



**Statistical Analysis on Child Abuse Prevalence in Maiduguri Metropolitan Council,
Borno State**

By

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***Abstract:** This aimed at assessing child abuse prevalence in Maiduguri Metropolitan Council. A survey research technique was used, three strategic areas of Moduganari, Monday market and Tashan Bama of the metropolis were considered. Simple random sampling techniques used to select a sample of 150 respondents for convenience. Structured questionnaire was the main instrument used in the collection of relevant information from the respondents. The data collected were organized and analysed using descriptive statistics of bar chart and tables and inferential statistics of chi-square. From the study it shows that factors such as divorce, gender, environment, parental status and parent's educational level and that child negligence is the most common type of child abuse in Maiduguri and child labour is the most common form of child abuse have significant influence on child abuse prevalence in Maiduguri metropolis. The study recommends that government should set up a community based service that provides home visitation programs to educate parents on child development, counseling, problem solving, promotion of positive parent-child interaction, ensuring a source regular health care, promotion of environmental safety and classes for preparing for motherhood.*

1.1 Introduction

Child abuse worldwide has reached an alarming proportion in recent times; millions of children suffer exploitation as cited by a publication from an International Child Abuse Organization (I.C.A.O). In Nigeria, millions of children face special problem of disadvantage, discrimination and abuse. Some compound the risk of survival and create formidable obstacle for

the development of children. But are major challenges in their own right. Requiring special protection measures are to address effectively.

Borno state is one of the problem areas of child abuse. The incidence of child abuse in the state is not any different from that of other part of the country, and especially within Maiduguri area. Load carrying, lack of education, refuse depositing, starvation, bus conductor, hawking, neglecting of children e.t.c. Many children who work for long hours are not sent to school, being neglect by their parent, these children are driven to the street within Maiduguri area to work in hazardous and exploitive condition in order to contribute their own quota to the survival of the family. The decline of the public sector of the state as the major employment of labour is forcing many parent to orient their children towards self-employment which is also a type of child abuse.

Child labour is the most common forms of child abuse that is practice in Nigeria. It was in view of child labour and child neglecting, that child right act, was presented into law by a federal legislator of the national assembly after a long lobbying from various government agencies and None-governmental organizations (NGOS) .

The act also states the right and responsibility of a child in Nigeria. And also provides a system of child justice's administration and supervision of a child among other thing. The primary consideration being that the best interest of child should be of paramount consideration in all action, whether undertaken by an individual, public or private body, institution or legislative authority etc.

The best interest extent to the protection and cares as a necessity for the wellbeing of a child. The child act right was passed into law so as to protect the Nigeria children from all these abuse. It was in the background that the study attempt to find out the problem of child abuse in Maiduguri metropolitan.

2.0 Methodology

Primary data was used; simple random sampling technique was used to obtain a sample of one hundred and fifty (150) respondents from the population of the selected study areas of Tashan Bama, Moduganari, and Monday market, fifty each respectively. which was the technique of analysis to be used in the course of this research is chi-square, the descriptive statistics technique of simple percentage approach, frequencies and table were used in analysis and interpreting the result. Chi-square and descriptive statistics of bar chart were used to analysed the data collected

2.1: Data Presentation Analysis and Interpretation

The table below shows some data collected in the three selected sampled areas in Maiduguri metropolitan council that will be used for the analysis in order to affirm some of the factors influencing child abuse prevalence.

Table 1: Data collected based on parental educational level

Parent's educational level	Abused children	Non-Abused children	Total
Educated parent	11	29	40
Uneducated parent	81	29	110
Total	92	58	150

