



## The Interplay between Media and Child Abuse in Pakistan: Causes, Social Impact, and Policy Responses

Muhammad Faiq Butt<sup>1</sup>, Muhammad Ahsan Iqbal Hashmi<sup>2</sup>, Javaria Rafaqat<sup>3</sup> & Hafiz Muhammad Haseeb Ulla<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Law, University of Okara, Okara, Pakistan, Email: [faiqbutt655@yahoo.com](mailto:faiqbutt655@yahoo.com)

<sup>2</sup>Department of Law, BZU Multan, Multan, Pakistan, Email: [ahsanhashmi@bzu.edu.pk](mailto:ahsanhashmi@bzu.edu.pk)

<sup>3</sup>Department of Law, University of Sahiwal, Sahiwal, Pakistan, Email: [javeriajamal0213@gmail.com](mailto:javeriajamal0213@gmail.com)

<sup>4</sup>Department of Law, Gillani Law College Multan, Multan, Pakistan, Email: [asporac2013@gmail.com](mailto:asporac2013@gmail.com)

ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
<p><b>Article History:</b></p> <p>Received: December 06, 2024  Revised: December 30, 2024  Accepted: January 01, 2025  Available Online: January 02, 2025</p> <hr/> <p><b>Keywords:</b></p> <p>Child Abuse, Social Impact, Policy Responses, Electronic Media</p> <hr/> <p><b>Corresponding Author:</b>  Javaria Rafaqat  <b>Email:</b>  <a href="mailto:javeriajamal0213@gmail.com">javeriajamal0213@gmail.com</a></p>	<p>Child abuse is any human-caused behavior that cease a child's inherent potential. It involves all forms of sexual, physical, and emotional abuse that may harm a child's development and sense of self. It has become a significant global issue, many developed and developing nations face this challenge. According to media reports, 800 innocents in Pakistan were sexually abused in 2019. Qualitative method is used for current research, and information has been obtained through variety of sources including research Articles, newspapers, magazines and books. The main fact is that right children are abused every day, which has become a serious problem for Pakistan. The current research is conducted on child abuse its types, effects, causes, role of media, educational institutions and UNCRC.</p>



### Introduction

A child is any male or female below the age of eighteen. Each country believes its children as its future. The future of each commercialized and developing nation is at risk because of child abuse. Negligence is the failure to perform basic parental duties, such as watching over sheltering children, whereas child abuse is the inappropriate use or parents' power to order, discipline and punish their children. In the first six months of 2024, 862 cases of child sexual abuse, 668 cases of abduction, 82 cases of missing children and 18 cases of child marriages were reported. This year, 48 cases of pornography after sexual abuse were also recorded. Six-monthly data shows that out of the total reported cases, (962) 59% of victims were girls and (668) 41% were boys(Bays 2024). The Islamic republic of Pakistan's condition is not good as compared to other commercialized and

developing nations, however the lack of official statistics on the widespread issue of child abuse makes it more crucial and due to be perceived shameful, it is not to be discussed. According to UNICEF data, 22% of children in the nation were victims of child marriage, and 23 million adolescents never attended school (Miele, Maquigneau et al. 2023). In the nation, just one third of children below the age of six are registered at birth. Without a proper authorization, children were more susceptible to exploitation and abuse. Zainab Ansari, a six-year-old innocent kid from Kasur, a city of Punjab province, (Mehnaz 2018) was the subject of the case in 2018. After the minor's body was found in a Kasur garbage heap on January 9, 2018 this case was extraordinarily important, unusually sparked widespread outrage and disgust throughout the nation (DAWN NEWSPAPER, 2019). When 200 incidents of child abuse were recorded from the same Punjab city.

Regarding the rising incidents of child sexual abuse cases in Kasur, DPO Ghaffar Qaisrani stated that even though Zainab's killer and rapist was executed for his crime, it was essential to look into the broader question of why cases like this keep repeating (GULF NEWSPAPER, 2019). Pakistan is dedicated to protecting children's rights both domestically and internationally. According to media sources, over 10 children are abused in Pakistan every day (Gorey and Leslie 1997). The complicated nature of child abuse and exploitation affects every aspect of Pakistani society, so it is important to comprehend the massive problem of childhood abuse, its causes and its effects on Pakistani society (Rowan 2006). Authorities and society must take a multifaceted approach to ending this issue. Because children are the future of every country (Faraz 2022).

