Mechanisms used by the NGO network for supporting
The cultural rights of children in poor areas

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Abstract:

This study is an analytical descriptive study to identify mechanisms used by the NGO network in supporting and promoting children's cultural rights. It also aims to identify the efforts of the NGO Network in supporting children's cultural rights through the vision of children themselves. The study used the social survey methodology. A complete census with board members and social workers of the NGO network reached (54) individuals. The methodology, a purposive sample with the beneficiary children of the NGO network, aged between (15-18) years, reached (48) children. The study relied on two tools to answer the questions of the study; a questionnaire with members of the board of directors and social workers; and a semi-structured interview with the children. The results of the study identified the most important mechanisms needed for supporting the cultural rights of children as being the establishment of a database, and improved communication between the organization network members in order to form technical committees, including experts and specialists, for developing children's cultural abilities. The most important efforts of the NGO network from the point of view of children were to support the rights of the child in forming his views by engaging him in the cultural and sports club, and promoting children's religious rights through Holy Quran memorization halls. The main obstacle facing the NGO network was the low number of trained social workers in the field of childcare. The study suggested increasing financial allocations by member organizations in order to support the child's cultural rights network, and developing databases in the NGO network to identify the cultural needs of children.

Keywords: Mechanisms - networks - non-governmental organizations (NGOs) - cultural rights

Introduction:

There is no doubt that the realization of child rights does not need declaration as much as it requires political, legislative and judicial protection at the national, regional and international levels. Such protection requires effective international (global and regional) and national mechanisms to promote the protection and enjoyment of the rights of the child. A right without mechanisms for protecting it, is considered void (Ahmad, 2015, p. 221).

Children are considered one of the most important groups in society. This is given because they form a high percentage of population and their abilities are limited compared to adults. Therefore, they need care, attention

and protection (Al-Gamal, 2011, p.8).

Taylor (2004) identified these rights to be basic physical care, security, affection, guidance, motivation, responsibility, education, independence, control, and discipline (Kirton, 2009, p. 27).

There are many general rights that society should promote to meet the needs of children. These rights are:

1- The right to a healthy and educational environment. The right of children to express themselves.
2- The right to protection from physical abuse.
3- The right to non-discrimination based on color, gender, or religion. (Richard L. Edward and others, 1995, P. 467)

In poor areas of Egyptian society, we find that children suffer from a lack of these rights, as confirmed by the results of many studies. Research shows that children suffer from low social, economic and political rights in poor areas. The social situation of these children points to the high rate of illiteracy, dropping out of education, poor family care, low health awareness and forced labor at an early age. Economic conditions explain the low quality of clothing, food, and housing for these children. As for political rights, children in these areas suffer from an inability to express their views, and lack independence, which ultimately indicates the poor conditions in which the child lives when growing up in poor areas. Whereas there is no discrimination based on color, gender or religion (Ibrahim, 1995), (Karim, 1998), (Salem, 1998), (Mustafa, 1999), (Diasti, 2002), (Abdel Aziz, 2002).

Providing attention to the child's development and culture can improve the child's expectations for the future. Focusing on the cultural rights of children emphasizes the integrated and balanced development of a child's personality physically, mentally, cognitively and spiritually. It rationalizes a child's way of life as a basis for developing a human being and facilitating better planning for the future. A child's culture encompasses all outputs from society, including sciences, arts, literature, skills, customs, traditions, and human values. The cultural rights of a child are an integral part of the overall culture of society. Culture has a significant impact on a child's personality and the construction of his or her lifestyle patterns, and has an impact on children's adaptation to the environment surrounding them (Helmi, 2005, p. 10).

International conventions indicate that the first Declaration on the Rights of the Child was issued by the League of Nations in 1924, known as the Geneva Declaration on the Rights of the Child. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was announced on 9th December 1948, and the United Nations issued the Universal Declaration of the Rights of the Child on 20th

November 1959. The Declaration on the Rights of the Child was published in 1989, and the Convention on the Protection of the Rights of the Child in 1990, in articles 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19. The cultural rights of the child are as follows:

1- The child's right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion.
2- The child's right to express his or her views freely in all matters affecting him/her.
3- The child's right to be heard in any judicial and administrative proceedings affecting him/her.
4- The child's right to freedom of association and freedom of peaceful assembly.
5- The child's right to access information and materials from various national and international sources, especially those aimed at promoting his / her social, spiritual and moral well-being and physical and mental health.
6- The child's right to protection from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or exploitation, including sexual abuse, in the care of parents.

