



INTERNATIONAL LAW
JOURNAL

**WHITE BLACK
LEGAL LAW
JOURNAL**
**ISSN: 2581-
8503**

Peer - Reviewed & Refereed Journal

The Law Journal strives to provide a platform for discussion of International as well as National Developments in the Field of Law.

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ABOUT US

WHITE BLACK LEGAL is an open access, peer-reviewed and refereed journal providededicated to express views on topical legal issues, thereby generating a cross current of ideas on emerging matters. This platform shall also ignite the initiative and desire of young law students to contribute in the field of law. The erudite response of legal luminaries shall be solicited to enable readers to explore challenges that lie before law makers, lawyers and the society at large, in the event of the ever changing social, economic and technological scenario.

With this thought, we hereby present to you

STUDY ON IMPACT OF PREVENTING CRIME IN CHILD ABUSE IN RURAL AREA.

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ABSTRACT:

The prevention of child sexual abuse is difficult, difficult, and very important since child and adolescent sexual abuse is a major problem across the world. The preventative measures now in place that are aimed at kids, parents, and professionals are reviewed in this article. The three areas of child sexual abuse prevention interventions, meta-analyses of child sexual abuse prevention interventions, and general theoretical models about prevention and the child are highlighted in this alternative organization of the research literature on child sexual abuse prevention. This study is based on empirical research. The sample size is 232. An outline of the existing issues and potential solutions in this field is given. In order to provide safe environments for kids, local groups, community leaders, and grassroots initiatives collaborate. Collaboration between organizations and authorities guarantees a thorough response to child abuse instances. Online training courses include information on how to spot abuse, how to report it, and how to take precautions. Technology development led to the modernization of reporting procedures. To make reporting easier, hotlines, web platforms, and mobile apps were created. Even in isolated rural places, child maltreatment is more prevalent and simpler to get. creating specialized Child Protection Units (CPUs) inside rural law enforcement organizations to deal with child abuse situations. These teams have the training necessary to manage delicate situations, carry out investigations, and work with social services to make quick interventions. To create and implement laws that impose stronger punishments for child abuse in rural regions, legal reforms and penalties have been enacted. Laws requiring professionals to report suspected abuse may be necessary, and legislative reforms are intended to guarantee that offenders receive the proper punishment. To better understand the frequency and trends of child maltreatment in rural regions, the government invests

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in data gathering.

Keywords: Prevention, child sexual abuse, children, parents, professionals

INTRODUCTION:

Child abuse, or maltreatment, refers to physical, emotional, sexual, neglect, or exploitation that harms a child's health, survival, development, or dignity. It has severe physical and psycho-social consequences, adversely affecting their overall well-being. It is not just an individual or familial issue; children who survive abuse are more likely to negatively impact society through violence, crime, drug abuse, and disease. Child abuse is a community problem, and unless the community is aware of the issue and its role in stopping and preventing it, more children, families, and communities will suffer. Causes of child abuse in India include high crime rates, lack of social services, poverty, unemployment, personal history of abuse, teenage parents, young single parents, severe stress, domestic violence, depression, low self-esteem, multiple young children, unwanted pregnancy, handicap, separation from mother during neonatal period, and being physically unattractive. Advancements in technology have modernized reporting mechanisms for child abuse, making it easier and more accessible in remote rural areas. Specialized Child Protection Units (CPUs) are established within law enforcement agencies to handle sensitive cases and collaborate with social services for timely interventions. Legal reforms and penalties are issued to enforce stricter laws for child abuse in rural areas, ensuring perpetrators face appropriate consequences. Government investments in search data collection help understand the prevalence and patterns of child abuse in rural areas. Community engagement is essential for preventing child abuse, as strong communities facilitate early identification of potential abuse cases and encourage reporting. Limited awareness and available prevention resources can impact the ability to effectively prevent child abuse. Socio-economic challenges in rural areas, such as poverty and unemployment, can increase the risk of child abuse. Protective factors in families and communities can help parents find resources, support, or coping strategies to effectively parent children and families. Technology plays a crucial role in preventing child abuse in rural areas, with mobile apps, online reporting systems, and digital platforms facilitating easier reporting. Data collection and analysis help identify patterns and risk factors, enabling targeted prevention efforts, resource allocation, and evidence-based community-based approaches. Trauma-informed approaches ensure professionals and service providers respond sensitively to the child's trauma, minimising re-traumatization during investigations and interventions.

Tailoring prevention programs to the cultural context of rural communities is essential for effectiveness. Early intervention and family support services are crucial, providing resources, counselling, and parenting programs to at-risk families. Legal frameworks are being strengthened in some regions, including stricter penalties for perpetrators, mandatory reporting laws, and updates to align with current understanding of child abuse dynamics. Physical abuse. Physical child abuse occurs when a child is purposely physically injured or put at risk of harm by another person.

Sexual abuse. Child sexual abuse is any sexual activity with a child. This can involve sexual contact, such as intentional sexual touching, oral-genital contact or intercourse. This can also involve noncontact sexual abuse of a child, such as exposing a child to sexual activity or pornography; observing or filming a child in a sexual manner; sexual harassment of a child; or prostitution of a child, including sex trafficking. Emotional abuse. Emotional child abuse means injuring a child's self-esteem or emotional well-being. It includes verbal and emotional assault — such as continually belittling or berating a child — as well as isolating, ignoring or rejecting a child. Medical abuse. Medical child abuse occurs when someone gives false information about illness in a child that requires medical attention, putting the child at risk of injury and unnecessary medical care. Child neglect is failure to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter, clean living conditions, affection, supervision, education, or dental or medical care. Maltreatment, commonly referred to as child abuse, is widespread. Knowing the dangers of abuse for your kid, reducing those risks, and being aware of the symptoms of abuse and neglect are crucial. Each year, reports of child abuse and neglect involving roughly 7 million children total around 4 million incidents. Babies under one year old have the greatest prevalence of child maltreatment, while children under three make up 25% of the victims. Neglect is the primary issue in instances that are reported to Child Protective Services, followed by physical and sexual abuse. Children who are mistreated often experience a variety of different types of abuse, including neglect, physical abuse, and/or sexual abuse.

OBJECTIVES:

- To examine education and awareness in order to ascertain the extent of child abuse awareness in rural areas and assess the efficacy of current educational initiatives.
- To assess support services in order to guarantee their accessibility and availability for victims of child abuse in remote locations (such as counseling).
- To assess how preventative initiatives have affected the number of cases of child abuse,

the reporting rates, and the general wellbeing of rural children.

