

An Analysis of Researches Related to War Victim Children

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Abstract

The research aims to analyze research related to children who are war victims. In the research, the literature review model is used. Data are collected from the article on the internet sites included of Google scholar, Springer. The obtained studies were evaluated according to the gender of the researchers, the research methods used, the data collection techniques, the study groups, the results of the studies, and their recommendations. According to the results of the research, the researchers' genders distribution is equal. According of research methods the qualitative researches add up to the quantitative studies. The majority of the data collection tools in the researches are a literature review, and the majority of the study groups are literature reviews. According to the analysis of the results of the inspected studies, the war has an impact on post-traumatic stress disorder, psychological health, and physical conditions (deprivation of education, hunger, lack of clothing). According to the analysis of the recommendations of the inspected research, these are reached the end of recommendations such as providing psychological support (rehabilitation programs, counseling, e-treatments), universally fulfilling the physical and emotional (education, community education, social mobilization) necessities of children who are victims of war, more effective granting of child's rights for children who are victims of war, developing appropriate treatment programs for child victims of war, announcing and understanding the experiences of war victims.

Keywords: war, victim, child, war victims

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1.Introduction

War are be able to define as a group of actions that destroy and split the countries and nations both physically and psychologically. Wars are a type of action that has been existed since the beginning of humanity and has been not allowed the right to life to the other people. War destroys, slaughters and eliminates everything and everybody stand up against it. When war is considered, the first thing come to mind is physical effects. However, a lot of studies subsist that war also inflicts deep wounds on the human spirit. In addition to the world wars, the wars which continue today are showed us that there is no end of the wars. When examining the studies on the war, it is seen that there is no winner in the war. While one country suffers from physical and emotional deprivation and victimization, the other country leaves a conscientious responsibility and guilt to future generations.

It is a fact that children are the ones most affected by the war, while every person suffers different and severe injuries. It is a situation that will have quite an impact when children, who have not yet fully interpreted and understood the world, are exposed to an action whose causes and consequences are inconceivable. Childhood is the building block of our present identity as Freud mentioned (Kala, 2018). This is understood clearly the importance of protecting children's psychological health. Since childhood is the most vulnerable period of the individual physically, emotionally and even psychologically, it is easier to be exposed to trauma in this period. Trauma symptoms in childhood are able to appear early, (Möhlen, Parzer, Resch, & Brunner, 2005) or they are able to occur years later in adulthood (Kala, 2018). Posttraumatic stress disorder arises particularly on children who are soldiers in the war because of memories which is acquired in the war kendini gösterebilmektedir (Seedat, 2006).

It is known that living in the atmosphere of the war or being exposed to the effects of the war for a while creates

mental effects such as post-traumatic stress disorder (Möhlen, Parzer, Resch, & Brunner, 2005), as well as physical effects such as deteriorated health, physical disabilities, and malnutrition (Çelik & Özpınar, 2017). Researches, projects, and reports related on war and children identify the necessities and problems of children who are victims of the war and offer solutions to these problems. The congress named “war and children” arranged Los Angeles and California cities in 2006; were carried out in three stages, namely the impacts, protection and rehabilitation. In these congress, studies first focus on the effects of war on children, then focus on how protection should be needed, and finally, focus on how rehabilitation should be in cases child is exposed to the effects. The war is a contenting norm consistently even if its place or form. According to research of Saltzman, Solomyak, Pat-Horenczyk (2017), 1 out of every 10 child who are under 18 years old is war victim. War particularly is a problem in neighboring of Turkiye. Researches related to the war have a role approach to children who are victim in Turkiye.

1.1 Research Aims

The research aims to examine the articles related to war and children. Based on this main purpose, answers are sought for the following questions:

1. What is the gender distribution of researchers in articles related to War and Child?
2. What is the distribution according to research methods of articles related to War and Child?
3. What is the distribution according to data collection tools of articles related to War and Children?
4. What is the distribution according to study groups of articles related to War and Child?
5. What is the distribution according to the results of the articles related to War and Child?
6. What is the distribution according to the recommendations of the articles related to War and the Child?

2. Method

2.1 Research Design

After the research was selected as one of the qualitative or quantitative methods, the model of the study has been selected. The model of this research has determined as document analysis among qualitative studies.

