

Domestic Violence against School Students with Reference to Physical Abuse

Ms. Mumdam Saring¹, and Dr. Anga Padu²

¹Research Scholar, Department of Education, Rajiv Gandhi University, Rono Hills, Doimukh-791112,
Arunachal Pradesh.

²Associate Professor, Department of Education, Rajiv Gandhi University, Rono Hills, Doimukh-791112,
Arunachal Pradesh.

¹Email Id: mumsaring@2018gmail.com

ABSTRACT:

The parents play a key role in shaping the life of a child. However, rising of domestic violence cases in the society is negatively affecting the child. Different physical and mental disorders such as self-injury, and violent behaviour are the result of being exposed to domestic violence. Negative effect of domestic violence among school students can be assessed through their low level of social adjustment skill and low academic achievement as well. There are many forms of domestic violence, but the present paper is going to solely focus on the physical abuse against school students. The negative impact of physical abuse is considered a lifelong threat to both victims and witness. This study relies on secondary sources of data to have greater understanding of physical abuse and its associated impact on school students. The present paper will also offer recommendations for curbing physical abuse in particular and domestic violence in general.

Keywords: Domestic Violence, Physical Abuse, and School Students.

Introduction

Family plays a pivotal role in nurturing and protection of a child. To provide a conducive and safe environment for proper growth and wellbeing of the members, especially children, the role of family is a necessity. Unfortunately, due to the increasing cases of domestic violence led children suffer socially, mentally, and physically. It is undeniable to consider that domestic violence is a major concern that needs action from the world at large. Domestic violence as a threat to both the victims and witnesses. Several studies shows that one of the most potential reasons for negative outcomes in academic achievement, disturbance in mental and physical well-being among school students is due to domestic violence. Domestic violence can negatively affect the three important domains; cognitive, affective and psychomotor. The constant exposure to domestic violence can deteriorate the person's overall health to a very great extent. In

addition, previous studies also revealed that school students exposed to domestic violence likely to leave school before passing out from high schools. Moreover, both witness and victim of domestic violence tend to exhibit difficulties of same kind such as dysregulation of emotion. Therefore, it is important to address repercussions of domestic violence against secondary school students, and simultaneously finding measures to curb the issue. Note that, the present paper is delimited to physical abuse which is a form of domestic violence.

Objective

To examine domestic violence against secondary school students with reference to physical abuse.

Literature Review

Njoroge and Kimani et al. (2023) found that school students irrespective of their age are exposed to domestic violence. The findings further revealed that school students exposed to domestic violence can be as witness, victim, or both.

Okeke and Stella (2019) published that domestic violence can impact school students' academic achievement at any level of education.

Judefrancis and Alochukwu (2021) found that there exists significant relationship between domestic violence and students' academic achievement. The study also found that physical abuse was mostly prevalent among school students exposed to domestic violence.

Ifeyinwa and Ncheta (2021) revealed that it is important to recognize by parents that beating, hitting, slapping, and punching are indicators of physical abuse and not a corrective measure to discipline children. Furthermore, the study also revealed that physically abused school students had poorer academic achievement than non-abused school students.

Mercer and Karim (2023) revealed that physical abuse indicators include laceration, burn, bruises, scratches, broken bones, and rough treatment which can lead to permanent physical injury. School student who are exposed to physical abuse are tend to develop a feeling of unease or anxiety, which can make it challenging for him or her to concentrate on study.

Elarousy and Shaqiqi (2017) revealed a surprising result that majority of abused school students were unaware about being abused. The possible reason is that abuse is culturally accepted as a method of disciplining children. Parents are found to be having lack of proper knowledge in modifying children's behaviour rather than using physical abuse.

Bashir and Aliero et al. (2020) found that physical abuse was a type of domestic violence that negatively influenced school students' social adjustment level, and academic performances. **Jensen and**

Linberg et al. (2023) reported that school students exposed to domestic violence have low academic achievement. Moreover, it was also found that the chance of developing a post-traumatic stress disorder was higher among school students who was subjected to domestic violence.

Impacts of domestic violence based on findings of the study

Findings of the study are as follows:

1. It is found that physical abuse is a common domestic violence form perpetrated against school students.
2. Physical abuse can hamper school students from attending class and participating fully in physical activities.
3. Higher the physical abuse, the lower the academic achievement of the physically abused students, and vice versa. This is because they are always inattentive, apathetic and have difficulties in concentrating.
4. Physical abuse negatively affects the social adjustment of school students. The reason for such issue is due to the fact that these students usually received physical aggression from their parents or elders at home which resulted in low social adjustment. Low level of social adjustment skill can be resulted in conflict with peers, teachers and resulted in poor academic achievement.
5. Mental health of school students found to be negatively affected by physical abuse leading to social isolation, obesity, juvenile and criminal behaviour, drug and alcoholism. All of these also lead to poor academic achievement.
6. Physical abuse affects school students' academic achievement in the form of increase school absenteeism, difficulty in learning and problem in solving home works.
7. Exposure to physical abuse can be resulted in cognitive alteration leading to language and academic disabilities.

