



## The Ethical and Legal Structure for a Just Social media Public Sphere

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A pressing question we must address is whether – and how – it is possible to use social media in ways other than those in which they are currently being used, so that we can increase the capability of the weak, the poor, and even the ignorant, to participate effectively in decisions that affect their lives, whether at the level of society or individually.

There should be caution against embracing a misconception of democracy. The problem facing Arab culture lies in the issue of the freedom of citizens and their rehabilitation in the field of democratic participation in their society.

The different social media platforms as communication networks have become a function of our daily life. They have become an addiction. Its operators are motivated by any reason or no reason, often transmitting emotionally charged and unbalanced, antisocial versions of sociality.

It is too late for direct formal societal intervention to force the constructive adjustment of this social habit. As in the case of addressing smoking addiction, a plausible approach would be to introduce gradual social interventions that will discredit the adverse and damaging use of social media and encourage its ethical and legal use for democratic participation.