

Physical And Sexual Abuses Faced By Students – Empirical Study In Cuddalore District, Tamilnadu

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Abstract

Abuses faced during childhood, and against women, proliferated as human tragedy, may led to lifelong adverse economic, social and health issues consequences to victims. The study concerns to explore descriptive and empirical study, aimed to elucidate the prevalence of physical, emotional and sexual abusive-experiences among high-school students, of Cuddalore district. Physical and emotional abuses, perpetrators, frequency distribution of respondents with respect to various socio-demographic factors are established. The Statistical analysis were performed using Anova and correlation tests. The understanding of physical abuse and emotional abuse victims, using quantitative approach were explored in the study. The data analysis, provides, significance of the study, how the prevalence of abusive acts have significance relation with socio-demographic details, self-esteem, academic stress and awareness level.

Keywords: Physical Abuses, Emotional abuse, Cuddalore, purposive sampling technique, Sexual abuse, socio-demographic profile, academic stress

I. Introduction

Many researches revealed unequivocally that physical and sexual abuse maximizes lifetime likelihood, which is characterized often by depression, dissociation, substance abuses and posttraumatic stress-symptoms (Hébert, Moreau, Blais, Lavoie, & Guerrier, 2017). This category of abuses, resulted in alarming outcomes particularly increasing suicide attempts, suicide ideations with strong association, seen in females population majorly (Jayapalan, Wong, & Aghamohammadi, 2018).

Generally, Abuse defined as complex Psychological and social issue, impacting vast count of adolescents and children worldwide. Physical abuse defined as intentional-act, which causes trauma or injury to other person or any animal through bodily contact approach. The physical abuse occurs to many people in varying places, times and forms. Children's and female adolescents are majorly often standing as physical abuse victims (Palamar, Acosta,

Ompad, & Friedman, 2018). In adhering with physical-abuses, referring with other terms physical-violence or physical-assault, sexual abuses were also evidenced among children and adolescents in more circumstances in society (Kamimura, Nourian, Assasnik, Rathi, & Franchek-Roa, 2017). Sexual abuses considered as universal problem, having life-long traumatic guilt and grief. It roughly defines a sexual conduct on another person (adult or children), undertaken by different individual to satisfy perpetrators desires. Such contacts were adopted against adults or children through threats, bribes, pressure, trickery or by force (Prasad & Periyar, 2018). Sexual abuses were classified into contact sexual-abuses and non-physical contact abuses (Skrzypiec et al., 2018). The contact sexual-abuses is a type of sexual abuse, including physical-contact between abuser and adult or child such as sexualised kissing, genital's fondling, persuading adult or child to indulge in some sexual acts, penetrative sex etc., The Non-contact sexual abuses consists of forced

prostitution, viewing or generating pornography, inappropriate individual observation, while victim is undressing or bathing, verbal abuses etc., (Choudhry et al., 2018).

Hence, these sexual abuses in any costs, were an unacceptable person's behaviour, is a mortifying, illegal and unethical act, and could not be tolerated. These abuses would create bad adverse impacts on work productivity, Performance of students or workers, organisational culture, behaviour of students and morality of schools as well. There exists a lacking in physical and sexual abuse awareness, among children and students. Children or the students does not share sexual abuses or physical abuse incidents with their family or even school preachers, due to their acquired communication gap among parents to children and similarly from to students as well(Taylor & Harris, 2018). In some scenario, children give information to their parents regarding abuse, while some parents recommends to maintain silence not disclosing to any person, because of their fear of social stigma or dishonour of their child. Only certain researches performed upon emotional, cultural and social impacts of sexual and physical abuses in schools and workstations. There occurs an immediate demand to bring out attitude change within society, in regards with sex-education and physical abuses. The Government ought to execute special campaigns in offering education everyone within society towards the significance of child-safety(Santelli et al., 2018). The Government employed funds for developing a safer system for women and children permitting instant reactions for any intimidation and molestation in any locations, or in any society(Ram & Jasmine, 2020).

