

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Child maltreatment is abuse to children under 18 years of age by a parent, caregiver, or another person in a custodial role (e.g., clergy, coach, teacher). World Health Organization (WHO) defines child maltreatment as all types of physical and/or emotional treatment, sexual abuse, neglect, negligence and commercial or other exploitation, which results in actual or potential harm to the child's mental and physical health. Individuals who are exposed to directly or indirectly to violent or abusive experiences (e.g., sexual and physical abuse, witnessing domestic violence) early in development may be more likely to adopt corresponding attitudes and beliefs emphasizing the reinforcing qualities of violence and engage in offensive or abusive behaviors later in life.

In India, 53% of children face some form of physical abuses (sexual abuses). according to the National Crime Records Bureau, the cases of rape and murder of children increases every year. The growing complexities of life and the Changed social economic conditions have exposed the children to new and different forms of abuse, but the sad state of affairs is that such heinous acts are reported less. It has such a psychological impact on the mind of the child and behavior.^(1,2)

Child maltreatment causes suffering to children and families and can have long-term consequences. Maltreatment cause stress that is associated with disruption in early brain development. Consequently, as adults, maltreated children are at increased risk for behavioral, physical and mental health problems (e.g: smoking, obesity, depression, alcohol and drug misuse etc.). Children who have a history of neglect or physical abuse are at risk of developing psychiatric problems, or a disorganized attachment style. In addition, children who experience child abuse or neglect are
59% more likely to be arrested as juveniles,
28% more likely to be arrested as adults, and
30% more likely to commit violent crimes.

In groups of maltreated and non-maltreated individuals in the general population, found that, relative to non-maltreated individuals, those with a history of maltreatment engaged in substantially more criminal behavior as adults and were more likely to have a criminal record of violent offences. Similarly, studies among correctional samples of male offenders show that those who experienced

child abuse or witnessed violence growing up are more likely than non-maltreated inmates to engage in violent or aggressive acts as adults. Moreover, some studies suggest that the type of criminal behaviors that victims partake in may depends on the type of maltreatment they endured.⁽⁵⁾

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

- Catherine E Hamilton et.al;

The link between recurrent maltreatment and offending behavior, International journal of offender therapy and comparative criminology 46 (1), 75-94, 2002.

This article considers recurrent maltreatment and offending behavior. The sample was 60 males and 19 females (11 to 18 years) resident within a secure institution in England and considered a risk to themselves and/or others. Overall,

20.8% had not experienced a maltreatment, 6.5% had experienced a single incident, 11.7% were repeat victims (same perpetrators), and more than half (54.4%) had suffered both repeat and re-victimization of those who had committed a violent and/or sexual crime, 74% had experienced some form of re-victimization, compared to 33% of those who committed nonviolent offences.

- Louise Falshaw;

Victim to offender: A review, Aggression and violent behavior 1 (4), 389-404, 1996

There is a substantial evidence base to suggest that victimization during childhood, whether that be abuse within the family home or criminal victimization outside it, increases the propensity towards offending behavior. Despite the lack of research evidence to identify a definitive pathway from victimization to offending, this article presents some of the most recent US and UK empirical evidence in support of this relationship is also presented. The consequences for offender treatment are considered.

- Ask Elklit et.al;

Parental risk factors for childhood maltreatment typologies: A data linkage study

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The study is based on a Danish stratified random probability survey including 2980 interviews of 24 year old people. The sample was constructed to include

an oversampling of child protection cases. Significant differences were found between the two genders with males reporting heightened rates of criminality.

- Judith Cashmore;

The link between child maltreatment and adolescent offending: Systems neglect of adolescents. *Family Matters* 89, 31-41, 2011.

This paper is concerned with the nexus between abuse and neglect and adolescent offending in the lives of some children and young people, and the lack of a coordinated response to these by both the child protection and juvenile justice systems. The window for effective intervention, especially in relation to offending

behaviors, is not closed after early childhood, though it is likely to be more expensive to intervene at larger ages. Crucially, state parental responsibility for children and young people in care must not stop once they have offended and become troublesome as well as troubled.

- Anna Stewart, et al ;

Pathways from child maltreatment to juvenile offending, Australian Institute of Criminology, 2002

this important study demonstrates a direct path from child maltreatment to juvenile offending. This study focuses on the 41,700 children born in Queensland in 1983. It finds that about 10 % of these children came into contact with the Department of Families by the time they were 17 years old because of a child

protection matter. About 5% of those in the cohort had a court appearance for a proven offence. The authors examine 11 predictive factors for youth offending, and find that children who suffer maltreatment are more likely to offend.

