

Consequences of Child Abuse and Neglect

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Introduction

All children are often vulnerable by virtue of their young age and evolving capacities. They will be 'open to' harm, injury, violence, and abuse. Thanks to different circumstances and/or factors children also can be susceptible to adverse influences and 'at risk' behavior. Marginalization further exacerbates vulnerability. In development settings like India, the burden of risk and vulnerability falls disproportionately on children. Impact of kid vulnerability and marginalization are often short term or future counting on the extent, nature and severity, and other factors. The damage also can be permanent. The impact are often on the physical, emotional, social, psychological and psychological state and well-being of the kid. Child Protection is any measure or initiative that addresses or prevents children from situations of violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation. It refers to protecting children from or against any perceived or real danger/risk. It helps to scale back their vulnerability in harmful situations.

It also means protecting children against social, psychological and emotional insecurity and distress. Child Protection must make sure that no child falls out of the Social Security and safety net and people who do, receive necessary care and protection to be brought back to the security net. While protection may be a right of each child, some children like street children, children with disabilities, children of economic sex workers, child labourers etc. are more vulnerable than others and wish special attention. Child Protection has relevancy for all settings-home, school, neighbourhood, community, and institutional/ residential care. A child is loved, cared for and looked after: Healthy emotional bonds with parents and powerful relationships can have a lifelong impact on a child's safety. Child safety is ensured to large extent when a toddler can speak to oldsters without having any inhibitions or doubts and when a toddler is accepted and revered by his/her parents and family. A child is nurtured when a toddler gets required food and nourishment, health facilities and education, when a toddler gets healthy and peaceful environment, when a toddler gets opportunities for his/her growth and development.

Safety measures in terms of physical safety of the kid are in situ. For e.g. fire safety measures are established, electrical cables and wires and plug points are covered, windows have lockable grills, having compound walls and security guards for giant structures like societies and schools, safety measures are in situ in elevators, drainage gutters are covered/closed, wells and bore wells are covered etc. Additionally human supervision and monitoring is ensured. A child isn't abused physically, emotionally and sexually. When a toddler knows the way to protect himself or herself. When parents or society build a child's confidence by providing exposure, knowledge and knowledge about personal safety. When a toddler knows whom and where to approach just in case of emergencies associated with their safety. When a toddler has faith within the structures, systems and other people who are liable for providing protection to children. When such structures and systems are set-up and are functional. Even though the 2 groups (abuse/neglect and controls) are compatible, it's possible that the controls may differ on other variables related to childhood abuse and neglect. Thus, additionally to regulate variables aged, race/ethnicity, and sex, we include controls for family background characteristics. Information on family background characteristics was obtained during the 1989–1995 interviews. Each participant was asked whether he or she had (a) parents who received welfare or food stamps and (b) ever attended start. Additionally, participants were asked whether his or her mother had been employed during childhood (yes/no) and about the mother's highest grade of faculty completed. Because there was substantial missing information regarding fathers' education and employment (due to divorce, separation, lack of data of paternity, or lack of data of fathers' whereabouts), this information isn't included among the control variables.

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