One of the most important areas of NGO networking is to enable NGOs and national coalitions to participate in the reporting process of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child. Other key areas are the development and maintenance of focal points to monitor global developments on child exploitation issues. NGOs also play a key role in coordinating the members' efforts to achieve greater realities on children's issues (Bergman, 2006, p.1).

Many studies and research on NGO networks asserted that these networks can play a leading role in supporting children's rights. This is through contributing to the discussion of laws on children's rights, campaigning on children's rights, organizing national conferences to develop national plans for addressing children's general and cultural problems, and conducting studies on these problems. A study of NGOs' networks by Upton & Fonow (1984) addressed community organizations and networking. The study found that networks have a major impact on public policy because of the effective participation of citizens, and a communication mechanism between organizations participating in the process. The study of Morris & Frisman (1987) emphasized the importance of networking in the application of development policies through the expertise of social workers in addressing grievances, i.e., playing the role of the investigator. This calls attention to the importance of developing local competencies and improving non-financial resources within the framework of networking. Musambira's study (1994) attempted to identify the capacities of NGO networks to assist the

disadvantaged sector in developing countries to participate in specific strategies such as coordination and communication between the NGO members of the network. Ashman (1999) examined the organization of inter-NGO work. The study emphasized that non-governmental organizations addressing social problems such as poverty, poor health and child rights violations often join inter-organizational networks to increase their impact and enable them to pool the combined resources of the various organizations for working on social problems. The results of this strategy however may be limited by factors such as ideological conflict, competition for scarce resources, and external opposition. The study was also concerned with mechanisms applied by the NGO network to effectively organize joint work. The study of Bishop, et. al. (1999) indicated that networking is one of the most important approaches to communication and participation among organizations within society. It provides important communication channels for the exchange of information between groups and organizations through identifying community resources. On building working networks, Burke's study (2000) stressed the importance of building networks between governmental and non-governmental organizations. The study highlighted the importance of these networks in achieving efficiency, effectiveness, mobility, and integration of services among the organization members of the network. It also concluded that the main obstacle facing the networks was the lack of funding. Ainsworth's study (2001) conducted a comparative analysis of the development of two NGO networks and their contribution to strengthening the capacity of NGOs by presenting a new view of civil society that emphasizes its multiple functions. The study identified the basis for capacity classification into three dimensions: defense, suggestion, and infrastructure. The process's approach is based on social movement theory to understand the emergence of NGO networks and activities. The results of Peng's study (2010) also confirm that community NGOs are an important component of the local community system, and in community management and community support services. It asserted that NGO networks and community management play an important role in the process of social development with government departments and the private sector.

As for studies on children's cultural rights, Guest's study (2004) addressed the psychosocial and social competence processes of children in two poor communities, the Chicago public housing community and the refugee camp in the Republic of Angola. The study indicated that self-esteem and teamwork, associated with a community based psychological health model in childhood, are based on the cultural mentality in particular. This research supports the perception of children in poor societies that should be

recognized as deep social entities rooted in distinct cultural societies. Novoa's study (2014) attempted to explore how the different dimensions of cultural heritage affect self-separation behaviors and self-regulation of child education through a set of cultural practices that support positive child behavior. The study of Reich-Shapiro (2014) examined the development of civic participation in children. The study emphasized the importance of children's cultural rights through developing children's sense of how to participate in society and enhancing the competence of young children in civic development. The study also documented how young children can understand and reflect the rules and responsibilities of democratic participation in society. Scott's study (2014) examined the role that children's cultures play in their vision of knowledge and understanding, emphasizing that cultural differences in children did not have a significant impact on knowledge. Gentles (2015) conducted an exploratory study of the general organizational culture, the lack of which represents an obstacle to the family's ability to achieve the child's well-being. The study concluded that child care systems usually serve the disadvantaged population, and that although childcare researchers and reformers have been called upon to implement promising evidence-based practice models that demonstrate empowerment, which proved to contribute to improved outcomes for families, this has not occurred at the recommended scale.

In view of the above, the role played by NGOs in supporting children's rights in general and their cultural rights in particular, such as education, self-expression, self-service and religious rights, is demonstrated. This is through the active participation of NGOs in the discussion of laws on children, campaigning for the protection of child rights, and participating in the development of national plans to address and eliminate problems (Al Sharif, 2004, p.95).

