

## The Impact of Covid-19 on Social Relations among Jordanian Families in Amman

Huda A. Alhajjaj<sup>1</sup> \* D, Sara A. Taha<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Social Work, Faculty of Arts, University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan.

<sup>2</sup> University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan.

Received: 5/4/2022 Revised: 23/6/2022 Accepted 16/8/2022 Published: 30/9/2023

\* Corresponding author: h.alhajjaj@ju.edu.jo

Citation: Alhajjaj, H. A. ., & Taha, S. A. . (2023). The Impact of Covid-19 on Social Relations among Jordanian Families in Amman. *Dirasat: Human and Social Sciences*, 50(5), 486–496. https://doi.org/10.35516/hum.v50i5.9



© 2023 DSR Publishers/ The University of Jordan.

This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY-NC) license <a href="https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/">https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/</a>

#### **Abstract**

**Objectives**: This study aims to investigate how the Covid-19 pandemic affected social relations among Jordanian families, including social and parental relationships. Furthermore, it aims to highlight the influence of the pandemic on family cohesiveness and stability.

**Methods**: A qualitative technique was used, being effective in extracting information on the influence of Covid-19 on Jordanian family relations (BTS Academy, 2018). The members of the study sample were sixteen Jordanian couples having children living in Amman. They were interviewed during November 2021.

**Results**: The results reveal that Covid-19 has a significant impact on social relations among family members, because of drastic and dramatic changes in the social and economic lifestyle. These changes contributed to the increase of violence between spouses. Surprisingly, the results show that, during the pandemic, the level of disagreement and conflict between parents and children was reduced. The results also indicate that Covid-19 had an influence not only on family interactions, but also on family atmosphere, namely the stability and coherence within that atmosphere.

**Conclusions**: The research recommends providing online counseling sessions by family-focused institutions to couples to assist them in adapting to the changes that have occurred in their relationships throughout the epidemic.

**Keywords**: Covid-19, social relations, parental relationships, Jordanian families.

# أثر كوفيد-19 في العلاقات الاجتماعية بين الأسر الأردنية في عمان

هدى عبدالحميد الحجاج  $^{**}$ ، ساره أحمد طه  $^2$  قسم العمل الاجتماعي، كلية الآداب، الجامعة الأردنية، عمان، الأردن.  $^2$  الجامعة الأردنية، عمان، الأردن.

#### لخّص

الأهداف: تهدف هذه الدراسة إلى الكشف عن تأثير جائحة كوفيد-19 في العلاقات الاجتماعية بين الأسر الأردنية، بما في ذلك العلاقات الاجتماعية والوالدية. كما تهدف إلى تسليط الضوء على تأثير الجائحة في تماسك الأسرة واستقرارها. المنهجية: جرى اعتماد الدراسة النوعية لفعاليها في الحصول على المعلومات المعمقة حول تأثير كوفيد-19 في العلاقات الأسرىة

المنهجية: جرى اعتماد الدراسة النوعية لفعاليتها في الحصول على المعلومات المعمقة حول تاثير كوفيد-19 في العلاقات الاسرية الأردنية أكاديميةBTS ، 2018 . وتكونت عينة الدراسة من ستة عشر أردنيًا من المتزوجين ولديهم أطفال يعيشون في عمان، كما جرت مقابلتهم خلال نوفمبر 2021.

النتائج: كشفت النتائج أن كوفيد-19 له تأثير كبير في العلاقات الاجتماعية بين أفراد الأسرة وذلك نتيجة للتغيرات الجذرية والدراماتيكية في نمط الحياة الاجتماعية والاقتصادية، وقد ساهمت هذه التغييرات في زيادة العنف بين الزوجين. على عكس ذلك، أظهرت نتائج الدراسة أنه قد انخفض مستوى الخلاف والصراع بين الآباء والأطفال. كما تشير النتائج أيضًا إلى أن كوفيد-19 كان له تأثير ليس فقط على التفاعلات الأسرية ولكن أيضًا على الجو الأسري؛ أي الاستقرار والتماسك داخل تلك الأجواء الأسرية. التوصيات: يوصي الباحثون بتوفير جلسات استشارية عبر الإنترنت من قِبل المؤسسات التي تُعنى بالأسرة والأزواج لمساعدتهم على التكيف مع التغييرات التي حدثت في علاقاتهم طوال فترة الوباء.

الكلمات الدالة: كوفيد-19، العلاقات الاجتماعية، علاقات الوالدين، الأسر الأردنية

#### 1- Introduction:

There have been many epidemics that have ravaged humanity and threatened human life. Health damage has not been the only effect on an individual from epidemics. Health crises have always had significant and clear effects on individuals' social lives, economic situations, and psychological situations (Mashhadani, 2012).

Covid-19 has been the main cause of the massive health crisis that has recently engulfed human life. The rapid spread of viruses and the resulting precautionary measures have radically changed the life of the organism, from the private life of the individual to families and groups to their development functions to changes at the community and state levels (Al Dhafri, 2021).

