

PREVALENCE OF PHYSICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL FORMS OF CHILD ABUSE: IMPLICATION FOR INTERVENTION, GONDAR, NORTH WEST ETHIOPIA.

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: The purpose of this study was to describe/determine prevalence of physical and psychological forms of child abuse in some selected elementary schools in North Gondar.

Methods: Three hundred twenty one children whose age ranges from seven to seventeen years were randomly drawn from four schools through simple random sampling technique using lottery method. In this study, questionnaire was used to gather data from students.

Results: Most children faced physical abuse in the form kicked with an object (73.8 %), pinching (78.5 %) and slapping on head (70.73%). There was statistically significant difference between male and female children being victim of form kicked with an object ($\chi^2=72.9$, $df=1$, $p<0.05$), pinching ($\chi^2=28.1$, $df=1$, $p<0.05$) and slapping on head ($\chi^2=55.1$, $df=1$, $p<0.05$). Male children were more victims of these types of physical abuse as compared to female children. Moreover, substantial proportions of children were suffering from psychological abuse through terrorising in the form of threatening with severe punishment (64.8%) and threatening to leave home (57%). Furthermore, sizeable proportion of children faced psychological abuse in the form of being seen as worthless/useless by parent/caregiver (53.9%) and negative comments by comparing with others (62.1%). There was statistically significant difference between male and female children in psychological abuse in the form of being threatened with severe punishment ($\chi^2=28.15$, $df=1$, $p<0.05$) and in name calling ($\chi^2=7.48$, $df=1$, $p<0.05$). More proportion of boys experienced threatening with severe punishment and name calling as compared girls. Therefore, prevention efforts and policies should address physical and psychological abuse.

Keywords: Prevalence, Physical Abuse, Psychological Abuse, Child Abuse.

INTRODUCTION

Children are not little adults. Children’s needs and interests are different from adults’ needs and interests. Children need a lot of security, love and emotional support. They need guidance as they grow and mature emotionally, spiritually, physically and intellectually. However, any act or failure to act on the part of a parent or caretaker which results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse or exploitation. Child abuse is any behavior or act towards a child which is outside the norms of conduct, and entails a substantial risk of causing physical and psychological or emotional harm ^[1].

Child abuse has been discussed in literature, art and science in different parts of the world since long time. Children endure painful and harmful acts, and paradoxically committed by those closest to them such as parents, school and neighbors. This study focuses on physical and psychological abuse by parents and care givers which seems a norm to make children behave “good” in the perception of parents. Reports of various forms of child abuse date back to ancient civilizations ^[2].

According to ^[3], child maltreatment includes all types of abuse and neglecting a child under the age of 18 by a parent, caregiver, or another person in a custodial role. Child maltreatment or abuse can occur in a child’s home, or in organizations, schools or communities the child interacts ^[1].

Child abuse actions may be intentional or unintentional. Not all abusers are intentionally harming their children. Some have been victims of abuse themselves, and don’t know any other way to parent or rear children ^[4,5].

Child maltreatment or abuse can take several forms. But, for the purpose of specificity, this study focuses on child physical, and

psychological or emotional abuse. Physical abuse is the use of physical force such as hitting, kicking, shaking, burning and other force against a child. Emotional or psychological abuse includes behaviors that harm a child’s self-worth or emotional wellbeing through name calling, shaming and rejection, withholding love and threatening ^[1, 4].

Child abuse or maltreatment has a negative effect on health of children. Abused children often suffer injuries including cuts, bruises, burns, and broken bones. In addition, maltreatment causes stress that can disrupt early brain development. Again, extreme stress due to can harm the development of the nervous and immune systems. As a result, children who are abused or neglected are at higher risk for health problems. These problems include alcoholism, depression, drug abuse, eating disorders, obesity, high-risk sexual behaviors, smoking, suicide and certain chronic diseases. The repercussion becomes worse for children whose age is under four years and when their family has history of violence, drug or alcohol abuse, poverty and chronic health problems ^[3, 6].

Despite long time efforts of helpful groups concerning with children’s wellbeing who have advocating the protection of children, the issue of child abuse did not receive widespread attention by the medical profession or the general public until the mid of the twenty century. These days, child abuse is a global problem. It occurs in a variety of forms and is deeply rooted in cultural, economic and social practices. Solving this global problem, hence, requires a much better understanding of its prevalence ^[2].

