Electronic press and its role in fighting against the Extremist ideology from the perspective of students of the Faculty of Arts at University of Jordan

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Abstract

This study aimed to investigate the role of the electronic media in facing the Extremist ideology from the perspective of students of the Faculty of Arts at University of Jordan. The study was conducted during the first term of the academic year 2019-2020, the study sample consisted of 450 undergraduate students who were elected by intentional sampling. In order to achieve the goals of the study, a questionnaire consisting of 12 items was developed to measuring the role of electronic media in fighting against Extremist ideology from the perspective of students of the Faculty of Arts at University of Jordan. Its authenticity was verified by presenting it to a committee of judges, the reliability was confirmed by using the method of internal consistency according to the equation of Cronbach's Alpha and the value of reliability coefficient was 0.81.

Keywords: role, electronic media, extremist ideology.

La prensa electrónica y su papel en la lucha contra la ideología extremista desde la perspectiva de los estudiantes de la Facultad de Artes de la Universidad de Jordania

Resumen

Este estudio tuvo como objetivo investigar el papel de los medios electrónicos frente a la ideología extremista desde la perspectiva de los estudiantes de la Facultad de Artes de la Universidad de Jordania. El estudio se realizó durante el primer cuatrimestre del año académico 2019-2020, la muestra de estudio estuvo conformada por 450 estudiantes de pregrado que fueron

elegidos por muestreo intencional. Con el fin de lograr los objetivos del estudio, se desarrolló un cuestionario compuesto por 12 ítems para medir el papel de los medios electrónicos en la lucha contra la ideología extremista desde la perspectiva de los estudiantes de la Facultad de Artes de la Universidad de Jordania. Su autenticidad se verificó presentándolo a un comité de jueces, la confiabilidad se confirmó utilizando el método de consistencia interna según la ecuación del Alfa de Cronbach y el valor del coeficiente de confiabilidad fue de 0.81.

Palabras clave: papel, medios electrónicos, ideología extremista.

1. INTRODUCTION

The phenomenon of extremist thought and its multiple dynamics, represented now in terrorism, is one of the most worthy topics to study and pay attention to, especially in this local, international and global climate that is currently prevalent. Our Society (NASR, SAMIHA. 1994). the phenomenon of extremist thought is one of the most important issues discussed by the media, in an attempt to limit the causes of the phenomenon, and to reach the best solutions to limit and eliminate it.

The phenomenon of extremism has become one of the phenomena that we see frequently in this period, in different aspects and in various societies, it is a phenomenon that all societies suffer from at different levels, and it is regrettable that extremist thought has become the dominant language of dialogue to achieve demands and impose policies between conflicting parties, there is no doubt about the extent of the danger of extremism of any kind over a society, as it

takes lives and inflicts great losses on societies, also the division that it creates in societies and makes them in a state of internal strife, because extremism is one of the images that show rejection of reality and may take an individual or group form.

If we know the amount of damage that intellectual extremism causes globally, it is necessary then to study and clarify this phenomenon so that society can know the defect that led to its emergence and thus contain it and solve it peacefully, as experiences have shown that the issue of extremism is different, even if a security solution is necessary in addressing it, However, it does not have the full capacity to eliminate it, which necessitates carefully studying its various dimensions, and then developing solutions to address it.

There is no doubt that raising awareness of the danger of intellectual extremism is the responsibility of everyone, starting from the family, school, university and party, passing through the relevant agencies ending with the media.

The media, especially the electronic press, has become the most important news, cultural, artistic and educational factor in the lives of individuals and people. For it fills their time, instils values, and influences behaviour, more than the family, school or university.

Security is the basis of civilization and is the primary introduction to the launch of the state, and the country's share of civilization is directly proportional to security and stability (FOUAD,

ATEF. 1988). The means of communication in its various forms, especially the electronic press, can confront the phenomenon of extremist thought in its various forms.

The literature on the subject confirms the scarcity of studies related to the role of electronic journalism in combating extremist thought, despite the preparation of numerous studies that discussed the issue of extremist thought, and we will present the most prominent matters related to the current study.

TITAN, SAID. (2017) study "extremism and its relationship to self-concept among higher education institutions in Qalqilya Governorate". Which aimed to know the relationship between extremism and self-realization of higher education institutions in Qalqilya Governorate.

