

## PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN CHILDREN: SYSTEMATIC LITERATURE REVIEW

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### Abstract:

Sexual violence in children is a relationship or interaction between a child and an older person or an adult such as a stranger, sibling or parent in which the child is used as a satisfying object for the sexual needs of the perpetrator. This action is carried out using coercion, threats, bribery, deception, and even pressure. One in five girls and one in thirteen boys reported having experienced sexual violence worldwide, and the prevalence of sexual violence ranged from 15.3% in girls and 13.8% in boys. This Systematic Literature Review employed two PubMed and Sciencedirect databases during 2008-2018. The stages in this systematic literature review were identifying research questions, identifying relevant studies, choosing relevant studies, conducting critical assessments, extracting data and mapping. There were 767 initial articles identified. This study analyzed 11 articles that met the requirements for reference. Children who experienced sexual violence in their childhood had a severe psychological impact in the form of anxiety, depression, personality disorders, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), psychosis, drug and alcohol abuse, bulimia and suicide. Most children who experienced sexual violence had a psychological impact in the form of depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder, suicide, and sexual behavior. Children who experienced sexual violence often committed acts of sexual violence to others. It was the psychological impact that they experienced.

**Keywords :** psychological impact, sexual violence, children

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Violence against children is a deliberate act that causes harm or harm to children (both physical and emotional), this action is carried out using coercion, threats, bribery, deception of the danger of pressure. The forms of sexy violence itself can be in the act of rape or sexual abuse of childhood abuse is a traumatic life event that can cause psychiatric disorders such as post-traumatic stress and recovery (1). Dominate sexual violence has a traumatic impact both physically and psychologically on children and adults as well as childhood sexual abuse can be very traumatic and cause life-long symptomatology. In general, the frequent effects of sexual violence on children are the risk of increased depression, personality disorders, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), psychosis, drug and alcohol abuse, bulimia and suicide. Exposure to sexual harassment causes psychological and physical effects. However, deeper understanding is still lacking regarding the nature of psychological and physiological changes and the relationship between them (2). Sexual abuse (CSA) is an important social problem that affects both girls and boys (Gauthier-Duchesne, Hébert, & Daspe, 2017). Children who experience the crime of sexual violence an intense level of emotions such as shame and anger can be associated with trauma, describing peritraumatic feelings such as fear or horror when often accompanied by various emotions, including anger, humiliation, and guilt, and the long-term effects of sexual violence on

children namely children who are victims of sexual violence in childhood have the potential to become perpetrators of sexual violence in the future (3). One in five girls and one in thirteen of boys reported having experienced sexual violence worldwide, and the prevalence of sexual violence ranged from 15.3% in girls to 13.8% in boys (WHO 2016). In Southeast Asia child sexual violence varies greatly, the abuse of 40 children in 14 countries in the region concludes that around 10% of boys and 15% of girls have experienced at least one form of sexual violence in their childhood, while in Indonesia in the year in 2013 out of 2,637 child violence 48 percent or about 1,266 were sexual violence in children (4).

## **2. MATERIALS AND METHODS**

The method used in this study is Systematic Literature Review (SLR). SLR is defined as a way of identifying, assessing and synthesizing all empirical evidence that meets predetermined eligibility criteria to answer a given research question (5). There are 5 steps in this method, which are determining research questions, searching literature, conducting critical appraisal, extracting data and mapping articles.

### **a. Research Question**

his research question is based on the PEOS framework. the population in this study were children who experienced sexual violence between the ages of 5-12 years. exposure is sexual violence. Outcome is a psychological impact. research design is all research that is relevant to the psychological impact of sexual violence on children. the research questions formed in this study are:

- 1) What is the impact of psychological disorders of sexual violence on children?
- 2) What is the long-term impact of sexual violence on children?

### **b. Literature Searching**

To identify studies that are relevant to the articles used, systematic searches were carried out by the objectives and research questions in several bases data. Bases data used is PubMed and scienced by filtering Full Text, Data Publish in 10 years ago, Human, and English. The initial keyword search term entered is 'Sexual abuse', 'Impact Psychology', 'child' (((((((("SEXUAL ABUSE") OR "SEXUAL VIOLENCE" AND psychology) OR "MENTAL HEALTH") AND "CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE ") OR" CHILD SEXUAL VIOLENCE "with the inclusion Criteria in this review is an article about qualitative methods by discussing the psychological impact of sexual violence on children and the long-term effects of sexual violence on children.