For instance, government comes forward to execute a special-awareness program and also abuse prevention campaign on COVID-19. Special information were broadcasted by electronic-media and printed in all newspapers to traverse to all age audiences. Hence such category of campaign ought to get run by government in different (media) communication-channels, to tune society's attitude towards significance of women and child safety(Chandraratne, Fernando, & Gunawardena, 2018). There is a lack of extensive researches explored in tamilnadu in this aspect(Sathiyaraj & Kumar). Hence the

study focused to address out the physical and sexual abuses faced by high-school adolescents students in Cuddalore district(Tamilnadu), to determine the physical and sexual abuses causes , in that study-area. The quantitative study is carried in exploring out determinants and also perpetration of adolescents sexual abuses in Cuddalore district, from ecological-lens. The agenda of research might be necessary; to insist the progress of culturally tailored treatment and primary prevention strategies for sexual and physical abuses victims in Cuddalore.

1.1. Objectives of study

The objectives of the present study were illustrated below

- To Learn out socio-demographic participant profile of Cuddalore high-school students (Study-area)
- To determine the roots for physical abuses and sexual abuses faced by high-school students within study-area and summarizes how victims handles out sexual abuses incidents.
- To elicit frequency distribution of sexual and physical abuses behaviours faced by high-school students in Cuddalore district.
- To enumerate patterns, levels and forms of sexual and physical abuses in study area (high school students in Cuddalore district).

1.2. Paper organisation

Section I discusses about the introductory concepts of physical abuses, emotional abuses and sexual abuses prevalence and description of the study. Section II bring out entire review analysis discussion, employing different researches, dealing with physical abuses, causes and their preventive strategies. Section III represents research methodology of the study and data collection approach. Section IV provides results analysis of the study, enumerating with various statistical tests. Section V, propounds the conclusive part of the study.

II. Review of Literature

The following section explicates the detailed review analysis of existing researches employed to depict the prevalence of physical and sexual abuses faced by female population.

Sexual violence against children and teenagers is a problem that affects many countries. Sexual abuses and physical abuses against children and female population stands out emerging problem, impacting in India in day-to-day life scenario. Teenagers and children are subjected to abuses, were at higher risk in developing various bio-psychosocial disorders along with repercussion upon cognitive, behavioural and physical spheres. The role of media can contribute more in creating awareness among students regarding sexual and physical abuses of children and female adults. The differentiation of bad-touch and good-touch need to be learned out through media programs, distributed social environment. The awareness programs makes easy understandability and user attention to school students and children as well playing a dominant role(Sharma, 2020).

The casual impacts of physical and sexual abuses upon student's mental health has to be estimated. It becomes more necessitate to determine counterfactual of abused adults group and children. For this perspective, PSM-Propensity Score-matching technique is utilised for prediction of ATT-average treatment effects upon treated, seeking out within non-abused control-group youngsters, and the individuals (treated abused youngsters) in accordance with observed features. However the research addresses out impacts on adults mental health due to abuse and sexual violence, it also ought to be performed for assessing measures adopted already to extend horizons for novel therapy models, prevention and monitoring purposes(Fontes, Conceição, & Machado, 2017). In relation with physical abuses, emotional abuses against women also creates worse impacts upon the routine of female adults. The long-term emotional abuse outcomes seems to be quite negative and it includes mental and physical disorders. Such emotional abuses were examined and correlation of emotional abuses in adverse health effects between college students gets increased.

The findings of study recommended it might be significant in screening out higher-risk students from emotional abuses, to be part of

medical screenings and mental-health treatment(Vidourek, 2017). The integration of aforementioned mental health-effects and academic health-effects maximizes demand for mental health professionals for understanding their mind-set, who were impacted by relationship violence and sexual violence(Oswalt, Wyatt, & Ochoa, 2018). The increased knowledge could result in implementation and development of more efficient procedures, campus policies and then personalized care. Relationship abuse and violence abuses were pervasive public-health issues, having various social and psycho-emotional impacts on victims and their families(Patterson Silver Wolf, Perkins, Van Zile-Tamsen, & Butler-Barnes, 2018).

Similarly, there exists some gender-related variables related with spousal-violence. Those gender-related variables were determined in another research and study also explores how those gender-related contextual variable of gender-norms and women's empowerment, operating at different social-ecological levels, elucidates prevalence of spousal-violence in distinct settings(Ahmad, Khan, & Mozumdar, 2021).

