

The Extent of Conformity Between The Perceptions of Some Jordanians Towards Reasons for Violent Extremism and Terrorism and Ways of Treating Them, The approaches Explaining and Regulating Them and Their Impact on Developing a Social Services Curriculum

Hajar Turki Nassar

(Associate Professor of Social Sciences- University of Qatar- Qatar)

Abstract

This study aims at answering its main question: What is the extent of conformity between the perceptions of some Jordanians towards reasons for extremism and violent terrorism and ways of treating them, and applied scientific approaches explaining and regulating them and the Impact they have on developing a curriculum for students studying Social Services in Jordanian universities? This shall be conducted using the integrative approach in both its qualitative and quantitative forms and through its research methods involving analysis of the content of documents, intended observation, comparison, analysis of available data and information and reasoning.

Its study population and sample consists of two parts. The first is the perceptions of participants involved in the preparation stages of the National Strategic Framework for Countering Violent Extremism, participants involved in the preparation meetings outlining the Jordan Vision pillars and feedback from them, and participants involved in the workshops of the Middle East Faith, Peace and Development Project. The total number of participants in all three projects mentioned above are 1080, 10 and 200 consecutively. The second part is the mono and multi-approaches explaining violent extremism and terrorism mentioned by the study in its theoretical framework adding up to nine approaches in total, four mono and five multi ones.

The study results revealed that the extent of conformity between the perceptions of studied Jordanians towards the reasons for violence and terrorism and ways of treating them, and applied scientific approaches explaining and regulating them is large at a rate of (77.77%). This has a large impact on the development of a curriculum for students studying Social Services in Jordanian universities. This curriculum shall consist of three cognitive, social, emotional and behavioral aspects, each of which shall have its own objectives and educational outputs.

Key Words: Violent Extremism, Terrorism, Social Services, Curriculum.

Introduction:

The world has entered the era of the third millennium and is seeking hope for itself, as expressed by the United Nations Millennium Development Goals for the period 2000- 2015 (United Nations, 2002) and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals for the period 2016- 2030 (United Nations, 2017). However, acts of terrorism, being the ultimate outcome of violent extremism, have increased in some areas of the world. This has resulted in many negative effects threatening social safety and peace, not to mention, the death of innocent people, rising cases of disabilities and the spread of hate speech.

The spread of violent extremism and terrorism in some parts of the world has been accompanied by diagnosis, evaluation and intervention operations by those concerned in eliminating these phenomena. This can be confirmed through the results of applied research studies, data from global, regional and local plans and strategies, the outputs of projects funded through external assistance and the outlines of international and regional conferences

Regarding applied research studies, a study carried out by the CIA on prisoners kept at the Guantanamo Bay prison accused and convicted of carrying out terrorism crimes against the United States found that the majority of them came from the middle class. They were able to gain university qualifications and available jobs, marry and form a family etc. This indicates that the roots of violent extremism and terrorism are not to be found in poor individuals or those of low levels of education (Greenfield, 2017). The outcomes of other studies, mentioned in the Teacher's Guide on the Prevention of Violent Terrorism, revealed that there is no connection between violent extremism and

the level of education of its perpetrators (United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization-UNESCO, 2016). A field study on internet crime in the Saudi society (Al Minshawi, 2003) revealed that internet crimes related to anti-state websites came in third place out of all crimes. Internet crimes take the form of launching political and intellectual websites and participating in them willingly. These crimes are related to the age group of their committers (below 12 years are most involved in creating and participating in political sites), their jobs (businessmen are mostly involved in intellectual sites), their marital status (in favor of divorced people), their nationalities (in favor of newcomers holding nationalities of non-Arab African countries), their place of residence (in favor of residents of the middle area regarding political sites), their level of education (those with less than secondary school education create the most number of political and intellectual sites, whereas, university graduates are most involved in anti-state websites), their religion (Hindus are most involved in political websites and Christians in intellectual ones).

At the level of plans and strategies on the international, regional and national levels, the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy revealed that the reasons behind the emergence of violent extremism are: the absence of sustainable development with its economic, social and environmental dimensions in local communities, the weak human rights systems in states that signed and approved international human rights conventions or joined them, the spread of torture and inhuman and unprofessional treatment in detention centers, and the outbreak of wars and military conflicts and their ramifications (UN, 2015).

The data contained in the Arab Framework for Countering Extremism and Violence, which was formed following two conferences held by the League of Arab States in Egypt during 2017 revealed that the sources of violent extremism can be outlined by the Israeli occupation, poor levels of development and the absence of participation of youth in economic activities, as well as, other internal and external factors (League of Arab states, 2017).

The data included in the National Strategic Framework for Countering Violent Extremism in Jordan (Prime Ministry, 2015), indicated that extremism and takfir (blaspheming) can be prevented and treated through concerned official institutions' implementation of policies set according to executive plans. These institutions include the ministries of defense, interior, religious affairs, education, social development, foreign affairs, higher education and scientific research, culture, youth and communication.

