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The Foster Care System: Domestic Abuse

Guadalupe Hernandez Rodriguez

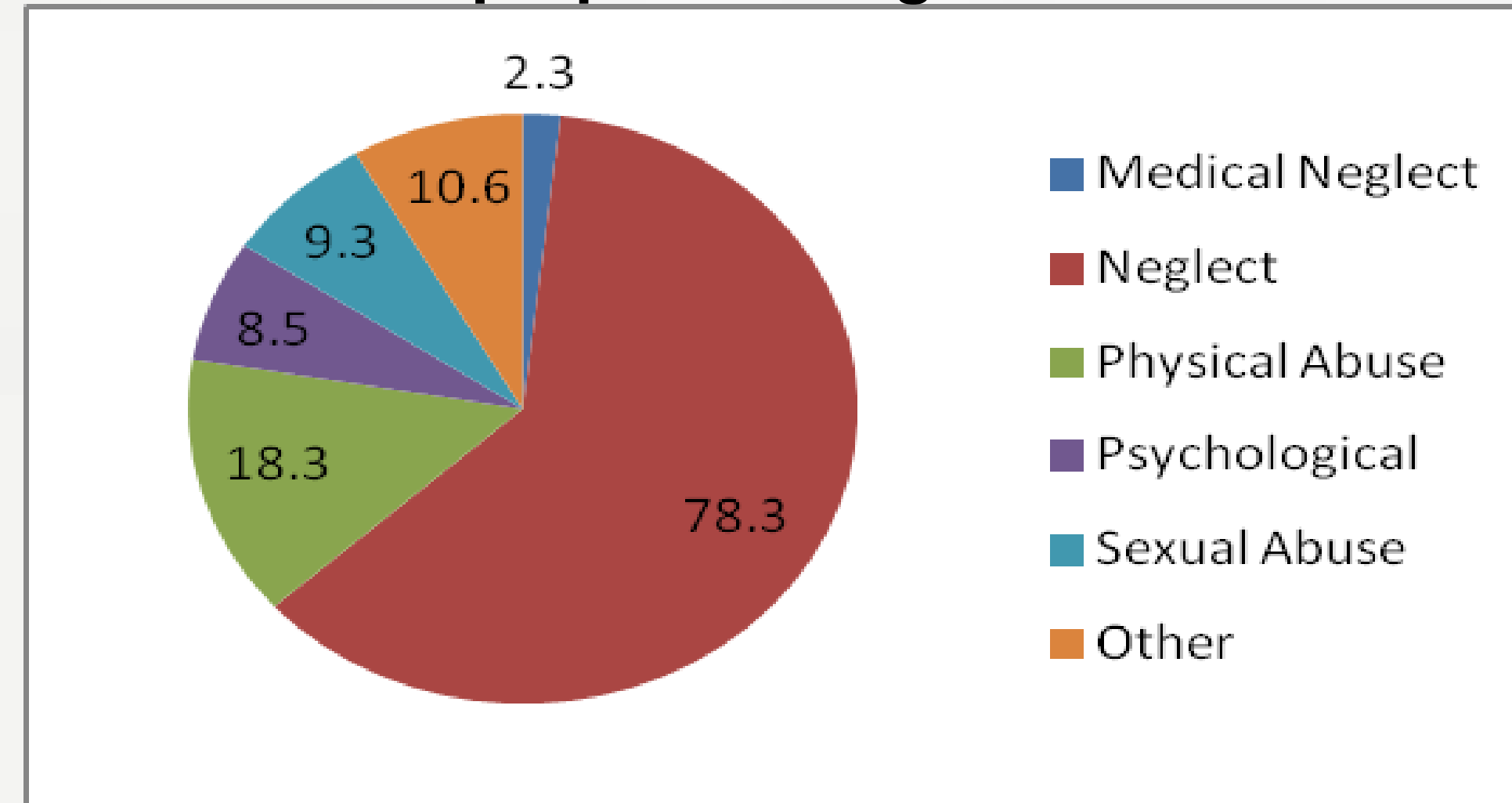
Nebraska College Preparatory Academy

Grand Island Senior High 2021

University of Nebraska-Lincoln



Neglect is the most common type of maltreatment perpetrated against children



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2012). *Child maltreatment 2012*. Available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/resource/child-maltreatment-2012>.

Conclusion & Discussion

Research exploring the foster care system has documented that domestic violence is quite often experienced by children while in placed in foster home. Domestic abuse has been a serious, long-lasting issue. This crime has caused overall abuse, neglect, maltreatment, and experiences that can not be forgotten. This has all occurred in the Foster Care System. The youth and young adults that go through the system are left with images that have a great chance to be repeated in their futures.

Additional topics that can be explored are the financial impact on the kids, the family, and the state. Other topics that can be explored are issues faced when these foster children are old enough to start caring for themselves.

Abstract

In the United States, children not only experience domestic abuse at home but can also be an issue while placed in the foster care system. In the foster care system, the abuse suffered by these individuals is increased due to home instability. Abuse can take place in many forms (physical, emotional, economical, and sexual) and can occur in many places. It can become a life-threatening crime or a crime that affects an individual's day-to-day life. The youth and young adults who pass through this system are left with physical injuries and adverse childhood experiences (abuse, neglect, and household dysfunction). The Foster Care System is a place where its job is to give temporary housing and take care of a child when their biological parents are unable to, but it has not been doing this for the past years.

Key Points

- Abuse is the action of treating a person with repetitive cruelty which often leads to children being removed from their homes.
- Children experience abuse and neglect from experiences with neighborhood/caregiver violence, living with a mentally ill caregiver/individual or alcohol/drug problems.
- Neglect, the failure to be taken care of properly, occurs not only with birth parents but can be seen in foster homes.
- Brain development in children happens quickly and major disruptions and trauma affects their social, mental, physical, and educational well-being.
- Foster children are left out of the decision making process and do not receive enough information on changes, making it difficult to make their needs/wants known.
- Children who suffer maltreatment become a vulnerable population and are at high risk of poor mental and physical health throughout their lifetime.

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