



Overview to Volunteer Work: Evidence from Jordanian Youth

Dr. MOHAMMAD S.K. JARADAT

The Higher Council for Youth

Dean of Gernata College

Al-Balqa'a Applied University

Jordan

Abstract:

This study aimed to identify the Jordanian youth to look towards the voluntary work. Do they differ according to this view the variables age sex and place of residence, and formed the study sample of 1751 young men and women students from Jordanian universities and the researchers used a measurement tool designed for this purpose consisted of 26 items distributed in four areas, namely area social, religious, psychological, economic.

Survey results showed that there was a low opinion among Jordanian youth to volunteer work in addition to the lack of statistically significant differences between the views of respondents about volunteer work due to the changes age, year of the study, place of residence. The researcher recommended a number of recommendations including: Develop programs to promote a culture of volunteerism among Jordanian youth.

Key words: volunteer work; Jordanian youth; social field, Religious field, Psychological field; Economic field.

1. INTRODUCTION

Islam interested in voluntary work and its importance in human life came in the Holy Koran and Sunnah. The Almighty

saying "*The charity of those who expand their wealth in the way of Allah may be likened to a grain of corn, which produced seven ears and each ear yields a hundred grains. Likewise Allah develops manifold the charity of anyone He pleases, for He is All-Embracing, All-Wise. Those people who expend their wealth in the way of Allah, and then do not follow up their charity with reminders of their generosity nor injure the feelings of the recipient, shall get their reward from their Lord; they will have no fear and no sorrow of any kind*". Sora Al bakra Ayat (261-262). Prophet Muhammad God's peace be upon him says "*insured for the insured Kalpnian Almrsos pull together, and clasped between his fingers*". The Prophet, peace be upon him said also "*such believers in their mutual love, mercy and compassion, like the body if something complained to falter, the rest of the body to ensure a fever*" (Sahih Muslim).

Volunteer work is appear obviously in Islamic thought, heritage, customs and traditions, volunteer work have a great importance in the life of society to the point mantras to volunteer and serve the people of the virtues and must be volunteering to face God and be proficient free of phenotypic and hypocrisy or interest. the language definition of volunteering did not differ from form the Islamic definition of volunteering, Lisan al-Arab identify the volunteer as what was donated by a person of himself, which does not have to be imposed(Ibn Manzur, 1956). Also defined as an effort by the person to serve the community without waiting for wage or benefit of personal or material and has motivated human person pays sacrifice and make time, effort and desire and choose (Badawi, and Hana, 2004).

With the scientific progress and the increase in entertainment, globalization, internet and multi-basic and non-basic human needs, the need arose to voluntary work, especially in the communities engaged in the work and tender. The need for volunteer work as a fundamental pillar in the process of social progress has emerged as a volunteer work

criterion of the degree of social-level standards Developed nations have realized this truth so rushed to promote volunteer work and advocacy so devoted to that day is December 10, 2005 and released by the International Volunteer Day (Al-Nabulsi, 2007). however, the importance of volunteer work lies in many issues, the most important is adoption of voluntary work as a method for the advancement, progress and the creation of integrated unit of the social fabric as well as the volunteer work itself is the protection of young people from harmful behaviors and falling into various problems in addition to providing the physical income of the state and what is reflected on the society in general (Shoaib Mokhtar 2004), moreover volunteer work contributes to the mobilization of human energies, organize, and direct them proper guidance leading to the development and bridging the gaps and convert energy into inert strong power producer (Badawi 2004).

Relying on the researcher experience in the youth work aspect and volunteering we note that volunteer work is Beneficial to young people with many aspects, the most important aspect is the acquisition of a particular profession and gain a good way to deal with people and refine the various directives and to ensure the defense of the community in addition to the development and expansion of the perceptions and understanding among young people and fill their spare time the useful work good and strengthen the bonds of love and trust with the people and to live as a family of integrated work and dedication and love it.

