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An Analysis of the Effective Sociocultural Factors on Educated Women's Intention to Migration (Isfahan as Case Study)

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Abstract

Migration of educated individuals (elites) considered as a social issue for many countries during last years. Because trend of such migrations increased among women, the purpose of this study is to analyze the effective sociocultural factors on educated women's intention to migration abroad. This study was survey and its utilized device to gathering data was the questionnaire. In order to developing hypotheses, Everett Lee's theory of attraction- repulsion factors has been used. The statistical population of this study is educated women and girls with 20-39 years old in Isfahan and then the sample with 242 ones selected randomly to gathering data from women and girls who entered to Isfahan center of oversea dispatch. In order to analyzing data and concluding results, SPSS was utilized. The results of this study indicate that having relatives who live in foreign countries is attraction factor in term of educated women's intention to migration abroad.

Keywords: migration, elite's migration, educated women, and attraction factors

Introduction

Migration that defined as people's movement from one place to another to work or life is one of the human's historical and fundamental social behaviors. During past times, the main reason of migration was political issues, but nowadays social and economic issues are the most important reasons for many of migrations. Since the human resource is one of the basic measures of development. Nowadays migration of elites is one of the basic problems that developing courtiers faced it. Iran faced with this issue and in the later years problem of migration considered as social and economic problem. One of the new and important dimensions of migration is women's entering to migration flows. Women's migration is specific form of migration and because women are more than half of global population, have its own positive and negative effects on origin country. The statistics of Human Rights Watch indicates that from three decades to now women's migration is the most important statistic of migration so that approximately 200 million women and young girls have migrated. This statistic is less than this value to before than this time (International Monetary Fund). Nowadays women's

attitude and idea is different than past times women. There are some factors such as girl's achievement in universities that provide backgrounds of increasing expectations, and economic and social ambitions. Also issues of education, employment, and autonomy that didn't considered during past times for migration, with respect to increasing educated women, providing scientific conditions, attaining of this group to facilities and alignment with international flows increased. Because of this, women migrate to achieving better social conditions. Most of experts that effort to identify reasons of elite's migration examined this issue from economic view and focused on this dimension as the main reason and motivator of migration, while peoples don't migrate only for economic issues. Most of migrations occur because of social reasons, because in most cases these migrators have high income in their countries (such as engineers and surgeons), but regardless of this leave their own country. Therefore all of migrations didn't because of economic reasons and migrators perceive that educational and legal systems aren't justice and fairly. Some of social reasons of migrations among Iranian women are lack of sufficient opportunities for social activities, lack of individual freedom in different grounds, exclusiveness of public occupations in Iran for men, and injustice rights of men and women.

Brain drain is a social challenge and pathologists consider it as type of colonialism of developing countries and define it as the most destructive social crisis. Probably any problem such migration isn't important for different countries, because when migration increased during a period of time, it will consider as social problem. Usually destination countries accept two groups of migrators that include wealthy and expert peoples. Because if they want to educate experts, it will takes 20 years. Educational saving of USA was 10.5 billion because of this, while our country losses up approximately 38 billion (Wikipedia.com). The studies of International Monetary Fund (IMF) indicate that Asia is the first in migration among other continents and Iran was the first in this continent (Khezeri, 2001: 547-569). About 90 of 135 students who achieve in scientific Olympia in Iran during last three years now study in one of the American universities and probably of their return to Iran only is 3% (Voghofi, 2001: 54). Representative of the United Nations Population Fund states women and young girls have the most rates of migrators among others and also indicate that women are 50% of 191 million international migrators. Most of women migrate because of injustice, lack of conditions to attaining different jobs, inappropriate marriages, and inattention to them in public and social affairs (WWW.imf.org). Outbid, the coordinating responsible of United Nations in Iran indicates that 50% of migrators are women and Iran face high rate of migration because of its young population distribution and high rate of unemployment. Isna, coordinating responsible of Unite Nations in Iran, refers to injustice, different limitations, and poverty as the main reasons of migration in Iran. With respect to different studies and examinations in term of migration, it is determined that statistical population of such studies were both sexes (male and female) and there isn't any study that conducted about social and cultural reasons of educated women's migration. Therefore this study seeks to examine different social and cultural reasons of educated women's attitude toward migration abroad.

