Student Violence in Universities (Manifestation, Causes, Effects, and Solution's) in Zalingei University-central Darfur State Sudan

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ABSTRACT

This study was conducted during 2012-2013. The aim of the study is to determine the Student violence in Universities (manifestation – causes- effect and solution among Zalingei University Students - Central Darfur State- Sudan, we used descriptive statistic methods. Questioner technique is used as method of data collection, Study group was formed from Zalingei University students, (200) students were selected randomly from study group as a sample. The data was analyzed by using SPSS program. The results are as following:

- The manifestations of student violence in Zalingei University are, conflicts between the regular forces and students, and fighting between students.
- The causes of student violence in Zalingei University are, residential and academic environment deteriorating, and affected by wars and conflicts.
- The effects of student violence in Zalingei University are, Closure of university, and academic underachievement.
- The Solutions of student violence in Zalingei University are, use of dialogue as an alternative solution to the conflict and disputes, and Interest in the university and residential environment.

Keywords: Student, Violence, University, Causes, Solution.

1. INTRODUCTION

University violence has been a challenge for public and private university. Violence in the university often results in injury to students' Parents, students, and university staff are all concerned about violence on college campuses. Most of us shudder in horror to think about the tragedy at Zalingei University. While mass shootings are particularly horrifying and fortunately, very rare there are other forms of campus violence that are much more prevalent and warrant our concern and consideration. These violent acts include harassment, stalking, vandalism, physical assault, sexual assault and other forms of interpersonal violence, and suicide [10].

Corsi [8] defines violence as any interactional act that involves the use of physical power to control a relation and in which there are no equal conditions or balance in power and it is controlled by the strong over the weak. This unbalanced relationship is characterized by situations of control and power of one subject over another in disadvantage. Bourdieu [1] states that violence is an element of power in power structures historically unfair and can be a factor that impedes the consolidation of equity, development and peace.

1.1 Violence in University Students

The phenomenon of student violence spread dramatically, whether they are among the faculty, teachers with students, students with students and also other actors like family members, administration staff and others, university is one of the institutions in which interpersonal relationships are observed. Every single type of relationship has specific characteristics and interactions. In this way, in the last years the relationships among this community group have been researched and analyzed.

The way in which the main members of this community, students, relate among each other is dynamic. University student community members have a predominant characteristic. Most of them are young people. Bourdieu and Passeron [6]. Consider social class, cultural and genre states. These aspects simply that there is not just one “type of youth” but “different types of youth” without stop having in mind the social, political and cultural transformations implicit in the setting they interact. A phenomenon that has been studied recently is the topic of violence in the university setting as well as the attempt of knowing the factors related to it. An important element in understanding the origin and analysis of the conception of violence in the university setting is the traditional archetype of masculinity.

However, there is no male essence that condemns men to forms of violence towards women, just ways of manhood that are based on different forms of domination that are supported on a sexual differentiation of the duties and expectations related to the people’s genre [8]. In like manner, Elisabeth Badinter [1] points out that there is no unique masculinity nor a universal masculine model valid anywhere but a heterogeneous diversity of male identities and ways of manhood. In the same way, college is a setting in which not only explicit violent behaviors are developed but there it can be observed apparently more subtle violent phenomena as well, most of which are observed in intimate partners’ relationships. It becomes relevant to identify the presence of violence in this population group due to aggressive behavior during childhood, adolescence and early adulthood since that factor has been identified as a predictor for the presence of violence in adult years. Early aggressive behavior is associated with severe violence, not only during adolescence but also during adulthood [2].
Providing the scenario and knowing that violence is a product of the combination of several individual, family, community and environmental factors, Study conducted by P. Pamela and K. Basan [12] entitled