The rapid growth in Jordanian society and transformation of institutions and private universities to community service and development in various fields have emerged the need to have able to carry this message according to the scientific and practical and moral foundations of qualified personnel and the importance of young people and their enjoyment of various capacities mental, psychological, social, political, and they represent the largest segments of society as

it so that we can turn our young people to volunteer work had to be beneficial to know their perception of volunteer work as a cornerstone of the problem, the study appeared in the importance of youth look to voluntary work.

The importance of this study concentrate in the following:

- This study launched by the Higher Council for Youth and through specialists in voluntary work for young people.
- This study seeks to link theory with practice.
- This study dealing with young people who represent the largest proportion of the Jordanian society.
- This study affect the reality of young people and their perception of volunteer work with communities to increase complicated conditions.
- The decision can be taken in the field of voluntary work and youth.

The studies related to the volunteer work are few especially Arab world compared to the other researches related to young people, but it assumed as important and worthy studies which covers various topics related to volunteer. For example Shteiwi et al. (2000) which investigate the volunteer's properties and compared with non-volunteers, this study found that the male volunteers are more than the female volunteers married volunteers are more than single volunteers and motivated young people to volunteer work under the age of 35 less than the turnout of young people over the age of 35 years. In (2001) Mahmud study investigate the reasons for the volunteer work desire for the volunteers this study found that the prestige and fame and earn the pleasure of God and help those in need is the most prominent reasons for their desire to volunteer work. However, the finding of the Jordan Center for the Study which aimed to identify some of Jordanian youth views on some issues as the problems of youth revolves around family and interference in their affairs and the lack of centers for

voluntary work as centers of youth and the existence of inequality and lack of clarity for the ceiling of freedoms and intolerance and clan (New Jordan Center 2000).

Fairuz study (2002) asserted that there is a reluctance among women to participate in volunteer work as confirmed by UNICEF (UNICEF survey, 2003) during the survey conducted by the Jordanian youth to the presence of the low among young people of Jordan to participate in the institutions of civil society. Moreover, al-Zubaidi, a study on Jordanian university students' attitudes towards voluntary work showed that male participation is higher than female participation and that participation increases with high-level academic and scientific participation of college students is higher than literary college students. Yan Lam (2002) investigate the influence of religion to engage in voluntary associations The study found there is a positive impact on the membership of the individual in the group voluntary. While Ostrander (2003) in the field of democracy and civic participation and the university concluded that the university procedures are very important to the improvement of voluntary work among young people and volunteer work varies from university to university and that this significantly linked to procedures that university encouraging volunteer work. Furthermore, Milligan (2005) which worked on the analysis of existing models to enhance public volunteering has reached what justifies the support voluntary initiatives by policy-makers in order to support the development process.

2. STUDY METHODOLOGY

This study applied the descriptive approach to because it is appropriate for this kind of studies. The study population consisted of all Jordanian students in public and private universities whom participants in the meetings organized by the Higher Council for Youth via activities, seminars,

conferences and various camps and workshops. The study sample consisted of (1751) students who participated in the various programs and activities of the Higher Council for Youth, Table (1) shows the study sample distributors by residence, age and gender.

Table 1: Shows the study sample according to the variables

Variable	Category	N	Ratio
Residence	Rural	378	21.6%
	City	942	53.8%
	AlBadia	296	16.9%
	Camps	135	7.7%
Age	Less than 20 years	594	33.9%
	More than 20 years	1157	66.1%
Gender	Male	996	56.9%
	Female	755	43.1%
Total		1751	100.0%

Relying on the theoretical literature the researcher designs the study tool, which includes four aspects: social, religious, psychological and economics. Which include (26) paragraph after deleting the paragraphs which is not suitable and propose new paragraphs by arbitrators. Furthermore, to test the reliability of the study tool the researcher introduce a tool on the number of faculty members in Jordanian universities in addition to experts in this field, where they were taking their observations to delete or modify some of the paragraphs. However, to test the tool stability we used the test and re-test method, where the questionnaire have been distributed to a sample of students numbered (20) students, after two weeks we redistributed the sample, the correlation coefficient was (0.89) which assumed as acceptable value for the purposes of scientific research.