Research Purposes

With respect to this issue that one of the important issues of our country is women's migration especially educated women, this study seeks to examine effective factors on educated women's migration abroad to identify the main attractive and repulsion factors of this issue.

Research Backgrounds

Because this subject is an inter-discipline and multi-dimensional issue, there are many studies and researches that conducted in different fields such as human sciences, philosophy, and medical sciences. This diversification refers to importance of this subject. Some of these studies in internal and external issues indicated in following notes. Nori et al., (2009) examined reasons of migration among graduated students of health field from Iran University of medical sciences. Their results indicated economic factors, official and educational factors, professional factors, globalization, social factors, and cultural factors influence migration abroad. The results of this study also indicate that strategies of human resources maintaining should consider important issues such as economic and educational issues. Salehiomran (2005) examined faculty member's attitude toward reasons of elite's migration. Their results indicated that there are some factors that influence this such as inattention to scientific activities, lack of sufficient facilities for study, low salaries and rights, feeling of injustice, feeling and unfairness that influence elite's migration abroad physical and welfare facilities for life, progress and scientific and professional growth, better occupational opportunities, mental and social well-being for themselves and their family, attention to life in society with injustice, and finally better relation with the needs of external society are the main pull factors from faculty member's perspective. Khajenouri utilized survey method to studying effective factors on young people's attitude toward migration abroad and then used questioners to gathering data. The results of path analysis indicated that some variables such as gender, social identity, and reference group (family and friends) are the most important factors that influence attitude toward migration abroad. Some variables such as extend of using Medias, age, and life styles influence it indirectly. Offoha (1989) examined educated Nigerian migrators in USA and result that the effect of ethnicity is the most important factor in deciding to return to origin country. In the family-related structural factors, it is determined that lack of family relationships and belongings leads to facilitating migration. Other factors such as educational levels, employment, ethnicity, and finally decision to migration influence Nigerian expert migrator's attitude toward return. Deng (1990) in his study "migration and right of policy choosing" examined the implications and reasons of Chines educated migrators and stated that in this country political alienation, low income, poverty conditions of life, lack of sufficient facilities to study, and high level of human resource mismanagement are the main reasons of migration. Some of them concerned punished in their country because of which clearly political attitudes that have in foreign country. Naumova (1996) in his study "migration from Russia" examined historical trend of migration from Russia and its different steps and motivations. He claimed that the most important reason of migration during years of 1970 to 1980 was political and ethnicity issues, while nowadays migration influenced by reduction of governmental subsides in

basic sciences and intellectual work. Change of Russian social basis in which countries that Russian populations considered as minority in them is the main reason of their migration.

Theoretical Framework

Theory of Relative Deprivation

Some of authors and experts such as Stark and Wang examined migration issues in frame of theory of relative deprivation. Migration is the final answer to relative deprivations. Indeed, when an individual or community can't achieve their valuable goals in their social organization and sense that there are sufficient resources to removing their deprivation in external social organization, and then migrate to this external social organization.

Theory of Globalization

Globalization and process of modernism are simultaneously and started from 16th century. Globalization is the processes of systemizing economic, international relations among governments, and presence of a culture or global awareness. This process intensified during time a now is in it's the most rapid development step. On the other hand, intensification of globalization in the relationships among countries especially developing and developed countries reinforced and also this process could containerize differences between developing and developed countries. Extension of global relations and inequality among countries explain existing differences between them and expert's migration to developed countries especially USA (Tayyebinia, 2001: 47).

Theory of Attractive and Repulsive Factors

This perspective that introduced by Our Lee for the first time includes four groups of factors that influence migration and especially expert's migration. These include:
1. Which factors that are related to origin (repulsive factors)
2. Which factors that are related to destination (attractive factors)
3. Individual factors
4. Repulsive factors

Theory of Dignity Crisis

Deciding to migration in this perspective is outcome of elite's view toward themselves status and dignity. Social status includes two aspects: 1) objective aspect that refers to welfare, life style, and rate of having social benefits and gifts, 2) perceptual and mental aspects that refer to society and elite's perception of their social status and relatives this issue. If this group don't acquires welfare from objective measures and haven't their actual social status, elite peoples maybe decide to migration with hope that his/her social status in destination country is better (Fallah et al., 2008: 11).