LITERATURE REVIEW:

JAGARAJ SINGH ALT, (2015), Child abuse is a categorical imperative violation, as it treats children merely as means to an end, neglecting their inherent dignity. To assess the knowledge regarding child abuse among parents residing selected rural area. He found that significant association knowledge regarding child abuse among parents residing rural and urban with selected socio-demographic such as education status. **CHAIWAT RERKS WATTAVON ALT, 2019**, Children are born as a "tabula rasa" and deserve nurturing care; child abuse disrupts the natural development of their potential. He investigate the effect of a non-violent parenting program. He use alternative method and techniques to discipline their child without reporting to parents. **MAUREEN C.KENNY Alt, (2008)**: Child abuse contradicts the pursuit of virtue and well-being, as it inhibits the development of moral character in children. Physical abuse is the intentional use of physical force that can result in physical injury. Examples include hitting, kicking, shaking, burning, or other shows of force against a child. Sexual abuse involves pressuring or forcing a child to engage in sexual acts. It includes behaviours such as fondling, penetration, and exposing a child to other sexual activities. **MORRISON Alt, (2018)**: Child abuse stems from societal corruption, leading to the distortion of the child's true nature and potential. Child abuse is any mistreatment or neglect that causes harm to a child 18 years old or younger. This can include sexual, emotional, and physical abuse, as well as neglect. The mistreatment is caused by an adult, often one with a role of responsibility in the child's life. The person responsible for the abuse may be a parent or family member. It can also be someone acting as a caregiver or with authority in the child's life, including a coach, teacher, or religious leader. **RAY E.HELPER, (1982)**: Child abuse reflects the absurdity of human existence, where suffering is inflicted on the innocent without rational justification. We also need to know how to respond to these situations if they occur. Sexual abuse is a particularly difficult issue for caregivers, since there usually are no outward, easily noticed signs of the abuse. And when they are there, the signs of abuse often are vague. Learning about and being alert to potential signs of sexual abuse can help us feel more grounded and better equipped to keep our children safe. **KATRINE ZEUTHEN, (2013)**: Child abuse limits personal freedom and hampers the potential for happiness and self-fulfillment in children. The major reasons for physical and psychological maltreatment of children within the family often are a parent's feelings of isolation, stress, and frustration. Parents need support and as much information as possible in order to raise their children responsibly. They need to be taught how to cope with their own feelings of frustration and anger

without venting them on children. They also need the companionship of other adults who will listen and help during times of crisis. **LESA Alt, (1999)**: Child abuse epitomizes the banality of evil, where individuals commit heinous acts without considering the consequences on children's lives. Child abuse suppresses the individual will to power, inhibiting children from achieving their fullest potential. **D.RUSSELL Alt, (2016)**: Child abuse perpetuates oppressive power dynamics, reinforcing the subjugation of children and denying their agency. Most child abuse occurs within the family. Risk factors include parental depression or other mental health issues, a parental history of childhood abuse or neglect, parental substance abuse and domestic violence. Child neglect and other forms of maltreatment are also more common in families living in poverty and among parents who are teenagers or who abuse drugs or alcohol. **JACQUELINE M.COUNTS Alt,(2010)**,Child abuse mirrors the state of nature's brutality, highlighting the necessity of social contracts to protect vulnerable individuals. Child abuse, also known as maltreatment, is common. It is important to understand and reduce the risks of abuse for your child and be familiar with the signs of abuse and neglect.

About 4 million cases of child abuse and neglect involving almost 7 million children are reported each year. The highest rate of child abuse is in babies less than one year of age, and 25 percent of victims are younger than age three. The majority of cases reported to Child Protective Services involve neglect, followed by physical and sexual abuse. There is a lot of overlap among children who are abused, with many suffering a combination of physical abuse, sexual abuse, and/or neglect. **JANE D.GRAY Alt, (1979)** : Child abuse is a result of gender inequality, perpetuating the devaluation of girls and limiting their potential. Physical: Slapping, pushing, punching, kicking, shaking or burning a child or not allowing a child to eat, drink or use the bathroom. Emotional: Frequently verbal, involving insults, constant criticism, harsh demands, threats and yelling. Sexual: Rape, incest, fondling, indecent exposure, using a child in pornography or exposing a child to pornographic material. Medical:

Intentionally trying to make a child sick or not treating a medical condition. **MARWAN DIAB Alt, (2021)**, Child abuse undermines the formation of a just society, as it impedes the upbringing required for citizens to lead virtuous lives. Child abuse is hurting a child. It occurs when a child experiences harm or neglect. Often, the abuser is someone the child knows. It may be a parent, family member, caregiver or family friend. Most U.S. child abuse laws agree on this definition of child abuse: Any intentional harm or mistreatment of a child under age 18 is abuse and a criminal offense. Another term for child abuse and neglect is adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). If

untreated, these experiences can impact a child's lifelong health and well-being. **NELLY MARIBEL ZAMBRANO PLAZA, (2018):** Child abuse demonstrates the rationalization of cruelty, where societal structures and norms justify mistreatment of children. "Any recent act or failure to act on the part of a parent or caretaker which results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse or exploitation"; or" An act or failure to act which presents an imminent risk of serious harm. "**KATRINE ZEUTHEN, (2016):** Child abuse contradicts the principle of love, essential for both religious and moral development. Emotional child abuse means injuring a child's self-esteem or emotional well-being. It includes verbal and emotional assault — such as continually belittling or berating a child — as well as isolating, ignoring or rejecting a child at risk of injury and unnecessary medical care. Child neglect is failure to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter, clean living conditions, affection, supervision, education, or dental or medical care. **GEORGIA BABATSIKOS,(2010) :**Child abuse alienates individuals from their authentic selves, perpetuating cycles of suffering and disconnection. Children can also experience reactive attachment disorder (RAD). RAD is defined as markedly disturbed and developmentally inappropriate social relatedness, that usually begins before the age of 5 years. RAD can present as a persistent failure to start or respond in a developmentally appropriate fashion to most social situations. The long-term impact of emotional abuse has not been studied widely, but recent studies have begun to document its long-term consequences. Emotional abuse has been linked to increased depression, anxiety, and difficulties in interpersonal relationships. **S L.TOTH, (2019) :**Child abuse defies the core Confucian values of respect and filial piety, disrupting the harmony within families society. Domestic violence also takes its toll on children; although the child is not the one being abused, the child witnessing the domestic violence is greatly influenced as well. Research studies conducted such as the "Longitudinal Study on the Effects of Child Abuse and Children's Exposure to Domestic Violence", show that 36.8% of children engage in felony assault compared to the 47.5% of abused/assaulted children. Research has shown that children exposed to domestic violence increase the chances of experienced behavioural and emotional problems (depression, irritability, anxiety, academic problems, and problems in language development).

JAN COLES Alt, (2010), Child abuse is a symptom of oppressive systems, maintaining a "culture of silence" that silences children's voices and experiences. Physical and emotional abuse have comparable effects on a child's emotional state and have been linked to childhood depression, low self-compassion, and negative automatic thoughts. Some research suggests that high stress levels from child abuse may cause structural and functional changes within the brain, and therefore

