

Street Children: Risks and Implications . A Field Study in Anbar Governorate

Assist. Prof. Dr. Noori Saadoon Abdullah

College of Arts ,Dept. of Sociology, University of Anbar –Iraq

E-mail: art.noori_1975@uoanbar.edu.iq

Article History: Received: 11 January 2021; Revised: 12 February 2021; Accepted: 27 March 2021; Published online: 16 April 2021

Abstract: Children represent the important element on which the burden of development falls, and therefore it is imperative that children receive what is worthy of them in terms of material and moral care, through which they can meet their needs during the growth period, in order to become healthy and sound.

The interest in childhood issues occupies the attention of the developed and developing world alike, whether the child is the future, and global concern has crystallized to the issuance of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child in 1959 AD and the Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1989 AD. Despite all this interest in childhood issues, there are many children who still suffer from living in difficult circumstances and are exposed to many working conditions within the community that push them to beggary and some deviations, as a result of the failure to satisfy their basic needs and the low level of material and moral care that they receive, whether from Family and society, as there are many children who suffer from deprivation of parental care and are under psychological and social pressures that make them vulnerable to falling into the circle of danger. The researcher will try to identify the most important challenges and risks that result from mishandling of children, what are the conditions that beggary children suffer, and try to reach results and conclusions that will limit these cases, and the research has reached goals, the most important of which are:

1. Identify the most important challenges resulting from the problem of street children and their repercussions on society.

2. Knowing the dangers that street children are exposed to.

3. Identify the most important repercussions left by the displacement crisis on street children.

This study is considered from field descriptive studies and the researcher uses the method of social survey, field interviews and simple observation as basic tools for data collection. The threshold for research has reached (120) cases of street children in the various districts of Anbar Governorate.

Problem of Study

The society of Iraq exposed to many difficult circumstances and crises that have led to the emergence of many phenomena (events) and social problems including the problem of street children and beggars, who are exposed to various dangers and challenges. American occupation left negative consequences on the children and society. In addition, the emergence of ISIS left the new generation of children without any identity information that prove their original nationality and the date of their birth, this problem led for most of children among street children and beggars dealing with problems that threat catastrophic consequences. Displacement is one of the important issues that left many difficulties especially the most influential children problem cases.

The phenomenon of street children is a dangerous social events that should be placed in the context of the dimensions that affect on the society, whether it is economic, social, educational or cultural. So, what are the reasons that led to its inflation, especially in recent days and after the convergence of many factors that led to its increase.

Accordingly, the problem of research is an issue that can be perceived, observed and surrounded by some ambiguity (1) (Alter, 1995). The crises of Iraq and Anbar were exposed to in particular and the multiple impacts that prompted the researcher to choose this problem, as the researcher sensed this problem and its danger to future generations. So, it was the scientific incentive that pushed us to choose this problem and examine it.

Importance of Study

The importance of study lies in two aspects

Firstly, the theoretical aspect. The theoretical importance of this research is materialized in the study of the most dangers left by the phenomenon of street children and the social dimensions. Also, for the development of the theoretical field of sociology and development and social problems.

Secondly, practical aspect. As a result of what street children are suffering in Iraq in light of the crises that have afflicted the society, especially in Anbar Governorate, the repercussions of those crises on all sides of life, as for direct and indirect effects and challenges on children. The direct effects are the high number of street children of beggars and their exposure to various forms of violence and exploitation . As for the direct effects and challenges, referred to the emergence of various behaviors and deviations for children, as well as the spread of the phenomenon of illiteracy, backwardness, unemployment, the emergence of the phenomenon of crime .. etc.

The study of that risks and challenges by social researchers aims to find the solutions and treatments resulting from that issue which has become widespread at the level of the society of Iraq at all.

Aims of Study

The aim can be defined as follows

A- Identify the most important dangers that street children exposed to and their implications for society and social values.

B- Identifying the most important challenges resulting from that problem issue, especially the social, psychological, economic, health and security challenges.

C- Identify the most important repercussions left by the displacement crisis on the children of the society of Anbar.

D- Finding some solutions and results that limit the repercussions and impacts, by placing them to the officials to develop strategic plans for reduce them.

Questions of Study

The researcher set out in a main question issue, which are the most important challenges facing street children in the society of Iraq and specifically for the society of Ramadi. Based on this question, we can add a group of sub-questions:

- What are the most important risks faced by street children and the consequences thereof ?

- What are the implications of the emergence of some of the problems associated with the problem of street children, such as delinquency, unemployment, school dropout, poverty and the weak institutions of controlling the children.

- What are the effects of the displacement issues, as it left the children that turned into beggars in the streets.

Terms of Definitions

1. Childhood

Childhood is defined as the period during which an individual depends on his parents for food, clothing, accommodation, education, health and leisure activities, whether it is a period of childhood until adulthood or social, psychological and mental maturity. In other words, referring to the type of interrelationships between the children and others interested who interested and with whom interact. (2) (Al-Anani 2005)

Also, childhood is known as the period between the end of infancy and the age of puberty and is divided into three stages. childhood between the end of infancy and the age of six, middle childhood between six and ten, and late childhood between the ages of ten and twelve, which is called pre-adolescence. (3) (Fahmy 2015)

According to sociologists' perspective, childhood defined as early period of human life in which the individual depends entirely on his parents for what life preserves, in which the child learns and exercises for the next period, it is not a important as such, rather a stage that the child goes through physiological, mental maturity. Also, the psychological, social, moral, and spiritual sides which constituted the human life as a social being. (Al-Abadi 2017).

