Effect of Perceived Parenting Styles and Child Abuse Perpetrators by Parents on Psychological Well-being among School-Age Children

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Abstract

Background: Perceived parenting styles and child abuse perpetrates by parents had many effects on psychological wellbeing of school age children. Moreover, there were negative consequences on school age children caused by negative parenting styles that can increase level of child abuse by parents on school age children. Aim of study: This study aimed to investigate the effect of perceived parenting styles and child abuse perpetrates by parents on psychological wellbeing among school age children. Study design: Descriptive correlational research design was utilized to achieve the aim of the study. Setting: This study was conducted at primary schools in Benha city, Qalyubia Governorate. Study subjects: A cluster representative sample of (340) child from fifth and sixth primary grades students. Tools of Data collection: Four tools were used: Tool 1: Structured Interview Questionnaire, Tool 2: Perceived parenting style Questionnaire Tool 3: Child Abuse Questionnaire and Tool 4: Psychological wellbeing scale for children. Results: (51.2%) of the studied children perceive their parents as authoritarian parent. While (34.7%) of them perceives their parents as authoritative parent. Moreover, (46.5%) of the studied children experienced low child abuse from their parents, (44.4%) of them experienced moderate child abuse and (8.8%) experienced high child abuse. Furthermore, (52.9%) of the studied children had moderate level of total psychological wellbeing, (24.7%) had high level of total psychological wellbeing and (22.4%) had low level of total psychological wellbeing. Conclusion: There was a highly statistically significant positive correlation between total student’s perception towards parenting style and total exposure to child abuse from their parents. Moreover, there was a highly statistically significant negative correlation between children’s perception towards parenting and their total psychological wellbeing. Moreover, there was a highly statistically significant negative correlation between children’s exposure to abuse from their parents and their total psychological wellbeing. Recommendations: A psycho-educational program should be conducted about positive parenting to promote parenting competencies and skills and reduce child abuse and its effect in psychological wellbeing among school age children.

Keywords: Child Abuse, Perceived Parenting Styles, Psychological Well-being.

Introduction

Children are not the property of their parents. They are human beings, who need health care and good nutrition, protection from harm, sense of security, opportunities for early learning and responsive activities like talking, singing and playing with parents who love them. All of this develops brains and fuel growing, resulting in healthy development of children which is critical to the future physical and psychological well-being of children and any society at all. The ways that parents follow in nurturing their children have great effect in child’s wellbeing. Dysfunctional parenting styles and lack of warmth in parent/child interactions lead to increased risk of child abuse perpetrated by parents which
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Parenting styles are standard behaviors parents engage in as they socialize, guide and raise their children. There are four main parenting styles; authoritative style, authoritarian style, permissive style and neglectful style. Authoritative style is characterized by both warmth and strictness, authoritarian is characterized by strictness but lacking warmth, permissive style is characterized by warmth without strictness, and neglectful style is characterized by lacking both warmth and strictness. Perceived parenting style is described as the parenting style which, in the opinion of the children, is received by them from their parents during their childhood. The most important human interactions of children happen with their parents. Therefore, perceived parenting styles are from the most important factors which increase parents' tendency to child abuse (Rajan et al., 2019).

Dysfunctional parenting styles elevate the risk of child abuse by parents. Authoritative parenting is generally considered the optimal parenting style, whereas permissive, authoritarian and neglectful parenting styles are regarded as dysfunctional approaches. There is a stronger association between authoritarian parenting and child abuse especially physical abuse. Moreover, authoritarian can skew into abuse through emotional and psychological damage to children in the house hold. In addition to this, children of permissive parents had low hope, they cannot follow rules, have less self-control and at risk of development of conduct disorder and antisocial personality. Moreover children of neglectful parents show symptoms of depression and behavioral problems. Both neglectful and authoritarian styles are determined to children because of physical and psychological trauma that children suffer either from lack of attention or too much force in relationship (Camilla et al., 2019).

