



Parent's Knowledge, Attitude and Practices (KAP) Regarding Child Molestation Prevention: A Study of Child Molestation Cases in Pakistan

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Child molestation prevention practices are now highly recognized by family institution; especially by the parents. The objective of this study is to investigate parent's knowledge, attitude and practices regarding child molestation in district Multan. A cross sectional survey research was conducted on parents' n=385 parents participated in this research. Respondents were selected through systematic sampling technique responses were collected through adapted questionnaire of Chen *et al.* (2007) and Salloum *et al.* (2019). Responses were analyzed through statistical package for social sciences (SPSS-22) software. Results were presented through frequency and percentage. This study concluded that parents had good knowledge and had positive attitude towards child molestation but paucity was observed in parent's communication practices regarding child molestation. Limitation and practical implications of the results are discussed. Recommendations for child molestation prevention program including training of parents regarding the appropriate practices for this population are provided. The findings of this paper would be a meaningful contribution in the existing literature.

Keywords: *Knowledge, Attitude, Practices, Children, Parents, Molestation, Prevention, Multan*



1.0. Introduction

Just about 1 billion children are exposed to molestation every year around the globe. Statistics of child molestation are reported low in low and middle income countries, though probable estimates suggest >25% for girls and >10% for boys. Child molestation is mostly remaining unreported in developing and under developing countries (Salloum *et al.* 2019). For example, in a report of Pakistan today (2021) data collected from all the provinces of Pakistan showed that about 1,896 cases of child molestation are informed during the year of 2021. Among these 1,896 about 523 children were kidnapped, while 238 children were missing and about 51 child marriages were registered. These reports stated that 1,013 (53%) were girl victims and 883 (47%) were boys. Majority of the children 640 were in the age span of 11-15 year and 409 children lying in the age of 6-10 year targeted to various forms of molestation from previous six months.

Prior studies shed light on the various consequences of child molestation including mental and physical illness in childhood and persisting into adolescence (Daigneault *et al.*, 2017; Hébert, Langevin & Oussaïd, 2018). While professionals like teachers and doctor may play a pivotal role in child molestation prevention another important predictor of prevention is parental guidance and communication about molestation with their children (Walsh & Brandon, 2012; Herzong & Schmahl, 2018).

Defining Child Molestation

International organizations such as World health organization (2017) and United Nations Fund (Unicef, 2017) sees the magnitude of the child molestation and its types of sexually abusive away from physical contact (Murray, Nguyen & Cohen, 2014). WHO defined child molestation as:

‘An engagement of a children or any juvenile into sexual action that the juvenile does not fully understand and is unable to give permission to, or for which the juvenile is not mentally ready and cannot provide permission, violates social taboos and law of the society. Child molestation can be understood in tri-categories (i) non-physical sexual molestation i.e. threats of sexual molestation, vocal sexual harassment, indecent display, display of pornography in front of child, (ii) physical sexual molestation (sexual assault or rape) and (iii) physical sexual molestation in terms of kissing, touching and fondling excluding sexual intercourse’ (17;pp 1-2).

For a nation, one of the most important assets is its adolescents or juveniles because growth and development of a country depends on them. They form a vulnerable group of society. Child molestation tends to be a blanket term that sources a range of ambiguously defined sexual acts (Calder, 1999). Violent acts are increasing day by day among children in the world. Violence is a major threat to the welfare and safety of any society. Researchers believe that child molestation



is a silent crime because it always occurs in secrecy and this fact makes it difficult to prove and prosecute (Calder, 1999). The abuse of children has always happened throughout history and beyond cultures (Radbill, 1980). Therefore it can be said that child molestation is a global concern. It has been estimated to affect 2% to 62% of female child and 3% to 16% of male child as victims (Johnson, 2004). The variation in the percentage of child molestation depends on the definition of molestation according to each culture and country.

