

## FACEBOOK AS A PUBLIC SPACE FOR THE SPREAD OF THE LIBERAL CATEGORY: ANALYTICAL STUDY OF A SET OF FACEBOOK ACCOUNTS

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### **Abstract:**

This study aims to shedding the light on an active group in societies that seeks to promote a set of ideas and practices under the banner of modernity, which is the group of editors that made Facebook a space to express their beliefs and values. Where spouses have the freedom to have a sexual intercourse and sexual companionship with someone other than their husbands without restriction or control and with the knowledge of the other party, far from moral controls and accepted societal values, especially since these practices are considered a social taboo and an indication of moral laxity. The study was conducted on a group of Facebook accounts for this category by reviewing and analyzing their posts, relying on the descriptive approach based on describing and analyzing the phenomenon accurately and objectively. The study sample was a purposive sample, and a set of results were reached, the most important of which are: Facebook has an effective role in promoting the category of liberals and spreading its ideas, Liberation is an explicit challenge to the principles of religion, social norms, and social control. The liberation promoted by this group leads to moral consequences, the most important of which is lineage mixing.

### **Keywords:**

Facebook, Liberal Class, Modernity, Sexual Accompaniment, Moral Disorder, Social Control.

### **1: Research problem**

Modernist thought was loaded with a set of value promises that would raise the value of the individual and raise the level of his thinking and humanity. Liberation is an explicit challenge to the principles of religion, social norms, and social control. The liberation promoted by this group leads to moral consequences, the most important of which is lineage mixing. This is what everyone believed until the cry was issued: The promise of modernity has been broken, meaning that the promises of modernity were extremely fragile, and instead of contributing to the development of human thought, they perpetuated instrumental action, and made the individual lose the value of things and become aware of nothing. As a result, beliefs and values changed, nervousness and feelings of jealousy and rigidity disappeared, and morals

were hit by a torrent. Modern technology and digital applications played an effective role in the flow of this torrent. Based on the fact that it has made the world a small village and facilitated the foundations of communication and interaction and expanded its scope, one of the most famous and widely used applications is Facebook, which works to provide the opportunity for communication between individuals, exchange of opinions and discussion on common issues, thus providing a space for the spread of many beliefs and phenomena, including liberation, which expresses the desire of a group of individuals to get rid of the rigidity of morals and make them more fluid, including getting rid of societal, value-based and religious standards and rebelling against them in order to achieve their desired pleasure.

In this study, we will try to shed light on a new and active social phenomenon on Facebook that will affect the future of individuals and societies, then we raised the following question:

**What is the role of Facebook in the spread of the liberal category? In other words, how did Facebook become a tool for spreading liberation values?**

### **02: Objectives of the study**

- Identifying the role of Facebook in the spread of the liberal group and its beliefs.
- Identifying the most important beliefs and ideas of the liberal group
- Recognizing the dangers and harm that libertarian thought causes to the individual and society.

### **3: Methodology of the study**

Each study needs a scientific method adopted by the researcher in the research and investigation process. The method is not chosen randomly, but is subject to the nature of the topic and the research community; the nature of our topic requires us to rely on the descriptive approach, especially since we will analyze a group of images and Facebook publications from the liberal category, which requires a precise description. The descriptive approach is defined as: “a set of basic and organized steps based on following up on a phenomenon, during a specific period of time, collecting a set of data about it related to the problem of the study, and then describing, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from it.” (sabeg, 2023, p. 35)

### **4: Limitations of the study**

**1/ Time limit:** This means the period that the study took. It began from the time the topic was chosen on 03/04/2024, it continued until the final report was written on 27/05/2024.

**2/ The human limit:** This study was based on a group of Facebook accounts for the active liberal group, and the names of these accounts were hidden out of respect for the privacy of their members.

## 5: Concepts of the study

### Image no-01: A slogan representing the liberal category



**Source: Facebook**

**01/ Liberals:** They are a group of couples who call for abandoning old customs in marriage and staying away from jealousy within a framework, they call for trust between spouses. Where a husband or wife can establish a relationship with another person without any legal bond, social restriction, or marriage prohibition, and hence the emancipated person is the one who rebels against inherited social customs. Thus, the ego is in intense confrontation with the we, it is one of the prominent groups that is widespread in societies and is activated through social networking sites, especially Facebook, as it is a space to encourage freedom of expression and escape behind the screen to gain greater boldness.

