

Postgraduate Students' Attitudes Towards the Social and Economic Factors Affecting the Emergence of Anomie

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Abstract: This study aimed at identifying the attitudes of postgraduate students in Jordanian universities towards the social factors affecting the emergence of anomie in Jordanian society. The method used was a descriptive analytical approach. The study sample consisted of 273 postgraduate students in five public Jordanian universities enrolled in the second semester of the academic year (2018/ 2019) for the degrees of higher diploma, master's degree, and doctorate. The study sample was selected using the simple random way. The study used a questionnaire which consisted of (24) items that represent the social dimension affecting the emergence of anomie in Jordanian society. The study results showed that there is a high-impact level for the social factors on the emergence of anomie in Jordanian society from the perspective of postgraduate students in Jordanian universities. The results also revealed that there are statistically significant differences between the mean responses for the study sample individuals towards the social factors affecting the emergence of anomie in Jordanian society due to the variables of monthly income, age, marital status, faculty, religion, job status, while there are no statistically significant differences between the mean responses for the study sample individuals towards the social factors affecting the emergence of anomie in Jordanian society due to the variables of gender and educational qualification. Based on the results, the study concludes with recommendations for further research.

Keywords: Sociology, Criminology, Anomie, Postgraduate students, Jordanian society.

1 Introduction

The concept of anomie was first introduced to the English language in 1951. It is an old word that was related to ignoring the divine law among the clergymen [1]. In Europe, the French scholar, Emile Durkheim, recognized it through the philosopher Jean Marie Guyau [2]. After a period of not using the word anomie, it was reintroduced and developed in 1930, in the works of Elton Mayo, Talcott Parsons, and Robert Merton. In 1950, the Anomie theory witnessed a strong reaction since it was related to the division of work. However, it was reintroduced in the research of criminologists and psychologists with regard to interpreting the theories, especially in relation to delinquency and crime [3]. By 1993, there was a considerable decline in using the concept of anomie, in that some researchers described it as a condition that is dying by itself. However, this case did not apply to the USA, where there was an increasing interest for this concept as it was related to an unprecedented increase in the indicators of depression and anxiety [4]. suggested that the percentage of depression in the USA increased by ten times in comparison with that in the nineteenth century, as it was only (1–2%) among those born before 1915, while the percentage reached (15–20%) among those born in the twentieth century [4]. In fact, the USA currently has the highest rates of depression in the world [5]. It has been suggested that anomie not only affects mental health, but also behavior. For example, there are increasing cases of group murder, committing suicide among soldiers as well as other worrying practices. The existence of social policies could result in ethical wellbeing and happiness and thus reduce the condition. Unfortunately, this concept has not been given the necessary attention, a case that urges us to address it again. When society passes through a period of instability in the social, economic and cultural domains passing through several stages, without adopting the appropriate reform plans and social policies in order to reduce the crisis, the social condition of Anomie will prevail. Emile Durkheim defined it as a case of non-standardization that prevails among the individuals of the society, which is manifested by a struggle between the desire for the basic needs of the individual and the available means for satisfying those needs [6]. This condition could also emerge when society is exposed to the bad consequences of dividing the work duties as well as the impact of that on the degree of social organization, in addition to the cases of disorder and disintegration that would prevail in society and result in a case of non-standardized ethics, such as committing suicide [7]. This case would exist when society lacks a number of rules and standards that demonstrate the way through which people should behave towards each other as well as the best ways in order to achieve social justice and equivalence among individuals to attain social satisfaction. These rules are called the social policy, which underpin non-standardization within societies that leads individuals into a state of self-conflict and subsequently ends with revolution [8]. The patterns of anomie differ, but it is generally accepted that it constitutes a social

