Child Rights & Protection

B.Ed., Semester - II

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Tamil Nadu Teachers Education University

UNIT – 2

VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

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Various forms of Violence Against Children (VAC) and trends in Tamil Nadu

- Physical

- psychological,

- emotional,

- sexual exploitation and abuse,

- discrimination,

- neglect,

- denial and

- online abuse – Intersectionality –

- Factors leading to vulnerability of children in Tamil Nadu and root causes.

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Physical violence

Physical violence on children refers to the intentional use of physical force that causes harm or injury to a child. Unfortunately, physical violence against children remains a serious issue in many parts of the world, including Tamil Nadu. Here are some key aspects related to physical violence on children

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3 in 4 children aged **2-4 years,** experience. violent discipline by their caregivers on a regular basis; and around **6 in 10 are punished by physical means.**

1 out of 2 children aged **2–17 years** suffer some form of violence each year

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1.Forms of physical violence: hitting, slapping, kicking, punching, shaking, whipping, or any other act that inflicts bodily harm on a child

2. **Settings of physical violence:** Physical violence against children can occur within various settings, including the home, school, institutions, or in the community. It can be perpetrated by family members, caregivers, teachers, peers, or other individuals in positions of authority or trust.

3. **Consequences and impact:** Physical violence can have severe consequences for children. It can cause physical injuries, pain, and suffering, as well as emotional and psychological trauma. It can adversely affect a child's overall well-being, mental health, self-esteem, and social development.

4. **Factors contributing to physical violence:** Several factors can contribute to physical violence against children. These may include intergenerational patterns of violence, cultural beliefs that condone corporal punishment, inadequate parenting skills, stressors within the family, substance abuse, and societal tolerance of violence.[3]

5. **Legal and protective measures**: In many countries, including India, laws and regulations exist to protect children from physical violence. For example, in India, the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, prohibits corporal punishment and physical abuse of children

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Emotional abuse on children

Emotional abuse on children is a form of mistreatment that affects their emotional and psychological well-being.

1 out of 2 children aged **2–17 years** suffer some form of violence each year

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- **Constant criticism and humiliation**
- **Blaming and scapegoating**
- **Rejection and neglect**
- **Gaslighting**
- **Emotional withholding**
- **Threats and intimidation**

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Psychological Abuse

Psychological abuse on children refers to the emotional or mental mistreatment that can have severe and long-lasting effects on a child's well-being

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- **Verbal or emotional degradation**
- **Rejection and neglect.**
- **Constant criticism**
- **Isolation and confinement**
- **Manipulation and exploitation**
- **Terrorizing or threatening**
- **Withholding love and affection**

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Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

• Sexual exploitation and abuse of children is a deeply concerning and illegal act that involves using children for sexual purposes, which can cause significant harm to their physical, emotional, and psychological well-being.

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- **Child pornography**
- **Child sex trafficking**
- **Child prostitution**
- **Online exploitation**
- **Child sexual abuse**
- **Child sexual grooming**
- **Child sexual exploitation materials**

In **94.6 per cent** of cases of child sexual abuse, the **perpetrators were known** to child victims in one way or the other. **in 53.7 per cent of cases they were close family members or relatives/friends.**

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Spiritual abuse

Spiritual abuse occurs when a spiritual leader or someone in a position of spiritual power or authority (whether organisation, institution, temple, mosque, church or family) misuses their power or authority, and the trust placed in them, with the intention of controlling, coercing, manipulating or dominating a child.

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Discrimination

Discrimination against children occurs when they are treated unfairly or unequally based on certain characteristics such as their race, ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, socioeconomic status, or other protected attributes

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➢ **Caste based discrimination**

➢ **Gender discrimination**

➢ **Discrimination based on religion or belief:**

➢ **Discrimination against children with disabilities:**

➢ **Socioeconomic discrimination**

➢ **Discrimination within the family**

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Bullying

Bullying is repeated aggressive behavior that is used to intentionally hurt another person. It can be physical, verbal, social, or electronic

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Physical bullying

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Physical bullying involves hurting someone physically or damaging their property. This can include hitting, kicking, tripping, pinching, spitting, biting, shoving, stealing, or damaging belongings.

