

## THE IMPACT OF VIOLENCE UPON CHILDREN

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### ABSTRACT

*The childhood period is considered , the most important stage through the whole life of mankind, that has the great impact upon growth and development of children and their personality. The Importance of this study is related to identify the negative effects of violence upon children from physical, emotional, and social aspects. Also to study the harmful impacts upon society.*

**Keywords:** Violence , childhood period, growth, development

### INTRODUCTION

The childhood period is considered, the most important stage through the whole life of mankind that has the great impact upon growth and development of children and their personality. The Importance of this study is related to identify the negative effects of violence upon children from physical, emotional, and social aspects. Also to study the harmful impacts upon society. Violence is spreading all over the world, especially in the developing countries, that have great obstacles and some negative approaches among the presence of civil society organizations, and committees of the human rights due to lack of educational mechanisms and because of the limitation of scientific research centers (Manal Mohammed, 1999).

The UN expert (Paulo Sergio Pinheiro), Submitted a report on (2002) and stated that (53000) children have died in all over the world because of the killings and that (80-98 %) of children exposed to school violence and (150 million) girls, (73 million) boys under the age of eighteen have been subjected sexual violence. Also the international labor organization estimated that (218 million ) for the year (2004) had entered the field of child labor, of whom (126 million) of children under the dangerous age that is harmful to physical and mental health. The problem of violence is existential between individuals and people. which led to this disparity levels of intellectual, social, and economic development of these people, as mentioned by dr, Ahmad Abu-Azaim, the Association consultant and the head of the Egyptian Association for the Mental Health, said that of the most difficult cases with the psychologist are the attitudes of violence against children since an early age, especially those who are expected by child protection because the child is a weak creature to the convergence and distracted by this thinking to face the pain and thus deposited in the mind and memory of the child and make him unable to achieve or what to expect and dream of and this is the beginning of the problem, which gives him a lesson of how to defend himself and not to pour anger-on society (Salam Bahaa Eldin, 1997).

So abusive of children suffer from low self- esteem as a result of beatings and insult of beatings and insults and threat, and cannot be surprised if the refusal of many young adult's life and their style and concepts in life and most of children under (5 yrs.) age depressed and reinforcement of themselves is weak. The spread of violence in the communities depends upon cultural types of conflicts, social values and economical status within the child's environment and the roots of the community concepts of childhood, besides the importance

of the child rights, which are based on some factors such as sex of the child and the nature of care, which raise up the child also the importance place and environment of family, social and economic conditions and cultural level for parents and customs and traditions of the family and family perspectives, the method of their dealings for firearms, and environmental conditions surrounding the family and the child, such as unemployment, drug abuse, organized crime method for the exploitation of children or people with weak people and themselves that make expenses of life difficult (yup Cavage, 1991).

There are some families, whom do not consider violence in itself as violence at all, but may be they look at it as punishment; it is so necessary that the child may feel as a victim or suffers from shame and guilt which does not find a child's ability to report violence, believing that the violence was deserved or fear of punishment of the perpetrator of abuse against him. The impact of violence on children's health and learning capacity and their more risk and depression or suicide may result in the worst cases, death. The world health organization estimates that (40 million) children and ages that are within less that (15 Yrs), suffering from abuse and neglect and in need of health and social care.

In another survey conducted in Egypt found that (37%) of the children stated that their parents beat them or tying them tightly, and that (26%) had reported injuries such as fraction or loss of consciousness or permanent disability occur as a result of that. In another study conducted in India, results showed that (10%) of women kicked their children (26%) of children pulled their hair (28%) of their children were beaten with fits and (3%) have a disability of their children by put in their mouths hot chills (hansen, 1992 ). According to a survey conducted in the United States of America (1995), that illustrated that they annoy their children through one or more of the following methods, such a child injury by something, or kicking the child, beaten or threatened with a knife. According to statistics of south Africa, police mentioned that (21 thousand) of new cases of raped cases, which is reported and signed and committed against children and abuse, within the ages that are less than (5 yrs.), according to the estimates of statistical data, which shows (36 cases ) of rape's were reported (Saad Elemara, 2000).

