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**Title** The Rising Trend of Violence on Children: Causes & Remedies(Study of Pakistani society *in Sharia context*)

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## ***The Rising Trend of Violence on Children: Causes & Remedies***

*(Study of Pakistani society in Sharia context)*

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### **Abstract**

Numerous crimes are being committed in present era. One of the most heinous crime amongst them is child abuse. Incidents of children who have been murdered after sexual abuse are rife in our nominal Islamic society. Moreover, videos and photos are also made during child abuse. Then these videos are posted on the social media. Both Muslim and non-Muslim communities are suffering from this brutal act i.e. child abuse. In Pakistan, the reasons of increase in crime rates include psychological disorders; urge to fulfill one's sexual desires, poverty, unemployment and detachment from religion. Such kind of abominable acts are becoming common in Pakistan day by day. According to Islamic jurisprudence, rape is a punishable crime. Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ himself has punished the perpetrators for such acts of crime. Once in the era of Holy Prophet ﷺ, a Jew crushed the head of a girl by placing it in between two stones. When Prophet ﷺ was informed about the incident, He ﷺ called upon the Jew who confessed his crime. Then Prophet ﷺ asked his companions to punish him by crushing his head with stones. It can be deduced from this narration that the culprits involved in such loathsome crimes should be punished publicly in order to wipe out this devilish act of crime from the society. The purpose of writing this research paper is to describe the reasons for the increase in rate of sexual abuse of children and its eradication in the light of Fiqh ul Seerah. This research paper followed descriptive and analytical methods.

**Key word:** Pakistan, Crime, Child abuse, Society, Fiqh ul Seerah, Factors

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## **Introduction**

No society can breathe a sigh of relief unless the lives, property, honor and dignity of the people living in that society are protected. In order to eradicate the root causes of any evil, it is necessary to find the causes and formulate a solid strategy because of understanding the movements behind the causes. In this regard, individual and collective vigilance should also be taken into consideration and legal action should be mobilized and activated so that crime can be prevented and society can breathe a sigh of relief.

Children are the future of any nation. The guarantee of the security of the future of any nation lies in the fact that full attention is paid to the personality and formation of its children. This is not possible unless there is a clear concept of children's rights and a formal system of respect for those rights. Islam, like other members of society, has described the rights of children in detail. We also often receive complaints that in some educational institutions, school teachers and other staff treat children in such a way that some children become disillusioned with education. Distance from education and poor economic conditions force them to work from scratch. Similarly, it is often seen that there are many working children who beg with their parents at different intersections. Beggars push these children to attract people and gain their sympathy.

There is a lot to be done for children, but the most important thing is to reduce the growing gap between the children of the rich and the poor. Not only the government but also the welfare agencies need to play a more effective role in providing poor children with schooling, health and sanitation facilities and opportunities to participate in healthy activities so that the population in the coming years Most of them were able to play a useful and constructive role in the society.

## **Introduction to Violence against Children**

Violence against children is a comprehensive term that includes all forms of child exploitation and violence. In general, exploitation and violence can mean all those things. Doing so may pose a real or potential danger to children. The World Health Organization has defined violence against children as follows:

*“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.”<sup>(1)</sup>*

## **Research Question**

In view of the increasing number of sexual incidents with children, it is the responsibility of educational institutions, society and parents and guardians to make children aware of their physical health, sexual functions and risks and to prepare them mentally for dealing with dangerous situations. There is responsibility. Child sexual abuse and exploitation deprives children of their innocence and their Kachin, it is not only a legal issue but also a shadow issue. It is also important to take care of children with regard to psychological and educational violence.

Over the past several years, there has been a steady increase in the number of cases of child sexual abuse in various cities in Pakistan. In the last few years, however, these events have made everyone think. That is why I chose this title so that I can offer a solution to the causes of these incidents in the light of Islamic law. Moreover, more

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needs to be done. Moreover, in this regard, the organizations set up for the protection of children should be activated so that they can fulfill their social role.

### **Way of violence against children**

There are different types and methods of violence against children which are described below:

#### **1. Mental or psychological violence**

Mental violence is when a person hurts or tries to subdue another person with his or her words or anger. It is also called psychological violence. Too many children in our society are victims of psychological abuse.

#### **2. Physical violence**

The use of physical force on a child that harms the child's health, survival, development and dignity. These include hand slapping, strangulation, burning, poisoning, and suffocation. This violence against children is mostly perpetrated in homes.

#### **Effects**

Physically abused people go on to develop personal problems, which can lead to aggressive behavior, while adults are more likely to use drugs. In addition, the symptoms of stress, emotional stress, and suicidal tendencies are usually included in their characteristics.

