

The United Nations Children's Fund

Topic A: Measures to prevent violent discipline, sexual abuse and homicides on children.

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INTRODUCTION

Harm, suffer, discrimination, and pain which have become a serious problem in our global society, but more specifically, children around the world. Kids are being violently, sexually, and psychologically injured. This problem might be presented since the beginning of times, but humanity does not always consider these acts as crimes until people really take consideration of the situation. When the declaration of the rights of children was presented by the O.N.U. in 1959, child violence and children abuse started being considered as a crime and a critical problem that has to be discussed representatives from all the world to reach a peaceful agreement for it. That's why the United Nations considered it of high priority and they adapted it to The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

Child abuse can be referred as any physical, cognitive, or physiological action that can affect children and young adults under 18 years of age, this includes violent behavior that involved forced conducts that hurt or damaged the child integrity, also any type of sexual abuse, this means any type of sexual act or attempt made by a man, or any person, and finally this includes taking children lives by any possible form.

This worldwide conflict involves countries such as:

The United States:

The USA is one of the countries that have the worst number of children who have been victims of violence. According to some surveys, between 4 and 7 children suffer child abuse daily. This means that in this delegation 700,000 of children suffer violence of any type. Approximately 17.2% suffered physical abuse and 8.4% suffered sexual abuse. Out of all these children, only 2.3 million had received prevention services.

One of the main problems this country has parents are the ones that incite violence. According to the national statistics, 78.1% of the kids are being mistreated by their parents. Children violence and homicides are definitely rising in the United States. Statistics in 2015 of a Child Maltreatment Report showed an increase in child abuse and deaths of 1580 kids in 2014 to 1670 kids in 2017.

United Kingdom:

In the United Kingdom, this problem decreased. Since the research of 2,814 people in 2009, the position has changed in this country. This investigation studies adult and children maltreatment situations. Also after some interviews in 2010, a deep study revealed that violence and abuse were reduced in the case of children, now there are 37,000 kids and young adults being damaged by violence. This is 10% less than in 2009.

India:

In India, children that have between 5 and 12 years have great probabilities of being abused or maltreated. One research made by the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) in 2007 revealed that from the number of children that were interviewed, 69% suffered from a type of abuse. In these situations, the 88.6% of these abuses were in a familiar environment. This means that unfortunately most of the cases remain hidden.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:

There is no exact date of origin for this problem because it has been a constant problem throughout all of human history. In the past children did not report this issue so people didn't notice it was a very serious problem.

In the XVII and XVIII centuries, the considerations start to appear respecting the forms of abuse, specifically sexual and physical abuse. Even though the most important reduction of cases of abuse started to decrease until the 20th century.

The term abuse has always been an issue, not always in a physical way but in a psychological or moral way too. In some countries, children start to imitate the behavior in their surroundings, and then they start to rape other children. And the cycle goes on. Throughout the years the consequences of child abuse have been getting worse, because of the impact that has affected the children's life. It can go from self-harm to even suicide. In 1874, in the United States because of the case of a child they started to take child abuse seriously and made laws to protect children.

Before 1875, children had no legal way to defend themselves when an adult was abusing of them. The year 1875 marks a historical event in child abuse, when the world's first child protection organization was created, this organization was called the New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. In the United States, there were a few remedies for child abuse before 1875, such as prosecution, and taking away a child from a parent if a magistrate considered that the child wasn't being educated properly.

CURRENT RELEVANCE

This is a relevant problem because a child who has suffered from any kind of sexual harassment or violent conducts may be affected by consequences. The children who have been attacked are more likely to suffer from trauma and to even continue with the cruelty cycle and attack someone else with an aggressive posture.

There have been 895 lawsuits for violence against children and 65 for sexual exploitation against minors too since 2011. However, there are only 96 certified cases of these cruel actions. During 2014, 8 percent of kids in the United States of America had been sexually abused of, 37 percent had been physically assaulted within the past year, 51 percent within their lifetime, and 15 percent had been injured in any sort of way. Since then, these numbers have been going down each year. But United States of America is not the only case. Uganda has been accused of rape, sexual subjection, and profiteering of the feminine youth.

