

**DETERMINANTS OF HOME VIOLENCE ON CHILDREN AGED
1 TO 14 YEARS IN VIETNAM**



NGUYEN THUY DUONG

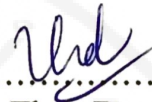
**A THESIS SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT
OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF
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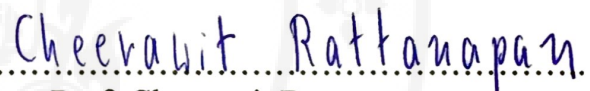
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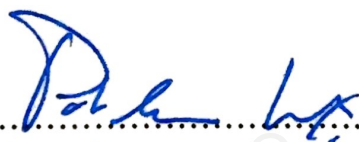
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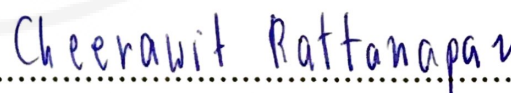
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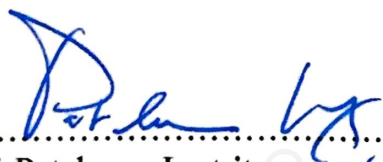
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Nguyen Thuy Duong

**DETERMINANTS OF HOME VIOLENCE ON CHILDREN AGED 1 TO 14 YEARS
IN VIETNAM**

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ABSTRACT

Child violence is recognized as a global issue that has left a huge negative impact on societies and therefore, Vietnam recognized and is putting the early efforts to end it.

This cross-sectional study considered data collected from 2013 to 2014 using the Vietnam Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS5) – a household survey project administrated by the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF). This study was conducted to examine factors associated with violence at home of 5,231 children aged 1-14 years in Vietnam. The outcome variable used for this study was whether the child undergoes psychological aggression, physical punishment or both. Chi-square tests and multiple logistic regression were used to examine the relationships between the outcome variable and the selected factors.

Nearly two-thirds of children aged 1-14 years underwent psychological aggression at home, 43 percent of the children encountered physical punishment at home and more than one-third of those children suffered from both psychological and physical violence at home. From the final model, sex, age of the child; region, and education of mother were associated with all three outcomes (p-value <0.05). Religion of the household head were found to be significantly associated with psychological aggression and physical punishment (p-value <0.05); the wealth index of the household (in quintiles) were associated with physical punishment or both at p-value <0.05. The area where the child was living and the mother’s age of marriage were statistically associated with physical punishment at p- value <0.05.

The study indicated that violence against children at home in Vietnam was a critical problem. Recommendations for reducing violence against children at home; are spreading knowledge about negative effects from child violence via media, and elevating the educational level of mothers.

**KEY WORDS: CHILD VIOLENCE/ PSYCHOLOGY AGGRESSION/
PHYSICAL PUNISHMENT/ VIETNAM**

78 pages

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

“Children are the living messages we sent to a time that we will not see.” said John F. Kenedy. This statement states a very important notice to human being that children are the key element for our future and their healthy development plays an essential role in the global development. Hence, child protection is now a critical worldwide concern. Formerly, child protection was not a part of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and it was a serious omission (1). After years of fulfilling actions to achieve eight goals of the MDGs, many countries have successfully in cutting child and infant mortality, combating child malnutrition and illiteracy, but they are still struggle to keep children safe from violence, abuse and exploitation (2). Hence, in the upcoming 15 years with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to transforming our world for a sustainable development, child protection is now become a target to end violence, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children in promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all level (3). Child protection was emphasize in the United Nations the 2014-2017 Strategic Plan about Realizing the rights of every child, especially the most disadvantaged which is the bridge plan between the final two years of MDGs timetable and the world Sustainable Development actions will start in 2015 with a key mission of preventing violence, exploitation, abuse and neglect, including through strengthening the protective capacities of families and communities (4).

Child violence is referred to as child abuse and neglect, includes all forms of physical and emotional ill-treatment, sexual abuse, neglect, and exploitation that results in actual or potential harm to the child’s health, development or dignity. Within this broad definition, five subtypes can be distinguished – physical abuse; sexual abuse; neglect and negligent treatment; emotional abuse; and exploitation (5). Child violence

is recognized as global issue that happens among continents and in every country and left a huge negative impact on society. Child violence has harmful consequences, which range from immediate influences to long-term harm that children carry onwards into adult life. Violence hampers children's development, learning abilities and their performance at school. It also discourages positive relationships, provokes low self-esteem, emotional distress and depression and, at times, leads to risk-taking and self-harm (6).

Children have their right to his or her physical and personal integrity, and to be protected from all forms of violence. And, family which defined widely, hold the significant potential for protecting children from all forms of violence. Family can also empower children to protect themselves. However, family can be dangerous place for children and in particular for babies and young children in some situations. Younger children tend to be more vulnerably exposed to violence in the home, and the prevalence of discipline against children by parents and other close family relatives – physical, sexual and psychological violence, as well as deliberate negligent – has only begun to be acknowledged and documented (7).

Child violence is common in Europe, which causes at least 850 children aged under-15 in the European region every year. Noticeably, homicide rates are counted 2.4 times higher in low- and middle-income countries of Eastern Europe. It is popularly happened under several forms such as sexual abuse, physical abuse and mental abuse that leads deficient mental and physical health and social outcome (8). The prevalence of violent discipline in Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CEE/CIS) counts more than 50 per cent in all countries except Kazakhstan with 49 per cent (9).

A 2010 UNICEF analysis of data from 2005-2006 found that 94% of children aged 2-14 experienced violent “discipline” (physical punishment and/or psychological aggression) in the home in the month prior to the survey. Nearly two thirds experienced physical punishment, while a smaller percentage (45%) of mothers and caregivers thought physical punishment was necessary in childrearing; nonviolent discipline was also widely used, experienced by 96% of children. One child in ten was severely physically punished (hit or slapped on the face, head or ears or hit over and over with an implement), 90% experienced psychological aggression (being shouted at,

yelled at, screamed at or insulted) (10).

The research in Vietnam involved 499 children (225 boys, 273 girls) from urban rural and remote areas, and 306 adults (85 men, 219 women). Physical punishments mentioned by children in Vietnam included hitting with implements, punching, kicking, pinching, twisting body parts, throwing objects, electric shocks. At home, punishment by family members included having an arm broken, being beaten on the buttocks until raw then a mixture of salt and chili rubbed on the wounds, being beaten with a thick stick, having an ear twisted until torn and bleeding, electrocution with wires, excess labor, kneeling on the spiky peel of durian fruit, standing naked outside the house, standing under the weight of a buffalo yoke, having the head repeatedly submerged in water, hanging on a tree and beaten until unconscious, being hung on an electricity pole, being hung on a wall by the hands, being hung upside down from a tree, being tied next to an ants nest, being tied to a bicycle and forced to run alongside it, and being whipped while hanging from a tree (11).

In recent years, Vietnam has adjusted the regulation on child protection such as: Article 1, Chapter 1 of Law on Child Protection, Care and Education from Ministry of Justice stated that every torturing, violent actions, sexual abuse, kidnapping, trafficking, exploitation for benefit are strictly banned (12). In addition, the hotline help-line was set up since 2004 but few people know about this line. And just 2-3% of the cases reported related to child violence, mainly cases were asking for advice in psychological, nutritional problems. This helpline is only available in big cities and provincial levels, not in remote areas where the landline is still difficult to reach all rural residents.

1.2 Rationales of the study

Initially, traditional values of Vietnamese lifestyle were deeply affected by Confucian ethics, thus child violence at home happens daily and regularly as a normal cultural norms that children should be punished to become a better child. This norm has been gone along with most of Vietnamese parents' generation by generation for years. And discipline is needed component for parenting. It targets to reduce undesirable child behavior at the present and promote well-manner in the future (13). Since the children

were small, parents often scold and hit the bottom of the child to make them understand that they should not act or behave like that, and forming their obedience to parents.

Moreover, the cognition about child right is still limited among people, due to the prejudice about teaching and forming children to become more mature. Nowadays, the Law on Child Protection, Care and Education has been adjusted based on the changing situation of society trend for higher protecting children but this law is still unpopular due to some reasons such as: The law was established in 2004 mentioned about 10 basic child rights, but the United Nations had 28 ones, and other child protection laws were issued by other ministries which leads to the inconsistency of implementing the law. Moreover, projects of child protection were built and carried out in many ministries but lack of cooperation, hence the effectiveness was not productiveness (14). In recent years, child protection, which is now considered as a critical concern with the society due to the revelation of some serious and dangerous cases of in-house violence against children.

Vietnam was found as a high prevalence of child violence in Asia and worldwide, especially children between 1 to 14 years old nationally (15). The main pattern was disclosed is psychological aggression, physical punishment and composed violence. In specify, psychological aggression was more likely to refer to verbal offence, for physical punishment is hitting children on their head and body. In another point, suffering from violence at early age might cause a long-term consequence, which can be violent tendency at mature age.

There were some research about violence towards children worldwide, but there is very little is known about child violence at home in Vietnam. Child violence is still an unpopular term, somehow it sounds more academic than its practical meaning. Moreover, violence against children is very sensitive and difficult issue to investigate, not many parents admit that they abuse their own children (9). Hence, the knowledge about child violence and types of the violence is still lacking. This gap leads to a need to figure out what factors affect the prevalence of child violence at home in Vietnam based on pattern of child violence.

1.3 Research questions

1. What is the prevalence of home violence on children aged 1 to 14 years in Vietnam?
2. What are the factors affecting home violence on children aged 1 to 14 years in Vietnam?

1.4 Research objectives

General objective

To analyze the prevalence of home violence and determine the factors associated to home violence on children aged 1 to 14 years in Vietnam.

Specific objectives

1. To ascertain the prevalence of home violence on children aged 1 to 14 years in Vietnam.
2. To describe the socio-economic factors and maternal factors of the children.
3. To determine the association between socio-economic factors and maternal factors and home violence on children.

1.5 Conceptual framework

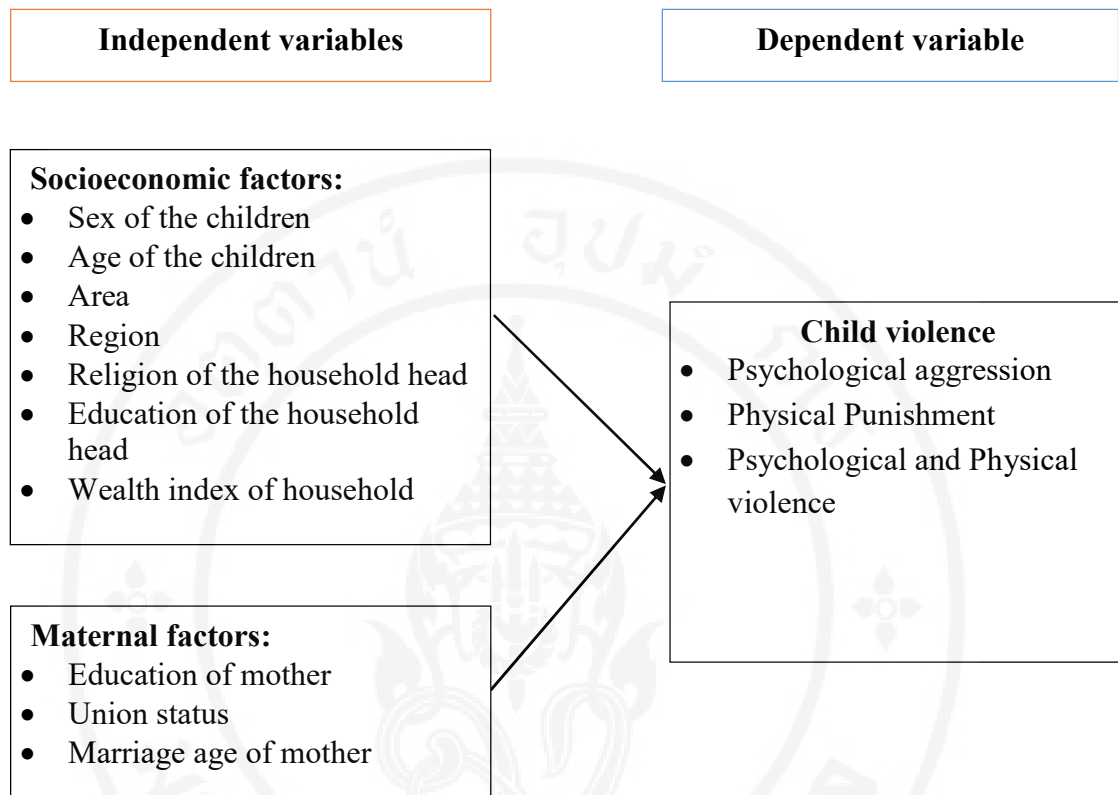


Figure 1.1 Conceptual framework

1.6 Research hypotheses

1. Socio economics factors associated with home violence on children aged 1 to 14 years in Vietnam.
2. Maternal factors associated with home violence on children aged 1 to 14 years in Vietnam.