2.2 Samples/ Study Group

The study group of the research has determined through literature review. The obtained articles to be analyzed in the research that have collected articles which are open access and searched using the keywords "war and child" on google scholar and springer websites.

2.3 Data collection

The obtained articles to be analyzed in the research that have collected articles which are open access and searched using the keywords "war and child" on google scholar and springer websites. It has just analyzed the articles among the researches.

2.4 Data Analysis

The articles have examined by document analysis and data were obtained. The obtained data have analyzed by the "content analysis" technique. Data have analyzed by calculating frequencies and percentages. Obtained findings are shown in tables.

3. Findings

In this part of the research, there are the results reached through the analysis of the data collected to find an answer to the question in the research problem.

One of the sub-goals of the research is question "How is the distribution gender of researchers in articles related to War and Child?" The following results have obtained as response to the question.

Table 1: Distribution of researchers' gender in articles related to War and Child

Gender	f	%
Female	28	50
Male	28	50
Total	56	100

In Table 1, the distribution of the researchers' gender in the articles published on the internet has been found to be equal to female (50%) and male (50%).

One of the sub-goals of the research is question "What is the distribution according to research methods of articles related to War and Child? The following results have obtained as response to the question.

Table 2: Distribution according to research methods of articles related to War and Child

Research Methods	f	%
Qualitative	8	42,1
Quantitative	8	42,1
Experimental	1	5,3
Mixed	2	10,5
Total	19	100

In Table 2, the articles titled war and children have been classified according to research methods and included 8 qualitative (42.1 %) studies, 8 quantitative (42.1 %) studies, 1 experimental (5.3%), and 2 mixed (10.5 %) studies have concluded.

One of the sub-goals of the research is question "What is the distribution according to data collection tools of articles related to War and Children? The following results have obtained as response to the question.

Table 3: Distribution according to data collection tools of articles related to War and Children

Data Collection Tool	f	%
Literature review	12	55
Scale	4	25
Pre-test/post-test Experimental design	1	5
Interview	2	10
Observation	1	5
Total	20	100

As shown in Table 3, the distribution according to the data collection tools of the articles named "War and Child" are in the form of 12 the literature review (55%), 4 Scale (25%), 1 pre-test post-test experiment (5%), 2 interview (10%), 1 observation (5 %).

One of the sub-goals of the research is question "What is the distribution according to study groups of articles related to War and Child?" The following results have obtained as response to the answer.

Table 4: Distribution according to study groups of articles related to War and Child

Sample/Study Group	f	%
Document review	12	65
Child	4	15
Adolescent	1	5
Teenager	3	15
Total	20	100

In the Table 4, it has concluded that according to the study groups of the articles 13 document review (65%), 3 about children (15%), 1 about adults (5 %), and 3 about adolescents (15%) studies. One of the sub-goals of the research is “What is the distribution according to the results of the articles related to War and Child?” The following results were obtained as response to the question.

Table 5: Distribution according to the results of the articles related to War and Child

Results	f	%	Sample Findings
Posttraumatic Stress Disorder	8	40	-It has been reported that in post the war period, the war victim children have posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and rehabilitation of the PTSD recures to the chronic traumatic symptoms - The post Bosnia-Herzegovina war, it has been determined that 94% of children had PTSD.
The effects on psychological health	7	35	-It has been seen that the war had caused the psychological disorder such as PTSD, depression, anxiety, trauma, mental disorder, hysteric disorder and schizophrenia. -It has been seen that in the 70% of sample had psychological disorder
Physical conditions (deprivation of education, hunger, lack of clothing)	5	25	- The war changed physical conditions such as socio-cultural life, lack of education, death of family members, child soldiers, migration, death, illness, etc.
Total	20	100	

In Table 5, the distribution of the study subjects of the analyzed articles is as followings; 8 article are about post-traumatic stress disorder (40%), 7 articles are about the effect on psychological health 7 (35%), 5 articles are about the effect on physical conditions (education, clothing and food deprivation) 5 (25%). As it is seen from the findings, the most prominent issues in studies related to war and children include focus on children how children are affected psychologically, physically, and emotionally by war and at what rate.

One of the sub-goals of the research is “What is the distribution according to the recommendations of the articles related to War and the Child?” The following results were obtained as response to the question.