The constitution of Pakistan put forward the rights of the children. Pakistan passed many law and ordinance regarding the child protection system such as Child Protection Bill 2009, Juvenile Justice System Ordinance, Punjab Child Protection Bureau, Sind Child Protection Authority Act 2011 and Nation's First National Child Abuse Law in 2018 were passed but not completely implemented. In this context Doctor Ishrat Hussain said Pakistan is good in making polices but poor in implementation process. Corporal punishments, child sexual abuse, sense of fear, exploitation etc., is all what has surfaced, thanks to electronic and social media, in the very recent times raising the questions regarding various social issues including child abuse. The overall picture of child safety and protection has been grim in Pakistan and child abuse has become a norm of the day. 'Pakistan is a densely populated country with approximately one-half of its population being children and adolescents and it is essential to safeguard these children and adolescents to promote their welfare and protect them from harm' (Younus, Chachar, Mian, 2018, p.2). A dig at the cases gives one goosebumps that how children have suffered for no fault of their own and became a victim of anger, aggression, power, terrorism, ignorance, pride and lust of others. For example, 'Zainab murder case, APS tragedy, Javed Iqbal and murder of 100 plus children, Malala attack, Kasur abuse scandal, little Angel shot (Mianwali incident), Kashmore gang rape, 'victims of teachers' furry', 'victims of domestic violence, etc.

### **Objectives of the Study**

1. To determine the types of child abuse existed in Pakistani society.
2. To explored the cases and impacts of child abuse on Pakistani society.
3. This study helps people to understand the issue of child abuse in Pakistan.
4. Current study guide Authority to make effective polices to eradicate the curse of child abuse from Pakistan.

## **Methodology**

It is literature-based research and the data is collected from the existing literature, newspapers, journals and electronic media. This research highlights the prolonged resistance and increased cases of CSA and the influence of families, community and society on assaulted children and the impacts of abused child on his/her own personality and relationship. With the help of constitutional and legislative approach, different cases are discussed and highlighted the international, national and provincial laws regarding child sexual abuse.

## **Literature Review**

**Zareena and *et al* (2023)** discussed briefly that Child sexual abuse is an alarming problem rises a danger to adolescents. Child labor on the streets is a result of Pakistan's rapid growth in population and expanding rates of poverty. Numerous forms of abuse, including abuse of sexuality have been experienced by children. The primary objective of this research is to evaluate the risk factors for child sexual abuse. The current research has been carried out at Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province's capital city. The respondents have been chosen from areas where kids are most expected to be found, whether they are selling goods or trying to find out work. A snowball technique and a questionnaire that was semi-structured were used to obtain primary data. 50 people contributed in all, including children of Afghan and Pakistani refugees. The results of the survey indicates that 76% of children don't getting the sufficient care from their parents, 96% are exceptionally poor and make barely RS.8000 , 66% are between the ages of 8 and 12, 72% of respondents only have one room in their home, 78% are not enrolled in school, approximately 22% of sample respondents left school early, 64% have a huge family ( more than six family members) 98% of the victims were out of their homes for work. It has been established that poverty, huge families, child labor, school dropout, and lack of affection from parent are the primary risk factors for child abuse. There is not a noticeable distinction between the two nationals in the majority of the factors(Nazir and Ali 2023).

**Muhammad Imran Ali (2018)** discussed that Children are a country's most precious treasure. A society's Capacity to flourish and advancement is constantly relying on its youth. The percentage of cases of child sexual abuse (CSA) in schools is rapidly increasing. CSA is a widespread issue that is predominantly neglected in many nations, particularly in poorer nations. Sexual predators like to work in fields where they may communicate with youngsters. Because they are not competent witnesses, they target the younger victims, which helps them in the legal process. Because of these facts, pedophile perceive elementary schools to be the ideal predator. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the child's clauses associated with the children's protection regarding sexual abuse and their rights to an education have been addressed in this article. Furthermore, it explored the gaps in the prevailing legislative and policy framework and evaluated at Pakistan's laws and policies, including pertinent statutes and constitutional provisions that protect children from sexual abuse in initial childhood education(Ali 2018).