#### **3. Sexual Violence**

Child sexual abuse is a form of violence in which an adult or a teenager uses a child for sexual pleasure. In this the child is made a part of the sexual process, which may be aimed at physical satisfaction or financial gain. Different forms of this include inciting children to sexual activity, showing children pornographic films, observing children's private parts without physical contact, or using a child to prepare for child pornography.

#### **Effects**

Children who are sexually abused have a profound effect on remorse, self-blame, memories of the past, nightmares, insomnia and fear of exploitation. In addition, children develop self-esteem, sexual dysfunction, chronic pain, self-injury, suicidal tendencies, sleep disorders, curiosity and other mental illnesses.

#### **The effects of violence on children**

There is a growing trend of physical, sexual, psychological and educational violence against children. Due to which the real or potential harm to the health, upbringing and development and dignity of a child is very high. Which is in a relationship, trust or emphasis. All of these abuses have devastating effects on a child's physical and psychological well-being. The effects of physical violence on children are such that such a child may suffer personal problems in the future, resulting in aggressive behaviors. The tendency towards drugs increases, in addition to the symptoms of stress, emotional stress and suicidal tendencies are common in children. Children who have been sexually abused have a profound effect on remorse, self-blame, memories of the past, scary dreams, or fear of exploitation. In addition, there are problems with self-esteem, sexual dysfunction, chronic pain, self-injury, suicidal tendencies, curiosity and other illnesses. Violence in this way has such a devastating effect on the child that the child becomes discouraged and drops out of school altogether so Rebellion arises in them.

#### **Causes of violence against children**

Child sexual abuse and child pornography is a vicious cycle. The business of child pornography has spread all over the world due to modern digital technology. People

in developed and developing countries are suffering from this evil. In developed countries, the crime causes psychological problems for individuals, while in developing countries; it is caused by poverty and mental illness. The reasons for the rise in crime in Islamic countries are distance from religion, poverty and unemployment. Incidents of child abuse are common in Islamic society today. The culprit has not been brought to justice. Laws exist but they are not being enforced.

### ***Basic Causes of Violence against Children***

The most common causes of violence against Children as follows:

#### ***1. imperfect or defective education system***

The education system plays a very important and key role in the formation and development of any nation and country as well as in the formation of morals and character. Rather, the purpose of a high and standard system is to develop a person's abilities and to prepare him for the representation of the country and the nation at the national and international level as well as to produce a man of character. Unfortunately, our education system is poor in both respects. Due to which the lack of ethics in the students of our society is on the rise. If children are given a good education and training then it is possible to reduce these bad and disgusting incidents.

#### ***2. Ignorance and lack of training***

Another major reason for the increase in child abuse in our society is that the majority of our parents are uneducated as well as unfamiliar with the art of training. There is no shortage of parents who do not have an education, but they have a good education but they do not train their children in the true sense. As a result, their children become victims of misbehavior. Such incidents arise in them again.

#### ***3. Promoting immoral content in the media***

Media is an important element of any society. Media has become an integral part of our society today. The media is bound to uphold the moral values of any society. But our freedom of the media has pushed our children into Western and Indian culture. Along with the promotion of Indian and Western culture in the name of Morning Shows on the electronic media, programs are being aired which are causing sexual excitement and abundance in our children and youth. Time is of the essence to control this trend of media in a timely manner, otherwise the way our values are weakening is not far off when this nation forgets its unique status, high values, history, religion and ideology. In condemning the promotion of pornography, Allah Almighty says:

((إِنَّ الَّذِينَ يُحِبُّونَ أَنْ تَشِيعَ الْفَاحِشَةُ فِي الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَهُمْ عَذَابٌ أَلِيمٌ فِي الدُّنْيَا وَالْآخِرَةِ وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ وَأَنْتُمْ لَا تَعْلَمُونَ))<sup>(2)</sup>

“Indeed, those who like that immorality should be spread [or publicized] among those who have believed will have a painful punishment in this world and the Hereafter. And Allāh knows and you do not know.”

#### ***4. Mobile and social media***

Mobile and social media have covered tens of millions of miles and turned the world into a global village. But while there are positive effects, there are also many negative effects. While social media has made it easier for human beings to progress, society is heading towards destruction due to negative thinking, attitudes and misuse of social media and the only reason for this is man himself. The rise in sex crimes is being fueled by pornography, movies, pornographic literature and mobile phones being posted on

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social media. Access to these pornographic materials has become much easier for people. That's why sex crimes are on the rise.

