%, and Shabana pointed out that there is increase in the number of births in January 2009 up to 5000 cases compared Regular monthly rate before the war, a 4000 case, this increase may be attributed to an increase in the number of preterm births during the war. Meanwhile beneficiaries; see most of the women (85.6%) than those who did not receive post-natal care, the absence of health problems after birth is the

main reason for the non-selected and post-natal care. While showing that the lack of service was the reason, too, behind the non-selected and postnatal care, where the percentage reached 38.6% in the Palestinian territories and the rise in the Gaza Strip increased by 4 times that in the West Bank (44%, 10.8%).

Suhad Obied (2006) in her study "stress and job satisfaction of women in leadership positions in the Gaza Strip," noted that, the proportion of women in leadership positions who are subjected to psychological pressure is 61%, and the percentage of job satisfaction is 66%. Psychological pressures sustained by Palestinian women are: political pressures, family pressures, work pressures, community pressures and current period pressures (lawlessness and economic pressures). The study verified that the greater the work pressures the less job satisfaction in married women. Because they suffer most pressure and pain, where customs and traditions make women bear the responsibilities of the home, in addition to work responsibilities.

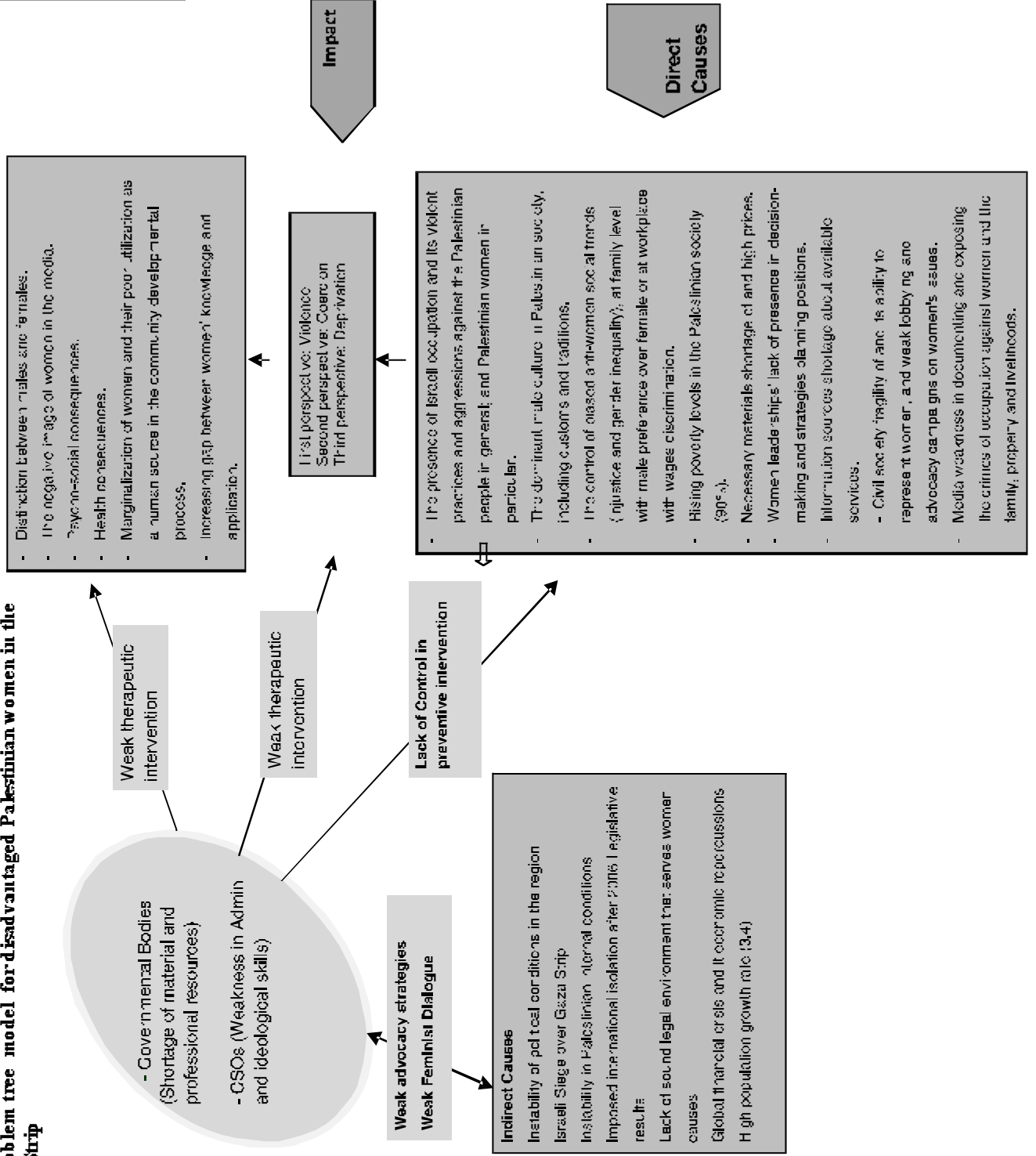
UNIFEM (2009), explained that, the biggest health problems women, which suffer from, is the trauma and psychological stress resulting from the war.

Conclusions

Based on review and analysis of relevant literature, the direct causes of women's problems in the Gaza Strip can be summarized as follows:

- Distinction between males and females.
- The negative image of women in the media.
- Psycho-social consequences.
- Health consequences.
- Marginalization of women and their poor utilization as a human source in the community developmental process.
- Increasing gap between women's knowledge and application.

2-4 Problem tree model for disadvantaged Palestinian women in the Gaza Strip





Research Approach and Methodology

3-Research Approach and Methodology

3-1 Research Approach

The research was based on descriptive-analytical approach, to analyze the comprehensive and integrated picture of women situation in Gaza Strip. The predictive approach was used for setting women priority issues and problems, to assist decision makers in feminist organizations and donors in policy and appropriate interventions development to improve women's status in the Gaza Strip.

3-2 Research Methods

Several Research methods were used as follows;

3-2-1 Literature review: 40 studies, researches and working papers, on Palestinian women in all fields since 2005 and until 2009, were reviewed. Furthermore, Arab reports and studies, and other issued by human rights organizations were examined. This has been detailed in the beginning of the study.

3-2-2 Questionnaire: Was designed as scientific research tool to measure quantitative data. Where the team was able to design a questionnaire for women and another for men, in an attempt to measure trends and views of women and men in determining priorities of women's issues in Gaza Strip. It included resolution of the study, and personal and demographic data. Women's questionnaire contained 60 questions, covering all social, psychological, economic and cultural problems of women; while men's questionnaire included 25 questions in the problems and issues of women. The questionnaire contained both open-ended and closed questions. Closed question answers were based on (Likert scale) of multi-choice by giving a value of zero to 4.

7 field workers acted as facilitators of women and men questionnaire fillings sessions, then invested time by conducting focused groups meetings to women and men views regarding women's issues in Gaza Strip. The report includes outstanding testimonies from women, and what men in the sessions, as well as field workers most important observations on groups and host organizations.

Cooperation and coordination was made with partner institutions, according to certain criteria. The first is based on geographic division, and second is concerned with sample characteristics; as follows:

The first criterion, geographical distribution:

Gaza has been divided into (5) governorates as follows: Gaza - North - Central - Khan Yunis - Rafah. Each province was divided as follows:

Northern Governorate: (Jabaliya- Jabalia town - Beit Hanoun).

Gaza Governorate:

- East includes: (Shoja'eya - To'fah - Zaytoon - Sha'af - Mount Rayyes)
- West and include: (Tel' Hawa - Sheikh Ajleen - beach camp - port area).
- North and include: (Sheikh Radwan - Zarqa area - Galaa).
- South and include: (Sabra - Al' dhah).
- Middle and include: (Remal - Daraj - Downtown - Saha - Wehda street).

Middle Governorate:

- Jor' Al' diek - Wadi' Gaza - Maghazi - Messadar.
- Deir el-Balah including (city - camp).
- Nuseirat - the flower - Mughr' aqara - zone Zawaid a

Khan Yunis Governorate:

- Eastern Region: Kara'ra - Khu'zaa - Abassan (old and new) - Bani Su' haila village - Fokhary area.
- Center of Khan Yunis: Khan Yunis city - Gizan Al-Najjar - Sattar (east and west).
- Western Region: Khan Yunis Mawasi - Maja' yda - Hassan al-Najjar

Rafah Governorate:

- Shokha town.
- Nassr town.

Rafah municipality including:

The city (Su'ltan district - Mawasi - Western Rafah).

Shaboura camps district.
El Geneina - Tanweer area - Al-Salam - Brazil

The second criterion, according to the following specifications:

- Men: from 20-50 years (students - workers - unemployed).
- Women: from 20-50 years (students - workers - housewives).

the number of women and men of each institution was according to sample distribution

Research Total Population and Sample:

- Gaza Strip has been identified as geographic boundary for research total population covering its five governorates. Research time-frame has been defined to be from the beginning of 2005 till now. Research covers Palestinian women from 20-50 years (students - workers - housewives). And men of 20-50 years (students - workers - are unemployed). Research population sizes of women and men have been (109,537) and (112,647), respectively.
- The sizes of representative sample of women and men have been calculated using a computer to achieve 95% Confidence Level and 5% Confidence Interval. Accordingly, the results can be generalized to the whole population. The representative sample, for women and men, was 383.
- The representative sample was distributed, in such a way, to assure it having proper representation of research population specifications of age, geographic region and women and men occupations.
- Reaching the target group relied field workers, who were trained and then delegation to partner CSOs according to its geographical location, and its potential to provide the sample as set forth above. The collaboration with 18 institutions for the mobilization of research civil questionnaires, and (38) Foundation for the implementation of focus groups.

Table (1): Distribution of research female population over Gaza governorates

1	Gaza	36982
2	Khan Younis	21689
3	Middle Governorate	16179
4	North	21394
5	Rafah	13293
Total		109537

1	Gaza	129
2	Khan Younis	76
3	Middle Governorate	57
4	North	75
5	Rafah	46
Total		383

1	Gaza	38039
2	Khan Younis	22304
3	Middle Governorate	16638
4	North	22000
5	Rafah	13518
Total		112647

1	Gaza	129
2	Khan Younis	76
3	Middle Governorate	57
4	North	75
5	Rafah	46
Total		383

3-4 Field Work:

3-4-1 Fieldwork team:

6 field workers / meetings facilitators were selected from among WAC staff, which had previous experience in fieldwork and in the study field

3-4-2 Fieldwork team training:

One day training was provided for the team, in which the research idea, execution plan and elements were presented. This included the presentation of the research problem tree, research tools, revision of questionnaire and response to any questions that might be aroused by the target sample members. Also the research methodology and in dealing with CSOs to identify and reach the research sample after the application of selection criteria (age and geographic area, occupation, number of each group of women or men). It was also emphasized to take advantage of these groups by conducting the focus groups meeting after the filling the questionnaire with the collectively. The Focus groups were set to discuss raised issues. Emphasis was given to taking notes and statements of the target group, and presenting their views and perspectives.

3-4-3 Fieldwork mechanism:

- **Fieldwork coordination:**

Coordination and networking was made with 18 CSOs covering all of Gaza Strip, to contribute in compiling of required categories according to research population characteristics, which amounted to 383 women and men.

