Abstract

This paper is for seeking a solution to establish a combined supporting system for child abuse prevention based on cause of child abuse and post management system.

Child abuse occurs in various places such as home, kindergarten, school, and child caring center but 80% of child abuse occurs in homes, therefore, it is more harmful than other crimes. Furthermore, the problem is that forms of child abuse by parents are becoming various and the severity and the damage from child abuse is becoming more cruelly serious than before. According to child abuse cases which have been reported more than once, total 6,332 child abuse cases were reported to child protective services for the last decade. 20 child abuse cases reported in 2001 rose to 1,262 in 2010 so the number of cases reported is constantly increasing compared to consulting reports.

The number of child abuse cases reported in child protection centers across the nation were 9,199 in 2010, 10,146 in 2011, 10,943 in 2012, 13,976 in 2013, and 17,791 in 2014. The number of child abuse reported in 2014 increased up to 36% compared to 2013. The reason for this surge is that as many people became interested in child abuse through child abuse death occurred in Woosan in 2013 and Incheon kindergarten’s child violence case occurred in January, 2015, the number of reports increased. Among the cases reported in 2014, the number of suspected child abuse cases including emergency cases were 15,025 which is 84.5%. Among the suspected child abuse cases, the number of actual child abuse cases were 10,027 which is 66.7%. Based on the statistical data, the number of child abuse crimes occurred in a year is almost 10,000 which is a very serious problem.

Child protection service needs to play a major role for solving child abuse and establishment and utilization of various connection of local community with many other related institutions and cooperation are required in stages.

Firstly, establishment of supporting system with law enforcement agencies is required.

Secondly, establishment of supporting system by a medical center is required.

Thirdly, supporting system with educational institutions is necessary. Teachers in daycare center, kindergarten, elementary, junior high, and high school have a responsibility to detect child abuse in the early stage and report child abuse to child protection center. Also, if necessary, teachers identify existence of child abuse through consultation with the victim’s family and provide education for parents.

Fourthly, supporting system with administrational organizations needs to be built up. Administrational organizations requiring an establishment of supporting system include Ministry for Health, Welfare and Family Affairs, provinces and metropolitan areas, municipal governments, sexual abuse prevention and protection of victim of the Ministry of Gender Equality.

Fifthly, establishment of supporting system with private sectors is required. The role of private sectors is to actively participate in child abuse judgement committee and volunteer workers in various professional fields provide music therapy, art therapy, and play therapy to child abuse victims.

Finally, establishment of supporting system for child abuse prevention needs to be made in a level of province and metropolitan city. Based on child protection centers built in metropolitan cities, supporting system combined
with law enforcement agencies, medical centers, educational institutions, administrational organization, social welfare centers, private sectors need to be built up and utilized.

[Keywords] Crime, Child Abuse, Serious Social Problem, Welfare Law, Social Problem

1. Introduction

Every child has a right to feel happy and grow healthy in a comfortable and caring environment as being away from all forms of abuse and exploitation. Convention on the Rights of the Child by the U.N. is declaring the rights of child and South Korea defined clearly about the rights of child on the Child Welfare Law and is institutionally supporting the rights of child with various child abuse prevention systems and promoting to increase budgets for child abuse related matters. Unfortunately, true reality is that many children are still inhumanely treated in public and private realms[1].

For last decade, the average number of death case by child abuse has been once a month which implies that child abuse is a serious social problem in this society, however, its seriousness and risk has not been greatly recognized by people. In fact, it is true that since child abuse crime has a particularity of that it is a hidden and domestic violence and children themselves are not able to claim their rights and defense themselves because of their psychological and physical immaturity, seriousness of the problem became reduced and socially ignored[2].

One of things disturbing children to have a happy life and hindering development in a healthy way is child abuse. Children who experienced child abuse not only generate serious social problems but also experience serious difficulties in playing as a normal parent, family life and social and economic aspects even after they became adults[3]. This negative side of child abuse becomes even worse in a case of that the child experience repeated abuse.

Child abuse occurs in various places such as home, kindergarten, school, and child caring center but 80% of child abuse occurs in homes, therefore, it is more harmful than other crimes. Furthermore, the problem is that forms of child abuse by parents are becoming various and the severity and the damage from child abuse is becoming more cruelly serious than before[4].

According to child abuse cases which have been reported more than once, total 6,332 child abuse cases were reported to child protective services for last decade. 20 child abuse cases reported in 2001 rose to 1,262 in 2010 so the number of cases reported is constantly increasing compared to consulting reports[5]. As a result, it is necessary to pay closer attention to the cause of child abuse and its reoccurrence and searching for measures. The purpose of this paper is to identify the cause of child abuse and search a solution in response to the present time with serious child abuse.

2. Theoretical Background

2.1. The cause of child abuse

Kempe[6] points out that a married life is highly correlated with committing child abuse crimes and personality and psychological status of parents are not strongly related with child abuse but social and environmental factors are strongly related with child abuse.

