The Worldviews of Saudi Citizens vs. Other Islamic Countries and Americans
Findings from Values Surveys
Mansoor Moaddel, PI
Cultural and Political Issues

• Religion
• Gender
  • and
• Democracy
Figure 1-Participation in Religious Services

Participation in Religious Services
(Once a Week or More)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iran</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 2 - Describes Self A Religious Person (% consider themselves as religious)

- Saudi Arabia: 62%
- Iran: 82%
- Morocco: 94%
- Turkey: 80%
- Jordan: 85%
- Egypt: 99%
- USA: 81%
Figure 3 – Men should have more right to a job than women (agree)
Figure 4 - Gender and Political Leadership

Men make better political leaders than women do

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iran</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Country

Agree Disagree
A university education is more important for a boy than for a girl (disagree)

Country: USA, Egypt, Iran, Jordan, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Turkey

Percent: 91, 69, 60, 61, 38, 38, 70
Figure 6 - A woman has to have children in order to feel fulfilled (agree).
Figure 7 - A working mother can establish just as warm and secure a relationship with her children as a mother who does not work (agree).
Figure 8 – Marriage is an outdated institution (agree).
Figure 9 - The Basis for Marriage: Parental Approval Vs. Love

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Saudi Arabia</th>
<th>Iran</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parental approval</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Love</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 10 - Democracy is the Best Form of Government.

Those who expressed opinion on democracy (excluding don't knows)
Figure 11 - How important is Western cultural invasion?

- Very important: 73%
- Important: 15%
- Somewhat important: 7%
- Least important: 2%
- Not important: 2%
Western Cultural Invasion

The more a person is concerned with Western cultural invasion, the more that person tends to favor democracy.
Figure 12 - Private versus Government Ownership
Figure 13 - Public Sector Performance

The graph illustrates the public sector performance with a scale from 'Very bad' to 'Very good'. The percentage of responses is plotted along the y-axis, while the performance scale is on the x-axis. The data points indicate the distribution of responses across the performance spectrum.
Private Property, Government Performance, and Democracy

• The more a person favors private ownership, the more that person favors democracy.
• The more a person is dissatisfied with the public sector performance, the more that person favors democracy.
Figure 14 - Religious tolerance

Having people of other religions as neighbors

Yes: 55%
No: 45%
Figure 15 - Tolerance of Divorce
Tolerance and Democracy

- The higher a person's level of tolerance toward other religions, the more that person favors democracy.
- The higher a person's level of tolerance toward divorce, the more that person favors democracy.
Figure 16 - A good government implements laws according to the people’s wishes

![Bar chart showing the percentage of people's views on laws being implemented according to their wishes. The chart shows:
- Very important: 46%
- Important: 23%
- Somewhat important: 16%
- Least important: 7%
- Not important: 8%]
Figure 17 - A good government implements only the Shari’a
Rational Rule-Making, the Shari’a, and Democracy

• The more a person favors the formulation of laws according to people's wishes as characteristic of a good government, the more that person favors democracy.

• The more a person favors the implementation of the Shari'a as characteristic of a good government, the less that person favors democracy.
Religiosity and Democracy

• The more a person participates in mosques services, the less that person supports democracy.

• The more a person performs daily prayer, the less that person supports democracy.
Socioeconomic Status and Democracy

• The higher a person’s subjective class identification, the more that person favors democracy.

• The higher a person income, the less that person favors democracy.