In order to mitigate abuses, the results of study implies female population to utilised safety and avoidance strategies, which actually might maximizes sexual violence fears. In consequent to this scenario, utilisation of empowerment strategies like in combining in solidarity with another females need to get promoted(Nieder, Muck, & Kärtner, 2019). But also, the topic of sexual violence against adults in India stands as more complex issues, impacted by several cultural and social factors such as sexuality taboo and traditional gender-roles within Indian-society. In additional to this, online abuses were also generally prevalent by female participants (with 72 percentage of women population in research participation experiences atleast one abuse category) (Sambasivan et al., 2019). Hence, these abuses creates various consequences including coercive relations, physical harms, emotional harms and reputation harms. Those participants developed informal coping-strategies or mechanisms to mitigate abuses depending on NGO and family instead to seek out formal-support from technology platforms or law-enforcement.

As an instance, child abuse prevalence for first-year medical-students is determined

through ICAST analysis and relationship among abuses and socio-demographic-data analysed(Koc et al., 2018). The broader awareness-campaigns exploration, were organised to emphasize statement such that sexual-harassment as unacceptable and ought to urge women for registering complaints against those abusers. This aspect could be accomplished by offering victim friendly, facilities for reporting, seems to be appropriate pathway for handling out abuse problem in wider social perspective(Tripathi, Borrión, & Belur, 2017).

In case of abuse occurrences, SH-Sexual harassment perception by those legal-experts has been illustrated in one research. The research focusses on lawyers approaches of SH-victims and victim perpetrators and deliberates blame attributions to victims The attributions and perceptions in association to jurist BJW-Belief in just-world were examined in same study(Shechory-Bitton & Zvi, 2020).

In switching over to medical domains, a hypothesis is held out that those paediatric trainees and medical-students possess limited-knowledge, misbeliefs and oblivious attitude in regards with child-maltreatment compared with experienced paediatricians(Alnasser et al., 2017). In addition, it implies inferences stating trainees and medical-students may hold out higher willingness and motives in learning out maltreatment of children and abuse consequences. Another related study dealing with abuse cases, aimed to analyse the psychometric properties of ACE-ASF-Adverse Childhood-Experiences Questionnaire Abuse-Short-Forms. The questionnaire (Self-report retrospective questionnaire) measures out lifetime sexual, emotional and physical abuses faced. The questionnaire were distributed to participants consisting of 15-year older school adults. However future studies required for replicating feeling in various age-groups and youth populations(Meinck, Cosma, Mikton, & Baban, 2017). As a whole, Adolescents female workers stands out in higher risk facing mental health-issues including behavioural issues and depression problems in society.

The occupational healthier teams in workstations must screen out, prevent and treats out mental health-circumstances by provisioning of life-skill education, counselling services, referral services and promoting safer work-place provisions. Periodical screening out tools ought to be employed for abuses,

behavioural issues and depression specifically in workstations(Gnanaselvam & Joseph, 2018). The mental health-screening process can be fulfilled through annual health-examination and also simultaneously promotes positive mental-health. Similarly, female adults or working women must be aware regarding laws related with workplace harassment prevention.

2.1. Problem identification

- The management of normal life of adolescents is quite tedious with their worse conflicts such as insecure life, physical abuses, sexual abuses in neighbourly society and workplace, stress in family, frustration due to personal and financial issues, poverty and unhappy family circumstances(RAVISANKAR, 2020).
- In considering this perspective, the physical and sexual maltreatment of women population, living Cuddalore city, occurs more prevalent in this aspect. There arises a research gap to get addressed in to assess the abuse issues of adolescents' students within Cuddalore district. The problem eradication paves an effective approach, for handling out physical abuses and sexual violence by students, in creation of predominant solutions to prevent sexual and physical strategies and aids in victim rehabilitation.
- There emerges a essential need for bringing out a awareness and change in society's attitude towards sex education(Palamar et al., 2018). The lack of Government executed campaigns in necessary, to educate each and every individual in the society about the significance of sex education and awareness to report for physical abuses.

III. Research methodology

The research work, proposed an exploratory research-design for learning out research issue in assessing physical abuses and sexual abuses in Cuddalore-district (Tamilnadu). The pioneer research in stream of physical abuse and sexual abuse were presented in study. The method implements quantitative approach, to formulate results analysis. The primary data were gathered by using field survey assessment

(structured interview approach). Those hundred Victims were selected randomly and placed for interview covering Cuddalore district. The survey were conducted by consideration of around hundred victims, using well-structured interview schedules. The purposive sampling methods are utilised for research.