Source: Field survey, 2019

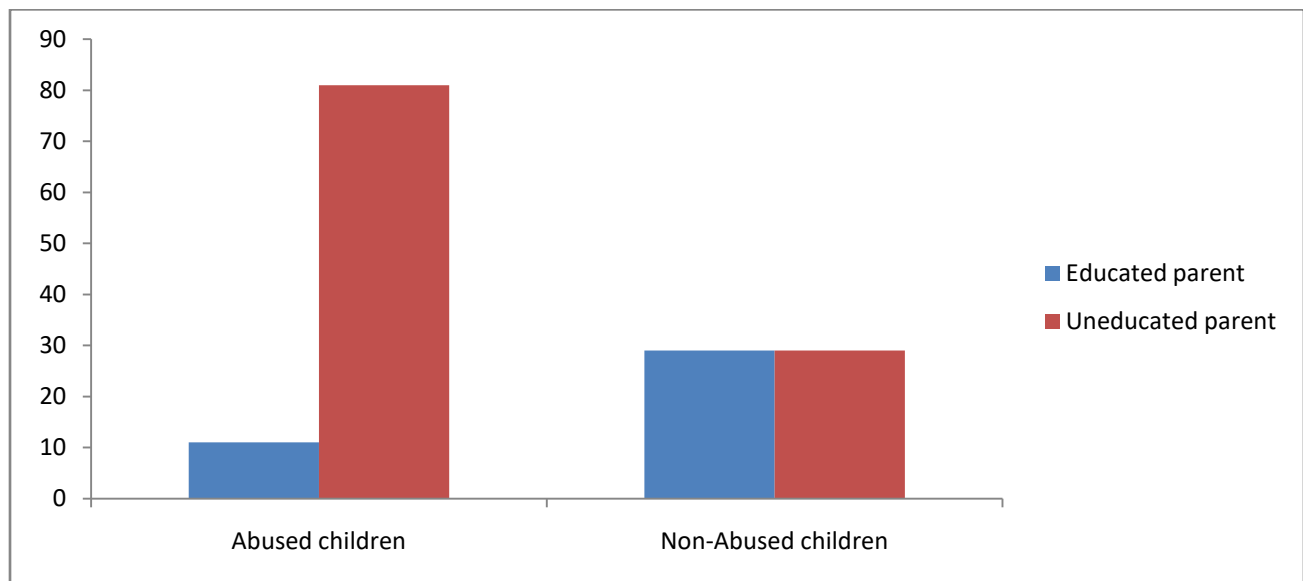


Table 2: Data collected base on parent's occupation.

Parent's occupation	Abused children	Non-Abused children	Total
Civil servant	11	29	40
Trader	21	12	33
Framer	29	13	42
Other	31	4	35
Total	92	58	150

