

Impact of Domestic Violence on the Children of Jhargram District

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Abstract

Children are the essential segment to the human life and to the society as well. They are the most valuable natural resource to us. Childhood shows the man as the morning shows the day. The birth of a child is a joyous event for every family. On such occasions, relatives and well-wishers invariably try to match a few features of the child with those of the mother, the father, the grandparents, and other relatives. Family is the first stage for a child to grow up. So, family has an utmost important and influence over a child's life. From the first moment of their life children depend on parents. The great English philosopher Herbert Spencer says that, "an ideal mother is the same of hundred school teachers".

In the family the child grows up by physically, mentally, emotionally up to the first 12 years, the child's social environment is limited to his family circle alone. Even after this age the family environment continues to influence him. The foundation of all the traits of the child is laid by the family environment. Swami Vivekananda said that, "It is not possible for a bird (family of wife and husband) to fly on only one wing". But when the child is confronting to domestic violence his or her all aspect growth and development is swerving. Where the family environment is infected by the violence and fear, all the normal tasks of growing up are likely to be adversely affected.

Keywords: valuable, parents, child, domestic violence, growth, development

Introduction

"Children need love, especially when they do not deserve it", Says Harold S Hulbert. Children of today indisputably are the custodians of tomorrow's world. The continuous existence of any society depends on the ability of the society to socialize its children in the art of survival and cultural perpetuation. The future of any society is determined by the quality of its children and the level of commitment towards the protection of its most vulnerable members, the young and the old.

The term child may also refer to someone below another legally defined age limit unconnected to the age of majority. Child is legally defined as someone under the age of 14 under the "Children and Young Persons Act" whereas the age of majority is 21. In U.S. Immigration Law, a child refers to anyone who is under the age of 21. Some English definitions of the word child include the fetes (sometimes termed the unborn). In many cultures, a child is considered an adult after undergoing a rite of passage, which may or may not correspond to the time of puberty.

The family can be conceptualized in numerous ways; underlying each is a fundamental idea about the structure of the family and its function in society. Others define the family based on kinship. A family is

a group of people who share common ancestors or a basic social unit comprised of parents and their children.

Family may seem like a simple concept, but there is no simple definition of family. In its most basic terms, a family is a group of individuals who share a legal or genetic bond, but for many people, family means much more, and even the simple idea of genetic bonds can be more complicated than it seems.

Importance of Family for Child Development

Humans rely heavily on learning for child development. Because we are not born knowing how to behave in society, we have to learn many of the behaviors from the environment around us growing up. For most of us, this learning starts with the family at home.

Learning comes in many forms. Sometimes children learn by being told something directly. However, the most common way children learn is by observation of everyday life. A child's learning and socialization are most influenced by their family since the family is the child's primary social group.

Child development happens physically, emotionally, socially, and intellectually during this time. To make an analogy, if you were constructing a large building, you have to make sure that it has a solid foundation so that the rest of the building can stand tall and strong for many years to come. If the foundation is not strong, the building will have trouble standing on its own. Just like people, if our foundations are not solid, we find it more difficult to be successful in our relationships with others, work, health, and ourselves. So, it cannot be stressed enough how important the family is in development of a child.

Ultimately, the family will be responsible for shaping a child and developing their values, skills, socialization, and security.

Values

We generally understand values to mean an understanding between what is right and what is wrong. As a society, we have norms and values, and this function in conjunction with personal values and norms. One way to see what a society values is to look at whom a society respects. Usually, people show more respect to people and to things that they value highly. Whenever you treat people with disrespect, your child will certainly notice. Children are sponges that soak up everything around them, and many times we forget that they are watching us. A good way to teach your child values is to discuss with them the importance of healthy and unhealthy values.