1.7 Operational definition of the variables

1.7.1 Dependent variable

Psychological aggression

This form is defined as psychological maltreatment, mental abuse, verbal abuse and emotional abuse or neglect. In the MICS survey, if any household member did one of the following verbal aggression was considered as psychological aggression (6):

- Called him or her dumb, lazy, or another name like that
- Shouted, yelled, or screamed at him or her

Physical punishment

Physical punishment is defined as any punishment in which physical force is used and intended to cause some degree of pain or discomfort, however light. In the MICS survey, a child encountering physical punishment if any household member did one of the following action to a child (6):

- Shook him/her.
- Spanked, hit or slapped him/her on the bottom with bare hand.
- Hit him or her on the bottom or elsewhere on the body with something like a belt, hairbrush, stick, or other hard object.
- Hit or slapped him or her on the face, head or ears.
- Hit or slapped him or her on the hand, arm, or leg.
- Beat him or her up with an implement (hit over and over as hard as one could).

Psychological and Physical violence

Children who were undergone both psychological aggression and physical punishment with the definition above.

1.7.2 Independent variable

Sex of child

This variable is referred to biological sex of the child

Age of child

Age of the children who between 1 and 14 years old which is divided into two groups: from 1-7 years of age and from 8-14 years of age based on the distribution of the age's data.

Area

The current zone that the household is located, rural or urban area in Vietnam.

Region

Vietnam is located on the eastern margin of the Indochinese peninsula with a S shape spreading from north-to-south about 1,650 kilometers and is about 50 kilometers wide at the narrowest point (16). Based on the natural geography, Vietnam is officially divided into six main regions:

1. Red river Delta
2. Northern Midlands and Mountain area
3. North Central and Central Coastal area
4. Central Highlands
5. South East
6. Mekong River Delta

And the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 5 was carried in the whole six as it shown in the following figure:

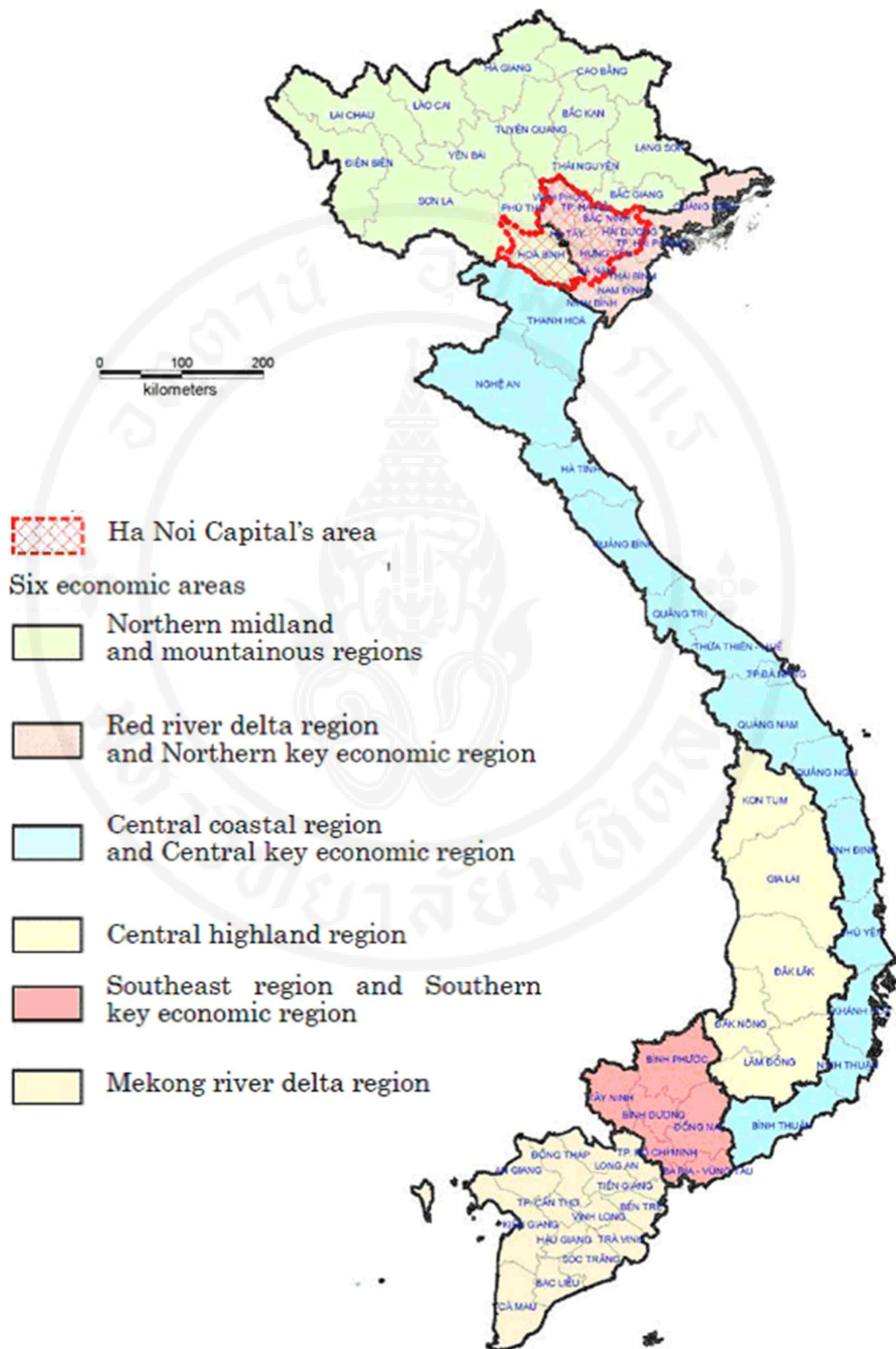


Figure 1.2 Map of Vietnam

Source: Taken from An overview of Spatial Policy in Asian and European Countries, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, JAPAN (MLIT) (17)

Religion of the household head

Religion of the household head as one of the following religion:

1. Buddhism
2. Christian
3. Other religions
4. No religion

In Vietnam, household head mainly are man who has the power dominated on all family members and decision-making person. Thus, in a family, household head's ethnicity and religion are family religion characteristics.

Education of the household head

The highest level of school that the household head has been attended:

1. Primary
2. Secondary
3. Tertiary and higher

Note that primary level included of none and primary educational level.

Wealth index of household (quintiles)

Wealth index allows identifications of problem particular to the poor such as unequal access to the health care, or some problem particular to the rich. Wealth index was based on data collected in the household questionnaire about the ownership such as: TV, car, dwelling, drinking water, or toilet. Then based on the component analysis, scores were assigned to household and individual on principal, based on own or not own. Then the total score of a household and individual were summed and ranked. The sample is then divided into population quintiles - five groups with the same number of individuals in each: Lowest, Second, Middle, Fourth, and Highest. In this study, those five groups were renamed into: Poorest, Poor, Middle, Rich, and Richest respectively.

Marriage age of mother

Number of women age 15-49 years who were first married or in union before the age of 18, which is legal set by Vietnam Law of Marriage.

Union status

Mother is currently married in a union, former married in a union, and never married. This indicator reflects a traditional custom among ethnic minorities that a man can marry more than one women, and they often share the same husband in a house.

Education of mother

The highest level of school that the woman has been attended:

1. Primary
2. Secondary
3. Tertiary and higher

Note that primary level included of none and primary educational level.

1.8 Limitations of the secondary data

There is a limitation of the data set used in this study. Because the MICS5 dataset was surveyed not only for child violence but for other purposes, so there are limited options among the study variables. Comparing to the stress model process of children exposure to physical family and community violence, the MICS5 did not draw a overall picture with several variables such as: family adversities, school dropout, academic outcome, behavioral problem of the child, etc. (18). There are some other factors were proved to have a significant relations in several researches with child violence in the family such as: parents have been experimented violence in their childhood (19) or child disability (20) but MICS5 did not carry out this terms.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Definitions of child violence

In 1999, the WHO Consultation on Child Abuse Prevention issued the a definition about child violence is child abuse or maltreatment consists of all forms of physical and/or emotional ill-treatment, negligent treatment and sexual abuse or other exploitation that resulting in actual or potential harm to the child's health and development or dignity in terms of a relationship of responsibility, power or trust.

The UN defines violence against children in United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, General Comment No. 13 on the Convention on the Rights of the Child: "All forms of violence against children, however light, are unacceptable. [...] Frequency, severity of harm and intent to harm are not prerequisites for the definitions of violence. States parties may refer to such factors in intervention strategies in order to allow proportional responses in the best interests of the child, but definitions must in no way erode the child's absolute right to human dignity and physical and psychological integrity by describing some forms of violence as legally and/or socially acceptable."

Viet Nam MICS4 2013 - 2014 dataset is used in this research that provides up-to-date facts on the situation of children and women Vietnam, as a basis to accurately assess progress towards achievement of the international commitments (final MDG reporting, World Fit for Children reporting and 5th Country Report on the implementation of the Convention of the Rights of the Child) (6), thus the child violence definition from United Nations is chosen to be the core definition to assess the child definition among two regions.

2.2 Child violence and its forms

According to United Nations definition about child violence, there are five subtypes can be categorized: physical abuse, sexual abuse; neglect and negligent

treatment; emotional abuse; and exploitation. In the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) collected data related to child violence at home in terms of non-violent discipline, psychological aggression and physical punishment, severe physical punishment or any violent discipline. In addition, statistic's result showed that children from 1 to 14 years old have higher risk of being subjected to violence than other ages (15). Hence, psychological aggression and physical punishment were chosen to be the investigated outcomes on children aged 1 to 14 years.

2.2.1 Psychological aggression

This form is often described as psychological maltreatment, mental abuse, verbal abuse and emotional abuse or neglect. This can include: all forms of persistent harmful interactions with a child; scaring, terrorizing and threatening; exploiting and corrupting; spurning and rejecting; isolating, ignoring and favoritism; denying emotional responsiveness; neglecting mental health, medical and educational needs; insults, name-calling, humiliation, belittling, ridiculing and hurting a child's feelings; exposure to domestic violence; placement in solitary confinement, isolation or humiliating or degrading conditions of detention; and psychological bullying and hazing by adults or other children, including via information and communication technologies (ICTs) such as mobile phones and the Internet (known as 'cyber-bullying') (9).

2.2.2 Physical Punishment

The physical abuse against children includes all corporal punishment and all other forms of torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment as well as physical bullying and hazing by adults. Physical punishment is defined as any punishment in which physical force is used and intended to cause some degree of pain or discomfort, however light. Most involves hitting ('smacking', 'slapping', 'spanking') children with the hand or with an implement – a whip, stick, belt, shoe, wooden spoon, etc. But it can also involve, for example, kicking, shaking or throwing children, scratching, pinching, biting, pulling hair or boxing ears, caning, forcing children to stay in uncomfortable positions, burning, scalding or forced ingestion (9).

2.3 Child violence prevalence

Child violence is found popular in low and middle-income countries, with a range of high prevalence. For example, according to the UNICEF Global Database, the use of violence in home was widespread among those countries:

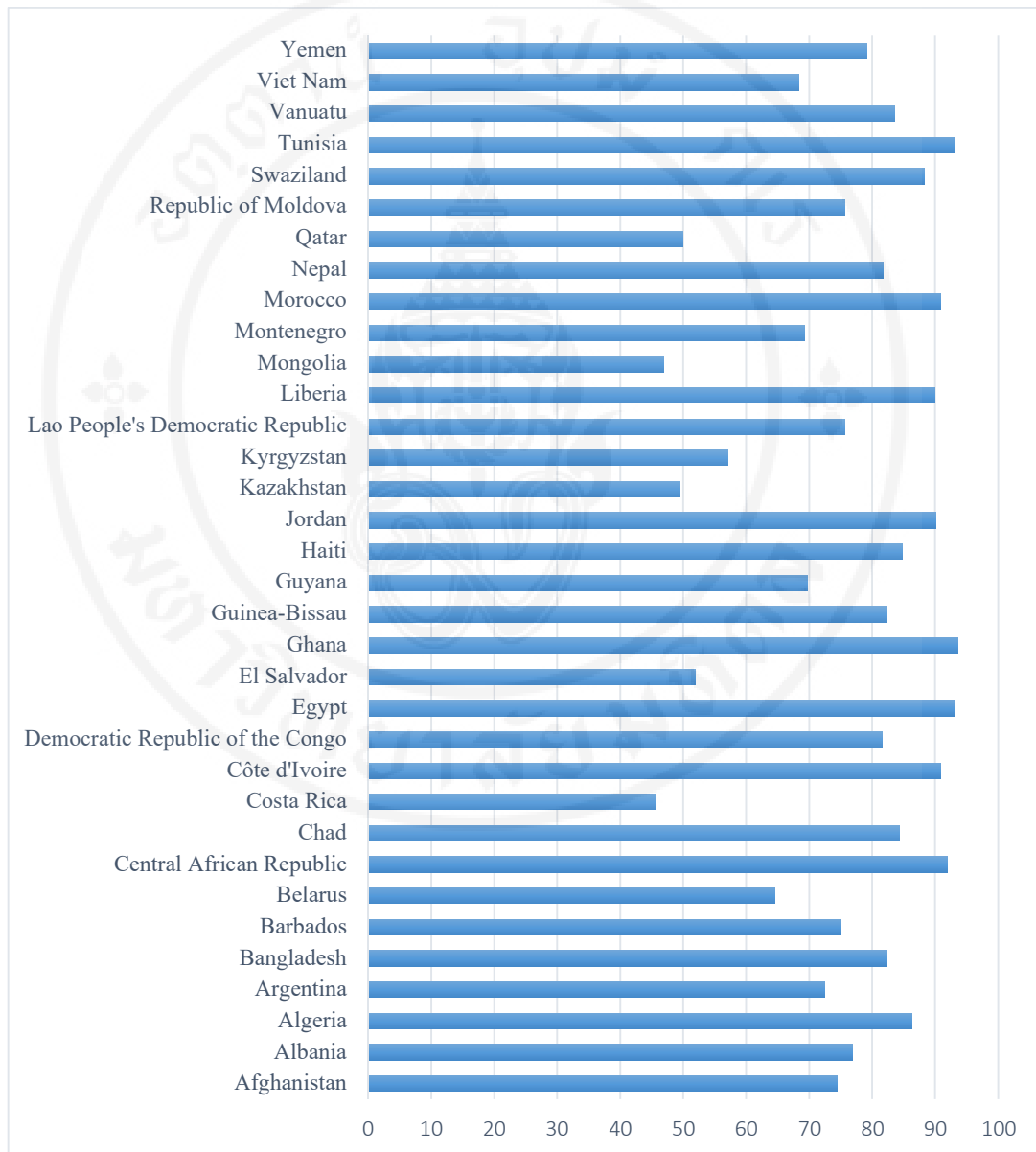


Figure 2.1 Percentage of children aged 2 to 14 years who experienced any violent discipline (psychological aggression and/or physical punishment) in the past month. Source: UNICEF global databases, 2016, based on Demographic and Health Surveys (21) and Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS) and other nationally representative surveys, 2005-2015 (22)