Source: Field survey, 2019

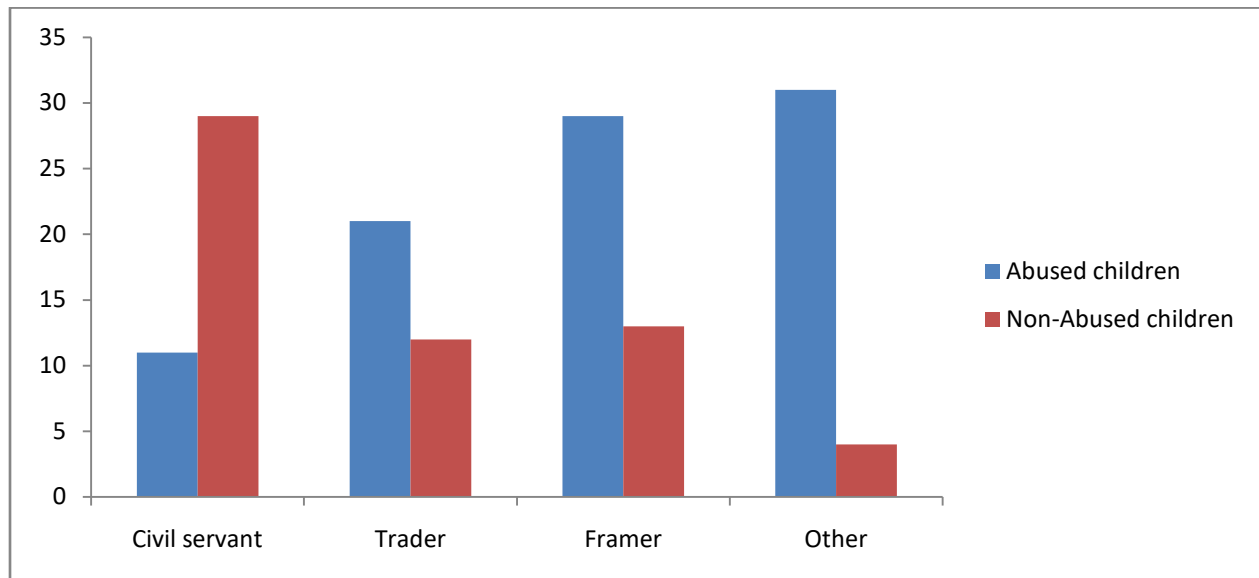


Table 3: Data collected based on gender.

Gender	Abused children	Non-Abused children	Total
Male	39	35	74
Female	53	23	76
Total	92	58	150

Source: Field survey, 2019

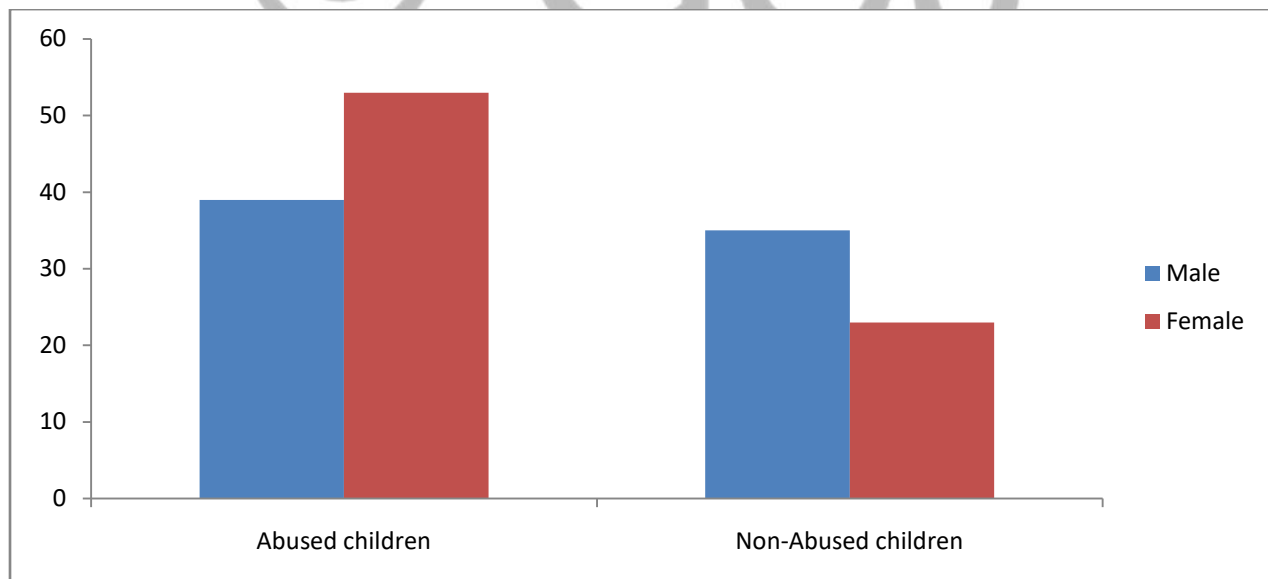


Table 4: Data collected based on environment.

Environment	Abused children	Non-Abused	Total
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	children		
Moduganari	21	29	50
Monday market	32	18	50
TashanBama	39	11	50
Total	92	58	150