Verbal bullying

Verbal bullying involves using words to hurt someone emotionally. This can include name-calling, teasing, insults, threats, and humiliation. Verbal bullying can also be based on someone's race, religion, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, or disability.

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Cyberbullying

Cyberbullying is bullying that takes place online or through electronic devices. This can include sending mean text messages or emails, posting embarrassing photos or videos of someone online, or excluding someone from online groups. Cyberbullying can be especially harmful because it can follow someone everywhere they go online.

Online Abuse

- Grooming
- Sextortion
- Online harassment and bullying
- Distribution of child sexual abuse material
- Online child trafficking
- Online enticement
- Exposure to inappropriate content

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Juvenile Delinquency

The involvement of individuals under the age of 18 in criminal activities or behaviours that are considered antisocial or illegal. The legal framework for dealing with juvenile delinquency in India is outlined in the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015.

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- **Family Factors:**

- **Socioeconomic Factors**

- **Peer Influence:**

- **School Environment:**

- **Substance Abuse:**

- **Media Influence:**

- **Individual Factors:**
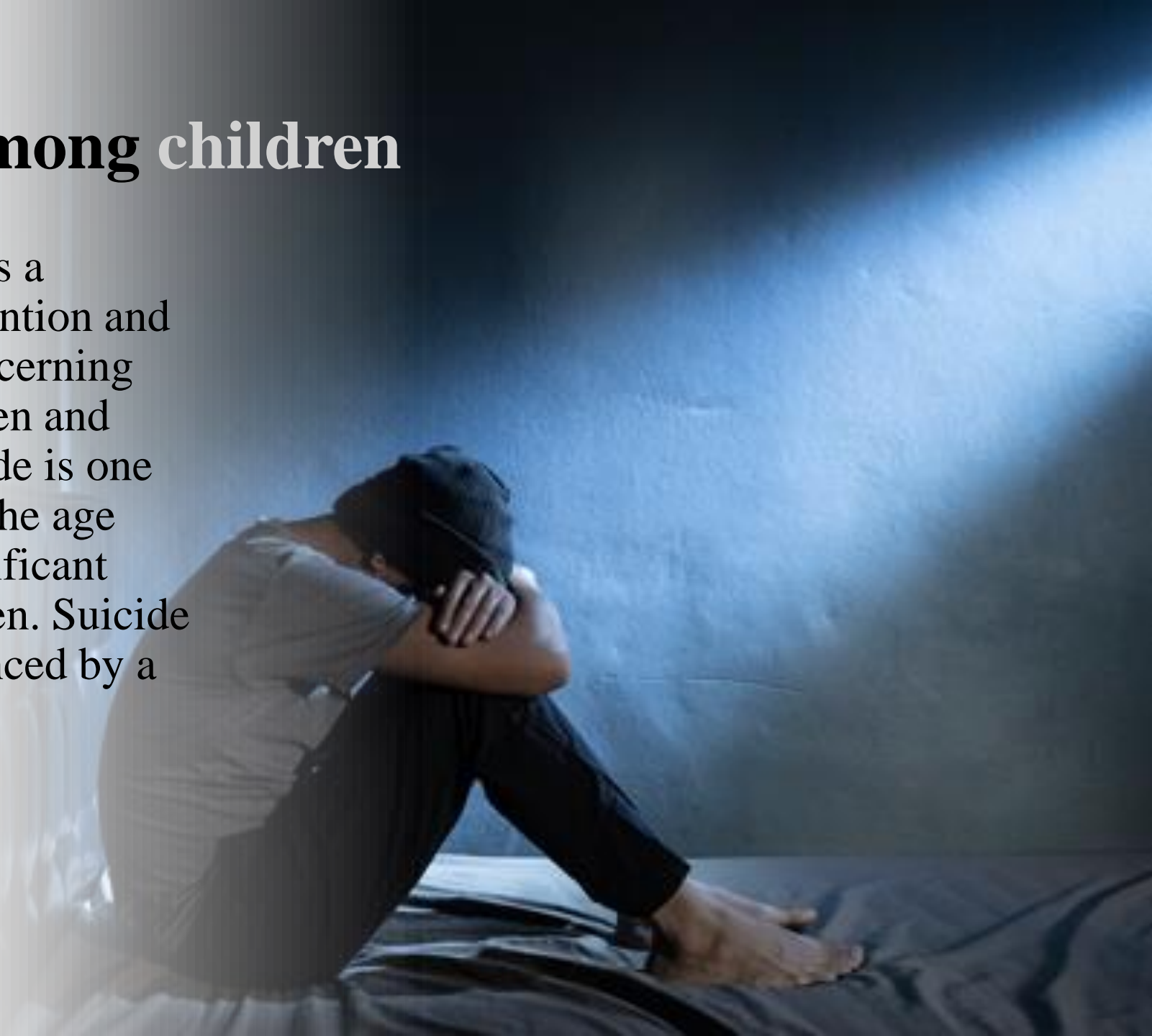
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Suicidal tendency among children

