

Illegal immigration: between the image of social success and the absence of a family structure

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Abstract:

Illegal immigration has recently become a major national and international concern, particularly in the Maghreb countries. This phenomenon has been exacerbated by technological advancements in communication and social media, driving people from all walks of life to seek a better life in foreign countries. Illegal immigration is no longer a simple issue; rather, it has intensified along with its consequences. This necessitates a thorough examination of its realities and causes, an attempt to eradicate the underlying drivers, and an analysis of the role of the family in light of the influence of social media.

Keywords: Discourse, Orientalism, the East, the West, Arabs, Islam.

الملخص :

احتلت الهجرة غير الشرعية في الآونة الأخيرة محل اهتمام قضايا وطنية ودولية. لا سيما بدول المغرب العربي. وقد تفاقمت هذه الظاهرة مع التطور التكنولوجي في ميدان الاتصال ووسائل التواصل الاجتماعي، ودفعت بكل الأطياف إلى البحث عن حياة أفضل في بلدان أجنبية. فالهجرة غير الشرعية لم تعد ظاهرة بسيطة، بل يمكن القول أنها تفاقمت مع تفاقم آثارها، الأمر الذي يستدعي للكشف عن واقعها وأسبابها ومحاولة استئصال الأسباب الدافعة إليها مع تحليل دور الأسرة في ظل التأثير بمواقع التواصل الاجتماعي.

I- Introduction :

First: Conceptual elaboration

1- Immigration:

Migration is a geographical phenomenon reflecting population dynamics, taking the form of people moving from one place to another. This involves changing their usual place of residence and is part of the general movement of populations. (Nabil Marzouq: 2010, p. 2) In light of this perspective, it can be said that the concept of migration has been limited to moving from one geographical area to another..

Migration indicates social status, such as a change in occupation or social class. The latter gives migration a social dimension, as it focuses on the social change affecting the individual or social class. An individual may move from a poor class to a wealthier one, or in certain social circumstances, the social role of the middle class, for example, may diminish or disappear. (Saad Rashid: 2012, p. 17)

Therefore, it can be said that migration is the movement from one place to another in order to improve the standard of living, often, and it is a rational act carried out by the actor, i.e. the migrant, because it is linked to achieving a planned goal in order to improve his social, economic, or political conditions, whatever the reason motivating the rational act is related to the individual's direction, goals, and convictions.

2- Definitionillegal immigration:

The Algerian legislator defined it as: "Leaving the national territory illegally, while crossing one of the land, sea, or air border posts. This is done by impersonating someone else, or by using forged documents or any other fraudulent means to evade providing the necessary documents or carrying out the procedures required by the laws and regulations in force. It is also leaving the national territory through ports or places other than border posts." (Saad Rachid: 2012, p. 21)

Illegal immigration is a social phenomenon linked to many economic, cultural, and political problems. It means that immigrants enter a country without visas or prior permission to enter. (Ben Sghir Fares, 2015, p. 314)

Legal and illegal migration can be distinguished by the fact that the former is regulated by laws and governed by entry visas and residence permits issued by the competent immigration and passport authorities. Illegal migration, on the other hand, occurs without the migrants obtaining entry visas or residence permits. (Saad Rashid: 2012, p. 10)

In light of the above, it can be said that "illegal immigration" consists of moving from one's country of origin to another country in an illegal manner as a result of poor social, economic, and political conditions, in order to meet their needs or satisfy their desires..

3- Definition of incendiary devices:

Crossing illegally through a barrier, queue, administration, customs office, consulate, etc., in order to reach the other side of the barrier or border, is like crossing the Mediterranean Sea. This is so that they find themselves on the other side of the border as illegal immigrants, waiting for their status to be regularized so that they can live in peace and be like the other legal immigrants. (Saad Rashid: 2012, page 22)

A migrant is someone who decides to move to a country of his own free will, in an illegal way. He embarks on an adventure in which he crosses the sea towards Europe, for example, and most of them are young people.