Although social interactions are a fertile environment for the completion of the process of socialization of the individual, the responsible authorities in various countries have recently called for social divergence and isolation (Mahmoud, 2020). This is mainly due to the lack of control in any way over the rapid outbreak of the Covid-19 virus in most countries of the world. The forest of countries has followed a range of measures and ways to reduce the spread of viruses among members of the community. They have closed total and partial and reduced movement and movement. There is no doubt that these mechanisms are as effective in controlling the movement of viruses among people as possible at the beginning of the crisis, as they have affected the social and psychological construction of individuals, families, and communities in a significant way. (Hamdani, 2020).

The change in the family's lifestyle, the fact that their members spend most of their time together in their homes, as well as the challenges that the pandemic has put before the family, have severely affected the nature of the family environment and the network of social relations within it (Al-Zafari, 2021). Like other families around the world, the Jordanian family was greatly affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, facing many challenges that affected the couple's relationship with each other and their relationships with their children. This has somehow contributed to influencing the overall atmosphere of the family environment and its stability and cohesion (General Fatwa Service, 2021).

The study answered the following key question: What impact does Covid-19 have on the Jordanian family's social relations in Amman?

## 2- The Problem of the Study:

The rapid spread of Covid-19 and the accompanying precautionary measures imposed by governments on people have had a significant impact on human beings in all areas of their lives. The family was one of the most important aspects affected by the pandemic and the accompanying difficult circumstances (Faculty of Public Policy, Hamad Bin Khalifa University, 2021). Where this health crisis led to radical changes in many family relations, the distribution of roles among family members, and the performance of jobs developed for them (General Fatwa Department, 2021). The Jordanian family as well as the rest of the world's families were severely affected.

The Jordanian government, like other governments, has issued a series of resolutions and directives urging people in society to social distance, move towards e-education for students and shift towards telework for workers (Association of Income and Sales Tax Experts, 2020). Radical changes in the lifestyle of the Jordanian family have forced their members to stay together most of the time. At first glance, this may seem to contribute to strengthening and increasing the cohesion of family members, but the truth is not entirely the case. Studies have shown that there is a difference between the impact of the pandemic on the family and the relationships of its members. As the results of some studies, such as the study (Perelli-Harris et al, 2020) have shown, positive effects of the pandemic on relationships within the family. While another set of studies has found bad effects of the pandemic on family relationships. Such as the study (Ghoneim, 2020) which found an increase in the practice of domestic violence during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Since the family is the first social unit in which the individual is established, the first source of his upbringing, and the first influence on his values and beliefs, in addition to its impact on societies (Alahmar, 2004). Thus, It was necessary to take care of the social situation of the family during this crisis. in addition to the most important changes and effects to which he was exposed to be able to promote the positive of them and control the negative ones before it worsened. This study was therefore to show the impact of Covid-19 and its accompanying social divergence on relationships within the

family building in Jordan.

#### **3- The Importance of Study:**

The importance of the current study is to monitor the effects of covid-19 and the subsequent precautionary measures approved by the Jordanian government on relations between family members. The theoretical importance of the study is that it was one of the first studies that were interested in studying the positive and negative effects of covid-19 and social divergence on relationships within the Jordanian family. The practical importance of the study was to find the most important effects of Covid-19 and its consequences on the Jordanian family to enhance the positive ones and reduce their negative impact of them as much as possible.

## 4- Study objectives and their questions:

The following study seeks to reveal the impact of Covid-19 on social relations within the Jordanian family, by answering the following questions:

- 1. What is the impact of Covid-19 on marital relations within the Jordanian family?
- 2. What is the impact of Covid-19 on parental relations within the Jordanian family?
- 3. What is the impact of Covid-19 on the general family environment within the Jordanian family?

#### 5- Theoretical frame:

## **Crisis Theory:**

A crisis usually expresses a sudden, unbalanced circumstance that appears suddenly and results in a major transformation in the lives of individuals and groups and a change in the nature of their living (Oxford dictionary, 1992). And the crisis situation often requires making fateful decisions that often result in effects and situations that may be positive or negative (Al-Shaalan, 1999). Crises are characterized by their ability to grow and develop over time in a way that multiplies the negative effects resulting from them (Al-Barbari, 1998). The resulting feelings vary between anger, anxiety, resentment, frustration, lack of independence, inability to control oneself, and many other negative feelings (Francis, 1974).

The crisis hypothesis posits that it is natural for people to encounter unexpected situations and crisis occurrences throughout their lives, which disrupt their emotional equilibrium and destabilize their social structures. Individuals resort to considerable attempts to restore their personal equilibrium in order to fix the problem. The individual is characterized by a poor psychological structure at this level, indicating that he needs professional attention from a crisis expert (Al-Barbari, 1998).

The Corona pandemic is a sudden situation that has swept human life and led to drastic changes in their lifestyles. The family was one of the most important affected social systems, as the change in the nature of family life and the distribution of roles within it led to a major disruption of its balance. Which is one way or another affected the relationships that bind its members to each other.

The Corona pandemic has resulted in many crises over time, including those related to the social aspect of the family, and others related to the economic aspect. Consequently, the negative effects of the Corona pandemic have multiplied in a way that is somewhat difficult to control.

## 6- Literature Review:

The most important effects of Covid-19 on relations within the Jordanian family can be explained by reviewing the most important results of studies on the subject. The novelty of the virus has limited the expansion of the database, which is familiar with its social impact on families and communities.

