

AIN SHAMS UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

Urban Planning

EVALUATION OF HOUSING SITUATION FOR VULNERABLE GROUPS IN EGYPT

A Thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements of the degree of Master of Science in Architectural Engineering (Urban Planning)

By:

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Bachelor of Science In Architectural Engineering

(Urban Planning)

Faculty of Engineering, Ain Shams, 2013

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Statement

This thesis is submitted as a partial fulfillment of Master of Science in Architectural Engineering (Urban Planning), Faculty of Engineering, Ain shams University.

The author carried out the work included in this thesis, and no part of it has been submitted for a degree or a qualification at any other scientific entity.

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Abstract:

"Some groups or individuals have a particularly hard time exercising their right to adequate housing as a result of who they are... To protect the right to housing effectively, it is necessary to pay attention to the specific situation of individuals and groups, in particular those living in vulnerable situations." (Housing Policies for Social Cohesion 2008).

Vulnerable groups including (immigrants, disabled people, elderly, one-head households, the unemployed, victims of disasters and wars, and so on) are a growing segment in the world and our society. In Egypt, periodic reports about their demographics, economic, and social situations are released by the government, organizations of civil society, and international bodies. Housing laws and policies should be tailored to those groups rather than merely targeting the majority groups. The Government in cooperation with the Ministry of Housing supports the vulnerable social groups through social housing projects and subsidies. However, the Egyptian housing market faces difficulties in accommodating a variety of social subgroups where housing offerings themselves are narrow and unfulfilled of the specific needs of each group.

Research about housing situation of these groups is the focus of geographers, sociologists ...etc. Researches are lacking of being urban oriented; how these demographic segments are affected by the housing they are offered. Physical form characteristics can be correlated with the quality of life of aforementioned vulnerable social groups. For such vulnerable groups, demographic characteristics and social conditions determine the housing problems they are facing.

This is an exploratory research that aims to investigate the housing situation of vulnerable groups in urban areas in Egypt, to study their housing situation in relation to main kinds of housing they are offered, outline a typology of their housing preferences to be able to target them properly in the market.

Key Words: vulnerable groups in housing, female-headed households, inclusive neighborhoods, housing supply for vulnerable groups in Egypt

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