The study area of research analysis is Cuddalore district in Tamilnadu. The primary-data gathered between time-period of November 2020 to December-2020. The results outputs were subjected to analysis phase through SPSS statistical package to yield out appropriate statistical analysis. The sample size of the research points to 100 victims persons, of high school students residing in Cuddalore district. The victims were surveyed through structured interview, to learn out their profile, determine the physical and sexual abuse causes and their opinions towards abuse avoidance initiatives to prevent themselves. The purposive sampling method is utilised in choosing out samples from Cuddalore high school students.

The researcher, propounded to study physical abuses and emotional abuses in relation with Academic stress, Socio-emotional adjustment, locality details, personal particulars, Family background, Self-esteem of high school students (Cuddalore). Based on the problem consideration for investigation and data acquired for research, survey analysis method is adopted for data collection phase. During the phases of data collection, due weightage provided to Socio-economic level of student's parents, Family Details and gender factors of high-school students.

3.1 Research design

The study is an empirical and descriptive based research. Data gathered through purposive sampling-techniques, gathering the research respondents from various schools, prevalent in Cuddalore district. The analysis is carried out through structured interview-schedule, in terms of field survey. The field survey are obtained through uniform distribution of questionnaire sheets, to selective victims. The collective-data utilised for data analysis, through employing IBM SPSS-software. The hypothesis were tested depending on the research objectives. The ANOVA test, correlation tests and regression tests were

performed to explore the relationship between independent (Physical and sexual Abuses) and dependent variables chosen in study.

3.2. Sampling technique

In the present study, around 100 higher school students are chosen as the sample data, providing gender related, Family related information and socio-economic status. Samples are retrieved from all the schools covering Cuddalore district. Purposive sampling techniques were utilised for sample selection.

The study aimed to study out the prevalence of physical, sexual and emotional abuses faced by high school students in Cuddalore district. The study explores out the significant differences between physical and sexual abuses faced by students with moderating variables including student's academic stress, Family details, socio-economic status, self-esteem and level of awareness of students, of Cuddalore high school-students.

3.3. Hypothesis testing

The following research hypothesis were set for study.

H₁₁: There is a significant relationship in physical abuses among High-school students, based on gender status, awareness level and socio-demographic details.

H₁₀: There is no significant relationship in physical abuses among High-school students, based on gender status, awareness level and socio-demographic details.

H₂₁: There is a significant relationship between physical abuses and academic-stress among High-school students, based on gender status, awareness level and socio-demographic details.

H₂₀: There is no significant relationship relation between physical abuses and academic-stress among High-school students, based on gender status, awareness level and socio-demographic details.

H₃₁: There is a significant relationship relation between physical abuses and abuse awareness level among High-school students, based on

gender status, awareness level and socio-demographic details.

H₃₀: There is no significant relationship between physical abuses and abuse awareness level among High-school students, based on gender status, awareness level and socio-demographic details.

3.4. Research questions

- What are the categories of physical abuses , experienced by high school students located in Cuddalore district
- What are the causes for physical abuses and emotional abuses prevalent in study area?
- How are the prevalence of abusive acts, influenced by other socio-environmental factors?

