Women refugees are not only vulnerable, they are resilient too!

Does the Resilience of women build the resilience of their families?

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Abstract

This research studies the phenomenon of Resilience from a gender perspective, it aims at investigating the relation between women’s resilience and family resilience after displacement and suggests recommendations to enhance humanitarian action programming targeting family resilience.

The research developed a theory that argues that Humanitarian programming that enhances women’s resilience can improve family resilience, and is addressing and identified gap in research which is the lack of focus on the relation between women’s resilience and family resilience.

This research is structured on a theory testing case study, studying the case of Syrian women refugees in Azraq camp in Jordan.

Through literature review, and theory testing case study, this research concludes that humanitarian intervention after displacement can approach building family resilience through building women’s resilience.

Key words:

Resilience, vulnerability, Gender analysis, Economic Empowerment,
Preface

To my both grandmothers, two Palestinian women refugees, who raised their children in refugee camps and sent them out to the world as strong educated and decent productive individuals; to Om Raed, the Syrian woman in Azraq camp who inspired me to look at Syrian women refugees as source of strength through her persistence in making her shelter a warm home for her family despite all the obstacles; to all strong Jordanian women I learned from; to all strong Palestinian women I haven’t met; to my mother; to the strong woman inside me who is challenging her way out and to all strong women out there in the world.

Rozan Khalifeh
### Acronyms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CEDAW</td>
<td>Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women</td>
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<td>GBV</td>
<td>Gender based violence</td>
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<td>GTG</td>
<td>Gender Theme Group</td>
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<td>IATF</td>
<td>Jordan Refugee Inter-Agency Task Force</td>
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<td>IBVs</td>
<td>Incentive Based Volunteers</td>
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<td>IFRC</td>
<td>International Federation for the Red Cross</td>
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<td>INGO</td>
<td>International Non-Governmental Organization</td>
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<td>JRP</td>
<td>Jordan Response Plan for the Syria Crises</td>
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<td>SARD</td>
<td>Syrian Affairs Directorate Police</td>
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<td>UN</td>
<td>United Nations</td>
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<td>UN Women</td>
<td>United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women</td>
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<td>UNHCR</td>
<td>United Nations Refugee Programme</td>
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<tr>
<td>VAF</td>
<td>Vulnerability Assessment Framework</td>
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<td>VCA</td>
<td>Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment</td>
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Chapter one: Introduction

1.1 The problem and argument

Previous research on Resilience focuses on either individual Resilience or family Resilience as two separate fields. The problem this research is addressing is the gap in research on the relation between the individual and family Resilience, and more precisely on the link between women’s Resilience and family Resilience. This is argued by Mason & Pulvirenti (2011) as they emphasize on the need to further researching the phenomena of Resilience from a different angel, inviting researchers to investigate the process that individuals go through in their journey to attain Resilience, and to study the factors that affect this process within a multiple culture context and covering both positive and negative factors. (Mason & Pulvirenti 2011 :40)

This research argues that women’s Resilience can impact family Resilience positively. It also argues that the humanitarian agencies which focus on building women’s Resilience, through their interventions, reach out to build the family Resilience through the positive impact of the role of women in building the family Resilience. This research also argues that this approach (building the Resilience of the family through building the Resilience of women) is relevant to humanitarian work due to the limited resources and urgency within a displacement context, which will helps agencies achieve higher impact within less resources and less time.

1.2 Relevance and reasoning

Opting to focus on the relationship between women’s Resilience and family Resilience in this research in no way disregards the importance of understanding men’s Resilience and its relationship with family Resilience. However, the selection of this narrow area is supported by many reasons. First, according to (Wiest, Mocellin, & Motsisi 1994:33) in the aftermath of crises, almost 70% of displaced populations consist of women and children. This percentage indicates the importance of investing in the understanding of most of the displaced population to better serve them. Secondly, and as argued by (Islam, Ingham, Hicks & Manock 2017:54), social structures, gender inequalities and social injustices which
are inherited within a community get even worse after a crisis and displacement; since UNHCR has declared women several times as one of the most vulnerable groups after displacement due to their higher risk based on statistics to facing Gender Based Violence (GBV), harassment and other types of discrimination (Mason & Pulvirenti 2011: 38), this confirms the priority to focus on women as a more vulnerable group within a displaced conflict from a gender equity perspective. Thirdly, and from a humanitarian intervention perspective, and according to (UNCHR 2016-2017:10) currently the humanitarian agencies and humanitarian work are facing a financial dilemma, as the humanitarian sector is failing to raise the needed funds to respond to the increasing number of displaced population around the world due to the different types of crises, the needs are higher than the available resources, for example, at the end of year 2015, only 42% of the needed funding was secured, and currently the gap is even higher (UNCHR 2016-2017:10) (the funding requirements for 2016 are 5% more than the requirements in 2015) (UNCHR 2016-2017:11). This dilemma puts higher pressure on humanitarian intervention to revise their programming, and come up with creative solutions to increase their outreach and maximize their impact within limited resources, and to utilize all the resources and assets they have instead of relying only on external funding. Finally, and more precisely, also according to (UNCHR 2016-2017:20) the funding gap for the self-reliance for the year 2015 reached to 52% (UNCHR 2016-2017:20). This means that more than 50% of the needs for Resilience programming weren’t met, an alarming percentage if compared with the other sectors according to the same UNHCR report that shows less funding gaps in the other sectors like Health, Education and Protection.

Accordingly, this research is relevant to academia because it addresses the mentioned gap in research about the relation between women Resilience and family Resilience. And is relevant to Humanitarian field within this financial dilemma and challenge in funding Resilience programming, that increases the importance of developing creative solutions to increase the Resilience outreach to more population with less resources, and since according to the mentioned statistics most of displaced population are women and children, it is relevant to investigate methods to reach to more displaced population through focusing on targeting women.
1.3 The aim and research objective

This research aims to contribute to the understanding of the relation between women’s Resilience and family Resilience in the aftermath of crises. This research also aims to make recommendations for the improvement of humanitarian programming regarding Resilience through a suggested approach of focusing on women’s Resilience to enhance family Resilience.

1.4 The research questions

The research question is: How can humanitarian programming be influenced by the relation between women’s Resilience and family Resilience?

The sub-question is: What is the relation between women’s Resilience and family Resilience?

