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ENG1121

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**Research Question:** In what ways does domestic violence affect learner performance in school?

**Introduction:**

I got interested in the question because my classmate has been a victim of domestic violence. Another significant reason I got interested in domestic violence as my research topic is its negative impact on learners and the learning environment (Jenney and Alaggia 265). Specifically, domestic violence increases the chances of substance abuse and truancy, impacting a learner's performance negatively (Mahapatro 5). Comprehensively, I got interested in the topic to satisfy my curiosity about domestic violence's overall impact on children.

The main reason why I am interested in this research question is to identify the various ways in which domestic violence impacts learners and the learning environment. Specifically, learners are the unseen victims of domestic violence who suffer in silence, an aspect that dramatically disrupts their concentration on learning (Rogers 110). Jenney and Alaggia maintain that domestic violence victims consequently transfer these uncouth behavior patterns like aggressiveness from their households to the classroom environment, which adversely affects learners and the learning environment (265). Mahapatro also explains that the recent surge in numbers of learners unable to complete assignments given by their teachers is another negative impact of domestic violence (10). Precisely, my interest in studying domestic violence is charged

by the connection between poor performance in academic work, difficulties in completing classroom assignments, and struggle with social skills among children who have experienced domestic violence.

I expect to find substantial evidence to support the connection between poor academic performance and domestic violence. A comprehensive analysis of the learner's previous academic records against the current academic performance in question can provide useful information on domestic violence impacts on learners (Cross 335). Moreover, I expect learners from families with domestic violence cases to explain why they are, on several occasions, unable to complete schoolwork assigned by their teachers. Cross reveals that domestic violence significantly reduces the learner's energy, interest, and concentration levels in completing the work assigned by their tutors (340). Still, from the research question on domestic violence, I expect to establish the factors behind the difficulty in maintaining learners' standard social behaviors. The research question should also help me derive crucial information from the learners explaining their poor display of the expected social behavior, such as interaction with others in classroom discussions.

Suppose I find something that does not fit my hypothesis on this research question, I will change my data collection techniques because the subjects might be unwilling to share private information on domestic violence. Specifically, I will focus my attention on my primary research subjects, which, in my case, are learners from families that exhibit domestic violence cases. Similarly, I will use the information provided by their parents because they spend a significant amount of time with the children; therefore, parents are better positioned to make accurate observations. In that regard, I will adjust my research questions and ensure that they seek to

establish domestic violence effects while maintaining ethics and without violating or infringing on their private life.

**Citation:**

Cross, Courtney. "Harm Reduction in the Domestic Violence Context." *The Politicization of safety*, 2019, pp. 332–361., doi:10.18574/nyu/9781479805648.003.0014.

**Summary:**

Hazard mitigation is a theory of thinking developed from public health procedures: harm mitigation aims to reduce the potential hazards correlated with elevated-risk actions to lead people participating with such actions to minimize potential damage. This article suggests that damage prevention strategies ought to be applied in the sense of domestic abuse, especially when engaging with perpetrators who have not ended their violent marriages for various causes. In this case, damage mitigation may involve delivering treatment in line with the personality-identified desires and aspirations of victims, which is not dependent on terminating the partnership. It will also rejuvenate the broader domestic assault campaign by turning the emphasis aside from one-size-fits-all social justice strategies and back to victim empowerment and collective concerns by directly integrating harm mitigation concepts into domestic assault procedures (Cross, 337). The author's main idea is the implementation of mitigation practices within the household, especially to save marriages and save the kids as well. This can allow each party, both the perpetrators and the victims, to acquire the necessary services and desired goals in either quitting marriage or solving this violence's causes.

**Reflection:**

I agree with the text and the author's idea. Domestic violence, at times, arises from a lack of communication among the family members. Consequently, violence may become prevalent due

to a lack of communication by the victims. When mitigation procedures to reduce the harm of this violence are deployed in the domestic context, both parties are accorded equal opportunities to argue their case. “Harm reduction in this context would include providing services in accordance with survivors’ self-identified needs and goals—services that are not contingent on ending the relationship,”(Cross, 333); from this quote, it is evident that the domestic context aid will offer just opportunity for both parties involved in the violent practices. I need to take a look at the various practices of harm reduction and how they will consider all the ethical factors involved in these situations. This article gives insight into my research question. It will aid mainly in the recommendation section of my research on reducing these harms on students.

**Quotation:**

“Explicit incorporation of harm reduction principles into domestic violence practice would also re energize the larger domestic violence movement by shifting the focus away from one-size-fits-all criminal justice solutions and back onto survivor autonomy and community needs.” ( Cross, 333). This quote emphasizes the main idea of harm reduction in a just way for both domestic violence victims.

