

**U.S. Department of Justice**  
Executive Office for Immigration Review

Decision of the Board of Immigration Appeals

Falls Church, Virginia 22041

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File: [REDACTED] - [REDACTED]

Date: AUG 20 1999

In re: [REDACTED]

IN DEPORTATION PROCEEDINGS

APPEAL

ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT: Susan E. Hill, Esquire  
2530 [REDACTED] Boulevard, Second Floor  
[REDACTED], California [REDACTED]

ON BEHALF OF SERVICE: Lee P. Crystal  
Assistant District Counsel

CHARGE:

Order: Sec. 241(a)(1)(B), I&N Act [8 U.S.C. § 1251(a)(1)(B)] -  
In United States in violation of law

APPLICATION: Asylum; withholding of deportation

ORDER:

PER CURIAM. The respondent appeals solely from the Immigration Judge's January 8, 1998, denial of her applications for asylum and withholding of deportation under sections 208(a) and 243(h) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. §§ 1158(a) and 1253(h). The appeal is dismissed.

The Immigration Judge's decision accurately sets forth the facts asserted by the respondent in support of her claim for asylum and withholding of deportation, applies the appropriate legal standards, and correctly concludes that the respondent failed to establish past persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution on account of one of the five protected grounds under the Act, or that it is more likely than not that she would be persecuted if returned to Jordan. See section 101(a)(42)(A) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(42)(A); *INS v. Elias-Zacarias*, 502 U.S. 478 (1992); *INS v. Cardoza-Fonseca*, 480 U.S. 421 (1987); *INS v. Stevic*, 467 U.S. 407 (1984). The respondent testified that she fears harm from the male members of her family on account of her premarital relations with the man who is now her husband, and because they did not have her father's permission to marry. She claims that Jordan does not protect women in their society who have violated societal norms regarding morality.

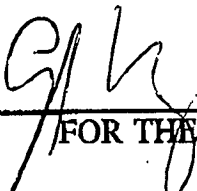
We agree with the Immigration Judge's conclusion that the respondent's fear of her father and other male relatives is essentially based on a personal family dispute, and that she failed to demonstrate a well-founded fear of persecution on account of her membership in a particular social group. *Matter of Y-G-*, 20 I&N Dec. 794 (BIA 1994). As the Immigration Judge

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pointed out, our asylum laws do not encompass all treatment that society regards as unfair, unjust, or even unlawful or unconstitutional. Citing Fisher v. INS, 79 F.3d 955, 962 (9th Cir. 1996); Fatin v. INS, 12 F.3d 1233 (3d Cir. 1993). We agree that, despite evidence showing that women in Jordan do face some discrimination, and even that they are sometimes subject to violence for failure to conform to cultural and moral norms of their society, the evidence also shows that the Jordanian government attempts to provide some degree of protection to its female subjects and to punish those who harm women for violating societal norms (Exhs. 3, 4). Moreover, we agree with the Immigration Judge's conclusion that the respondent's fear of harm is speculative.

Accordingly, the appeal is dismissed.

FURTHER ORDER: Pursuant to the Immigration Judge's order and in accordance with our decision in Matter of Chouliaris, 16 I&N Dec. 168 (BIA 1977), the respondent is permitted to depart from the United States voluntarily within 30 days from the date of this order or any extension beyond that time as may be granted by the district director; and in the event of a failure to depart, the respondent shall be deported as provided in the Immigration Judge's order.

  
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FOR THE BOARD