Source: Field survey, 2019

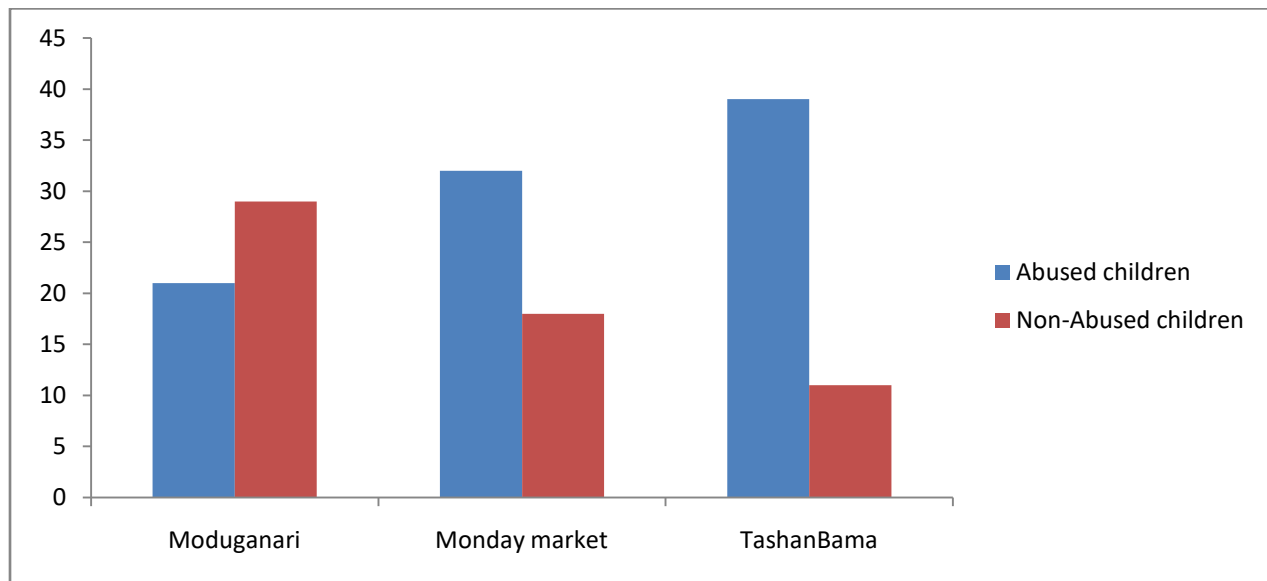


Table 5: Data collected based on divorce

Divorce	Abused children	Non-Abused children	Total
Divorce parent	58	53	111
Non-Divorce parent	34	5	39
Total	92	58	150

Source: Field survey, 2019

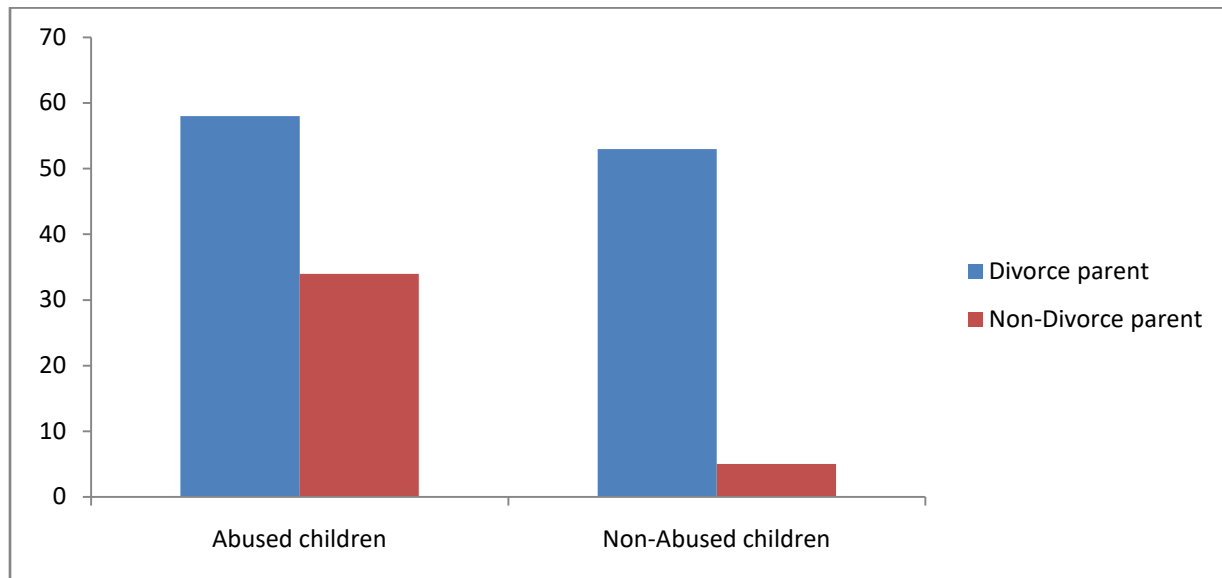


Table 6: Data collected on various the types of child abuse in respect to the three selected sampled area.

