



POLITECNICO  
DI TORINO

# Honors thesis

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COURSE OF ARCHITECTURE CONSTRUCTION CITY

*Abstract*

**FROM DEMOLITION TO TRANSFORMATION BETWEEN  
PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE:  
intervention hypothesis on social housing in Chile.**

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**Bloque** = Literally "Block", in Chile is thus defined a parallelepiped building with simple and standardized shapes. Often arranged in repeatable and identical groups, organized and isolated on the land.

**Conjunto habitacional**= Residential complex, working-class neighborhood, housing conglomerate.

**Viviendas sociales**= Working class-social housing, working class-social buildings, working class-social homes.

In Chile, in the second half of the twentieth century, the Urbanism and Housing Ministry's policy for financing social housing profoundly characterized the development of the country, promoting the practice of "**more with less**". Looking for quantity, or the reduction of the housing deficit, with the least possible expenses.

A philosophy and strategy that led to the drastic deterioration of living standards, catapulting large numbers of people from small illegal camps, often rural, to large, peripheral and modern *conjuntos habitacionales*. Residential conglomerates built with identical and repeated large-scale building models: the *Bloques*. The *Bloque C* is the emblem of the politics of the '80s and '90s in Chile, with the peculiarity of being a symbol, a landmark that has led to distinctly set apart the Chilean housing policy in a before and an after.

Today, aware of the housing crisis within the *viviendas sociales*, one wonders about the possibilities of undertaking new solutions, alternatives to the previous policy. The resources are few and there is no need to waste them, you can do better with the little that you have available: "**best with less**". It is with this "little" that the thesis wonders about the possibility of knowing how to "think" and knowing how to "do", in the various disciplines that involve a theoretical as well as practical investigation, from restoration to physics.



**MÁS CON MENOS**

**MEJOR CON MENOS**

**RE- TIPO C**

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