

ABSTRACT

"Role of Open Learning System in Socio-Development of Women:

Comparative Study between Palestine and India".

The purpose of this study is to investigate the role of Open Learning Program in Palestine (Al-Quds Open University) and India (Indira Gandhi National Open University) in developing Palestinian and Indian women. This is a comparative study which also aims to study the effects of variables like the : country, age, marital status, place residence, education (graduated or student), specialization, family size, family structure, occupation, salary variable on the role of open learning program.

The researcher collected primary as well as secondary information through interview schedule and from the reliable sources and applied the well-known statistical techniques for measuring the coefficient of determination, (Software Package for Social Sciences (SPSS)).

A descriptive field approach was used for this study. The sample was 200 respondents divided between Palestine and India. The study also involved 16 case studies. Eight case studies from each country and it was exclusively concerned with the Palestinian and Indian women who are studying / studied in open learning program. The study is both analytical and descriptive in its broader approach.

Major research findings of the study are as following:

- The role of open learning program in Palestine QOU is with high degree in developing Palestinian women.

- The role of open learning program in India IGNOU is with medium degree in developing Indian women.
- There were significant differences of the role of open learning program in developing women due to country variable in favor of Palestine.
- There were no significant differences of the role of open learning program in developing Palestinian women due to all variables except age variable since there were significant differences in favor of old women.
- There were significant differences of the role of open learning program in developing Indian women due to age, marital status, place of residence, education, family size, occupation and salary, variables while there were no significant differences due to specialization and family structure variables.