

### The following are facts about women in Saudi Arabia:

- Saudi Arabia is the only country in the world that prohibits women from driving. - *"World Report 2012: Saudi Arabia". Human Rights Watch (HRW), 2011*
- Under the Saudi guardianship system, women are treated as minors as well as forbidden from travel, studying or working without permission from male guardians - *"World Report 2012: Saudi Arabia". Human Rights Watch (HRW), 2011*
- The [World Economic Forum](#) 2009 [Global Gender Gap Report](#) ranked Saudi Arabia 130th out of 134 countries for gender parity. - *"The Global Gender Gap Report 2009". World Economic Forum. 2009. Archived from the original on 2009-11-22.*
- Saudi women constitute 17% of the country's native workforce. Girls are taught that their primary role is to raise children and take care of the household. - *"Winning the case for women in work". BBC News. 13 December 2012.*
- Under Saudi law, all females must have a male guardian, typically a father, brother or husband. The guardian has duties to, and rights over, the woman in many aspects of civic life. - *Ertürk, Yakin (14 April 2009). "Report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences: Mission to Saudi Arabia. United Nations".*
- Women's freedom of movement is very limited in Saudi Arabia. They are not suppose to leave their houses or their local neighborhood without the permission of their male guardian. - *"Women's Rights in the Middle East and North Africa: Citizenship and Justice". Freedom House. 2005. p. 262*
- Traditionally, women's clothing must not reveal anything about her body. It is supposed to be thick, opaque, and loose. It should not resemble the clothing of men (or non-Muslims). In Saudi Arabia and some other Arab states, all of the body is expected to be covered except the hands and eyes. - *"Conditions of Muslim woman's hijab". Islam Q&A. 3 October 2008. Retrieved 2 June 2008.*
- There are no laws defining the minimum age for marriage in Saudi Arabia. Most religious authorities have justified the marriage of girls as young as 9 and boys as young as 15. However, they believe a father can marry off his daughter at any age. - *"Gender Equality in Saudi Arabia". Retrieved 21 September 2010.*
- Saudi Arabia remains a destination for child and women trafficking. Legal migrant workers, many of them female, are subjected to slave like conditions suffering physical and sexual abuse, work without pay, and often have their passports taken away from them. - *"Saudi Arabia" Social Institutions & Gender Index (SIGI) 2011*
- Violence against women and girls is a problem of [pandemic](#) proportions. At least one out of every three women around the world has been beaten, coerced into sex, or otherwise abused in her lifetime with the abuser usually someone known to her. - *Moradian, Azad. "Domestic Violence against Single and Married Women in Iranian Society". Tolerancy International. September 2009. Retrieved 16 Nov. 2011.*