

Aggressive behaviour among orphans with special circumstances

Salah Mohammed Almoshaigeh *

School of Psychology, King Saud University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

* E-mail of the corresponding author: s.m66@hotmail.com

Abstract

The current study aims at identifying the prevalence of aggressive behaviour among orphans with special circumstances. In addition to the identification of demographic factors (age) and its relationship to the emergence of aggressive behaviour. In order to achieve these aims the researcher applied the descriptive methodology, where the study sample consisted of (32) orphans from "House of Education for Boys" and "Charitable Foundation for Orphans Care". The results of the study showed the prevalence of aggressive behaviour among orphans with special circumstances and in similar proportion in both institutions.

Keywords: aggressive behaviour, orphans behaviours, factors of aggressive behaviour, circumstances of aggressive behaviour

1. Introduction

In the manufacturing sector today, human capital is still essential for most factories to carry out a variety of manual operations, in spite of the rapid advancement of automation technology and robotics. Futuristic vision of "unmanned manufacturing" (Deen 1993) is forbiddingly expensive, because all its hardware components need to be computer controlled so as to freely communicate with each other; and yet, most of the outcomes are not promising (Sun & Venuvinod 2001). By and large, factories equipped with relatively simple machinery controls will require continuous attendance of human operators; for examples, textile mills, leather products, and medical appliances. With limited capital investments in production equipment, the main budget of their fixed costs lies on the workforce size (Techawiboonwong *et al.* 2006).

Emotional experiences in early childhood leave a lasting impact on personal formation, which makes large extent of personal features formed in the early years (Idrees, 1983). The weakness parental attachment to their children at an early age, the presence of inconsistencies in parental treatment methods, weakness family control, the absence of one of the parents, physical abuse, aggression and domination, all these factors contribute to the emergence of disorders among children, especially adolescents, who express themselves only through violence situations, aggression, and violation of others' rights (Al-Zugbe, 2001). The deprivation of parental care, especially in late childhood, which considered a stabilization stage of all previous developmental manifestations and a preparation for the emergence of the adolescence characteristics. The deprivation affects the satisfaction of a number of psychosocial needs that can only be achieved in the presence of parents or living in natural families (Al-Nasser, 2000).

Children in orphanages and other institutions who deprived of satisfaction of natural psychological needs are not in the same level of children who enjoyed the tenderness of their parents (Ahmad, 2001). Some of the orphans with special circumstances (unknown parents), whether in orphans institutions or in some alternative families, are characterized by lying, theft, drug abuse, homosexuality and others (Al-Assaf, 1989).

Children who deprived of family care and living with parental supervision should not be deprived of other institutions' care, but, community institutions should have a strong motivation to provide the best for these children. As can be noticed that orphanages are still deficient in some of the important aspects, which help in satisfying the orphans needs, moreover, these institutions have also failed to some extent in satisfying the social and psychological needs resulting in many cases of non-adaptation to self and with others.

The lack of satisfaction of the child's needs, depending on his/her age, often leads to behavioural problems such as lack of sense of security and belonging, which may appear in the form of aggressive responses. The researcher noticed that although many of the recent local studies investigated some disorders suffered by young people in general, but these studies did not address orphans. Therefore, this study seeks to identify the aggressive behaviour of orphans with special circumstances.

2. Research Problem

After viewing Zake's study (1985) about the prevalence of some behavioural problems in a sample of orphans, which found some aggressive behaviour. As well as other studies which address the problem of aggressive behaviours among orphans. And the researcher through his personal experience noticed some behavioural problems of the orphans with unknown parents residing in orphanages such as aggressive, which causing psychological incompatibility. Based on the above, the problem of the study centered on the following question: What is the prevalence of aggressive among orphans with special circumstances residing in orphanages.

3. Research Questions

- What is the prevalence of aggressive among orphans with special circumstances residing in orphanages?
- Is aggressive different for the age and place of residence of orphans with special circumstances?

4. Definitions of research terms

- Orphans with special circumstances: Orphans (males) borne in Saudi Arabia to unknown parents, who are aged 30 years or less and live in "House of Education for Boys" and "Charitable Foundation for Orphans Care".
- Aggressive behaviour: any act of harm to self or others, including say or act, self-direct aggression, or aggression directed to others.
- Social institutions: which have two types
 - Education house: a house in which children moved to it from nursery. It aims to shelter male orphans with known parents and to create a suitable environment to provide a safe alternative to natural families, in addition to provide them with adequate care for their growth and development. Orphans stay in these institutions until the age (18) years then moved to charitable foundation for orphans care.
 - Charitable foundation for orphans care: it is an institution that takes care of orphans who are above (18) years old. The foundation provides various basic services and help orphans to settle and adjust their way in life.