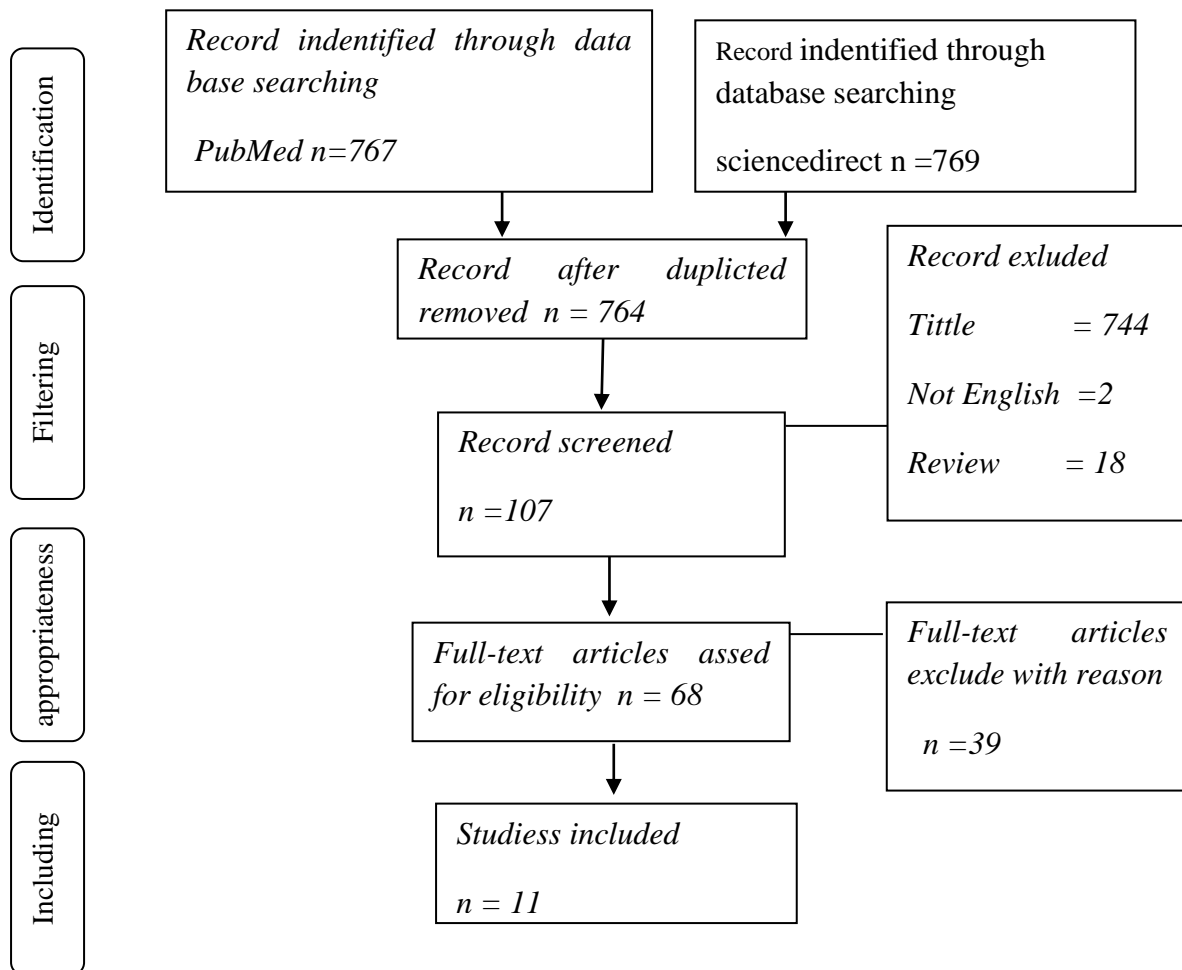


Figure 1. Chart of PRISMA Flowchart

### c. Critical Appraisal

Critical appraisal is a systematic evaluation of articles to find out about the truth and accuracy of the methods used (6). This research conducts critical appraisal by using The Joanna Briggs Institute (JBI). Ten articles that are critical appraisal are carried out. Three articles have more than two assessments that are unclear and not indexed by Scopus so that they are entitled to be excluded in the article selection process because they are included in the exclusion criteria.

