

Table 4.20:
Percentage Distribution of Fathers and Mothers According to the Opinions
on the Status of Females, 2001

Characteristics	Females Generally Have a Lower Status than Males	Family Members Have the Right to Kill the Daughter if She Engages in Behavior That Dishonors the Family's Reputation	Family Members Have the Right to Kill the Son if He Engages in Behavior That Dishonors the Family's Reputation
Fathers	49.3	40.6	26.7
Mothers	41.2	44.0	35.1
Age			
Less than 40	38.4	37.6	29.2
49-40	41.0	42.2	31.4
59-50	47.4	43.9	31.4
+60	62.7	50.6	36.1
Residence			
Rural	42.1	39.2	28.2
Urban	54.7	55.2	43.8
Region			
Middle	41.8	37.2	26.1
North	46.8	49.1	38.2
South	57.0	54.6	44.4
Total	44.7	42.5	31.5

Source: Department of Statistics in cooperation with UNICEF, "National Youth Survey, 2001," Amman.

vocate honor killing (55%) than those residing in the Middle and North regions. This is, no doubt, due to the cultural variances between the regions.

Views on killing males for honor vary more among parents of different ages than parents' views on killing females. The percentage of those advocating honor killing for males ranges from around 29% among parents less than 40 years old to around 36% for parents aged 60 and above. This variance illustrates the impact of inherited customs and traditions related to family honor on older fathers and mothers.

A large proportion of parents residing in rural areas tend to kill their sons if they commit an act that dishonors the family. In rural areas, this type of honor killing is advocated by around 44% of the rural parents polled, compared with only around 28% of the urban parents (a difference of around 15 percentage points).

Attitudes of parents regarding the honor killing of males vary quite a bit according to region. Those in the South region (around 44%) support honor killings of males more than the other regions (26% in the Middle region).

Attitudes of Youth Towards Violence Against Women

Table 4.21 shows the views of youth aged 10-24 years regarding a number of issues related to women. Data shows that only 37% of the youth indicate that they believe females have a lower status than males, compared with around 45% of the parents who do.

Data illustrates a linkage between female views regarding females' status in relation to males, in that the older the females, the higher the likelihood that they believe females have a lower status than males. More than one-third (1/3) of the youth aged 10-14 (about 35%) believe that females have a lower status than males, compared with

around 40% of youth aged 20-24. In order to find out the reasons behind these views, more research is needed.

These attitudes vary greatly between people living in rural and urban areas, as 36% of urban youth believe females have a lower status and 43% of rural youth do.

Similarly, views vary according to region. In the Middle region, 35% of the youth polled consider females as having a lower status, compared to 43% in the South region.

Youths' views regarding the honor killing of females differ from those of parents. While around 43% of the fathers and mothers indicate that the family has the right to kill their daughters, a smaller ratio of youth (38%) felt the same way.

Views on the honor killing of females fluctuate greatly among youth of different age groups. The 14-19 age group agreed more than the other age groups that the honor killing of females is acceptable (41%).

Like the parents, youth in rural areas are more likely to support the honor killing of females than youth in urban areas (around 35% in urban areas compared to around 45% in rural areas). Similarly, youth residing in the South region advocated female honor killing more than youth from other regions of the Kingdom.

Youth are also less enthusiastic regarding the honor killing of males than that of females. There was not a significant variance in the views of males and females on this topic, as around 28% of the males support the honor killing of males, compared to around 29% of the females. Opinions vary significantly according to age, however, as younger youth (from the 10-14 and 15-19 age groups) agree on the acceptability of male honor killing more than those from the older age group (20-24).

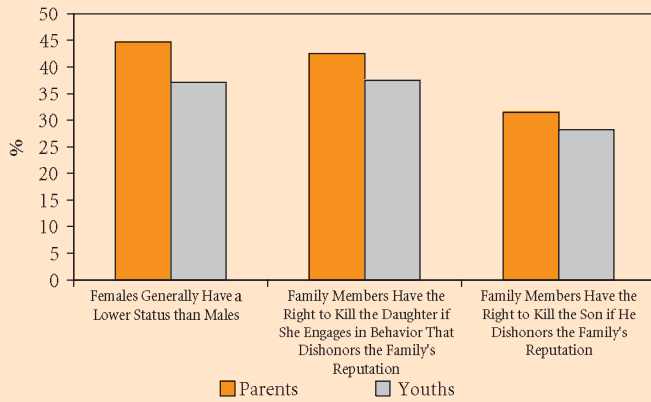
Youth residing in rural areas tend to advocate the killing of males in situations of dishonor, while those in urban areas are less likely (around 27% for urban youth and around 34% for rural). Data shows that

Table 4.21:
Percentage Distribution of Youth Aged 10-24 Regarding a Number of Issues Related to Women's Status, 2001