2.1.1. Psychopathological approach

Psychopathological approach is focusing on characteristics of major fosterers or parents for the major cause of child abuse and according to the approach, the major fosterers or parents who commit child abuse crime have a structural deficiency in their psychological status or personalities. It explains that social, economic, and demographical characteristics are not the direct factors for child battering[7]. Most of child abuse cases occurred by parents are results from a failure of suppressing their emotions and loss of self-control while the parents discipline their children. Also, it suggests that parents with low
self-esteem and low sensitivity takes child’s disobedience or children’s failure to come up to their expectation as a challenge to their authority and resistance. Consequently, the parents treat their children cruelly and this lead to a child abuse crime[8].

2.1.2. Social psychological approach

This approach focuses on family background, economical status, and social and cultural characteristics. According to this approach, child abuse is related with various family traits, social structure surrounding family and cultural characteristics.

Firstly, characteristics of family background include a child-rearing attitude and characteristic of family structure. Low educational level, using same child-rearing way that their parents used, and using sadistic punishment are the examples of characteristic of the parent’s child-rearing attitude. In the case of that parent’s rearing attitude is hostile, controlling, idle, and ineffective, the frequency of child abuse tends to increase[9].

Secondly, a low financial status of the family leads to a financial pressure and this weakens parent’s psychological mechanism for self-control with causing frustration and stress and results in committing a child abuse crime[10].

Thirdly, social and cultural characteristics include a losing job, careless for family, permission for punishment, and recognizing children as parent’s possession. In other words, it includes a whole society surrounding the child and family and these characteristics occur as being compositively interacted with each other[7].

2.1.3. Developmental approach

Developmental approach says that child’s specific individual character can be a major reason for causing child abuse. That children are abused by their parents because of their own problems means that parents abuse their children when their children have a delay in social, physiological, and educational development and specific physical problems or chronic disease.

2.1.4. Ecological approach

Ecological approach systematically analyzes and combines a cause of child abuse suggested in various perspectives. According to this approach, the interplay of personality of child and parents, characteristic of family background and local society is related to child abuse[11].

2.2. Reality of child abuse

The number of child abuse cases reported in child protection centers[12] across the nation were 9,199 in 2010, 10,146 in 2011, 10,943 in 2012, 13,076 in 2013, and 17,791 in 2014. The number of child abuse reported in 2014 increased up to 36% compared to 2013. The reason for this surge is that as many people became interested in child abuse through child abuse death occurred in Woolsan in 2013 and Incheon kindergarten’s child violence case occurred in January, 2015, the number of reports increased. Among the cases reported in 2014, the number of suspected child abuse cases including emergency cases were 15,025 which is 84.5%. Among the suspected child abuse cases, the number of actual child abuse cases were 10,027 which is 66.7%. Based on the statistical data, the number of child abuse crimes occurred in a year is almost 10,000 which is a very serious problem.

3. Solutions

This paper is for seeking a solution to establish a combined supporting system for child abuse prevention based on cause of child abuse and post management system.

Child protection service needs to play a major role for solving child abuse and establishment and utilization of various connection of local community with many other related institutions and cooperation are required in stages.
Firstly, establishment of supporting system with law enforcement agencies is required. The role of police is, once a child abuse case is reported, to set out for the scene of child abuse with an advisor of child protection center. Police separates the victims from the abuser to protect victims and protects advisors if the abuser is a threatening to advisors.

Secondly, establishment of supporting system by a medical center is required. In the case of that if there is an emergency child abuse case, the victim receives a medical care and admitted to a hospital and if victim's physical damage is severe, a doctor writes a note and this note is used as an important source for processing criminal case.

Thirdly, supporting system with educational institutions is necessary. Teachers in daycare center, kindergarten, elementary, junior high, and high school have a responsibility to detect child abuse in the early stage and report child abuse to child protection center. Also, if necessary, teachers identify existence of child abuse through consultation with the victim's family and provide education for parents.

Fourthly, supporting system with administrative organizations needs to be built up. Administrative organizations requiring an establishment of supporting system include Ministry for Health, Welfare and Family Affairs, provinces and metropolitan areas, municipal governments, sexual abuse prevention and protection of victim of the Ministry of Gender Equality. Monitoring identification information of abuser, approval to enter a facility for child victim, allocation for suitable facility for long-term stay, and evaluating victims to judge if he or she is subject to a public aid are operated.

Fifthly, establishment of supporting system with private sectors is required. The role of private sectors is to actively participate in
child abuse judgement committee and volunteer workers in various professional fields provide music therapy, art therapy, and play therapy to child abuse victims.

Finally, establishment of supporting system for child abuse prevention needs to be made in a level of province and metropolitan city. Based on child protection centers built in metropolitan cities, supporting system combined with law enforcement agencies, medical centers, educational institutions, administrative organization, social welfare centers, private sectors need to be built up and utilized.

4. References

4.1. Journal articles


4.2. Thesis degree


4.3 Conference Proceeding


4.4. Additional references


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