

Inter-parental Violence and its impact on a student's grades, a cross sectional survey

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Abstract

The study examines relatedness between inter-parental violence and academic performance of the student. The positive correlation between these both factors show the parental conflict as a great influence on student's grades. The financial crises specifically have been found as the main cause of inter-parental violence. The other considerable point is the extent to which the child is having an exposure to parental violence. The emerging self-blame in adolescence signifies persistency in inter-parental violence that has long term effect on child's poor performance and inconsistency in decision-making. The cross-sectional study design includes examining non-supportive financial behavior on the part of parents where there exists persistent parental conflict. The population of the research was the Institute of Education and Research. The sample was randomly selected among the students of Institute of Education and Research. Data was collected through questionnaires and analyzed through descriptive statistics techniques. The results revealed that there exists correlation between inter-parental violence and student's grades. The parental conflict remains persistent due to financial crises and other issues but it influences student's academic performance. The supportive financial behavior among children can only be developed if the non-cooperative attitude on the part of parents would be put to an end.

Keywords: Domestic violence, Student grades, Educational outcomes, Family conflict

1. Introduction

Interparental violence is a common issue that leads to disruptive behavior and that can result in emotional trauma, physical and psychological barriers to learning. The World Health Organization (WHO) defines violence as the intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community that either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, mal-development, or deprivation (Dahlberg and Krug. 2002,5). Children who witness domestic violence develops behavioral and emotional problems than those who grows in child-friendly environment (Kitzmann., 2003; Wolfe et al., 2003). Kitzmann.(2003) examined 118 studies and reported a significant relatedness between exposure to family violence and Youth's maladaptive behavior. Elder maltreatment has been examined using population-based surveys and records from adult protective services. In surveys, conducted in 2008; 6.0 percent of older people reported significant abuse in the past month, and 5.6 percent of couples reported physical violence in their relationship in the past year (Cooper, Selwood, and Livingston 2008). Supportive parenting style gives courage to be self-confident and compunction is apparent only when parents report high level of coercive behavior (Lucas., 2010). Positive family functioning is thus an important protective factor in the development of adjustment problems in children.

The cause-and-effect relationship between Interparental violence and youths' maladaptive behavior in Education refers to the problem or undesirable behavior of juveniles' that is socially unacceptable and interferes with the attainment of desired skill or knowledge due to lack of parental coordination. Several hypotheses have been proposed in order to explain differences between the perceptions of parents and those of their children. The Intergenerational Stake Hypothesis aims to explain the concept of generation gap that suggests the idea of variation in the perspectives, a difference of opinions and outlooks among those of different age groups. The assumption is that discrepancies between generations arise due to variations in motivations and levels of investment at different developmental periods. The variation in the motivations while considering the generation gap, is about the relatedness between what Erikson called generativity (i.e., being productive and committed to guiding younger generation) and gaining independence from parents. Parents' need for generativity may lead them to maintain continuity between generations by investing in their children, while children's desire for independence may lead them to invest less in their parents. Parents could therefore view their parenting behaviors or their relationships with their children more positively than their children do. The Social Structural Model is the contribution in studying the interparental violence in the social structural context, suggesting that parents and children have different structural positions in society. Discrepancies in perceptions and narratives could arise due to variations in opportunities and expectations based on their social structural positions. For example, children who perceive that society offers them sufficient opportunities are likely to feel more independent and report lower levels of investment by their parents. Another model focusing on differences in perspectives is the Attribution Bias Context Model (DeLosReyes, 2011; DeLos Reyes andKazdin, 2005). It refers to the psychological aspect where a person attributes own action to the external or situational factors.

The report, *Profiling Domestic Violence: A Multi-Country Study*, published by ORC Macro, also finds that domestic violence in these countries is highly correlated with a husband's drunkenness and controlling behaviors. But the study did not find that a woman's poverty, lack of education, or lack of decision-making control consistently elevate her risk of being abused. "Gender-based violence is a gender issue," explains Kiersten Johnson, a co-author of the study and a researcher at ORC Macro. For example, the study found that women who shared the bulk of household decisions with their male partners were at a lower risk of abuse regardless of their household's income levels.