**Usman Shaukat Tarar and *et al* (2020)** discussed that When an adult or teenager forcefully build a sexual contact with a child is, it is considered as CSA. In Islamic republic of Pakistan, the rights and life of all the people including children are protected by government in the light of constitutional and legislative laws and the agreements designed by the International Human Rights Convention. In the recent years child sexual abuse is increased and almost 11000 has been reported. Our government is trying to eradicate the risk of child abuse but still the problem is persisting due to many social, cultural and psychological reasons. The abuser has many reasons like mental illness, illiteracy and lack of basic manners. Parents mostly ignored and neglect their

children due to hectic routine and do not pay proper attention to their education and personality development. This paper highlights the reasons of CSA in Pakistan and their possible effort to control and overcome this issue. The findings show that all social, religious, and legal obligations must be followed to eradicate this menace before this slogan will be chanted in every street “Jab sambal nae sktay tu paida q krtay o”(Tarar, Naomi et al. 2020).

**Adnan Nisar and et al (2023)** discussed that in both abundant and developing nations, child abuse is a grave violation of human rights legislation. The overall rate of child sexual abuse is higher in developing nations. Pakistan is bound to protect children from sexual abuse as a contributor to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the child. In order to prevent the children's rights, Pakistan formed the "National Commission for Child Welfare and Development" (NCCWD). Pakistan is a federal state, and all of its provinces now have jurisdiction under the 18 Amendment to the student's constitution, enabling them to enact and enforce their own laws. Pakistan has a higher percentage of child sexual assault cases. Pakistan has legislative loopholes that contribute to child sexual abuse. This study highlights the legal loopholes and suggest changes to protect children from sexual abuse. This study combines descriptive, comparative, and analytical research methodologies(Nisar 2023).

## **Child Abuse and Its Types**

WHO designed definition in 1999 that “Physical, emotional and psychological ill treatment, sexual abuse, harassment, carelessness causes severe harm to the child mental and physical health, survival, development and nobility in their relationships and responsibilities”. The term misuse of children is used for both acts of omission and commission. commission means the use of abusive words and actions which cause potential harm to the children while omission means neglect the child. And the care taker fails to provide the basic emotional and educational needs to the child(Browne and Finkelhor 1986). these acts can be performed at home by the families like parents and other relatives or at institutions likes hostels, schools, madrasas. 80% of the neglect are caused by parents and teachers in early child stage which damage the prospect of healthy development of child into adult(Maniglio 2009). Childhood abuse is the victimization of children that further divided into fourth sessions:

- Emotional and Psychological abuse
- Neglect
- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse

### **Emotional and Psychological Abuse**

It is also known as psychological abuse which refer to the emotional behavior that damage the person self- esteem, identity or well-being. It mostly occurs in friendship, relationship or workplaces According to research Pakistani children face abusive language, physical and mental abuse by the parents and caretakers, this negative attitude might let inferiority complexes and lower self-esteem and confidence in children (Malik 2010).

### **Neglecting and Ignoring Child**

Negligence occur when parents do not provide their children proper medical care, wholesome meal, attention and protection. To put it simply, children face negligence when the parents fails to grant their children's basic needs. Eighty percent of parents were found who have neglected their

children. Another study also reveals that over 8 million children, or nearly 40% of all children between the age of 6 months and 3 years have stunted development, and 42% are anemic and underweight (Palusci 2022).

### **Physical Abuse**

It means having intention for usage of physical force or violence any other person which cause any injury, harm or trauma. Examples of physical abuse are cut, burn, bruise, bettering, punishment like compelling child stay outside in the severe hot and cold weather, beating them by parents, teachers in school and madrasas. All these acts are justified by saying these things are basic need to educate children can occur in any friendship, relationship or romantic partnership (Faraz 2022).

### **Sexual Abuse**

It is the forceful act in which child is not satisfied and involved and also call it sexual assault which refer to any unwanted sexual contact(London, Bruck et al. 2005). It may be physical contact (Kissing, hugging sometimes molestation and rape) or without physical contact (Abuser satisfied his sexual desires by sexual comments, jokes and pornography). It can occur at various places like homes, schools, groups or institutions (Miller and Krol 1995).

