Fahad Alsharif

Title: Migrant Domestic Workers and Gulf Families: A Case of Saudi Arabia

Abstract:

Domestic workers comprise 10% of Arabian Gulf immigration. Gulf families rely on domestic staff for children and elderly care. National women's employment has increased Gulf households' demand for domestic workers. Saudi Vision seeks 30% female workforce participation by 2030. Drivers, gardeners, and female domestic staff work for families. Domestic workers' effects on Gulf households are unclear. This paper explores Gulf domestic workers' daily lives. This study examines how they release family members from household tasks and enable public participation. Salary, savings, and remittances are also analysed. This study debunks the idea that domestic work is exclusively feminine by examining male and female domestic workers' gendered experiences. 25 Saudi households were interviewed for this article. Saudi families and domestic workers will take a Google Survey to collect data. The early investigation shows that domestic workers—male or female—free Saudi family members from tedious tasks and encourage them to work in more productive businesses. Saudi families and domestic workers profit from migration since their remittances fund education, food, and medical care for their families. Thus, Saudi households and migrant domestic workers benefit long-term.

Bio:

Fahad Luwe Alsharif, Senior Research Fellow at KFCRIS. He began working for KFCRIS in October 2016. His 2017-2018 research project, "Skill Development and Job Creation in Saudi Arabia: An Assessment of the King Abdullah Scholarship Program (KASP) in Light of the Saudi National Transformation Program," was financed by HRDF and Harvard Kennedy School. His research interests include public policy, labor migration, international studies, women's empowerment, and the Saudi labor force. Most recently, he joined the Advisory Board of the Gulf Labor Markets, Migration, and Population (GLMM) Program. Before joining KFCRIS, he worked as a freelance consultant. He holds a Ph.D. in Political Economy from Exeter University, an MSc in Administration with a specialization in Management from Lindenwood University, and a BSc in Business Administration from San Francisco University.