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condition which refers to the instability of society (non-standardization) due to the inability of the system in the society to provide the available means in order to satisfy the individuals' needs. This stems from the weak international social policies, which are one of the most important factors that play an important role in the prevalence of several dangerous social phenomena, as they may be planned by non-specialized people or planned in incorrect ways. The case becomes more complex when things move away from the most important criteria that should be achieved, such as the social justice and equality as well as satisfying the individuals' needs related to education, health, social security, and well-being, in a manner that corresponds with the economic power as well as the values and habits of the society. The Jordanian society is not far away from the surrounding countries and is considered as an integral part of the Arab world. Due to the geographical location that joins it with Lebanon and Syria in the North, Iraq in the East, and Palestine in the west, it is widely affected by the latest events in the region, which are referred to as the Arabic Anomie condition. For example, receiving too many refugees, which affected the Jordanian internal economy, the societal security, the political conflicts in addition to other internal and external conditions related to the events of the Arab Spring which could be a major reason for the prevalence of this societal condition the Anomie for more than ten years, based on the statistics related to the rate of crimes, feelings of insecurity as well as unfavorable human development and others. The importance of this study lies in the strong reemergence of anomie, side by side with the events related to the Arab spring, which ended by revolution, devastation, and social decline in some Arab countries at all levels, as well as affecting other Arab countries by causing a state of chaos and economic decline. These factors led the researcher to re-highlight this particular issue, which is absent from the research and studies despite its importance and the global interest in it. By addressing this condition, its manifestations, effects and emergence factors, the study is able to establish a link between the events and procedures that take place in the different societies, particularly to advance the study of society [9]. Finally, the study is vital to economic and social policy makers, socio-criminologists, and decision makers [10]. It is also beneficial to the civil society institutions as well as helping them in finding appropriate legislative and social policies, while developing preventive and therapeutic plans and policies in order to reduce this condition. Thus, this study is conducted to identify the most important social factors affecting the emergence of anomie from the perspective of postgraduate students in the Jordanian universities in their society. It will also determine whether there are statistically significant differences at ($\alpha \leq 0.05$) regarding the responses of the respondents attributed to the variable of marital status, gender, educational qualification, work, age, and faculty. That is, the study aims at answering the following questions:

1. What are the most important social and economic factors affecting the emergence of 'Anomie' from postgraduate students' perspectives in five Jordanian universities?
2. Are there statistically significant differences according to participants' marital status, gender, monthly income, educational qualification, work, age, and faculty?

2 literature review

2.1 Anomie concept

Durkheim defined 'Anomie' as a societal condition, where the criteria are inactive or unable to organize the human behavior, in that the standards suffer from disorder and inability to perform their tasks. Durkheim also suggested that the anomie results from the contradiction between the human ambitions and people's ability to achieve these ambitions [11]. The word Anomie emerged for the first time in the sixteenth century. However, it was obviously used in sociology by the French scholar, Emile Durkheim, where he first used it in dividing the work in the society in 1983. [12]. reused the word 'Anomie' to indicate a state of ethical non-standardization when the society lacks a set of rules and standards that show people how to behave towards each other [13]. More recently, [14] noted that anomie is a state of non-standardization and the form representing social disintegration when there is a disconnection between the cultural desires as well as the legal and social methods in order to satisfy these desires. In this study, anomie is used in the sense of being a state of instability in the society, which appears when the legal ways for achieving the cultural values and objectives are unavailable in a fair manner among all the citizens; thus, it reflects the failure of social standards to control the activity of individuals in the society.

The American scholar Merton extended Emile Durkheim's theory about anomie in order to be more consistent, when he directed the attention towards the patterns of relationships between the cultural values and objectives as well as the available social standards related to achieving these objectives. In light of this modification, Merton was able to explain the delinquent behavior within the domain of stratified structure, when he suggested that the various patterns of delinquent behavior result from variations as well as the inability to achieve objectives using the existing legal means. Therefore, he redefined Anomie as the result related to the method in which the society structure is organized [14]. Even though [15] introduced his discussions for the powers that create the Anomie condition in the American society at the total structural level, he also suggested that the individual's behavior is affected by the culture and social structure. He suggested that there are five possible logical alternatives for adaptation among individuals [15].

1. **Conformity:** it is the most common response, in that the individual accepts the actual current situation and continues their efforts to achieve success based on the available restricted traditional methods.
2. **Innovation:** it is the most common deviant response, where the individual adheres to the successful objectives, but uses illegal methods to achieve them. The majority of crimes, particularly those related to gaining more income, fall within this pattern of adaptation.
3. **Rebellion:** it is a state where the individuals reject all the methods and objectives of the ruling system, and substitute them with new methods and objectives, such as the violent substitution for the ruling system.
4. **Retreatism:** it refers to the response of escaping, where the socially withdrawing person becomes disappointed with no desire to follow the methods that enable them to achieve the desired objectives. In this pattern, Merton includes those addicted to alcohol and drugs as well as the homeless and mentally ill.
5. **Ritualism:** it is a pattern where the individual stops making an effort to progress, and focuses on keeping the simple achievement already attained with more commitment to the standards [13]. The indicators and significance of Anomie in Jordanian society.

As Anomie societies are mainly characterized by high rates of crime, committing suicide as well as low levels of feelings of safety and a decrease in the indicators of human development, in addition to other indicators that reflect stability and societal balance, it was necessary to address the statistics of these indicators during the last ten years in order to confirm whether the Anomie condition exists among the study population or not, based on the available statistics about the rates of crimes, committing suicide, and others.

