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The Desire of Dependence On Men and the Justification of Sexism: An Exploratory Study of Saudi Women

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Abstract: This research explores the prevalence of the desire of dependence on men among Saudi women in Jeddah and its relationship to the justification of sexism. A number of Saudi women living in Jeddah ($N=179$) responded to the Desire of Dependence on Men Scale, which was developed for this study. To measure the degree of justification of sexism, the Ambivalent Sexism Inventory (Glick & Fiske, 1996) was also distributed to respondents online. Showing a desire of dependency on men among Saudi women was expected, in addition to finding a significant relationship between the two suggested variables. In this study, respondents showed no significant score of desire of dependence on men, however, women in the age group of 45-54 showed a significant score above the mean. A significant correlation between the desire of dependency on men and a benevolent justification of sexism was also found. The sample has also shown a significant score in benevolent sexism and an average score in hostile sexism.

Keywords: dependency on men, justifying sexism, benevolent sexism, hostile sexism

I. INTRODUCTION

Saudi Arabia was ranked as the 20th country in the list among 22 other Arab countries, looking at the best and worst Arab countries in women's rights, according to Thomson Reuters Foundation's poll in 2013 [1]. The poll covered six categories, which included women in politics, society, the economy, the family, reproductive rights, and violence against women. As this finding shows a serious situation, which women might struggle with in the Saudi society, the main objective of this research was to address the issue of sexism in Saudi Arabia and look more into it in an attempt to understand the manifestations of this issue. This research aimed to explore the prevalence of the desire of dependence on men among Saudi women in Jeddah and the justification of sexism. Will Saudi women in Jeddah show a desire of dependence on men? Will there be a significant relationship between the desire of dependence on men and justifying sexism among women? This study has attempted to answer those suggested questions.

Defining Variables

The Desire of Dependence On Men refers to the desire or need of women to depend on men passively in carrying out any tasks and the desire to be taken care of in different aspects; e.g. financially and in daily routines by men. The Justification of Sexism refers to the use of any excuses or justifications for any acts of sexism against women that promote male dominance; e.g. justifying abuse against a wife by using the excuse of 'it is for her own good' or 'it is used out of love or fear for her'.

Sexism

Sexism is a universal issue, which impacts many nations including the so-called "developed" countries. According to the Oxford Dictionaries, sexism refers to the "prejudice, stereotyping, or discrimination, typically against women, on the basis of sex" [2]. Since this issue is affecting many women across the globe, the United Nations included achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls as the fifth goal in their New Sustainable Development Agenda in 2015, which also included other 16 goals [3].

Sexism comes in different types and manifestations. According to a study conducted by Glick and Fiske (1996), sexism consists of two opposing components, which reveal a multidimensional ambivalent nature to it [4]. The two components are Hostile Sexism (HS) and Benevolent Sexism (BS). Hostile sexism represents the traditional meaning of sexism, which is a prejudice against women and an aversion or a dislike towards them based on their sex. Benevolent sexism, on the other hand, represents sexist attitudes against women, which reinforce male superiority by promoting rigid gender stereotypes covertly, but overtly those attitudes appear positive to perceivers [4]. Such views usually sound very affectionate and supportive for women, e.g. saying that women are sensitive and fragile, thus women need the protection of men.

Justification of Sexism

Both hostile and benevolent sexism are used as justifications for gender inequality. Hostile sexist beliefs justify this inequality by attributing women with characteristics such as being incompetent to have power, while benevolent sexism is used to rationalize this inequality by presenting it in a more acceptable and in an indirect way, as proposed by Glick & Fiske. Many studies have suggested that there is a link between benevolent sexism and the justification of sexism. This link can be seen in both men and women. For men, they usually use BS as a justification for their dominance. Also, according to Glick (2013), they usually assign positive attitudes to themselves, such as being supporters for women and caring about women's welfare, instead of actually stating that they are using prejudiced attitudes toward women [5].

Justification of Sexism among Women

The idea that some members of a certain group may have some prejudiced attitudes toward their in-group might sound odd, but studies have documented a relationship between benevolent sexism and the justification of sexism among women also. For women, BS offers more of a bright side to this disparity between the two sexes since women will start thinking about men as their protectors and providers. Hence, women favor BS much or even more than men in comparison to hostile sexism [4].

