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Estimating the care needs of irregular workers as an indicator of improving Quality of Life

A thesis proposal for an MA Degree in social work

submitted by

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First: the problem of the study:

The strategic vision of social justice is to build a just, united society characterized by equality in rights, economic, social and political differences, and the highest degree of societal integration, a society capable of guaranteeing the right of citizens to participation and fair distribution in the light of standards of competence, achievement and the rule of law, and stimulates opportunities for social mobility based on capabilities. It provides mechanisms of protection from the dangers of life and is based on parallel support for the marginalized segments of society, and achieves protection for the most vulnerable groups

Man also has basic needs, which he cannot live without, and they are needs that reflect the human nature and his relations with the environment, and man's life is based in its essence on satisfying his needs, and without them he cannot grow properly, and that has prompted man to make efforts to satisfy his needs, and problems stem From the non-satisfaction of some or all of the needs, so it can be considered that the need and the problem are two sides of the same coin, given that the problem is in fact a need that is not satisfied in an appropriate or sufficient way.

Hence, assessing needs is considered the first step in planning social care services, in which information about needs is collected and organized and judgments based on information are

made to help determine existing needs, ways to confront them and the best ways to deal with them in the future.

As such, needs assessment is essential for program planning, monitoring and evaluation, yet needs assessment remains a critical weakness in the humanitarian response.

Organizations urgently need to improve the way assessments are conducted. The humanitarian community is working on this issue through a number of different initiatives; Where the focus was on estimates of the necessary needs necessary for a person to live.

Second: the importance of the study:

The importance of the current study is represented in the following:

- 1- The emergence of irregular employment problems on the scene and their exacerbation with the emergence of the health crisis that swept the country, known as (Covid 19), which called for drawing attention to this category.
- 2- The economic, social and health problems faced by the group of irregular workers that may threaten the entity of their families and expose their children to dangers.
- 3- The increase in the percentage (numbers) of irregular employment. The number of irregular employment is estimated through the estimated statistics of the Manpower Directorate in the informal sector, which includes daily and seasonal

employment at about 5% of the total labor force in Egyptian society; As the companies at the level of Fayoum governorate are divided into different companies, the nature of its work varies to a group of companies, the number of which is approximately 289 companies, and the number of employees in the companies is estimated to be 668 workers.

- 4- A needs assessment is essential for planning, monitoring and evaluating programmes. The scientific importance of the needs assessment process as a planning indicator for decision makers to make rational decisions to provide protection and care for these groups within the state plan 2.3.

Third: Study Objectives:

This study proceeds from two main objectives:

- 1- Identifying and estimating the care needs of irregular workers in security and cleaning companies working at Fayoum University.
- 2- Attempting to come up with indicators of improving the quality of life for irregular employment.

Fourth: Study Questions:

The study starts from a set of questions, as follows:

- 1- What are the economic welfare needs of informal employment as an indicator of improving the quality of life?

- 2- What are the social welfare needs of informal employment as an indicator of improving the quality of life?
- 3- What are the health care needs of informal employment as an indicator of improving the quality of life?
- 4- What are the insurance care needs of irregular employment as an indicator of improving the quality of life?
- 5- What are the educational care needs of informal employment as an indicator of improving the quality of life?
- 6- What is the prioritization of care needs according to their importance for the sample of irregular employment?
- 7- Are there differences in the level of respondents' responses according to the characteristics of the study sample (Faculty variable - gender - marital status - age - educational status - nature of work - family income - average family income - number of years of work - housing)?

Fifth: Study Concepts:

The concept of needs assessment.

- 1- The concept of irregular employment.
- 2- The concept of improving the quality of life.

Sixth: Methodological procedures for the systematic study:

- 1- Study type

This study belongs to the descriptive analytical studies.

2- method used

The study used the scientific method in its two parts: the quantitative method for collecting and analyzing data, and the qualitative method to draw conclusions from that data, using the sample social survey method of experts and officials of informal labor companies at Fayoum University.

3- Study tools

In collecting data for the current study, the researcher relied on the following tools:

- a) A questionnaire form entitled: "Estimating the care needs of irregular workers as an indicator of improving the quality of life" applied to irregular employment in security and cleaning companies at Fayoum University.
- b) An interview guide entitled: "Estimating the Care Needs of Casual Workers as an Indicator for Improving the Quality of Life" applied to those in charge of informal employment in security and cleaning companies at Fayoum University; Where it agrees with the nature and type of methodological strategy used, so that the researcher can achieve and study the objectives

4- fields of study:

- a) **spatial domain:**

It is the geographical community that the researcher selects to conduct the study. It represents the spatial field of study in the faculties of Fayoum University for the following reasons:

- The presence of a large proportion of irregular employment among security, guard and cleaning workers working at Fayoum University; Where they numbered (599) single.
- The researcher worked as a teaching assistant at the Faculty of Social Work, Fayoum University, and she noticed the problems that many workers in the university suffer from.
- The approval of the officials to cooperate with the researcher in collecting data.

b) human domain:

It is that community that the researcher identifies to collect the necessary data and information for the study and reach results that can be generalized. The human field of study is determined as follows:

- A simple random sample of irregular workers working in security and guarding work and workers in cleaning work in Fayoum University faculties and contractors with security and cleaning companies, their number is (234) single, including (86) security workers, (148) cleaners.