As for the procedural definition of childhood, it is a word given to a person whether male or female, in which the child is almost completely dependent on his parents and in which the child is always responding to the processes of social interaction because it is characterized by a set of behavioral characteristic of his emotions and tendencies that distinguished from the adult human.

2. Street Children

The use of the term, street children, is one of the modern terms due to the scarcity of this term, the concept at the scientific and academic level, also for the lack of studies and research which dealing with this field.

Jamal Hamzah believes that they are the children who constantly reside in the streets under the bridges, public transport stations and public parks due to abnormal family conditions (Fahmy, 2015)

Azza Karim define it as a street child is the one who stays for long periods during the day on the street, whether the child is doing side works such as wiping car windows, collecting garbage, wiping shoes, selling trivial goods such as tissue paper and matches, or doing illegal works, such as prostitution and drugs dealings, or begging, dealing with bad people, or acting aggressive acts towards public facilities and people. These children miss someone who brings them up and directs them to peaceful behavior patterns. (Azza, 1997)

The procedural definition of street children, as the homeless children who spend most of their lives in the streets begging and selling gum and tissue. also, wiping car windshields or other acts that we have noticed recently.

3. Challenges

Challenge, it is a situation whose existence represents a threat, weakening or distorting, completely or partially, permanent or temporary, due to the existence of another situation that is intended for stability, strength and continuity. (Fathi, 2005)

As for social challenges, it is defined as a crisis that results from something new and takes on the feature of contemporary, until the emergence of others, which generate a need for the society that is pushing with all its energy to overcome, and requires a comprehensive change in various aspects of social life. (Ketch, 2000)

The procedural definition of challenges, it is a concept that varies according to the problem that the researcher studies. There are different challenges that may be social, economic, cultural, political and security, all are considered a threat or danger society case or segments of society, and there are some challenges whose impact includes all of these dimensions.

4. Begging

Since begging such given to street children, so I will address this concept.

Begging is defined "as a social phenomenon practiced by the individual to escape from the responsibilities, especially for those who do not have the desire to engage in a decent work that generates an income and to be embarrassed from begging or invoking kindness". (Fahmy, 2015)

Robert Barker defines it as a form of vagrancy which means the unlawful request for charity in a way punishable by law. (Robert, 1991)

The procedural definition of begging is a form of displacement, asking for begging and charity in various ways that may be illegal. Begging is often carried out in streets, roads and intersections.

Literature Review

1. Iraqi Studies

The tagged study of Taimaa Zuhair Kamal El-Din (Researcher), (Displacement and The Human Security of The Child) (Taimaa, 2018).

The importance of the study highlighted in its shedding light on an important topic, as the researcher dealt with the social impacts left by displacement on children, their lack of human security, weak social protection and the transformation of displaced children into beggars. The study also aimed to identify the social, economic and political implications of displacement on the human security of the child. The researcher used the social survey method to reach the facts left by the period of displacement and its impact on children. The researcher relied on a sample of (200) displaced families. So, the study reached many results, including:

1. More than half of the sample indicates that the head of the family suffers from a low level of education and his dependence on a certain low income.
2. The study proved that the level of displacement greatly affected the displaced families, which had a negative impact on the economic security of children.
3. The study found that displacement had a great impact on family bonding and the occurrence of family problems, including human violence, which negatively affected children.
4. The study showed that more than half of the sample, they indicated that the stage of displacement affected the lack of enrollment of children in school, which affected the educational level.
5. The study showed that children of displaced families suffer from psychological and social disorders, as well as their feeling of social alienation and isolation due to exposure to traumatic experiences.

2. Arabic Studies

The tagged study of Dr. Muhammad Sayed Fahmy (Researcher), (The Children of Beggars) . (Fahmy, 2015)

The study aimed to achieve a main goal that the phenomenon of begging for children distorts the reputation of society. Also, the researcher reached to know the most important reasons that lead to begging and the problems that result from beggars, and the researcher reached many results, including:

1. The spread of the phenomenon of begging during the blessed month of Ramadan in general and in front of the mosques in particular, where beggars were keen to take advantage of the blessed month, the kindness of people during it, as it is the month of mercy and solidarity.
2. The eagerness of most beggars to earn easy and comfortable earnings and the sincere desire of the benefactors and philanthropists to sacrifice for the sake of God, in addition to the lack of awareness of community members of the danger of the phenomenon of begging and its distortion of the image of society.
3. Some beggars resort to multiple methods of begging along with carrying some medical certificates in foreign languages issued by fake hospitals and medical clinics, as well as claiming losing money, standing in front of fuel stations and banks and asking for money.
4. The danger of begging lies in the fact that the beggar prepares his children and trains them to practice this behavior, in addition to pushing them to decline in crime, and encouraging them to slip into more serious crimes such as addiction and prostitution, and this leads to a threat to the security of society as a whole.
5. Beggars are characterized by a set of physical, psychological, mental and social characteristics that make them follow this behavior.

3. Foreign Studies

A tagged study of Mariam et al. (Children of War, Ending grave violations against children). (Mariam, 2018)

Researchers have concluded that in the last two decades of children have become victims and parties in armed conflicts of corresponding states and groups, and they find no way to live with dignity and freedom and to enjoy their innocence in light of these conflicts, which has led to them being part of these wars, even participating potential victims with their loss of services, health, educational and social. According to researcher's study, the main point used on the analytical method through data analysis, as adopted data collection from international organizations in conflict areas for a period of (20) years, and conducted a case study for (40) experts and military workers in the field of relief and peace-keeping organizations operating around the world who deal with these problems. The study found many results, including:

1. An increase in the number of children living in conflict zones than it was previously, which leads to the loss of health, educational and social care and exposure to danger.

