

## JOINT EVENT

Global Public Health Congress

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**Long term effects of violence and sexual abuse on the child's behaviour**

Domestic Violence and Sexual abuse is a health risk among Children. It carries the potential of producing long and debilitating mental health problems that includes maladaptive behaviours, anxiety disorders, personality or relational issues. This health issue requires equal importance as any other physiologic and physical disorder. It advocates the use of client centered or person centered therapy. Every child is a human being having similar rights as any adult have. It includes their right to association with parents, human identity, the provision of the basic needs for physical protection, food, universal state-paid education, health care, and criminal laws appropriate for the age and development of the child, equal protection of the child's civil rights, and freedom. Prevention of a disruptive home environment is better than a whole system of cure. Abuse whatever the nature is; physical, psychological or sexual according to Mullen and Fleming (1998) reveals a significant connection between a history of child sexual abuse and a range of adverse outcomes both in childhood and adulthood. The important role of family and community where the child is raised is stressed. This study describes coping mechanism, mental health well being and functioning of a sexually abused child. The child's right to be respected for his views is necessary in the treatment and healing process.

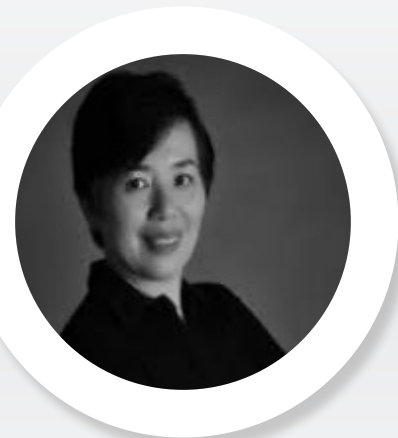
**Methodology:** Respondents were randomly selected voluntary disclosure and client's request for counselling. Age ranges of the respondents were between 16 to 24 years old. All female and single. Subjects were repeatedly abused in their childhood. This Case Study used the right based approach and person to person approach as part to directly address the underlying condition. The study seeks to determine the main relationship between the child, the sexual abuse and the perpetrator. what are the typical or general responses of an Sexually Abused Child? Was the act perpetuated with coercion or manipulation? Was it perpetuated cumulatively over a period of considerable time. Difficulty in relating and forming relationships due to severe and unresolved emotional trauma and scarring? Were emotional issues addressed? What are the child coping mechanisms? Did the child receive any support from the Family? Is there any social support accessible to the child? was there any unwanted pregnancy.

**Results:** Children from families where there is domestic violence regularly occurs in the home environment tend to suffer from emotional violence if not physical abuse. Children reported spousal violence in their home environment where there is domestic violence. More than Fifty-percent of child sexual offenders physically abused their adult female partner. Half of these males tend to physically abuse the partner's children. They also tend to sexually abuse children when the partner is not at home. It can be noted that there is a poor sense of self image needing constant affirmation. Sexually Abused Child experience trust issues and needs consistent reassurance, the lack of healthy proper affectionate gestures renders them vulnerable to abusive relationships. They also exhibit the lowered capacity to sustain non abusive relationships. Based on the data gathered there is a general tendency among victims of SAC to experience difficulty in establishing intimacy in relationships and finding the sense for emotional connectivity are among the life skills that are either under developed or must be learned. The nature of therapy prioritize restoring a healthy self image. It focuses on a nondirective/authoritative, empathic approach that empowers and motivates the client within the therapeutic process. It encourages clients to get connected with their emotions, find meaning and guidance to make solutions based on their capacity to work out their issues.

**Biography**

Maria Lourdes De Vera is an artist and an award winning author. She is a registered Nurse specializing in Intensive Care Nursing. A former Clinical Instructor she handles Research as her main field of interest. Marilou is a licensed Professional Teacher and Psychologist with post graduates in Medical Surgical Nursing, Guidance and Counselling and Fine Arts. She advances the cause of using creative art with Children as an effective approach to imaginative thinking, problem solving and as a tool develop the psychosocial emotional abilities of the child. She gives lectures to undergraduate and graduate school students in selected colleges and universities in the National Capital Region, Philippines.

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**Notes:**