Sexual molestation education is considered the most important, yet often snubbed, feature of child's education. According to American Pediatric academy recommendation, parents assistance for their child to realize sexuality in an appropriate manner, as lessons and an aspect of social values learned in premature ages of child possible to stay with children till they grow up to adulthood (Kenny, Crocco & Long, 2020). It has also been recommended that various topics such as sexual molestation, dating, contraception and reproduction should be discussed with children by the parents in healthy way, because parents are the primary caregivers and should be child's sexuality educators as well (Breuner & Mattson, 2016). Hence they probably need help and encouragement whereas most of the parents keep these communications save until adolescence (Dilorio *et al.* 2003) there is need for the parents to discuss these issues with children in early childhood.

1.1. Parents knowledge Attitude and Practices Regarding KAP

According to Jin, Chen and Yu (2019) and Ashraf *et al.* (2019) parenting has been playing a complex role in protecting and educating their child (Ashraf *et al.*, 2019) Shinde and Tendolkar (2019) child molestations considered to be a widespread issue in present time around the globe. Researcher and sexuality experts recommended that there is a significant role of parental attachment and parental literacy has an important role in encouraging safety and strengthens the preventing mechanism of child molestation in society. Educated parents easily understand the situation and act according to the need of the situation that lead towards the positive behavior to preventing strategies for a healthy family. Henceforth, there has been a strong indication that parents should be more qualified to become leaders of the society to encourage the people for implementing the prevention strategies.

Whereas few studies assessed parent's doubts regarding prevalence, the task of evaluating right knowledge is still complicated due to the fact that prevalence estimates mentioned in researches are only estimates and are different among populations studied. For instance, Finkelhor (1994) reviewed prevalence of child molestation in nineteen countries was comparable with of statistics of United States of America which was 7%-36% for girls and 3%-29% for boys. Child molestation prevention practices are now been reported much higher than before hence Anderson *et al.*, (2004), Reppucci *et al.* (2005) and Resofsky (2007) said that both parents and juveniles must be active in this regard. For the development of effective parental training program it is



necessary to have understanding about the parents that how they perceive and respond to child molestation that is what is parents KAP regarding risk of child molestation.

Parent's attitude and beliefs regarding child molestation can be summarized in terms of perceived risk of abuse, level of comfort when they discuss this topic with their children, perceived responsibility for educating their juveniles, possible risk factors promoting molestation, attitude towards preventive programs, intent to talk over about prevention with their young ones. Parental practice related to child molestation prevention including talks about the prevention of sexual molestation and other sensitive topics with the children and some other protective mechanisms employed the usage of teaching methods, information sources and actual attendance at preventive programs.

About 25 years ago, in 1984 an estimated of 29% of US parents have discussed child molestation with their children (Finkelhor), 22%-55% have been observed during 1987 (Wurtele & Miller-Perrin) and 64.1% during the year of 1989 (Nibert *et al.* 1989). These statistics have been declined to 51.9% in 1992 and 29% during 2004, consequently, 23% in 2007. While McGee and Painter (1991) reported 64% parents discussed child molestation information with their children in Canada. In China, Chen and Chen (2005) 59% and 66.5% in 2007 talked about it with their children. These rates are higher than US studies. It has been noticed that mothers have been more likely to be involved in discussing this issue with their child than fathers (Chen *et al.*, 2007; Rubim, 1993; Finkelhor, 1984; Thomas *et al.*, 2004). Whereas fathers inclined to accede dialogue of child molestation prevention concerns to mothers (Collins, 1996).

In Pakistan, more than 52 % of its population consists of person less than 19 years of age (State of Children in Pakistan, 2015). According to Malik (2010) the cases of child molestation are being increased on daily basis but still got less concentration due to sensitivity of the nature of the topic because it is considered a socio-cultural taboo in Pakistan. Molestation statistics are not officially available, this fact make it more difficult to cope with this problem (Malik, 2010). The news international reported police records 2017 showed that an average of 3 child rape cases daily and 40 murder cases of children <10 year are being reported in different regions of Punjab overall statistics were 2,841 and in the next year Dogar and Khattak (2019) total 14 children were murdered after rape including Zainab in Kasur District in early months of 2018 and total cases were 3,832. In 2019 a total of 2,846 cases of various types of child molestation were reported and 114 cases of child marriages were reported in all provinces of Pakistan (Geo News, 2019) In 2020, about 2,960 and average 8 cases daily (the news, 2020).