### **Effects of Child Sexual Abuse**

Child sexual abuse is a shameful and very sensitive widespread in primary school level in developing countries. Incident of sexual assault and sexual misconduct are usually reported in case of severe loss and death of victim. Hardly victims exposed the culprits of sexual exploitation. Shame, hate, dishonor and rejection by the society and family especially women and social taboo regarding female virginity and male homosexual experiences make them reluctant to discuss these cases publicly. Sexual child abuse has severe and various effects on child's emotional, physical and psychological well-being(Beitchman, Zucker et al. 1992). There are some side effects of sexual child abuse including:

- Psychological and emotional Effects
- Behavioral Effects
- Physical Effect
- Social Effects
- Legal and institutional failure

### **Psychological and emotional effects**

Victims of CSA mostly experience severe mental trauma. they face shame, guilty and awe over this maltreatment and experience depression, anxiety and Post- traumatic stress disorder. Exploited children may have low self-esteem. Scared of intimacy make abused child difficult to develop healthy relationships and trust anyone(Farva and Rasheed 2024).

### **Behavioral effects**

Sexually abused child may display weird behavior because they feel ashamed and considered themselves responsible for this accident. Some children may flee avoiding social gatherings and refusing to communicate with family and friends while other may react aggressively and get short tempered on people around them to cope with the trauma some children copy the strategy of

substance abuse and they may become alcoholic, drug addict and may punish the other children with same abuses (Shekhar and Pokhariyal).

### **Physical health problem**

If penetrative sexual abuse is involved the children may be at the risk of sexual transmitted infections such as AIDS, hepatitis. Sometimes physical and chronic injuries such as vaginal infections, genital injuries and reproductive health problem can also happen. As the body physically, manifest psychological illness CSA survivors commonly experience nausea, migraine, and gastrointestinal discomfort and other somatic disorders (Widom, Czaja et al. 2012).

### **Social effects**

In Pakistan CSA survivors commonly, female face extreme social judgement. Stigmatized by the family and society victims feel it difficult to recuperate themselves. In some cases, they may be compelled into seclusion or withdrawal from school which results in poor academic achievement (Beitchman, Zucker et al. 1992). Male dominance society like Pakistan which is deeply entrenched masculine norms often put blames on the victim particularly if they are female. Normalizing the gender-based violence reproduction results in the suitability of abuse cycle (Malik 2010).

### **Legal and Institutional Failure**

Because of weak legislation structures, fear of society judgement and family humiliation child sexual abuse is horrifically unreported or neglected (Collin-Vézina, De La Sablonnière-Griffin et al. 2015). The national commission on the status of women (NCSW) reported that in 2021 about 11000 child abuse cases were documented, but many more were undetected. Ineffective and inadequate legislative framework of Pakistan for the protection of children from sexual misconduct results in the progression CSA.

### **Causes of Child Sexual Abuse**

According to the parents' statement that physical punishment is their primary method of discipline, physical abuse is most prevalent in Pakistani households. In Pakistani society, emotional and psychological abuse extends beyond physical assault. Unaware of the negative impact of this abuse, parents used harsh and derogatory language, which led to the children's emotional anguish and demonstrated detrimental effects on their personalities, such as inferiority complex (Freund, Watson et al. 1990). Children who experience emotional abuse and parental rejection have a detrimental effect on their development. Additionally, it has been noted that parental rejection is more consistent than approval, affection and trust (Hartman and Burgess 1989).

### **Role of Media**

Through news coverage, analysis and intervention, the media not only raises public awareness of child sexual abuse (CSA), but it also puts the issue of child abuse on the political and social agenda (Kemshall and Moulden 2017). People's understanding of CSA and the necessity of child protection and safeguarding policies and services is greatly influenced by media coverage of the topic. The study examines how the media's advocacy, representation, coverage may start a conversation about prevention and foster a sense of shared responsibility for children's prevention and create a sense of shared responsibility for children's protection. It also helps in understanding

the social and cultural changes occurring in society, with a focus on India and Pakistan media, since Indian media is widely consumed by Pakistani media consumer. These developments also help in alternative care institutions in concentrating on more comprehensive solutions by enhancing the environment for prevention (Weathered 2015).