It is natural that the family played an important role within the educational institution which the child grows and acquires through which standards of right and wrong therefore the actions and behaviors that are violent by parents to sons, becoming the institution to the public like a scene of behavioral disorders, and thus affects the physical and psychological and social aspects, for long term period of time .As for the school. which is the point of educational effective community interested in the educational aspect and the marlin students personality and form relationships of humanitarian and social based on scientific activities and interactions among student status, and the academic, cultural, sports, and social for long relationship between families and their loved one by participating in regular meetings for people and national events or religious build the foundations of the proper social relations. Also came phrase of psychological developments in the Babylonian concept, specifically the importance of the role of parents and scientists in form a stabled personality of the child, and emphasized the protection of children through social law, which guarantees their inclusion and integration and psychological balance to crystallize pleasure and success and satisfaction person's life in future (dr. Kamel, 2012).

As mentioned Hammurabi in the obelisk, also the importance of physical activity in the early stages of the child in the development of the ability of the individual to afford the level of tension, which affects the vital function of the body such as the heart, lungs, brain and kidneys, which stressed the promotion and development of self through obedience, commitments and honesty with one self and with it and among the general public. And (Dr.

Hans,1956) said that the stress generated due to the violence, mental disorder, family problems, social and economic development to increased secretion of adrenaline which leads to the excreted accelerated heart beat, high blood pressure and cause disease (Alsaakusu matih) reduce the immunity of the body (Hansen & Harway, 1992) .The psychologists, on the importance of removing tension and anxiety, mental disorder, tiredness and boredom effect on the individual, as well as financial crises, if it was a source of children and live hood for the selection with the requirements of life.

He also noted the doctor Haines and special list mental health when he studied effect of changes emotionally unpleasant as a result of frustrated, stress and violence, where the results are painful to have some physiological effects, although these effects vary from person to person depending on the configuration of his personality and characteristics of psychological excellence in others; the individual differences between individuals due to the nature of the human soul (Erickson, 1991).

Dr. (John Carpi, 1996) of family cohesion between parents and their children, and between the mother and father on the other side, for the support and the importance of growth and development of children and focused on the importance of adolescence as a transitional period in the life of the individual, said on adolescents who have been subjected to any kind of violence in their Family life or emotional or professional, to follow these instructions.(be realistic, the work of one thing at a time, be flexible, accept the criticism was welcomed, and even use you feel pressure and tension, do not remember the last tails failed, Smile for life, spoke at a moderate level, control yourself and your feelings, happiness in your hands, enjoy your senses, be honest and act automatically, be prepared for the events in your life, be sure to focus and concentrate in prayer and workshop, massage and physical therapy helps to relax).

### **GOALS OF THE STUDY**

1. To reveal the nature of violence in terms of types concepts and perspective; according to the viewpoints students in Babylon Technical Institutes.
2. To identify the causes of violence in terms of motivations and Purposes.
3. To provide preventing mechanisms and substantive solutions in order to reduce the violence phenomenon.

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

The sample of the study include (83) students, from the second year in the Technical Institute of Babylon for the Academic Year 2011\_2012, questionnaire were distributed to them. The purpose of this scoping survey is to identify the points, views and causes, and motives to avoid and prevent violence not only in Iraq, but to the whole worlds. The statistical procedure was applied and results in form of percentage were identified in order to focus on the prominent factors in this research and according to the objectives mentioned before.

### **DISCUSSION**

According to table (1), the characteristics show that (19-25 yrs.) is the mean ratio of the sample age groups, which accounted the proportion of (54%). The survey also showed that (26\_32 yrs.) formed the ratio of (46%), the percentage of male students participated in this research (72%) and the proportion of female students participating in this research is (28%). As seen from this table (75%) of students were from province of Babylon ; (12%) from Mahaweel, (6%) from al Haswa, (7%) from Karbala province ; (46%) of the young students, (The scientific section), (52 %) of the total members of the sample work's in health

institutions and educational hospitals and in the maternity and children hospital . (25%) of the students are married, (11%) of them have children and (12%) do not have kids.. also shown that (75%) of the students are not married.

