

# The Emirati Habitus: Shaping Responses to Ethical Challenges of the AI Disruptions

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## Abstract

This paper explores the role of cultural values in responding to the ethical challenges posed by the transformative impact of AI, focusing on the concept of the reproductive habitus. It highlights the potential risks associated with unrestricted AI access, particularly without adequate regulation. The paper advocates for a comprehensive approach encompassing cultural values and regulatory measures to foster responsible and ethical use of AI technologies. It underscores the importance of cultivating a strong values system rooted in cultural traditions as a complementary component to regulatory frameworks. By adopting this multifaceted approach, the paper claims that societies can effectively navigate the ethical complexities of AI disruption and achieve a balanced integration of AI technologies into various domains of human life. The authors, Arab Muslim scholars residing in the UAE, share their insights to highlight the relevance of cultural values in guiding ethical decision-making, especially for the young generation, in the context of AI. They specifically draw attention to the distortion of current representations of Islamic values, advocating for the integration of authentic and unadulterated organic values into society. By reintroducing these values into the habitus of the new generation, educational institutions, families, and communities can create an environment that reclaims these values and nurtures ethical awareness, accountability, and values-led decision-making.

**Keywords:** Emirati culture, AI governance, Islamic values, reproductive habitus, transformative habitus