



Violence-Free Early Childhood Forum

PLENARY SESSION II : ISSUES ON PARENTING

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OUTLINE OF THE PRESENTATION

Child (Amendment) Act 2016

Statistics of Child Maltreatment

Case Scenario (Types of neglect)


Contributing factors to child neglect

Prevention of child neglect



RIGHTS OF THE CHILD – CARE ENVIRONMENT

7 care needs that need to be fulfilled:-

- Physically needs
 - Emotional Needs
 - Psychological needs
 - Cognitive needs
 - Social Needs
 - Moral needs
 - Spiritual Needs
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DEFINITION OF NEGLECT AND NEGLIENCE CHILD (AMENDMENT) ACT 2016

Meaning of child in need of care and protection

Section 17 (1)(c)

The parent or guardian of the child

(a) is unfit, or has neglected, or is unable, to exercise; or

(b) has **acted negligently** in exercising

proper supervision or control over the child

Section 17 (1)(d)

the parent or guardian of the child has neglected or is unwilling to provide for him adequate care, food, clothing and shelter

CHILD (AMENDMENT) ACT 2016

SECTION 30 (1)- FAMILY BASED CARE STATEMENT

If a Court For Children is satisfied that any child brought before it under section 19 or 25 is a child in need of care and protection, the Court For Children may after taking into consideration that it is desirable to place a child in FAMILY BASED CARE;

- (a) Order his parent or guardian to execute a bond to exercise proper care and guardianship for a period specified by the Court For Children;**
- b) Make an order placing the child in the custody of a fit and proper person for a period specified by the Court For Children;**
- c) In case of a child who has no parent or guardian or who has been abandoned make an order:-**
 - i) Placing the child in care, custody and control of foster parents found to be suitable by the Director General for of a period of 2 years from the date the child is placed in the care, custody and control of foster parents or until he attains the age of eighteen years, which is shorter and pending that, place the child in a place of safety or;**
 - ii) Placing the child in the care of a fit and proper person for a period of two years from the date of order or until he attains the age of eighteen years, whichever is shorter**
- ca) make an order placing the child in a centre for a period of three years from the date of the order or until he attains the age of eighteen years, whichever is the shorter;**
- d) make an order placing the child in a place of safety for a period of three years from the date of the order or until he attains the age of eighteen years, whichever is the shorter**

OFFENCES -SECTION 31(1)- CHILD (AMENDMENTS) ACT 2016

- (1) Any person who, being a person having the care of a child**
 - (a) abuses, neglects, abandons or exposes the child or act negligently in a manner likely to cause him physical or emotional injury or causes or permits him to be so abused, neglected, abandoned or exposed; or;**
 - (b) sexually abuses the child or causes or permits him to be so abused commits an offence and shall on conviction be liable to a fine not exceeding fifty thousand ringgit or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding twenty years or to both.**

- (2) The court shall, in addition to any punishment specified in subsection 1, order the person convicted of an offence under subsection**
 - (a) to execute a bond with sureties to be of good behavior for such period and on such conditions as the court thinks fit; and**
 - (b) to perform community service**

STATISTICS OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

TYPES OF ABUSE/ SEX	2016		2015		2014		2013		2012		2011		2010		TOTAL
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Physical Abuse	723	556	584	583	639	578	570	564	538	542	537	525	408	438	7,785
Sexual Abuse	55	964	57	921	60	924	64	1,029	55	908	35	789	66	871	6,798
Emotional Abuse	37	61	25	47	21	38	21	35	27	48	18	47	12	32	469
Neglect	934	1,290	862	1,039	726	1,033	627	866	570	890	559	712	446	804	11,358
Abandoned	68	75	91	104	62	64	83	92	44	68	61	53	61	54	980
Others	70	67	64	76	71	79	90	78	53	88	43	49	26	39	893
TOTAL	1,887	3,013	1683	2770	1579	2716	1455	2664	1287	2544	1253	2175	1019	2238	28,283

CASE REFERRAL	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	TOTAL
Teledera / "Call Centre 15999"	228	451	362	384	409	316	2150
Police	116	140	96	97	129	140	718
Private Medical Practitioner	16	39	39	29	49	23	195
Government Hospital	1847	1811	2138	2349	2,385	2,446	12976
Public	510	412	399	437	411	448	2617
Media	21	29	21	41	29	41	182
Social Welfare Offices	150	104	166	204	169	247	1040
School	67	66	57	115	71	73	449
Kindergarten/Child Care Centre	20	6	13	9	28	3	79
Family Members	164	249	318	335	378	404	1848
Others	118	121	222	119	237	312	1129

REPORTING OF CASES OF CHILD NEGLECT

Talian Kasih 15999/Childline/nearby District Welfare Offices

Section 28 – member of family to report cases of abuse and neglect, failure, a fine of RM5,000 or imprisonment not more 2 years or both

Section 29A - responsibility reporting of suspected abuse and neglect by any person to social welfare officers

