

Lack of Attention from Parents Creating Mental Health Issues on Children

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I. INTRODUCTION

Neglectful parenting, characterised by the act of disregarding and failing to provide proper care, can lead to emotional abuse of children. The parents eagerly anticipated the arrival of their first child, eagerly counting down the days before the delivery. Upon the birth of the infant, the parents experienced immense joy and provided their utmost care and attention. As the child matures, parents must ensure they provide essential provisions such as nourishment, attire, housing, and education. Neither the child nor the parents can predict what will occur in the future. Child neglect is the most detrimental behaviour for the development of children. Neglectful behaviour is sometimes imperceptible, as it does not leave visible scars on children, which might prevent parents from recognising their own actions. They neglect their children's inquiries, fail to encourage their children's passions, and display indifference towards their children's activities. From their perspective, parenting entails ensuring that their children are given with the basic necessities of food, clothing, and shelter. They fail to recognise that emotional well-being is an integral component of it. Love and a sense of belonging are essential for the development of children.

Research indicates that children who experience parental neglect are more likely to engage in delinquent behaviour in the future. This aligns with Baumrind's thesis of permissive neglectful or uninvolved parenting, in which parents exhibit limited warmth and control towards their child. Their stance on children is that they should be observed but not allowed to speak. According to Johnson's (2016) research, children who were raised under this form of parenting are more likely to have behavioural disorders due to inadequate parenting, such as rejection, which can lead to depression, narcissism, antisocial behaviour, and violence.

Children rely on their parents to supply them with food, housing, education, medical care,

and safety. Parents do not need to be flawless, but they should be capable of safeguarding their children from neglect. When parents fail to provide proper care for their children, it has several negative effects on their development, including physical, emotional, cognitive, and social consequences. Parenting multiple children and effectively managing them is a strategic approach for parents. How parents can effectively multitask by simultaneously attending to their household responsibilities while providing their children with care, affection, and attention. In the study conducted by Mata et al. (2017) and Bazon and Bergamo (2010), two groups were examined based on their socio-demographic characteristics: non-negligent households and negligent families. The findings indicate that families with negligence tend to have a higher incidence of pregnancies, including unplanned conceptions. Additionally, these families often have larger economic challenges. According to this study, the results indicate that parents with three children of different ages have the highest average score for parental negligence

When it comes to family life, individuals endeavour to determine how the parent-child relationship might be optimised. Positive parenting strategies are highly effective for instilling discipline and fostering strong moral values in children, making them the ideal aspiration for any parent. Nevertheless, it is a challenging task. It is crucial to understand that the parent-child relationship is reciprocal, meaning it is a collaborative alliance between a parent and their child. When parents acquire proficient parenting abilities, they are capable of proactively bridging the generation gap. Once parents grasp the delicate equilibrium of setting limits, fostering positive behaviour, and discouraging negative behaviour, their children will not become spoilt. By adopting this approach, they are able to fulfil the role of becoming exemplary parents. When individuals lack the knowledge and skills required to be an effective parent, it results in the emergence of a gap

or disconnect between them and their children. By acquiring a comprehensive comprehension, young individuals might enhance their bond with their parents. Parenting is neither an academic discipline, a programme for acquiring skills, an artistic endeavour, or a commercial enterprise. Rather, it is a natural expression of love and mutual understanding between parents and their children. Nevertheless, parents occasionally disregard their children for a variety of reasons. Nevertheless, this lack of attention has a significant impact on the children. It has the potential to impact the growth, character, and interpersonal qualities of the children. Every youngster requires nurturing and affection. Parents are inherently the individuals who are closest to a child in their immediate surroundings. The failure of those closest to us to exercise due care might result in the development of harmful attributes in their character.