The co-morbidity of violence-related behaviors with health-risk behaviors in a population of high school students it found that overall, 20% of the students were involved in a physical fight but had not carried a weapon, 10% carried a weapon but had not been involved in a physical fight, and 17% had been involved in a physical fight and had carried a weapon. Prevalence of weapon carrying and fighting were higher among males than females and among ninth graders than eleventh graders, Galand [9] in his study found that violence experienced by teachers in francophone Belgium was a significant factor in decisions to leave the teaching profession. The French Education Minister claimed in 2000 that 39 out of 75,000 state university were “seriously violent” and 300 were "somewhat violent"[11] In 2005 [5], the American College Health Association (ACHA) released its campus violence white paper to address violence patterns on college campuses and identify promising prevention and response practices. This report noted that there are often questions about the accuracy and completeness of college crime data, because colleges are motivated to present a favorable image in order to recruit students and attract donors. Nevertheless, college crime reports generally indicate a lower rate of violent crime than is found in the general community.

A further problem with college crime reports is that many crimes go unreported to college authorities. A study by Sloan, Fisher, and Cullen [5] found that only 35% of violent crimes on college campuses were reported to authorities. Students interviewed for this study gave various reasons for not reporting crimes; for example, many regarded the crime as too minor or considered it a private matter. Victims also might be too ashamed or embarrassed to report a crime. However, crime under-reporting is a common problem and can be found outside of college campuses as well. It is not clear whether under-reporting is greater on college campuses than in the community at large.

One alternative to college crime reports is to interview students and determine whether or not they have been victims of a recent crime. Baum and Klaus [3] interviewed college students and non-students in the 18-24 years age group. As shown in the chart, they found a declining crime rate over the course of the study period 1995 to 2002. They also determined that college students experienced a lower victimization rate than non-students for every crime except rape/sexual assault. Moreover, approximately 93% of the crimes against students occurred off-campus. These results strongly indicate that college campuses are safe in comparison to the community as a whole.

In South Australia, 175 violent attacks against students or staff were recorded in 2008. Students were responsible for deliberately causing 3,000 injuries reported by teacher over two years from 2008 to 2009 [4]. A government inquiry in 1989 found that 2 percent of teachers had reported facing physical aggression [7]. In 2007 a survey of 6,000 teachers by the teachers’ trade union NASUWT found that over 16% claimed to have been physically assaulted by students in the previous two years. On the basis of police statistics found through a Freedom of Information request, in 2007 there were more than 7,000 cases of the police being called to deal with violence in schools in England [13].

This research represents the first local approach to the topic. Its objectives are to know the perception of violence in university students and to identify the manifestations, causes, effects, and solution of student violence in universities. To achieve the above objectives, the researchers formulate the following questions:

- What are the manifestations of student violence at the University of Zalingei?
- What are the causes of student violence at the University of Zalingei?
- What are the effects of student violence at the University of Zalingei?
- What are the solutions proposed to solve the problem of student violence?

2. TOOLS AND METHOD

2.1 Method Research

In these study the descriptive analytic research technique was used, the technique consists of questioner prepared by the researcher after adopt.

2.2 Study Group

The group formed from Zalingei University students that numbered about (3500) distributed in different collages are education, agriculture, forts, economic and computer sciences.

2.3 Sample Technique

In this study, the researchers followed the random sample method, the questionnaire was answered by (200) students during fall 2013-214 (academic period) from three different colleges: (125) from education college, (25) from agriculture college, (50) from economic colleges, (120) male and (80) female.

2.4 Tools Technique

A 18-item structured interviewing and self-administered questionnaire was designed. The 18 items were distributed in five different constructs that are aspects, causes, effects, level of participation and solutions. The questionnaire was constructed considering different already -validated international questionnaires.
With the objective of obtaining a trustworthy list of questions, some opinions from experts in this topic were collected.

Three pilot tests in a random sub-sample of the university student community were made. The results were analyzed and adjustments in form and format were made. The corbankh coefficient was 0.95.

2.5 Practical Procedures

The principle of voluntarism was the precondition of participating in questioner. For the questioner, an explanation was prepared. The goal of the research and how the study would be carried out were clearly stated in it. In addition, it was emphasized that the identities of the participants would remain confidential. During the questioner, written forms were used. Questioner took place between two to three weeks.