2. Children are most at risk in wars, as a result of their use as tools in war, such as fighters or suicide bombers.

3. As a result of the problems faced by children, especially economic and social, which leads them to resort to armed groups to meet their most basic life demands.

The risks that Exposed Street Children

As it is known to anyone that the extent of the risks of children are exposed to, which have implications for the child, his family, and society, which reflects many future problems on children, the risks are:

1. School dropout

In the society of Iraq, the cases of street children and beggars have increased after the recent events that the country went through and the multiple crises that accompanied them. This resulted in many problems, the most important of which was the large number of unemployed, poverty, the spread of epidemics and diseases, and this has created generations of poor who have no means but begging in the street And asking for alms in various ways.

Therefore, the most obvious risks to children of different types is to make them confined to the field of illiteracy or low education as a result of their practicing this profession, as well as these children usually lack the encouraging family care to continue in education or join it, and these children often belong to disjointed and poor families abnormally. This is what helps them to escape and not enroll in education. The escape from learning and education is one of the dangers that leave many side effects on the children's segment, especially after these groups get used to begging in the streets.

2. Inherited poverty and low social and professional status

It is natural that the distribution of income and wealth relates to the rich and the poor, the standard of living, and the position of the rich against the poor and vice versa, but rather it relates even to the position of each group towards itself. The poor lack personal freedom and autonomy, and they live in a criminal environment and a miserable neighborhood, and they face the various temptations of life that they desire to acquire, but they are unable to obtain them except rarely because their chances of obtaining them are slim. Whereas, the rich possesses wealth, which gives him freedom, influence, social power, and the ability to direct his own life (14). (Malhas, 2012)

That is why the rich can choose and get the things needs and meet his demands, while the poor cannot do so, so rich children get the best things and pay for them, and rich children get the best future guarantees that keep them on the standard of living and social consideration. This thing does not exist in poor children.

Often these children belong to families of low occupational economic category, and here they are the inheritors of poverty and the profession in which they grew up in their families.

Dr. Muhammad Al-Rumaihi says, Poverty has not left its mark on anyone as it did on the children of this world in which we live. With children, poverty becomes more evident and tragic, and in many of the world there are laws that prohibit child labor and oblige their parents to send them to school. But there are more than (80) million children - most of them from poor countries - between the ages of eight and fifteen who go every morning to dangerous work that is not commensurate with their experience or with their years of life. This number is from the estimates of the International Labor Organization, but the real global figures are Much bigger than that. The actions that these children do cannot be imagined by a human being . (Abd Al-Salam, 1990)

3. Sexual Exploitation of Street Children

The most dangerous thing that street children are exposed to is sexual exploitation, whether it is from gangs or individuals who exploit their weakness due to their young age and their inability to confront sexual abuse, whether by the perpetrators or intermediaries, and many international studies have reported that thousands of young girls are street children in Many countries are working to satisfy the desires of men from the same country or other countries. (Fahmy, 2004)

- Many data have shown that there are many direct links between sexual exploitation and street children, as their low social conditions and lack of family care that make them unaware of the seriousness of these practices help in this, and sexual practices lead to children being exposed to many health risks, including Mental illness, acquired immunodeficiency (AIDS), venereal diseases, illegal pregnancies, and drug addiction, in addition to that, these children become hostages of a distorted reality in which weakness and lack of confidence prevail in others, and a sense of shame and rejection by society. (Human Development 2004).

Thus, street children are exposed to the most heinous crime, which is the sexual exploitation imposed on them by the social and economic conditions of life

4. The Delinquency and Emergence of Terrorists.

Involving children in hostilities is not a product of modern times, as it is an ancient phenomenon, as the use of children in wars, especially non-international ones, was common and exposed them, by virtue of their youth and softness, to the risk of exploitation more than others in wars, and they are exploited at the expense of their basic rights. (Alfadi)

The recruitment of organized criminal and terrorist groups to these children represents a major step for them on society in general, as these gangs take from these children easy and cheap tools for illegal activities, whether by using them as auxiliary tools in promoting and distributing the forbidden, or causing disturbances and violence and exploiting them in acts related to prostitution and debauchery. ((Fahmy, 2015)

As a result of the crises that the Iraqi society was exposed to after 2003 CE, they affected all aspects of children's relief lives, and terrorist groups worked to recruit children, especially marginalized children, and to involve them in wars and hostilities, and street children were among those segments that were exposed to the risk of joining Terrorist groups and their exploitation in carrying out operations not appropriate for their ages, and this creates difficulties in rehabilitating and integrating these children after the end of wars and armed conflicts, because they carry ideas of violence and aggression towards others and society in general.

5.Low Social Control Systems

When societies are going through a state of change, there are various emergency and community institutions that emerge on the surface, and when the individual feels that these social organizations are ineffective and are deficient, the individual may behave towards them or towards society with undesirable behaviors that carry the nature of violence and abuse. (Rassol, 2015)

That is why the children are distancing themselves from the home and not meeting their needs by the family and society and not being fair by the law, this is why these children turn to some behaviors that carry a kind of hatred, hatred and selfishness towards society and the individuals who live in it, especially those with high incomes, thus creating an abnormal feeling for them towards the control institutions Formal and informal, which ultimately leads to a decline in all of these systems.