5. Background

5.1 Care of orphans with special circumstances

Islam has taken great care of orphans, societies are responsible of caring for the orphans, this is ensured by embracing orphans in normal family to live a stable life. The normal situation is to embrace orphan by a normal family, otherwise, institutions or orphanages are substitute for those who have no family to take care of (Al-Sadhan, 1421 H).

In many countries, societies often have to find ways to care of children who have been deprived of one or both of their parents. There are two basic types of this care which are orphanages or other institutions and alternative families. The importance of caring for orphans with special circumstances is not easy or simple. Rather, it requires extensive research and scientific studies, scientific and strategic planning, and sufficient material resources that call for cooperation between the state and its various institutions and alternative families.

5.2 Orphanages (accommodation houses)

Al-Ghamdi (1421 H) refers the concept accommodation to the placement of a number of children who have no family connection under the supervision of a number of male and female employees. Al-Sadhan (2003) believes that this kind of care should be undertaken by both government and private institutions. These institutions supervises the construction of its buildings and provides the required financial and technical support to carry out its work and achieve its objective. They also aim to recruit the employees and provide them with the required training opportunities.

Despite the advantages of orphanages and the rapid spread of these institutions, there are some disadvantages, including the treatment of the orphan child through the collective method, which does not achieve the socialization raising, and therefore does not allow to impart social skills and expertise that required to build normal relations with others around him, moreover, the continuous change of the surrogate mother affects the

psychological construction of the orphan (Shawqi, 1991).

A study by Idrees (1982) showed that orphans in these institutions are suffered of the lack of satisfaction of their psychological needs despite the physical security they live in, thus their emotional growth will be affected negatively compared to children in normal families.

The level of residential care in terms of its decline or increase may play a significant role in the character traits of the orphan with special circumstances, including his ability to socially interact, self-esteem and self-confidence. In institutions with low level of residential care, most of the orphans have many problems such as confusion, attention deficit disorder and hyperactivity, as well as some problems in scholastic achievement and acquisition of language and social skills which are necessary to communicate with others (Ahmad, 1986). These institutions called social institutions or orphanage, where care is given to the deprived children until age (18) years old, those who exceeded the statutory age to stay in orphanage moved to charitable foundations for orphans care.

5.3 Aggressive

Aggression phenomenon is one of the ancient phenomena in the history of mankind, this is why scientists in various sciences paying attention to this behaviour. Many theories were presented to explain aggressive such as psychoanalysis and behavioural theories. The definition of aggression differs from one environment to another according to cultural components and reference frames. Some scholars have defined aggressive as a behaviour intended to hurt others, some other scholars defined it as instinctive motivation, and some have depend on the behaviour theory to define aggressive.

Aggression causes:

- Desire to get rid of power: the aggressive behaviour of the child appears when he insists on the desire to get rid of the pressure of adults that prevent the fulfilment of his desires.
- Feeling of failure and deprivation: the aggression of the child sometimes reflects the denial, and it has three types. The first, aggression in response to the tension resulting from continued unsatisfied organic need, the second, aggression follows the prevention of the child of his needs, and the third is aggression due to external attack causing pain.
- Excessive love and overprotection: the spoiled child has the most aggressive feelings. Child of this kind lives in a very protective environment. Hence, only the language of obedience to all his wishes is known, and he does not bear the slightest degree of deprivation, and thus shows his aggressive behaviour.
- Family: family culture plays a major role in determining the responsibilities of aggression hat a child must take towards the corresponding, and the relationships within the family between the parents or between the child and a parent have a role in supporting children's aggression.
- Insecure feelings: insecure feelings, distrustful, repulsive, and insulting can also lead to aggressive behaviour.

6. Methodology

The researcher applied the descriptive approach in order to verify the extent of the existence of aggressive behaviour among orphans with special circumstances in orphanages or charitable foundation for orphan care in light of some variables.

The researcher selected a random sample of orphans with special conditions enrolled in the "House of Education for Boys" and "Charitable Foundation for Orphans Care" in Riyadh. (17) from the house of education for boys (under 18) and (15) from the charitable foundation for orphans care (above 18years).

The researcher applied the aggression scale for Arnon Bass and Mark Perry (1992). The scale originally consists of twenty-nine specific statements to measure aggression. The scale has been Arabized and tested for its validity and suitability to the Saudi environment by Abdullah and Abu Abah in a previous study carried out in 1995.