1. The number and percentages of suicide in the study group

The number of individuals committing suicide among the study group until 30/6/2018 reached 80 cases, while in the first eight months of the year 2017, there were only 70 cases; 40% of suicides took place in the capital city of Amman, followed by the north province, with 25%, while the lowest number of cases was registered in Jerash, with only one case. The youngest age was for a girl aged (9) years, while the oldest age was for a 65-year-old person, with more suicide among males than females [16]. Reports suggest that there are various ways for committing suicide, including hanging, burning, shooting, jumping from a high altitude as well as the different ways of poisoning. The published numbers of suicide cases do not actually reflect the real numbers, in that many cases are not published, since committing suicide is seen as a social stigma in addition to the religious considerations that forbid committing suicide. Therefore, many people tend to hide the information related to this condition due to fear of stigma as well as avoiding the legal responsibility [17].

2. The high rates of crimes

The reported numbers suggest that there is an increasing rate of crime in Jordanian society, regardless of their types and patterns. In the latest statistics of the [18] within the forensic statistical report, the statistics are as follows:

Table 1: The forensic statistical report in Jordan from 2016 to 2019

Year	2019	2018	2017	2016
Number of Crimes	26521	24654	22550	22595

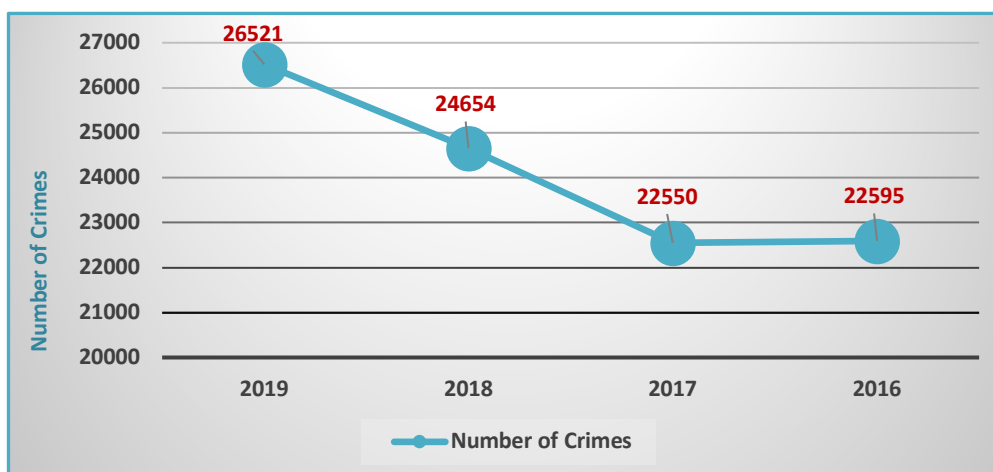


Fig. 1. Number of Crimes

3. The rate of unemployment during the second quarter of the year 2018

The department of statistics issued its quarterly report about the rate of unemployment in Jordan for the third quarter of the year 2018, where the rate of unemployment reached (18.6%) with an increase of (0.1%) as compared to the third quarter of the year 2017. The rate of unemployment among males in the third quarter of the year 2018 reached (16.3%) in comparison with (27.1%) among the females. The results showed that the rate of unemployment increased by (0.9%) among males, while it decreased by (2.8%) among females in comparison with the third quarter of the year 2017, then it's reached to 18.7% in 2018, and 19% in 2019 and 23.3% in third quarter of the year 2020 [19].

4. The increase in the number of demonstrations and social movements

During the last decade, Jordan witnessed a series of angry demonstrations against the rise in prices as well as project laws prepared by the government regarding the income tax [20]. Hundreds of people went out onto the streets of the capital city of Amman at Fourth Circle [20] as well as in other cities in response to invitations by the commercial syndicates. The government adopted the Project Law on Income Tax in order to extend the base of taxes in the country and provide the treasury with an addition (300) million dinars, about (420) million dollars each year. In 2016, the government obtained a loan of about 723 million dollars from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in order to implement the economic reforms, where the IMF asked the Jordanian government to stop certain subsidies and increase taxes so that it can obtain more loans in the future.

The loan aims at supporting the economic and financial reforms in order to enable the country to reduce the public debts from 94% to 77% from the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by the year 2021. Jordan witnessed a rise in prices for most commodities during the last years, in that about 9.5 million plummeted into poverty and unemployment [21].