**Table 1. Demographic Distribution of the sample**

	<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>num</i>	<i>%</i>
1	Age:19-25 yrs 26-32	45	54
2	Sex :Females Males	38	46
	Hella (center)	60	72
3	-Mahaoel	10	12
	-Haswa	5	6
	-Karbala	6	7
4	Initial certificate A) graduate junior high Junior (scientific section)	45	54
	B) graduate from high Junior (Nursing Secondary school	38	46
	Work (has work)	31	37
5	A-Yes	52	63
	B-No	21	25
	Social Status	10	12
	a-married	10	12
6	-Has children	11	13
	Has on children	62	75
	B-single		
	Total	83	100

**Table 2. Concepts of violence from students' perspective**

<i>S.No</i>		<i>Num</i>	<i>%</i>
1	Violence's Uncivilized Behavior.	11	10
2	Case of no hope, and no_ safety	7	6
3	The deliberate use of force against the infidel and the group	13	11
4	Existential problem and the phenomenon of spread all over the world.	9	8
5	Actual harm to the physical health of the individual.	14	12
6	Negligence causing emotional and psychological insult to the dignity of the child.	15	13
7	Violation of the rights of the child negativity	16	14
8	Moral conflicts against individual or groups.	8	7
9	An act of aggression which has fingerprints of terrorist.	12	11
10	A condition which is forbidden socially, culturally and traditionally.	9	8
	Total	114	100%

**Note**

Students have the right to answer one or more of the above paragraphs.

## DISCUSSION

According to the previous table, the results showed that (10%) of the sample mentioned that violence is the behavior of the non-civilized culture; (6%) of the whole students said that violence is a no-hope and no-safety. (11%) reported that violence is the use of force against the individual and the group; (8%) confirmed that the problems of violence fund's in all parts of the world (12%) indicated that there is actual harm to the physical health; (13%) of the students asserted that the psychological violence causes an insult upon the dignity of children, (14%) of the students wrote that in case of violence child rights are abandoned and as a results personality disorders occurs. (7%) of the students emphasized that the violence is the result of the conflict between moral and economical among the individual as well as the groups. (11%) confirmed that violence is an act of aggression which point out the finger prints of the terrorist; this shows that violence has two sides of one coin.

Finally (8%) of the sample said that violence is an abnormal social condition and causes unacceptable personality. So we need to study the factors rather studying its causes and factors that lead to the development of destructive behavior, (Gadwall, 1981).

**Table 3. Types of violence from the student point of view**

<i>Items</i>	<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Num</i>	<i>%</i>
1. According to the harm and suffer upon the child	Physical Violence	33	40
	Psychological Violence	38	45
	Sexual Violence	12	15
2. Violence according to the place of violence	Domestic Violence	36	43
	School Violence	25	30
	Social Violence	22	27
	Total	83	100%

## DISCUSSION

From the above table (40%) of the sample stated that physical violence is one form of violence by the nature of the damage and harm upon the child. Followed by psychological violence (45%) of students mentioned A That, this type needs long period of treatment as stated by (Khalefah 2003), then came the sexual violence by (15%) which have a great impact on the physical and psychological status, as well as affects the sanctity and human rights (Abdel-Salam, 1987). Also the data showed that (43%) of the sample mentioned that domestic violence emphasize upon children according to the nature and location of violence by one parents or both, due to the lack of education or cultural aspect or their sense of inferiority or deprivation during their childhood, or as the result of the oppression or discrimination of women in the house; this phenomena reflects the type of child raising and education, as mentioned by (dr. Kamel al qaeem). School violence is a dangerous phenomenon on children physical and psycho-social aspect (30%) of the total members of the sample reflects the level of education which requires training and education in psychological variable related to the child in school. Finally (27%) of the students stated that social violence (such as discrimination and racism and sectarian crises), the source of threat to the individual and the family in society. This aspect leads to congestion and conflicts flared between members of the same society, and so this type of violence is the most dangerous because it affects a large Segment of members of the community and a negative impact on childhood specifically (Rafay, 2003).

**Table 4. The most vulnerable children age group to violence**

<i>S.No</i>	<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Num</i>	<i>%</i>
1	New born baby.	15	18
2	Infancy.	13	17
3	Toddler.	10	12
4	Preschool.	12	14
5	School age (6_ 12 Yrs.)	16	19
6	Adolescence (13_ 18 yrs.)	17	20
	Total	83	100%