Interesting findings on hostile and benevolent justifications of gender inequality have revealed a relation to life satisfaction. Individuals who adopt both hostile and benevolent justifications and live in societies, which have higher gender equality scored higher in life satisfaction than those who only adopted hostile justifications. On the other hand, people who live in countries where gender inequality is high, did not show any difference in life satisfaction whether they adopted hostile justifications only or both benevolent and hostile, according to Napier, Thorisdottir & Jost, (2010) [6].

A study conducted by Sibley, Overall and Duckitt (2007) hypothesized that benevolent sexism applies a system-justifying effect by increasing women's tolerance and approval of HS over time. The study looked into the factors relating to BS and HS that might lead women to display hostile sexist attitudes toward their in-group [7]. One of the findings of the study was that BS causes HS among some women, but not all of them. Some women endorsed BS but that did not cause them to adopt HS over time; these women scored high in goals of independence and autonomy levels. On the other hand, women who showed threat-driven motivation for collective security and social cohesion and endorsed BS accepted HS over time. This type of woman usually despises feminists who challenge the traditional gender roles and they perceive them as a threat to the security of the social system.

Women's justification for acts of sexism was also documented in a local study conducted in Jeddah by Almosaed (2004), which measured society's attitudes towards violence against women by men. One of the finding of the study was that 36% of the female participants believed that using violence is the appropriate method to handle women's misconduct [8]. In another survey conducted in India in 1998–1999, 56% of the women from different regions in India believed domestic abuse against wives could be justified. Furthermore, education levels and geographical areas were contributing factors in this belief. The probability of a woman justifying wife abuse was minimized when she had a higher education level and lived in a better geographical area, according to Almosaed (2004).

Dependence On Men

In a paper by Stiver (1984), which discussed the meaning of dependency in female-male relationships, the author tried to separate this stigma, which is associated with the concept of dependency. Stiver sees dependency as a tool of personal growth and empowerment [9]. To be able to seek help from others is a privilege and a healthy sign.

While the notion of dependency has always been regarded as a negative or a stigmatized characteristic, this study recognizes that dependency should not be always perceived as a disadvantage. Stiver defines dependency as the "process of counting on other people to provide help in coping physically and emotionally with the experiences and tasks encountered in the world, when one has not sufficient skill, confidence, energy and/or time" (p. 10) [9]. Based on that definition, Stiver perceives dependency as a tool for personal improvement. On the other hand, when a person relies on someone else and that person's reliance places them in a situation where they cannot develop personally, or even causes desperation to gain anything from the other person, we can label this type of dependency as pathological. In Stiver's paper, she sees the source of this pathological dependency to be an anger stemming from unmet needs and the concept of dependency itself is not the issue.

Dependency has been always regarded as a feminine trait, even though all human beings across cultures show needs for dependency throughout their lives. This association between desires for dependence and women might be related to the fact that women tend to disclose and express their emotions, fears, and needs to have someone to take care of them more than men. While this disclosure of dependency needs is considered to be healthy

psychologically, another kind of pathological dependency can be spotted in some women. Those types of women tend to have a passive dependence in which they lack a healthy and reciprocal dynamic between the other parties that they depend on. Studies have shown that females are exposed to adopt this form of passive dependence from birth, according to Lerner (1983) [10].

Furthermore, this idea of women having a passive dependence on men was also introduced in a feminist advice book by Dowling in which the writer coined the concept of "Cinderella Complex"[11]. This complex mainly represents an unconscious desire in women to be secure and taken care of by others (a prince charming for example, thus the name), and it stems from fear of independence. This desire is usually what holds women back from achieving their full potentials, according to both Hochschild (1994) and Segen's Medical Dictionary (2012) [12] & [11].

This complex has not been tested empirically and the present study thus attempts to investigate any manifestations of it among Saudi women by measuring the desire of dependence on men. This research did not intend to assume that this desire stems from the unconscious as "Cinderella complex" suggested, but rather, it tried to explore the prevalence of dependence on men among Saudi women without any assumptions about the causal factors or the origins for it. Further studies can empirically investigate the causal factors of this complex, and look if some unconscious drives are what really fuel it.

