

Domestic violence against children aged (6-10) years in the city of Al-Karma in 2024

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Abstract

Violence against children is a horrific social phenomenon that affects millions of children around the world annually. It includes various forms of physical, psychological, and sexual abuse, causing severe psychological and physical effects that can last a lifetime. Violence against children is a significant challenge that requires immediate and comprehensive intervention by the international and local community to ensure the protection of children's rights and safety. Therefore, it is imperative to understand its nature, causes, and effects, and to develop effective strategies to combat it. The challenges faced by children

exposed to violence range from immediate health and psychological consequences to long-term impacts on their personal and social development. This violence is often the result of social problems that the child experiences in their environment, whether from the family due to their academic achievement or from marital disputes that harm the child's personality and upbringing, leaving behind a pattern of normalcy, indifference, isolation, aggression, anxiety, and disturbance. All of this is a result of the type of violence to which the child is exposed, whether verbal, physical, or neglect.

العنف الاسري ضد الاطفال من (٦-١٠) سنوات في مدينة الكرامة لعام ٢٠٢٤

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الملخص

تعد دراسة العنف ضد الأطفال ظاهرة اجتماعية مروعة تؤثر على ملايين الأطفال حول العالم سنوياً. إذ يتضمن أشكالاً متعددة من الاعتداءات الجسدية والنفسية والجنسية، والتي تتسبب آثاراً نفسية وجسدية خطيرة يمكن أن تستمر مدى الحياة ويعد العنف ضد الأطفال تحدياً هاماً يستدعي التدخل الفوري والشامل من قبل المجتمع الدولي والمحلي لضمان حماية حقوق الطفل وسلامته.

لذا فإن العنف ضد الأطفال ضرورة ملحة لفهم طبيعته وأسبابه وآثاره، ولوضع استراتيجيات فعالة لمكافحته. فالتحديات التي يواجهها الأطفال الذين يتعرضون للعنف تتراوح بين العواقب الصحية والنفسية الفورية إلى تأثيرات طويلة الأمد على التنمية الشخصية والاجتماعية لهؤلاء الأطفال. ويكون سبب هذا العنف نتيجة مشكلات اجتماعية يتعرض لها الطفل في البيئة المحيطة به سواء كان من قبل الأسرة نتيجة تحصيله الدراسي أو نتيجة المشاكل التي تكون بين الزوجين التي تسبب ضرر في شخصية الطفل ونشأة وبالتالي سترك عليه اطباع سواء كان سوية او اللامبالاة او العزلة او العدوانية او القلق والاضطراب وكل ذلك جاء نتيجة لنوع العنف الذي يتعرض له الطف سواء لفظي او جسدي او الإهمال.

الكلمات المفتاحية: الطفل، العنف لفظي، العنف الجسدي، الإهمال، العزلة.

Introduction:

Child abuse is the most common and dangerous form of human violence in our time, and despite the fact that we have not yet obtained a precise study showing the extent of this targeted violence against children, in our society, its effects are beginning to emerge in a tangible way, indicating that its prevalence is increasing and prompting the need for urgent and serious action from all sectors of society to stop this growth and address the situation.

It is important to discuss such significant issues as violence against children and family matters, especially as we are Muslims and Islam encourages the care and education of children. The violence that occurs within the family may go unnoticed because it happens behind closed doors and under the umbrella of family ties. Therefore, it is a hidden behaviour with negative consequences for the family as a whole and children in particular.

Firstly: The research problem.

Some children in the study area witness or experience violent practices, and violence against children transcends cultural and class boundaries. , and occurs in different environments, which can have negative consequences for children's personalities, safety and mental health.

Secondly: Research hypothesis.

The study area has witnessed practices of violence against children, which vary according to the child's family and social environment, and according to the cultural level of the community.

Thirdly: the importance of the research.

The family is the first social institution in which a child grows up and acquires the criteria of right and wrong, but what if this important institution becomes

Fourth: Objectives of the research.

