Physical, Emotional and Sexual Child Abuse among School-Age Children with in Family Members in Qualubia Governorate

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Abstract: **Children face a lot of dangerous things from the environment surrounding them which might seriously affect their whole life including exposure to different types of child abuse either physical, sexual or emotional.** *Aim of this study* **was to physical ,emotional and sexual child abuse among school-age children within family members in Qualubia Governorate.** *Research design*: **A descriptive survey design was utilized to achieve the aim of the study.** *Setting:* **This study was conducted at Primary Schools in Qaluibia Governorate, which are affiliated to Ministry of Education. The study conducted at 25% from the above mentioned administration (Benha, Tokh, and Kafer Shoker). 25% of primary schools were randomly selected** *Sample:* **Multistage random sample of 400 students were selected from primary schools in Qaluibia Governorate.** *Tools:* **Two tools were utilized in this study. First tool was divided into two parts; Part (1): Socio-demographic characteristics of children and Part (2):Socio-demographic characteristics of family members. Second tool: Resources and Aspects of Children Abuse Scale.** *Results*. **More than half of the studied children were females, and the mean age of studied children was 10.4±2.1 years. There was a highly statistically significant correlation between the age and different types of child abuse.** *Conclusion:* **Physical, emotional and sexual child abuse among studied children was high regarding all forms of abuse within the family from their parents.** *Recommendations:* **Increase family awareness about child abuse and its consequences on child health through media, awareness campaign, and conducting awareness program for children to protect themselves against all types of abuse.**

Keywords: **Child abuse, Prevalence, Primary school, Nursing, Benha.**

1. INTRODUCTION

Child abuse is a global problem that is deeply rooted in cultural, economic and social practices. It is a state of emotional, physical, neglect, economic and sexual maltreatment meted out to a person below the age of eighteen and is a globally prevalent phenomenon. However, in Egypt, as in many other countries, there has been no understanding of the extent, magnitude and trends of the problem. The growing complexities of life and the dramatic changes brought about by socio-economic transitions in Egypt have played a major role in increasing the vulnerability of children to various and newer forms of abuse. Child abuse has serious physical and psycho-social consequences which adversely affect the health and overall well-being of a child *(World Health Organization, 2018).*

The childhood stage is considered the most important among the growth stages where the individual personality is developed during that stage as well as child' present and future psychological entity and structure were greatly identified. Besides, the family is classified as the first and the most important human group which provide the care to the child in addition to achieving comfort and reassurance or mistreating him which caused grief, pain and insecurity *(Al-Anani, 2015).*

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 *(World Health Organization, 2016).*

Child abuse happens in many different types, but the result is the same- serious physical or emotional harm. Physical or sexual abuse may be the most striking types of abuse, since they often unfortunately leave physical evidence behind. However, emotional abuse and neglect are serious types of child abuse that are often more subtle and difficult to spot. Child neglect is the most common type of child abuse *(Mikton & Butchart, 2014)*.

Child abuse is often thought of as physical beatings; however, there are several other types of abuse which children may face. The most common form, which makes up 78.5% of all child abuse cases, is neglect, followed by other types such as physical abuse, sexual abuse, psychological maltreatment and medical neglect. Neglect can be define as "a type of maltreatment that refers to the failure by the caregiver to provide needed, age-appropriate care although financially able to do so or offered financial or other means to do so *(Wurdeman, 2015)*.

Physical abuse of a child is that which results in actual or potential physical harm from an interaction or lack of an interaction, which is reasonably within the control of a parent or person in a position of responsibility, power or trust. Such injury or incidence is considered abuse regardless of whether the caretaker intended to hurt the child *(Blue Knot Foundation, 2016)*.

Emotional abuse is almost always associated when other types are identified. Emotional abuse is a pattern of behavior difficult to prove that impairs a child's emotional development or sense of self-worth. Therefore, Child Protection System (CPS) may not be able to intervene without evidence of harm to the child *(Simon & George, 2011)*.

Sexual abuse is an involvement of a child in a sexual activity that child does not fully comprehend, is unable to give informed consent to, or is not developmentally prepared for. Neglect is usually defined as depriving a child of adequate food, clothing, shelter, supervision, medical care and education. Neglect also harms children although it is more about being inactive and not doing something than the previous types of abuse, which are more active. Social abuse is not strictly a form of abuse but it is included here to help differentiate between abuse and neglect and social circumstances, all of which can result in harm to a child (*National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, 2017).*

Community–Mental Health Nurses play an important role regarding prevention and control of child abuse; by educating and increase awareness among the children and their caregiver about the dangers effects of child abuse, and the importance of increasing the family relationships among family member. Also advise parents to work on their own participation gap in their homes by becoming better educated about child abuse and its adverse effect on their children health (*Christakis and Moreno, 2013)*.