## **The Provisions of Constitution for Protection of Children from Sexual Abuse in Pakistan**

The constitution of Pakistan (1973) is the supreme law which governs both the provinces and federation. The most important feature of our constitution is to protect, promote citizens' welfare, which manifests the health, safety and happiness of the public of the country and also protect the rights of individuals, their lives, liberty and property (Shabbar Raza, 2014). The Fundamental Rights under the Constitution cover most of the provisions of UNCRC (Choudhury 1956).

### **Article 9**

Deal with the security of the person.

The Constitution provides us guidelines to protect its citizens, particularly women and children.

The word life means all facilities which are available to a person who is born in a free country with dignity.

### **Article 25**

provides equal justice or equality of legal status to citizens. This Article has three clauses. Clause (3) is a special provision to protect women and children, it provides that the State will not be prevented by any provision of this Article for enacting any law to protect women and children.

## **Legislative Provisions Addressing Child Sexual Abuse in Pakistan**

Pakistan penal code defines few offences which are related to unnatural offences and rape (Ali 2018).

According to Pakistan penal code,

**SECTION 375** Define the rape

**SECTION 376** provided the punishment of rape

The Government of Pakistan made second amendment in 2016. This Act introduced few sections in the Pakistan penal code like

**SECTION 292-A** which relates to the exposure to seduction

**SECTION 292-B** defines Child Pornography

**SECTION 292-C** provides punishment for child pornography

**SECTION 328-A** relates to Cruelty to a Child

**SECTION 369-A** relates to trafficking of human beings

Pakistan has failed to legislate comprehensive laws to tackle CSA. Due to the lack of comprehensive laws, the Courts always feel difficult to punish the offenders (Gillani 2009). The

low conviction rate is evident of this fact. The progress of Pakistan to comply with the formal requirements of UNCRC is slow and in respect to legislation relating to CSA is even slower.

### **Case Laws**

- On Feb 2, a young woman with her friend went on evening walk, when two men came and at the gunpoint they beat and sexually assault the woman in Fatima Jinnah park, Islamabad.
- October 2024: A 17-year-old student at the Punjab College Lahore was allegedly raped by the security guard of the institute.
- 8 February 2021: a boy was found dead after being sexually assaulted in Chowk Steel Bagh area after remaining missing for five days. [52] According to the police report, the 15-year-old son of Mustafa went missing after going to a poultry farm in Raukhanwala area for work. The relatives of the boy chanted slogans and protested against the police and demanded that the charge of sexual abuse be included in the case against the suspects and that justice be served.

### **Role of Education and Educational Policies in Pakistan**

Education is a fundamental human right that every citizen of the state must be provided by the government. Education plays a vital role in the social and economic development of the nation and also flourish personality of every single person (Ullah 2020). According to the constitution every state should be bound to provide opportunities to gain primary and basic education. In 2010 according to 18th amendment in constitution the right to education must be protected by constitution which was inserted by Article 25-A in the constitution. According to national education policy mental and physical growth of the children needs special care and education provided in the early stage (Bibi 2018). In the developing countries like Pakistan it is difficult promote ECCE due to insufficient facilities, inadequate services and financial problems. In rural schools the situation is worse than in urban schools by upgrading the laws in accordance to the international standards provided by UNCRC, it is the religious and constitutional duty of Government of Pakistan to protect and safeguard the rights of children (Policy 2010).

