

The responsiveness of Mutah University students to electronic begging (2020-2022):

A case study of postgraduate students in the College of Business

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Abstract

The current study aimed to assess the responses of postgraduate students at the School of Business Administration, Mutah University, to the issue of e-begging between 2020 and 2022. Data was collected using a questionnaire survey and analyzed using descriptive statistical methods. The results are presented in tabular form, listing the mean and standard deviation of respondents' awareness of preventing e-begging.

The current study drew the following conclusions: Respondents generally had a high level of awareness of e-begging; however, this awareness did not prevent them from becoming victims of e-begging. This may be attributed to their lack of understanding of deterrent methods and preventative measures against such crimes. Therefore, a key recommendation is to strengthen guidance and education for students and members of Jordanian society as a whole, enabling them to understand these methods and how to protect themselves from e-begging.

Keywords: Begging, Electronic begging, Social media, Beggar

1.1 Introduction

The world is undergoing a massive technological revolution, one that many human societies struggle to keep pace with. It's no exaggeration to say that this development is happening at an unprecedented pace, relentlessly, and no one can predict its future stage or where it will end. This development is incredibly attractive to all levels of society and cannot be ignored.

In the realm of technology and the internet, we are witnessing the booming growth of various types and programs (such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, WhatsApp, etc.). Social media has become an alternative to face-to-face communication between

people, including siblings. Like any tool used by humans, social media has two sides: on the one hand, it promotes communication, interaction, and socializing in a positive way, helping us build connections and friendships; on the other hand, it provides us with mobile science platforms, enabling us to exchange knowledge and valuable content, and becoming a hub for trade and business communication. On the other hand, the internet also has an ugly and negative side; some people abuse these channels for unethical purposes, such as violating privacy, using the platform to harm and bully others, and fostering crime and cyber extortion.

Online begging is a form of online extortion, but because it appeals to emotions rather than threats, it is considered immoral and illegal. This behavior has evolved from street begging into scams via social media. Some people use social media platforms to evoke sympathy and awaken people's conscience by telling deeply moving and tragic stories, prompting them to generously donate money or goods, leading them to mistakenly believe they are helping to solve the problem of beggars.

1.2 Study Problem and Questions

The problem of the current study lies in trying to understand the nature of the response of the members of the Karak community to the wrong and abusive use of social media by some individuals, and its exploitation in the process of earning and electronic begging, especially since the crime of electronic begging has become alarmingly widespread in the society. This is considered a type of electronic exploitation and bringing sympathy by other members of the community, so the problem of the study is in seeking to answer the following questions:

- Is there awareness among the residents of Karak Governorate of the cases of electronic begging to which they are exposed? ●
- What preventive measures are taken by the relevant authorities in the country to protect individuals from online begging? ●
- Are there any legislative developments in Jordanian law related to the regulation of the crime of electronic begging, and the assessment of the legislator's position on it? ●
- Is the response of Karak residents to electronic begging different and determining the relationship between this response and social variables (e.g., gender, marital status, age, place of residence, and field of work). ●

1.3 Importance and justification of the study

The importance of the current study lies in two aspects:

Scientific aspect: Identifying the phenomenon of electronic begging and the factors that lead to it, and ways to protect and prevent falling victim to it in Jordanian society.

The practical or practical aspect is to identify a serious crime that lures individuals and exploits their noble feelings to harm them and steal their money and belongings with their hands. We hope to reach results and recommendations that will benefit the decision maker to develop controls and means to protect members of society from this type of fraud.

1.4 Study objectives

Research on the extent of the awareness of the residents of Karak Governorate about the cases of electronic begging to which they are exposed.

Determine the preventive measures followed by the concerned authorities in the country to protect individuals from electronic begging.

Studying the legislative developments in Jordanian law related to the regulation of the crime of electronic begging, and evaluating the legislator's position on it.

Monitor and analyze the response of Karak residents to electronic begging and determine the relationship between this response and social variables (e.g., gender, marital status, age, place of residence, and field of work).

1.5 Study Concepts

Social media: It is "effective technological sites that facilitate the social life of their users in order to obtain information, and communicate between a group of acquaintances and friends, and it is based on users primarily through communication, and also the ability to communicate visually, voice, exchange photos, and highlight social networks (Facebook, Twitter, email, YouTube, WhatsApp)" (Dlala & Ghargkouni, 2021)

In terms of programming, the researchers define it as: a set of technological tools and platforms that enable individuals to interact and communicate online. These tools help users exchange information, ideas, photos, videos, and other content by creating personal accounts or pages and interacting with friends, family, colleagues, and the wider community. These platforms include Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, Snapchat, WhatsApp, YouTube, and more.

