

## Aggressive behavior of orphan children in child development centers in western province of Sri Lanka: The perspectives of orphanage matrons

**Puneesha Onali Pasqual**

International Institute of Health Sciences, Sri Lanka

**Introduction:** This study is conducted on aggressive behavior of orphan children in Child Development Centers of Western Province of Sri Lanka from perspectives of orphanage matrons. An orphan is a child below 18 years with deprivation of parental care or a place to survive. Aggression is common among these children due to many reasons. Aggression can be simply defined as hostility, dislike or hatred shown towards another person or any object as a response to oppression or frustration.

**Objective:** To gain an understanding of how acts of aggression exist among orphans in Child Development Centers of Sri Lanka from the perspectives of orphanage matrons and to derive possible interventions on how aggression may be tackled in the future by identifying the possible reasons.

**Methods:** Snowball sampling method was used to recruit orphanage matrons from Child development Centers in Western province of Sri Lanka, for this qualitative study. Eleven in-depth interviews were conducted using a structured interview guide. The data were analyzed using the 'thematic framework' approach.

**Results:** From the carried out study it is brought into consideration that there are major factors that stimulate the development of aggression among most orphan children placed in orphanages situated within the western province of Sri Lanka. Aggression is projected due to the history of issues with former family of these orphan children as it is the main reason which put them in this particular situation. Also issues with friends at the orphanage make a great impact on developing the aggression as there is sustained jealousy among most of these children. Mainly, because they associate them in their everyday life as the competitiveness amongst them, play a major role in here. Another major effect on development of aggression of these children in most of orphanages is due to issues with the handling caretakers and the administration staff. There are such incidents at which aggression is seen within these children due to the mishaps of the administration itself.

**Conclusions:** This study provides insight into how aggression exists among orphans in Sri Lanka and how it influences the lives of these particular orphans as well as the people around. Therefore, due to the major impact created on the lives of these fellow children and caretakers, it conveys that aggression is an important issue that must be tackled globally.

### Biography

Puneesha Onali Pasqual is an undergraduate and is in the second year of her Bachelor of Nursing which is being followed at the International Institute of Health Sciences (IIHS), Sri Lanka and will be transferring to the Deakin University, Melbourne, Australia for the final year. She is currently doing her two-year clinical practice at The Central Hospital, Colombo, Sri Lanka and she also is engaged in voluntary work for youth orphans in Sri Lanka and is determined to reach the highest level in the field of nursing.

[puniz8@yahoo.com](mailto:puniz8@yahoo.com)