Name of Student

Name of Professor

Name of Class

Day Month Year

**Child Abuse**

Child maltreatment or child abuse is a detrimental practice subjected to a child by a caregiver or parents. It comprises an act of neglect or punishment by the caregiver which causes the children to suffer potential harm. The radical practice of child abuse is pervasive and can be observed in various places as organizations, home and communities. As per the World Health Organization (WHO), child abuse constitutes the elements of child abuse as sexual abuse, emotional ill-treatment, negligent treatment or neglect, potential harm to the child's survival, health or dignity. Primarily child abuse is classified into four major types: sexual abuse, physical abuse, neglect, psychological abuse and emotional abuse. Child abuse, irrefutably, is a detrimental practice with several kinds that cause the children to suffer from adverse implications manifested in mental disorders and in severe cases, suicide.

To begin, the pervasive kind of child abuse is physical child abuse. It is generally a mode of punishment but subjected without potential reasons. A contentious matter is worthy of being highlighted here. Parents, teachers and communities are unsure whether or not slapping the children constitute physical abuse. As per the World Health Organization (WHO), hitting, kicking, beating, strangling, shaking, burning, poisoning, scalding and suffocating. Several nations across the world have promulgated laws to address the widespread occurrence of the menace of physical abuse (*Information and Resources for Survivors, Supporters and Health Professionals*). The consequences of physical abuse are adverse. It is likely to cause a child to confront severe personality disorders, dissociative disorders, anxiety, eating disorders, aggression, substance abuse and suicidal ideation. Moreover, physical abuse in childhood is also attributed to being homelessness in the future.

Moreover, sexual abuse is the other kind of child abuse which casts harmful impacts a child’s emotional, mental and physical well-being. In sexual abuse, children are abused by an older adolescent or adult to meet the desires of sexual stimulation. The potential kinds of sexual abuse subjected to the children include sexual contact, violent exposure of genitals, displaying pornography, utilizing children to be featured in pornography and viewing their private privates without making contact. The perpetrator of the child abuse, in most of the causes, had experienced similar subjection in childhood. It is the anger and frustration which urges the perpetrator to treat the other children in the same manner. The adverse consequences of sexual abuse can desecrate the self-esteem and mental health of the victim. The other harmful ramifications are listed as follows: chronic pain, sexual dysfunction, suicidal ideation, depression, borderline personality disorders and the extent to re-victimization in the later stages of life. Furthermore, the sexual victimization at a young age is associated with the various risk factors as the enhanced prevalence of HIV, condom avoidance, frequent change in sexual partners and minor knowledge about safe sex practices.

In the United States of America (USA), more than 3 million reports of child abuse are registered each year(“What Is Child Abuse”). It is a critical epidemic which ought to be prevented by potential efforts. Child neglect is increasing with the passage of time. The caregiver or parents struggle to devote sufficient care to the children who are imperative for the sound health, development and well-being of the children. The consequences of child neglect are listed as impaired neuropsychological comprising attention, executive function, memory, language, processing speed and social skills. Such children advance to establish an abusive and manipulative nature after getting affected by neglect to an extreme extent.

In addition, child abuse is an international adversity. Nearly each nation ion the world suffers the negative impacts of child abuse. The need of the hour is the promulgation and enforcement of stringent laws that can prevent the menace of child abuse from the very roots of communities. It is an intricate matter which requires critical attention of the policymakers and stakeholders. Unfortunately, the contemporary existence of the practice of child abuse has reached a critical extent. Moreover, information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reveals some intriguing facts. There exists a significant correlation between the amounts of adverse childhood experiences and detrimental health implications in adults. These adults confront challenges as cancer, mental illness, heart attack, alcohol abuse and reduced longevity drug addiction. Anonymous research stipulating the survey including State students propose that 8% of the 10th and 11th-grade students advance to commit suicide. The rates of anxiety and depression are also relatively higher.

A critical appraisal of the matter reveals further unfortunate incidents. There is a wide range of instances of child abuse which are essentially kept hidden are unreported. The cultural and social factors either prevent the victims or their parents from reporting these issues because of the stigma attached to them. The culture and social structure of each nation are distinct and complex. The Asian communities are the cornerstones to the establishment of a sound relationship between the parents and children. The western states reflect a contrasting picture because of the extended relationship gap between the children and parents or caregivers. To conclude, child abuse exists in several kinds across the world. The lack of thorough implementation of laws and regulations has accelerated the occurrence of instances involving potential punishment and torture subjected to the children. The bottom line is that child abuse can be essentially prevented by the intervention of the parents and caregivers in true letter and spirits.

Works Cited

*Information and Resources for Survivors , Supporters and Health Professionals*. https://www.blueknot.org.au/Resources/Information/Understanding-abuse-and-trauma/What-is-child-abuse-/Types-of-child-abuse. Accessed 11 Mar. 2019.

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