1.5 Previous research

Previous research has focused on individual Resilience, with less focus given to family Resilience. Women and girls have been also perceived as vulnerable groups widely and their capacities after crises have not been studied thoroughly. There is a need not only to study family Resilience more deeply, but also to study the relation between an individual’s Resilience and family Resilience. By examining the Resilience of individuals and families, and the relation between them as a process that individuals and families go through after displacement, we understand the factors which enable or disable Resilience. This better understanding of the process of Resilience can be utilized by humanitarian programming both in design and implementation phases to ensure quality interventions. Nevertheless, there is also a need for research to shift from looking at refugees and displaced people in general, and women particularly, as vulnerable, to studying their assets and capacities -- a shift which can enhance humanitarian interventions by utilizing these potentials instead of wasting them. For instance, (Wiest, Mocellin, & Motsisi 1994:6) argue that research focusing on women’s Resilience has been emphasized women and girls’ vulnerabilities rather than their potential and capacities. The result of this is failing to utilize the potential contribution of women after crises. Furthermore, (Mason & Pulvirenti 2011 :37) also argue
that the research in the past two decades focused on vulnerabilities rather than potential of individual and communities to overcome crises.

Mason & Pulvirenti (2011) also argue that this gap in research pressures researchers to further study the potential of individuals and communities to adapt more resilient approaches. (Mason & Pulvirenti 2011:37) According to (Mason & Pulvirenti 2011 :40), several researches lately are providing a critical analysis of the term Resilience, shifting the discussion around Resilience from an individualistic approach into considering the social context of the studied individual. (Mason & Pulvirenti 2011:40) argues that there is a need to further study Resilience as a process that an individual goes through after a crisis in the context of multiple cultural and external enabling and disabling factors.

Finally, Wiest, Mocellin, & Motsisi (1994) argue that if women’s Resilience is studied in the context of their potential, this can lead to maximizing their mobilization power within their community. (Wiest, Mocellin, & Motsisi 1994:6)

1.6 Theoretical Framework

This research studies the phenomena of Resilience, the research objective is narrowed down from the general understanding of Resilience into a specific area: understanding the relation between women’s Resilience and family Resilience in the context of displacement after crises, and later considering how this understanding can be utilized to improve humanitarian programming. The approach taken to reach this understanding focuses on the importance of the identified independent variables in shaping the dependent variable presumed by this research.

The theoretical framework that guides this research analyzes dependent and independent variables and the relation between them by applying a gender perspective investigating precisely the gender role of women’s Resilience on family Resilience within the context of displacement after crises.

1.6.1 Research Theory

The theory this research has developed and is investigating is:
Humanitarian intervention can positively impact family Resilience through building women’s Resilience within a displacement context in a refugee camp.

1.6.2 Research Hypothesis

The hypothesis (presumption) which this theory is built upon is:

Women’s Resilience can influence family Resilience positively.

This research strategy that is established to prove its theory, is structured through the development of the research hypothesis, and identification of the dependent and independent variables, followed by an investigation of these variables and the relations between them through literature review to prove the hypothesis, followed by application of a case study to the theory to test the theory.

1.6.3 Dependent and independent variables

Dependent variable identified is: Family Resilience

Independent variables identified are: women’s Resilience, International humanitarian intervention programing.

1.6.4 Definitions

Within this theoretical framework, the below definitions apply wherever mentioned in this research:

Disaster: “can be defined as an event that overwhelms the local capacity, creating a need for either national or international assistance, or it is often associated with great destruction and human suffering”. (Islam, Ingham, Hicks & Manock 2017: 51)

Patriarchy: “A social system of male domination and female oppression” (Abdi 2014: 462)

Gender analysis: “is the systematic research aiming to understanding the roles and relations of Women Men Boys and Girls (WMBG) within family, economy and community in a particular context, it also examines how these relationships influence the decision making
and distribution of resources as well as identifying inequalities and power dynamics”.
(IFRC 2016:23)

1.7 Methodology

1.7.1 Literature review

This research is based on literature review and this methodology was selected for various reasons, as it is believed that for such a phenomenon as Resilience, it is important to gain an understanding of different point of views about this field from both academic and humanitarian resources, and not only the researcher point of view about the subject. As argued by O'Leary (2004) the methodology of literature review is essential in building arguments to debate a social phenomenon or behavior, and it supports the researcher in gaining an understanding of a certain situation from different angels (O'Leary 2004: 78) O'Leary (2004) also argues that literature review is essential to establish a foundation for the reader that provides credible update on the progress in the research field about the subject matter of the research, and helps the reader to understand the subject within the context of different point of views and not only the researcher personal opinion. (O'Leary 2004: 78)

1.7.2 Theory oriented case study

This research is built on employing a theory testing case study to achieve the objective of testing the theory developed by this research according to the theoretical framework of this research. This method was selected based on George, Bennett & Belfer (2005) argument that theory testing case studies help researchers to assess newly developed theories through investigating defined variables and conditions applying a selected case study. (George, Bennett & Belfer 2005:75)

The selection of the Syria crises and particularly women of Azraq camp for this research is justified by the urgency of this crises nowadays and the percentage of Syrian women refugees displaced after the crises in Azraq refugee camp in Jordan. As according to AMNESTY International (2016) “The conflict in Syria has resulted in one of the largest refugee flows since World War II and refugees from Syria are currently the biggest
population under UNHCR’s mandate” (AMNESTY International 2016:9) and confirmed by King Hussein the King of Jordan, “The Syrian conflict is arguably the most tragic humanitarian crisis of our time” (His Majesty King Abdullah II, 2016). This urging crisis in Syria and violence in the country has forced Syrians to cross the border to seek asylum in different countries. It is argued by World Bank (2016) that almost 35% of Syrians who left Syria found home in Jordan (World Bank 2016:6) and it is announced by UNHCR (2017) that as of Feb 2017, 655732 Syrian refugees are in Jordan. (UNHCR 2017 B :1) while UNFPA (2015) confirms that 20% of those refugees are living in refugee camps and over 70% of them are women and children. (UNFPA. 2015:7) It is also argued by UNHCR.(2015) that 80% of Syrian refugees in Jordan are relying on other resources than direct humanitarian assistance that they receive from humanitarian agencies, and they are turning to coping strategies to support their families as they have spent their savings and acre currently receiving less assistance (UNHCR. 2015:1-2). This argument emphasizes on the urgency of focusing on Resilience building approaches to enable Syrian refugees to cope with their challenging living conditions.

The urgency of the Syria crises, with the lack of funding, and the context of the Syrian women refugees in Jordan being a majority, and with such limited resources and urgency for adapting coping mechanisms, are the reasons behind selecting Syrian women in Azraq refugee camp as a case study for this research.

