

# Child Neglect and Perspectives of Nurses Specializing in Mental Health and Psychiatry in Family Violence: Clinical Case

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**Abstract:** We live in a changing society in which the family plays a role in fostering close relationships among family members, as well as the responsibility to pass on values and principles to them. When the actions of parents and other families impair the child's rights and needs in terms of psychomotor, intellectual, moral, emotional or relationship development, we will face situations of neglect, abuse or violence. Since these behaviors can be active (sexual, physical or psychological violence) or passive (by default, to ensure the well-being of the child). Neglect is a form of abuse that leaves the child feeling ostracized and guilty.

**Key words:** Nurses specializing in mental health and psychiatry, child neglect, family violence.

## 1. Introduction

All individuals are family members and must be full of affection, loyalty, care and trust. Since the family is the oldest natural institution, it has changed over time, but its goal remains to ensure the development and continuity of its elements. According to Relvas, quoted by Marinheiro [1], the family has as its functions to protect its members, the development of affections, socialization, and the creation of a feeling of belonging to the autonomy. Children need this sense of belonging in order to grow up in a safe, quiet and stable environment [2].

## 2. Proposes

The purpose of this article is to think about domestic violence from the perspectives of mental health care and psychiatry, to promote the early detection of responsibilities for cases of neglect of children and to develop their abilities in situations where children are neglected.

## 3. Methods

A combination of descriptive analysis and reflective analysis was used to conduct participatory observation.

## 4. Results

C., 6 years old, female, is the youngest daughter of a couple with 5 children. She suffered from malnutrition, poor health, poor living environment, ill fitting clothes, poor vocabulary, cognitive impairment and unclear pronunciation. According to her mother, when she was two, she fell out of the first-floor window because she was "alone". Parent families with chronic alcoholism are problematic and have no rules and practices. Child C. spends a lot of time in the street with her brother and father. School is often missed. Most of the time, the only meal she makes is when she goes to school. Neighbors said that by the end of the day, the parents were drunk and the children were unsupervised. Child C showed nocturnal enuresis, poor sleep, and dreamed of "creatures climbing the wall". She often complained of pain and burns in her genitals.

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According to Order of Nurses [3], nursing diagnosis and interventions includes the following four aspects:

1: Neglected parental concerns (evidence: alcoholism, basic demand is insufficient, 'Harmonious' development that has shown its consequences).

**Nursing interventions:** Plan active listening, implementing the helping relationship, Provide parents with knowledge and guidance in treating alcoholism, monitoring child health, participate in peer support;

2: Risk of child abuse (evidence: child C's behavior raises suspicion of abuse and possible sexual abuse, history of falling, giving up basic needs, perineal injury). **Nursing interventions:** Carefully monitor situations, not irritable, emotional support, manage communication, coach other teams, treat physical trauma;

3: Impaired child development (evidence: cognitive and language impairment). **Nursing interventions:** Affective/emotional support, cognitive stimulation plan, encourage group interaction;

4: Current insecurity (evidence: enuresis and imagined dreams indicate possible abuse and maltreatment conditions). **Nursing interventions:** Providing a sense of presence and active listening, promote emotional support and coping strategies.

## 5. Conclusions

The road to protecting children is long. According to Canha [4], early diagnosis of abuse and appropriate guidance are essential to avoid a series of events that seriously endanger children's lives and future. Most of the time, it is only through our attitude and information as professionals that the public can understand the situation of children's violence/neglect/abuse.

Domestic violence and child neglect need to be identified at an early stage and seek optimal solutions after communication with peers. Attention should be paid to the provision of care. Therefore, a structured treatment process is the basis for good interventions by mental health and psychiatric professional nurses.

## References

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