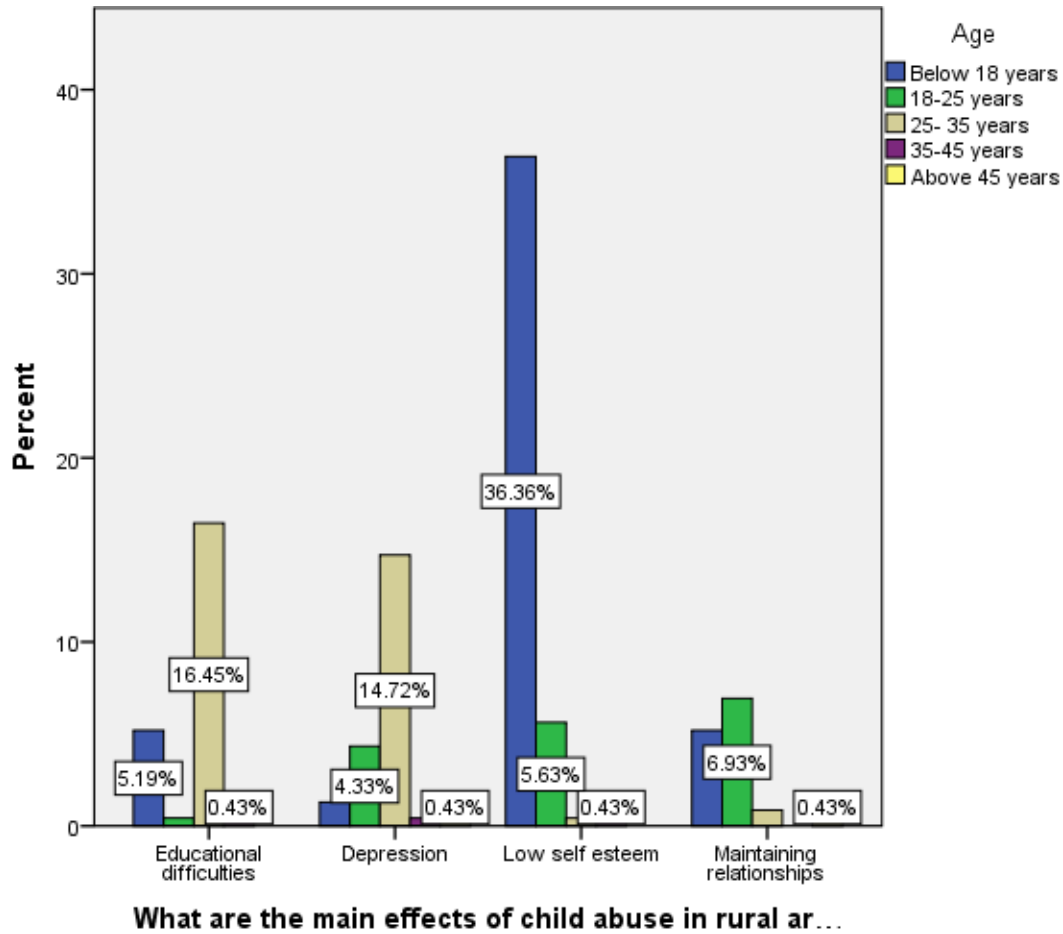
cause emotional and social disruptions. Abused children can grow up experiencing insecurities, low self-esteem, and lack of development. Many abused children experience ongoing difficulties with trust, social withdrawal, trouble in school, and forming relationships. **B.D.SCHMITT, (1980)**, Child abuse exemplifies the exercise of power and control over vulnerable populations, reflecting broader societal dynamics. Babies and other young children can be affected differently by abuse than their older counterparts. Babies and pre-school children who are being emotionally abused or neglected may be overly affectionate towards strangers or people they have not known for very long. **JLANI CHENG, (2022)**, Child abuse disrupts the delicate process of education, hindering the child's progression from the natural state to societal participation. The terms child abuse and child maltreatment are often used interchangeably, although some researchers make a distinction between them, treating child maltreatment as an umbrella term to cover neglect, exploitation, and trafficking. **DAVID GOUGH (1994)**: Child abuse reflects the despair of the abuser, revealing their own inner turmoil and inability to provide genuine care. Advocating for child friendly policies, laws and regulations that prioritise child protection and welfare is also an one of the day objective. To early intervention preventing child abuse involves identifying and addressing risk factors early to intervene to before abuse occurs. **TETTI SOLEHATI Ait, (2022)**: Child abuse perpetuates oppressive power dynamics, reinforcing the subjugation of children and denying their agency. To strength the child protection system and improve the responsibilities law enforcement social services the legal framework. Child sexual abuse(CSA) is a severe problem in Indonesia. Adequate knowledge in children about CSA prevention is essential so that children do not become victims. Lack of adequate children's knowledge of the prevention of CSA may put them at risk for experiencing CSA.

METHODOLOGY:

The type of research adopted here is empirical research. A total **232** samples have been collected. The samples have been collected through a convenient sampling method. The sample frame taken here is through online, in and around Chennai, Tamil Nadu. The independent variables are age, gender, educational qualification, and marital status and locality. The dependent variables are the effects of child abuse, main cause of crime against children, ascepts to prevent child abuse. The statistical tools used in the study are graphical representation. campaigns, workshops, seminars were conducted educate the parents and community members about signs of abuse and importance of reporting.