- Marital relations within the family building:

Both the Al-Qahtani research (2021) and the Gunther-Bel et al. study (2020) concurred that Covid-19 had no detrimental influence on family interactions. Instead, it had a constructive effect in improving the quality of their connection. Due to one of the causes for the variations between couples and parental obligation toward children, Gunther-Bel et al. (2020) also highlighted that couples without children had considerably better relationships throughout the pandemic than those who gave birth. Humphreys et al., 2020 study yielded results contrary to the previous two studies, noting that spousal violence increased during the epidemic, and women were the most affected, with many forms of violence from the IPV part IP. On

the other hand, the study (Al-Harbi, 2020) concluded that there is no relationship between lockdown linked to Covid-19 and a high rate of domestic violence.

- Parental relationship within family construction:

Area, et al. (2021) study indicated that Covid-19 and its subsequent social spacing procedures significantly affected children's mood and psychological state and directly reflected their behavior in everyday life. This, in turn, has led to some difficulties for parents while dealing with their children's behaviors during the pandemic. The Gassman-Pines, et al. (2020) study agreed with the study when it found that the pandemic caused parents to complain about their children's bad mood since the beginning of the crisis and the difficulty of dealing with it. A 2021 Tauban et al. study also indicated that parental pressures had increased significantly on their children since the beginning of the crisis, and that the rate of stress among parents was higher than that of mothers.

According to previous studies, a series of studies have produced adverse results that Covid-19 and its accompanying precautionary measures have contributed to improving, rather than destroying relationships between children and their parents. The Andejany et al. (2020) study showed that the health crisis the world went through due to Covid-19 increased parents stay with their children, which improved the degree of convergence between them. This is in addition to a clear decrease in the degree of conflicts that occurred between mothers and children before the social divergence policies imposed by governments as a means of countering the spread of viruses. Tarsuslu et al., 2021, found similar results, noting that the degree of conflict between the men and their children was lower than before the quarantine measures, noting that the decline was more pronounced in mothers. Perelli-Harris et al., 2020, supported the results of previous studies on the positive impact of the pandemic and its precautionary measures on parental relationships in family construction, with 26% of the study reporting that their relationships with their children improved significantly during the pandemic after they had to increase their stay at home.

The positive impact of the pandemic and its consequences on parental relationships stems from the high degree of emotional closeness between parents and their children during the crisis, increased time allocated to them together, and parents being free to engage in certain activities and games with their young. All this has increased their parental competence and improved their support for their children socially and emotionally in these difficult circumstances. For example, parents' handling of anxieties and fear during the pandemic in their children has positively impacted the nature of their relationship (Gambin et al., 2020).

Although the aforementioned research show that covid-19 has beneficial and bad impacts on family relationships, other studies provide outcomes that contradict earlier beliefs. For example, 70 percent of parents in the Perelli-Harris et al., 2020 research said their connection with their children was the same as it was before the pandemic, indicating that they had not been influenced by recent virus-related changes. Vaterlaus et al. (2021) agreed with the previous study in part when they found that children's relationships with their parents were stable in the early stages of the crisis and that respondents reported that their relationship with their children was unaffected by the increase in their stay with them during the pandemic.

-The family environment during the Covid-19 pandemic:

The influence of Covid-19 and the resulting social dispersion has an impact not only on relationships inside the family, but also on the stability, coherence, and lifestyle of the overall family environment. In other words, this health issue may contribute to certain families by generating an environment of closeness and love and boosting the degree of cohesiveness and stability over time, while it may generate a worried and stressful family atmosphere full of conflict in others (Qahtani, 2021). By providing some of the findings of studies that have been interested in exploring this issue, we may better understand the true impact of the pandemic on the home environment:

A 2020 Gonzalez et al. study showed that family well-being depends mainly on their own experiences during this period during social spacing and the optional isolation associated with the epidemic. In other words, the well-being of the family during the pandemic is influenced by the nature of the problems that the family is going through in that period and how they are resolved, the mechanism of dealing with feelings and ways of controlling them, the quality of sleep, and the thoughts of their members about the future. These factors play a direct role in influencing the social aspect of the family

and how it interacts. In contrast, a study (Purba et al., 2021) cited various factors affecting the general living atmosphere within family construction during the pandemic. She explained that the quality of life of the family during this health crisis is closely linked to the educational level of parents and the economic situation of their families. The results of the study found that families whose members do not have a good level of education, and families where parents have been laid off from work, are blind to a significant deterioration in the quality of life of their members during the conditions of the epidemic. The Eid and The Saah study (2021) revealed a positive correlation at the 0.05 indication level between the modification of family life practices and both the wife's scientific level and the family's monthly income. In general, however, married men involved in the research explained that the quality of life of their families was better than before social spacing and health bans in almost all areas. The study (Madawi, 2021) agreed, however, when it noted in its findings that the pandemic had a clear positive impact on patterns of interaction within the family in almost all areas (socially, health, personal, and economically).