Begging: Begging in linguistic terms: begging: (verb), begging, begging, he is begging, begging so-and-so to sharpen, to ask and to give, to ask for gifts and charity. Begging:

The habit of begging someone who has or is able to obtain a legitimate means of subsistence. (Comprehensive Dictionary of Meanings)

Begging: refers to the process of begging, and the act of begging, whether directly or indirectly, intermittently or continuously, under the influence of various factors, with the aim of requesting cash, clothing or food assistance (Al-Jarjawi and Al-Hums, 2014). Al-Harbi defined it as: "the use of a set of methods and tools with the aim of asking for charity and begging from individuals in public places, on the roads, and at traffic lights" (Al-Sardiyya, Al-Qaoud, 2016).

In the Dictionary of Social Sciences, it is defined as: " Asking for charity from individuals on public roads , and begging is considered a misdemeanor punishable in some countries if the beggar is of sound body , or if the beggar threatens him, or if he enters a dwelling without permission, and begging is prohibited where there are charitable institutions." (Badawi, 1997)

Electronic Begging:

Al-Hashlamun (2021) defined electronic begging as “asking for money and begging for the affection of social media users in an electronic way, instead of the traditional method that is directly in the street, at mosques or on some occasions, and this method is characterized by the beggar being anonymous, name, place, and real status, as well as characterized by not exerting effort and speed in requesting”.

The concept of e-begging varies, and its considerations differ:

It is a digital version of traditional begging, conducted through social media websites, using group video games to elicit sympathy from users and solicit money with unfounded reasons and motives (Abu Rahma, 2022).

Al-Khamshi (2022) defines e-begging as: soliciting money, paying debts, seeking medical treatment, providing basic food needs, and paying bills through social networks, potentially without revealing one's true identity.

A procedural definition of e-begging: It refers to raising funds or seeking financial support online in an illegal or unethical manner using electronic means. This may include creating fake accounts or posting emotionally charged or hurtful stories to elicit goodwill and donations. It may also involve using electronic payment methods such as credit cards or providing personal information for illegal purposes.

The researchers note from all the definitions that begging takes place when:

The beggar shows himself as poor and in need of the help of others.

Request for financial or in-kind assistance and assistance.

The person(s) who have been asked for help are not legally obligated to spend on him (Abu Rahma, 2022)

2. Theoretical Framework and Previous Studies

2.1 The Beginning of Electronic Begging

The evolution of traditional begging—relying on face-to-face begging—to begging through various online platforms was not instantaneous but a long process. According to Wikipedia (2023), online begging has existed since the advent of the internet, initially through personal advertisements. People would ask for help, whether seeking

medical treatment, starting a small business, or obtaining housing; personal websites emerged, some of which were used for begging. Nonprofit organizations also began developing various ways to raise funds for charitable projects, with donation channels ranging from mail to online services.

With the development of the internet in the late 1990s, blogs quickly became popular as free and easy-to-use websites, and some people began using blogs for online begging.

However, the real beginning of online begging came after June 2002, when the largest begging website appeared, owned by Karen Bosnak. She wrote on her website, "I just need 20,000 people to each donate one dollar, 10,000 to each donate two dollars, or 4,000 to each donate five dollars!" Many people assumed Karen needed the money for her sick mother's surgery or to repair her dilapidated house. But in reality, Karen needed the money to pay off her debts from a shopping addiction. She had been shopping recklessly with her credit cards and refusing to return items! So, she started begging online, hoping to raise the money. Besides receiving \$4,340 from eBay (as a reward for printing the website's logo on some of its products), Karen received \$13,323 in donations, allowing her to pay off her debts in full.

A 2009 study by the Boston Globe on e-begging found that it had become a global phenomenon.

2.2 Factors behind electronic begging

Several factors have contributed to some people using electronic platforms to make money and using the virtual world to beg, including:

Increasing poverty rates and inability to meet the basic needs of the family. ●

Family disintegration as a result of the absence of a parent, either by ●
separation, death or imprisonment, and thus the family loses its breadwinner,
so the children or the mother resort to electronic begging to provide the
family's basic needs. Or because of poor upbringing, neglect or excessive
pampering, weak family control and lack of controls in it, or the practice of
deviant behaviors by one or both parents, and the loss of a good role model
and role model by the children. The loss of a breadwinner.

Unemployment, lack of job opportunities, and the profession of begging as a ●
lucrative and easy available profession. Unemployment may be due to the
presence of a physical impairment in the individual, such as having special
needs. Or the person has precedence.

Blind imitation of others. In particular, if a person comes from an ●
environment that allows begging (as we see in some groups in society, which
is called "light"), or if the parents are engaged in begging.

