

# **Impact of Sex Preference upon Fertility in Iraq 2018**

**By Nofal Soleman Talb \***

## **I : INTERDUCTION :**

The Economic thought, starting from Malthus, left a clear effect in the theoretical studies concerning fertility. Fertility was assessed through its impact on the resources available to the country and the subsequent economic and social pressures that could be pointed in three elements. The first one is natural fertility, which limits the possible number of children per couple, and it stands for concept of supply. Second, is the element of personal choice which determines the desired number of children per couple, and this number stands for the concept of demand. Third, is the cost of fertility regulation that determines the possibility of choices in the number of children desired, when the demand for children is seen equivalent to the consumption of commodities. Therefore the desire for children is compared their desire for other commodities. Since the resources available to the household are limited in most cases, that imposed a serious assessment for the benefit of children based on the elements of benefit and cost.

The benefit of children in developing communities was determined by their economic participation and help for parents in old age and in economic crisis, while the cost includes direct and indirect costs in terms of missed opportunities as a result of having children. Some studies focused on measuring the level of economic benefit of children and their costs, while other studies went to assess individuals view and their understanding of these concepts. These studies were known as studies of the value of children or of the economic importance of children .

As a result nothing can be expected other than the women"s tendency to motherhood, through raising the level of fertility, and having a male to enhance their status in society. Women"s economic subordination to men makes them, when thinking about the future risks and ways to secure their old age, more predisposed to have male children. This pushed them to making their fertility higher than if future safeguarding is equally expected from both sexes. Also, male children for women in Arab societies in general not only constitute a social insurance, but also a valuable tool to gain social respect and recognition within the family and the community at the same time.(NADIA).