Skill

Once a child is born, then starts learning motor skills, language skills, cognitive skills, and emotional skills. Regarding motor skills, it is largely the family's responsibility for teaching these skills. Even if our child is in day-care, the work that parents put in at home to teach these skills is much more effective than in the few hours our child is under someone else's care. A child will learn how to sit up, walk, run, climb, hold a spoon, and so on. These seem so natural to us as adults, but they are skills that have to be fine-tuned at a very young age, and they also reinforce a child's independence which is essential for their development.

Socialization

When we bring our child home for the first time, our family will become his or her social group. Parents

are the first teachers for children. What our child learns through the interactions between we and them is what they will carry for the rest of their life in regards to how to treat others. Through this socialization with family, a child will learn how to trust, seek friendships from others, and find comfort with others as well. Generally, we have to learn how to make sustain relationships. These skills are started and strengthened with the family. Additionally, giving our child the tools for interpersonal development before they learn the skills of technology is vital.

Mothers' Role in Child Development

M-O-T-H-E-R

"M" is for the million things she gives me,

"O" means only that she is growing old,

"T" is for the tears she shed to save me,

"H" is for her heart of purest gold,

"E" is for her eyes, with love-light shining &

"R" means right, and right she will always be.

Put them all together, they spell "MOTHER,"

Mothers are the first to teach the children the immense value of human life. The mother's role among paternal and family role is key to the growth of the child in womb and even after birth, a child requires mainly the constant maternal affection and warm treatment, for emotional and social development. Nothing can come close to the love that a mother feels for her children. There is a famous saying that "God could not be everywhere and so he invented mothers", these words are a great inspiration to mothers across the world.

Father's Role in Child Development

In the past, psychologists studying the development of children focused almost exclusively on child's relationships with mother. Today, they have come to agree that a father plays a unique and crucial role in nurturing and guiding children's development. Many experts now believe that father can be just as nurturing and sensitive with his babies as mother. As the children grow, father takes on added roles of guiding their children's intellectual and social development. Even when a father is just playing with his children, he is nurturing their development. Babies need predictability and security, which they get when their mother and father respond consistently, promptly and appropriately to their cries, smiles and other signals. As a baby develops a relationship with his or her mother and father, he comes to prefer them to other adults, in a process known as attachment. Psychologists agree that babies with secure attachments to their parents have better chances to develop into happy, successful, and well-adjusted children and adults. Mothers tend to be relied upon more than fathers for the comfort and security components of attachment, primarily because they are usually the infant's main caregiver. Babies also form attachments to their fathers, who tend to be just as responsive to their babies' bids for attention as mothers. When fathers spend more time with their babies, they get to know exactly what each of their baby's signals mean. This familiarity allows fathers to respond sensitively, meaning that they know when their baby is hungry rather than when he just wants a change of scenery.

Role of Family Solidarity in Child Development

The concept of family solidarity or cohesion has been the source of many intergenerational family relat-

ions studies on familism over the past two decades. This view of family relations provides an important framework for understanding the roots of familism and the factors that contribute to the maintenance of development of loyalty within families. Emotional closeness between parents and children and its impact on the quality of the parent-child bond is explored in research into the intergenerational stake and intergenerational solidarity. For example, the intergenerational stake hypothesis explores the cross-generational nature of emotional closeness between parents and children. The hypothesis holds that: (1) parents' descriptions of the relationship will be more positive than children's; and (2) different levels of investment and development may account for these variances in relationship perceptions. The intergenerational solidarity model goes a step further, looking at emotional closeness or "affect" between parents and children as just one of six indicators of solidarity or integration between generations in a family.

Concept of Domestic Violence

The prevalence of domestic violence is arguably one of the top health concerns in the country. Understanding its definition can help you to take more effective action against its many manifestations of abuse. In some cases, abusers may not even realize that they're inflicting domestic violence on someone else. On the flipside, victims may not take action against their abusers if they don't realize that the behavior they're experiencing is indeed domestic violence.

