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Parents' Violence and Its Effects on Children's Compatibility
(Case Study Butterfly House Mehr City)

Parvane Doodman

Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences, PNU mailbox, 19395-3697, Tehran, Iran
Email: fdoodman@gmail.com

ABSTRACT ─ This paper examines the role of parental violence and its effect on confidence, aggression, and children's mental health. This study statistical population will comprise Mehr City high school students. The sampling method of this research is clustered. Measurement tools include conflict resolution of parents' tactics Scale questionnaire, Aggression questionnaire, Rosenberg Self-Esteem questionnaire and the General Health Questionnaire. Statistical analysis of data was performed by using there is not a significant relation between parents' aggression variable with self-esteem and general health of students. Moreover, the results of the study show that there is a significant relation between parents' aggression variable and students' violence. The findings suggest that parents' using of aggression destructive tactics will cause students' learning of this behavior and students also use this behavior in their daily life.

KEYWORDS: Parental Violence, Children Compatibility, Confidence, Aggression, Mehr City

Introduction

Family violence is a form of violence that occurs in almost all the countries around the world every day. Family violence is also a form of violence and crime in our country that kills many victims annually. Infanticide, parenticide, spousicide and killing brother and sister are the most important cases in which categorize in the family's murders. According to the files that will be sent to court, femicide has allocated the highest number of family's murders. In fact, women are the main victims of family's murders. Unlike the past when only men were, attempting to murder their wives and spousicide was considered male territory, this time women have turned in some cases to spousicide. Of course, the type of women's spousicide is different from men because based on available reports, women, unlike men kill their husbands by resorting to a third party and not-so-violent methods. However, men often use a knife or other types of cold weapons to kill their wives. Aggression is defined as a behavior that is going to hurt or harass someone else, self or objects. The traditional definition of aggression is defined as a behavior that is noticing in another person with the aim of harming him (Hezipavlemasno et al., 2001). Studies show that family violence is associated with social conflicts (Dudley Grant, Hall Perrin, Caslo, Reyes and others, 2004). Contradiction itself is a negative behavior and can affect the quality of relationships and have a positive or negative outcome. Contradiction may be limited from mental state to verbal or nonverbal actions and will be physical violence that damages another person (Glaze, 1999). Some researchers believe that the higher conflicts in the family will bring the highest risk of contradiction. In these researches, contradiction is considered as severe unmanaged conflict (Coleman & Strauss, 1998; Strauss, Glaze and Stein Metz, 1997; Warner, 1995). Studies have shown that children and adolescents, who are witnesses and victims of the conflict in their family environment, show a higher potential of behavioral problems (Horner, 2005). In addition, children who are in the family conflict, when witness the violence between their parents, their willingness to delinquent behaviors and suicide increase, as well as there is a continuous relation between parent's conflicts and behavioral problems such as aggression and lack of educational achievement (Cummings, 2006), numerous studies show that conflicts between parents has a negative impact on children and adolescents, when there is a conflict between parents in the home environment, children and adolescents usually are involving at the center of these conflicts. A study conducted by (Garish and Finn Cham, 2002) has shown that conflicts between parents have a negative impact on children and adolescents (Amato, 2000; Gordon, 2005). According to the definition provided by the World Health Organization in 2000, conflict in the family and violence in the relationship between parents will cause physical, psychological or sexual damages to those who are in this relationship. Conflicts between parents can lead to incompatibility, the risk of violence, directly on children who were exposed and were witnessed the conflicts, and all of these are associated with reducing the emotional health and behavioral disorders, including depression and anxiety disorders, delinquency and drug use in children and adolescents. These stresses also can affect children's social and emotional functioning. The conflicts at home and the lack of warmth in the relationship between parents are associated with children's academic failure. Wrong and improper communication between parents makes the child simulates the same behaviors with their peers (Schud & Lich, 2004). An increase in family's conflicts has a negative effect on the compatibility of its members (Richters and Martinez, 1999). The arisen conflicts in the family create issues and problems at the individual, institutional and social levels. At the individual level, family members who are in conflict with each other will lose their mental balance and