1.7.3 Data Management

This research is a documentary research, in the sense that it relies on the review of existing published documents and it doesn’t produce new data. It relies on published academic journals, e-books, policy papers, humanitarian agencies reports, humanitarian agencies minutes of meetings and guidelines as the primary data source. The documents were accessed through Uppsala University Library, Academic search engines, UN database, and other online sources. This method of data collection has been selected for several reasons. Essentially, and since this report is aiming to analyzing a phenomenon relevant to human behavior, it is argued by Denscombe (2010) that documentary research is useful for social researches as it provides researchers with significant content that can be analyzed and
criticized to generate stands and opinions, as well as reviewed documents can be used as evidence sources to support arguments as they are permanent sources. (Denscombe 2010: 225-226) The type of sources used in this research are also confirmed by Denscombe (2010) as valid sources for academic research. (Denscombe 2010: 226-228) An essential ethical concern for the credibility of the sources of this research was the potential bias for official statistics for refugees and funding that could be manipulated for political and funding reasons as argued by (Denscombe 2010:233) And to avoid any subjective data collection, data triangulation was ensured through collecting and comparing data from different sources as Government, UN agencies, International NGOs, People of concern as well as academic journals to limit the potential of subjective data input.

1.8 Research limitations

The limitations for this research were during the design phase and the data collection phase. In the design phase, there were limitations in the development of the theory and variables, as this research could be expanded to also investigate the Resilience of families with unaccompanied minors or male headed household, however, for the mentioned reasons in the Relevance and reasoning section the theory excluded these two cases. The limitation during data collection phase was in obtaining specific data about Resilience of women in Azraq refugee camp to directly answer the questions of the research, due to the lack of such reports by International humanitarian agencies and that the camp is relatively newly established, however, this has been overcome through data analysis of the published reports and finding relations between them and the research questions.

1.9 Research disposition

This research consists of five chapters. This is the first chapter (introduction), which explains the chosen problem for the research and the main argument, the research questions, the relevance of the research, the theoretical framework and methodology of the study, and the research disposition. The second chapter offers a literature review for understanding Resilience, and is divided into two sections: the first studies the Resilience of an individual, a family and the relation between both, with a special focus on women; the
second examines the recommended theoretical approach to programming related to women’s Resilience in the aftermath of crises.

The third chapter presents the case of Syrian women refugees in Azraq refugee camp in Jordan, beginning with a wider picture on the Syria crises and refugees in Jordan, and gradually narrowing the case down to women refugees’ Resilience in Azraq camp. This chapter also seeks to criticize the approach of humanitarian agencies towards the Syrian women in Jordan and Azraq camp. The fourth chapter presents the three main findings of the case study presented and analyzes them one by one from both theoretical and empirical angles.

The fifth chapter offers the conclusion of the research, answering the research questions explicitly, and offers recommendations to improve the programming and approaches regarding working with Syrian women in Azraq refugee camp in order to enhance their individual and family Resilience.
Chapter Two: Literature review

2.1 Chapter introduction

This chapter provides a review of theoretical literature related to the research identified variables. It starts by an introduction to define the term Resilience, and then explains the independent variable identified, followed by the independent variable, and closes by investigating the relation between the independent and dependent variables.

2.2 Resilience

Resilience is simply defined as “The capacity to successfully adapt to external problems or threats.” (Ryan 2015:301) But is it this simple? The concept of Resilience has been discussed extensively in research and literature focusing on the individual Resilience; nevertheless, it is as important to examine the term in the context of a family, and study how family can influence the individuals’ Resilience to bounce back from challenging situations, and how family can be used as the source of strength and power during or after disasters. (Islam, Ingham, Hicks & Manock 2017: 51)

2.3 Dependent variable: Family Resilience

The term Resilience is not limited to individuals as a unit comprising the refugee communities, as several researches argued that functioning families also have trends regarding their ability to cope with crises. Lenette, Brough& Cox (2013) argue that it is essential to emphasize on the social context of Resilience, understanding the contextual elements surrounding an individual and affecting their daily lives, and one main element of this context is their families. (Lenette, Brough& Cox 2013 :640) Consequently, the term Resilience in this context doesn’t only refer to the individual’s behavior to cope with crises, but also to the ability of the surrounding environment including their families to provide the necessary resources for individuals that support their pathways to adapting a resilient behavior. (. (Lenette, Brough& Cox 2013: 640)

Accordingly, family Resilience can be defined as the pathway a certain family obtains in their attempt to cope with stressful and abnormally challenging situations, both in the
present and over time. (Becvar (2013;2014;2012):18) Another definition that is common within practitioners, that “family Resilience implies the capacity of a family to successfully manage challenging life circumstances now or in the future (Walsh, 1998)” (Patterson 2002: 352). Becvar (2013;2014;2012), also argues that there are several factors that affect how resilient families interact and cope with these challenging situations. The most essential of these are the context in which they live, their developmental level and the risk factors against the available protection factors. (Becvar (2013;2014;2012):18) Generally, Becvar (2013;2014;2012) argues that it is essential to understand that serious crises and challenging situations do influence families’ dynamics; however, it is rather important not to deny that families as functioning units acquire capacities and assets that facilitate the families’ journey to overcome their crises successfully. (Becvar (2013;2014;2012): 122)

2.4 Independent variable 1: Women’s Resilience

2.4.1 Women’s vulnerability

Are all women vulnerable? Or are all women more vulnerable than all men? Not necessarily. Women are often perceived as the more vulnerable gender group, and as if they are always more vulnerable than men; however, women’s vulnerability compared to other women or to men depends on multiple factors, which extend beyond only the fact of them being females. (Islam, Ingham, Hicks & Manock 2017: 53)

In some literature, Vulnerability is portrayed as a continuum of different stages between the situation of weakness and the situation of Resilience. (Islam, Ingham, Hicks & Manock 2017: 53), however it is also arguable that vulnerability is more precisely described as a matrix of several factors rather than a continuum. Islam, Ingham, Hicks & Manock (2017) argue that vulnerability can be divided into five essential components: “initial well-being, self-protection, social protection, livelihood Resilience and social capital”. Moreover, it is rather important to understand that these five factors exist within the context of other factors which also affect vulnerability. These factors include the class of the vulnerable individuals or groups, their gender, ethnicity, age and their political positions and stands within their communities. From these essential factors, gender became known as a key
determinant that can interact and influence the other different factors. (Islam, Ingham, Hicks & Manock 2017: 53)

Vulnerability also can refer to individuals or families, either male-headed or female-headed. For the purposes of this research, the term ‘Woman-headed households’ refers to households (regardless of the actual sheltering setting, as some families might live with other families in one shelter or might be homeless) which are perceived by the family members and the community as led by the woman, and the woman is the main party responsible for the family and for income generation. (Wiest, Mocellin, & Motsisi 1994: 4). On the other hand, ‘vulnerable woman-headed households’ refers to the situation of these families in terms of having weakened family members with certain needs, such as a severely handicapped family member, a single woman with no relatives, or any other vulnerabilities that create unmet needs. (Wiest, Mocellin, & Motsisi 1994: 4) Nevertheless, it is argued that the term vulnerability and its definition is controversial and it is regularly used broadly that it almost lost its meaning. (Islam, Ingham, Hicks & Manock 2017: 53)

