The Woman’s Role in The Economic and Social Development in North Sinai Governorate
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Abstract
The research aimed to define the role of women in economic and social development in North Sinai by identifying the demographic, social and economic features of women in North Sinai Governorate, and studying the most important determinants that affect the role of women in economic and social development of a random research sample of females in the labor force in North Sinai (account about 293 observations), and extract the most important obstacles that limit their contribution in the economic and social development. A questionnaire was conducted in June 2013.

The results showed that the female labor force represented about only 18% in the average period (2007-2011), and by distributing females in the labor force on the various economic activities - it has been shown that the teaching profession occupied the first place among the professions operated by females by 53% of the total, the sector of community, public and personal services occupied the second between economic activities by 33.1% of the total, while the health sector standing third with 11.1% of the total. Women did not contribute by more than one percent in other economic activities such as manufacturing, agriculture, transportation, construction, commerce and hotels. The educational status has been shown that about 61% of illiterates are women. Logistic Regression Model has been used to identify the determinants of women's contribution of the economic and social activities. It showed the relationship between the contribution of women in economic and social activity as dependent variables (contribute 1, does not contribute 0) and numbers of independent variables: the age of woman, her educational level, and the educational level of the household’s head, household’s income, family size,
The results showed that the models were statistically significant, where Log likelihood Ratio stood at 95.97 to the model of economic activity, and 172.9 to the social activity model, the potential contribution of women in economic activity is increasing as the education level of the household’s head increasing by 2% (Odds Ratio = 1.02, while the decreasing of both the level of household income, family size were simulating the contribution of women in economic activity by 70%, 40%. The potential contribution of women in the social activity was decreasing as the household ‘s income increase by about 1% (odds ratio = 1.01) because the highly income households almost working as volunteers to develop their communities, also social activity was increasing as the family size increases by 30%. On the other hand, the qualitative variables such as marital status, and origin place were increasing the potential contribution of women in the two economic and social activities.

There were many obstacles caused in the reduction of the contribution of women in the economic and social development, where the problem of lack of time and effort was the first rank in the production’s obstacles by approximately 30.7% of the total sample, while the problem of the control of the financial management of the project by the husband was the first between financing problems by about 29% of the total number in the sample, and the problem of failure to find marketing outlets to sale products at the forefront of marketing problems by about 53.9% of the total sample. With regard to the social constraints, it has been shown that the lack of knowledge about the institutions that deal with women of the most important obstacles by 45.7% of the total sample. And the household’s refusal of the women’s contribution in the community was the first problem between Sinai cultural inherent by about 37.5% of the total number of the sample.

**Recommendations**

- Hold training courses for women in poultry and livestock projects and food manufacturing.
- Interest in literacy programs in general and women in particular, with free grants to formal education after passing the literacy programs.
• Discover the conscious women leaders and held intensive courses to help them to develop the cultural awareness for rural.
• Increase the value of loans and funding sources
• Provide marketing exhibitions of Sinai products around all year.