The Role of Community Associations in Promoting youth Participation in voluntary work -A field study by the Nas Al-Khair Association in the Province of Skikda-

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Résumé :

Cette étude s'est penchée sur le thème suivant : « Le rôle de la communication communautaire dans la promotion de la participation des jeunes au bénévolat – Étude de terrain au sein de l'association Nas Al-Khair dans la wilaya de Skikda ». Elle a cherché à comprendre la nature de la participation des jeunes Algériens au bénévolat, à partir d'un échantillon représentatif de jeunes de la province de Skikda, et à mettre en évidence le rôle joué par la communication communautaire dans le renforcement de cette participation, compte tenu de l'importance croissante du bénévolat et de l'action communautaire dans divers domaines. Cette étude s'inscrivant dans le cadre de la recherche descriptive et analytique visant à obtenir des informations précises, nous avons cherché à passer en revue l'ensemble de la littérature relative au sujet de l'étude et à ses applications. Nous nous sommes également efforcés de collecter toutes les données sur le sujet auprès des associations,

Mots-clés : communication communautaire, bénévolat, jeunesse algérienne

de les analyser et de les décrire telles quelles, puis de les interpréter de manière qualitative afin d'aboutir à des résultats nous permettant de comprendre le phénomène et ses dimensions. Sur la base de ce qui précède, nous avons adopté une approche descriptive et utilisé le questionnaire comme outil principal pour atteindre les objectifs de la recherche.

The role of community associations in promoting youth participation in voluntary work – A field study by the Nas Al-Khair Association in the province of Skikda–

Le rôle des associations locales dans la promotion de la participation des jeunes au bénévolat – Une étude de terrain menée par l'association Nas Al-Khair dans la province de Skikda

Abstract:

This study focused on the topic: The role of community outreach in promoting youth participation in volunteer work -a field study at the Nas Al-Khair Association in the province of Skikda. The study aimed to understand the nature of Algerian youth participation in volunteer work, using a representative sample of young people in the province of Skikda, and the role that community outreach plays in promoting this participation. given the growing role of volunteer and community work in various fields. As this study falls under the category of descriptive analytical research aimed at obtaining accurate information, we attempted to survey all the

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literature related to the subject of the study and its application. we attempt to collect all data on the subject from associations, analyse and describe it as it is, and interpret it qualitatively in order to arrive at results that allow us to understand the phenomenon and its dimensions. Based on the above, we adopted a descriptive approach, using a questionnaire as the main tool to achieve the research objectives.

Key words: Community communication, volunteer work, Algerian youth

Introduction:

One of the teachings of our true religion is to help and support members of society by encouraging them to help one another. In addition to this, Islamic law calls for the same thing, considering it to be a means of strengthening the bonds between members of society.

Hence, the importance of volunteer work in our Islamic societies has emerged, as volunteer work provides services to all segments of society and is considered a symbol of the progress and prosperity of nations. The more a nation progresses and advances, the more its members engage in good deeds and charity, demonstrating their closeness and reflecting their cultural values, which are affirmed by our Islamic religion.

In order to promote a culture of volunteerism in our society, it is necessary to spread a culture that encourages collective participation in the field of volunteerism and its various areas. Volunteering is the cornerstone of appropriate channels for the growth of volunteer work and the activation of its activities. Since charitable associations are charitable in nature and their primary goal is to provide social services to different segments of society, they target young people to participate in volunteer work. Associations use several effective methods to promote youth participation in volunteer work, the most important of which is community outreach, as it encourages participation and is an important and effective element in the association's decision-making process.

1. Research question

With the development of social patterns in the modern era, communication has become increasingly important and networks of relationships have multiplied and diversified, becoming an indispensable social and human process in establishing social relationships between different members of society, exchanging ideas and information, and strengthening human relationships between them. Communication can be described as the secret of life and its development, and therefore cannot be dispensed with by individuals.

It interacts with other means of communication to express its social interactive dimensions. Communication has become a vital element and the main driver of all aspects of society. It has become an essential element for any institution that seeks to meet the desires and aspirations of its audience, whether economic, educational or even service-related. Perhaps civil society institutions and organisations, such as social associations, are among the institutions that make communication a fundamental pillar of their activities and dealings. They are voluntary socio-cultural organisations that bring together a group of individuals with a specific social structure who interact with each other to achieve certain social and cultural goals and objectives. Therefore, communication is considered a space that encompasses many types of communication, including formal, informal, collective, mass and community communication.