6.Exposure to Violence

Violence is a reflection of disturbances in the secretion of the hormonal glands in the human body, which sometimes results from poor quality of nutrition, which causes an underlying future risk represented by the aggressive behavior of the individual. (Al-Qaisi, 2012)

That is why street children are exposed to various types of violence as a result of their presence in unprotected places and their contact with different types of people, so the violence to which they are exposed may take many forms, including (denying the child medical care, as well as denying the child going out to games and parks and belittling the child. Accusing him of backwardness, failure, and constant ridicule by car owners for children, criticizing him and exaggerating it, giving the child an unwanted name and calling him to confirm his contempt), and for this reason all those actions that street children are exposed to leave psychological, social and cultural effects on children, which are difficult to pass in a short time It may continue with children into adulthood.

7.Exposure to Offense and Disease

Children are exposed to many occupational hazards as a result of working conditions, such as exposure to environmental stress, physical injuries, deformities of the spine, risks of exposure to chemicals, dust and noise, extreme heat or poor ventilation. (Ghanem)

Therefore, street children 'work deprives them of appropriate opportunities for the growth of their abilities and capabilities, as well as this work will expose them to the risk of their natural growth as family protection disappears, and the loss of social care leads them to some bad habits and behaviors such as smoking and addiction, and all this leads to the elimination of the child's creativity This makes the child vulnerable to health anxiety, which leads to bad psychological consequences that make him feel a sense of injustice and frustration. This affects the child's personal relationships.

The Effects of The Phenomenon of Street Children

1.Social and psychological effects:

There are many social and psychological effects that street children face, including the spread of ignorance, backwardness, an increase in the number of illiterates, deviation, and poor dealing and adaptation to the surrounding environment, as it is not equipped socially and psychologically to adapt and deal with the elderly community, which exposes him to serious deviations.

Therefore, the social and economic pressures that society experiences and the decrease in income compared to the increase in the prices of goods and services has an impact on the behavior of parents towards their children, which in turn leads to the exhaustion of parents in meeting the children's needs of living, this is reflected in the process of social and cultural upbringing of children. (Hesasy Blogspot)

That is why we are facing a very dangerous societal phenomenon, children who have lost their psychological, emotional and social balance, which has weakened their principles and values, lack of belonging, and suffer from an identity crisis, children dominated by feelings of injustice, fear and lack of confidence in others. They have become an easy catch for every criminal and deviant who wants to exploit them, for this they behave in different behaviors characterized by hatred, hatred and the desire for revenge until the phenomenon of violence and aggression became one of the rules of their dealings with society.

2.Economic effects:

Dr. Muhammad Al-Rumaihi says: Poverty has not left its mark on anyone as it did on the children of this world in which we live. With children, poverty becomes clearer and more tragic, and in many countries of the world there are laws that prohibit child labor and oblige their parents to send them to school. But there are more than (80) million children - most of them from poor countries - between the ages of eight and fifteen, and every morning they go to dangerous work that is not commensurate with their experiences or with their 24 years of age, (Estateiah, 2012)

That is why the phenomenon of street children and begging has economic side effects on children, such as the inheritance of poverty and unemployment, which are serious challenges that lead to the marginalization of children and youth, and a serious threat to the economic stability of the country. that such a threat results in dangerous social variables for children, such as behavioral deviations and involvement in crime, which impede the process of economic and social development.

3.Security and political implications:

The problem of street children (begging) is a security problem that disturbs society and policemen, as it is originally a form of social deviation, whether for young people or adults, and it is legally criminal for those over the age of (18) years and is considered a state of homelessness or exposure to danger, as explained by The New Child Law, promulgated in 2008. (Nassif, 2009)

The Iraqi political elite and the parties to the political process have produced a fragile state rife with corruption, conflicting and contradictory, and lacking symbolic political figures capable of addressing the country's deteriorating situation. (Al-Yaqoubi, 2016)

Therefore, this leaves a clear imprint on children, especially children beggars in the streets, where their sense of inferiority, want, alienation and lack of belonging to their social surroundings and their local community. Therefore, these children will be exposed to joining terrorist groups, especially since these groups will give them psychological, ideological and social embrace, when Terrorist groups touch them as if they are their family. Especially when street children are in a bad environment without control or supervision, and their mixing with adults leads to integration in these groups.

4.Health effects:

Health security represents a vital goal of human security as one of the components of human security, and the human need for health as an important component of security, as it provides an environment free from disease, infection and disability, and to provide a healthy natural environment preserved from all external and internal indicators, (Ministry of Planning, 2007)

That is why street children are exposed to many health problems. The street only provides some nutritional needs. It is not the basic one that his body demands, as exposing in the street to many dangerous diseases such as (eye diseases, typhoid, chest diseases, scabies, food poisoning, persistent cough, wound sores ... etc)

These health effects leave their effects on children in the distant future, and the displacement phase has an impact on children in general, where housing in camps is unfit for living and its economy is based on health services, amenities and drinking water, which led a large part of them to contract many diseases, which led to a deterioration. Child health security.

5. Educational implications

The preliminary report of the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey in Iraq indicates that the main reason for dropping out of school is higher in the displaced families. The International Office states that (40%) of the Iraqi children residing in the Diaspora who are (6-17) years old have not registered in schools, because High school fees and the need for them to work, as well as the failure to provide school documents necessary for their registration. (UNICEF, 2007)

That is why Iraq has been affected by the turmoil and transformations that have befallen and occurred in the world, and that Iraq most of those countries suffered crises, including wars and conflicts on the basis of religion and ethnicity, the last and most influential of which is the stage of displacement that left serious social effects that were reflected on social structures, which caused many phenomena, including the phenomenon. Street children, and there is no doubt that the most obvious effects that fall on these children of all types and sexes are restricting them to illiteracy or low education, as these children often lack family care or the loss of one of the parents, which makes them lose the pleasure of continuing in education or Attending school also, these children often belong to disjointed and poor families, which helps them not to enroll in schools or education, which forces them to resort to the street from which they learn various deviant behaviors.