- **Questionnaires:**

Data collection using the questionnaires for the research required the period from 7 June until 18 June 2009. All received filled questionnaires were reviewed and verified. The questionnaires that were damaged, lost or did not fulfill the conditions were excluded. The end result was as follows:

- Women: (387) questionnaires received and (4) excluded - Men: (332) questionnaires received and (51) excluded.

- **Questionnaires Data Entry:**

Data were entered and analyzed as follows:

- Set numerical estimates for the study sample responses.
- Enter the numerical estimates on the statistical analysis program (SPSS).
- Use of statistical treatments in the program; which fit the study questions, namely:
 - Frequency.
 - Mathematical Averages (mean, and median).
 - Relative weights according to averages.
 - Extract some graphics representations of Mathematical averages.
 - Results interpretation.

In addition to descriptive statistical analysis, multiple linear regression analysis was performed; in order to identify women's priorities issues that must be dealt with by CSOs

Focus groups:

(38) Focus groups were organized as one of the qualitative research methods; to attain in-depth information and qualitative information to be integrated with the questionnaires analysis results. Thus have objective evidence based information in dealing with issues and problems faced by women in the Gaza Strip. 82 specialists and experts participated in the focus group, each in her/his area of specialty. All the meetings were tape-recorded, including themes, comments and answers to the questions of the research search by specialization; and then each fieldworker fully replayed the meeting, determined answers for each question by the focus group, and recorded the answers in the designated table.

In this context, focus groups for the following categories were coordinated and implemented:

- Media men and women, and writers.
- Social workers and psychologists from mental health institutions.
- Representatives of feminist organizations (Feminist organizations and leaderships) - Representatives of civil and private sectors.

- Experts in the field of women and development.
- Representatives of human rights organizations.
- Women and men with the same characteristics as the sample study.

The questions asked in each of the focus groups were as follows:

- 1- In the focus group for Media men and women, and writers:
 - To what degree is the stereotyping of women as female?
 - To what extent is media weak in documenting and exposing occupation crimes against women, family, property and livelihoods?
 - To what extent there is a positive image of women in the media?
 - To what extent are government institutions responsive to solving women problems?
 - To what extent are civil society organizations responsive to solving women problems?
- 2- In the focused group for mental health institutions representatives:
 - What is the impact on women private space during Israeli attacks (women privacy)?
 - To what extent is women's vulnerable to domestic physical abuse?
 - To what extent is women's vulnerable to domestic sexual abuse?
 - To what extent is women's vulnerable to emotional or psychological domestic abuse of prisoners?
 - To what extent is women's vulnerable to threat of violence from a family member?
 - To what extent is women's vulnerable to be killed on the so-called "honor killing" by a family member?
 - To what extent is women's vulnerable to incest by a family member?
 - To what extent is women' vulnerable to divorce against her will?
 - To what extent is women's vulnerable to psychological abuse from neighbors?
 - To what extent are women' vulnerable to rape?
 - To what extent are women' vulnerable to attempted rape?
 - To what extent is the impact of women's problems on the psycho-social situation?
 - To what extent do government institutions contribute to solving the problems of women?
 - To what extent do civil society organizations contribute to solving the problems of women?
- 3- In the focus Group for feminist organizations and leaderships:
 - To what extent is the stereotyping of women as female?
 - To what extent are women's denied basic needs (food, drink, and clothing)?
 - To what extent are women deprived from access to sources of information on available services?
 - To what extent is women's denied access to her financial resources (inheritance, work (Salary) and personal expense).
 - To what extent are women' denied access to material resources (Basic Services) (health, educational, psychological and employment services)?
 - To what extent are women' denied participation in decision-making in the family and community?
 - What is the impact of the Israeli occupation and its violent practices and aggressions against the Palestinian people in general; and Palestinian women in particular?
 - How dominant is the patriarchal culture on Palestinian society including customs and traditions of the society?
 - How dominant is social trends biased against women (injustice and gender inequality) at the level of the family, male's preference over females, or in workplace, discrimination in wages?
 - To what degree are women leaders holding decision-making and strategies planning positions?
 - How fragile is civil society and what is its ability to represent women; and weak lobbying and advocacy campaigns on women's issues.
 - What is the effect of regional political situations' stabilizing the in the region on women?
 - What is impact of the Israeli siege imposed on the Gaza Strip on women?
 - What is impact of instability of the internal Palestinian situation on women?
 - To what extent is the discrimination between males and females?
 - To what extent is women image in media positive?
 - What is the impact of women's problems on the psycho-social situation?

- To what extent does The marginalization of women and poor use of them as a source of human in the process of community development?
- To what extent is the gap increasing between the knowledge and application in the case of women?
- To what extent is the government institutions contribution to solving women's problems?
- To what extent is CSOs contribution to solving women's problems?

4- In the focus Group for Representatives of civil and private sectors:

- To what extent is the gap increasing between the knowledge and application in the case of women?
- To what extent is the government institutions contribution to solving women's problems?
- To what extent is CSOs contribution to solving women's problems?

4 Focus Group for Representatives of Human Rights Organization:

- To what extent are women vulnerable to being killed during the repeated Israeli aggression?
- To what extent are women vulnerable to loss or injury of close family during the repeated Israeli aggressions?
- To what extent are women vulnerable to displacement and transition from place of residence during the Israeli attacks?
- To what extent are women vulnerable to take over of their heritage and own funds?
- To what extent are women vulnerable to divorce against her will?
- To what extent are women vulnerable to tribal pressure (marriage - divorce)?
- To what extent are women vulnerable to rape?
- To what extent is women denial of participation in union work?
- To what extent is women denial of absolute right to custody of children?
- To what extent is the impact of the absence of a sound legal environment to serve women's issues?
- To what extent is the government institutions contribution to solving women's problems?
- To what extent is CSOs contribution to solving women's problems?

5- Focus Group for community activists in women's issues and gender:

- What is the impact on women private space during Israeli attacks (women privacy)?
- How to identify areas of work for women?
- To what extent are women vulnerable to forced marriage?
- To what extent are women vulnerable to being forced on work that does not respect her dignity?
- To what extent are women vulnerable to forced to being one of multiple wives (polygamy)?
- To what extent are women vulnerable to being forced to leave her home?
- To what extent are women vulnerable to being deprived from education?
- To what extent are women vulnerable to being denied access to her financial resources (inheritance - salary/work - personal expense).
- To what extent are women vulnerable to being denied access to basic services (health, educational, psychological, employment services)?
- To what extent are women vulnerable to being denied participation in decision-making in the family and community?
- To what extent are women vulnerable to being denied absolute custody right of her children?
- How much control does the patriarchal culture have over Palestinian society including customs and traditions?
- To what extent are social trends biased against women (injustice and gender inequality) control over the family (males' preference over females), or in the workplace (wages discrimination)?
- To what extent are CSOs fragile and ability to represent women, and weak lobbying campaigns and advocacy to women's issues?
- What is the effect of stabilizing the political situation in the region on women?
- What is the impact of the Israeli siege imposed on the Gaza Strip on women?
- What is the impact of the instability of the internal Palestinians situation on women?
- What is the impact of the absence of a sound legal environment to serve women's issues?
- What is the impact of high population increase for women?
- What is the extent of discrimination between males and females?
- What is the positive image of women in the media?
- What is the extent to which government institutions to contribute to solving the problems of women?
- What is the extent of civil society organizations contribution to solving the problems of women?

Interviews:

Relied on the interview as qualitative research tools to obtain information and explanations more accurately than the specialists and experts; where the interview took place with (6) characters, including legal, experts in the field of development, women, and experts in the field of women's health, and rehabilitation specialist for special needs, and workers in public and private sector.

3-4-4 Problems and difficulties faced by the field workers:

Some institutions were flexible and very active in cooperation with the facilitators and provided space, equipment and logistics (appropriate chairs, pens and good hospitality); and contributed in helping the facilitators of the target group of illiteracy, or find it difficult to read and write. Also committed to providing category according to the specifications required and the required number; While some institutions were not required flexibility and optimal cooperation of meetings. And more or less than it's required, and this is what happened with one of the groups of men, though; facilitators tried to intervene, as appropriate for development of the institution. Often; institutions were cooperative and effective with the exception of a few institutions; such as, for example: Foundation apologized for the two groups before embarking on one hour only. This is the first experiment with 18 community organization in the five governorates of Gaza, but a rewarding experience and worthy of documentation and dissemination as meaningful and appropriate.

3-4-5 Notes Off field workers:

- Women have a susceptibility to talk about their problems, even if sensitive, with some effort from the researcher; but to ensure confidentiality.
- Women demanded that there be awareness of the value of women and men should be respected.
- Women are very interested in that raised such research, and hope a lot.
- Target group have various levels of awareness.
- There is great cooperation by the target group to discuss women's issues.
- Discussed the men and women with courage and admitted some of the injustice of men against women, calling it unfair and unclear.
- Men's desire to identify the results of the study as well as women.
- Some of the men categorically refused to answer some questions such as sexual harassment or deprivation of education.
- Seemed clear for some women to acknowledge sexual violence; reference or recognition, but Mutterings fear and concern expressed that
- The women on the problem of deprivation of children in Mrs. case of divorce, and reported two cases where children taken from the mother at the birth.
- Was observed in women's speed of absorption of the issues more than men.
- Has been the topic of polygamy is an expanded and large, and it was clear the men supported the idea of polygamy but rarely are.
- The unemployment of women to men and leisure increased marital problems, family, and formed additional pressure towards them.
- Women were adversely affected by culture, where men made tyrants, and forced their wives to go out to search for coupons in the institutions.

3-5 The Collection and Analysis of Documents:

To answer research questions from a variety of sources various documents were consulted including reports and data that can answer these questions and are in support of the responses obtained from other sources, and make all of the answers in an objective and a high transparency and credibility levels, and has one of the researchers to go and visit several institutions and access to documents and information related to research. In addition to information and documents that are located across the pages and websites of the organizations of civil and human rights, government; and then worked on the analysis of these documents using the method of content analysis, the search for answers to questions that have been agreed by the research team.



Information Analysis and Conclusions

4-Information Analysis and Conclusion:

4-1 Descriptive Analytical Approach:

Quantitative and qualitative information were collected during the month of June 2009; where a team of field workers completed two research questionnaires for women and men, and organized (38) focus group meetings, (6) interviews with community activists, as well as notes by field workers and revision of documents; to answer the research questions. The responses from different sources for each question have been triangulated to reach objective conclusions. There was not much difference in views between men and women's views, rather, there was consensus on many issues that have been made. Except for a small percentage, there was variance in diagnosing the problems of women in the Gaza Strip. The following table contains answers to research questions according to various sources of information and research methods of quantitative and qualitative:

4-1-1 Women Problems

Conclusions regarding Women Problems

- Palestinian women are subjected to the death, injury and disability and displacement due to Israeli attacks is too large. - Israeli attacks affect the privacy of women significantly.
- The ability of women with special needs to adapt is not more than 10%. Adaptation is very difficult due to the siege, and the difficulty of attaining supplementary devices.
- Women are subjected to sexual violence by 70%, but the recognition is one of the taboos of society.
- There is large proportion of violation and denial of women rights to inheritance or their own funds; and women are even killed in order to seize their inheritance.
- Women are killed on the "honor killing", and suffers sexual harassment, threats of violence, and abuse.
- Women are subjected to psychological abuse from neighbors, and to ridicule and verbally abusive husband or family members.
- There is coercion of women to the work that does not respect her dignity. - Women are deprived of their right to custody of children.
- Women are deprived from participating in decision-making in the family and community.
- Women are subjected to harassment and curiosity social relatives and neighbors. (Interference with privacy).

