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Phenomenon of violence against children Preventive guidance and sponsorship strategies (psychosocial approach)

ظاهرة العنف الموجه ضد الأطفال الإرشادات الوقائية واستراتيجيات التكفل (مقاربة نفسية سوسيولوجية)

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Abstract

Violence against children is recognized as one of the most significant global issues, affecting societies regardless of their level of development. This phenomenon continues to escalate, making its control seemingly impossible due to the unique nature of the problem. It exists within boundaries beyond societal will and within the limitations of state interventions and legislation. All community actors, including organizations, relevant authorities, media professionals, and religious leaders, must work together to address this violence. They must foster a balanced society free from chaos and violence by adopting a comprehensive strategy that prioritizes child protection and ensures all the essentials for their healthy development.

Keywords: Violence against children; preventive guidance; coping strategies.

ملخص:

تعتبر ظاهرة العنف الموجه ضد الأطفال من أبرز المشكلات العالمية التي لا يكاد يخلو منها مجتمع سواء وصف بالتقدم أو الرجعية. وهي ظاهرة ما تزال تتفاقم وتنمو بشكل مضطرد حتى بدت السيطرة عليها أمرا مستحيلا وذلك بسبب خصوصية هذه المشكلة، فهذه الظاهرة تتراوح بين حدود خارجة عن الإرادة المجتمعية وحدود تدخلات الدولة وتشريعاتها. وإن التصدي لظاهرة العنف الموجه ضد الأطفال لا يقتصر على طرف دون الآخر، وإنما يتطلب ضرورة تضافر جهود كل الفاعلين في المجتمع من جمعيات وسلطات معنية ورجال إعلام والأئمة في عملية التحضير والتربية لخلق مجتمع متوازن لا يسوده الفوضى والعنف وذلك من خلال تبني استراتيجية إرشادية متكاملة تهدف إلى حماية الطفل والعمل على توفير كل ضروريات النمو السليم له.

الكلمات المفتاحية: العنف الموجه ضد الأطفال؛ الإرشادات الوقائية؛ استراتيجيات التكفل.

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- ## Introduction

Violence has always been a part of human suffering, observable in various forms across the globe, resulting in the loss of lives and numerous non-fatal injuries due to self-directed, interpersonal, or social violence (WHO, 2002, p. 3).
As a major societal phenomenon, violence is more destructive than constructive in the development of human personality and growth. The difficulty in defining violence stems from the varying perspectives of scientific studies on its causes and motives and from the diversity in definitions due to the wide range of human sciences that have explored it. Both instinctual and acquired psychological motives underlie the aggressive behavior that is characterized as violence (Mousa & Al-Ayesh, 2009, p. 25).

Some researchers concentrate on understanding the motivations behind violence, emphasizing that it can originate from individuals or groups and target others, either physically or verbally, positively or negatively, directly or indirectly, motivated by feelings of anger, frustration, self-defense, desire for revenge, or gain, resulting in physical, material, or psychological harm (Jadu & Munir, 2005, p. 4).
The distinction between positive and passive violence, where the latter includes all forms of neglect and disregard, underscores the complex nature of violence and its particularly harmful impact on children and adolescents (Mousa & Al-Ayesh, 2009, p. 14).

Violence is an indicator of helplessness, becoming a last resort for communication when peaceful dialogue fails. Some view violence as a direct assault on people and their possessions, undertaken for control through violence or defeat, highlighting the explosive nature of violence in human interactions (Luka, 1998, p. 33).

- ## Study terms
- ## Violence
- ## Social meaning of violence

By social violence, we mean coercion or the unlawful or unlawful use of pressure or force that can affect an individual's will or a group of individuals such as voters or election supervisors (Al-Issawi, 1997, p. 99)

- ## Legal meaning of violence

We legally mean physical force and physical coercion, the unjust use of force and the term refers to all that is so severe and extraordinary and so wrong. (Mountainous, 1998, p. 39).

- ## Violence as a phenomenon

Violence can be viewed as a social phenomenon or a pattern of behaviour, an act that involves harm to others accompanied by explosion and stress, and as any other act that must have the aim of achieving a mormateriaal or l interest (El Terre, 1998, p. 15).

- **Children**

The term "child" is contained in many international documents, conventions and human rights issues, and according to the conventions on the rights of the child: "Every human being below the age of 18 years unless under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier" (Mr, 2009, p. 91).