6. Rights and social protection for children in light of wars and crises

Wars and armed conflicts that take place in different parts of the world lead to many human calamities and tragedies, and forced displacement is one of the most important tragedies produced by wars and armed conflicts, represented by the suffering of individuals fleeing from areas of tension and conflicts to other places. They find security in it, and this is the most difficult stage in the lives of displaced children, as it leads to social changes in their behavior in a way that is consistent with the nature of their new society and their deteriorating economic reality. (Al-Zoghbi, 2013)

Also, wars and armed conflicts have a direct and indirect effect, as war reduces the natural growth limit of children, as a result of the closure of schools and hospitals, the loss of security, reassurance, and self-confidence, as a result of fear and terror that they are exposed to in wartime, especially in the event of their forced displacement from their places of residence . (Anhri, 2015)

As the reason of children in this life are the men of the future, and they are dependent on this existence, because they are the focus of hopes, and the complex of hope. Islamic legislation gave them great care, and Islamic law singled them out with a great deal of attention. The child has rulings since life their begins as the still in mother's womb until growing up and nurtures all in order to establish society and protect individuals from corruption. The Almighty said: ((And mothers breastfeed their children for two years ...)) [Surat Al-Baqarah: Verse, 233] . Islam has placed the task of raising a child on the shoulders of his parents, for it is therefore a joint responsibility that falls on the shoulders of the father and the mother. Rather, raising children is considered the great responsibility of parents in raising children and raising them properly according to Islamic religious teachings. The child is a trust in the necks of his parents, and Islam obliges the parents. By performing this trust in good faith and maintaining it permanently because they are the custodians of the child and are responsible for him (Al-Muhammadawi 2005).

In 1948 the declaration of the International Child Welfare Union was issued, which was issued by the (International Child Welfare Federation), which since 1946 replaced the International Child Relief Federation, which was founded in 1920. The year 1946 witnessed the establishment of the United Nations Children's Fund ((UNICEF) The establishment of this organization marked a new commitment by the United Nations General Assembly to children's issues all over the world (National Conference 2005)

The 1989 International Convention on the Rights of the Child stipulated that the child should live a decent life, enjoy freedom and social security, and be protected from cruelty and neglect by taking appropriate measures to implement the rights recognized in the convention, and because Iraq is one of the countries that ratified this convention on 15 February. July 1920, with reservations on some articles (9, 14, and 20), so it was imperative that the government work to implement the rights stated in this agreement in its national legislation .(Al-Attar 2006)

In 2002, the declaration issued by the United Nations at its special session for childhood in May 2002 was issued, which was accompanied by a plan of action to implement it, in order to build a new world for children through adherence to the principles and goals that this declaration came up with, the most important of which we will mention: .(Shehata 2004)

1- Taking into account the best interest of the child in all activities related to children, and putting children first.

2- Eradicating poverty, by investing in children and realizing their rights, as this is one of the best ways to eradicate poverty and eliminate the worst forms of child labor.

3- No child will be neglected, that is, an end to all forms of discrimination that harm children.

4- Protecting children from harm and exploitation.

5- Children should be cared for in order to protect, develop and nurture them in the context of good health and adequate nutrition.

6- Education for all children, meaning that education shall be available to all girls and boys, and that education shall be free and compulsory.

7- Protecting children from wars and crises.

8- Protecting the natural environment, minimizing the effects of natural disasters and environmental degradation on them, and protecting them from them.

9- Combating (AIDS).

Methodological Framework

1. Methodology of Study

The curriculum is the method that the researcher takes to answer the questions raised by the problem under study. When the researcher or the average person encounters a problem, beginning to think about how will solve the problem, and the curriculum is the solution method (Abrash 2008).

The researcher relied on the social survey method by the sample method because it is the best method for this type of studies.

2. Data Collection Methods

The researcher relied on two methods to collect data and information on the research, which are (interview with some parents of children, as well as interview with children over 8 years old in Anbar Governorate - questionnaire form

3. The Sample

The researcher used a simple random sample. The sample size is (120) parents and children in Anbar Governorate.

The Results and Analyzing Data

1.The Gender of the Selected Sample

Table (1) shows the gender of the Selected sample

Gender	Occurrences	Percentage
Male	83	69.2 %
Female	37	30.8 %
Total	120	100 %

The data of the above table indicate that the percentage of males is higher than the percentage of females, as the number of males reached (83) respondents, by (69.2%), while the number of females was (37) and by (30.8%), noting that the gender in this study included The head of the family for the child and a number of children.

Table (2) shows the age of selected sample as parents

Age Group	Occurrences	Percentage
20 -25	7	%5.8
26 - 30	13	%10.8
31 - 35	18	%15
36 - 40	32	%26.7
40 - Older	50	%41.7
Total	120	%100

The data of the above table indicate that the largest percentage is among those aged over 40 years and it amounted to (50) respondents and the percentage of (41.7%), while the number (2) came in the age group that ranges from (36-40) years and at (26, 7%) and in the third sequence of those whose ages range between (31-35) years at a rate of (15%), while the fourth sequence came the age group confined between (26-30) years and finally the age group (20-25) with a rate of (5.8%) Hence, it becomes evident that the highest percentage is over 40 years old.