Also important is that friends and loved ones of victims are in a better place to help if they understand what domestic violence looks like. Therefore, it's important that people understand the definition of domestic violence and the many forms it can take.

Objectives of the Study

1. To know the concept of family, parents and domestic violence.
2. To explore the status of domestic violence in rural and urban of Jhargram district gender wise.

Sources of the Information

The Researcher, for this Study went through- Thesis, Journals, Books, Research Abstracts, and Browsed Different Websites.

Review of Related Literature

To comprehend the research objectives in a better and complete way, the relevant related literature review revitalized for this study has been stated as follows :

Studies Conducted on Domestic Violence

Study -1

Title - The impact of exposure to domestic violence on Children and young people: A review of the Literature.

Researchers: - Stephanie Holt, Helen Buckley, Sadhbh Whelan.

Objectives:

- The impact of exposure to domestic violence on the health and development wellbeing of children and young people.

- Impact is explored across four separate yet inter-related domains (domestic violence exposure and child abuse; impact on parental capacity; impact on child and adolescent development; and exposure to additional Adversities), with potential outcomes and key message concerning best practice responses to children need highlighted.

Tools: - a comprehensive search of identified databases was conducted within an 11-year framework (1995-2006). This yielded a vast literature which was selectively organized and analyzed according to the four domains identified above.

Result: - This review finds that children and adolescents living with domestic violence are at increased risk of experiencing emotional, physical and sexual abuse, to developing emotional and behavioral problems and of increased exposure to the presence of other adversities in their lives, it also highlights a range of protective factors that can mitigate against this impact, in particular strong relationship with and attachment to a caring adult, usually the mother.

Study - 2

Title: - Ensuring data collection and research on violence against women and domestic violence: Article 11 of the Istanbul convention.

Researcher: - Sylvia Walby

Tools:-Data needs to be collected in both administrative and survey forms. Administrative data is usually gathered during the routine functioning of public service when victims of violence ask for help. Survey of the general population enables information to be gathered about the money victims who do not report to or use public service as well as those that do.

Result: - The purpose of the collection of Administrative and survey of research is to build the knowledge base necessary to combat violence against women and domestic violence and therefore support the implementation of the Istanbul convention. This knowledge base is more effective in bench marks and summary indicators of change in this violence are sufficiently consistent and coherent to support each other.

Population of the Study

Population for the present study consists of all the families belonging to Jhargram district in West Bengal.

Sample of the Study

Sample stand 80 family children both from village and town of Jhargram district.

Sampling Technique

The investigator has used stratified random sampling technique in the study.

Sample Design

Table No – 1 : Description of the Sample

Urban		Rural	
Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
20	20	20	20

40	40
Total - 80	

Tool of the Study

The researcher has used a self-developed scales as a tool for collecting the data in the present study. These are -

- **Domestic Violence Scale**

Delimitation of the Study

Area of the study

- The present study was delimited to the state of West Bengal only.
- The study has been carried out only on families of Jhargram district.

Sample of the study

- The researcher has selected only 80 students from Jhargram district.
- There are boys' and girls' among the sample.
- Only the families of Jhargram district students are considered for the present study.

Statistics Used in the Study

Mean, Standard Deviation (SD) and t-test.

Hypothesis of the Study

H₀₁: There is no significant difference in respect of the impact of domestic violence on children between the total rural and the total urban.

H₀₂: There is no significant difference in respect of the impact of domestic violence on children between total boys and total girls.

H₀₃: There is no significant difference in respect of the impact of domestic violence on children between rural boys and rural girls.

H₀₄: There is no significant difference in respect of the impact of domestic violence on children between urban boys and urban girls.

Hypothesis Testing Results

H₀₁: There is no significant difference in respect of the impact of domestic violence on children between the total rural and the total urban.