According to ^[7] child abuse has become a serious problem. However the issue of child abuse is largely ignored in many parts of the world, particularly in Africa. There would not be exception in the case of Ethiopia for it is one of the countries in Africa continent. In Ethiopia, children face humiliating physical punishment and psychological abuse at home, in school and in the community-at-large. Thus this

study focuses on prevalence of physical and psychological forms of child abuse in some selected elementary school in North Gondar.

Basically, children need predictability, structure, clear boundaries and the knowledge that their parents are looking after for their safety. However, abused children cannot predict how their parents will act. Their world is unpredictable and a frightening place.

As stated before, abusive actions can be intentional or unintentional. According to [6], many abusive parents and caregivers consider their actions as forms of discipline or ways to make children learn to behave. But, there is a big difference between using physical punishment to ensure discipline and physical abuse. The point of disciplining children is to teach them right from wrong, not to make them live in fear. Therefore, child maltreatment is not well understood although common in poor and extremely poor families. Instead, it has been considered as normal disciplinary measure. Bearing this in mind, this study assesses physical and psychological forms of child maltreatment and implications for intervention in some selected elementary school children in North Gondar. To this end, the following questions are stated.

- Is there physical abuse of children?
- Is there psychological abuse of children?

- Is there significant difference in physical abuse of children across sex?
- Is there difference in psychological abuse of children across age?
- What intervention measures reduce physical and psychological child abuse?

Methods

Research Design

Quantitative surveys design was employed in order to assess of physical and psychological abuse of children. It is descriptive survey research type for its purpose is describing prevalence of physical and psychological forms child maltreatment.

Participants and Sampling

Three hundred twenty one elementary school children participated in the study. Participants were randomly drawn from four elementary schools through simple random sampling technique (lottery method). The rational to use simple random sampling technique is that it is best suited give equal chance for all children to participate. The detailed profile of samples presented below.

Table 1: Background of Participants

Variable		N	%
sex	Male	152	47.4
	Female	169	52.6
Age	7 -12 years	154	48
	13-17years	167	52
	Total	321	100

As shown in Table 1, three hundred twenty one elementary school children participated in this study. Of these 152(47.4%) were boys and 169(52.6%) were girls. As depicted above, the age of 145(48%) participants ranges from 7 to 12 years. The age of the rest 167(52%) participants ranges from 13 to 17 years.

Instrument

After thorough reading and revision of materials on child abuse, the questionnaire was prepared in the form of check list. The questionnaire consists of two open ended and twenty five close ended items.

To check the reliability, pilot study was conducted by taking 15 children in one Elementary School in Gondar Town. The reliability of the instrument was checked by Cronbach's alpha. The reliability index of physical abuse measure was found to be 0.87. One item was discarded from 16 questions to measure psychological abuse and the reliability was found to be 0.64. One item was discarded for it was poor question. The content validity of the items was assessed by two Psychology experts from Department of Psychology.

Administration

First orientation was given to assistant data collectors and co-investigators on how to handle and administer questionnaires. In addition, participants were informed about the anonymity of their responses. After assuring this, data were distributed to participants in free classrooms.

Data Analysis

In order to analyze data, different statistical techniques were computed using SPSS version 20. Percentages were used to analyze demographic variables on prevalence of physical and psychological abuse among participants. In addition, chi square test was employed to analyze child abuse across sex. Alpha value of 0.05 was determined for all significant tests.

Results

Prevalence of Physical and Psychological Abuse

Table 2: Percentage of Children Who Experienced Physical Abuse

Type of physical abuse	Ever experience		Never experience	
	N	%	N	%
Kicked with an object	237	73.8	84	26.2
Hitting on the head or face	227	70.73	94	29.3
Pinching	252	78.5	69	21.5
Pulling hair	47	14.6	274	85.4
Twisting ear	140	44.6	181	56.4
Kneeling down	113	36.2	208	64.8
Burned with a fire	67	20.9	254	79.1
Beating with a knife	25	7.8	296	92.2