Recommendations of the study

Recommendations of the present study are as follows:

- I. Domestic violence is a considerable societal issue. Hence, it is recommended to provide positive parenting training based on rights-based approaches. It is also recommended to improve reporting systems, and building integrated supported centres at school institutions.
- II. It is recommended to sensitize parents through the media about domestic violence in general and physical abuse in general.
- III. It is also recommended to establish guidance and counselling cell in every school for the benefits of students.
- IV. Concept of children's rights in the school curriculum should be included so that they can know their rights properly.
- V. Parents should avoid doing any kind of actions that can be resulted as a physical abuse.

Conclusion

It is evident that domestic violence can be resulted in both short- and long-term physical impairment. Physical abuse is found to be one of the most common domestic violence forms perpetrated against school students. Furthermore, it can negatively affect students' brain development and its

functioning. Physical abuse can cause prolonged bodily harm, emotional and psychological disorder, all of which can contribute to obtain low academic scores, and simultaneously cause behavioural issues among school students. Thus, this paper attempted to highlight domestic violence and its associated negative impacts among school students.

References

- [1] Mercer, G. C., & Karim, R. M. (2023). Effects of Physical Abuse and Negligence on Academic Achievement of primary School Students in Bangladesh. *Asian Journal of Education and Social Studies*, 44(4), 14-23. 10.9734/AJESS/2023/v44i4967
- [2] Njoroge, W. P., Kimani, M., & Omae, N. H. (2023). Exploring the Influence of Domestic Violence Exposure on Pupils' Behaviour in Kenyan Public Primary Schools. *African Journal of Empirical Research*, 4(2), 754-762. <https://www.ajol.info/index.php/ajempr/article/view/259549/245071>
- [3] Li, Y. (2021). The Impact of Domestic Violence on Children Mental Health. *Advances in Educational Technology and Psychology*, 5(10), 79-84. 10.23977/aetp.2021.051012
- [4] Kumar, T. M., Kar, N., & Kumar, S. (2019). Prevalence of child abuse in Kerala, India: An ICAST-CH based survey. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 89, 87-98. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2019.01.002>
- [5] Judefrancis, O., & Alochukwu, V. E. (2021). INFLUENCE OF CHILD ABUSE ON THE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT OF ANAMBRA STATE PUBLIC JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN ANAMBRA STATE. *Journal of Educational Research and Development*, 4(1), 191-201. <http://www.educationalresearchdevelopmentjournal.com/index.php/JERD/article/view/25>
- [6] Huang, L., & Mossige, S. (2012). Academic achievement in Norwegian secondary schools: the impact of violence during childhood. *Soc Psychol Educ*, 15, 147-164. 10.1007/s11218-011-9174-y
- [7] Jensen, L.V.S., Bog, M., & Linberg, R. M. (2023). Growing up in the shadow of domestic violence: Evidence from register data. *Child & Family Social Work*, 1-16. 10.1111/cfs.13096
- [8] Okeke, C. E., & Stella, A. (2019). EXAMINATION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND PERCIEVED STUDENTS' EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN RIVER STATE. *Journal of Education in Developing Areas (JEDA)*, 27(2), 114-122. <https://journals.journalsplace.org/index.php/JEDA/article/view/202>
- [9] Esser, B. M., Rao, N. G., Gururaj, G., Murthy, P., Jayarajan, D., Sethu, L., Jernigan, H. D., Benegal, V., & Collaborators group on epidemiological study of patterns and consequences of alcohol misuse in India. (2015). Physical abuse, psychological abuse and neglect: Evidence of alcohol-related harm to children in five states of India. *Drug and Alcohol Review*. https://nimhans.ac.in/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Esser-et-al-2016_Alcohol-harms-to-Indian-children.pdf
- [10] Musa, S. H., Aliero, S. H., & Bashir, K. (2020). Effects of Physical and Psychological abuse, Social Adjustment on Academic Performance of Junior Secondary School Students in Kebbi State, Nigeria. *The International Journal of Humanities & Social Studies*, 8(3), 207-212. 10.24940/theijhss/2020/v8/i3/HS2002-085

- [11] Elarousy, W., & Shaqiqi, W. (2017). Effect of Physical Abuse on Academic Achievement among Secondary School Female Students in Jedah. *Journal of Community & Public Health Nursing*, 3(2), 3-7. 10.4172/2471-9846.1000166
- [12] Ifeyinwa, E. O., & Ncheta, E. O. (2016). Physical Abuse, Neglect and Academic Achievement of Primary School Pupils. *Asian Journal of Humanity, Art and Literature*, 3(2), 67-82. <https://i-proclaim.my/journals/index.php/ajhal/article/view/308>

Cite this Article

Ms. Mumdam Saring, and Dr. Anga Padu, “Domestic Violence against School Students with Reference to Physical Abuse”, *International Journal of Multidisciplinary Research in Arts, Science and Technology (IJMRAST)*, ISSN: 2584-0231, Volume 2, Issue 9, pp. 32-36, September 2024.

Journal URL: <https://ijmrast.com/>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.61778/ijmrast.v2i9.80>



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/).