School age is the segment of life span that extended from age 6 years to approximately 12 years. Many school-aged children exposed to abuse perpetration by their parents. Children in this age range may feel guilty about the abuse and blame themselves for it. Child abuse hurts children’s self-esteem as they may not participate in school activities or get good grades, have fewer friends than others, and get into trouble more often. Moreover, they may suffer from physical problem as headaches and stomach aches. The abused children are at greater risk for repeating the cycle as adults by entering into abusive relationships or becoming abusers themselves so those children need special care to regain their psychological wellbeing (Ahad et al., 2021).

Child abuse is a serious problem that results in devastating and long lasting damage to individual and community at large. Child abuse is defined as all forms of physical and/or emotional ill-treatment, sexual abuse, neglect or negligent or commercial or other exploitation, resulting in actual or potential harm to the child’s health, survival, development or dignity in the context of a relationship of responsibility, trust or power. Child abuse can occur in the form of physical abuse (such as beating, burning, and biting), emotional abuse (such as verbal abuse, humiliation, and acts terrorize the child), Sexual abuse as the involvement of developmentally immature children in sexual activities which they do not fully comprehend or which they are unable to give consent, or that violate the social taboos. Moreover, child abuse can occur in form of neglect such as inadequate health care, education, supervision, protection from hazards in the environment, and unmet basic needs (Gonzalez et al., 2021).
Psychological wellbeing is defined as the combination of feeling good and functioning effectively that reflects autonomy, environmental mastery, positive relations with others, and purpose in life and self-acceptance which include things such as how the child is feeling about their life and how happy they are. Child abuse perpetration by their parents has had a significant negative impact reflected in children’s overall well-being physically and psychologically and states that children with low well-being are more likely to experience conflict in the family, have fewer friends, experience bullying and have fewer resources than their friends (Kellock, 2020).

Nurses can play an important role in increase psychological wellbeing of abused children by their parenting and decrease risk of child abuse. The nurse can provide health education for parents about risks of child abuse on psychological wellbeing of children. Nurses can interview pregnant women to assess needs and risks of child abuse and neglect. After delivery, nurses can visit newborn families, checking their health and consulting about parenting. At the same time, they can assess the need for support and postpartum depression, and high-risk families such as those with premature newborns, while also supporting low-risk families to promote empowerment home visiting, parenting, and intensive family preservation interventions, that aim to prevent child abuse and reduce risk factors among families identified as at risk (Miguel et al., 2021).

Nurses can have an important role in early detection of child abuse. Nurses conduct health checkups of children in pediatric and child health settings, they have daily contact with children to identify and respond to child abuse. In some settings such as emergency departments, nurses use formalized assessment tools including screening guidelines to assess suspicious physical injuries. However, in pediatric and community child health settings, nurses are reliant on clinical judgments to form a suspicion whether child abuse may be occurring and also prevent complication (Honda et al., 2020).

Significance of the study:

Child abuse is a global problem that affects children of all ages, sexes, races and ethnicities in varied socioeconomic classes and it is one of the major causes of social and psychological problems. Worldwide prevalence of child abuse are between 133 and 275 million children and 1 out of 2 children worldwide suffer from abuse perpetration at the hands of their parents each year. In Egypt, according to the latest nationally representative population survey, 93% of children between ages 1 and 14 were exposed to abuse perpetration (Gerke, 2021).

The researchers is interested in conducting this study because children in the Egyptian culture are raised to be obedient to certain forms authority figures in the family. Moreover disciplining one’s child by resorting to physical abuse perpetration is generally accepted in Egyptian society. Therefore, it becomes necessary to identify the effect of perceived parenting style and child abuse perpetration by parents on psychological wellbeing among school age children.

Aim of the study:

This study aimed to investigate the effect of perceived parenting styles and child abuse perpetration by parents on psychological wellbeing among school age children.