Theory of Adoptive Educational System

This theory refers that the first reason of migration from developing countries is their educational system that formed from European countries educational systems. This imitation leads young people's attention moved to which countries that developed such educational systems (Fallahi et al., 2008: 111).

Theory of Migration Human Capital

This perspective examines migration issue with considering skills and expertise as the product in market of work demand and supply. This means that expert human resource move from place to another to better achievements and to acquire the most outcomes (for example from an organization to another or from a country to another). Therefore individual's decision making to migration is similar to deciding to investing and exploiting it (Zakersalehi, 2007: 115).

Theory of Dual Market

This perspective considers international migration from internal demand of human resources in modern industrialized societies. Pivour, that is one of the advocators of this perspective, stated that international migration formed because of continuous demand for human resources that is related with economic structure of developed nations. Based on Pivour, migration didn't formed through push factors in origin countries but it formed because of pull factors in destination courtiers (Messy, 1985: 96). With respect to theory of repulsion and attractive factors that is more comprehensive than other theories in term of this subject, our study seeks to examine repulsion and attractive factors in term of educated women's migration. Strengthens of this theory is its concentration on individual factors. Therefore some individuals prefer to migrate because of these factors effects and some others remain in their origin country (Michael Todarou, 1988: 22).

Hypotheses

H1: there is relationship between senses of belonging to fatherland with attitude toward migration.
H2: there is relationship between effects of individual factors with attitude toward migration.
H3: there is relationship between having relatives who live abroad with attitude toward migration.
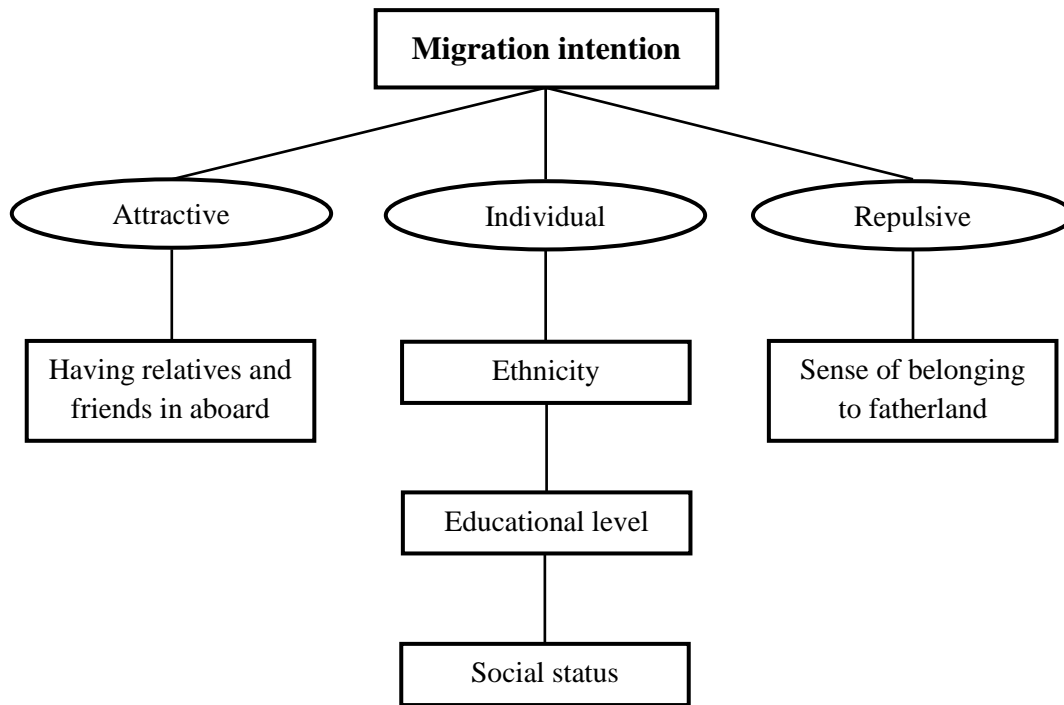
Fig 1: Research Framework

Methodology

The present study was quantitative and with respect to its purposes, survey is the best method to gathering information. The statistical population of this study is educated women and girls with 20-39 years old in 2011 in Isfahan. This includes all women and girls that referred to Isfahan center of dispatch and then 242 ones of them selected based on random sampling method as sample members. Sample size determined based on primary sampling and with respect to its formula.

