Treatment of Egyptian Drama to Child Abuse

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Child abuse is considered the priorities of those who are concerned with human rights. There are many children in Egypt who are affected by violence, abuse, and exploitation with many factors that worsen their situation. The reasons for the high rate of child abuse are the combination of profound social problems, like poverty, family dysfunctional, lack of awareness, low educational attainment, and lack of safety net of child care pre-school as well as health care. Due to studies, drama is considered one of the most important means of entertainment in various television dramas. Also, drama is a pattern of cultural creativity and source of consciousness formation at the individual and collectively level, through its impact on cognitive processes, feelings, and shaping people vision of life. This study aimed at monitoring the treatment of drama to child’s issues, in the light of increasing rates of children labor, begging, child displacement, harassment and other issues, and accordingly the consequences of child abuse. The treatment of films study sample to children street and the focus on their loss of the sense of society are seen to be their greatest enemy. The seriousness of this problem increases because the number of these children is increasing. This is the alarm because they will turn on society, especially as there is need to shed light on them to solve their problems and contain them. We have to deal with those children psychologically first and to be qualified to deal with the community that brought them to this degree.

Keywords: child abuse, drama, child sexual abuse, child domestic labor, content analysis

Introduction: Child Abuse and Violence

Violence against children is deeply rooted and institutionalized in traditional and religious practices as it remains unquestioned or hidden in shame. Hence, it is underreported in many cultures including Egypt (UN Secretary-General, 2006). Violence against children is a widespread phenomenon in Egypt (Hussein, 2017). Sexual harassment, female genital mutilation, child labor, child bootleg, and also domestic abuse are harmful practices in Egypt. The rights of parents and the community are often prioritized over children’s rights, given their relative weakness, especially in collectivist cultures (Hussein, 2017).

Child abuse is considered the priorities of those who are concerned with human rights. There are many children in Egypt who are affected by violence, abuse, and exploitation with many factors that worsen their situation. The reasons for the high rate of child abuse are the combination of profound social problems, like poverty, family dysfunctional, lack of awareness, low educational attainment, and lack of safety net of child care pre-school as well as health care. The effects differ, due to the circumstances of the abuse or neglect, as personal characteristics of the child or the child’s environment.

The impact of child abuse and neglect is often discussed in terms of physical, psychological, behavioral,
and societal consequences, or in some combination of all these ways. Physical consequences, such as damage to a child’s growing brain can have psychological implications, such as cognitive delays or emotional difficulties. Psychological problems often manifest as high-risk behaviors. Depression and anxiety, for example, may make a person more likely to smoke, abuse alcohol, or drugs, or can lead to long-term physical health problems, such as cancer and obesity. Consequences may be mild or severe, and disappear after a short period or last a lifetime (Child Welfare Information Gateway, 2013).

In Italy, a dramatic change is needed with reference to the policies on child abuse: It is what scholars argue as well as the international sources have been claiming for a long time, inviting all the nations to invest in strategies of analysis, prevention, and monitoring of the phenomenon (Boiardo & Uniti, 2015).

Child neglect and other forms of maltreatment are more common in families living in poverty and among parents who are teenagers or who abuse drugs or alcohol. More children are abused by a caregiver, or someone they know, they abused outside of the home by a stranger (HealthyChildren.org, 2018).

Parents tend to overlook signs and symptoms of abuse, because they do not want to face the truth. This is a serious mistake. A child who has been abused needs special support and treatment as early as possible. The longer he/she continues to be abused or is left to deal with the situation on his/her own, the harder it is for children to be able to heal and develop optimally physically and mentally (HealthyChildren.org, 2018).

Due to studies, drama is considered one of the most important means of entertainment in various television dramas. Also, drama is a pattern of cultural creativity and source of consciousness formation at the individual and collectively level, through its impact on cognitive processes, feelings, and shaping people vision of life.

This study aimed at monitoring the treatment of drama to child’s issues, in the light of increasing rates of children labor, begging, child displacement, harassment and other issues, and accordingly the consequences of child abuse. There is a significant body of continuous research on the consequences of child abuse and neglect.

**Consequences of Child Abuse**

**Physical Abuse**

Any injury to the child is not caused by an accident, and may include bruises, scratches, the effects of beatings or punches of the body, strangulation, biting, exhaustion, violent grabbing, tightening of hair, discoloration, spitting, bone fractures, incineration, or injury (internal or even injury leading to death) (ElGalby, 2003).

**Psychological of Child Abuse**

It is a continuous behavioral pattern characterized by the withdrawal of the abuser from the natural emotional relationship with the child, which needs to develop his/her personality, includes verbal abuse, and may be in the form of the use of methods of punishment, including the strange imprisonment of the child in a bathroom or dark room, linked to the furniture of the house, the threat of torture, the use of the words of the hypocrite of his/her position, or to taunt, curse, and insult him/her (Jahshan & ElHadidi, 2004).

Besides, victims of child sexual abuse (CSA) have a range of abnormal behaviors that vary depending upon their age. Preschool children who have been subject to sexual abuse tend to be unsociable rather than aggressive behavior, while, by school age, victims may engage in aggressive or inappropriate sexual behavior, combined with a depressive mood and low educational attainment. Adolescent victims of CSA may suffer multiple psychiatric and social disorders (Alsehaimi, 2016).
It is evident, however, that maltreated persons are at higher risk of substance abuse, eating disorders, depression, anxiety, suicidal thoughts, and psychosis (Hussein, 2017).

Devlin (2005) argued that media discourse about adolescence is inherently ideological, constructing unequal power relations and tensions between problematic young people and the medical, psychological, and therapeutic professions.

According to Good Morning America, self-injury is a secretive world that a huge segment of teens…are sadly well aware of, and parents may just be in the dark (disturbing scenes). Self-injurers, the Telegraph Herald of Dubuque, Iowa reports, “have only recently begun to step out from the shadows of society. The light has begun to touch the various forms of self-injury…” (Bareiss, 2013).