2.6 Data Analysis

After gathering data, the researcher uses percentages for ordering and giving opinions.

3. RESULTS

After analyzed the data the result are as following:

3.1 Manifestations of student violence at the? University of Zalingei

To answer, this question the researchers used percentage and table (1) show the manifestations of student violence at the University of Zalingei. According to ordering the Phrases as in table (1): (34%) of study sample pointed that the cause of student violence is, conflicts between the regular forces and students, (31%) of study sample pointed that the manifestation of student violence is hand fighting between students, (22.5%) of study sample pointed that the manifestation of student violence is Insults and abuse among students, (12%) of study sample pointed that the manifestation of student violence is Destroy the university equipment.

3.2 The causes of student violence at University of Zalingei

To answer, this question the researchers used percentage and table (2) show the causes of student violence at the University of Zalingei. According to ordering the Phrases as in table (2): (41%) of study sample pointed that the cause of student violence is, residential and academic environment deteriorating, (34%) of study sample pointed that the cause of student violence is, affected by wars and conflicts, (13.5%) of study sample pointed that the cause of student violence is academic pressure, (11.5%) of study sample pointed that the cause of student violence is, school fees imposed on students.

3.3 The effects of student violence at University of Zalingei

To answer this question the researcher’s percentage and table (3) shows the effects of student violence at the University of Zalingei. According to ordering the Phrases as in table (3): (45%) of study sample pointed that the effects of student violence is, closure of university, (24%) of study sample pointed that the effect of student violence is, academic underachievement, (20%) of study sample pointed that the effect of student violence is, loss of life of students, (11.%) of study sample pointed that the effect of student violence is, deterioration social fabric of students.

3.4 The solutions proposed to solve the problem of student violence

To answer, this question the researchers used percentage and table (4) show the solutions proposed of student violence at the University of Zalingei. According to ordering the Phrases as in table (4): (40 %) of study sample pointed that the solutions proposed of student violence is, use of dialogue as an alternative solution to the conflict and disputes, (37.5%) of study sample pointed that the solutions proposed of student violence is, interest in the university and residential environment, (10%) of study sample pointed that the solutions proposed of student violence is, regulation of the university, (6.5) of study sample pointed that the solutions proposed of student violence is, formation families and student links based on the sections and geographical areas. (6%) of study sample pointed, that the solutions proposed of student violence is, closure of political activity within the university

3.5 Tables and figures Show the Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Manifestations,</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>PERCEN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conflicts between the regular forces and students</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hand fighting between students</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>31.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insults and abuse among students</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>22.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Destroy the university equipment</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

F means frequency.
Table 2: Shows the causes of student violence at the University of Zalingei

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cause</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>PERCENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residential and academic environment deteriorating</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affected by wars and conflicts</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic pressure</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>13.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School fees imposed on students</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>200</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

F means frequency.

Table 3: Shows the effects of student violence at the University of Zalingei

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Effects</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>PERCENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Closure of university</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic under achievement</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss of life of students</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deterioration social fabric of students</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>200</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

F means frequency.
Table 4: Shows the solutions proposed to solve the problem of student violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Solutions</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>PERCENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The use of dialogue as an alternative solution to the conflict and disputes</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest in the university and residential environment</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>37.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduce academic pressure by regulating the topics of study</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formation families and student links based on the sections and geographical areas</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closure of political activity within the university</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>200</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

F means frequency
4. DISCUSSION

The discussion part of this study included four themes: (1) the manifestations of student violence at the University of Zalingei, (2) the causes of student violence at the University of Zalingei, (3) the effects of student violence at the University of Zalingei, and (4) the solutions proposed to solve the problem of student violence.