As shown in Table 2, 73.8 % of participants have been kicked with an object. Large proportion of (70.73 percent) of participants also reported that they experienced hitting on their head or face. In addition, the majority (78.5 percent) of participants were victim of physical punishment in the form of pinching. Moreover, Table 2

demonstrates the prevalence of severe type of child physical abuse of participants like burning and beating with a knife or any sharp object. Surprisingly, 20.9% participants faced punishment in the form of burning which is seriously damages ones wellbeing. And, 7.8 percent of the participants disclosed that they were ever beaten with

a knife or any sharp object. Here, 44.6 % and 36.2 % percent of participants were victim of physical punishment in the form of participants (14.6%) experienced physical punishment by pulling hair.

twisting their ear (which could result in hard of hearing) and kneeling down respectively. Relatively small proportion of

Table 3: Association between Various Forms of Physical Abuse and Sex

Type of physical abuse	Male				Female				df	χ^2
	Ever experience		Never experience		Ever experience		Ever experience			
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%		
Kicked with an object	116	76.3	36	23.7	121	71.6	48	28.4	1	72.9*
Slapping on the head or face	119	78.3	33	21.7	108	63.9	61	36.1	1	55.1*
Pinching	128	84.2	24	15.8	124	73.4	45	26.6	1	28.1*
Kneeling down	63	41.5	89	58.5	50	29.58	119	70.04	1	1.04

*P<0.05

As revealed in Table 3, there was statistically significant association between sex and experience of being kicked with an object ($\chi^2=72.9$, $df=1$, $p<0.05$). Much more than girls, boys were kicked with an object. That is, 76.3 % boys reported being kicked with an object and 71.6 % girls reported being kicked with an object. In addition, sex was significantly associated with being slapped on head or face ($\chi^2=55.1$, $df=1$, $p<0.05$). Here also, as compared to girls (63.9%),

more proportion of boys (78.3%) reported that they were slapped on their head or face. Moreover, sex was significantly related to pinching ($\chi^2=28.1$, $df=1$, $p<0.05$). Boys were more suffering from pinching than girls. The proportion of male children who experienced pinching (84.2%) is greater than the proportion of female children who experienced such form of physical abuse (73.4%). However, sex of children was not significantly associated to kneeling down form of physical abuse.

Table 4: Degree of Physical Abuse among Children Who Experienced the Problem

Type of physical abuse	Degree of Incidence					
	Always		Usually		Sometimes	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Burned with a fire	7	10.44	3	4.47	57	85.07
Beaten with a knife	3	12	3	12	19	76
Kicked with a stick	8	3.37	10	4.23	219	92.4
Hitting on the head or face	8	3.52	9	3.96	210	92.51
Pinching	19	7.54	17	6.74	216	85.71
Pulling hair	6	12.76	2	4.25	39	82.98
Twisting ear	2	1.43	16	11.42	122	87.14
Kneeling down	8	8	18	15	87	77

As given away in Table 4, out of 237 participants who were kicked by object like stick, the majority (85.07%) reported that their parents sometimes beat them with an object. In addition, 4.23 % of respondents indicated their parents usually punish them by kicking with a stick. Similarly, of the 252 participants who were victim of pinching, large proportion (85.71 %) of them were sometimes pinched by their parents. Here, 6.74 percent participants witnessed that their parents usually pinch them. Moreover, 92.51 percent of respondents reported that their parents sometimes slapped on their head and/or face.

Out of the total 140 participants whose ears were twisted, 87.14 percent of them reported that their parents sometimes twisted their

ears. But, pulling hair was relatively applied to punish children. When we come to kneeling down, 87 percent were sometimes forced to stand on their knees. 5 % reported prevalence of pulling hair as a means of punishment. About 35.2 percent of participants were forced to kneel down. Regarding the worst form of physical maltreatment such as burning and beating with a sharp object, out of the total 67 participants, 87.5 reported their sometimes punished them by burning. Only very few proportion (10 %) of participants reported consistent use of such kind of punishment. Generally the data clearly shows that participants faced at least one type of physical maltreatment.