- James Topitzes, et al;

Child maltreatment and offending behavior: Gender-specific effects and pathways, *Criminal Justice and Behavior* 38 (5), 492-510, 2011

This study assessed the association between child maltreatment (0-11) and offending behavior within gender-specific models. Prospectively collected data, including official measures of maltreatment and offending, were derived from the Chicago longitudinal study. A panel study of 1539 low income minority participants. Multivariate probate analyses revealed that maltreatment significantly predicted delinquency for males not for females yet forged a significant relation to adult crime for both genders. Exploratory, confirmatory, and comparative analyses suggested that mechanisms linking

maltreatment to adult crime primarily differed across gender,

●Lorraine E. Cuadra. et,al.

Child maltreatment and adult criminal behavior: Does criminal thinking explain the association?,

Child abuse & neglect 38 (8), 1399-1408, 2014

Criminal thinking styles were examined as mediational links between different forms of child maltreatment (i.e., sexual abuse, physical abuse, and physical neglect) and adult criminal behaviors in 338 recently adjudicated men. Analyses revealed positive associations between child sexual abuse and sexual offenses as an adult, and between child physical abuse/neglect and endorsing proactive and reactive criminal thinking styles. Mediation analyses showed that associations between overall maltreatment history and adult criminal behaviors were accounted for by general criminal thinking styles and both proactive and reactive criminal thinking. These findings suggest a potential psychological pathway to criminal behavior associated with child maltreatment. Limitations of the study as well as research and clinical implications of the results are discussed.

●David M. Fergusson

Physical punishment/maltreatment during childhood and adjustment in young adulthood., Child abuse & neglect 21 (7), 617-630, 1997

To study the relationships between retrospective reports of physical punishment/maltreatment and rates of adjustment difficulties at age 18 in a birth cohort of New Zealand subjects.

Method: Data were gathered over the course of an 18 year longitudinal study of a birth cohort of 1,265 New Zealand born children. At age 18 retrospective reports of exposure to physical punishment/maltreatment were obtained. At this time the cohort was also assessed on measures of psychosocial adjustment including juvenile offending, substance abuse behaviors, and psychiatric disorder.

●Daniela Hosser

Child maltreatment, re-victimization, and violent behavior, Violence and victims 22 (3), 318-333, 2007

The study investigates the cumulative impact of child maltreatment and victimization in adolescence on violent behavior in young adulthood in a nonclinical high-risk sample. The sample consists of 1,526 incarcerated young men (14 to 24 years) who were interviewed with standardized instruments during their prison term. Violent and nonviolent offenders with and without repeated victimization experiences throughout the life cycle were compared. Results show that child maltreatment doubles the risk for violent victimization

in adolescence. Repeated victimization experiences in adolescence heighten the risk for later violent offending. This is the case for officially registered violence and self-reported violent behavior. In addition, child maltreatment increased the probability of self-reported violence as well. However, the interaction effect of victimization in childhood and victimization in early adolescence counteracted the main effects. Being repeatedly victimized throughout the early life cycle slightly reduced the probability of being a frequent offender.

CHAPTER III
AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

AIM:

The aim of the study is to determine whether a maltreated children cause him or her to commit crimes in their adulthood or not ?

OBJECTIVES:

- * To determine the most commonly practiced maltreatments to the children, which increases their criminal behaviour ?
- * To determine who is mostly affected by these maltreatments-male /female?
- * To determine which category [orphan/non orphan] children are more maltreated?

CHAPTER IV

MATERIALS AND METHODOLOGY

MATERIALS REQUIRED:-

Database of case studies of maltreated children and cases related to child maltreatment which resulted in adulthood crimes , from District Crime Records Bureau- Kochi, Ernakulam district, Kerala.

METHODOLOGY:-

- The data was collected from District Crimes Record Bureau- Kochi, Ernakulam district, Kerala .Many cases was discussed for the study and to determine the rate of maltreated children in Kerala.