ABU ARJAH, TAYSEER. (2016). "Jordanian journalists' articles related to extremism and terrorism in the daily Jordanian press, the article presentation of extremism and terrorism issues in the daily Jordanian press". The picture that observed the descriptive approach from columns writers in the newspapers "Al-Rai" and "Al-Dustour" unanimously agreed to participate in the other side of the social aspect in immunizing the Jordanian society and youth in particular, against extremism and terrorism.

HASSAN, IBN AUF. (2016), entitled "The role of the Saudi media in educating young people from intellectual extremism. An

applied study on a sample of media followers in Jazan. The study aimed to determine the role of the Saudi media in educating Saudi youth from extremism and intellectual deviation, and to know the steps that the media takes to reduce Intellectual extremism among Saudi youth.

The study, which used the field survey method, found a clear deficiency in the ability of the Saudi media to spread awareness among the public that leads to combating extremism and terrorism.

AL-RAWASHDA, ALAA. (2015). entitled "Ideological extremism from the point of view of Jordanian youth, a sociological study of manifestations and factors." The study aimed to identify the factors of ideological extremism and a demonstration from the point of view of Jordanian university youth.

The study, which used the sociological survey method, showed that the Internet plays a negative role in promoting ideological extremism and justifying its ideas.

ABU DAWABA, MUHAMMAD. (2012), "The trend towards extremism and its relationship to psychological needs among students of Al-Azhar University in Azza. The study aimed to reveal the nature of the trend towards extremism in its various forms (religious, political, and social) and its relationship to psychological needs.

The study that used the descriptive and analytical approach showed that there is a statistically significant relationship between extremism and economic needs, which indicates the necessity of satisfying the psychological needs of the individual in order to achieve satisfaction with himself and his society.

MALAK, BADR-AL-KANDARI, LATIFA. (2009), entitled "The teacher's role in protecting young people from intellectual extremism" The study aims to identify intellectual extremism, its causes and effects from the teachers' perspective from the viewpoint of the faculty members in the College of Basic Education.

The study, which used the descriptive and analytical approach, showed that the teacher has a great role in protecting the emergence of intellectual extremism.

AL_FUQAHA. L. (2001), titled "Philadelphian students' attitudes toward eextremism, violence and aggressive behaviour". The study, which used the relational descriptive approach, found that 47 percent of students do not have a tendency towards extremism and violence.

2. METHODOLOGY

This study used the descriptive and analytical approach, based on this approach, the content of the media and journalistic material is

described and analyzed, and the role that electronic journalism plays in confronting the phenomenon of extremist thoughts in an attempt to monitor and increase the activation of this role.

The population of the study consisted of the college of arts at the University of Jordan, and the community of the field study consisted of all the college's undergraduate students, whose number is (2235) male and female, according to the numbers issued by the university.

The study sample was chosen randomly, as (20%) of the field study population was selected as a sample to collect data through the study tool, and the researcher distributed (450) questionnaires to the study sample individuals. Table (1) shows the distribution of the study sample individuals by (gender).

Table 1: Distribution of study sample individuals according to gender

Sex	Pct. %	Rep.
Male	203	45.1
female	247	54.9
total	450	100.0

To achieve the objectives of the study, the study tool was designed (Scale of Electronic Journalism and its role in combating extremist thought) with reference to theoretical literature and previous studies. The study scale may have two parts:

The first part: includes demographic information, namely: gender, exposure.

The second part: includes the study questions consisting of (12) paragraphs, all of which are related to the role of electronic journalism in combating extremist ideology.

Independent variable: Sex variable and has two levels: male and female.

Dependent variable: It is represented in the responses of members of the study community to the areas of the questionnaire represented in the role of electronic journalism in confronting extremist ideology.

3. RESULTS and DISCUSSION

3.1. Assumptions of the theory

1. The influence of the media varies between high or low, depending on the circumstances surrounding the person and his previous experiences.

2. The media is part of the social component of society. Therefore, the media have a strong relationship with individuals, groups and other social systems.

3. Dealing with and using the media does not take place away from the influences of the social system in which the public and the means of communication are.

