

Article Review #1: International Journal of Cyber Criminology, “Discrimination and Cyberbullying against Women in Iraq: Exploring Social Media and Perceived Norms”

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International Journal of Cyber Criminology, “Discrimination and Cyberbullying against Women in Iraq: Exploring Social Media and Perceived Norms”

Discrimination and cyberbullying amongst Iraqi women have been a more common norm in social media. Researchers Saleh Hussain-Ali et al, have posed the question, “Why are Iraqi women targets of cyberbullying on social media?”. This problem stems a lot from the culture of Iraqi people and how they view women in an Islamic country. There is rooted misogyny within the religion and laws that suppress women’s rights and protection against cyberbullying.

Research Methods, Data, and Analysis

In their research findings they interviewed various Iraqi women using the philosophical framework of interpretivism to understand human behavior regarding this certain area of cyberbullying. The research method includes random sampling of nine Iraqi women examining the women’s perceptions of cyberbullying using qualitative detailed interviews. The women were informed about the research purpose regarding the fact cyberbullying and discrimination against women are common in Iraq and the impact of cybersecurity against women in Iraq.

Results

Researchers found main themes of women having limited rights and freedom of speech and they live in a male-dominated society and women are looked down upon in Iraq. They live in a society where they live by traditional male and woman gender roles. Iraqi women also explained they have experienced discrimination in their personal lives and are not given the same resources and opportunities compared to the men in their country. There are also conflicts of religion and three women reported that the Quran asked them to, “Stay at home and protect their

dignity”. Cyberbullying against women in Iraq has increased due to social media usage and this has prevented women from speaking up for themselves; resulting in women deleting their social media accounts

Conclusion

This topic relates to the challenges that marginalized groups deal with all over the world especially in Asian cultures. In the Middle East women are not seen as equal to men and have limited rights that prevent them from speaking up; which is why there is a high number of cyberbullying against Iraqi women due to misogyny and religion. The topic relates to the principles of social sciences because we look at this from a philosophical, human behavior, social institutions, culture, and interaction standpoint to understand why there is cyberbullying against Iraqi women and the root cause of it. This relates to the PowerPoint presentation because it talks about the Sigmund Freud psychodynamic theory and the behavioral theories; that early experiences in life influence behavior and are learned. When Iraqi men see their dads and society treat women less than a person, it encourages and teaches young Iraqi boys these negative behaviors that lead to cyberbullying of Iraqi women. It was shown that cyberbullying towards Iraqi women was from Iraqi men. This study contribution shows that societies do not function compared to other countries and shows what Iraqi deal with on a cybersecurity standpoint and nothing has been done to reduce these problems. It raises awareness of policymakers in Iraq to enforce regulations to protect the mothers and women of Iraq.

Works Cited

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