4-1-1-1 Occupation Violence
<p>4-1-1-1-1 The extent of women vulnerability to being killed during the repeated Israeli aggressions.</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results showed that most women (85% of female participants in the study) are exposed to the killings during mentioned Israeli attacks.</p> <p>Focus groups: Women are subjected to killings during the repeated Israeli attacks.</p> <p>Literature Review: Women are subjected to killings during the repeated Israeli attacks by a large margin.</p>
<p>4-1-1-1-2 The extent of women vulnerability to various injuries during the repeated Israeli aggressions</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: 88.5% of female participating in the study indicated that Palestinian women have suffered injuries during the Israeli attacks.</p> <p>Review and documentation: Women are infected with various injuries during the Israeli attacks.</p>
<p>4-1-1-1-3 The extent of women's exposure to different types of disability during the repeated Israeli aggressions.</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The female participants in the study expressed their belief that women's vulnerability to disability resulting from repeated Israeli attacks, as explained. 80% of women participants mentioned that women have been exposed to different types of disability.</p> <p>Interview: Women are subjected to different types of disability during the Israeli attacks.</p> <p>Literature review: Women are subjected to different types of disability during the repeated Israeli aggressions.</p>
<p>4-1-1-1-3-1 The ability of women with special needs to adapt to difficult circumstances (siege and war).</p> <p>Interview: The ability of women, with special needs, to adapt is low, since it is very difficult to attain supplementary devices as a result of the siege.</p>
<p>4-1-1-1-3-2 The effectiveness of NGOs in contributing to solving women with special needs problems.</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results showed that over 80% of female participants assured the effectiveness of NGOs in contributing to solving the problems of women with special needs.</p>
<p>4-1-1-1-4 The extent of women vulnerability to loss of a close family member during the Israeli attacks.</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The majority of female participants (90%) expressed that there was no house, which did not suffer from one form of the consequences of Israeli aggression, such as: loss or loss of or injury to a close.</p> <p>Focus groups: Palestinian women' suffering from loss or injury of a relative, as a result of Israeli attacks on the Palestinian people, is proportionally high.</p>

<p>4-1-1-5 The extent of women vulnerability to displacement during the Israeli attacks.</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results showed close proportion of female participants' views regarding Israeli measures and practices, where 92% (majority) mentioned that women leave their homes and become displaced during the Israeli attacks.</p> <p>Focus groups: Significant proportion of women has been displaced and move from place of residence as a result of attacks and the repeated invasions of them in search of safety and security.</p> <p>Literature review: Up to 90% Women are subjected to displacement and moving from place of residence during the Israeli attacks.</p>
<p>4-1-1-6 The impact of the Israeli attacks on the private space for women. (women privacy)</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results showed that 85% of female participants mentioned the violation of their privacy during the Israeli attacks.</p> <p>Focus groups: There is near unanimity regarding the negative impact of the repeated Israeli attacks on the space for Palestinian women as a result.</p>
<p>4-1-2 Domestic violence</p>
<p>4-1-2-1 The extent of women vulnerability to domestic physically abuse.</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results showed that 38.9% of female participants confirmed that Palestinian women experienced physical violence within the family. 16.2% of the female Participants strongly believed of women's vulnerability to domestic physical abuse. The male participants had the same opinion; and at levels comparable with women. On the other hand, the results showed that one third of the female participants negates Palestinian women exposure to domestic physical abuse. in return; the proportion of men that do not agree, even denying, the spread of this phenomenon, is 42.5% of male participants in the study.</p> <p>Focus groups: The domestic physical abuse against women is wide spread, with emphasis that physical violence exists within the Palestinian family' culture, and the three causes of violence are: poverty, ignorance and disease.</p>
<p>4-1-2-2 The extent of women vulnerability to sexual abuse within the family.</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results showed that 35.8% (almost one third of women) of the female participants agreed that women are vulnerability to violence and sexual abuse within the family; while 45.2% of female Participants rejected the notion that women are subjected to sexual abuse within the family.</p> <p>Focus groups: Women are subjected to sexual violence, but the recognition is one of the social taboos.</p>
<p>4-1-2-3 The extent of women vulnerability to emotional or psychological abuse within family.</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results showed that Explained 66% of female participants explained that Palestinian women suffer from emotional or psychological abuse within the family.</p> <p>Focus groups: Women are subjected to emotional or psychological violence by high, and against women either by her husband or parents.</p>

4-1-1-2-4 The extent of women vulnerability to being roped of their own funds and inheritance.

Questionnaire analysis:

The results showed that 70.8% of female participating agreed on the prevalence of women's vulnerability to being roped of her funds and inheritance. Male participants had the same view regarding the issue of denial of inheritance, but with lower approval rates (64.7%) and a non-approval rate of (27.2%), which suggests an attempt to reduce the severity and magnitude of this violation.

Focus groups:

There is a large proportion of violation and deny of women in their right to inheritance or their own funds; and women are even killed in order to seize their inheritance.

4-1-1-2-5 The extent of women vulnerability to the threat of violence from a family member.

Questionnaire analysis:

The results showed that 60% of the female participants confirmed that women are exposed to kinds of threat of violence by a family member.

Focus groups:

Women are subjected to the threat of violence by members of her family, and subjected to violence by the husband or brother or father or son

4-1-1-2-6 The extent of women vulnerability to being killed on the so-called "honor killing" of a family member

Questionnaire analysis:

The results of the study (which surveyed Participants point of view of the vulnerability of women in society to be killed by a member on the background of the so-called honor) showed the magnitude of this phenomenon, 33% of the female participants agreed to the spread of such practices and violations against women. In addition, 19% of the female participants consented strongly that Palestinian women are being killed on the background of the so-called "family honor".

Focus groups:

Women are killed on the background of the so-called honor.

Literature Review:

The documents make clear that women are being killed on the background of the so-called "honor" and that more motives to murder and honor is attributed to the suspicion, or inheritance, or family disputes.

4-1-1-2-7 The extent of women vulnerability to incest by a family member

Questionnaire analysis:

37.2% of the female participants indicated the existence of these practices within the community, while 46.9% felt that this phenomenon of is limited extent and size.

Focus groups:

Women are subjected to incest in Palestinian society.

Documents:

Women are subjected to incest by a family member

<p>4-1-1-2-8 The extent of women vulnerability to divorce against her will.</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results showed that 62.6% of the female participants agreed and stressed women's vulnerability to such violations in the community. Comparing the point of view of male participants (about the vulnerability of women to these practices) found that there is a significant difference in the proportion, 46% of men agree on the vulnerability of women to divorce against her will; while 40.8 % consider this as limited behavior with limited spread.</p> <p>Focus groups: Women are vulnerable to divorce against their will; for flimsy reasons, either the husband or his family or her family. The group that exchange marriage is one of the main causes for such divorces.</p> <p>Review Documents: Women are subjected to divorce against her will, and internal party differences impact on the vulnerability of women to divorce against her will.</p>
<p>4-1-1-2-9 The extent of women vulnerability to insult and ridicule of wife in front of others.</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results showed that 72.1% of female participants agree to the widespread of humiliation, insult and degrade of woman in front of others. 64.2% of male participants pointed out that this practice is present and widespread. While the difference between female and male participants that this does not agree was high, with 39.8% of men versus 20.5% of women.</p> <p>Focus groups: The presence of wife insult and ridicule of in front of others</p> <p>Literature review: Verbal violence against women is widespread in the Palestinian society. (Community voice, 2008)</p>
<p>4-1-1-2-10 The extent of wife vulnerability to being silenced.</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results showed that 70.3% of female participants affirmed the existence and spread of these practices. 59.1% of male participants agreed to this, while 34.1% rule out the occurrence of such practices.</p> <p>Focus groups: Women are vulnerable to being silenced</p>
<p>4-1-1-2-11 The extent of women vulnerability to irony and criticism of appearance and behavior.</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results showed that 71.5% of female participants confirmed the vulnerability of women to ridicule by the husband and criticism of her appearance and behavior, while 22.8% objected to spread of these violations.</p> <p>Focus groups: Women are vulnerable to irony and criticism of appearance and behavior</p>
<p>4-1-1-2-12 the extent of wife vulnerability to control and prosecution and the control of her circle of acquaintances</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results showed that of female participants agreed that women suffer from monitoring, prosecution and control of social network; while 28.4% did not agree of women on women's vulnerability to such practices.</p> <p>Focus groups: wife is vulnerable to control and prosecution and the control of her circle of acquaintances</p>

<p>4-1-1-2-13 the extent of wife vulnerability to being isolated from her family.</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results showed that 56.2% of female participants agreed to the existence of violations of the isolation from her family by the wife (), while the proportion who are excluded Posts repeat exposure of the wife from her family by isolate (37.5%).</p> <p>Focus groups: Wife is vulnerable to being isolated from her family</p>
<p>4-1-1-3 Social network violence (friends, neighbors and tribe)</p>
<p>4-1-1-3-1 The extent of women vulnerability to psychological abuse from neighbors.</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results showed that 57.8% of female participants agreed that Palestinian women subjected to psychological abuse due to neighbors interventions; while (29.5%) opposed women abuse at the hands of neighbors.</p> <p>Focus groups: Women are subjected to psychological abuse from neighbors.</p>
<p>4-1-1-3-2 The extent of women vulnerability to tribal pressure (marriage - divorce)</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results showed that (59.4%) of female participating in the study confirmed that women are subjected to the pressure of the clan, such as (marriage and divorce), while did not agree (32.5%) of women to the limited spread of these pressures.</p> <p>Focus groups: Women are subjected to significant tribal pressure.</p>
<p>4-1-1-3-3 The extent of women vulnerability to harassment and social curiosity from relatives and neighbors (interference with privacy).</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results showed that 39% of female participants expressed the prevalence of women's vulnerability to abuse from relatives and neighbors; while 29.4% confirmed it women's vulnerability to gossip. 16.1% of female participants did not agree to the spread of such practices and violations against Palestinian women.</p> <p>Focus groups: Women are subjected to harassment and curiosity Social relatives and neighbors.</p>
<p>4-1-1-4 Community Violence</p>
<p>4-1-1-4-1 The extent of women vulnerability to rape</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results showed that 29% of female participants confirmed that Palestinian women are being raped and 12% strongly confirmed that. On the other hand, 44.8% of female participants objected to the spread of women rape in Gaza strip.</p> <p>Focus groups: Women are vulnerable to rape in Gaza Strip.</p>

<p>4-1-1-4-2 The extent of women vulnerability to rape attempt</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results showed that 33.3% of female participants expressed the vulnerability of women to rape attempt in the community, and 14.2% strongly agreed to this vulnerability. While 40.9% of female participants objected to the spread of this vulnerability</p> <p>Focus groups: Women are victims to attempted rape in the Gaza Strip.</p>
<p>4-1-1-4-3 The extent of women vulnerability to sexual harassment.</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results showed that 40.2% of female participants agreed that women are exposed to attempts of sexual harassment, and 24.8% of female participants strongly agreed to the wide spread of this phenomena in the Palestinian society. On the other hand; different the rest of the posts (26.7%) on this view, and expressed their limited proliferation of such violations. With regard to see men on the prevalence of these practices; was over (46.1%) of men of consent, while ruling out (47.3%) of men and existence of these violations.</p> <p>Focus groups: Women are subjected to sexual harassment.</p>
<p>4-1-1-4-4 The extent of stereotyping of women in the media as female.</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results showed that 90% of female participants indicated that there is stereotyping of the image of women in the media.</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: There is significant stereotyping of women image.</p>
<p>4-1-1-4-5 the extent of limitation of women's areas of work.</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results showed that 69.5% of female participants expressed the prevailing social culture, which limits areas for women work; while 25.2% of female participants see no difference in the nature and type of work women get in Palestinian society.</p> <p>Focus groups: There are stereotypes of women's work in specific areas with a high degree.</p>
<p>4-1-1-5 Coercion</p>
<p>4-1-1-5-1 The extent of women coercion to early marriage.</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results showed that 66.2% of female participants assured the widespread of the phenomenon of women being forced into early marriage by the parents, which is a violation against women, while the remaining 28.8% disagreed and referred to the limited size of this phenomenon.</p>
<p>4-1-1-5-2 The extent of women coercion not to marry.</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results showed that 57% of female participants agreed that there is a pattern of women coercion not to marry, or putting conditions which may impede the marriage for girls, such as: the availability of specific conditions in the future spouse, or greed to take advantage of the income of working women or their property.</p> <p>Focus groups: There is coercion of women not to marry in the Palestinian community, in some cases; inheritance or segregation between the citizen and refugee.</p>

4-1-1-5-3 The extent of women coercion to do work that does not respect their dignity.