Prevention of child abuse can be attained at three levels: primary prevention; efforts to reduce the incidence of disease through health promotion and education of parents regarding types of abuse and how to avoid it, secondary prevention; seeks to reduce problem (Abuse) prevalence through early detection, appropriate care and treatment, tertiary prevention; tries to reduce complications and disabilities of child abuse *(U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2016)*.

Significance of the study:

All children have certainly many experiences before they became truly mature. A child can face lot of dangerous things from the environment surrounding them which might seriously affect their whole life.Worldwide; in 2014, state agencies identified an estimated 1,580 children who died as a result of abuse and neglect — between four and five children a day. However, studies also indicate significant undercounting of child maltreatment fatalities by state agencies — by 50% or more Individuals who reported six or more adverse childhood experiences had an average life expectancy two decades shorter than those who reported none. Ischemic heart disease (IHD), Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), liver disease and other health-related quality of life issues are tied to child abuse *(Brown, 2016)*.

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Aim of the study:

The aim of this study was to assess physical ,emotional and sexual child abuse among school-age children within family members in Qualubia governorate through:

1- Assessing different forms of child abuse.

2- Assessing different resources of child abuse.

Research questions:

1- What is the prevalence of physical ,emotional and sexual child abuse among school-age children from family members children in Qalubia Governorate?

2- What are the resources of child abuse among school-age children from family members children in Qalubia Governorate?

2. SUBJECT AND METHODS

Research design:

A descriptive survey research design was utilized to fulfill the aim of this   study.

Research setting:

The study was carried out at primary schools in Qualubia Governorate which are affiliated to Ministry of Education. Qualibia Governorate contains 12 educational administrations that were selected randomly. The study conducted at 25% from the above mentioned administration (Benha, Tokh, and Kafer Shoker). 25% of primary schools were randomly selected. Therefore, schools from Benha were selected (Omar bin Abdel-Aziz, Mohamed Farid, Mostafa El said and Ahmed Zewail), beside 3 primary schools from Tokoh (El-shaheed Bashier, Elzohoor , El-tahrir), moreover, 3 primary schools from Kafer Shoker administration (Kafer Shoker new pimary school, El-shaheed Mohamed Gamal and El-Huria).

Study subjects:

A multi-stage random sample technique was utilized for collecting data and using the following **inclusion criteria:-**

1- Age from 6-12years old

2-Both sexes.

3- Live with both parents and siblings.

4- Willingness to participate in the study

Exclusion criteria:

1-Any student with mental or cognitive disabilities

- **Sample size:**

The total number of the studied children was distributed according to the following quota:

$$n = \frac{N \times P(1-p)}{[[\ N-1 \times (d^2 \div z^2)] + p(1-p)]}$$

$$n = \frac{68879 \times 0.5(0.5)}{[[\ 68.879 - 1 \times (0.05^2 \div 1.96^2)] + 0.5(0.5)]}$$

$n = 382.0348\ \ = 400\ \text{student}\ \ (360+40\ \text{of pilot study})$

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Tools of data collection:

The tools were used for data collection consists of two tools:

First tool: Structured interviewing questionnaire schedule which consisted of two parts;

Part One: Socio-demographic characteristics questionnaire sheet of children:

This questionnaire elicit data about the children characteristics such as age, sex, grade, order of the student in his family, number of siblings, residence.

Part two: Socio-demographic characteristics questionnaire sheet of family members:

This questionnaire elicit data about the parents characteristics such as age of each parent, level of education and occupation of parents, job, and the income of the family.

Second tool: Resources and Aspects of Children Abuse Scale.

The Resources and Aspects of Children Abuse Scale developed by *(Mansour, 2008)*. It consists of a questionnaire that is completed by the students. It includes a series of (71) questions, pertaining to various aspects of the child abuse. This tool divided into 4 subscales:

Types of child abuse	No. of items
Physical abuse	20
Emotional Abuse	19
Sexual Abuse	13
Neglect	19
Total	**71**

Scoring system:

Each item with Likert scale score ranged from 1 to 3, always=3, sometime=2 and never=1 answers. Total score ranged between 71-213. The low score mean low level of abuse while the high score mean the high level of abuse

Methods

Tool one of the study was developed by the researchers based on the literature review. Tool two was translated by the researchers into English and retranslated to Arabic.