### **5. Others Causes**

The most common causes of physical and sexual abuse of children include poor education system, ignorance and lack of training, promotion of immoral and substandard content on media, mobile and social media, and internet, sexual and psychological incidents. In order to prevent them, special attention should be paid to the education and training of children as well as the system of their schools, mosques and madrassas. It can be prevented through education and training, schools, and the prevention of these diseases through legislation, administration and judicial proceedings, and in the light of Islamic teachings and guidelines, the causes and incidents of sexual and physical, psychological and educational abuse of children can be prevented.<sup>(3)</sup>

### ***The need and importance of the subject***

Violence has serious negative effects on children, both immediate and long-term. Sexual, physical violence can result in the death, injury or disability of a child, while psychological and educational violence can affect brain development and cause irreparable damage to the nervous and immune systems. As a result, the ability of children to develop institutions is delayed, their performance in school is poor, mental health problems arise, and they may be prone to suicide, self-harm. They can take yogurt and abuse other children when they grow up, thus increasing the risk of child abuse in society.

The incidence of violence against children has risen alarmingly in recent years, and alarming figures have emerged on child violence in Pakistan. Pakistan is a country with a young population, with 34.5% of the total population being children up to the age of 14. What is even more disturbing is that we have laws to prevent violence against children, but the implementation situation is very disappointing.<sup>(4)</sup>

All causes of sexual, physical, psychological, and educational violence against children are due to our distance from religion, moral values, drug use, prostitution, and the easy availability of sexually explicit material on mobile and the Internet. There are immoral, immoral values that have emerged as the root cause of the growing number of heinous incidents of sexual abuse of innocent children. Therefore, it is very important to remedy them so that the society becomes a cradle of peace and tranquility.

### ***Causes of sexual offenses against children***

The following sexual offenses are being committed against children in society:

- Sexual abuse of children
- Murder after rape
- Making sexually explicit pornographic videos and posting them on the Internet.

According to Sahil, a non-governmental organization working for children's rights in Pakistan, more than six children are sexually abused every day in Pakistan. In 60% of the cases, it has been pointed out that most of the child abusers are close relatives or family members. In 2017, there were 1,049 cases of child abduction. There were 467 cases of abuse of girls, 366 cases of abuse of boys, 206 cases of attempted rape, 180 cases of gang rape of boys, and 158 cases of gang rape of girls.

In 2018, more than 5,000 incidents of various crimes, including child abduction, violence and abuse, have been reported. Of these, more than 60 children were raped and killed. The

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Coast Guard reports that there have been more than 700 incidents of child molestation. More than 300 cases of missing children have been reported and more than 100 children have been gang-raped. Most of the crimes against children have taken place in rural and backward areas while 26% of the incidents have taken place in urban areas, the report said. According to the report, 56 per cent girls were affected in various crimes against children while boys were affected in 44 per cent cases. Moreover, in 2019 and 2020, the incidence of physical and sexual abuse of children has increased.<sup>(5)</sup>

In Islam, there is guidance on the punishment for crimes committed until the Day of Judgment. In the light of Islamic jurisprudence, if a criminal sexually assaults a child, he will be liable to adultery. If a child is killed after being raped, the punishment will be in the form of qisas. Under Pakistani law, rape is punishable by seven years in prison and a fine of Rs. 700,000, while murder is punishable by death. According to Islamic teachings, a married adulterer will be stoned, while an unmarried adult will be flogged a hundred times.<sup>(6)</sup>

### ***Prevention of violence against children***

The following measures are necessary to prevent sexual and physical abuse of children:

- Parents and teachers play a very important role in educating children. There are social elements in making a person guilty, such as children not informing their parents about their psychological problems, access to obscene material and bad company. Parents should pay attention to the moral training of their children. Be aware of their problems so that people can become active members of society instead of being criminals.
- Pornographic video websites should be blocked in the country.
- At the government level, the ruler should make it possible to establish a pure society in which the establishment of Salat should be arranged.
- Individuals should be made aware of the true spirit of Iqamat-e-Salah as prayer prevents immorality and impulsiveness. It is the responsibility of the government to promote a clean environment in the Islamic State in which individuals are morally trained Purify yourself by staying away from.
- All Parents, teachers and other members of the community need training and awareness to protect children.
- The government should take practical steps to alleviate poverty so that individuals can provide employment to the society and not make crime a source of livelihood.
- Parents and teachers should inform children about the misuse of modern technology.
- Ensure the independence of the judiciary in the state so that this crime can be prevented in the society. Those who are involved in child abuse, whether they are influential people or the poor should be severely punished.
- In addition to severe punishments for crime prevention, education and training, elimination of economic and social inequalities, proper training of law enforcement agencies and community involvement are essential.