The Relationship Between the Justification of Sexism and the Dependence On Men

Many studies have looked into the topic of economic dependency in relationships. Findings have shown that economic dependency on a partner has predicted abuse risk and it could also result in tolerating the abuse because of lack of resources. Additionally, women who are economically dependent on their partners are less likely to end an abusive relationship, according to Bornstein, (2016) [13]. In addition, some women went even further, as they justified violence against women and perceived it as the appropriate approach to deal with women as previously discussed in Almosaed's (2004) findings.

Furthermore, it has been found that when an unequal sociopolitical system is threatened; some people will be motivated to justify any inequality within the system and tend to want to believe in the fairness of it to lessen any uncertainty. This was suggested by the system justification theory, according to Jost, Banaji & Nosek (2004) [14]. Research has found that this process of system justification can lead men who adopt it to be attracted to women who endorse benevolent sexism. As a result, women will be encouraged to approve such gender inequality, according to Lau, Kay, & Spencer (2008) [15].

Since there will always be this dyadic dependence among the two sexes, especially when it comes to romantic relationships, this might lead women to justify sexism because of the psychological intimacy need that human beings experience. After all, the need of love, intimacy and relationships was in third level of Maslow's original hierarchy of needs, as cited both in Lerner (1983) and Koltko-Rivera (2006) [10]&[16].

In patriarchal societies, men have the upper hand and power; masculine characteristics are frequently praised and considered as crucial traits in leadership and in governing social institutions. This gender differentiation can cause an unfair comparison between feminine traits and masculine traits. As a result, this can lead to the belief that there is a need of dependence on men because the traits and roles that they uphold serve a complementary function to women, as suggested by Glick & Fiske (1996) [4].

Therefore, as some women are exposed to dependency on men and justifications of gender inequalities or sexism have also been documented in some studies, this study speculated a relationship between these two variables. The first hypothesis of this study was that Saudi females in Jeddah would show a desire of dependence on men. The second hypothesis was that there would be a significant relationship between the desire of dependence on men and justifying sexism.

II. METHOD

Participants

The participants of this study were 179 Saudi females living in Jeddah and the majority was within the age group of 18-24 (68.7%). They responded to the survey through social media platforms (WhatsApp, Path and Mnassa.com)

Instruments

Two assessment tools (The Desire of Dependence on Men Scale and The Ambivalent Sexism Inventory) were used in this study. A section was added to the surveys, in which respondents were asked about their age, social status and education level. The measurements were translated into Arabic by an expert bilingual professor at Effat University. Three bilingual professionals helped in forming the linguistic, cultural and content validity of the Arabic version.

The scales were piloted on 15 participants to test face-validity and to ensure that the translation was compatible and represents the Saudi culture. After conducting this initial testing some of the items were reworded and face-validity was established for both assessments. Both the English and Arabic versions of the assessments were distributed online to make sure that participants can choose their preferred language.

a) *Desire of Dependence on Men Scale*. A scale of 20 items was developed to measure the desire of dependence on men. Three items of the Dependence on Others scale, as devised by Nagumey, Reich, & Newsom, (2004) [17] were used: "I enjoy being taken care of by others"; "I would rather have others take care of things for me because it's easier" and "I don't like having to tackle my problems on my own". The first two items were adjusted for this study by replacing the word "others" with "men". Seventeen items were developed to cover eight different dimensions of dependency (financial dependency, protection and safety, emotional support, decision-making, problem solving, source of freedom, validation for physical appearance and physical strength). The items of this scale were rated on a 5-point scale ranging from 1 (*strongly disagree*) to 5 (*strongly agree*). The Cronbach's Alpha of this scale is (.85).

b) *Justification of Sexism*. The Ambivalent Sexism Inventory, which was devised by Glick & Fiske (1996) [4] was used to measure this variable. This scale has two subscales (hostile sexism and benevolent sexism) and it consists of 22 items. The scale includes a 6-point Likert scale ranging from strongly disagree to strongly agree. The Cronbach's Alpha of the Benevolent Sexism subscale is (.85) and it consists of 11 items. The Hostile Sexism subscale on the other hand scored (.78) in Cronbach's Alpha and consisted of 11 items.

