

PROPOSITIONS

attached to the thesis

In Pursuit of Dignity: Education and Social Mobility in the Life Trajectories of Women Commercial School Graduates in Cairo

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1. Technical education has acted as a social sieve; it casts doubt in the role of education in enhancing professional and social advancement of the poor (this thesis).
2. The role of the state in social engineering is central to understanding social mobility in Egypt (Ch.4).
3. As young people within socially disadvantaged families take educational decisions, they heed family financial constraints and future social mobility prospects (Ch.5).
4. Female commercial school graduates have sought to break away from manual jobs which have challenged their status as educated individuals (Ch.6).
5. For women from working class background, marriage into the middle class does not necessarily guarantee membership in it (Ch.7).
6. Autocratic authoritarianism is strongly present in the Arab Spring countries and still influences their political scene.
7. The current Islamist government in Egypt seeks to revoke the rights women gained under Mubarak.
8. Young secular revolutionaries actively participated in the 25th January revolt, but are now being excluded from the process of building a democratic government.
9. The Islamists may not pursue social justice because they are beneficiaries of the neo-liberal market economy.
10. Students in Egyptian universities seek to impose democratic rules of governance within their institutions.
11. Yemen is a stable, democratic and egalitarian society that respects the rights of women.