Country: China

Agenda İtem:

Impact of COVID-19 on children

We all know that Covid 19 has negative effects around the globe. But in China (Where it all started) there were big lockdowns that had a negative effect for the Chinese population, especially children. The children couldn’t get any education, some had to stay away from their parent, some died…

Education is very important for children. But during the pandemic the children couldn’t go to school. So, the online education begun. We cannot compare online education to face to face education. On October 2019 more than 98 percent of China’s administrative villages had been connected with fiber optic networks but there were still some children who were unable to attend online classes.

The negative consequences of COVID-19 pandemic penetrated every aspects of the society, not only health but also economy, education, religion and politics. Negative psychological effects are expected to happen and exacerbate when children are confined to their homes in the absence of outdoor activities and interpersonal communication with same aged friends. Children were confined at home, worrying about their education, and fearing the risk of contracting infection, and their families may have suffered from substantial economic losses. Furthermore, the overwhelmed news reports and sensational news headlines related to COVID-19 have inevitably triggered worry, fear and anxiety among the general population including children İn response to the Covid 19 outbreak, our government was the first to order nationwide school closure as an emergency measure to many minimize the risk of spreading. The Ministry of Education that more than 220 million children were confined to their homes for 2 or more months. According to an online survey published by BMC Pediatrics in 2021 21% children aged 7 to 15 years report experiencing PTSD and 7% report depressive symptoms.

The nationwide school closures meant also that children were constantly with their parents, who were required to homeschool them. Such circumstances may easily aggravate conflicts and disputes, and even lead to family violence. Continued family violence in China is the result of a variety of risk factors, including patriarchal family values, conservative notions of marriage, economic inequality, and underestimated legal rights. The traditional wisdom in China is to deal with family violence as something that is “best kept inside the house”. The victims of family violence need immediate and stronger support from both governmental and non-governmental agencies. This support, however, has been significantly weakened and has still not fully returned due to the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic and concerns regarding economic recovery.