

دراسة بعنوان

فعالية برامج الحماية الاجتماعية في تحقيق العدالة الاجتماعية للأطفال في المناطق العشوائية

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Title: Effectiveness of Social Protection Programs in Achieving Social Justice for Children in Slums

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I- Problem of the Study:

The spread of slums is an integrated part of life system chaos in many affairs in Egypt currently. Within this environment in slums, generations of children are growing with no guilty but growing in such places the so-called slums. Accordingly, they acquire behaviors colored by the environment in which they were born.

Children in Egypt form a big population category (25%) comparing to percentages in developed countries. Hence, the issue of slums is an urgent issue imposed on society and research recently. We can describe social protection as a framework that covers a wider set of programs, parties, instruments related to other options as social policy, social security, or social insurance.

The researcher sees that although the variety of social protection available in the Egyptian society, it misses integration between its forms. This makes it loses a lot of effectiveness. The integration, if achieved, may lead to many social and economic benefits, since the social dimension is very important in the formulation of economic policy, which reflects in turn on the achievement of social justice for slum children.

The problem of the study can be stated in the main question "***Do Social Protection Programs as they are currently contribute to the achievement of social justice for slums children?***" This question can be answered through calculating and measuring the effectiveness of these programs and their contents of services related to health and educational services; and how much they achieve justice indicators in terms of needs of slums children; and how much they can serve issues of equality and fair redistribution of services; and finally determining obstacles against their effectiveness. This would be a start towards the construction of the role of social organizers in civil associations to be more able to increase the effectiveness of such programs and to overcome such obstacles, according to *Community Organization Method*.

II- Concepts of the Study:

- Effectiveness
- Social protection
- Slum children
- Social justice

III- Methodology of the Study:

a. Type of the Study:

An *evaluative study* to identify effectiveness of social protection programs in achieving social justice for children living in slums.

b. Method used: the study used both quantitative and qualitative methods using the social survey of a sample.

c. Tools of the Study: The study used the following tools:

- A measurement form to identify the effectiveness of social protection programs for slum children. The form was administered to social workers.
- A questionnaire form to identify the effectiveness of social protection programs, to be applied to slum children.

- An interview guide for experts in the field of social protection.

d. **Fields of the Study:**

- **Location:** Voluntary institutions in slum areas in Fayoum (n=24) distributed to 13 slum areas, where there are 4 unsafe areas.
- **Sample:** Social workers in voluntary institutions (120 social workers) distributed to the studied civil associations that serve slum areas; a sample of children (n= 168) from slum areas; a sample of experts (n= 32).
- **Duration:** the study took 6 months, from July 1st, 2016 till the end of December 2016 AC.

IV- **Results of the Study:**

a. **Results related to the measurement form applied to social workers:**

- The protection programs (social protection) came as the first in order because they are composed of policies and programs aiming at decrease of poverty and powerlessness through enhancing competence of job markets. This decreases the vulnerability of people to risks and reinforce their abilities to manage economic and social risks. This reflects on social protection programs dedicated for children in slums and their families.
- It is necessary to deepen the slum children's feelings of belongingness to family and society.
- Associations should communicate with businessperson, volunteers, and Ministry of Health to provide free therapy and medication in slums.

b. **Results related to children in slums:**

- There should be more attention to economic, health, and legal, respectively.
- A slum child is a victim because the issue of slums children is not a single product but it is the product of various combined issues, such as:
 - Chronic decline of an environment deprived from services for a long time.
 - Weakness and corruption of local administration in slums.
 - Weakness medical services provided to slums children.
 - Spread of chronic diseases.

Difficult access of services to slums, which indicates that justice for slums children is not accomplished.

c. **Results related to the interview guide of experts of social protection for slum children:**

- High experience of the sample concerning social protection (the highest percentage is more than 55 years of experience).
- Variety of experts' jobs in area of social protection.
- The reality of social protection services that would achieve social justice for slums children shows how marginal and illusionary they are. The experts indicated also that these services do not aim at achieving even a minimum response to the needs of slums children or their families. They also do not achieve benefit of societal development.

The study recommended more investigation for the reality of children in slums before going ahead into planning for provision of social protection services. It also recommended that there should be legislations and laws with mechanisms of monitoring civil associations in slum areas.