The picture above represents the category of liberals, as we noticed that it is widespread on many pages of this group on Facebook. As the nails that bother the liberal and they try to remove them, embody all the conservative and religious ideas and those popular beliefs that have lost their luster and strength of influence, as the liberal believes that they are merely obstacles to his personal desires. The degree of an individual's awareness and strength is determined by his ability to confront all inherited ideas, including submission to the self without any concern for others.

### 2/ Definition of Facebook:

“It is one of the social networking sites that has captured the interest and response of many individuals, as it helps them exchange information, files, personal photos, video clips, conversations and chats with friends, and the ability to form friendships and relationships in a short period”. (Iamia, 2015, p. 212)

From the point of view of the study, Facebook is a virtual space that includes different human groups across regions of the world, with the aim of communicating, expressing opinions,

forming friendships, and entertaining oneself.

### **6: Libertarian thought from normativity to non- normativity “Durkheim’s anemia”**

The concept of social anomaly is considered one of the most important concepts introduced by Durkheim, who believes that the reason of anomaly is radical and rapid changes in social, economic or political structures, as this is a transitional stage and the values and customs that prevailed at a certain time are no longer valid, but at the same time, new values and norms have not developed to replace them...moral standards have developed and social organization has become unable to maintain the relationship between people, leading to a loss of social awareness. (luo, 2013, p. 134)

Social reconstruction, according to what Durkheim stated in his theory, constitutes a crisis in modern society, which is a moral crisis, so that the main procedure for rebuilding the social system must be to play the regulatory role of moral standards, that is, creating a multi-level social moral system suitable for the structure of the modern social division. (luo, 2013, p. 134)

Durkheim distinguishes between two types of awareness: “True societal awareness and false societal awareness,”. The awareness that society may have of itself, which is expressed in public opinion, may be an insufficient vision of basic reality, and the reality that was on his mind was the family bond between people, which would enhance people’s ability to realize the human being in each of their colleagues, and to achieve this goal, we must search for appropriate structural foundations that lead to true societal awareness, and if this does not succeed, this is due to the fact that abnormalities are endemic in large groups.” (stephen, 1974, p. 362)

Anomia describes the instability of a society in which widely accepted rules have collapsed. The term anomia refers to the personal feeling of unrest, isolation, and uncertainty resulting from a lack of ideals or purpose. (eugene, 1987, p. 276)

From above mentioned, we conclude that anomie is an advanced state of abnormality that leads to deviation and departure from the path of the social contract. Liberation previously carried the meanings of salvation from slavery, exploitation, and defense of honor, land, and honor, but with the rapid changes, the meanings of things changed so quickly that we could not understand them, because most of the time we focus on the structure and ignore the parts, or the structure uses its authority to control the part and determine its path without us understanding the part, Liberation has changed to express the liberation of the part from the whole, the liberation of man from his values and the unleashing of his sexual desires without control, and thus we have begun to move from standardization to non-normativeness. Indeed, there are those who defend non-normativeness in standard ways.

### **07: Sigmund Bauman, saying: The promise of modernity has been broken**

Sigmund Bauman believes that the modernist Enlightenment project was based on the major categories of “subjectivity, rationality, freedom, progress, and others,” through which he founded Enlightenment thought, which deviated from its path. The progress achieved by Enlightenment thought turned into a bitter reality and extreme freedom. He demonstrated in his book “Modernity and the Holocaust” that man the modernist became a slave to rationalism that promoted instrumental action. Thus, Bauman rejects the rationality of

modernity as it has led to a group of human disasters, especially moral ones, and this is due to: neutralizing moral action and removing it from the law and stripping humanity of the moral sense, as well as stripping the human soul of moral responsibility and the consequences of its actions". (djedraoui & boussekek, 2022, p. 25)

Man needed morals to organize his life and move away from the pattern of the orangutan to the pattern of the civilized moral human. Hence the need to establish a social contract that was implicitly agreed upon to control transactions and establish the values that organize and unite the group, thus revealing the duality of right and duty, if we dropped the issue of freedom, we would see it as a right for everyone and enjoyed by the individual within a specific social context. However, at the same time, the moral duty of freedom emerges, which we can summarize in the saying, "Your freedom ends where the freedom of others begins",