3. REGRESSION ANALYSIS

The researcher distributed (2000) questionnaire to the participants in the meetings, activities, camps and workshops

which organized by the Higher Council for Youth and youth centers. The researcher adopt (1751) questionnaire after excluding non-valid questionnaires. Moreover (SPSS) program used to estimate the percentages, averages, standard deviations, T test and the variance analysis.

3.1 Present the results relating to the first question

The first question which stated: *what is the Jordanian university students point view to volunteer work in the social, religious, psychological and economic, field?*

To answer this question the researcher estimates the averages and standard deviations separately for each field and for the instrument as a whole. Table (2) illustrates the averages and the standard deviation for each field and for the instrument as a whole.

Table 2: Shows the averages and standard deviations of the study sample member's estimates of volunteering

No.	field	Mean	STDV
1	social	2.48	0.284
2	religious	2.20	0.296
3	psychological	2.16	0.328
4	economic	2.19	0.300
Total		2.25	0.229

The results showed that the Jordanian university students overview to the volunteering low overview at all fields, the averages arranged from (2.16-2.48) which corresponds the estimation in a low degree. Tables (3-6) show the averages and the standard deviation for each field.

First field: Social field

Table 3: Shows the averages and standard deviations for the first field

Figure	I participate in volunteer work for:	Mean	STDV
1	Categories needy	2.65	0.539
2	Environment	2.62	0.487
3	Awareness of traffic and reduce road accidents	2.55	0.497

4	Neighborhood hygiene	2.71	0.455
5	In recognition of my colleagues	2.48	0.500
6	Out of respect for my family	2.54	0.499
7	Even people respect me	2.43	0.495
8	For the country	2.31	0.462
9	To reduce the suffering of the people	2.22	0.447
10	Build new relationships	2.29	0.518

Study findings which related to the social field shows that the overview of the university students to participate in voluntary work is lower degree, the averages arranged from (2.22-2.71) which corresponds the estimation in a low degree.

Second field: religious field

Table 4: Shows the averages and standard deviations for the second field

Figure	I participate in volunteer work for:	Mean	STDV
11	Worship	2.23	0.489
12	Parental satisfaction	2.31	0.524
13	Guardians obedience	2.09	0.491
14	Religious teachings	2.17	0.514
15	Access to Heaven	2.20	0.471
16	Blessings of God Almighty	2.20	0.503

Study findings which related to the religious field shows that the overview of the university students to participate in voluntary work is lower degree, the averages arranged from (2.09-2.31) which corresponds the estimation in a low degree.

Third field: psychological field

Table 5: Shows the averages and standard deviations for the third field

Figure	I participate in volunteer work for:	Mean	STDV
17	Self confidence	2.20	0.502
18	Self-realization	2.12	0.412
19	Self-resection	2.12	0.448
20	Responsibility feeling	2.17	0.453
21	Social role	2.22	0.450

Study findings which related to the psychological field shows that the overview of the university students to participate in

voluntary work is lower degree, the averages arranged from (2.22-2.12) which corresponds the estimation in a low degree.

Fourth field: economic field

Table 6: Shows the averages and standard deviations for the fourth field

Figure	I participate in volunteer work for:	Mean	STDV
22	Development	2.28	0.483
23	The existence of incentives to volunteer	2.34	0.475
24	Learn a profession	2.16	0.407
25	The expansion of perception	2.06	0.527
26	Access to economic conditions	2.08	0.367

Study findings which related to the economic field shows that the overview of the university students to participate in voluntary work is lower degree, the averages arranged from (2.06-2.34) which corresponds the estimation in a low degree.

3.2 Present the results relating to the second question

The second question which stated: *Are there significant differences on the level of significance ($\alpha=0.05$) on the Jordanian university students overview to voluntary work due to gender, age and place of residence?*

To answer this question the researcher estimate the averages, standard deviations, T test and one-way analysis of variance. Table's (7-9) show the results according to the study variables.