Prevalence of Psychological Abuse

Table 5: Percentage of Children Who Experienced Terrorising

Type of Terrorising	Prevalence					
	Ever Experience		Never Experience			
	N	%	N	%		
Threatening with death	100	31.2	221	68.8		
Threatening with severe punishment	208	64.8	113	35.2		
Threatened to leave home	151	57	170	53		
Type of terrorising	Degree of terrorising Incidence					
	Always		Usually		Sometimes	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Threatening with death	10	10	11	11	79	79
Threatening with severe punishment	21	10.1	19	9.13	168	80.77
Threatened to leave home	17	11	12	7.9	122	81

As Table 5 illustrates, out of the total 321 participants, substantial proportion of respondents (64.8%) reported that they were threatened with severe punishment by their parents. In addition, more than half (57 %) participants were terrorized to leave home. Put in other words, only 43 percent of the respondents were confident to live in their home. Moreover, 33.2 %of participants psychologically abused through treating with death.

As shown in the above table, most (80.77%) participants were sometimes terrorized with severe punishment by their parents.

Besides, 11 percent were usually terrorized by severe punishment. Of the total 131 participants who experienced threatening to leave home, 81 percent were sometimes terrorized to leave home by their parents. The rest 12 % and 10.1 % were usually and always threatened to leave home respectively. Finally, as shown in Table 5, of the total 100 participants who experienced threatening with death, 79 percent of respondents sometimes faced terrorization with death from their parents or caregivers.

Table 6: Percentage of Children Who Experienced Psychological Abuse through Corrupting

Type of corrupting	Prevalence			
	Ever Experience		Never Experience	
	N	%	N	%
Allowed to take alcohol	61	19	260	81
Allowed to watch pornography	58	18.1	263	81.9
Let to engage in stealing	14	4.4	307	95.6
Allowed for gambling	30	9.3	291	90.7

Type of corrupting	Degree of corrupting incidence					
	Always		Usually		Sometimes	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Allowed to take alcohol	4	6.55	3	49.18	54	88.52
Allowed to watch pornography	11	19	8	14	39	67
Let to engage in stealing	1	8	4	28	9	64
Allowed for gambling	5	16.67	4	13.33	21	70

The majority (81%) of respondents report that their parents never allowed them to engage in gambling. Only few 9.3 percent were sometimes allowed to play gambling. Similarly, nearly all, 95.6 percent, participants were not allowed to engage in stealing activity. Only negligible proportion, 4.4 percent of respondents witnessed that their parents sometimes let them to stealing. In addition, most participants, 81.9 percent were not allowed to watch pornography. About 18.1 percent of participants were allowed to watch

pornographic film. Moreover, some (19%) participants were allowed to take alcohol like.

As depicted above, 88.52 % of the respondents corrupting sometimes while 49.18% usually by taking alcohol. Besides, 19% always allowed watching pornography, but majorities (67%) sometimes allowed watching pornography. Very few (8%) let to engage in stealing, however 64% sometimes let to engage in stealing. Majority of respondents (70%) sometimes allowed for gambling, but only (16.67%) allowed to game always.

Table 7: Percentage of Children Who Experienced Rejection

Type of rejection	Prevalence			
	Ever Experience		Never Experience	
	N	%	N	%
seen as worthless/ useless/ by parent/caregiver	173	53.9	148	46.1
Criticized or blamed by parent/caregiver	156	49.6	165	51.4
Negative comments by comparing with others	196	62.1	125	38.9
name calling	136	43.4	185	57.6

Type of rejection	Degree of Rejection Incidence					
	Always		Usually		Sometimes	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
seen as worthless/ useless/ by parent/caregiver	39	22.6	26	15	108	42.2
Criticized or blamed by parent/caregiver	28	26.2	21	19.6	107	68.6
Negative comments by comparing with others	49	25	32	16.3	115	58.7
name calling	18	13.2	9	6.6	109	80.1

More than half (53.9%) participants reported that their parents see them as worthless. In addition, almost half (49.6%) reported that they face criticism or blame from their parents. Moreover, 62.1 percent of participants were suffering negative comments by comparing with others by their parents. On the other hand, less than half (43.4 %) participants reported that they were psychologically

abused by name calling. Table 8 shows that 42.2 % of respondents indicated that they were see as worthless or useless by their parents. Besides, 22.6 percent of participants were always been seen as worthless in the eyes of their parents. Moreover, most (68.6%) participants reported that they were sometimes suffering criticism or blame by their parents. Finally, 80.1 % participants were sometimes abused by name calling.