The absence of religious motivation and the weakness of social deterrence, ●
especially when accompanied by a growing sense of social injustice and
misdistribution of resources in society. (Al-Khamshi, 2022) (Ahmed, 2021)

2.3 Forms of Electronic Begging:

Electronic begging refers to begging using various means, such as email,
WhatsApp, posting on social media, commenting on others' posts,

communicating in chat rooms or forums, and even sending cash via mobile phone (Al-Hashlamun, 2021). Electronic begging primarily takes two forms:

- Direct electronic begging: The beggar personally asks for money, offering convincing reasons and requests, such as claiming to need treatment, surgery, loan repayment, or debt repayment, and may use photos and videos to support their claims.
- Indirect begging: The beggar identifies themselves as a philanthropist or donor, begging in the name of charities, religious institutions, or other organizations. Sometimes, they create electronic pages in the name of a charity or use phone numbers associated with that organization. This practice is more impactful when the target of begging involves religious institutions, nursing homes, disability services, or research institutions (Al-Khamshi, 2022).

Legislative adequacy in combating electronic begging: 2.4

Electronic begging is considered a crime contrary to the provisions of Article (389) of the Penal Code ¹

Article (389) of the Penal Code of 1960 stipulates that: "1. Any person who:¹

- a. He gives or asks for charity from people under the pretext of showing wounds or disabilities in him, or by any other means, whether he is wandering or sitting in a public place.
- b) He is found to be driving a minor under the age of sixteen to beg and collect alms, or encouraging him to do so.
- c. Offering with the intention of begging trivial goods, show games or other acts that are not in themselves a serious source of livelihood.
- d. Use any other means of fraud to gain the sympathy of the public with the intention of begging.

According to Section (23) of the Cybercrime Law, Jordanian legislators are subject to punishment under the Cybercrime Law for creating or managing websites or posting begging information through electronic platforms. The legislator believes that perpetrators, accomplices and instigators are punished equally because they pose the same danger.

Elements of the Crime of Electronic Begging:

Islamic Law Element: Unless explicitly stated by law, the act itself is neither a crime nor a punishment. Jordanian legislators, based on the Penal Code, consider any act of begging or soliciting charitable aid under various pretexts such as disability or illness to be a crime, and this also applies to cybercrime laws.

Material Element: The criminal act (regardless of whether it causes actual consequences) and the causal relationship between its result and the result constitute the material element. Therefore, even if the begging itself does not cause any actual

(e) He is found seeking or moving from one place to another to collect charitable charity or donations of any kind based on a false claim.

2. The money, objects and tools seized in the possession of the person who committed any of the acts stipulated in paragraph (1) of this Article shall be confiscated, and the court shall order that they be handed over to the Ministry of Social Development for disbursement to the entities and institutions concerned with beggars.

In the event of repetition of any of the acts stipulated in paragraph (1) of this Article, the penalty shall not be less than six months, and discretionary mitigating reasons may not be used, and the judicial officer at the Ministry of Social Development shall be obliged to include in its report proof of the cases of repetition of the defendant.

4. Without prejudice to any harsher penalty provided for in any other legislation, anyone who harnesses others to commit any of the acts stipulated in paragraph (1) of this article shall be punished by imprisonment for a period of not less than two years.

5. The Minister of Social Development may assign one or more employees to investigate the crimes mentioned in this Article, arrest the perpetrators thereof, and refer them to the competent judicial authorities."

consequences, it is still considered an attempted crime. Furthermore, electronic begging is a complete crime, not an incomplete one, because the act involves seeking help from others under the pretext of incapacity or illness... Regardless of whether money is actually obtained, the act of seeking help itself constitutes a criminal result. Given that the perpetrator uses electronic means to beg from others, and the result is directly related to their actions, a causal relationship exists, constituting a crime committed in the act of being caught in the act.

Moral Elements: The criminal intent of the crime of electronic begging is reflected in the awareness of facts and the law. The perpetrator, through improperly seeking and requesting help from others, knowingly harms legally protected interests, and is aware that the act will damage or endanger those interests, and also knows that electronic begging will affect the income of others.

Regarding the awareness of the law, Jordanian legislators only criminalize electronic begging, regardless of whether money is received.

2.5 Triggers of electronic begging:

According to the Zakat section in Abu Dawood's Hadith collection concerning the giving of alms and the limits of wealth, the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) said, "Whoever begs and receives something will benefit from the fire of hell."

Religion forbids all forms of begging and its means. (Abu Dawood, 275 AH). ²

The full text of the hadith is as it is narrated in Sunan Abu Dawood: "Sahl ibn al-Hanzaliyyah narrated to us that the Messenger of Allah (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) came to 'Ayyinah ibn Husn and al-Aqra' ibn Habis, and he asked him, and he ordered them what they asked, and Mu'awiyah ordered them to write down what they asked. O Muhammad, do you see me carrying to my

The researchers can summarize these effects as follows: ●

Electronic begging deprives society of manpower and human energy and turns ●
it into inert elements that do not contribute to national production.