2.4.2 Women’s Resilience

The United Nations, on several occasions, has identified women refugees as one of the most vulnerable groups in the world due to the statistics showing them as target for sexual violence during armed conflicts, as well as the traumatized experiences they face fleeing their countries to escape war and the hardship of their daily lives in refugee camps. (Mason & Pulvirenti 2011: 38) The recognition of women by the United Nations as one of the most vulnerable groups emphasizes the importance of studying women’s Resilience in depth as an essential element of refugees’ communities. More precisely, women refugees living within a refugee camp context have even a more particular case. (Lenette, Brough & Cox (2013) argue that studying the Resilience of women refugees in a camp setting requires observation of their everyday lives to understand their Resilience in action, as the fact that they still carry themselves daily is in itself an achievement and an essential indicator of their Resilience! (. (Lenette, Brough & Cox 2013: 640) More particularly, and according to Paat (2014), women’s behavior in relation to Resilience is often influenced by six main
factors: “(1) acculturation, (2) cultural mechanisms, (3) mental health, (4) structural elements, (5) legal contexts, and (6) social support” (Paat 2014: 734)

2.5 Independent variable 2: International humanitarian assistance programing

2.5.1 Perception of women in humanitarian programing

In disaster recovery, women are often perceived as vulnerable individuals and vulnerable groups, and their capacities and strengths are rarely recognized and acknowledged by disaster recovery planners. This argument is similar to that of (Gwynn & Annear 2010: 25) in their report “A Practical Guide to Gender- Sensitive Approaches for Disaster Management”, which argues that women’s role in families after a crisis are often underestimated, and that women play wider roles in the living and adapting coping mechanisms within their households than humanitarians recognize. A particular case demonstrating this is that of the female-headed household, in which women play a key role in the survival of the family members and leadership of the household. Gwynn & Annear (2010) in this report also argue that livelihood strategies have sometimes mishandled women’s provision of assets and resources needed to carry on their economic activities, or have even provided them with irrelevant assets based on pre-existing assumptions about their gender roles and needs. A potential reasoning for these assumptions could be the perception that the role of family breadwinning always belongs to men. (Gwynn & Annear 2010: 26)

2.5.2 Humanitarian programming design

Islam, Ingham, Hicks & Manock (2017) argue that within a community, existing social structures worsen after crises, therefore inequalities and discrimination is more likely to intensify after crises and vulnerable groups will be even more vulnerable. (Islam, Ingham, Hicks & Manock 2017: 54) This phenomenon emphasizes the importance of understanding the social structure and gender roles of WMBG within a community to ensure relevant interventions. Gwynn & Annear (2010) argue that in the response to crises, international humanitarian agencies need to conduct a recovery assessment that includes a gender analysis to gain an understanding of the roles of men and women and the power dynamics within the household. This is particularly important to ensure appropriate interventions that
are relevant to the specific needs of WMBG, and is often conducted following to the initial emergency assessment focusing on community needs, vulnerabilities and coping mechanisms. Carrying out gender analysis enables humanitarian agencies to gain an understanding of the specific needs within a local context and minimize room for intervening based on assumptions about gender roles within a specific culture or context. (Gwynn & Annear 2010: 23)

Nevertheless, studying capacities within refugee communities is no less important than studying vulnerabilities; consequently, IFRC developed practical tools within the Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (VACs) themes to gather empirical data, within an emergency context, on the existing community capacities and resources, which may also be associated with gender roles and dynamics, and can be utilized in the recovery interventions. (Gwynn & Annear 2010: 70)

2.5.3 The role of Women in disaster recovery

In the aftermath of crises, women find themselves facing new roles and new challenges, and heading households in the absence of the male family member. Particularly if they come from patriarchal cultures, these new situations emphasize the significant role that women play in their families, and therefore the importance of engaging women in the disaster recovery planning and implementation. As Islam, Ingham, Hicks & Manock (2017) argue, it is expected of women to be in situations where they find themselves responsible for managing their own affairs as well as their families’ affairs more significantly in the infinite or longer-term absence of the men of the family after a crisis. (Islam, Ingham, Hicks & Manock 2017: 58)

2.6 Relation between dependent and independent variables

2.6.1 Influence of family Resilience on individual Resilience

Becvar (2013;2014;2012) views the family as an essential support system to the individual family members, and argues that in the literature, multiple researches started to shift from considering families, within the discussion of Resilience, as the context of the individual’s
Resilience to their being the source of Resilience itself in that they are protective and encourage the Resilience of their family members. Becvar (2013;2014;2012) argues that family can influence the individual’s Resilience not only positively but also negatively under certain circumstances. According to (Becvar (2013;2014;2012): 3), functioning families are the main and essential resource for individuals to meet their daily needs, and Wiest, Mocellin, & Motsisi (1994) argue that in the aftermath of disasters, if the family is disrupted or separated, then the individuals’ ability to cope and adapt resilient behavior is weakened due to the lack of the support and pragmatic assistance family can provide to those individuals. (Wiest, Mocellin, & Motsisi 1994: 27)

If we take children as an example of a family member, there are several studies that argue that children after misfortune have better chances in developing resilient behaviors in the cases where they have at least one care-provider parent, or an alternative supporting adult from within the extended family, upon whom they can rely for social support. An example to these studies is explained by Werner (1993) who argues that self-esteem and self-efficacy are developed and maintained by supportive relationships. According to the results of the Kauai study, all resilient children in the study had at least one caring parent or adult relative who was supporting them unconditionally, regardless of their physical attractiveness, temperamental idiosyncrasies or their intelligence (Werner 1993: 512). The children in this study demonstrated a need to believe that they had a reliable family member whom they could return to, but also, they had the need to make their own effort, the need to feel competent, and that their self-worth was nurtured and reinforced. Werner argued that all studies globally about children of crises or misfortune demonstrated the significant constructive role for a caring relationship with a significant caring adult, who supported the child, acted as an advocate for them, and was their source of strength to bounce back from their misfortune.