Research Questions:

- What are the most common perceived parenting styles among school age children?
- What is the most common type of child abuse perpetrates by parents among school age children?
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- What is the effect of perceived parenting styles and child abuse perpetrates by parents on psychological wellbeing among school age children?

Subjects and Method:

Research design:

A descriptive correlational design was utilized to fulfill the aim of this study.

Research settings:

The study was conducted in 4 primary schools in Benha city, Qalyubia Governorate, the schools included in the study called Alshahid Abdel-Menem Riad primary school, Hoda Sarawy primary school, El Emam Mohamed Abdo primary school and Benha primary modern school. These schools are affiliated to the Ministry of Education.

Research subjects:

Sample size:

The sample size was (340) students from fifth and sixth grades students which included from the total number of (3000) fifth and sixth grades students from all schools in Benha city. After using simple random sample to choose this schools from all urban primary school where 13 primary school present with capacity about 3000 student in fifth and sixth grades of primary schools.

The estimated sample size was 340 students out from 3000 students who attended the previous mentioned settings, at confidence level of 95 % (Thompson, 2012)

\[ n = \frac{N \times p(1-p)}{\left[ N - 1 \times (d^2 \div z^2) \right] + p(1-p)} \]

Which:

- \( n \) = Sample size
- \( N \) = Total population
- \( Z \) = the standard value corresponding to confidence level 95% which is (1.96).
- \( d \) = Error level 5%
- \( p \) = 0.5.

Sample type and technique:

- A simple random sample was used to choose the (4) schools included in this study from the total number of (13) primary schools in Benha City.
- A cluster representative sample of (340) students was selected from the (4) mentioned schools with equal numbers for each school (85) students, from fifth and sixth grade during the period of the study. The (340) students were taken according to the following inclusion criteria:
  - Both genders.
  - Living with their parents.
  - From fifth and sixth grade of primary school
  - Agreed to participate in the study.

Tools of data collection:

Tool (1): Structured Interviewing Questionnaire Sheet:

It was developed by the researchers to assess socio-demographic characteristics of children and their parents which consisted of two parts:

Part I: Socio-demographic data of the children: to elicit data about children’s characteristic including age, sex, residence, school grade, cohabitation, type of family, number of siblings, the order of child among his siblings, number of rooms in the home and place of the children’s sleep.

Part II: Socio-demographic data of child’s parents: It includes age, level of education, occupation and type of work.

Tool (2): Perceived Parenting Style Questionnaire:

This scale was originally developed by Gafoor & Kurukkan, (2014). The scale measures perceived parenting style of school age children. The scale was used to assess how child perceived their parents while dealing with them. It consists of 38 items, half
of items (19 items) used to measure parental responsiveness which include items number (1,3,5,7,9,11,13,15,17,19,21,23,25,27,29,31,33,35,37) and the other half (19 items) to measure parental control which include items number(2,4,6,8,10,12,14,16,18,20,22,24,26,28,30,32,34,36,38). Each question rated on three-point Likert scale, ranged from (0 to 2) as the following: 0=Never, 1=Sometimes, 2=Always.

**Scoring system:**

The total score of control and responsiveness were found out for each parent, (mother and father) separately, then the style of each parent was determined according to his /her score of control and responsiveness as the following:

- **High level=**above the median ≥19
- **Low level=** below the median< 19

- Parents with high score in both responsiveness and control categorized as authoritative parenting style.
- Parents with low score in responsiveness and high score in control categorized as authoritarian parenting style.
- Parents with high score in responsiveness and low score in control categorized as permissive parenting style.
- Parents with low score in both responsiveness and control categorized as neglectful parent style.

**Tool (3): Child Abuse Questionnaire:**

This scale was originally developed by El-Nagar, (1998) and was modified by Abdelhamid, (2020) to be suitable to measure child abuse perpetrates by child's family (parents & siblings) and school. This scale consists of 70 questions, each question rated on three-point Likert scale ranged from 0 to 2 as the following: 0=Never, 1=Sometimes, 2=Always.