The beggar hinders the growth and progress of society, especially since the ●
beggar is considered a burden on society that depends on earning from the
pockets of others for his livelihood.

It increases crime rates, especially since electronic begging is considered a soft ●
form of electronic blackmail without coercion. It can be a gateway to other
problems such as alcohol and drug addiction.

Depriving the community of a part of the state budget, which could have been ●
exploited for the development of society and the improvement of living
conditions in it.

It distorts the image of society and gives a negative impression of it abroad. ●

Begging degrades the dignity of the beggar, and may be sexually or financially ●
exploited. Or it makes them more susceptible to more serious problems.

It harms social solidarity and sympathy among members of society, and ●
deprives charitable organizations and associations based on the care of the
needy and destitute of donations and donations that go to beggars. Especially
since many cases of electronic begging are contrived.

people a book in which I do not know what is in it, such as the newspaper of al-Muttalib, and he told Mu'awiyah that the Messenger of Allah (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) said: "Whoever asks and has something to sing, he will be multiplied by the Fire." Al-Nafaili said in another place: What is the richness that should not be the matter with? He said: "As much as he feeds and sustains him" and al-Nafaili said in another place: "He should have a full day and a night, or a night and a day."

Exploitation of religion and distorting its image in begging, as some resort to ●
begging during religious seasons such as the holy month of Ramadan and Hajj,
begging under the pretext and pretense of building or maintaining places of
worship, or to perform worship rituals such as the desire to perform Umrah or
Hajj. (Al-Hashlamun, 2021). (Ahmed, 2021)

2.5 Associated theories in begging

In the current study, two theories will be used, namely

First: Anomie Theory by the researcher (Robert Merton)

Merton's research represents a leap forward in the scientific understanding of criminal behavior. To explain this deviant behavior, he first analyzed the social structures that create individual stress (Al-Darawasha, 2014).

Merton explored social deviance that influences individual social behavior, analyzing it within the context of established social goals and their means of achievement.

Objectives : Each community sets out a set of goals and interests for its members, which are often legitimate and arranged in order of importance.

Standards (means) / Moyens : is the set of rules that govern behavior and means of reaching specific goals, and these rules are characterized by being legitimized by society.

Merton believes that there must be a balance between these two elements in order to control the behaviors of individuals and thus achieve balance in society.

Merton classified the patterns of adaptation and response of individuals to the pressures they are exposed to as a result of their pursuit of goals by available means, and classified them into five types:

Conformity: This type of adaptation occurs when members of a community accept and comply with the cultural goals set by society while at the same time accepting the methods defined by the social system as legitimate ways to achieve these goals.

Innovation: Goals are accepted by members of society, but they reject legitimate methods to achieve success. This leads individuals to seek illegal means to achieve these goals, such as theft and embezzlement.

Ritualism: This pattern is considered to be the opposite of the previous pattern (inventors) represented and prevalent in the middle class, such as small bureaucratic employees in companies and government departments. In this case, socially defined goals are rejected, while legitimate means are adhered to, such as the case of an employee who adheres to instructions and regulations without taking into account the spirit of work and progress.

Retreatism: where goals and methods are abandoned at the same time, but here comes a negative rejection, causing individuals to withdraw from society and resort to addiction, begging, and alcoholism.

Rebellion Pattern: Goals and methods are positively rejected and these goals and means are sought to be replaced by others. An example of this is the revolutions that prevail in a number of countries that provide solutions to the prevailing (Al-Wreikat, 2013).

He argues that while everyone has limited legal avenues to achieve their goals and aspirations, the disparity in opportunities to do so within society leads to deviant behavior. He points out that the gap between the aspirations of impoverished youth and their actual available resources is the root cause of their deviant behavior (Bashir, Toba, 2010).

Anomie theory can be applied to the field of e-begging by understanding the social and economic factors that contribute to its proliferation. These factors include: The collapse of traditional social structures and the decline of social bonds. When individuals lose common social ties and guidance, they may turn to online begging as a means of obtaining financial assistance.

Economic Trends: Online begging may be driven by factors such as economic hardship, lack of job opportunities, and unstable income. When individuals lack legitimate economic opportunities and face economic pressure, they may turn to online begging to obtain money. Technology and Social Media: With the development of technology and the spread of social media, online begging has become more pronounced. Individuals can use social media platforms and online platforms to request financial assistance. This may increase the prevalence of online begging. Lack of legality and oversight: Poor regulation and oversight of online begging can increase its prevalence. When the legal system lacks deterrent measures and strict penalties against cyber begging, it may encourage individuals to engage in this behavior.