### **Teacher Sexual Abuse**

The deficiency of comprehensive policies about child safety is the result in promotion of sexual child abuse in schools, workplaces, and homes also which is a global problem. Sexual misconduct between teachers and students in schools and colleges also described in term rape, sexual abuse, sexual harassment, sexual exploitation (Dubowitz and Merrick 2010). It is also called teacher sexual abuse. Sexual remarks, jokes, revealing nude and pornographic photographs and videos, messages, compelling the child that he/ she is gay or lesbian. Consciously touching the students in a sexual manner, express sexual intents, removing students' clothes, forcing the students to kiss the teacher, provoking the students to indulge in sexual act with teacher are some instances of teacher-students sexual abuse. The sexual abuse of child mostly occurred in schools in vacant classrooms or offices. The teachers who are pedophile utilize a number of strategies to mislead the students, such as hunching to them, isolating them and engaging them in sexual activity. Teachers usually assault oppressed, fragile and neglected children who feel satisfied with teacher's attention and whom no one will believe if they report sexual abuse. They also pressurized the students and also threatened to fail the students in examination (Ali 2018). They use every possible method to keep quiet the students with regards to sexual abuse. In our society, the children who argue about sexual misconduct by a teacher at their institutions are usually not taken seriously (Kenny, Capri et al. 2008). The CSA data is not accessible in Pakistan. There isn't an official structure or information safety framework that tackle with child sexual violence. Teacher's role and responsibilities are not



explicitly defined. There is no foundation in place to protect children, and parents hold full command over their kids. It is impractical for a society or a state to question parents and families about their ways of schooling. The family is understood as an absolutely private space where no one else can split. The concept of family dignity and self-respect are critical because they modify how the family views children's education (Jabeen 2020).

### **School Role to Prevent Children from CSA**

Experts believe that schools have the power to stop teachers from sexually abusing their kids. Since it encourages sexual abuse of the pupil, a teacher cannot be permitted to sit in private with a student. Majority of child sexual abuse cases happen in the mature one child situations (Mitchell 2010). Activities including sending a student alone to a teacher's office or home should be forbidden in schools. Teachers should obtain training from educational institutions on how to manage with sexual abuse, its impact on survivors, how to report cases of sexual child abuse to the appropriate authorities, and the consequences for those who abuse their pupils (Mathews 2011). The most often recommended techniques for stopping child sexual abuse may involve education and training (Wurtele 2012). Usually, online or personal instructions is used to implement these techniques. It is accessible and ethical to get both in person and online training on preventing sexual abuse against minors. To minimize CSA in schools, effective policy change is an alternative to preventative measure. According to some professionals, compared to individual preventive efforts, policy change is more sustainable and impacts a greater portion of society. These strategies include pre-criminal the rapeutic intervention for sexual behavioral issues and sexual behavior, prevention of situational crime, child protection education, and the eventual integration of criminal into the rapeutic prevention. Criminal law relapse and other the rapeutic intervention for children and adolescents who have experienced sexual abuse. Policies that regulate their responsibilities to pupils should be known by all educators. They should be aware that CSA is illegal and if any teacher committed the same criminal offence, will be fired from their position immediately. Teachers can also avoid CSA in schools through the recruitment and selection process. This method appears to be quite successful. Personal interviews, expert advice, and criminal background checks are all part of the screening process (Mitchell 2010). Educational institutions are best places to teach kids self-defense skills, to protect them from CSA. Children can learn self-defense techniques, pertinent facts and sufficient knowledge in schools. Additionally, it was discovered that school-based intervention programs are more beneficial for kids younger than five and a half years. The educational heads/authorities should focus their attention on CSA in schools to eliminate the evil (Zwi, Woolfenden et al. 2007).

### **Role of UNCRC for Protection of Children's Rights**

After over ten years of drafting, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) had been successfully finalized (Shackel 2003). The (UNCRC) is an important document on children's rights that is acknowledge globally. A globally recognized human rights documents throughout the history, the UNCRC has been ratified by 193 states. In addition to outlining children's rights, the UNCRC gives them the ability to assert those rights in national, legal and administrative processes that fall under the state jurisdiction. The UNCRC acknowledges children's rights to a higher standard of living. All of the rights that children have, such as economic, social, cultural and others, are contained in a single treaty known as the UNCRC (Detrick 2023). A child's civil rights, as well as its cultural, economic, social, and political rights, are established by the UNCRC, which also affirms that children have rights. The child's necessities to live a potential life are described by these rights. The Child's basic needs to live a potential life are described by these rights. Every single child on the planet is covered by UNCRC.

