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Thesis Title	Women and the Urban Domestic Economic Activity Field Study in Baghdad City		
Year			
Abstract	<p>Woman participation in labor market has special economic importance as woman represents inseparable part of the social fabric, during the last decades. Women participation in labor market has witnessed both quantitatively and qualitatively increases due to several factors. The difficult economic situation which Iraq has been through since 1980s urged women to work and to provide financial support to their families. No doubt that encouraging women participation in labor market eradicates poverty and improves life standards, since women labor increases family income, especially the women headed households which were significantly increased in Iraq due to the crises. Iraq has been through recently in addition to loss of the supporter, that is the husband. Moreover, women participation in labor market expands their options and decreases their needs to be dependent on others; it also enhances their self confidence and capacity to make suitable decisions.</p> <p>The economic, social and political changes that Iraq has witnessed during the last period urged many women to be enrolled in labor market, let alone the participation in the political, social and cultural changes. On the other hand, there are several obstacles that hinder wide women enrollment in labor market which in their turn may limit the profession diversity accessible to them. Traditions and social norms prevailed in the society play major role in decreasing women participation in labor market, as many traditional norms still stress that the typical woman's life and her main role in society is being a wife and a mother in a family headed by a man. This perception restricts women's independence and results in</p>		

marginalizing her role as well as trivializing the importance of career in her life and limits its significance as revenue to support her family. In addition to the low level of education and professional training, this perception limits the scope of the profession accessible to women and weakens her capacity to compete in the official labor market outside the home and obtaining a job to meet her family's needs and to achieve appropriate social status. All these factors contribute in minimizing the opportunities for women to develop their talents and capacities, expanding their horizons and formulating their independent personalities, because this perception reinforces a set of social, cultural and demographic restrictions which limits the scope and quality of profession allocated for women, and it imposes more restrictions on women's geographical movement to look for better education and the required training as well as appropriate job; consequently women's flexibility to move in labor market becomes more limited which in its turn leads to decreasing employers' desire to hire them.

The theoretical part involves three chapters; the first chapter focuses on the methodological framework of the study and presenting the problem and aims of the study in addition to identifying the basic terminology and concepts as well as review of literature. Whereas the second chapter deals with the theoretical framework which touches upon woman's labor and the challenges that confront her in labor market and the economic and the social circumstances that urge her to be enrolled in the marginal or disorganized labor.

The field work involves two chapters which represent the third and the fourth chapter of the study. The third chapter focuses on the practical procedures of methodology followed in the study; the fourth chapter tackles the main characteristics of the economic and social sample and the analysis of the key findings that the study arrived at. This study in general draws out several conclusions which could establish a ground for future studies.