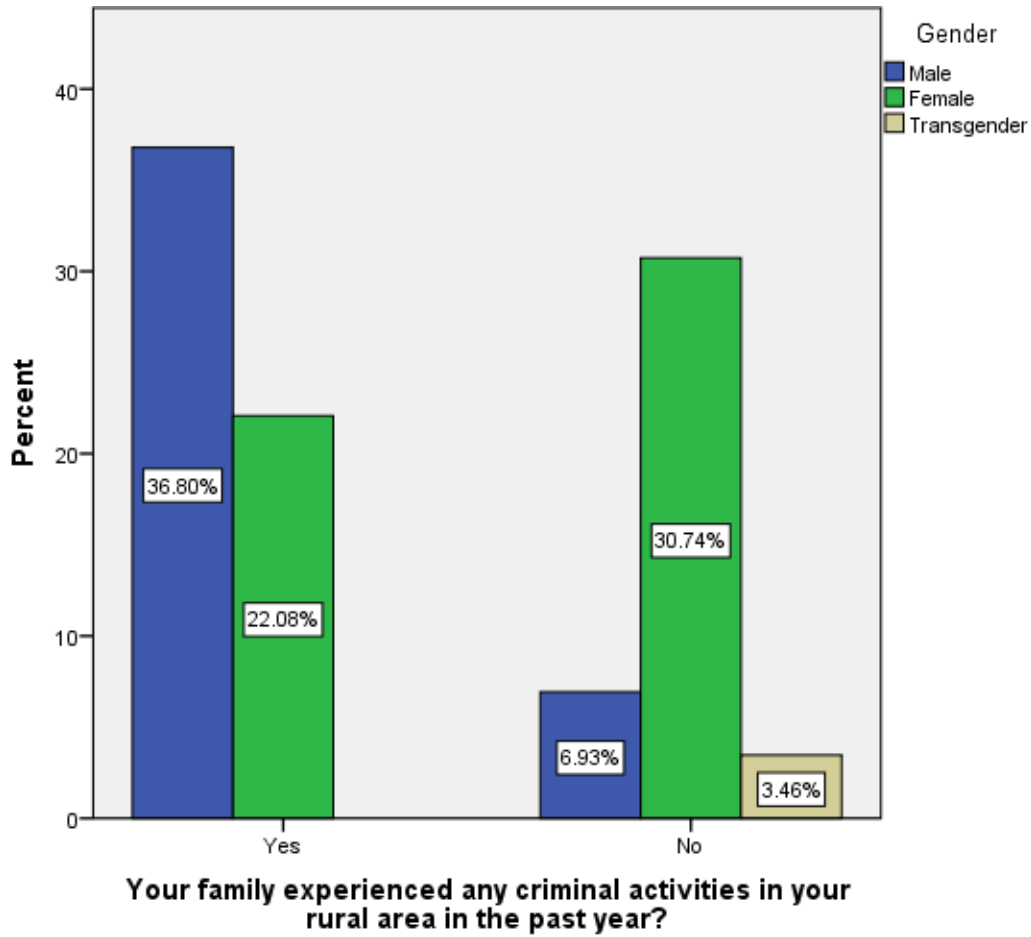
ANALYSIS

FIGURE:1



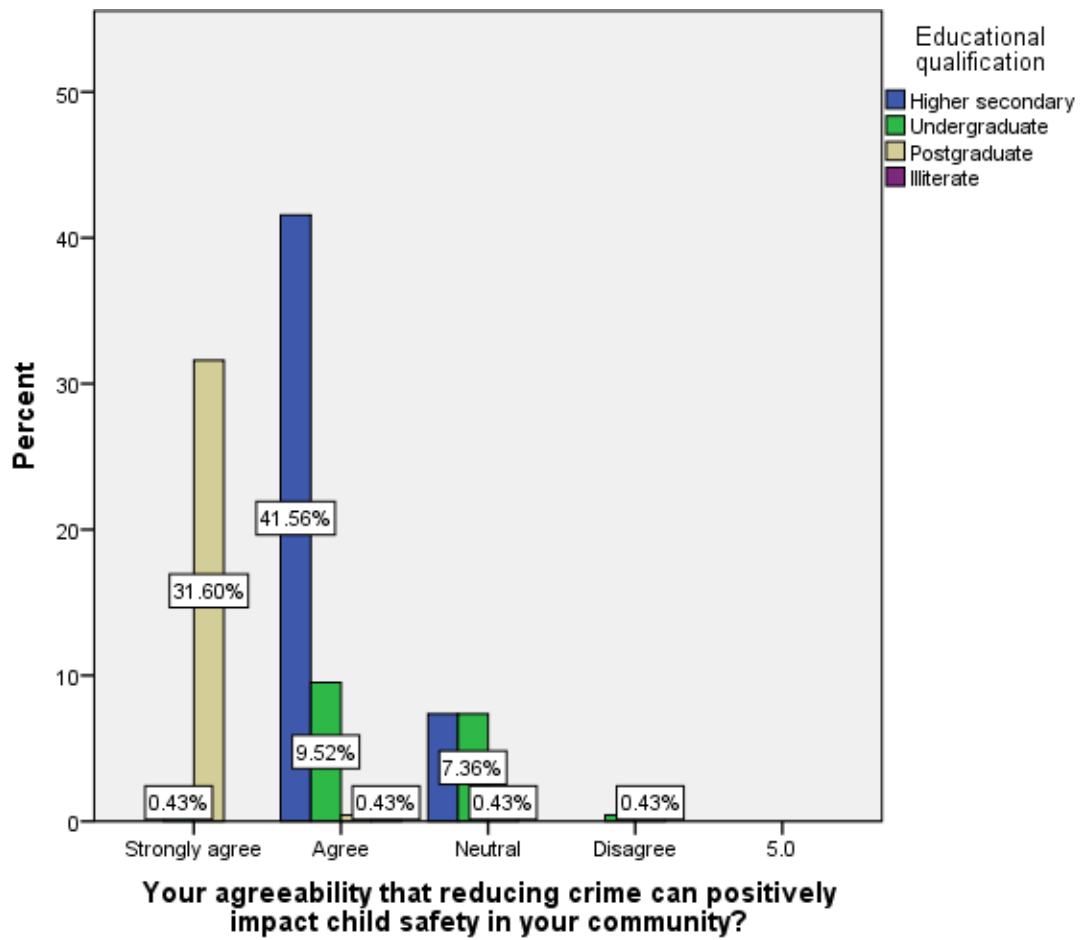
LEGEND: In figure 1 shows the relationship between age and main effects of child abuse in rural area

FIGURE 2



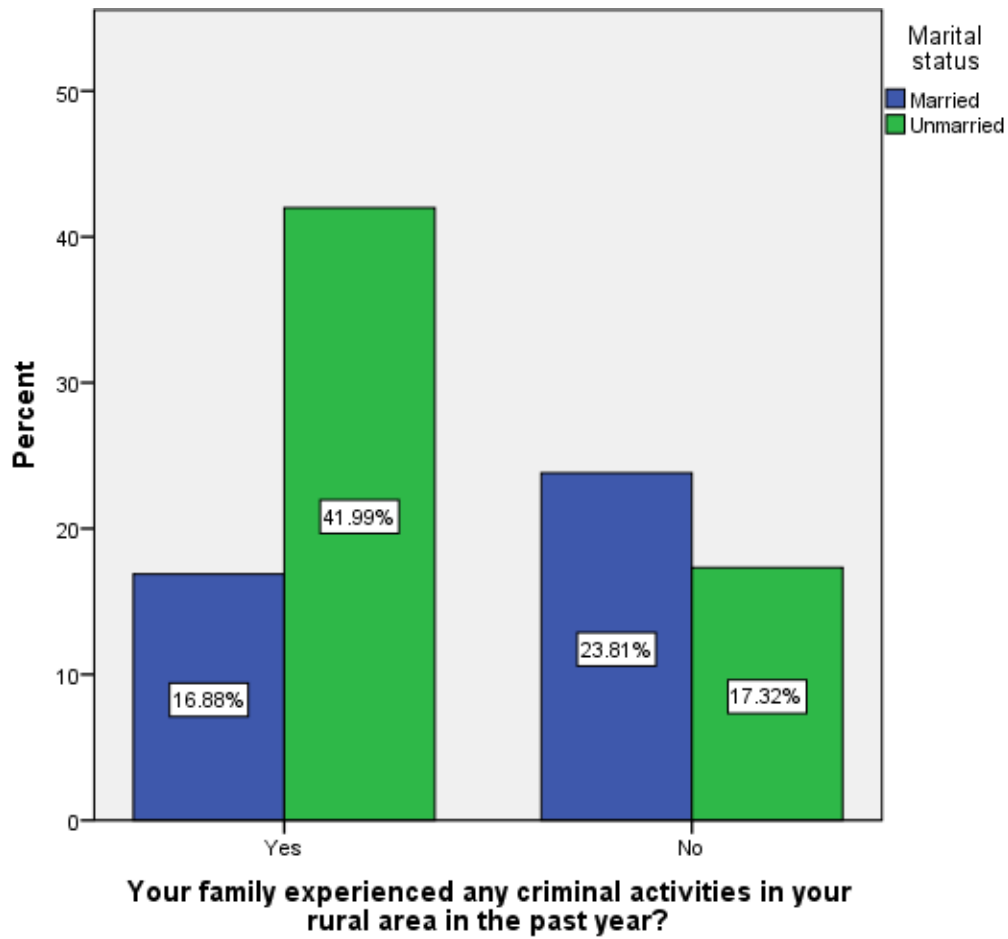
LEGEND: In figure 2 shows the relationship between the gender and if their family experienced any criminal activities in the past year.