The objective of the current study is to examine the Multan's parent's knowledge, attitude and practices (KAP) in adolescent molestation stoppage in an exertion to monitor a local child molestation inhibition program and to add to the narrow knowledge about parents understanding and response to child molestation at both national and international levels.



1.3 Objective

Following are the objectives of the study;

- 1- To analyze the knowledge of parents regarding preventing strategies of child molestation.
- 2- To investigate the parental attitude towards child molestation.
- 3- To explore the practices of parents in order to prevent their children from being victim of child molestation.
- 4- To explore the solution to eradicate this alarming issue in Pakistan.

2.0 Literature review

Jin, Chen and Yu (2019) parenting has been playing a complex role in protecting and education their child. The objective of this research was to explain the parental perceptions and practices of Chinese parents in terms of health behavior change theory and also analyzing the parenting mechanism regarding child physiological abuse. A cross sectional survey research was designed by following positivist approach to investigate hypothesized relationship between independent and dependent measures. A survey questionnaire comprised of socio-demographic, parents understanding, mind-set, instructions about child physiological abuse and teaching child regarding anticipation from physiological abuse distributed in 452 families and data was collected from parents (mother, father) and their child. Structural equation model (SEM) was applied on the data to find out the hypothesized relationship among parents and children. Results from statistical analysis show that there is reciprocal relationship between parents understanding regarding child physiological abuse and their educational performance.

Shinde and Tendolkar (2019) child physiological abuse is considered to be a widespread issue in present time. The first objective of the research was to review the significance and consequences of physiological abuse of children and assessment of child safety reforms to prevent them from persecution. Secondly, to suggest the child oriented implications and suggestions for another approaches to primary impediment. Thirdly, to identify effectual clarification to encourage parents, child rearing practices, parents-educator leader on the impediment of child physiological abuse in parents.

A systematic review of digital databases was commenced for evaluating mechanism to parenting support. There is significant role of parental attachment and teachers play an important role in academic achievement of children. Parental literacy has an important role in encouraging safety and strengthens the preventing mechanism of child abuse and neglect. Educated parents easily understand the situation and act according to the need of the situation that lead towards the positive behavior to preventing strategies for a healthy family. Henceforth, there has been a strong indication that parents should be more qualified to become leaders of the society to encourage the people for implementing the prevention strategies.



Rudolph *et al.* (2018) Child abuse impediment has been widely relying on child oriented education and also training the children that how they can stay away from physiological abuse. the objective of the research was to find out the role of parents in protecting their children in subsequent manner: i) supervision and monitoring of children through direct involvement in children oriented activities ii) by encouraging children self-esteem, proficiency, wellbeing that is helpful for the children to be less likely to be the victim of abuse and more able to respond whenever it occurs. Child physiological abuse has been directly influenced by the parents child rearing and guiding practices. Similarly, this study suggested that parents should be persuaded to discuss the physiological abuse safety with their children.

Steen and Burg (2018) child abuse and prevention strategies have been playing a vital role in both society and individual lives to save their child from being victim of harsh incidents of child abuse. The objective of this research was to find out the child abuse prevention materials. For the purpose of attaining the research objectives a quantitative research design was used. Afterwards, a total number of 600 parents were randomly selected and surveyed from online research panel. Hypothesized relationship was analyzed through multiple regression analysis. The findings of the research indicated that there is significant relationship among revelation to the preventing material with four different mechanisms such as effects of child abuse, highly directed parenting demands, corporal threats, requires unique to childhood and lastly having the authority to save their child from abuse. These findings are helpful for the researchers who are interested in seeking to design and conduct the research on planning and implementing effective campaign materials.

Stoltenborgh *et al.* (2011) unite the occurrence figures of child molestation mentioned in 217 publications since 1980 to 2008 comprising independent sample of 9,911,748 participants. The overall incidence was 172/1000 reported cases and 4/1000 in informant cases. The results indicated that child molestation is more common among females 180/1000 than among male 76/1000. There is a lower ratio of victimized boys 41/1000 and girls 113/1000 in Asian countries than European countries such as in girls 215/1000 and 193/1000 in boys. The findings indicated that there is high prevalence of child molestation.