Each child yearns for undivided attention and unconditional love from their parents. Nevertheless, parents may disregard their children as a result of work-related pressure, social commitments, personal issues, and similar factors. However, parents should be mindful of the developmental obstacles that may arise as a result of this kind of neglect. Additionally, certain youngsters may exhibit alterations in their eating habits, display abusive behaviour, engage in acts of violence, or even withdraw completely from social interactions. youngsters need ample opportunities to foster their emotional and cognitive growth through social activities. However, neglected youngsters may isolate themselves from such activities. This implies a lack of companions, as well as a dearth of social engagements in one's life. This is a significant cause of sadness, suicide attempts, distorted cognitive processes, and misguided lifestyle choices. As a parent, they can provide their child with the best possible care and affection to prevent mental aberrations, which can be mitigated via love and warmth. If they desire to engage in a conversation regarding a particular issue, they have the option to seek advice from a medical professional and pose a query without any charge.

Objectives of the Study

1. To understand the impact of negligence of parents on children
2. To analyse the long-term effects of negligence on children's wellbeing
3. To suggest solutions for helping children who have suffered from parental neglect

II. METHODOLOGY

This study used a mixed-method approach to explore the challenges experienced by individuals who become blind by accident, as well as the support systems available to assist them. This methodology combines qualitative and quantitative methodologies to gain a full understanding of the subject.

A literature review was conducted to better understand the impact of inadvertent blindness on individuals' lives. Analyzing resources on visual impairment, blindness, rehabilitation, and support services involved reviewing peer-reviewed journals, books, government documents, NGO publications, and online sources. The study paradigm takes into account the physical, emotional, social, environmental, and economical challenges faced by individuals with inadvertent blindness, as outlined in the literature.

To collect quantitative data, questionnaires and surveys were distributed to individuals who had become blind by accident, their employers, politicians, non-governmental organization representatives, and medical professionals. The surveys collected demographic data, assessed the impact of blindness on daily activities and quality of life, identified existing therapies and support networks, and evaluated the effectiveness of interventions. Data from the survey was analysed using descriptive as well as inferential statistics to identify relationships, associations, and trends.

In addition to quantitative research, qualitative data was collected through focus groups and in-depth interviews with individuals who become blind by accident, as well as their careers and key stakeholders. During talks and interviews, participants shared their lived experiences, coping mechanisms, hurdles overcome, support networks, and recommendations for improving services and interventions. Thematic analysis revealed recurring themes, patterns, and narratives in qualitative data, allowing for a more nuanced understanding of the subjective experiences and perspectives of persons with inadvertent blindness.

Furthermore, case studies were conducted in order to present real-world examples of the challenges faced by individuals who unintentionally become blind as well as the solutions used to address them. These case studies comprised in-depth examinations of specific individuals or groups affected by inadvertent blindness, including their struggles, victories, and the results of therapies and support networks. The case studies improved the quantitative and qualitative findings by providing particular

instances of the issues brought up, as well as by presenting original solutions and best practices.

III. LITERATURE REVIEW

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), 'Child Abuse' is the infringement of a child's fundamental human rights. It includes physical and emotional mistreatment, sexual harm, neglect or negligent treatment, commercial or other forms of exploitation, which can cause actual harm or potential harm to the child's health, survival, development, or dignity. This occurs within a relationship where there is a responsibility, trust, or power dynamic. 'Kid Neglect' is defined as the failure of a parent or guardian to meet the developmental needs of a kid, despite having the necessary resources accessible to them. This is different from poverty, as it is not only based on financial limitations. Neglect commonly manifests in various domains, including health, education, emotional development, nutrition, and housing. 'Child maltreatment', often known as child abuse and neglect, encompasses many types of physical and emotional mistreatment, sexual abuse, neglect, and exploitation that cause actual or potential harm to the child's well-being, growth, or self-respect. Under this expansive definition, there are five distinct subcategories that can be identified—physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, emotional abuse, and oppression. Failure to guarantee the protection of children's rights has a negative impact on all rights.

The issue captured the interest of researchers and professionals after the publication of a groundbreaking paper on the battered child syndrome in the early 1960s, authored by Henry Kempe et al. (1962). Subsequently, multiple endeavours were undertaken to manage and confine the issue in both developed and developing nations. Nevertheless, the prevalence of child abuse and neglect is rising at a concerning pace, indicating that this issue continues to persist as a significant social and psychological problem worldwide, especially in developing nations.