Content validity of the tool:

Validity of tool was done by a group of (5) experts. Two of them are specialized in the Community Health Nursing and the other three are specialized in the Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing field to check the relevancy, clarity, comprehensiveness, and applicability of the questions. According to their opinions, modifications were done and the final form was developed. The modifications were modify some words to give the right meaning of the phrase, added some phrases or questions. For example, restatement of some words to be appropriate with children's level of understand.

The experts were asked to evaluate tools' relevance and appropriateness on 2 point rating scale as; 0= not agree and 1= agree.

Reliability of the tools:

Reliability statistics of the research tool was the following:

Types of abuse	Reliability (Cronbach's alpha)
Physical abuse	0.87
Emotional abuse	0.88

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Sexual abuse	0.72
Neglect	0.88
Total	**0.83**

Administrative approval:

An official approval letter was issued from the Dean of Faculty of Nursing, Benha University to obtain the permission from Directorate of Education to facilitate data collection from the Qualubia Governorate primary schools. The objectives and the nature of the study were explained and then it was possible to carry out the study with minimum resistance.

Ethical considerations:

Before conducting the study, the acceptance of conducting the study was taken through written consent from the responsible persons in the randomly selected schools. Students were assured that the data will be collected from the questionnaires will remain confidential and that no personal identification was needed by any means. The researchers emphasized that the participation in the study is entirely voluntary and anonymity of the children were assured through data coding. After full explanation of the aim of the study oral consent was taken from the children. Children were informed that they could refuse to participate in the study, or withdraw from it at any time and some students took their mother's consent in participating in the study through phone.

Pilot study:

After the tools have been designed, they were tested through a pilot study, which was done before embarking on the field work to check the clarity and feasibility of designed tools and to estimate the time needed to complete its items. It was carried out on 40 students, who were not excluded from the main study sample. According to the result of the pilot study, no changes were required.

Field work

The researchers reviewed all the students in order to choose those who meet the inclusion criteria. The researchers met the studied children in their classrooms in the leisure times. Each class of children was divided into two groups to explain the aim of the study and collect data through filling the questionnaire. Each group interview lasted 30-45 minute to ensure that the children understand the questions and this was depending on the children's capacity to respond. The researcher explain items of questionnaire to the students to assure understanding and clarity of the questionnaire. This process took 6 months from the beginning of October 2019 to the middle of March 2020. The researchers were collected data from children ' 3 days/week (Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays).

Statistical analysis:

The collected data were organized, coded, computerized, tabulated and analyzed by using the statistical package for social science (SPSS), version (20). Data analysis was accomplished by the use of number, percentage distribution, mean, and standard deviation, and correlation, coefficient. A significant level value was considered when $p<0.001$ which consider highly significant, $p<0.05$ which consider significant and $p>0.05$ which consider insignificant.

3. RESULTS

Table (1): Shows that the mean age of the studied children was **10.4±2.1** years old, more than half of the studied children (54%) were females,

Table (2): Shows that the mean age of the studied children's fathers was **40.5±6.2** years old, while the mean age of their mothers was **32.1±7.1** years old. Regarding family income & number of family members, the result revealed that more than three quarters of them didn't had enough income and number of family members exceed five members (80% & 83.8%) respectively.

Figure (1): Demonstrates that the highest percentage (91.3%) of the family decision makers among the studied children were fathers.

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Figure (2): Illustrates that the prevalence of child abuse among studied children was high regarding all types of child abuse especially physical followed by emotional abuse (92.5% & 90.4 %) respectively.

Figure (3): Reveals that the highest percentage (90.4%) of the studied children were exposed to abuse previously.

Table (3): Illustrates that; more than two thirds of studied children (71.2%) were exposed to abuse from father while, there was no abuse from siblings (100%).

Table (4): Shows that; there is highly statistical difference between sources of child abuse among father, mother & siblings.

Table (5)**:** This table shows that there was a highly statistical significant relationship between sex, educational level of father, age of mother, mother's job & her educational level and child abuse from father as P value 0.001.

Table (6): Shows that; there was highly statistical significant relationship between gender, father's job, educational level of father, age of mother, mother's job & her educational level and child abuse from mother as P value 0.001.

Table (7): Shows that; there was highly statistical significant relationship between educational level of father, age, job & educational level of mother and child abuse from siblings as P value 0.001.