Procedure

Both the English and Arabic versions of the scales were uploaded on Social Media platforms (WhatsApp, Path and Mnassa.com). Participants had the option to choose their preferred language. A consent form was added to the introductory section of the surveys, in which respondents were given a general idea about the topic and purpose of the study. More than 200 respondents participated in filling the surveys, only 179 of them completed both scales. This led to the elimination of those unfinished responses in the data analysis.

III. RESULTS

The total number of participants in this study was 179 Saudi women from Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. The majority of respondents were from 18-24 years old (68.7%) and most of the respondents were undergraduates (78.7%) and single (66%).

Reliability of Scales

The Desire of Dependency on Men Scale, which consisted of 20 items, had a high reliability of (.86). The Cronbach's Alpha of the 11 Benevolent Sexism items subscale was (.80) and the 11 Hostile Sexism items subscale scored (.78).

Desire of Dependence on Men

The results showed no significant scores in the desire of dependence on men as the sample of this study had a mean of (54.4), which was lower than the mean of the Desire of Dependence on Men Scale (60) [Table I].

Table I
Descriptive Statistics

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Total of Dependency on Men	179	26.00	85.00	54.4358	10.96266
Valid N (listwise)	179				

One-way ANOVA revealed a statistically significant difference between age groups ($F(4,174) = 6.938, p = .000$) [Table II]. After conducting a Tukey post hoc test, a statistically significant difference was shown in desire of dependence on men between the age groups of 18-24 and 45-54 ($p = .003$) [Table III]. The age group of 45-54 ($M=66.1, SD= 6.50$) scored above the mean of desire of dependence on men ($M=60$) and higher than the age group of 18-24 ($M= 52.2, SD= 10.2$) [Table IV].

Table II

Summary of ANOVA

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	2942.413	4	735.603	6.938	.000
Within Groups	18449.598	174	106.032		
Total	21392.011	178			

Table III

Tukey HSD Comparison

(I) Age	(J) Age	Mean Diff (I-J)	Std. Error	Sig.	95% Confidence Interval	
					Lower Bound	Upper Bound
18-24	25-34	-3.15919	2.06941	.547	-8.8637	2.5453
	35-44	-9.73984*	3.24058	.025	-18.6728	-.8069
	45-54	-13.86484*	3.75714	.003	-24.2217	-3.5079
	55-64	-12.23984*	4.30512	.040	-24.1073	-.3724

Note. * The mean difference is significant at the 0.05 level.

Table IV

Descriptive Statistics

	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error	95% Confidence Interval for Mean		Minimum	Maximum
					Lower Bound	Upper Bound		
18-24	123	52.260 2	10.28196	.92709	50.4249	54.0954	26.00	76.00
25-34	31	55.419 4	11.14084	2.00095	51.3329	59.5058	35.00	85.00
35-44	11	62.000 0	11.43678	3.44832	54.3167	69.6833	37.00	77.00
45-54	8	66.125 0	6.55608	2.31792	60.6440	71.6060	58.00	77.00
55-64	6	64.500 0	6.62571	2.70493	57.5467	71.4533	59.00	77.00
Total	179	54.435 8	10.96266	.81939	52.8188	56.0527	26.00	85.00

There was no statistically significant difference between groups of education level after conducting one-way ANOVA ($F(3,175) = .992, p = .398$). However, there was a statistically significant difference between social status groups ($F(2,176) = .992, p = .000$) [Table V]. Tukey post hoc test showed a statistically significant difference in desire of dependence on men between single Saudi women and married Saudi women ($p = .000$) [Table VI]. Married Saudi women ($M=61.6, SD= 9.65$) scored above the mean of desire of dependence on men ($M=60$), while single women scored below the mean ($M= 51.08, SD= 9.91$) [Table VII].

Table V
Summary of ANOVA

	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	4164.452	2	2082.226	21.272	.000
Within Groups	17227.560	176	97.884		
Total	21392.011	178			

Table VI
Tukey HSD Comparison

(I) Social Status	(J) Social Status	Mean Difference (I-J)	Std. Error	Sig.	95% Confidence Interval	
					Lower Bound	Upper Bound
Single	Married	-10.51597*	1.61315	.000	-14.3290	-6.7029
	Divorced	-4.31597	4.51656	.606	-14.9918	6.3599

Note. *. The mean difference is significant at the 0.05 level.