Table 8: Percentage of Children Who Experienced Abuse through Ignoring

Type of ignoring	Prevalence			
	Ever Experience		Never Experience	
	N	%	N	%
supported and guided by parents	295	91.9	26	8.1
Worry for welfare of	280	77.2	41	12.8
Being lock out of home	86	16.8	235	73.2

Type of ignoring	Degree of Ignorance Incidence					
	Always		Usually		Sometimes	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
supported and guided by parents	180	61	43	14.6	72	24.4
Worry for welfare of	168	60	41	14.6	71	25.35
Being lock out of home	5	5.81	10	11.62	71	82.55

Only few (8.1%) participants and 12.8% indicated that their parents never supported and concerned for their welfare respectively. Finally, 16.8 percent participants reported that were made to stay out of home. Of the total 86 participants who experienced abuse by locking out of home, 82.55 percent witnessed that they were

sometimes locked out of home. Paradoxically, more than half (61%) participants reported that they always get support and guidance from their parents. Similarly, 60 % participants reported that their parents always think for the welfare of children.

Table 9: Association between Psychological Abuse and Sex

Type of psychological abuse	Male		Never		Female		Ever experience		Df	χ^2
	Ever experience		experience		Ever experience					
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%		
Threatening with severe punishment	111	70	41	30	97	57.4	72	42.6	1	28.15*
Threatened to leave home	89	58.5	63	44.5	63	37.3	106	67.7	1	0.9
Allowed to take alcohol	30	19.7	122	80.3	31	18.4	138	81.6	1	1.23
seen as worthless/ useless/ by parent/caregiver	83	54.6	69	45.4	90	53.25	79	46.75	1	1.95
Criticized or blamed by parent/caregiver	80	52.6	72	47.4	76	45	93	55	1	0.25
name calling	70	46	82	54	66	39	103	61	1	7.48*

*P<0.05

As depicted in Table 9, the chi-square test confirms statistically significant difference in being threatened with severe punishment between male and female participants ($\chi^2=28.15$, $df=1$, $p<0.05$). When we see the proportions, 70% of boys reported that they have experience of being threatened with severe punishment while relatively low proportion (57.4%) girls reported the same problem. Similarly, there was significant difference in name calling between male and female participants ($\chi^2=7.48$, $df=1$, $p<0.05$). Here, more proportion of male participant (46%) were victims of name calling as compared to 39 % of female participants who had the same experience.

However, significant difference was not found between the two groups (boys and girls) in forms of psychological abuse like criticism or blame ($\chi^2=0.25$, $df=1$, $p>0.05$), seen as worthless ($\chi^2=1.95$, $df=1$, $p>0.05$), being threaten to leave home ($\chi^2=0.9$, $df=1$, $p>0.05$) and letting to take alcohol ($\chi^2=1.23$, $df=1$, $p>0.05$).

DISCUSSION

Most children were suffering physical abuse in different ways. Most (73.8 percent) participants were kicked with an object. Substantial proportion (70.73 percent) of participants experienced slapping or hitting on their head or face. In addition, the majority (78.5 percent) of participants were victim of pinching. Amazingly, 20.9% participants faced punishment in the form of burning which is seriously damages ones wellbeing and 7.8 percent of the participants were beaten with a sharp object. Similarly, in Ethiopia, 21 percent of urban school children and 64 percent of rural school children reported bruises or swellings on their bodies resulting from parental punishment. According to the World SAFE [8] report, corporal punishment of children in the form of hitting, punching, kicking or beating which is socially and legally accepted in most countries. Punishing children is Physical abuse has been considered as a discipline

Sex was significantly associated to physical abuse. In other words, there was significant difference in the prevalence of physical abuse between male and female children. There was significant difference between male and female children in being kicked with an object

($\chi^2=72.9$, $df=1$, $p<0.05$), slapped on head or face ($\chi^2=55.1$, $df=1$,

$p<0.05$) and pinching ($\chi^2=28.1$, $df=1$, $p<0.05$). In all these types of physical abuse, male children were more victim than female children. For instance, 84.2 % male children experienced pinching whereas relatively lower proportion (73.4%) of female children who experienced pinching. regarding being kicked with an object, as compared to the proportion (71.6%) of female children experienced being kicked with an object, more proportion (76.3 %) of male children were kicked with an object. When we come to slapping on face or head, girls 63.9%, more proportion of boys (78.3%) reported that they were slapped on their head or face. This shows that boys were more victim of physical punishment in the form of slapping on head or face as compared to girls. In general, one may infer that male children were more victim of physical punishment in the form of kicking with an object, pinching and slapping on face or head than female children. These findings are similar with world SAFE study. According to world [8] report, male children appear to be at greater risk of harsh physical punishment in many countries. The reason why boys are more subjected to harsher physical punishment than girls may be related to the role and the values attached to male and female children. Boys are considered to need more physical discipline. Therefore, this could account for the differences in using physical punishment to discipline boys and girls by their parents.

