RASED ISSUES A STUDY ON JORDANIAN WOMEN’S TRENDS IN THE UPCOMING 2020 PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

- 30.4% of Jordanian women intend to participate in the elections.

- 22.3% of Jordanian women are yet to decide on participating.

- 47.3% of Jordanian women do not intend to participate in the elections.

- 23.4% of women will vote for women candidates.

- 72.1% of Jordanian women have their voting behavior affected by the academic qualifications of the female and male candidates.

- 52.9% of women think that tribe affiliation negatively affects their voting behavior.

* This work was carried out by long-term monitors as part of the process of monitoring the parliamentary elections 2020
79.2% of women do not take into consideration the party affiliation of the female and male candidates when voting.

66.5% of women see that social media is enhancing their participation in the elections.

71.2% of women believe that the good performance of women MPs contributes to enhancing voting in favor of women candidates.

38.4% of married women always take the opinions of their husbands when voting.

44.5% of women believe that measures to confront the Covid-19 pandemic will negatively affect the rate of women’s participation in the elections.

17.8% of women are attracted by the use of patriotic slogans in female and male candidates’ campaigns.

19.3% of women are attracted by the use of religious slogans in female and male candidates’ campaigns.

74.1% of women see financial independence as a liberation of their voting orientations.

43.9% of women do not see that women possess sufficient political awareness while participating in the elections.

73.7% of women will support electoral lists that have programs to support women’s issues.

51.9% of women have social media as the primary source of electoral information.
September 22, 2020
Amman, Jordan

Hayat-RASED carried out a study on the trends of Jordanian women for the upcoming 2020 parliamentary elections, where the sample targeted 1,700 women, of whom 1,567 women responded while 133 women declined to answer, in each electoral district according to the age group that was more than 30 years old, noting that the study was conducted during the period (9/2020/9 / 14-).

Dr. Amer Bani Amer, General Director of Hayat=RASED, stated that the importance of the study is due to the time of its implementation, which is more than 55 days before the date of the 19th Parliament’s elections, in order to know the trends of women within this age group. Dr. Bani Amer added that the study constitutes a beacon on which female candidates rely in their election campaigns, with the aim of focusing on Jordanian women and including their electoral programs for their issues and interests, noting that the study is an indicator for the government to find new work mechanisms to motivate women participation in the elections.

The results showed that 47.3% of women do not intend to participate in the upcoming elections, while the percentage of those who wish to participate and cast their votes reached 30.4% of the total respondents, with the percentage of those who have yet to decide on participating reached 22.3% of the total number of respondents, which means that this percentage is still not been decided, and it can be worked on and targeted to effectively participate in the upcoming elections, which will contribute to increasing the percentage of votes on polling day.

Regarding the influence of tribal affiliation, 52.9% of women believe that tribal affiliation negatively affects them in their voting behavior, 24% of women said that tribal affiliation affects them sometimes, 4.5% said that the influence «rarely» occurs, while 18.6% do not believe that tribal affiliation negatively affects their voting behavior.

79.2% of women said that they do not take into account the party affiliation of candidates when voting, 20.8% of women said that they take into account the party affiliation of candidates when voting. With regard to the women’s quota system, 41.7% of women said that the women’s quota system always enhances the political participation of women well in elections, while 23.7% of women believe that the women’s quota system does not enhance women’s political participation well in elections.

Regarding women’s voting for female candidates, 23.4% of women respondents said that they always vote for female candidates, and the percentage of those who «sometimes» voted for female
candidates was 36.5% of all respondents, while the percentage of women who did not vote for female candidates was 27.6% of all respondents, and 12.5% said that they «rarely» vote for women candidates in elections.

48.2% of women said that their voting behavior is always influenced by the academic qualification of candidates, while the percentage of those whose voting behavior is affected at times by the academic qualification of female and male candidates is 23.9%, with the percentage of those who do not believe that their voting behavior is affected by the academic qualification of female and male candidates reached 22.5%, and 5.4% said that their voting behavior «rarely» is affected by the academic qualifications of candidates.