### d. Extraction Data

eleven articles were extracted data by entering the characteristics of each article, namely the article title, country, author, year, research design, research objectives, data collection, participants, research themes and results. The following is the extraction of data in this study.

**Table 1.2 Data Extraction**

<b>Title / Country / Writer / Year</b>	<b>Types of research</b>	<b>Research purposes</b>	<b>Data collection</b>	<b>participant</b>	<b>result</b>
The Cognitive Impact of Sexual Abuse and PTSD in Children: A Neuropsychological Study. Country: Colombia Author: Mauricio Barrera et al (2013)	Qualitative	To determine the mental health impact of neuropsychological	collecting data by interview	This study used a sample consisted of 76 children	The results of this study indicate that there differences related to the inhibition automatic responses to sexual harassmen should be noted that the majority neuropsychological tests did not show a c difference, indicating that the experience sexual abuse may have an impact on selective inhibition of attention.
Impact of Traumatic Events on Posttraumatic Stress Disorder among Danish Survivors of Sexual Abuse in Childhood. Country: Denmark Author: M. Christianse Dortem et.all (2014)	Qualitative	to determine the impact Traumatic events on Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder	Collecting data using questionnaires	a sample of 480 respondents	Children who experience violence sexual or CSA (M = 4.08; SD = 2.52) were nearly three times as much trauma as a comparison group (M = 1.56; SD = 1.49), and that this difference was significant (F = 183 , 7; p = .000). In addition, the number of traumatic events in the sample reported high CSA
Gender as a predictor of posttraumatic stress symptoms and externalizing behavior problems in sexually abused children. Country: Canada Author: children Amélie Gauthier-Duchesne (2016)	Qualitative	to examine the role of gender in the results of the CSA in school-age victims of CSA to test the model	Collecting data using questionnaires	a sample of 447 children	The results showed that boys and girls victims of CSA seems to manifest different symptoms. Boys are more likely to display externalizing behavior problems. The relationship between gender and PTSD appears to be more complex. The results showed that being a girl is directly related to symptoms of PTSD. Girls

Sexual abuse and psychiatric disorder in England: results from the 2007 Adult Psychiatric Morbidity Survey Great Britain Author: S. Jonas et al (2007)	Kualitatif	to determine the psychiatric disorders of children who have been sexually abused	Collecting data using methods waancara	The sample used in this study are 403	The result is the study researchers analyzed six common types of mental disorders, alcohol abuse and drug abuse, and those who screened positive for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and eating disorders. All were high and very significantly related to CSA, especially if sexual intercourse is associated with the CSA, especially if sexual intercourse
Perception vs. Circumstances of the Child Sexual Abuse Event in Relation to Depression and Post-traumatic Stress symptomatology Country: Israel Author: Rachel Lev-Wiesel (2013)	Qualitative	aims to know the impact of the state of sexual abuse childhood on symptoms of post-traumatic stress and depres	Collecting data using questionnaires	Samples in this study consisted of 225 children	PTS levels of depression and lower scores, Predicting Symptom PTS, PTS subscale, and depression To test the effect of the subjective perception of CSA events, the objective circumstances, and variable demographic extract, a series of five linear regression analysis with the forced measures
Narrative fragmentation in child sexual abuse: The role of age and post-traumatic stress disorder. Country: Italy Author: Sarah Miragoli et al (2017)	Quantitative	This study aims to assess the effects of age and PTSD in fragmentation of the narrative in the memories of child sexual abuse.	Collecting data using questionnaires	This study used a sample 86 children	The results of the study illustrated that children with symptoms of PTSD, compared with children without PTSD symptoms, are less able to provide a complex and consistent narrative. From the structural point of view, they are just an organized narrative, which is marked with details about the orientation (less information about the time, location, and

