

A Literature Review Child Abuse and Neglect: Potential Impact on Children during a Covid-19 Pandemic

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ABSTRACT

Staying at home during Covid-19 pandemic is no longer a safety aspect. During lockdown there is clustering of all the family members at home. Parents or caregivers must manage their children's schooling as well as their own work and parenting responsibilities. Some articles mention that Covid-19 pandemic turning into "broader child crisis" such as violence against on children. Child abuse can take place in a home environment under the care of parents or other family members. Analyze the impact of isolation policies caused the spread of COVID-19 and evidence of child abuse during Covid-19 pandemic This literature review is arranged based on literatures studies from 5 databases last 6 years, such as DOAJ, Google Scholar, ResearchGate, SpringerLink, and Elsevier Open Access Journals. This literature review searched for studies with the keyword "child abuse" or "child neglected" or "covid-19 pandemic impact". Based on a search using these keywords, 8 articles were found from the data base. Building awareness about child abuse and neglect during Covid-19 pandemic is vital, because children are often vulnerable and require careful consideration by parents or caregivers and health care system. So, to protecting children from violence during Covid-19 pandemic requires all sectors to undertake coordinate measure (parents or caregiver, school, community and health profession). The health profession has a duty to provide support with public health approach in overcoming about child abuse and neglect.

Keywords: Child abuse, Covid-19, Pandemic.

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INTRODUCTION

Since Desember 2019, an outbreak of coronavirus disease (Covid-19) has spread from Wuhan, China and became a pandemic that getting affect in every country. The Covid-19 outbreak has resulted in the death of nearly 383,000 people worldwide ini June 2020 (Benjamin et al., 2020). Due to the covid 19 pandemic, many individuals feel worried and stressed, where this anxiety and stress can be felt either directly or indirectly. One of the specific psychological problems that occur during a pandemic is that parents are worried about children's education while schools are closed, while on the other hand parents still have to work at home, thus increasing the burden on parents (IASC, 2020).

Many parents will find it stressful to balance work, caring for children, and maintaining the household. For some parents, during lockdown, they lived at home for a long time with their children, especially for families with low incomes, this caused its own problems, especially in terms of child care. There is data showing an increasing level of child abuse and neglect during lockdown (Cluver et al., 2020).

American research shows that parents have higher levels of stress than adults who do not have children. The stress that occurs is caused by worries about finances, education and child care (APA, 2020). Social isolation requires families to remain in their homes resulting in intense and unrelieved contact as well as the depletion of existing support networks, such as through extended family as well as through social or community based support networks for families at risk. Additionally, isolation places children at greater risk of neglect as well as physical, emotional, sexual, and domestic abuse (Gelder, 2020).

A number of studies have tried to detect which children are at higher risk of being abused and neglected. Results indicate risk factors at the level of child and parent characteristics, at the level of family dynamics and at the level of wider community (Đapić, Flander, & Prijatelj, 2020). Therefore, we investigated and analyzed evidence of child abuse during Covid-19 outbreak and proposed an effective intervention strategy.

Analyze the impact of isolation policies caused the spread of COVID-19 and evidence of child abuse during Covid-19 pandemic

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The method used in the review literature arranged based on literatures studies from 5 databases last 6 years, such as DOAJ, Google Scholar, ResearchGate, SpringerLink, and Elsevier Open Access Journals. This literature review searched for studies with the keyword “child abuse” or “child neglected” or “covid-19 pandemic impact”. Based on a search using these keywords, 8 articles were found from the data base.

RESULT

Table 1. Article review

Author	Title	Journal	Sample	Article Type	Output
Maria Spinelli, Francesca Lionetti, Massimiliano Pastore, Mirco Fasolo, 2020	Parents' stress and children psychological problems in families facing the COVID-19 outbreak in Italy	Frontiers in Psychology	854 Parents of 2 to 14 years old children	Original research article	The results of the correlation values above .06 were significant at $p < .05$ tested by Pearson test. Results showed that overall there were no relevant associations of COVID-contact risk index and Home environment risk index with dyadic parenting stress (PSI), parent's individual stress (DASS), and children's psychological problems

