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# Psychological Profile of Homeless Children

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## Abstract:

The experience of being homeless affects a person physically, psychologically, socially and economically. Homeless children & teenagers have significant psychological disturbances and drug abuse. The aim of this study was to determine the psychological profile of homeless children. A descriptive design was utilized in this study. The subjects included all homeless children at the homeless shelter for children and men at Assiut City. The subjects included 41 children, 17 of them boys and 24 girls. The age of them was ranged from 9-16 years old. Tools of study: Sociodemographic and clinical data questionnaire, child abuse scale, measurement of aggressive behavior for children and the multidimensional child and adolescent depression scale. Results of the study revealed that more than half of homeless children were exposed to average degree of verbal and physical punishment, parental abusive behavior, claimed having average degree of "firm aggressive rules within their families, and having average possibility to be abusers in the future. Verbal aggression was higher than physical aggression among them and more than half of them were have moderate degree of depression. Conclusion, homeless children exposed to verbal and physical punishment, parental abusive behavior, claimed having firm aggressive rules within their families, having average possibility to be abusers in the future and moderate degree of depression. Recommendations: There is a need for broad- based psychosocial intervention programs in dealing with runaway children and adolescents, and active treatment programs along with long- term support and rehabilitation programs.

## Published In:

The 10th International Scientific Nursing Conference: Updates in Nursing , Alexandria, Egypt , ,