1.1. Conceptual Framework

Interparental Violence is explained as the infliction of physical, psychological/ emotional and sexual violence; with the intention of imposing harm or exercising power and control over them. It could occur

in families for instance parents to children, husband beating wife (Marianne, Elizabeth and Anita, 2010). Physical violation is an act of using physical force against another of risk of being harmed. "Physical abuse includes: pushing, throwing, kicking, slapping, grabbing, hitting, punching, beating, tripping, battering, bruising, choking, shaking, pinching, biting, holding, restraining, confinement, breaking bones, assault with a weapon such as a knife or gun, burning and murder" (Tina, Jael line and Jeanne, 2016). The influence of home parenting environment on a child's cognitive ability plays key role in academic development because that is the first place their learning starts from. The home has an enormous effect over a person's psychological, emotional, social and economic state. According to Ajila and Olutola (2007), the condition of the home affects an individual, since the parent are the immediate socializing agents in an individual's life.

1.2. Theoretical Framework

Social learning theory founded by Albert Bandura in 1962, believes that different people learn social behaviors by observing and imitating other people. The most essential way children learn is through imitation of models. The process can be seen in the development of language, aggression, and moral decision-making. Social learning theory supports that if an individual is aggressive towards a family member it is based on their past experiences of models who exemplified such behaviors for them to imitate. Operant conditioning is the strengthening of behaviors through positive and negative reinforcement, as well as the dominance of behaviors through punishment. Social learning theory explains the transmission of violation intergenerational. It is said that when children are growing up, they receive feedback from others regarding their actions and choice of behaviors, from which they begin to come up with their own stand points.

Social learning theory also states that individuals who experienced victimization tend to instigate it in the lives of other people when they get the chance. Researchers have found that young adults who observed and experienced abuse when they were children are more likely to be in abusive intimate relationship as either abuser or victim (Maren and Tracy, 2012). According to Social Learning Theory, individuals learn by paying attention to what other people do, Rehearsing (at first mentally) what might occur in their own lives if they shadowed the other peoples' behavior.

Individuals are influenced by the world around them (Health Communication Capacity Collaborative, 2014). Social learning theory can also affect the extent to which a person performs academically. The environment in which we live in serves as model to which we use to form our personality. If an individual live in an environment where education is being trivialized, there are chances that a child growing up in that environment may not put so much value on education because it is not seen as a priority around. Social Learning Theory is learnt by paying attention to what other people do.

1.3. Financial Stress leading to Domestic Violence

Domestic Violence agencies reported an increase in unemployment as the families are seeing their financial situation worsening. According to National Network, the rate of domestic violence is highest since the couples has started experiencing financial stress. Structure Equation Modeling analysis shows that the financial crises can create turmoil in families' lives by increasing discord between parents. It also reported that the children who experience inter-parental discord have a higher disposition towards displaying anti-social behavior.

1.4. Relationship Retention behavior

A Retention and complex behaviors are one of the prime causes of gender-based violence in modern society. One of the causes of domestic violence in relationships is the thought process that violence can help save marriage. Many partners resort to domestic violence in marriage because they think this is the only way to retain their partner. Any threat to the relationship motivates the spouse to devise such retention strategies. Such behaviors, although wrong, are meant to explicitly or implicitly aim at

maintaining the bond.

However, such treatment, intimidation, or verbal abuse contributes to the causes of domestic violence in relationships. It, thereby, leads to marriage separation or divorce and also create Mal-adjustment among children.

1.5. Taxonomy of Mate Retention Tactics

Conceptually, mate retention tactics can be divided into two broad categories: cost-inflicting behaviors and benefit-provisioning behaviors(Buss 1988). Cost-inflicting mate retention behaviors function to reduce partners' self-esteem and make them feel unworthy of the current relation-ship or to induce fear and social isolation, all of which might increase the probability of there maiming in the relationship. Conversely, benefit-provisioning mate retention behaviors function to reduce the likelihood of partner defection by enhancing the partner's satisfaction with the relationship (Buss 1988).

1.6. The situation of Patriarchy

Society was male dominant in earlier times. So, even if the situation of patriarchy and male dominance doesn't exist in all pockets of society, it is not entirely possible to eradicate one of the biggest causes of domestic violence in relationships all at once. As a result, the superiority complex and the inherent evil of misogyny act as one of the major causes of domestic violence in relationships.

1.7. Cultural Incompatibility

A When two people from different cultures decide to be wedded, it is not necessary that they both are acquainted with the differences in the culture. It might seem exciting at first, but with time, cultural differences can be one of the common causes of domestic violence in relationships.