**Scoring system:**

The total score of child abuse ranges between (0:140). The higher scores reflect higher levels of child abuse. The total score of child abuse was classified into:

- **Low level** = 0 < 50% (<70).
- **Moderate level** = 50 < 75% (<105:70).
- **High level** = ≥75% (140:105).

**Tool (4): Psychological wellbeing scale for children (PWB-c):**

It was developed by Opree et al., (2018) to measure psychological wellbeing among children between the ages of 8 and 12 years. This Scale consists of 24 questions, each question rated on 3-point Likert scale ranged from 0 to 2 as the following: 0= never, 1=some times, 2=always. All items are positive except item (23) is reversed coded. **It was divided into 6 subscales.**

- **Subscale (1) environmental mastery (4 questions).**
- **Subscale (2) personal growth (4 questions).**
- **Subscale (3) purpose in life (3 questions).**
- **Subscale (4) self-acceptance (5 questions).**
- **Subscale (5) autonomy (3 questions).**
- **Subscale (6) positive relations with others (5 questions).**

**Scoring system:**

The total score of psychological wellbeing ranges between (2:46). The higher
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scores reflect higher levels of psychological wellbeing of the studied children. The total scoring system classified as the following:

- Low psychological wellbeing = < 50% < 23
- Moderate psychological wellbeing = 50 < 75% (23 < 35)
- High level = ≥75% (35:46)

Administrative Design:

An official permission letter was obtained from the Dean of the Faculty of Nursing, Benha University and official permission was obtained from the director of primary education in the Directorate of Education in Benha City to conduct the study at primary schools. A full explanation about the aim of the study was explained to the administrative team of the study settings to gain their cooperation during data collection.

Content Validity:

Arabic translation was done by researchers for tools of the study and tested for their translation and validity of tools by making jury of five experts in Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing, Faculty of Nursing, Benha University, to check the relevancy, comprehensiveness, clarity and applicability of the questions. According to their opinions, modifications were done and final form was developed.

The tools were reviewed for appropriateness of items and content validity by Jury of five experts in Psychiatric & Mental Health Nursing Faculty of Nursing Benha University and some modifications done in some words in socio-demographic characteristics. Those items were in choices of family income through adding "enough and save from it" and in item of occupation of parents as the researchers added choices about type of work. Some modifications were done in three tools that were used in the research study as modifications in the scoring system to be as the following: 0= never, 1=some times, 2=always.

Reliability of tools: Testing the reliability of the tools through Alpha Cronbach reliability analysis.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Tools</th>
<th>Alpha Cronbach</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tool I</td>
<td>Perceived parenting style Questionnaire</td>
<td>0.816</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tool II</td>
<td>Child Abuse Questionnaire</td>
<td>0.809</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tool III</td>
<td>Psychological wellbeing scale for children</td>
<td>0.910</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ethical considerations:

Formal approval was taken from the Research Ethics Committee of the Faculty of Nursing at Benha University. Before conduction of the study, the researchers clarified the purpose and significance of the study to the studied students and assured them about confidentiality of the collected data. All the studied students were informed that the participation in the study was voluntary and no name was to be included in the questionnaire sheet. The studied students were informed that the content of the tools was used for research purpose only and that they have the right to withdraw from the study at any time of data collection without any consequences. Moreover, written consent for participation in the study was obtained from each student before conduction of data collection.

Pilot study:

Before starting of data collection a pilot study was carried out on 10% of total sample (35 students) to test the simplicity, clarity and applicability of the study tools as well as estimation of the time needed to fill the questionnaire. According to the results of the pilot study, some modifications were done.
Therefore, the pilot study sample was excluded from the total sample.