Table (8): Shows that; there was highly statistical significant correlation between age of studied children and different types of child abuse as P value 0.001

Table (1): Frequency distribution of socio-demographic studied children's (n=400)

Items	N	%
Age		
• 6->8	80	20.0
• 8->10	90	22.5
• 10-12	230	57.5
M ±SD	**10.4±2.1**	
Sex		
• Male	185	46.2
• Female	215	53.8
Is there any siblings		
• No (the only)	100	25.0
• Yes	300	75.0
If the answer is correct, how many siblings		
• No	100	25.0
• One	175	43.7
• Two	75	18.8
• Three or more	50	12.5
Birth order		
• First	175	43.7
• Second	100	25.0
• Third or more	125	31.3

Table (2): Frequency distribution of studied children's family

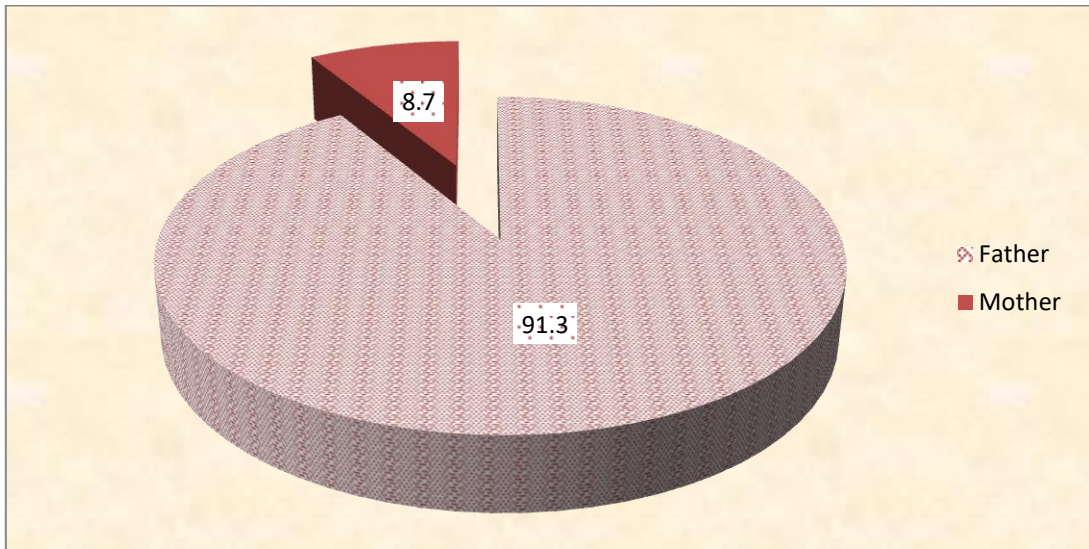| Items	No.	%
Father's age/years		
• <40	120	30.0
• 40-	235	58.8
• ≥50	45	11.2
Mean ±SD	**40.5±6.2**	
Father's job		
• Not work	10	2.5
• Free work	180	45.0
• Employee	210	52.5
Father's education		
• Uneducated	105	26.2
• Primary	120	30.0
• Preparatory	5	1.3
• High School	30	7.5
• Higher secondary	50	12.5
• University student	30	7.5
• Post graduated	60	15.0
The age of the mother		
• <40	270	67.5
• 40-50	125	31.2
• >50	5	1.3
Mean ±SD	**32.1±7.1**	
Mother's education		
• Illiterate	165	41.2
• Primary	40	10.0
• Preparatory	30	7.5
• High School	50	12.5
• Higher secondary	15	3.8
• University student	25	6.2
• Post graduate	75	18.8
Mother's job		
• Not work	30	7.5
• Free work	130	32.5
• Employee	215	53.7
• University Professor	25	6.3
Family income per month		
• Enough and save	55	13.7
• Enough	25	6.3
• Not enough	320	80.0
Number of family members		
• <5	65	16.3
• >5	335	83.7

