

APPENDIX GA36bd

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Introduction

For many civilizations, the vulnerability of children and young people is a serious problem. Due to their immaturity on all fronts—physical, emotional, and cognitive—children and young people are particularly susceptible to abuse and exploitation. They frequently lack awareness of their rights and the ability to defend themselves against exploitation (Adekunle, 2020). However, kids frequently depend heavily on people to meet their basic needs, including food, housing, and education. They are therefore susceptible to abuse, neglect, exploitation, and other types of mistreatments. Their whole welfare, as well as their physical, mental, and emotional health, might suffer long-term, severe effects as a result of this sensitivity. To secure their safety and build a better future for them, it is crucial to address and lessen the vulnerability of children and young people.

Overview of the case study of a young person with drug misuse

This case study is about a 17-year-old white ethnic background boy who is addicted to drugs. Because of his drug abuse problem, his parents are fed up with him and no longer want him to live with them. The teenager, who left school at age 16, has been dealing with anxiety and sadness. He has turned to selling bogus concert tickets online to support his drug habit because he is now uninterested in looking for a job. His parents have been getting complaints from scam victims, and the issue has now reached the police, placing them in a desperate financial situation.

This case serves to show the difficult concerns that young people dealing with substance abuse and mental health problems must deal with. A young person needs to get thorough assistance and care to address their substance abuse and mental health problems as well as develop the skills that will help them obtain work. The young person must also be given access to a secure living environment that will enable them to rebuild their lives and go over their current predicament.

Vulnerabilities factor Issues that Families, Children, and Young People May Face

Families, children, and young people may encounter several conditions that make them more vulnerable and susceptible to damage or unfavourable consequences. These variables may be divided into three categories: individual, familial, and environmental (Hayes, 2022). Here are a few illustrations of each:

Individual factors:

Health issues or disabilities: Due to their greater need for care and assistance, kids and teenagers with long-term health issues or disabilities may be more susceptible to abuse or neglect.

Mental illness: Bullying, social isolation, as well as self-harm may be more common among children and adolescents who have mental health problems.

Learning challenges: Children and teenagers who have learning challenges may be more susceptible to scholastic issues, low self-esteem, as well as exclusion from social activities.

Behavioural problems: Children and teenagers who display troublesome conduct may be more susceptible to criticism as well as a disciplinary action, which could also compound their problems.

Family factors:

Substance abuse by parents: Children and teenagers who live with drug- or alcohol-using parents may be more at risk for abuse, neglect, and insecure living conditions.

Domestic abuse: Children and young people may be more susceptible to both emotional and physical injury if they watch or experience domestic violence.

Parental mental health problems: Children and teenagers who have mentally ill parents may be more susceptible to abuse, volatility in their emotions, and lack of support (Smith, 2017).

Financial difficulties: Families that are struggling financially may be more likely to encounter housing instability, food insecurity, or difficulty accessing healthcare or education.

Environmental factors:

Neighbourhood protection: Children as well as young people may be more at risk of physical violence, gang involvement, and drug usage if they live in hazardous communities.

Insufficient access to services: Children as well as young people may be more at risk for poor health outcomes, academic difficulties, and social isolation if they don't have access to healthcare, education, as well as social services.

Migration: Children and young people who move to a new country may be more susceptible to prejudice, linguistic difficulties, and problems adjusting to the local culture.

Natural catastrophes: Families may be more susceptible to housing instability, displacement, as well as trauma if they encounter natural disasters like floods or hurricanes.

Impact of Vulnerability Factors on the Children and Young People

Vulnerability factors can have a complicated and multifaceted effect on children as well as young people. Vulnerability characteristics can put children and teens at risk for bad outcomes such as poor physical as well as mental health, scholastic difficulties, social isolation, and a higher propensity for dangerous behaviours like drug misuse. Vulnerability characteristics may

increase a child's or adolescent's risk of experiencing trauma, and this may have long-lasting impacts on a person's emotional and mental health. For instance, post-traumatic somatization disorder (PTSD) symptoms including nightmares, flashbacks, as well as anxiety may appear in children and adolescents who witness or suffer domestic abuse or neglect (Sabates & Dex, 2015). Children and teenagers who are vulnerable may also have trouble building connections and trusting others. They might struggle to connect with people and feel alone, which could hinder their capacity to build strong bonds and social networks. Academic outcomes for young people as well as children might also be impacted by vulnerability factors. Young people as well as children might suffer academically if they live in poverty or don't have access to school, which might restrict their chances for success in the future. In addition, children and teenagers who are vulnerable may be more likely to engage in dangerous behaviours including substance misuse, self-harm, and misbehaviour. These actions may have further negative effects on their physical and emotional well-being and may bring them into contact with the criminal court system.

The intervention of Vulnerability by Relevant Agency of Health and Social Care

Children, young people, as well as families who encounter vulnerability factors can get interventions from some organisations in the social and healthcare sector. These organisations seek to offer assistance, materials, and services that encourage successful outcomes and deal with the underlying causes of vulnerability.

The following are some interventions offered by pertinent health and social service organisations:

Counselling and therapy: Counselling and therapy may be helpful for children and teenagers who are dealing with bereavement, trauma, or mental health difficulties. Access to specialised mental health experts who can give support and therapy is made possible by organisations like Child and Adolescent Mental Health Solutions (CAMHS) (Jones, 2016).

Education and skill building: Disadvantaged children and teenagers may experience scholastic difficulties or lack access to formal education. Organizations like Children's Services offer resources and assistance to children as well as young people so they may thrive in school. These resources and support include tutoring, mentoring, and access to specialised programmes.

Treatment for substance abuse: Programs for young people who suffer from substance misuse may be helpful. Access to specialist drug misuse treatment and assistance is made

possible by organisations like the Substance Abuse as well as Mental Health Solutions Administration (SAMHSA).

