

**Social construction of gendered religious identities of
Christian women Inaprivate University in Lahore: A
qualitative study**



Supervisor

Inam ul Haq

Submitted By

Muneeba Shamas

ID # 15001261044

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University of Management and Technology, Lahore,

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Dedication

I dedicate this research work to the

Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)

&

My Beloved Husband, My Parents & My Siblings

Whose encouragement guidance is the assets of my life.

Acknowledgements

First of all I show gratitude to Almighty Allah, the most powerful and the only owner of this universe, for giving me the strength, wisdom and encouragement to flourish in the efforts. My special praises are for the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) who is the most perfect and best among all.

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Abstract

This study focuses on exploring the social construction of gendered religious identities of Christian women in a university with a particular focus on the ways and strategies through which the Christian female students in Forman Christian College maintain and negotiate their religious identities. This might be according to their self-realization or as an attempt to survive with other religious activities at their institute. This research project is purely qualitative in nature. The research employed six in-depth interviews with respondents chosen through snowballing and purposive sampling techniques. The data was analyzed through codes, categories and themes. The themes were religion and social life, religion and educational institution, religion and feminism, gender differences and role of religion, pressuring issues of women, culture and women.

Keywords: social construction, gender, religious identities, minorities.

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Chapter 1

Introduction

The current study aims to understand the social construction of gendered religious identities of Christian women. Before debating on social construction of gender, we need to understand the social construction. Social construction is both micro and macro level approach. It's a process through which facts, knowledge and truth are discovered, made known, confirmed and transformed by the members of society (Burger & Luckman, 1966).