Figure (1): Frequency distribution of family decision maker among studied children
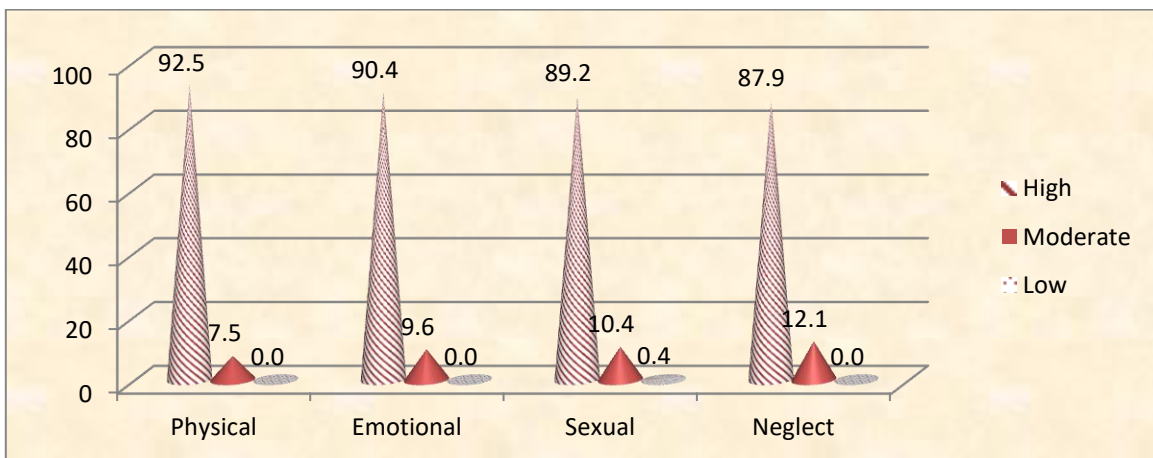

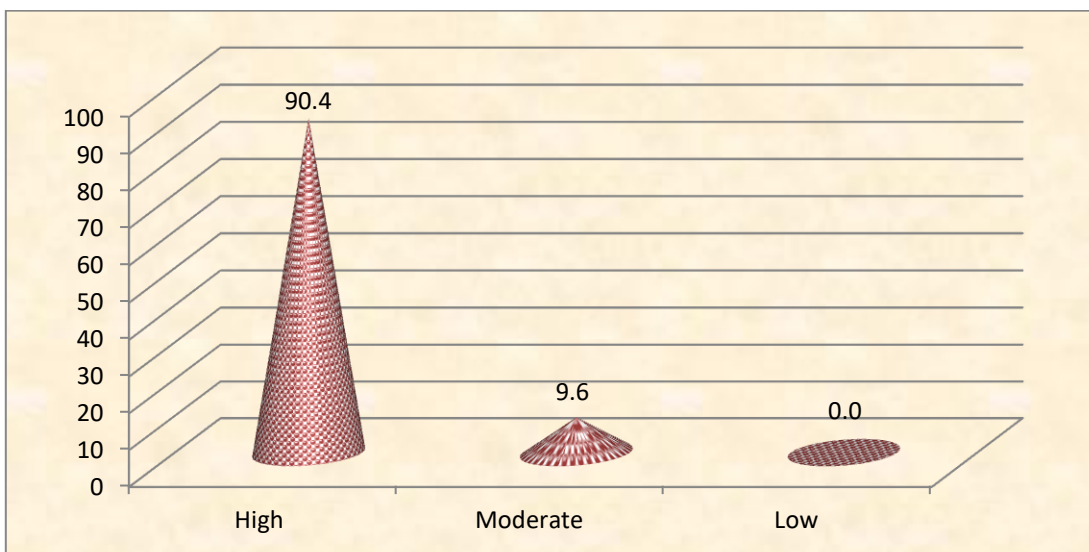**Figure (2): physical ,emotional and sexual child abuse among studied children**

Figure (3): prevalence of exposure to different types of abuse among studied children

Table (3): Resources of child abuse from family members (father, mother & siblings)

Items	Father		Mother		Siblings	
	N	**%**	**N**	**%**	**N**	**%**
• **Negative**	115	28.8	375	93.8	400	100.0
• **Positive**	285	71.2	25	6.2	0	0.00
Total	400	100.0	400	100.0	400	100.0

Table (4): Comparison between family members regarding sources of abuse

Sources	Mean ± SD	Comparison	Differences		Paired T-test	
			Mean	**SD**	**t**	**P-value**
Father	115.250 ± 14.53	**Father - Mother**	23.97	16.80	28.52	<0.001**
Mother	91.275 ± 9.38	**Father - Siblings**	38.97	14.24	54.72	<0.001**
Siblings	76.275 ± 4.76	**Mother - Siblings**	15.00	10.55	28.42	<0.001**

Table (5): Relationship between socio-demographic data of the family and sources of child abuse regarding fathers.