Thus, networking among NGOs supports their ability to achieve their goals in realizing children's cultural rights. It can be said that the existing forms of coordination, networking and cooperation among organizations have not reached the advanced levels. Good methods and mechanisms must be developed to activate coordination and joint cooperation between these organizations. This should encompass all levels of organizations, where networking represents a turning point for institutional capacity-building. Hence, the research problem was formulated to be "identifying the mechanisms of the NGO network in supporting children's cultural rights".

Study problem:

The complexity and entanglement of children's issues calls for a different organizational approach so that these issues can be dealt with

effectively. It also calls for strong, effective organizations that possess organizational and institutional capacities in the field of child rights. To achieve this, these organizations need to learn from their predecessors to ensure their continuity. On the other hand, the existing system of non-governmental organizations relies on individual work that is not suitable at the present time because of the difficult economic and social circumstances that our societies are going through. The individual work system cannot achieve the desired sustainable development (Mudacumura, 2002, p.2).

Networking between NGOs active in the field of development and child care is the right way, and the appropriate regulatory approach, to overcome these developmental problems, including problems related to children's cultural rights. Networking is a process of connecting organizations with each other through an effective development network that helps them move freely towards the issues raised, especially the problems of childhood. These organizations have not been able to achieve any successes towards these issues in light of their individual performance. Networking between NGOs is the right approach towards developing communities in general and fulfilling the cultural rights of children in particular (Holmen, 2002, p.3).

The problem of the study was thus formulated to be "mechanisms used by the network of NGOs for supporting the cultural rights of children in poor areas."

Theoretical Guidelines of the Research:

1- The theory of organizations: This theory is based on the premise that "organizations are established to help local communities achieve their goals by addressing the social and economic needs of the populations of these communities. The organization works within the framework of the environment in which it exists and the other organizations surrounding it. It needs to find the necessary regulatory requirements for its survival and sustainability, which include the natural and social environments, and the creation and development of means by which they are transformed and promoted" (Abdul Latif, 1999, p.143).

This theory helps analyze the NGO network from the perspective of defending children's rights, with a focus on understanding the nature and objectives of the organization, identifying the main problems facing the organization and how to address them. In addition, the theory is useful as a tool for influencing the local community into helping achieve its objectives by addressing the social and economic needs of the local population, represented here in the cultural rights of children as one of the most important categories of society.

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2- Coordination strategy: The coordination strategy is based on the supposition that "the process of establishing an appropriate relationship between several units, including an attempt to link these units in a cooperative framework, to reach policies and procedures agreed upon between organizations" (Jones, 1993, p.175). This strategy helps ensure that the NGO network provides services through a collaborative framework to protect children's rights, which facilitates the presence of a mutual strong relationship between the members.

The strategy also helps avoid unnecessary duplication of services for children, as the services in this case are higher in supply than the demand of the children in the community, thus wasting resources.

Research Goals:
The study seeks to achieve the following objectives:
1- Determining mechanisms used by the NGO network for promoting the cultural rights of children.
2- Determining the efforts of the NGO network to promote the child's cultural rights in the study community.
3- Determining the obstacles that limit the ability of the NGO network in achieving its objective to promote the cultural rights of children.

Study questions:
The objectives of the study are achieved through responding to the following research questions:
1- What mechanisms are used by the NGO network to promote children's cultural rights in the study community?
2- What efforts are being made by the NGO network to promote children's cultural rights in the study community?
3- What obstacles limit the ability of the NGO network in achieving its objective of promoting the cultural rights of children?

Concepts:
Networking mechanisms: Mechanism linguistically means "the nature of composition of the parts of a machine or a similar object, or the way in which the object works" (Baalbski, 1995, p.164). Mechanism is also defined as "the means and techniques we use to achieve specific objectives in accordance with specific specialization" (Abdel Fattah, 2014, p.62), or it is "the knowledge, skill base, methods, theories or procedures used to achieve clear objectives" (Barker, 1991, p.64).