behaviors such as aggression and depression may be seen in them. Although married people that on average are healthier than single people, but family conflicts may endanger human health, and follow by a variety of physical and mental diseases. Among 30 percent of married couples in the United States, physical aggression happens that in 10 percent of them, resulting in severe physical injury (Fin Cham, 23: 2003). According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics in the United States, 3.5 million Family's conflicts have occurred between 1998 and 2003 years and more than 3 million American children that are between the ages of 3 and 17 years old are witnessing their parents' conflicts every year. Many studies have shown that when children witness parents' conflicts and are its victims, have the highest impact of this bitter event (Groves, 2002; Horner, 2005; Mahoney and Campbell, 2000). Although, many poor function and disorders can be seen in Western families, there are not in the family of Iranian society, but there are signs and effects in terms of cultural, social and personality that alarm bells for us. Iranian society is going through a traditional society to a modern society, so in these families, especially parents, are always faced with more problems. In other words, the rules of modern society on the one hand and traditional views on the other hand, are out the parents in a bad condition (Mohseni and Pourreza Anwar, 2005). In developing societies like Iran, lack of adequate research on parental conflicts, according to the unwillingness of respondents to talk about personal matters, sometimes, make the study and research in this field impossible (sarookhani, 2004). Members of such a society, always think that their entry into this field is unacceptable. Thus, they condemn and ignore it, so in such communities, many cases of parental conflicts have not been reported. Therefore, there are no clear and definite statistics about the extent of parental conflicts among Iranian families (Azazi, 2004). In recent years, members of Iranian families, who suffer from this problem, try to go to counseling centers and talk about their problems, take steps in order to comfort and treat it. People referring to these centers are a sign of a serious and a big problem that many families in Iran are affected by it. This dangerous family's conflict phenomenon is hidden itself behind a variety of factors and has shown itself in various forms in human society in general and the family in particular (Car, 2002). Therefore, since regarding the impact of family violence and conflicts on Iranian adolescents, little research has been done; this research goal is clear on this matter.

Theoretical Foundations
Biological theory
The higher hereditary synchronization has seen in violent families and several biological factors such as the impact of drugs and drug abuse, hormone levels, damage to certain brain regions and neurotransmitters have been implicated in the violence process alternately (Bordbar, 2008**).**

The Cognitive Theory
According to the cognitive theory, aggression is social information processing, the successive steps processing function that includes encoding social cues, interpretation of social cues, identifies the objectives, access to the answer, deciding to response and behavior approval. According to this model, it is assumed, skillful processing at every step is resulting in better performance in certain situations, while incomplete processing lead to deviant social behavior "aggression" (Crick and Dodge, 2000), At least two general social information processing patterns have been attributed to aggressive people. The first pattern includes flaws in the social cues interpretation step. Researches on differences between individuals in the social cues interpretation step have shown that aggressive people show hostile documents in response to vague provocative situations (Guerra and Slabi, 1999). In the second social information-processing pattern that is a character of aggressive people, flaws will happen in the decision to response step. During this stage, the individual possible behavioral responses to a particular position will be evaluated according to several criteria (e.g., type of possible outcome that is provided for each answer and the degree of confidence that he feels in his ability to answer). Therefore, for these people, aggression is as a way to get the desirable and favorable goals (Crick and Dodge, 2000).

Motivational theory
According to motivational theorists' beliefs, failure is a major cause of aggression that causes a state of arousal in a person that appears in the proper context. As a result, to control the aggression, we should think of ways that can minimize the failure (Ransford, 1968, as quoted by Aronson, 2001).

Refining role in reducing aggressive behavior is clearly stated: "expressing any aggressive action is a refinement that reduces further aggressive actions". In other words, the concept of refining implies that if you can pour out your anger out of the chest by performing the aggressive action, the possibility to perform an aggressive action in the next case will be reduced. Motivational proponents believe that "imagination" is another way to reduce aggression. Although it has been determined that the behavior will be aggressive, but it's better form which means reducing aggressive behavior by the aggressive fantasies is not research supported so much, but is emphasized "behavior refined" by a further investigation, meaning to find the opportunity to express aggression during failures will reduce the subsequent aggressive behavior (Conchesni, 1975, as quoted by Aronson, 2001).