The analysis of 68 studies by psychologists at the University of Manchester and University of South Wales revealed that suicide attempts were:

- Three times more likely for people who experienced sexual abuse as a child;
- Two and a half times more likely for people who experienced physical abuse as a child;
- Two and a half times more likely for people who experienced emotional abuse or neglect as a child.

Also from the research published in Psychological Medicine today, children who experienced multiple abuses are as much as five times higher to attempt suicide (Panagioti & Angelakis, 2019).

**Negligence**

It is the absence of behavior that should be in response to construction needs. The parents do not harm the child physically or verbally, but do not meet his/her needs, neglect his/her feelings, goals, and needs, and take the form of abandonment, such as neglect of food, lack of warmth, lack of appropriate clothing, unhealthy household conditions, lack of protection from the dangers, and lack of appropriate supervision of his/her age and failure to sponsor (ElMsahar, 2007).

**Definition of Child Sexual Abuse (CSA)**

CSA involves the exploitation of a child for the sexual gratification of an adult (Alsehaimi, 2016) as exposing a child to any adult sexual activity or behavior, including oral sexual contact, touching, harassing, or penetration of the child by genitals, any body part, or instrument, as well as verbal sexual harassment. It also includes exploitation of the child in prostitution, pornography, and exploitation through communication tools for sexual purposes (Alsehaimi, 2016).

**Literature Review**

The purpose of Elsaieda and Alsehly’s (2017) study was to assess risk factors of child physical abuse among school-aged children in the child’s background and family characteristics and to estimate its psychiatric sequelae. The study was conducted in Maternity and Children Hospital, Al Medina (Al Monawara), Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on school-aged children referred from the committee protection program from September 2012 to April 2015, using such some psychometric tests, such as the child maltreatment questionnaire and the mini international neuropsychiatric interview for children and adolescents. Out of 186 students (age range between 12 and 16 years old, 49.4%) were the youngest children, 58% were boys, 94% had good health, 70% were from large-sized families, 51% of whose mothers, and 54% of fathers were illiterate, and all these variables showed a significant difference in both mild/moderate and severe child abuse. There were significant associations among physical abuse and low self-esteem, major depressive episode, conduct disorder, anxiety
withdrawal, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, and socialized aggression, mainly with severe physical abuse.

The study of Hussein (2017) used to investigate the issue of violence against children in relation to education and to explore ways to develop child protection policies and procedures with education professionals from British private schools in the Egyptian context. The author conducted a descriptive analysis of the data, qualitative analysis, field notes, and reflective questionnaire. A response had been received from 60 consenting educators of 50 such schools, 44 of which offered British curricula. Findings showed that there is a substantial lack in child protection policies and practices. The results indicated that the dominant thinking focuses on child disciplining and educator authority; and this reflected, in the limited scope of educator training, to know how to deal with child abuse. Child protection requires trust-building efforts, reflective practice on underlying assumptions (e.g., regarding authority, confidentiality, and sexuality), the establishment of preventive criteria and responsive mechanisms, as well as increased child participation and empowerment, staff accountability, and monitoring.

While Khadiga Abdellatif Alsharif’s (2017) study related to violence against children in Egypt found that in 2014, 93% of children between the ages of 0-14 years were subject to some form of violent discipline. While Egyptian law protects children from abuse, in practice, it is challenging for social workers and other child protection practitioners to intervene. There is a lack of protocols for home visitation and family intervention, and there are no standardized procedures for assessing parenting practices and determining the safety of children’s homes. The Home Observation for Measurement of the Environment (HOME) Inventory is a tool that has been adopted internationally and is successfully used to identify what support parents of children might need and what services could be most useful in helping them to create healthier home environments and better relationships with their children. The Infant/Toddler HOME (IT-HOME) version of the tool that addresses children aged 0-3 was adapted for use in Egypt through translating it into Arabic and culturally adapting it to the Egyptian culture and context by child protection experts during an Expert Panel. Social workers were trained on the implementation of the tool and conducted 42 home visits to pilot test the tool, with an interrater reliability of 79% agreement. Social workers responded positively and reported that the tool helped them recognize families at risk, assess the children’s needs, and identify the necessary interventions that are appropriate for the families. The IT-HOME appears to be a promising tool that was readily accepted by both social workers and families, so with further training, it could be used in Egypt as a standardized home visitation tool.

Thangavelu (2016) assessed a descriptive study to measure the level of knowledge regarding child abuse among the mothers in selected areas at Latur. The assumption of the study is to evidence a significance association between socio demographic variables and awareness of child abuse. The researcher used a non-experimental approach to find out mothers’ awareness about child abuse by conducting closed-ended questionnaires in selected areas around the Arvi village at Latur. A sample of 20 mothers who met the inclusion criteria was selected by using a structured questionnaire to collect the information via interview.

The results assessed the knowledge level of mothers regarding child abuse and it is found that three mothers (15%) had inadequate knowledge and 17 mothers (85%) had moderately knowledge regarding child abuse.

A systematic reviews study was conducted by Alsehaimi (2016) regarding child sexual abuse in Saudi Arabia from the period 1990-2015. The author had pointed to a change in attitude toward CSA and a growing realization that intervention and child protection measures needs to be strengthened in this area. Further studies
are needed to tackle the problem and establish the magnitude and extent of the sexual abuse phenomenon in Saudi Arabia. Accordingly, it will be possible to develop an effective strategy to counter and prevent it.

Besides, Ahmed (2016) had studied the Egyptian juvenile justice system, both in terms of its regulating law as well as its application, in light of global instruments and international requirements for the establishment of a comprehensive and rehabilitative juvenile justice system. The research is considered a qualitative study and uses observation and interviews with stakeholders involved in the administration of the juvenile justice system in Egypt. It offers a conceptual framework that builds on the internationally pronounced United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child’s 2007 core elements of a comprehensive policy of juvenile justice as well as a set of parameters informed by the 2006 UNICEF and UNODC measurement of the juvenile justice and the 2008 violence against children in conflict with the law indicators. The research argues that while the Egyptian Child Law (2008) that regulates the juvenile justice system largely complies with the core elements of a sound and just juvenile justice system, its application does not necessarily reflect the same level of compliance. Indeed, different official documents promote the establishment of a rehabilitative system.