The Study (Al-Salami, 2020) supported previous findings when it showed that the level of the negative impact of the Covid-19 crisis on the family was somewhat weak, explaining that family members were aware of their family roles and responsibilities and their ability to work together to cope with the pandemic and try to adapt to its effects on them. These findings supported his findings (Qadri, 2021) in his study when he revealed strong levels of cohesion, interaction, and family security among Saudi families with similar averages of 4.08, 4.06, and 4.38, respectively.

Research on the beneficial impacts of the pandemic and its repercussions on family living (Al-Salami, 2020) provided a new set of benefits, most notably the role of home confinement in reducing family tensions and enhancing social convergence within them. The study (Al-Harbi, 2020) provided evidence for the aforementioned, as it was obvious that the home quarantine imposed by the Corona pandemic had a good influence on the family; it increased social closeness among family members while reducing differences and tensions.

However, not all studies in this area have been consistent with the above, with another set of studies showing some negative effects of Covid-19 and the accompanying precautionary measures on the nature and cohesion of the family environment. A 2021 study (Ares et al., 2021) indicated that the anxiety, stress, and fear that accompanied family members during the pandemic had a very bad impact on the family's daily lifestyle. Morgul et al., 2020, supported this when it became clear that families had difficulty adapting and living with the epidemic, especially during curfews and closures. The long stay of family members with each other has also caused some cases of violence, as violence against family members is one of the most important behavioral problems caused by the pandemic (Ghoneim, 2020), Humphreys et al., 2021 agreed, however, when he concluded that the rate of violence against intimate partners had increased in many families, noting the impact on children after watching them or at least hearing these violent practices, which eventually led them to engage in some mental disorders, the most famous of which was PTSD.

Al-Saeed (2021) conducted a study aimed at identifying the impact of advertising messages on social relations within the family during the Corona pandemic. The study found a positive effect of the promising and indirect advertising messages that were shown on television and the Internet on social relations within the family structure.

-The role of the social worker with the family during the Covid-19 pandemic:

According to the findings of the study (Al-Qahtani 2021), the role of the social worker with the family during the Covid-19 pandemic has two main directions: raising awareness and preventing problems resulting from changes occurring during the epidemic's outbreak, and helping families address their problems that have already occurred. The specialist's initial task is to educate family members on the most common habits that lead to social and parental conflicts, as well as to suggest practical ways to spend free time that will benefit the entire family. In addition, families have permanent access to ask and consult. While the aim of social intervention in the family is to assist individuals in resolving difficulties that have arisen as a result of their actions,

The study (Al-Salami, 2020) did not agree much with the results of this study, as it showed that the role of the social worker with families during Covid-19 was not strong based on its results, as the effectiveness of social work with families during the Covid-19 crisis did not exceed the average level of service delivery. She pointed out that the role of the social

worker in the task forces specialized in addressing the pandemic and its negative consequences on individuals, families, and groups should be activated so that these teams include the social and psychological aspects with the medical aspect.

#### 6- Methodology:

The qualitative technique was used to complete the study since it is the most capable method of obtaining deep and extensive information on the influence of Covid-19 on Jordanian family relations (BTS Academy, 2018). The sample members were face-to-face questioned throughout the month of November 2021, based on standardized interviews.

-Study community:

The study community consists of married Jordanian parents living in Amman.

-Sample study:

The study adopted a simple random method of selecting the sample study. By meeting 16 men and women from the study community. Females represented 10 of the study sample while males were 6 of the sample.

Study sample properties

Participants	Age	Sex	Job	Number of children	Number of years of marriage	Type of place of residence
1	24	female	do not work	1	3	urban
2	45	female	Prepare and sell food at home	4	20	urban
3	62	female	do not work	4	27	rural
4	44	female	A computer engineer in a company	3	24	urban
5	50	female	do not work	5	20	urban
6	38	male	day laborer	2	8	rural
7	59	male	Head of Department at the University of Jordan Library	4	25	urban
8	35	male	An employee at the University of Jordan Library	2	6	rural
9	40	male	Owner and manager of a company	6	14	urban
10	42	male	company manager	4	18	urban
11	48	female	do not work	2	26	rural
12	28	female	MA student	2	8	urban
13	60	female	do not work	7	30	urban
14	37	female	school teacher	3	7	rural
151 15	28	female	Secretary	2	8	urban
16	40	male	day laborer	4	13	urban

#### 7- Discussion of the results of the study:

The study's findings will be addressed by evaluating and analyzing the responses of the participants, as well as comparing them to the findings of past research on the topic.

## Theme 1: The impact does Covid-19 have on the social relations of the Jordanian family.

The majority of responders (10 out of 16) said their relationship with their spouses had been worse during Covid-19

compared to the previous one. When Maison said, "Our relationship became very bad after it was good, we started to blow each other and couldn't do each other," Suha responded, "Right, he's traveling, but our relationship got worse and we worked blocks for each other on the networking sites because we fought and we started hating each other." Participants who said their relationships with their spouses had deteriorated blamed it on three primary factors: challenging economic situations, changing the nature of the husband's profession, and spending the majority of his time with the wife.

Mays: "... Because we were all the time together, we were blowing each other up."

Samar: "I wish he would go back to his job before and travel and go home for two days, but a week, now all the time in my face, and for that, we will not fight and we can't stand each other."

