



# Relationship between Domestic Violence and Self-Esteem of School Age Children in Assiut City

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## Abstract:

Domestic violence is a devastating social and human rights problem that has significant and enduring effects upon school age children, threatening both their health and emotional wellbeing. Exposure to violence may take a variety of forms; physical, emotional, psychological, financial or sexual. A close relationship has been documented between low self-esteem and domestic violence. The aim of this study is to explore the relationship between domestic violence and self -esteem of school age children in Assiutcity. A cross-sectional descriptive design was used in this study .The study was carried out in (4) primary schools in Assiut city (Unified University Primary school and El-Wehda El-Arabia Primary school)as urban areas and (Omar bin Abdul Aziz primary school of El-Walydia and El- Nahda Primary school of El-Walydia) as rural areas which were selected randomly to constitute Assiut city .The study sample consisted of 1000 school age children, 250 from each setting. There were no inclusive criteria .Data were collected during the period from the beginning of February 2012 to the end of May 2012 through using the following tools : 1) - An interview questionnaire sheet which developed by the researcher 2)- Domestic violence Scale and 3)- Self- esteem scale for children which adopted from El- Himady ,(2004) And El-Ganady ,(2011) respectively and used to collect the necessary data .Results of this study revealed that the mean age of the studied children was  $11.43 \pm 1.02$  , 51 % were males, while 49% were females. (15.4%) of them had domestic and more than one fifth (20.6%) had low self-esteem. Statistically significant differences were found between domestic violence and low self-esteem ( $P= 0.001$ ) ,between parents socio-demographic data and domestic violence and also with scores of self-esteem .Concluded that domestic violence experienced more in males than females school age children leading to low self-esteem among them and that less than one fifth (15.4 %) of studied school age children in Assiutcity had domestic violence and more than one fifth (20.6%) of them had low self-esteem score and affected by all items of socio-demographic data of their parents while there is no significant relationship was found between studied children sex and their self-esteem. Recommended that early teaching of children about self-esteem is a critical need in order to help prevent domestic violence in future generations.

## Keywords:

Domestic violence, Self-esteem.

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