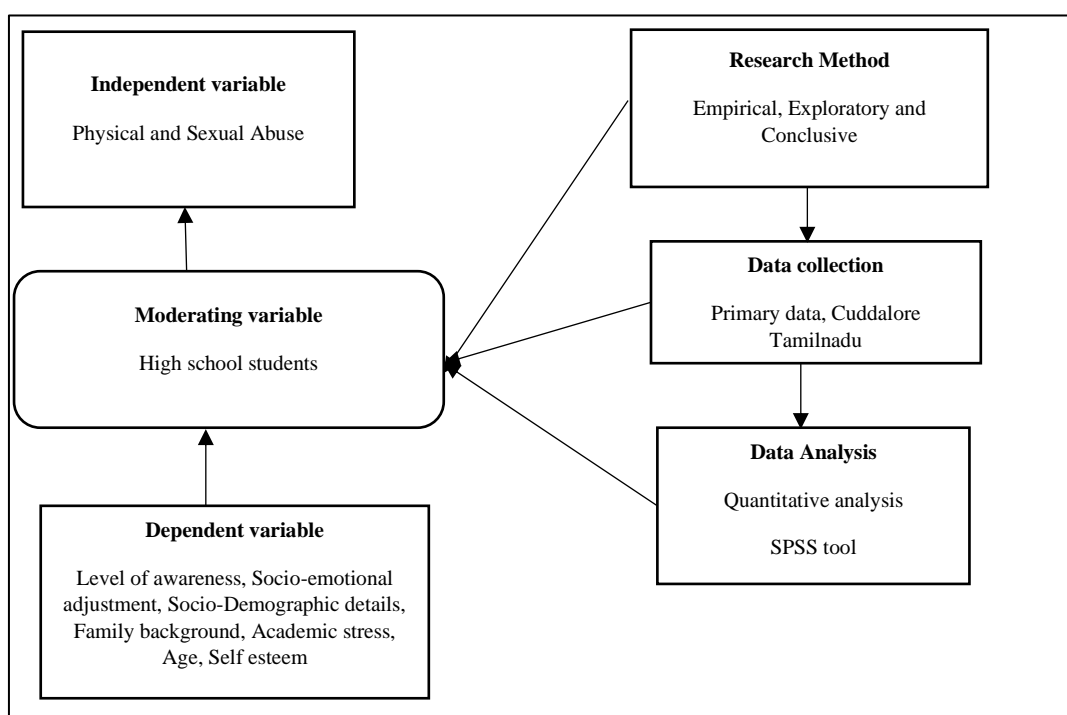
3.5. Conceptual Framework

The conceptual framework, figures out the entire conceptual basis, ranged in three level were considered, as illustrated in the figure 1 below. The conceptual framework assessed the prevalence of physical, emotional and sexual abuses prevalent among high school students based on various dependent factor variable

including level of awareness, self-esteem, Socio-emotional adjustment, socio-demographic profile, Family background factors, age and academic stress of high school-student focussed in Cuddalore district. The framework explicates the significant association between independent and dependent variables, with their opted outcomes.

The framework were framed out through recent research approaches dealing with physical and sexual abuses, faced by students, in addressing out the issues and their corresponding primitives or measure to handle out situations. Physical and Sexual abuses, were considered as independent variable. Moderating variables represented to be High school students. The study put forth to address out the prevalence of physical and sexual abuses occurring in Cuddalore districts, with data collected among school-students of study area, through analysis of independent, dependent variables and moderating variables. The major objective of the study relied to determine the causes of physical and sexual abuses in high-school students and their analysis, of each dependent variable, paving pathway for occurrence of abuses among high school students.

Figure 1. Conceptual framework



Quantitative approach were persuaded to adopt research analysis, to generate outcomes with respect to research objective. Preliminary analysis are adopted in understanding the general properties of independent variables (physical Emotional and sexual abuses) and dependent-variables as well. The research learned out the nature of distribution of respondents of each variables such as with perspective to gender, age, Family particulars, education level, awareness level, abuse forms, causes of abuses of both sexual and physical abuses occurred among Cuddalore school students. From various study approaches, it is propounded that survey approach among high school students (victims in Cuddalore) with respective to various moderating factors, elucidated the prevalence to study physical and sexual abuses. The analysis

3.4 Data analysis method

The gathered data utilised for data-analysis phase, using Excel sheets and then IBM SPSS software. The frequency data distribution of respondents (study participants) with respect to various factors such as forms of physical abuses, causes of abuses, family particulars, religion, caste, age, gender, house particulars, causes of physical abuses, educational level personal particulars are represented in results section. It covers data analysis in three levels of research, performed through SPSS tool and excel sheets. The distribution of respondents with respect to demographic profile variable is presented in tabular form with regression test,

correlation test and ANOVA test analysis depending on research hypothesis.

Level-1: The Demographic profile (variable) of gathered data, were evaluated in excel sheets.

Level-2: Statistical Analysis were performed, with mean score-values.

Level 3: In the final step, the research hypothesis were tested with ANOVA tests and correlation tests were explored.

IV. Results and Discussions

The data analysis were carried out through adopting quantitative approach, organised by field survey methods in data-collection. The structured interview techniques are formulated for each victim, included in respondents list. The interview conducted for every victim, in high-school students in Cuddalore. The gathered data were assessed through SPSS software. The statistical tools, such as ANOVA, correlation test and regression tests utilised for testing out the research hypothesis. The demographic information of study participants are retrieved in the first session of the analysis.