Networking is defined as "a set of formal or informal links between people or organizations that share resources and skills, have direct communication, and exchange information between them" (Al Sukkari, 2000, p.339). It is also defined as "a voluntary framework that includes individuals,

groups, and organizations aimed at exchanging information, experience and communication. The network is therefore a communication mechanism that represents a source of strength and influence" (Lewis & Esuarez, 1995, p.1789). It is also the "collaboration between organizations or groups to carry out joint projects and activities. Networks serve as a framework that connects organizations willing to cooperate with one another" (Gandelsonas, 2002, P.64).

Non-governmental organizations: NGOs are defined as "social units or human gatherings that are intentionally built to achieve certain objectives. These objectives constitute the desired image that can be achieved by the organization which represents a purposeful tool" (Etziono, 1964, p.1). It is defined by Parsons, the sociologist, as "a social system that includes a group of interacting units that are functionally interrelated and constructively supported with each other and with the external environment to achieve the objectives of the system. This contributes to the achievement of certain objectives" (Parsons, 1951, p.17).

Operational definition mechanisms of the NGO network under this study are:
- The range of methods and procedures used by non-governmental organizations through formal or informal linkages, direct contact, or exchange of information among themselves, and can be disclosed through the study tool, to support children's cultural rights.
- These mechanisms are represented in coordination, training, capacity building, communication, planning and participation.
- These mechanisms are used by NGOs to promote children's cultural rights.

Children's cultural rights:

The child is defined as "any person of either sex under 18 years of age", which is the same definition provided by the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Ghana NGOs Coalition on the Rights of the Child, 2014, p. 23).

Child rights is the "set of rights enjoyed by the child as a human being". It is "the status or authority that is enjoyed only by the child, by virtue of his or her age or special circumstances, or by virtue of the child's human attribute and as a member of a human group - in partnership with other members of society - based on a provision in the law or the rule of Shari'a, for realizing his/her best interest"(Ahmad, op. Cit., p. 224).

Operational definition OF Cultural rights of the child under this study is:
- The child's right to care guaranteed by society, represented in the formation of his own views.
- The child's right to respect of freedom of thought, conscience and

religious beliefs.
- The child's right to obtain information and materials from various sources.
- The child's right to be protected against all forms of physical abuse.

Methodology:

This study belongs to the pattern of descriptive studies, which aims to identify the mechanisms of the NGO network in supporting children's cultural rights. The study follows the comprehensive social survey methodology through a comprehensive inventory of board members of NGOs in the network, and social workers working on the network.

Tools:

1- The study employed a questionnaire on the mechanisms used by the NGO network to promote children's cultural rights.
2- The study also adopted a semi-structured interview with children benefiting from NGO network services in the study community, to learn about the network's efforts to promote children's cultural rights.

Design of the study questionnaire: The design for the questionnaire depended on previous studies that addressed the same topic in order to determine the statements of the questionnaire. These studies included Hilmi's study (2005) and Fathi's study (2002). The internal consistency coefficient of the questionnaire was calculated using the "SPSS" program by the coefficient of "Alpha - Kronbach" where the level of "0.84" is a high value that is positive and acceptable for study purposes.

Sample:

1- Complete Census of NGO network members in the area "Alsayida Aisha". They are three organizations in addition to their umbrella organization, with (32) Directors. The number of social workers was (22). Thus, the sample size was (54) in total, from the Board of Directors and social workers.
2- The purposive sample of children beneficiaries of NGO network services aged between (15-18) years, reached (48) children; 10% of the total (480) of children beneficiaries of network organizations in its area of operation.

Reasons for choosing the study community:

1- It is one of Cairo's poor areas.
2- It is famous for child labor.
3- Some families of children live in graves.
4- To help the Ministry of Social Security obtain the approval of the NGO Board of Directors and social workers working in the network within the field of study.

The determinants of the study:

The results of this study are determined by the degree of reliability of the tool and its stability, as well as the objectivity of the respondents.

Statistical Analysis Methods:

Statistical processes were carried out using the SPSS.V. 20.0 software, specifically the statistical package for social sciences. The following statistical methods were applied:

1- Using the Alpha-Cronbach coefficient, through which the discrimination coefficient for each question is calculated. The question with weak or negative discriminant coefficient is eliminated as the Alpha Cronbach coefficient expresses the degree of internal consistency of the questionnaire.

2- Calculating the range to determine the length of the questionnaire cells.

3- Calculating the arithmetic mean through the following equation: =K (Yes) x 3 + K (To a certain extent) x 2 + K (No) x 1 /N. The statements are sorted in a descending order, where statements with the highest arithmetic mean come first.