Additionally, UNICEF and Vietnam government among whole country surveyed Child violence with noticeable prevalence:

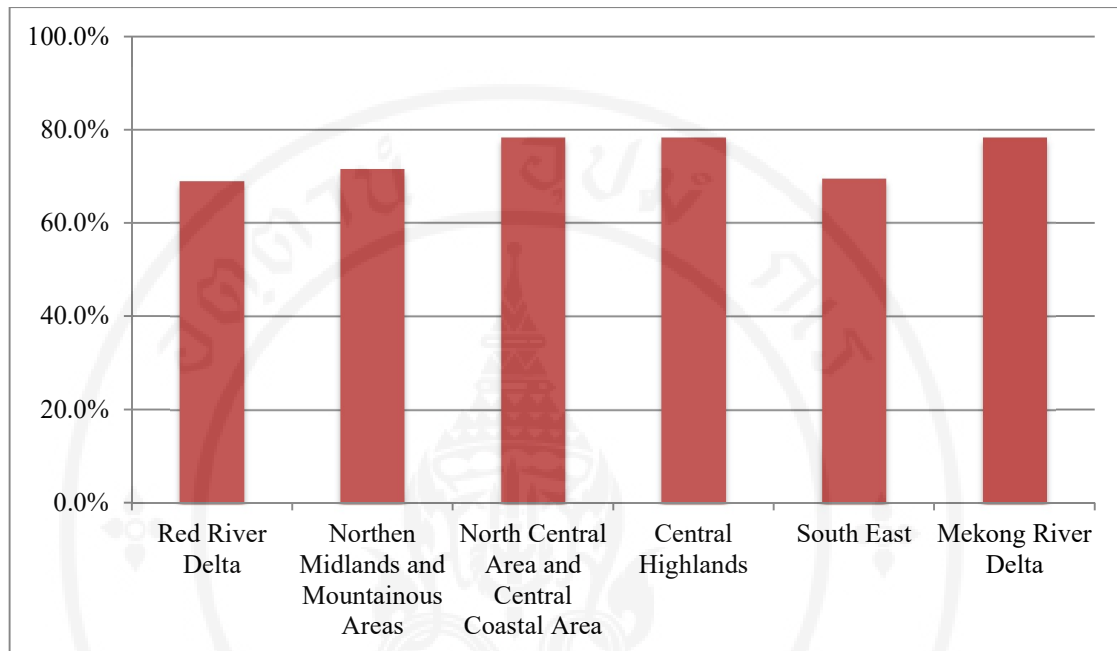


Figure 2.2 Prevalence of children aged 2-14 years experienced any violent discipline during last one month by regions, Viet Nam, 2011

Source: Taken from Vietnam Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2011, Final Report (23)

Previously, there has not been available an official survey about child violence in Vietnam except a project about monitoring women and child situation. According to statistics collected in 2010 under round 4 of the UNICEF Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 4 (MICS4), 73.9% of children aged 2-14 experienced violent “discipline” (physical punishment and/or psychological aggression) in the home in the month prior to the survey. Fifty-five per cent experienced physical punishment, while a smaller percentage (17.2%) of mothers and caregivers thought physical punishment was necessary in childrearing. More than half the children (55.4%) experienced psychological aggression (being shouted at, yelled at, screamed at or insulted), 3.5% experienced severe physical punishment (being hit or slapped on the face, head or ears or being hit over and over with an implement) (23).

2.4 Consequences of child violence

Ill health caused by child violence forms a significant portion of the global burden of disease. While some of the health consequences have been researched, others have only recently been given attention, including psychiatric disorders and suicidal behavior there are many studies demonstrating short-term and long-term psychological damage (24).

All forms of violence against children are linked to mental health problems and depression. A larger percentage of self-harm, suicide ideation and suicide attempts are attributable to both boys and girls having experienced emotional abuse than to any other type of violence against children. Neglect is also largely attributable for suicide attempts in East Asia and the Pacific for both boys and girls across the region. Approximately one-third to one-half of early smoking initiation in the region is attributable to having experienced child physical abuse. Problem drinking and illicit drug use as outcomes are linked to all types of violence against children. Though fewer studies exist in the region measuring the physical health consequences of violence against children, the few that do show that proportions of specific outcomes such as stomach pain or sexually transmitted infections are attributable to violence against children. Exposure to or perpetration of further violence is an outcome associated with experiences of violence during childhood. Lifetime physical interpersonal violence victimization is attributable in part to experiences of child sexual abuse for both males and females in the region. While evidence is beginning to emerge in the region on the impact of violence against children on health and wellbeing, quantitative studies exploring the impact of violence against children on education and educational outcomes as well as on adult employment opportunities is largely missing. This research could have significant impact in the region where education and economic growth are particularly valued by policymakers (25).

The financial costs associated with both the short term and long-term care of victims form a significant proportion of the overall burden created by child abuse and neglect. Including in the calculation are the direct costs associated with treatment, visits to the hospital and doctor, and other health services. Arrange of indirect costs are related to lost productivity, disability, decreased quality of life and premature death. There are also costs borne by the criminal justice system and other institutions. The costs of

preventive interventions are likely to be exceeded many times over by the combined total of short-term and long-term costs of child abuse and neglect to individuals, families and society (24).

To prevent child violence, Vietnam is trying to improve the situation by several ways such as: releasing Law on Child protection, Care and Education which follows closely to the Child right from United Nations concept. Tasks of Child protection, Care and Education were including in the socioeconomics development plan, which can support for the development of the child in many perspectives. Children development were considered as a prioritize element in the growth of the whole country. In addition, there were some specify laws on children with disabilities, children with special circumstance to allow them to have an equal access to education, health care services and others. For years, Vietnam has implemented the Law in three levels: prevention, intervention and support for children, especially children with special circumstance to integrate with society. In prevention stage, social events were held to raise people's awareness about child right, to reduce poverty, to support for health care access parallel with economics growth programs at any levels. There was a month had been chosen to be the month of children with slogan: "Act for our Children". Intervention program were implemented to minimize the risk of child harm and to support for poor families and vulnerable children.

2.5 Factors affecting child violence

A stress process model toward child violence drew a concept about violence against children in the family, which dedicated a list of indicators strongly associated with violence such as: neighborhood characteristics (concentrated disadvantage, residential stability), family characteristics (family structure, socio-economic status, family adversities), individual characteristics (gender, race/ethnicity, age, etc.) (18), which can be applied on child violence in Vietnam, however, based on the situation of Vietnam, this stress process model has been modified in determinants affecting child violence as following factors:

Sex of the child

Sex consists of culture-bound conventions, role and behavior that shape the connection between and among girls and boys. In many society, especially the Eastern countries, sex constitute a basic for discrimination, which can be defined as a phenomenon which members of a socially defined group being treated differently especially unfair because of their exist in that group (26).

In several previous researches, some studies suggest that male children appear to be greater risk of physical punishment (27-30), especially boys are about one and a half time likely to encounter physical punishment than girls (7, 9, 24, 31).

In addition, some indicated that boys experience greater risk of violent discipline than girls. And the analysis of MICS and DHS data affirm that boys are likely to be at higher risk than girls, but in some countries (9, 10, 24)

Age of the child

Children age counts an essential association with child maltreatment popularly occurs among kids. In Vietnam, according to some culture's beliefs, children should be punished for a better attitude and behavior. In this study, children who under investigate of child violence at home is from 1 to 14 years who were likely undergo violence at home.

Relating to psychological aggression, older boys and girls are more likely to experience only psychological aggression without physical punishment compared with younger children (10).

Regarding to physical punishment, A child abuse and neglect reported that the child's age vary from country to country, for instance, the rate of physical punishment peak at 3-6 years old in China, at 6-11 years old in India, and from 6 to 12 years old in the United States (29, 32, 33).

Area

In low-and-middle income countries, there is an erratic development of both social and economic, which simply form urban and rural area. In Vietnam, there is more than two-third of the population living in the rural area, and there is a big gap regard to social and economic development between the rural and urban area. Rural children are

significantly more likely than urban children to be subjected to violent discipline in five countries: Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Suriname, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Viet Nam. In contrast, rural children are significantly less likely than urban children to experience violent discipline in four other countries: Algeria, Guinea-Bissau, Kazakhstan and Togo (10, 18, 23).

In specify, severe punishment of children is more common in rural areas, as well as in less educated, poorer and ethnic minority households in Vietnam during the survey in 2011(23).

Region

Based on the natural geographic characteristic of Vietnam, the Multiple Cluster Indicator Survey has divided study zone into six regions in term of mountain, highland, coastal and delta region. For years, some regions such as delta and coastal have better conditions to develop more than other mountain and highland regions. That nature of geography leads to the development disparity and different socioeconomics conditions. Previously, there has been none research about child violence relating to regions in Vietnam.

Religion of the household head

In Vietnam, there are far more than one religion trend across the country. Thus, religion might affect on the household head – who has the most powerful in a house belief about educating children by discipline. A research showed that psychological abuse was reported significantly more often in religious authority cases than other forms (34).

Education of the household head

In practical, household head is the most powerful and decisive with both internal and external decisions, especially in educating children at home. A result from Child Abuse and Neglect journal pointed out that children coming from a family characterized by low parent education, poverty-level income, a mother who began childbearing as a teenager are all significant risk factors for maltreatment (35). Another study from UNICEF also reported that children living in households with adults with a

higher average level of education were less likely to encounter violent discipline than those living with lower (10).

Previous report showed that physically abusive parents are more likely to be young, single, poor and unemployed and to have less education than their non-abusing counterparts (7, 24).

In previous Vietnam Multiple Cluster Indicator Survey, children in household in which the head has tertiary educational level were nearly 30 percentage point less likely to be subjected to psychological aggression than children in household head without education (23).

Wealth index of household

The findings indicate that wealth does tend to reduce the use of violent disciplinary practices, but it does not have a significant impact in every country. There is no association between family wealth and any violent discipline in 17 of the 30 countries included in the analysis. In all but one of the remaining 13 countries, children from poorer households are more likely to experience violent discipline than children from wealthier households (10). There are numerous studies across many countries have shown a strong association between poverty and child maltreatment (10, 24, 28, 29, 36-41).

In previous UNICEF report, physically abusive parents are more likely to be poor and unemployed than their non-abusing counterparts, and significantly in different countries, and poorer households consistently have higher levels of severe physical punishment than wealthier households (7, 10, 24).

Marriage age of the mother

Vietnam's Law of marriage has ruled age of marriage for women is about 18 and 20 for men. However, in some remote regions, women tend to get married earlier than the developed regions in the country.

A research suggested that the younger the mother, the greater the risk of corporal violence, provided mother's age is measured as age at the time of investigation (42). A study also figured out that child from a family which a mother who began

childbearing as a teenager, and frequent changes in parenting figures in the household, are significant risk factors for child violence (7, 24, 35).

Union status of the mother

Living in a union or the polygyny married type were previously popular in Vietnam and some Eastern countries. Man was able to marry more than one wife. This phenomenon creates big family consist of a household head, wives and their children. In practical, the relationship among those wives were not good due to the jealous and competition to get the man's attention. Hence, it is not easy to moderate the relationship between women and children who residing under the same roof. Some studies suggested that the practice of polygyny has negative effects on the psychological adjustment of male adolescents (10, 43, 44).