2.2. Previous studies

[22] conducted a study which aimed at employing the theory of social change developed by Emile Durkheim in order to explain Anomie condition in 30 countries around the world. The needed data were collected from two main resources: the world values survey in 1995 and The United Nations University's World Income Inequality Database or WIID, where the researcher tested the hypothesis which states that the rapid political social change at the structural level disturbs the social organization and integration and increases the level of Anomie among the individuals in the society. The researcher used the multi-level methodology which allows for analyzing the variation within countries and between countries. The results of analysis and comparison between countries, according to the reports and statistics, confirmed that the rapid political social change at the overall level represented the political transfer from impulsivity to democracy which leads to higher levels of Anomie at the individual level in the society. Moreover, [23] addressed the unlikely role played by crime in the society, especially with the development of modernity and the focus on the financial success. [12] suggested that there is no totally stable and cohesive society, suggesting that people are the product of their social environment. Therefore, they start socialization since birth and continue via interaction and language. The base of Durkheim's theory lies in the variation of collective consciousness with the degree of division in the social work, in that it increases in the simple automated societies and decreases in the organic societies, with increasing complexity in the industrial cities. This provides a logical explanation for the rise in the crime rates with the industrial revolution. [23] also addressed the rise in crime rates in the United States of America in particular, which dates back to the industrial era. That period witnessed a considerable increase in migration to the United States of America which, in turn, resulted in an increase in the level of individuality, diversity and flexibility despite the fact that the migrants did not undergo any objection to their own belief systems [23]. However, they were not able to adapt their beliefs and standards that they held previously with the new developed values. Durkheim viewed this disorder as the Anomie, which refers to the social standards that motivate the individual to behave in deviant ways. The study concluded with some results, including that the liberal individuality directs the wealth and American labor at the international level towards their own interest. As such, they violate the cultural traditions and values. This led to electing the unwelcome president, Donald Trump who is viewed as a hero by the disadvantaged Americans since the time of Patrick Buchanan (a special consultant to U.S. Presidents Richard Nixon). Donald Trump is considered as the only candidate who was ready to reply to the liberal parties who seemed to marginalize white America. Therefore, he represents a remedy for the American Anomie in that his advocates believe that they have got the most suitable man for the job [23]. [24] conducted a study which aimed at addressing the remarkable interest in using the Anomie theory in interpreting the crime and delinquency, where the study contributed to extend our understanding for the concept of Anomie by introducing a test for the extension of the theory among [25] in comparison with [26]. They suggested that the theory developed by [25] surpasses the theory of Merton in terms of using an intellectual series that criticize liberal society by introducing the concept of disintegrated market, in addition to discussing some constraints related to linking crime with certain processes at the societal level using the method of Durkheim instead of that of Merton. [8] studied the role played by social policy in alleviating anomie in Arab societies in the UAE, with a focus on how social policy may reduce anomie in those Arab societies mostly afflicted and using the UAE as a model. In order to achieve the study objectives, the researcher used the

descriptive analytical approach, and the data were collected with reference to the documents, records, laws and policies adopted in the country as well as their correspondence with the concept of social policy procedurally as illustrated in the research. The findings indicate that social policy is indeed an important factor both in alleviating the rate of anomie and maintaining a secure and balanced society. This is especially true of Arab societies since these tend to lack such policies. Furthermore, [12] conducted a study about suicide. He provided an explanation for committing suicide as a social phenomenon and sought to identify the causal relationship between suicide as an ethical non-standardized phenomenon with the society and the different social variables. In order to achieve the study objectives, the researcher adopted a theoretical conceptual framework based on the society and its culture, which is seen as the reason for committing suicide; the percentage of suicide increases when there is an increasing state of disintegration between the individuals in the society. [12] considered suicide as the dependent variable for the social variables that he determined in three variables: the family variable, the religious variable and the political variable. He stressed the central role practiced by the social structure with its different components for the phenomenon of suicide. The study results showed that the percentage of suicide increases when there is a decrease in the levels of local, political, familial, and religious cohesion. The study also suggested that religion has an important role in reducing the levels of suicide, in terms of its power in maintaining the standards and increasing the cohesion. The study revealed that the altruistic suicide is more common among three categories: suicide among the elderly, suicide among women because of the death of their spouses, and the suicide related to the death of the leader. Therefore, the individual is ready to sacrifice themselves for the sake of the group's safety in case the group is exposed to danger [12].