Abdel Meguid (2015) studied that problem was identified in monitoring and analyzing the treatment of the childhood issues with the beginning of the second decade of childhood (2000-2010), and activating the Egyptian Child Act No.126 of 2008, especially in light of the increasing rates of child labor, begging, child displacement, harassment, and other issues. This study belongs to descriptive studies. Based on the media survey methodology, it applied on a sample of 88 films in which the roles of the Egyptian child were played as major roles and secondary roles in order to monitor the treatment of Egyptian cinematic films of children’s issues. The researcher also applied a field study with children’s specialists using the in-depth interview method. The results indicated that some issues have not received any attention at the level of both specialists and movies, especially issues related to the girl child, such as: The issue of female genital mutilation, early marriage, and the employment of girls in homes despite the call for women’s freedom, and that they have taken many of their rights but there is social acceptance of violence and abuse of girls, whether in the family, community, or school. Also, child neglect issues include rural private child labor in the fields and farms, which exposes children to many risks due to exploitation in the agriculture sector. These issues need to be highlighted by the media more in a serious attempt to resolve these issues or awareness campaigns to eliminate them.

Boiardo and Uniti’s (2015) study was concerned to show the evident the type of child abuse. The survey has covered a census of 2.4 million children—with residence in Italy—constituting the 25% of the total Italian children population. A survey sheet was sent to the Social Services of the Municipalities, requesting data regarding birth, age, gender, and kinds of abuse suffered. With regard to the types of abuse, the survey highlights that more than half of the abused children suffers a deep neglect, including inappropriate child care practices. Domestic violence is considered the second most common type of abuse among those children: About one out of five abused children is a witness of domestic violence.

Emotional abuse exceeds physical abuse of more than a third (11.5% as opposed to 7.7%). The least occurring type is sexual abuse, affecting less than five out of 100 abused children.

As for the protection services taken on by the social services, we find that each child has access to an average of two of them. Most frequently are economic support to the family (28%), hospitality in residential care centers (19.3%), home visiting (18%), fostering (14.4%), and day care centres for children (10.2%). Among the “others”, we can find different measures taken, such as educational support, counseling, and occasional psychological support.
Barbara Barnett’s (2015) analysis explored how journalists frame maternal infanticide by examining the texts of newspaper article about mothers who murder their children. Past studies have analyzed media coverage infanticide in specific countries, but this study sought to expand our understanding of media representations by examining maternal infanticide from a global perspective. Results from this qualitative textual analysis showed news reports typical present infanticide as an isolated event, failing to provide any background or context on cultural factors (stigma against teen pregnancy, lack of information on postpartum illness). This analysis suggests that journalists might offer information about where mothers can get help—crisis lines, adoption information, abortion information, and “safe havens”.

Maia and Cala’s (2013) study focuses on child domestic labor in Belem (Para, Brazil) as a case study where the International Labor Organization (ILO) has implanted a pilot program for combating child work. The purpose of the study to investigate the analysis of the coverage of the topic child domestic labor in the main printed newspapers in the state of Pará—O Liberal and Diário do Pará, during the first five years of the PETID, from 1 January 2000 to 31 December 2004.

The study conducted focus groups with women that had been domestic workers in their childhood—Three groups were recruited from poor neighborhoods in Belém (Bengu, Tapanã, and Telegrafo), the city in which the PETID was implemented. Each group consisted of five participants; the focus groups were carried out during July and August 2006. The results showed that media professionals acted as agents of advocacy jointly with NGOs and local, nationwide, and international social movements that speak for and act in the name of children and adolescents. Journalists chose spokespersons of civic organizations that fight against child labor as their main source in news stories and employed their preferred frames to contest the invisibility of child domestic labor and to show the different types of injustice present therein. Based on Honneth’s distinction between “ideological” and “justified” forms of recognition, it argues that some oppressive practices may be experienced as reinforcing one’s own positive image, enlarging rather than restricting personal autonomy.

The aim of Warren Bareiss’s (2013) study was to analyze 78 news accounts of self-injury among adolescents in the United States from 2007 to 2012, using critical cultural studies as a theoretical foundation and a methodology informed by Kenneth Burke’s pentad. The study pays particular attention to how discourses of danger, fear, and control interrelate within the discursive construction of adolescence. Four patterns were revealed in the data: (1) Adolescents’ bodies are presented as sites of ideological deviance; (2) young people are seen as victims of media that reach youth directly and indirectly through alternative communal structures; (3) preferred communal norms can be re-established through the cooperation of professionals, parents, and former self-injurers; and (4) while causes of self-injury are linked to abuse of young people by adults, the burden of resolving the problem is most often placed upon the individual self-injurer.

The study of Nayef Al-Shboul (2010) aimed at identifying the role of satellite channels in promoting violence among high basic stage students in the schools of Irbid First Directorate of Education first semester 2005/2006. A questionnaire was conducted on a sample of 526 male and female students chosen randomly. The results revealed that there were many factors that affect the high basic stage students causing violence and aggressive behavior. Also, there were many variables that affect the aggressive behavior of the child. Some of their parents have tendency to dealing with their children as well as offering them with facilities. The researcher recommended the necessity of limiting the time of watching TV for children, sharing in watching TV programs, and finally choosing suitable programs suitable for their children.
The target of ElMsahar’s (2007) study was to explain the relationship between perceived patterns of abuse and symptoms of depression. The late adolescence and early adulthood, as a result of the psychological effects of abuse, as well as the relationship between perceived patterns of abuse and the economic, social, and educational factors of the family, may have played an important role in abuse within the family. The methodology used in this study is the descriptive approach. A questionnaire was distributed to simple random sample of 300 female students at K College of Education, King Saudi University from different range of age from 18 to 22 years old. The study reached the following results showing that there is a difference in the prevalence of perceived abuse of students of the stage university in childhood depending on the different patterns of abuse, where the highest proportion in prevalence is the rate of psychological abuse (58%), followed by physical abuse (25%), and then by neglect (17%); there is no differences in exposure to childhood abuse for the difference in the educational level of the father and the mother’s: mother, literacy, primary, intermediate, secondary, university, graduate qualifications (higher diploma, master, and Ph.D.).

