

Women's participation in ISIS attracts attention, yet their motivations and roles within ISIS remain under-examined. The thesis addresses the gap in understanding female motivations both from the perspective of women and ISIS. The primary objective of this research is to examine the relationship between women's motivations to join ISIS and the group's offerings to its female members. The thesis applies a microeconomic theory of supply and demand to explore this interconnection.

As a part of the main objective, the thesis attempts to deepen the understanding of ISIS women's motivations by conducting a meta-analysis of existing scholarship published between 2015 and 2024. Moreover, the thesis identifies twenty-eight subthemes and five themes in women's behavioral radicalization into ISIS, providing a unique categorization of female motivations. These themes were identified in the process of qualitative inductive thematic analysis. The identified themes are Survival, Affinity, Personal Development, Duty, and Excitement.

Moreover, the thesis provides a comprehensive overview of twenty-one of ISIS's offerings to its female members. The thesis additionally identifies the roles that women are expected to perform within ISIS. Once motivations and offerings are presented, I explore how ISIS's offerings and women's motivations intersect and influence one another.

The research findings contribute to a more profound understanding of the interconnection between ISIS's offerings and female motivations. It further spotlights the importance of a terrorist group's supply to one's behavioral radicalization. The thesis carries implications for radicalization studies, terrorism prevention strategies, and deradicalization policies.