Table No – 2
Difference between total rural and total urban of child students

Children	N	Mean	S.D	df	t-value	result
Total Rural	40	90.69	34.09	78	0.39	Not Significant
Total Urban	40	87.76	33.56			

Interpretation: From the above table it is observed that the calculated ‘t’ value (0.39) is lower than the table value at the level of significance (1.99 at 0.05 level of significance). Therefore, the result is not significant and it indicates that there is no significant difference in aspect of impact of domestic violence between total rural and total urban children and the null hypothesis is accepted.

H₀₂: There is no significant difference in respect of the impact of domestic violence on children between total boys and total girls.

Table No – 3
Difference between total boys and total girls of child students

Children	N	Mean	S.D	df	t-value	result
Total Boys	43	96.61	36.73	78	1.95	Not significant
Total Girls	37	81.84	30.94			

Interpretation: From the above table it is observed that the calculated 't' value (1.95) is lower than the table value at the level of significance (1.99 at 0.05 level of significance). Therefore, the result is not significant and it indicates that there is no significant difference in aspect of impact of domestic violence between total boys and total girls and the null hypothesis accepted.

H₀₃: There is no significant difference in respect of the impact of domestic violence on children between rural boys and rural girls.

Table No – 4
Difference between rural boys and rural girls of child students

Children	N	Mean	S.D	df	t-value	Result
Rural Boys	23	51.69	19.53	38	2.01	Not significant
Rural Girls	17	39	14.46			

Interpretation: From the above table it is observed that the calculated 't' value (2.01) is lower than the table value at the level of significance (1.99 at 0.05 level of significance). Therefore, the is not significant and it indicates that there is no significant difference in aspect of impact of domestic violence between rural boys and rural girls and the null hypothesis accepted.

H₀₄: There is no significant difference in respect of the impact of domestic violence on children between urban boys and urban girls.

Table No – 5
Difference between urban boys and urban girls of child students

Children	N	Mean	S.D	df	t-value	Result
Urban Boys	20	44.92	17.09	38	0.39	Not significant
Urban Girls	20	42.84	16.47			

Interpretation: From the above table it is observed that the calculated 't' value (0.39) is lower than the table value at the level of significance (1.99 at 0.05 level of significance). Therefore, the result is not

significant and it indicates that there is no significant difference in aspect of impact of domestic violence between urban boys and urban girls and the null hypothesis accepted.

Findings

H₀₁: From the table no – 2. it is observed that the calculated ‘t’ value (0.39) is lower than the table value of significance (1.99 at 0.05 level). Therefore, it is inferred that there is no significant difference between total rural and total urban children.

H₀₂: From the table no – 3. it is observed that the calculated ‘t’ value (1.95) is lower than the table value of significance (1.99 at 0.05 level). Therefore, it is inferred that there is no significant difference between total boy and total girl children.

H₀₃: From the table no – 4. it is observed that the calculated ‘t’ value (2.01) is lower than the table value of significance (1.99 at 0.05 level). Therefore, it is inferred that there is no significant difference between rural boy and rural girl children.

H₀₄: From the table no – 4. it is observed that the calculated ‘t’ value (0.39) is lower than the table value of significance (1.99 at 0.05 level). Therefore, it is inferred that there is no significant difference between urban boy and urban girl children.

Conclusion

Domestic violence has a great impact on the children and society. So, the investigator wants to know how this domestic violence lay impact on the children’s life in this study. It is concluded that there is no significant different result have been found among the groups of total rural and total urban, total boys and total girls, rural boys and rural girls, urban boys and urban girls.

It is found out that urban children are very much affected by the domestic violence in respect of the rural children. It is also come out that the boys’ children are very much affected by the domestic violence than the girls’ children. Both the girl and boy children from rural and urban has been affected from the different aspect of domestic violence such as fear, rage, anxiety and they can’t pay attention to their studies. They don’t want to go to school, feeling depression, become irritable, can’t think afresh, face problem in sleeping, face headache etc. It is a wish that this study not only to know the impact of domestic violence but also suggest to protect children for domestic violence and save them.

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