**Field Work:**
- The researchers started data collection by visiting the schools individually and conducted interview with fifth and sixth grades in the classroom. The researchers greeted the children, introduced herself to them, explained with clear sound the purpose of the research and provided them with all information about the research (purpose, duration, activities and types of tools needed to fill in the study) to gain cooperation of the studied students. The researchers selected the studied students according to the inclusion criteria. - The tools of study were given to the students who met the inclusion criteria and accepted participating in the study. The researchers asked them to fill the tools individually. The researchers took 10-11 students per day. The interview was done in classroom of school and the researchers asked questions in Arabic language and students filled the tools independently and under supervision of researchers.
- Each student needed from 30 to 25 minutes to fill the questionnaire sheet of the study.
- Data were collected through interviewing of the studied students over a period of four months started from October 2022 till the end of December 2023.
- The researchers conducted an interview with the studied students from 9 A.M. to 1.30 P.M. and the process of data collection occurred 2 days /week (Saturday & Wednesday) during the period of data collection.

**Statistical Analysis:**

The collected data organized, tabulated and statistically analyzed using Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) version 25 for windows, running on IBM compatible computer. Descriptive statistics were applied (e.g. frequency, percentages, mean and standard deviation). Qualitative variables were compared using qui square test (x²) as the test of significance, and paired (t) test was used to compare between quantitative variables. Correlation coefficient test (r) was used to test the correlation between studied variables. Reliability of the study tools was done using Cronbach's Alpha. A significant level value was considered when p < 0.05 and a highly significant level value was considered when p < 0.01. No statistical significance difference was considered when p > 0.05.

**Results:**

**Figure (1):** Clarified that, more than half (51.2%) of the studied children reported that, their parent as authoritarian parenting. While more than one third (34.7%) of them reported that, their parent as authoritative parenting style.

**Figure (2):** clarifies that, less than half (46.5%) of the studied children experienced low abuse from their parents. While, less than half (44.7%) of them experienced moderate abuse from their parents. Moreover, the minority (8.8%) of them experienced high abuse from their parents.

**Figure (3):** Reveals that more than half (52.9%) of the studied children had moderate level of total psychological wellbeing. Furthermore, one quarter (24.7%) of them had high level of total psychological wellbeing. While less than one quarter (22.4%) of them had low level of total psychological wellbeing.

**Table (1):** Reveals that, there is highly statistically significant positive correlation between total student’s perception towards parenting style and total exposure to abuse by parents. Moreover, there is highly statistically significant negative correlation between children’s perception towards parenting style and their total psychological wellbeing. Moreover, there is highly statistically significant negative correlation between children’s exposure to abuse by parents and their total psychological wellbeing.
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Figure (1): Distribution of total children’s perception towards parenting style (n=340)

Figure (2): Distribution of total level of exposure to child abuse as reported by the studied children (n=340).
Figure (3): Distribution of the studied children according to their total psychological wellbeing (n=340).

Table (1): Correlation between total children’s perception towards parenting style, total exposure to abuse as reported by studied children and total psychological wellbeing among the studied children (n=340).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items</th>
<th>Total perception towards parenting style</th>
<th>Total exposure to abuse as reported by studied children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>r</td>
<td>P-Value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total perception towards parenting style</td>
<td>0.500</td>
<td>0.000**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total psychological wellbeing</td>
<td>-0.591</td>
<td>0.000**</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(r) = Pearson correlation test. **Highly significant correlation at p < 0.01.

Discussion:
The perceived parenting style and child abuse perpetrated by parents can have significant effects on the psychological well-being of school-age children. Child abuse has severe negative consequences on a child's psychological well-being. Victims of child abuse may experience a range of psychological issues such as; depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder, low self-esteem, difficulties with trust relationships, and behavioral problems. Therefore, the current study aimed to investigate the effect of perceived parenting styles and child abuse perpetrated by parents...
on psychological wellbeing among school age children at Benha City (Greene et al., 2020).

Concerning total children’s perception towards parenting styles, the present study clarified that, more than half of the studied children perceive their parents as authoritarian. While more than one third perceive their parents as authoritative. From the researchers' point of view, this could be due to in Egyptian culture parents take strict disciplinary action in a restrictive, punitive style and this is learned attitude from their parents and this is a characteristic of authoritarian parenting. Moreover, they believe that this is the correct parenting method. In the other hand, the authoritative parents in this study had high level of awareness about positive parenting style to deal with their children in a positive way.