Farah: "The economic hardship we had was a fundamental reason for ruining the relationship between us and caused great pressure and tension and we were unable to control the situation".

Rama: "I was doing all my responsibilities and most of his responsibilities. My husband was always nervous and afraid and this thing affected the things he was required to do, he did not accept to go out and buy the stuff for the house I was sending my daughter, and he did not accept to do anything almost."

Covid-19 has a significant impact on social relations within the family, as a result of the agreement change in the social and economic lifestyle. This finding contradicts the findings of the Study (Al-Qahtani, 2021), which stated that social relations had improved during this crisis.

It's debatable whether all of the women who expressed dissatisfaction with their husbands during the pandemic were women, or whether men had a different opinion, as all of the men in the study stated that their relationship with their wives had improved or remained same at least during the pandemic. The epidemic and the circumstances surrounding it had no effect on Ahmed, Mohammed, Basel, and Mazen's connection with their spouses, they stated. "The Covid-19 epidemic, social divergence, and stone that became of our relationship improved a lot since one can sit with his wife and spend his time with her, he is not upset with anything outside, and then he is going back to work," Munther said.

When asked how the pandemic affected them in terms of social conflicts, 10 of the 16 participants claimed their disagreements with their husbands had grown considerably during the crisis. "We were 24 hours together, and we were finding new things about some of what we knew since it became in direct touch, and the difficulties became more and more," Samar stated. During the epidemic, Ahmed, Mohammed, and Basel reported their disputes with their spouses were unaffected. Munther, Mohsen, and Mazen all stated that their disagreements with their wives had recently dropped dramatically. Munther: "During the Covid-19 time, the differences between us lessened dramatically because we got isolated and distant from the people, my family, her family, and the neighbors, so no one intervened."

The couple's growing differences and conflicts resulted in an increase in family violence, particularly intimate partner violence, as Roa'a explained, "the differences between us increased and increased his violent behavior with me and became cheating on me all the time, he started cursing and beating and screaming a lot." The crisis hypothesis describes a change in an individual's personality and the nature of his interactions with others around him as a direct reflection of the pandemic's unpleasant sensations. During the pandemic, Basil admitted to using violence against his wife: "Sometimes I was nervous and I looked at my phase so I did it." Although the social relationships of more than half of the victims have changed for the worse, and the differences have increased significantly, the majority of the respondents expressed that their partner's interest in them in difficult times during the pandemic increased, and dealing with their feelings of anxiety and fear was fairly good. This is identical to what was explained by the crisis theory about the continuous attempts of individuals to restore their emotional balance and return to their eternal state before exposure to the crisis situation.

However, there are two women participants who had a different opinion, they explained that the emotional closeness between them and their husbands has decreased a lot recently, and their husbands never cared about the vicissitudes of their feelings. . Mona said: "I got a Covid-19 and my injury was strong and I was hospitalized for a while, and I suffered from fear and anxiety throughout the period but my husband did not care about me or my illness, but he was afraid of his condition and did not leave me in the room for two months after I entered and was interrupted for two months completely. What I care about," she added, "... He didn't ask for my feelings and he didn't know I had feelings of fear and concern about the

situation we're in." "I never cared about me. He didn't care about me, he didn't care about me, what my situation was or what I felt," Manar said.

## Theme 2: The impact of covid-19 has on parental relations within the Jordanian family.

During the pandemic, the majority of the survey participants (13 out of 16) reported enhanced connections with their children, agreeing that parents should liberate their children and engage in activities with them throughout the day that improved the nature of their relationship and engagement. From Mazen's response, we may deduce the following: "With sitting at home and work relocated from afar, one gets to know his children and sits with them; they are used to me, and our bond has grown." "The societal difference that has turned into a color has improved my connection with my children significantly," Mohsen stated. While this conclusion is in line with the findings of the Andejer et al., 2021 research, which found a higher level of the reason for the improvement in parental relations, according to the respondents, is due to the increase in the time parents spend with their children playing, chatting, ting, and engaging in group activities. This affected the degree of convergence and interaction between them in a positive way that ultimately improved the relationship as a whole. Samar: "Our relationship has improved because we spend all the time together and do everything together, so we understand each other and get used to each other, and they felt tired I am with them at home and this made them appreciate me more." Mohammed commented: "The relationship has improved because the methods of communication between us have improved, I have come to understand them a lot, and I deal with them in somewhat sophisticated ways and came to dialogue always and this thing increased understanding between us and increased our proximity to each other." The reasons raised by the study participants coincide with the findings of the Gambin et al., 2020 study; it pointed out that the most important reasons that contributed to making the impact of Covid-19 on parental relations positive is the freeness of parents to their children and the supremacy of emotional closeness between them, as this has increased the competence of parents in dealing with their children, and therefore a positive impact on their relationship with them.

All but one of the study participants confirmed that their differences with their children decreased significantly during the Covid-19 pandemic. "Covid-19 has increased its differences with its children, saying: "The differences with my children have increased a lot this time, we have a big gap, even though we live in the same house and all day together," she said.

In general, it can be said that Covid-19 reduced the level of differences and conflicts within the parental relationship and this result resonates with my study (Tarsuslu et al., 2021) and the Study (Andejany et al., 2020), which indicated that there is a clear decrease in the degree of conflict prevailing between parents and their children.

