

Intra-Family violence and maltreatment affecting children collectors of trash in "El Fortin" León, Nicaragua 2007

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Introduction

- ▶ Child Abuse or maltreatment constitutes all forms of physical and/or emotional ill-treatment, sexual abuse, neglect or negligent treatment 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.



(WHO, 1999)

"Candies in the hell"

It was a Cross-sectional study in Leon, Nicaragua.

Nearly half the women reported their children witnessed their abuse.

Children of abused women more than

- Twice as likely to suffer from learning, emotional and behavioral problems.
- seven times as likely to be abused

Objectives

Describes techniques of aggressive behavior associated with children collectors of trash and the different types of violence they have in "El Fortin" Leon, Nicaragua

Determining levels of intra-family violence associated with children collectors of trash

Material and methods

The sample consisted of 100 children and adolescents from 6 to 16 years old collecting trash located in El Fortin, Leon in Nicaragua. The data was collected from a survey in which the children perception of violence in their homes was determinate; data was statistically analyzed by using Epi info 6.0

Results

A high percentage of children had difficulty in communicating with their parents and felt rejected and a lack of love from some of the members in their homes. 92% of those surveyed had a family atmosphere characterized by high levels of violence like physical violence (pushing, hitting, guns and knife attacks). The second most frequent reported type of violence was psychological, 67% of them had had insults with bad words and the rest of them had maltreatment from their parents in front of everybody but unfortunately in just 3 cases the children didn't have any affections of the psychological maltreatment

Discussions and conclusions

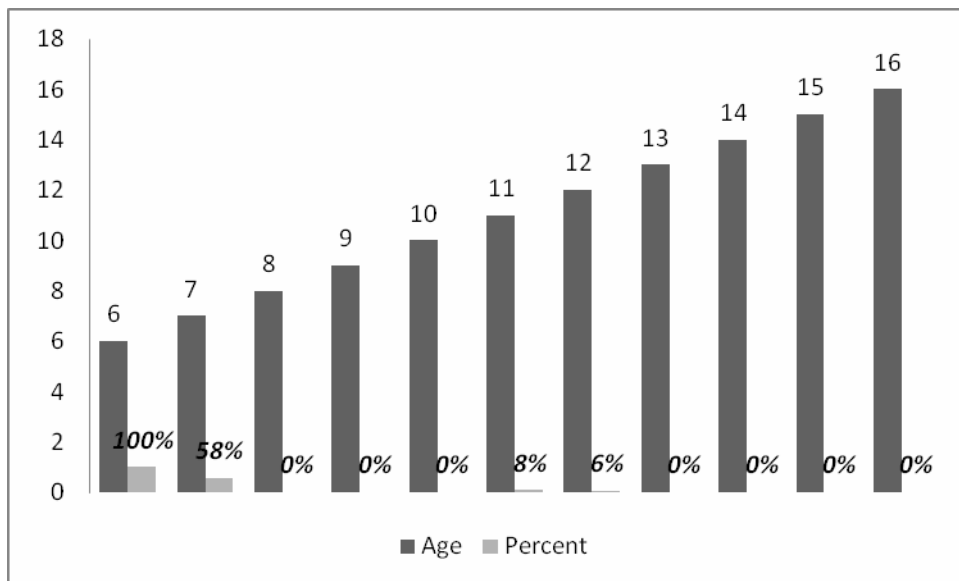
All the children say no. "I don't want to be mistreated anymore" and they prefer to have other different punishments actions with another way. Just 3% said "It doesn't matter as they (parents) mistreat myself" constituting a dangerous attitude. Almost all of them felt well with their family relations and they do not desire to change it. They ask give them love and affection than strike them less. Almost all of them said that they desired to be an adult because they wouldn't like to be injured anymore. They reject the work in the street and they desire to be into the school. The ones that prefer to work are those who are mistreated with frequency (everyday). All children's families lives in extremely poverty situation

Experts agree that the most effective way to address domestic violence is through a coordinated community response. This requires an effective coordinating body, a state or countywide family violence council that has a public mandate. The family violence council must bring together responsible representatives of public agencies, the court system, service providers, and advocates who have the will and the authority to make changes, the goal is to develop:

1. a comprehensive program of services for abused children;

- an effective criminal justice response that holds batterers accountable and increases the safety of children

Children and adolescent collectors of trash in El fortin, Leon, Nicaragua are affected by many situations concerning intra family violence



Age	Sex		Total
	Male	Female	
	66%	34%	100%
6	0%	2%	2%
7 -- 10	37%	16%	53%
11 -- 14	27%	15%	42%
> 15	2%	1%	3%
Total	66%	34%	100%

perpetrator	Percent
Mother	38%
Father	1%
Both parents	50%
Father in law	9%
Others	2%
Total	100%

Violence type	Actually	Likes
Punishment	68%	0%
Domestic work	17%	27%
No feeding	4%	0%
No entertainment	7%	25%
Suggestions	4%	48%
Total	100%	100%

Children ´s preference	Percent
Father	39%
Mother	61%
Total	100%