Data Gathering Methods

As Doas (1997) indicates, the most prominent technique in survey research is questionnaire. So in this study the questionnaire utilized to gathering data. In order to examining validity of the questionnaire, formal validity was utilized and then experts and supervisor of this study examine the questionnaire and correct it and then final version of it developed. In order to examining reliability of the questionnaire, first a primary survey was conducted among 30 ones of respondents and then Cronbach's Alpha has been used to examining reliability of questionnaire and its results indicated that this questionnaire is reliable. These results indicted

at the table 1. Also Cronbach's Alpha was calculated for this questionnaire 0.072 that is acceptable reliability.

Table 1: the results of coefficient

Variables	coefficient
Sense of belonging to fatherland	0.072

Research Variables

Dependent Variable

Migration Intention

This is the psych-sociological process that person immigrates because of environmental or individual factors. Migration intention finally influenced by a series of values, belongings, individual characteristics, impression, and individual evaluation from societies' conditions and problems and also conditions of abroad (Shawano, 2001: 25).

Independent Variable

The independent variables of this study include two groups:

Social and Cultural Factors

Senses of belonging to fatherland, and having relatives and friends in aboard

Individual Factors

Ethnicity, educational level, and social status

Sense of Belonging to Fatherland

This refers to national feeling, friendship, and intimacy that its extent is different among peoples.

Findings

Descriptive Analysis of Findings

In order to measuring individual variables, multi-response questions were used and then Likert 5 points scale applied to measuring social and cultural variables. The results of demographic variables indicated that 24.8% of respondents were less than 25 years old, 42.1% were 25-30 years old, 26% were 30-35 years old, and 2.9% were more than 35 years old. 9.9% of them were Turkish, 4.5% were Lor, 2.5% were Kord, 7% were Bakhtiari, 59.9% were Persian, and 13.6% were from other ethicizes. 15.7% on respondents had BA degree, 46.7% had MS degree, 22.7% had MA degree, and 7.9% had Ph.D. degree. 9.1% of respondents were graduated with medical fields, 22.3% with sciences fields, 26.4% with engineering fields, 28.9% with human sciences, and 07% with foreign languages, 35.5% of respondents were employment, 22.3% were students, 25.2% were unemployment, and 12% were house-wife. Also the results indicated that 14.5% of respondents had less than 250$ income, 9.1% had 250-500$ income, 1.2% had 1000-1500$, and 3.3% had more than 1500$ income. 56.2$ of respondents were single and 28.5% were marriage, 10.3$ were widow, and 1.7$ were separated. 1.7% of respondent's spouses were illiterate, 2.1% had educational levels less than diploma degree, 6.2% were BA, 10.3% were MS, and 10.7% were MA and more than it. 2.9% of mothers were illiterate, 22.3% had educational levels less than diploma, 38.8% were diploma, 9.1% had BA degree, 14.5% had MS, and only 5% had more than MA degree. The descriptive findings about levels of migration intention indicate that 56.2 of women had intensified migration intention, 30.2 of them had moderate migration intention, and 11.2% of them had less migration intention. 20.7% of respondents preferred immigrate to USA, 33.5% to Canada, 14% to Australia, 24.8% to one of the European countries, and 7% to other countries. 1.7% of women preferred immigrate to Switzerland, 8% to Dubai, 2.5T to India, 8% to Italy, 8% to Finland, 4% to Austria, 4T to Swedish, and 8% to China. The results of descriptive findings indicates that 32.2% of respondents reported social justice low, 57.9% moderate, 9.1% high, and 8% very high.

Inferential Analysis

The first hypothesis of this study indicates that there is relationship between senses of belonging to fatherland with attitude toward migration. The results of this hypothesis indicated at the table 1.

Table 1: correlation coefficient between senses of belonging to fatherland with attitude toward migration

Variables	Measures	attitude toward migration
senses of belonging to fatherland	Pearson correlation coefficient	-0.133
	sig	0.041
	Frequency	236

As indicated at the table 2, there is significant correlation between senses of belonging to fatherland and attitude toward migration. This result indicates that if belonging to fatherland is less then attitude toward migration will increase.

The second hypothesis indicates that there is relationship between effects of individual factors with attitude toward migration. In order to examining this hypothesis, first the relationship between age and attitude toward migration examined. The result of this indicated at the table 2.