Questionnaire analysis:

The results showed that 36.8% of female participants agree to the vulnerability of women coercion to engage in work that does not respect their dignity; while 52% objected to this view.

Focus groups:

There is coercion of women to engage in work that does not respect their dignity, such as working as maid in the home, or in agriculture.

4-1-1-5-4 The extent of women coercion on multiple marriages.

Questionnaire analysis:

The results showed that 56.2% of female participants indicated parental involvement and coerce women to marry polygamous marriages in case of spouse death or divorce, driven by the concept of safeguarding; 33% of female participants excluded parental involvement in forcing a woman to marry again.

Focus groups:

There is compulsion on women multiple marriages by the society with somewhat high degree.

4-1-1-5-5 The extent of women coercion to leave from home.

Questionnaire analysis:

The results showed that 67% (two thirds of women) of female participants agreed on the widespread violation of forcing a woman to leave her home (expelled) in cases of death or disagreement with the husband; while 36.5% of female participants explained that this behavior is uncommon in the community.

Focus groups:

Women coerced and forced to leave her home with high proportion.

4-1-1-6 Deprivation

4-1-1-6-1 the extent of women denial from education.

Questionnaire analysis:

The results showed that 41.5% of female participants indicated violations of deprive women from education (in cases of early marriage and poor economic situation and preference for male education); while the largest proportion of female participants expressed approval and limited of such violations spread.

Focus groups:

There is increasing emphasis on education for females; however, the type of education or specialization is what would be deprived of their freedom of choice.

4-1-1-6-2 The extent of women denial from basic needs (food, drink and clothing)

Questionnaire analysis:

The results showed that 41.5% of female participants mentioned that women are subjected to deprivation of basic needs as a form of economic violence against women; while 60.1% disagreed.

Focus groups:

Denial of women's basic needs (food and drink) is very weak, while depriving them of clothing is very high as a result of worsening economic conditions.

<p>4-1-1-6-3 The extent of women denial from access to sources of information on available services</p> <p>Focus groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The results showed that 58.9% of female participants mentioned that there is weakness in the information system, access to information and access to sources; while 30.2% excluded this deprivation.- There is a denial of women's access to sources of information by up to 80%, due to a combination of poor information about these services, and does not allow freedom of movement for women, is constrained by a husband and family, as well as to shorten the institutions, and weak networking among them.
<p>4-1-1-6-4 The extent of women denial from financial resources.</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis:</p> <p>The results showed that 65.3% of female participants affirmed that women in the community are deprived of financial resources such as: inheritance and access to jobs, also noted that there are practices that deprive women of personal expense as a kind of discipline and subjugation. While the rest (34.3%) objected to the proliferation of such violations.</p> <p>Focus groups:</p> <p>Inheritance is the financial resources most denied for women, then comes deprivation from work and personal expense.</p>
<p>4-1-1-6-5 The extent of women denial from access to basic services.</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis:</p> <p>The results showed that 48.8% of female participants mentioned the denial of women's access to basic services (health services, educational and psychological) as compared to financial resources. While 44.1% excluded the existence of such practices.</p> <p>Focus groups:</p> <p>Group felt that women are denied access to health services and educational services and operational resources and psychological services.</p>
<p>4-1-1-6-6 The extent of women denial from participation in union work</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis:</p> <p>The study revealed that more than half of the women (53.7%) have agreed on that there are constraints, obstacles and limitation for its role in political life or union, and is the perfect place to them.</p> <p>Focus groups:</p> <p>Participation of women in trade union action is limited as a result of patriarchal Palestinian society, and as there is no application of the laws as they are, and the knowledge base of women is limited.</p>
<p>4-1-1-6-7 The extent of women denial from participation in decision-making in the family and community</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis:</p> <p>The results showed that 62.9% of female participants prevalence of scabable and denial of woman's participation in decision-making in the family and community, while one third of the posts did not agree with this opinion.</p> <p>Focus groups:</p> <p>There is deprivation of women from participating in decision-making in the family and community.</p>

4-1-1-6-8 the extent of denial of divorced women's right to children custody.

Questionnaire analysis:

Indicated seven out of every ten women from participating in the study to the widespread culture of denial and violations of women custody of their children after divorce as punishment.

Focus groups:

Women are deprived women of their right to custody of children.

4-1-2 Direct causes for Women problems

Conclusions of the direct causes of women problems

- There is a culture of male domination in the Palestinian society, which includes customs and traditions of society.
- There is the fragility of civil society and its ability to represent women, as well as weak lobbying campaigns and advocacy to women's issues.

4-1-2-1 impact of Israeli occupation presence, violent practices and aggressions against Palestinian people in general and Palestinian women in particular.

Questionnaire analysis:

The results showed that 88% of female participants agreed on the presence of high negative impact due to Israeli occupation, violent practices and aggressions against the Palestinian people in general and Palestinian women in particular.

Focus groups:

The presence of the occupation impact had an extensive negative impact on the Palestinian people in general and women in particular, in the economic, psychological, and social aspects.

4-1-2-2 the dominance of patriarchal culture over Palestinian society, including: social customs and traditions.

Questionnaire analysis:

The results showed that 82.1% of female participants agreed that there is dominance of patriarchal culture over Palestinian society in all aspects of social, economic and political; perpetuated by customs and traditions

Focus groups:

There is a culture of male domination of the Palestinian society, and is practiced by the women themselves before men.

4-1-2-3 the control of social trends that are biased against women (unjust and gender inequality) at family level, which give preference to males over females, or in the workplace in the form of wages discrimination.

Questionnaire analysis:

The results showed that 75% of female participants agreed to the absence of social equity and justice, and the presence of gender based discrimination at all levels, whether in the family or in the workplace, and stands behind it the dominant culture and applicable laws and regulations

Focus groups:

There are social trends biased against women and at a high degree.

4-1-2-4 the poverty level in the Palestinian society (90%).

Questionnaire analysis:

The results showed that there is unanimous agreement that the level of the poverty line in the Palestinian society to more than 90%.

Interviews:

The level of the poverty line in the Palestinian community to well over 80%.

<p>4-1-2-5 the availability of required materials and high prices</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results showed that 86.9% of female participants agreed that there is a shortage of basic materials needed; with sharp rise in prices.</p> <p>Interviews: 'There is to provide the materials necessary, but no rise in prices.</p>
<p>4-1-2-6 the existence of feminist leaderships in decision-making and strategies planning positions</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results showed that 55% of female participants that there is a presence of female leaders in positions of decision-making and planning strategies positions.</p> <p>Focus groups: There is weakness in the presence of women leaders in decision-making and planning strategies positions.</p>
<p>4-1-2-7 the fragility of the civil society, its ability to represent women, and weakness of women's issues lobbying and advocacy campaigns</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results showed that 68% of female participants supported the opinion which states that civil society is fragile and the body is unable to represent the women, and that there is weakness in lobbying campaigns against women's issues.</p> <p>Focus groups: The CSOs are fragile and weak in the representation of women, and this is due to the paucity and poor networking and coordination between institutions.</p>
<p>4-1-2-8 the vulnerability of the media to document and expose the crimes of occupation against women and the family, property and livelihoods.</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results showed that 74.1% of female participants of female participants expressed the weakness of media to document and expose the crimes of occupation against women and the family, property and livelihoods.</p> <p>Focus groups: There is weakness in media documentation and exposures of the crimes of occupation against women.</p>
<p>4-1-3 Indirect Causes</p> <p>Conclusions of the indirect causes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- There is a significant impact to the stability of the political situation, the international isolation and siege against women in the Gaza Strip.- There are substantial effects due to the lack of a sound legal environment to serve women's issues.
<p>4-1-3-1 the impact of political situation stability in the region on women.</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results revealed that (86.6%) of female participants had agreed on the stability of the political situation in the region would have a significant impact on women in society.</p> <p>Focus groups: There is the impact to the stability of the political situation in the region on women.</p>

4-1-3-2 the impact of imposed Israeli⁷ siege over Gaza Strip on women.

Questionnaire analysis:

The study showed that most of women and by (91.3%) affirmed that the Israeli siege imposed on Gaza Strip had a considerable impact on women.

Literature Review:

Indicated that there is significant impact of the siege on women in the Gaza Strip.

4-1-3-3 the impact of Palestinian internal situation instability on women.

Questionnaire analysis:

With regard to the internal Palestinian political situation; most of the women participating in the study by (91%) have agreed on the instability of the internal Palestinian political situation has an impact on women in Palestinian society

Focus groups:

There is a significant impact of the instability of the internal Palestinian situation on women.

4-1-3-4 the impact of imposed international isolation on Gaza Strip since the victory of "Hamas" movement in 2006 legislative elections.

Questionnaire analysis:

The results indicated that (64.9%) of female participants agreed that the embargo and international isolation have had their greatest impact on women in Palestinian society.

Interviews:

No impact on women due to international isolation imposed on the Gaza Strip since the victory of "Hamas" movement in the elections.

4-1-3-5 the impact of the absence of a sound legal environment to serve women's issues.

Questionnaire analysis:

The study showed that (78.3%) of female participants had agreed on the absence of a sound legal environment to serve women's issues, and negatively affects women to a large extent.

Focus groups:

There is a substantial effect of the absence of a sound legal environment to serve women's issues.

4-1-3-6 the impact of the global financial crisis and the economic repercussions on women.

Questionnaire analysis:

Responses of female participants centered on the impact of economic crisis, labor approval and consensus on the economic repercussions on women and significantly, the percentage of women who posts agree on this issue (86.2%) of Participants.

Interviews:

There is a high impact of the global financial crisis on women.

4-1-3-7 the impact of high population increases on women.

Questionnaire analysis:

Unanimous views of women to high population growth have a negative impact greatly on women, where the percentage of women who posts their agreement with this view (85.6%) of the Participants.

Focus groups:

There is an effect of high population increase on women.