Education level of the mother

The knowledge and skills attained through education may affect a person's cognitive functioning, make them more receptive to health education messages, or better enable them to communicate with and access appropriate health services (26).

As it shown from a research, physically abusive parents are more likely to have less education than their non-abusing counterparts (7, 24) which proves a strong association between mother's education and physical violence against children at home. Low education and a lack of income to meet the family's needs increase the potential of physical violence towards children (24, 35).

Other risk factors not existing in the dataset

There are some other risk factors of child violence were found in previous studies such as: children whom are disability have a higher chance to encounter violence. Premature infants, twins and handicapped children have been shown to be at increased risk for physical abuse and neglect. It is believed that low birth weight, prematurity, illness, or physical or mental handicaps in the infant or child interfere with attachment and bonding and may make the child more vulnerable to abuse (7, 24, 40). And family size was found associated with violence on children: A study of parents in Chile, for example, found that families with four or more children were three times more

likely to be violent towards their children than parents with fewer children. In addition, factors from parents who suffered from self-esteem and maltreated have higher risk to abuse their children (24). In addition, Harmful alcohol use can directly affect physical and cognitive function, reducing self-control and making an individual more likely than otherwise to act violently (8), including towards children. Harmful parental alcohol use is associated with other parental problems such as poor mental health and anti-social personality characteristics. Such factors increase the risks of child maltreatment (45).

2.6 Summary

From the literature reviews, several key points and opinions have been disclosed on the factors affecting violence against children in different countries. These key points are:

Firstly, most of low-and-middle income countries which has low socioeconomic factors are related with higher prevalence of home violence on children in every population. Risk of being underwent violence among older male children is going to increase if children living in rural area, with a low education level and religious household head, and living in the poor household.

Secondly, characteristics that are relating to maternity have the associations with child violence. In specify, the risk of violence against children will increase if children living with a low education level and early married mother, and living with mother living in polygyny family.

In addition, the risk of being subjected to violence will increase if children are disability, children living in crowd family with many siblings, parents abusing alcohol, or they have maltreated childhood but due to the limitation of the data, those variables are not included in the independent variables.

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Source of data

The data set is the secondary analyses using nationally representative household survey data. The Viet Nam MICS was carried out by in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), with financial, technical and financial support from UNICEF.

The MICS is an international household survey program developed by UNICEF to assist low- and middle-income countries in collecting data on a broad range of issues affecting the health, protection, development and living conditions of children and their families. The Viet Nam MICS was conducted in 2013 to 2014 as part of the fifth global round of MICS to measure key indicators of well-being and to monitor the country's progress toward the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed upon commitments (6).

Data on violence practices were collected during interviews using a modified questionnaire from the previous MICS survey (46). The questionnaire was addressed to one adult aged 15 or older in each household, who was asked about violence methods used with one randomly selected child between 2 and 14 years of age living in the same household. The questions asked whether each practice had been used on the selected child at least once in the past month by any adult member of the household—not only the respondent. The common methods were mentioned in the questionnaire in terms of physical violence (hitting on the bottom or somewhere on the body with instruments; slap on the face, head or ears, hit or slap on the hand, arm or leg, etc.), psychological aggression by calling with bad name, yelling/shouting at the child, etc.) or negligent treatment. In addition to data on various forms of child discipline used in the household, the Viet Nam MICS collected information on a wide range of socio-demographic characteristics of children and their families. Researchers have suggested that these characteristics may be risk factors for violent discipline and have been shown

to be associated with caregivers’ attitudes toward violent discipline (47). The characteristics included household wealth, the size and composition of the family, and the education levels and age of parents or other household members. Oral consent to participate in the survey was obtained from all respondents at the beginning of the interview.

3.2 Study design and sample size

3.2.1 Study design

This is a cross-sectional and non-experimental study using the Vietnam Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 5.

3.2.2 Sample size

The sample for Vietnam Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 5 was designed to provide estimates for a large number of indicators on the situation of children and women at the national level, for urban and rural areas of Vietnam. The sample size for Viet Nam MICS 2014 was calculated as 10,200 households. Here is the flowchart of sampling method.

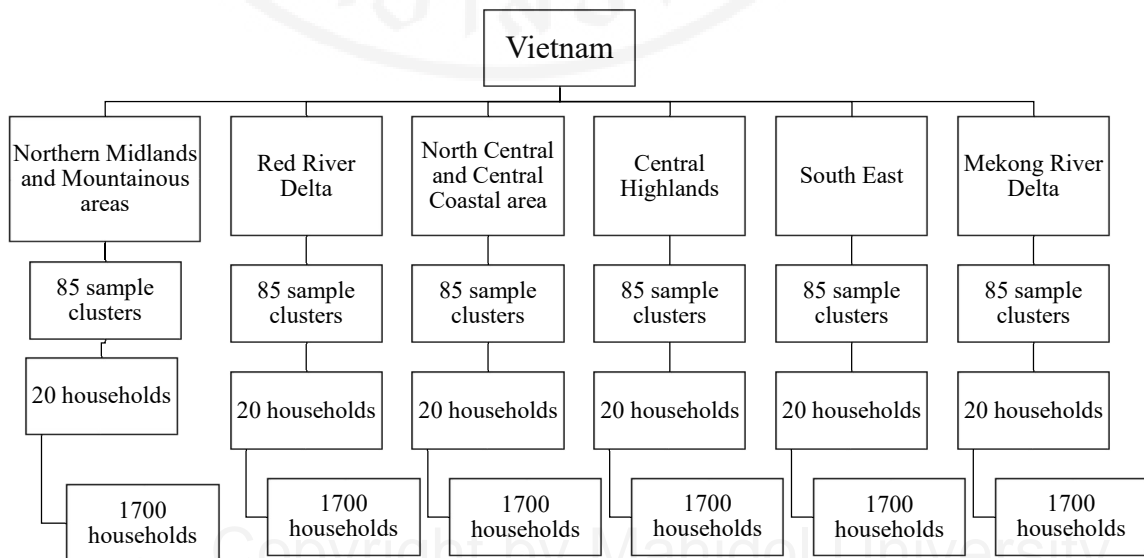


Figure 3.1 Sampling flowchart

Source: Monitoring the situation of children and women Vietnam MICS5 (6).

The sample of 10,200 households were divided equally to six regions that meet the criteria:

1. Use of improved sanitation facilities
2. Contraceptive prevalence
3. Comprehensive knowledge about HIV prevention
4. Complete antenatal care
5. Age-appropriate breastfeeding
6. Vitamin A supplementation
7. Early childhood education attendance

In each region, samples were selected from both urban and rural area: 85 clusters in each region were selected by systematic PPS (probability proportional to size) sampling procedures. After that, all the households in the cluster were listing, and then 20 households were randomly selected. Finally, 10,200 households were selected for the sample (6).

In this study, the target population was chosen is children from 1 to 14 years old living in Vietnam, thus from the 10,200 households were interviewed, MICS interviewer selected one child with age between 1 to 14 years old, then ask the household member if he/she or anyone else in the house has used one of the violent discipline to that child in the past month. The child was recorded in the Child Discipline module. Finally, 5231 children qualified the age range were chosen to be the study population of this study.

3.2.3 Inclusion criteria

Children aged from 1 to 14 years who were surveyed by Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 5 are included in this study.

3.2.4 Exclusion criteria

Data related to children aged 15 – 17 years is excluded from this study.

3.3 Research instruments

The Vietnam Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 5 aimed to collect data on the situation of women and children in Vietnam, to identify the vulnerable groups, inequities and disparities to support for policies and interventions making. The set of the questionnaires of the Vietnam program were used: 1) a household questionnaire to collect basic demographic information in every household members (frequent residents), the household and dwelling, 2) a questionnaire for individual women administered in every household to all women aged 15-49 years and 3) an under-five questionnaire administered to mothers (or primary caretakers) for all children aged under-5 living in the house.

Child violence as known as Child discipline module in the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 5, which included in the household questionnaire. This module targets to children from 1 to 14 years of age, with 11 Yes/No-questions related to violence by any household member at home within the past one month as followed:

1. [CD3A] Took away privileges, forbade something (name) liked or did not allow him/her to leave the house.
2. [CD3B] Explained why (name)'s behavior was wrong.
3. [CD3C] Shook him/her.
4. [CD3D] Shouted, yelled at or screamed at him/her.
5. [CD3E] Gave him/her something else to do.
6. [CD3F] Spanked, hit or slapped him/her on the bottom with bare hand.
7. [CD3G] Hit him/her on the bottom or elsewhere on the body with something like a belt, hairbrush, stick or other hard object.
8. [CD3H] Called him/her dumb, lazy, or another name like that.
9. [CD3I] Hit or slapped him/her on the face, head or ears.
10. [CD3J] Hit or slapped him/her on the hand, arm, or leg.
11. [CD3K] Beat him/her up, that is hit him/her over and over as hard as one could.

The 11 questions above were recored with 1 for "Yes" and 2 for "No".

3.4 Data management

The dataset used in this study was merged from three dataset included in the Vietnam Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 5, they are the Household data, Women data, and Household level data. Those three datasets were merged by software SPSS version 22 with primary keys are HH1- Cluster number, HH2 – Household number, and HL1/ LN (in Women data). After merging, the merged dataset was checked for duplicate cases. Then the cases of children aged 1 to 14 years old were selected out to be the study dataset.

After having the merged dataset, dependent variables and independent variables were created as the following:

3.4.1 Dependent variables

From the questions above, UNICEF categorized those 11 questions into different type of violence against children, the MICS5 divided violence against children into five subtypes: Only non-violent discipline, psychological aggression, physical punishment, severe physical punishment or any violent discipline method with the coding refer to the following:

1. (B) Only non-violent discipline: (CD3A=1 or CD3B=1 or CD3E=1) and (CD3C, CD3D, CD3F, CD3G, CD3H, CD3I, CD3J, CD3K=2)
2. (C) Psychological aggression: CD3D=1 or CD3H=1
3. (D) Any physical punishment: CD3C=1 or CD3F=1 or CD3G=1 or CD3I=1 or CD3J=1 or CD3K=1
4. (E) Severe physical punishment: CD3I=1 or CD3K=1
5. (F) Any violent discipline method: CD3C, CD3D, CD3F, CD3G, CD3H, CD3I, CD3J or CD3K=1

Child disciplining methods in this table should be considered as lower bounds of the actual discipline methods used by the household members, since children who may have been separated from the household members (e.g. at boarding school) during the past month were considered not to have been subjected to any disciplining method.

In this study, there are two popular types of violence were investigated: psychological aggression and physical punishment or both (48), a child experienced

violence by psychological or physical violence if any of question among those questions was code as 1.

Psychological aggression

1. [D] Shouted, yelled at or screamed at him/her.
 2. [H] Called him/her dumb, lazy, or another name like that.
- Which can be created by coding Vio_C = CD3D=1 | CD3H=1.

Physical punishment

1. [C] Shook him/her.
2. [F] Spanked, hit or slapped him/her on the bottom with bare hand.
3. [G] Hit him/her on the bottom or elsewhere on the body with something like a belt, hairbrush, stick or other hard object.
4. [I] Hit or slapped him/her on the face, head or ears.
5. [J] Hit or slapped him/her on the hand, arm, or leg.
6. [K] Beat him/her up, that is hit him/her over and over as hard as one could.

Which can be create by coding Vio_D = CD3C=1 | CD3F=1 | CD3G=1 | CD3I=1 | CD3J=1 | CD3K=1.

Both psychological aggression and physical punishment

1. [CD3C] Shook him/her.
2. [CD3D] Shouted, yelled at or screamed at him/her.
3. [CD3F] Spanked, hit or slapped him/her on the bottom with bare hand.
4. [CD3G] Hit him/her on the bottom or elsewhere on the body with something like a belt, hairbrush, stick or other hard object.
5. [CD3H] Called him/her dumb, lazy, or another name like that.
6. [CD3I] Hit or slapped him/her on the face, head or ears.
7. [CD3J] Hit or slapped him/her on the hand, arm, or leg.
8. [CD3K] Beat him/her up, that is hit him/her over and over as hard as one could.

Which can be created by coding: $Vio_Composed = (CD3D=1 \mid CD3H=1)$ & $(CD3C=1 \mid CD3F=1 \mid CD3G=1 \mid CD3I=1 \mid CD3J=1 \mid CD3K=1)$.