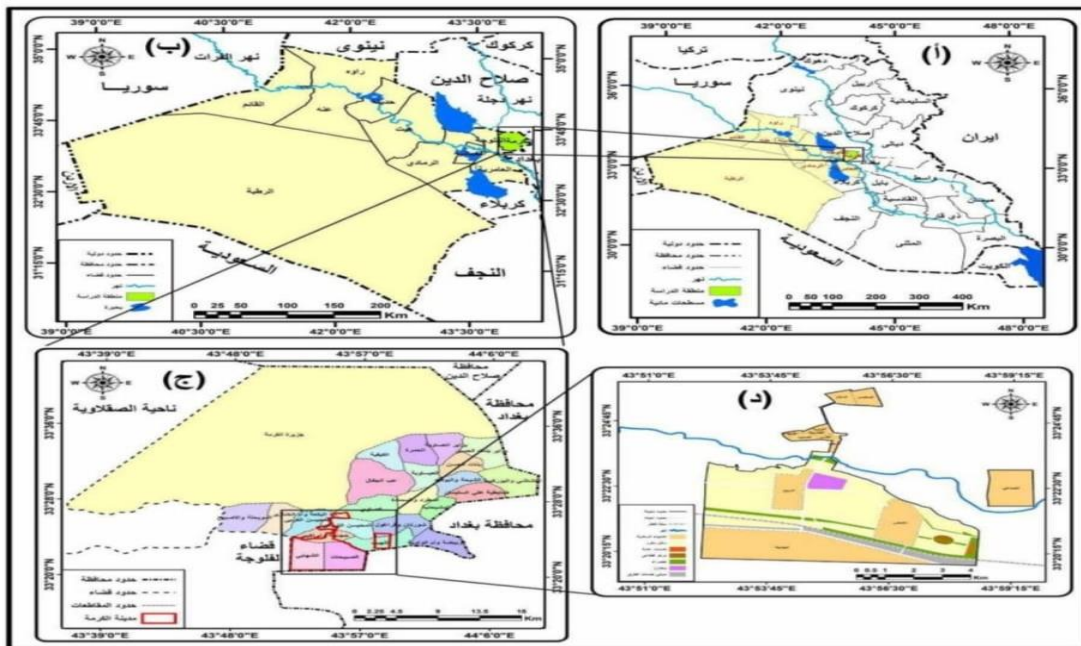
The research aims to:

1. Recognising the types of violence that children experience in family life.
- 2) The social effects of the violence that the child is exposed to
3. The psychological effects of violence against children.
- 4) Offering solutions and suggestions to families through special programmes on the correct methods of socialisation.

The location of the study area

The study area is located in Anbar Governorate and is currently the centre of Karma District, having previously been the centre of Karma Subdistrict. It covers an area of The area covered by the city centre is 5.6 km² and is located at the intersection of the 33rd parallel north and the 41st meridian east.

Map (1): Location of Al-Karma city in Iraq, Anbar governorate and Al-Karma district



Source: Republic of Iraq, Ministry of Irrigation, Military Survey Directorate, Administrative Map of Iraq 2024, Arc Map .10

First research: Violence and its forms first: Concepts and terms

1 – The concept of violence

Violence is the unlawful use of physical force in various ways to inflict harm on people and damage property, and includes the meanings of

punishment, rape and interference with the freedoms of others, as some have defined it as an act that involves a denial of human dignity and self-respect, ranging from verbal insult to murder and physical or psychological harm (Hamza, 2004, p. 9).

It is legally defined as the illegal use of physical means of coercion to achieve personal or collective purposes (Bahri, 2007, p. 115).

2- Child
A child in the language is the smallest in everything, and the origin of the word from childhood or softness, and the word child applies to both male and female (Jamil, 2007, p. 25)

and the child according to psychologists: Psychologists consider that childhood begins from the moment the fetus is in its mother's womb, and this period is considered one of the most important and dangerous stages of his life at all, and on this the development of childhood begins with the genetic stage and ends with sexual maturity (Al-Qashqashi, 1993, p. 499).