At the level of the outputs of externally funded projects, the "MENA- Religions for Peace" project was implemented by the West Asia and North Africa Institute (WANA) with support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Netherlands) and included activities such as workshops conducted in the Ma'an and Balqa governorates (Salt) and the Irbid and Zarqa governorates (Rusaifa) with around 200 male and female participants including youths, imams and female preachers. It was clear during this project that the engines of extremism in Jordan, manifesting in the form of push and pull factors, can be defused through seven mechanisms, which are: governance, social protection, economic empowerment, enhancing the role of the media, empowering youth, good education and enhancing the capabilities of religious leaders (WANA, 2017). The outputs of the Teacher's Guide on the Prevention of Violent Extremism implemented by UNESCO and funded by the governments of the United States and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia stressed that there are three factors behind the emergence of violent extremism: the first is an objective driving factor towards violent extremism and includes marginalization and discrimination, etc. The second is an attractive factor such as temptations and the third is a contextual motivating factor reflected through poor development performance (UNESCO, 2016).

At the level of international and regional conferences, the 38th session of UNESCO's general conference concluded that violent extremism can be eliminated throughout the world through enhancing global education and respecting variety and differences. This education has cognitive, social, emotional and behavioral objectives, which can be achieved provided teachers are well trained to them according to the Teacher's Guide on the Prevention of Violent Extremism and provided their performance is well supervised and evaluated (UNESCO, 2016). The United Nations Commission on Human Rights organized the Religious Education in Prisons Conference in Tunisia in cooperation with the International Association for Forensic and Correctional Psychology during November 2017. Its outputs revealed that violent extremists are capable of disconnecting from violent extremism through several mechanisms the most important of which are ideological dialogue, building healthy social relations, effective psychiatric treatment and efficient economic empowerment (Jabr, 2017). The emergence of violent extremism and terrorism in some parts of the world was accompanied by raising awareness to their dangers, analyzing their reasons and determining methods of treatment through qualitative research. The Ministry of Social Development in Jordan has been implementing since 2015 an awareness campaign throughout Jordan's governorates about the dangers of

extremism and takfir. The number of delivered lectures in the first two years was 109 and 164 consecutively. These were attended by 5722 and 3550 male and female participants consecutively.

Also in Jordan, a shelter is being built to educate and rehabilitate juveniles accused and convicted of carrying out terrorist crimes and the dangers of money laundering and financing terrorism through societies are also being measured through a form prepared by the Registry for Societies in cooperation with the International Monetary Fund. A plan is also being implemented to promote the role of societies in countering terrorism (Ministry of Social Development, 2017).

To find out the extent of conformity between the perceptions of some Jordanians towards the reasons behind violent extremism and terrorism and their treatment methods, and the applied scientific methods explaining and regulating them and the impact of these factors on the development of a curriculum for Social Services students in Jordanian universities, this study has been conducted in both its theoretical and practical parts.

Theoretical Framework:

This framework includes five sections. The first section explains the procedural definition of violent extremism and extremist people derived from social trends and upbringings. The second section discusses the singular and collective scientific explanations of violent extremism. The third section explains the effects arising from violent extremism. The fourth section determines effective and efficient methods used to protect against violent extremism and the fifth section reveals Jordan's efforts in eliminating violent extremism and terrorism.

1- The Procedural Definition of Violent Extremism and Extremists:

Each individual has his own trends towards both his private and public worlds. These trends are shaped by his social upbringing through primary and secondary institutions that affect his life. These institutions include school, group of friends, media dominant in his local community, political party, etc. An individual's trends are formed through three stages. In the first stage, his beliefs are shaped in the form of relatively constant facts, which could cause him to be either intellectually open or closed. In the second stage, his emotions are formed under the effect of his beliefs and lead him to either love or hate. In the third stage, he develops either normal or unhealthy behavior based on his type of emotions.

An individual's intellectual openness, emotions built on love and normal behavior rely on social upbringing trends based on dialogue, acceptance and protection. These trends lead to him being moderate intellectually, capable of forming human relationships with others and being socially active. However, an individual's closed mentality, hatred towards others and unhealthy behavior depend on social upbringing trends such as bullying, rejection and negligence. These attitudes cause him to have a fanatic mentality, be inactive and be socially incapable.

Accordingly, the study can define violent extremism and extremists in a procedural manner. Violent extremism is an individual or collective case expressed by an individual, a group or a local community. Its source of formation is certain beliefs, which generate emotions of hatred and violent behavior, which lead to terrorism. A violent extremist, who could be in the form of an individual, a group or a local community, is a person who obeys his beliefs, which make him close-minded, hating and violent towards others. He is incapable of building normal human relationships because he was raised on bullying, rejection and neglect and does not believe in dialogue, acceptance of others or protecting them.