## DISCUSSION

This table reveals that (18%) of the evident stated that violence affects the phase of a newborn child, that has a negative impact on their growth and development, as confirmed by (Erickson, 1991). Also the children suffer from breast feeding rejection and psychological depression (F.T.T), which causes a state of non-diagnostic and sudden death. Infancy is a sensitive phase as mentioned as mentioned by (17%) of the study sample, noted that infancy is a sensitive phase, especially if breast feeding women suffers from violence, this condition affects the psychological aspect of the child, that stay in the subconscious when the child becomes confused and is unable to comply or cope with the external environment, that leads to mistrust to others around him (Erikson, 1991). Also violence causes shame and doubt in to the toddler children in terms of (12%) of students' opinions, according to Erickson theory. As shown from table (4), students emphasize that (14%) of the sample accounted that the preschool children are risky group and suffer from guilt feeling, while (19%) of the sample mentioned children whom exposed to violence, suffers from sense of inferiority. Finally, the largest proportion of students is referred to by the age of adolescence (13\_18) yrs. Where they have caused in the sense of convergence and isolation, when they exposed to the outside community.

**Table 5. The student can answer more than one paragraph**

	<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Num</i>	<i>%</i>
1	Self motivation " Aggressiveness "	35	18
2	Financial and economic motives.	38	19
3	Social motives.	54	27
4	Cultural and racial motives.	42	21
5	External environment.	31	15
	Total	200	100

**Note:** The student can answer more than one paragraph.

## DISCUSSION

The most common motives according to students points of view are (hatred, selfishness and envy by adults ), which have a negative impact upon children psychology (ebat. Rohi, 2010) as well as financial and economic purpose of a quick profit at the expense of bringing up

children properly and the high incidence. Besides, (19%) of the sample indicates that the exploitation of innocence childhood for religious purposes, which are forbidden by all religious and social customs, as well as, by all laws (staff, wolf, Wilson, 1990). The study revealed that (27%) of the social crises motives, sectarian and tribal and political issues, which is considered as causative agent that had great incidence upon children rights (Unicef, 2004). Also (21%) of students stated that racisms has great impact as well as the cultural factors on childhood violence, and this is another aspect of the psychological frustration for children especially those whom they need to be educated and guide The positive attitude for violence prevention among children (Asaad Youssef, 1986). According to the sample of the study (15%) of the students mentioned that the external environmental factors which had been entered Iraq, for the purpose of domination and expansion at the expense of others, and rapid material gain (such as the spread of the violence phenol-menon; movies and corruption in some satellite, channels and corruption in some satellite channels and the import games of war and other cultures are related to technology and exotic and distant in terms of the values of civilization and humanity for our Iraqi society .

**Table 6. The negative impact of violence upon the growth and development of children**

<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Num</i>	<i>%</i>	
	Fractures	16	19
	Burns	15	18
<i>The Nature of the Physical Damage</i>	Bruising	27	33
	Health impairment	14	17
	Suicide	5	6
	Others (sexual assault, bombing)	6	7
	Isolation	10	12
<i>Psycho Social Impact</i>	Neglect	18	22
	Thefts	7	8.5
	Begging	11	13
	Fear and anxiety	24	29
	Others (speech delay, Enuresis)	13	15.5
	Individual behavioral disorders	19	23
	Escape from the school	16	19
<i>Impact Upon Educational Side</i>	Weaknesses in the academic level	21	25
	Attack on his peers and colleagues	13	16
	Tampering and chaos in the property	10	12
	Others (Aggressive on teachers; destructiveness)	4	5
<i>Total</i>	200	100	

## DISCUSSION

This table shows the impact of violence on the growth and development of children, accounting the proportion of (19%) of the study sample stated that the risk of the physical damage on children due to fractures; (18%) damage due to the burns, which is caused as a result of neglect and lack of follow-up, (33%) of students views reported that bruises affects head and trunk and other parts of the body, are considered as a danger source for the child. The data of the research study revealed that (17%) of the respondents stated that decline of the level and standard of health effects on the physical status of the children. Finally, sexual abuse and rape came by (7%) of the cases, followed by murder of unknown bombing which are recorded by the medical reports and health authorities especially in the emergency departments. As psychological and social impact upon children (12%) of the sample stated that the most cases of isolation and introversion on others, as a result from violence, and that (22%) of neglect causes are formed (8.5%) theft cases are confirmed; (13%) are the begging rte according to the sample survey; (29%) of cases showed that fear and anxiety from all types of violence, especially that related to the unknown sources. Finally, (15%), of the total students opinions reflect that most cases of bedwetting exploitation and enuresis are due to violence. Besides engaging children to sell medication drug, and exploitation of children in business and profession labor, are considered the most dangerous phenomena which stand in the front of the society progress and threaten the cohesion of people among the society development, progress and welfare of the humanity wellbeing.