In this important topic “The Rising Trend of Violence Against Children and Its Causes and Effects and Remedies (Study of Pakistani Society in Historical Context)”

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there should be thorough research on the causes and effects of violence and its causes. In the light of the laws of the country, prevention and remedial action should be explained, so that in the light of these instructions, the causes and incidents of all kinds of violence against children can be remedied.

### ***The solution to violence against children (In the light of Islamic teachings)***

According to Islamic teachings, a married adulterer should be stoned. Moreover, the unmarried should be flogged a hundred times. Almighty Allah has instructed about this:

((الرَّانِيَةُ وَالرَّانِي فَأَجْلِدُوا كُلَّ وَاحِدٍ مِّنْهُمَا مِائَةَ جَلْدَةٍ))<sup>(7)</sup>

The [Unmarried] Woman or [Unmarried] Man Found Guilty Of Sexual Intercourse - Lash Each One of Them with A Hundred Lashes-

A limit will be imposed on abusing girls, while abusing children (homosexuality) is called an ugly act. The jurists differ on the extent of adultery in this crime. In homosexuality, the nation of Lot (as) was afflicted. The people of Lot used to have sexual intercourse with men instead of women. In return for this crime, Allah Almighty rained stones on the people of Lot. The divine command is:

((فَلَمَّا جَاءَ أَمْرُنَا جَعَلْنَا عَالِيَهَا سَافِلَهَا وَأَمْطَرْنَا عَلَيْهَا حِجَابًا مِنْ سِجِّيلٍ مِّنْ صُورٍ))<sup>(8)</sup>

“When Our Decree issued, We turned (the cities) upside down, and rained down on them brimstones hard as baked clay, spread, layer on layer,-”

The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said:

"Cursed be the people who act like Lot." <sup>(9)</sup>

In another hadith, the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said:

"What I fear most about my ummah is the actions of Lot's people, that is, death worship." <sup>(10)</sup>

Referring to his punishment:

"Stone both the subject and the object." <sup>(11)</sup>

In addition, if a child is sexually abused, the perpetrator must be killed for committing this heinous act.

In this regard, the scholars of the entire Ummah have unanimously decided that those who commit such acts are of the same opinion that those who sexually abuse children should be killed. So that this ugly sin can be eradicated from the society.

### ***Objectives & Conclusions***

The research objectives of this article cover a wide range of issues. That parents; teachers and heads need to be made aware of the need to protect their children from such abuse. In this regard, the responsible gentlemen should teach all these things to their children.

- Tell the children that if anyone tries to touch their body or do anything with them that they find strange, then strictly forbid that person, come, and tell the parents.
- Teach children that respecting elders does not mean blind obedience, for example, children do not always have to do whatever your child or caregiver tells you to do.



- Encourage sexual violence prevention programs in schools.
- Children who have been sexually abused need immediate professional examination, help and treatment. Proper and effective treatment reduces the chances of a child developing serious problems later in life.
- To study the causes and incidents of harassment of children in the light of Pakistani society and to present suggestions and recommendations for their prevention and remediation.<sup>(12)</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Child abuse & neglect by parents & other caregivers, WHO, 4 March 2016.

<sup>2</sup>Surah An-Nur:19

<sup>3</sup> Child abuse & neglect by parents & other caregivers, The Essential Companion of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorder 5th Edition Childhood psychological abuse as harmful as sexual or physical, The American Psychological Association, 8 October 2015,page09.

<sup>4</sup> Shahid Masood's program banned for three days: March 12, 2018,<https://www.bbc.com/urdu/pakistan-43467832>

<sup>5</sup> More than nine children are being abused every day in Pakistan:Report 4<sup>th</sup> April 2018, <https://www.bbc.com/urdu/pakistan-43637489>.

<sup>6</sup> Crimes against children: More than 2,300 incidents this year, 57 children killed after rape,Report 31<sup>st</sup> 2018, <https://www.bbc.com/urdu/pakistan-45363622>.

<sup>7</sup> Al-Noor: 2

<sup>8</sup> Al-Hud: 82

<sup>9</sup> Al-Tirmidhi, Abu Isa Muhammad ibn Isa (279 AH) Al-Sunan, Kitab al-Hudood, Bab Had Zina,Hadith number: 2550

<sup>10</sup> Ibn Majah, Al-Sunan, Kitab al-Hudood, Chapter on the deeds of the people of Lot,Hadith Number: 2563

<sup>11</sup> Ibid: Hadith Number: 2562

<sup>12</sup> Sadia Gulzar, Violence against Children, Research Journal, Al-Alam, GC Women's University of Sialkot, Volume 2, Number 3, Page 12.