In its essence, this procedural definition is in line with that mentioned in the Teacher's Guide on the Prevention of Violent Extremism (UNESCO, 2016, p 11), which states that "violent extremism is the set of an individual's beliefs and actions that support or practice violence motivated by ideology to achieve their points of view, whether ideological, religious or political".

2- Scientific Definitions of Violent Extremism:

Violent extremism takes place for individual or collective reasons. These were revealed by scientific approaches, which can be divided into two types:

a- Mono Method Approaches:

Four mono method approaches have been used to explain violent extremism; organic, psychological, social and administrative approaches.

According to the organic approach, extremism as an indication of the happening of violence, is a result of the genetic structure of the extremist. This composition could result in him being an angry and bloody person who could easily kill other people. Genetic explanations for violent behavior have been developed to understand the genetic structure of violent extremists and to explain, control and predict their actions. However, this theory is still scientifically controversial in developed countries based on its results (Krimsky, Sheldon and Jeremy Gruber, 2013) and totally absent in developing countries.

Based on the psychological approach, the reason behind violent extremism is the suppression of an individuals' passions and desires. These instincts place pressure on their holders to be fulfilled but local communities suppress them through certain regulations and institutions. They then appear to them in the form of dreams and nightmares and could lead them to becoming abnormal people mentally and psychologically (Al Wereikat, 2004). Supporters of this approach such as "Sigmund Freud" (Rosenthal, Udine, 1985) and other psychiatric researchers view that the spread of sexual, religious and political suppressions in local communities pave the way for members of those communities to become extremists and even terrorists.

According to the social approach with its various ideological dimensions, violent extremism results from major, medium and minor social processes such as: class conflict between owners and non-owners of means of production (Engels, 1986, Keller & Kovalsen, 1976), absence of fair distribution of resources (UN, 2017), poor integration between social structures including systems and institutions (Crabb, 1999), conflict between civilizations and marginalization of minorities (Rabeh, undated), absence of social culture protecting human rights (Saleh, 2015), poor social protection of those exposed and subjected to social, economic and environmental dangers (ESCWA, 2009), the spread of social upbringing trends based on bullying, rejection and neglect (Al Badayna, 1999) and the spread of psycho-socio pressures (Al Ebeisat, 2015)

According to the administrative approach, which was introduced to focus on the role of institutions in opposing extremism and takfir (Prime Ministry, 2015), violent extremism could be shaped under the effect of administrative processes such as: poor implementation of bureaucratic institutions of their expected roles and the absence of effective coordination between institutions (MENA Institute, 2017), the failure of institutions in gaining total quality management awards and low levels of satisfaction of institution service providers and recipients (Nassar, 2011).

b- Multi-Method Approaches:

These include four approaches explaining violent extremism as follows:

- 1- The approach of pull and push factors and their contexts (UNESCO, 2016, p 12) argues that violent extremism is caused by pushing motives for its perpetrators such as marginalization, inequality, discrimination, oppression, limited education services, deprivation of civil rights and freedoms, and environmental, historical, social and economic troubles. It is also caused by pulling motives for those qualified for extremism such as the formation of violent groups characterized with their complex organization, attractive discourse, tempting funding and jobs and their ability to provide opportunities of adventure and impression. Violent extremism is also caused by its context such as the weak state, the absence of good governing and the cancelation of criminal punishment.
- 2- The Social Integration and Merging Approach (Hill et al, 2007) which argues that violent extremism is caused by poor community participation of the individual in economic, political and social fields. The impact of poor economic participation on violent extremism can be measured by many indexes such as: extreme, absolute, relative and multidimensional poverty indexes, unemployment rates and income inequality. The effect of poor political participation on violent extremism can be measured by many indexes too such as: the size of those involved in civil society organizations such as unions, societies and sport clubs, the numbers of election nominees and electors and the numbers of those belonging to political

parties. The impact of poor social participation on violent extremism can be measured according to the index of those subjected or exposed to violence in its family and social forms.

- 3- The Integrated Social Policies Approach (ESCWA, 2009) argues that violent extremism results from poor comprehensive development, poor economic growth, poor governance (rule of law, sharing, participation and transparency) and poor rural and urban development at the major level, poor investment in human health, education and suitable job provision at the medium level, and poor social protection for those exposed to economic dangers (poverty and unemployment), social risks (gender inequality, disintegration, crime and perversion), and environmental risks (climate change) at the minor level.
- 4- The Factor Analysis Approach (WHO, 2002). This approach argues that violent extremism results from the interaction of four factors as follows: Individual factors related to the violent extremist such as the circumstances of his birth, his genetic structure, his age, gender, educational level, educational specialization, upbringing method, mental condition, personality, relation to economic activity, marital status and attitude towards enjoying his civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights as well as other factors. The second set of factors are those related to the relationship context of the violent extremist such as his main and secondary groups and their social activities. The third set of factors are community factors such as high poverty, unemployment and corruption rates, class differences, regional developmental variations, poor rule of law, etc. The fourth set of factors are social ones related to social standards supporting violent extremism as the only way of dominating, controlling or expressing demands and requirements.
- 5- The Development and Human Rights Approach issued lately by the UN (2015). This approach attributes the occurrence of violent extremism and terrorism to the absence of conducting of sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental dimensions for local communities. It also attributes this phenomenon to poor human rights systems in signatory, approving or member states of international conventions on human rights, the spread of torture and inhuman and unprofessional treatment of detained prisoners and the outbreak of wars and military conflicts and their ramifications.