Socio-demographic data		N	Father	F or T	ANOVA or T-test	
			Mean± SD		**Test value**	**P-value**
Sex	• Male	185	117.40 ± 17.12	T	2.775	<0.006**
	• Female	215	113.39 ± 11.58			
Father's job	• Not work	10	122.00 ± 4.21	F	1.426	>0.05
	• Free work	180	114.44 ± 14.48			
	• Employee	210	115.61 ± 14.82			
Father's education	• Uneducated	105	123.42 ± 7.36	F	16.901	<0.001**
	• Primary	120	114.83 ± 16.04			
	• Preparatory	5	99.00 ± 0.00			
	• High School	30	106.50 ± 12.05			
	• Higher secondary	50	116.60 ± 14.97			
	• University student	30	100.66 ± 6.71			
	• Post graduate	60	113.66 ± 15.52			
Mother's age	• <40	270	114.53 ± 14.54	F	14.287	<0.001**
	• 40-50	125	118.00 ± 13.22			
	• >50	5	85.00 ± 0.00			
Mother's job	• Not work	30	111.16 ± 10.31	F	2.600	<0.05*
	• Free work	130	116.57 ± 15.92			
	• Employee	215	115.69 ± 14.34			
	• University Professor	25	109.40 ± 10.75			

Mother's education	• Uneducated	165	120.48 ± 11.31	F	10.604	<0.001**
	• Primary	40	114.12 ± 19.88			
	• Preparatory	30	113.16 ± 11.25			
	• High School	50	107.00 ± 14.01			
	• Higher secondary	15	106.33 ± 17.36			
	• University student	25	105.40 ± 11.15			
	• Post graduate	75	115.73 ± 14.51			
Who reliable family	• Father	365	115.60 ± 14.77	T	1.571	>0.05
	• Mother	35	111.57 ± 11.24			
Family income	• Enough and save	55	106.63 ± 14.70	F	11.915	<0.001**
	• Enough	320	116.71 ± 14.37			
	• Not enough	25	115.40 ± 8.86			

Table (6): Relationship between socio-demographic data of the family and sources of child abuse regarding mothers

Socio-demographic data		N	Mother	F or T	ANOVA or T-test	
			Mean ± SD		Test value	P-value
Sex	• Male	185	90.10 ± 8.73	T	-2.320	<0.05*
	• Female	215	92.27 ± 9.81			
Father's job	• Not work	10	96.00 ± 10.54	F	16.413	<0.001**
	• Free work	180	88.44 ± 7.51			
	• Employee	210	93.47 ± 10.13			
Father's education	• Uneducated	105	88.81± 6.50	F	6.123	<0.001**
	• Primary	120	93.37± 9.96			
	• Preparatory	5	78.00± 0.00			
	• High School	30	87.33± 8.74			
	• Higher secondary	50	91.60± 7.58			
	• University student	30	95.00± 4.77			
	• Post graduate	60	92.33± 13.16			
Mother's age	• <40	270	89.70± 8.44	F	16.815	<0.001**
	• 40-50	125	95.00± 10.31			
	• >50	5	83.00± 0.00			
Mother's job	• Not work	30	89.00± 4.98	F	17.293	<0.001**
	• Free work	130	89.46± 8.13			
	• Employee	215	93.76± 10.07			
	• University Professor	25	82.00± 3.97			
Mother's education	• Uneducated	165	88.30± 5.75	F	13.431	<0.001**
	• Primary	40	94.12± 11.58			
	• Preparatory	30	102.33± 9.90			

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		N	Mean ± SD			
	• High School	50	93.80± 6.93			
	• Higher secondary	15	89.00± 5.27			
	• University student	25	92.60± 6.63			
	• Post graduate	75	90.20± 12.65			
Who reliable family	• Father	365	91.21± 9.45	T	-0.384	>0.05
	• Mother	35	91.85± 8.68			
Family income	• Enough and save	55	93.00± 10.58	F	11.996	<0.001**
	• Enough	320	90.35± 9.14			
	• Not enough	25	99.20± 4.15			

Table (7): Relationship between socio-demographic data of the family and sources of child abuse regarding siblings

Sociodemographic data		N	Siblings	F or T	ANOVA or T-test	
			Mean ± SD		Test value	P-value
Sex	• Male	185	76.32 ± 4.93	T	0.192	>0.05
	• Female	215	76.23 ± 4.61			
Father's job	• Not work	10	78.50 ± 0.52	F	1.836	>0.05
	• Free work	180	76.52 ± 4.15			
	• Employee	210	75.95 ± 5.29			
Father's education	• Uneducated	105	77.28 ± 5.08	F	6.165	<0.001**
	• Primary	120	75.95 ± 5.16			
	• Preparatory	5	75.00 ± 0.00			
	• High School	30	77.83 ± 5.33			
	• Higher secondary	50	77.70 ± 4.60			
	• University student	30	72.66 ± 1.12			
	• Post graduate	60	71.54 ± 2.87			
Mother's age	• <40	270	76.33 ± 3.86	F	3.144	<0.05*
	• 40-50	125	76.36 ± 6.27			
	• >50	5	71.00 ± 0.00			
Mother's job	• Not work	30	75.16 ± 1.98	F	6.549	<0.001**
	• Free work	130	76.84 ± 5.44			
	• Employee	215	75.69 ± 4.44			
	• University Professor	25	79.60 ± 4.26			
Mother's education	• Uneducated	165	77.00 ± 5.22	F	5.547	<0.001**
	• Primary	40	76.25 ± 5.08			
	• Preparatory	30	78.00 ± 6.13			
	• High School	50	74.70 ± 2.99			
	• Higher secondary	15	74.33 ± 4.88			
	• University student	25	72.60 ± 1.22			
	• Post graduate	75	76.66 ± 3.57			