3 Methodology

3.1 The study sample and population

The postgraduate students are enrolled in five different sociology departments in public universities in Jordan. They are in the second semester of the academic year (2018/ 2019) for Diploma, Master and PhD. The sample was chosen due to their knowledge of the concept of 'Anomie'. For the purposes of this study, the researcher selected the sample individuals by random sampling of some academic classes of postgraduate students in the targeted universities, with a total of 15 sections, and 5 sections from each university. The total number of enrolled students was 315 male and female students. It is worth pointing out that the study sample consisted of postgraduate students because they are capable of answering the questionnaire items, which measures the degree of social factors and their impact on the spread of 'Anomie'. That is, they finished their bachelor's studies and searched for job opportunities and faced life challenges, and consequently these postgraduate students are best able to assess the impact of social factors on the spread of this condition. The researcher applied the study tool to all the students in these sections. The data were collected during lectures after the researcher had clarified the objectives of the study to the students. 285 questionnaires were distributed, and 280 were returned after being completed. After reviewing the questionnaires, the researcher noticed that (7) questionnaires were not complete; therefore, they were excluded from the statistical analysis. Accordingly, the number of questionnaires that are valid for analysis are (273) questionnaires, with a percentage of (95.7%) of the total number of distributed questionnaires. Table 2 shows the demographics of the study sample individuals according to the variables of gender, faculty, religion, academic level, monthly income, age, marital status, and job status.

Table 2: The demographics of the study sample

Variable	Category	Frequency	Percentage
Gender	Male	133	48.7
	Female	140	51.3
	Total	273	100
Faculty	Scientific	148	54.2
	Humanitarian	125	45.8
	Total	273	100
Religion	Christian	220	80.6
	Muslim	53	19.4
	Total	273	100
Academic level	Diploma	45	16.5
	Master	175	64.1
	PhD	53	19.4
	Total	273	100
Monthly income	Less than 400	143	52.4
	400–600	85	31.1
	More than 600	45	16.5

	Total	273	100
Age	Less than 25	50	18.3
	25–29	132	48.4
	30–34	47	17.2
	More than 35	44	16.1
	Total	273	100.0
Marital status	Single	21	7.7
	Married	224	82.1
	Widow	28	10.3
	Divorced	0	0.0
	Total	273	100.0
Job status	Working	108	39.6
	Not working	165	60.4
	Total	273	100

3.2. Data collection

A questionnaire was employed to collect data from the study sample as this study used the social survey method. The social factors in this study are measured by the total scores of the respondents' responses to the questions of the questionnaire according to the Likert scale that ranges between (1–5). The first part of the questionnaire includes the primary data related to the study sample individuals. The second part is dedicated to measuring the social factors leading to the emergence of the Anomie condition in the Jordanian society, and consisted of (24) items. To verify the validity and reliability of the questionnaire, the following procedures were performed:

1. **Face validity:** the study adopted the method of agreement between arbitrators in order to verify the face validity of the study instrument, in that the questionnaire was introduced in its primary version to (11) arbitrators from the faculty members specialized in sociology and criminology from the Jordanian universities and from the United Arab Emirates. The arbitrators were asked to check the scale's validity by determining the impulsivity of the study items, their relatedness to the axes, and the compatibility of the study items to the application stage. Accordingly, the arbitrators cited their notices in relation to some concepts and paraphrased some items and questions. The arbitrators' notices were taken into consideration and the modifications were performed within the study context in accordance with the relationship between the items under study; an agreement of (80%) among arbitrators was taken as a standard for applying the item.
2. **Content validity:** the questionnaire was applied to an exploratory sample of the students outside the study sample, with a total of (30) male and female students. They were asked to answer the questionnaire items. After completing the questionnaires, the validity and reliability of the questions was verified using the Pearson correlation coefficient between the items in each axis and the total score for the axis. The findings showed that the correlation coefficients between the scores of each item from the items of the second part of the study instrument with the total score of the axis ranged between (0.41– 0.66), which are statistically significant at the level (0.05). The results revealed that the correlation coefficients between the axes of the second part of the study instrument with the total score for the instrument ranged between (0.41– 0.85), which are statistically significant at (0.05), indicating the content validity of the study instrument.
3. **The reliability:** the study reliability was verified using Cronbach alpha coefficient. After applying the study instrument to the exploratory sample, the value of reliability coefficient for the axes of the study and the instrument were as shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Reliability of the study instrument

Axis	Number of items	Cronbach alpha
The factors leading to the emergence of the Anomie condition in the Jordanian society	24	0.88

Table 3 shows that the axes of the study instrument have a high degree of reliability, where the value of Cronbach alpha coefficient for the items of the first axis related to measuring the factors leading to the emergence of the Anomie condition in the Jordanian society was (0.88). Based on the results of validity and reliability, we can apply the study tool to the study sample individuals and be confident about the results that are concluded based on it.

4 Results and discussion

In order to answer the first research question pertaining to the most important social and economic factors affecting the emergence of ‘Anomie’ from postgraduate students’ perspectives in five Jordanian universities, the researcher calculated the means and standard deviations for the responses of the study sample individuals related to the items of the social factors affecting the emergence of the Anomie condition in Jordanian society. These are given in a descending order according to level, as presented in Table 4.