Table VII
Descriptive Statistics

N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error	95% Confidence Interval for Mean		Minimum	Maximum
				Lower Bound	Upper Bound		

Single	119	51.0840	9.91539	.90894	49.2841	52.8840	26.00	76.00
Married	55	61.6000	9.65056	1.30128	58.9911	64.2089	41.00	85.00
Divorced	5	55.4000	12.21884	5.46443	40.2283	70.5717	37.00	67.00
Total	179	54.4358	10.96266	.81939	52.8188	56.0527	26.00	85.00

Relationship between the Desire of Dependence on Men and Justifying Sexism

There was a significant correlation as determined by Pearson Correlation between desire of dependence on men and benevolent sexism: $r = .69$ but there was no significant correlation between desire of dependence on men and hostile sexism $r = .48$ [Table VIII].

Table VIII
Pearson Correlation Between Dependency on Men and Benevolent Sexism/Hostile Sexism

		HS	BS	Total of Dependency on Men	Total of Ambivalent Sexism
HS	Pearson Correlation	1	.469**	.480**	.841**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000	.000	.000
	N	179	179	179	179
BS	Pearson Correlation	.469**	1	.696**	.872**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000		.000	.000
	N	179	179	179	179
Total of Ambivalent Sexism	Pearson Correlation	.841**	.872**	.692**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	
	N	179	179	179	179

Note. **. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Justifying Sexism (Benevolent Sexism & Hostile Sexism)

Findings showed a significant score of benevolent sexism (29.9) as the sample scored above the mean of the benevolent sexism subscale (27.5). The sample also showed an average score of hostile sexism (27.9) [Table IX].

Table IX
Descriptive Statistics

	Mean	Std. Deviation	N
HS	27.9721	8.63845	179
BS	29.9218	9.54613	179

One-way ANOVA showed a statistically significant difference between age groups in benevolent sexism ($F(4,174) = 5.374, p = .000$). However, there was no statistical significant difference between age groups in hostile sexism. Tukey post hoc test revealed a statistically significant difference between the age groups of 18-24 and 35-44 ($p = .008$). All age groups scored above the mean in benevolent sexism, but the age group of 34-44 had the highest mean ($M=38.3, SD= 4.8$) [Table X].

Table X
Descriptive Statistics

One-way ANOVA also revealed a statistically significant difference between social status groups only in benevolent sexism ($F(2,176) = 7.769, p = .001$). Tukey post hoc test showed a statistically significant difference in benevolent sexism between single Saudi women and married Saudi women ($p = .000$). Married Saudi women ($M=33.8, SD= 8.25$) had the highest mean in benevolent sexism, while single women had an average mean, yet it was the lowest between the other social status groups ($M= 28, SD= 9.71$). Education level had no statistically significant difference in benevolent sexism or hostile sexism.

IV. DISCUSSION

The aim of this study was to explore the desire of dependence on men among Saudi women living in Jeddah. In addition, it aimed to look if there was a significant relationship between desire of dependence on men and justifying sexism. The study hypothesized that Saudi women in Jeddah would show a desire of dependence on men. The sample of this study had a low score of desire of dependence on men as it scored below the mean. Since the hypothesis of this study was a non-directional one, where it was not specified if Saudi women would show high or low desire of dependence on men, this finding supports the first hypothesis of this study. There was a significant difference between the age groups of 18-24 and 45-54 in desire of dependence on men. Women within the age group of 45-54 had higher desire of dependence on men as they scored above the mean. This age difference might be related to the way older generations were raised, as opportunities for women back then was more limited than our current time. Lack of opportunities might lead women to depend more