3- Personality is the personal and social integration of behavior in the human being expressed in habits, feelings, attitudes and opinions, and personality also includes values, all aspects of behavior and its directions, and the social aspect of its development appears in social attitudes, behaviors and actions (Rashwan, 2005, p. 104).

Therefore, personality is not limited to an individual's external appearance, internal psychological characteristics, or the various behavioral behaviors that he performs, but rather it is an integrated system of these things combined with each other and influencing each other, which gives a specific character

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SECTION II: Theories Explaining Violence

First: Sociological Theories

1- Social Exchange Theory

Social exchange theory has a special methodological importance that gave it a kind of scientific malleability that made it possible to explain all phenomena based on its approaches, not only because of the ease of its concepts, but because it took the daily interactions between individuals as the main unit of analysis through which social processes governing the complex structures of groups and societies can be explained.

The first emphasizes the symmetry and equivalence of reciprocal behavior, and this fact can be expressed through the nature of our feelings towards others. The feelings that appear on a person's face are a reflection of the feelings on the other person's face, and thus violence is a form of reciprocal behavior between people according to the rule put forward by this theory, and thus any aggressive behavior by any individual will be met with. In other words, violence is nothing more than a retaliatory behavior through which the individual compensates for a harm that has created a degree of pain and suffering, and is therefore a counterattack aimed at achieving justice and in accordance with the principle of an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth (Jameel, 2007, The second trend emphasizes that violence does not occur as a result of exchanges of power or harmful impact, but rather arises as a result of an imbalance that George Homans called (the great scientific balance) or occurs when the benefits or benefits of a certain behavior are less than the cost. In such cases, people find themselves in stressful and frustrating situations in which there are no alternatives, then the exchange fails, tension emerges, and conflict becomes the possible alternative (Jamil, 2007, p. 75)

Research III: Analyzing the data of the questionnaire

Introduction

This research illustrates the most important information obtained by the researchers through the questions specified in the questionnaire in its

part related to primary information, which enabled us to identify important details about the research community, and transfer the image of theoretical ideas to the field test, in line with what social scientists agreed that researchers should pay attention to the interactive relationship between theory and practice when studying social issues and phenomena (Manheim, 1993, p. 174)

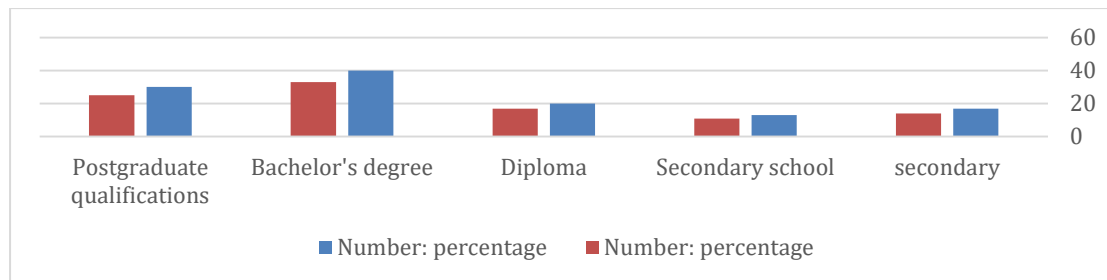
1– Educational achievement of the father and mother

Table (1) xml-ph-0004@deep

Number: percentage	Number: percentage	academic achievement
14	17	secondary
11	13	Secondary school
17	20	Diploma
33	40	Bachelor's degree
25	30	Postgraduate qualifications
100	120	Total:

Source: Based on the questionnaire

Figure 1:Shows the educational attainment of parents in 2024.



Source: Based on Table 1:

We can see from the data in Table 1 and Figure 1 on the academic qualifications of the father and mother that 40 are Bachelor's degree holders, accounting for 33% of the sample. The research sample, and (30) are postgraduate degree holders, accounting for (25%) of the research sample. Meanwhile, (20) are diploma holders, accounting for (18%) of the research sample. Thirteen were secondary school

graduates, accounting for 11% of the sample, and only seventeen (13%) had a middle school diploma. It can be said here that most parents of the children in the study The sample group have a good level of cultural and social awareness and have received different levels of education. This awareness must play a role in the socialisation and education of children outside the context of violence.