A child under the age of eighteen is defined in Article 1 of the UNCRC (Freeman 2009). According to article 28 of the convention, member state must acknowledge children's rights to an education and take all essential measures to ensure that all children obtain free, obligatory basic education. States are required to protect children's rights to an education. Through the development of the child's personality, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, the implementation of his rights, and the promotion of principles incorporated in the UNO charter and its preparation from the child to a responsible life in a free society, Article 29 provide guidance to the participating countries that how to ensure the child's right to education. The establishment of educational institutions is the responsibility of the states, given the constraints outlined in UNCRC Article 29.

### **Research Question**

What is child sexual abuse, and impact of education and teachers to prevent children from CSA?

### **Recommendation**

Pakistan has proposed several laws to protect children from sexual abuse.

In 2015, act of child protection from sexual abuse and neglect provides comprehensive framework to protect children from sexual abuse.

According to the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC), 1860 Sections 375 and 376 particularly address rape and punishment for rape.

Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act, 2016: Addresses online child sexual abuse and exploitation.

According to the Juvenile Justice System Act, 2018, protection and care should be provided to sexually abused children.

Pakistan have not authentic data regarding the child abuse, so it is more important to gather the data about child abuse.

Pakistani parents should be conscious about the negative effects of mental and physical abuse and avoid them.

Specifically, mothers should convey the responsibility of exemplary teacher.

A conference on child abuse should be organized in order to raise public awareness of the problem.

To stop child abuse, the government should strictly implement the laws and regulations about CSA.

### **Conclusion**

While summarizing the above discussion it is evident that child abuse includes neglect as well as violations of children's rights in emotional, physical, and sexual domains. Pakistan being a signatory to the United Nations Children's Rights Commission, present a harsher image of its children. Numerous youngsters endure the effects of traumatic events, some of which even result in death. In 2018, Zainab Ansari, a six-year-old infant, was raped and killed. That generated riots around the nation, but as time went on, Pakistani became numb to this inhumane incident. It is imperative that Pakistan establish a fearless and tranquil atmosphere for children. Pakistan wanted Her Bacha Mahfouz.

## **Bibliography**

1. Ali, M. I. (2018). "Protection of children from sexual abuse in early years education in Pakistan: Challenges and issues." JECCE 2.
2. Bays, J. D. (2024). *Exploring the Counseling Journey: Perspectives of Adult Survivors of Child Sexual Abuse*, University of Wyoming.
3. Beitchman, J. H., et al. (1992). "A review of the long-term effects of child sexual abuse." *Child abuse & neglect* 16(1): 101-118.
4. Bibi, T. (2018). "Article 25th A: Implications of free and compulsory secondary education." *VFAST Transactions on Education and Social Sciences* 6(1): 57-63.
5. Browne, A. and D. Finkelhor (1986). "Impact of child sexual abuse: a review of the research." *Psychological bulletin* 99(1): 66.
6. Choudhury, G. (1956). "The constitution of Pakistan." *Pacific Affairs* 29(3): 243-252.
7. Collin-Vézina, D., et al. (2015). "A preliminary mapping of individual, relational, and social factors that impede disclosure of childhood sexual abuse." *Child abuse & neglect* 43: 123-134.
8. Detrick, S. (2023). *A Commentary on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child*, BRILL.
9. Dubowitz, H. and J. Merrick (2010). *International aspects of child abuse and neglect*, Hauppauge, NY: Nova Science.
10. Faraz, J. (2022). "Child Abuse: Causes and Impacts on Pakistani Society." *International Research Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities* 1(2): 33-49.
11. Farva, U. and A. Rasheed (2024). "Psychological effects of child sexual abuse in Pakistan, causes of its prevalence and its Solution in the Light of Islamic Teachings." *Tanazur* 5(2): 229-246.
12. Freeman, M. (2009). *Children's rights as human rights: Reading the UNCRC*. The Palgrave handbook of childhood studies, Springer: 377-393.
13. Freund, K., et al. (1990). "Does sexual abuse in childhood cause pedophilia: An exploratory study." *Archives of sexual behavior* 19(6): 557-568.
14. Gillani, U. (2009). "Child sexual abuse in Pakistan: The need for an indigenous scientific knowledge base, effective policy making and prevention." *Pakistan Journal of Criminology* 1(3): 81-96.
15. Gorey, K. M. and D. R. Leslie (1997). "The prevalence of child sexual abuse: Integrative review adjustment for potential response and measurement biases." *Child abuse & neglect* 21(4): 391-398.
16. Hartman, C. R. and A. W. Burgess (1989). "Sexual abuse of children: Causes and consequences." *Child maltreatment: Theory and research on the causes and consequences of child abuse and neglect*: 95-128.
17. Jabeen, T. (2020). "Child Protection Data: an analysis of Newspapers Coverage of child protection issues in Pakistan." *South Asian Studies* 29(1).
18. Kemshall, H. and H. M. Moulden (2017). "Communicating about child sexual abuse with the public: Learning the lessons from public awareness campaigns." *Journal of sexual aggression* 23(2): 124-138.
19. Kenny, M. C., et al. (2008). "Child sexual abuse: from prevention to self-protection." *Child Abuse Review: Journal of the British Association for the Study and Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect* 17(1): 36-54.
20. London, K., et al. (2005). "Disclosure of child sexual abuse: What does the research tell us about the ways that children tell?" *Psychology, Public Policy, and Law* 11(1): 194.

