Violence in Public Spaces

International Men and Gender Equality Survey (IMAGES)

Middle East and North Africa (MENA)

Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco and Palestine

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COMPONENTS: Representative HH surveys + qualitative research

TOPICS: Attitudes, practices and childhood experiences related to gender equality, gender-based violence, caregiving, women’s participation in public spaces, health

QUESTIONNAIRE: Adapted for the region and for each country from the core IMAGES questionnaire; pre-tested and translated into local Arab versions (+French and other languages in Morocco)

DATA COLLECTED: April 2016 – March 2017 using handheld computer devices (except Palestine)

FUNDERS: UN Women, SIDA, US Institute of Peace, BUGIS (Netherlands), Arcus Foundation
IMAGES MENA

Partners

- **Egypt**: AUC and El-Zanaty Associates
- **Lebanon**: ABAAD and La Sagesse University
- **Morocco**: CERED and Université Hassan II
- **Palestine**: Birzeit University

- IRB approval in each country
- Formation of National **Strategic Consultative Groups (SCGs)**
**Sample:**  
Who was surveyed?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample Size</th>
<th>Egypt</th>
<th>Morocco</th>
<th>Lebanon*</th>
<th>Palestine*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Men (18-59 years old)</td>
<td>1380</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>1050</td>
<td>1200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women (18-59 years old)</td>
<td>1402</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>1136</td>
<td>1199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>2782</td>
<td>2400</td>
<td>2186</td>
<td>2399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Response Rate</td>
<td>99.8%</td>
<td>89.6%</td>
<td>99.7%</td>
<td>~100%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Nationally representative sample*
Potential roots of street-based sexual harassment

1) Tensions around women’s changing roles?

- If resources are scarce, it is more important to educate sons than daughters
- A married woman should have the same right to work outside the home as her husband
- When work opportunities are scarce, men should have access to jobs before women

Percentage respondents who agreed or strongly agreed with selected statements about women's education and employment, IMAGES MENA 2016

Egypt
Morocco
Lebanon
Palestine

PROMUNDO WOMEN
Potential roots of street-based sexual harassment

2) Childhood violence

Percentage of respondents aged 18 to 59 who experienced at least one of three acts of physical violence at home before the age of 18, IMAGES MENA 2016
Potential roots of street-based sexual harassment

3) Men’s control of women

Percentage of ever-married respondents who reported that their husbands exert at least one form of control over their relationship with their spouse, from IMAGES MENA 2016.
Potential roots of street-based sexual harassment

3) Men’s economic uncertainty

Work-stress composite includes the following questions:

- Frequently stressed or depressed because of lack of work or income
- Sometimes feels ashamed to face family because of lack of work or income
- Worries about providing family with daily necessities

Percentage of respondents who agreed or strongly agreed with selected statements about his/her work and financial situation, IMAGES MENA
Sexual Harassment: Street-based violence against women

Percentage of men who have committed selected acts of sexual harassment/assault against women, and women who have experienced such acts in public spaces, lifetime rates, IMAGES MENA 2016

Egypt: 65% (Men's Perpetration), 60% (Women's Experience)
Morocco: 53% (Men's Perpetration), 63% (Women's Experience)
Lebanon: 31% (Men's Perpetration), 57% (Women's Experience)
Palestine: 37% (Men's Perpetration), 40% (Women's Experience)
Boys Having Fun?

Self-reported motives for perpetrating street harassment

- To show off to other boys/men
- To put the woman in her place
- For excitement or fun
- Because my friends encouraged me to
- Because women like it

Countries: Egypt, Morocco, Lebanon, Palestine
EGYPT: Multivariate analysis - correlates of lifetime perpetration of sexual harassment (adjusted for age, settlement type and ever-married status)

- Education secondary (ref: none)
  - Odds Ratio: 1.8
- Wealth high (ref: low)
  - Odds Ratio: 2.1
- Witnessing IPV as child
  - Odds Ratio: 2.2
- Experiencing violence as child
  - Odds Ratio: 1.7
LEBANON: Multivariate analysis - correlates of lifetime perpetration of sexual harassment (adjusted for age, education, wealth index and ever witnessing IPV as a child)

Odds Ratios

- Ever been married: 0.3
- Experiencing violence as a child: 1.6
PALESTINE: Multivariate analysis - correlates of lifetime perpetration of sexual harassment (adjusted for age, education, and ever witnessing violence in the childhood home)
MOROCCO: Multivariate analysis - correlates of lifetime perpetration of sexual harassment (adjusted for wealth index and settlement type)

Odds Ratios

- Age: 0.7
- Education superieur (ref: none): 2
- Ever been married: 0.3
- Witnessing IPV as child: 2.5
- Experiencing violence as child: 1.7
Summary of Factors Associated with Men’s Street-Based Sexual Harassment:

✓ Witnessing and/or experiencing physical violence in childhood home all 4 countries
✓ Primarily younger, unmarried men
✓ Men with secondary education and higher income (in 2 countries)

**HYPOTHESIS:** Frustration and entitlement among young men with some education, resistance by young men to women’s empowerment, particularly in paid workforce.
Factors Associated with Women’s Experiences of Street-based Harassment (bivariate analysis)

- More educated women (all four countries)
- Younger women (all four countries)
- Women who experienced physical abuse in childhood home (all four countries)
- Wealthier women (Egypt, Lebanon)
Reflections

- A generation in flux? Younger women more equitable than their older peers, young men not so …
- Pushing men from theory to practice in gender equality
- Women’s slowly increasing participation in the workforce bringing resistance by some men, acceptance by others
- Building on the local stories and pathways to change – many women and men already believe the old models don’t work
- A few interesting models for prevention: Harassmap, ABAAD
- Challenges of carrying out policy advocacy but some small successes
- Time to move from denouncing to implementing programs, changing policies?
“To be honest, it’s rare to find a real man; the man has lost his masculinity with these new laws that give more advantages and freedom to women.”

Man, in his 20s, student, Khémisset

“Honestly, the rhetoric on the rights of women, nothing like that exists. It’s only talk. In Moroccan families and households, we still live by tradition, we have a culture that can’t be remade in a moment. Even if a woman is educated, with a position, she worships the idea of masculinity and gravitates towards serving the man.”

Woman, 30 years old, family education teacher, Rabat
THANK YOU

For more information, visit www.imagessmena.org