<p>Mental health consequences of child sexual abuse. Indonesian country Author: Evelyn Sybille Mullers (2008)</p>	<p>quantified</p>	<p>This study aims to determine the impact of mental health consequences of sexual abuse on children</p>	<p>Collecting data using the method Interview</p>	<p>Samples are 65 children who have been sexually abused</p>	<p>people involved in the event of rough)  The results of this study are Eleven cases of children having the DSM-IV diagnoses such as PTSD, depression, and disorders, general anxiety by the first evaluation. The nine participants who had no diagnosis of psychiatric disorders or behavioral problems</p>
<p>Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Dissociation, and Neuropsychological Performance in Latina Victims of Childhood Sexual Abuse. Country: Latina author: Giselle M. RIVERA-Velez et al (2014).</p>	<p>Quantitative</p>	<p>This study aims to assess post-traumatic stress disorder and dissociation in children who have been sexually abused</p>	<p>This study collected data with the Rey Auditory Verbal method</p>	<p>This study uses a sample consisted of 24 women who formed the control group and the group CSA</p>	<p>These findings suggest that Child sexual abuse is associated with memory and executive function deficits and supports the idea that people with a history of trauma and post-traumatic stress increase dissociative disorder symptoms and can have changes in neuropsychological functioning.</p>
<p>Social and Emotional Outcomes of Child Sexual Abuse. Country: turkey Author: Burcu Ozbaran et al (2008)</p>	<p>Quantitative</p>	<p>determine the impact Social Results and Emotional in children who have been sexually abused</p>	<p>Collecting data using the method Interview</p>	<p>Samples are 65 children who have been sexually abused</p>	<p>The results of this study are Eleven cases of children having the DSM-IV diagnoses such as PTSD, depression, and disorders, general anxiety by the first evaluation. The nine participants who had no diagnosis of psychiatric disorders or behavioral problems.</p>

Child Sexual Abuse, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and Substance Use: Predictors of Revictimization in Adult Survivors of Sexual Assault. Country: USA Author: Sarah E. Ullman (2009)	Quantitative	The purpose of this study Unuk know the post-traumatic stress disorder in children who experience sexual harassment	Collecting data using surveys and interviews	The sample used in this study as many as 248	Child sexual abuse is predicted symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder in victims of sexual violence is more mature. Post-traumatic stress disorder symptoms of numbness immediately predictable re-victimization, while post-traumatic stress disorder other symptoms (reexperiencing, avoidance, and arousal) associated with problem drinking, which in turn predicted re-victimization. Thus, numbness symptoms and problem drinking may be an independent risk factor for sexual revictimization in adult survivors of sexual violence.
The Psychosocial Consequences of Child Sexual Abuse in Ethiopia: Country: Ethiopia author: Wondie, Y (2011).	Quantitative	The purpose of the study to investigate the psychosocial consequences of sexual abuse among child victims of abuse in Ethiopia mainly through early marriage, rape, and child prostitution		The sample used in this study were 318 respondents	Collecting data using questionnaires  The results revealed that the survivors of CSA significantly more symptoms than the control group: They indicate the level of the lower social support, a lower level of empowerment, as well as the degree of guilt of higher and increasing the possibility of looking at the world as dangerous. Finally, survivors of CSA showed a positive self-esteem levels lower than their counterparts who are not sexually abused.

### **F. Mapping Literature**

After making critical appraisal selected 11 articles based on the author's assessment have good quality. In the article, there are 4 articles from developing countries, namely Indonesia, Turkey, Latina, Ethiopia and 7 other articles from developed countries namely Colombia, Denmark, Israel, England, Italy, USA dan Canada.

## **3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS**

### **a. Long-term impact of sexual violence on children**

- Post-traumatic stress disorder
- Depression and anxiety
- Bipolar disorder
- Attention deficit
- suicidal desire
- Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)
- Behavioral phobia and obsessive-compulsive disorder until later adulthood.
- CSA victims are more likely to be victims of rape or to engage in abusive or violent relationships as adolescents and adults

### **b. Impact of psychological disorders after sexual violence on children**

- children have a very significant factor in the risk of mental health problems
- especially depression
- Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)
- dissociative disorders
- affective disorders
- personality disorders, and serious mental illness
- post-traumatic symptomatology

Children who experience sexual violence show that the effects of sexual violence on children result in mental health symptoms such as depression, anxiety, low self-esteem, suicide attempts, and alcohol and drug dependence. In the short term, children who have been revealed by SA tend to show posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Based on the findings, children who experience sexual violence can have the effect of causing long-term mental health, post-traumatic stress disorder, attention deficits, phobias, behavior, and obsessive-compulsive disorder until later adulthood. Long-term effects include post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), depression, anxiety, suicide, bipolar disorder, violence, and substance abuse also participated in CSA. More specifically, there is evidence to suggest that CSA victims are more likely to be victims of rape or to engage in violent or violent relationships as adolescents and adults (Ullman, S. E).