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Today, community communication is one of the activities and the backbone of civil society, as it opens the door for young people to showcase their abilities and get involved in community work to build an effective society that contributes to driving development, strengthening social relations, and maintaining social order and stability. It also reaches out to those in need, provides them with assistance, works to instill moral and democratic values, and contributes to social development.

Volunteer work is considered one of the most important means of supporting the development process in all its forms, as it is usually linked to cultural dimensions and social values and plays a prominent role within society, complementing government efforts. This gives young people an inner sense of the importance of this work and equips them with many skills, such as awareness, maturity and creativity. Based on the above, this study seeks to highlight the role of community outreach and the contribution of Algerian youth through a sample of young people from the Nas Al-Khair Association in the province of Skikda.

Given the importance of this group in society and its energy, dynamism and innovation, and at the same time representing a real challenge for bringing society together and achieving its development projects, it is therefore necessary to guide and educate them to engage in and promote voluntary work, which instils in them a love of citizenship and allows them to find fulfilment in community work and a space to showcase their creative abilities and efforts. From this perspective, we will attempt to answer the following main question through this study:

-What is the role of community communication in promoting youth participation in volunteer work?

By breaking down the study's problem, I have extracted a set of sub-questions, which are as follows:

-How do community communication activities contribute to promoting youth participation involunteer work in the province of Skikda?

-What community outreach methods promote youth participation in volunteer work?

-What are the main obstacles preventing young people from participating in volunteer work?

1.1. Reasons for choosing the topic

The most important reasons and motivations that led us to choose this topic are as follows:

A. Personal reasons

-A tendency and desire to study community communication and its role in promoting youth participation in volunteer work;

-Personal curiosity to study the topic of community communication and explore its details;

-Selection of prior knowledge.

B. Objective reasons

-The topic is of great importance within society through the achievement of the objectives of associations;

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-The seriousness of the topic of community communication in promoting the participation of Algerian youth in voluntary (charitable) work, given that young people are an important link within society;

-The topic's suitability for study and research in terms of knowledge and methodology.

-**Significance of the study:**

Despite recent technological developments, community communication remains important within societies. Therefore, the role of community communication in promoting youth participation in voluntary work is of scientific and practical importance.

-This study provides scientific results that answer questions related to the topic of the study.

-It highlights community communication and how it can promote voluntary work that leads to community development through various types of community communication activities.

-It determines the extent to which community communication is successful in promoting youth participation in voluntary work in various communications.

-Opening the door for young people to contribute to voluntary work and increase solidarity and mutual support among groups in need of assistance, thereby achieving noble humanitarian goals and objectives within society.

-Determining the extent to which voluntary work contributes to social cohesion by guiding and encouraging young people to participate in various voluntary activities.

1.2. Study objectives

In every scientific research or study, several objectives should be set that are clearly defined and specified in order to ultimately achieve them. Given that community outreach and promoting youth participation in volunteer work are topics that continue to receive increasing attention from researchers, we have formulated a set of objectives as follows:

-To reveal the role of community outreach through volunteer work at the Nas Al-Khair Association in the province of Skikda;

-To determine the extent to which community outreach activities contribute to increasing young people's awareness of volunteer work;

-To highlight community outreach methods that promote youth participation in volunteer work;

-To reveal the difficulties and obstacles facing volunteer work at the Nas Al-Khair Association in the province of Skikda.

2. Defining the conceptual framework of the study

2.1. Definition of collective communication

Ahmed Rashad Abdullatif defines it as: the process by which ideas and perceptions are conveyed by the members who head associations, who work to convey opinions and ideas through communication methods and means that are in line with their budget to the wider public, either internally or externally, or to the target audience of these organisations (Ohabia, 2012).

2.2. Definition of association communication procedurally

It is the various communication and networking processes followed by an association between its members and active individuals inside and outside the association for the purpose

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of achieving the association's goals and objectives through association communication methods and techniques with the aim of eliciting a response.

2.3. Definition of volunteer work

Volunteer work is defined as the effort that a person makes within their community, of their own free will, to share responsibility and bear its burden in order to contribute to solving problems of all kinds, whether social or developmental[1].

2.4. Procedural definition of volunteer work

Volunteer work is all voluntary human efforts and endeavors undertaken by individuals for moral purposes (without financial gain) and to help others.

