

Assessment of the awareness of domestic violence against women and children

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This study is done in a foundation for protecting and keeping the rights of women and children in a country in a Gulf region since November 2002, besides participation in social awareness in regards to rights. It is a retrospective study to analyze the epidemiological studies of child and women abuse which was recorded from 2004 to 2008.

Data was recorded from the Foundation for child and woman protection (FCWP) including 1050 record for children and 926 for women. Each case was interviewed and evaluated by a team work consisting of psychiatrist, psychologists, social workers and loyalist. They were diagnosed according to the international classification of diseases (ICD 10). Data are collected and analyzed using SPSS 15.0. Chi-square was used to analyze observed frequency or dichotomous data.

The total number of abused victims consists of 184 children and 353 women. The most common form of abuse in children is physical abuse followed by sexual abuse. Physical and psychological abuses are the most common form of abuse in women.

These findings will be used to form a more effective response from the government, including the health, justice and social service sectors, as a step towards fulfilling the state's obligation to eliminate violence against women and children under international human rights laws.