3.4.2 Independent variables

There were 10 independent variables selected from the merged dataset to include in the framework. Those variables were recoded into different variables to match with the study objectives:

Sex of the child

Default variable	Recoded variable
Female = 0	Female = 0
Male = 1	Male = 1

Age of the child

Default variable (Continuous)	Recoded variable (Categorical)
1 - 14	1-7 = 1
	8-14 = 2

Area

Default variable	Recoded variable
Urban = 1	Urban = 1
Rural = 2	Rural = 2

Region

Default variable	Recoded variable
Red river Delta = 1	Red river Delta = 1
Northern Midlands and Mountain area = 2	Northern Midlands and Mountain area = 2
North Central and Central Coastal area= 3	North Central and Central Coastal area= 3
Central Highlands = 4	Central Highlands = 4

Default variable	Recoded variable
South East = 5	South East = 5
Mekong River Delta = 6	

Religion of the household head

Default variable	Recoded variable
Buddhism = 1	Christian = 1
Muslim = 2	Other religion = 2
Cao Dai = 3	No religion = 3
Hoa Hao = 4	Buddhism = 4
Christian Catholic = 5	
Christian Protestant = 6	
Other religion = 96	
No religion = 97	

Education of the household head

Default variable	Recoded variable
None = 0	None and primary = 1
Primary = 1	Secondary = 2
Lower education = 2	Tertiary and higher = 3
Upper education = 3	
Tertiary = 4	

Wealth index of the household (quintiles)

Default variable	Recoded variable
Poorest = 1	Poorest = 2
Second = 2	Poor = 3
Middle = 3	Middle = 1
Fourth = 4	Rich = 4
Richest = 5	Richest = 5

Marriage age of mother

Default variable (Continuous)	Recoded variable (Categorical)
7 - 42	Under 18 = 1
	Above 18 = 2

Union status

Default variable	Recoded variable
Currently married/in union = 1	Currently married/in union = 1
Formerly married/ in union = 2	Formerly married/ in union = 2
Never married/ in union = 3	Never married/ in union = 3

Educational level of mother

Default variable	Recoded variable
None = 0	None and primary = 1
Primary = 1	Secondary = 2
Lower education = 2	Tertiary and higher = 3
Upper education = 3	
Tertiary = 4	

3.5 Data analysis

For the entire analysis part, data is managed and the results are measured by using SPSS 22 software. After managing the data, the analyses are performed step by step in three parts:

Descriptive analysis

Dependent variables consist of psychological aggression, physical punishment and both with independent variables include socioeconomics factors and maternal factors were describe by using frequency of distribution, percentage, mean or median with standard deviation and standard error

Bivariate analysis

The bivariate analysis by using cross-tabulation with Chi-Square value was conducted to investigate the relationship of each independent factor to the child violence. Simple logistic regression is used to predict the direct effect of each independent variable to child violence outcome with confidential level was 95%.

Multivariate analysis

The multivariate analysis is applied for examining the relationship between each independent factor and the outcome variable while controlling for the other variables by using Logistic Regression with Backward Wald method. In the final model, all the independent variables such as socioeconomics factors and maternal factors are manually included in the model to investigate the association. In the full model, independent variables which found statistically associated with the child violence outcomes in the bivariate stage are step by step included into the final model. All the statistical tests are interpreted with odds ratio and the confidence intervals of 95%, 99%.

3.6 Ethical consideration

Permission from UNICEF

In the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 5, before starting interview, the interviewer must read out loud the informed consent part to the respondent that they are conducting a survey about the situation of children, families, and households. The interview would take 40 minutes. All the information we obtain will remain strictly confidential and anonymous.

This study using data taken from the Vietnam Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 5 and was allowed to using data related to the dataset. The approval was accepted on 6 January 2016.

Permission from Ethical Review Committee, Mahidol University

Proposal of this study with necessary attachments were sent to The Committee for Research Ethics (Social Sciences) to ask for the permission to conduct

the study. This study was done under approval of Ethical Review Committee (MU-SSIRB Certificate of Exemption No. 2016/016.2604), Mahidol University as attached in the appendices.



CHAPTER IV

RESEARCH RESULTS

This study was conducted to determine the association between child violence at home and children aged 1 to 14 in Vietnam. The study used secondary data from Vietnam Multiple Indicator Clusters Survey fifth round. The total children aged 1 to 14 was included in this study is 5231 children living in Vietnam during period 2013 – 2014. The results of the study are presented in this chapter as below.

1. The prevalence of child violence on children aged 1 to 14 at home according to UNICEF – MICS violence definition
2. Description of independent variables
3. The relationship between independent variables and child violence at home on children aged 1 to 14
4. The predicting factors for child violence on children aged 1 to 14 at home

4.1 Percentage of distribution of child violence at home on children aged 1 to 14 in Vietnam

The table shows that 57.5% children underwent psychological aggression by household members. In specify, children who live in Central Highlands counted the highest prevalence of child violence with 66.7%, then in the second level was Mekong River Delta with 62.0%. Counting the least percentage, there was 45.5% of children in Red River Delta suffered from psychological aggression at home.

Apart from psychological aggression, there are more than 40% of total children underwent physical punishment. Central Highland still accounted for the highest prevalence with 51.7%, following are North Central and Central Coastal area and Mekong River Delta with 45.4% and 45.3% respectively. And among six regions, Northern Midlands and Mountain area had the lowest percentage of child violence in physical punishment with 36.1%.

As shown from the Tables, there was 32.5% children underwent both psychological and physical violence. Noticeably, children in Central Highland continued counting highest prevalence of violence at home with 41.8%, children in Mekong River Delta counted 36% at the second level, and the least was Red River Delta with 23.7%.

Table 4.1 Distribution of home violence on children aged 1-14 by region in Vietnam

Type of violence		Region					Total	
		Red River Delta	Northern Midlands and Mountain area	North Central and Central Coastal area	Central Highlands	South East		Mekong River Delta
Psychological Aggression	Yes (%)	45.5	52.2	59.8	66.7	57.4	62.0	57.5
	No (%)	54.5	47.8	40.2	33.3	42.6	38.0	42.5
	Freq.	781	920	767	957	903	903	5,231
Physical Punishment	Yes (%)	38.8	36.1	45.4	51.7	39.9	45.3	43.0
	No (%)	61.2	63.9	54.6	48.3	60.1	54.7	57.0
	Freq.	781	920	767	957	903	903	5,231
Psychological and Physical violence	Yes (%)	23.7	26.8	34.7	41.8	30.9	36.0	32.5
	No (%)	76.3	73.2	65.3	58.2	69.1	64.0	67.5
	Freq.	781	920	767	957	903	903	5,231

4.2 Description of independent variable

There were 5,231 children aged 1 to 14 years old involved in this study. As it shown from the Table, there was 53% of the sex of children were male. And 51.9% children aged between 1 and 7 years old. In addition, there were 59.3% of children who lived in rural area. Moreover, children located in six regions, which 18.3% lived in Central Highland counted the highest percentage and 14.9% lived in the Red River Delta as the lowest prevalence.

Relating to the religion of the household head, more than 74% were household head with no religion, for Buddhism and Christian, the prevalence was slightly more than 10%, and the least percentage of 3.1% of household head had other religion. About education level of the household head, over a half of household head (53.8%) fully completed secondary school while 32.1% of them were reported with no education and just completed primary school. Just 14% of the household head pursued the tertiary level. Regarding to the wealth index of the household, there were 22.3% of children who live in the poorest household; on the other hand, 21.6% of children were born in the wealthiest household.

As it can be seen from the Table, there was nearly 77% women got married above age 18, and just 11.6% women got the early marriage. Noticeably, there is a case of getting married at age of 7 years old. In term of living in a union, 83.8% women were currently living in a union, 4.6% women used to get married and just 0.5% women who never get married. In addition, more than a half of women (56.3%) completed secondary school; 27% of women were reported with no education and just complete primary school. For the tertiary level, 16.5% of women were able to pursue this highest level.

Table 4.2 Description of independent variables

Variable	Frequency (n=5231)	Percentage
Socioeconomic factors		
Sex of the child		
Female	2,456	47.0
Male	2,775	53.0
Age of the child (years)		
1-7	2,717	51.9
8-14	2,514	48.1
Median= 7; QD = 3.5	Min= 1	Max= 14
Area		
Urban	2,128	40.7
Rural	3,103	59.3

Table 4.2 Description of independent variables (cont.)

Variable	Frequency (n=5231)	Percentage
Region		
Red River Delta	781	14.9
Northern Midlands and Mountain area	920	17.6
North Central and Central Coastal area	767	14.7
Central Highlands	957	18.3
South East	903	17.3
Mekong River Delta	903	17.3
Religion of the household head		
Buddhism	662	12.7
Christian	533	10.2
Other religion	161	3.1
No religion	3,875	74.1
Education of the household head		
Primary	1,680	32.1
Secondary	2,816	53.8
Tertiary and higher	735	14.1
Wealth index of the household (quintile)		
Poorest	1,168	22.3
Poor	883	16.9
Middle	918	17.5
Rich	1,063	20.3
Richest	1,132	21.6
Missing	67	1.3
Maternal factors		
Mother's age of marriage		
< 18	605	11.6
≥ 18	4,021	76.9
Missing	605	11.6
Median=21; QD = 2.5	Min= 7	Max= 42

Table 4.2 Description of independent variables (cont.)

Variable	Frequency (n=5231)	Percentage
Union status of mother		
Currently married/in union	4,384	83.8
Formerly married/in union	242	4.6
Never married/in union	25	0.5
Missing	580	11.1
Total	5,231	100
Education of mother		
Primary	1,420	27.1
Secondary	2,944	56.3
Tertiary and higher	865	16.5
Missing	2	0

4.3 The association between independent variables and child violence at home on children aged 1 to 14

This section presents preliminary findings between socioeconomic factors, maternal factors with psychological aggression, physical punishment and composed violence in turn by the Chi-square test.

4.3.1 The association between independent variables and psychological aggression

As it can be seen from the Table: sex, age, area, region, religion of the household head, education of the household head, wealth index of the household, mother’s age of marriage and education of mother were independently associated with child psychological aggression.

Regarding to the sex of the child, male children were 1.16 times (p-value<0.01) higher risk of being subjected to psychological aggression than female children. Children from between 8-14 years old were 1.34 times (p-value<0.001) higher chance of encountering psychological aggression than children from 1 to 7. Children

who live in rural area had 1.22 times (p -value <0.001) more likely to go through psychological violence than children living in urban area. In addition, children locating in Northern Midlands and Mountain area had 1.31 times (p -value <0.01), in North Central and Central Coastal area had 1.79 times (p -value <0.001), Central Highland had 2.40 times (p -value <0.001), South East had 1.62 times (p -value <0.001), and Mekong River Delta had 1.96 times (p -value <0.001) higher risk of experienced psychological aggression than children living in the Red River Delta.

Children who live with Christian household head had 1.65 times (p -value <0.001), and other religion household head had 1.67 times (p -value <0.01) higher risk of being engaged in psychological aggression than household head with Buddhism religion. Moreover, children living with the household head completing primary level had 2.49 times (p -value <0.001), and children living with household head completing secondary school had 1.72 times (p -value <0.001) higher ood of being encountered psychological aggression than children living with the household head fully pursuing tertiary educational level and higher.

In regard to wealth index of the household in quintile, children who live in rich section were 0.78 times (p -value <0.01), and children living in richest section were 0.56 times (p -value) more likely to engage in psychological aggression than children living in the middle wealth index section.

As for mother's age of marriage, children whose mother get married under 18 years old had 1.38 times (p -value <0.001) higher chance of undergoing psychological aggression at home than child whose mother get married above age 18. Additionally, children whose mother just completing primary level had 2.90 times (p -value <0.001), and children whose mother completing secondary school had 1.80 times (p -value <0.001) than children whose mother fulfilled tertiary educational level and higher.

Table 4.3 The association between independent variables and psychological aggression

Variable	Psychological aggression status			Crude OR	95% CI for OR		Chi-Square
	N	Yes	No		Lower	Upper	P-value
		(%)	(%)				
Socioeconomic factors							
Sex of the child							
Female	2,456	55.6	44.4	1			
Male	2,775	59.2	40.8	1.16	1.04	1.30	<0.01
Age of the child							
1 - 7	2,717	54.1	45.9	1			
8 - 14	2,514	61.3	38.7	1.34	1.20	1.50	<0.001
Median = 7; QD = 3.5	Min = 1				Max= 14		
Area							
Urban	2,128	54.6	45.4	1			
Rural	3,103	59.6	40.4	1.22	1.10	1.37	<0.001
Region							
Red River Delta	781	45.5	54.5	1			
Northern Midlands and Mountain area	920	52.2	47.8	1.31	1.08	1.59	<0.01
North Central and Central Coastal area	767	59.8	40.2	1.79	1.46	2.19	<0.001
Central Highlands	957	66.7	33.3	2.40	1.98	2.92	<0.001
South East	903	57.4	42.6	1.62	1.33	1.96	<0.001
Mekong River Delta	903	62.0	38.0	1.96	1.61	2.38	<0.001
Religion of the household head							
Buddhism	662	57.1	42.9	1			
Christian	533	68.7	31.3	1.65	1.30	2.09	<0.001
Other religion	161	68.9	31.1	1.67	1.16	2.41	<0.01
No religion	3,875	55.6	44.4	0.94	0.80	1.11	0.477

Table 4.3 The association between independent variables and psychological aggression (cont.)