3. Type of study and methodology used

Our study falls under descriptive studies, which are defined as: "a method or set of methods through which researchers can describe scientific phenomena and the conditions surrounding them in their environment and scientific field, and conceptualise the relationships between their variables using scientific research methods and tools"[2]. This study is descriptive because it examines the role of community communication in promoting youth participation in volunteer work through a field study of the Nas Al-Khair Association in the province of Skikda. In addition, it leads us to answer the questions posed through data collection tools specific to the researchers, which will prove the existence of a relationship between community communication and how it encourages young people to participate in volunteer work.

The main approach we followed to reach the results of this study is the descriptive approach, which is defined as:

- A method used for analysis based on sufficient and accurate data and information about a phenomenon over a period of time or successive periods in order to present scientific results that have been interpretedobjectively[3].

3.1. Research sample

This is considered the most important step that every researcher goes through in their study, and it must accurately represent the research community.

The sample is defined as:

> "a model that constitutes an aspect or part of the original community concerned with the research, representing it in such a way that it carries its common characteristics, and this model or part saves the researcher from studying all the units and individuals of the original community"[4].

This study relied on a random stratified sample, meaning that we divided the community into homogeneous groups, from which random selections were made.

Stratification is necessary for the following reasons:

-It increases the statistical efficiency of the sample.

-It provides us with good data and information for analysis.

Since the original community for the study consists of three categories, which represent the characteristics of the association's employees (members, leaders, and participants), I decided to draw a sample representing the minimum number of stratified samples, which is 10 individuals from each category, where a sample representing the subgroups is selected in the

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same proportions as in that community. The community is divided into strata, and an equal number is taken from each stratum. Thus, the study sample consisted of 30 individuals, at a rate of 10 individuals per stratum, as follows:

- Leading members 10 individuals.
- Members 10 individuals.
- Members 10 individuals.

3.2. Data collection tools

Data collection tools are a fundamental pillar of any scientific study. Scientific research has tools that researchers use for scientific studies when conducting their research. These tools are used to collect data and information from the field and play an effective role in clarifying ideas and concepts so that non-specialist readers can understand them. In particular, these tools enable researchers to present their ideas and perceptions in an organised manner[5]

3.3. Questionnaire

Defined as:

> "A method of collecting information directly from respondents through a set of questions on a specific topic, designed according to the objectives of the research and then sent by traditional mail, e-mail or delivered by hand"[6] (Omar, 1995).

It is also defined as:

> "the most widely used and common data collection tool in research, due to the advantages it offers in terms of reducing effort and cost, and the ease with which its data can be processed using statistical methods"[7].

The study included three main themes related to the research questions, namely:

-Personal data on gender, characteristics, educational level and age group.

-Theme 1: The contribution of community outreach activities to raising young people's awareness of voluntary work at the Nas Al-Khair Association in Skikda.

-The second theme: methods of community communication.

-The third theme: obstacles and difficulties faced by young people at the Nas Al-Khair Association in Skikda.

-Formulating questions and submitting them to the supervising professor for comments on whether the questions were coherent, consistent and sufficient.

-Revising the questions after taking the comments into account and then submitting them for review by the arbitrators, who are professors of sociology at the Faculty of Social and Human Sciences.

-Professor Qareed Samir –Professor of Higher Education at the University of 8 May 1945, Guelma.

-Professor Latim Naji -Professor of Higher Education at the University of 20 August 1955, Skikda.

-Professor Zengoufi Fawzia -Professor of Higher Education at the University of 8 May 1945, Guelma.

4. Fields of study

4.1. Spatial field

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We conducted the study at the Nas Al-Khair Association in the province of Skikda and its branches throughout the province.

It is a national, non-governmental, charitable association with a social, educational and cultural character, founded in 1996 by Ali Harakat and approved by the Ministry of the Interior on 11 September 1996 under number 042/0055. It is located in the Marj al-Dhib neighborhood of Skikda.

We chose this association as a field of study for the following reasons:

-It is a charitable association with multiple activities.

-Its location, which is easy to access and conduct field studies.

-The relationship established with one of its members, Nabil Boukhbiza.

4.2. Human field

This consists of members and young activists in the Nas Al-Khair Association in the province of Skikda.

4.3. Temporal domain

From February 2024 to May 2024, lasting approximately four months. The study was conducted in two phases:

Phase 1: On 16 February 2024, I was accepted to conduct this study with the association and some of its branches.

Phase 2: The questionnaire was collected on 7 May 2024, when we collected 22 questionnaires, and on 9 May, the remaining questionnaires were collected.