4.1. Frequency Distribution of Victims

The frequency distribution of the participants, ANOVA and correlation analysis has been tested based on research hypothesis using IBM SPSS software. The below section enumerates the frequency distribution of respondents.

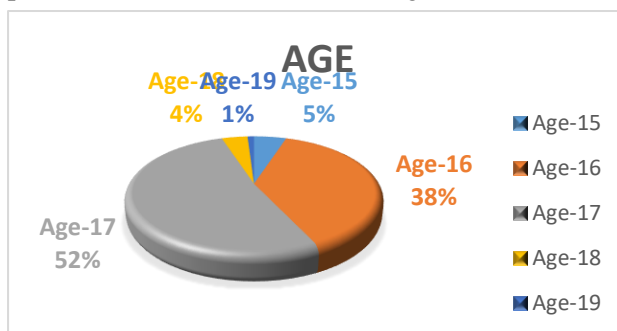


Figure 2. Age Wise Classification

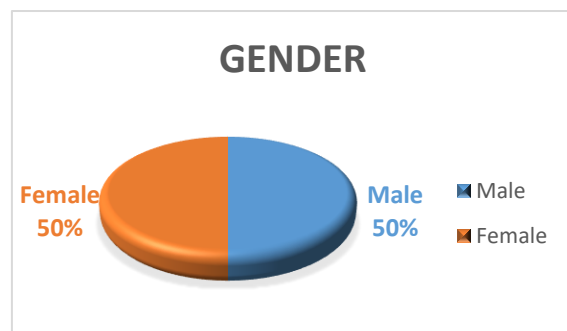


Figure 3. Gender wise Classification

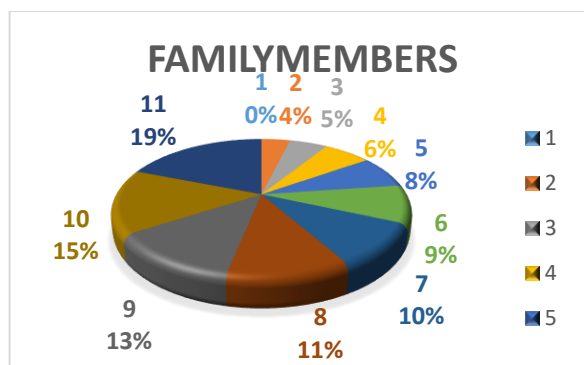
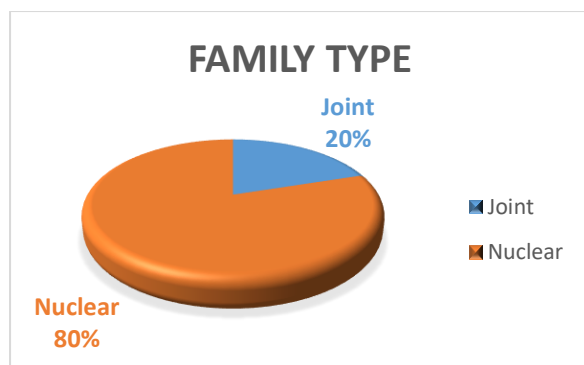


Figure 4. Participants classification based on family type **Figure 5.** Family-members count wise classification

The above figure 2 interpreted that out of 100 victims respondents around 52 percentage of population, comes under age 17, were subjected to this physical abuses. The majority of the victims is found at this age. The remaining 38 % falls under category of age 16. In moving to gender-wise classification in figure 3, fifty percentage of both genders, are the victims of physical and emotional abuses in study area. The figure 4 illustrated the classification of victims based on Family-Type. Around 80

percentage of victims respondents are living in nuclear family. The less number of family siblings faced more abuses instead of joint family. The family members count wise classification is depicted in the figure 4, the victim’s population are more in families, having more number of family-members. This states that if more number of family members are present, the focus on single student is quite less, that they face abuses without the knowledge of family.