Regarding the impact of women’s financial independence on their voting behavior, 48.8% of the respondents found that their voting behavior always becomes more liberal with their financial independence, while 25.3% of the respondents said that their voting behavior is «sometimes» liberated by their financial independence, while the percentage of women who do not believe that financial independence contributes to liberalizing their voting behavior was 21.1%, and 4.9% said that financial independence «rarely» affects voting behavior.

51.1% of the respondents believe that the appointment of women in leadership positions has a positive effect in mobilizing the vote in favor of female candidates for the elections, 33% are affected «sometimes», while 10.2% do not believe this influence exists, while 5.7% believe that the presence of women in leadership positions «rarely» affects their voting behavior. 71.2% of the respondents believe that the good performance of women MPs contributes to enhancing voting in favor of women candidates, while 28.8% of the respondents believe that the voting behavior of women is not affected by the performance of MPs.

37.8% of the respondents believe that women «sometimes» possess sufficient political awareness while participating in the elections, while 18.3% of the respondents believe that women «always» possess this awareness, and 23.9% of the respondents do not believe that women possess sufficient political awareness.

Moreover, the results showed that 44% of the respondents believe that civil society institutions play a permanent positive role in enhancing women’s participation in the elections. On the other hand, the percentage of those who do not believe in the positive role is 12.1%, with 10% believing that the effect is «rare» while 33.9% think that sometimes Civil society institutions have a positive role.
66.5% of the respondents believe that social media has a positive effect in enhancing their participation in the elections, while 18.9% see it negatively and 14.6% believe that it has no effect.

With regard to the influence of husbands on the voting behavior of their wives, it was found that 38.4% are always influenced by the opinions of their husbands in decision-making by the voting directions, while 39.8% of the respondents are sometimes affected, with the percentage of those who are not affected is 14.4%, and the percentage of those who are rarely affected reached 7.4%.

44.5% of the respondents believe that the measures to confront the Covid-19 pandemic will negatively affect the rate of women's participation in the elections, 21.9% believe that they have no effect, while 33.6% of women believe that the effect will be positive.

In addition, women tend to vote for candidate lists that have programs that support women's issues at a rate of 73.7%, followed by voting for lists that include female and male candidates from the same tribe of women by 11.6%, then lists supported by the family and lists containing party-affiliated candidates at 4.8% each, then by candidate lists which spent generously with 2%.

Social media ranked first in terms of the most sources from which women derive their information about the elections, at a rate of 51.9%, the site of the Independent Election Commission (IEC) came in second place with a rate of 19.6%, family and friends ranked third with 13.7%, television ranked fourth with 10.3%, Radio outlets ranked fifth with 3.7%, and paper newspapers ranked last, with a rate of 0.8%.

Now regarding the challenges that Jordanian women see as limiting to their political participation, the challenges have varied in their impact, but most of the challenges that have been repeated centered around the economic situation of women, women's lack of confidence in the performance of the parliament, and the inconsistency of parliamentary work with the requirements and priorities of Jordanian women.

Women also reported that patriarchy and lack of gender sensitivity that controls society limits women's participation in elections, and women have expressed a challenge related to their lack of confidence in the performance of governments, which caused them to distance themselves from the political scene.
I will cast my vote in the upcoming parliamentary elections

- Yes: 30.4%
- No: 47.3%
- Undecided: 22.3%

Percentage of women respondents to the study by governorate:

- Irbid: 17.7%
- Jerash: 2.9%
- Ajloun: 3.0%
- Mafraq: 5.9%
- Amman: 37.6%
- Balqa: 7.2%
- Zarqa: 9.0%
- Madaba: 4.7%
- Karak: 4.5%
- Tafilah: 2.0%
- Ma’an: 3.4%
- Aqaba: 2.1%
Percentage of women respondents to the study by Age