1– Degree of exposure of the family to family problems

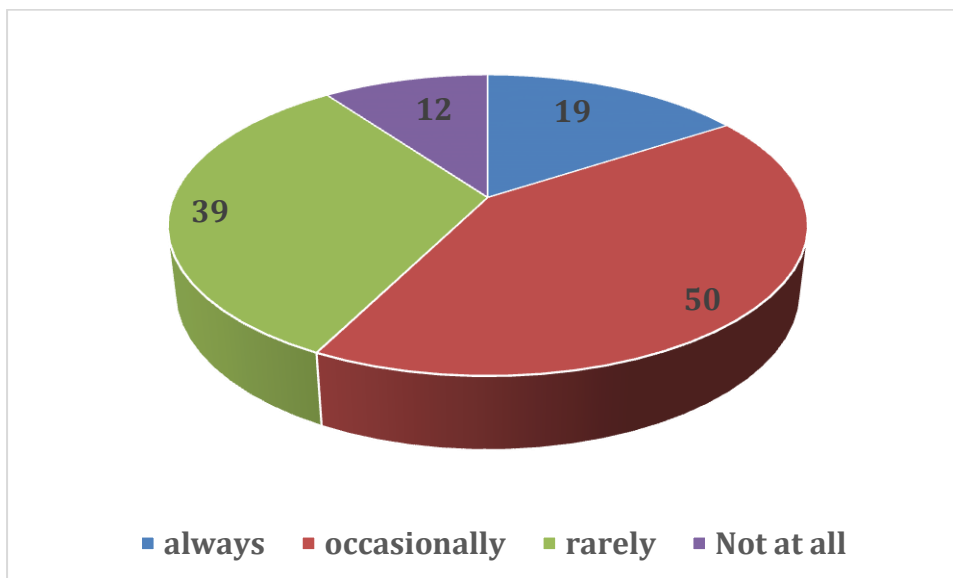
Table 2:his table shows the degree to which families were exposed to family problems in 2024.

Number: percentage	Number: percentage	degree of problems
16	19	always
42	50	occasionally
33	39	rarely
10	12	Not at all
100	120	Total:

Source: Based on the survey form

Figure 2:

It shows the degree to which families were exposed to family problems in 2024.



Source: Based on Table 2:

We can see from the data in Table 2 that 50 families, accounting for 42% of the sample, responded that their families were sometimes exposed to family problems, and that 39 families, or 33% of the sample, said that there are rarely any family problems. Either that, or (19) families, or 16% of the sample, said that their families are always exposed to problems. The remaining 12 families (10% of the sample) answered that there are no problems within their families. It is well known that our society is currently experiencing multiple crises and problems, which have a significant impact on Iraqi families. Therefore, we can conclude that many families are facing various challenges in their daily lives.

1. Distribution of children according to their exposure to different types of domestic violence.

Table 3 shows the exposure of children to types of abuse in 2024.

Exposure								does not expose		type of violence
Days	Always		Always		Always					
	عدد	%	عدد	%	عدد	%	عدد	%	عدد	
	53	8	10	23	28	13	15	3	4	Verbal
	22	5	5	8	10	5	6	5	6	physical
	18	3	3	9	11	3	4	6	7	Verbal and physical
	5	2	2	2	2	1	1	4	5	Neglect
	98	18	21	43	51	22	26	18	22	Total:

Source: Based on the questionnaire

we notice from the data in Table (3), which shows the type of violence and the degree of exposure to it in Karma district, that (22) children of the sample (18%) of the sample were not exposed to domestic violence in the study area, while (53) children were exposed to verbal violence (44%). As for those who were exposed to violence, it was found that (53) children were exposed to verbal violence, accounting for (44%) of the sample taken for Karma district, while children who were exposed to physical violence were (22), accounting for (13%) of the sample,

children who were exposed to verbal and physical violence were (18), accounting for (15%), and (5) children were exposed to neglect, accounting for (2%) of the sample. It can be seen that neglect is one of the most dangerous types of violence, as it is the one that affects the personality the most. We note that the vast majority of children from the study sample are vulnerable to violence of all kinds and forms.

