

WOMEN AND CHILDREN FACING DISASTERS

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by

JANE S.P. MOCELLIN, PH.D
UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

Disaster Research Institute & Department of Psychology
Winnipeg, Canada R3T 2M6

Disaster consequences, as extensively discussed in the literature, are experienced differently according to the degree of social and economic development of a given country. In developed societies, the consequences most likely will be shortlived because of the social and economic support systems available promoting rapid recovery through measures of preparedness and mitigation inserted in disaster management plans of these countries. In developing countries, the disaster consequences are magnified because of depleted social and economic system characterizing these countries, prior the onset of a disasters. Thus, the process of full recovery is slow and complex. In developing countries, only recently psychosocial aspects have been addressed, focused on interactive effect of social and psychological variables within the disaster context. Psychological reaction coupled with social effects (i.e. unemployment, hopelessness, frequent displacement to shelter-camps environments, loss of social