What might seem appropriate to one culture could be looked down upon in another. And this will create one of the significant causes of family violence. If couples do not adopt cultural differences with a conscious approach, this can lead to domestic violence causes. It can ultimately put the future in question.

How to raise the kids? Which cultural ideology to follow? A lot comes into the scene if couples don't share cultural compatibility and/or disrespect each other's choices.

This descriptive study does not cover the relationship between Inter-parental relationship and mal-adaptive behavior. Also, it does not determine the relatedness between Inter-parental violence and mal adjustment.

1.8. Objective:

To investigate the relatedness between interparental violence and its impact on academic record.

1.9. Hypothesis:

H₀: The exposure to inter-parental violence impact student's academic performance.

Research Questions:

- Can the non-supportive financial behavior on the part of parents be the cause of poor academic performance?
- Can the Inter-parental violence be the cause of emotional trauma that resultantly affects the student's grades?
- How far can the student's academic performance be affected even if not exposed to existing parental conflict?s.

2. Research Methodology

2.1. Research Design

It is a descriptive cross-sectional design, so, to thoroughly examine the cause-and-effect variables in this research. The questionnaires administered, was used as a tool for collecting data regarding variables on the basis of which the relatedness between interparental violence and student grades will be studied.

2.2. Study Population and Sample size

This study will be conducted in institute of education and research, including students, both male and females. A sample size of 45 is calculated using WHO formulae for sample size calculation,

2.3. Validity and Reliability of Instrument

The questionnaire was pre-tested with the experts in the respective fields for the content validity. The researcher has used the pilot testing with the minimum sample size of 20.

2.4. Statement of the problem

The purpose of the study is to find whether the exposure to Inter-parental violence can become the cause of poor performance in exams.

3. Data Analysis

3.1. Results and Findings

A total of 45 (n) responses were obtained, with the mean age of 23+32. Among which 66.7% were females and 33.3% were males. Among the participants 33.1% belongs to high socioeconomic status. 33.3% belong to middle socioeconomic status. 35.6% belongs to low socioeconomic status. The question regarding familiarization with the interparental violence shows that 51.1% knows somewhat about Interparental violence. 33.3 % of sample size knows about it to a much extent. While 8.9% of population shows knowing nothing about Inter parental violence.

Q no 1: Are you familiar with the term Inter- parental violence?

45 responses

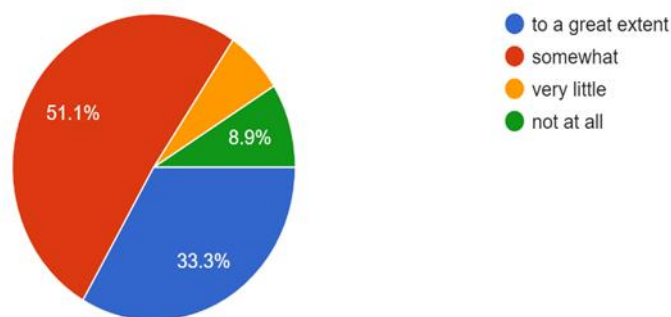


Figure 1: Students' familiarity with the term "Inter-parental Violence" (n = 45)

The question on getting victimized due to witnessing interparental violence has been answered as thus: 51.1% of sample size agreed on getting victimized due to witnessing interparental violence. 40% of population strongly agreed on children getting victimized due to witnessing interparental violence. While 8.9% of respondents disagreed.

Q no 2: Do you think that most of children gets victimize as they witness or experience parents abuse?

45 responses

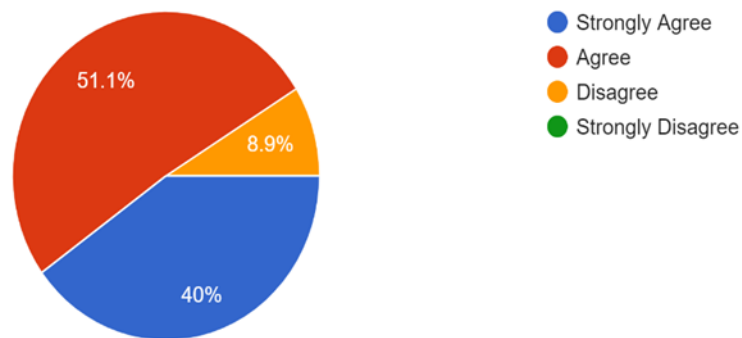


Figure 2: Students' perceptions on whether children become victimized by witnessing or experiencing parental abuse (n = 45)

The question regarding the reason of Interparental violence resulted as thus:

48.9% of the respondents answered that they somewhat find the reason of interparental violence same. 22.2% of population do not consider the reason of interparental violence being always the same. For 20% of respondents, the reason of interparental violence has been frequently found the same.