FIGURE 3



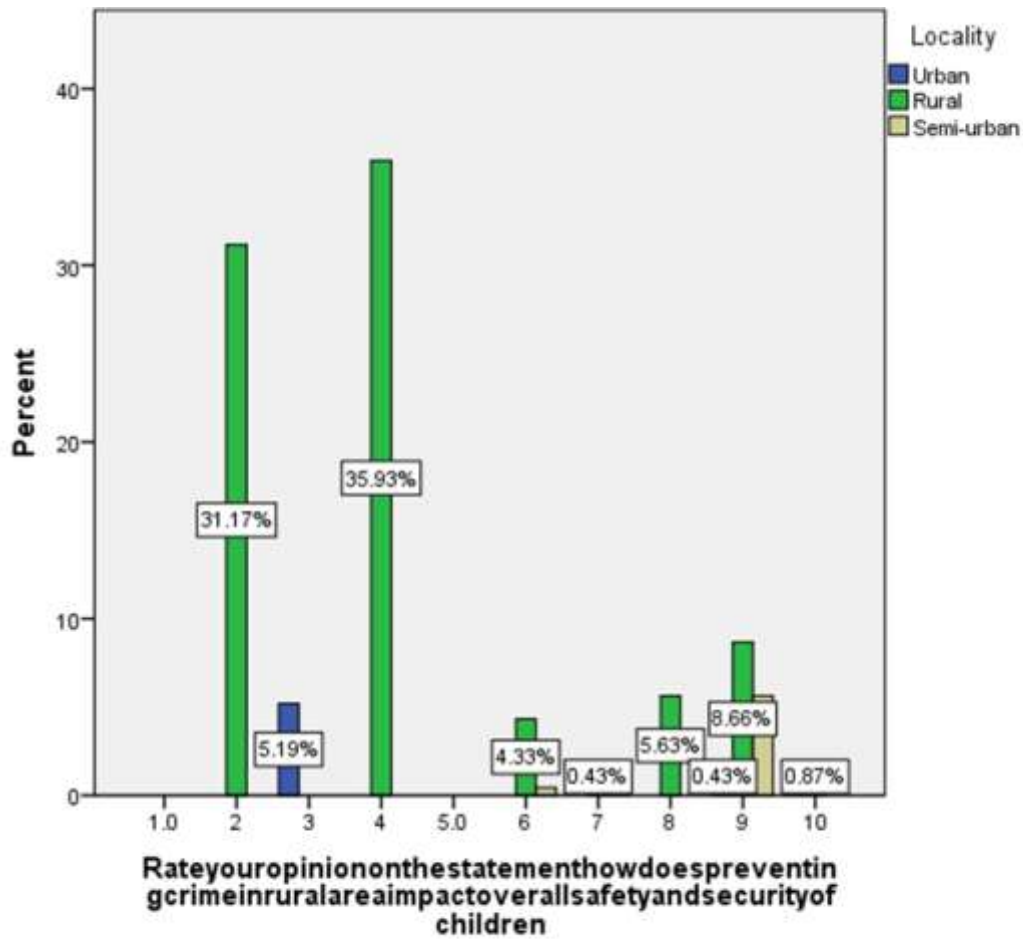
LEGEND: In figure 3 shows the relationship between educational qualifications and agreeability that reducing crime can positively impact child safety in their community

FIGURE 4



LEGEND: In figure 4 shows the relationship between marital status and if their family experienced any criminal activities in the past year

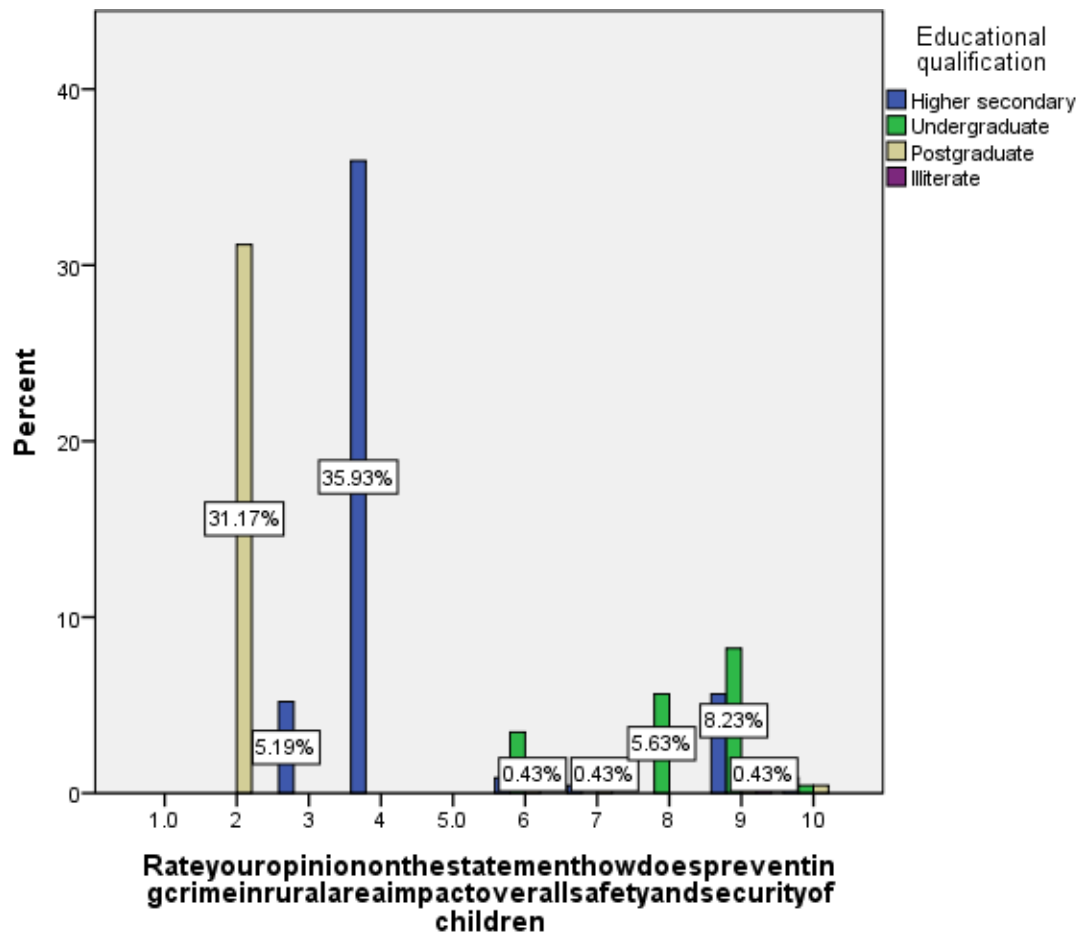
FIGURE 5



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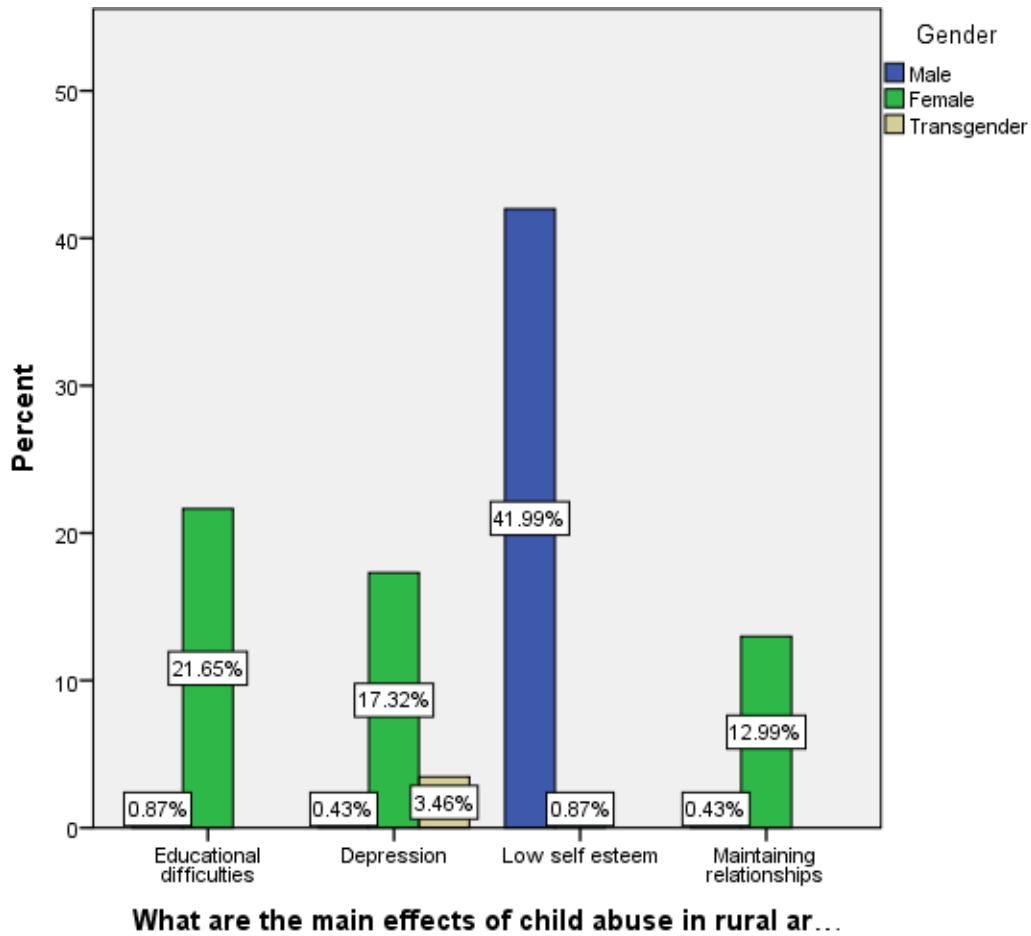
LEGEND: In figure 5 shows the relationship between the locality and measures to prevent the child abuse and ensure the safety and security of children