Liberals do not respect this moral principle because of their exercise of excessive freedom, which does not protect them from violating the freedom and rights of others. The child has every right to know his parents and lineage, and this is not guaranteed by libertarian thought in the sense defined by this category, as the first result that will appear is the mixing of lineages because of practices. Uncontrolled nationality and with someone other than the husband. Moreover, the family is more vulnerable to disease, disintegration, and deviation, because the individual has become obedient only to his desires, including abandoning his humanity and descending into the ranks of animals, Deviant modernist thought has caused great damage to the nucleus of society. Divorce, emotional estrangement, marital muteness and other effects have increased in our time, which have a negative impact on family relationships, whether this relationship is between marital relations, or between spouses and children.

In this regard, Abdul Wahab Al-Mesiri believes that modernity "is not just the use of reason, science, and technology, but rather it is the use of reason and technology separated from value, and this is an important matter in the Western modernist system, since in a world devoid of value, all things become equal and then all things become relative." (djedraoui & boussekek, 2022, p. 26)

Modernity, which is based on the idea of rationality and the application of reason in all matters, which was supposed to enhance this characteristic in man, as it is the most important characteristic that distinguishes him from other creatures, did its job in the opposite way, as it caused a deviation in the path of thinking and made the mind lose its meaning. As the mind with logical-mathematical thinking begins to think in an illogical way and defends worthlessness in an objective way, far from the true meaning of the thing, and from here the person loses himself.

Social networking sites have helped spread these liberal meanings and ideas and reach the most remote regions and centers. In fact, people have come to depend on them in all matters, even in education. These media are no longer only a tool for communication, but have become a virtual center for united groups to meet, spread their ideas, and defend them. It has also become a means of socialization, a process that the family is supposed to undertake itself as it is its most sacred function, and the family's failure to follow up on what its children see makes them easy prey for such ideas, which to say the least are extremist.

Guenter Anders explains in his book “The Obsolescence of the Human Race” that: “Regardless of whether we enter the game or not, there is someone who plays it with us. No matter what we do or decide not to do, our withdrawal does not mean anything.” (Zygmunt, 2016, p. 153)

Pierre Bourdieu, Klaus Ove, and Ulrich Beck differ in describing the world that plays with us, as it forces us to enter into an imaginary game of free players, who believe in the paradox that the more our individual freedom increases, the less important it becomes for the world in which we practice it. As the world becomes more tolerant of our choices, our choices in the game diminish... Autonomy, enlightenment, and the advent of the modern era were not planned for, nor expected by anyone, nor pursued by anyone. (Zygmunt, 2016, p. 154)

We reached to a conclusion that social phenomena of all kinds, whether new or renewed (mutated), are the results of changes and developments that have affected the world and been reflected in social thought, and we are forced to live with them and confront them because withdrawing from this game does not mean the end of the game. On the contrary, it will develop and worsen to become more dangerous and destructive, and the available alternatives for decisions will diminish, and these are phenomena that have distanced us from the value of a thing, especially the human value, to become a mere tool, especially with regard to the moral issues that freedom advocates embrace in a flashy and decorative idea called enlightenment. True enlightenment ends with light, but enlightenment with the new thought, which these players play, ends with darkness, and the public today describes it as signs of the Day of Judgment.

### **8: Facebook is a space for liberals**

Facebook is one of the most popular and widely used social networking sites, and as such it includes many social groups, which are formed in the form of groups united by common goals or characteristics, and the category of anomie and liberals is one of the groups that have used Facebook as a space to express themselves and promote their ideas to invade the youth's thoughts and manipulate them under... Liberation Brigade. Thus, Facebook will be a fertile ground for these groups because publishing through it is easy and quick, and it guarantees access to the largest possible number of people in the various areas spread across the earth. In this part, we will discuss some of the Facebook posts of the liberal group and through them, we will try to extrapolate the most important beliefs and ideas of this group.