Table (3) Shows the educational attainment for the head of the family

Educational Attainment	Occurrences	Percentage
Illiteracy	22	18.3%
Read and Write	35	29.2 %
Primary	29	24.2 %
Medium	17	14.2 %
Middle school	11	9.1 %
Bachelor	6	5 %

Total	120	100 %
--------------	-----	-------

The data of the above table indicate that it was found that the number of illiterate individuals was (22) and by (18.3%), while the number of those who read and wrote (35) reached (29.2%), which is the largest percentage, while the number of those who completed primary school was (29). (24.2%) of respondents, while the number of those who completed intermediate school was (17) respondents, at a rate of (14.2%). The smallest percentage was among those who completed a bachelor's degree, and they were (6) subjects, at a rate of (5%). Hence, it becomes clear that the largest percentage of respondents with regard to parents of children are of the low academic level, which indicates that education has a great effect in curbing this phenomenon.

Table (4) shows the economic situation of the selected sample

Economic Situation	Occurrences	Percentage
Enough and redundant	-	-
Not enough	105	87.5 %
Meet demand	15	12.5 %
Total	120	100 %

The data of the above table indicate that the largest percentage indicated that those whose income is insufficient to meet the need are (105) respondents and the proportion of (87.5%), and those who answered that the income meets the need are (15) respondents and the proportion of (12.5%) From here it appears that those whose income is not sufficient to meet their needs is the largest proportion of what has a great impact on the spread of this phenomenon, as many respondents and parents indicated that the monthly income is not sufficient and that most of them work for a daily wage or work low-income businesses, and some of them take the social welfare salary and is not sufficient to meet their needs.

Table (5) Show type of housing

Housing	Occurrences	Percentage
Ownership	31	25.9 %
Rental	76	63.3 %
Informal Settlements	13	10.8 %
Total	120	100 %

The data of the above table indicate that those who live in owned houses are (31) respondents out of the total research sample, with a percentage of (25.9%), while the number of those who live in houses for rent is (76) and a percentage (63.3%), while The number of those residing in slums was (13) respondents, at a rate of (10.8%). Hence, it becomes clear that most of the research sample resides in rented houses, and if it is a property, then it is a dilapidated house that gives no meaning to life in it and lacks the simplest elements of comfort.

Table (6) shows the profession

Profession	Occurrences	Percentage
Employee	11	9.2 %
Gainer	34	28.3 %
Unemployed	51	42.5 %
Housewife	24	20 %
Total	120	100 %

The data of the above table indicates that most of the parents are earners and the unemployed, as their number was (85) male and female subjects, with a percentage of (70.8%), while the number of housewives reached (24) out of the total number of respondents (37), with a percentage of (20) While the total number of male and female employees amounted to (11) researched and surveyed, at a rate of (9.2%). Many of the respondents indicated that they are employees with a monthly wage or contracts. Hence, it becomes clear that the profession has a clear role in limiting this phenomenon through the type of profession, or it leads to the spread of this phenomenon in the event that there is no specific profession for the head of the family.

Table (7) shows practicing work per day

Answer	Occurrences	Percentage
Yes	87	72.5 %
No	33	27.5 %
Total	120	100 %

The data of the above table indicate that the largest percentage of children practice their daily work in the street, as the number of those who answered yes was (87) respondents and the rate was (72.5%), while (33) respondents answered that they do not work daily in the street, and thus it appears that Most of the respondents are those who practice their daily work in the street.

Table (8) shows the most important acts by the selected sample

Answer	Occurrences	Percentage
Begging	22	18.3 %
Wiping car's windows	37	30.8 %
Selling the Kleenex	21	17.5 %
Selling chewing gum	24	20 %
Selling children's games	11	9.2 %
Others	5	4.2 %
Total	120	100 %

The data of the above table refer to the businesses that children practice in the street, and the answers were that the highest percentage were those who surveyed the car's windows in intersections and public roads, and their number was (37) respondents and a percentage of (30.8%), while the second place came to sell gum, where their number was (24) respondents with a percentage of (20%), while the third place came to those who beg and ask for aid, as their number reached (22), and by (18.3%), while the percentage of those who worked came in fourth place, selling the Kleenex at a rate of (17.5%). In the sale of children's toys in intersections and streets (11) respondents, at a rate of (9.2%), while (5) respondents answered that they engage in other activities, including wandering around areas, ringing bells and asking for money, as well as doing business that indicates adults in order to give money.

Table (9) shows society's perception of street children

Answer	Occurrences	Percentage
Normal	19	15.8 %
Declining	84	70 %
Pessimistic	17	14.2 %
Total	120	100 %

The data of the above table indicate that most of the population perceives children and their parents in a low view, as their number reached (84) and by (70%), while the normal view reached (19) respondents and reached (15.8%), while the semi-pessimistic view reached (14, 2%) Hence, it appears that the population's view of children working in the streets is a low view compared to other children.

Table (10) shows the low level of the child in school

Answer	Occurrences	Percentage
Yes	105	87.5 %
No	15	12.5 %
Total	120	100 %

Table (11) shows the sexual exploitation of children

Answer	Occurrences	Percentage
Yes	53	44.2 %
No	67	55.8 %
Total	120	100 %

The data of the above table indicate that the percentage of children who are subjected to sexual exploitation is (53) out of the total, at a rate of (44.2%), while the percentage of those who have not been exposed to sexual exploitation is (55.8%). Thus, street children are vulnerable to exploitation before. This question was difficult to obtain an answer except after the urgency and building relationships with the head of the family and obtaining the confidential information they have.