Suicide among children in India is a distressing issue that requires attention and intervention. India has seen a concerning rise in suicide rates among children and adolescents in recent years. Suicide is one of the leading causes of death in the age group of 15-29 years, with a significant number of cases involving children. Suicide is a complex phenomenon influenced by a combination of factors..

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- **Mental Health Issues**
- **Academic Pressure**
- **Bullying and Peer Pressure**
- **Relationship Issues**
- **Family Issues**
- **Socioeconomic Factors**
- **Cultural and Social Factors**
- **Media Influence:**

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Child Neglect

• Child neglect refers to a failure by caregivers to meet a child's basic needs for physical, emotional, educational, or medical care, resulting in harm or potential harm to the child's well-being. It can occur in various forms and can have serious consequences for a child's health and development.
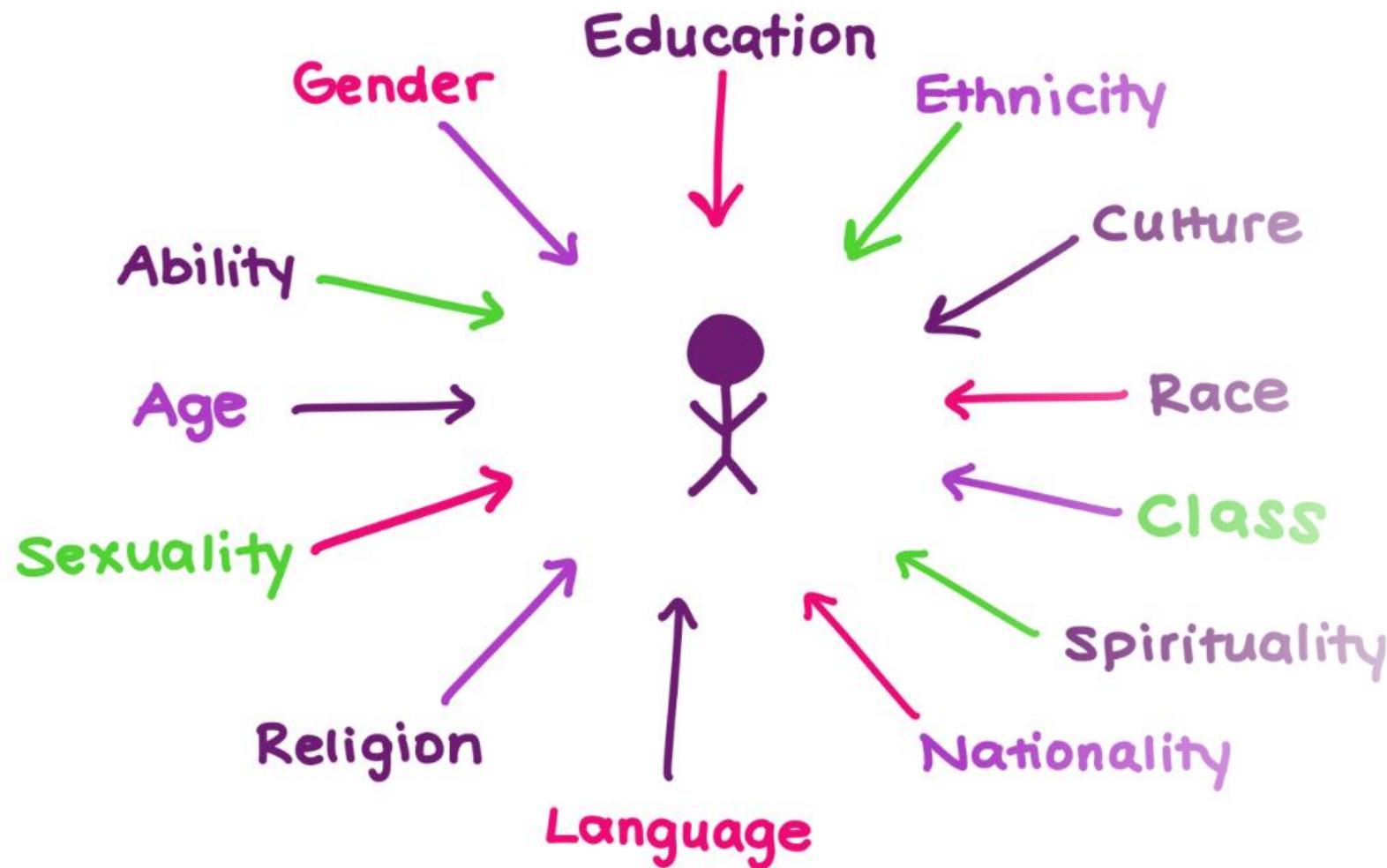
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- **Physical neglect**
- **Emotional neglect**
- **Medical neglect**
- **Educational neglect**
- **Supervisory neglect**