4.2. ANOVA Tests

Table 4.1. ANOVA test analysis

ANOVA						
		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Frequently Punish Father	Between Groups	8.820	1	8.820	12.883	.000
	Within Groups	135.560	198	.685		
	Total	144.380	199			
Verbally Abused	Between Groups	2.880	1	2.880	6.376	.012
	Within Groups	89.440	198	.452		
	Total	92.320	199			
Emotional Abuse	Between Groups	.020	1	.020	.057	.0512
	Within Groups	69.960	198	.353		
	Total	69.980	199			
Fighting Classmate	Between Groups	2.880	1	2.880	5.323	.022
	Within Groups	107.120	198	.541		
	Total	110.000	199			
Beating Neighbour	Between Groups	1.620	1	1.620	3.491	.053
	Within Groups	91.880	198	.464		
	Total	93.500	199			

From the above Anova analysis Table 4.1, it is inferred, that significant value is 0.00, 0.01, 0.05, 0.02 and 0.05. The outcomes are interpreted, to illustrate that null hypothesis is rejected and alternate hypothesis of the research were been accepted. Finally, it depicts that occurs a significant impacts of prevalence of

emotional abuses and physical abuses, among high-school students, and it depends on Gender based factors, awareness levels and socio-demographic details in Cuddalore district.

4.2.1. Anova Tests

Table 4.2. ANOVA test analysis II

ANOVA						
		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Criticize	Between Groups	1.280	1	1.280	3.489	.033
	Within Groups	72.640	198	.367		
	Total	73.920	199			
Often Blamed Inefficient	Between Groups	.180	1	.180	.718	.029
	Within Groups	49.640	198	.251		
	Total	49.820	199			
Punish Resulted in	Between Groups	9.680	1	9.680	3.628	.058
	Within Groups	528.320	198	2.668		
	Total	538.000	199			
Use Hurtful Words	Between Groups	.980	1	.980	2.629	.010
	Within Groups	73.800	198	.373		
	Total	74.780	199			

From the above table 4.2, Anova analysis is explored. From the obtained outputs, it is inferred, the significance value of the variables denoted to 0.03, 0.02, 0.05 and 0.01. The outcomes are interpreted, to illustrate that null hypothesis is rejected and alternate hypothesis of the research were been accepted. The results elucidates that there stands out

significant impacts of physical abuse and emotional abuse prevalence, among high-school students based on academic-stress, socio-demographic details and abuse awareness knowledge in Cuddalore district.

4.3. Correlation Tests

Table 4.3. Correlation test analysis

Correlations				
			Physical Punish	Family Members
Spearman's rho	Physical Punish	Correlation Coefficient	1.000	.447*
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.	.038
		N	200	200
	Family Members	Correlation Coefficient	.547*	1.000
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.038	.
		N	200	200

*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

The above table 4.3. Enumerates the spearman's correlation analysis-tests, presenting that correlation co-efficient-value, points to 1.00 in focussing in physical abuse action variable and switching over to Family personal variable factors, correlation-coefficient value, represented as 0.54. The notations revealed that significant relationship between variables. Therefore, outcomes explicates that there is a significant relation, between Physical abuse and socio-demographic factor variables, acquired by high-school students in Cuddalore district.

V. Conclusion

Physical abuses and Sexual abuses, stands out as heinous crime that turns survivor, in desolation, depression and despair. The study, enumerated the physical and emotional abuse of victims, experienced by research participants (high school students). The variables of conceptual framework were tested through formulated research hypothesis. The study attempts to bring out the adverse effects of physical and emotional abuses, upon self-esteem, well-being and self-efficacy of adolescents of high school students in Cuddalore district. The higher prevalence of physical abuses, emotional abuses and sexual abuses, reported by the research participants (victims) must be brought to focus, to seek out attention of concerned stakeholders with promoting health of students mentally and physically. The research exhibited the attempt for exploring out socio-demographic profile of high-school students in study area. The causes for physical and emotional abuses are propounded through presenting data analysis phase.

Data analysis phases is proceeded through quantitative approach. The structured interview evaluation is carried out by field based survey method, conducted to all victims of the abuses(participants), After data-collection, statistical analysis were employed on those collected to explore the significance of the study. Anova test analysis exhibited the significance of study stating that, a significant prevalence of physical and emotional abuses among high-school students, based on socio-demographic details, self-esteem, awareness levels of students and academic stress of students. Correlation test method reveals the

significant relation of physical abuse prevalence and socio-demographic factors. The research ought to get extended in future to assess the adopted measures against physical and sexual abuses, to uplift new therapy strategies, prevention and monitoring policies.

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Declaration of competing interest

There is no conflict of interest for any of the participants.

Author Contribution statement

All authors have approved the manuscript and agree with its submission.

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