5. Field study results

5.1. Data distribution and analysis

Table 1 : Shows the distribution of respondents by gender

Gender	Frequency	Percentage
Male	22	73.33%
Female	08	26.66%
Total	**30**	**100%**

Source : Prepared by Dr. Yasser MOKHNACHE using SPSS

The table above shows that the percentage of males is higher than that of females, with males accounting for 73.33% and females accounting for 26.66%. This can be explained by the fact that males are more inclined to participate in and engage with voluntary community work.

The low annual participation in voluntary work is largely due to field work outside the province, which is natural, given that Skikda society remains conservative despite these being charitable and social activities. In addition, voluntary community work requires considerable effort and travel to remote locations, which is difficult for women.

There is also the annual category, which is needed by the association in various fields, including health and education, and these aspects are carried out by the Women's Charity Organisation, which deals extensively with the annual category. This result was confirmed by researcher Heba Hassan Abdel Ghani Ghoneima, who reached the following conclusion: with regard to the human composition of most of the associations under study, at the social level there is clear male dominance, while the absence of the annual category is obvious and clear.

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This is nothing more than the application of the requirement imposed on those involved in community work that women should make up 30% of the membership of all organisations, associations and other bodies.

Table 2 : Shows the distribution of respondents according to their status in the association

Status	Frequency	Percentage
Leading member	10	33.33%
Member	08	26.66%
Participant	12	40.00%
Total	**30**	**100%**

Source : Prepared by Dr. Yasser MOKHNACHE using SPSS

The above table shows the distribution of respondents according to their status in the association. The researcher used a stratified sampling method to select the sample, as it was impossible to include all members of the community in the survey. Since the original community consisted of three categories representing the status of those working in the association (members, leaders and active members), the researcher decided to draw a sample representing the minimum number of stratified samples, which is 10 individuals from each category. When the questionnaires were distributed, 12 questionnaires were returned from active members, representing 40% of the total number of questionnaires distributed. Ten questionnaires were returned from the members and leaders, representing 33.33%, while eight questionnaires were returned from the members.

Table 3 : Shows the distribution of respondents according to their status in the association

Activities carried out by the association	Frequency	Percentage
Daily	21	44.68%
Weekly	11	23.40%
Monthly	09	19.41%
Seasonal	06	12.76%
Total	**47**	**100%**

Source : Prepared by Dr. Yasser MOKHNACHE using SPSS

The table above shows that daily activities account for the largest percentage, estimated at 44.68%, followed by weekly activities at 23.40%, then monthly activities at 19.14%, while seasonal activities are estimated at 12.76%.

This is because the association is constantly active, and therefore most of its activities are daily, such as various volunteer work, and weekly, such as holding weekly educational seminars, for example: (awareness seminars for young people on the causes and dangers of social ills). Monthly or seasonal activities accounted for a smaller percentage because they are linked to occasional events such as cultural celebrations (such as Moulid al-Sharif), for

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example, the celebration of Independence Day on 5 July in coordination with the official authorities.

This result differs from that of researcher Nabil Sahi, who concluded that the associations under study are predominantly event-oriented

Table 4 : Shows the ranking of volunteer work in the association according to its importance

Volunteer work	Frequency	Percentage
Social	13	43.33%
Recreational	05	16.66%
Educational	07	23.33%
Cultural	01	03.33%
Religious	01	03.33%
Educational	03	10.00%
Development	00	00.00%
Total	**30**	**100%**

Source : Prepared by Dr. Yasser MOKHNACHE using SPSS

From the data in the table above, we can see that social volunteer work accounted for the largest percentage, estimated at 55.12%, followed by educational work, estimated at 32.33%.

This is due to the nature of the association's activities, as it primarily provides services to the community, such as distributing food baskets to the poor and orphans, the Warm Winter Campaign, breakfast for travelers during Ramadan, various volunteer campaigns, and educational services such as tutoring, as confirmed by members of the Nas Al-Khair Association. We also noted from the percentages that the association's development activities are not for the benefit of other entities and organisations. This was confirmed by the association's activists when they explained that the association's primary goal is to serve members of the community, in addition to the fact that the association's main slogan is that it is a "social, educational and cultural association."

Table 5 : Shows the potential for increasing youth participation in volunteer work through community outreach activities

Potential for increase	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	18	60.00%
No	12	40.00%
Total	**30**	**100%**

Source : Prepared by Dr. Yasser MOKHNACHE using SPSS

The data in the table above clearly shows that community outreach activities promote youth participation in the association's volunteer work, with 60.00% answering yes and 40.00% answering no.

This is due to the nature of the association, which is a voluntary charitable organisation whose main activity is social and voluntary work, which most members of the community are inclined towards.