4-1-4 Impact
<p>Conclusions of the impact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is a distinction between males and females with a high degree. - Control module in the image of women in the Palestinian media. - There is a meaningful contribution from civil society, and less than for a community government; but not enough to support women. - There is the marginalization of women and poor use of them as a source of human in the process of community development.
<p>∠-4-1 the extent of discrimination between males and females.</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The result confirm the above since most female participants assured that there is discrimination, which is located between males and females in all areas, where it came from the proportion of agreement on the existence of this phenomenon (83.5%).</p> <p>Focus groups: There is a distinction between males and females with a high degree.</p>
<p>∠-4-2 the positive image of women in the media.</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results showed that 55.5% of female participants agreed that there is a positive role of the media in shaping the image of women in society, while the disagreement with this view, the proportion (29%) of Participants.</p> <p>Focus groups: A positive image of women in the media is weak.</p>
<p>∠-4-3 the impact of women's problems on the psycho-social status</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: Confirmed the vast majority of the women in the study (91.4%) on the effects of the problems faced by women on their psychological and social development.</p> <p>Focus groups: The group stressed that there is an effect for the problems of women on their psychological social development.</p> <p>Interviews: There is impact of the problems of women on their psychological and social status.</p>
<p>∠-4-4 the impact of women's problems on the health situation.</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: The results showed that female participants assured the prevalence of women's problems on the health status by (92.9%).</p> <p>Interviews: There is the impact of the problems of women to their health status.</p>
<p>∠-4-5 the extent of women marginalization and poor-utilization as a human resource in the community developmental process.</p> <p>Questionnaire analysis: Female participants were unanimous that there is a marginalization of the role of women and poor-utilization as a human resource in the community developmental process, with a rate (70.1%).</p> <p>Interviews: There is marginalization of women and poor-utilization as a human resource in the community developmental process.</p>

4-1-4-6 the increasing gap between knowledge and application for women.

Questionnaire analysis:

60% of female participants explained that there is a gap between knowledge and application

Focus groups:

There is a gap between knowledge and application for women.

4-1-5 Governmental Institutes and Civil Society Organizations Response

4-1-5-1 the extent to which government institutions contributes to solving the problems of women.

Questionnaire analysis:

The results of the study showed low level of the contribution of government in solving the problems faced by women from the viewpoint of female participants compared with CSOs. 49.7% of female participants noted that the role of government institutions is satisfactory; while 40% expressed the weakness in the contribution by government institutions in solving the problems faced by women.

Focus groups:

There is a simple contribution of government institutions to solve the problems of women.

Interviews:

There is a simple contribution of government institutions to solve the problems of women.

4-1-5-2 the extent to which civil society organizations to contribute to solving the problems of women.

Focus groups:

Female participants expressed their appreciation of CSOs level of support and contribution to solving the problems faced by women, where almost two-thirds (61.4%) expressed their support and appreciation of the role of these institutions.

Focus groups:

There is a significant contribution to civil society organizations in solving the problems of women.

Interviews:

There is a contribution to the institutions of civil society in solving the problems of women.

4-2: Predictive approach:

Multiple regression analysis was applied through the entry of indicators contained in the women questionnaire as follows:

- The dependent indicator was: the extent to which civil society organizations were able to contribute to solving women's problems 5-1."
- The independent indicators were questions:
1-1-1, 1-1-1, 2-1-3, 1-1-4, 1-1-5, 1-1-6, 1-2-1, 1-2-2, 1-2-3, 1-2-4, 1-2-5, 1-2-6, 1-2-7, 1-2-8, 1-2-9, 1-2-10, 1-2-11, 1-2-12, 1-2-13, 1-3-1, 1-3-2, 1-3-3, 1-3-4, 1-4-1, 1-4-2, 1-4-3, 1-4-4, 1-4-5, 1-5-1, 1-5-2, 1-5-3, 1-5-4, 1-5-5, 1-6-1, 1-6-2, 1-6-3, 1-6-4, 1-6-5, 1-6-6, 1-6-7, 1-6-8, 1-6-9, 2-2-2, 2-2-3, 2-5-2, 2-7-2, 2-8-3, 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, 3-4, 3-5, 3-6, 3-7, 4-1, 4-2, 4-3, 4-4, 4-5, 5-1 (women Questionnaire, Annex number)
- Multiple linear regression analysis addressed the full picture of women's issues; which included the main direct and indirect problems, the ir causes and the ir impact.
- The correlation coefficient (R²) was 92%, and the percentage of error for multiple linear regression model reached 0.2219.
- Results of the analysis included the prioritization of women's issues and weights are:
 - First priority: 1-2-4 the vulnerability of women to take over the heritage and the weight of its own funds (19.9%).
 - Second priority: 4-2 over the positive image of women in the media weight (19.6%).
 - Third priority: 3-3 the impact of the instability of the internal Palestinian situation on women weight (17.9%).
 - Priority four: 1-3-1 over the vulnerability of women to psychological abuse from neighbors weight (15.1%).
 - Priority five: 4-3 the impact of women's problems on the psychological social weight (14.1%).
 - The sixth priority: 1-5-3 over the coercion of women to work does not respect the dignity of women by weight (12.1%).

The total weight of the priorities of the first six issues of women 98.7%, and this means the unimportance of other issues. Accordingly, should be a focus on the legacy of women as a first priority for in-depth study, and building community-based intervention mechanisms.

Stories of women:

- Violence is widespread and in all its forms and manifestations in rural areas and civil society, which a dominant culture towards women; at all age categories, but most prevalent types of violence, according to the focused working groups, is verbal and psychological abuse including promise of insults, swearing, sarcasm, mockery and marginalization. There are also coerced to marry multiple times, and early marriage, and the imposition of specific disciplines of study module on the female.
 - One of the women referred to her husband constant insult by saying: "the Insult I hear is kidding".
 - And others that said: "Words we hear are a drop in a sea of what we face every day."
 - The third: "If I did not forget the laughter, I would have exploded."
 - As two university students explained (28 and 25 years old), their suffering due to family shame/ridicule for not being married at this age; as suffering indigenous with the mother and her words and then the neighbors. Although they are educated but they expressed their fear that they lose their ambition (to get rid of humiliation, and live in dignity) as a result of desperation of surrounding community. Though they want to help build the community, they feared one day being weakened, and forced to marry someone they do not like or someone undeducated; just to get rid of hearing the rhetoric of the late marriage.
 - As for polygamy; one case reported that her husband married 9 other women, and did not spare her and her children living expenses. He also left her with his handicapped sister. She does not have an identity card and there is no proof of her personality, thus cannot seek assistance from any organizations.
- Women also suffer from the multiple marriages (as a form of violence), especially as it is against their will, as indicated by the statements of women in the focus group:
 - "We are against it but our hands are tied because we are women?" That is what one of the women on the subject of polygamy that women are powerless.
 - One woman said: "questions (referring to questionnaire questions) was touching the very core of what I suffer from, since I was married at the age of 14, and divorced against my will (because I part of exchange marriage), thought I was happily married to my first husband. Later married at the age (17 years old) I was remarried to a man who was previously married, and now I'm at the age of (26) years and has raised his daughter, but he ignores me, keep calling the programs, "Voice of the People" and speaks with the girls over the mobile; although we live in poverty and need."

She adds: "...If hit me, it would be easier than what I experience...". When asked: does he harm you during intercourse? She timidly became silent and shy and lowered her head. In another question: Does he ask you to do things during intercourse that you do not approve? She replied: "...He asks, but I do not consent."

- Female and male groups confirmed that the wife is vulnerable to suppression and isolation: There are wives that get suppressed by her spouse, and prevented from going out to share the work of the civil institutions, except if it is justified that it was going to bring a food-stamp.
 - In the story of school teacher wife, he forced his wife to refrain from visiting her family for 15 years, given the problems among them were: "They are basically his uncle's home."
 - One participant spoke about herself: "My husband isolated me for 9 months from my family. I was pregnant at the time, and the impact of separation was negative on the health of me and the baby. As a result the baby remained to be almost half kilogram in weight, because of my continuous thinking of my family; not seeing any one of my family and getting stranded at home."
- The majority of groups unanimously agreed on women deprivation of their inheritance, and there is no application of Islamic that gives women the rights to inheritance. The denial stems from males bullying of females, and outdated traditions and concepts. Women are deprived from marriage due to inheritance; also women are killed in order to seize their inheritance.
 - One woman confessed that she was forced to relinquish her share of the inheritance to her brother, so that she keep brotherly relation, as she called it, "My brother is better to me than money" However, she said: "I am not satisfied internally; my children and I need the money, but customs and traditions are thus."
 - One case said that her husband stole her inheritance forcefully, and justified it to her that he wanted to enter into a project. The project failed, and now she suffers frustration and loss. This has had a negative impact on her health and psychological status; because she lost a large sum of money that she considered a life saving.
 - One woman recounted what happened to her, saying: "We are 4 brothers and 4 sisters, the older brother sold one acre of our property (20 acres) to distribute its price over the sisters, and the rest of the 20 acres was for him and our other brothers. There are still financial issues spending without him admitting gave us more than him."
- There is discrimination between male and female by the family and society, which was recognized by many men and women.
- There is a fanatic view regarding the concepts of honor, the word "honor" means "girl", meaning "virginity" in the eyes of women and men in society. The mistake cannot be given even by marriage, but the penalty is enforced only on females and not males.
 - One woman said: "There are some people try to cover the subject by marrying off their daughters."

The other said: "Even if married, family kill her." A third added: "She deserves it; any female lenient with her honor deserves to be killed." When the researcher asked her: Are you in favor of the murder of the girl against the backdrop of honor? She replied: "Yes." Researcher then asked her again: even if she got married? She replied: "Even if she remarries; this is honor." This gives us the meanings of the concept of honor among women, and that is the maintenance of chastity of women; and there is no talk about a man who the perpetrator; as not covered by the concept of honor.

- Women were affected by the siege of the Gaza Strip, and increased the incidence of poverty, poor economic conditions and health, and their ability to integrate into society, where Pat ten looking for better ways of living for themselves and their families.
- There is weakness of certain institutions and government departments, and there are serious attempts in the institutions of civil society; but not sufficient, and many civil society organizations are implementing projects only; without regard for sustainability, and the cumulative effect on the target groups and in the absence, of many of the, transparency and credibility.
- Women suffer from health problems is the most: poor nutrition, and anemia. As well as the incidence of abortion and fetal deformity, and women have been psychologically with the continued high rate of social pressures and the siege and the war situation and beyond. - There is a consensus that the issue of depriving women of custody is the issue of widespread: one woman said: "Because of sons women accept humiliation and insult." Another said: "curse sons that humiliate women, what they do to us." One woman said a story about a female colleague: "After the divorce from her husband, she put her son in an orphanage fearing that her husband would take him from them."

- There is an urgent need for women and men alike for psychological relief, as a result of social, political and economic pressures, many women took refuge to meetings in mosques. Psychological treatment became acceptable by the community after the war as identified by the groups.
- The working groups confirmed that the image of women is stereotypes in the media, and the inability of feminist organizations to offer an alternative or an appropriate contribution to improve this picture. - Says one of the participants in a focused action: "the community put the woman in stereotype molds; Examples include: clothing, women must be in a certain image, and act a certain way, and they are even degrade the image in the media; accusing her of being talkative, empty and looking for problems. Feminist organizations need to do true gender awareness."



