

# The Dream Of Public Inclusion

When you meet your typical Jordanian, he is most likely to be pessimistic about the future, would rather leave the country if he gets the chance and he is probably not happy with the way the many governments we've had in the last decade dealt with the many issues the country has faced. Furthermore, his lack of involvement in decision making is another reason why this person is not looking forward to the future. but if given the chance he would always choose what's best for the country. some might argue that we are not ready at the moment to expand the decisions made by the people. However, there are many factors that we can use to have citizens who always choose the best for the future of their country and create a better future based on our decision making. Firstly, we are a young nation, the median age in Jordan is between 22-24 years old, this simple statistical fact could be a key to have a better future for this country. it is much easier to teach a young nation the importance of decision making, easier to lay down the foundations of it and it's influence on making this country a better place. Moreover, our very stable situation could also play a vital part to help us. Furthermore, we have a lot of educated people. In Schools, The primary to secondary transition rate has reached 98.79% as of 2013 and the rate of transition to higher education is 85% of secondary school graduates. The first dream that comes to mind for my country is simple, the participation in public decisions for the development of the country. If a country is destined to have a good future, it must come from well-aware citizens who want the best interest for their nation and if these well-aware citizens could participate in making public decisions they will always pick what's right or at least what they think is right which is the point. the mentioned reasons above could help in making this dream happen. Although there could be many obstacles in the way I think my dream can become true. Public decisions in Jordan are limited, we never had a referendum in Jordan, most decisions are made by the government that is selected based on the picks of a prime minister who is chosen by the king due to the fact of the low representation of parties in the parliament(only 28% of the parliament are from parties ) that's because the current election law doesn't favor at all. most Jordanians think that the parliament is a joke, only 36% participated in the last election, having a strong parliament is a dream for all Jordanians. A better election law which benefits parties that could lead to having a parliament with most of its members are from parties, the party with the most seats should be able to form a government that is chosen by the people, decision making should not stop there, public participation in the decisions taken by the government is an expansion of decision made by the public. I would like to see a Jordan where democracy is implemented at the maximum and a country where our voices are being more heard than now. However, two obstacles stopping this from happening which are the current weak parties and the lack of political awareness by the public that lead us to have weak parliaments in the last two decades.

We lack major parties in Jordan even though we have many political parties with no obvious programs and they are mostly useless. What I like to see in the future is the presence of Strong political parties with clear programs. Moreover, parties with similar objectives and political

opinions should unite together and present their programs to the people through the many different forms of digital media. Hopefully, the parties will lack outer agendas. Moreover, these parties should have a good number of young members, as I mentioned earlier the median age is young, having young members from all over the country would benefit the country and the party rather than having the same old political faces who achieved nothing and are only there to benefit themselves. Although they might lack experience, the youth is a most willing part of the society that wants to improve this country, No matter how different the parties are, from being conservative or leaning away from traditions, having different approaches about how they are going to deal with the country's issues if they are in charge they must learn to respect each other and respect the choice of the people.

When participating in decision making, the person should be choosing the best available decision. Sadly that was not the case throughout the years with electing the MPs in Jordan, Most decisions were influenced by tribalism or short-term self-interests producing several weak parliaments. To get the best decision-makers, the public should be taught to pick the best choice rather than the person from the same tribe or family, We always complain about how weak the parliament is although it comes from our choices. If we expand decision making based on this then I would rather keep things the same, Reaching a level where we should be aware of the consequences of making a wrong choice based on our past experiences is a thing that the public need. As I mentioned earlier we are a young nation if we work on them and teach them the importance of decision making, we have the potential to produce a generation aware of the results of making the right choice and the consequences of a bad one. it's a dream of mine to have the public choosing the best and neglecting tribalism and the short term interests. Thus having responsible citizens who are capable of producing responsible decisions that they think are the best for benefiting the country. Moreover, the participation in the current decision making has been poor lately, so higher participation is what we need in the future which leads us into better, fairer decision making

Decision making is not only voting for a government, but it also involves public consultation where the government asks for public input on a specific policy issue, has provided the public with information on the concern. also, Public participation where information is exchanged between the public and government, involving dialogue. The purpose of the interaction is to transform the opinions of both parties into informed judgments. Public participation methods include citizen juries, citizens' panels, consensus conferences, deliberative polls, citizens' dialogues. This leads to transparency between the Government and the public and It is an ongoing process that covers the period between two elections, where dissemination of information about local policies and decisions occurring in both directions. This leads to a partnership in decision making where responsibilities are shared between the public and the government. it's a dream for me to have this in Jordan, to reach this level of participation in decision making by the public. people could say we have some forms this but I don't think it's implemented in the right way, I want to see easier communication between the public and the

government in the future and that easier communication could be only achieved by public participation.

These public decisions that are made by well-aware citizens with a system that allows proper participation by the public will ultimately help in the development of the country giving a chance to have our vision of a better Jordan becoming true. when more of the public is capable to participate in making decisions you will have more insights, you will be able to explore the alternatives perhaps the public could be able to present one of these alternative options. Thus, the participants will have a positive impact on decision making leading to choose the best option and as I mentioned before we are capable of doing that because we are young, educated, we are exposed to the outer world more than ever and we have a painted image of a perfect Jordan in our heads and participating in public decisions is a way for us to have this image to come true. this will lead into development in most sectors and building trust between the public and the government because we are being heard and we are being part of the change increasing the sense of responsibility and loyalty of the citizen towards his country, leading to more eager citizens who want to change the country for the better and participating in public decisions is a way for them to make it happen.

In conclusion, If a country wants to improve and nourish then only the public are the ones who can make this happen and the participation in decision making helps us to do so. I think my dream has a high probability of occurring in the future because Jordanians have the potential needed for this dream to turn into reality but we need first to acknowledge this potential, understand the importance and responsibility of participating in decision making, learn the importance of choosing what we think is the best of Jordan. and hopefully, we can have our dream of perfect Jordan