Q.3. Is the cause of parental conflict always being the same?

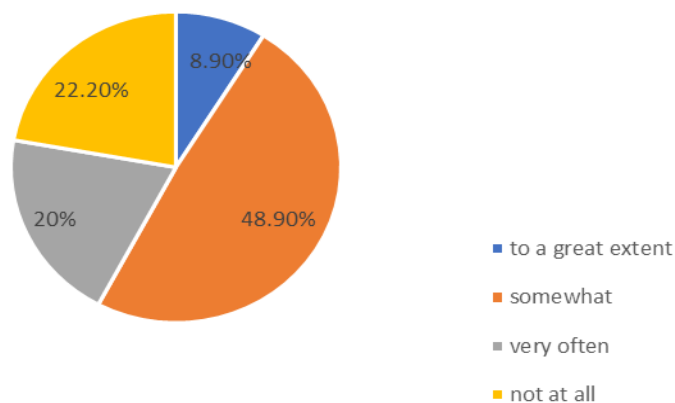


Figure 3: Students' views on whether the cause of parental conflict is always the same (n = 45)

The question regarding the influence on social functioning in adulthood as being exposed to interparental violence in childhood resulted as thus: 57.8% of people found its impact to a great extent. 20% of the sample size agreed on the influence of interparental violence on social functioning in adulthood to some extent. And same percentage of sample size had observed the frequent impact of social functioning on interparental violence in adulthood.

Q no 4: Do you think that exposure to inter-parental violence in childhood influences social functioning in adulthood?

45 responses

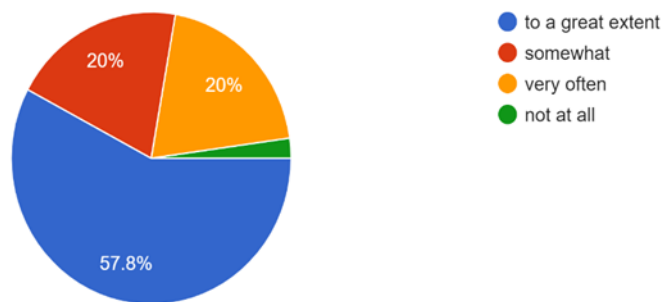


Figure 4: Respondents' views on the influence of inter-parental violence on social functioning in adulthood

The questioning regarding the influence of inter-parental on decision making process has been resulted as thus: 68.9% of respondents were strongly agreed on having a great influence of inter-parental influence on decision making. 15.6% of respondents agreed on the frequent influence of inter-parental violence on decision making. While 11.1% of respondents expressed the influence of inter-parental on decision making to some extent.

Q no 5: Does the inter-parental violence affect decision making of the child?

45 responses

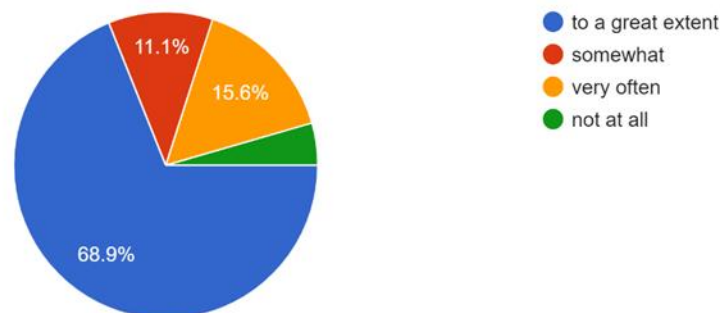


Figure 5: Influence of inter-parental violence on decision-making among respondents

The question regarding the appraising threat and self-blame in adulthood resulted as thus: 66.7% of respondents agreed on the appraising threat and self-blame. 24.4% strongly agreed on it while 8.9% disagreed on appraising threat and self-blame due to interparental violence.

Q no 6: Do you think that the Inter-parental violence appraises the threat and self-blame in emerging adulthood?