Recommendations and lessons learned

5- Recommendations and Lessons learned

Conclusions	Recommendations
Palestinian women are subjected to the death, injury and disability and displacement due to Israeli attacks is too large.	Need for media documentation of violations against women by the Israeli occupation, and the provision accurate data and statistics about the size and diversity of the violations.
Israeli attacks affect the privacy of women significantly	Need to disclose the suffering of Palestinian women and show the magnitude of the tragedy experienced by women under the occupation.
The ability of women with special needs to adapt is not more than 10%. Adaptation is very difficult due to the siege, and the difficulty of attaining supplementary devices.	Need to highlight the special case of women with special needs, with emphasis on rights guaranteed by international conventions; and intensify work in the context of international resolutions on women in armed conflicts.
- Women are subjected to sexual violence by 70%, but the recognition is one of the taboos of society.	<p>Need for awareness programs to erase the culture of violence, coercion and deprivation; for women and men alike and to find appropriate mechanisms to reach out to marginalized areas.</p> <p>Need for exploratory and descriptive researches on the phenomena of violence against women. Particularly sexual violence by several parties in the community that are supposed to be a source of protection. Also the activation of women's forums to discuss the issue and to provide support victims of sexual violence.</p>
There is large proportion of violation and deny of women rights to inheritance of their own funds. Women are even killed in order to seize their inheritance	Need for awareness and educational interventions with women to empower them of their rights; especially with regards to inheritance, and the provision of legal service to facilitate women's attainment of legal advice and other forms of intervention. Thus it is important to do awareness and education, campaigns for women and men alike, in their rights, and explain the procedures that could be taken for women to obtain their rights.
Women are killed on the "honor killing", and suffer sexual harassment, threats of violence, and abuse	Urgent need for media and awareness campaigns regarding the issue of violence against women. And the need to make men and young people aware of the concept of violence, notions of honor, and the crimes committed in the name of honor, taking into account that they should both female and male youth.

<p>Women are subjected to psychological abuse from neighbors and to ridicule and verbally abusive language from husband or family members and social harassment and curiosity by relatives and neighbors. (Interference with privacy).</p>	<p>Urgent need for interventions and focused psychosocial intervention with women and men. In order to help them express their views, and discharge the pressures that they face because of the siege and the deteriorating situation in the Gaza Strip.</p> <p>Need to support women and promote their self-confidence to face any social challenges, and enable them to defend themselves and express their fears and their needs.</p>
<p>There is coercion of women to the work that does not respect her dignity.</p>	<p>Need to activate the networking and cooperation between CSOs; in order to create job opportunities for youth, women and men, and create training and rehabilitation, according to their competence and potential, and prepare them for the labor market and its requirements.</p> <p>Need to provide employment opportunities for women; especially in the area of small enterprises. To enable women to prepare their own businesses, thus not be coerced to take jobs that violates their dignity, as a result of the economic situation.</p>
<p>Women are deprived of their right to custody of children</p>	<p>Need for awareness campaigns on women's right for custody of her children to both men and women.</p> <p>Need to seek legal authorities to enforce laws of children custody until the age of 18 years.</p>
<p>Women are deprived from participating in decision-making in the family and community</p>	<p>Need to organize media campaigns, for women and men, that address the definition of violence and its forms, importance of women respect and self-esteem, stress that women constitute half of society, and their need for family and community support.</p> <p>The importance of supporting women in recognition of their rights and opportunities to participate at the community level, and rehabilitation through intensive leadership preparation training programs as women leaders to enable them to participate in the decision-making in the family and community.</p>
<p>There is a culture of male domination in the Palestinian society, which includes customs and traditions of society</p>	<p>Need to involve men in all awareness and education programs and campaigns on women's issues, as it is not the issue of women alone, but rather a community issue</p>
<p>There is the fragility of civil society and its ability to represent women, as well as weak lobbying campaigns and advocacy to women's issues.</p>	<p>Need to activate the leadership role of CSOs in adoption of women's issues. Through mainstreaming of its lobbying and advocacy capacities in campaigns, and utilize its means and its potential to promote women's issues.</p>

<p>There is a significant impact to the stability of the political situation, the international isolation and siege against women in the Gaza Strip.</p>	<p>Need to participate/contribute to all special events aiming at the alleviation of the siege. Need to execute initiatives that denounce Israeli successive aggressions and siege against the women and men in the Gaza Strip, expose the violations of their human rights, and document violations of international conventions including "CEDAW" and overlooking the protection of women at the time of wars and crises</p>
<p>There are substantial effects due to the lack of a sound legal environment to serve women's issues</p>	<p>Need for networking between women's and human rights organizations to advocate for the provision of a sound legal environment to serve women's issues.</p>
<p>There is high degree discrimination between males and females</p>	<p>Need for awareness intervention to educate young couples and newly formed families on the issues of sound upbringing of children and discrimination between male and female, women's equality, issues related sound interaction between wife and husband, and awareness of the concept and types of violence and its effects on family integrity and stability.</p>
<p>Stereotype in the image of women in the Palestinian media</p>	<p>Need for feminist organizations to intensify effort targeting improving the image of women in the media, and the creation of independent media outlets to break through the impasse and overcome media polarization.</p> <p>Need to update studies on the content of what is published in the Palestinian media, and the importance of developing media strategic plan aiming at improving the image of Palestinian women in the media.</p>
<p>There is a meaningful contribution from civil society, and less than for a community government; but not enough to support women</p>	<p>Improvement needs for CSOs in their current course of work through continuous evaluation, and gain confidence of target groups is a necessity. Improvement needs regarding CSOs support of women.</p>
<p>There is the marginalization of women and poor use of them as a source of human in the process of community development</p>	<p>Need for researches that promote gender equality, provide updated information about the reality of women and men, uncover the real problems experienced by women, and facilitate the potential for intervention by concerned authorities.</p> <p>Need to take advantage of women's experiences and knowledge; because they are the real source in the process of community development. for this; have to raise the level of self-esteem and battle against marginalized.</p>

5-1 Recommendations

1. Need for awareness and educational interventions with women to empower them of their rights; especially with regards to inheritance, and the provision of legal service to facilitate women's attainment of legal advice and other forms of intervention. Thus it is important to do awareness and education, campaigns for women and men alike, in their rights, and explain the procedures that could be taken for women to obtain their rights.
2. Urgent need for interventions and focused psychosocial intervention with women and men. In order to help them express their views, and discharge the pressures that they face because of the siege and the deteriorating situation in the Gaza Strip.
3. Need to organize media campaigns, for women and men, that address the definition of violence and its forms, importance of women respect and self-esteem, stress that women constitute half of society, and their need for family and community support. The importance of supporting women in recognition of their rights and opportunities to participate at the community level and rehabilitation through intensive leadership preparation training programs as women leaders to enable them to participate in the decision-making in the family and community.
4. Need to activate the networking and cooperation between CSOs; in order to create job opportunities for youth, women and men, and create training and rehabilitation, according to their competence and potential, and prepare them for the labor market and its requirements. Also need to provide employment opportunities for women; especially in the area of small enterprises. To enable women to prepare their own businesses; thus not be coerced to take jobs that violates their dignity, as a result of the economic situation.
5. Need for feminist organizations to intensify effort targeting improving the image of women in the media, and the creation of independent media outlets to break through the impasse and overcome media polarization. Also need to update studies on the content of what is published in the Palestinian media, and the importance of developing media strategic planning at improving the image of Palestinian women in the media.
6. Need for awareness programs to erase the culture of violence, coercion and deprivation; for women and men alike and to find appropriate mechanisms to reach out to marginalized areas.
7. Need for awareness intervention to educate young couples and newly formed families on the issues of sound upbringing of children and discrimination between male and female, women's equality, issues related sound interaction between wife and husband, and awareness of the concept and types of violence and its effects on family integrity and stability.
8. Need to participate/contribute to all special events aiming at the alleviation of the siege. Need to execute initiatives that denounce Israeli successive aggressions and siege against the women and men in the Gaza Strip, expose the violations of their human rights, and document violations of international conventions including "CEDAW" and overlooking the protection of women at the time of wars and crises.
9. Improvement needs for CSOs in their current course of work through continuous evaluation, and gain confidence of target groups is a necessity. Improvement needs regarding CSOs support of women.
10. Need for researches that promote gender equality provide updated information about the reality of women and men, uncover the real problems experienced by women, and facilitate the potential for intervention by concerned authorities.
11. Need for media documentation of violations against women by the Israeli occupation, and the provision accurate data and statistics about the size and diversity of the violations.
12. Need to disclose the suffering of Palestinian women and show the magnitude of the tragedy experienced by women under the occupation.
13. Need to highlight the special case of women with special needs, with emphasis on rights guaranteed by international conventions; and intensify work in the context of international resolutions on women in armed conflicts.
14. Need for exploratory and descriptive researches on the phenomena of violence against women. Particularly sexual violence by several parties in the community that are supposed to be a source of protection. Also the activation of women's forum to discuss the issue and to provide support victims of sexual violence.
15. Urgent need for media and awareness campaigns regarding the issue of violence against women. And the need to make men and young people aware of the concept of violence, notions of honor, and the crimes committed in the name of honor, taking into account that they should both female and male youth.
16. Need to support women and promote their self-confidence to face any social challenges, and enable them to defend themselves and express their fears and their needs.
17. Need for awareness campaigns on women's right for custody of her children to both men and women. Also need to seek legal authorities to enforce laws of children custody until the age of 18 years.
18. Need to involve men in all awareness and education programs and campaigns on women's issues, as it is not the issue of women alone, but rather a community issue.
19. Need to activate the leadership role of CSOs in adoption of women's issues. Through mainstreaming of its lobbying and advocacy capacities in campaigns, and utilize its means and its potential to promote women's issues.
20. Need for networking between women's and human rights organizations to advocate for the provision of a sound legal environment to serve women's issues.
21. Need to take advantage of women's experiences and knowledge; because they are the real source in the process of community

development, for this; have to raise the level of self-esteem and battle against marginalized.

5-2 Lessons Learned

- There is an urgent need to listen to women and giving them the opportunity to express their problems and needs, and not to rush to talk about their cases without reference to them from time to time, and take into account the social and political variables and all the circumstances of women in the Gaza Strip and its impact on women.
- The need to involve men in women's issues and problems, to raise awareness of men and women on community issues because (often) they are the decision makers in their families and their work positions. Therefore, it is important to involve them in workshops, training, research and studies on women.
- Need to focus on psychosocial support and guidance in the methods of children upbringing, especially newly married couples; through specialized training and workshops in close proximity to their homes (as they requested).
- The need to rehabilitate and train field workers/researchers on scientific research tools (according to competence and experience) and giving specific group exercises. For example: some of them develop skills in data entry and statistical analysis, to intensify their abilities in the management of working group sessions focused and dump recordings, interviews management and discharge according to research needs, and enable them to continue in research work and to facilitate nominations for other institutions.
- There are lessons to be learned from the research team regarding the importance of using multiple research methods, and attaining information from several sources to answer a single question to assure objectivity, transparency and credibility. Triangulation is an important tool that needs to be used in all researches and studies.

6 - Organizational Arrangements Required to Visualize the Recommendations

6-1 Women's institutions

- There is an urgent need to invest in broadcasted and printed media and television to improve the image of women, reduce the exploitation of women as objects or victims only, through the creation of independent women's media outlets. Since there is no media platform to address feminist issues in a unified manner.
- Need to intensify media and advocacy campaigns to change the rigid community concepts regarding honor, and violence against women, by targeting a variety of categories, men and young girls and women.
- The necessity of networking and cooperation for the benefit of oppressed women through joint programs that can serve a broad spectrum of women in all governorates of the Gaza Strip.