This result is in accordance with Parra et al., (2019) who conducted a study entitled “Perceived Parenting Styles and Adjustment during Emerging Adulthood” and found that authoritarian parenting style was the most frequent parenting style. In the other hand, this finding is in disagreement with Choi et al., (2020) who conducted a study entitled “Association between Perceived Parenting Style and Adolescents' Attitudes toward Suicide” and found that the authoritative style was significantly higher than other styles and the authoritative parenting style was the lower style.

As regards total level of exposure to child abuse as reported by the studied children, the present study clarified that, less than half of the studied children experienced low child abuse, less than half of the studied children experienced moderate child abuse and the minority of them experienced high child. From the researchers' point of view, this may be due to the most of parents in this study where authoritarian and they use punishment and violence as the method of upbringing where authoritarian parents increase child abuse occurrence. This result was approved by Jin et al., (2021) who conducted a study entitled “Emotional, physical, and sexual child abuse in China prevalence and psychological consequence” and found that less than half of the studied children experienced low abuse from their parents, less than half of the studied children experience moderate child abuse from their parents and the minority of them experienced high child abuse from their parents.

Concerning total psychological wellbeing of the studied children, this study revealed that, more than half of the studied children had moderate level of total psychological wellbeing and one quarter of them had high level of total psychological wellbeing and less than one quarter of them had low level total psychological wellbeing. From the researcher's point of view, this might be due to those children with authoritarian parenting style in this study exposed to more child abuse which decrease psychological wellbeing among them. While children with authoritative parenting rarely abused which increase their psychological wellbeing and the level of authoritarian and authoritative style in this study were not so far apart which moderated level of psychological wellbeing among the studied children.

This result is in the same line with Gómez-López et al., (2019) who conducted a study entitled “Psychological well-being during adolescence: Stability and association with romantic relationships” and mentioned that more than half of the studied children had moderate level of total psychological wellbeing. In the other hand, this finding is in disagreement with a study carried out by Twenge et al., (2019) who conducted a study entitled “More time on technology, less happiness: Associations between digital-media use and psychological well-being” and
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mentioned that large numbers of children had low psychological well-being.

Regarding correlation between total children’s perception towards parenting styles, total exposure to abuse from their parents and total psychological wellbeing among the studied children, the present study revealed that, there was a highly statistically significant positive correlation between total student’s perception towards parenting styles and total exposure to abuse from their parents, this means when negative parenting level increased, child abuse increased. Moreover, there was a highly statistically significant negative correlation between children’s perception towards parenting style and their total psychological wellbeing. This means that when negative parenting level increased, psychological wellbeing decreased. Moreover, there was a highly statistically significant negative correlation between children’s exposure to abuse from their parents and their total psychological wellbeing. This means that when child abuse increased, psychological wellbeing decreased.

From the researchers’s point of view, this could be due to that a positive relation between the normal positive parenting behaviors and psychological wellbeing and a negative relation between abnormal negative parenting behaviors and children’s psychological wellbeing. It was argued that when parent took an authoritarian approach, it is a sign of poor parenting. As a result, children exposed to abuse and psychological wellbeing decreased. When parent took authoritative parenting style, it became protective factors to all types of abuse, reduced child abuse and improved psychological wellbeing of children.

These results are supported by khatara, (2022) who conducted a study entitled “Parental treatment styles and their relationship to psychological adjustment among fourth-average students” and mentioned that there was a highly statistically significant correlation between total student’s perception towards parenting style and total exposure to abuse by mother. Furthermore, there was a highly statistically significant negative correlation between children’s perception towards parenting style and their total psychological wellbeing. Furthermore, these results are in agreement with Lo et al., (2019) who conducted a study entitled “Prevalence of child maltreatment and its association with parenting style: A population study in Hong Kong” and mentioned that dysfunctional parenting practices elevated child abuse potential and authoritarian parenting was associated with all types of child maltreatment, whereas authoritative parenting was associated with a lower risk of all types of child maltreatment.