2.6.2 Women’s influence on family Resilience

Within a family context, it is argued by researches, parents have an influence on their children’s and family members’ development and Resilience. For instance, Becvar (2013;2014;2012) argues that the role of parenting can be perceived as a facilitating
element in the individuals and families’ outcomes. Moreover, Becvar (2013;2014;2012) argues that parent’s practices towards family members might protect them from risk factors and endorse Resilience among families, emphasizing that parenting practices have significant impact not only on the children but also the overall functioning of the family as a unit. (Becvar (2013;2014;2012): 120)

Focusing precisely on women parents, it is argued that the integrity and uprightness of a family is often essentially dependent of the vital role of the women. (Wiest, Mocellin, & Motsisi 1994: 27) Within a family, the role and influence of women who come from male-dominated cultures who later become the head of households after crises or displacement is a significant phenomenon. It is important to understand that, although the culture is male-dominated, and that publicly there is an acknowledgment that men are the head of the household and the source of power and decision making, this doesn’t deny the fact that women in this context have an essential role within the family and they occasionally even have the ultimate power within the household despite the public image. (Wiest, Mocellin, & Motsisi 1994: 16) Moreover, this role of women is particularly important in the case of conflict-based disasters and displacement due to the fact that the majority of the displaced are women and their children, who often constitute almost 70% of the displaced population (Wiest, Mocellin, & Motsisi 1994: 33)

2.7 Chapter conclusion

This chapter started with an explanation to the phenomenon of Resilience in general, then analyzed the research identified variables (Family resilience, women’s resilience, humanitarian programming). The chapter then built on the understanding of these variables and concluded that both independent variables directly influence the dependent variable.
Chapter Three: Case study

3.1 Chapter introduction

This chapter introduces the case study of the research, Syrian women refugees in Azraq refugee camp in Jordan. It introduces the case from a macro to micro level, moving from the Syria crisis as a conflict, to the Syrian refugees in Jordan, introducing Azraq refugee camp, and then focusing on Syrian women in the camp. For the purposes of discussing the Resilience of the Syrian women in the camp, the chapter starts by highlighting the relevant social norms within Syria before the crisis, and ends by examining the international humanitarian intervention towards women in Jordan both on the national and Azraq camp level.

3.2 Syria before crises

According to (UNICEF 2011: 1), Syria ranked as number 124 on the Gender Gap index in the MENA region in 2011 which is an indicator on the gender equality in the country. Prior to the crises, women in Syria lived in a country that signed the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). However, the core rights given by the convention to women and girls were reserved and were not granted. These rights affect the social and family dynamics for women and girls, such as the right of freedom of movement, eliminating child marriage, equality regarding to nationality, equality in marriage and family life. The administration of the convention was also restricted. (UNICEF 2011: 1) The country’s legal system is based on French and Islamic law (Shari’a). The court system regarding personal status law is Shari’a-based, meaning that a woman’s testimony in a court could equal half of that of a man; in the civil and criminal courts the law is secular and a woman’s testimony is equal to a man’s testimony. (UNICEF 2011: 1) Furthermore, the Syrian community was settled to the male guardianship and custody over family members. According to the country gender profile for Syria published by UNICEF (UNICEF 2011: 2), and according to the personal status law valid in the country, the father alone is the guardian of the children. In the occasion of a divorce, for Muslims, women might be granted the custody of their sons until the age of 13
and for the daughters until the age of 15; nevertheless, the father would remain the legal guardian. However, in Christian communities, it depends on the traditional norms of the communities (UNICEF 2011: 2). On the other hand, the literacy rates for girls and boys in Syria are almost equal (93% and 96% respectively) (UNICEF 2011: 2). Nevertheless, women’s participation in the labor market is rather low: according to UNICEF the labor force participation rate of women in Syria is only 21%, while the global rate is 52% (UNICEF 2011: 2). Further to the social structure of the Syrian community before the crisis, it is fundamental to understand the general status of the welfare of the Syrian population. According to world Bank (World Bank 2016:6), the suffering of the Syrian population who ended up becoming refugees in neighboring countries did not originate with the crisis, it started at least one decade earlier. The World Bank reasons this according to several global financial shocks (i.e increases in oil prices), national financial shocks (agricultural challenges and increase in food and supplies prices) and the uprising of the conflict. According to the World Bank, millions of Syrians were already internally displaced prior to the crises due to the outbreak of drought and agricultural challenges, and they were in economic distress, including over a million Syrians moving out from the rural areas and settling in the low living standard main urban area. (World Bank 2016:6)

3.3 Syria crises

Due to the rising conflict and violence in Syria, and according to CARE Jordan (CARE Jordan 2015:1), around four million Syrians have been forced to flee the country and seek a rescue in the neighboring countries. Of those who had to flee, it is reported that approximately 629,128 of them are currently registered within UNHCR in Jordan as Syrian refugees. These registered refugees in Jordan live within two settings: 80% of them found rescue within host communities, renting accommodation within these local communities; the remaining 20% are residing in three official refugee camps in Jordan. Of these three camps, Azraq refugee camp, the second official camp, for Syrians was opened in 2014. (CARE Jordan 2015:1)
3.3.1 Syrian refugees in Jordan

According to UNHCR (UNHCR 2017 C:1), and as of the last announced status update in April 2017, there are 659,089 active registered Syrian refugees in Jordan. 21.4% (141,157) of them are residing in the three refugee camps in Jordan (Za’tari, Azraq, Emarati) and the rest are residing in the host community, mainly outside the capital Amman. Of the total number of refugees in Jordan, 50.6% are female, of which 23% fall within the 18-59 age group (UNHCR 2017 C:1). According to the World Bank (World Bank 2016:6) these refugees witnessed the hardship of living under bloody fighting during the conflict, the fighting that resulted in death and displacement. Moreover, the World Bank, according to their database, argues that most of the refugees (47.1%) who came to Jordan are from the southern area (Dar’a) and are now living in the comparatively poorer areas of the country (World Bank 2016:6). On the other hand, (UNHCR 2015: 1-2) argues that Syrian refugees in Jordan have different socio-economic traits than the pre-crisis Syrian population and from the Jordanians surrounding them. For instance, according to (UNHCR 2015: 1-2) 81% of Syrian refugees in Jordan are under the age of 35 and have lower levels of education, compared to 73% of Syrians pre-crisis under the age of 35 and 68% of Jordanians of the same age. (UNHCR 2015: 1-2)

3.3.2 Azraq refugee camp

After Za’tari camp (one of the largest camps in the world hosting up to 90,000 refugees) reached its maximum capacity, Azraq refugee camp was opened in April 2014. The camp is located in the middle of the desert, around 100 km away from the capital Amman, and 90 km away from the borders with Syria. As the camp is in the desert, the climate is very hot during summer, with frequent sandstorms, and very cold at night in winter. The camp is structured based on four villages; each village is established to accommodate 10,000 to 12,000 refugees, and is equipped with shelters, WASH facilities, community center, primary health care facilities, community police station, women- and child-friendly spaces, market, schools, mosque and sports playground (CARE 2015:1). As per the status update of January 2017, the camp is home for 35,065 refugees who are currently active (out of 53,962
who are registered in the camp). Sex and age disaggregated data about the population of the camp is illustrated below (UNHCR 2017 A:1):

3 out of 10 households in the camp are women-headed households, with 1,669 women to be considered as women at risk according to UNHCR 2017. (UNHCR 2017 A:1)

The camp is managed by the Syrian Affairs Directorate Police (SARD) which supports in management and coordination manners, and ensures the efficiency, effectiveness and fair distribution of assistance among refugees and compliance to the humanitarian standards and protection principles (UNHCR 2017 B: 1). Moreover, Jordanian Ministries and International agencies are partnering with UNHCR in the camp to carry out humanitarian assistance and interventions (UNHCR 2017 A:2).