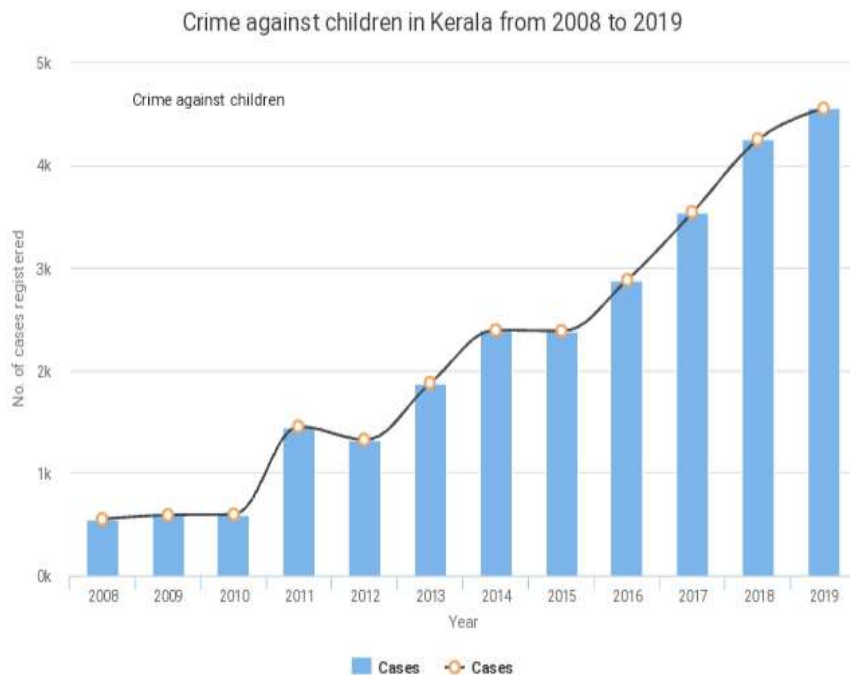
- collected information's about mostly practiced maltreatment against childrens.and also made discussions about mental behavior of these maltreated children at their adulthood.

- Discussed about case studies in which the crimes committed by these maltreated children at their adulthood.

CHAPTER V

OBSERVATION

Crime Against Children

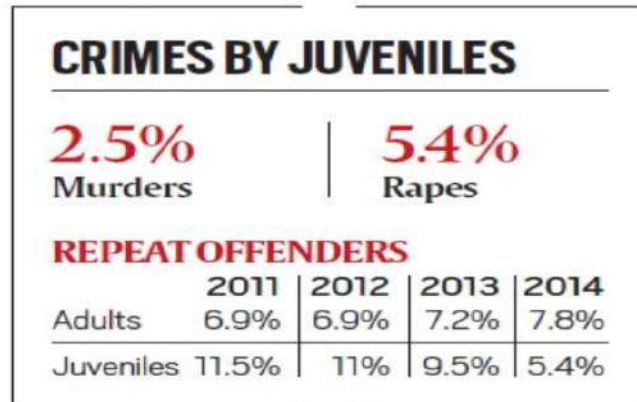


Graph 5.1: Statistics of crimes against children in Kerala during 2008-2019

There has been a steady increase in crimes committed against children in Kerala, according to a data released by the Kerala State Crime Records Bureau (SCRB). Unlike other States, there is increased awareness in Kerala about the crimes against children and greater reporting of such crimes is reflected in the statistics.

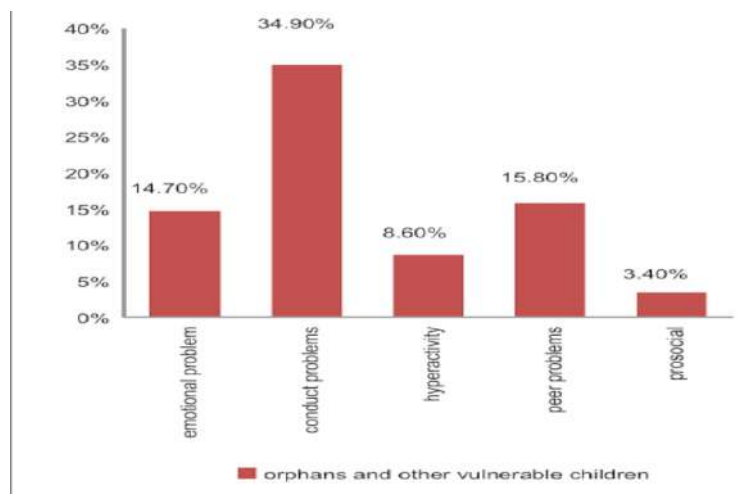
Physical abuse of children registered a staggering 1,208 cases in which

Ernakulam and Thiruvananthapuram topped with 158 cases each, followed by Pathanamthitta with 106 cases, Malappuram 97 cases, Idukki 89 and Wayanad 81 cases. Cases of emotional abuse stood at 929 cases; Ernakulam topped with 120 cases followed by Wayanad with 103 cases and Idukki and Pathanamthitta with 99 cases each.