The impact of psychological disorders after the occurrence of sexual violence in children, namely children have very significant factors in the risk of mental health problems, especially depression and post-traumatic symptomatology. In children who experience sexual violence have psychological disorders that indicate that initial abusive experiences are high-risk factors for the development of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), dissociative disorders, affective disorders,



personality disorders, and other serious mental illnesses (Jonas et al., 2011).

Child Sexual Abuse involves persuading or forcing a child to take part in sexual activities, or encouraging a child to behave in an inappropriate sexual manner including completing or attempting sexual acts or contact or non-contact sexual interactions with a child by adults (WHO, 2016). In terms of mental health CSA is associated with an increased risk of experiencing various psychiatric disorders (10)(Cutajar et. Al. 2010; Molnar, Buka, & Kessler, 2001; Spataro, et al. 2004) and mental health problems such as suicide. One of the most common risks of CSA is the development of posttraumatic stress disorder PTSD (11)(Bremner et al., 2007; Ginzburg et al., 2009; Kolko et al., 2010). Various kinds of emotions may be related to post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD, for example, Hathaway, Boals, & Bank, 2010). Although the previous PTSD diagnosis necessitated a fear, helpless, and horror experience (American Psychiatric Association, 2000), PTSD symptomatology can develop in the absence of this emotion (Brewin, Andrews, & Rose, 2000). In victims of violent crime, intense levels of emotions such as shame and anger can be associated with trauma (Brewin et al., 2000).

Now there is increasing evidence that the impact of child sexual abuse is likely to develop later psychopathology, but the neuropsychology that is the basis of this increased risk is still unknown. Previous studies have linked the experience of child sexual abuse to the development of various psychiatric difficulties, including depression (14)(Maniglio, 2010), self-harm (Klonsky & Moyer, 2008). Anxiety disorders (Levitan, Chancellor, Sheldon, & Goering 2003), and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD; Paolucci, GENIUS, & Violato, 2001). However, it is now clear that abusive sexual experience in children is a risk factor for psychological problems and where the final results are likely to be mediated by various biological, psychological, and other social events and characteristics (Maniglio, 2009).

Trauma and PTSD have a known neuropsychological impact and PTSD has been clearly associated with experiences of childhood sexual abuse (Paolucci et al., 2001). Concerning PTSD children in general, only a few studies have attempted to assess the neuropsychological effects of trauma (Berliner, Hyman, Thomas, & Fitzgerald, 2003). Bir and De Bellis (2002) used the Stroop Test (measure of attenuation) and Navalta, Polcari, Webster, Boghossian, and Teicher (2006) using the Task Go No-Go Association to measure child abuse victims. This research shows that there are difficulties in executive function, which are likely to include abilities such as automatic response inhibition, self-regulation and monitoring, and cognitive flexibility. This shows neuropsychologically potentially similar to PTSD symptoms in children as found in adults (Aupperle, Melrose, Stein, & Paulus, 2012). In line with this, De Bellis, Hooper, Woolley, and Shenk (2010) reported that children who were persecuted with PTSD showed a decrease in visual memory performance, which has also been found in adult PTSD patients (Brewin, Kleiner, Vasterling, & Field).

Sexual violence on children can result in a negative impact on the psychological effects of long-term effects on children who experience sexual violence. Nearly all children who experience sexual violence have psychological consequences resulting in depression, personality disorders, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), psychosis, drug and alcohol abuse, bulimia and suicide. Long-term effects include post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), and behavioral problems including withdrawal, sexual behavior and 'acting-out'. Problems with depression, anxiety, suicidal ideation, bipolar disorder, violence, and

substance abuse also followed CSA. More specifically, there is evidence that CSA victims are more likely to be victims of rape or to engage in violent or violent relationships as adolescents and adults (Ben-amitay, Kimchi, Wolmer, & Toren, 2016).

#### 4. CONCLUSION

The systematic results of the review literature show that the majority of children who experience sexual violence have an impact on the child's psychology in the form of depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder and suicide, sexual behavior, and neurobiological effects and children who have a history of sexual violence. acts of sexual violence to others that cause psychological effects in their nature.

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