Types of child abuse	Moduganari	Monday Market	Tashan Bama
Sexual	2	5	9
Physical	4	7	8
Negligence	10	10	15
Emotional	3	6	5
Others	2	4	2

Source: Field survey, 2019

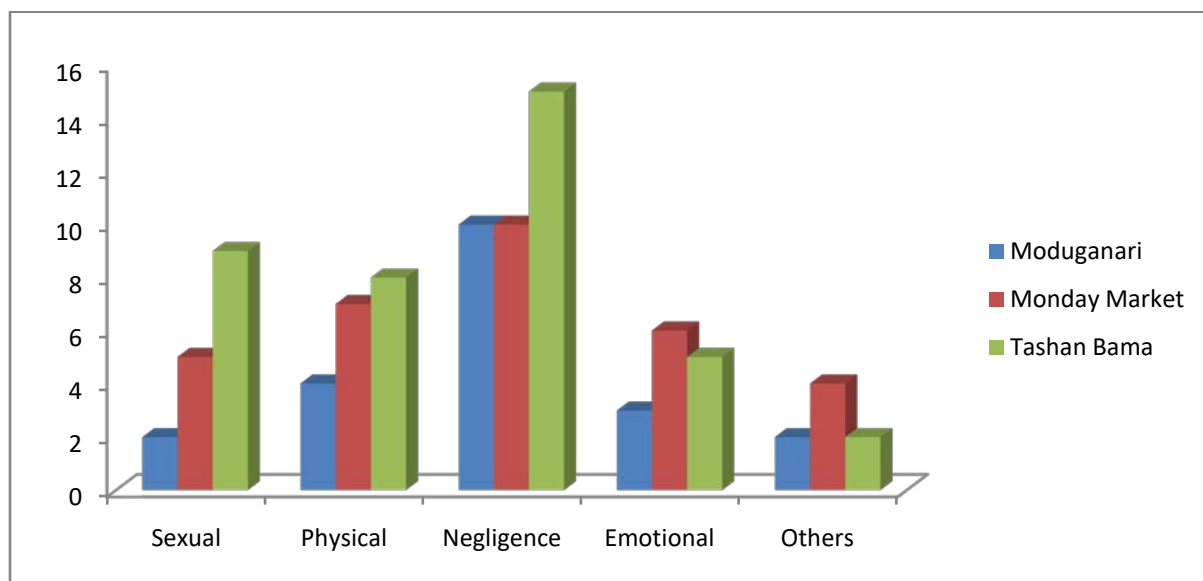


Table 7: Chi-Square Tests for parent’s educational level and children (Abused/ Non-Abused)

	Value	Df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)	Exact Sig. (2-sided)	Exact Sig. (1-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	26.328 ^a	1	.000		
Continuity Correction ^b	24.418	1	.000		
Likelihood Ratio	26.215	1	.000		
Fisher's Exact Test				.000	.000
Linear-by-Linear Association	26.152	1	.000		
N of Valid Cases ^b	150				

a. 0 cells (.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 15.47.

b. Computed only for a 2x2 table

From the first row of the, Pearson chi-square statistic, $\chi^2 = 26.328$ and $p < 0.001$. The null hypothesis is rejected since the $p < 0.05$.

Child abuse seems to be related to parent’s educational level. Note that 72.5% of the educated parent’s children are not abused and 73.6% of the uneducated parent’s children are abused. Hence, we conclude that child abused is statistically significantly related to parent’s educational level.

Table 8: Chi-Square Tests for Parent's occupation and Children

	Value	Df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	31.384 ^a	3	.000
Likelihood Ratio	33.006	3	.000
Linear-by-Linear Association	28.704	1	.000
N of Valid Cases	150		

a. 0 cells (.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 12.76.