Jordan, like other nations across the world, has dominated the electronic education system (remote), causing widespread pressures and tensions between parents and their children, but it has not yet reached the point where it is affecting the character of the relationship by making it worse. Participants stated that they were finally able to regulate and tackle the situation in a good way, which benefited rather than weakened their connection with their children. This is explained in the following excerpts: "The stage of distance schooling was a very tough stage for us, and it caused us some strain," Ahmed says, "but owing to my and their mother's good deals with this pressure and attempting to solve it, it did not have a negative impact."

All of the participants expressed concern about their children's mood swings and negative feelings during the pandemic, particularly during the quarantine period, because it was difficult for them to explain the situation to their children, especially the younger ones, or to cope with their anger, which added to the stress they were already feeling in this crisis. The strategies for coping with such sentiments in their children, on the other hand, have had the biggest influence in converting this crisis into a chance to raise the level of convergence and understanding between parents and their children. The participants went to great lengths to relieve their children, support them emotionally and mentally, and assist them in emptying their stomachs.

## Theme 3: The impact of Covid-19 on the general family environment within Jordanian families.

Covid-19 had an influence not just on family interactions, but also on the family climate within the family, as well as its stability and coherence. Covid-19 had a beneficial influence on the family's living environment, cohesiveness, and stability, according to the majority of participants in the study. Mohammed, Ahmed, Maison, and Aris all stated that family members spend the majority of their time together and meet for lengthy periods of time, which has contributed the most to

their family's cohesion. Munther concurred with the rest of the participants on this outcome, but he had a different take on why this good impact occurred, saying, "Although we were physically affected, we were mentally eased in the process."

In conclusion, the impact of Covid-19 and its difficult circumstances on the family has had a positive impact on most of the research participants' families, as evidenced by the Eid and Tourists Study (2021), the Madawi Study (2021), and the Al-Salami Study (2020), which found that the impact of the family's lifestyle, interaction, and stability was positively affected during the Covid-19 pandemic. While the results of the studies "Ares et al., 2021" and "Morgul et al., 2021" criticized this finding, these studies indicated the negative impact of Covid-19 on lifestyles and family interaction, as well as the emergence of difficulties in individuals in adapting to all of the new changes brought on by the pandemic within the family.

It may occur to some that the control of family members' fears and anxieties during the virus's spread may contribute to their dismantling and loss of stability, but the study found the opposite, and the respondents justified this by claiming that these feelings were one of the factors that increased the cohesion of their families by bringing them closer and more sensitive to one another, and by claiming that these feelings were one of the factors that increased the cohesion of their families by bringing them closer and more sensitive to one another, and "We were all terrified of the cancer, the future, and the changes that were happening," Salma explained, "but this dread made us love each other more and consider our feelings for each other."

#### 8-Results:

According to the findings of the current study, the influence of the Corona epidemic on marriage ties differs significantly from the impact on parental relationships among Jordanian family members. The study indicated that drastic changes in their life as a result of the crisis, the most notable of which were economic and social obstacles, had a detrimental impact on marital relations. This contradicts the findings of the Al-Qahtani research (2020), which showed that Corona has a favorable influence on marital relationships. In terms of parental relationships, the findings revealed that the pandemic had no detrimental influence on parents' relationships with their children; on the contrary, the majority of them said that their relationships with their children had improved.

The study's findings revealed that there has been a large increase in the frequency of marital disagreements inside Jordanian families, as well as an increase in the use of violence between spouses, particularly towards women. This is in line with Humphreys et al., 2020) and Ghoneim's (2020) studies on the rise in violence against women during the epidemic.

In terms of the general family atmosphere of the Jordanian family, the majority of the research participants indicated that their family environment remained stable during the pandemic and that there was a noticeable increase in the cohesion of its members during the pandemic, with the reason for this being their staying together and cooperating in difficult circumstances, as well as supporting and taking into account each other's needs.

## 9- Recommendations:

Some advice may be offered based on past results in order to lessen the detrimental impact on Jordanian family relationships:

- 1-examine the causes of social resentment in-depth in order to identify and decrease them.
- 2-Researching the influence of Covid-19 on the Jordanian family's social relationships with the sea.
- 3- Investigating the function of the social worker in the family under the influence of Covid-19.
- 4- Providing online classes by family-focused institutions to assist couples in adapting to the changes that occur in their relationship and family throughout the epidemic.
  - 5- Conducting research identical to the current one, but with a quantifiable sample so that results may be analyzed.