Crimes by Juveniles

Figure 5.1: Crimes by juveniles-repeat offending



Graph 5.2: Ratio of behavior of orphan or vulnerable children staying in institutional homes.

Children who are deprived of the parental care and a secure family environment often become vulnerable to a host of psychological problems and psychiatric disorders. These children are then usually reared in institutional homes set up by the government or private agencies, which provide some semblance of order into their lives. In these homes also, the problems of overcrowding, inadequate personal attention, poor academic environment, and frequent moves may affect the psychological health of these children. In India, along with the growing total population of the country, the number of orphan and abandoned children is also increasing. According to the UNICEF 2012, there are more than 25 million orphan or abandoned and about 44 million destitute children in India. Very few studies have been done on the psychological health of these children and adolescents leaving a yawning gap for further research in this regard in India. Among the few studies done, Shanthy and Jeyda Gnanajane Eljo in Tiruchirappalli found the prevalence of behavioral and emotional problems to be 56% among institutionalized street children.

CHAPTER VI

RESULT AND CONCLUSIONS

RESULT

The study's results indicated that childhood maltreatment was significantly associated with adulthood behavior. The most commonly practiced maltreatments are physical abuses. Among the types of childhood maltreatment, physical neglect and emotional abuse are related with the children behavior. These are the main reasons which will lead to do crimes in adulthood. These activities will affect the child, mentally and physically and makes changes in children's psychology.

The study shows that among the maltreated males and/or females, males are more prone to do crimes in their adult age.

And also showed that orphan children's having child maltreatment histories are showing increased tendency to do crimes.

CONCLUSION

The results showed that childhood abuse increased the risk of adulthood crimes including violence preparation, by promoting antisocial behavior during childhood and adolescence. In addition children who experience child abuse or neglect are 59% more likely to be arrested as juveniles, 28% more likely to be arrested as adults, and 30% more likely to commit violent crimes. The World Health Organization(who) distinguishes four types of child maltreatments;

*physical abuse

*sexual abuse

*emotional abuse (or psychological)

*neglect

There is relatively strong evidence that physical and emotional child abuse is associated with later forms of antisocial behaviors in children, adolescents,

and young adults. Experience of being abused leads a child to develop negative emotions (e.g., anger, frustration, shame) that drive him or her to perpetrate antisocial behavior when the surrounding context allows it or draws it out. Because abused children can lack the ability to regulate emotions, antisocial behavior may, for some, be a reflection of strong emotions over which they have little direct control. By extension, the repetitive strain of chronic abuse may increase even further the likelihood of antisocial behavior because the emotional effects of repeated abuse, physical or emotional -are greater. Social learning theory provides that abused children learn to interact with others in a manner consistent with them. Thus, when abuse and hostility define a child's relationships with parents and peers, those same qualities carry forward into the child's relationship with others outside the home. It is thus assumed that violence is a learned behavior that children repeat in their adult relationships. Some children with abuse histories will lash out aggressively against others even without direct provocation.

In adulthood, both men and women with child maltreatment histories are having the increased criminal behaviors. Physical and emotional abuse further showed that females were more likely to exhibit internalizing problems such as depression, social withdrawal, and anxiety during middle childhood, which in turn increased the risk of adulthood crime. In contrast, males were more likely to exhibit externalizing behavioral problems, such as aggression, hostility, and delinquency during middle childhood, which subsequently led to adult criminal behavior. This study showed that, males are showing more anti-social and criminal behavior than the females. Males are more prone to do crimes in their adulthood.

And this study also shows that orphans are more maltreated by others. By their non-biological parents or others. For children living outside the care of biological parents, the situation is assumed to be the direst. Neglect, discrimination and malnutrition affect orphans more commonly than their non-orphaned peers. And also found that orphaned children and youth vulnerable to multiple forms of maltreatment. There are "several perceived risk factors for orphan's maltreatment: poverty, stigma, non-biological caregivers and alcohol abuse. etc.,

Child abuse is a serious and life-threatening matter that needs to be tackled in a sensitive manner with urgency. It can be traumatic for the child involved and all the necessary steps to address the situation should be taken. If the signs are recognized well within time, it is possible to avert major trauma in the future.

CHAPTER VII

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