Deblinger *et al.* (2010) investigated the parental practices to educate their children regarding child physiological abuse. A total number of 750 parents of children having the mean age 8.5 years were selected for this research from 750 only 289 participants were voluntaries to give response to the survey questionnaire comprised of socio-demographic and direct or indirect guidelines regarding child physiological abuse and their practices to educate their children about this issue. As previous researches indicated that their parents are continuously focusing on preventing their child to meet strangers and provide limited information about nature and secrecy of physiological abuse. The findings of this research were supported with the results of previous researches despite the differences in methods and sampling techniques.



3.0. Material and Methods

3.1. Procedure

Researchers obtained internal review board approval and used appropriate method for recruitment. As unit of analysis were parents of higher secondary school children of Multan-Southern Punjab, Pakistan. Hence, recruitment of the respondents was done through government higher secondary schools in district Multan-Southern Punjab, Pakistan previously done by Asif *et al.* (2021). In the first stage researchers made the strata of all five towns of Multan e.g. Bosan town, Shah Rukne Alam, Sher Shah town, Shujabad town and Jalalpur Pirwala town. In the second phase, researchers selected two higher secondary schools of each town through simple random sampling technique. Boys and girls schools were targeted in the same ratio in this study i.e. 5:5.

After getting consent from the head of each school; students had taken bilingual (English & Urdu) questionnaire to their homes prepared for the parents of all students of the school. Inclusion criterion for the parents was having at least one child age 3-18 year. The parents were free to select either English format or Urdu format in accordance with their convenience. The first item of the survey was comprised of printed consent that bounded the nature and purpose of the research and clarified confidentiality of personal information. There was no reward for the respondents in the study. Three hundred and eighty five parents assessed the survey. Some responses were incomplete while some of the respondents stated no plan to discuss such topics henceforth they did not took part in this analysis.

3.2. Sample size

Sample size $n=385$ was determined by using Krejcie and Morgan table (1970) prior utilized by Fatima, Ashraf and Imam (2021) for sample size determination.

3.3. Measures

Questionnaire was developed with the help of key indicators of prior literature (Calvert & Munsie-Benson, 1999; Tutty, 1993; Finkehor & Strapko, 1992; Chen, Dunne & Han, 2008; Salloum *et al.* 2019) and results were derived from the responses of parents regarding child molestation in Multan-Pakistan. Following measures were used to assess the KAP of the parents;

3.4. Demographics



For the present study, demographic data were gathered at the start of the questionnaire encompassed the consequent: Parent's gender, Age span in year, qualification, monthly income, number of children below the age of 18 year and if they are living in rural or urban area.

3.5. Knowledge about Child Molestation

If parents are educated their juveniles about molestation, they need to be admired about child molestation. Important features of children molestation to have awareness about understanding who probable abuser, possible determinants by age, inter-sectional home based violence and child molestation. Parents were asked about child molestation is prevailing in all over the world, molestation is always done by a familiar person, a molester always repeat the offense, molestation is the fault of offender, there are no obvious physical evidence, boys cannot be molested, children do not disclose about the abuser when they get molested, children who report molested can be believed? And children are always molested by men. All these measures were adapted from Chen *et al.* (2007) and Salloum *et al.* (2019). Responses were categorized in terms of 'yes', 'no' and 'may be' ranging from (0-2)

3.6. Attitude about Child Molestation

Attitude towards child molestation generally refers to the thoughts and perspectives of the parents about child molestation. In this study, parent's attitude towards child molestation was measured through assessing need for prevention program of child molestation, willingness to tell children about molestation, children will learn about molestation when they will grew up, and molestation is not a major problem in our area, if children are discussed about it they will get too much knowledge about sex. All these measures were adapted from Chen *et al.* (2007) and Salloum *et al.* (2019) Three point Likert scale of "disagree" "neutral" and "agree" was used ranging from (0-2).