45 responses

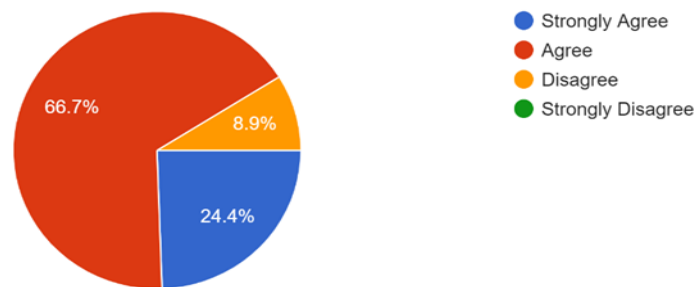


Figure 6: Respondents' views on appraising threat and self-blame in adulthood due to inter-parental violence

The question on increased child's state of anxiety due to destructive interparental violence resulted as thus: 48.9% strongly agreed on increased state of anxiety due to destructive Interparental violence. 46.7% were agreed on the increased state of inter-parental violence. 4.4% of respondents disagreed on

Q no 7: Do you think that the child's state of anxiety can be increased due to destructive parental conflict?

45 responses

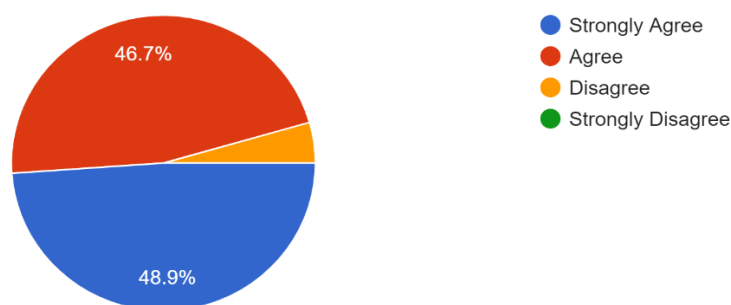


Figure 7: Respondents' views on increased child anxiety due to destructive inter-parental violence

51.1% of respondents agreed on effectiveness of adult's positive role in normalizing parental conflict. 33.3% of respondents strongly agreed on influence of adult's role in normalizing situation while 13.3% of respondents disagreed on it.

Q no 8: Do you think that the adult's role in normalizing parental conflict should be affective?

45 responses

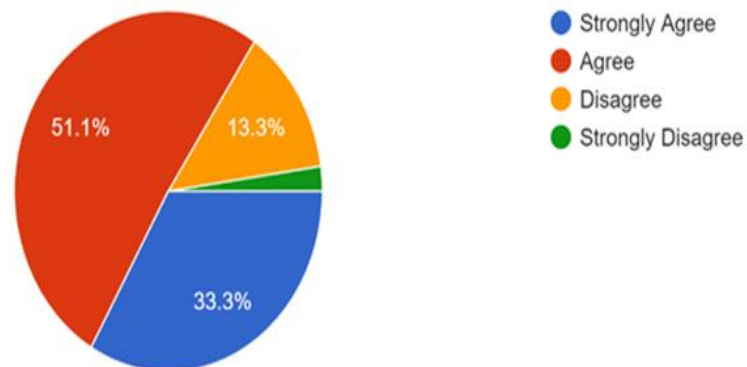


Figure 8: Respondents' views on the effectiveness of adults' positive role in normalizing parental conflict

The question that if the respondents agree on being emotionally reactive to destructive inter-parental violence signifies low confidence level resulted as thus: 57.8% of respondents agreed on having low confidence level due to destructive interparental violence. 33.3% of respondents strongly agreed on having low confidence level due to inter-parental violence. 8.9% of respondents disagreed on having low confidence level.

Q no 9: Do you think that getting emotionally reactive to destructive inter-parental violence signifies low confidence level?

45 responses

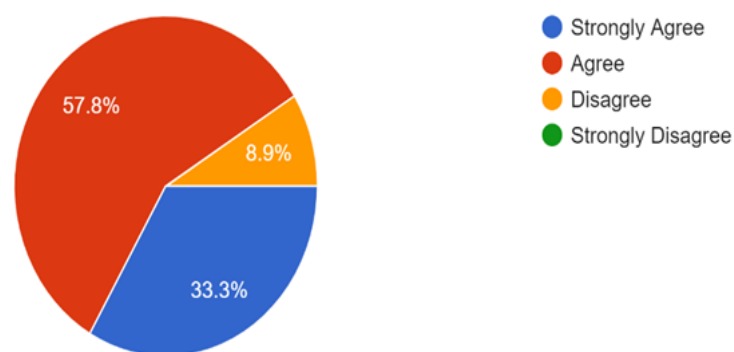


Figure 9: Respondents' views on low confidence levels due to destructive inter-parental violence.

