



**Ain Shams University
University college of Women
For Arts, Science and Education
Department of sociology
Communication Branch**

Doctorate degree in Arts:

**Discourse of citizenship in news websites and its reflections on
University youth practice
"a field study at Alexandria University"**

Abstract

**Submitted by
Rowida Ahmed Tellb Ahmed Mohamed
Supervisors:**

**Prof: Etimad Mohamed Allam
Rahman
Prof. of Sociology
Journalism
University College of Women
Communication
Ain Shams University
University**

**Prof: Awatef Abdul
Prof. of
Faculty of Mass
Cairo**

**Prof: Ahmed Ali Bialy
Assistant Prof. of Sociology
University College of Women
Ain Shams University**

Introduction:

Modern mass media is varied and uses modern informational techniques beginning with number less satellite channels, internet and its websites, e-journalism and overseas press under the modern community changes witnessed by the international community in general and the Egyptian society in particularly where citizens could obtain information about many general issues or issues related to their countries in a unique manner till the modern media become a main part of national effects.

1st The Study Problem:

The study problem focuses on analyzing and studying websites new treatment when discussing the citizenship discourse and this treatment reflection on activating and promoting the active citizenship values for Egyptian youth and particularly, university youth under their reaction and using new websites on internet represented in Al Ahram Gate , El Wafd Gate and El Masri El Yom Site. Through analyzing news discourse of citizenship and their values published on such sites to know the effects of these news and information on activating the active citizenship values for university youth from the beginning of 2010 till the end of 2011.

2nd - the Study Importance:

a- The study cognitive Importance:

The study (cognitive importance) comes as the need of making media researches and studies concerning about media issues and effects on the Egyptian society under the contemporary community changes, where it was found that cognitive heritage lacks studies linking between discourse contents of news related to citizenship published on the internet news websites and their effects on applying active citizenship values for university youth and this citizenship - related news and information reflection on the youth effective participation in community applying citizenship rights and tasks under the Egyptian community social, political and economic context.

B- The Study Applied Importance:

The study applied importance is represented in availing data basis about the active citizenship values type published by news websites in the Egyptian society, also it may profit decision makers in terms of identifying the most important youth practice of active citizenship spread between youth in the society which may profit them in interacting with this considerable society group.

3rd: The Study Objectives: The study Objectives are Determined as Follows:

- 1- Identifying the effects of political, economic and social context on applying citizenship in the Egyptian society under the contemporary community changes.
- 2- Norms of selecting news related to citizenship in news websites subject of this study.
- 3- Identifying how can the news websites discuss citizenship-related news.

4th : The Study Questions:

There are many questions which should be answered to achieve the study objectives:-

- 1- What are subjects discussed by news published on internet news websites?
- 2- How can news websites discuss citizenship discourse- related news?
- 3- What are frames of reference of the published material about citizenship in the studied websites?
- 4- What is meant by active citizenship for university youth?
- 5- Can this knowledge make youth apply active citizenship and positive reaction with the civil community?

5th The Study Theoretical Frame and Basic Concepts:

This study depends on the critical theory as a study theoretical frame, under which we use some concepts and issues related to the current subject where the study aims at investigating and analyzing the studied informational phenomena under the most comprehensive social and cultural contexts, the Egyptian community. Also the study aims at depending on the practice theory for "Bierre Bourdieu".

- The Study Main Concepts:

The study depends on the following concepts:

- The news websites concept.
- The citizenship concept, the active citizenship concept.

*** The theoretical Issues:**

- 1- The informational system and issues is a main part of the general social system and context.
- 2- Mass media are control tools used by some political authorities in promoting their goals and achieving their purposes.
- 3- Mass media become the main authority of supporting social systems in the current communities.

6th The Study Method logical procedures:

The study used (Comparative analysis) as a methodological procedure to compare between a sample of the internet news websites representing the studied technological Egyptian sites, El Masri El Yom Site, Al Wafd gate and Al Ahram . Also the study depends on "discourse analysis" of news of citizenship and active citizenship as the most important issues nowadays in the Egyptian society according to the researcher's explorative study.

B- The Study Community and Sample Selection:

The study community is subdivided to two categories: analytical study community and field study community. First analytical study community.

1- The analytical study community is represented in analyzing news about the study issues published in the news websites represented in (convenient organized sample), El Masri El Yom Al- Ahram gate, Al Wasl gate published in 2010- 2011.

Second: Determining Field Study Community and Sample on the Public: The field study community is represented in a university youth sample and the researcher prefers to use "indented sample" applied to the public of Alexandria university youth as an internet user.

E- The Time Field:

From the beginning of 2010 till the end of 2011.

F- Data Collection Tools:

The study depends on "Questionnaire form" as a tool of collecting data from the public sample which should represent a greater sample of Alexandria University youth to analyze the results of the materials published by the news websites about the university youth citizenship under the Egyptian community social, political and cultural dimensions and changes.

7th: Results of the Study:

Results of the study show that the discourse of locations of the study did not manage to reach the youth public as it was affected by directions of political order at all levels without concern to real needs of the public. Results of the study were as follows:

(1) General Results of Citizenship Discourse in News

Websites:

- 1- There were multiple transformations in the concept of citizenship as it became no longer restricted to citizenship as a set of rights and political and legal duties, but it also included cultural, economic and social rights.

Abstract

- 2- The political context of citizenship issues affects the increase in concern in political dimensions.
- 3- Websites did not concern with cultural, developmental and economic aspects.

(2) Results of University Students' Perceptions of Citizenship Concept (Rights & Duties):

- 1- University students agreed that citizenship means equality and equal opportunities for everybody and it also means the right to participate effectively in all various issues of society in the light of justice and complete equality among citizens in all of their rights and duties.
- 2- The knowledge of students regarding social citizenship rights increased as they are represented in that the state offers suitable aids for its citizens in cases of crises and disasters in addition that it has the right to give appropriate care without discrimination.

(3) General Results of Visiting News Websites by the Youth:

- 1- From the study sample analysis, it has been found out that visiting the websites regularly in the study was almost similar to the same in the Faculty of Arts and this indicates that a great percentage of students frequently get news through news websites regularly.
- 2- From analyzing answers of respondents in the sample, there has been a similarity in the answers of Faculty of Arts and Faculty

Abstract

of Engineering students in their order. Almasryalyoum.com came at first in this order as it is characterized by variability and interaction with the public followed by Al gate.ahram.org.eg and alwafd.com. Moreover, through analyzing answers of students from both Faculties of Arts and Engineering that the most important Egyptian websites which the students visit other than the study websites are ordered as youm7.com, masrawy.com, albawabahnews.com, vetogate.com and finally elwatannews.com.

(4) General Results of Perceptions of University Students Regarding Active Citizenship and Student Activities:

- 1- Answers of the respondents of the study sample showed that there is a link between perceptions of university students and policies witnessed by the Egyptian society which play a crucial role in creating a state of political mobility among those who are interested in public affairs.
- 2- Answers of the respondents of the study sample showed that there is a decrease in participation in student activities inside the university.
- 3- There are weak practices of active citizenship with its social forms such as volunteering in civil society services, or its basic form such as being members in political parties in addition to not participating in student unions in the university.