Who reliable family	• Father	365	76.43 ± 4.92	T	2.228	<0.05*
	• Mother	35	74.57 ± 1.61			
Family income	• Enough and save	55	76.90 ± 7.06	F	0.583	>0.05
	• Enough	320	76.18 ± 4.35			
	• Not enough	25	76.00 ± 3.41			

Table(8): Correlation between age and sex of studied children and abuse

Child characteristics	Child abuse	
	r	P-value
• Age	0.75	0.001
• Sex	0.35	0.17

4. DISCUSSION

Child abuse or child maltreatment is physical, sexual, or psychological maltreatment or neglect of a child or children, especially by a parent or other caregiver. Child abuse may include any act or failure to act by a parent or other caregiver that results in actual or potential harm to a child, and can occur in a child's home, or in the organizations, schools or communities the child interacts with. Child abuse and neglect affect children's health now and later, and costs to our country are significant. Neglect, physical abuse, custodial interference, and sexual abuse are types of child maltreatment that can lead to poor physical and mental health well into adulthood (*National Statistics on Child Abuse*,*2014).*

Regarding socio-demographic characteristics of the studied children, mean age of studied children was 10.4±2.1 years old, and more than half of the studied children were female. This is could be due to the females more quiet and accept to participate in the study than males. This finding on the same line, ***David et al., (2012)*** reported that, globally, more than 130 million children between the ages of 6 and 11 years. 60% of them were girls.

As for socio-demographic characteristics of parents among the studied children, the current study showed that the mean age of the studied children's fathers was **40.5±6.2** years old, while the mean age of their mothers was **32.1±7.1** years old. This might be due to financial difficulties and inability of the parent to take the responsibility of children caring. This was supported by children's answers that one quarter of them the only child without siblings.

Regarding family income & number of family members, the result revealed that more than three quarters of them had insufficient income and number of family members exceed five members. This might be due to low socio-economic status with low salary which made psychological pressures with daily life stressors especially with the increased size of the family as extended family. This is might can also increase the risk for abuse especially unstable family environments, in which the composition of the household frequently changes as family members. This result was in harmony with study conducted by ***MacQuarrie et al.,(2010)*** about Confronting the many faces of Child Sexual Abuse a study of parents in Chile, found that families with four or more children were three times more likely to be abuse towards their children than parents with fewer children. However, it is not always simply the size of the family that matters. Data from a range of countries indicate that household overcrowding increases the risk of child abuse. Unstable family environments, in which the composition of the household frequently changes as family members and others move in and out, are a feature particularly noted in cases of chronic neglect ***(McGill University, 2015).***

Regarding to family decision makers, the current study demonstrated that the highest percentage of the family decision makers among the studied children were fathers. This could be due to cultural rules of the Egyptian society that the male is family decision maker and didn't give the woman any rights to be the leader except in cases of divorced or widowed woman. This result congruent with ***YTN (2016)*** In 2009 CBS News reported that child abuse in the United States had increased during the economic recession. It gave the example of a father who had never been the primary care-taker of the children. Now that the father was in that role, the children began to come in with injuries. In April 2015, public

broadcasting showed that rate of child abuse in South Korea had increased to 13% compared with the previous year, and 75% of attackers were the children's own parent.

Also, this results are compared to those from a study conducted by members from several Baltic and Eastern European countries conducted by *Sebre et al., (2004)*, together with specialists from the United States, examined the causes of child abuse in the countries of Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia and Moldova. In these countries, respectively, 33%, 42%, 18% and 43% of children reported at least one type of child abuse. According to their findings, there was a series of correlations between the potential risk factors of parental employment status, alcohol abuse, and family size within the abuse ratings. In three of the four countries, parental substance abuse was considerably correlated with the presence of child abuse, and although it was a lower percentage, still showed a relationship in the fourth country (Moldova). Each country also showed a connection between the father not working outside of the home and either emotional or physical child abuse.