4-The family:

The family is considered the oldest and most widespread human institution, and some even consider it the direct cause of the preservation and continuation of the human race to this day. The family has remained the most important organization in which most people are raised, and at a certain stage, adults separate from the family to form their own families. (Khalil Ahmed Khalil: Arab Forum for Social Sciences and Humanities)

The family is considered the child's first psychological institution, where their personality is formed and where they experience their first forms of social interaction within the framework of parental upbringing. Parents influence their children through the methods of treatment and upbringing they adopt, and through the behavioral standards, rules, and moral and religious values the child receives. Parents are primarily responsible for

providing their children with a safe environment to grow into well-adjusted members of society. This includes providing essential needs such as food, clothing, shelter, healthcare, and protection from harm. (Muhammad Sayed Fahmy: 2016, p. 175) The family is an institution that has been affected by various economic and social transformations and changes. This is what Plato emphasized when he stated that family bonds between parents and their children are the main pillar upon which social classes are based. (Hamdoush Rashid: 2009, p. 227)

Traditional family life fosters and trains children in social interaction and concern for others, along with a degree of distrust towards those outside their immediate circle. It cultivates a culture of mutual support, attention to the child's health and morals, extended family structures, and diverse forms of friendship, all contributing to social and emotional well-being. In this context, it can be said that the family constitutes a social and moral value despite structural and organizational changes. Furthermore, regarding family values during times of crisis, in addition to strengthening familial bonds between children and parents, these values also play a crucial role in shaping and building individual identity. (Hamdoush Rachid: 2009, p. 275)

Parsons agrees with Émile Durkheim's analysis that the family, as the first formative actor, plays a dominant role over other institutions (school, mosque, peer group, etc.). Parsons believes that socialization is completed in adolescence, and it is either successful, in which case the individual is well adapted to society, or it is unsuccessful, in which case the individual is likely to slide into delinquency. The earlier the individual's compliance with societal standards and values, the more appropriate his adaptation to the social system will be. (Denis Koch, trans. Munir Al-Saadani: 2007, p. 84)

Ibn Khaldun believed that social values require a deterrent to exert influence in society. Religious deterrents take precedence due to their apparent sanctity, which imposes a form of social organization within human society. Furthermore, human society cannot exist without social interaction dictated by a system of social values; thus, human beings must live in society. Social control, or social oversight, is the foundation upon which society, or a part of it (the family being part of society), is built and which maintains its stability and continuity—for the well-being of the family is the well-being of society—ensuring the family operates within the normal, familiar framework without deviation. (Social Sciences Journal Forum, January 23, 2013)

Second: Reasons for resorting to illegal immigration:

We can distinguish several factors among those that promote the idea of illegal immigration are:

The image of social success:

This is an image presented by an expatriate upon returning to their homeland, showcasing displays of wealth to others, especially young people and children, such as a luxury car, gifts brought back and flaunted, real estate investments, and so on. These displays serve to nourish the individual residing in their homeland and to draw a comparison between their life and that of others living abroad. In this regard, we find symbolic interaction which focuses on the meanings and symbols that an individual gives to his behavior. Such actions by expatriates give the image of a successful experience after illegal immigration to another country, even if it is in an illegal manner, to become a symbol of success, freedom, and achieving and advancing goals.

2- The effects of visual media: The media revolution that the world is experiencing has made children look forward to life in other countries, which instills in them the motivation and desire to emigrate.

3- Geographical proximity: Europe's proximity to the Maghreb coast (14 km from Tangier to the Spanish coast) in addition to other stimulating economic factors.

In addition to several other reasons that might instill in an individual the idea of illegal immigration, we mention the following:

1-Social reasons: Many social problems include the spread of deviant behavior and violence, poverty, low living standards and unemployment.

2-Family reasons: It may be due to poor family conditions, the inability to meet their basic needs, and the need for money, which drive individuals to migrate.