Social learning theory
Violence is a behavior that is earned and maintained like other activities. From this perspective, the individual violence is rooted in factors such as the aggressive individual's past experience, learning and a vast range of factors related to his external position. Experience the contrasting behaviors of parents, lack of proper family functions, viewing drug abuse in parents and its future violence, can increase the possibility of committing family's violence in children and drug abuse in adulthood that is followed by

the intergenerational persistence of addiction and violence, along with structural changes in the family and in these situations the prevailing in the vicious cycle of addiction and family violence will be increased (Conchesni, 1975, as quoted to Aronson, 2001).

Research Hypotheses
1- There is a significant relation between parental aggressions with student's self-esteem.
2- There is a significant relation between parental aggressions with student's public health.
3- There is a significant relation between parental aggressions with student's conflict resolution.

Research Methodology
The aim of this study was to investigate the role of parental conflicts in children's compatibility (self-esteem, aggression and mental health). In this study, parents' conflict is the predicted variable and depression, aggression and mental health variables are predictor variables. This research sampling method is a cluster. Measurement tools include parents' conflict resolution tactical questionnaire, Aggression questionnaire, Rosenberg Self-Esteem questionnaire and the General Health Questionnaire. Statistical analysis of data was performed by using the correlation matrix and regression analysis and by using spss software. Data analysis was done based on research hypotheses.

Research Findings
Descriptive findings related to the research variables
The descriptive findings related to the research variables (aggression and its dimensions, self-esteem, general health, conflict resolution tactics of father and mother) are given.
Descriptive findings of aggression and its dimensions

Variable	Number	Average
Physical aggression	100	21.5
Verbal aggression	100	48.2
Anger	100	15.8
Hostility	100	14.5
(Aggression (total score	100	100

As it can be seen from the table above, among aggression dimensions the highest average is related to verbal aggression. Therefore, considering the devastating effects of verbal aggression, parents and families' attention to this matter is necessary.
Descriptive findings of self-esteem and general health variables

Variable	Number	Average
Self-esteem	100	18.32
General Health	100	16.90

The above table shows that the average of self-esteem and general health variables respectively are 18.32 and 16.90.
Descriptive findings of parents' conflict resolution tactics

Variable	Number	Minimum	Maximum	Average
Argumentative Conflict Resolution (father)	100	0	23	5.95
Verbal Aggression Conflict resolution(father)	100	0	25	9.42
Physical Aggression Conflict resolution(father)	100	0	24	8.97
Argumentative Conflict Resolution (mother)	100	0	24	11.02
Verbal Aggression Conflict resolution(mother)	100	0	25	9
Physical Aggression Conflict resolution(mother)	100	0	25	7.3

Analytical findings
Correlation test
The First hypothesis: there is a significant relation between parental aggressions with student's self-esteem.
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Correlation test results show that there is no significant relation between these two variables.

Correlations

		y1	x1
y1	Pearson Correlation	1	.128
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.020
	N	100	100
x1	Pearson Correlation	.128	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.206	
	N	100	100

The second hypothesis: there is a significant relation between aggressions variable of parent with student's general health. Correlation test in below table shows that there is no significant relation between aggressions variable of parent with student's general health.

Correlations

		y1	x2
y1	Pearson Correlation	1	.022
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.829
	N	100	100
x2	Pearson Correlation	.022	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.829	
	N	100	100

The third hypothesis: there is a significant relation between parental aggressions with student's conflict resolution. Correlation test results show that there is no significant relation between two variables in below table.

Correlations

		y1	x3
y1	Pearson Correlation	1	.235 *
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.019
	N	100	100
x3	Pearson Correlation	.235 *	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.019	
	N	100	100

*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

Regression test:

To review, variables that have the most effect on aggression variable should be specified. According to the following tables, 33 percent of aggression variables are predictable by these three variables and among these three variables; the conflict resolution variable has the most predicting ability of aggression variable.

Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.249[a]	.062	.033	.89621

a. Predictors: (Constant), x3, x2, x1

ANOVA[b]

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	5.083	3	1.694	2.109	.104[a]
	Residual	77.107	96	.803		
	Total	82.190	99			

a. Predictors: (Constant), x3, x2, x1
b. Dependent Variable: y1

Coefficients[a]

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	1.770	.439		4.028	.000
	x1	.110	.134	.083	.823	.412
	x2	-.005	.095	-.005	-.051	.959
	x3	.173	.081	.219	2.149	.034

a. Dependent Variable: y1

Conclusion

The research results show that there is no significant relation between parental aggression variable with self-esteem and general health of students. Moreover, the results show that there is a significant relation between parental aggression variable with students' violence. Children, who have grown in stressful families, use less positive communication skills in their lives and show aggressive behavior toward others and may carry out crime and anti-social behavior. Aggression in children can be due to social learning and inspire from their parents. Children inspire their parents because of the interaction and coexistence with their parents and replicate with them. When children grow up in families with many conflicts and do not learn how to solve conflicts from their parents correctly, they cannot properly deal with problems in their adulthood and respond their conflicts with aggression and inappropriate manners. They are seeking to solve their problems. Bitter experiences of childhood and incorrect modeling can leave irreparable consequences in a child's future. Observing parental conflict and their poor marital relationships may have an adverse effect on the success of children's marriage in the future. According to the emotional safety theory, unhealthy marital relationships with endangering children's safe feeling, will affect their compatibility.Behavioral reflections of Children and Adolescents are proof of this claim that the feeling of children's emotional safety depends on the quality of relationships within their family. Conflicts between parents can provide a significant possibility of divorce, conflict and the disintegration of family and the physical and emotional inability of parents or transmit the family's unresolved hostilities to child-parent interactions. When at home and family, there is not a friendly and quiet atmosphere and the parents' relationship with each other are along with the tension and strife, the child in these circumstances, does not find the opportunity for self-expression and independence that this pattern of communication is resulting in a lack of confidence in him which in turn causes the teenager cannot easily express his emotions and feelings to family members. Tension and conflict between the parents as well as harming to parents and children, make these stress and suppression patterns transmit from the marital relationship of couples to the relationship between parent - child. Reducing the parental warmth, increasing parents' rejection and hostility, and parents' less sensitivity in parenting behaviors is related to a child's problems. Parental Conflicts make the children suffer from fear, stress, anger and experiencing the repeated exposure to the conflict can lead to behavioral problems and physical health problems in children and adolescents. Studies have shown that parents who are experiencing significant marital conflicts can have a lack of energy or required motivation to interact effectively with their children. Children who live in families with high conflict, show more stress towards parental conflict and unsuccessful comply with stressful events can lead to short-term and long-term adverse consequences, especially when these events occur in childhood or adolescence can influence psychological, cognitive and social development. The child's physical and mental health depending on the relationships that the family has with him and to what extent they attempt to satisfy his needs. Children who are not provided emotionally and safely in the family during childhood, will suffer a variety of problems and due to the family ill situation, it leads to crimes and murder in their adulthood. Family violence, parental conflict will not bring up a healthy character. Family health, personal balance and their familiarity with the principles that can make healthier family environment, is very important.

In other words, violence and parents' aggression are a threat to the entire family and endanger the integrity of the family. Marital Conflict will stop parents' emotional availability to children and reduce the child's trust to a family as a source of immunity. Parents should be vigilant and be aware that how their relationships at home can have an effect on children so that to undermine their future and destiny. As long as the parents' behavior will not be corrected and the ravages in the family are not under the control of and criteria, there will be no hope for children's correction. It is necessary that parents and other family old members are great role models for their children. Warm and sincere relations in the family, at first, make the youth to learn those and by imitating and repeating them, perform these behaviors. Children and adolescents are valuable assets of any country and for their mental health, more efforts, should be done. These research findings emphasize the need for special attention to adolescents that live in families with serious conflicts and tension. Due to the numerous and extensive damages that teenagers suffer in more tension environments, it is necessary, in addition to counseling sessions for parents, an expert review should be done about the qualifications of some stressful parents that have not an adequate mental health for parenting and necessary measures should be done in this regard.

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