From fragility to marginality: Palestinian youth’s value transformations in the last two decades

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The paper analyses the sociological changes that the Palestinian society went through during the last two decades and their impact on youths’ value system. It highlights the political, social, and economic transformations that changed the situation of youth from fragility to marginality, according to the sociology of fragility.

The paper came out with several conclusions, most notable of which is that the political, social, and economic transformations has made youth an obstacle to progress and a burden on the Palestinian society.

Given the general context of the Palestinian society, the responsibility of the political, social, or cultural official and civil components should not be overlooked in addressing the impact these transformations have inflected on youth. Therefore, any solutions must include all the structures affecting the reality of youth. No matter their orientation, these structures should work in a holistic approach that enables young people to overcome their miserable reality, by adopting a complemented strategy economically, socially, and intellectually that brings youth back to their natural role and invests in them towards strengthening their roles in public life.

The solution begins with including youth’s perspective in all institutional processes, practices, plans, and procedures related to the management of society, economy, and politics at the local and national levels. It requires working on raising the awareness of youth in the Gaza Strip; building a collective conscience; developing new societal perceptions through collective awareness, activation, and educational activities that distance young people from fanaticism; and encouraging them to present community initiatives to protect civil peace, to defend youth’s issues and rights, and to be involved in the popular struggle against occupation. However, this is also the responsibility of the Palestinian Authority, parties, civil institutions, universities, the family, and the media alike.