6-2 Law enforcement institutions:

- Carry out extensive campaigns to inform women and men of their rights, especially the rights of inheritance, and provide good examples of redress for women and give them their rights.
- Awareness and education of lawyers about the importance of defining property rights of women and men.
- The need to document all the Israeli violations against the Palestinian people, women and men, through continuous versions in Arabic, English, and the organization of Arab and international campaigns to detect all of these continuing violations.
- Stimulate international human rights networks to contribute to the monitoring of the Israeli violations against women and children, in contravention of all international agreements and UN resolutions, particularly those relating to armed conflicts and the resolutions of the protection of women.

6-3 Palestinian Legislative Council:

- The need to "family law" in the hierarchy of priorities; to protect the family and protect women and girls, and the development of appropriate penalties for perpetrators of violations against women, and consistent with international agreements on human rights.
- The establishment of units to make complaints, in collaboration with the Centers for human rights, on behalf of battered women, and provide the necessary protection to victims of violence.

6-4 International donors

- Supporting the centers and institutions working on the preparation of studies and research on the basis of gender, which provide accurate and current data on women's issues and needs.
- Work to encourage senior positions in the Palestinian National Authority to amend and change the laws on women; in line with the spirit of the Convention "CEDAW" and the international covenant on human rights.
- Support programs that form a support for marginalized women and make them aware of their rights.
- Support and rehabilitation service providers such as people working and psychologists who deal with victims of violence.
- Support for poor women in the Gaza Strip, through economic empowerment to be able to make improvements and changes to the role of gender in their families and their domestic surroundings.



Annexes

Annexes

Annex #1: List of CSOs that assisted in the filling of the Questionnaire

#	Organization Name	Governorate
1.	Jabalia Friends Society	Northern Governorate
2.	Saving and Lending Society	Northern Governorate
3.	Family Development Society	Northern Governorate
4.	Women Action Center	Northern Governorate
5.	Zakher Society for Development	Gaza Governorate
6.	El-Wedad Community Society	Gaza Governorate
7.	Al-Mashaal Society	Gaza Governorate
8.	Al-Intemaa Al-osary Society	Gaza Governorate
9.	Palestine Tomorrow Society	Gaza Governorate
10.	Women Health Center -Bouraiq	Middle Governorate
11.	Women Programs	Middle Governorate
12.	Al-Majid Women Society	Middle Governorate
13.	Al-Gihad Al-Moshriq Society	Khan Younis Governorate
14.	Al-Salar al-Gharby Society	Khan Younis Governorate
15.	Saving and Lending Society	Khan Younis Governorate
16.	Rural women development Society	Rafah Governorate
17.	Women Action Center	Rafah Governorate

Annex # 2: the CSOs that Assisted in the Holding of the Focus Groups

#	Organization Name	Governorate
1	Woman Center for Research and Development	Gaza Governorate
2	Media men and women in Support of Women issues forum	Gaza Governorate
3	East Gaza Society	Gaza Governorate
4	Moltaqa El-amriy Al-Ganoup	Rafah Governorate
5	Female University Graduates Society	Gaza Governorate
6	Democracy and Conflict Resolution Center	Gaza Governorate

**Annex # 3: List of Field Workers that worked on the Women Priority Needs Assessment
Research by Work division**

#	Researcher	Fieldwork
1	Azza Rizk	Gaza Groups
2	Hamin Rizk	Gaza Groups
3	Yousr Al-Atrash	North Groups
4	Shereen Awad	Mawasy Groups
5	Nilly Al-Masry	Literature Review and collection
6	Wesam Judah	Rafah Groups
7	Noha Ernad	Middle Areas Groups
8	Nesreen Eslim	Middle areas Groups

Annex # 4: List of Key Figurcheads that were interviewed

#	Name	Professional Title
1	Karim Nashwan	Lawyer and Community activist
2	Tayseer Mohisen	Development Expert
3	Khaled Zaid	Director of Community Center for Handicapped Rehabilitation
4	Jamal Bakier	Factory Owner
5	Majed Rajab	Director of Islamic Bank

Annex # 5: The Names of Participants / s in Focus Group

Date: 15/6/2009 Day: Monday

The name of the host institution: Association of university graduates

Target group: women leaders and representatives of organizations of the feminist

#	NAME	Position	Organization Name
1.	Dr. Mariam Abu Daka	Board Chairman	Feminist Developmental Studies Organization
2.	Mrs. Amal Abu Eisha	Gender and Development Specialist	-
3.	Eng. Heba Abu Kmiel	Executive Manager	Palestinian Refugees Counsel
4.	Mrs. Fathia El-Nawas	Social Worker	Women Health Center Jabalia
5.	Mrs. Amal Awad	Accountant	Zakher Society
6.	Mr. Tarek Helis	Volunteer	Zakher Society
7.	Mrs. Samah El-Khozondar	Secretary	Mashacl Society
8.	Mrs. Hayfa Shohayber	Executive Manager	Female University Graduates Society
9.	Mrs. Khetam Mokhaimeer	Secretary	Women Information and Media Center
10.	Mrs. Karam Elian	Projects Coordinator	Al-Nagdah Society
11.	Mrs. Nahla El-Natur	Public Relations	Al-Nagdah Society
12.	Mrs. Smah Othman	Director	Al-Ataa Feminist Society
13.	Mrs. Asmaa Jarour	Field Coordinator	Women Studies Society
14.	Mrs. Heba Gawath	Economic Unit Coordinator	Women and Society Tankeen Center
15.	Mrs. Basma Younis	Psychologist	Women Health Center-Alhakafa Wa Al-Fekr Al-Hor Society
16.	Mrs. Nawal Al-ghousien	Executive Manager	Al-Majd Society

Annex # 6: The names of participants / s in Focus Group**Date: 16/6/2009 Day: Tuesday**

The name of the host institution: Association for the development of the east of Gaza family

Target group: the private sector and civil society

#	Name	Position	Organization Name
1.	Mrs. Sorniah Sak-Allah	Administrative Head	Programs Center
2.	Mrs. Shefa Hasan	Organization Chairwoman	Rural Farmers Development Society
3.	Mrs. Samira Abu Sha'ouf	Organization Coordinator	Women Committees Union
4.	Mr. Alaa Abu Dal	Organization Manager	Al-Intimaa Al-Osary
5.	Mr. Hoisam Yaseen	Factory Manager	Clothes Factory
6.	Mrs. Hanaa Abu Amer	Organization Chairwoman	East Gaza For Family Development
7.	Mrs. Nozha Abu Khousa	Organization Chairwoman	Mother Society
8.	Mr. Saleem Quzaat	Executive Manager	Al-Tateeb Society for Women Empowerment
9.	Mr. Ramad Al-Joujo	Organization Manager	Social Development Society
10.	Mr. Abdel-Rahman El-Madhoun	Organization Deputy Manager	Labor Front
11.	Mr. Elian Wady	Executive Manager	Ajjal Society for Development and Creativity
12.	Mr. Mohamed Nasar	Executive Manager	Jajca Graduates Society
13.	Mrs. Hanaa El-Khozondar	Organization Chairwoman	Jajca Graduates Society
14.	Mr. Fisa El-Dahdouh	Chairman of Zaytoon Destrict	Islah Committees
15.	Mr. Ziad Hegy	Merchant	Islah Committees
16.	Mr. Azaam Dalool	Center Manager	Dalool Center for photography and Media
17.	Mr. Mohamed Abu Touha	Exhibition Manager	Hyfa Society
18.	Mrs. Awatef Abu Touha	Chairwoman of the Board	Hyfa Society

Annex # 7: The names of the participants in Focus Group

Date: 18/6/2009 Day: Thursday

The name of the host institution: Media Forum to support women's issues:

Target group: media men and women in the media

#	Name	Position	Organization Name
1	Mr. Rajab Abu Soria	Writer	Palestinian Writers Network
2	Mrs. Taghered Bliha	Media Correspondent	Maan Agency
3	Mr. Mahmoud Abu Waraka	Mass Media	Ministry of Culture
4	Mr. Abdulla Meghdad	Media Correspondent	Voice of Al-Quds
5	Mrs. Falasteen Abdel Kareem	Journalist	Tatuh News Voice
6	Mrs. Rasha Farhat	Journalist	Palestine Feminist Media Company
7	Mrs. Majdah El-Belbesy	Journalist	Al-Quds Newspaper
8	Mrs. Nour El-Houda Bwada	Journalist	Al-Resalah Newspaper
9	MR. AbdelNaser Abu-Oun	Journalist	Al-Quds Radio
10	Mr. Mohamed Krezim	Journalist	Media Forum for Women Issues Support

Annex # 8: The names of the participants / s in Focus Group**Date: 16/6/2009 Day: Tuesday**

The name of the host institution: the Center for Democracy and Conflict Resolution

Target group: activists assembled in women's issues and gender

#	Name	Position	Organization Name
1	Mrs. Hanan Siam	Gaza Office Coordinator	Palestinian Working Woman Society
2	Mrs. Majdab El-Belbisy	Journalist	Al-Quds Newspaper
3	Mrs. Sawwan Abu Hmeed	Educator	Al-Majd Society
4	Mrs. Faten El-Bayoumy	Project Coordinator	Women Affairs Team
5	Mrs. Khaldiah El-Louh	Consultation Unit and Feminist Club Coordinator	Women and Society Empowerment Center
6	Mrs. Hanaa El-Hara	Deputy Chairman	Women Struggle Committees Union
7	Mrs. Shereen Khalyfa	Journalist	Mayar For Media production
8	Mrs. Mervat Abu Jameeh	Journalist	Southern Journalists Forum
9	Mr. Islam El-Asal	Journalist	Al-Hayat Al-Jadidah Newspaper
10	Mrs. Jawaher Barakat	Social Worker	GCMHP
11	Mr. Baker El-Torokman	Advocate	Palestinian Center for Democracy and Conflict Resolution
12	Mr. Tareq Helis	Volunteer	Zakher Society
13	Mrs. Iman El-Atawy	Accountant and activist	Zakher Society
14	Mr. Eyad Hogier		Palestinian Center for Democracy and Conflict Resolution

Annex # 9: The names of participants / s in Focus Group

Date: 17 / 6 / 2009 Today: Wednesday

The name of the host institution: women in the media Forum South

Target group: specialists in the field of mental health

#	Name	Position	Organization Name
1	Mrs. Abeer El-Qodwah	Social Worker	Eid El-Agha Basic School
2	Mrs. Rehab El-Masry	Psychologist	Bani Sila Primary School
3	Mrs. Mona Wady	Social Worker	
4	Mrs. Jakleen Shaheen	Social Worker	Tarak Ben Ziad School
5	Mrs. Nedaa AL-Astal	Social Worker	AL-Shahed Abu Hameed Basic Mix School
6	Mrs. Sabreen Abu Hasoun	Social Worker	UNRWA-Rajah Services Office
7	Mrs. Zaynah Mohamed	Psychologist	Takafoul society for Community Development
8	Mrs. Mona Mosa	Social Worker	Ministry of Social Affairs
9	Mr. Sobhy Farhat	Psychologist	UNRWA – Mental Health Program
10	Dr. Youssef AwadAllah	Mental Health Clinic Director	UNRWA – Mental Health Program
11	Mr. Ahmed Shaheen	Psychosocial Advisor	UNRWA
12	Mr. Ashraf Jabaly	Psychosocial Advisor	UNRWA
13	Mr. Ahmed El-Masry	Psychosocial Advisor	UNRWA
14	Mr. AbdelKader Dohier	Psychosocial Advisor	Palestinian Center for Conflict Resolution
15	Mrs. Randa Fugu	Social Worker	Palestinian Center for Conflict Resolution