		N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error	95% Confidence Interval for Mean		Minimum	Maximum
						Lower Bound	Upper Bound		
BS	18-24	123	28.6423	9.16795	.82665	27.0058	30.2787	7.00	49.00
	25-34	31	28.7097	10.11993	1.81759	24.9977	32.4217	6.00	46.00
	35-44	11	38.3636	4.82230	1.45398	35.1240	41.6033	30.00	48.00
	45-54	8	37.8750	8.21910	2.90589	31.0037	44.7463	25.00	51.00
	55-64	6	36.3333	9.00370	3.67575	26.8845	45.7821	29.00	52.00
	Total	179	29.9218	9.54613	.71351	28.5138	31.3298	6.00	52.00

on men and this might have been a hard cycle to break for older women, even after some changes have occurred to the situation of women in our society. Married women have also scored above the mean as opposed to single and divorced women. As a speculation for this finding, married women might be pressured more than single and divorced women to show a constant need and dependence for her husband because of society's expectations of how a wife should act. Considering these findings, the low scores in desire of dependence on men, which were found in this sample, could be a result of the fact that the majority of the sample was from the age group of 18-24 years old and most of them were single women. Since the scales were distributed online, accessibility to older women was challenging as usually millennials use social media more. Additionally, education levels showed no significant difference in relation to desire of dependence on men in this sample. All of the respondents were educated and the lowest education level in the sample was middle school. Perhaps if the sample included less educated respondents a difference might be found between them

and the more educated women in regard to desire of dependence on men. That is also something to consider for future research.

Moreover, a significant correlation was found between desire of dependence on men and benevolent sexism. Since studies have shown links between benevolent sexism and justification of gender inequality, as proposed by Sibley *et al.* (2007) and Glick (2013), this finding supports the second hypothesis of this study, which suggested that there will be a significant relationship between desire of dependence on men and justification of sexism. On the other hand, there was no significant correlation between desire of dependence on men and hostile sexism found in this study.

Saudi women living in Jeddah scored above the mean in benevolent sexism and had an average score of hostile sexism. This finding is consistent with previous research on ambivalent sexism and justification of gender inequality, which found ambivalent types of sexism among women, as mentioned by Glick (2013). This result is also consistent with Almosaed's (2004) documentation of justifying violence against women by men -which is form of sexism- among Saudi women. Results have also shown a statistically significant difference between the age groups of 18-24 and 35-44 in benevolent sexism as women between the age of 34 and 44 had the highest mean in benevolent sexism. However, there was no statistically significant difference between age groups in hostile sexism. When it came to education level, results showed no statistically significant difference in benevolent sexism or hostile sexism regarding education. This result differs from Almosaed's (2004) finding, which suggested that justifying wife abuse was minimized when women had higher education level. The reason for that could be that the level of education had a relationship with justifying wife abuse specifically, considering the fact that the items, which were used for measuring the justification of sexism did not include any that addressed the topic of wife abuse. Regarding the two scales, which were used in the study, it was found that The Desire of Dependency on Men Scale had a high reliability of (.86). The Benevolent Sexism subscale on the other hand had a reliability of (.80), which was compatible with the reliability found by Glick and Fiske in 1996 that ranged from (0.73 to 0.85). However, the reliability of Hostile Sexism subscale was (.78), which was comparatively lower than the ones documented by Glick and Fiske (0.80 to 0.92).

These findings are important in reinforcing independency among Saudi women. As young women between 18-24 years old and older women between 45-54 years old showed difference in the desire of dependence on men, it is worth to discover what caused this generation gap when it came to dependence on men. Knowing the low scores in desire of dependence on men among young women can be effective in cultivating the specific factors, which caused that decrease in girls from a very young age. Also, promoting independency from men could ensure empowerment and resistance to any possible justification of sexism. As significant scores in ambivalent sexism (benevolent and hostile) were found in Saudi women in Jeddah, it is very important to spread awareness about the consequences of adopting sexist attitudes on the development and life-satisfaction of women. Addressing this issue and looking at the underlying factors, which reinforce these sexist attitudes and justifications could improve the situation of gender inequality within the Saudi society.