21. Malik, F. (2010). "Determinants of child abuse in Pakistani families: Parental acceptance-rejection and demographic variables." *International Journal of Business and Social Science* 1(1).
22. Maniglio, R. (2009). "The impact of child sexual abuse on health: A systematic review of reviews." *Clinical psychology review* 29(7): 647-657.
23. Mathews, B. (2011). "Teacher education to meet the challenges posed by child sexual abuse." *Australian Journal of Teacher Education (Online)* 36(11): 13-32.
24. Mehnaz, A. (2018). "Child abuse in Pakistan-current perspective." *National Journal* 3(4): 115.
25. Miele, C., et al. (2023). "International guidelines for the prevention of sexual violence: A systematic review and perspective of WHO, UN Women, UNESCO, and UNICEF's publications." *Child abuse & neglect* 146: 106497.
26. Miller, J. B. and P. A. Krol (1995). "Childhood sexual and physical abuse as factors in adult psychiatric illness." *Child Abuse: Short-and long-term effects* 4(4): 102-110.
27. Mitchell, M. W. (2010). "Child sexual abuse: A school leadership issue." *The Clearing House* 83(3): 101-104.
28. Nazir, N. and S. Ali (2023). "Socioeconomic and demographic risk factors of child sexual abuse in Pakistan: a case study of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province." *Pakistan journal of humanities and social sciences* 11(2): 2783–2791-2783–2791.
29. Nisar, A. (2023). "A Critical Analysis of Pakistan's Legislative Measures Against Sexual Abuse of Children in the Light of International Human Rights Law." *Pakistan JL Analysis & Wisdom* 2: 432.
30. Palusci, V. J. (2022). Current issues in physical abuse. *Handbook of Child Maltreatment*, Springer: 65-91.
31. Policy, N. (2010). "National Education Policy." Dhaka: Ministry of Education.
32. Rowan, E. L. (2006). *Understanding child sexual abuse*, Univ. Press of Mississippi.
33. Shackel, R. (2003). "The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child-A Review of Its Successes and Future Directions." *Austl. Int'l LJ*: 21.
34. Shekhar, B. and P. Pokhariyal "Forensic Justice."
35. Tarar, U. S., et al. (2020). "Child Sexual Abuse in Pakistan: From Tears Shed to Lives Lost." *Liberal Arts and Social Sciences International Journal (LASSIJ)* 4(1): 35-43.
36. Ullah, A. (2020). "Right to free and compulsory education in Pakistan after 18th constitutional amendment." *South Asian Studies* 28(2).
37. Weatherred, J. L. (2015). "Child sexual abuse and the media: A literature review." *Journal of child sexual abuse* 24(1): 16-34.
38. Widom, C. S., et al. (2012). "A prospective investigation of physical health outcomes in abused and neglected children: New findings from a 30-year follow-up." *American journal of public health* 102(6): 1135-1144.
39. Wurtele, S. K. (2012). "Preventing the sexual exploitation of minors in youth-serving organizations." *Children and Youth Services Review* 34(12): 2442-2453.
40. Zwi, K., et al. (2007). "School-based education programmes for the prevention of child sexual abuse." *Campbell Systematic Reviews* 3(1): 1-40.