FIGURE 6



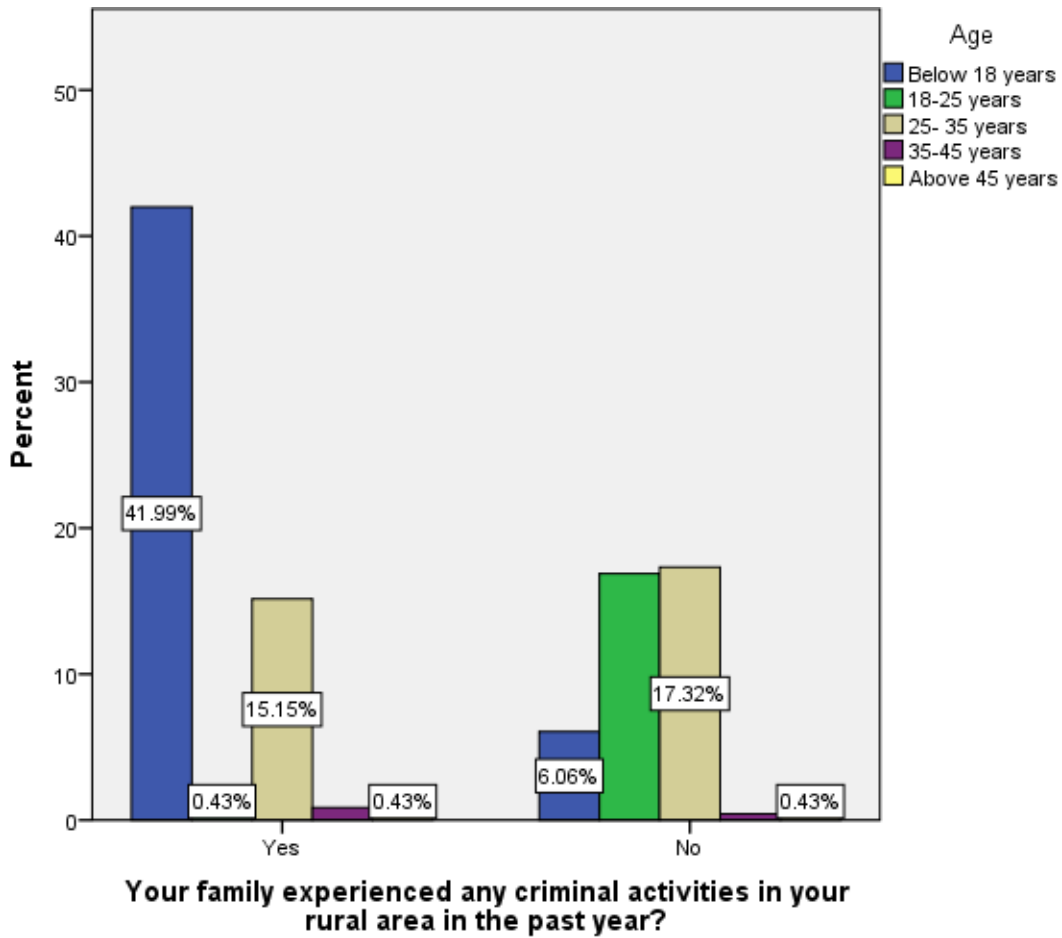
LEGEND: In figure 6 shows the relationship between educational qualifications and measures to prevent the child abuse and ensure the safety and security of children.

FIGURE 7



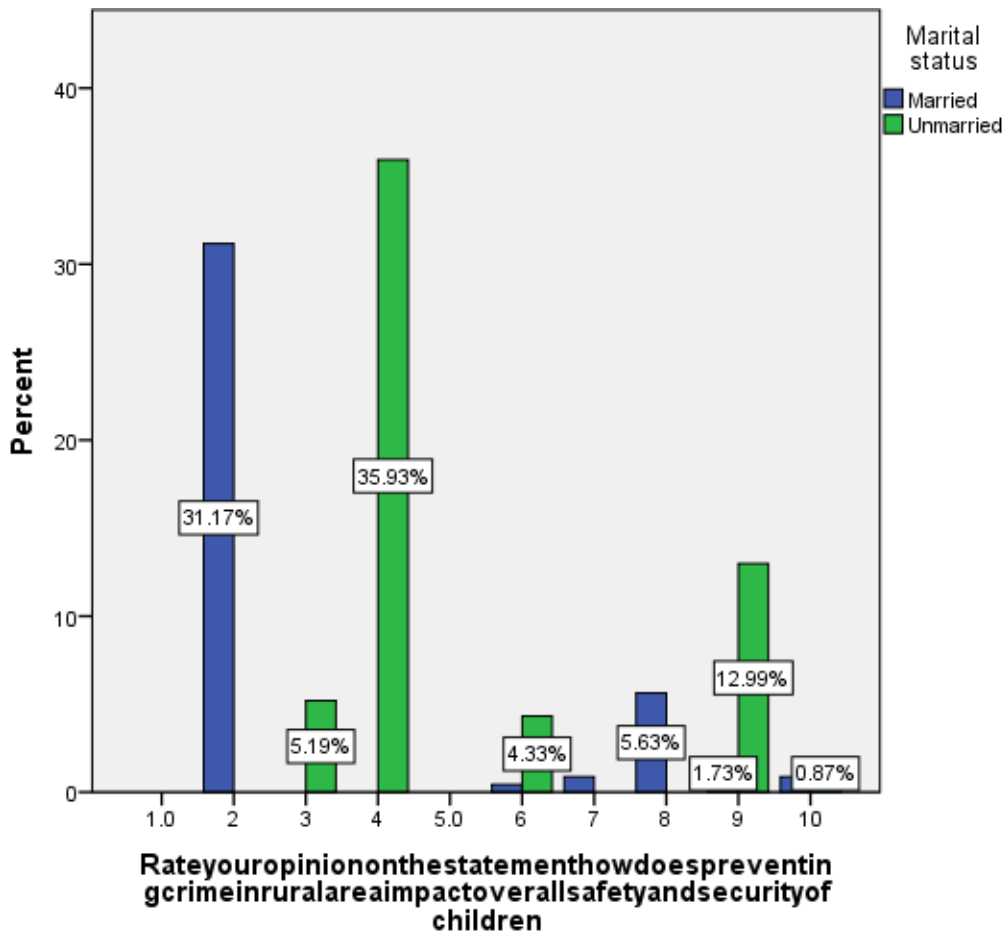
LEGEND: In figure 7 shows the relationship between gender and main effects of child abuse ruralarea

FIGURE 8



LEGEND: In figure 8 shows the relationship between age and if their family experienced any criminal activities in the past year.