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Drug Dependency among Children

Drug dependency among children in India is a serious issue that has gained attention in recent years. Children in India are vulnerable to drug abuse and dependency due to various socio-economic factors. Several factors contribute to drug dependency among children in India. These include poverty, lack of education, unemployment, peer pressure, family dysfunction, exposure to violence and trauma, and easy availability of drugs in certain areas. Children may turn to drugs as a means of escape, coping with stress or emotional difficulties, or due to curiosity.

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- **Alcohol**
- **Tobacco**
- **Inhalants**
- **Cannabis**
- **Prescription Medications**
- **Stimulants**
- **Opioids**

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Intersectionality

Education

Gender

Ethnicity

Culture

Ability

Age

Race

Class

Sexuality

Spirituality

Religion

Nationality

Language

Intersectionality is a concept that was coined by legal scholar Kimberlé Crenshaw in 1989. It refers to the interconnected nature of social categories such as race, gender, class, sexuality, and other forms of identity, and how they overlap and intersect to shape an individual's experiences and social position. Intersectionality recognizes that individuals can simultaneously experience multiple forms of oppression and discrimination based on these intersecting identities.

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Consequences or impact of violence on children

Violence can have profound and long-lasting consequences on children, affecting their physical, emotional, cognitive, and social well-being. The impact of violence on children can vary depending on factors such as the severity, frequency, and duration of the violence, as well as the child's age, resilience, and support network. Here are some common consequences:

1.Physical health

2. Emotional and psychological effects

3. Behavioral problems

4. Cognitive and academic impact

5. Social difficulties

6. Long-term consequences

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Factors leading to vulnerability of children in Tamil Nadu and root causes

Children in Tamil Nadu, like children elsewhere, can face various vulnerabilities due to a range of factors. Here are some factors that can contribute to the vulnerability of children in Tamil Nadu, along with their root causes:

- Poverty
- Child labour
- Lack of Education
- Child Marriage
- Gender inequality and discrimination
- Trafficking and exploitation
- Child abuse and neglect

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1. What are the different types of violence against children occur in India?
What is psychological abuse? Explain in detail.
3. What is child abuse? Discuss the types of child abuse.
4. What are the types of discrimination faced by children in India?
5. What is online abuse?
6. Discuss the different types of online abuse.
7. Explain the impact of violence on children.
8. What is intersectionality?
9. Explain the factors leading to vulnerability of children in Tamil Nadu.
10. What is suicide? Explain the factors leading to suicide among children.

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