3.7. Practices about Child Molestation

In this section parents were analyzed in terms of practices when they use to guide their children regarding molestation. Parents were asked about talking to children about their private parts, guide children to say clear "no" if someone tries to see/touch her private parts, inform parents or a trusted adult if they are molested, direct children to not to go outside home without the permission of parents with even a known person, do not get gifts from the strangers unless we give you permission, do not give with the stranger to tell them the way to nearest store if someone claims that they don't know and provided books and audiovisual products about child molestation these items were retrieved from Chen *et al.* (2007) and Kenny, Crocco and Long (2021). Responses were gathered by using of "yes" and "no".

4.0. Results

Table no. 4.1. Demographic Profile of the Respondents

Items	Categories	f(%)
Age	18-25	56(14.54)
	26-32	85(22)
	33-40	123(32)
	41-47	90(23.4)
	>47	31(8)
Qualification	Matriculation	47(12.2)
	Intermediate	89(23.1)
	Bachelors	125(32.4)
	Masters	80(20.9)
	Above	44(11.4)
Place of residence	Rural	160(41.6)
	Urban	225(58.4)
Family structure	Extended family	141(36.6)
	Joint family	185(48)
	Nuclear family	59(15.4)
Children below the age of 18 year	1	55(14.2)
	1-3	96(25)
	3-5	181(47)
	>5	53(13.8)

N=385, f= frequency and %= percentage

Table 4.1. Showed the socio-demographic profile of the respondents. Most of the respondents (123; 32%) were the age of 33-40 year, while (90; 23.4%) and (85; 22%) reported their age between the age group of 41-47 and 26-32 year but (56; 14.54%) and (31; 8%) said they belong to the age group of 18-25 and above 47 year respectively. Of all 385 respondents (125; 32.4%) reported that they had done bachelors, while (89; 23.1%) and (80; 20.9%) stated their qualification intermediate and masters but (47; 12.2%) and (44; 11.4%) mentioned their education matriculation and above masters respectively. About (225; 58.4%) were living in urban area and (160; 41.6%) were from rural area of Multan. When they were asked about family structure (141; 36.6%) were living in extended family system (three generations were living together under same roof), (185; 48%) were living in joint family and (59; 15.4%) reported their family structure as nuclear family. In the end, (181; 47%) respondents reported that they had 3-5 children under the age of 18 year, while (96; 25%) and (55; 14.2%) had 1-3 and only 1 child below the age of 18 year but (53; 13.5%) had more than five children below 18 year age span.

Table 4.2. Parent's Knowledge about Child Molestation

Items	Yes (%)	No (%)	May be (%)
Child molestation exist in all over the world	223(58)	64(16.6)	98(25.4)
Children are mostly likely to be molested by the familiar people	201(52.2)	99(25.8)	85(22)
A molester will repeat the offense	286(74.2)	24(6.3)	75(19.5)
Molestation is the fault of molester	277(72)	56(14.5)	52(13.5)
I think when a child is molested, there are no obvious physical evidence	205(53.2)	110(28.6)	70(18.2)
Females cannot sexually abuse children	181(47)	109(28.4)	95(24.6)
A boy cannot be physically molested	85(22)	160(41.5)	140(36.5)
Children who are molested often will be held back from disclosing by the abuser.	201(52.3)	99(25.7)	85(22)
Children who report being molested can be believed? (almost all the time)	96(25)	189(49)	100(26)
Molester of children are always men.	286(74.2)	99(25.8)	0(0)

N=385, %= percentage

Table 4.2. Ten items were asked from the parents to assess their knowledge about child molestation. Of 385 respondents about (223; 58%) considered child molestation: a worldwide alarming problem, whereas (201; 52.2%) perceived that children are mostly molested by the familiar people. Quarter of the parents (286; 74.2%) reported that if molester are not arrested they might repeat the offense and (277; 72%) mentioned it purely the fault of molester thus children should not be blamed in terms of dressings or anything else. When they were asked about the physical evidence of molestation (205; 53.2%) said that they thought there is no obvious physical evidence of molestation, and they (181; 47%) also reported that females cannot sexually abuse children these are only men who do this offense. Likewise, (160; 41.5%) also said that boys can also get physically molested whereas (201; 52.3%) reported that children who get molested often will be held back from disclosing the name of the abuser. But when inquired that do they always believe the claim of molestation by their children every time? About (189; 49%) said that they do not believe their child every time in this regard. In the last item, (286; 74.2%) quarter of the respondents believe that molester are always men.