Coming to degree of physical abuse among children who experienced punishment in the form of kicking, pinching, and slapping on head, the majority (85.07%) had been sometimes beaten them with an object. In addition, large proportion (85.71 %) of children was sometimes pinched by their parents. Moreover, 92.51 percent of respondents reported that their parents sometimes slapped on their head and/ or face 87 percent were sometimes forced to stand on their knees. Only, small proportion children reported that they had been always kicked with object (3.37%), pinched (7.54%), slapped on head or faces (3.52%) and forced to kneeling down (8%).

Regarding psychology abuse, most children was suffering terrorising through threatening with severe punishment (64.8%) threatening to leave home (57%) and threatening with death (33.2%). Similarly, one survey study shows that 65% of children in Ethiopia faced psychological abuse by frightening/threatening [7].

However, Psychological abuse through corrupting was least reported by participants. The majority of respondents reported that their parents never allowed them to engage in gambling. Only few participants were sometimes allowed to play gambling. And almost all participants were not allowed to engage in stealing activity. The majority were not allowed to take alcohol and to watch pornography. This could be due to the social values of the society that might have restricted parents not to allow their children to engage in socially unacceptable activities like gambling and stealing.

There was statistically significant difference psychological abuse in the form of threatening with severe punishment ($\chi^2=28.15$, $df=1$, $p<0.05$) and name calling ($\chi^2=7.48$, $df=1$, $p<0.05$). Here male children were more threatened with severe punishment and name calling than female children. However, there was no significant difference in other forms of psychological abuse (threatening to leave home, seen as worthless and blame by parent/caregiver) between male and female children.

CONCLUSIONS

- Most children faced physical abuse in the form of being kicked with an object, hitting on their head or face and pinching. There were also some children who were victim of physical abuse in the form of burning, twisting ear, pulling hair. The least frequent form of physical abuse was being beaten with a knife.
- Sex was significantly associated to some forms physical abuse. Significant difference between male and female children was observed in being kicked with an object, slapping on head and pinching. In all these types of physical abuse, male children were more victims as compared to female children.
- the majority of children had been sometimes beaten with an object, pinched by their parents, slapped on their head and/ or face and forced to stand on their kneeel.
- Most children were suffering psychological abuse through terrorising in the form of threatening with severe punishment and threatening to leave home.
- Negligible number of children was psychologically abused through corrupting in the form of stealing, gambling. Almost all children were not allowed to engage in gambling and stealing activity. The majority of the children were not allowed to drink alcohol.
- There was statistically significant difference in psychological abuse in the form of threatening with severe punishment and name calling. Male children were more threatened with severe punishment and name calling than female children.
- There was no significant difference in other forms of psychological abuse (threatening to leave home, being seen as worthless and blame by parent/caregiver) between male and female children.

IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERVENTION

- Improve training and education for professionals;

- Health and education professionals have a special responsibility. Researchers in the fields of medicine and public health must have the skills to design and conduct investigations of abuse. Leading professionals in all these fields should actively work to attract resources to enable such curricula to be properly implemented.
- Prevention and educational campaigns;
- Widespread prevention and educational campaigns to increase awareness and understanding of child abuse among the general population to reduce the phenomena.
- Interventions to change community attitudes and behaviour;
- Another approach to prevent child abuse and neglect is to develop coordinated interventions to change community attitudes and behavior about child abuse..

RECOMMENDATIONS

Though the Ethiopia's 1994 constitution asserts the right of children to be free of corporal punishment in schools and institutions of care, prevention efforts and policies must directly address children, their caregivers and the environments in which they live in order to prevent physical and psychological abuse. Beside this, curricula at all levels of education should all have the subject of child abuse and the development within organizations in responses to it.

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