J. Q. Chen and D. G. Chen (2005) conducted a research to understand parents’ awareness about CSA prevention and to provide a basis for designing a CSA prevention programme in schools and the community. A cross-sectional study was undertaken among parents of primary school pupils in Fuxin during September 2003. The questionnaire had been conducted on 385 respondents who were pupils’ parents (115 fathers, 29.9% and 270 mothers, 70.1%). Seventy-nine percent of respondents knew that the sexually abused child was not to blame and that boys can also be sexually abused (78.7%); 89.8% of the parents supported school CSA prevention education; 87.3% were willing to let their children acquire some CSA prevention knowledge in school; 59.0% few respondents had told their children that their private parts (parts covered by a swimsuit/bathing suit) should not be touched by others; that if someone wants to see or touch your private parts, you should definitely say “No” and leave at once (60.3%); and that if sexual abuse happens, parents or other trustworthy adults should be told (54.3%). Parents were also asked whether they had provided books or audiovisual materials about CSA prevention for their children; only 4.2% of them reported that they had done so.

Methodology

Research Problem

The study is concerned with the treatment of drama to child abuse including neglect, physical abuse, sexual abuse, exploitation and emotional abuse, and child labour within the activation of the amended Egyptian Law No.126 for 2008.

The Importance of the Study

The study is conducted with children’s issues in Egyptian society treated by drama, which can contribute to solve children’s problems and motivate the authorities concerned with their issues to do their role to fulfill the principle of partnership of the responsibility of dealing with children’s issues as well as to contribute to strengthening the role of Egyptian drama to focus on these issues. Also, to link between dramas as an art has its own mass audience and its role to serve an important sector which is children.

The Aim

The study aims at:
1. Identifying the feature of the Egyptian drama in treating the children’s issues.
2. Exploring the issues of children discussed in drama.
3. Using the drama to find solutions of children’s issues that had been discussed.
4. Engaging drama in the future in the presentation of children’s issues.
5. Drawing the attention of the concerned authorities to the children’s issues to contribute in solving it.

Research Questions
1. What kinds of children’s issues are presented in the Egyptian drama sample of study?
2. How did drama sample of study address the issues of the Egyptian child?
3. What are the demographic characteristics (gender, age, educational and economic level, size of the child’s family, and child environment) for children in Egyptian drama sample of the study?
4. How satisfied is the child with the circumstances or issue he or she is going through in the drama?

Research Methodology, Data Analysis, Findings, and Conclusion

Research design and methodology. This study sought to examine the content of 10 Egyptian films that were produced representing the children abuse and violence exploring & recognizing different issues, such as child labor, child bootleg, sexual harassment, female genital mutilation, and also domestic abuse as harmful practices in Egypt. The films are as follows:

1. Film “Halwet Rouh” (The Sweetness of Rouh), 2014.
2. Film “Badal Faked” (Replacement of Loss), 2009.
3. Film “Ibrahim ElAbid”, 2009
4. Film “Al-Saffah” (The Ripper), 2009
5. Film “ELGhaba” (The Forest), 2008
6. Film “Hena Maysara” (Until Things Get Better), 2007
7. Film “Bahab ELCima” (I Love Cinema), 2004.
8. Film “Tito”, 2004
9. Film “ElGarage” (The Garage), 1995
10. Film “ElAfariet” (The Orcs), 1990.

Research categories. The heart of any content analysis is the category system used to classify media content. The major categories of this study are the characteristics of the film, character categories, and the plot of the film category. Each major category includes appropriate subcategories as discussed below.

• The unit analysis is “The Film”.
• Tool of gathering data: Designing a content analysis questionnaire determined with exhaustive and exclusive categories.

The unit and categories analysis are as follows:

• Unit analysis: (1) measurement unit: the theme in film; and (2) time unit: minutes as it is the unit to count time of the film duration.
• The format categories consist of:
  (1) The characteristics of the film include the film name, date of production, name of production company, source of the story, scriptwriter, dialogue, and director;
  (2) The genre of the film (romance, tragedy, melodrama, action, and comedy)
• The character categories:
  (1) The type of character include: main, pivotal, secondary, marginal, incidental, and other.
(2) The physical dimension (gender, age, and outlook).
(3) The sociological dimension (sector/level/category, profession, and hobbies).
(4) Education (illiterate, reads, & writes, diploma, university, and not clear)
(5) Standard of living: The house where the main character live (average, a housing of cartoon and tin, a collection of buildings without a license, randomly buildings without government permission, marginalized housing on the borders of the provinces and cities, housing with no services, like electricity, water, and sanitation).

Psychological dimension (ethical standards, personal objectives, his/her failures, orientation, skills, way of thinking & judge, psychological problems, and the image of the main character in the film).
- The content categories:
  (1) The plot:
    a. The type of the issue (social, political, security, economic, all, and other);
    b. The method of film treatment (presenting the issue, presenting the reasons of the issue, presenting the aspects of the issue, analyzing the reasons of the issue, presenting results, display solutions, open end, and other);
    c. The time of treatment of the phenomenon;
    d. The mainstream of treatment to the issue (presents the issue, present the issue with solution, and presents the issue without solution);
    e. The conflict in the film;
    f. The symbol in the film;
    g. The denouement of the film (the final determination of the character).
  (2) Coding reliability:
    To establish a strong, reliable coding, two coders (graduated from Faculty of Mass Communication) who were trained in the use of the category scheme and coded the viewed material that has been given in this study that fall in the above mentioned categories.
  (3) Validity:
    For the validity purpose, the researcher found that the previously mentioned categories matched the specific research questions that were considered in this study. These categories were measured according to the research questions.
    It should be noted that in relation to the research design and methodology.