Table 4.3. Attitude towards Child Molestation Guidance

Items	D (%)	N (%)	A (%)
Children molestation guidance program are need of the hour.	228(59.2)	86(22.4)	71(18.4)
I am willing to let my child learn about child molestation prevention.	9(2.3)	175(45.5)	201(52.2)
There is no need for the parents to discuss about molestation with children because children will automatically learn about it when they grow up.	81(21)	86(22.4)	218(56.6)
Child molestation is not a major problem hence there is no need for children prevention program.	204(53)	76(19.8)	105(27.2)
I am worried that if children are discussed about molestation they might get too much knowledge about sex.	45(11.7)	39(10.2)	301(78.1)

N=385, D= Disagree, N= Neutral and A=Agree

Table 4.3. Showed the responses of parent's attitude towards guiding their children about molestation. Of all 385 respondents, more than half (228; 59.2%) reported that child molestation program is not the need of the hour, and (201; 52.2%) said that they were willing to let their children learn about child molestation prevention but (218; 56.6%) mentioned that there is no need for the parents to discuss about molestation with their children they will know when they grow up. On contrast, they (204; 53%) disagreed with the statement of child molestation is not a problem and there is no need for children prevention program and in the last item (301; 78.1%) of the parents reported that they are worried that if children are discussed about molestation about molestation they would get too much knowledge about sex which itself a serious issue for the personality of their child.

Table 4.4. Parent's Communication Practices towards Child Molestation

Items	Yes (%)	No (%)
I have directed my children that their private parts must not be touched by any person.	287(74.5)	98(25.5)
I have guided my children that if someone tries to see or touch their private parts, they should strictly say no to them and leave at once.	99(25.8)	286(74.2)
I communicated my children if molestation take place, immediately tell parents or trusted adult person.	108(28)	277(72)
I told my children not to go out even with familiar individuals unless you have my permission	223(58)	162(42)
I told children not to accepts gifts from the unfamiliar person, except we give you permission to accept	261(67.8)	124(32.2)
I told my children that if an individual does not know and requests them to show the path to nearest store, not to go with him or her.	67(17.4)	318(82.6)
I have provided books and audiovisual products about child molestation prevention to my children.	0(0)	385(100)

N=385, %=frequency

Table 4.4. Showed parent's communication practices towards child molestation. About (287; 74.5%) respondents stated that they had talked with their children about their private parts and also guided them that these parts should not be touched by the others but (286; 74.28%) did not told their children that if someone tries to see or touch their private parts they should directly say no to that person and leave at once. Furthermore, overwhelm (277; 72%) of the respondents did not tell their children that if molestation happens, immediately tell parents or trusted adult person, likewise (223; 58%) mentioned that they had restricted their children to go out with a familiar person in the absence of their permission. Additionally, more than half of parents (261; 67.8%) marked that they do not allow their children to receive gifts from stranger without their permission. While (318; 82.6%) parents said that they guided their children if an individual does not know wanted them to show the way to nearest store, no to go with him/her. In the last item, none of the parents had provided books and audiovisual products about child molestation prevention to their children.

4.1. Discussion

The objective of the study was to determine the parent's KAP regarding child molestation in district Multan-Southern Punjab, Pakistan. Overall parents of Multan were agreed that it is their duty to educate their child regarding molestation. Overwhelm of the parents reported very good



knowledge about child molestation and risk factors associated with this phenomena but there were few major areas of concern that require interventions and education initiatives could be better. In our study, more than half 52.2% of the parents said that child are more likely to be molested by a familiar person but another study held in El Salvador (Salloum *et al.*, 2020) showed that 65.7% of the parents are concerned with ‘stranger danger’ and are not aware that child molestation can also be done by the family member or a known individual as well.