Variable	Psychological aggression status			Crude OR	95% CI for OR		Chi-Square
	N	Yes (%)	No (%)		Lower	Upper	P-value
Education of the household head							
Tertiary and higher	735	43.1	56.9	1			
Primary	1,680	65.4	34.6	2.49	2.09	2.98	<0.001
Secondary	2,816	56.6	43.4	1.72	1.46	2.03	<0.001
Wealth index of the household (quintile)							
Middle	918	61.2	38.8	1			
Poorest	1,168	64.9	35.1	1.17	0.98	1.40	0.084
Poor	883	61.7	38.3	1.02	0.85	1.24	0.827
Rich	1,063	55.1	44.9	0.78	0.65	0.93	<0.01
Richest	1,132	47.0	53.0	0.56	0.47	0.67	<0.001
Maternal factors							
Mother's age of marriage							
≥ 18	4,021	57.0	43.0	1			
< 18	605	64.6	35.4	1.38	1.16	1.65	<0.001
Median= 21; QD = 2.5		Min= 7				Max= 42	
Union status of mother							
Currently married/in union	4,384	57.8	42.2	1			
Formerly married/in union	242	60.7	39.3	1.13	0.87	1.47	0.370
Never married/in union	25	64.0	36.0	1.30	0.57	2.94	0.533
Education of the mother							
Tertiary and higher	865	42.4	57.6	1			
Primary	1,420	67.7	32.3	2.90	2.39	3.40	<0.001
Secondary	2,944	57.1	42.9	1.80	1.55	2.10	<0.001

4.3.2 The association between independent variables and Physical punishment

Table 4.4 as below provides the independent association of sex, age of the child, region, religion of the household head, education of the household head, wealth index of the household, mother's age of marriage, union status of mother and education of mother with children experienced physical punishment.

Regarding to sex of the child, male children were 1.53 times (p -value <0.001) more likely to encounter physical punishment than female children. Furthermore, children among age 1 to 7 had 2.11 times (p -value <0.001) higher risk of undergoing physical punishment than children above 8 to 14 years old.

As shown from the Table, children who live in North Central and Central Coastal area had 1.31 times (p -value <0.01), Central Highlands had 1.69 times (p -value <0.001), and Mekong River Delta had 1.31 times (p -value <0.01) higher chance of being subjected physical punishment than children living in Red River Delta region.

As to religion of the household head, children living with Christian household head were 1.40 times (p -value <0.01) more likely encounter physical punishment than children living with household head with Buddhism religion. Regarding to the education, children living with household head completing primary level had 1.52 times (p -value <0.001), and the household head fulfilled secondary level had 1.19 times (p -value <0.05) higher OR engaging physical punishment than living with household head completing tertiary educational level and higher.

As shown from the Table, children living in the richest section of wealth index had 0.68 times (p -value <0.001) chance of undergoing physical punishment than children living in the wealth index's middle section.

In regard to maternal factors, children whose mother got married under 18 years old were more likely to suffer from physical punishment than whom whose mother got married above age 18. In addition, children whose mother formerly living in a union had 1.35 times (p -value <0.05) higher risk of going through physical punishment than children whose mother living in a union. In regard to mother's education, children whose mother completing primary level had 1.62 times (p -value <0.001), and children whose mother fulfilled secondary school had 1.20 times (p -value <0.05) higher OR of

being subjected to physical punishment than whom whose mother completing tertiary educational level and higher.

Table 4.4 The association between independent variables and physical punishment

Variable	Physical punishment status			Crude OR	95% CI for OR		Chi-Square P-value
	N	Yes	No		Lower	Upper	
		(%)	(%)				
Socioeconomic factors							
Sex of the child							
Female	2,456	37.5	62.5	1			
Male	2,775	47.8	52.2	1.53	1.37	1.71	<0.001
Age of the child							
1 - 7	2,514	33.6	66.4	1			
8 - 14	2,717	51.6	48.4	2.11	1.89	2.36	<0.001
Median = 7; QD = 3.5	Min= 1				Max= 14		
Area							
Urban	2,128	42.2	57.8	1			
Rural	3,103	43.5	56.5	1.06	0.95	1.18	0.331
Region							
Red River Delta	781	38.8	61.2	1			
Northern Midlands and Mountain area	920	36.1	63.9	0.89	0.73	1.09	0.250
North Central and Central Coastal area	767	45.4	54.6	1.31	1.07	1.60	<0.01
Central Highlands	957	51.7	48.3	1.69	1.40	2.05	<0.001
South East	903	39.9	60.1	1.05	0.86	1.27	0.654
Mekong River Delta	903	45.3	54.7	1.31	1.08	1.59	<0.01

Table 4.4 The association between independent variables and Physical punishment (cont.)

Variable	Physical punishment status			Crude OR	95% CI for OR		Chi-Square
	N	Yes	No		Lower	Upper	P-value
		(%)	(%)				
Religion of the household head							
Buddhism	662	44.4	55.6	1			
Christian	533	52.7	47.3	1.40	1.11	1.76	<0.01
Other religion	161	46.0	54.0	1.07	0.75	1.50	0.722
No religion	3,875	41.2	58.8	0.88	0.74	1.04	0.126
Education of the household head							
Tertiary and higher	735	37.4	62.6	1			
Primary	1,680	47.7	52.3	1.52	1.28	1.83	<0.001
Secondary	2,816	41.5	58.5	1.19	1.01	1.40	<0.05
Wealth index of the household (quintile)							
Middle	918	44.9	55.1	1			
Poorest	1,168	49.0	51.0	1.18	0.10	1.40	0.063
Poor	883	45.4	54.6	1.02	0.85	1.23	0.820
Rich	1,063	41.3	58.7	0.86	0.72	1.03	0.108
Richest	1,132	35.7	64.3	0.68	0.57	0.81	<0.001
Maternal factors							
Mother's age of marriage							
≥ 18	4,021	43.6	56.4	1			
< 18	605	48.1	51.9	1.20	1.01	1.42	<0.05
Median = 21; QD = 2.5	Min= 7			Max= 42			

Table 4.4 The association between independent variables and Physical punishment (cont.)

Variable	Physical punishment status			Crude OR	95% CI for OR		Chi-Square
	N	Yes	No		Lower	Upper	P-value
		(%)	(%)				
Union status of mother							
Currently married/in union	4,384	43.8	56.2	1			
Formerly married/in union	242	51.2	48.8	1.35	1.04	1.75	<0.05
Never married/in union	25	44.0	56.0	1.01	0.46	2.23	0.982
Education of the mother							
Tertiary and higher	865	37.3	62.7	1			
Primary	1,420	49.2	50.8	1.62	1.37	1.93	<0.001
Secondary	2,944	41.6	58.4	1.20	1.02	1.40	<0.05

4.3.3 The association between independent variables and composed violence variable

As it shown from the following Table 4.5 sex, age of the child, region, religion of the household head, education of household head, wealth index of the household in quintile, mother's age of marriage, union status, education of the mother were independently associated with children undergoing both psychological and physical violence.

It can be seen from the Table that male children were 1.51 times (p-value<0.001) more likely to encounter psychological and physical violence than female ones. Children between age 1 to 7 had 1.43 times (p-value<0.001) higher chance undergoing psychological and physical violence than children from 8 to 14.

Regarding to region, children living in North Central and Central Coastal area counted 1.12 times (p-value<0.001), in Central Highlands counted 1.94 times (p-value<0.001), in South East counted 1.40 times (p-value<0.01), in Mekong River Delta counted 1.36 times (p-value<0.001) higher OR of experiencing psychological and physical violence than children that live in Red River Delta.

In regard to religion of household head, children living with Christian household head were 1.41 times (p-value<0.01) more likely to undergo psychological and physical violence than children living with no religion household head. In addition, children who live with the household head without education and just fulfilled primary level had 1.69 times (p-value<0.001), and the household head completing secondary level had 1.35 times (p-value<0.01) higher risk in suffering psychological and physical violence than children living with household head graduating tertiary level and higher.

Concerning wealth index of the household, children who live in poorest section had 1.05 times (p-value<0.01), and in richest section had 0.63 times (p-value<0.001) higher risk of being subjected to both psychological and physical violence than children living in the middle wealth index section.

With regard to children whose mother got married under 18 had 1.33 times (p-value<0.05) higher OR of encountering psychological and physical violence than children whose mother got married above age 18. Moreover, children whose mother without education and just completing primary level had 2.23 times (p-value<0.001), and children whose mother fulfilled secondary level had 1.49 times (p-value<0.001) higher chance to go through psychological and physical violence than children whose mother graduating tertiary educational level and higher.

Table 4.5 The association between independent variables and composed violence variable

Variable	Psychological and Physical violence			Crude OR	95% CI for OR		Chi-Square
	N	Yes (%)	No (%)		Lower	Upper	P-value
Socioeconomic factors							
Sex of the child							
Female	1,772	25	75	1			
Male	2,037	33.5	66.5	1.51	1.31	1.74	<0.001

Table 4.5 The association between independent variables and composed violence variable (cont.)

Variable	Psychological and Physical violence			Crude OR	95% CI for OR		Chi-Square P-value
	N	Yes	No		Lower	Upper	
		(%)	(%)				
Age of the child							
8-14	1,688	25.5	74.5	1			
1-7	2,121	32.8	67.2	1.43	1.24	1.65	<0.01
Median = 7; QD = 3.5	Min= 1				Max= 14		
Area							
Urban	1,783	28.8	71.2	1			
Rural	2,026	30.2	69.8	1.07	0.93	1.23	0.352
Region							
Red River Delta	781	23.7	76.3	1			
Northern Midlands and Mountain area	920	26.8	73.2	1.12	0.88	1.44	0.136
North Central and Central Coastal area	767	34.7	65.3	1.52	1.19	1.94	<0.001
Central Highlands	957	41.8	58.2	1.94	1.54	2.46	<0.001
South East	903	30.9	69.1	1.40	1.10	1.77	<0.01
Mekong River Delta	903	36.0	64.0	1.36	1.06	1.76	<0.001
Religion of the household head							
Buddhism	662	34.1	65.9	1			
Christian	533	42.2	57.8	1.41	1.11	1.78	<0.01
Other religion	161	38.5	61.5	1.21	0.85	1.72	0.297
No religion	3,875	30.7	69.3	0.85	0.72	1.02	0.076
Education of the household head							
Tertiary and higher	735	24.5	75.5	1			
Primary	1,680	39.0	61.0	1.69	1.34	2.13	<0.001
Secondary	2,816	30.8	69.2	1.35	1.11	1.63	<0.01

Table 4.5 The association between independent variables and composed violence variable (cont.)

Variable	Psychological and Physical violence			Crude OR	95% CI for OR		Chi-Square P-value
	N	Yes	No		Lower	Upper	
		(%)	(%)				
Wealth index of the household (quintile)							
Middle	918	33.8	66.2	1			
Poorest	1,168	40.2	59.8	1.05	0.82	1.36	<0.01
Poor	883	36.8	63.2	1.11	0.88	1.39	0.177
Rich	1,063	29.9	70.1	0.89	0.72	1.10	0.066
Richest	1,132	23.6	76.4	0.63	0.51	0.78	<0.001
Maternal factors							
Mother's age of marriage							
≥ 18	3,160	29.8	70.2	1			
< 18	313	36.1	63.9	1.33	1.04	1.70	<0.05
Median = 21; QD = 3.5	Min= 7				Max= 42		
Union status of mother							
Currently married/in union	4,384	33.2	66.8	1			
Formerly married/in union	242	38.8	61.2	1.12	0.81	1.56	0.072
Never married/in union	25	40.0	60.0	1.26	0.46	3.41	0.474
Education of the mother							
Tertiary and higher	865	23.5	76.5	1			
Primary	1,420	40.6	59.4	2.23	1.84	2.69	<0.001
Secondary	2,944	31.4	68.6	1.49	1.25	1.78	<0.001

4.4 The predicting factors for child violence on children aged 1 to 14 at home

This part presents about full and final model of predicting factors for child violence in terms of psychological aggression, physical punishment, and psychological and physical violence on children aged 1 to 14 at home.

4.4.1 The full model of Multiple Logistic Regression

Table 4.6 The full model of Multiple Logistic Regression

Predictors	Psychological Aggression		Physical Punishment		Psychological and Physical violence	
	Adjusted OR (95% CI)	P-value	Adjusted OR (95% CI)	P-value	Adjusted OR (95% CI)	P-value
Sex of the child						
Female	1		1		1	
Male	1.19 (1.05-1.34)	<0.01	1.59 (1.41-1.80)	<0.001	1.45 (1.28-1.65)	<0.001
Age of the child						
1-7	1		1		1	
8-14	1.28 (1.13-1.45)	<0.001	0.44 (0.39-0.50)	<0.001	0.66 (0.58-0.75)	<0.001
Median= 7; QD= 3.5	Min= 1		Max= 14			
Area						
Urban	1		1		1	
Rural	0.92 (0.79-1.06)	0.243	0.82 (0.70-0.94)	<0.01	0.82 (0.71-0.96)	<0.05
Region						
Red River Delta	1		1		1	
Northern Midlands and Mountain area	1.02 (0.82-1.27)	0.854	0.71 (0.57-0.90)	<0.01	0.89 (0.70-1.15)	0.380
North Central and Central Coastal area	1.43 (1.14-1.78)	<0.01	1.15 (0.92-1.45)	0.215	1.40 (1.10-1.78)	<0.01
Central Highlands	1.74 (1.39-2.18)	<0.001	1.25 (0.99-1.57)	0.051	1.63 (1.29-2.07)	<0.001
South East	1.31 (1.06-1.63)	<0.05	0.89 (0.71-1.11)	0.289	1.18 (0.93-1.50)	0.164
Mekong River Delta	1.41 (1.12-1.77)	<0.01	0.99 (0.79-1.25)	0.946	1.29 (1.01-1.66)	<0.05

Table 4.6 The full model of Multiple Logistic Regression (cont.)