Table 2: the result of correlation between age and attitude toward migration

Variables	Measures	attitude toward migration
age	Pearson correlation coefficient	0.043
	sig	0.523
	Frequency	227

As this result indicated there isn't significant correlation attitude toward migration and different steps of life. The correlation coefficient indicates that attitude toward migration is independent from individual's age.

Also other section of this hypothesis indicates that there is significant relationship between race and attitude toward migration. The results of this examination indicate at the table 3.

Table 3: the results of analysis of regression about attitude toward migration with respect to race

Variables	Races	Frequency	Average	Standard deviation	F	Sig
attitude toward migration	**Turk**	24	1.87	0.74	5.288	0.0001
	Lor	10	1.6	0.84		
	Kurd	6	2	0.89		
	Bakhtiari	17	1.76	0.75		
	Persian	140	1.36	0.56		

	Other	33	1.81	0.84		
	Sum	230	1.53	0.69		

The results of this table indicates that attitude toward migration is different between different races with p< 0.05.

Table 4: the results of Post hoc test of attitude toward migration based on race

Races	Strain	Mean Difference	Sig
Persian	Turk	-0.51	0.001
	Kurd	-0.63	0.023
	Bakhtiari	-0.4	0.02
	other	-0.45	0.001

The results of this table indicate that the Persian nations have attitude toward migration less than other races.

Also other section of this hypothesis indicates that there is relationship between educational level and attitude toward migration. In order to examining this hypothesis, analysis of variance used that its results indicated at the table 5.

Table 5: the results of analysis of variance about relationship between educational level and attitude toward migration

Variable	Educational level	Frequency	Average	Standard deviation	F	Sig
Attitude toward migration	BA	37	1.59	0.68	1.828	0.143
	MS	112	1.46	0.67		
	MA	54	1.5	0.6		
	Ph.D	19	1.84	0.89		
	Sum	222	1.52	0.68		

As indicated at table 5, attitude toward migration based on educational levels isn't significant with p<0.05. In other words, the respondents with different educational levels have similar attitude toward migration.

Other section of this hypothesis indicates that there is relationship between respondent's social status and their attitude toward migration. The results of this hypothesis indicated at the table 6.

Table 6: the result of analysis of variance about the relationship between respondent's social class and their attitude toward migration

Variable	Social status	Frequency	Average	Standard deviation	F	Sig
Attitude toward migration	**Low level**	**14**	**1.57**	**0.51**	**0.386**	**0.680**
	Moderate level	**187**	**1.51**	**0.67**		
	High level	**35**	**1.62**	**0.84**		
	Sum	**236**	**1.53**	**0.69**		

The third hypothesis indicates that there are relationship having relatives and friends aboard and attitude toward migration. The results of this examination indicated at the table 7.

Table 7: distribution of attitude toward migration with respect to having relatives and friends aboard

			having relatives and friends aboard				Total
			One of my family members	One of my relatives	One of my friends and relatives	None	
Attitude toward migration	**high**	**Frequency**	34	46	34	21	135
		%	25.2	34.1	25.2	15.6	100
		Total	14.5	19.7	14.5	9	57.7
	Moderate	**Frequency**	9	19	23	21	72
		%	12.5	26.4	31.9	29.2	100
		Total	3.8	8.1	9.8	9	30.8
	Low	**Frequency**	7	6	5	9	27
		%	25.9	22.2	18.5	33.3	100
		Total	3	2.6	2.1	3.8	11.5
Total		**Frequency**	50	71	62	51	234
		%	21.4	30.3	26.5	21.8	100
		Total	21.4	30.3	26.5	21.8	100

Based on this table, frequency of respondents who have relatives, friends, or any one aboard is more than haven't any one in aboard.

Table 8: distribution of attitude toward migration based on having relatives aboard

Statistic	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	12.809	6	0.046

Based on the result of table 8, there is relationship between attitude toward migration and having relatives and friends in aboard withp<0.05.The result of correlation coefficient indicates that attitude toward migration influenced by having relatives and friends aboard.