					(SDQ).
Lee et al., 2020	Impact of COVID-19 on the Mental Health and Well-being of Caregivers and Families of Autistic people	The Canadian Institutes of Health Research	22 article	A Rapid Synthesis Review	Families who have children with special needs experience increased stress due to internal and external stressors due to self-isolation during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the existing literature does not explain the level of stress experienced by parents so that it disrupts the quality of the relationship between parents and children.
Ginny Sprang, PhD, and Miriam Silman, MSW, 2013	Posttraumatic Stress Disorder in Parents and Youth After Health-Related Disasters	Disaster Med Public Health Preparedness	398 parents	Original research article	Disease-containment measures such as quarantine and isolation can be traumatizing to a significant portion of children and parents. Criteria for PTSD was met in 30% of isolated or quarantined children based on parental reports, and 25% of quarantined or isolated parents (based on self-reports).
Samantha M. Brown, Jenalee R. Doom, Stephanie Lechuga-Peña, Sarah Enos Watamura, Tiffany Koppels, 2020	Stress and Parenting during the Global COVID-19 Pandemic	<i>Child Abuse & Neglect</i>	2060	Original research article	The high stress and depression felt by parents and caregivers due to the COVID-19 pandemic has the potential to cause child abuse and neglect.
Benjamin et al, 2020	Adolescent psychiatric disorders during the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown	Psychiatry Research	Not available	Literature review	The COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown have a negative impact on the mental health of child and adolescents. Adolescents' individual, familial, and social factors, related to adolescent mental health. Adolescents are often vulnerable and require careful consideration by caregivers and healthcare system adaptations.
Griffith, 2020	Parental Burnout and Child Mal-	Journal of Family Vio-	Not available	Literature review	Parents who scored higher on measures of parental

	treatment During the COVID-19 Pandemic	lence				burnout also scored higher on measures of escape and suicidal ideation, reported greater levels of conflict with their partners and higher levels of partner estrangement ideation, and indicated that that they engaged in higher levels of child abuse and neglect.
Martinkevich et al, 2020	Physical child abuse demands increased awareness during health and socioeconomic crises like COVID-19	Acta Orthopaedica	Not available	Literature review with expert opinions		Despite the increased risk of NAI during the current COVID-19 crisis, the number of reports suspecting NAI decreased by 42% during the lockdown of the Danish society. Healthcare professionals filed only 17% of all reports of suspected child abuse in 2016.
Mia Roje Đapić, Gordana Buljan Flander, Krešimir Prijatelj, 2020	Children Behind Closed Doors Due to COVID-19 Isolation: Abuse, Neglect and Domestic Violence	Psychiatry Research	24 articles	Literature review		A review conducted on 24 articles shows that since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, findings have emerged about negative psychological impacts, such as post-traumatic stress, boredom and financial problems. Recent research has also shown that during the COVID-19 pandemic there is a risk of child abuse and neglect (Đapić et al., 2020).

DISCUSSION

Childhood is a period where an individual begins to learn more about something from his environment. The closest environment for children is the family, where in the family there are parents, caregivers or other family members. Families are required to be able to provide proper care for children so that children are able to grow and develop according to their age stages. Factors that influence parental care can be influenced by internal factors or external factors. One of the external factors that influence care is environmental conditions or external stressors, such as in this article that the Covid-19 pandemic condition can affect all groups of individuals, including parents and children.

For some parents the Covid-19 pandemic and self-isolation policies from the government have an impact on the loss of jobs owned by parents, reduced income, and for some other parents who have jobs and have children who are still in school, these parents also have more burdens, because parents must be able to share the time between the time spent doing their job and the time spent

engaging in their child's online learning. Even though for some other parents, this lockdown condition or self-isolation can increase the frequency of parents gathering with their families.

The various pressures that parents have during the Covid-19 pandemic can cause stress so that it has an impact on the care of parents or caregivers in caring for children. If parents are unable to adapt the stress experience, a maladaptive coping mechanism can be formed in the parents or caregivers. One of the consequences of the negative coping mechanisms is the release of negative emotions on other people and children, which is the risk group for receiving inappropriate treatment due to the exclusion of the parents' negative coping mechanisms, so that children are more vulnerable to get abuse, neglect, and violence from their parents or caregivers.

Therefore, it is important to measure the level of stress in parents or caregivers in order to obtain the level of stress on the parents or caregivers and the need to measure the level of vulnerability of children to maltreatment from parents or caregivers to prevent child abuse and neglect. In addition, parents are expected to be able to exercise emotional control and trying to create a positive coping mechanism in dealing with stress, so that parents are able to provide proper care to children during the Covid-19 pandemic and child abuse and neglect can be avoided or minimized.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The author declares that they have no conflict of interest

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