Table 4: The means, standard deviations and the level of response to the study items

Item No.	Items	Mean	Standard Deviation	Order	Level
13	The decline in the level of well-being and happiness among the individuals in the society.	4.38	0.94	1	High
15	The individuals' dissatisfaction with the performance of the government.	4.36	0.76	2	High
21	The increasing numbers of experienced and skillful immigrants in order to search for suitable work outside their countries led to lack in the skills and experiences, in their own countries, that promote the society at all levels.	4.27	0.87	3	High
14	The social institutions' lack of interest in doing their duties related to directing individuals towards the positive values.	4.22	0.90	4	High
20	The setbacks of the electronic crimes law lead to the prevalence of chaos and rumors on the social network which is reflected negatively on the society.	4.17	0.93	5	High
17	The favoritism as well as the lack of social justice and standardization in selecting the leadership positions in the institutions and the country's departments.	4.08	0.84	6	High
22	The prevalence of the new crimes related to poverty and unemployment as well as the rise in their percentage in the society.	4.07	0.95	7	High
10	The lack of security measures and procedures for monitoring the negative phenomena in the society.	4.01	0.88	8	High
7	The decline of the role of the civil society institutions in the society.	3.98	0.79	9	High
8	The decline in the role of academicians in the universities and schools with regard to participating in citing the reform plans that would reduce the individuals' problems in the society.	3.96	0.89	10	High
2	Excluding the specialized individuals from the field of their specialty due to favoritism affected negatively on the reform, development and social planning.	3.93	0.98	11	High
1	The weak economy and social policies in the country which are unable to achieve the social welfare for the individuals in the society.	3.92	1.00	12	High
18	The desire among the individuals of the society to migrate in order to look for a better work and life.	3.89	1.03	13	High
5	The lack of applying laws to the officials holding higher positions in the country with regard to the issues of administrative and financial corruption.	3.88	0.99	14	High
16	Some individuals resort to terrorism and extremism in their search for the lost justice in the society.	3.86	0.75	15	High
6	An increase in the number of demonstrations and protest against the policies of the government and the law of tax income.	3.84	0.98	16	High
12	The setbacks of the social policies with regard to achieving the objectives of the youth and their social welfare in the society.	3.81	0.84	17	High
19	The weak welfare programs for the released inmates led to an increase in the rates of crimes and terrorist events.	3.80	0.86	18	High

24	The remarkable increase in the cases of alienation the youth in the society.	3.69	0.95	19	High
4	Reassigning the same individuals or their relatives in the sensitive leadership positions in the country, which reflects the meaning that there is no social justice or equivalence of opportunities.	3.66	1.08	20	Medium
11	Excluding the youth from the political discourse, which makes them indifferent about the affairs of the country and takes them towards intellectual extremism.	3.64	0.91	21	Medium
23	The negative impact of the social networking on the societal values.	3.60	1.00	22	Medium
9	The lack of interest in promoting the concept of citizenship among the students in the different educational institutions.	3.58	0.76	23	Medium
3	The decline of the preventive role for the institutions of official social control in the society.	3.44	0.94	24	Medium
1-24	The average mean for the level of social factors leading to the emergence of the Anomie condition in the Jordanian society.	3.93	0.62	-	High