Childhood is known to extend from childhood to adulthood and "Barker" defines childhood as: "the early stage of the human life cycle, characterized by rapid physical development of the child and an effort to bring up children to prepare them for adult roles and responsibilities through often formal means of play and education" (Al Saud, 2010, p. 42).

- **Facts on the phenomenon of violence against children**:

Algeria is no longer immune from social phenomena affecting children s rights ", after public bodies in the field of children had expressed concern at the growing violence against children and the infringement of civil rights, According to judicial police statistics, more than 3,000 children were physically assaulted and abducted and rape nationwide, while many live on the streets, turning this innocent child from victim to criminal.

Many studies have indicated that violence against the world's children is on the rise: in America, more than 5 million children a year are subjected to violence, resulting in about 5,000 deaths. Al Watan reported that 75% of cases of child abuse in Saudi Arabia are from parents. 15% of cases are caused by relatives, and 10% of cases of abuse occur by childcare supervisors from outside the family and children under the age of 5 are 32% abused, while 5 to 9 years old, their exposure rate is 27%. From 10 to 14 years of age at 26%, and from 15 to 18 years of age at 14%. The Professor of Psychology at King Khalid University refers to "Abdullah Al-Safi" There are many scientific studies in many fields of psychology on the phenomenon of violence, or as psychologists call it "domestic violence", a global phenomenon, which has negative consequences. According to scientific studies, the target of such violence from the family is children, women and the elderly.

"Abdullah Al-Safi" emphasizes that the phenomenon of violence is a serious phenomenon, acquired by the individual from society, life and work, Violence is used as a defensive ploy to remove many crises and psychological disorders. The father beats the mother and the mother removes the shipment of tension inside her children because she cannot respond to her husband. And the children, the elder beats the little one and the shipment inside him hurts one of his brothers or those around him or himself, and so the cycle of violence in the family continues (Ben Ghaddaqa, 2012, p. 03).

In fact, while important, the family is not the only environment in which violence occurs, it may occur at school in correctional institutions, social and judicial welfare institutions, and even in the workplace. Society as a whole can also be among the widest circles in which violence against children is practised, whether by beatings, sexual harassment, neglect, lack of attention to children's

needs and lack of respect for their privacy. Abuse and violence against children may amount to selling or killing children's bodies, expelling them and leaving them on the streets to face all kinds of violence.

- ## Forms of violence against children

Just as society is a source of protection and defence for children. It can also be a place and source of violence against children. The older the child's social circle, the more likely he or she is to be subjected to violence by society. They are subjected to several forms of violence within their own society. Starting from the family, the school is the street with all its social limbs: neighbours, centres, shops, strangers, etc. Violence may be in the form of physical, emotional, physical or psychological. In fact, violence on the street is multifaceted and not perpetrated against a particular group of children, but against children by persons with authority over the child, the police or trafficking. It may also be practised on refugee children or by the occupier in cases of war or against minorities.. etc.

- ## Physical Violence

It is intended to harm another's body and varies from minor wounds to killings. Children are exposed to a large number of violent behaviors, including killings. According to World Health Organization (WHO) 200 statistics, the number of children between and 17 years' old who died is 52,904 and 95% in low- and middle-income countries.

As for non-lethal physical violence, although there are no thorough studies of children, studies of the youth group between 10 and 29 years of age have shown that approximately 8 million of them have been subjected to non-lethal physical violence, which is only authorized due to treatment in hospitals.

With regard to physical violence among adolescents in the context of relations between the sexes, i.e. intimate relationships, dating relationships, etc., the 2003 and 2005 World Survey of the Health Situation of Schools among students aged 13/15 showed that the rate of violence in relations between the sexes rises over time, for example, in Jordan 44% among girls and boys.

- ## Sexual violence

Sexual violence against children has serious consequences for children's physical and psychological health and can lead to suicide, HIV infection or victim killing. According to the World Report on Violence and Health, for the first time, sex is 48% female and 32% male in the Caribbean, either in South Africa, the rate is 28% female and 6% male. This means that females are always more likely than males, in 1993-1994, and the source confirms that rates are constantly increasing. Or sexual violence by strangers in society, a survey conducted in South Africa of women who had been raped under the age of 15 revealed that 21% of them were abusers (Ben Ghaddaqa, 2012, p. 06).