Predictors	Psychological Aggression		Physical Punishment		Psychological and Physical violence	
	Adjusted OR (95% CI)	P-value	Adjusted OR (95% CI)	P-value	Adjusted OR (95% CI)	P-value
Religion of the household head						
Buddhism	1		1		1	
Christian	1.52 (1.16-1.98)	<0.01	1.37 (1.05-1.78)	0.200	1.29 (0.99-1.68)	0.059
Other religion	1.47 (0.97-2.23)	0.071	1.03 (0.68-1.51)	0.943	1.03 (0.69-1.54)	0.882
No religion	1.12 (0.93-1.36)	0.243	0.95 (0.78-1.15)	0.597	0.95 (0.78-1.17)	0.646
Education of the household head						
Tertiary and higher	1		1		1	
Primary	1.43 (1.11-1.84)	<0.01	1.07 (0.83-1.38)	0.620	1.14 (0.87-1.49)	0.356
Secondary	1.20 (0.96-1.48)	0.102	1.02 (0.81-1.27)	0.889	1.01 (0.79-1.28)	0.970
Wealth index of the household (quintile)						
Middle	1		1		1	
Poorest	0.91 (0.73-1.13)	0.382	1.08 (0.87-1.34)	0.498	1.14 (0.91-1.42)	0.260
Poor	0.92 (0.74-1.13)	0.418	1.03 (0.84-1.27)	0.801	1.14 (0.92-1.41)	0.233
Rich	0.80 (0.67-0.99)	<0.05	0.87 (0.71-1.06)	0.154	0.85 (0.69-1.05)	0.123
Richest	0.73 (0.59-0.91)	<0.01	0.72 (0.58-0.91)	<0.01	0.69 (0.54-0.87)	<0.01
Mother's age of marriage						
≥ 18	1		1		1	
< 18	1.07 (0.89-1.30)	0.472	1.03 (0.86-1.24)	0.753	1.12 (0.92-1.35)	0.258
Median= 21; QD=2.5	Min= 7		Max= 42			
Union status of mother						
Currently married/in union	1		1		1	
Formerly married/in union	0.94 (0.71-1.23)	0.637	1.27 (0.97-1.67)	0.083	1.11 (0.85-1.47)	0.446
Education of the mother						
Tertiary and higher	1		1		1	
Primary	1.79 (1.38-2.32)	<0.001	1.67 (1.28-2.18)	<0.001	1.71 (1.29-2.27)	<0.001
Secondary	1.37 (1.12-1.68)	<0.01	1.17 (0.95-1.45)	0.142	1.27 (1.01-1.60)	0.043

4.4.2 The final model of Multiple Logistic Regression

The final model of multiple logistic regression analysis about predicting factors for child violence was performed by SPSS using Backward Wald method. The result of final model of Multiple Logistic Regression was present in the following table.

As it shown from the table, sex of the child is significantly associated with psychological aggression, physical punishment, and both psychological and physical violence among children aged 1 to 14. Especially, male children were 1.19 times (p -value <0.01) for psychological aggression, 1.59 times (p -value <0.001) for physical punishment, and 1.45 times (p -value <0.001) for both psychological and physical more likely to undergo violence than female children.

Regarding to age of the child was found as the most significant risk factor related to psychological aggression. In specify, children aged 8-14 had 1.26 times (p -value <0.001) higher chance to encounter psychological aggression than children from 1 to 7. On the other hand, children aged 8-14 had 0.44 times (p -value <0.001) for physical punishment and 0.66 times (p -value <0.001) for both and psychological and physical violence lower risk of being subjected to violence compared to children from 1 to 7.

Relating to area, children who live in the rural area were 0.82 times (p -value <0.01) likely to suffer from physical punishment then children living in the urban area.

Concerning the regions, children living in the North Central and Central Coastal area were 1.48 times (p -value <0.001); in Central Highlands were 1.82 times (p -value <0.001); in South East were 1.30 times (p -value <0.05); in Mekong River Delta were 1.45 times (p -value <0.01) likely to meet psychological aggression compared to children living in the Red River Delta region. However, children residing in the Northern Midlands and Mountain area were 0.71 times (p -value <0.01) lower risk of being subjected to physical punishment than children living in the Red River Delta region. For both psychological and physical violence, children living in the North Central and Central Coastal area were 1.39 times (p -value <0.01); in in Central Highlands were 1.63 times (p -value <0.001); in in Mekong River Delta were 1.30 times (p -value <0.05) higher chance engaged in both psychological and physical violence than children in the Red River Delta region.

With regard to religion of the household head, children living with the Christian household head were 1.53 times (p -value <0.01) for psychological aggression, 1.36 times (p -value <0.05 more likely to experience violence than children living with Buddhism household head. Concerning another risk factor from the household head, children living with household head graduating primary level had 1.53 times (p -value <0.01), and those who living with household head finishing secondary level had 1.25 times (p -value <0.05) higher risk of being subjected to violence than living with a household head graduating tertiary level and higher. Noticeably, education of the household head has no significant association with child physical punishment, and composed psychological and physical violence in this final model.

As shown from the Table, wealth index of the household were not a risk factor for psychological aggression. And, children who living in the richest section had 0.72 times (p -value <0.01) for physical punishment, and 0.67 times (p -value <0.01) for both psychological and physical violence lower risk of undergoing than children living in the middle wealth index section.

Another high risk factor regarding to psychological aggression, physical punishment and both psychological and physical violence was found is the education of mother. Children whose mother completing primary level were 1.94 times (p -value <0.001) for psychological aggression, 2.02 times (p -value <0.001) for physical punishment, and 1.83 times (p -value <0.001) more likely to engage in violence than children whose mother graduating tertiary level and higher. In addition, children whose mother fulfilling secondary level were 1.45 times (p -value <0.001) for psychological aggression and 1.29 times (p -value <0.05) for composed violence higher risk of being undergo violence than children whose mother graduating tertiary level and higher.

Table 4.7 The final model of Multiple Logistic Regression

Predictors	Psychological Aggression		Physical Punishment		Psychological and Physical violence	
	Adjusted OR (95% CI)	P-value	Adjusted OR (95% CI)	P-value	Adjusted OR (95% CI)	P-value
Sex of the child						
Female	1		1		1	
Male	1.19 (1.05-1.34)	<0.01	1.59 (1.41-1.80)	<0.001	1.45 (1.27-1.64)	<0.001
Age of the child						
1-7	1		1		1	
8-14	1.26 (1.11-1.42)	<0.001	0.44 (0.39-0.50)	<0.001	0.66 (0.58-0.75)	<0.001
Median= 7; QD= 2.5		Min= 1			Max= 14	
Area						
Urban	N/A*		1		N/A	
Rural			0.82 (0.71-0.95)	<0.01		
Region						
Red River Delta	1		1		1	
Northern Midlands and Mountain area	1.07 (0.87-1.32)	0.510	0.71 (0.57-0.90)	<0.01	0.90 (0.70-1.15)	0.381
North Central and Central Coastal area	1.48 (1.19-1.84)	<0.001	1.15 (0.92-1.44)	0.222	1.39 (1.09-1.77)	<0.01
Central Highlands	1.82 (1.47-2.27)	<0.001	1.25 (1.10-1.57)	0.052	1.63 (1.29-2.07)	<0.001
South East	1.30 (1.05-1.61)	<0.05	0.89 (0.72-1.11)	0.300	1.19 (0.94-1.51)	0.148
Mekong River Delta	1.45 (1.16-1.81)	<0.01	0.10 (0.79-1.25)	0.966	1.30 (1.02-1.67)	<0.05
Religion of the household head						
Buddhism	1		1		1	
Christian	1.53 (1.16-1.10)	<0.01	1.36 (1.05-1.77)	<0.05	1.29 (0.99-1.67)	0.063
Other religion	1.51 (0.10-2.28)	0.053	1.02 (0.69-1.52)	0.927	1.05 (0.70-1.57)	0.818
No religion	1.13 (0.93-1.37)	0.208	0.94 (0.78-1.14)	0.547	0.94 (0.77-1.15)	0.538
Education of the household head						
Tertiary and higher	1		N/A*		N/A*	
Primary	1.53 (1.20-1.94)	<0.01				
Secondary	1.25 (1.02-1.55)	<0.05				

N/A: the independent variables were excluded during the backward procedure of the Multiple Logistic Regression or were excluded since Chi-square test found the non-significant result.

Table 4.7 The final model of Multiple Logistic Regression (cont.)

Predictors	Psychological Aggression		Physical Punishment		Psychological and Physical violence	
	Adjusted OR (95% CI)	P-value	Adjusted OR (95% CI)	P-value	Adjusted OR (95% CI)	P-value
Wealth index of the household (quintile)						
Middle	N/A*		1		1	
Poorest			1.10 (0.88-1.35)	0.424	1.18 (0.95-1.47)	0.139
Poor			1.03 (0.84-1.27)	0.766	1.15 (0.93-1.43)	0.186
Rich			0.86 (0.71-1.05)	0.140	0.84 (0.68-1.04)	0.101
Richest			0.72 (0.57-0.89)	<0.01	0.67 (0.53-0.85)	<0.01
Mother's age of marriage						
≥ 18	N/A*		1		N/A*	
< 18			1.27 (0.97-1.68)	0.078		
Median= 21; QD=3.5	Min= 7		Max= 42			
Education of the mother						
Tertiary and higher	1		1		1	
Primary	1.94 (1.52-2.46)	<0.001	2.02 (1.65-2.46)	<0.001	1.83 (1.42-2.36)	<0.001
Secondary	1.45 (1.19-1.76)	<0.001	1.30 (1.10-1.54)	0.076	1.29 (1.05-1.58)	<0.05

N/A: the independent variables were excluded during the backward procedure of the Multiple Logistic Regression or were excluded since Chi-square test found the non-significant result.

CHAPTER V

DISCUSSIONS

This chapter presents discussion of the findings about the prevalence of psychological aggression, physical punishment, and both psychological and physical violence with children aged 1 to 14 years at home in Vietnam; and the association between multiple factors such as socioeconomics and maternal factors. The findings are also compared with previous studies and other relevant findings related to child violence, especially in other low-and-middle income country.

The goal of this study was to investigate the association between several risk factors and three outcomes related to child violence among children from 1 to 14 years of age. There were 5231 children aged 1 to 14 years old from the Vietnam Multiple Cluster Indicator Survey were included for analyzing in this study.

5.1 Prevalence of home violence in children aged 1 to 14 years

Regarding to the prevalence of child violence in term of three outcomes: psychological aggression, physical punishment, and psychological and physical violence, the finding shows that children were experienced all types of violence during the past month. Children were more likely to encounter psychological aggression such as being shouted, yelled or screamed out loud; being called dumb, lazy or some ugly bad names than being subjected to physical punishment. This result has similar point with a recent conclusion from a child discipline report that psychological aggression is slightly more common than physical punishment even though both forms of violence are widespread (25), that means parents or primary caretakers easily yelled at children, or scold them for their mistakes.

As it can be seen from the results, about one-third of children underwent both psychological and physical violence, these two violent disciplines often frequently occur together. When parents were in bad tempered, they would hit their child on their

body parallel scold them with bad words to satisfy their displeasure. This results share the common with the summary from low-and-middle income countries that households executed a combination of two violent practices. Most of children in majority of countries were experienced to both psychological as well as physical punishment (9). In addition, children in Vietnam were less likely to go through both psychological and physical violence than children in Lao People's Democratic Republic (32% and 40% respectively) (25) although Vietnam and Laos share the same region in South East Asia and some similarities in culture.

5.2 The risk factors for child violence on children aged 1 to 14 year at home in Vietnam

5.2.1 Psychological aggression

Sex of the child

As it shown from the final model for the predictors for psychological aggression, male children are in risk of experiencing violent discipline compare to female children. This result shares the same outcome with several findings from the previous Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey and Demographic and Health Survey that boys are likely to be at higher risk than girls (9, 10, 24). Normally, adults have less patients in reminding children about how to behave well, for instantly, they often shout out loud, shook the children to warn them not to do something wrong. And female children are often more obedient than boys (49), and people's prejudice about girls often behave better than boys, so girls have less chance to meet psychological aggression.

Age of the child

From the model, older children (from 8-14) have higher chance to encounter psychological aggression than younger children (from 1-7). This result has the same conclusion with previous study that older boys and girls are more likely to experience psychological aggression without physical punishment compared to younger children (10). This result can be explained with normal perception that older children have better

awareness about well-behaved manners, what they should avoid doing; but they are still found mischievous and stubborn sometimes, so parents might yell at them to stop doing the misbehavior things, then it was considered as a normal custom in Vietnam in rearing children.