Previous research suggested that the issue of child maltreatment is caused by psychological problems in adults (Spinneta and Rigler, 1972). However, more recent studies have found no evidence to support the idea that a "abusive personality type" is influenced by early experiences (Crosson-Tower, 2008). Contemporary methods of comprehending child abuse and neglect focus on a connected group of individual, family, environmental, and socio-cultural elements that might lead to a higher likelihood of maltreatment.

Children who have experienced neglect and abuse in their past are vulnerable to developing psychiatric disorders (Gauthier et al., 1996) or a disorganised attachment style (Solomon and George, 1991). According to Korbin (1983), individuals who have been victims of child maltreatment are also prone to experiencing various physical health issues in their later years. The consequences of child abuse differ based on its specific form. Child abuse is a multifaceted issue that stems from several factors and leads to numerous outcomes. Gaining insight into the underlying factors that contribute to abuse is essential for effectively tackling the issue. Parents who engage in physical violence towards their partners are more prone to perpetrating physical abuse against their children. Determining the causal relationship between marital struggle and child abuse is challenging, as it is unclear if the marital strife leads to abuse or if both the marital strife and abuse stem from inherent characteristics in the abuser.

In India, child neglect happens when adult care-givers fail to fulfil the basic requirements of children, rather than intentionally causing harm to them. Child neglect can encompass a range of actions or omissions, such as inadequate supervision, incorrect nourishment, medical treatment, or emotional nurturance. Similar to other types of child abuse, child neglect frequently leads to enduring harm to a kid's physical and emotional well-being. According to Chatteraj and Saxena (1990), researchers have found that child neglect is more common during periods of fast socio-economic changes and family disorganisation.

Bhattacharyya noted that in underdeveloped nations such as India, the issue of physical abuse is overshadowed by the presence of severe illnesses that are associated with poverty, malnutrition, contagious and infectious diseases, and low birth weight. The individual implemented the concept of child abuse in a broader context and introduced the phrase 'nutritionally battered kid' to describe children who experience long-term and severe protein-energy malnutrition, resulting in stunted growth and impaired development. After examining instances of starvation and neglect, he determined that children suffering from malnutrition and neglect require specific care from their parents due to the potential for behavioural disruptions and health risks.

IV. CHALLENGES

Child neglect refers to the mistreatment of a kid resulting from the failure to meet their fundamental requirements, including insufficient

access to healthcare, inadequate nourishment and education and security. Child neglect can be described because of parental failure to provide or meet a child's requirements. When a kid experiences neglect and does not receive adequate care or love throughout their formative years, it can have significant and enduring impacts on their mental well-being, as well as hinder their physical and cognitive growth.

Neglect is a prevalent type of child maltreatment that is frequently linked to other forms of abuse. Child neglect is distinct from other types of maltreatment as it specifically pertains to the failure or negligence in fulfilling a child's fundamental need. These omissions are recurrent throughout time and can result in severe health complications, including the fatality of a child. Neglect, as described by Dubowitz et al. (1993), refers to the situation when a child's fundamental needs are not sufficiently fulfilled. This definition emphasises the importance of addressing these basic needs, rather than focusing on the intentions or actions of the parents. Parental duty is substituted by a system of shared responsibility that encompasses parents, extended family and society as a whole. kid neglect can show in multiple ways, including noncompliance with health guidelines, failing to seek healthcare, withholding food, poor hygiene, denying education, and exposing the child to drugs and hazardous environments. There are various forms of child neglect, including physical, environmental neglect, and lack of parental monitoring.

Child neglect often manifests in scenarios such as a child being left alone in a flat while a parent engages in drinking, or a youngster being denied necessary medication. However, these are only a few examples of the broader issue.