1 – The impact of violence on the child's personality

Table (4)

shows the relationship between the type of violence and the child's personality for the year 2024

Personality						Type of violence
Level of indifference Isolation Aggression Anxiety and Disorder Total	Level of indifference Isolation Aggression Anxiety and Disorder Total	Level of indifference Isolation Aggression Anxiety and Disorder Total	Level of indifference Isolation Aggression Anxiety and Disorder Total	Level of indifference Isolation Aggression Anxiety and Disorder Total	Level of indifference Isolation Aggression Anxiety and Disorder Total	
53	2	2	6	5	38	Verbal
22	1	5	–	1	15	Physical
18	4	4	–	–	10	Verbal and physical
5	1	–	–	–	2	Neglect
98	8	11	6	6	65	Total

Source: Based on the questionnaire form

we notice from the data of Table (4) on the reflection of family violence on the personality of children, that the vast majority of the 98 children who were exposed to family violence as shown in the previous table are characterized by normal personalities, as (65) children had a normal personality regardless of the type of violence they were exposed to (verbal, physical, verbal, physical, neglect), and (11) children were characterized by aggression. (65) children had a normal personality regardless of the type of violence they were exposed to (verbal, physical, verbal, physical, neglect), and (11) children were characterized by aggression, while (6) children were characterized by isolation, (8) children were characterized by anxiety and confusion, and (6) children were characterized by aggression. This means that the violence to which the child is exposed has an impact or reflection on his personality.

First: Conclusions

- 1 -The high percentage of children who are exposed to violence within the family with a difference in the degree of their exposure to violence
- 2-The types of violence to which children are exposed within the family vary, verbal violence came first
- 3 -The number of children whose personalities are affected by the family violence they are exposed to is low.

II: Recommendations

- 1- Raising family awareness of correct upbringing methods based on counseling and guidance for children within the family.
- 2-adopting modern educational methods in dealing with children to be able to overcome the issues they face and avoid the negative effects on their personalities.

3- Focusing on the role of the media in spreading correct parenting methods and overcoming the stage of violence in dealing with children within the family and educational institutions.

4- conducting more studies and research aimed at knowing the magnitude of the phenomenon of family violence against children.

5-Coordination between

Q: What is the educational attainment of the father and mother?	
Answer	Educational attainment Answer
	Intermediate
	Junior high
	Diploma
	Bachelor's
	Graduate degrees
Q: What is the degree to which the family is exposed to family problems	
Answer	Degree of Problems Answer
	Always
	Sometimes
	Rarely
	None

Q: The extent to which children are exposed to types of violence				
Never			Never	Type of violence
Exposed	Exposed	Exposed	Exposed	Not exposed
Always	Always	Always	Always	Exposed
Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Always Sometimes
Rarely	Rarely	Rarely	Rarely	Rarely
				Answer Answer Answer Answer Answer Answer Answer
				Verbal
				Physical
				Verbal and Physical

Q: The extent of the relationship between the type of violence and the child's personality						
Personality					Type of	
Level Apathy	Level Apathy	Level Apathy	Level Apathy	Level Apathy	violence	Personality
Isolation	Isolation	Isolation	Isolation	Isolation	Level of	indifference
Aggression	Aggression	Aggression	Aggression	Aggression	Indifference	Isolation
Anxiety and	Anxiety and	Anxiety and	Anxiety and	Anxiety and	Aggression	Anxiety and
Anxiety Disorder	Anxiety Disorder	Anxiety Disorder	Anxiety Disorder	Anxiety Disorder	confusion	
					Verbal	
					Physical	
					Verbal and	
					physical	
					Neglect	

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