

# FINALIST SHOWDOWN BEST INNOVATORS AND RESEARCHERS

National  
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SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE  
HEALTH AND RIGHTS IN  
BANGLADESH

SHOWCASING RESEARCH THROUGH  
IDEAS, INGENUITY AND INNOVATIONS

## Violence against Children and its Associated Factors in an Urban Area of Dhaka, Bangladesh

Dr. Md. Shahriar Mahbub

Department of Reproductive and Child Health

Bangladesh University of Health Sciences

Event Partners:



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## **Background and Objectives**

- Violence against children is an important global public health issue
- Though it has attracted attention in recent years in Bangladesh, there are unanswered questions on its patterns and influencing factors
- To investigate violence against children and its associated factors in an urban area.

## Methods

- Cross-sectional study involving 401 respondents
- Conducted among the children aged 10-16 years
- Two wards of zone-2 (Mirpur-Pallabi) of Dhaka North City Corporation
- Data were collected using a pre-tested semi-structured questionnaire
- Descriptive and inferential statistical analyses were performed
- Ethical guideline of Bangladesh Medical Research Council (BMRC) was followed

## Results

- The average age of respondents was approximately 12 years
- The number of boys was higher than girls and majority were school students
- Majority of children's fathers were employed while mothers were primarily homemakers
- Around 85% of the children belonged to a nuclear type of family
- The parents of about 3% children were either divorced or separated

## **Results contd.**

- Approximately 88% children were abused at least once while almost 55% were abused multiple times
- The event of first abuse occurred commonly before 10 years of age
- The leading type of abuse was physical followed by emotional abuse
- Parents were the main abusers in the family where physical abuse was very common

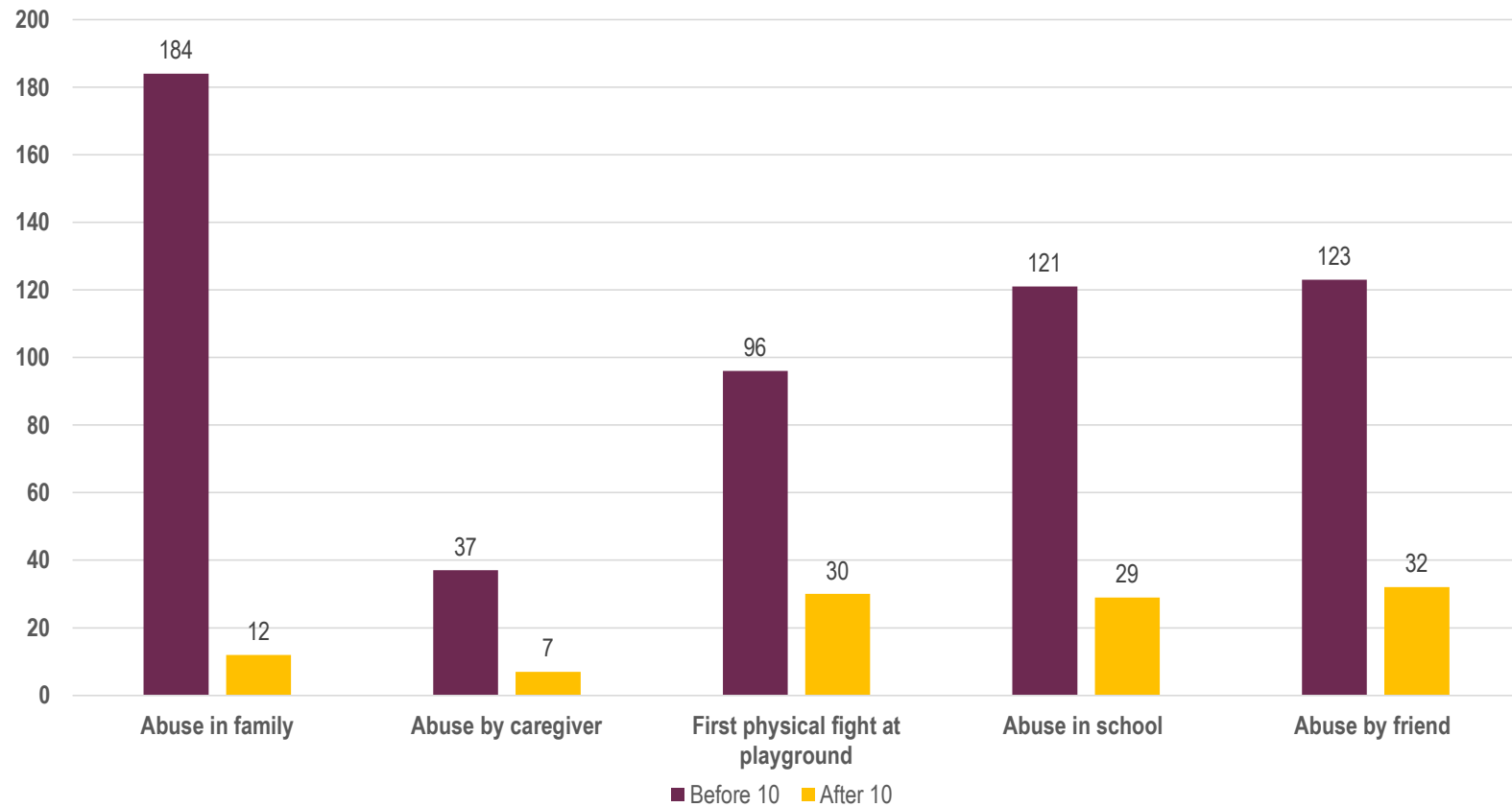
## Results contd.