Second: Opportunity Theory by the researcher (Culward & Oahlen)

Opportunity theory focuses on understanding the causes and circumstances that lead to the commission of a crime. It is based on the assumption that crime occurs when an individual has a good chance of investigating illicit gains and the legal and social threats are low. It includes the following basic concepts:

Positive Opportunities: Refers to the existence of opportunities available to individuals to achieve legitimate goals and ambitions. When these opportunities are

available and encouraging, individuals are motivated to exploit them in legal ways, thus reducing the likelihood of committing a crime.

Negative Opportunities: It expresses the few or limited opportunities available to individuals to achieve legitimate goals, and refers to certain economic and social conditions that may drive some individuals to commit crime as a means of achieving their desires and needs.

Deterrence: “refers to potential punishment or deterrent measures that may limit the commission of crimes. When the legal and social threat is significant and the penalties are severe, the likelihood of committing the crime decreases.”

Personal Factors: “These are the individual factors that influence an individual's decision to commit a crime, such as age, gender, educational level, and religious commitment”. (Al-Wreikat, 2013)(Al-Hashlamon, 2021)

Applying opportunity theory to online begging, we find that individuals (beggars) exploit people's sympathy for online begging, viewing it as an easy way to obtain help and financial gain. Especially noteworthy is the fact that in many cases, the legal consequences of online begging are minimal, and the Cybercrime Act, enacted on August 13, 2023, only briefly addresses the issue. Due to the difficulty in identifying online beggars, such cases are rarely reported, resulting in very few prosecutions. This reduces deterrence and increases the likelihood of online begging.

Previous studies 2.5

Al-Hamshi's study, Jawaher bint Saleh (2022), entitled: "The Reality of Begging in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia through Social Media Networks (Twitter as a Model)",

published in the Journal of Arts and Social Sciences, Sultan Qaboos University, Volume (13), Issue (3).

This study aimed to identify electronic begging through social networks in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and develop scientific solutions and proposals to reduce this problem. This exploratory study used the qualitative approach through a case study and its content analysis applied to a sample of electronic begging cases (Twitter), during a period of four months during the period (25/2/2020-25/5/2020).

The study reached many results, the most important of which are: that the most requested needs on Twitter were for the payment of financial debts, bills, medical treatment, and the request for food. In exploiting people's sympathy, especially on religious occasions, such as the month of Ramadan, the interaction and sympathy of the community and the reposting of tweets or likes have helped to spread this problem.

The study recommended the need to activate security and social systems in order to combat electronic begging in all its forms in a serious attempt to get rid of its economic and psychological effects.

Al-Hashlamoun, Rania Muhammad Atiya (2021), entitled "Electronic Begging and its Socioeconomic Impact on Jordanian Society from the Perspective of a Sample of Facebook Users," published in the Arab Journal of Science and Research - Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences, Volume 5, Issue 4. ●

This study aimed to identify the problem of electronic begging and its forms, and to demonstrate its most prominent economic and social effects. It also aimed to

determine the relationship between these effects and the study variables of age, gender, educational level, and income. The study employed a descriptive-analytical approach, collecting data through an online questionnaire distributed to 500 individuals from volunteer groups, forums, and charitable organizations on Facebook, using a random sampling method.

The study concluded that electronic begging has negative social effects, including increased exploitation and violations of human dignity. Its impact on the country's international reputation, coupled with the laziness and apathy exhibited by beggars, undermines trust between people who are, in reality, victims of those in need, leading to a weakening of social solidarity. From an economic standpoint, the most significant negative impacts were unemployment and the transformation of beggars into unemployed and unproductive individuals, depriving society of productive forces and thus hindering national economic growth.

The study revealed that all age groups and educational levels are susceptible to this problem, but women and those with higher incomes are the most affected.

Study of the Media Studies Center (2021), titled "Electronic Begging on Twitter: Persuasion Techniques and Fraud Strategies: An Analytical Study." •

This study aimed to uncover the general characteristics of the problem of electronic begging on social media, using Twitter as a model, and to identify the most important methods and tools used by beggars. Using a descriptive approach and employing quantitative and qualitative analytical survey methodology, the problem of electronic begging in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was explored during the period (March 16-20, 2021). A total of 20,353 begging tweets were analyzed,

focusing on the 100 most widely shared tweets, in addition to analyzing 101 Twitter accounts.

The study concluded by identifying the most important general characteristics of electronic begging on Twitter. This was evident in the fact that the majority of beggars were men (58%), and that begging could be direct (62%) or indirect. These requests were often made to alleviate suffering (60%), whether for the beggar themselves (10%) or for relatives of those in arrears (23%). A significant majority (60%) of these requests were directed at others, focusing on protecting them from execution (51%), paying bills (22%), or addressing health and humanitarian needs.

