

Editorial Child Abuse In Medical Practice

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Abstract

In this issue of The Internet Journal of Health an original paper comes from the Middle East about child abuse. [1] This is a very difficult subject to tackle in this journal. Knowing that such topic is a taboo topic in most society and in a situation where there is social disruption or war or social unrest this phenomenon would take a larger scale..

In starting with this topic in this journal we hope to expand awareness and data collections from all around the world to appear for the best wellbeing of children of the world.

UNICEF uses the term 'child protection' to refer to preventing and responding to violence, exploitation and abuse against children and teens up to 18 yrs – including commercial sexual exploitation, trafficking, child labor and harmful traditional practices, such as female genital mutilation/cutting and child marriage. UNICEF's child protection programmes also target children who are uniquely vulnerable to these abuses, such as when living without parental care, in conflict with the law and in armed conflict. Violations of the child's right to protection take place in every country and are massive, under-recognized and under-reported barriers to child survival and development, in addition to being human rights violations. Children subjected to violence, exploitation, abuse and neglect are at risk of death, poor physical and mental health, HIV/AIDS infection, educational problems, displacement, homelessness, vagrancy and poor parenting skills later in life.[3] Among many other programmes, UNICEF supports the international Child Rights Information Network. In 2007, UNICEF published An Overview of child well-being in rich countries, which showed the UK and the USA at the bottom of a league of 21 countries. [2]

Encyclopedic definition [3] goes like this: Child abuse is defined as the physical, sexual, or emotional maltreatment or

neglect of children by parents, guardians, or others. While most child abuse happens in the child's home, large numbers of cases of child abuse have been identified within some organizations involving children, such as churches, schools, child care businesses, and in particular native residential schools,[4] or in government agencies.[5] It also sometimes occurs almost anywhere (eg kidnappings, random murders etc.)

According to a recent UNICEF report on child well-being the United States and the United Kingdom ranked lowest among rich nations with respect to the well being of their children. This study also found that child neglect and child abuse are far more common in single-parent families than in families where both parents are present. There are many forms of abuse and neglect and many governments have developed their own legal definition of what constitutes child maltreatment for the purposes of removing a child and/or prosecuting a criminal charge. In the United States, the Federal Government puts out a full definition of child abuse and neglect and creates a summary of each State definition. [2,5]

The scope of child abuse is large and continuous in generating the necessary laws to prevent it or at least to create awareness for prevention.

Still the civilian disturbances, wars and lawlessness are the most evident nursing grounds for such evil phenomenon

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