Kids around the world have been recruited or obligated to serve in the armed forces. Struggles in Congo have happened since 2016. About 850,000 children have been taken out of their homes, 600 educational institutions have been fired upon, and various children have been taken hostage as human armor. On other hand , on the first nine months of 2017, there was a minimum of 700 children executed in Afghanistan, most of them by "indiscriminate improvised explosive devices". 135 children from Nigeria and Cameroon have been forced to participate in acts of "suicide bombing" by the terrorist group "Boko Haram".

During 2016, 652 children were killed during the civil conflict in Syria. 60% of the millions of people in Myanmar's Rakhine State that have been taken out of their residences are kids.

Survivors of refugee camps in Bangladesh have helped us out with their testimonies. They admit having seen soldiers stabbing toddlers, sexually assaulting young girls as a group and decollating boys.

19,000 children were called up as soldiers last year in South Sudan and about 2,300 were murdered or wounded. The conflicts happening in South Sudan have disturbed and deranged more than 2 million kids.

The United States of America have killed various children in their airstrike in Mosul, while ISIS has been using kids as human shields during the military conflict in Iraq.

5,000 children have been murdered or injured in Yemen because of joining the armed forces. Saudi Arabia has bombed Yemen for a while which has left families thinking that the only two ways to keep their children away from starvation are selling them as brides or letting them serve in the military.

220,000 children in Ukraine are exposed to mines and bombs each day which puts them in great danger.

Cases of violence against children rose by a third in the United Kingdom in the last year. There has also been a report that states that there are 90 calls to the police per week about children being sexually abused.

The National Crime Records Bureau report says that every 15 minutes that pass, a child is sexually assaulted in India. Lately, a case in which a 10 year old girl was forced to give birth after being raped by both of her uncles. This case is a clear one of abuse amongst families.

Eastern and southern African countries have taken a lot of actions against child abuse. These countries have stood out for their policies to protect children, their rights and against maltreatment. However, in some of these nations, child marriage is part of culture and traditions. This means that at least one-third of the women in these countries married while being underage.

Some ways of prevention to these types of problems are giving useful and educational information to children about what to do in case of an attack; Have institutions check about their working personnel; Supporting families to create a peaceful environment at home; Attend to the reports about child abuse, get witnesses, victims, among others.

Children can be severely affected by child abuse, maltreatment, and exploitation. They can get to a point of crippling depression, anxiety, they are more likely to acquire heart diseases, slower development of the brain, and lower abilities to socialize and express emotions. All of these things can lead to problems during adulthood while communicating or working, it can also make them aggressive or cruel to other people.

INTERNATIONAL ACTIONS

Governments provide information and reliable data about the topic every year:

Institutions should give real information, and make this data public as well.

- * Countries now do not promote or legalize children work.

Government's obligation in each country must prohibited children labor activities, since statistics say that 108% percent of children in the world realize any type of paid work.

- * Every country must established migration policies for children.

People under 18 around the world have to be treated different since, they need to be care in the resident country most migrants from conflict countries.

- * Immediate notifications of sexual or any type of abuse.

- * Predetermined laws that includes detention to any type of action that caused by type of violence or disturb to children.

- * New penal international code.

- * Governments give economic support and security to families.

- * Countries now give information in schools and other institutions.

Children have to be inform of his rights and obligations in today's world, since child abuse started normally in home.

- * Governments provide a number to report child abuses and then they can helped the victim in first place.

UN Actions:

- * Jail for those who have abuse in any way the child's priorities.

- * New laws for child's protection

- * Implement more security in schools and in areas were kids are more

exposed to be in danger.

- * Peacekeepers
- * Hold perpetrators accountable
- * Studies the cases with "credible evidence"
- * Create organizations against sexual abuse
- * Put victims first
- * Improve strategic communication
- * Our authorities should respect the laws against children abuse

POINTS TO DISCUSS:

- Homicides of children due to their race or skin color

Violence against children in their homes

- Statistics of children who experience physical or psychological aggression by their caregivers in their homes
- How are children affected by violent discipline in their homes?
- Do children receive the necessary care and support by the government or their parents to prevent violent discipline?

Sexual violence

- Statistics of children who are forced to have sexual intercourse around the world
- How many children really ask for help with this problem?
- Where are more crimes reported, at home, school or on the street?
- What actions have been taken by the government of each country?

Violence in schools

- School shootings

- Countries where corporal punishment is not totally prohibited in schools
- What actions have been taken by the schools or even the government of the country?
- Is protection and adequate care provided to children?
- What consequences do people who attack children face?

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