

Preface

This issue of the journal focuses on gender studies. It covers the topics of Moroccan feminism, gender equality in Moroccan educational institutions, gender-based violence, effects of gender on university students' school performance in Morocco, Tunisian women entrepreneurs, gender imbalance in Moroccan broadcast news and lesbian bodies in Tunisia. All articles except the book review were written during the project "Gender Studies Curriculum: A Step for Democracy and Peace in EU-Neighbouring Countries with Different Traditions" (no. 561785-EPP-1-2015-1-LT-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP, 2015-2018) supported by the European Commission.

In his article "Moroccan Feminists: Between Activism and *Muslima* Theology," Sadik Rddad rereads Moroccan feminism within a nascent methodological interpretive framework dubbed "Muslima theology." He argues that without Muslima theology as a liberating sub-branch of Islamic feminism, feminism in its activist form would fall short of achieving its objectives.

Souad Slaoui and Karima Belghiti focus on the reproduction of gender inequalities in Moroccan educational institutions. In their article "Promoting Gender Equality in Moroccan Educational Institutions: Reality or Illusion?" they analyze the ways in which these inequalities shape students' identities through the intersection between gender stereotypes in the textbooks, manuals and media and the reproduction of traditional gender roles within family and society as a whole.

Hayat Naciri's article "Gender-based Violence in Morocco: Domestic Violence as a Case in Point" examines the gender dimension of domestic violence in Morocco. By underlining its social, cultural, legal and economic aspects and implications, she interprets violence as a multi-dimensional phenomenon.

In their article "The Effect of Gender on University Students' School Performance: The Case of the National School of Agriculture in Meknes, Morocco," Saida Hdii and Mustapha Fagroud examine the number of girls enrolled in the School of Agriculture and gender differences in their academic achievement. Their analysis demonstrates a noticeable increase in the

number of girls compared to boys. Moreover, girls prove to be more likely to perform better than boys in different subjects.

Inès El Aissi, Henda Gharbi and Siwar Youssef's article "A Gender Analysis of the Relationship Between Entrepreneurial Orientation and Performance: The Case of Tunisian Women Entrepreneurs" explores whether gender differences persist in the study of the relationship between entrepreneurial orientation and performance. The results of the authors' quantitative research indicate that gender difference does not moderate the relationship between entrepreneurial orientation and performance.

In her article "Gender Imbalance in Moroccan Broadcast News," Meriem Ouahidi develops a comprehensive account of the distribution of males and females in the news broadcast on 2M, a Moroccan public channel, at the peak viewing time during a two-week period. She argues that males dominate in all aspects of the news content.

The last French-language article of this issue focuses on the experience of young Tunisian women who perceive themselves as lesbians. Monia Lachheb demonstrates that their bodily appearance and clothes comprise a significant part of these women's negotiations over gender norms. Because of their non-normative gender identity, the women encounter both verbal and physical violence in the public space. Nonetheless, as the author argues, they are able to challenge the model of traditional femininity and propose different ways of being a woman in Tunisia.

This issue also includes a book review. Jolanta Kuznecovienė reviews Eva Blomberg, Yulia Gradskova, Ylva Waldemarson and Alina Žvinklienė's book *Gender Equality on a Grand Tour. Politics and Institutions – the Nordic Council, Sweden, Lithuania and Russia* (Leiden-Boston: Brill, 2017).

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