3- Impacts of Violent Extremism:

Violent extremism affects extremists themselves and the societies they inhabit. Impacts on perpetrators include preventing them from contributing to social change in their societies due to their rejection to communicate with others. This actually happened in some low and medium growth states, which witnessed some religious and political movements boycotting parliamentary and municipal elections and posing large danger to their own safety and the safety and health of others. Such states include Algeria in the past and Syria, Iraq, Libya and Somalia currently. Extremists in states such as France and Turkey became involved in terrorism and the killing of innocent people. Case studies of these extremists carried out in prisons revealed that they had no feeling of human dignity due to their inability to build normal human relationships. They also spent large time moving and travelling which led to quick exhaustion of their economic capabilities and disintegration of their families as is clear from intelligence reports collected about them. They also fail to participate in the economic, political and social affairs of their local communities and lead to public opinion being occupied totally with their issues. Recovery from extremism and terrorism, in the event they receive rehabilitation, is highly costly.

The impacts of violent extremism on societies in which it prevails include the cultural backwardness of those societies compared to their developed counterparts. This is clear in the development status of the Iraqi society both before and after 2003. It also leads to the draining of human, financial and material resources, as is the case in Syria, Iraq, Libya, Somalia and Yemen. Members of extremist groups also feel afraid, suspicious and doubtful, as was the case in Algeria during the Black Decade. The human hopes and aspirations of such societies are wasted, they are labeled as extremist and terrorist societies, their reputation is smeared, their counterparts are afraid to communicate with them and human development rates fall back, as is the case in Syria, Iraq, Libya, Somalia and Yemen. Civilizational monuments can be destroyed as in Afghanistan, economic growth rates plunge and crime, perversion and disintegration spread.

4- Effective and Efficient Methods to Prevent Violent Extremism:

Since violent extremism is a mono and multidimensional product, this indicates that it can be prevented through the following:

- a- Promoting a research trend in universities that studies the relationship between an individual's genetic structure and violent extremism. Such studies should be published and applied programs should be designed according to their results to use as guides to defuse violent extremists' behaviors.
- b- Treating violent extremists on the basis that they are religiously, sexually and politically suppressed, and mentally and psychologically ill people. They should then be subjected to specialized programs in analytical psychiatry.
- c- Promoting the culture of group treatment among people who have recovered from violent extremism to enable them to learn from each other's experiences.
- d- Preventing suppression, which forms extreme personalities, through promoting inter-faith and inter-sectarian dialogue, consolidating multi-cultural, multi-political and multi-citizenship attitudes and spreading democracy.
- e- Re-engineering of social processes of which the primary process is the social upbringing of individuals. Outputs of this process can be controlled through introducing dialogue, acceptance and protection. The process of building social trends among individuals can be controlled through forming them according to moderate and tolerant beliefs that accept the other. The class conflict process can be limited through opening doors for rising social mobility, spreading a culture of social responsibility and lowering income inequality rates. The absence of fair distribution of resources can be reversed through connecting it to economic growth and social protection processes. The clash of civilizations can be settled through dialogue and cultural coexistence. Poor social protection for individuals exposed or subjected to social, economic and environmental dangers can be treated through adopting comprehensive, fair, impartial, sustainable, effective and efficient development methods.
- f- Teachers should raise the awareness of their school pupils of global education, respect of variation and differences, and human rights.
- g- Spreading the culture of total quality management among institutions, especially public ones, creating periodic awards for it, and encouraging institutions to participate in such awards.
- h- Adopting social integration and merging as a national objective to be applied at economic, political and social fronts and monitoring and evaluating their degree of achievement in light of performance indexes and achievement sources.
- i- Examining the characteristics of violent extremists, their interactive contexts and factors such as the spread of poverty, unemployment, corruption, class discrimination and regional developmental variances in their local communities and their sub-cultures as viewing them as danger factors capable of being diagnosed, evaluated and intervened into. This requires training of concerned individuals on ways of dealing with such cases.
- j- Adopting the goals of sustainable development and integrating or adjusting them into national plans for the period 2016-2030, while monitoring and evaluating their impacts. Also, lessons should be learnt from the millennium development goals achieved and not achieved for the period 2000- 2015.
- k- Spreading the culture of human rights and dealing with it as a set of achievable goals through periodic plans to be monitored and evaluated.
- l- Enhancing independent control in detention facilities.
- m- Spreading peace in countries affected by wars and military conflicts.
- n- Protecting refugees fleeing the hells of wars and military conflicts.