- Comprehensive inventory of those responsible for irregular employment working at Fayoum University, and their number is (10) single.

c) time domain:

The period of collecting and writing the theoretical framework, collecting data for the field framework, tabulating it, analyzing it, and interpreting the data.

Seventh: The results and recommendations of the field study

First: The results of the study on the care needs of irregular workers and arranging them in order of priority from their point of view:

- 1- Insurance care needs with the highest weighted average (687.1%) and the highest relative strength (97.9%).
- 2- Health care needs with a weighted average (669.9%) and a high relative strength (95.4%)
- 3- Economic care needs with a weighted average (66..2%) and with a high relative strength (94%).

Accordingly, the study recommends:

The interest of the authorities responsible for the irregular employment category by putting the needs of this category into focus in solidarity with the strategy of the Ministry of Manpower 2.18 to take care of the irregular employment and put it on the right path so that the full benefit of this category is achieved in light of the new republic and the state's strategy for sustainable development 2.3. In caring for marginalized and poor groups low-income people and provide them with a decent life.

Second: With regard to the results of the study on the most prominent economic care needs of irregular workers working at Fayoum University, they were:

- 1- The need to increase the salaries paid to workers in security and cleaning companies.
- 2- Providing job opportunities for children of working age.
- 3- Providing suitable and decent housing for those who need suitable housing at an appropriate wage.

Accordingly, the indicators of improving the quality of life for informal employment related to economic aspects are determined in:

Raising the wage rates for the irregular employment category of workers affiliated with security and cleaning companies to the minimum wage, as set by the National Wages

Council, taking into account living expenses and finding means and measures to ensure achieving a balance between wages and prices, which meets the needs the foundation for subsistence for this category of employment at the university for them and their families, in order to achieve a decent life for them.

Planning to find ways to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life for informal labor families, such as:

Include irregular employment issues in the plans of the Ministry of Social Solidarity in the plans to support NGOs to implement projects to care for these groups, and improve the economic aspect as an indicator for measuring the improvement of their quality of life.

Third: With regard to the results of the study on the most prominent social care needs of irregular workers working at Fayoum University, they were:

- 1- The company intervenes with the Social Insurance Authority to work out pension insurance procedures for old age care.
- 2- The company communicates with workers who are out of work, and the company intervenes to resolve disputes that arise between workers in the work environment.
- 3- Observance of fairness in the company's dealings with workers in various situations during work.

Accordingly, the indicators of improving the quality of life for informal employment related to social aspects are determined in:

Oblige the Ministry of Manpower, represented by the Manpower Directorate in Fayoum, and companies employing irregular workers to facilitate the procedures for this group to obtain the social welfare services granted to them by the state; Such as the grants of President Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi, represented in the disbursement of grants to them on many religious or national occasions, or any other official occasions such as: school grants for children, grants such as Eid Al-Fitr and Al-Adha, and the Prophet's birthday, social welfare grants on the occasion of the new baby, and marriage grants Children, the death grant of the head of the family and the grant of the death of an influential relative in spending on the family.

Fourth: With regard to the results of the study on the most prominent health care needs of irregular workers working at Fayoum University, they were:

- 1- Providing easy sources of obtaining medicines at reasonable prices.
- 2- Assisting the company in providing prosthetic devices for some family members.
- 3- Reducing daily working hours and setting rest times.

Accordingly, the indicators of improving the quality of life for irregular employment related to health aspects are determined in:

The worker has the right to obtain health care in accordance with the controls issued by a decision of the Minister of Manpower and Immigration in agreement with the Minister of Health, and without prejudice to the provisions of the Social Insurance Law. 18.) for the year 2003.

Fifth: With regard to the results of the study on the most prominent insurance care needs for irregular workers working at Fayoum University, they were:

- 1- The need to have official papers proving employment in security and cleaning companies and preserving workers' rights.
- 2- The need to register workers in a record when they receive work to prove their entitlement to welfare services granted by the state to workers.
- 3- The need for the worker to know the necessary legal procedures regarding the company's infringement of one of his rights as a worker, and for the company to grant him the right to claim his rights in case he is subjected to injustice.

Accordingly, the indicators of improving the quality of life for irregular employment related to insurance aspects are determined in:

Including the irregular employment category of cleaning, security or guard workers under the umbrella of insurance care established in the Labor Law, the Social Insurance Law, the Trade Unions Law and the Health Insurance Law.

Inclusion of cleaners, security or guards within the classification of irregular employment to whom the decision of the Ministry of Manpower and Immigration No. 186 of 2.15 applies regarding the issuance of the financial and administrative regulations for the care and employment account of irregular employment, especially in Article No. (5) regarding the disbursement of some social and health assistance prescribed for irregular employment regular and their inclusion in it; Like other workers.

Sixth: With regard to the results of the study on the most prominent educational care needs of irregular workers working at Fayoum University, they were:

- 1- The need to qualify the worker before taking up the work on the tasks required of him in the work environment.
- 2- The need for health education to deal with the spread of epidemics such as Corona in the work environment.

- 3- The need to raise awareness of occupational security and safety procedures in the work environment.
- 4- The need for awareness programs on healthy methods of nutrition.

Accordingly, the indicators of improving the quality of life for irregular employment related to the educational aspects are determined in:

Raising awareness and educating irregular workers of their rights and duties, qualifying them and training them on vocational skills in different work environments.