The study also indicated consistent patterns in the writing of these tweets, employing emotionally charged language that exploits humanitarian concerns and targets individuals, while clearly ignoring government agencies or the Ministry of Social Development. The study recommended intensifying awareness campaigns for members of Saudi society, strengthening security oversight, and pursuing accounts that harm society and deceive its members.

A Narrative Study, Awad Sbeitan, Al-Qoud, Ibrahim Abdul Qader (2016), The Phenomenon of Begging as Perceived by Social Studies Teachers in Mafraa Governorate (Causes and Solutions) •

This study aimed to uncover the factors and effects of the begging phenomenon and propose solutions to address it. Therefore, the researchers adopted a qualitative approach by collecting data through personal interviews with (30) social studies teachers in Mafraa Governorate during the 2014/2015 academic year.

The study concluded that the phenomenon of online begging is attributed to seven factors: economic, psychological, security, educational, familial, social, and political.

The study recommended expanding the scope of surveys to identify cases of poverty and unemployment in Mafraq Governorate, increasing the scope of projects to rehabilitate beggars and establishing care homes, emphasizing the role of the Ministry of Endowments and Islamic Affairs, activating oversight, and launching national initiatives to reduce its spread.

Commenting on previous studies

The current study differs from previous studies in that it explores the responses of members of the Karak community to this issue. This behavior violates Sharia law, which criminalizes it, especially considering that the study participants should be sufficiently aware to protect themselves from beggars and their fraudulent practices.

3. Method and Procedures

3.1 Study method

In this study, the researcher used the following research methods:

First: The Historical Method:

In this method, the researcher reviews previous research that is directly related to the topic of this study, with the aim of explaining the most important viewpoints, the results and recommendations she derived, and the similarities and differences between the current study and those studies.

Second: Descriptive-Analytical Method:

The study employs descriptive analysis method in order to achieve its specific research objectives. This method is considered one of the approaches to studying phenomena. Researchers describe the problems they want to study, expressing reality in a quantitative or qualitative way, thus forming the theoretical framework of this study. This is because it describes the problems of the Balanced Scorecard and its important related aspects, such as its impact on strategic planning, whether positive or negative.

3.2 Study population and sample

In order to test the hypotheses of the current study, the researchers selected members of the Karak community as our research subjects. The research subjects included members of several communities in the Karak province (388,700) (Nessma, Statistics Office, 2024)

.A simple random sample of (5000) was used.

3.3 Questionnaire Tool:

In order to achieve the objectives of the study and test its hypotheses, a questionnaire was designed that includes many questions related to the study questions, in addition to a number of questions that deal with the characteristics of the study sample, and the questionnaire was presented to professors in the field of statistics and the necessary adjustments were made in light of their observations, and the researcher used a five-point Card-scale to know the response of the sample members to the questionnaire paragraphs, as the Kert scale is one of the most used measures to measure the attitudes and opinions of the researchers. The Likert scale was used as a substitute for the answers and in the form of relative weights as follows:

Strongly agreed, (5).

Agree, (4).

Neutral, (3).

Disagree, (2).

Strongly disagree, (1).

Data were collected and analyzed using specialized statistical software included in the Statistical Ready Package (SPSS), which is appropriate to the nature of this study.

3.4 Study tool stability (reliability)

To measure the stability of the research tools used, a Kornbach alpha test was performed to address issues across the entire questionnaire and various aspects of the research. Alpha can be interpreted as the correlation coefficient between answers, so alpha values range from 0 to 1, and a statistically acceptable alpha value is at least 60% to ensure the generalizability of the results. The stability coefficients are shown in Table (1).

Table (1) The value of the stability coefficient of the internal consistency of the study variables

Dimensions	Stability Coefficient
Electronic Begging ID	92%
The extent to which they respond to the cases of begging they are exposed to.	91%
Preventive ways to protect themselves from electronic begging.	95%

Average	93%
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3.5 Statistical processing

The following statistical methods were used for the purposes of the study:

Descriptive Statistics Measures: It relies on the use of percentages, .1

frequencies, arithmetic averages, and standard deviations to describe the characteristics of the study sample and arrange its variables according to their relative importance.

Reliability Analysis: This is to verify the validity of the measurement tool by .2

extracting the value of Cronbach's alpha coefficient to show the objectivity of the questionnaire.

T-test to test the hypotheses of the study to identify the existence or absence .3

of statistically significant differences.

Relative importance is determined according to the following formula and .4

according to the five-point scale of the answer alternatives for each paragraph:

Relative importance =	Minimum alternative – Upper limit of alternative	=	5-1	= 1.33
	Number of Level		3	

The number of levels are: Low, Medium, and High, so it is:

Low level if the mean is from 1 to 2.33.

The average level if the arithmetic average is more than 2.34. Up to 3.66.