#### REFERENCES

- Al Dhafri, S. (2019). Family Challenges and Strategies to Deal With them During COVID-19 Pandemic Facing Sultan Qaboos University Employees and Students in Oman. *Dar Almandumah*, 21(84), 81-108. <a href="http://ezlibrary.ju.edu.jo:2124/Record/1106139">http://ezlibrary.ju.edu.jo:2124/Record/1106139</a>
- Al Hamdani, M. (2020). Mechanisms of social adaptation to the (Covid 19) pandemic in Omani society, Gulf Studies Center, Qatar.
  - http://www.qu.edu.qa/static\_file/qu/research/Gulf%20Studies/documents/Gulf%20Studies%20Monograph%20N%208.pdf
- Al-Barbari, A. (1998). The Theory of Crisis Intervention in the Environment of Social Work. *In Third Annual Conference, Disaster and Crisis Management*, Ain Shams University.
- Al-Harbi, Kh. (2020). Domestic Violence in Domestic Stones. Dar Al-Manthama, (47), 5-57.
- http://ezlibrary.ju.edu.jo:2124/Record/1135389.
- Al-Mashhadani, Abd. (2012). Epidemics, A sociological study of diseases distribution. <u>Tikrit University Journal for sciences</u>, 19(4), 551-580. <a href="https://www.iasj.net/iasj/download/6046d98905d63df6">https://www.iasj.net/iasj/download/6046d98905d63df6</a>
- Al-Qadiri, A. (2021). Corona Pandemic and the Level of Cohesion of the Saudi Family: An Applied Study on a Sample of Mothers in Riyadh. *Dar Almandumah*, 13, 332-436. <a href="http://ezlibrary.ju.edu.jo:2124/Record/1159209">http://ezlibrary.ju.edu.jo:2124/Record/1159209</a>
- Al-Qahtani, A. (2020). The Saudi family in the time of Corona between adversity and grants. *Dar Almandumah*, 2(71), 158-177. http://ezlibrary.ju.edu.jo:2124/Record/1133840
- Al-Qahtani, H. (2020). The Psychological and Social Repercussions of the Coronavirus "Covid-19" Pandemic Crisis on social Relations in Saudi Families. *Dar Almandumah*, 13, 371-436. <a href="http://ezlibrary.ju.edu.jo:2124/Record/1159217">http://ezlibrary.ju.edu.jo:2124/Record/1159217</a>
- Al-Saeed, A. (2021). Strengthening family social relations in the light of the Corona-Covid-19 crisis through advertising messages. *Dar Al-Manthama*, (29), 182-162. <a href="http://ezlibrary.ju.edu.jo:2124/Record/1179865">http://ezlibrary.ju.edu.jo:2124/Record/1179865</a>.
- Al-Salami, A. (2020). The Corona pandemic and its social impact on the family in a sample of Saudi families in Jeddah. *Dar Almandumah*, 1(12), 74-100. http://ezlibrary.ju.edu.jo:2124/Record/1123923
- Al-Shaalan, F. (1999). Crisis management, foundations, stages, and mechanisms. Riyadh: Naif Arab Academy for Security Sciences.
- Andejany, N., Qutah, K., Alwajeeh, S., Msallam, R., & Alyamani, D. (2020). Parent-Child Relationship During COVID-19 in Saudi Arabia. Retrieved from <a href="https://assets.researchsquare.com/files/rs-93850/v1/c77b72d7-2e52-40df-8dfa-b5ae9a4071f3.pdf?c=1631858733">https://assets.researchsquare.com/files/rs-93850/v1/c77b72d7-2e52-40df-8dfa-b5ae9a4071f3.pdf?c=1631858733</a>.
- Ares, G., Bove, I., Vidal, L., Brunet, G., Fuletti, D., Arroyo, Á., & Blanc, M. V. (2021). The experience of social distancing for families with children and adolescents during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic in Uruguay: Difficulties and opportunities. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 121, 105906.
- https://reader.elsevier.com/reader/sd/pii/S0190740920323288?token=2C75ABB59FBB1495442C89B3754C5F06710C1660E4F EFB8A6FADC43DF5B515C8F8B126606ED0A4BA6FC8CD8F2E02AEB9&originRegion=eu-west-1&originCreation=20211119180724
- BTS Academy. (2018). *Qualitative research and its characteristics*. Retrieved from <a href="https://www.bts-academy.com/blog/det.php?page=364&title=%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A8%D8%AD%D8%AB">https://www.bts-academy.com/blog/det.php?page=364&title=%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A8%D8%AD%D8%AB</a> %D8%A7%D9%84%D9%86%D9
- College of Public Policy at Hamad Bin Khalifa University. (2021). *The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on families and children in the Arab region*. Retrieved from <a href="https://www.hbku.edu.qa/ar/academic-events/children-arab-region">https://www.hbku.edu.qa/ar/academic-events/children-arab-region</a>.
- Eid, S., & Al-Sawah, E. (2021). The Repercussions of Coexistence with the Corona Pandemic (Covid-19) and Its Relationship to Modifying Family Life Practices as Perceived by Wives. *The Journal of Specific Education Research, Mansoura University*, (64), 1-64. <a href="https://journals.ekb.eg/article-197676">https://journals.ekb.eg/article-197676</a> 3f04e89e08437fbb0ea04bce97e4116e.pdf.
- Francis, J. (1974). Social work treatment: interlocking theoretical approaches. N.Y: free press.
- Gambin, M., Woźniak-Prus, M., Sekowski, M., Cudo, A., Pisula, E., Kiepura, E., ... & Kmita, G. (2020). Factors related to positive experiences in the parent-child relationship during the COVID-19 lockdown. The role of empathy, emotion regulation, parenting self-efficacy, and social support. Retrieved from <a href="https://psyarxiv.com/yhtqa/">https://psyarxiv.com/yhtqa/</a>.