Table 4 shows that the overall level for the factors leading to the emergence of the Anomie condition in Jordanian society from the perspective of the individuals in the study sample was high, where the mean was ($M=3.29$), with a standard deviation of (0.62). This result reflects a high level for the social factors affecting the emergence of the 'Anomie' condition in Jordanian society from the perspective of the postgraduate students in the Jordanian universities. The mean responses for the responses of the individuals in the study sample to the items ranged between (3.44) and (4.38). The study results showed that the most important factors leading to the emergence of the Anomie condition in Jordanian society were related to the item number (13), which indicates "the decline in the level of well-being and happiness among the individuals in the society", item (15) which states "the individuals' dissatisfaction with the performance of the government" as well as item number (21) which states that "the increasing numbers of immigrants from those with academic experience and proficiency in various sectors in order to search for suitable work led to more lack in the skills and experiences that would otherwise promote the society at all levels". The social factors affecting the emergence of the Anomie condition in Jordanian society which had a lower importance were represented by item number (9), which states, "The lack of interest in promoting the concept of citizenship among the students in the different educational institutions" and item number (3), which states "The decline of the preventive role for the institutions of official social control in the society". The value of the standard deviation for the responses of the individuals in study sample to the items ranged between (0.75) recorded for item (4) and (1.08) which was recorded for item (16), indicating that there is a harmony and proximity between the responses of the individuals in the study sample regarding this axis. This result is logically accepted, where it matched with the study of [8], which addresses the social policies in creating happiness and positive situations in the society. When such policies are absent, the society will be in a state of depression and will be more affected by the Anomie condition in comparison with the other societies. Due to the economic crisis witnessed by the kingdom, it is logical to notice that there is a decline in these policies, which require a high budget to be implemented, even though some other policies could be implemented with fewer costs. The study results related to item (15) also match with the study of Zhao and Cao (2010), which suggested that the frequent political social change at the structural level leads to a disturbance of the social organization and integration and creates a state of chaos and a decline in the quality of political reform (cf. Atteslander et al. 2019). It also accounts for the reason why item number (21) had a high level, in that the respondents consisting of the postgraduate students who suffer from high rates of unemployment after completing their study are forced to migrate outside the country, either for political or social factors, or for self-actualization and development which cannot be achieved inside their country due to the absence of the required standards. This case would lead to losing the ambitious competencies which aim at development. The reason why the items (3, 9) had the least mean is attributed to the proficiency of the educational curricula and the institutions of the civil society in promoting the values of citizenship as well as reducing violence. This matches with the content of the latest statistical reports which state that there is a decline in the percentage of university violence in Jordan in the years 2017 and 2018 as compared to the previous years [27]. In addition, the results are in line with Merton (1938) who noted that one of the adaptation types is the one concerned with retreatment in which an individual escape from the society and loses hope in the goals that are socially acceptable. The results relating to the second question: Are there statistically significant differences at the level ($\alpha \leq 0.05$) in the respondents' answers attributed to the variables of marital status, gender, monthly income, educational qualification, work, age, and faculty?

To answer this question, variance analysis testing was conducted, and the results are shown in Table 5.

Table 5: Variance analysis results according to the differences in the family and quality characteristics

Source of variance	Total Squares	Degrees of Freedom	Mean squares	f-value	Sig. level
Gender	0.30	1	3.00	1.29	0.32
Faculty	11.76	1	11.76	*51.11	0.00
Religion	7.17	1	7.17	*31.18	0.00
Academic level	0.42	2	0.21	0.92	0.41
Monthly income	5.70	2	2.85	*12.38	0.00
Age	6.88	3	2.29	*9.97	0.00
Marital status	9.12	2	4.56	*19.83	0.00
Job status	3.27	1	3.27	*14.21	0.00
Error	59.32	253	0.23		

*statistically significant at ($\alpha \leq 0.05$)

Based on Table 5, it is clear that there are statistically significant differences between the mean responses for the study sample individuals towards the social factors affecting the emergence of the Anomie condition in Jordanian society due to the variable of monthly income, where the calculated f-value was (12.38), which is statistically significant at the level ($\alpha \leq 0.05$). In order to determine the statistical differences between the mean responses, the researcher performed Scheffe test for post comparisons between the means as in Table 6.

Table 6: The results of Scheffe test according to monthly income

Monthly income	Mean	Less than 400	400–600	More than 600
Less than 400	4.09	-	0.34	0.39
400–600	3.75	-		0.05
More than 600	3.70	-	-	-

*statistically significant at ($\alpha \leq 0.05$)

Table 6 demonstrates that there are statistically significant differences in favor of those with low income (less than 400) JD, where the mean for their responses was (4.09). The highest difference between the means was (0.39), which is statistically significant at ($\alpha \leq 0.05$). There are statistically significant differences between the mean responses for the study sample individuals towards the social factors affecting the emergence of the Anomie condition in Jordan due to age, where the calculated f-value was (9.97), which is statistically significant at this level. To determine the statistical differences between the levels of responses, a Scheffe test was conducted for the post comparisons between the means. Table 7 shows the results.

Table 7: The results of Scheffe test according to age

Age	Mean	Less than 25	25–29	30–34	More than 35
Less than 25	3.61	-	0.18-	*0.55	*0.45
25–29	3.79	-	-	0.37	0.27
30–34	4.16		-	-	0.10
More than 35	4.06	-		-	-

*statistically significant at ($\alpha \leq 0.05$)

Table 7 shows that there are statistically significant differences in favor of those more than 35 years old and 30–34 years old, where the mean for their responses was (4.06) and (4.16) respectively. The highest difference between the means was (0.55), which is statistically significant at ($\alpha \leq 0.05$). There are statistically significant differences between the mean responses for the study sample individuals towards the social factors affecting the emergence of the Anomie condition in Jordan due to marital status, where the calculated f-value was (19.38), which is statistically significant at the level ($\alpha \leq 0.05$). To determine the statistical differences between the level of responses, a Scheffe test was conducted for the post comparisons between the means. Table 8 shows the results.

