

Defensible Spaces

Subjects: **Construction & Building Technology**

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Defensible space is the concept of creating spaces that include a series of architectural guidelines that are used when designing a new urban residential area to promote both the territorial claim of the residential groups to their surroundings and their ability to conduct natural surveillance of their spaces. Constructing safe environments with safe vocabularies for enhancing well-being is crucial for achieving quality of life in both peace and wartime. Warzone countries that suffer from many changes due to the effect of war (or fourth-generation wars) should be prepared to face those changes with safe spaces as well.

defensible buildings

disordered human behavior

resilient environment

total destruction

warzone areas

Recently, the idea of weapon-based ordinary wars has been demolished and another age of psychologically based wars has started. Understanding the new psychologically based wars concept is the only way to recover from its effects and consequences. Mass psychologically destructive weapons were used lately on several levels (economic, education, lifestyle, safety, etc.), as they were meant to be weapons to mentally distract citizens and country regimes from all directions ^[1].

Previous methods of dealing with those destructive acts were poor, ineffectual actions such as building a fence or blocking boundaries around important buildings or assets that should be protected. This points to the need for new design solutions that are supported by the structural and management risk assessment research specifically to help the warzone and threatened areas to protect themselves.

Accordingly, this entry paper is a humble attempt to tackle the problem of the effect of war's destructive images and its effect on inhabitants' psychological perceptions about safety and well-being. This will be achieved through discussing the problem from both construction and architecture views to introduce a diversity of proposed solutions for decreasing the emotional and psychological effects of total destruction of buildings in the warzone and threatened areas.

References

1. Calame, J. Post-War Reconstruction: Concerns, Models and Approaches. Macro Center Working Papers 20. 2005, Volume 1–56. Available online: https://docs.rwu.edu/cmpd_working_papers/20/ (accessed on 15 December 2020).

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