5- Jordan's Efforts in Eliminating Violent Extremism and Terrorism:

Jordan has been characterized among the list of least states susceptible and exposed to terrorism, according to the global terrorism index¹ measured periodically by the Institute for Economics and Peace. Jordan's scores on this

¹ This index has a scale of up to 10 degrees. Level 10 indicates the state's categorization as among those most susceptible and exposed to terrorism due to the many terrorist attacks taking place in it. A level 0 indicates the absence of any terrorist cases happening in that country.

index for the years 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012 were 1.751, 1.76, 2.04 and 0.58 consecutively (Ministry of Public Sector Development, 2016) and it has had a National Strategic Framework for countering Violent Terrorism since 2014 (Prime Ministry, 2015). This framework came as a result of the analysis of a deep situation and resulted in imposing the expected roles on the following ministries: Defense, Interior, Religious Affairs, Education, Social Development, Foreign Affairs, Higher Education and Scientific Research, Culture, Youth and Communication in the area of preventing violent extremism and terrorism. Pursuant to this framework, the Ministry of Higher Education is expected to implement various policies benefitting university students and academic staff in general, and Social Services students and their teachers in particular. Such policies may include a revision and development of curriculums and course plans to become in line with principles of moderation and combatting of terrorism and takfir. They may also encourage post-graduate students and their academic staff to work on preparing research studies on the phenomena of extremism and Takfiri thought. Regarding the first policy, it should be mentioned that the University of Jordan conducted a revision and development of the 'Islamic Culture' curriculum in 2016 (Al Hafi, 2016). However, no changes were made to the 'National Education' curriculum, teaching plans of universities teaching Social Services and Social Work were not unified and no guide for field training of students of these two specializations was prepared (Nassar, 2017). Regarding the second policy, there are no indications that post-graduate students or their teaching staffs have prepared any studies on the extremism phenomenon except one study prepared by a member of the Zarqa Private University (Sherdaqa, 2016) and submitted to an international conference on the role of Sharia, Law and Media in combatting terrorism.

Jordan also has externally funded projects such as a project on countering violent extremism and terrorism funded by the European Union and supervised by the Ministry of Culture. Among its main activities are community awareness campaigns, Training of Trainers activities, international exploratory visits and institution capacity building. Other projects include 'Faith for Peace and Development in the MENA region' implemented in some of the Kingdom's governorates by the (WANA) Institute with support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Netherlands). Among its main outputs was the Charter on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in Jordan (WANA, 2017) and the Teacher's Guide Project on Preventing Violent Extremism implemented by the Ministry of Education in cooperation with UNESCO through an experiment on a sample of students from the Kingdom's schools (UNESCO, 2016).

Through these and other projects, Jordan hopes to reduce its rate of susceptibility and exposure to terrorism from 15.7%² to 0%. It aims at achieving this through its efforts revealed through the reports of international indexes such as the Global Terrorism Index.

Practical Framework:

This framework consists of two parts. The first includes the study's justifications, importance, objectives, problem and methodologies. The second part includes its results, conclusions, recommendations and suggestions.

1. The Study's Justifications, Importance, Objectives, Problem and Methodology:

a- Study Justifications:

1. The absence of previous studies dealing with the extent of conformity between Jordanians' perceptions of the reasons behind violent extremism and terrorism and ways of treating them, and applied scientific frameworks explaining and regulating these phenomena. Therefore, this study is pioneering in its field and the first of its kind.
2. To prepare a curriculum for students of Social Services in Jordanian universities based on the results of this study revealing the extent of conformity between Jordanians' perceptions of the reasons behind violent extremism and terrorism and ways of treating them, and the applied scientific frameworks explaining and regulating them such as the school curriculum included in the Teacher's Guide on Preventing Violent Extremism prepared by the UNESCO.
3. To draw the attention of social specialists towards the need to eliminate violent extremism and terrorism taking into consideration that they work in the field of social work which aims at changing human relations, enhancing the productivity of individuals, groups and local communities and ensuring their social welfare according to the directions of scientific theories of social work, human rights methods and

²This rate has been measured according to Jordan's performance on the Global Terrorism Index for the years 2012-2015.

the principle of social justice and community culture (<http://ifsw.org/policies/definition-of-social-work/>). Teachers and students of Social Services in Jordan are very distant from projects eliminating violent extremism and terrorism due to the dominance of field workers of the management of such projects. Therefore, this study provides new opportunities for teachers and students of Social Services through its main output, which is the curriculum indicated in the second justification for this study.