Polansky and his colleagues (1983) categorised the reasons for child maltreatment into three distinct groups. The first study focused on the economic aspect, emphasising the significance of poverty and material deprivation in influencing parental behaviour towards their children. Ecological refers to the way a family behaves in reference to the broader social environment in which it operates. Individual variances in parental personalities are commonly referred to as personalistic.

Economic factors include various elements that influence the overall state and performance of an economy. Neglect is perceived as a response to stress, and poverty serves as a persistent cause of stress. Many parents who are neglectful reside in poverty or have impoverished lives. However, it is important to note that not all

impoverished families are neglectful, hence poverty cannot be seen as a significant contributing factor to child neglect. Poverty may not necessarily indicate disregard or indifference. Low socioeconomic status refers to a range of qualities associated with poverty, such as lack of job, inadequate education, social isolation, having a big family, and teenage pregnancy among unmarried individuals. The family's efforts to improve their financial circumstances, or even to ease their poverty, did not address their neglect of their young ones.

Ecological reasoning - The ecological viewpoint regards the individual as an integral part of the environment, engaging in interactions with it. If a parent's ability to provide care for their children is influenced by the society in which they reside, then experiencing a sense of abandonment from their surroundings may result in neglectful parenting. When examining irresponsible parents from an ecological perspective, it is crucial to take into account their surroundings, cultural background, and the larger societal framework in which they exist. When examining how a family operates, it is crucial to comprehend the child-rearing principles deeply ingrained in many ethnic and cultural traditions. It is crucial to comprehend the family's capabilities, including their community and their capacity to provide resources and social assistance to their loved ones. The ecological approach emphasises the need of providing social support to the family when implementing intervention strategies. Neglectful households provide a challenge for society and create complications for the system when assistance is offered.

Individualistic reasons - Neglect arises from the early stages of a parent's development and their cognitive processes. Our behaviour will be influenced by the way we analyse and interpret information. The knowledge we obtain can influence our cognitive abilities or emotional state. Cognition, in the majority of instances, informs us about the anticipated outcomes of certain actions and subsequently influences our behaviour. Affect typically pertains to our understanding of our safety or peril. Affect refers to the emotional sensations that elicit protective or affectionate behaviour and promote curiosity and acquisition of knowledge when discomfort is minimal.

Child neglect is a prevalent occurrence, although there is a lack of comprehensive research on the factors that contribute to neglect and its resulting effects. Previous study indicates that the neglect of children is influenced by multiple interconnected elements, ranging from individual

and family characteristics to community and societal concerns. The repercussions of neglect can vary with respect to the type and age at which it occurs. These implications can range from catastrophic outcomes to long-term effects on a child's overall health and functioning, which can persist into adolescence and adulthood.

V. CONCLUSION

The long-term effects of neglect from early childhood can persist throughout a person's life, including during childhood, adolescence, and adulthood. Children who have experienced neglect at a young age may develop internalised behavioural difficulties, such as depression, withdrawal, and lack of confidence, as well as externalised behavioural problems, such as impulsivity, aggression, and acting out, in later stages of their lives. Failure to provide adequate care and attention to children during the initial two years of their life may serve as a prelude to the development of violent behaviour during childhood (Kotch et al., 2008). Infants who experience neglect often exhibit anxiety attachment, whereas children have increased dependence on others, reduced self-esteem, and a higher prevalence of behavioural disorders such as tics, outbursts of wrath, thievery, accidents, physical complaints, and self-harm. Safeguarding against child abuse and neglect is regarded as a formidable undertaking. One of the factors contributing to its difficulty is the intergenerational transmission of neglectful parenting. Research findings suggest that parents who experienced abuse and neglect throughout their own childhood are more likely to engage in child mistreatment compared to those who did not experience mistreatment. In conclusion, child neglect unequivocally constitutes a manifestation of child abuse. The act has significant repercussions and entails both immediate and enduring impacts on the children who experience it. It is our responsibility, as a society, to be conscious of the issue, familiarise ourselves with the indicators exhibited by neglected children, and take action alongside the children and their parents to improve the situation. Without a doubt, the issue of child neglect is undeniable and must not be overlooked.

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