**Image No. 02: A call to rebel against norms with caution and secrecy**

كل البشر لديهم مساحة حريه معينه يتحركون فيها  
يحددها لهم المجتمع او القانون او العادات والتقاليد ...  
كل البشر لديهم مساحة حريه معينه يتحركون فيها يحددها  
لهم المجتمع او القانون او العادات والتقاليد إلا المتحررون  
يتمردون على الواقع ويعيشون حياة مطلقه بدون حدود او  
قيود والمتحررون الاذكفاء هم فقط من يتمردون بحذر وسريه  
تجنباً للاضرار التي قد تنهى تحررهم الجميل



**Source: Facebook**

The picture shows a great and frank audacity to rebel and encourage transgression of customs and laws, and thus the social and legal restrictions become ineffective, which leads us to ask how to resurrect and revive the role of society in achieving moral control, because living without limits is a return to the prehistoric era, where the rule and law of the jungle prevailed. After we have made great strides in the journey of civilization and urbanization, which is characterized by rapid dynamism, we find ourselves facing a group that is trying to take us back in reactionary stages, that is, returning to the first stage of development. As the picture shows us, there is a clear warning against expressing these ideas in public for fear of social ostracism and punishment, which necessitates the necessity of family follow-up of the children, as they are among the most targeted groups, as well as legal follow-up, since these practices are immoral and have major consequences and repercussions on society. The description that the published phrases describe as “smart libertarians” and their “beautiful liberation” is a process of attraction and invitation to adopt libertarian thought, spread it, and encourage it.

**Image No. 03: A call for freedom from religion**



Source: Facebook

The image carries many ideas that fall within secular thought, and reflects liberation of another kind, which is liberation from religion, which is the primary means of social upbringing, as well as the source of moral and social control and the basis for judging what is right and wrong. For a normal person, it is one of the sacred things that should not be violated, but the liberal thought advocated by liberals' conflicts with many of the ideas held by various religions in the world, so religion becomes the first obstacle to liberals who want to spread their beliefs and expand by including larger groups. Thus, the liberal becomes confronted with religion, "The relationship of religion with society is determined by the thin rope that connects the individual to his religion, that is, by practicing religious rituals, returning to their religion, adhering to it, and trying to understand it and apply what is stated in it, because the more one distances oneself from religion, the more this will be reflected in social cohesion and social relations between individuals and groups." This creates a lot of unwanted thoughts » (sabeg, philosophical sociology, 2022, p. 43). This requires activating the role of the mosque, which is currently the result of the emergence of other alternatives such as the kindergarten, which does not only represent a place to shelter a child as a result of his family's preoccupation, but rather has become a fashion and a source of boasting, as we find that even women who stay at home have begun sending their child to the kindergarten, under the pretext of educating him and interacting with children, so he was abandoned. The mosque and the decline in the role of religious educators.

#### Image no. 04: the difference between liberation in Europe and Arab society

وبين أوروبا في الحرية والتحرر  
لك المجتمع العربي  
ير والعيش برأي هذا ما وجدنا أبأؤونا  
محير أن معظم الشباب يريدون أن يروا  
صورته لها ولا كن خوفا من رأي الناس  
شام

**Source: Facebook**

The image represents an explicit call to abandon the conservative behavior that characterizes Arab society despite the significant decline in values as a result of globalization and the damage and destruction of identity in all its forms. Liberals see modesty as a patriarchal legacy that opposes the individual has repressed self-desire. The publication contains a major challenge and attack on the Islamic religion. Arabic, as the post includes the phrase “This is what we found our parents doing”, it is mentioned in the story of our master Abraham, peace be upon him, in the verse (They said, “Rather, we found our fathers doing that.” Surat Ash-Shu’ara, verse 74).

The people of Abraham followed misguidance in the path of their first fathers, and the author of the publication believes that religiosity and conservative behavior is wrongful behavior as they call for liberation from old, inherited ideas and values. However, we clarify that Islam does not prohibit a woman from adornment for her husband, but rather it prohibits her from being seen by someone who is not her mahram. Modesty makes a woman's adornment, as Islam is a religion of chivalry, modesty, and honour.