From the first row of the Pearson chi-square statistic, $\chi^2 = 31.384$ and $p < 0.001$. The null hypothesis is rejected since the $p < 0.05$.

Child abuse seems to be related to parent's occupation. Note that 72.5% of the civil servants' children are not abused and 63.6%, 69.0% and 88.6% of the Traders', Farmers' and others' children respectively are abused. Hence, we state that child abused is statistically significantly related to parent's occupation.

Table 4.9: Chi-Square Tests for Gender and Children

	Value	Df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)	Exact Sig. (2-sided)	Exact Sig. (1-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	4.587 ^a	1	.032		
Continuity Correction ^b	3.897	1	.048		
Likelihood Ratio	4.613	1	.032		
Fisher's Exact Test				.044	.024
Linear-by-Linear Association	4.557	1	.033		
N of Valid Cases ^b	150				

a. 0 cells (.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 28.61.

b. Computed only for a 2x2 table

From the first row of the Pearson chi-square statistic, $\chi^2 = 4.587$ and $p < 0.001$. The null hypothesis is rejected since the $p < 0.05$.

Child abuse seems to be related to gender. Note that 52.7% of the abused children are male and 69.7% of the abuses children are female. Hence, we confirm that child abused is statistically significantly related to gender.

Table 4.10: Chi-Square Tests for Environment and Children

	Value	Df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	13.887 ^a	2	.001
Likelihood Ratio	14.108	2	.001
Linear-by-Linear Association	13.571	1	.000
N of Valid Cases	150		

a. 0 cells (.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 19.33.

From the first row of the (table 4.10), Pearson chi-square statistic, $\chi^2 = 13.887$ and $p = 0.001$. The null hypothesis is rejected since the $p < 0.05$.

Child abuse seems to be related to environment. Note that 58.0% of children in Moduganari, 64.0% of children in Monday marker and 78.0% of the children in Tashan Bama are abused. Hence, we can state that child abused is statistically significantly related to environment.

Table 4.11: Chi-Square Tests for divorce parent and Children

	Value	Df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)	Exact Sig. (2-sided)	Exact Sig. (1-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	14.845 ^a	1	.000		
Continuity Correction ^b	13.409	1	.000		
Likelihood Ratio	16.646	1	.000		
Fisher's Exact Test				.000	.000
Linear-by-Linear Association	14.746	1	.000		
N of Valid Cases ^b	150				

a. 0 cells (.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 15.08.

b. Computed only for a 2x2 table

From the first row of the, Pearson chi-square statistic, $\chi^2 = 14.845$ and $p < 0.001$. The null hypothesis is rejected since the $p < 0.05$.

Child abuse seems to be related to divorce. Note that 52.3% of the abused children's parent are divorced and 87.2% of the abused children's parent are not divorced. Hence, we conclude that child abused is statistically significantly related to divorce.

5.0 Conclusion and Recommendations

The aimed of the study was testing the dependence or independence of the factors that could contribute to child abuse and also testing the mean significant difference among the types of child abuse in respect to the three selected sampled areas (Moduganari, Monday market and Tashan Bama).

The analysis shows that factors such as parent's status, parent's educational level, environment, gender and divorce have influence on child abuse prevalence, and there is a statistical significant difference between the types of child abuse in respect to environment. The analyze implies that child negligence is the most common type of child abuse in Maiduguri and child labour is the most common form of child abuse in the area.

Based on the finding and conclusion revealed, the following are thus recommended:

- The government should set up a community based service that provides home visitation programs to educate parents on child development, counseling, problem solving, promotion of positive parent-child interaction, ensuring a source regular health care, promotion of environmental safety and classes for preparing for motherhood.
- Teachers and community leaders should be vigilant to spot children with signs of neglect and provide help that can be given to prevent those cases from developing into severe neglect.
- Child protection staff must be equipped and trained to visit homes and communities that are susceptible to neglect, and must have the resource to engage and care for families that are in need

- Family with low income and skills should be identified by the government, so as to empower them by providing jobs, assistance programs, and housing, and food, medical and social amenities, to cater for the poorer in the community.

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