**Citation:**

Mengo, Cecilia, and Beverly M. Black. "Violence Victimization on a College Campus: Impact on GPA and School Dropout." *Journal of College Student Retention: Research, Theory & Practice*, vol. 18, no. 2, Sage Publications Sage CA: Los Angeles, CA, 2016, pp. 234–248.

**Summary :**

The article reflects the effects of internal violence on the education of the students at tertiary levels in the United States. It focuses on the impacts of sexual assaults on these students and the consequent outcomes on the learner's mental health. The article provides an insight into the impacts of internal violence on the education of the students at tertiary levels in the United States. The article provides the bivariate examination of both the physical and sexual victimization and their impacts on the performance of the learner and the dropout rate. Further, students assaulted both physically and sexually are susceptible to mental problems due to stigmatization and self-sympathy.

**Reflection:**

The critical reason why I chose this article for my research is that I have witnessed my close friends traumatized by internal violence. Another reason that made me choose this topic is its negative impacts on learners, which affect their academic performance. Further, I would admire to examine the impacts of sexual and physical assaults, specifically among college students, where such cases are often reported. Additionally, domestic violence is deemed as a critical contributor to substance abuse among students, which leads to an increased dropout rate in colleges and secondary schools.

**Quotation:**

The article quotes, "domestic violence has significant impacts on the university students' mental health." This quote preempts the key impacts which are associated with domestic violence on school children.

**Citation:**

Jenney, Angelique, and Ramona Alaggia. "The Impact of Exposure to Domestic Violence on Children and Youth." *The Routledge International Handbook of Violence Studies*, 2018, pp. 264–276., doi: 10.4324/9781315270265-25.

**Summary:**

This study examines the various socio-emotional effects of parents' function and hazard drivers and preventive variables on kids from infancy to adulthood. At any transitional level, the distress of childhood sensitivity to household abuse is identified as a major issue. Because of their immature psychological potential to interpret dangerous sensory knowledge, control emotions, or efficiently express anxiety, kids as little as a year old have exhibited disturbance effects. In this study, Ramona Alaggia and M target defining durability mechanisms and strategies for CEDV utilizing their analysis results (Jenney and Ramona, Pg. 270). Donohue outlines fields that can be regarded as proponents of sustainability. The article illustrates the variety of influences throughout the growth of a kid, considering that, based on their household settings, several kids may sadly undergo IPV interference at any point in their growth. The study's main point is the risk at which children stand to get influenced by domestic violence due to their immature development capacity.

**Reflection:**

I agree with the main point. It is indeed factual to state that kids' cognitive development is lower compared to the adults, and the latter actions might affect the former either positively or negatively. The development of the kids depends a lot on the environment they live in. When the

environment is harsh, with domestic violence, then the kids are probably going to suffer from trauma or detrimental physical injuries. The authors state that "Trauma in childhood exposure to domestic violence (CEDV) is cited as a significant concern at every developmental stage," which is true since during development, the kids may not have the cognitive capacity to manage such incidents ((Jenney and Ramona, Pg. 265). The text is with well digestible points; thus, I have no question for the authors. I need to read more and understand the different types of influences that the environment will have on childhood development and how this can be modified. The document supports my research statement since I am looking to examine the effects of domestic violence on children in their schooling environment. The author's writing style impresses me since they hit straight to the point and argue with the use of several examples in their study. The authors' intended audience may include home-based caregivers on mental issues, parents involved in domestic violence, and teachers who handle the different students in the classroom environment. This is a source from a peer-reviewed book that is available on reliable sites and can be accessed on the internet.

**Quotation:**

“The study highlights the range of impacts across the span of a child’s development, keeping in mind that many children may unfortunately experience IPV exposure at every stage in their development, depending on their home environments” (Jenney and Ramona, Pg. 265). This quote supports the fact that children cannot change their background and may be affected negatively by their caregivers' acts in the family setting.

**Conclusion:**

The most common abuse when it comes to domestic violence is emotional abuse, and physical abuse. Each of these abuses can affect your mental health, and well being, which oftentimes may lead to death, suicides, and other issues. Finally, the sources adopted above provide a comprehensive understanding of the impacts of domestic violence, which affect the learners' performance at all levels of academic life. It also helps to expound on secondary impacts like engagement in drug abuse.

#### Works Cited

Jenney, Angelique, and Ramona Alaggia. "The Impact of Exposure to Domestic Violence on Children and Youth." *The Routledge International Handbook of Violence Studies*, 2018, pp. 264–276., doi:10.4324/9781315270265-25.



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