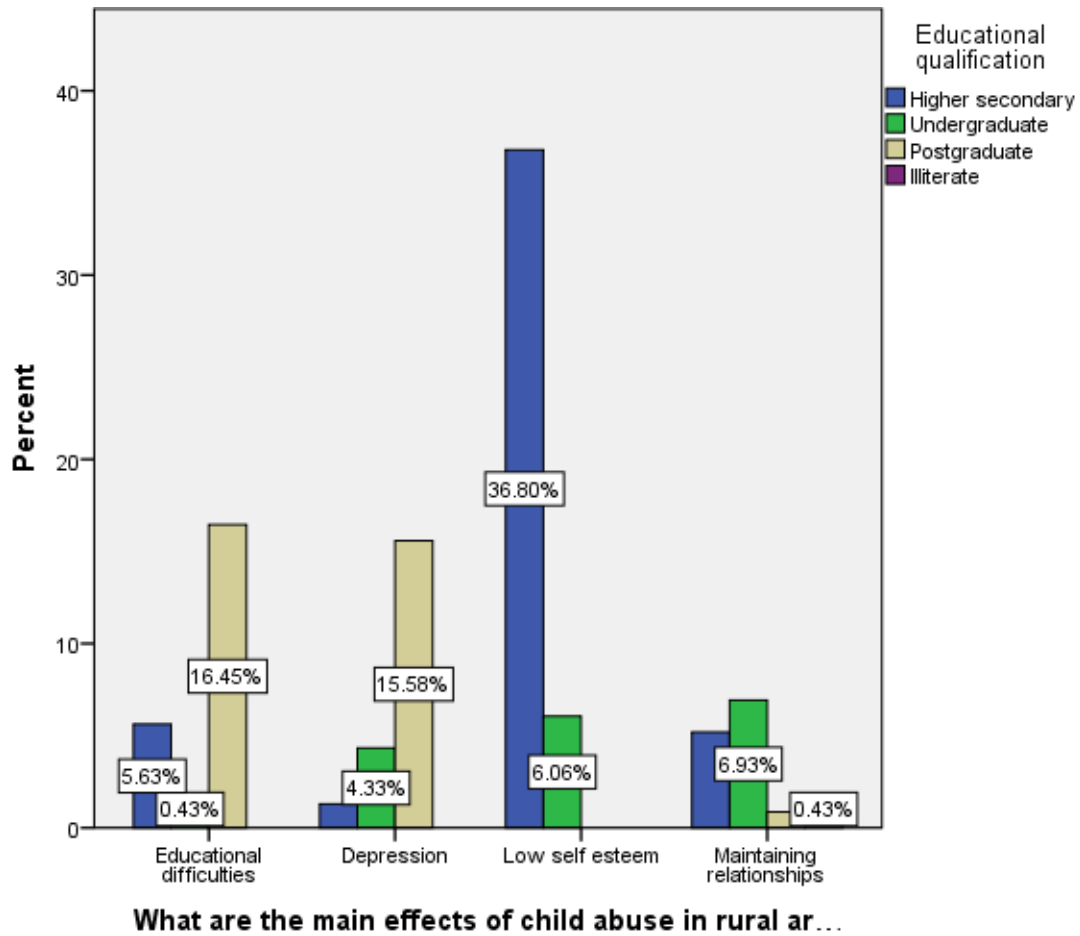
FIGURE 9



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LEGEND: In figure 9 shows the relationship between marital status and measures to prevent the child abuse and ensure the safety and security of children.

FIGURE 10



LEGEND: In figure 10 shows the relationship between educational qualification and measures to prevent the child abuse and ensure the safety and security of children.

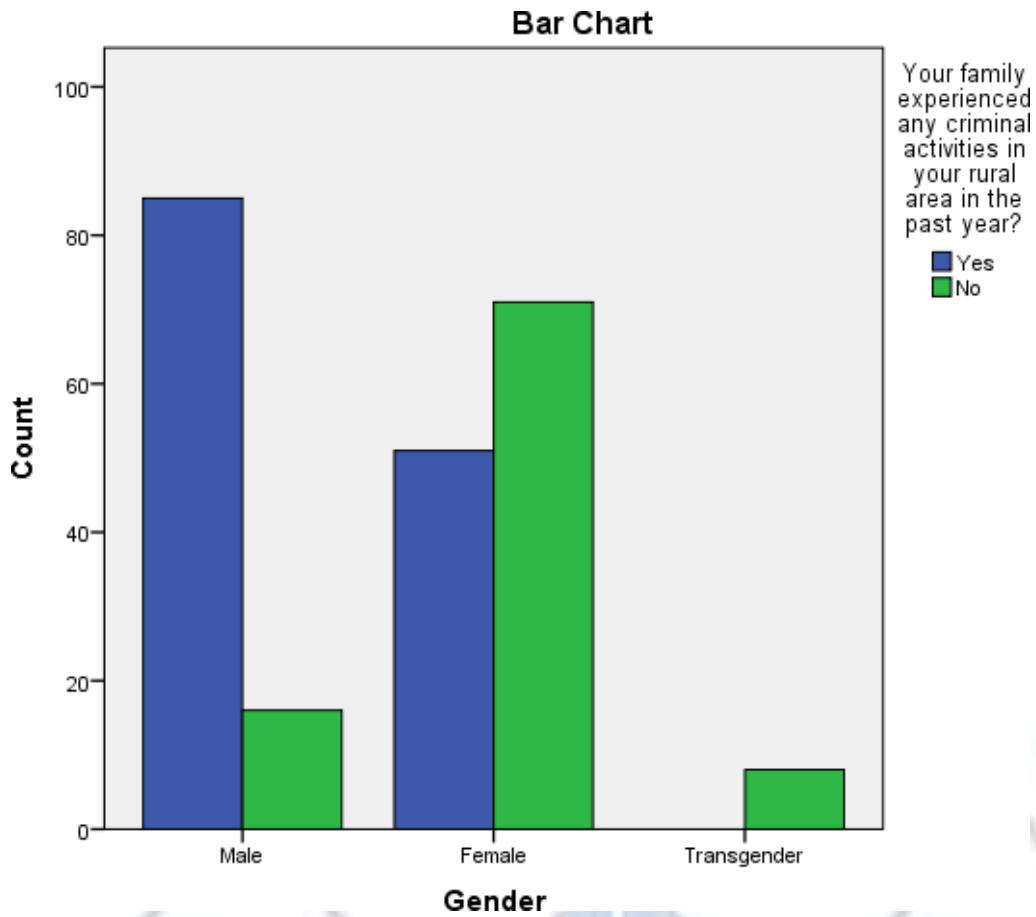


TABLE 1
Gender * Your family experienced any criminal activities in your rural area in the past year?