- **Preventive guidance on violence against children**

Society cannot play this role without concerted international, school and family efforts, in addition to the media, whether visual, audiovisual or readable, as well as places of worship, as well as possible preaching, religious guidance and other governmental and private institutions, all of which are responsible for helping to contain this phenomenon and reduce its effects on the individual and society. The following is a set of preventive guidelines to avoid the risks of confronting them:

- Raising awareness among members of society about the seriousness of the phenomenon of violence against children.
- Undertake studies that study them, determine their true size and design appropriate strategies to avoid them.
- Operationalizing psychosocial counselling as a working group that cooperates in developing preventive programmes that prevent the realization and impact of violence against children.
- Provide psychological, social and family counselling to individuals belonging to families where violence is prevalent.
- Enact laws, regulations and legislation to deal with abused children.
- Conduct courses to train professionals in hospitals and psychiatric clinics on how to deal with cases of violence and reduce its impact on them.
- Coordination between the security agencies and the authorities concerned with children and their abuse.
- The use of the media in combating the culture of violence through a culture of violence, aggression, destruction and other negative behaviour.
- Find proper and useful entertainment.
- Raise religious, moral and educational awareness and publicize children's rights and educators' dutie.
- Participation in scouting movements: The participation of young people and all children in scouting movements has become very important due to the ability of these bodies to contain, train, and guide young people to the values of virtue and peace, which reduces violence among individuals even after they leave those scouting movements (Ben Khalifa and Ben Mansour, 2018, p. 56).

- **Mechanisms and strategies for the care of the child in question**

Through the above, we can demonstrate some of the mechanisms through which violence against children is addressed through the adoption of an integrated indicative strategy aimed at protecting children and ensuring that all the necessities of their proper development are provided.

- **Family**

The family occupies an important place in addressing the phenomenon of violence against children, which is the main cause of the phenomenon. Therefore,

the family can be dealt with through family psychological guidance to avoid violence against children, in view of its negative effects, with a view to reducing the magnitude of the phenomenon. Or a pupil mentor can call on the child's abusive parents and try to sensitize them to the gravity of violent behaviour against the pupil and trying to guide them to deal wisely with the child.

The best protection that parents can offer to their children who are part of the process of violence, whether they are the perpetrators of it or the victim of acts of violence, is to foster their child's confidence and independence, in addition to their willingness to take serious steps when necessary.

Below are a set of suggestions that can help parents identify appropriate responses to the conflict their children face at school:

A child may be exposed to mistreatment among his peers. It is not fair to attribute this to a mistake in social skills. Be careful not to show that the child has been exposed to acts of violence due to a deficiency in him or that he deserves this treatment. Respect is essential for him, and parents must convince their child that his behavior is not the problem, but rather the problem lies in violent behavior. It is necessary to inform the school whether your child is a participant in the process of violence and a victim of it. Parents must also work and cooperate with the school administration to confront the problem (Ben Khalifa and Ben Mansour, 2018, p. 55).

- **Educational institutions**

It can be emphasized that there is an urgent need for psychological counselling at all levels and stages of education. In order to teach young people the seriousness of violence against children, today's children are tomorrow's generation, and there is no harm in investing in them in the process of confronting violence against children.

- **Civil society**

There is full conviction that addressing the phenomenon of violence against children is a social and moral responsibility for which Governments are no longer alone. Political parties and various local and national associations must strive to enact deterrent laws that do not violate children under any form and can organize orientation meetings to reduce the behaviour of violence against children.

- The Government's earnest endeavour to create permanent positions of employment to eliminate unemployment and poverty, which are essential to the growth of violence in general and violence against children in particular, as well as the application of the principle of social justice and equal opportunities for every citizen to have access to his or her natural and civil rights to wealth, education, science, health, housing, marriage and alleviation of the burdensome government burden of citizens.
- Resisting the phenomena of social and class discrimination, racism and intolerance in all its forms, hatred and vendetta, with the cooperation of the

relevant bodies, such as the education, information, security, judiciary and endowment of mosques. The endeavour of the guardians and reformers to contain private family and social disagreements also reduces the chances of accepting ideas of violence to which only abnormal and abnormal situations can respond.

- **Media**

The media and communication in the present era have become the most important intermediary through which we reach the minds and minds of individuals We must use audiovisual and written media to convey the principles of positive engagement with children, With the clarification of modern methods of education for children so that parents are educated in a sound way that the violent behaviour of raising children is not possible, with the possibility of presenting cases of children who have been subjected to violence s Rights ", which has had a serious impact on the child and his or her family in order to serve as a model to be avoided. Likewise, grainy models can be displayed in dealing with children until they are acquired and embodied by parents.

The media must therefore play their educational roles instead of continuing the demolition series through the broadcast of the visual media, especially the series of violence and cartoon films.