The question regarding the possibility of financial crises be the cause of Inter parental violence resulted as thus: 53.3% of respondents were not fully agreed on financial crises be always the cause of inter-parental violence. 35.6% found the financial crises as the greater cause. While 8.9% of respondents agreed that the influence of financial situation on parental relationship has been oftenly experienced.

Q no 10: How far the financial crises can possibly be the cause of parental conflict?

45 responses

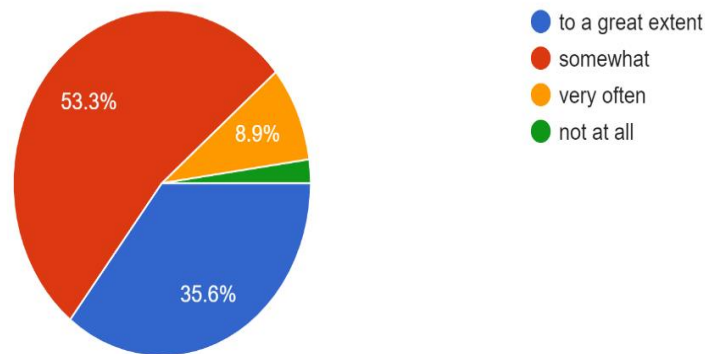


Figure 10: Respondents' views on financial crises as a cause of inter-parental violence

The question regarding the stable financial condition as the key factor in maintaining good grades resulted as thus: 57.8% of respondents agreed on the financial stability playing a key role in maintaining good grades. 24.4% of respondents disagreed on the financial situation playing a key role in maintaining good grades. While 17.8 % of respondents were strongly agreed on to it.

Q no 11: Do you think being satisfied with financial situation is the key factor in maintaining good grades?

45 responses

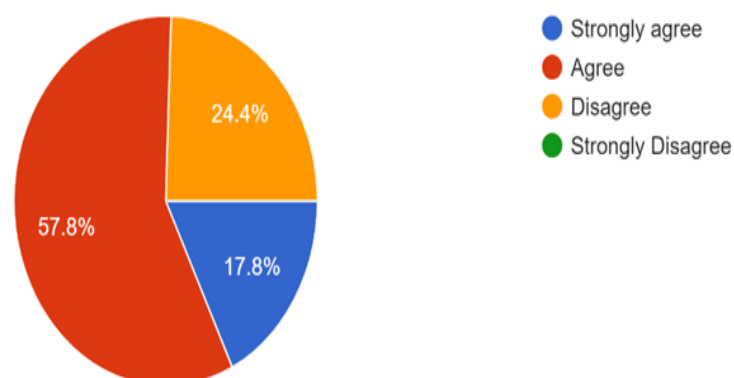


Figure 11: Respondents' views on financial stability as a key factor in maintaining good grades

Question on the supportive financial behavior was answered as thus: 44.4 % of respondents agreed on having supportive financial support. 42.2% of respondents were totally agreed on it. While 11.1% of respondents expressed that having supportive financial behavior has been often found effective.

Q no 12: Do you think that financial behavior of a person needs to be supportive for financial well-being of family?

45 responses

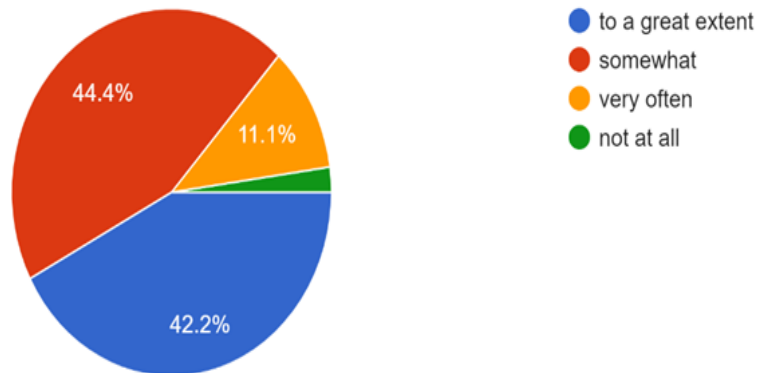


Figure 12: Respondents' views on supportive financial behavior

The question regarding the influence of inter-parental violence on academic record resulted as thus: 53.3% of respondents expressed a great influence of inter-parental violence on academic record. 42.5 % of respondents were also agreed on inter-parental violence having impact on academic record. While remaining 0.5% of respondents denied it.

