

Iraqi Ministry of Higher Education And Scientific Research University of Mosul/ College of Nursing



Post Traumatic Stress Disorder among Yazidi Adolescents Survivors at Refugee Camps in Duhok City, Kurdistan Region of Iraq

A Graduation project Submitted by:

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To:

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ABSTRACT

Background: Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) among adolescents is increasing worldwide principally in violent conflicts and war zones. Iraq is consistently exposed to large-scale traumatic events such as successive wars, economic sanction, sustainable organized violence, and terrorism. This unsafe situation has negative impacts on the psychosocial status of the whole Iraqi community, particularly children and adolescents.

Yazidi adolescent have faced and/or experienced inconceivable trauma. The ongoing genocide of the Yazidi people and has been compared to the Holocaust (Ensler, 2016).

Objectives: To estimate the prevalence of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder among Yazidi adolescents in Duhok city camps, and to figure out the association between PTSD with certain socio-demographic characteristics.

Method: The current study was based on a cross sectional design, which conducted on a sample consisted of 252 adolescents aged 15 to 21 years old age was randomly selected from the governmental secondary schools from the internally displaced Yazidi in Duhok city. Participants were interviewed by self-administrated questionnaire include; Sociodemographic characteristics, Post traumatic stress disorder according to DSM-IV scale.

Results: The study showed that 13.7% of adolescents reported mild PTSD, 50.8% showed moderate, 31.3% revealed severe PTSD, while 4.2% of adolescents suffering from very severe PTSD. The results showed a significant association between the PTSD with age of adolescents and family monthly income, the educational level of mother. On other hand, there was not significant associated between PTSD and gender among Yazidi adolescents.

Conclusions and Recommendations: The results of the current study showed that there is a significant relationship between the occurrence of PTSD and studied factors such as adolescent's age, mother education level and monthly income of the family. However, there were other factors that did not significantly correlate with the occurrence of PTSD such as the father's education level and gender. The urgent need to Prompt intervention for Yazidi adolescents and their families in the event of a trauma that will reduce the level of PTSD. Training of school counselor on PTSD, how to detect it early, and how to manage such disorders, and work to educate and train students on how to deal with these conditions before, after and during the trauma. Nongovernmental organizations must modify their programs and plans that meet all generations and families and cover all levels of society. Establish supportive and therapeutic programs that encourage affected adolescents to share their feelings and ideas and provide them with appropriate treatment (in collaboration with governmental and non-governmental organizations).