4. Individuals' use of media and their interaction with it are affected by what the person learns from society and the means of communication, and the individual is affected by what happens because of his exposure to the means of communication (AL-QALINI, SUZAN. 1998).

5. People turn to the media to meet their cognitive needs and crystallize behavioral stances in certain circumstances. The higher the degree of instability in societies, the greater the public's exposure to multiple media (19).

The influence of the media on the public as a result of relying on it:

The expected effects of an individual's dependence on the financial media are divided into three parts: cognitive effects, emotional effects, and behavioral effects.

First: Cognitive Effects:

Cognitive effects, according to this theory, include four things:

1- Uncovering ambiguity:

Ambiguity is the result of a lack of information about a specific event, which causes the public to not know the correct interpretation of the event. The media reveals the ambiguity by providing a clear explanation of the event or increasing the information in this incident.

2- Formation of direction:

The mass media is the direction among the public without neglecting the selective role of the individual in forming direction, as in environmental problems and education.

3- Prioritization order:

This effect has an independent theory bearing the same name, as the media highlight issues and conceal others that are important to the public as a result of the media highlighting one issue without another.

4-The breadth of interests:

This is because the media provide the public with a knowledge that they do not realize before, which is important to them, and that is human rights, freedom of expression and social justice (DEFLEUR M.L. & BALL-ROKEACH S. J. 1982).

Second: emotional effects:

These include effects such as: emotion, fear, and presents them as follows:

1- Emotional apathy:

Excessive exposure to the media leads the individual to a feeling of emotional apathy and unwillingness to help others, and this is the result of exposure to scenes of violence that afflict the individual with lethargy and indifference.

2- Fear and anxiety:

It is assumed that exposure to scenes of violence afflicts the recipient with fear, anxiety, and fear of falling into these acts, or being a victim of them.

3- Moral support:

This is because when the media performs major communication roles, it raises the morale of the public as a result of a sense of unity and integration into society, and vice versa when the media does not express its culture, and its affiliation, so it feels a sense of alienation.

Third: Behavioral Effects: The behavioral implications of an individual's dependence on the media are divided into two things:

1- Activation:

It is the person performing an activity due to his exposure to the media, and this is the final product of linking cognitive effects with effective.

2- Lethargy:

This means abstaining from work, and this aspect has not been adequately studied, and abstention occurs because of the exaggerated coverage, which is because of boredom.

The study tool was presented to a number of arbitrators from public and private Jordanian universities, and (90%) of the observations made by the professors were addressed, for the scale to appear in its final form consisting of (12) paragraphs also in diversity.

The researcher used the calculation of correlation coefficients between each paragraph of the scale by using the (Cronbach alpha) factor, and the Cronbach alpha values for the resolution in general reached (0.81), which is an acceptable value for the current study.

Scale correction key: Likert scale used in the study as follows:

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
5	4	3	2	1

Depending on the foregoing, the values of the arithmetic averages reached by the study will be dealt with as follows: (3.68 - and above: high), (2.34-3.67: medium), (2.33 - or below: low).

To extract the results of the study, the arithmetic averages and standard deviations were calculated and the one-way covariance test was used, in addition to the Scheffet test for dimensional comparisons, which show the results as follows:

Results of the first question: About students' exposure to journalism.

Table 2: Frequencies and percentages of exposure of students of the Faculty of Arts at the University of Jordan to electronic journalism

variable	category	repetition	percentage
Are you in follow with electronic press?	mostly	151	33.6
	sometimes	241	53.6
	rarely	58	12.9
	total	450	100.0

The results, according to Table No. (2), show that 33.6% of the study sample follow the electronic press mostly, and that 53.6% of the study sample follow the electronic press sometimes, and that (12.9%) follow the electronic press rarely, results of the second question:

Table 3: the arithmetic means and standard deviations of the responses of the study sample individuals, the paragraphs of "The role of electronic journalism in countering extremism" are arranged in descending order.