Table (12) shows the most reasons that made children working

Answer	Occurrences	Percentage
Weak family control	13	12.9 %
Displacement and transmigration	28	27.7 %
Modern Communication Devices	6	5.9 %
Administrative and financial	21	20.8%

corruption		
All of them	33	32.7 %
Total	101	100 %

The data of the above table indicate that the highest percentage had answered that all those variables that pushed children to work in the streets amounted to (32.7%), while the percentage of those who answered that displacement and displacement prompted their children to work were (28) respondents and a percentage (27.7%), while the third respondents responded that administrative and financial corruption is the cause, and that (20.8%), while the weakness of family control reached (12.9%), and means of communication (5.9%). Thus, it appears that these variables are what may push children to beg and resort to the street.

Table (13) shows the suffered diseases of street children

Answer	Occurrences	Percentage
Physical injuries	15	12.5 %
Deformities of the spine	19	15.8 %
Psychiatric illness	22	18.3 %
Eyes illnesses	11	9.2 %
Typhoid	9	7.5 %
Persistent cough	21	17.5 %
Scabies	15	5.12 %
Exposure to chemicals and dust	8	6.7 %
Total	120	100 %

The data of the above table indicate that all children who work in the street are vulnerable to various diseases, but these diseases ranged between those who were injured, where the largest share was suffering from mental illnesses, reaching a rate of (18.3%), while the second sequence came to those who are exposed to continuous cough And by (17.5%), while the percentage of those who suffer from deformities in the spine reached (15.8%). With eye diseases, at a rate of (9.2%), while the percentage of those suffering from typhoid was at a rate of (7.5%), and finally those who were exposed to chemicals and dust reached a rate of (6.7%). From here it appears how dangerous the street is for children, as it was found that all children are exposed to various diseases

Table (14) shows deviant behaviors of children

Answer	Occurrences	Percentage
Smoking	35	29.2 %
Drug addiction	9	7.5 %
School dropout	41	34.2 %
Violence	21	17.5 %
Sexual Activity	7	5.8 %
Disobedience to parents	7	5.8 %
Total	120	100 %

The data of the above table indicate that the most children are exposed to some behaviors that are secreted by the street, including specifically school dropout, as most of the respondents indicated that children who work in the street suffer from school dropout at a rate of (34.2%), while indicated (29) 2%) that children are exposed to the risk of addiction to cigarette smoking, while a percentage (17.5%) indicated that their children are a result of working in the street and that they practice violence in their daily life. While (7.5%) indicated that children are susceptible to drug addiction, while all those who believe that children are practicing sexual behaviors, prostitution and parental disobedience, at a rate of (5.8%) for each of them.

Table (14) shows The effects left by the phenomenon of street children

Answer	Occurrences	Percentage
Social and Psychological Effects	15	12.5 %
Security and political implications	13	10.8 %
Economic effects	19	15.8 %
Health effects	11	9.2 %
Educational effects	18	15 %
All of them	44	36.7 %
Total	120	100 %

The data of the above table indicate that the phenomenon of street children has many negative effects that are reflected not only on individuals, but on the individual and society as a whole, as most of the respondents

indicated that this phenomenon has negative social, psychological, security, political, economic, health and educational effects, at a rate of (36.7%), while most of the respondents indicated that this phenomenon has negative social, psychological, security, political, economic, health and educational effects. It answered with (15%) that it has educational effects because of what it leaves on children in terms of school dropout, failure to complete school or excel in education, while (15.8%) indicated that it has economic effects due to the semi-impoverishment or the prevalence of poverty in society, while indicated (12.5%) that it has serious social and psychological effects on children, while indicated (10.8%) that it has security and political effects as a result of exposing children to the risk of joining armed groups, while indicated a rate of (9.2%). That this phenomenon has serious health effects on children and society.

Results and Recommendations

The study reached a set of results at all levels in its theoretical and field side, and the most important of these results are:

1. There are many challenges that street children face, which in turn lead to other dangers posed to children, such as (risks of drug addiction and smoking) and entry into the cycle of violence and terrorist groups.
2. Children who work in the street are exposed to many problems, which may be social (disobedience to parents and social deviance), economic, such as the inheritance of poverty, and psychological ones such as (love of violence) and entering into it, as well as some problems of sexual exploitation and exposure to abuse and various diseases.
3. The phenomenon of street children leaves various effects on the individual and society, whether they are social, psychological, economic, security, educational and health effects, and this would hinder the development process.
4. The study found that most child workers are male, at a rate of (69.2%), and they are from the age group between (5-16) years.
5. The study found that (87.5%) are individuals whose monthly income is not sufficient to meet their needs, which indicates that most of this group suffer from poverty.
6. It was found through the field study that most of the children go out to work in the street daily, at a rate of (72.5%), and practice their usual work.
7. The study found that society's perception of children who work in the street is low, at a rate of (70%) compared to ordinary children.
8. The study showed that the variables exposed to the Iraqi society as a whole and the Anbari society in particular have a great impact on reaching this phenomenon, including wars, occupation, displacement, forced displacement, and administrative and financial corruption in state institutions.