High level if the arithmetic mean is more than 3.67.

4. Statistical Analysis

4.1 Analysis of Sample Characteristics

First: Gender Variable

Table (2) shows the distribution of the study sample members according to the gender variable, where it was found that the number of males reached (2300) people (46%) while the number of females was (2700) (54%).

Table (2)

Shows frequency and percentages by sex

Gender	Repetition	Percentage
Male	2300	46%
Female	2700	54%
Total	5000	100%

Second: Age Variable

Table (3) shows the age distribution of the study sample members. The results show that 14% of the study sample members are under 30 years old, 50% are between 30 and 40 years old, 26% are between 40 and 50 years old, and the last 10% are over 50 years old.

Table (3)

Shows frequencies and percentages by age

Age	Repetition	Percentage
Under 30 years of age.	700	14%

30 – Under 40 years	2500	50%
40- Under 50 years	1300	26%
50 and more.	500	10%
Total	5000	100%

Third: The Academic Year

Table (4) shows that 18% of the study sample is from the first year, while 40% from the second year, in addition to 36% from the third year, 6% from the fourth year.

Table No. (4)

Shows frequencies and percentages by year of college

Years of service in current job	Repetition	Percentage
The first	900	18%
The second	2000	40%
The third	1800	36%
Fourth	300	6%
Total	5000	100%

Fourth: Accommodation

Table (5) shows the distribution of the study sample by gender. The results show that (8%) lived in the northern region, (38%) in the central region, and (54%) in the southern region.

Table No. (5)

Shows frequency and percentages by property

Gender	Repetition	Percentage
Northern Region	400	8%
Central Region	1900	38%
South Region	2700	54%
Total	5000	100%

Fifth: Work

Table (6) shows the distribution of the study sample members according to the work variable, where it was found that (8%) are not working, (10%) are retired, and (82%) are employees.

Table No. (6)

Shows frequency and percentages by work

Gender	Repetition	Percentage
I don't do	400	8%

Retired	500	10%
Employee	4100	82%
Total	5000	100%

4.2 Analysis of the results of the evaluation of the electronic begging identifier

The participants' awareness level regarding electronic begging was 3.95. Statistical indicators such as standard deviation and significance level (Sig) indicate that, on the one hand, the participants' responses showed low dispersion; on the other hand, the mean was statistically significant, with a T-test probability of 0.000. Therefore, these paragraphs were considered statistical functions at a significance level of $\alpha = 0.05$.

The results suggest that the study participants had a high level of awareness regarding begging behavior, and their responses showed low dispersion. This implies that anti-begging efforts could be more targeted towards student groups with lower awareness of the topic.

Table No. (7)

**Mathematical Averages and Standard Deviations of the Researchers' Perceptions of
the Level of the Electronic Begging Profile**

Item	Arith metic Avera ge	Standa rd deviati on	Test (t) Proba bility	Appro val Rate	Relati ve impor tance
Always receive fake emails claiming to be from reliable sources such as banks or large corporations asking for donations.	3.56	1.0133	0.0000	71.2	Mediu m
I am asked to pay a sum of money upfront for a great opportunity or an expensive product, but the promise is often false and the amount paid is lost.	3.82	1.1373	0.0000	76.4	high
Receive SMS or app requests for suspicious activities such as calling expensive phone numbers or downloading malware.	4.1	0.9948	0.0000	82	high
Receive emotional messages online that relate to human emotions for money or personal information.	3.88	0.9398	0.0000	77.6	high
Receive messages from fake charitable online organizations aimed at fundraising	3.88	1.0879	0.0000	76	high

Receive direct text messages asking for financial assistance	3.5	1.3132	0.0000	70	Medium
Receive online entries that implicitly request financial aid	4.02	1.1337	0.0000	80.4	high
Receive videos with emotion manipulation	4.08	1.1400	0.0000	81.6	high
Watch human clips asking for help and support on social media by sharing and resending	4.4	0.7559	0.0000	88	high
Watch clips asking for direct financial assistance on social media	4.3	0.90914	0.0000	86	high
Electronic Begging ID	3.95	0.49702	0.0000	78.92	high

4.3 Analysis of the results of the response assessment to the cases of begging they are exposed to

The respondents' response level to the begging cases they encountered reached 4.048. Statistical indicators such as standard deviation and probability value (Sig) indicate that, on the one hand, the dispersion of responses is not high; on the other hand, the mean is statistically significant. Because the probability of the T-test is equal to 0.000, these segments are considered statistical functions at the $\alpha = 0.05$ level. The data in the table show that participants rated the response level to the begging cases they encountered relatively high.

Table No. (8)

Mathematical averages and standard deviations of the respondents' perceptions of the extent of response to the cases of begging they are exposed to.