Results related to the gender variable

To answer the question related with gender variable we use the averages, standard deviation and T test. Table (7) shows the results related to the gender variable.

Table 7: Shows the averages, standard deviations and T test to the estimates of the differences between the study sample relying on the gender variable

Category	No.	Mean	STDV	T	Sig.
Male	996	2.24	0.219		
Female	755	2.27	0.240	-2.773	0.470

The study results shows that there is no statistically significant differences on the significance level ($\alpha=0.05$) due to the gender variable on the Jordanian university students overview to voluntary work on the tool as a whole.

Results related to the age variable

To answer the question related with age variable we use the averages, standard deviation and T test. Table 8 shows the results related to the gender variable.

Table 8: Shows the averages, standard deviations and T test to the estimates of the differences between the study sample relying on the age variable

Category	No.	Mean	STDV	T	Sig.
Less than 20 years	594	2.24	0.23		
More than 20 years	1157	2.26	0.23	1.415	0.515

The study results shows that there is no statistically significant differences on the significance level ($\alpha=0.05$) due to the age variable on the Jordanian university students overview to voluntary work on the tool as a whole.

Results related to the place of residence variable

To answer the question related with place of residence variable we use the averages, standard deviation and one-way analysis of variance. Table (9) shows the means and standard deviation.

Table 9: Shows the averages and standard deviations to the estimates of study sample relying on the place of residence variable

Category	No.	Mean	STDV
Rural	378	2.22	0.32
City	942	2.24	0.19
AlBadia	296	2.25	0.18
Camps	135	2.23	0.14
Total	1751	2.25	0.23

Relying on the table (9) the study results show existence of a virtual differences in the averages on the Jordanian university student's overview to voluntary work, to identify the sources of these differences we used one-way analysis of variance. Table (10) shows the results.

Table 10: Shows the one-way analysis of variance of the impact of the place of residence on the overview towards voluntary work

Variance Source	Total Squares	Liberty grades	Average Squares	"F" Value	Sig.
Intra- groups	7.609	3	2.536	490	0.54
Inside groups	29.690	1747	1.690		
Total	91.676	1750			

The study results show that there is no statistically significant differences on the significance level ($\alpha \leq 0.05$) in the overview of Jordanian youth toward volunteer work due to the place of residence variable.

4. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1. Conclusions

The results showed for the first question devout look at all the social areas that Jordanian youth overview to voluntary work and the economic and psychological and religious, as it appears in the tables (2- 6) due to the lack of adherence to the youth and community values purebred, which calls for the promotion of volunteerism. Volunteering work culture and the popularity of the habits and traditions urges so it is observed that these

manifestations have begun to shrink, especially in civilian life and everything in it from the Internet and satellite TV and communication devices employ people from each other than the weakest of this work in the hearts of some of people as he reflected negatively on how to deal with others. Where he was treated trust and mutual respect has become another means of human endeavor to be guaranteed by the provision of help and assistance and this has had a role in the weakness of customs and traditions which keeps them individuals and cause them to volunteer work, and that busy people seeking to the requirements of daily life and the difficulty of earning a living, the consumer most of the time people and busy people to pursue the matter and leave the rest of the things have helped not to stick to the values of individuals volunteering. In addition, the people doing volunteer work are often subjected to multiple difficulties compel them to leave volunteer work like: irony, ridicule and perception of inferiority.

With regard to the economic domain may need people increasing day after day and fear of the mysterious and the pursuit of the future to secure that future, most of whom became their more than the work of men. Women and possibly children and hours later than Engage people about volunteering or maybe did not let the opportunity to work so young and did not find to be their role models in volunteer work or teach them assets and balance them with the material life and spiritual self-realization. As for the religious domain, the people's fear of extremist movements or of the involvement of children in some of the trends that might distract them from their studies and prepare for the future have to pay people to focus on their children in the performance of religious rites without wrapping to just below that which hit young people look to voluntary work from a religious perspective.