Conclusion:

There was a highly statistically significant positive correlation between total student’s perception towards parenting style and total exposure to abuse from their parents. Moreover, there is a highly statistically significant negative correlation between children’s perception towards parenting style and their total psychological wellbeing. Moreover, there was a highly statistically significant negative correlation between children’s exposure to abuse from their parents and their total psychological wellbeing.

Recommendations:

- A psych-educational program should be conducted about positive parenting to promote parenting competencies and skills and reduce a child abuse and its effect in psychological wellbeing among school age children.
- Implementation of workshops for parents and those who about to get married about parenting and positive approaches to deal with their children.
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- Collaboration of governmental and civilized society’s efforts to reshape the residential instruments to elevate psychological wellbeing and decrease child abuse among families and their children.
- The need for parents to follow educational methods of proper child-rearing, by setting up educational courses and programs for them in schools and maternal and child care centers.

References:


تأثير أساليب التربية كما يدركها الأبناء وإساءة معاملة الأطفال من قبل الوالدين على الرفاهية النفسية للأطفال في سن المدرسة

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كان لأنماط التربية المتصورة وإساءة معاملة الأطفال من قبل الوالدين تأثيرات عديدة على الصحة النفسية للأطفال في سن المدرسة. علاوة على ذلك، كانت هناك عواصف سلبية على الأطفال في سن المدرسة ناجمة عن أساليب الأباء السلبية التي يمكن أن تزيد من مستوى إساءة معاملة الأطفال من قبل الوالدين على الأطفال في سن المدرسة. لذا هدفت هذه الدراسة إلى فحص تأثير أساليب التربية كما يدركها الأبناء وإساءة معاملة الأطفال من قبل الوالدين على الرفاهية النفسية للأطفال في سن المدرسة. تم استخدام تصميم البحث الوصفي الارتباطي لتحقيق هدف الدراسة. وقد أجريت هذه الدراسة في المدارس الابتدائية في مدينة بنها بمحافظة القليوبية على عينة ممثلة عنقودية من (340) طفلا من طلاب الصفين الخامس والسادس الابتدائي و أظهرت النتائج: (51.2٪) من الأطفال ينظرون إلى والديهم على أنهم أباء مستبددين. بينما (4.7٪) ينظرون إلى والديهم على أنهم موثوقين. علاوة على ذلك، (46.5٪) من الأطفال تعرضوا لإساءة معاملة منخفضة من والديهم، و (44.4٪) منهم تعرضوا لإساءة معاملة متوسطة للأطفال و (8.8٪) تعرضوا لإساءة معاملة عالية للأطفال. علاوة على ذلك، كان لدى (52.9٪) من الأطفال مستوى معتدل من الصحة النفسية الكلية، وكان لدى (24.7٪) مستوى عال من الصحة النفسية الكلية و (22.4٪) كان لديهم مستوى منخفض من الصحة النفسية الكلية. كما كان هناك علاقة إيجابية ذات دلالة إحصائية عالية بين أساليب التربية المتصورة بواسطة الأطفال والتعرض لسوء المعاملة من قبل الوالدين. أيضا كان هناك علاقة سلبية ذات دلالة إحصائية عالية بين تصور الأطفال لأسلوب التربية وصحتهم النفسية. وكذلك كان هناك علاقة سلبية ذات دلالة إحصائية عالية بين تعرض الأطفال لسوء المعاملة من قبل الوالدين وصحتهم النفسية. وأوصت الدراسة بأنه يجب تنفيذ برنامج تربوي حول التربية الإيجابية لتعزيز كفاءات ومهارات الأبوة والأمومة والحد من إساءة معاملة الأطفال وتأثيرها على الصحة النفسية بين الأطفال في سن المدرسة.