What Arabs think about the status of women in society

Opinions regarding women’s rights and their roles in society are progressing unevenly in MENA. While Arabs are more approving of women’s right to education, work and holding political office, there is far from universal agreement that women should have equal rights in all areas.

**A LIMITED WILLINGNESS TO HAVE EQUAL ROLES**

While in most countries a majority support an equal right to divorce for women ...

... around the same margin say that husbands, rather than wives, should always have the final say on family decisions.

**MANY WOMEN AGREE THEIR HUSBANDS SHOULD HAVE THE FINAL SAY**

That is, gender roles continue to constrain Arab women’s autonomy in household decision-making.

**A MAJORITY AGREE ON WOMEN’S RIGHT TO WORK**

That is, around the same margin say that women’s share of inheritance should be equal to men’s.

**LIMITED SUPPORT FOR GENDER EQUALITY IN SHARE OF INHERITANCE**

People who think women’s share of inheritance should be equal to men’s

**PROGRESS SEEN IN OPINIONS ON RIGHT-TO-EDUCATION**

Realistic gender roles continue to constrain Arab women’s autonomy in household decision-making.

**A MAJORITY AGREE ON WOMEN’S RIGHT TO WORK**

Respondents who agree a married woman can work outside the home

**RIGHT TO WORK DATA FROM ARAB BAROMETER, 2016-2017**

Relatively few say that university education is more important for a man than a woman and progress has been made in the past decade.

**MUST THINK TRAVELING INDEPENDENTLY IS NOT AN OPTION FOR WOMEN**

In a majority of countries surveyed, a minority say it is permissible for a woman to travel abroad by herself.

**WHAT PERCENTAGE OF WOMEN THINK IT IS PERMISSIBLE FOR WOMEN TO TRAVEL ABROAD BY THEMSELVES?**

Percentage who think it is permissible for women to travel abroad by themselves

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