Q no 13: Do you think the academic performance of a child gets affected due to parental conflict at home?

45 responses

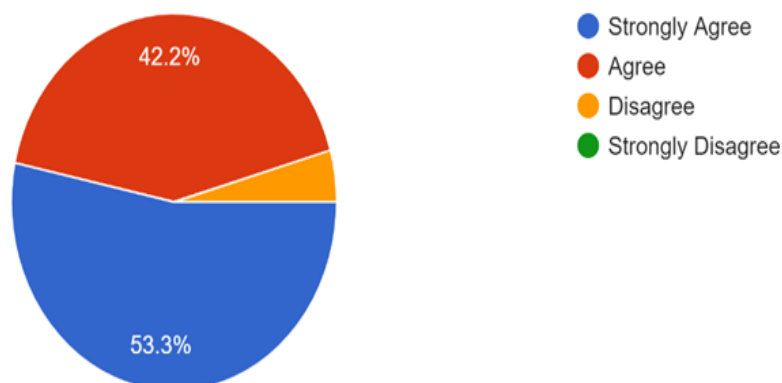


Figure 13: : Respondents' views on the influence of inter-parental violence on academic record

The questioning regarding change in attitude towards achieving goal due to non- supportive parents was answered as thus: 62.2 % of respondents were strongly agreed on the change in attitude towards achieving target due to non-supportive parents. 31.1% of respondents also expresses agreement. While 7.7% of respondents disagreed on it.

Q no 14: Do you think that non- supportive parents can affect child's attitude towards achieving target?

45 responses

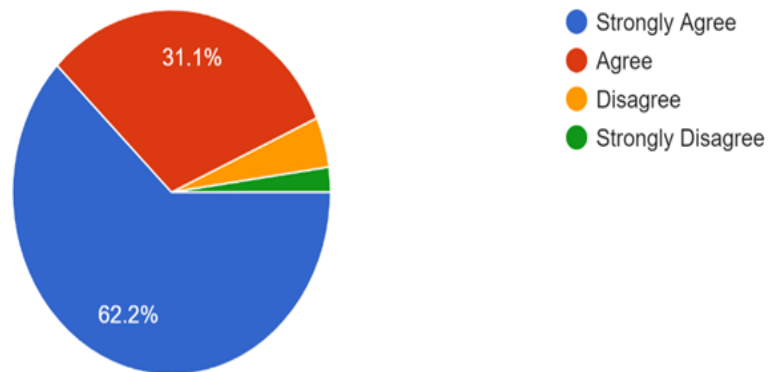


Figure 14: Respondents' views on change in attitude toward achieving goals due to non-supportive parents

The question regarding the submissive attitude due to Inter-Parental violence, resulted as thus: 60% of respondents were agreed on the submissive attitude of a child due to inter-parental violence. 33.3% of respondents also expressed their agreement on submissive attitude of a student due to inter-parental violence. While 7.7% of respondents were not agreed to this.

Q no 15: Do you think that the submissive attitude of a student can be due to inter-parental violence?

45 responses

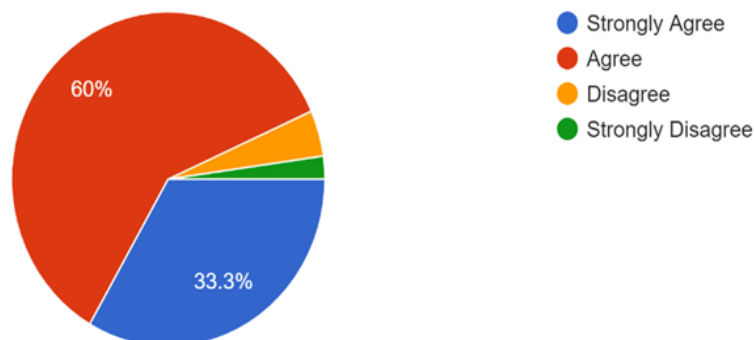


Figure 15: Respondents' views on submissive attitude in children due to inter-parental violence

The inter-parental conflict leading to dissatisfaction regarding pursuing carrier was answered as thus: 71.7% of respondents were agreed on inter-parental violence leading to dissatisfaction regarding pursuing carrier. 22.2% of respondents were strongly agreed to this. While 7.7% of respondents disagreed on the inter-parental violence leading to dissatisfaction regarding pursuing carrier.

