

Health Problems Among Homeless Children in Dakahlia Governorate

BY

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ABSTRACT

This **study aims** at assessing health problems among homeless children in Dakahlia Governorate. **Setting** This study was carried out in five shelters at Belkas, Meet ghamer, Talkha and Mansoura District, Dakahlia Governorate in the academic year 2007-2008. **Design:** Exploratory descriptive study. **Sample:** Convenient sample constituted of all children. Subjects interviewed were 194 children: 139 boys and 55 girls. **Tools:** 8 tools were used for data collection, *comprised an interview questionnaire* sheet, for the children concerning socio demographic for child and nurse, *child health problems* through measurement sheet to (assess physical data and sheet for analysis of child health record, *physical, psychological / emotional and social problems*), *observation check list* to assess the shelter environmental conditions and *observation check list* to assess the shelter health clinic. **Results:** revealed that the male rate is 75% which shows that the highest rates among children in Dakahlia shelters are males. Half of the children inside shelters were in primary schools, and more than one third of them were in secondary schools, 8.2% of them didn't not complete the stages of education and the rest were in preparatory schools. Nearly one third; (31.4%) of the children were worked to satisfy their needs, most of them were from boy's shelters in Mansura. Health problems among homeless shelters were significantly higher, including many diseases. 49.4% were sensitive eye, 22.1% ear, 44.9% mouth and teeth, 60.9% were upper respiratory tract, 70.2% were gastrointestinal tract, 57.2% urinary tract, 40% central nervous system and 49.5% nutritional problems. The best of these shelters in the delivery of health care was Fager-Eleslam , followed by Dar-Ebnty; and the shelter was not good was Mossiest Trbytelbaneen- Eleslamia, Mansoura, where boys suffered from many disease along with very low level of health care and the buildings were not convenient to meet needs of the children. **Recommendation** of this study; health care services and nursing role should be developed for homeless children to avoid health problems.

Key word

Shelters: different institution

Homeless children: children without home