- Gassman-Pines, A., Ananat, E. O., & Fitz-Henley, J. (2020). COVID-19 and parent-child psychological well-being. *Pediatrics*, 146(4). <a href="https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7546085">https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7546085</a>
- General Iftaa. (2021). *Corona's impact on family ties*. Retrieved from <a href="https://www.aliftaa.jo/Article.aspx?ArticleId=3498#.YaIT4NBBxPY">https://www.aliftaa.jo/Article.aspx?ArticleId=3498#.YaIT4NBBxPY</a>
- Ghoneim, I. (2020). Some Problems That Encounter the Anti-Covid-19 Medical Teams Families and Educational Suggestions for Overcoming them. *Dar Almandumah*, 80, 373 407. http://ezlibrary.ju.edu.jo:2124/Record/1091366.
- Günther-Bel, C., Vilaregut, A., Carratala, E., Torras-Garat, S., & Pérez-Testor, C. (2020). A mixed-method study of individual, couple, and parental functioning during the state-regulated COVID-19 lockdown in Spain. *Family Process*, 59(3), 1060-1079. https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1111/famp.12585
- Gutiérrez, Y. I. E., Núñez, D. N. A., Padilla-López, L. A., León, I. A. G., Galindo-Aldana, G., & González, C. T. (2021). COVID-19 voluntary social isolation and its effects in sociofamily and children's behavior. *Salud mental*, 43(6), 263-271. https://www.medigraphic.com/pdfs/salmen/sam-2020/sam206d.pdf

https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0256643

Humphreys, K. L., Myint, M. T., & Zeanah, C. H. (2020). Increased risk for family violence during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Pediatrics*, 146(1).

https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Kathryn-

Humphreys/publication/340842008 Increased Risk for Family Violence During the COVID-

 $\frac{19\ Pandemic/links/5f0c9a2392851c38a51a12bb/Increased-Risk-for-Family-Violence-During-the-COVID-19-Pandemic.pdf.$ 

- Mahmoud, F. (2020). Social distancing and its educational effects in the time of the emerging Covid 19 "Corona". *Dar Almandumah*, 75, 1-23. <a href="http://ezlibrary.ju.edu.jo:2124/Record/1054015">http://ezlibrary.ju.edu.jo:2124/Record/1054015</a>.
- Morgül, E., Kallitsoglou, A., & Essau, C. A. E. (2020). Psychological effects of the COVID-19 lockdown on children and families in the UK. *Revista de Psicología Clínica con Niños y Adolescentes*, 7(3), 42-48. https://dialnet.unirioja.es/servlet/articulo?codigo=7649331.
- Mudawi, M. (2021). Dimensions of Family Interaction in light of the Corona Pandemic (Covid-19) in Jeddah: A field study. *Journal of Arts, Literature, Humanities, and Social Sciences*, (67), 107-121.

http://www.jalhss.com/index.php/jalhss/article/view/482/474

Oxford dictionary: the Clarendon press.

- Perelli-Harris, B., & Walzenbach, S. (2020). *How has the Covid-19 crisis impacted parents' relationships with their children?* Retrieved from http://www.cpc.ac.uk/docs/2020 PB54 How has the Covid-19 crisis impacted parents.pdf.
- Purba, F. D., Kumalasari, A. D., Novianti, L. E., Kendhawati, L., Noer, A. H., & Ninin, R. H. (2021). Marriage and quality of life during COVID-19 pandemic. *PloS one*, 16(9), e0256643.
- Tarsuslu, B., Sahin, A., Durat, G., & Arikan, D. (2021). An analysis of parents' perceived stress and the parent-child relationship during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Bangladesh Journal of Medical Science*, 97-107. <a href="https://www.banglajol.info/index.php/BJMS/article/view/55402">https://www.banglajol.info/index.php/BJMS/article/view/55402</a>
- Taubman–Ben-Ari, O., Ben-Yaakov, O., & Chasson, M. (2021). Parenting stress among new parents before and during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Child Abuse* & *Neglect*, 117, 105080.https://reader.elsevier.com/reader/sd/pii/S0145213421001538?token=807DFEE3B7CF5477945E8825C1C01F2220 54AC6D8B5BDC9B9E90E16C648A95D43BC65085AEA90E73F080B52840DFAF01&originRegion=eu-west-1&originCreation=20211119181713
- The Association of Income and Sales Tax. (2020). Learn about the defense orders issued by the government since the start of the Corona crisis. Retrieved from
- http://esits.org.jo/ar/NewsPage/%D8%AA%D8%B9%D8%B1%D9%91%D9%81%20%D8%B9%D9%84%D9%89%20%D8% A3%D9%88%D8%A7%D9%85%D8%B1%20%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AF%D9%81%D8%A7%D8%B9%20%D8%A7 %D9%84%D8%AA%D9%8A%20%D8%A3%D8%B5
- Vaterlaus, J. M., Shaffer, T., Patten, E. V., & Spruance, L. A. (2021). Parent-Child Relationships and the COVID-19 Pandemic: An Exploratory Qualitative Study with Parents in Early, Middle, and Late Adulthood. *Journal of Adult Development*, 1-13. https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10804-021-09381-5.