

AN EMPIRICAL STUDY OF FEMALE EDUCATION IN SAUDI ARABIA

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ABSTRACT

Many countries of our planet have different modes of education for male and female sections of society. Often we find that a many educational institutions are open for both sexes. But there also are many intuitions which only educate either male or female students. Segregation of male and female students is not confined to any specific region or countries but it's a global phenomenon. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) provides a unique face to face way of joint classes for both sexes. The kingdom takes the advantage of networking technology to create an environment to provide a physical classroom for females in their campus and male students in their campus. The male teacher teaches the male section face to face in their classroom while the female section is linked with a live video of the instructor and the screen. The female students can ask questions and teacher can also interact with them. While female section can see the teacher via video link but the male teacher cannot see the female students. This way of teaching exist for many UG and PG classes across Saudi Arabia, as well as some other countries of the world. In this paper we shall analyse the benefits and drawback of this way of teaching for the female counterpart. To conclude our findings, we have conducted thirty interviews of female students in different departments of the faculties of Economics and Administration, and Computing and Information Technology of the King Abdulaziz University of Saudi Arabia.

Keywords: Female Education, Face to Face Class, Co-education, Networking E-learning, Distance Learning, Saudi Arabia.