

MENA Women's Transition from School to Work

Panel Members

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Findings

- **Themes:**

- 1. Empowerment**

- 2. Transition from School to Work**

- a. Factors Impeding Entering Local & International Job Markets Factor

- b. Facilitating Entering the Job Market: Education

Empowerment

- **The roles that men play**
- **The role of MENA patriarchal societies**

Impeding Factors

- **Family Expectations**
- **Disempowerment & Decision Making**
- **Lack of Mobility**
- **Preoccupation with Marriage and Proposals**

Facilitating Factor

- Education

- College

“I decided to go to college because I might end up one day really needing a job, and I don't want to regret [that I didn't get a degree].”

- Graduate School

“After I get out of college, I plan on getting married, of course. But later when I am married, I am going to have my master's degree...Actually, I might get engaged soon and he is encouraging me. And we are both planning on getting master's in Canada, even if we are married.”

Conclusion

■ Implications

- Implications for faculty, advisors, and career counselors.
- Implications for society & employers.
- Implications for MENA female youths who defy societal and family expectations

Thank You