**Image No. 05: Considering liberation as an elegant means for the couple to become closer**

التحرر يجب ان يكون وسيله لتقرب الزوجين لبعضهم دائما  
اذا كنت تريد أن تصل الى التحرر فيجب عليك أن تستخدمه  
بطريقه صحيحة وراقية من خلال الثقة وأن تستخدم الزوجه  
أنوثتها وإمكانياتها لتصلون الى قمة اللذة والشهوة في التحرر

**Source: Facebook**

**Image No. 06: Freedom in liberation**

ان تجربة التحرر والتغيير والخروج عن المألوف ليس اجبار او  
ضغط من زوج ع زوجته او ب العكس وانما هو رغبة كل  
الجنسين واحترام وفهم رغبات بعضهم البعض بشكل راقى  
ومتحظر وهذا من اجل ديمومة الحياة الزوجية وجعلها  
ممتعه وفيها لذة لا مثيل لها

**Source: Facebook**

Such Facebook posts pose a great danger to social relations and society in general, as they affect a sacred bond, which is the marital bond. The marital relationship through which the family is formed is the nucleus of society and its backbone. It has become fragile today, as a result of the change in marital and sexual thought, Liberals allow the exchange of wives without jealousy and voluntarily, so that a friend can sleep with his friend's wife with his knowledge and permission without embarrassment and vice versa, or even the exchange of wives for a specific period. This prominent behavior in current societies is gradually expanding, as a result of what is being circulated through social networking sites in general and Facebook in particular, This behavior results in mixed lineage, and the deterioration of family relations instead of their cohesion. The issue of trust is addressed only by those who are free from the sexual aspect, while trust between spouses is a relational, moral, and spiritual issue that is far removed from the sexual aspect, which is governed by the lustful instinct.

One of the most famous classes, which have many clips on Facebook and seek to host these groups and introduce them and their beliefs, is the Ahmar in Bold, which discussed in its classes many times topics about liberation, and these groups appeared strongly on the screen as a challenge to society, expressing their ideas represents crossing the red lines set by conservative Eastern society, as they put it, as they consider that the social ostracism to which they are exposed through many practices of rejection and oppression is an indication of backwardness, and from there, liberation has become a measure of progress and backwardness from the perspective of liberals.

Sexual practice is the fulfillment of an individual's desires in a way that satisfies himself and is not linked to a specific person such as the husband only. The class hosted different groups, each group having its own way of liberation, as some people reached the point of having sex with animals instead of the opposite sex, perhaps the gender discrepancies that prevail in societies have a major role in the spread of these phenomena, which requires activating the role of psychologists and social workers, especially since these phenomena are constantly increasing and require an actual diagnosis, to determine the causes as well as diagnose the reality and find solutions before the situation worsens.

#### **09: Results of the study**

- Facebook has a major role in the spread of the liberal group and their beliefs through the publishing services it provides.
- Liberals seek to rebel against moral and societal values and controls because, in their view, they infringe on personal freedom and restrain themselves.
- Fear of societal punishment made Facebook a safe space for the liberal group.
- Through some classes, liberals try to defend their orientation and ideas and make the outside world accept them.
- Liberal thought, as promoted by this group, is a result of the moral chaos caused by modernity.
- Sexual mixing of spouses voluntarily and with the knowledge of both parties constitutes a basic point that liberals seek to promote with the justification that it is a renewal of the marital relationship.
- The liberation that this group calls for leads to mixing of lineages and the spread of

various diseases.

### **Conclusion:**

Finally, we conclude that Facebook has a major role in promoting the beliefs of the liberal group, as it is a space that is easy to use and control, and for this reason, it has become a safe haven for this group that is trying to spread to wider scopes, and from there we propose the following set of recommendations:

- ✓ The necessity of resetting the value system of societies and activating the role of the family, the mosque, and the law.
- ✓ Emphasizing the importance of family follow-up of children and constantly monitoring and following up on their Facebook accounts.
- ✓ Activating the role of the media in raising awareness of the dangers and harms of these beliefs.
- ✓ Strengthening cyber security and directing attention to these issues.
- ✓ Attempting to psychologically and socially contain this group with the aim of correcting its path of thinking.
- ✓ The necessity of serious research and in-depth investigation into this group and determining its orientation in depth, and from here we extend an invitation to researchers to research the topic as it carries many aspects that are difficult to limit to one topic.

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