Q no 16: Can the Parental conflict leads to dissatisfaction regarding pursuing the career?

45 responses

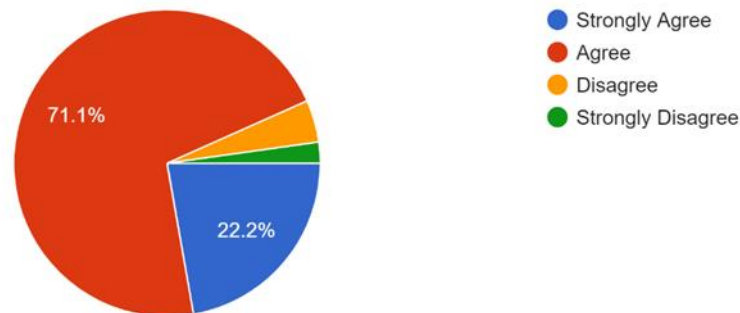


Figure 16: Respondents' views on dissatisfaction in pursuing a career due to inter-parental violence

The question regarding the academic performance that gets affected due to mental stress being given resulted as thus: 66.7% of respondents were agreed on the greater impact of inter-parental conflict on academic performance due to mental stress being given. 24.4% of respondents expressed not having much impact of inter-parental violence on academic performance due to mental stress being given. While 8.9% of respondents had oftenly experienced poor performance due to mental stress being given by parents.

Q no 17. How far can mental stress being given due to inter-parental violence affects the academic performance?

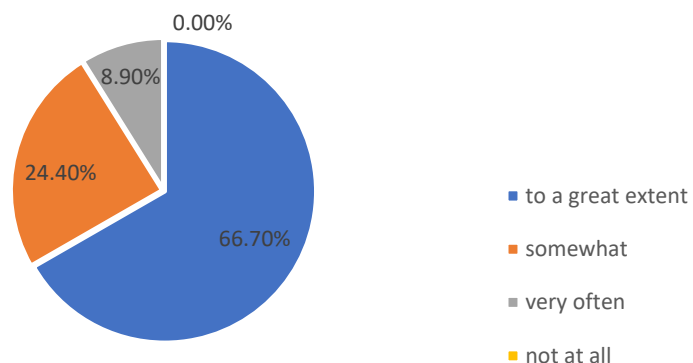


Figure 17: Respondents' views on academic performance affected by mental stress from inter-parental conflict

4. Conclusion

The findings based on the data collected shows the positive correlation between the Interparental violence and student's academic achievement. There are certain factors that can be considered as the cause of inter-parental violence. The financial problem being the cause of Inter-parental violence is the great influent on students' academic achievement. It is observed that the social functioning of a child gets affected due to inter-parental violence that later on weakens and causes difficulty in the decision-making process and express low confidence level. Moreover, the self-blaming in the emerging adulthood can be the cause of Inter-parental violence. The financial crises increasing in the third world countries has also been discovered as one of the major causes of Parental conflict. The financial support from parents that must be required for pursuing carrier resultantly would help the student in developing

financial supportive behavior and can solve the problem of inter-parental conflict due to financial crises. Inter-parental violence also exists in the families that are even financially stable and supportive. The non-cooperative behavior on the part of parents due to cultural incompatibility and other reasons besides financial crises, can lead to poor academic performance on the part of children.

5. Recommendations

The following recommendations are given which will help us to enhance the study on domestic violence being a challenging problem:

- The network accessibility provided can help the children in overcoming the problem of communication gap where they can easily have an approach to their mentors and from whom they can seek guidance and can take help in facing any difficulty. The downloaded apps in smartphones and other gadgets can help in up datedness in this regard.
- The need is to develop and implement intercession strategies so to reduce the experience and justification of violence among women exposed to inter-parental violence.
- In addition, health professionals should implement counseling and health education initiatives to tackle the consequences on intimate partner violence on women's well-being.

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