4- Determining the standard deviation through calculating the dispersion coefficient in the frequencies of the three responses for each statement. This helped sort the statements in case more than one statement had the same arithmetic mean.

Study Limitations:

1- Reaching some of the NGO board members: The researchers were able to overcome this difficulty by paying repeated field visits to the NGO members of the network.

2- Facing procedural bureaucracy while acquiring data from the NGO members of the children's cultural rights network: The researchers were able to overcome this difficulty by acquiring authorizations from the Ministry of Social Solidarity, which is the supervising entity for NGOs. The researchers also obtained security authorization as well as the agreement of the NGO network.

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The Results:

1- Mechanisms used by the NGO network to promote children's cultural rights.

Table (1) lists the mechanisms used by the NGO network to promote children's cultural rights

S r .	Mechanisms Used by the NGO Network to Promote Cultural Rights	Responses (N=54)						M*	S. D**	Ranking
		Yes		To Some extent		No				
		K	%	K	%	K	%			
1	Coordinating efforts for sharing information, experiences, and skills among network members.	26	48.1	19	35.2	9	16.7	2.3	8.5	5
2	Training members of the NGO network through workshops contributing to supporting children's cultural rights.	31	57.4	18	33.3	5	9.3	2.5	13.0	3
3	Building the capacity of NGO staff to provide cultural programs for children.	22	40.7	21	38.9	11	20.4	2.2	6.0	6
4	Communication between members of the NGO network to form technical and advisory committees including experts and specialists to develop children's cultural abilities.	39	72.2	8	14.8	7	13.0	2.6	18.1	2
5	Planning to establish a database through the NGO network on the cultural needs of children.	39	72.2	13	24.1	2	3.7	2.7	17.0	1
6	A partnership between network members and social workers to invest in the network's capabilities available to support children's cultural rights.	33	61.1	12	22.2	9	16.7	2.4	13.0	4
The general value of the variable		190	58.6	91	28.1	43	13.3	2.5	74.9	High level

(* M = arithmetic mean ** S.D = Standard Deviation)

The table above lists the mechanisms used by the NGO network to promote children's cultural rights. *Planning to establish a database through the NGO network on the cultural needs of children* ranked first with an arithmetic mean of 2.7, followed by *Communication between members of the NGO network to form technical and advisory committees including experts and specialists to develop children's cultural abilities* with an arithmetic mean of 2.6. Ranked third was *Training members of the NGO network through workshops contributing to supporting children's cultural rights*, with an

arithmetic mean of 2.5. The general value of the variable was high, with an arithmetic mean of 2.5. These results reflect the importance of networking mechanisms in supporting children's cultural rights in NGOs. The results of the table are consistent with Upton & Fonow's study (1984) which asserted the importance of communication as one of the participation mechanisms of the NGO network.

2- Efforts of the NGO network to promote children's cultural rights.

Table (2) lists the efforts of the NGO network to promote the child's cultural rights From seeing children themselves

Sr.	Efforts of the NGO Network to strengthen children's cultural rights	Responses (N=48)						M*	S. D**	Ranking
		Yes		To Some extent		No				
		K	%	K	%	K	%			
1	Availability of a NGO network telephone line to receive reports of physical and psychological abuse of the child.	27	56.3	10	20.8	11	22.9	2.3	9.5	4
2	The NGO Network supports the right of the child in forming his own views by engaging him in the cultural and sports club.	39	81.3	8	16.7	1	2.1	2.8	20.1	1
3	The NGO Network supports the right of the child in obtaining sources of information by encouraging him to use the cultural library provided by the NGO network	22	45.8	11	22.9	15	31.3	2.1	5.5	6
4	The NGO Network identifies a legal representative to defend children in any legal proceedings against them.	19	39.6	13	27.1	16	33.3	2.1	3.0	5
5	The NGO Network progress entertainment parties for children.	37	77.1	4	8.3	7	14.6	2.6	18.2	3
6	The NGO Network is interested in promoting children's religious rights through Holy Quran memorization halls.	34	70.8	12	25.0	2	4.2	2.7	16.3	2
The general value of the variable		178	61.8	58	20.1	52	18.6	2.4	71.1	High level

(* M = arithmetic mean ** S.D = Standard Deviation)