Annex # 10: The names of participants / s in Focus Group

Date: 11 / 6 / 2009 Today: Thursday

The name of the host institution: **Woman Center for Research and Development for Women**

Target group: **Advocates**

#	Name	Position	Organization Name
1	Mrs. Imliaz Hasb-Allah	Lawyer	Woman Center for Research and Legal Consultations
2	Mrs. Fatma El-Sharief	Lawyer	Mezan Center For Human Rights
3	Mr. Amjad Shorab	Lawyer	Woman Center for Research and Development
4	Mr. Hazem Alana	Lawyer	Woman Center for Research and Development
5	Mr. Ayman Nasman	Lawyer	Woman Center for Research and Development
6	Mr. Mohamed Mohana	Lawyer	Woman Center for Research and Development
7	Mrs. Mona El-Shawa	Lawyer	Palestinian Center For Human Rights
8	Mrs. Mona Abdel Aziz	Lawyer	

**Annex # 11: WAC – Research and Information Program
 Women Priorities Issues Assessment Study – Gaza Strip – May/June 2009
 List of Questionnaires Dissemination and Collection Table**

#	Organization	Number of Sent Questionnaires (Females)	Number of Sent Questionnaires (Males)	Number of Received Questionnaires (Females)	Number of Received Questionnaires (Males)
1.	Jabalia Friends Society	26	26	20	15
2.	Saving and Loans Society	26	26	28	17
3.	Family Development Society	26		27	
4.	Women Action – Biet Hanoun		26		23
5.	Zakher Society	25	25	24	25
6.	El-Wedad Society	25	25	25	25
7.	Al-Mashaal Society	25	25	25	25
8.	Al-Intimaa Al-Ousary	25	25	30	16
9.	Falastine Al-Grad Society	25	25	24	26
10.	Women Health Center -Bourzig	20	20	20	23
11.	Women Programs – Diel AlBalah	20	20	20	13
12.	Al-Majd Feminist Society	20	20	20	20
13.	Al-Ghad Al-Moshriq	25	25	25	25
14.	Al-Satar Al-Gharby Society	25	25	21	21
15.	Saving and Loans Society	25	25	25	25
16.	Rural Woman Development Society	24	24	25	16
17.	Women Action	24	24	28	17
Total			387		332

Cancelled Questionnaires: 4 for Females and 51 for Males



مركز شؤون المرأة - غزة
WOMEN'S AFFAIRS CENTER - GAZA

Annex # 12

**Women's Affairs Center - Gaza
Women Questionnaire
Priority Issues of Women in Gaza Strip**

The Center for Women's Affairs - Gaza and is a knowledge base center working on identifying of women priority issues in the Gaza Strip, during the month of May-June 2009. So please cooperate with us in answer to the form in your hands, knowing that this information will be kept confidential and will be used for scientific research purposes only.

For more questions or inquires please contact:
Women's Affairs Center - Gaza - Information & Research Program
Program Coordinator / Mrs. Headya Shamoun
T / 2877311 to 2877312 Fax 2877313

With our sincere thanks and appreciation

Date : _____

Form No. : _____

Researcher Number : _____

The name of the researcher : _____

Governorate:

1- North 2- Gaza 3- Middle

4- Khan Younis 5- Rafah

Place of Residence:

1- City 2- Village 3- Refugees Camp

Age:

1- 20-29 2- 30-39 3- 40-50

Education Level:

1- Illiterate 2- Read & Write 3- Preparatory

4- High School 5- Diploma 6- Bachelor and higher

Marital Status:

1- Married 2- Spinster 3- Divorced

4- Widow 5- Separated

Current Status:

1- Housewife 2- Student 3- Worker

Health status:

1- Normal 2- With Special Needs

Question Number	Question	Strongly Disagree (0)	Disagree (1)	Neutral (2)	Agree (3)	Strongly Agree (4)
1-1-1	The level of vulnerability of women to the killings during the repeated Israeli aggressions.					
1-1-2	The level of women's vulnerability to various injuries during the repeated Israeli aggressions.					
1-1-3	The level of women's exposure to different types of disability during the repeated Israeli aggressions.					
1-1-4	The level of vulnerability of women to the loss of a close family member during the Israeli attacks.					
1-1-5	The level of vulnerability of women to displacement during the Israeli attacks.					
1-1-6	The impact of the Israeli attacks on the private space for women. (women privacy)					
1-2-1	The level of vulnerability of women to domestic physically abuse.					
1-2-2	The level of vulnerability of women to sexual abuse within the family.					
1-2-3	The level of women's vulnerability to emotional or psychological abuse of prisoners.					
1-2-4	The level of vulnerability of women to being raped of their own funds and inheritance.					
1-2-5	The level of vulnerability of women to the threat of violence from a family member.					
1-2-6	The level of vulnerability of women to be killed on the so-called "honor killing" of a family member.					
1-2-7	The level of vulnerability of women to incest by a family member.					
1-2-8	The level of vulnerability of women to divorce against her will					
1-2-9	The level of vulnerability of wife to offensive and obscene language in front of others.					
1-2-10	The level of vulnerability of wife to suppression and silencing.					
1-2-11	The level of vulnerability of wife to irony and criticism of appearance and behavior.					
1-2-12	The level of vulnerability of wife to control and prosecution and the control of her circle of acquaintances.					
1-2-13	The level of vulnerability of wife to be isolated from her family.					
1-3-1	The vulnerability of women to psychological abuse from neighbors.					
1-3-2	The vulnerability of women to tribal pressure (marriage - divorce)					
1-3-3	The vulnerability of women to absurd language and disfigurement by relatives and neighbors					
1-3-4	The vulnerability of women to harassment and social curiosity from relatives and neighbors (interference with privacy).					

Question Number	Question	Strongly Disagree (0)	Disagree (1)	Neutral (2)	Agree (3)	Strongly Agree (4)
1-4-1	The level of vulnerability of women to rape.					
1-4-2	The level of vulnerability of women to rape attempt					
1-4-3	The level of vulnerability of women to sexual harassment.					
1-4-4	The level of limitation of women's areas of work.					
1-5-1	The level of coercion of women to early marriage.					
1-5-2	The level of coercion of women not to marry.					
1-5-3	The level of coercion of women to do work that does not respect their dignity.					
1-5-4	The level of coercion of women on multiple marriages (martyrs wives and divorced).					
1-5-5	The level of coercion of women to leave home					
1-6-1	The level of denial of women from education.					
1-6-2	The level of denial of women from basic needs (food, drink and clothing).					
1-6-3	The level of denial of women from access to sources of information on available services					
1-6-4	The level of denial of women from financial resources.					
1-6-5	The level of denial of women from basic services.					
1-6-6	The level of denial of women from participation in union work.					
1-6-7	The level of denial of women from participation in decision-making in the family and community.					
1-6-8	The level of denial of divorced women from their children custody					
2-1	The impact of Israeli occupation presence					
2-2	The dominance of patriarchal culture over Palestinian society					
2-3	The control of social trends that are biased against women (unjust and gender inequality) at the level of the family which give preference to males over females					
2-5	The availability of required materials and high prices.					
2-7	The fragility of the civil society					
2-8	The vulnerability of the media in documenting and exposing occupation crimes against women					

Question Number	Question	Strongly Disagree (0)	Disagree (1)	Neutral (2)	Agree (3)	Strongly Agree (4)
3-1	The impact of political situation stability in the region on women.					
3-2	The impact of imposed Israeli' siege over Gaza Strip on women.					
3-3	The impact of Palestinian internal situation instability on women.					
3-4	The impact of imposed international isolation on Gaza Strip since the victory of "Hamas" movement in 2006 legislative elections.					
3-5	The impact of the absence of a sound legal environment to serve women's issues.					
3-6	The impact of the global financial crisis and its economic repercussions on women.					
3-7	The impact of high population increase on women.					
4-1	The extent of discrimination between males and females.					
4-2	The level of women's positive image in the media.					
4-3	The impact of women's problems on the psycho-social situation					
4-4	The impact of women's problems on health condition.					
4-5	The level of women marginalization and poor-utlization as a human resource in the community developmental process.					
5	The ability of Governmental Institutions to contribute in solving women problems					
1-5	The ability of Civil Society Organizations to contribute in solving women problems					

**Women's Affairs Center - Gaza
Men Questionnaire
Priority Issues of Women in Gaza Strip**

The Center for Women's Affairs - Gaza and is a knowledge base center working on identifying of women priority issues in the Gaza Strip, during the month of May-June 2009 So please cooperate with us in answer to the form in your hands, knowing that this information will be kept confidential and will be used for scientific research purposes only.

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Women's Affairs Center - Gaza - Information & Research Program
Program Coordinator / Mrs. Headya Shamoun
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With our sincere thanks and appreciation

Date : _____

Form No. : _____

Researcher Number : _____

The name of the researcher : _____

Governorate:

- 1- North 2- Gaza 3- Middle
4- Khan Younis 5- Rafah

Place of Residence:

- 1- City 2- Village 3- Refugees Camp

Age:

- 1- 20-29 2- 30-39 3- 40-50

Education Level:

- 1- Illiterate 2- Read & Write 3- Preparatory
4- High School 5- Diploma 6- Bachelor and higher

Marital Status:

- 1- Married 2- Single 3- Divorced
4- Widow 5- Separated

Current Status:

- 1- Student 2- Employed 3- Unemployed

Health status:

- 1- Normal 2- With Special Needs

Question Number	Question	Strongly Disagree (0)	Disagree (1)	Neutral (2)	Agree (3)	Strongly Agree (4)
1-2-1	The level of vulnerability of women to domestic physically abuse.					
1-2-4	The level of vulnerability of women to being roped of their own funds and inheritance.					
1-2-8	The level of vulnerability of women to divorce against her will					
1-2-9	The level of vulnerability of wife to offensive and obscene language in front of others.					
1-2-10	The level of vulnerability of wife to suppression and silencing.					
1-2-11	The level of vulnerability of wife to irony and criticism of appearance and behavior.					
1-2-12	The level of vulnerability of wife to control and prosecution and the control of her circle of acquaintances.					
1-2-13	The level of vulnerability of wife to be isolated from her family.					
1-3-3	The vulnerability of women to absurd language and disfigurement by relatives and neighbors					
1-3-4	The vulnerability of women to harassment and social curiosity from relatives and neighbors (interference with privacy).					
1-4-3	The level of vulnerability of women to sexual harassment.					
1-5-1	The level of coercion of women to early marriage.					
1-5-2	The level of coercion of women not to marry.					
1-5-3	The level of coercion of women to do work that does not respect their dignity.					
1-5-4	The level of coercion of women on multiple marriages (martyrs wives and divorced).					
1-5-5	The level of coercion of women to leave home					
1-6-1	The level of denial of women from education.					
1-6-2	The level of denial of women from basic needs (food, drink and clothing).					
1-6-7	The level of denial of women from participation in decision-making in the family and community.					
1-6-8	The level of denial of divorced women from their children custody					
2-2	The dominance of patriarchal culture over Palestinian society					

Question Number	Question	Strongly Disagree (0)	Disagree (1)	Neutral (2)	Agree (3)	Strongly Agree (4)
3-2	The impact of imposed Israeli siege over Gaza Strip on women.					
4-1	The extent of discrimination between males and females.					
5	The ability of Governmental Institutions to contribute in solving women problems					
1-5	The ability of Civil Society Organizations to contribute in solving women problems					

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