



**Faculty of Philosophy and Humanities (FPSH)**

**Department of Social Sciences**

**IDEES Research Laboratory**

**Research project /action on the “Responsible Family in Lebanon” 2017-2020**

**Introduction**

Following the Synod on the Family and the publication of the Apostolic Exhortation *Amoris Laetitia*, and as part of the preparations for the Centenary of the proclamation of Greater Lebanon 1920-2020, “The Responsible Family in Lebanon” aims to be an interdisciplinary research-action project. The Department of Social Sciences of USEK’s Faculty of Philosophy and Humanities is the coordinator of this project, which will involve various internal academic partners and social, educational and ecclesiastical bodies.

The interest of this project is twofold:

- a- To respond to the pressing social need on the marital, nuclear family, parental, political, economic and church level;
- b- To foster inter-institutional and church collaboration.

**Context of the Project**

1. A Lebanese field with parental and family context conjunctures, whereby family is perceived as a value endangered by permissiveness and cyclical precariousness.
2. A structural situation (on the socio-economic, political, cultural, medical, and church levels), wherein the family is the least favored player.
3. The permanent changes in marital and family models in the West, which impact on family in Lebanon.
4. The need for awareness raising and field assessment in order to undertake proper remediation.

**Objectives**

1. Promote marriage and family life as the bases of social life in Lebanon.
2. Showcase a family vision that takes into consideration the (ontological) integrity and dignity (values) of individuals, and the perception of the family institution as an identity framework in the Lebanese society.

3. Devise an action strategy that involves churches, schools, universities, municipalities and associations as partners in safeguarding the family in Lebanon.

**The action/research project is divided as follows:**

**1- Responsible conjugality and parenthood: theoretical and conceptual framework**

This section clarifies the concepts of responsible conjugality and parenthood in relation to the catholic frame of reference (specifically the Apostolic Exhortation *Amoris Laetitia*) and to the disciplines that have been adopted (philosophy (ontology), (philosophical) anthropology, sociology, psychology, psychoanalysis, ethics and bioethics, genetics, biblical theology, biblical anthropology, and law).

**2- Field assessment**

A qualitative and quantitative field assessment encompassing the ecumenical dimension will be performed alternately, and according to needs (questionnaire survey, focus groups, interviews, etc.).

**3- Responsible conjugality and parenthood: pilot experiments**

Developing pilot projects in partnership with apostolic movements, help centers and marriage preparation centers, schools, NGOs, municipalities and universities.

**Estimated duration of the project:** 3 years

**Project Coordinator:** Department of Social Sciences/Faculty of Philosophy and Humanities (USEK)

**Collaborators**

*Oui à la Vie* Movement

John Paul II Center

Catholic schools

**Scientific and follow-up committee**

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