

Barriers and facilitators toward deceased organ donation among Muslim population living in Qatar and the UK: A qualitative study

Dr. Asmaa Al-Abdulghani

PhD Scholar (Deceased Organ Donation)

Assistant Director – Qatar Organ Donation Centre (HIBA)

Director – National Organ Donation Campaign

Chairman – Ethical Committee for Oversight of Living Donation



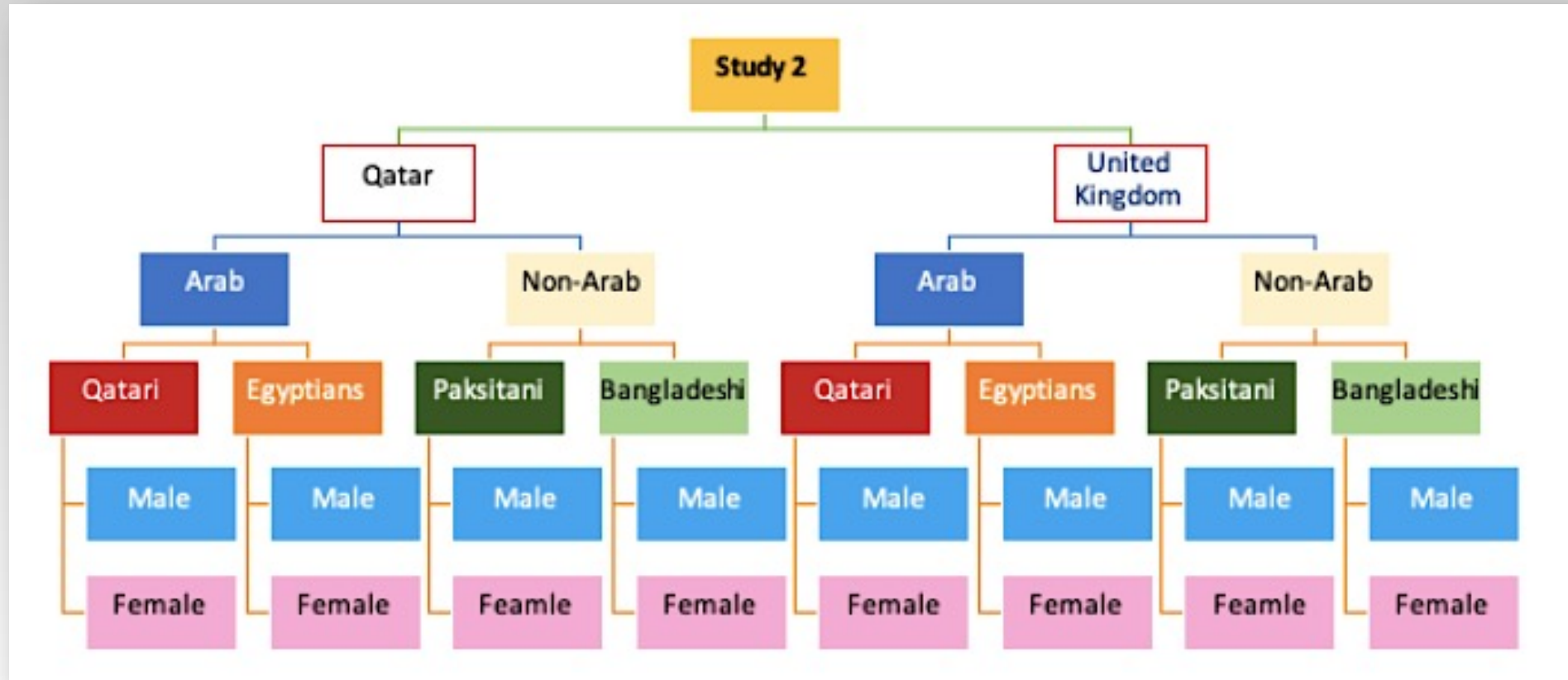
Introduction

- Qatar is a Muslim major country with 88.4% of expat population overrunning the 11.6% of native Qatari population.
- This adds complexity to the phenomenon of deceased organ donation unique to the countries in the Gulf Cooperation Council.
- Therefore, to effectively inform evidence-based strategies for improving organ donation within such a unique demographic, it is crucial to explore and understand the phenomenon from their subjective perspectives.
- However, this study went a step ahead in comparing the respective Arab and non-Arab Muslim population living in Qatar and in the UK.
- **Aim:** To identify the barriers and facilitators toward deceased organ donation among Arab and non-Arab Muslims living in Qatar and in the UK.

Method

- **Epistemology:** Social Constructivism
- **Theoretical paradigm:** Socio-Ecological Model
- **Study approach:** Qualitative research
- **Study region:** Qatar and the UK
- **Study population:** Qatari, Egyptian, Pakistani, and Bangladeshi
- **Sampling strategy:** Purposive stratified comparative sampling
- **Data collection method:** Focus group discussion
- **Data analysis:** Framework analysis

Sample frame



Findings

- Decisions regarding deceased organ donation tend to be collective, with individual views often being influenced or overridden by various societal levels.
- Living organ donation is generally preferred over deceased organ donation in most cases.
- Discussions about organ donation within families are often hindered by uncertainties regarding the Islamic perspective, with younger individuals particularly facing perceived resistance from their parents.
- These challenges are further compounded by differing opinions from religious leaders, which contribute to confusion, a phenomenon notably observed among participants in the UK.
- Individuals tend to have greater trust in Qatar's healthcare system compared to the healthcare systems in the UK or their home countries, which facilitates organ donation in Qatar.
- Arab-Muslims are generally more conservative, making them a particularly challenging population to engage with regarding organ donation.
- Regardless of the country to which individuals have migrated, their thoughts, decisions, and behaviors are often influenced by the practices and norms they observe in their home country.

Conclusion

- Strategies that address the collective decision-making nature should be considered instead of individual based approach.
- These should accommodate various and relevant religious-cultural aspects of the phenomenon.
- There is a greater need to bridge the gap between the religious leader and the general public.
- More visibility of donors and recipients from the respective population aids in improving the informed decision making.
- A higher visibility meetings should take place to bring religious leaders and publish a global fatwa on deceased organ donation to address the highly varied views among the religious leaders.

Thank you



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