It is evident from the previous table that the most important efforts provided by the NGO Network in support of children's cultural rights, from the perspective of the children themselves, is for the NGO Network to support the right of the child In forming his own views by engaging him in the cultural and sports club. It scored an arithmetic mean of 2.8, followed in the second place by the NGO Network showing interest in promoting children's religious rights through Holy Quran memorization halls, with an arithmetic mean of 2.7. That was followed in the third place by the NGO Network progressing entertainment parties for children, with an arithmetic mean of 2.6. The general value of the variable was high, with an arithmetic mean of 2.4. From previous results we find that the efforts of the NGO Network to strengthen children's cultural rights agree with International Convention on the Rights of the Child In Articles 14 to 19, which included the right of the child to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, to express his or her views freely in all matters, and being able to access information and materials from various national and international sources.

3- The obstacles that limit the NGO network's realization of its objectives in promoting children's cultural rights.

Table (3) lists the obstacles that limit the NGO network's realization of its objectives in promoting the children's cultural rights

Sr.	Obstacles Facing the NGO Network	Responses (N=54)						M*	S. D	Ranking
		Yes		To Some extent		No				
		K	%	K	%	K	%			
1	Difficulty in coordinating the efforts of the NGO network members in promoting children's cultural rights.	23	42.6	15	27.8	16	29.6	2.1	4.3	6
2	Lack of an integrated database on the needs of children in the NGO network's geographical work scope.	27	50.0	13	24.1	14	25.9	2.2	7.8	5
3	Weak local interest in children's cultural rights that are guaranteed by international conventions.	31	57.4	12	22.2	11	20.4	2.4	11.2	4
4	Low number of trained social workers in childcare.	47	87.0	7	13.0	0	0.0	2.9	25.4	1
5	Relationship between members of the network lacking mutual trust and close cooperation.	25	46.3	12	22.2	17	31.5	2.1	6.5	7
6	NGOs members of the network finding difficulty in identifying the actual needs of the children.	42	77.8	12	22.2	0	0.0	2.8	21.6	2

Sr.	Obstacles Facing the NGO Network	Responses (N=54)						M*	S. D	Ranking
		Yes		To Some extent		No				
		K	%	K	%	K	%			
7	Weak financial allocations for technological methods in child education.	38	70.4	14	25.9	2	3.7	2.7	18.3	3
The general value of the variable		233	61.6	85	22.5	60	15.9	2.5	93.5	High level

(* M = arithmetic mean ** S.D = Standard Deviation)

The table above lists the obstacles that limit the NGO network's achievement of objectives. Ranked first was the *low number of trained social workers in the field of childcare*, with an arithmetic mean of 2.9, followed by *NGOs members of the network finding difficulty in identifying the actual needs of the children*, with an arithmetic mean of 2.8. Ranked third was the *weak financial allocations for technological methods in child education*, with an arithmetic mean of 2.7. The arithmetic mean of the general value of the variable was 2.5. The results of the table indicate that NGOs face many obstacles that hinder them in achieving some of their objectives. This was confirmed by Burke (2000) who proclaimed that lack of funding is one of the most important obstacles that face NGO networks.

4- Suggestions provided for the NGO network to help achieve its objectives in promoting children's cultural rights.

Table (4) lists suggestions to help the NGO network achieve their objectives in promoting the cultural rights of children.

Sr.	Suggestions	Responses (N=54)						M*	S D**	Ranking
		Yes		To Some extent		No				
		K	%	K	%	K	%			
1	The interest of the NGO Network in conducting training courses and implementing programs for the cultural development of the child.	44	81.5	10	18.5	0	0.0	2.8	23.0	3
2	Locating sources of funding for the educational programs provided by the NGO Network to support children's cultural rights.	34	63.0	12	22.2	8	14.8	2.5	14.0	7
3	Developing databases in the NGO network to identify the cultural needs of children benefiting from their services.	44	81.5	8	14.8	2	3.7	2.8	22.7	2
4	Increasing financial allocations by member organizations to support the child's cultural rights network.	41	75.9	13	24.1	0	0.0	2.8	20.9	1
5	Inviting international organizations concerned with children to provide technical support to the network.	40	74.1	14	25.9	0	0.0	2.7	20.2	5