No.	Paragraph	SMA	S.D	Ord	level
3	Electronic journalism plays an important role in countering extremism by publishing press materials that warn society of the danger that divides Arab countries.	3.78	0.96	1	high
7	It plays an important role in countering extremism by publishing cartoons.	3.75	0.71	2	high
6	It plays an important role in countering extremism by publishing press reports.	3.71	0.68	3	high
8	It plays an important role in countering extremism by publishing international news.	3.66	1.04	4	mid
5	It plays an important role in countering extremism by publishing press materials that warn society of its danger.	3.58	0.82	5	mid
10	It plays an important role in countering extremism by publishing press materials that warn society of its danger to Arab national security.	3.45	1.04	6	mid

11	It plays an important role in countering extremism by publishing press materials that focus on the values of tolerance and moderate thought.	3.36	0.85	7	mid
1	It plays an important role in countering extremism by publishing newspaper articles.	3.13	1.00	8	mid
2	It plays an important role in countering extremism by spreading regional news.	3.06	0.97	9	mid
9	It plays an important role in confronting extremism by publishing press materials that warn of its danger to the division of Jordanian society.	3.06	0.90	10	mid
4	It plays an important role in countering extremism by spreading local news.	2.92	1.08	11	mid
12	It plays an important role in countering extremism by publishing press interviews.	2.63	1.22	12	mid
	General arithmetic mean	3.34	0.54		mid

The results of the second question show through the previous table that the arithmetic averages ranged between (3.78 and 2.63), as the axis obtained an overall arithmetic average (3.34), which is of the

average level, and paragraph no. (3), has the highest arithmetic average, as it reached (3.78), which is from the high level, and in second place came paragraph No. (7), with an arithmetic mean of (3.75), which is from the high level.

Paragraph No. (4) Before the last, with an arithmetic average (2.92), which is of the average level, and in last place came Paragraph No. (12), with an arithmetic average (2.63), which is of the average level.

This indicates that electronic journalism contributes to combating extremist ideology from the point of view of students of the Faculty of Arts at the University of Jordan at an average level, and this result differs to some extent with the findings of the study on improving purport (2016), which showed that the media plays a high level role in combating extremist thought It differs to some extent with the study of Ibn Auf Hassan (2016), which showed a clear deficiency in the ability of the Saudi media to spread awareness among the public that leads to the fight against extremism and terrorism, as well as to some extent with the study of AL-RAWASHDA, ALAA. (2015), which showed that the Internet plays a negative role in promoting ideological extremism and justifying its ideas.

Results related to the third question:

To obtain the results of the third question, an Independent Sample T-test was used.

Table 4: Independent Sample T-test

Source	Gender	A.M.	S.D	No.	T value	df	Sig.
The role of electronic journalism in countering extremism	male	3.32	0.65	203	872	448	384
	female	3.36	0.44	247			

The results of Table (4) show that there are no statistically significant differences in the role of electronic journalism in combating extremist ideology due to the gender of the students of the Faculty of Arts at the University of Jordan, where the arithmetic mean of males was (3.32) and the arithmetic average of females was (3.36), and this explains that male and female students in The College of Arts at the University of Jordan believes that electronic journalism plays a mediating role in confronting extremist ideology.

4. CONCLUSION

First: Developing positive trends, tendencies, values, ideas and feelings through the press and media materials that it publishes.

Second: Adherence to a specific curriculum for the development of Jordanian youth and preparing them in a spirit of loyalty and belonging to society and the homeland.

Third: Moving away from the manifestations of excitement that show the extremist and outlaw with a heroic appearance.

Fourth: Electronic journalism must be educational tools for young people, not tools for destroying and creating hope, and not tools for despair.

Fifthly: There must be a consistent media strategy to discuss youth problems and work on solving them on the part of officials.

Sixth: To educate citizens about their responsibilities to cooperate with security men to uncover extremists and terrorists and to fight them.

5. LIMITATION AND STUDY FORWARD

a. Most of the previous studies agreed on the great ability of the media to affect members of society.

b. No study - as far as the researcher knows - has examined the role of electronic journalism in confronting extremist thought, especially since the issue of extremism has direct effects on the process of political instability, and since electronic media has an important role in influencing individuals' attitudes, convictions and feelings, this The study came to examine the ability of electronic journalism to combat extremist ideology.

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c. This research differed with previous studies in its temporal and spatial limits.

d. The current research agreed with the study of Abu Arja (2016), Al-Sharradaqa (2016), Abu Dawaba (2012) and Malak, Al-Kandari (2009) in the method used, which is the descriptive and analytical method.

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