4.1 The manifestations of student violence at the University of Zalingei

When the responses were analyzed, it was determined that the manifestations of student violence at the University of Zalingei are conflicts between the regular forces and students and Hand fighting between students. The reasons of this manifestation are the area of study (Darfur State). Since 2003, the Darfur region of western Sudan has been the site of terrible violence, death, and displacement, when we going back to the problem of Darfur, the main reasons of conflicts a tribal conflicts, and students of the University of Zalingei coming from different tribes, and this condition made the conflict between students and the regular forces characterized by violence, the second manifestations of violence student violence which a form of youth violence that may arise early in life and continue into adulthood if goes unchecked. Student violence may include slapping, beating, bullying, rape, and weapon use. While some amount of violence is attributed to the normal levels of aggression typical of human beings, student violence like rape, shooting or any other act of aggression that hurts another individual in school gravely is a major school safety concern with all school authorities and the society.

4.2 The causes of student violence at the University of Zalingei

When the responses were analyzed, it was determined that the causes of student violence at the University of Zalingei are, residential and academic environment deteriorating, and affected by wars and conflicts, the reasons for violent approach amongst the students: first condition is the atmosphere in the university, if a student is deprived of a good environment at his university place, then there are great chances of him becoming violent. If they see that their parents keep on fighting continuously for no reason, beat each other, then they develop similar attitudes in mind and learn the same, the second condition is weapons- weapons are something that are easily available in this area (Darfur) because of conflicts and wars to the student and can be accessed by the students in an illegal way, the third condition is depression (because of wars) if a student is under depression, then also there are chances of him getting violent and he may showcase this violence in the university, the fourth condition is Anxiety and stress-there are possibilities that an individual may get violent due to anxiety and stress. They are many times, under continuous stress, may be conflicts problems, or studies or any other reason.

4.3 The effects of student violence at the University of Zalingei

When the responses were analyzed, it was determined that the effects of student violence at the University of Zalingei are, closure of university, academic underachievement. Without any doubt, university violence is a very critical issue for teachers and parents but it is the other students who get affected by the situation most. The violent student creates a very difficult situation for other students. The violation often reaches to a point when they use dangerous weapons like knife or gun. They use these weapons to threaten or to beat other students. This behavior creates fear among other students and often they try to avoid attending university. The violent student harms not only the students and teachers but they create trouble for universities environment, the violation can even reach up to university principal or higher authority. If we look back, we can find numerous cases where the student violation caused life of principle, teachers and students.

4.4 The solutions proposed of student violence at the University of Zalingei

When the responses were analyzed, it was determined that the solutions proposed of student violence at the University of Zalingei are, the use of dialogue as an alternative solution to the conflict and disputes, interest in the university and residential environment, we can prevent students violence problems by building social responsibility, mutual respect and belonging. Acting out behaviors become outdated whenever cruel norms are replaced by appreciation, inclusion, and respect among the diversity of students. Then it is possible and probable that all students in a university will discover their unique strengths, talents, interests and resilience to meet inevitable life challenges well. In addition, you can prevent it’s by using of dialogue as an alternative solution to the conflict and disputes, and interesting in the university and residential environment.

5. RECOMMENDATION

Finally, we suggest some solutions that can be used to prevent the student violence in universities:

- Proper guidance and counseling by teachers are very important. Teacher and observe the students and they can guide them in a proper way. They can even communicate with the parents and can arrange a regular session of discussion.
- Proper and effective security measures should be taken by universities against weapons. No weapons should be allowed inside the university campus. The law should be ironclad and there must not be any violation. Regular checkup and proper security policies should be implied. Strict action should be taken on violation of the rule. It is also duty of parents to make sure that student do not get access to the dangerous weapons.
- Parents and teachers can always take help of internet. In this fast world, all information and statistics are just a click away. So information
regarding student violence and ways to handle it in proper manner are also very much within the reach.

- In case of special cases or critical issues, help of experts can be taken. Students often have very complex problems that can lead them to behave violently. These cases must be handled with extra care, which case help of psychiatrists or even counselor can be taken.

REFERENCES