Table 8: The results of Scheffe test according to marital status

Marital status	Mean	Single	Married	Widow
Single	4.02	-	0.13	*0.42
Married	3.89	-		0.29
Widow	3.60	-	-	-

*statistically significant at ($\alpha \leq 0.05$)

Table 8 shows that there are statistically significant differences in favor of those who are single, where the mean for their responses was (4.062). The highest difference between the means was (0.42), which is statistically significant at ($\alpha \leq 0.05$). There are statistically significant differences between the mean responses for the study sample individuals towards the social factors affecting the emergence of the Anomie condition in Jordan due to faculty, religion and job status, where the calculated f-value was (51.11), (31.18), and (14.21) respectively, and they are statistically significant at the level ($\alpha \leq 0.05$). To determine the statistical differences between the level of responses, the mean was calculated for the responses of the study sample individuals. Table 9 shows the results.

Table 9: The response means of the study sample according to faculty, religion and job status

Variable	Category	Mean	The difference between means
Faculty	Scientific	3.51	0.61-
	Humanitarian	4.12	
Religion	Muslim	4.32	0.66
	Christian	3.66	
Job status	Working	3.70	0.55-
	Not working	4.25	

*statistically significant at ($\alpha \leq 0.05$)

Table 9 shows that the differences are in favor of the students of the Social Sciences and Humanity faculties, where the mean of their responses was higher than that of the students of the scientific faculties. The difference between the means was (-0.61). The differences were in favor of the students of the Islamic religion, where the difference between the means was (0.66), and in favor of the working students, where the difference between the means was (-0.55). No statistically significant differences were found between the mean responses for the study sample towards the social factors affecting the emergence of the Anomie condition in Jordan due to gender and educational qualification, where the calculated f-value was (1.29) and (0.92) respectively (statistically significant at the $\alpha \leq 0.05$ level). This result is expected since gender and educational qualification will not have a statistically significant effect in the mean responses of the respondents, due to the distinguished position that women gained in Jordan as well as the degree of their scientific and economic empowerment; a state that put women at an approximate economic, scientific, and cultural level with men. The reason why there are statistically significant differences for the responses of the study sample individuals regarding the variables of monthly income, age, marital status, faculty, religion and job status, is that the monthly income and job status as economic factors will make the mean responses different; therefore, those with high income will not feel empathetic with those of low income. This result matches with the study of [23], which showed that the liberal individuality directs the wealth and American labor at the international level to their own interest, and thus they violate the cultural traditions and values. Furthermore, [12] addressed the religious, familial and political variables and investigated their impact on suicide as one of the ethical non-standardized manifestations of the Anomie condition in his society, where he studied some other factors, such as the economic factors due to the importance of integration in the studies and research, while considering the cultural privacy of the different societies. Therefore, the social factors affecting the prevalence and nature of the Anomie condition may differ from one society to another.

5 Conclusion and recommendations

The current study investigates the Jordanian postgraduate students' attitudes towards the 'Anomie Condition' in Jordanian society. 273 questionnaires were collected and analyzed to answer the main research questions. The study results showed that there is a high-impact level for the social factors on the emergence of anomie in Jordanian society. The results also revealed that there are statistically significant differences towards the emergence of anomie in Jordanian society according to the variables of monthly income, age, marital status, faculty, religion, job status, while there are no statistically significant differences of the social factors affecting the emergence of anomie in Jordanian society due to the variables of gender and educational qualification. The study recommends highlighting the importance of the role of social academia, researchers and specialists in the Arabic societies in reducing the Anomie condition, where the researcher noticed that this educational domain in the anomie societies is overlooked. The study also suggests sharing the successful international social policies and experiments to combat Anomie, following policies of the countries with the highest security levels and strong economies and studying the feasibility of applying them to the Anomie societies in the countries that suffer from this condition, as long as they match with the social level, values and standards of these societies. Furthermore, focusing on positive thinking in the social policies and disseminating happiness and tolerance are needed. Finally, further research should be conducted about criminology and Anomie, due to the importance of that on the security, on stability and balance of societies, especially in the post Coronavirus pandemic era [28].

Ethical Approval: All procedures performed in this study were in accordance with the ethical standards of the university.

Informed consent: Informed consent was obtained from all individual participants included in the study.

Compliance with Ethical Standards: All ethical related issues were taken into consideration before starting the study.

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Conflict of interest

The authors declare that there is no conflict regarding the publication of this paper.

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