## RECOMMENDATION

1. Prevention of violence by providing psychological programs through the civil society organization, academic and religious personnel to offer guidance programs and advices to persons and families among the society.
2. Conduct human development programs and centers, concerned of children, youth, women and family educational, counseling Programs related to theme of human developmental aspects of peace, cultural harmony and love rather than the violence Destructions.
3. Promote educational institutions and cultural centers with cooperation of the broadcasting media to increase the level of Responsibility among the civil people, to maintain their normal spiritual, moral level and psychosocial stability within the society.
4. Provide health programs and rehabilitation centers, offers medical; psychological and health educational help and support besides the recreational, cultural and social entertainments.
5. Increase the workshops within the health and education of civil society and institutions to provide lectures to the young singles and new families, about the children growth and development and psycho-social changes and needs of children during their life, to raise the positive feelings about life, marriage and social belonging since development and national loyalty. Finally, it is so important to foster new generation that is interested and concerned about the childhood affairs and wellbeing's.

## SUMMERY

A scientific and exploratory study, aimed to identify the types and causes of violence on children from the perspective of students in Babylon Technical Institute, and to disclose the



risks of violence in terms of physical, psychological and social aspects. In addition to develop solutions and formulate appropriate recommendations to prevent the phenomenon of violence on children in Iraq and focus on increasing human development and welfare. The research sample included (83) students from the second phase in the nursing department of Babylon Technical Institute for the academic year (2011-2012). A questionnaire form was designed to take the opinion of students and to identify the main factors causing the violence, and after the results were analyzed and the application of statistical procedure were taken and percentages methods were applied to identify the most important data in search.

The results of the study had shown that (10%) of students mentioned that violence is uncivilized behavior; (11%) reported that violence is a deliberate use of force against the individual or the group (12%) indicated that violence is the actual harm to the health of individual physical harm (14%) confirmed that violence is a violation of the child rights, which affects child's personality; (8%) of the sample stated that violence is a forbidden social condition and customary. As well as the study showed that (40%) of the sample stated that the nature of violence is a physical type; (45%) of the sample mentioned that psychological type comes next; (43%) of the results showed that domestic violence comes according to the area and place of violence source, followed by school violence (30%) and (27%) of the total cases, comes the social violence. Also the study showed that (18%) of the sample stated that there is a motivated individual and self – aggressiveness that lead to violence; (19%) of the total members of the sample stated that violence is a product of economic factors (21%) because of cultural motives; (27%) due to racism and crisis deposits and social – communal ;(15%) due to external environmental factors. Besides (19%) of the respondents mentioned that fractures is the most common physical harms that results from violence. (7%) of the murdered occurs because of explosion, damages and bombing (29%) of the sample emphasized that fear and anxiety occurs among childhood because of violence. As well as (15%) of the sample mentioned that speech pronunciation delay and stuttering occurs as a psychological trauma among children whom suffers from violence. As well as (15%) of the sample mentioned that speech pronunciation delay and stuttering occurs as a psychological trauma among children whom suffers from violence (25%) of the sample stated that violence has great impact upon the educational side (12%) of the sample expressed their view according to school age children which emphasized that violence has negative approach and cause confusion, shitting intellectual rebellion against reality; (23%) indicated that the violence has a negative effect on behavior of the child and cause behavior disorder (19%) reported that the incidence of violence on children is considered the most common reason to escape from the school.

The study recommended to work and increase the cultural awareness and health and for all segments of society and focus on the importance of childhood to build a personal normal society, with the need to provide educational tools and information to family, school and cooperation with the institutions of civil society and increase the workshops of scientific and cultural to reduce the phenomenon of violence in all its forms and work to application of the principle and the concept of peace in the society. As well as to instill the concepts of the importance of family bonding and renounce the policy of violence and discrimination since the early stages of childhood and the promotion of social values and education all positive through cooperation between cultural institutions to society on the one hand and institutions of family affairs and educational counseling and psychological on the other to develop and promote the concepts of tolerance and brotherhood among the members of one family and the community. With an emphasis on human values and human rights and for all ages within the legal framework and civilized.

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