b- Study Importance:

The importance of this study stems from its filling of empty cognitive space regarding the extent of conformity between Jordanians' perceptions of reasons behind violence and terrorism and ways of treating them, and applied scientific frameworks explaining and regulating them. It also stems from its provision of feedback from fieldwork on scientific approaches towards violent extremism and terrorism, its structuring of a curriculum on eliminating violent extremism and terrorism for students studying Social Services in Jordanian universities and drawing attention to the role of social specialists in eliminating violent extremism and terrorism in their capacity as those concerned with social reconstruction.

c- Study Objectives:

The study has two objectives. The first is general and is covered by the following question: What is the extent of conformity between the perceptions of some Jordanians towards the reasons behind violent extremism and terrorism and ways of treating them, and applied social approaches explaining and regulating these phenomena, and the effect of this on preparing a curriculum for Social Services students in Jordanian universities? The second objective is specific and is reflected through the following questions:

1. What is the extent of conformity between the perceptions of Jordanians (participating in workshops conducted by the WANA Institute in 2017 as part of the requirements for implementing the Faith for Peace and Development Project) towards reasons behind violent extremism and terrorism and ways of treating them, and applied scientific approaches explaining and regulating them?
2. What is the extent of conformity between the perceptions of Jordanians (participating in workshops conducted by the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation in 2014 within the requirements of implementing the Jordan 2025 Vision Project) towards the reasons behind violent extremism and terrorism and ways of treating them, and applied scientific approaches explaining and regulating them?
3. What is the extent of conformity between the perceptions of Jordanians (who prepared the National Strategic Framework for Countering Violent Extremism in 2014) towards the reasons behind violent extremism and terrorism and ways of treating them and applied scientific approaches explaining and regulating them?
4. What is the effect of the conformity between the perceptions of Jordanians participating in (workshops conducted by the WANA Institute in 2017 as part of the requirements for implementing the Faith for Peace and Development Project, workshops conducted by the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation in 2014 within the requirements of implementing the Jordan 2025 Vision Project and meetings of the National Strategic Framework for Countering Violent Extremism in 2014) towards the reasons behind violent extremism and terrorism, ways of treating them and applied scientific approaches explaining and regulating them on the preparation of a curriculum for Social Services students in Jordanian universities?

d- Study Problem:

Jordan's susceptibility and exposure to terrorism is low and is measured at no more than 15.7% for the period 2012-2015, according to the data of the Global Terrorism Index issued by the Economics and Peace Institute (Public Sector Development Ministry, 2016). However, Jordan continues to counter violent extremism and terrorism as is shown by data from its National Strategic Framework for countering Violent Extremism (2015), the outputs of projects run by public and private institutions such as Jordan's 2025 Vision (Ministry of planning and International Cooperation, 2015) and the Faith for Peace and Development Project (WANA Institute, 2017).

Therefore, this study aims to find out the perceptions of Jordanians- who participated in the workshops conducted by the WANA Institute in 2017 as part of the requirements of implementing the 'Faith for peace and Development' Project, workshops conducted by the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation in 2014 as part of the requirements of implementing the 'Jordan 2025' Project, and meetings for the preparation of the National Strategic Framework for Combating Violent Extremism held in 2014- towards violent extremism and terrorism and ways of treating them to identify their extent of conformity with applied scientific approaches explaining and regulating these phenomena and the effect of this extent on the formation of a curriculum for Social Services students in

Jordanian universities. In other words, the study seeks to answer its key question and its four sub-questions indicated in its 'Objectives' clause above.

e- Study Methodology:

The study's methodology has several elements. Its research style is the integrative approach in both its qualitative and quantitative parts. Its research methods are content analysis of documents, intended observation, comparison, analysis of available data and information and reasoning. Its study population and sample consist of two parts. The first part is the perceptions of participants in preparation meetings of the National Strategic Framework for Countering Violent Extremism, participants in the meetings preparing for the pillars of the Jordan Vision and feedback returning from them, participants in the workshops of the Faith for Peace and Development Project who were 1080, 10 and 200 males and females over the course of three years. The second part is the mono and multi approaches explaining violent extremism and terrorism mentioned in the study's theoretical framework. The total number of these approaches is nine, four mono ones and five multi ones. The study also has its data statistical processing methods such as raw repetition, percentages and arithmetic means, as mentioned in the answers of the study's main question and four sub-questions and in item (5) of the theoretical framework in which the means were used.

The study methodology was based on extracting the perceptions of Jordanians- participating in the preparation of the National Strategic Framework for Countering Violent Extremism, the Jordan 2025 Vision, and the 'Faith for Peace and Development Project' workshops- towards the reasons for violent extremism and terrorism. These perceptions were then compared to the nine theoretical data inputs explaining and regulating violent extremism and terrorism to reveal the extent of conformity between these perceptions and the inputs in question.