3.4 Humanitarian agencies’ approach to women refugees

3.4.1 National level

All refugee response activities and interventions in Jordan are joined under one comprehensive national plan known as the Jordan Response Plan for the Syria Crises (JRP). Launched in 2015, JRP is administered by the JRP Secretariat, which coordinates the decision making and operations in the country and coordinates between the government of Jordan, the UN agencies, donors and humanitarian implementing agencies both local and international (UN WOMAN No date: 1). Parallel to the JRP, the Jordan Refugee Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) is responsible for the overall accountability of the refugee
response in Jordan, and it includes eight main sectors that provide refugees with their needs: Basic needs, Education, Food Security, Health, Livelihood, Protection, Shelter and WASH (Interagency Task force Jordan 2017: 1).

To ensure Gender mainstreaming within these eight sectors, the IATF has established an approach in which each sector nominates a gender focal point, and this focal point is provided with technical capacity building on how to mainstream gender in the particular sector they represent. This focal point then attends the coordination meetings for the sectors and works closely with the sector representatives and implementing agencies to ensure considering gender equity and equality within the implemented projects. (Interagency Task force Jordan 2017: 1) During 2016, and under the IATF support and supervision, a Gender analysis for each of the eight sectors was initiated, with the completion of both studies for the Education and Health sectors. (Interagency Task force Jordan 2017: 1) It was also acknowledged, through the Gender focal points and the IATF, that there is a need across sectors for humanitarians to understand the importance of working with men and boys on gender equality issues and to reduce the risk of GBV. Therefore, building the capacity across sectors on how to engage men and boys in the Gender mainstreaming efforts was prioritized in 2015, and multiple activities were conducted to ensure addressing this gap of skills across humanitarian intervention in Jordan. (SGBV Sub working group – Jordan 2015: 1)

Furthermore, according to JRP 2015, UN Women is mandated as the lead for mainstreaming gender in the humanitarian intervention in the country, the lead advocate for the prioritization and inclusion of the needs of the most vulnerable groups, and the lead on social cohesion. UN Women is also the main stakeholder for coordination between the implementing agencies and the government of Jordan working on prioritizing the needs of girls and women amongst the Syrian refugees in Jordan (UN WOMAN No date: 1). This lead role UN Women is entitled to in Jordan is in harmony with its international role. According to (UN WOMAN No date: 1) UN Women, since its establishment in 2010, has been mandated the role of leading and coordinating the accountability of the UN system, ensuring the alignment of the work of the UN agencies with the commitment to gender equality and empowerment of women (UN WOMAN No date: 1).
According to (UN WOMAN No date: 1), UN Women utilized and established several gender mainstreaming tools and approaches to ensure prioritization of the needs of vulnerable groups and focusing on women and girls in the Syria crises response in Jordan. For instance, UN Women launched the Gender Scorecard in 2015, which is a set of performance indicators that is applied on all partners’ related work to report against gender equality and women empowerment related component to their work. UN Women also chairs the Gender Theme Group (GTG) that was also established in 2015 to ensure coordination on the inter-agency level to enforce gender mainstreaming and provide guidance on gender issues for the different sectors. Furthermore, UN Women is supporting the application of the Gender Marker system in the interagency projects approval procedures to ensure agencies consider gender issues in the phases as early as planning for projects and interventions. (UN WOMAN No date: 1)

3.4.2 Azraq camp level

The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) works with women in Jordan, including Syrian refugee women, to empower them through their lives. This work to empower women has different approaches (UN WOMEN 2016: 1). In 2016, UN Women launched its safe space in Azraq, which provides a variety of activities that aim to raise the awareness of women on their rights and responsibilities; they are also engaged and provided with civic engagement opportunities, Arabic literacy programs, computer skills literacy, day care facilities and English classes (UN WOMEN 2016: 1). Through the safe spaces, UN Women has been also utilizing Economic empowerment to mobilize social and political empowerment for women through accessible meaningful economic opportunities within the safe spaces (UN WOMEN 2016: 1). This economic empowerment approach in Azraq camp is known as Cash for work programming, and involved refugees are being referred to as Incentive Based Volunteers (IBVs); it was first introduced in Azraq camp in 2014 through the coordination between SARD and UNHCR and the involvement of other
implementing agencies, and now it remains the main income generating entry point for the families hosted by the camp. The graph below illustrates the percentage of IBVs in the camp disaggregated by gender. (UNHCR 2016: 1)

Moreover, CARE International, as one of the main partners working in Azraq refugee camp with women and girls, believes in focusing on social change to eliminate GBV and empower women. CARE also believes that it is important to not allow the existing cultural norms within communities to make GBV permissible and normal; however, they start by understanding the culture and then works with the community on their sense of ownership to achieve the sought change in the community. CARE also focuses on working with Men and boys as “champions of change”, and highly involves them in challenging cultural norms leading to GBV. (CARE 2013:7) CARE strategies to achieve this change comprise of engaging women and men, working with couples on domestic violence, providing economic opportunities, education and leadership and life skills training that focuses on raising the awareness and understanding of women and girls on their rights, and their attitude towards claiming them. (CARE 2013:8)

3.5 Impact of the intervention on the Resilience of women, their families and community

Improving the income of women’s households: according to UN Women, women workers participating in their cash for work programs increased the average income for their families from 10 Jordan Dinars (JOD) per month to an average of 145 JOD per month. (UN WOMEN 2016:2)

Improving the nutrition status for the family: according to UN Women, 70% of the gained income has been spent on improving the diet buying more fresh fruits and vegetables as well as improve the hygiene and healthcare of the household. (UN WOMEN 2016:2)

Breaking labour market barriers for women through increasing their participation in the market despite the low percentage of women participation in the labour market in the area. (UN WOMEN 2016:2)
3.6 Voice of Syrian women refugees in Azraq camp

According to UN Women, women who were engaged with work opportunities in the camps reported that they have noticed an enhancement of their self-esteem, and have better discovered and improved their skill sets. They also reported that this enhanced their social network and support system and broke their home isolation, as they were provided eligible reasons to leave their houses and get to know other women. (UN WOMEN 2016:2) 91% of women benefiting from UN Women intervention reported that they had been more involved in decision-making both on the household and community levels. 20% reported that they feel their houses are safer and the domestic violence has decreased, and an additional 76% of women reported a sense of enhancement for their intra-household relations. (UN WOMEN 2016:2)