Abdullah and Abu Abah assumed the existence of four dimensions: physical aggression, verbal aggression, anger and enmity. A single item has been added to the verbal aggression, so that the total number of items in the Arabic scale has reached 30 items. The response is based on the Likert scale, so that one of the five alternative is chosen (strongly agree- agree- neutral- disagree- strongly disagree).

The psychometric efficiency of the scale has been verified as follows:

- Internal consistency:

The coefficient of correlation between the total degree and the degree of each item was calculated. Most correlation coefficient were positive at significant level (0.01). This indicates the internal consistency and interconnection between the items of the scale, the following table shows the internal consistency.

Item No.	correlation coefficient	Significant level
1	0.384	0.05
2	0.433	0.05
3	0.534	0.01
4	0.410	0.05
5	0.086	Not statistically significant.
6	0.122	Not statistically significant.
7	0.544	0.01
8	0.128	Not statistically significant.
9	0.605	0.01
10	0.648	0.01
11	0.320	Not statistically significant.
12	0.375	0.05
13	0.575	0.01
14	0.581	0.01
15	0.217	Not statistically significant.
16	0.533	0.01
17	0.447	0.05
18	0.196	Not statistically significant.
19	0.087	Not statistically significant.
20	0.281	Not statistically significant.
21	0.396	0.05

22	0.386	0.05
23	0.442	0.05
24	0.076	Not statistically significant.
25	0.324	Not statistically significant.
26	0.647	0.01
27	0.552	0.01
28	0.520	0.01
29	0.637	0.01
30	0.530	0.01

The results of the table show that the correlation of the items was positive at significant level (0.05) or less, and that the correlation of some terms were weak (not statistically significant) this may be due to the fact that the majority of those statements were negative.

- Stability test:

One of the most common equations used to measure the stability of the tools is the Alpha Cronbach coefficient. The following table shows the stability of the scale by using the Alpha Cronbach coefficient.

Scale	No. of Items	Alpha Cronbach coefficient
Aggression scale	30	0.8

It is clear from the table that the value of Alpha Cronbach for the stability of the scale is greater than (0.75) indicating that the results of the study scale will be consistent in application.

7. Findings and Analysis

Characteristics of study sample by place of residence:

Place of residence	No.	Percentage
House of education for boys (under 18 years).	17	53.1
Charitable Foundation for Orphans Care (18 years and above)	15	46.9
Total	32	100

Answering study questions:

The first question: What is the prevalence of aggressive among orphans with special circumstances residing in orphanages?

The answers showed that the general mean average was 3.13, indicating that the sample of the study has a moderate degree of aggressive in all the terms of the scale. The item "if someone hit me, I must hit hem" came in the first order with an average mean of 3.45, and the item "I wonder why I feel pain about things that concern me" came last with an average of 2.61.

The second question: Is aggressive different for the age and place of residence of orphans with special circumstances?

In order to know the most aggressive age group, T-test was applied as shown in the following table:

Age	No.	Mean	Standard deviation	T-value	Significant level
Under 18	17	3.1959	0.36543	0.973	0.153
18 or above	15	3.0483	0.49101		

The table illustrates the differences in aggressive between the age groups of the orphans with special circumstances. It is clear that the value (0.97) is not statistically significant in the level (0.05), which indicates that aggression occurs in both groups.

8. Conclusion

The current study aims at identifying the prevalence of aggression among orphans with special circumstances residing in the orphanages. The results of the study showed that the percentage of aggression among orphans with special circumstances is medium in both cases "less than 18 years" and "18 years and above", meaning that there are no differences in aggression rates for orphans in the "house of education for boys" and "the charitable foundation for orphans care".

This study is consistent with the study of Singh et al. (1970) in concerning the prevalence of aggressiveness of orphans, the study reported that the orphans of shelters were characterized by aggressive character. As well as, Harlow study (1971) which found similar results with previous findings. The study is consistent with Simsek et al., (2007) study, which aimed to examine the prevalence of behavioural and emotional problems among orphans children in care homes in Turkey. Teachers reported that the prevalence of external behavioural problems was (22.7) including aggressive. The current study finds that there are no differences between the age groups in which the aggression occurs and this is in line with the study of Al-Behiri (1990) which showed no effect of age and degree of deprivation on behavioural problems.

In the light of the findings, the researcher reached to the following recommendations:

- The need to train orphans to control their emotions.
- Organizing developmental programs in all orphanages focusing on modern psychological studies.
- Increase the efficiency of psychologists and social workers working in orphanages.
- Increase the number of workers from psychologists and social workers working in orphanages.
- Implement remedial programs for aggression cases in orphanages and charitable institutions.
- Raising the awareness of the community members about the importance of caring for orphans with special circumstances.

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