- 40 - 31: 38.0%
- 50 - 41: 33.7%
- 60 - 51: 28.3%

Percentage of women respondents to the study by Work Sector

- Public Sector: 22.7%
- Private Sector: 15.6%
- Private Business Owner: 7.7%
- Unemployed: 54.0%

The effect of tribal affiliation on women’s voting behavior in elections

- Always: 52.9%
- Sometimes: 24.0%
- Rarely: 4.5%
- Do not believe so: 18.6%
Press Release

RASED ISSUES A STUDY ON JORDANIAN WOMEN’S TRENDS IN THE UPCOMING 2020 PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

The effect of party affiliation on women when voting for candidates in elections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Always</th>
<th>Sometimes</th>
<th>Rarely</th>
<th>Do not believe so</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
<td>33.4%</td>
<td>45.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The women quota system enhances women participation the elections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Always</th>
<th>Sometimes</th>
<th>Rarely</th>
<th>Do not believe so</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>41.7%</td>
<td>27.1%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>23.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Women tendencies to vote for women in the elections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Always</th>
<th>Sometimes</th>
<th>Rarely</th>
<th>Do not believe so</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23.4%</td>
<td>36.5%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>27.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The effect of candidates academic qualification on voting behaviour in the elections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Always</th>
<th>Sometimes</th>
<th>Rarely</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>48.2%</td>
<td>23.9%</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Do not believe so</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The effect of women’s financial independence on their voting orientation

Always: 48.8%  
Sometimes: 25.3%  
Rarely: 4.9%  
Do not believe so: 21.0%

The effect of women candidates’ appointment in high leadership positions in gathering women votes

Always: 51.1%  
Sometimes: 33.0%  
Rarely: 5.7%  
Do not believe so: 10.2%

The effect of women MPs performance in enhancing women voting for women candidates in the elections

Always: 38.4%  
Sometimes: 32.8%  
Rarely: 9.2%  
Do not believe so: 19.6%
Women see that Jordanian women possess political awareness when participating in the elections

- Always: 18.3%
- Sometimes: 37.8%
- Rarely: 20.0%
- Do not believe so: 23.9%

The effect of civil society institutions in enhancing women participation in the elections

- Always: 44.0%
- Sometimes: 33.9%
- Rarely: 10.0%
- Do not believe so: 12.1%
The effect of social media on women participation in the elections

- Positively effects: 66.5%
- Negatively effects: 14.6%
- No effect: 18.9%

Fear of belonging to a political party leads to low participation women vulnerable to elections

- Always: 26.6%
- Sometimes: 23.8%
- Rarely: 17.6%
- Do not believe so: 32.0%
The effect of the Covid19- pandemic measures on the percentage of women participation in the election

- Positively effects: 33.6%
- Negatively effects: 44.5%
- No effect: 21.9%

The influence of husbands on the voting behavior of their wives in the elections

- Always: 38.4%
- Sometimes: 39.8%
- Rarely: 7.4%
- Do not believe so: 14.4%

The effect of using patriotic slogans especially (the Palestinian cause) on women voting behavior in the elections

- Always: 17.8%
- Sometimes: 26.4%
- Rarely: 12.7%
- Do not believe so: 43.1%
The effect of using religious slogans for candidates lists on women voting behavior in the elections

19.3% Always
28.7% Sometimes
13.1% Rarely
38.9% Do not believe so

Which one of the following list you gravitate towards voting for during the parliamentary elections

2.0% Lists the generously spend during election
4.8% Lists that contain party affiliated candidates
11.6% Lists that contain candidates from your tribe
4.8% lists that are supported by your family
73.7% lists that have women support programs
3.1% other
Your source for information about the elections

- 13.7% Family and friends
- 10.3% Television
- 0.8% Newspapers
- 3.7% Radio outlets
- 19.6% IEC website
- 51.9% Social media platforms