With regard to the domain of psychological Van academic pressures faced by students and the fear of failure and repetition and the fear of getting a profession or a decent

job and frequent urgency of the parents to their children in order to focus on the study for the future or the rhythm of the sentence in the field of failure made the psychological situation of the children do not encourage volunteer work in addition to the lack of room for it inside the hearts of young people, located between the current reality and between reality and look completely different parents.

With regard to the lack of statistically significant differences due to gender, age and place of residence differences may woman going out to work and study its progress in all fields side-by-side with men has led to the existence of the same view between males and females is no longer community macho to that degree, which was 20 a year ago or 30 years and even transactions within families has become a much different and on the contrary, most families have become better deal females than males and give them opportunities in education and work Etc.

With regard to the place of residence, the ease of connectors between different regions and the movement of people in the housing in order to work and function and mixing significantly and the presence of the same services in different areas to make society much like the one community of the same customs and traditions and different place of residence.

Either with respect to age, it probably indicates that the main role in the field of voluntary work back to the family, school, community and related breeding with the lack of the role of universities in this area in addition to the free curriculum that focuses on the value and culture of voluntary work and therefore, their outlook to work Volunteering does not vary according to age, gender or place of residence they live in one environment and circumstances are similar.

4.2. Recommendations

- Related to the above results, this study recommended to:

- State programs in order to promote voluntary work culture among Jordanian.
- Elaboration curriculum helps to strengthen the noble values of volunteering.
- Establish the concept of the value of volunteer work with the family and their importance in the development of society.
- Create incentives for young people volunteer to promote the values of their love for volunteer work.
- Find a supportive hand which Organized and adopt the voluntary work of young people.
- Establishing a culture of volunteering and educational institutions as a philosophy of life.
- Organized multi-days of volunteer work by various community organizations throughout the year.

REFERENCES

- [1] Al-Bukhari, A. (2003). Sahih Muslim, Beirut National Library.
- [2] Al-Nabulsi, H. (2007). University Students in the Role of Volunteer Work and Political Participation, Unpublished PhD Thesis, University of Jordan, Jordan.
- [3] Badawi, H. (1999). Social Work and its Applications in the Education and Care of Young People, Alexandria University.
- [4] Fairuz, F. (2002). The Reluctance of Women to Participate in Voluntary Work and Institute Obstacles and Difficulties, Conference reluctance of women to participate in the voluntary and institutional National Accord Association work the first year of the Islamic Kingdom of Bahrain.

- [5] Hana H. (2004). Community Organizing Devices in Alexandria Social Service, Dar Al-ma'arefa Aljamee'a.
- [6] Holy Koran
- [7] Milling, C. & Nicholas (2005). Preserving Space for Volunteers Exploring the Links between the Voluntary Welfares Organizations Volunteering and Citizenship, Urban Studies. 1 (42), PP: 417- 433.
- [8] New Jordan Center (2000), unemployment, drugs and discrimination against women, Amman, Jordan.
- [9] Ostrand, S. (2003). Democracy Civic Participation and University Comparative Study of Civic Engagement on Five Composes. Nonprofit and voluntary Sector Quarterly, 33(1), PP: 74- 93.
- [10] Shoaib, M. (2004). Young People and Politics in Egypt Almahrooseh, Cairo Almahrooseh to post press services and information center.
- [11] Shteiwi. M. (2000). Volunteering and Volunteers in the Arab world, Cairo, the Arab Network for NGOs.
- [12] United Nations Children's Fund (2003), young Jordanians lives and opinions Amman, Jordan Office 6. Nabulsi, Hana (2007) the role of university students in work volunteer and political participation Unpublished PhD Thesis, University of Jordan.
- [13] Yanlam, P. (2002). As the Flocks Gather how Religion Affects Voluntary Association Participation. Journal for the scientific study of religion.