The limitations of this study include having a convenient sample, as participants were conveniently collected through social media, which might have affected the generalizability of the sample. The sample only covered women who live in Jeddah and the majority of them were young (18-24) and single, which also have probably caused a problem in the generalization of data. For future studies on the topic of desire of dependence on men in Saudi Women, having a large and varied sample that covers all regions of Saudi Arabia could reflect new findings. A detailed comparison between young women and old women in relation to the desire of dependence on men and/or justifying sexism might reveal significant findings in what causes this difference. Including non-Saudi Women living in Saudi Arabia in the sample can be an interesting addition. This can show us how living in the Saudi society may influence attitudes toward the desire of dependence on men and justifying sexism. Number of years living in Saudi Arabia can also be investigated for non-Saudis to see if there was a relationship between the number of years spent living in Saudi Arabia and developing any desire of dependence on men.

V. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, this research presented some impressive insights into the exploration of the desire of dependence on men and the justifications of sexism among Saudi women living in Jeddah. The findings showed low scores of desire of dependence on men in the sample, nevertheless women in the age group of 45-54 showed an above-the-average score in dependence on men. A significant correlation was found between desire of dependence on men and benevolent justification of sexism. Saudi women in Jeddah have also scored significantly in benevolent sexism and had an average score of hostile sexism. Sexism is a global issue, which affects many women and both sexism and pathological dependency on men can hinder women's opportunities to thrive and flourish personally. Thus, any sign of tolerance of sexism or dependency that inhibits one's abilities should be examined carefully to eradicate it. This will improve the overall life satisfaction and position of women within society.

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Appendix A Desire of Dependence Scale

Five-point scale ranging from 1 (*strongly disagree*) to 5 (*strongly agree*)

- [1]. I enjoy being taken care of by men.
- [2]. I would rather have men take care of things for me because it's easier.
- [3]. I don't like having to tackle my problems on my own.
- [4]. I would rather to travel with my male relatives because it is safer.
- [5]. Men are supposed to pay for women regardless if the women had money or not.
- [6]. I always like to hear males' opinions about the way I look.
- [7]. Men must be the breadwinners of the family.
- [8]. I prefer leaving work, which requires physical effort for men to do.
- [9]. I always like to consult a male about my personal issues because men are more logical.
- [10]. I feel comfortable in going to new places without the company of a male.
- [11]. My father's/husband's approval of the length and color of my hair is really important to

me.

[12]. A woman cannot go on in her life without the love and support of a man.

[13]. When an emergency happens I depend on the man of the house to take care of it.

[14]. I will not take any job if I was sure that I would be well taken care of financially by a man in my life.

[15]. I depend on men of the house to fix things at home.

[16]. My life happiness will come from a man.

[17]. I believe that my freedom will come from a man.

[18]. A man must carry heavy luggage/bags from a woman.

[19]. My current problems will be solved as soon as I get married.

[20]. I prefer letting my father or husband or son plan the details of our traveling.

Appendix B

The Ambivalent Sexism Inventory

Six-point Likert scale ranging from 0 (*strongly disagree*) to 5 (*strongly agree*)

- [1]. No matter how accomplished he is, a man is not truly complete as a person unless he has the love of a woman.
- [2]. Many women are actually seeking special favors, such as hiring policies that favor them over men, under the guise of asking for "equality".
- [3]. In a disaster, women ought to be rescued before men.
- [4]. Most women interpret innocent remarks or acts as being sexist.
- [5]. Women are too easily offended.
- [6]. People are not truly happy in life without being romantically involved with a member of the other sex.
- [7]. Feminists are seeking for women to have more power than men.
- [8]. Many women have a quality of purity that few men possess.
- [9]. Women should be cherished and protected by men.
- [10]. Most women fail to appreciate fully all that men do for them.
- [11]. Women seek to gain power by getting control over men.

- [12]. Every man ought to have a woman whom he adores.
- [13]. Men are incomplete without women.
- [14]. Women exaggerate problems they have at work.
- [15]. Once a woman gets a man to commit to her, she usually tries to put him on a tight leash.
- [16]. When women lose to men in a fair competition, they typically complain about being discriminated against.
- [17]. A good woman should be set on a pedestal by her man.
- [18]. Many women get a kick out of teasing men by seeming sexually available and then refusing male advances.
- [19]. Women, compared to men, tend to have a superior moral sensibility.
- [20]. Men should be willing to sacrifice their own well-being in order to provide financially for the women in their lives.
- [21]. Feminists are making unreasonable demands of men.
- [22]. Women, as compared to men, tend to have a more refined sense of culture and good taste.