Researchers believe that there is a close relationship between school violence and violence through various media, and that many students acquired violent behaviors by watching horror, murder, and destruction films due to the amount of violence that these means spread, which is more than what exists, even in reality. To the belief that fodder is an effective means of solving problems, and as a result of the cumulative effects that aggressive television scenes leave on the behavior of students, as they often imitate what appears to them in the form of a legend, a hero, or something else. The comparative study conducted by “Barclay et al” showed that the behavior of young people In Belgian and American society, it is characterized by clear aggression in both countries, and these manifestations increased in them after watching a number of exciting and violent films. Accordingly, it becomes clear how much these means contribute to enhancing the aggressive behavior of the student child (Shabouat and Kabyli, 2021, p. 43).

- **The role of young people**

The role of young people is spread across the country's various states and has been established as a basis for informing and guiding them in order to increase their care from all aspects to recreation. Young people's role can be used to guide and mentor young people in order to avoid the use of violent behaviours in their interactions with children. The process of psychosocial preparation of young people is important in order to sensitize them to negative behaviour.

- **Mosques**

Mosques are an important social institution, linking social life to all its characteristics and consequences. Mosques look forward to caring for children and

ensuring a decent life for them on the basis of the principles of the Islamic religion, the most important purpose of which is to preserve the human being as the centrepiece of social life.

The mosque has a guiding and guiding role for individuals, especially in relation to violence against children as an educational method derived from the misunderstanding of certain legitimate conversations and opinions. The mosque's rulers must withdraw the pretext of using religion and education in order to reflect violent behaviour towards children. Parents' religious conscience must also be developed in order to avoid violence against their children.

Mosques are also considered one of the most important institutions that are linked to social life with all its characteristics and repercussions, and they aspire to care for children and ensure a decent life for them based on the principles of the Islamic religion, one of whose most important purposes is preserving the human being as the focus of social life. The mosque has a directive and counseling role for individuals, especially if the issue concerns violence against children as an educational method derived from a misunderstanding of religious hadiths. The religious conscience of parents must also be developed in order to avoid violence against their children **(**Salem Halifa, 2018, p. 105).

- **Educational intervention**
- Develop effective solutions for children's drop-out from school.
- Recognize the seriousness of the educational curricula 'omission of the vocabulary of civic and civic education and reconsider certain ideas and readings, the understanding of which has led to the adoption of ideas and provisions that are inconsistent with the spirit and purposes of religion in dealing with the other.
- The establishment of counselling and psychological support centres to reduce the phenomenon of violence against children must prepare future young people to marry to know the extent of responsibility that awaits them by organizing meetings with married couples and others to understand it, as well as the role of Jal al-Din so that we can create a balanced society, free from such violent phenomena, as shown by divorce figures and family quarrel numbers.
- The need to carry out thorough and in-depth sociological and psychological studies on violence against children in order to give us an idea of where the phenomenon is occurring, both in cities and in rural areas, as well as the knowledge of the different age groups affected by the phenomenon of violence among young people, adults and the elderly.
- Studies have revealed a terrible growth in the phenomenon of school violence over the past years. There are many forms of school violence, the influence of educational institutions on the social environment, and criminal phenomena that have spread in an unprecedented manner in Libya. Studies have revealed that security phenomena, criminal networks, and drug trafficking

in the neighborhoods surrounding educational institutions have encouraged... On the increasing phenomenon of violence (Salem Halifa, 2018, p. 105).

• Conclusion

The phenomenon of violence against children is a global issue affecting both advanced and developing societies. Efforts to reduce its negative impact have led to increased studies and interest in physical and psychological violence, family neglect, sexual abuse, and child labor. These factors contribute to the unhealthy development of children and may lead them into delinquency and crime, transforming potential builders of a prosperous future into instruments of societal destruction. Therefore, addressing childhood challenges and mitigating violence requires a collective strategy involving all social institutions, each within its own scope, to effectively combat the phenomenon and minimize its aftermath.

• Suggestions

- Activating the role of cultural and sports associations because of the effective role they play in order to vent frustrations, relax oneself, and unload burdens, and think about diversifying activities outside lessons, and creating joint projects and recreational and motivational activities that excite the entire educational community, including educational actors and students.
- Allocate one or more independent national institutions in cooperation with the Ministry of Social Affairs to carry out the duty of awareness and prevention to monitor cases of child abuse and monitor cases of violence of various types.
- This study may contribute to the preparation of awareness programs and systematic and scientific oversight.
- Also increasing the effectiveness of reporting and intervention mechanisms in - cooperation with relevant authorities.

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