2- Study Results, Conclusions, Recommendations and Suggestions:

a- Study Results:

To answer its first sub-question, the study used methods of document content analysis, comparison, analysis of data and available information. It was revealed that the perceptions of participants in the workshops of the 'Faith for Peace and Development' Project regarding the defusing of the terrorism engine in Jordan conform with the data of seven applied scientific approaches explaining and regulating violent extremism to an extent of (77.77%). The highest rate of conformity at the sub-level between the perceptions of the above-mentioned participants and the development and human rights approach was (100%), whereas, the lowest rate was between the perceptions of these participants and the organic approach (0%) and the psychoanalysis approach (0%).

Therefore, the study has answered its first sub-question by saying that the extent of conformity between the perceptions of participants in the workshops of the 'Faith for Peace and Development' Project and applied scientific approaches explaining and regulating violent extremism and terrorism is very large at a rate of (77.77%).

To answer the study's second sub-question, methods used were the analysis of document content, comparison, and analysis of data and available information. Results revealed that the perceptions of participants in workshops of the Jordan 2025 Vision Project regarding the defusing of violent extremism in Jordan conformed to the data of seven applied scientific approaches explaining and regulating this phenomenon at a rate of (77.77%). The highest rate of conformity at the sublevel was between the perceptions of the above-mentioned participants and the development and human rights approach at a rate of (100%), whereas, the lowest rate was between the perceptions of participants studied and the organic approach at a rate of (0%) and the psychoanalysis approach at a rate of (0%).

Therefore, the study has answered its second sub-question by revealing that the extent of conformity between the perceptions of participants in the workshops of the Jordan 2025 Vision Project and the applied scientific approaches explaining and regulating violent extremism and terrorism was large and at a rate of (77.77%).

To answer the study's third sub-question, methods used were the analysis of document content, comparison, analysis of data and available information. Results revealed that the perceptions of participants in meetings preparing the National Strategic Framework for Combating Violent Extremism on the defusing of violent extremism in Jordan conformed to the data of six applied scientific approaches explaining and regulating this

phenomenon at a rate of (77.77%). The highest rate of conformity at the sublevel was between the perceptions of the above-mentioned participants and social approach at a rate of (100%), the administrative approach at a rate of (100%), the pull and push factors and their context at a rate of (100%), the analysis factor at a rate of (100%), and development and human rights at a rate of (100%). The lowest rate was between the perceptions of participants studied and the organic approach at a rate of (0%) and the psychoanalysis approach at a rate of (0%).

Therefore, the study has answered its third sub-question by revealing that the extent of conformity between the perceptions of participants in the meetings preparing for the National Strategic Framework for Confronting Violent Extremism and the applied scientific approaches explaining and regulating violent extremism and terrorism is large and at a rate of (77.77%).

To answer its fourth sub-question, the study used the reasoning method which revealed that there is large conformity, at a rate of (77.77%), between the perceptions of Jordanians (participating in the workshops of the 'Faith for Peace and Development' project and the 'Jordan 2025 Vision' project and in the preparation meetings for the National Framework for Countering Violent Extremism) of the reasons behind violent extremism and terrorism and ways of treating them, and the applied scientific approaches explaining and regulating them. This extent of conformity can be built on in many fields such as the formation of a curriculum for students studying Social Services in Jordanian universities including components as revealed in Table (4).

Based on the afore-mentioned, the study has answered its main question by indicating that: the extent of conformity between the perceptions of Jordanians (participating in the workshops of the 'Faith for Peace and Development' project and the 'Jordan 2025 Vision' and in the preparation meetings of the National Framework for Countering Violent Extremism) towards violent extremism and terrorism and ways of treating them, and applied scientific approaches explaining and regulating them is large and at a rate of (77.77%). This extent also has a large impact on the possibility of forming a curriculum for Social Services students in Jordanian universities to include three scopes: cognitive, social and emotional and behavioral. Each scope has its own objectives and educational outputs.

Despite the importance of the results reached by this study, they cannot be discussed due to the absence of previous studies. However, it can be said that the field results support the suggestions of the theoretical inputs related to the understanding, explanation and regulation of violent extremism and terrorism. This proves the validity of the theoretical inputs for practical application.

