

A Theoretical Model for Gender in De-democratizing Settings: Evidence from Turkey¹

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This article examines how the de-democratization process influences gendered politics and how opposition to gender equality assisted democratic backsliding in Turkey. Drawing on a grounded theory methodology study, this article contends that anti-gender equality policy aided the Justice and Development Party (AKP) in de-democratizing the political regime. At the same time, women experience different consequences of gendering de-democratization. The evidence from in-depth fieldwork, including fifty-three semi-structured interviews, demonstrates that antithetical groups are more exposed to the phenomenon. Findings suggest that anti-gender equality policy influences women's participation in the labor market, which goes along with further exposure to domestic violence.

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