3.7 Chapter conclusion

This chapter introduced the case of Syrian women refugees in Azraq camp, it presented the numbers and percentages of the Syrian population that had to flee the country as a reason for the arising conflict, and thoroughly focused on the profile of the Syrian refugees in Jordan as a neighboring hosting country. The chapter then focused on Azraq refugee camp and presented the situation of women in the camp, highlighting the international humanitarian approach towards supporting women Resilience in the camp, followed by examining the impact of this approach on the Resilience of Syrian women and the impact of that on their families. The chapter offered a profile of Syrian community before the crises as an essential element that affect the structure of the community in the after math of the crises.
Chapter Four: Analysis of findings

4.1 Chapter introduction

This chapter introduces three essential findings of the empirical research on the Syrian women refugees in Azraq refugee camp, and discusses these findings both empirically and theoretically. The chapter draws parallels between the findings from the case study and the relevant discussed literature from the Theory chapter. Moreover, this chapter’s analysis forms the foundation for answering the research questions.

4.2 Finding 1: Women in Azraq refugee camp are adapting resilient behavior

According to UNHCR 2017, in Azraq refugee camp there are currently 35,065 active refugees, of whom almost 50% are females. 3 out of 10 households are headed by female family members (UNHCR 2017 A:1). Active refugees are defined as those living the daily life of the camp, accessing the available services and carrying out daily routine activities. Syrian women, according to the traditional interpretation of their gender roles, are care givers in their families and have an essential role in managing the daily lives of their family members. For instance, according to UN Women, Syrian women refugees in Azraq camp have been accessing the safe spaces established by UN Women, and participating in their programs and services such as Cash for work, English and Computer literacy programs and other services. (UN WOMEN 2016: 1). Moreover, according to (UNHCR 2016: 1), Syrian women in the camp have been active in performing 30% of the cash for work vacancies offered by the different agencies through the camp coordination body.

According to the literature on the definition of Resilience and resilient behavior, these are indicators that women in Azraq refugee camp are adapting resilient behavior, as this Resilience can be defined as the capacity to successfully adapt to external problems or threats. Whilst defining how to answer the successful part of the definition is not clear, (Mason & Pulvirenti 2011: 42) argues that in a refugee camp setting for women who have escaped crises and made it to the camp setting, their ability to live their daily life and challenge the camp setting and limited conditions and carry out themselves on daily basis in itself is an enough evidence to consider this a resilient behavior. Furthermore, (Mason &
Pulvirenti 2011: 42) argues that, particularly in a camp setting, it is important to understand the conditions in which women are living, as their Resilience in a camp setting is the result of the conditions of the environment and their ability to live up to these conditions. As understood from (CARE 2015:1) the conditions of the camp being in the desert, with hot climate in summer and cold at night in the winter, its location 100 KM away from the capital, being subject to regular sand storms, and with limited services, all place an extra burden on women to cope in the camp setting - yet despite all of this, they are coping!

4.3 Finding 2: Women in Azraq refugee camp are supporting the Resilience of their families

According to UN Women, (UN WOMEN 2016: 2) the women who are participating in Safe spaces in the camp are helping their families by enhancing their living conditions and Resilience on a daily basis. There are several examples of how these women are practically influencing the life of their families. For instance, women who are participating in Economic empowerment programming, are increasing the family income from 10 JOD to 145 JOD per month. UN Women argues that this increase in income is directly improving the nutrition status of the families as it argues that 70% of this income is being spent on better food, and improved hygiene and healthcare. UN Women also argues that women participation as Incentive Based Volunteers (IBVs) is challenging the dynamics of the labour market for women and allowing them better positioning within the productive groups within the market in the camp (UN WOMEN 2016: 2). It is also argued by UN Women that women in the camp are enhancing the intra-relations within their households, are more involved in the household decision-making, and have managed to decrease the domestic violence (reported by 76%, 91%, 20% respectively of the women involved with UN Women interventions).

This finding and its evidences confirm the theoretical suggestion on the influence of an individual’s Resilience on family Resilience, and specifically the influence of women on family Resilience discussed in the Theory Chapter. More precisely, this confirms the argument of (Wiest, Mocellin, & Motsisi 1994: 27) that the integrity of a family is often essentially dependent on the vital role of the women. This mind shift considering the family
as not only the context in which an individual act and adapt a resilient behavior, but rather one of the main sources that could help the individual adapt a resilient behavior, is proven by Syrian women in the camp, as they are providing their families with better income, better family relations, and decreasing the domestic violence -- all of which enhance the home environment for the family members. Furthermore, as argued by Werner (1993), children, for instance, have better chances in bouncing back after crises or challenges if they had at least one supportive parent or a family member whom they can rely on for social support and comfort.

With specific regard to Syrian women in the aftermath of the displacement, according to the understanding of the gender roles within the Syrian community explained in Chapter Three, acknowledging that the Syrian community according to (UNICEF 2011: 1) was a male dominant community with the power held with the hands of the men in the family, the current role of women and the contribution they are providing to their families is phenomenal; according to (Wiest, Mocellin, & Motsisi 1994: 16), in the aftermath of challenging situations, the role that is played by women who come from male dominant communities and become post-crisis heads of household is a significant phenomenon: whilst there is an understanding that, publicly, men appear to dominate the family, women have power over crucial aspects of the life in the house. This power is not usually vocalized. However, after crises, in the absence of men, women get the chance to lead the house publicly.

4.4 Finding 3: Humanitarian agencies’ approach to working with women in Azraq camp needs to be improved.

There are several criticisms that could be directed towards the approach of humanitarian agencies in Azraq camp. The first one is the limited outreach to women to involve them in economic empowerment opportunities. According to (UNHCR 2016: 1), only 30% of the offered jobs in the camp are given to women; This low percentage could be due to the argument by (Wiest, Mocellin, & Motsisi 1994: 19), that it is important to acknowledge the lead role of women in the disaster recovery, especially when women come from patriarchal
community backgrounds; in the absence of men, engaging them more becomes crucial for them and for their families.