Cross Tabulation

Count

	Your family experienced any criminal activities in your rural area in the past year?		Total
	Yes	No	
Gender Male	85	16	101
Female	51	71	122
Transgender	0	8	8
Total	136	95	231

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	52.804 ^a	2	.000
Likelihood Ratio	58.803	2	.000
Linear-by-Linear Association	52.574	1	.000
N of Valid Cases	231		

a. 2 cells (33.3%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 3.29.

HYPOTHESIS: Null hypothesis is rejected and alternative hypothesis is accepted
LEGEND: The above table shows that chi-Square test.

INFERENCE: There is a significant relationship between Gender and their family experienced criminal activities (child abuse) in the past year

TABLE:2
Correlations

Gender	Which one of the following is main cause crime against children?
Pearson Correlation	-.065
Sig. (2-tailed)	.328
N	231
Which one of the following is main cause crime against children?	1
Pearson Correlation	-.065
Sig. (2-tailed)	.328
N	231

HYPOTHESIS: Null hypothesis is rejected and alternative hypothesis is accepted.

LEGEND: The above table shows that correlation test.

INFERENCE: There is a significant relationship between gender and main cause of crime against children

TABLE:3

ANOVA

Educational qualification

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	146.600	3	48.867	269.914	.000
Within Groups	41.097	227	.181		
Total	187.697	230			

HYPOTHESIS: Null hypothesis is rejected and alternative hypothesis is accepted.

LEGEND: The above table shows that Anova test

INFERENCE: There is a significant relationship between educational qualification and between groups and within groups.

RESULT:

FIGURE 1, 36.36% of age group of below 18 years said low self esteem is the main effects of child abuse in rural area. FIGURE 2 ,36.80% of male said yes that they family experienced child abuse in their family past year. FIGURE 3, 41.56% of higher secondary said the agree that reducing can positively impact the child safety. FIGURE 4, 41.99% of unmarried said theyes that they family experienced child abuse in the past year. FIGURE 5, 35.93% of the people rate 4 that they prevent crime in rural area and ensure the safety and security of children. FIGURE 6,35.93% of higher secondary people rate 4 that they prevent crime in rural area and ensure the safety and security of children. FIGURE 7,41.99% of the male said low self esteem is the main effects of child abuse in rural area. FIGURE 8, 41.99% of below 18 years said yes that they family experienced child abuse in the past year. FIGURE 9, 35.93% of the unmarried people rates 4 that the prevent crime in rural area and ensure the safety and security of children. FIGURE 10,36.80%

of higher secondary people said low self esteem is the main effects of child abuse in rural area. Table 1 Shows the chi-square test, Table2 shows the correlation test, Table 3 shows the Anova test.

DISCUSSION:

FIGURE 1, 36.36% of age group of below 18 years said low self esteem is the main effects of child abuse in rural area because throughout the analysis self esteem was found to have a direct and negative effect on depression, anxiety and stress respectively. FIGURE 2, 36.80% of male said yes that they family experienced criminal activities in the past year because because of their family crisis, stress, including domestic violence and single parenting. FIGURE 3, 41.56% of higher secondary said the agree that reducing can positively impact the child safety because positive thoughts make the minds good and creative thinking. FIGURE 4, 41.99% of unmarried said the yes that they family experienced child abuse in the past year because of their family crisis ,stress ,including domestic violence and single parenting. FIGURE 5, 35.93% of the people rate 4 that they prevent crime in rural areas and ensure the safety and security of children because to increase the safety and security it leads no crime in the society. FIGURE 6 , 35.93% of higher secondary people rate 4 that they prevent crime in rural areas and ensure the safety and security of children because to increase the safety and security it leads no crime in the society. FIGURE 7, 41.99% of the male said low self esteem is the main effects of child abuse in rural area because throughout the analysis self esteem was found to have a direct and negative effect on depression, anxiety and stress respectively. FIGURE 8, 41.99% of below 18 years said yes that they family experienced child abuse in the past year because of their family crisis ,stress including domestic violence and single parenting. FIGURE 9, 35.93% of the unmarried people rate 4 that they prevent crime in rural areas and ensure the safety and security of children because to increase the safety and security it leads to no crime in the society. FIGURE 10, 36.80% of higher secondary people said low self esteem is the main effects of child abuse in rural area because throughout the analysis self esteem was found to have a direct and negative effect on depression, anxiety and stress respectively. TABLE 1 chi square test in which the P-value = $0.000 < 0.05$. It means the null hypothesis is rejected and an alternative hypothesis is accepted. Therefore, There is a significant relationship between Gender and their family experienced criminal activities (child abuse) in the past year. Table 2, shows correlation test in which the P-value = $0.001 < 0.05$. It means the null hypothesis is rejected and an alternative hypothesis is accepted. Therefore, there is a significant relationship between gender and main cause of crime against children. Table 3, shows ANOVA test in which P- value = $0.000 < 0.05$. It means the null hypothesis is rejected and an alternative

hypothesis is accepted. Therefore, there is a significant relationship.

LIMITATIONS:

The limitation of the study is difficulties to collect the data and opinion from responses. Response were collected in an around Chennai. The limitations in addressing child abuse include underreporting due to fear or secrecy, difficulty in identifying subtle forms of abuse, and challenges in providing timely intervention and support for affected children and families.

CONCLUSION:

Child abuse causes innocent children terrible physical and emotional suffering, which is a horrifying and extremely worrisome problem. To protect the safety and wellbeing of our most vulnerable citizens, this serious issue requires immediate action from society, governments, and people alike. First and first, it's important to recognize that there are many different types of child abuse, including physical, emotional, sexual, and neglect.

Child abuse causes innocent children terrible physical and emotional suffering, which is a horrifying and extremely worrisome problem. To protect the safety and wellbeing of our most vulnerable citizens, this serious issue requires immediate action from society, governments, and people alike. First and first, it's important to recognize that there are many different types of child abuse, including physical, emotional, sexual, and neglect. Each type causes a long-lasting psychological scar that affects a child's mental and physical health and frequently lasts into adulthood. The effects of child abuse are extensive and may result in a cycle of abuse that lasts for many generations. In order to effectively address child abuse, awareness and education must be promoted. For their children to grow up healthily, parents and other caregivers must have access to resources and support networks. Coping techniques and parenting abilities. Schools, communities, and healthcare professionals are essential in spotting suspected incidents of abuse and swiftly reporting them. The judicial system must also give children's safety first priority. Strong social safety nets must be combined with stricter regulations and tougher consequences for abusers in order to help impacted families. In order to address some of the underlying causes of child abuse, this also involves access to mental health services, affordable housing, and childcare help. Furthermore, educating kids about their rights and the value of reporting abuse might aid them in ending the cycle of fear and silence. Age-appropriate lectures on abuse prevention should be included in the curriculum, and schools should offer a secure setting where kids may voice any worries.

And last, it's critical to promote a culture of compassion and empathy. Communities must come together to help and understand victims of child abuse. Stigmatizing views that place the onus on victims or defend offenders only make the issue worse. In conclusion, combating child abuse necessitates a multifaceted strategy encompassing legal framework, educational initiatives, and social support networks. It is our shared duty to look out for our kids, making sure they develop in supportive circumstances that support both their physical and emotional wellbeing. We can only expect to end this horrible crisis and provide future generations a better future via coordinated efforts and unrelenting determination.

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