The current study showed that, total prevalence of child abuse among studied children revealed that a highly statistical difference degree, more than two thirds of the father abuse against the child, which was majority of the mother's and siblings abuse against the child physically, emotionally and sexually respectively. The result means that children are subjected to abuse from the parents, and siblings, they are more suffering from emotional abuse, which cause hurts and a psychological disturbance in themselves which are perhaps more than physical abuse. This study finding was matching with study conducted by *Al-Anani (2015)* who studied the relationship between parental abuse and psychological safety of the children at the City of Amman and the Central Valleys of Jordan found that, the degree of the father abuse against the child was 1.72 degree which was greater than the degree of the mother's abuse against the child was 1.71 degrees, while the emotional abuse is higher than physical abuse, where the degree of emotional abuse was medium, and physical abuse was low, while the total degree of the abuse of both father and mother was medium. The abuse was high, and perhaps this explains the difference between the two results differing time, period in which the government studies, and change thought and behavior across time.

Also, the results are compared to those from a *Whealin*, *(2016)* Most physically and sexual abuse national survey conducted by offenders are acquainted with their victims; approximately 30% are relatives of the child, most often fathers, siblings, sisters, mothers, uncles or cousins; around 60% are other acquaintances such as friends of the family, babysitters, or neighbors; strangers are the offenders in approximately 10% of child sexual abuse cases. In over one-third of cases, the perpetrator is also a minor. These wide variations in published prevalence estimates could result either from real differences in risk prevailing in different cultures or from differences in the way the studies were conducted.

The current study showed that, highly statistical significant relationship between demographic characteristics of siblings and parental (father, mother) abuse against the child. This result is interpreted in the light of the prevailing culture, whereas the focus is on disciplining the female child, male child, siblings and parental and this is centered in her behavior evaluation in various possible ways even if the beatings and insults. It also may refer to the standards of the dominant culture, which emphasizes discipline that the child in this period is exposed to beating and rebuking, therefore the child in the mentioned period is stationed about himself, as well as his impairing his ability to put himself anywhere other leading to the difference in point of view of an adult and the consequent behaviors which are not pleased the adult and that pushing them to abuse him in this young age. The long-term decline in sexual and physical abuse may have important implications for public policy. A Statistical Profile *Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, (2008)*, indicate that children and youth: Were most often victimized by someone they knew - the rate of sexual abuse against children and youth by a family member increased by 15% in 2005 Were most often victimized by their father or another male family member - fathers were involved in 35% of incidents against their children, followed by male extended family members (33%) and siblings (28%) Were most often girls - girls experienced sexual assault by a family member at a rate that was four times higher than the rate experienced.

Also, *Khani et al. (2012)* who found that there was a highly significant relation between socio demographic characteristics of siblings and parental (father, mother) abuse against the child children as age and educational level of father, mother and siblings. Furthermore, this finding is in an agreement with *Abidah(أبيدة) (2011)* who found that there was a highly significant relation between socio demographic characteristics of siblings and parental (father, mother) abuse against the child children as age and educational level of father, mother and siblings.

As for the correlation between child abuse and age of the studied children, the current study reported that there was highly statistical significant correlation between age of studied children and different types of child abuse, while no significant correlation between abuse and sex were found. This means that females and males are vulnerable to abuse. This finding was in agreement with the study done by *Whealin, (2016)* in the United States found that, approximately 15% to 25% of female and 5% to 15% of male were sexually abused.

5. CONCLUSION

According to the result of the current study it can be concluded that:

The prevalence of child abuse among studied children was high regarding all forms of abuse within the family from their parents. The highest percentage of the studied children were exposed to physical ,emotional and sexual child abuse especially physical and emotional abuse from their parents, while they didn't exposed to abuse from their siblings.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

From the result of this study, the researchers recommended that:

1- Increase family awareness about child abuse and its consequences on child health through media, awareness campaign.

2- Conducting awareness program for children to protect themselves against all forms of abuse.

3- Conducting an annual audit of child abuse prevention strategies in schools.

4- Promote and support education and awareness programs such as commit to kids for agencies and services groups that work with children that over information and skills on detecting and responding to disclosure of abuse.

5- Designing training programs for parents helps them to control anger and spells of violence, with the most important methods of health education across the violin to sum up assault their children physically, verbally, or psychologically.

6- Call upon the concerned authorities to develop preventive and remedial programs for the problem of child and school child abuse and to speed up the adoption of regulations and the necessary measures to protect victims of abuse from children

7- Conduct further studies of abuse in the rural community and urban to know the extent of this phenomenon.

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