The belief that children can be molested by the known members is consistent with the findings of a study in China by Xie, Qiao and Wang (2016), Chen, Dunne and Han (2007) and Ige and Fawole (2011) in Nigeria. About 52.3% said that children who are molested often will be held back from disclosing by the abuser. Similar to the concept that cultural values and beliefs might serve as a barrier to children informing their parents about molestation. Another disturbing evidence i.e. 49% of parents said that children who report being molested cannot be believed almost every time. These are similar to the findings reported in China where parents feel that they do not trust their child in terms of molestation until any prominent physical evidence (Chen, Dunne & Han, 2007), Solehati *et al.* (2021) and (Tang & Yan, 2004) but 53.2% the population of present study also reported that there are no physical evidences of molestation.

Furthermore, 41.5% of the parents were unaware that boys too can be molested these results were similar to Chen *et al.* (2007) who discovered that parents do not take a notice on boys molestation and they did not understand that females can also be perpetrators in central China similar thing has been noticed in this study where 74.2% said that molester is always men. Consequently, it was encouraging that about 74.5% of parents have talked about molestation with their children and they had told them about their private parts and guided them these should not be seen or touched by any individual. In prior study of Al-Rasheed (2017) these statistics were reported as 37.8% of parents reported that they had talked with their children about molestation in Kuwait.

Another preceding study of Hurtado *et al.* (2014) indicated that 26.6% of the children do not disclose molester if any individual tried to see or touch their private parts which made them feel awkward because within the Pakistani culture such as valuing the virginity and respect for elders within the family stops children from disclosing about what has happened with them. Likewise 59.2% considered no need for initiating child molestation prevention training program because 78.1% were worried if these things are discussed with children they might get too much information about sex but Salloum *et al.* (2020) found that parents who had taken trainings about child molestation prevention are more likely to guide their children about molestation in a better and well defined way.

When they were asked about practices about the prevention of child molestation; overwhelm 72% of the respondents did not tell their children that if molestation happens, immediately tell



parents or trusted adult person, likewise 58% mentioned that they had restricted their children to go out with a familiar person in the absence of their permission. Additionally, more than half of parents 67.8% marked that they did not allow their children to receive gifts from stranger without their permission. While 82.6% parents said that they guided their children if an individual does not know wanted them to show the way to nearest store, no to go with him/her. In the last item, none of the parents had provided books and audiovisual products about child molestation prevention to their children.

It has been observed that songs and videos are interesting media for all the generations they are easily stored in child's memory. Hence there is a need for the parents to provide their children such material in this form to educate them regarding this issue. These findings suggested that preventive materials must be incorporated how cultural beliefs and values stop prevention of child molestation and disclosure.

Conclusion

After analyzing the results and discussion with previous studies the researcher concluded that parent's had good knowledge and positive attitude towards the prevention of child molestation but they lacked in guiding their children about such phenomenon because they were hesitant to discuss these things with their children due to parent-child relationship.

Need for Child Molestation Prevention Program

A basic thing noticed from parents was paucity of resources for guiding their children about molestation. This study highlighted the necessity for programs to provide virtuous quality sexuality guidance programs that will better parent child communication about the prevention of child molestation. Most of the parents were not at ease regarding these discussions and also scarcity of books, videos and materials which will prove as appropriate for their children. Sexuality experts should join officials with exceptional education scholars and experts to create a curriculum that guides not only children but also parents which comprises the variety of cognitive and verbal boundaries these children may possess. Because parents also need guidance and assistance on sexual molestation professionally.

The reason is that it has been observed that parents are mostly reluctant to have discussion with children on this sensitive issue but they are the most effective educators of children and they can use the chance to infuse their social and cultural values related to molestation. Therefore, the active involvement of parents in child molestation prevention programs plays the role of basic pillar in program's success. As concurrent parent and children education about personal safety and molestation topics will increase the probable communication among them which will definitely decreases the chances of a child to keep the molestation secret. Adding parents in prevention planning helps parent to make their homes safer for their children as they have the



capacity to limit the approach of potential perpetrators. By increasing parent child communication regarding these matters would increase parents self-efficacy thus they would be able to deal with such questions of their child.

Thus, sexuality experts are required to provide brainstorming strategies to the parents so that they can overcome challenges and hindrances in teaching children about molestation in this regard. Providing chances to parents to have role play discussions with their child will be proved important part of programming. Sexual education enabled by competent individuals who offers exact information, condenses sexually unfortunate behavior in youth with developmental incapacities by teaching duty and control.



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