**Synopsis of the Film Study Sample**

*Halwet Rouh (The Sweetness of Rouh, 2014)*

The story is taking place in a popular area where Rouh, the main character (Haifaa Wahbi, the actress), has got married to Tawfik, the invisible character who has traveled to Iraq and left Rouh to take care of his mother who has asthma crisis. Rouh is the beautiful woman of the alley and she has been exposed to the greedy of the youth and men of the alley, especially Talat (Mohamed Lotfy, the actor and the trader of cars’ spare parts who wants to have Rouh by any means). Talat has asked the pimp, Arafat ElSiryakosi (Bassem ElSamra, the actor), to help him to have Rouh.
Badal Faked (Replacement of Loss, 2009)

The film revolves around a twin whose days were different. Each grew up in a different environment. One was adopted by a dancer and grew up in nightclubs. The other was adopted by a high-class family. The first Nabil, son of the belly dancer (Ahmed Ezz, the actor), became addicted to drugs and the second Fares who has been raised by a high-class family (Ahmed Ezz, the actor) was a police officer.

Ibrahim ElAbid (2009)

A young child ElAbid or Ibrahim White (Ahmed ElSakka, the actor) witnesses the murder of his parents by a large gang involved in drug trafficking. Time passes and the child grows, but so does his thirst for vengeance as the image of his father’s death did not depart from his eyes.

Al-Saffah (The Ripper, 2009)

The film is a simulator of the famous criminal of “The Assassin of Mohandeseen” (area in Egypt) who committed several crimes and raised public opinion to be arrested and sentenced to death.

ELGhaba (The Forest, 2008)

The film revolves around a group of street children who are different in their ages and live in ruins. They have different ways of getting money, such as digging garbage, stealing, and distributing drugs and prostitution.

Hena Maysara (Until Things Get Better, 2007)

The film discusses the issue of street children and the socially marginalized class, which is under the pressure of economic conditions through residential slums.

Bahb ElCima (I Love Cinema, 2004)

Adly (Mahmoud Hemida, the actor) is a Christian employee and a fanatic father, even religious in his relationship with his wife Nemat (Laila Elwie, the actress) and his children Naim (Youssef Osman, the child) and Naima, who treats them very harshly.

Tito (2004)

After years, Tito (Ahmed El Sakka, the actor) has spent in the reformist as he was juvenile after killing a police secretary, Tito is engaged in dirty operations for the corrupt police officer Rifaat al-Sukkar (Khaled Saleh, the actor).

ElGarage (The Garage, 1995)

The movie is an Egyptian drama starring Naima (Najla Fathi, the actress) gatekeeper at a building; Abdallah (Farouk al-Fishawi, the actor) is helping Naima at ElGarage, Zainham Sayed Zian. She is also the mother of seven children.

ElAfariet (The Orcs, 1990)

The head of the child trafficking gangs kidnapped a baby girl from her mother, Mamma Karima, the famous television presenter, in retaliation for the father of the girl who killed Shamandi’s brother during a chase for a drug shipment after the girl’s father was killed.

Characteristics of Films Study Sample

The following Table 1 shows the characteristics of the films study sample:
Table 1

Characteristics of the Film Study Sample

| Film name                  | Date of prod. | Production company                  | Author       | Scriptwriter & dialogue | Director                          | Dur./min |
|----------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Halwet Rouh (The Sweetness of Rouh) | 2014          | Sobky for Cinema Production        | Aly ElGendy  | Aly ElGendy             | Sameh AbdelAziz                   | 101      |
| Badal Faked (Replacement of Loss)    | 2009          | Hassan Abdallah, Loay Abdallah, and Wael Abdallah | Mohamed Diab | Mohamed Diab            | Ahmed Alaa ElDeeb                 | 150      |
| Al-Saffah (The Ripper)         | 2009          | Melody Pictures                     | Khaled Okashaa | Khaled ElSawy, directed by Saad Hendawy | Hani Salameh and Nicole Saba       | 108      |
| Ibrahim ElAbid                | 2009          | Good News Group Film & Production  | Abbas Abou ElHassan | Abbas Abou ElHassan   | Marwan Hamed                      | 126      |
| The Forest                   | 2008          | Egypt Film                          | Nasser Abdel Rahman | Ahmed Atef            | Ahmed Atef                        | 126      |
| Hena Maysara (Until Things Get Better) | 2007          | ElBatrous for Cinema Production, Khaled Youssef & Nasser Abdurahman | Khaled Youssef & Nasser Abdurahman | Khaled Youssef | 125 |
| Tito                        | 2004          | Tarek El Aryan                      | Tarek El Aryan | Mohamed Hefzy           | Tarek El Aryan                    | 120      |
| Bahb ElCima (I Love Cinema)   | 2004          | Hany Girgis Fawzi                   | Hany Girgis  | Hany Girgis             | Oussama Fawzi                     | 130      |
| ElGarage (The Garage)         | 1995          | Wassaf Fayez                        | Mahmoud Salah | Alaa Karim             | Alaa Karim                        | 110      |
| The Orcs                     | 1990          | Screen 2000                         | Magda Khair Allah | Magda Khair Allah   | Hossam El Din Mostafa             | 120      |

Table 1 indicates the characteristics of the study sample as follows:

- Halwet Rouh (The Sweetness of Rouh), produced by private sector Sobky for Cinema Production, displayed in Egypt dated 3rd April 2014. The story, script, and dialogue written by Aly ElGendy, directed by Sameh AbdelAziz. The duration of the film is 101 minutes.
- Badal Faked (Replacement of Loss), produced by private sector Hassan Abdallah, Loay Abdallah, and Wael Abdallah, displayed in Egypt dated 2009. The story, script, and dialogue written by Mohamed Diab, directed by Ahmed Alaa ElDeeb. The duration of the film is 150 minutes.
- Al-Saffah (The Ripper), an Egyptian thriller produced in 2009, starring Hani Salameh and Nicole Saba, produced by private Melody Pictures, displayed in Egypt dated 1st July 2009. The story written by Khaled Okashaa, scriptwriter and dialogue Khaled ElSawy, directed by Saad Hendawy. The duration of the film is 108 minutes. It is considered an action film concerned with crime.
- Ibrahim ElAbid (2009), produced by private sector Good News Group Film & Production, displayed in Egypt dated 14th May 2014. The story, script, and dialogue written by Abbas Abou ElHassan, directed by Marwan Hamed. The duration of the film is 126 minutes. It is considered action film about crime.
- The Forest, an Egyptian realism film produced in 2008, produced by private sector Egypt Film, displayed in Egypt dated 28th May 2008. The story written by Nasser Abdel Rahman, script and dialogue written by Ahmed Atef, directed by Ahmed Atef. The duration of the film is 126 minutes.
- Hena Maysara (Until Things Get Better), produced by private sector ElBatrous for Cinema Production, displayed in Egypt dated 17th December 2007. The story, script, and dialogue written by Khaled Youssef and Nasser Abdurahman, directed by Khaled Youssef. The duration of the film is 125 minutes.
• Tito produced by private sector Tarek El Aryan, displayed in Egypt 2004. The story written by Tarek ElAryan, script and dialogue written by Mohamed Hefzy, directed by Tarek ElAryan. The duration of the film is 120 minutes.
• Bahb ElCima (I Love Cinema), released 9th June 2004 produced by private sector Hany Girgis Fawzi. The story screenplay written by Hany Girgis, directed by Oussama Fawzi. The duration of the film is 130 minutes.
• ElGarage (The Garage), released 11th December 1995 produced by private sector Wassef Fayez. The story written by Mahmoud Salah, screenplay and dialogue written by Alaa Karim, directed by Alaa Karim. The duration of the film is 110 minutes.
• The Orcs a film released 1990 produced by private sector Screen 2000. The story, screenplay and dialogue written by Magda Khair Allah, directed by Hossam El Din Mostafa. The duration of the film is 120 minutes.

The Type of Child Abuse

Figure 1 shows the type of child abuse treated in the films study sample as follows:

![Figure 1. Type of child abuse.](image)

Figure 1 shows that child abuse is represented in the films study sample with 80% as treated in the following films as Badal Faked (Replacement of Loss), Al-Saffah (The Ripper), Ibrahim ElAbid, The Forest, Tito, Bahb ElCima (I Love Cinema), ElGarage (The Garage), and The Orcs as the main characters has been exposed to bad treatment and neglect from their families and accordingly has psychological impacts on the characters when they grow up. Then, child sexual abuse is represented in the films study sample with 40% as in Film Halwet Rouh (The Sweetness of Rouh), The Forest, Hena Maysara (Until Things Get Better), and ElGarage (The Garage). While, child domestic labour is represented in the films study sample with 40% as in Film Ibrahim ElAbid, the Forest, Hena Maysara (Until Things Get Better), ElGarage (The Garage), and The Orcs. Finally, 30% of the films treated (CD, CSA, & CDL) as in the Forest, Hena Maysara (Until Things Get Better), and ElGarage.

Content Categories (The Plot)

Table 2 illustrates the plot of the films study sample as follows:
| Film name                          | Genre | Treatment method                  | Treatment time | Treatment mainstream            | Plot/Conflict                                                      | Symbol            | Denouement                              | Drama type                                      |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Halwet Rouh (The Sweetness of Rouh) | Social | Presenting the issue              | Contemporary   | Present the issue without solution | *Dynamic *Conflict with the society                               | Ethics            | Open end                                | Tragedy                                        |
| Badal Faked (Replacement of Loss)  | Social | Presenting the issue              | Contemporary   | Present the issue without solution | *Dynamic *Conflict with the society                               | Sacrifice        | Death of the (the villain) & replacement of the good with the villain character for dignity. | Tragedy, thriller, and excitement             |
| Al-Saffah (The Ripper)             | Social | Presenting the issue              | Contemporary   | Present the issue without solution | *Dynamic *Conflict with the society                               | Neglect           | Sentenced to death                      | Tragedy crime                                  |
| Ibrahim ElAbid                     | Social | Presenting the issue              | Contemporary   | Present the issue without solution | *Dynamic *Conflict with the society                               | Victim of society (revenge) | Died                                    | Tragedy (action & crime)                      |
| The Forest                         | Social | Presenting the issue              | Contemporary   | Present the issue without solution | *Dynamic *Conflict with the society                               | Victim of society (poverty) | Tragedy                                 |
| Hena Maysara (Until Things Get Better) | Social | Presenting the issue              | Contemporary   | Present the issue without solution | *Dynamic *Conflict with the society                               | Victim of society (poverty) | Open end                                | Tragedy                                        |
| Tito                              | Social | Presenting the issue              | Contemporary   | Present the issue without solution | *Dynamic *Conflict with the society                               | Victim of society (poverty) (repentance) | The death of Tito                       | Tragedy (Action & crime) Thriller & excitement |
| Bahb ElCima (I Love Cinema)        | Social | Presenting the issue              | Sixties        | Present the issue without solution | *Dynamic *Conflict with the society                               | fanatic           | The child still love cinema             | Tragicomedy                                    |
| EI Garage (The Garage)             | Social | Presenting the issue              | Representing the year of production | Present the issue without solution | *Dynamic *Conflict with the society                               | Victim of society (poverty) | The mother finds families to her children before her death | Tragedy                                        |
| The Orcs                           | Social | Presenting the issue              | The story matches all the times | Present the issue without solution | *Dynamic *Conflict with the society                               | Victim of revenge  | The main child returned to Mama Karima with another child as the gang cannot remember who her child is. | Tragedy                                        |
From Table 2, we find the following:

- The films study samples are concerned with social issues, presenting the issues without solutions, 90% of the films study samples are representing the issue of child abuse through the nineties’ and millennium, except Film “Bahb ElCima” (I Love Cinema) is in the sixties.
- The heros in the films are dynamic except Films “Bahb ElCima” (I Love Cinema) and Halwet Rouh (The Sweetness of Rouh) are static as the treatment of the films does not show development of the child character.
- 40% of the films sample study symbolize the victim of society (poverty which leads to child abuse as in Film “The Forest” (2008) as the film monitors the motivation that drives street children to behave abnormally to get enough to live on the margins of society, Hena Maysara (Until Things Get Better, 2007) as the film is socio-politics. It discusses the problem of shanty (a marginalized housing on the borders of the provinces and cities. While Film “Tito” (2004) where the film displays Tito after he has left the reformist after 16 years, a strong young man walking on the bridge Imbaba (which is repeated in the film a lot and is a symbol of “repentance”, the hero turns to him throughout the film. And finally, the Film “ElGarage” (1995), as Naima (Najla Fathi, the actress) gatekeeper at a building and mother of seven children, Abdallah (Farouk al-Fishawi, the actor) is helping Naiam at ElGarage. Her husband, Zainham (Sayed Zian) is unemployed and devoid of moral responsibility for his wife and children and seeks a contract abroad. He has traveled leaving the children to their mother to bear the burden of their upbringing alone, and in front of this severe poverty experienced by the family, the mother feels a state of despair and frustration. She has started to find families to her children after she has discovered that she has cancer and one of her children has gone to the reformist due to stealing the car of one of population and has driven the car and make an accident. While 10% symbolize ethics Halwet Rouh (The Sweetness of Rouh, 2014), the son of the pimp Sayed who is a teenager (Karim Elabnoudy, the actor) falls in love with Rouh and he is used to peering out her from the window—as well as he is harassing women due to the environment that he is raised within, 10% symbolize sacrifice as in film Badal Faked (Replacement of Loss, 2009). The film has ended with the death of Nabil drug dealer and the wedding of Fares, the officer from Mai as if he is Nabil. Fares has decided to live as Nabil and to bury Nabil as if he is Fares, so that to guarantee that Izzat Al-Henawi, the father of Mai (Menna Shalabi, the actress) and the largest drug dealer in the country goes to prison and to be the father of his nephew. We will find that the environment that surrounded both characters has affected the psychological & behavioral attitudes. Ten percent of symbolize neglect Al-Saffah (The Ripper, 2009) as the film revolves around a young man from a distinguished family in the society but disassociated, whose members are immersed in achieving their own interests. He is a lonely man who looks for himself and finds himself in his disobedience to his family and his crime since his inception. The time passes and his criminal abilities increase and he becomes more brutal in carrying out these crimes, 10% symbolize fanatic as in Film Bahb ElCima (I Love Cinema, 2004), Adly (Mahmoud Hemida, the actor) is a Christian employee and a fanatic father, even religious in his relationship with his wife Nemat (Laila Elwie, the actress) and his children Naim (the child, Youssef Osman) and Naima, who treats them very harshly, especially his son who loves the cinema at a time when it is seen as a sin, Smart takes advantage of his parents’ mistakes to get them to take him to the cinema, and finally, 10% symbolize revenge as in Film “Ibrahim ElAbid” (2009). A young child Ibrahim ElAbid, the child wishes to spend his time quickly in order to take revenge to his parents and find that the best way to get revenge from gang members is to get close to them and join them so that they can go down in their own way. In this way, he has shared their serious operations to gain their confidence. Also, Film “The Orcs” (1990), in an attack on the gang’s den, Mama Karima (Madiha Kamel, the actress) discovers her lost daughter’s clothes who
has been kidnapped in retaliation for the father of the girl who killed Shamandi’s brother during a chase for a drug shipment after the girl’s father was killed, while “Shamandi” the gang fails to discover the real-life daughter of Karima, who has been lost among other gang girls. Where the questions are confined to the two children Balia and Luza. Mama Karima embraces the two daughters in happiness because one of them is her daughter.

**Delineation of the Child Character**

Table 3 shows the delineation of the child character:
| Film name                  | Character type | Physiological | Sociological                                                                 | Psychological                                                                                       |
|---------------------------|----------------|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Halwet Rouh (The Sweetness of Rouh) | Secondary Male Teenage Slender, tan, frizzy hair | -Living in a popular area.  
- The character is always seen in the street, rarely to have a shot at his home.  
- Education (not clear) | -Ethical standards is very low due to the environment that he has been raised accordingly  
- No personal objectives  
- No orientation  
- No skills  
- Way of thinking is little bit magnanimity  
- Watching and harassing women  
- Falls in love with married woman |
| Badal Faked (Replacement of Loss) | Main Male Youth Fit, average height Rosy, brown hair | -Nabil living with drug dealer family  
- Fares live with high-class family  
- Fares is an officer  
- Nabil not clear | -Fares has objective as police officer  
- Nabil is drug addictive  
- Fares sacrifice with his career & life to be replaced by his dead brother (Nabil) personality to maintain the honor of his unborn nephew. |
| Al-Saffah (The Ripper) | Main Male Youth Fit Athletic Bronzy, black hair | From a distinguished family in the society but disassociated. | He is a lonely man who looks for himself and finds himself in his disobedience to his family and his crime since his inception. |
| Ibrahim ElAbid | Main Male Youth Fit Bold Body build | Low level Drug dealer Education not clear | Thirst for vengeance as the image of his father’s death did not depart from his eyes |
| The Forest | Pivotal Male Female Teenage A group of street children who are different in their ages | The street children live in ruins. They have different ways of getting money, such as digging garbage, stealing, distributing drugs, and prostitution | The film monitors the motivation that drives those children to behave abnormally to get enough to live on the margins of society |
| Hena Maysara (Until Things Get Better) | Pivotal Male Female Children & Teenage Street children different in their ages | Those children under the pressure of economic conditions and living slums | This drama deals with the gaping issue of the children of the streets—forgotten class in society that faces its economic hardships alone, working and playing in rag tag |
| Tito | Main Male Youth Fit Athletic Short hair | Lives in the reformist as he killed an officer when he was child | The circumstances led him to live a life of criminality and he tries to leave a life of criminality as he tries to repent to live a decent life, who excelled in presenting the villain’s character |
| Bahb ElCima (I Love Cinema) | Pivotal Male Child Petite Light skin Short hair | The child with his family at home in Shoubra area. It is considered to be middle class. | a predominantly comic character and the main actor is Maiam (Yusuf Osman, the character) talking about the father of a fanatical life. |
| ElGarage (The Garage) | Pivotal Male Female Children Children with different ages from baby to teenage | The children use to live in the garage. | The children have affected by their lives in the garage. |
| The Orcs | Pivotal Female Child Beautiful Fit glamour | The child lives with a gang. | No impact on her life shown in the film |
The results of the Table 3 show the following:

- 40% of the child who has been exposed to abuse are main characters, while 50% are pivotal characters and finally 10% is secondary character.
- 60% of the films study sample represents boys who have been exposed to child abuse, while 30% of the films represent boys and girls who have been exposed to child abuse, and only 10% of films represent girl who has been kidnapped.
- Most of the films study samples are concerned with children who are living in popular areas, ruins, and slums, except Film Al-Saffah (The Ripper, 2009) and Bahb ElCima (I Love Cinema, 2004).

Psychological impacts are as follows:

- Helwat Rouh (The Sweetness of Rouh, 2014). Ethical standards are very low due to the environment that he has been raised accordingly, no personal objectives, no orientation, no skills; way of thinking is little bit magnanimity, watching and harassing women, falls in love with married woman.
- Badal Faked (Replacement of Loss, 2009). Fares has objective as police officer; Nabil is drug addictive. Fares sacrifice with his career and life to be replaced by his dead brother (Nabil) personality to maintain the honor of his unborn nephew.
- Al-Saffah (The Ripper, 2009). He is a lonely man who looks for himself and finds himself in his disobedience to his family and his crime since his inception.
- Ibrahim ElAbid (2009). Thirst for vengeance as the image of his father’s death did not depart from his eyes.
- The Forest (2008). The film monitors the motivation that drives those children to behave abnormally (such as digging garbage, stealing, distributing drugs, and prostitution) to get enough to live on the margins of society.
- Hena Maysara (Until Things Get Better, 2007). This drama deals with the gaping issue of the children of the streets—forgotten class in society that faces its economic hardships alone, working and playing in rag tag.
- Tito (2004). The circumstances led him to live a life of criminality and he tries to leave a life of criminality as he tries to repent to live a decent life, who excelled in presenting the villain’s character.
- Bahb ElCima (I Love Cinema, 2004). A predominantly comic character and the main actor is Maiam (Yusuf Osman, the character) talking about the father of a fanatical life.
- ElGarage (The Garage, 1995). The children have affected by their lives in the garage.
- The Orcs (1990). The treatment of the film does not show any psychological impact on the child.

Discussion and Conclusion

According to the analysis of the content of 10 films of the sample study, we found that the films are produced by private sectors with 100%. The films study sample represents child abuse in the early nineties with 20% “The Garage” (1990), and “The Orcs” (1995), while at millennium, we found 80% of the films study sample are concerned with child abuse and child sexual abuse. The results maybe indicate that there are more freedom to draw the attention to child abuse in spite of the development, but still there are categories are suffering from poverty and there are children living in ruins and slums as presented in Films “The Forest” and “Hena Maysara (Until things Get Better).

Due to the treatment of films study sample to children street and focusing on their loss of the sense of society and is seen to be their greatest enemy. The seriousness of this problem increase that the number of these children is increasing and this is the alarm because as they will turn on society, especially as there is need to shed light on them to solve their problems and contain them. We have to deal with those children
psychologically first to be qualified to deal with the community that brought them to this degree.

The results indicate 80% of the films study sample representing child abuse, while 10% of the films study sample represents child sexual abuse as Film “Helwat Rouh” (the Sweetness of Rouh) and finally 10% of the films study sample represents child abuse and child sexual abuse as treated in Film “Hena Maysara” (when its available).

Films “Badal Faked” and “Al-Saffah” represent child abuse through the treatment of the background of the main character by drawing the psychological and sociological aspects that contribute in personality trait of the character to be a ripper or a drug dealer.

The films sample study presents the issue without giving reasons or solutions.

Unfortunately, the films study sample does not discuss child sexual harassment directly as it neglects female genital mutilation and juvenile justice system maybe it is considered taboo according to the traditions and cultures of the Egyptian society.

As drama has impact on the audience, so the authors, scriptwriters, and production houses should have the initial to address attention to the child abuse problems in order to prevent and protect children from being exposed to psychological problems which will be difficult to deal with.

The major reasons for physical and psychological maltreatment of children within the family often are parental feelings of isolation, stress, and frustration. Parents need to be taught how to cope with their own feelings of frustration and anger without venting them on children. Parents can teach their children basic rules of safety in a non-threatening manner as to keep distance from strangers, to say “No” when someone asks him to do something against his/her will, and always to tell you if someone hurts him/her or makes him/her feel bad.

Parents should pay attention to their children activities and reports at school, although you do not want to frighten your child (HealthyChildren.org, 2018).

Regarding the street children, the governments need to make survey about the reasons of these phenomenon by collecting data to get solution which help in preventing the consequence.

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