**Table 1: Types of abuse and living status**

Variable	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)
<b>Types of violence*</b>		
Physical abuse	224	49.1
Sexual abuse	23	5.0
Emotional abuse	209	45.8
<b>Living status</b>		
With family	381	95.0
With relatives	12	3.0
With friends	2	0.5
Alone	2	0.5
Others	1	0.2

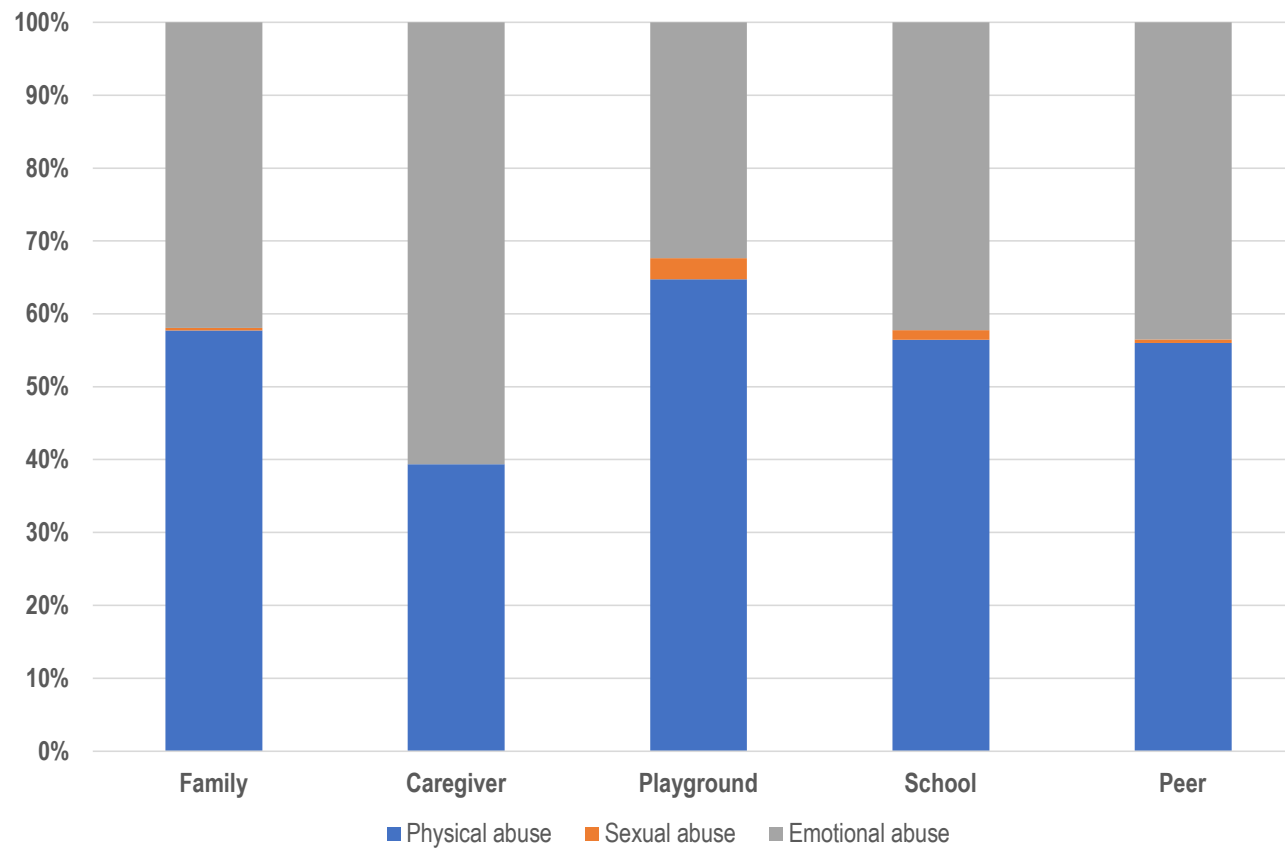
\* multiple responses

## Results contd.



**Figure 1: Age of first-time abuse**

## Results contd.



**Figure 2: Type and place of abuse**



## Results contd.

**Table 2: Multiple abuse frequencies\***

Variable	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)
Abused by family	147	39.2
Abused by relatives	7	1.9
Abused by friends	47	12.5
Abused by teacher	64	17.1
Abused by stranger	55	14.7
Abused by classmate	13	3.5
Abused by neighbor	17	4.5
Abused by employer	4	1.1
Abused by other	21	5.6

\* multiple responses

## Results contd.

- Most abusers in playground were friends and strangers
- One in two children experienced physical abuse in school for multiple times
- Sexual abuse was reported by 5% of respondents and majority perpetrators were strangers outside of home
- Gender and type of family were statistically significant with ever being abused ( $p < .05$ )

## **Conclusions**

- Violence against children was found to be common
- Parents, school teachers and friends were the major source of abuse
- This highlights the need for community awareness to prevent these damaging incidences from recurring in the lives of children

### **Acknowledgement:**

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# Thank you