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Table 6 : Shows the methods and techniques adopted by the association to promote youth participation in voluntary work

Methods and techniques	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Name and code	12	08.16%
Qualification and training	22	14.96%
Promotion and activation	27	18.36%
Media and advocacy	23	15.64%
Identifying the need for volunteers	16	10.88%
Care	20	13.60%
Correspondence	10	6.80%
Websites	17	11.56%
Total	**147**	**100%**

Source : Prepared by Dr. Yasser MOKHNACHE using SPSS

The data in the table above shows that the association uses a variety of methods and techniques to attract young people, including promotion and activation (18.36%), training and qualification (15.95%), Websites accounted for 11.15%, while correspondence accounted for the smallest percentage at 6.80%. This confirms that the association relies on mental and emotional persuasion and material and moral support to attract young people to volunteer work, thus ensuring the desired result.

Table 7 : Effectiveness of methods for promoting youth participation in voluntary work

Category	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Yes	23	76.66%
No	07	23.33%
Total	**30**	**100%**

Source : Prepared by Dr. Yasser MOKHNACHE using SPSS

The data in the table above shows that the methods adopted to promote youth participation in voluntary work are effective according to the respondents, with a percentage of 76.66%. This confirms that the association cares about its members. The percentage of respondents who answered "no" was 23.33%, which is due to the possibility that members do not participate in training courses, in addition to their limited access to the internet due to time constraints and other commitments.

Table 8 : Shows the means of communication used by the association to promote its activities

Means of communication	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Meetings	23	21.90%
Advertisements	07	06.66%

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Posters	16	15.23%
Leaflets	12	11.42%
Telephone calls	19	18.09%
Social media	27	25.71%
Total	**105**	**100%**

Source : Prepared by Dr. Yasser MOKHNACHE using SPSS

The table above shows that the most commonly used means of community communication by the association is social media, with an estimated 25.71%, followed by meetings with 21.90%. The association relies on social media as its primary means of communication with various segments of society, including young people, to promote its activities and encourage their involvement in volunteer work, given the high popularity of these sites among young people. Meetings are a fundamental pillar of the association, through which it studies all social issues, makes decisions and comes up with effective solutions to these issues. In addition, it relies on secondary means of communication, such as intellectual seminars, conferences and telephone communication.

Table 9 : Shows the nature of obstacles to community engagement in promoting youth participation in voluntary work

Nature of obstacles	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Social	24	19.35%
Economic	21	16.93%
Legal	18	14.51%
Financial	29	23.38%
Administrative	10	0.80%
Organisational	22	17.14%
Total	**124**	**100%**

Source : Prepared by Dr. Yasser MOKHNACHE using SPSS

The data in the table above shows that the biggest obstacles to community communication were financial in nature, accounting for 23.38%, while administrative obstacles were the lowest, accounting for 0.80%. This is due to the fact that the association lacks sufficient financial support from official bodies. Administratively, there is no need for administrative organisation, given that the association is not a funded institution but rather an independent entity. In addition to other obstacles mentioned by the researchers, there are intellectual cultural barriers, as well as a lack of material support and adequate funding from local and provincial authorities.

The studies by researchers Nabil Sahi and Heba Hassan Ghoneima reached the same conclusions regarding the obstacles faced by social associations. The researcher concluded that the study confirmed the lack of pressure exerted on charitable associations, but that there is some pressure, albeit minimal, primarily in the form of financial pressure.

Table 10 : Shows the distribution of obstacles to volunteer work within the association

Obstacles	**Frequency**	**Percentage**

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Commitment to other work	28	21.87%
Intermittent work	18	14.06%
Lack of encouragement for volunteer work	21	16.40%
Lack of desire to volunteer	23	17.96%
Lack of programs to organise volunteer work	12	09.37%
Weak financial resources and budget	26	20.31%
Total	**30**	**100%**

Source : Prepared by Dr. Yasser MOKHNACHE using SPSS

The data in the table above shows that other commitments are one of the obstacles to volunteering within the association, accounting for 21.87% of the total. This is mainly due to the busy schedules and commitments of association members. The lack of programs to organise volunteer work among young people reached 9.37%, which is due to the fact that it is not an administrative institution and therefore does not impose restrictions and strict plans for the implementation and management of its work.

This is what researcher Fahad Sultan concluded in his study on administrative obstacles in voluntary work institutions, which include restrictions and procedures that discourage young people who wish to volunteer from participating.

