Identity Struggle of Young Muslim Women in the Spatial Context in Turkiye

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Abstract: In this study, the 'Kadınlar Camilerde (Women in Mosques)' movement in Turkey will be investigated. Specifically, this paper focuses on the identity struggle of young Muslim women in Turkey in a spatial context. Kadınlar Camilerde is composed of a group of Muslim women who constantly use mosques, come together in mosques, communicate via social media, talk about the situation of women in mosques, and seek solutions for the conditions they find "unequal". This paper's objective is to understand the relationship between women's participation in the public sphere (work-education) and their spatial demands, the relationship between the support they receive from their close and distant environment and their ability to take unconventional actions, the relationship between religiosity and the ability to engage in unconventional actions, and also to understand how the social and cultural meanings of mosque spaces differ for women. To find answers to the research questions, an online survey will be conducted. Participants of this survey will be Muslim women who are supporters and nonsupporters of 'Kadınlar Camilerde.' Although the aim is to investigate supporters of Kadınlar Camilerde, there will be a need for the participants to the non-supporters to see their revealed differences in thoughts and behaviors. In addition to the aforementioned research questions, the paper will seek to find out how supporters and non-supporters Muslim women differ. It is expected to find out that younger women tend to participate in Kadınlar Camilerde. It is also hypothesized that the more women get involved in the public sphere, the more space they demand from society. The paper hypothesizes that the women encouraged by their family, husband, and friends are eager to participate in unconventional actions. It is finally hypothesized that there is no relation between religiosity and the choice of unconventional actions.

Keywords: women, mosques, resistance, türkiye

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