Also, the large extent of conformity between the perceptions of Jordanians towards the reasons for violence and extremism and methods of treating them with the applied scientific inputs explaining and regulating them can be explained by Jordanians' knowledge of the roots of violent extremism and terrorism through practical experience. This experience is derived from a number of sources of which at the forefront is the spread of violent extremism and terrorism in neighboring countries such as Iraq and Syria.

b- Study Conclusions:

1. The rate of correctness of multi-aspect applied scientific approaches explaining the reasons behind violent extremism and terrorism and regulating them is higher than mono-aspect applied scientific approaches.
2. The lack of knowledge of Jordanians of the organic and psychoanalytical approaches explaining the reasons behind violent extremism and terrorism and regulating them.

c- Study Recommendations:

1. Jordanian universities should adopt the curriculum developed by the study in light of its results.
2. Capacity building of Jordanian institutions concerned with eliminating violent extremism and terrorism and their employees should be conducted regarding the organic and psychoanalytical approaches explaining the reasons behind violent extremism and terrorism.

d- Study Suggestions:

1. Evaluating the impact of the curriculum developed by the study on the knowledge, skills and trends of students, in the event it is adopted by Jordanian universities.
2. Developing community discussions about the organic and psychoanalytical approaches explaining the reasons behind violent extremism and terrorism.
3. Reforming the National Strategic Framework for Countering Violent Extremism in light of the feedback gained from the perceptions of participants in the workshops of the 'Faith for Peace and Development' Project and the Jordan 2025 Vision.

4. Dealing with the issue of eliminating violent extremism and violence in Jordan from the viewpoint of smart objectives among which one was formulated by this study as follows: Reducing Jordan's rate of exposure to terrorism from 15.7% to 0% by the year 2025³.

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³The year 2025 was determined in line with the Jordan 2025 Vision.

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Table (1): Extent of Conformity between the Perceptions of Participants in the Workshops of the ‘Faith for Peace and Development’ Project and Applied Scientific Approaches Explaining and Regulating Violent Extremism and Terrorism

Applied Scientific Approaches Explaining Violent Extremism	Perceptions of Participants in the Workshops of the ‘Faith for Peace and Development’ Project towards Defusing the effect of Terrorism in Jordan						
	Governance	Social protection	Economic empowerment	Promoting the role of media	Youth empowerment	Good education	Enhancing the role of religious leaders
Organic							
Psychological							
Social		X	X		x	x	
Administrative	x						X
Pull and Push factors and their contexts	x		X	x	x	x	
Social Integration and Merging		X	X	x	x		
Integral Social Policies	x		X	X	x	x	
Factor analysis	x	X		X	x	x	
Development and human rights	x	X	X	X	x	x	X

Table (2): The Extent of Conformity between the Perceptions of Participants in Workshops of the Jordan 2025 Vision Project and the Applied Scientific Approaches Explaining and Regulating Violent Extremism and Terrorism

Applied scientific approaches explaining violent extremism	Perceptions of participants in the workshops of the Jordan 2025 Vision project regarding the defusing of terrorism in Jordan			
	Belonging and participant citizens	Safe and stable society	Dynamic globally competitive private sector	Effective and efficient government
Organic				
Psychological				
Social	X	x		X
Administrative				
Pull and push factors and their contexts	X	x	X	X
Social integration and merging	X	x	x	X
Integral social policies	X	x	x	X
Factor analysis	X	x		X
Development and human rights	X	x	x	x

Table (3): The Extent of Conformity between the Perceptions of Participants in the Preparation Meetings of the National Strategic Framework for Combating Violent Extremism and Applied Scientific Approaches Explaining and Regulating Violent Extremism and Terrorism

Applied Scientific Approach Explaining Violent Extremism	Perceptions of participants in the preparation meetings of the national strategic framework for countering violent extremism regarding defusing extremism in Jordan
	Enhancing the institutional capacities of concerned ministries and their employees to counter extremism and takfir.
Organic	
Psychological	
Social	X
Administrative	X
Pull and push factors and their contexts	X
Social integration and merging	X
Integral social policies	X
Analysis factor	X
Development and human rights	X

Table (4): The Logical Framework of a Curriculum for Eliminating Violent Extremism and Terrorism for Students of Social Services in Jordanian Universities

Field	Educational Objectives	Educational Outputs
Cognitive	<p>Upon completing his or her study of the curriculum, he or she shall be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number the applied scientific approaches explaining violent extremism and terrorism. 2. Number the applied scientific approaches explaining violent extremism and terrorism, which conform to the perceptions of Jordanians of the reasons behind violent extremism and terrorism and ways of treating them. 	Social Services graduates who are acquainted with the applied scientific approaches explaining violent extremism and terrorism and their extent of conformity to Jordanians' perception
Social and Emotional	<p>Upon completing his or her study of the curriculum, he or she shall be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Express his ownership of a global human identity, which overcomes his sub-identities. 2. Respect variation and differences. 3. Acknowledge cultural variations. 	Social Services graduates who are aware of their global human identity, respect variation and differences and acknowledge cultural variation.
Behavioral	<p>Upon completing his/her study of the curriculum, he or she shall be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number the reasons behind violent extremism and terrorism. 2. Number the ways to eliminate violent extremism and terrorism. 	Social Services graduates who are aware of the reasons behind violent extremism and terrorism and ways of eliminating them.