Table 5: Distribution according to the recommendations of the articles related to War and the Child

Recommendations	f	%	Sample Findings
Providing psychological support (rehabilitation programs, counseling, e-treatments)	14	76,7	- It has been observed that there is a significant change between the situation of war victim children after receiving psychological support and their situation before they receive it. It has been observed that after the rehabilitation, being relax, overcoming the stress and sleeping pattern of children get better.
Universally fulfilling the physical and emotional (education, community education, social mobilization) necessities of children who are victims of war	4	13,3	- Activities should be carried out to meet the physical, emotional and physical needs of refugee children who are victims of the war on a universal scale through states and non-governmental organizations. -There should be an international mobilization for children victims of war.
More effective granting of child's rights for children who are victims of war	4	13,3	- In the declaration of the rights of the child items should be used more effectively and unhindered (racism, not being a citizen) for children who are victims of war.
Developing appropriate treatment programs for child victims of war	6	20	- It is necessary to develop psychological treatment methods for children who are victims of war and to reveal new treatment methods.
Announcing and understanding the experiences child victims of war	2	6,7	- It is necessary to announce the events through various press and media organs in order to prevent the unconsciousness caused by the ignorance and understanding of the experiences of the war victims.
Total	30	100	

As shown in Table 5, in the majority of the articles are emphasized the need to provide psychological support to children after the war (rehabilitation programs, counseling, e-treatments) in the 14 articles (76.7%). In addition, it is offered that universally fulfilling of the physical and emotional needs of children who are victims of war (education, community education, social mobilization) in 4 articles (13.3%), more effective granting of child's rights for children who are victims of war in 4 articles (13.3%), developing appropriate treatment programs for child victims of war in 6 articles (20%), announcing and understanding the experiences child victims of war in 2 articles (6,7).

4. Conclusions

As a result of the research, the distribution according to the researchers' gender of the examined studies is found equal. It is understood that the gender variable did not have an effect on the distribution. It is able to be said that gender is not a factor in the studies about the child victims of the war. When the distribution of studies related to war victims according to the method variable was analyzed, it was concluded that the qualitative and quantitative studies are equal. Experimental and mixed designs are used a few. When the distribution of studies related on war victims according to data collection tools was analyzed, it was seen that mostly literature review is done. It is seen that scale is used in the second place. It is seen that the experimental design, interview and observation are used in very few studies. When the distribution of studies on victims of war according to the working group was analyzed, it was seen that document analysis is used extensively. It has been understood that the studies about children and adolescents are equal in themselves. At least, studies about adults are found. When the distribution according to the results of the studies on war victims was analyzed, it was concluded that there are much post-traumatic stress disorder and psychological effects. The majority of the results of the studies are emphasized that war causes childhood trauma in children who have experienced war. While the recommendations of the studies is examined, it is seen that it was emphasized that psychological support should

be provided intensively. When examined the results of the studies, it was concluded that post-traumatic stress disorder and psychological effects were the most common. The results of the research which is named “Identifying Priorities for Mental Health Interventions in War-Affected Yough: A Langitudinal Study” by Betancourt et al. (2015) supports to results of this research. When the research recommendations were examined it was seen that it was emphasized that psychological support should be provided intensively. The results of the research which is named “Children and Health Effects of War, Being a War Child” by Çelik and Özpınar (2017) supports to results of this study. No study has been found with different results regarding the studies related to war victims. It is seen that document analysis is mainly used as a data collection tool in the articles. Experimental and quantitative data collection tools should be potently used in this field. The reliability of the research is able to be increased by supporting the quantitative data with qualitative data and by using more observations and interviews from qualitative tools. When the results of the studies were examined, it was seen that the psychological damage is the most. It has been thought that it had been useful to carry out researches that reveal other damages of the war. In a research which is about this field is seen that the dimension of posttraumatic stress disorder have examined and in this research it is seen that war victims have symptoms of posttraumatic stress disorder in four different dimensions (Yousef, Ebrahim, AlNahr, Mohsen, İbrahim, Sawaf, 2021). It is recommended that psychological support should be provided. However, there are not many studies that observed the difference after providing psychological support. In this sense, it is recommended to carry out studies that reveal the benefits to be obtained by providing psychological support. In the study conducted by Betancourt, Meyer-Ohki, Charrow in 2013, the importance of the psychological support given to children who are victims of war and the protection of their mental health was revealed from an ecological point of view. In this sense, the importance of the results of the research is understood.

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