

# Women in Egypt ( A driving force to economic growth)

Ahmed Ahmed

## Abstract

### I) Abstract:

The beauty of economics lies in its reflection on almost everything that is important to our lives. To be able to acquire the skills to build an image of a problem and a possible valid solution to it is the main essence of economics. Thus, as an economist it is possible to base ones research in an area of his or her interest. In this study, one is particularly interested in women in general. In specific, the study admires the potential of women or their untapped potential in many cases. Thus, it was clear that such a potential could be taken in to the perspective of economics. That is, the main concern is to tackle the area of gender and relate it directly to the economy in general. Furthermore, it is of main concern to adequately be able to prove that women's participation in the economy has a direct effect on the economy. The reasoning behind such thinking lies on the ground of the essential or necessary investment in women in a country such as that in education primarily. If women were to be given equal opportunities to expand their well being then this might be healthy for the economy as well.

Egypt, a country which exhibits various controversies, is the main discussion in this study. Other countries could also be studied with regards to women's participation. However, in this paper the main concern is Egypt. The word woman in Egypt is of striking resemblance to the symbol of an unemployed house wife. Such a reflection of women shouldn't be relied upon especially when women as individuals are considered economy wise to be human capital. In other words, as long as women were given the proper education, such investment should be put in to use instead of being considered as untapped potential.

First, before initiating such a study, it should be clear that it is not an aim to point out gender inequalities in Egypt; instead it is to properly identify a problem which rests amid many families whose female members drift in to being unemployed and thus are a waste to the economy. With that being said, it is also of main concern to point out that Egypt is not a country which prevents women's advancement. The main issue here lies upon the complexity of education and employment policies which might be a discouragement for women. Further more, almost all countries exhibit such an issue of the underemployment of women.

After my topic has been chosen, it was carried out by building a proper model for my theory reflecting women's participation in the economy as in the labor force and education while directing those observations to the gross domestic production of Egypt. The results indicated a significance of both the education and employment of females to the GDP. The theory formulated, thus, was applicable since the model being tested suggested the significance of the variables being used.

*Scientific Journal for Trade and Finance 2011, January*