

Western University

Scholarship@Western

Inspiring Minds – A Digital Collection of
Western's Graduate Research, Scholarship and
Creative Activity

Inspiring Minds

November 2022

Gender Roles in the COVID-19 Pandemic: Perceptions and Experiences of Immigrant Women in Canada

Bidushy Sadika
bsadika@uwo.ca

Follow this and additional works at: <https://ir.lib.uwo.ca/inspiringminds>

Citation of this paper:

Sadika, Bidushy, "Gender Roles in the COVID-19 Pandemic: Perceptions and Experiences of Immigrant Women in Canada" (2022). *Inspiring Minds – A Digital Collection of Western's Graduate Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity*. 378.

<https://ir.lib.uwo.ca/inspiringminds/378>

**Gender Roles in the COVID-19 Pandemic:
Perceptions and Experiences of Immigrant Women in Canada**

**Bidushy Sadika, PhD Candidate
Victoria Esses, PhD
Department of Psychology, Western University**

Gender roles are formed when sex differences (i.e., women's reproductive ability and men's physical strength) are stereotyped as appropriate social behaviours. Research conducted in various countries (e.g., Canada, USA, United Kingdom, Australia, etc.) reported a strong association between the COVID-19 pandemic and increased marginalization of women. To add to the literature, my doctoral study addresses: *How do immigrant women in Canada perceive, experience, and negotiate with gender roles in interpersonal, social, community, cultural, and institutional spaces during the COVID-19 pandemic?* With the support of immigrant-serving organizations in Canada, I will interview 40-50 first-generation immigrant women. Employing grounded theory to analyze the data, I will develop a strengths-based model that explains immigrant women coping with gender roles during the ongoing pandemic. Overall, this study highlights the COVID-19 pandemic as a social justice issue and underscores the need for gender-based services to support immigrant women during post-pandemic recovery and future national crises.