

Fayoum University
Faculty of Social Work
Department of Development and Planning

Study Summary in Arabic

**"The Effectiveness of Informal Social Services for the Elderly in
Rural Areas**

" (A Case Study of the Village of Science)

**as part of the requirements for a Master's degree in Social
Work, specializing in Social Planning**

Prepared by:

Salwa Abdel Hafeez Bahrawi

Supervised by

**Dr. Ahmed Abdel Fattah Nagi,
Assistant Professor,
Department of Development
and Planning, Cairo University,
Fayoum Branch**

**Professor Dr. Ahmed Wafaa
Hussein Zeitoun, Full-Time
Professor, Faculty of Social
Work**

2005

First: The Problem of the Study

Development in developed or developing societies is not achieved solely through a single aspect. Rather, all aspects, economic, social, cultural, and, finally, human development, are integrated. From this perspective, we point to one of the most important human groups, which, if its energy is invested properly, is the elderly. These groups have become increasingly vulnerable to problems in recent times, drawing attention not only to the local level but also to the global level, particularly in urban areas more than rural areas. This may be due to the fact that rural customs, traditions, and values govern the relationship of respect, appreciation, and care for the elderly in rural areas. However, the social changes that have occurred throughout the Arab world and in Egyptian society have naturally impacted these relationships, particularly in rural communities, which have been affected by these changes

:From the main objective of this study, a set of sub-objectives emerge
To understand the impact of informal social services on the lives of the .1
.elderly in rural areas

To identify the impact of social, health, psychological, and economic .2
services provided by families and relatives to meet the social, health,
.psychological, and economic needs of the elderly in rural areas

Identify the impact of informal social, health, psychological, and .3
.economic services provided by friends to the elderly in rural areas

Identify the impact of informal social, health, psychological, and .4
.economic services provided by neighbors to the elderly in rural areas

Develop a proposed vision to increase the effectiveness of informal .5
.care for the elderly in rural areas

Assess the actual situation of informal care for the elderly in rural areas .6
and develop planning indicators to be taken into account when
.developing social policy

Third: Study Questions

Main question: What is the impact of informal social services on the lives
?of rural residents

:Sub-objectives

What is the impact of informal social, health, psychological, and economic services provided by families and relatives in meeting the informal social, health, psychological, and economic needs of the elderly in rural areas

What is the impact of informal social, health, psychological, and economic services provided by friends in meeting the informal social, health, psychological, and economic needs of the elderly in rural areas

What is the impact of informal social, health, psychological, and economic services provided by neighbors on satisfying social and health needs

Fourth: Study Concepts

The concept of effectiveness. 2- The concept of informal social services

Fifth: Study Methodological Procedures

.Type of Study: This study is subject to descriptive and analytical studies

.The methodology used in this study is a social sample survey

Study Tools: The study used a scale to determine the effectiveness of informal social services. Areas of Study: Spatial Area: Al-A'lam Village - Fayoum Center

.Human Area: A sample of (188) village residents

.Time Area: The period of data and information collection

:Sixth: Study Results

This study reached several conclusions that can be summarized as follows

Families and relatives in rural communities provide social services to the elderly in rural areas through the intimate social relationships that prevail between family members and the elderly, as well as the love and appreciation the elderly receive, which fulfills an important and essential social need in the lives of the elderly, as a large number of elderly people live within the family

The study concluded that children and grandchildren provide social services to their elderly parents and grandparents through the love, appreciation, and respect the elderly receive from their children and

grandchildren, who visit them to provide them with the social care they need.

:Study Recommendations and Suggestions

1. The need for a group of specialists and social workers who intend to educate villagers and clarify the village's solar needs and problems.
2. Two days a week should be allocated to listening to the elderly through seminars and training conferences presented by these specialists for the elderly in rural areas, so that they can invest their energies.
3. The need to provide appropriate job opportunities within the village to harness their solar energies and expertise.
4. The need to develop a social care policy for the elderly in rural areas while planning general social policy.
5. Strengthening informal health, psychological, and economic services for the elderly in rural areas.
6. Two days should be allocated in the countryside to honor exemplary elderly men and women in various educational and social aspects.
7. A solar gathering place should be designated in the countryside, similar to the solar club in urban areas, to help them spend their free time.
8. One of the most important proposals is to establish a solidarity fund for the elderly, especially those in need, under the umbrella of the village's community development association, which will be formally established and will work to assist the poor.