NCDR and Women in Jordan

Adnan Telfah
National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation

CISR JOURNAL

Follow this and additional works at: http://commons.lib.jmu.edu/cisr-journal

Part of the Defense and Security Studies Commons, Emergency and Disaster Management Commons, Other Public Affairs, Public Policy and Public Administration Commons, and the Peace and Conflict Studies Commons

Recommended Citation
Available at: http://commons.lib.jmu.edu/cisr-journal/vol12/iss2/35

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Center for International Stabilization and Recovery at JMU Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Journal of Conventional Weapons Destruction by an authorized editor of JMU Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact dc_admin@jmu.edu.
The NCDR's "Mine Action Gender Mainstreaming Action Plan" is incorporated into the workforce. Fewer women are employed outside of the home compared to men, with only 9 percent of Jordanian women above the age of 15 working outside their homes. Among females, unemployment rates are double those for males; further, high percentages of women are discouraged from seeking employment outside of the home. Women who are employed are typically compensated with much lower wages than men in the same fields. The roots of these problems arise from a lack of available employment options that are compatible with the current social roles for women.

What the NCDR Is Doing

To combat this inequality, the National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation, Jordan's leading mine-action authority, works to provide equal opportunity in employment, regardless of gender. The NCDR has a "Mine Action Gender Mainstreaming Action Plan," and has consistently aimed to recruit women.3 The organization is careful to make certain that job openings announcements convey that both males and females are welcome to apply for the position.4 Fewer women are employed outside of the home when compared to men, with only 9 percent of Jordanian women above the age of 15 working outside their homes. Among females, unemployment rates are double those for males; further, high percentages of women are discouraged from seeking employment outside of the home. Women who are employed are typically compensated with much lower wages than men in the same fields. The roots of these problems arise from a lack of available employment options that are compatible with the current social roles for women.

Gender Mainstreaming and MRE

The NCDR works to make gender mainstreaming a part of its MRE programs. It does this among school-aged children by creating special brochures for boys and girls, addressing differences between them. MRE efforts also aim to reach women within their households by holding sessions designed specifically for their demographic. These women are crucial to the MRE efforts, as women who participate in these MRE sessions tend to pass the lessons that they learn on to their communities and families. The NCDR found that its efforts to incorporate women into its MRE team had positive results in the field. Having women on the teams made it easier for the teams to access households, especially the women and children in these households.

Relief for Amputees with "Phantom Limbs"

Dr. Atul Gawande recently published an article in "The New Yorker," in which Gawande offered some inexpensive and rapid methods to minimize or eliminate pain that comes from a sensation known to many as a "phantom limb." For an amputee, a phantom limb is a sensation that makes one's amputated appendage feel as if it is still attached and moving. This sensation can be very painful for amputees.

Gawande cited a phantom limb case study by Dr. V.S. Ramachandran from the University of California, San Diego. In his experiments, Ramachandran used a mirror-in-a-box contraption that helped give his patients immediate relief by "trick[ing] the patient's brain into believing the limb was still attached and could be moved to relieve the discomfort.\textsuperscript{15} The patient spent a few minutes a day lying with the mirror reflecting the remaining limb as if it were the missing limb; movement of the phantom limb case study by Dr. V.S. Ramachandran from the University of California, San Diego. In his experiments, Ramachandran used a mirror-in-a-box contraption that helped give his patients immediate relief by "trick[ing] the patient's brain into believing the limb was still attached and could be moved to relieve the discomfort. The patient spent a few minutes a day lying with the mirror reflecting the remaining limb as if it were the missing limb; movement of the remaining limb was found to relieve the stress and pain caused by the phantom limb sensations. The rest of Atul Gawande's articles on these experiments/techniques can be found online at http://snipurl.com/41uj9.