Characteristics	Females Generally Have a Lower Status than Males	Family Members Have the Right to Kill the Daughter if She Engages in Behavior That Dishonors the Family's Reputation	Family Members Have the Right to Kill the Son if He Engages in Behavior That Dishonors the Family's Reputation
Sex			
Male	46.9	39.8	27.7
Female	26.3	34.9	28.8
Age			
10-14	35.3	35.3	29.5
15-19	36.7	40.9	30.0
20-24	39.9	35.7	24.4
Residence			
Urban	35.5	35.4	26.5
Rural	42.9	44.7	34.2
Region			
Middle	35.2	32.2	23.2
North	39.0	44.3	34.9
South	42.8	46.7	36.7
Total	37.1	37.5	28.2

Source: Department of Statistics in cooperation with UNICEF, "National Youth Survey, 2001," Amman.

Fig. 4.10:
Percentage Distribution of Youths' and Parents' Views on Issues Related to Females' Status



Around 45% of fathers and mothers consider females as having a lower status than males, compared to 37% of youth aged 10-24 with the same view.

there is a large difference in views in the two areas regarding the acceptability of honor killings in general, but a tendency among both groups to agree much more strongly on the acceptability of female honor killing than male honor killing.

Table 4.22:
Percentage Distribution of Youth Aged 10-24 According to Their Views on Some Issues Related to Husbands' Rights, 2001

Characteristics	Wife Pre-Excuses Husband for Any Disagreeable Acts	Wife Follows Husband's Opinion in Cases of Disagreement	Husband Has the Right to Hit His Wife When She Disobeys Him
Sex			
Male	89.4	77.0	40.2
Female	84.5	56.3	27.0
Age			
14-10	86.0	72.9	32.6
19-15	86.7	65.3	36.2
24-20	88.8	62.3	32.6
Residence			
Urban	86.1	65.6	31.8
Rural	90.4	72.6	41.3
Region			
Middle	85.1	65.0	32.1
North	89.5	69.6	34.5
South	90.5	72.2	42.3
Total	87.1	67.2	33.9

Source: Department of Statistics in cooperation with UNICEF, "National Youth Survey, 2001," Amman.

Youth residing in the South region were more likely to advocate the necessity of killing males if they dishonor the family reputation than youth residing in the other two regions (around 37% in the South region compared to around 23% and around 35% in the Middle and North regions, respectively). While youth in the south agreed more than other regions on the acceptability of male honor killing, a larger proportion of them advocate female honor killing. This is indicative of the general view which considers females the mark of honor of the family and its social status.

Table 4.22 shows the views of youth aged 10-24 regarding husbands' rights. Data indicates that most of the youth, whether male or female, believe that wives should always excuse their husbands for any potential disagreeable act they commit (89% of the males and around 85% of the females). There was not a significant difference regarding this topic among age groups.

Youth in rural areas are more likely to believe in the necessity that wives excuse their husbands for any type of behavior they exhibit than youth in urban areas (around 90% of rural youth compared with 86% of urban youth). Additionally, youth in the South region agree more strongly on this topic than youth in other regions.

The views of youth regarding the necessity for wives to follow their husbands' opinions in instances in which they disagree varies significantly according to sex. Males were more likely to agree on this principle than females (77% males compared to 56% females).

When looking at different age categories, opinions on the subject vary. Younger youth tended to believe that wives should take up their husbands' opinions in cases of disagreement more than older youth. Youth supporting this principle ranged from around 62% among youth aged 20-24 to around 73% for those aged 10-14 years. Views on this topic also vary according to region. While youth in the South region agree on the importance of wives following their husbands' views to a large extent (around 72%), those in the North and Middle regions are less likely to agree (around 70% in the north and 65% in the middle). This is illustrative of Jordan's regional cultural variances.

When looking at views related to husbands' right to hit their wives when they disobey, youth felt much less strongly on its acceptability (around 40% of the males and 27% of the females). There was also a variance when looking at the views of different age groups. Youth in the 10-14 and 20-24 age groups supported physical violence (around 33%) a little less than those in the 15-19 age group (36%).

Additionally, youth in rural areas believed in the acceptability of hitting one's wife more than those in urban areas (around 32% of youth in urban areas compared with 41% of rural youth). Generally, youth show a stronger advocacy for the importance of wives accepting all their husbands' disagreeable actions and wives' need to follow their husbands' opinions at all times than their acceptance of husbands beating their wives for disobedience. This indicates that youth likely believe husbands' physical violence toward the wife is uncivilized as well as contrary to women's rights and humanity.

It is worth mentioning that the views of male youth are similar to those of their fathers, while female youths' views vary quite a bit from those of their mothers. Tables 4.20 and 4.21 illustrate these similarities and variances which, in order to better understand them, will require more research and analysis.

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