Table 9: distribution of average and standard deviation of research variables

Variables	Frequency	Minimum	Maximum	Average	Standard deviation
Age	232	19	38	28.4	4.08
Migration intention	236	1	3	1.53	0.69
Sense of belonging to fatherland	242	1.33	4.83	2.98	0.73
Having friends and relatives abroad	239	1	4	2.49	1.06

Based on the findings of table 9, average of respondent's age is 28.40, attitude toward migration id 1.53T sense of belonging on fatherland is 2.98, and finally having relatives and friends is 2.49.

In order to examining separate and simultaneous effects of each of research variables on attitude toward migration, analysis of regression used and its results indicated at the table 10.

Table 10: the results of analysis of regression for prediction of attitude toward migration based on research variables

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	T	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
Constant	1.112	0.215		5.174	0.0001
Having relatives and friends in aboard	0.114	0.044	0.173	2.6	0.001

a. Dependent variable: attitude toward migration.

With respect to the results of table 10, having relatives and friends in aboard is the most important factor than other factors.

Table 11: eliminated variables from analysis of regression for prediction of attitude toward migration based on research variables

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	Partial correlation	Tolerance
	B	T	sig		
Sense of belonging on fatherland	0.108	1.546	0.123	0.102	0.811
Social status	0.053	0.812	0.418	0.054	0.942

As indicated at the table 11, sense of belonging on fatherland and social status aren't significant in prediction of attitude toward migration and so eliminated from model.

Table 12: the eliminated variables from analysis of regression in prediction of migration intention based on demographic variables

Variable	Tolerance	Partial Correlation	Sig.	T	Beta In
Age	0.989	0.076	0.575	0.564	0.074
Ethnicity	1	-0.127	0.345	-0.952	-0.123
Educational levels	0.787	0.203	0.129	1.541	0.22
Academic field	0.933	0.046	0.734	0.341	0.046
Activity	0.974	0.054	0.689	0.403	0.053
Marital status	0.993	0.235	0.079	1.79	0.227
Spouse's educational levels	0.827	0.013	0.922	0.099	0.014
Father's educational levels	0.294	0.024	0.858	0.179	0.043

The table 5 indicates age, ethnicity, educational levels, academic field, marital status, spouse's educational levels, and father's educational levels aren't significant predictors of migration intention and so removed from model.

Conclusion

Migration of educated individuals (elites) considered as a social issue for many countries during last years. Because trend of such migrations increased among women, the purpose of this study is to analyze the effective sociocultural factors on educated women's intention to migration abroad. This study was survey and its utilized device to gathering data was the questionnaire. In order to developing hypotheses, Everett Lee's theory of attraction- repulsion factors has been used. The statistical population of this study is educated women and girls with 20-39 years old in Isfahan and then the sample with 242 ones selected randomly to gathering data from women and girls who entered to Isfahan center of oversea dispatch. In order to analyzing data and concluding results, SPSS was utilized. The results of this study indicate that traveling abroad and having relatives who live in foreign countries are attraction factors is the main repulsion factor in educated women's intention to migration abroad. The results of regression test indicate that the most share of educated women's migration abroad are respectively traveling abroad and living in abroad are attraction factors. With respect to the examination of hypotheses, the following conclusions resulted.

1. Women's migration intention is intensive and influenced by sense of belonging to fatherland. This means that as much as the sense of belonging to fatherland is low, then migration intention increased.
2. Migration intention is different between peoples based on their ethnicity. Comparison of migration intention among different ethnicities indicates that the Persians have low migration intention than other ethnicities. But migration intention hasn't differences based on educational levels, social status, and income levels. This means that these three variables didn't influence migration intention. All in all, the results of this study indicate that only ethnicity influences migration intention among other individual factors.

All in all, the results of this study indicate that there are some factors that predict migration intention. These include having relatives and friends who live abroad. These results indicate that social injustice, traveling abroad, and having relatives and friends who live abroad predict migration intention and sense of belonging to fatherland and social status don't influence migration intention. Also the results indicate that only mother's educational levels predict migration intention and other demographic variables such as age, ethnicity, educational levels, academic field, type of activities, spouse's educational levels, and father's educational levels couldn't influence migration intention.

Empirical Suggestions

The following suggestions offered based on the results of study.
1. More attention to other ethnicities in Iran from individual and social issues
2. Educating women with social and family outcomes of migration
3. Educating women with conditions of living in destination countries

4. Educating mothers who encourage and support their girls to migration

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