S r.	Suggestions	Responses (N=54)						M*	S D**	Rank
		Yes		To Some extent		No				
		K	%	K	%	K	%			
6	Contribution of the network to the establishment of several cultural libraries for child development.	31	57.4	10	18.5	13	24.1	2.3	11.3	8
7	Opening literacy classes from children who dropped out of school.	33	61.1	15	27.8	6	11.1	2.5	13.7	6
8	Establishing several social clubs that provide recreational support for children served by the NGO Network.	39	72.2	12	22.2	3	5.6	2.7	18.7	4

(* M = arithmetic mean ** S.D = Standard Deviation)

The above table lists the most important suggestion to help the NGO Network achieve its objectives in promoting children's cultural rights. Ranked first was increasing financial allocations by member organizations to support the child's cultural rights network, with an arithmetic mean of 2.8 and standard deviation of 20.9, followed by developing databases in the NGO network to identify the cultural needs of children benefiting from their services, with an arithmetic mean of 2.8 and a standard deviation of 22.7. Ranked third was the interest of the NGO Network in conducting training courses and implementing programs for the cultural development of the child with an arithmetic mean of 2.8 and standard deviation 23.0. Through analyzing the NGO network activities, the researchers found that financial resources is considered the most lacking factor. Therefore, the provision of financial resources is the most important suggestion for the continuity of the network.

Discussion:

In light of the first study objective **"determining mechanisms used by the NGO network for promoting the cultural rights of children",** the study identified these mechanisms as: planning to establish a database through the NGO network on the cultural needs of children; improved communication between members of the NGO network to form technical and advisory committees including experts and specialists to develop children's cultural abilities; and training members of the NGO network through workshops contributing to supporting children's cultural rights. This result was reached through the use of the theory of organizations, which helped analyze the NGO network in light of mechanisms, methods and means. The coordination strategy has also contributed, as a theoretical basis for the study, to identifying the most important mechanisms that can support the cultural rights of the child through civil society organizations. These results were consistent with Upton & Fonow's study (1984) and Musambira's study (1994) that pointed to

communication and coordination between NGOs and network members as the most important mechanisms used by the network of NGOs.

In light of the second study **objective "Determining the efforts of the NGO network to promote the child's cultural rights in the study community",** the study identified the most important of these efforts from the point of view of the children themselves being: the NGO Network supports the right of the child In forming his views by engaging him In the cultural and sports club, followed the NGO Network is interested in promoting children's religious rights through Holy Quran memorization halls, followed by the NGO Network progresses entertainment parties for children. These agree with the International Convention on the Rights of the Child in articles 14 to 19, which include the right of the child to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, to express his or her views freely in all matters affecting the child and access to information and materials from various national and international sources.

In light of the third study objective **"Determining obstacles that limits the ability of the NGO network to achieve its objectives in promoting the cultural rights of children",** the results of the study found the main obstacles to be: the low number of trained social workers in childcare; NGOs members of the network finding difficulty in identifying the actual needs of the children; and the weak financial allocations for technological methods in child education. These results are consistent with Burke's study (2000) which found that the lack of funding is one of the most important obstacles that face NGO networks.

Concerning the study objective to reach a set of suggestions for the NGO network to help achieve their objectives in promoting the cultural rights of children, the suggestions are: increasing financial allocations by member organizations to support the child's cultural rights network; developing databases in the NGO network to identify the cultural needs of children benefiting from their services; and the interest of the NGO Network in conducting training courses and implementing programs for the cultural development of the child. Through analyzing the NGO network activities using the theory of organizations and the coordination strategy, the researchers reached the above suggestions. This emphasizes the NGOs' need for the organizational requirements necessary for their survival and continuity in the community in which they are established. It also helps assert that coordination limits the unnecessary duplication of services for children, thereby reducing the waste of resources.

Suggestions of the study for promoting the cultural rights of children through the NGO network:

1- Supporting the NGO Network through conducting training courses and implementing various programs for the cultural development of the child.
2- Planning to establish a database through the NGO network on the cultural needs of children.
3- Locating sources of funding for the educational programs provided by the NGO Network to support children's cultural rights.
4- Strengthening communication between members of the NGO network to form technical and advisory committees including experts and specialists to develop children's cultural abilities.
5- Developing databases in the NGO network to identify the cultural needs of children benefiting from their services.
6- Establishing several social clubs that provide recreational support for children served by the NGO Network.
7- Conducting studies and research to develop future plans in light of the available resources to maximize the usefulness of the network.

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