Section 18- role of Assistant Protector to investigate, rescue and send children for medical examination of suspected cases of abuse and neglect



CASE 1 – CHILD NEGLECT

ITEM	EXPLANATION
Type of Case	Physical and emotional neglect – child age 8 years old
Court Order	Under Fit and Proper person with supervision of social worker
Case Background	4 children left in house without supervision
House Environment (Signs of neglect)	Unkept, no furniture, insufficient food , sleep without cloth on the floor. Intolerable condition in house since the child's mother left the house (illicit affairs). Father with an income RM700 per month. Income/working hours(irregular)
Relationship between child and parents/ Neighbours (signs of neglect)	Father seem not focusing on his children needs; children are mischievous; Father is bad role model; parents as no interaction with community; child sleep separately with parent; mother left house of quarrelling /spouse problem
Doctor diagnosis	Insufficient nutrition
Impact on Child Care Needs	Child deprives of emotional support (father working, mother missing; children has less understanding what is right and wrong; child physically deprived of proper nutrition
Contributing factors	Lack of moral commitment from father; elder child is task to hold responsibility in caring other siblings while his father goes out to work
Intervention	Regular / Spot check visit to monitor the development; supervision from religious bodies; attending LPPKN parenting workshop; support from

CASE 2 – CHILD

ITEM	EXPLANATION NEGLECT
Type of Case	Physical, medical and emotional and educational neglect – 2 children (age 4 and 5 years old)
Court Order	No court order was made
Case Background (signs of neglect)	Children are constantly left in the house without care of an adult, house door locked and left without food until the mother return; father doing business, mother in direct selling.
House Environment/ Physical appearance (signs of neglect)	Child is thin, unable to talk and worn loose and torn cloth. The younger sibling is unable to walk. Both parents confessed leaving the children for 2 hours (eldest son to school)
Relationship: child and parents	Father is aggressive and mother is subtle
Doctor diagnosis	Insufficient medical treatment for autism
Impact on Child Care Needs observed	Child physically deprived of sufficient food, insufficient medical treatment and delayed developmental (cognitive needs); lack of emotional support
Contributing factors	Superstitious belief of the child bring bad luck; preference to eldest son; shy on having an autistic child; father facing financial problem (bankrupt), parents have bad relationship with their relatives
Intervention	Arranging the schedule on assignment need to follow (spend quality time with children, praising the child with bring positive impact to child they important member in family; the need of committed carer love with condition, surprise visits; arrange

CASE 3 – CHILD NEGLECT

ITEM	EXPLANATION
Type of Case	Physical and Educational Neglect – Child (female) age: 10 years old)
Court Order	Fit and Proper Person
Case Background (signs of neglect)	Family has 8 children and some lives apart; live in flat (high risk); father is a drug addict; loving father; his second marriage; mother temperamental /dominant
House Environment (signs of neglect)	Dirty, untidy, smelly, living, rooms filled cloth, unwanted tyres and beg, sticky floor and kitchen is in a mess. Electricity is cut off; unpaid house rental; housing in high risk area
Relationship: child and parents, community (signs of neglect)	Siblings relation is good, father is soft person; mother doesn't have good relationship the neighbors / interaction by command/ high tone voice
Doctor diagnosis	Insufficient nutrient
Impact on Child Care Needs	Lack Cognitive development(not schooling), physical (insufficient food, dirty cloth, unhygienic,); lack emotional support (low esteem, bonding) socially expose to juvenile delinquent behavior; lack spiritual guidance; moral guidance what wrong/right/ rules
Contributing factors	Parents not responsible for cleanliness, and sleep all the time; wakes up late (12 o'clock noon); under the drug influence ; control environment dominant personality

SUMMARY OF CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

Family breakdown (father/mother missing, divorced/remarried)

Financial problems

Irregular job and working hours

Superstitious belief/unequal care, love or less attention

Moral commitment/ lack of religious guidance/role model

drug influence

Interaction between parents and child (rough, obscene which lead child affected emotional, scare, withdrawal of falling into bad association

Dominant personality

Self interest



PREVENTION CHILD NEGLECT

Implement and enforcement of law to protect children

Empower the family (quality child care, financial assistance, affordable health care)

Awareness for children and their parents regarding child rights and the issue of child neglect

Support services – counselling, parenting,

Build the teaching curriculum or module in school on child protection, safety (child rights/protection; child safety; legal literacy; child health)

Implement child protection and safety programmes in schools

Empower the teacher and community leaders to identify the potential cases of neglect

Implementation of programmes by NGOs and agencies high risk family

Intervention to reduce risk and increases resilience in care environment in prevent reoccurrence of neglect

CONCLUSION

As for the conclusion addressing the issue of child neglect, primary task to increase the awareness level of the community to recognize the seriousness of issue of child neglect. Through identify potential risk of child neglect in the family, various resources and support services should be rendered to strengthen the family and addressed child neglect. This can be done through streamlining various agencies, civil society organization and community on its available support services in assisting the family back to its normal functioning roles which is to provides care and protection for every child who live in the family.