



Original scientific paper

Roles of Drop-in Centers in Street Children Interventions: Design Guidelines and Humanitarian Emergency Architecture Adaptations

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ARTICLE INFO:

Article History:

Received 9 July 2020
Accepted 3 September 2020
Available online 8 September 2020

Keywords:

Street Children;
Drop-in centers;
Child-Rehabilitation centers;
Architecture for Humanitarian Emergencies;
Child Friendly Spaces (CFS).

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ABSTRACT



For decades, numerous countries have been witnessing the Street Children phenomenon where millions of children worldwide are subjected to risks. Despite the crucial role of intermediate non-residential interventions - using drop-in centers- in protecting and rehabilitating street children, there is a paucity of research addressing the quality of design of these centers and how architecture might influence their operational process. Those observations invite investigating drop-in centers used in practice from a design perspective and question adapting architectural applications for humanitarian emergencies, focusing on “Child-Friendly Spaces”. The study aims to provide solutions for better quality design, facilitating operational challenges. The methodology undertakes the investigation through primary and secondary axes. This involves conducting literature and international precedents review and secondarily, an Egyptian contextual first-hand documentation and qualitative analysis of selected centers.

JOURNAL OF CONTEMPORARY URBAN AFFAIRS (2021), 5(2), 151-168.
<https://doi.org/10.25034/ijcua.2021.v5n2-1>

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1. Introduction

For well over three decades, numerous countries have been witnessing a phenomenon popularly known as The Street Children phenomenon. It is one involving tens of millions of children worldwide (Panter-Brick, 2002) with street relations subjecting them to

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How to cite this article:

Azzam, R., Kesseiba, K., Abdelghaffar, A., & El Hussein, M. A. (2021). Roles of Drop-in Centers in Street Children Interventions: Design Guidelines and Humanitarian- Emergency- Architecture Adaptations. *Journal of Contemporary Urban Affairs*, 5(2), 151-168.
<https://doi.org/10.25034/ijcua.2021.v5n2-1>