3-Structural causes: The spread of a culture of illegal immigration influences the decision to travel and pushes towards illegal immigration, in addition to the family context encouraging illegal immigration and pushing their children to travel to overcome the difficulties of making a living and improve their standard of living. (Nasreen Al-Baghdadi and Samiha Nasr, 2016, p. 8)

Therefore, it can be said that illegal immigration is the movement of individuals from one country to another in an unlawful manner. The reasons for illegal immigration are intertwined and have several dimensions, including economic, social, political, and other factors. These factors cause a disruption in the functions of systems, resulting in a disruption in the overall system of society due to the integration and harmony of the functions of its systems. Therefore, illegal immigration is considered a result of a disruption in the functions of some systems, such as employment institutions, the quality of education, and social justice in the distribution of wealth, such as between the North and the South, which causes an imbalance in society as a whole.

Third: The relationship between illegal immigration and the use of social media in light of weakened family structures:

The negative use of technology by individuals of any age, gender, religion, or economic or social background can make them victims, especially given the advancement of communication and media, which now pose a significant threat to minors and youth. This is particularly true in the absence of parental supervision and awareness campaigns by institutions and associations that have abandoned their guiding and educational role, replacing it with ideological political discourse. (Mohamed El-Sayed Fahmy: 2016, p. 157) The disruption of one of the elements of the social structure, such as the family, and its disruption in its role, for example, the lack of family supervision and awareness, leads to what is known as anomie, i.e., social disintegration. This partial disruption leads to a disruption in the overall system, which leads to the system's inability to perform its function, i.e., the family's inability to achieve proper socialization.

As well as Failure to provide necessary support to some individuals may lead them to seek alternatives, which could pose a danger. In the absence of parental supervision and its role, social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, etc.) have become spaces where children and young people freely disseminate information that was once considered taboo in society. Often, parents are complicit in this through negligence, unaware of the dangers of this approach due to their preoccupation with managing their lives and meeting their basic needs, coupled with a lack of awareness. Negligence is almost a common practice among the lower classes due to this lack of awareness. (Mohamed Sayed Fahmy: 2016, p. 189)

The dysfunction resulting from the family's inability to properly perform its role in the socialization process opens the door to the negative uses of technology to fill the void, because the family, school and society are the basic institutions of socialization, and the weakness of

any of them causes them to retreat from their effective and basic role, so that emerging groups become vulnerable to alternative socialization processes that can generate negative orientations through social media sites, so that their convictions and motives are formed based on external influences that may be contrary to the values and principles of society.

Foreign media outlets also rely on publishing data and information with the aim of deliberately influencing other societies, especially Arab ones, particularly in light of the changes that modern society has witnessed with the emergence of globalization and information technology, and what it offers in terms of the ease of obtaining information anywhere and at any time, and its impact on building new ideas, values, and customs through integration and openness among members of other societies across the world after the virtual elimination of geographical borders between countries and the overlap in various fields (social, economic, political, and cultural life...).

In addition, social media plays numerous roles, most importantly political, economic, and social, in the lives of people worldwide. Its influence has become a dominant feature of current events due to the large number of individuals connected to these networks. The impact of these social networks on economic, social, and political aspects has become evident (Al-Saeed Mabrouk Ibrahim, 2015, p. 185). Satellite channels and their broadcasts of diverse ideas and cultures, along with the global internet and social media platforms, have made access to information and knowledge as simple as clicking a button. This has led to exposure to new cultures, customs, traditions, and behaviors previously unknown to the public (Ben Sghir Fares, 2015, p. 318).

New changes and developments have shaped a vision rooted in the ideas and tools of the past, as the new generation can only be engaged with the tools of the present, a vibrant and active culture, and a vision that addresses contemporary issues and answers its questions (Ben Sghir Fares, 2015, p. 317). This shift in lifestyle, imposed by advancements in information technology and globalization, has influenced individuals' outlook on the future and their way of life, significantly impacting their attitudes and ideas..

One of the most significant negative consequences of globalization and information technology is its impact on identity and belonging, especially on the most vulnerable segment of societies: children. And the youth Because of their ability to attract ideas and the ease with which they can be influenced, the phenomenon of illegal immigration has become a major concern for a large segment of society, including teenagers and young people of both sexes,

due to their lack of comfort in their environment and country and their feeling of deprivation from a better social life compared to what they see on social media.

