

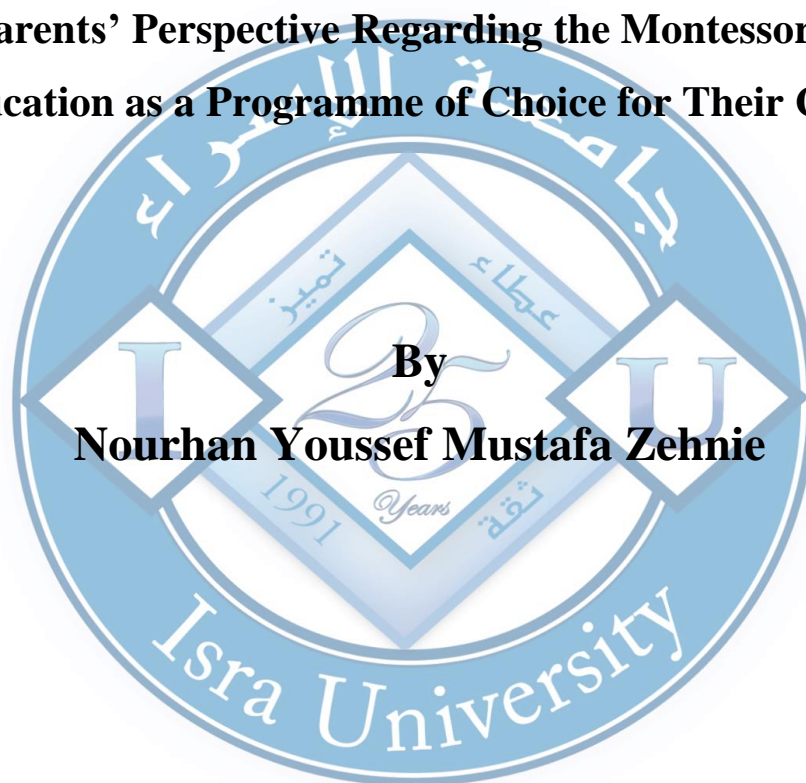
Isra University

Faculty of Educational Sciences

Department of Graduate Studies



**Arab Parents' Perspective Regarding the Montessori Method
of Education as a Programme of Choice for Their Children**



**By
Nourhan Youssef Mustafa Zehnie**

Supervisor

Professor Zahria Ibrahim Abdel Haq

**A Research Paper Submitted to the Education Department in Partial
Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Master's Degree in Kindergarten**

August, 2018

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Committee Decision

This Master's thesis submitted by the student:

Nourhan Youssef Mustafa Zehnie,

on August 13th, 2018 titled


“Arab Parents’ Perspective Regarding the Montessori Method of Education as a Programme of Choice for Their Children”

has been discussed and approved on 13/8/2018.....

Examination Committee

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External Member**

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Authorization Form

I, **Nourhan Youssef Mustafa Zehnie** authorise the Isra University to supply copies of my thesis to libraries or establishments or individuals upon request according to the Isra University regulations.

Name: Nourhan Youssef Mustafa Zehnie

Signature: 

Date: August 13th, 2018

Acknowledgement

To Professor Zahria Abd Elhaq.....The pride of every woman.
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and your unconditional service. Your intuitiveness, guidance, and
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paved the way to support it.

Researcher: Nourhan Youssef Mustafa Zehnie

Dedication

To the light of my life, Ban and Monia.

My daughters, my legacy.

There hasn't been a moment that I have not been grateful for the wonderful gift that God has given me through you.

To my granddaughter, Masa Masmousa, you showed me the meaning of unconditional love.

I love you, Teta... all the way to the moon and back... and the stars.

To my late father, Youssef, if it hadn't been for you, I wouldn't have been in the Montessori field today. I hope that you are watching.

I dedicate my humble thesis to every single woman, mother, wife, single parent, widow, and divorcee, who is thriving and seeking to empower herself....

Never give up.... There is always a way.

Nabeela and Nariman Beidas, going through this experience with you were a blessing with a sprinkle of joy.

I bless every single person who reads this thesis.

May this knowledge be an eternal gift.

Researcher: Nourhan Youssef Mustafa Zehnie

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Abstract

The primary goal of this thesis is to provide an insight into Arab parents' perspective regarding the Montessori Method of education as the programme of choice for their children. It will also determine both the extent of parents' understanding of the Montessori principles and their perception of how these principles are carried out in the Montessori school.

The study looks at the socio-economic factors and different important areas in the Montessori Method of education and management. It was done through an open-ended survey using a sample of 180 parents whose children are enrolled in Montessori schools selected from Montessori schools in several Arab countries. Those schools host parents with different Arab nationalities. Data was collected through a self-developed questionnaire that covered different aspects of the method; socio-economic factors, factors for enrolling children in Montessori school, Montessori philosophy, Montessori curriculum, values for future continuous education, and Montessori school management. Responses ranged from a principle being of (no importance) to (of great importance).

Results suggest that Montessori parents are knowledgeable about Montessori's values, principles and method; quality of education and staff professionalism with high emphasis on discipline through freedom, self-direct approach, calm aesthetic classrooms, respect of self and others, confidence, independence, self-identity self-discipline, bilingual programme, friendly welcoming atmosphere, highly skilled professional staff, learning for life goals and up-to-date education. There is no evidence

whether they themselves had Montessori experience through their early years of education. Statistically, middle aged parents with high middle income and graduate certificates were the ones that scored the highest.

Finding from this preliminary study provide a first glimpse insight into the perspective and beliefs of Montessori parents in the Arab world upon which future studies can be built. In addition, it might help new parents, administrators, Montessori trainers and teachers.

Keywords: Parents – Child – Montessori Methods – School – Programme.