Social capital and The COVID-19 pandemic

A field study in Beni Suef Governorate

Summary:

This study starts from a basic issue, which is to monitor the role played by social capital in its various forms in dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic. The study aims to clarify the social characteristics of the cases of Covid-19, the subject of the study, and to reveal the role played by the network - the
group in the face of the pandemic, and to identify the social norms that link the members of these groups, and their effects, and to reveal the changes that occurred in this network - the group with regard to factors Its strength and weakness. The study is based on the group-network perspective and issues of social capital theory. In its methodological aspect, the study relies on the social network approach and the anthropological approach. The study showed that there is a positive impact of the pandemic on the local social capital in the research community, as the pandemic has led to an increase in the strength of social bonds between members of social networks, and social capital in its various forms has played a key role in strengthening the community’s methods of containing the pandemic and reducing its spread. By strengthening group activities and increasing the benefits of cooperation, especially in light of the low level of confidence in official information about the pandemic, which has resulted in compliance with health practices not becoming a social norm, and official coercion of the state is still an important mechanism in changing the behavior of individuals under the pandemic, However, social networks and personal relationships in social capital provided a useful framework for building a supportive environment for health and a protective factor against disease despite the appearance of some of its negative aspects.

Key terms: COVID-19, social capital, group-network, social network.
Images of the body in popular proverbs: research in cultural anthropology

Summary:

This study starts from a basic issue, which is an attempt to reveal the most prominent representations of the body as embodied in popular proverbs in the research community, and the meanings, connotations, and cultural interpretations associated with these representations. The study aims to reveal perceptions and networks of meanings. The cultural body, by identifying the characteristics of the human body according to popular proverbs, clarifying the difference between the male and female bodies, as well as revealing similarities and differences between the values and functions of the human body’s organs, and clarifying the metaphors associated with the body and their connotations in light of the context of the natural, social and cultural environment. The study is based on the contributions of body theories, issues of interpretive direction according to Geertz, and the theory of conceptual metaphors. The study employed a qualitative anthropological methodology, based on content analysis. The study explained that verbal communication using proverbs is one of the social processes through which members of society express symbolic
understandings of the self and other identities. It also provided evidence that proverbs are mostly biased speech against the female body, and that their continuous performance in speech Everyday life contributes to the social construction and reproduction of body ideology. The largest number of selected proverbs embody positive meanings, connotations, and metaphors that elevate the value of the male body and prefer it over the female body. Proverbs are mostly used by older groups in society, especially men and women. Educated people in rural areas, depictions of the body in folk proverbs: research in cultural anthropology who cling to folk knowledge as a means of preserving their diminishing power in light of the social transformations associated with modernity. This study also confirmed that there can be no adequate description of the phenomenon. Linguistic (popular proverbs) without taking into account cultural specificity.

**Keywords:** representations of the body, popular proverbs, conceptual metaphors, content analysis