Illegal immigration is a social and demographic problem that we are experiencing and that has become a source of anxiety for society. This phenomenon has witnessed a continuous increase, particularly in the Arab world and nationally. It has become a major concern and preoccupation because it affects the stability of society, as illegal immigration has become seen as the only way for individuals to achieve their future aspirations on the other side of the sea, especially in Europe, thus bearing all the risks and obstacles they will face as a result (drowning, imprisonment, starvation)....)

The idea of illegal immigration is formed through their being influenced by what is broadcast and advertised in social media, whether on television, YouTube videos, or social networking sites, and what they present as a more beautiful image of countries and lifestyles, which negatively affects the individual and his feeling of wanting to live in the way formulated in the virtual site that represents the image of social success for others.

Fourth: The effects of illegal immigration: Illegal immigration has several consequences, including:

- Immigration leads to cultural diversity in many societies and contributes to reshaping demographic, economic, and social conditions. Furthermore, the surge in global migration since World War II has made it a significant political issue in many countries. (Anthony Giddens: translated by Fayez Al-Sayya, 2005, p. 332)
- The most common occupations for illegal immigrants are in agricultural work, crafts, and strenuous work.
- Immigrants are exposed to fraud and scams by criminal gangs in order to steal their money or exploit them.
- The situation of migrants in shelters: between care and abuse. (Nasreen Al-Baghdadi and Samiha Nasr, 2016, p. 11)
- Pressure on public facilities and basic services.
- Increased social problems, fraud, exploitation, moral decay and crimes of all kinds.
- The spread of begging and poverty.

- Decline in values and principles and the consolidation of beliefs contrary to their society.
- Disruption of the demographic composition. (Magdi Ahmed Mohamed Abdullah, 2013, 291)

Fifth: Preventive mechanisms to combat illegal immigration:

The phenomenon of illegal migration has affected all segments of society, including families, youth, women, and even children. Therefore, countries must take measures to address this phenomenon. However, no country, regardless of its resources, can combat it alone. Cooperation at the national, regional, and international levels is essential. Coordination in combating illegal migration must include the comprehensive and effective exchange of information, identifying smuggling networks, uncovering local and foreign partners, and supporting border security with modern and advanced means that facilitate detection and mitigate the impact of migrants. (Ben Sghir Fares, 2015, p. 325).

Given the repercussions of this phenomenon—illegal migration—on the individual and the world as a whole, most countries have criminalized it and imposed penalties to combat it. This has led the Algerian legislature to adopt a criminal policy based primarily on combating migrant smuggling networks. Preventive mechanisms have been established to combat this phenomenon, as stipulated in Article 303 bis 39, which punishes attempts to commit misdemeanors related to migrant smuggling. Attempts to commit felonies are punishable by the same penalty as felonies according to the general rules of penal codification, thus rendering a separate provision unnecessary, as the general rule applies. (Nassisa Fatima Zahra et al.: 2020, p. 412)

Therefore, it can be said that the radical transformation in the structure of migrants (gender and age) has transformed the phenomenon of illegal migration from an individual adventure limited to the category of young males in search of work, to a comprehensive social crisis that affects all systems of society, including the family with its various age and gender segments (women, men, children). This is related to the security and social and economic stability in the original society, which prompted some individuals to risk their safety in search of a better life.

a summary:

In conclusion, it can be said that the migration witnessed by society as a result of the information and communication revolution under globalization has impacted various segments

of society, most notably the youth, who are among the most vital groups. This migration has had a clear effect on their minds, emotions, and behaviors. The powerful influence of social media, with its portrayal of social success and its effectiveness on users, and the dynamic evolution and spread of new social media, have transformed it into a media tool that influences the behavior of its users. Modern media, especially social networks, have replaced traditional media in promoting human movements, particularly across the sea, and in providing detailed instructions on how to achieve migration through "semi-safe" means. This highlights the essential and effective role of sound socialization and the necessity of family supervision, along with the need for coordination with all societal systems.

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