



Over All Coping Behavior Among Institutionalized Child Victims of Domestic Violence

KEYWORDS

Coping Behavior ,Domestic Violence, Institutionalized children

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ABSTRACT *The effects of direct expose or been a victim of Domestic violence among children are very immense. Family is the institution where children depend for their basic and secondary needs, instead of that when they have to face the problem of violence at the same place where they have to be protected they are helpless. The problem created due to domestic violence will definitely haunt the children life long, directly or indirectly. Furthermore, such exposure has long term consequences for children's well-being ultimately affects their adult functioning adversely. The study aimed to analyse the socio demographic profile, to diagnose the overall coping behaviour and to analyse the factors influencing overall coping behaviour. Descriptive and diagnostic research design is used for the study. 100 children were selected from Home for Boys and Girls, Calicut, Kerala under Social Welfare Department. 'Coping Behaviour Checklist' developed by Jean E Disc Levis 1988 was used to measure the overall coping behaviour. Study was also associated with socio demographic variables.*

INTRODUCTION

Coping behavior

The changed Behavior of the children after being subjected to domestic violence .It includes both the attitudinal and behavioral change in the children. **Institutionalized children**

Children who are away from home due to the unfavorable condition which includes both physical and psychological harassments faced from parents or close relatives and are staying in the home provided by Government which consist of inmates who stay away from home due to related problems.

Children

The respondents which includes both male and female children in the institution.

Victims

The children who are subjected to physical, verbal, sexual, emotional or mental harassment regularly from parent or very close relatives.

Domestic violence

The problem faced by children due to any kind of physical, verbal, sexual, emotional or mental harassment regularly with an unwanted attitude towards children from the home by their parents or closes family members which make the child intolerant and stay away from home.

Research Methodology

The research aimed to study the coping behavior among institutionalized child victims of domestic violence. **The objective of the study** was to identify the socio demographic profile of the institutionalized child victims of domestic violence .To assess the level of coping behavior of the respondents and to find out the relationship between the key variables. Descriptive and diagnostic research design is used for the study. The study describes the socio demographic profile of the respondents and diagnosing the coping behavior of the institutionalized children who are

subjected to domestic violence. **Pilot study** was done 10 respondents. Data collection was done from Home for Boys and Girls, Calicut, Kerala under Social Welfare Department.

The **universe** consisted of 156 children who included both male and female. **Sampling technique** adopted for the selection of the respondents was lottery method under. 100 respondents were selected for the study. **The criterion for selecting the respondents** was that they must be victims of domestic violence who are institutionalized .Their age must be between 11-18 years. Children below 11 years were not selected since during pre-test they did not respond to the questions in an appropriate manner.

The tool of data collection used for this study was a Interview schedule, which included questions pertaining to the socio demographic profile and also included past life before being the institution and about their future plan. One standardised tool used for the study was "**Coping Behaviour Checklist**" developed by Jean E Disc Levis 1988. It has five dimensions such as Aggression, Stress-recognition, Distraction, Self-destruction, Endurance.

Consist of 46 statements .It is a 3 point scale. The maximum score is 92 and minimum score is 0. (0 – 31) Low level of self of overall coping behavior(32- 61)Moderate levels of overall coping behavior(62- 92) High level of overall coping behavior.

Reliability: The reliability of the scale was analysed statistical using cornbachs alpha (N -30) and it showed satisfactory reliability of 0.71.

SUMMARY AND FINDINGS

Distribution of respondents by their level of coping behaviour

Among the respondents majority of them (78%) have low level of overall coping behaviour.

Scoring on coping behaviour based on socio demographic profile

Overall coping behaviour was compared with age, gender, type of family, order of birth, time period for being in the institution, nativity and relationship with abusing person by using t' test. ANOVA is used to compare coping behaviour and education of the respondents.

Table No: 1 Coping behaviour and its influencing factors

S.No	Variable	t/ANO-VA	Significance
1	Age	t	*
2	Gender	t	NS
3	Education	ANOVA	NS
4	Type of family	t	NS
5	Order of birth	t	NS
6	Time period of being in the institution	t	NS
7	Nativity	t	NS
8	Relationship with abusing person	t	NS

NS-Not significant * -Significant at 5%

There is significant difference (5%) among age of the respondent and overall coping behaviour. Comparing overall coping behaviour with gender, education, type of family, order of birth, time period of being in the institution, nativity and relationship with abusing person there is no significant difference with any of them.

IMPLICATIONS FOR SOCIAL WORK

The study helped the researcher to have a better understanding about the overall coping behaviour of institutionalized child victims of domestic violence. The effects of domestic violence among them and the result of this evil throughout their life time. More over how it reflects for the overall growth of a sound society as children are said to be the future asset of the country.

Roles and responsibilities

A social worker can perform his professional roles for social welfare, social changes and social justice in case of prevention or for the intervention of child victims of domestic violence. For this the social worker can apply different methods of social work such as case work, group work, and counseling. So the researcher would like to make few suggestions to do against domestic violence or to avoid the after effects of domestic violence are:

To give awareness about domestic violence and how can it negatively impacts children.

Take action against child abuse and neglect.

Make use of protection and support from Government and authorities for victims of domestic violence.

To give medical and psychological support for the victims.

To make provisions in homes for better physical and mental health care.

CONCLUSION

In human society the effects made by domestic violence is unquantifiable and cannot be measurable by any yardstick. The raised treats of domestic violence against children definitely will affect throughout their growth and development. The complete elimination of domestic violence from our society is impossible until our law is strong enough to give a model punishment for the crime. Without violation but domestic violence but at the same hand only with love, care and protection the sacred walls of home will

literally sacred. The outcome of such a mass change is a mass betterment of society, with a well brought up children who are materially and spiritually healthy along with a sound physical and mental health.

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