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Effect of Covid 19 Pandemic Situation for the Child Neglection

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Child neglect is defined as the failure of providing essential food, clothing, shelter, medical care or supervision to the purpose of child's health, safety, and wellbeing for the child from a parent or another guardian who has the responsibility. Numerous factors could be affected for child to be neglected. Among them, poverty is considered as the one of the major factor for the child neglect. However, there is no reported research work to identify the association between poverty and the child neglect in Sri Lankan Context. Covid 19 pandemic situation has decisively affected for increasing the poverty in all communities. Therefore, the objective of this study is to investigate association between covid 19 pandemic situations for the child neglect in Gampaha district. Data was collected by using snowball sampling technique with a mix method approach. To achieve the purpose of the research, 10 interviews and 134 questionnaires were distributed to neglected children who were reported in Gampaha District and 10 interviews were carried out for the parents. In this work, frequency analysis and Chi square test were used and content analysis method was used for analyzing purposes. Findings show that lack of nutrition, and unable to access to health care (Physical neglect) were most common within in the children. Experience less supervision (Supervision neglect) was considered as the second rating category. Compulsory education (Educational neglect) and emotional care (Emotional neglect) also were exhibited significantly in children's life style. Based on the parent's intention, Covid 19 has critically affected for their daily income and it has directly affected for providing basic needs for their children.

Key words: Child Neglection, Covid 19, Daily Income, Poverty,