Another criticism refers to the gap in including men while working with women in the camp. According to (SGBV Sub working group Jordan 2015: 1), it was acknowledged across sectors in Jordan that there is a gap in involving men and boys while enforcing gender mainstreaming and reducing GBV within households. This is echoed by a testimonial shared in (UN WOMEN 2015 :30) report by a Syrian male refugee in Jordan, “You know this thing that all the organizations are always talking about [domestic violence] is not the issue. I do not need you to tell me that hitting my wife or yelling at my child is bad. I know that. Let me earn a living and you will see that it will solve this.” (UN WOMEN 2015 :30) This gap contradicts CARE’s approach to working on social change to challenge inequalities within social norms; CARE takes the approach of working with men and boys as champions of change, highly involving them in leading the change within their communities to challenge GBV and negative social norms. CARE believe that it is essential to work with both women and men to achieve social justice and fight discriminatory social norms and empower women. (CARE 2013:7)

A third criticism is the delay in conducting gender analysis studies by sector to mainstream gender issues and base the programming of the interventions across sectors according to an understanding to the current gender norms within the Syrian community after the crises. According to (Interagency task force Jordan 2017:1), it was only until 2016 that the necessity of conducting this analysis was acknowledged and supported by IATF, and only two studies for two sectors out of eight were achieved by 2016. (Interagency task force Jordan 2017:1) It is essential for Humanitarians to understand the argument (Islam, Ingham, Hicks & Manock 2017:54) that social structures before crises worsen after crises, therefore gender inequalities or negative behaviors are likely to get more intensified after a crisis. This leads to the emphasis by IFRC 2016 on the importance of conducting Gender analysis before programming the intervention with refugees, in an attempt to gain an understanding of not only the vulnerabilities and needs WMBGs have but also the potential and capacities to be utilized and maximized. However, timing is also important. IFRC argues that a gender analysis should be conducted immediately after the crises, within the initial emergency
response phase, in order to be efficient and to help the humanitarian agencies program relevant interventions.

4.5 Chapter conclusion

This chapter discussed three main findings from the empirical research on the case study of Syrian women refugees in Azraq camp; it argues that Syrian women in Azraq refugee camp are resilient and supporting the Resilience of their families, it also argues that international humanitarian action in Azraq camp is supporting women’s Resilience. However, this chapter also suggests critical analysis of the discrepancies of these interventions. The arguments provided by this chapter are supported by empirical examples from the case study and theoretical arguments from the Theory chapter.
Chapter Five: Conclusion and recommendations

5.1 Chapter introduction
This chapter presents the conclusion of the research responding to the developed theory; the chapter explicitly answers the research question and the research sub-question based on the analysis provided in Chapter Four. Moreover, it offers recommendations for international agencies working in Azraq refugee camp to enhance working on the Resilience of both women and families in Azraq refugee camp, based on an understanding of the theoretical literature and the examination of the empirical case study. Moreover, it concludes by offering areas for what is believed to be valuable and interesting future research.

5.2 Research conclusion
According to the research theoretical framework, this research developed the below theory and utilized literature review and theory testing case study to investigate it:
“Humanitarian intervention can positively impact family Resilience through building women’s Resilience within a displacement context in a refugee camp.”

This research, and based on the case study and the analysis of findings concludes that there is a positive relation between the independent variables (Women’s resilience and humanitarian programming) and the dependent variable (family resilience), which proves the research theory.

5.3 Research questions
5.3.1 Research question: How can humanitarian programming be influenced by the relation between women’s Resilience and family Resilience?

It is evidenced from studying the approach of international agencies to women’s interventions in Jordan, both on the National and on the Azraq camp levels, that agencies are providing services directed towards providing women with economic and social opportunities in an attempt to enhance their Resilience and to enhance the social structure within their families, as discussed in the Case study chapter. However, it is rather important to question the efficiency of this approach and the impact of the approach on the Syrian
women and families living in Azraq camp. As discussed in the third finding, there are several criticisms to this approach in terms of outreach and efficiency, and some corresponding recommendations which could be adopted by Humanitarian agencies to improve their approach towards women Resilience in Azraq refugee camp.

The answer to the “how” part of the question is by suggesting the below recommendations:

5.3.2 Research Recommendations:

**Recommendation 1:** Improving outreach: It is essential to increase the percentages of jobs offered to women in Azraq camp to more than the current 30%. This can be done through running awareness campaigns inside the Humanitarian agencies in the camp providing IBV opportunities on the importance of engaging women more in the market, as well as addressing the barriers that might discourage women from joining the market. These barriers could be women’s competing household duties, distance of the job opportunities and other factors. To address these barriers agencies, could focus on providing day care services for women, consider household work that could be done from their houses as well as providing transportation or nearer work opportunities for women.

**Recommendation 2:** Working with men and boys: it is essential for agencies to include men and boys in their approach to working with women. Men and boys in the Syrian community possess a fundamental level of power within the household, and it is essential to ensure that women’s empowerment through activities outside the house doesn’t lead to challenges faced by the males inside the house, putting women at further risks of domestic violence. On the contrary, the focus should be on working with men and boys to be supportive and appreciative of the lead role that women are playing by contributing to the Resilience of the family and not only their individual Resilience.

**Recommendation 3:** Turning the crisis into an opportunity for Syrian women to enhance their leadership: the approach towards working with women in the camp could make a marvelous shift if Syrian women were not perceived as vulnerable groups only, but also as great assets and individuals with high potential; and if the displacement could be perceived, instead of only a dramatic crisis, as a golden opportunity for these women, originating from a patriarchal system, to finally be independent decision-makers and leaders. This could be
approached through a gender and social analysis to the barriers and connectors within the community after the displacement that could support such a vision, planning to address these barriers, and supporting the Syrian women to unleash their potential and turn this crisis into a positive turning point for their lives.

5.3.3 Research sub-question: What is the relation between women’s Resilience and family Resilience? According to the literature review, and applying this on the case study on the Syrian women refugees in Azraq camp, the answer to this question is women’ Resilience in the aftermath of a crises can increase the family Resilience. As argued by (Wiest, Mocellin, & Motsisi 1994: 27), the integrity of a family is essentially dependent on the fundamental role of the women as also argued by Werner (1993), children in the aftermath of crises have more chances to adopt resilient behaviors in the presence of a supportive parent who can be the resource of Resilience and unconditional support to them. This argument has been proved through the case study of Syrian women refugees in Azraq refugee camp in Jordan, as it was reported and argued by the (UN WOMEN 2016: 2) that resilient women in the camp who were provided the chance to participate in economic and social services were also able to increase the earned income of their families and influence positively through that the living conditions for the family regarding food, hygiene and healthcare; they were also able to improve the intra-relations within the household, decrease domestic violence and be involved in the household decision making.

5.4 Future research:
According to the studied areas of this research, several thematic areas appear interesting and valuable for future research. One of these is the role of men while working with women in the aftermath of crises; another area is the potential for displacement representing an opportunity, rather than a crisis, for women; and a third area could be examining the perceptions and assumptions that donors and implementers have towards vulnerable communities and whether their interventions are information- or assumption-based.
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