



CONCLUSION

After a year critically evaluating the topic of shelter it remains clear that understanding the complexities of shelter provision is by no means a quick fix solution. It is evident that the potential of space to aid emotional well-being is severely limited by time and resources in the case of emergency.

It has become clear that the role of design in the event of disaster is to synthesize basic human needs with the insight of how space influences human behaviour.

There is a demand for flexible solutions that can evolve as the nature of the disaster changes. The thesis has tried to lay a foundation for the understanding of the most prevalent pressures exerted on the task of designing for disaster relief.

These pressures presented themselves in terms of quantitative and qualitative constraints and needs.

It was first necessary to meet the functional demands at the hand of Maslow's hierarchy of basic human needs. This order of needs where interpreted as design criteria to arrive at a solution that is functional, reliable, usable, proficient and creative.

Analysis of international shelter standards, local building regulations and current commercial cardboard shelters has provided a framework of knowledge that could inform South African standards of shelter.

Although there were limited opportunities to evaluate appropriate disaster response, context studies identified factors that cannot be solved by universal solutions.

As disasters often occur in rural areas, informal settlements and low cost housing developments, striking the urban poor, with dedicated research and response

most of these devastating effects can be mitigated and even improved.

It was found feasible to formulate a shelter and response strategy within the limitations of existing local resources. Cardboard presented promising opportunities as an alternative building material within the determined parameters of flat pack deployable typologies.

Given enough time packaging technologies will translate into building technologies as the need and use is identified.

In conclusion, it is recommended that the design proposal be exposed to a broader range of opinion and demographic, in particular, those who have experienced *grace under pressure*.

