

**Vocational habilitation of special needs children in the principles of the jewelry industry**  
**(A proposed model for a “special needs children vocational habilitation” program)**

**Assist. Prof. Dr. Amira Fouad Suleiman**

**Assistant Professor, Department of Metal Products and Jewelry, Faculty of Applied Arts, Benha University**

[amira.soliman@fapa.bu.edu.eg](mailto:amira.soliman@fapa.bu.edu.eg)

**Abstract:**

Disability; whether physical or mental; is a fact in any society, thus; the issue of caring for special needs people has a major importance all over the world, in regards of affirming their rights, dignity and humanity, in addition to providing them a decent life.

Special needs people are estimated to form 8% of Egypt’s population; and this segment of society can have a notable impact on the economical development; if their potentials were properly utilized.

In general; people with special needs face major obstacles in finding proper jobs, due to their inability to compete with normal society members; in terms of skills and capabilities.

On the other hand; it can be useful to begin the habilitation process of special needs people at early ages, to give them the opportunity to obtain a good training in professions that suit them, so that they can find proper jobs when they reach the appropriate age.

In this study; the researcher seeks to affirm the possibility of utilizing the principles of jewelry industry education in providing vocational habilitation for children with special needs; by studying their characteristics, as well as their physical and mental capabilities, in order to prepare a vocational training program that suit this category; and apply it on a sample of special needs children to evaluate its effectiveness and outcomes.

**Key words:**

special needs children - vocational training - jewelry industry principles education