Table 11 : Shows the reasons why young people are reluctant to participate in voluntary work

Reasons for reluctance	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Lack of time	30	24.19%
Lack of collective awareness	23	18.54%
Lack of a culture of volunteerism	24	19.35%
Poor conditions affecting young people	26	20.96%
Lack of financial and moral support	21	16.93%
Total	**124**	**100%**

Source : Prepared by Dr. Yasser MOKHNACHE using SPSS

The data in the table above shows us that one of the main reasons for young people's reluctance to participate in voluntary work is lack of time, at a rate of 24.19%. This is due to the fact that most of the association's activists are students in secondary school or university, or teachers, and therefore most of their time is taken up with their studies and other important commitments.

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In addition to other reasons for reluctance mentioned by the respondents, there are no mechanisms for developing effective community work.

Furthermore, the association is accused of belonging to a political movement, meaning that it is vulnerable to being shut down. This finding is consistent with the conclusion reached by researcher Nabil Sahi, who concluded that one of the main obstacles facing social associations is exposure to malicious rumours.

5.2. General findings of the study

Through this study, we sought to understand the role of community outreach in promoting youth participation in volunteer work at the Nas Al-Khair Association in the province of Skikda. Our study yielded the following findings:

-Most of the respondents active in the Nas Al-Khair Association are male, with their percentage significantly exceeding that of females, reaching 73.33%.

-The majority of respondents are young people, reaching 46.66%.

-The majority of the association's active members are engaged, accounting for 40.00% of the total.

-The majority of the respondents have a high level of education, including university and postgraduate degrees, accounting for 56.66% of the total.

-The majority of the association's activists have less than five years of experience in the association, accounting for 46.66%.

-Social work tops the list of volunteer activities in order of importance, accounting for 43.33%.

-Promotion and activation are among the most effective techniques in encouraging young people to participate in volunteer work, with a percentage of 18.36%, followed by qualification and training with a percentage of 15.64%.

-The most common means of communication used by the association to promote its activities are social media sites, with a percentage of 25.71%, followed closely by meetings, with a percentage of 21.90%.

-One of the most significant obstacles to the association's community work is the commitment to other activities, with a percentage of 21.87%.

-Lack of time is one of the main reasons why young people are reluctant to participate in voluntary work, at 24.19%.

-The biggest obstacle to community communication in promoting youth participation in voluntary work is a lack of financial and moral support, at 26.80%.

Conclusion

Through this study, we have attempted to examine some of the socio-communicative features of community communication in promoting youth participation in volunteer work.

We chose the Nas Al-Khair Association in the province of Skikda as a model for studying this topic, considering it a charitable institution of a social, educational and cultural nature based on volunteer work. This makes it easier for us to answer the question posed by our study. We have concluded that community communication, in all its activities, plays a major role in promoting youth participation in volunteer work through the use of more effective techniques and methods such as motivation, reinforcement and encouragement, in addition to

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social media and the organisation of training and educational courses. All of this will lead to a brighter future for volunteer work, which will become more sensitive and advanced.

Despite this, the association still needs constant encouragement and support for its community work, as well as awareness-raising about its importance, because it is one of the main components for achieving stability and development and works to develop the association and improve its activities and volunteer work.

Recommendations of the study

In light of the results obtained by this study, the following recommendations are made:

- Focus on the annual element within the association by holding awareness-raising seminars for parents on the importance of women's participation in voluntary work.
- The state and official bodies should focus on associations and review the decrees and laws relating to associations.
- Provide financial support to associations to fund their activities.
- Associations should intensify their efforts and rely on the most effective means to promote youth participation in voluntary work, as they are the most creative and active group within society.
- Associations should establish an information, reception and guidance office to provide actors with the necessary information and clarify queries.
- Associations should establish laws specific to voluntary work, such as the rights and duties of volunteers.
- Associations should seek the expertise of specialists in social sciences and social communication, as this will help and facilitate communication and contact between all actors within the voluntary association space in order to attract the largest possible number of young people to participate effectively and systematically in voluntary association work.
- Work to encourage and in still a culture of volunteerism among university students, making it a required activity and part of the curriculum.
- Call on the various media outlets to play a more influential role in informing members of society about the nature and importance of volunteer work, the extent to which society needs it, and the importance of promoting and preserving it.
- Establish a unit responsible for planning, organising and evaluating volunteer programs and community service, coordinating between university faculties and liaising with civil society organisations.
- Encourage young people to volunteer through financial and moral incentives.
- Educate the younger generation about volunteer work.

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