Child welfare and protection: Child welfare and protection programs may be needed to help children who have been neglected, abused, or have suffered various types of harm. Organizations like Child Protective Agency (CPA) offer protection, assistance, and resources to guarantee the well-being and safety of children (Warson, 2014).

In conclusion, relevant social and healthcare organisations offer a variety of treatments to address the underlying reasons for vulnerability and encourage favourable outcomes for kids, teens, and families. Counselling, education, skill building, financial assistance, drug misuse treatment, child welfare and protection services, as well as community support, are a few examples of these interventions.

Actions of Social Service with the Family

Social services frequently get engaged with a family because they are worried about the welfare and safety of a kid or children. A plan of action will be created by social workers after conducting an assessment to ascertain the needs of the family and the child (Scott, 2019). Some of the activities that social services can take include the following:

Visit the house: Social workers may go to the home to see the living arrangements and determine whether the atmosphere is safe for the kid or children.

Conduct an assessment: The requirements of the kid or children, and the parent's capacity to address those needs, may be assessed by social workers. This might entail evaluating their support system, education, and mental and physical well-being.

Create a care plan: Social workers will create a care plan based on the evaluation to meet the needs of the kid or children and the family. Accessing support services like parental education, counselling, or drug rehab may be part of this.

Monitor progress: Social workers will keep an eye on the family's progression in achieving the objectives of the care plan and make any revisions.

Support: Social workers can offer the family continuous help to make sure they have the tools and assistance necessary to preserve the safety and well-being of the kid or children.

Remove the child from the home: The child may need to be taken out of the house and placed in foster care or with a relative in extreme circumstances if social services judge that the child's safety is in danger.

Results and outcomes

Children and vulnerable young people are more likely to engage in aggressive and immoral behaviours that endanger them. Children and young adults susceptibility caused harm to

society, caused disturbances in people's lives, and disrupted society. The family's risk factors are decreased via the vulnerability as well as the social violence intervention programme. Parents are in charge of taking care of their children as well as defending them from social violence by appropriately implementing the interventions (Wells & Whittington, 2021). Young people's and children's health is also improved as a result. In addition to reducing domestic abuse and youth substance abuse, the therapies also assist to reduce both. Furthermore, it encourages societal awareness of equality and health. Engagement in early education and childcare is increased by the planning's execution as well. Young adults and children are motivated to attend class consistently and abstain from drug and alcohol use. If indeed the intervention is fully carried out, the adolescent in the case study would be enabled to attend school regularly, keep himself tidy and clean, and get sufficient treatment.

Policy and Legislation for Safeguarding of Children and Young People

The protection of children and adolescents is a top priority for all governments and societies around the globe. To guarantee that young people and kids are safe from danger and abuse, laws and policies have been created. Following are some instances of laws and regulations about the protection of children and teenagers:

The Children Act of 1989 (England and Wales): This piece of law spells out what local government agencies and courts must do to safeguard the well-being of children (Apure, 2019). The Law made the maxim that a child's well-being comes first and created the idea of a "care plan" for kids who are in need.

England and Wales' 2004 Children Act: By this law, several improvements to child and adolescent protection were made, including the creation of local shielding children boards (LSCBs) as well as the necessity that agencies cooperate to protect and advance children's welfare.

United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC): International law known as the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) outlines the rights of children and young people under the age of 18. The agreement, which establishes each child's rights to life, growth, protection, and participation, has been ratified by 196 nations, including the UK.

Keeping Children Secure in the Classroom (England): The legislative obligations that schools and colleges have to protect and advance the welfare of children and young people are outlined in this guideline. It offers instructions on the steps colleges and schools should take to protect and advance the welfare of children.

These laws and regulations offer a legal framework to guarantee that young people are secure from injury and abuse and that organisations collaborate to protect and advance their welfare.

Theories guiding interventions of social services in case of safeguarding issues

Various theoretical frameworks may be used by social services to direct their activities when it comes to protecting children and families (Barth, 2017). These frameworks guide the fundamental presumptions, guidelines, and tactics that social workers employ in order to recognise, evaluate, and resolve safeguarding issues. The following are some hypotheses that social services may use in this situation:

According to attachment theory, a child's emotional and social development depends on having strong bonds with its carers. Social workers can use attachment theory to evaluate the strength of the bonds between children and their parents as well as to guide therapies meant to improve these bonds. According to ecological systems theory, influences from the individual, family, community, and cultural spheres all have an impact on children and families. This theory may be used by social workers to create treatments that tackle problems at several levels and to comprehend how various systems interact to affect children's wellbeing (Vostanis, 2021). The concept of trauma-informed practise acknowledges that trauma may have a major negative influence on the mental health and behaviour of children and families who interact with social services. Social workers may give treatments that are sensitive to the trauma histories of children and families by using trauma-informed practise to establish safe and supportive settings for them.

Instead, than concentrating simply on children's or families' shortcomings or difficulties, a strengths-based practise approach looks for and builds on the assets that children and families already have. Strengths-based practise may be used by social workers to encourage families to actively participate in their own care and to effect good change.

Recommendation

To protect and advance the well-being of children as well as young people, effective intervention techniques founded on good theoretical concepts are required. These interventions can involve assessing and identifying difficulties with child safety, giving the right assistance and care, and continuing to watch over and analyse the results.

Conclusion

In order to ensure their wellbeing and keep them secure, it is essential to protect vulnerable children and young people. Relevant health and social care organisations can improve the lives

of children and families by comprehending the vulnerability factors and implementing suitable treatments based on theoretical frameworks. The success of interventions must be confirmed, nevertheless, in order to encourage continual development in safeguarding procedures.

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