Recommendations

1. Providing various forms of social, health and educational care for the child at the family and social levels, and governmental support.
2. Creating an appropriate environment to protect childhood on the basis of ideal childhood ideas that other countries seek to achieve, which take into account the events and changes that take place in countries and take into account the change in customs, traditions and behavioral patterns.
3. Achieving comprehensive primary education for all individuals and seeking cooperation to integrate that important segment in the educational aspect to eliminate the problems arising from this.
4. The constant endeavor to provide a better life for children by reducing the manifestations of poverty and working on the development and care of childhood.
5. Striving for the recognition of the rights of the child and obtaining the necessary protection against all forms of persecution, sexual exploitation, or physical, psychological and emotional attacks that children are exposed to, whether actual or potential.
6. The children should have social security, as having the right to grow up and grow in health and wellness. Therefore, the necessary family care, adequate and appropriate food, as well as health care, sports and everything that childhood requires must be provided.
7. The children should have an appropriate time of leisure and enjoy it with what they need from a physical, spiritual and social point of view, and in natural conditions characterized by freedom and dignity, in order to advance the developmental reality of childhood.

References

1. Abrash, Ibrahim(2008). " Scientific Method and its Applications in the Social Sciences", Dar Al-Shorouk, Amman, p. 65.
2. Al-Abadi, Salam Abd Ali(2017). " Challenges of the Societal Environment of the Liberated Areas: Childhood Problems as a Model", published research, Journal of Social Studies, House of Wisdom, Baghdad: p.14.

3. Al-Anani, Hanan Abdul Hamid (2005). "Development of Social, Religious and Ethical Concepts in Early Childhood, Dar Al-Fikr for Publishing and Distribution, Amman: p. 12.
4. Al-Attar, Muhammad Mahmoud (2006). " Al-Dustour and Street Children, Riwaq Al-Arabi Magazine, Issue (38/39), P.153.
5. Al-Din, Taima Zuhair Kamal ,(2018). " Displacement and the Human Security of the Child", Master Thesis, University of Baghdad, College of Education for Girls. Iraq.
6. Al-Fadi, Muhammad " Child Soldiers Under International Humanitarian Law", University of Mohammed V, Rabat, Morocco, : P.30.
7. Al-Muhammadawi , Hassan Bawadi, (2005). "Children's Rights between Islamic Law and International Law", Dar Al-Fikr Al-Jami'i, Edition 1,; p. 49.
8. Al-Qaisi, Farida Jassim Hammoud (2012). " Violence in Iraq ", House and Library of Insights for Printing, Publishing and Distribution, Lebanon, Beirut,;p. 24.
9. Al-Tir, Mustafa Omar (1995). " Introduction to the Principles and Foundations of Sociology", Edition 3, The Open University, Tripoli, Libya: p. 51.
10. Al-Yaqoubi, Jalil Talib (2016). " Terrorism and its Confrontation in Iraq and Post-ISIS Scenarios", Dar Al-Jeel, Beirut, : p. 125.
11. Al-Zoghbi, Hemat (2013). "The Impact of the Nakba on the Status of Displaced" Women and the Status of Immigrant Women in Nazareth, Journal of Palestine Studies, Palestine, p.109.
12. Arab Network for Human Rights Information, Children Victims of Conflicts
13. Azza Ali Karim, (1997). "Children in Difficult Circumstances, Working Children and Street Children", Cairo, The National Council for Motherhood and Childhood: p. 18.
14. Dalal Malhas Estetah & Omar Musa Sarhan, (2012). "Social Problems", Wael Publishing and Distribution House, 1st Edition, Jordan, Amman, : p. 77.
15. Dalal Malhas Estetah & Omar Musa Sarhan, (2012). "The Social Issues", Wael Publishing and Distribution House, 1st Edition: p. 65.
16. Fahmy, Mohamed Sayed (2015). "Child Beggars", Modern University Office, 2nd floor, Alexandria.
17. Fahmy, Muhammad Sayed (2015). " Children between Danger and Addiction", National Library and Archives, second edition: p.30&93.
18. Fathy, Mamdouh Anis (2005). " The Emirates Where To, Orientalism, Challenges and Dangers Over 25 Years", Emirates Center for Studies and Media, Abu Dhabi: p. 15.
19. Ghanem, Muhammad Hassan "Psychosocial Problems", Printed According to Intellectual Property Laws, p. 100.
20. Human Development Report, United Nations Development Program, Beirut, 2004, p. 34.
21. Kanesh, Muhammad (2000). " The Arab World on a Hot Plate, A Study of the Educational Perspective of the Problem of Originality and Contemporary", The Book Center, Riyadh: p. 41.
22. Mariam & et al., (2018). " Children of War", Ending grave violations against children, London.
23. Ministry of Planning, Report (Background Papers of Poverty in Health), Baghdad, 2007, p. 3.
24. Monitoring the Status of Children and Women (Orphan Children Enrolling in School) in Iraq, The Initial Report of the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey in Iraq, UNICEF, in cooperation with the Ministry of Planning, Central Bureau of Statistics, 2007, pp. 32-33.
25. Muhammad, Rassol Mutlaq & Saad Maan Al-Mousawi, (2015). " Terrorists: Last Minute Confessions", 1st Edition, House of Books and Documents, Baghdad,; p.33
26. Robert Barker, Social work Dictionary, Washington, N.A.S.W., 4edition, 1991.
27. Salam, Farouk Abdel (1990). " The Phenomenon of Aggression among Children", Saudi Arabia, Al-Faisal Magazine, No. 156, January : p. 74.
28. Street children and the challenges facing the female child, a website (Hesasy. Blogspot.com)
29. The Armed Forces (www. Anhri, net, 2015)
30. The First National Conference to Activate the Role of Civil Society Institutions in Drafting Human Rights in the New Constitution, Working Paper, Baghdad, 2005, p. 49.
31. Zaidan, Fatima Shehata Ahmed (2004). " Child Center in Public International Law", University Services House for Printing, Alexandria, p. 44-45-47.