Item	Arithmetic Average	Standard deviation	Test (t) Probability	Appraisal Rate	Level
Mostly I interact with electronic begging	4.00	1.0690	0.0000	80	high
Consider the amounts of donations you donate small and ineffective	4.04	1.0293	0.0000	80.8	high
I consider the support by watching and liking the clips that ask for support does not affect me in anything and therefore I interact	4.06	1.0382	0.0000	81.2	high
I accept the concept of electronic begging as a legitimate way to make money.	4.00	1.0690	0.0000	80	high
Interact with text messages that offer investment opportunities and winnings via online and lottery	4.14	0.9691	0.0000	82.8	high

The extent to which they respond to the cases of begging they are exposed to.	4.048	0.7028	0.0000	80.96	high
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4.4 Analyze the results of the evaluation of preventive ways to protect themselves from electronic begging.

The responses from respondents regarding methods to prevent online begging were wide-ranging. A total of 2,552 respondents participated in the survey. The statistical indicators of standard deviation and significance level (Sig) indicate that, on the one hand, the respondents' responses were not highly dispersed, and on the other hand, the mean was statistically significant. The probability of the T-test was 0.000, therefore these data were considered statistical functions at a significance level of $\alpha = 0.05$.

Table 9 lists the arithmetic mean and standard deviation of respondents' perceptions of methods to prevent online begging. The table includes some methods that can be used to prevent begging, such as updating security software, avoiding spam emails,

and avoiding visiting untrusted websites. These methods help reduce online begging and maintain personal online security.

Table (9)

Mathematical averages and standard deviations of the researchers' perceptions of preventive methods to protect themselves from electronic begging.

Item	Arithm etic Averag e	Standa rd deviati on	Test (t) Proba bility	Appr oval Rate	Level
Check the credibility of ads containing online begging	2.64	0.9424	0.0000	52.8	Mediu m
Close the contact (blok) that I suspect is begging electronically	2.28	0.9697	0.0000	45.6	Mediu m
I don't reply to emails that I suspect are electronic begging	2.6	1.1428	0.0000	52	Mediu m
I don't support humanitarian videos that ask for help and support on social media by sharing and reposting	2.22	0.9749	0.0000	44.4	Low
I don't watch clips asking for direct financial help on social media	3.02	1.2370	0.0000	60.4	Mediu m
Preventive ways to protect themselves from electronic begging.	2.552	0.6095	0.0000	51.04	Mediu m

After reviewing the statistical analysis and commenting on it, we can point out that the results of this study are in line with the views of all previous studies that have been referred to, which focus on the need to activate the guidance and awareness aspect among community members to protect them from falling victim to electronic begging, in addition to the need to tighten the deterrent penalties on electronic begging professionals, and this has already been done recently in Jordan with the issuance of the Cybercrime Law of 2023, which was increased in the text of Article (23) of the penalty Electronic begging can reach imprisonment for a period of not less than six months and not more than one year, and a fine of not less than (3000) three thousand dinars and not more than (5000) five thousand dinars. This result is also consistent with the theory of the differential opportunity of the researchers (Calward, and Ohlen) that there should be sufficient official deterrence for those who practice such crimes.

5. Conclusion and discussion of findings and recommendations

The study sheds light on the problem of electronic begging in Jordan, as a religiously forbidden problem that is criminalized by law. Although the study focuses on a specific sample of students at Mutah University, it provides some useful findings, which could be useful for other sectors of Jordanian society:

Among these findings are:

Cyber begging is a real problem at Mutah University, as 60% of the students who participated in the study were exposed to this problem.

Several preventive methods can be used to reduce cyber begging, such as updating protection software, avoiding spam emails, and avoiding access to untrusted websites.

Universities and educational institutions can adopt policies and procedures to reduce electronic begging and educate students about the problem

Future studies can scale up the sample and analyze the data using more sophisticated statistical tools to obtain more accurate results.

Recommendations

Based on our findings from the analysis of the questionnaire, we can make a number of recommendations:

Conducting awareness and educational campaigns for students about electronic begging and how to identify and prevent it, and introducing them to the harms of this phenomenon and emphasizing the need not to sympathize with it.

Conduct training courses for students to teach them how to deal with fraudulent emails, fraudulent websites, fraudulent text messages, and fraudulent emails related to bank accounts. More resources and tools could also be provided to students to help them learn about and prevent cyber begging.

Tighter censorship of websites that are used for begging.

Strengthening societal efforts to provide employment opportunities for unemployed youth, and drawing up a national strategy to reduce the problems of poverty and unemployment.

Providing psychological and social support to people who engage in electronic begging, and providing social and educational services to needy families.

Ultimately, it can be said that the problem of cyber begging requires joint efforts from the whole of society to address and address this problem effectively.

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