Region

As it can be seen that Vietnam has been divided into six regions, and most of the regions has the strong association with child violence. Firstly, children who live in Northern Midlands and Mountain area; North Central and Central Coastal area; Central Highlands; South East; and Mekong River Delta were in risk of appeared to psychological aggression compared to children living in Red River Delta. It can be explained that psychological aggression by screaming, or yelling are popular in those regions due to the indirect reason: among six regions, the Red River Delta is the most development part of the country so people live in there has a higher socioeconomic condition compared to the rest (50), that means the other regions has lower socioeconomic condition which links to the psychological aggression among children following a result from previous finding (24).

Religion of the household head

From the final result, religion of the household head as a Christian is a risk factor of psychological aggression to children at home compared to Buddhism household head. It shares the same result with a previous study that psychological abuse was significantly reported in religious authority case than other forms (34). Especially, in a previous study, Christian people occasionally broke their commitment in protecting children, they can did psychological aggression to children to make them better, and after that, they ask for the forgiveness from God (41). However, it should be noted that sometimes pursuing a religion in Vietnam has not had a clear definition, for the Christian, they will go to the church to join with the Christian community and respect to the God's guideline. For other popular religion such as Buddhism, there is not clear a definition to being a Buddhism person, some people are not Buddhism but they are vegetarian. Hence, the border or being religion follower in Vietnam is still not clear.

The result about Christian household head has vocation of doing psychological aggression is need to be investigate more.

Education of the household head

Children living with lower education household head tend to be subjected to psychological aggression compared to children stay with high educational level. This finding matches with previous result stated that children coming from a family characterized by low parent education are significant risk factors for maltreatment (10, 23, 35). Apparently, a low education household head could not know how worse psychological aggression can harm to the children through yelling, scolding, and verbal aggression. A knowledgeable household head might have smart ways in leading household and nourishing children with the reasonable ways. And because a household head has a very crucial position in a house so their decision will be manipulative and effective on all members, especially children. They might have a right perception in shaping children characteristics by appropriate methods instead of psychological aggression and physical punishment.

Education level of the mother

Low education level of mother was found associated with psychological aggression against children at home. This result was once published in the previous round of the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 4 (23). It can be explained that a mother who fulfilled higher education, she can have a better skill in teaching her child without calling them with bad names, or yelling at them, in contrast with whom have lower education, they would not have knowledge about child's right, what a child should be taught without violence. This result points out that if both household head and the mother have higher education level, their children would less suffer from psychological aggression.

5.2.2 Physical punishment

Sex of the child

Sex of the child was significantly associated with physical punishment at home, and male children have higher risk to encounter physical punishment than female ones. This result shares the similarity with a lot of previous studies that male gender associates with the possibility to meet physical violence (7, 9, 24, 28-31). The difference of child physical punishment between male and female children might be due to gender-linked behavior characteristics. And disobedience is one of the main reason why parents in Chinese do physical punishment (49). In addition, this fact happens in Vietnam due to the belief that children should be punished when they are disobedient, physical punishment is practiced to warn them to stop doing the wrong manners. Another point that might explain why boys were more likely to undergo violence than girls is boys frequently demonstrated more aggressive and delinquent behavior (51) meanwhile girls were less aggressive and behaved more obedient (52).

Age of the child

From the association was found between physical punishment and age of the child, this indicator was not found as a risk factor for older children (8-14 years of age) to go through physical punishment compare to the younger children age 1-7. This result share a contrast age's range that the rate of physical punishment peak at, which vary from country to country that in China is 3-6, 6-11 in India, and 6-12 years old in United States (29, 32, 33). This means younger children were in risk of physical punishment, and this scenario was the same with situation in China that physical punishment peaks at children aged 3-6 due to the similarity of the culture, which starts from Confusion ethics had been existed for thousand years.

Area

As it can be seen from the final model, children residing in the rural area were less likely to undergo physical punishment compare to children living in the urban area. This result has released in the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey that punishment is more common in rural areas, as well as in less educated, and poorer (23). Children

living in rural area were mentioned in the previous survey living in the undeveloped area, with a strong associated with low socioeconomic; not many people were allowed to go to school, most of them are less education. This indirect effect might cause physical punishment against children. However, in this final model, a reversed result was found, urban children were in risk of suffering physical punishment. It can be explained that living in the big cities with very fast urbanization can make people are more stressful and lack of time spending for their family. The first action when parents know about their children's flaw is scolding them, even punished them without hearing for the explanation. That situation sometimes easily found in Vietnam urban area.

Region

As for physical punishment, children residing in Northern Midlands and Mountain Area had lower risk of experience physical punishment than children that live in Red River Delta region. According to the region, children living in the Northern Midlands and Mountain Area less suffered from the physical punishment than children in the Red River Delta region. In specify, Northern Midlands and Mountain Area is considered as an undeveloped region of Vietnam, residents mainly are ethics minorities, and low socioeconomics condition. However, previous study showed that low socioeconomic linked to violence against children (7, 10, 24), it can explained that prevention program might influence people's awareness about how they should treat their child instead of hitting them.

Religion of the household head

A household head as a Christian was found as a risk for physical punishment against children at home compared to Buddhism household head. It can be explain that in the target of this religion is making a better world, especially children should be taught about well manners. So children living with a Christian can be in higher risk of physical punishment, which they can manner better as the Christian household head want to contribute to the society. This result shares the same perspective with psychological aggression on children. And this result shares a cross-sectional result among people living in surveyed provinces which people who mainly are Buddhism and

Christian whereas this survey had implemented on other six religions but the respondents were so small to report any case of violence against children.

Wealth index of the household (quintiles)

Children who lived in the richest households were not found as a risk factor for physical punishment. So the richer group children living in, the less risk of physical punishment they encounter. There were previous findings about the poverty and the physical punishment among children that poverty associated tightly with physical punishment (7, 10, 24). Hence, this result share the same outcome with previous study. Children living in better condition would be more cherished by their parents, children have opportunities to go to school – where they are taught to be better well-behaved, and their parents who can be fulfilled high education, so they can improve their ability in rearing children without punishing them by hitting on their body, pulling their ears, etc.

Mother's age of marriage

Regarding to the mother's age at marriage, children whose married below 18 years old were in risk of physical punishment. Early marriage is prohibited in Vietnam based on the Law of Marriage, however, in the rural areas or low socioeconomic areas, early marriage is still found. In this study, there is a case of a 7-year-old girl who had been forced to get married. In the countryside, girls at the adolescent age are often get marry early due to their parent's agreement with the counterpart's family. Then the child was born and fed by very young mother, it would be a risk of physical punishment due to their lack of patience, temper, and knowledge about child rearing. Previously, some studies announced that the age of marriage of a mother associated with physical punishment to their child (7, 24).

Education of the mother

Education of the mother was found as a risk factor for physical punishment on children aged 1-14 at home. Mothers who attained lower education level were more likely to do physical punishment to their child than those who had higher education attainment. Some other studies also point out that physically abuse parents are more

likely to have less education (7, 24, 35). And the result from several findings share the same conclusion with this result that low education increase the potential of physical violence towards children (23, 24).

5.2.3 Psychological and physical violence

Sex of the child

In daily life, children are normally encountering both psychological and physical violence due to their bad manners or because of adult's hot temper in guiding children. They spontaneously do both violent disciplines to children, especially with male children who are often more mischievous and act lively than female children. That is why this study finds sex of the child as a risk for suffering psychological and physical aggression at home in boys higher than girls, which is similar with result from previous studies (9, 10, 28).

Age of the child

Psychological and physical violence often encounter together, and among children from 1-14 years old, children in group aged 8-14 have lower risk of suffering from both type of violence. Practically, the age's range is not stable from country to country, in Vietnam, the belief that children should be warned with both verbal and non-verbal actions were popular as a social norm (53). However, a study published on Journal of Marriage and Family found out that the older children, especially 7 years old and older were spanked less frequently than younger children(54).

Region

Children live in households in North Central and Central Coastal area, Central Highlands and Mekong Delta River had higher chance of engaging in both psychological and physical violence in comparison with children living in the Red River Delta. The three regions above have difficult condition to development in both social and economic conditions due to their natural geographical condition: a region has a long coastal line which annually suffering from hurricane and natural disaster, a region is highland which allows the residents to cultivate several seasonal plants and fruits; the

Mekong River still focuses in cultivating rice with traditional technology, and now encountering the drought which caused by the lack of water in the Mekong river. People living there have limited time in teaching, guiding their children with patients, and their awareness about child right is also limited. Hence, for an indirect reason, the low development in those mountainous areas causes physical punishment to children.

Religion of the household head

Both psychological and physical violence were not found significant with the religion of the household head as Christian. As previous explanation, the target of the religion is making people love each other and contribute a better society following God's guideline. So sometimes, violence is acceptable to make children become more obedient and understand. Not many researches relating to this fact, however, there was a study about biblical foundation stated that although Christianity's long history consist of foundations and examples of child nurture and protection, Christian confess that they did not consistently follow Christian's teaching and often seek for the forgiveness from the God. Hence many Christians around the world today admit about their wrongs and atrocities against children (41).

Additionally, no religion and other religions were not found any associated with any child violence in this study.

Wealth index of the household head (quintile)

Wealth index of the household was not found as a risk factor for both psychological and physical violence in this study. This finding shares a similar result with previous findings that there is a strong association between poverty and child maltreatment (23, 28, 29, 36-39) The only one association was found is children who living in the richest section of the quintile were 0.74 times less likely to be engaged in both psychological and physical violence while children from wealthier household share equally likely to experience violent discipline as children from poorer households in some low-and-middle income countries (25). This result is vary from country to country, and there is no fixed outcome on if the wealth is a risk factors or not. Practically in Vietnam, it might be assumed that children living in the good conditions will have chance to meet their needs, and they were raised by more knowledgeable parents or

caregivers who do not have to worry about earning for living, and supply for the basic demands of the family.

Education of the mother

Psychological and physical violence is found significant with education of mother. Mother who has lower education is often abuse their child in both psychological and physical violence. This factor indicated that the knowlegde of mother counts an important role in teaching children without any violence, and mother who were able to attain higher education are more flexible and resonably in nourish a child without psychological and physical violence.

In addition, previous studies showed an association between maternal factors and child violence such as younger mother tends to practice more physical violence (42), and mother living in a union was found associated with child violence (43, 44). Apart from maternal factors, living in rural or urban was associated with violence against children, especially living in the rural area (23). However, in this study, maternal factors and area were not found as risk factors to any type of the violence.

In practical, there are some factors can be risk factors for child violence such as: disable children, special circumstance children; family size, or parents who suffered from violence in childhood. Those factors commonly found in some previous studies but in the Vietnam Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), UNICEF want to focus on normal children in the whole country, and the direct interaction between the child and household member, so those other indicators were not found in the child discipline module in Vietnam MICS survey.

CHAPTER VI

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Conclusion

In order to lessen the number of children who experience violence at home, there are three main objectives of this study: 1) To ascertain the prevalence of home violence on children, 2) To describe the socio-economic factors and maternal factors of the children, 3) To determine the association between socio-economic factors and maternal factors and home violence on children aged 1 -14 years.

This study is a cross-sectional study based on the secondary data from the Vietnam Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 5 with the sample size of 5231 children aged 1-14 year old in Vietnam.

Regarding to the methodology, the analyses are performed step by step in three parts: descriptive analysis demonstrates the frequencies or the means distribution of dependent variable and independent variables. Then, the bivariate analysis is conducted to investigate the relationship of each independent factor to the child violence by using cross-tabulation with Chi-Squared scores. The multivariate analysis is applied for examining the relationship between each independent factor and the outcome variable while controlling for the other variables by using Logistic Regression. All the statistical tests are interpreted with odds ratio and the confidence intervals of 95% and 99%.

There are several findings were found to describe the characteristics of three forms of violence in this study, it can be concluded that nearly two-thirds of children aged 1-14 years underwent psychological aggression at home, 43 percent of children encountered physical punishment at home, and more than one-third of those children suffered from both psychological and physical violence at home in Vietnam.

Result from the final model of this study pointed out the risk factors for psychological aggression with strong associated, such as: children living in four out of six regions, except the Red River Delta statistically associated with psychological

violence at p -value <0.05 ; religion of the household head as a Christian associated with psychological aggression compared to Buddhism at p -value <0.01 ; and low education of mother had a strong association with violence at p -value <0.001

As for physical punishment, several factors found the relationship but low education of the mother was found significantly associated with physical punishment at p -value <0.001 . Then relating to psychological and physical violence, regions where the children live were found association and low education of the mother were strongly related to both types of violence (p -value <0.05).

This study was investigate based on the Vietnam Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 5, from the Child Discipline module. Because this is the secondary data, so the choice for variables to investigate was very limited. In addition, there are some other potential risk factors for child violence but they were not included in the Child Discipline Module such as: children with disability are in higher risk of violence (7, 24, 40); the size of the family also relating violence, for example, a children living with more than four or five other children in the family, their parents tend to use violence for rearing (24); or parents have low self-esteem, low control of their impulses, or having mental problem also tend to abuse their children (24). Lastly, parents who have been abused in the childhood were potentially abuse their children (24), or harmful alcohol use by parents and caregivers can impair their sense of responsibility and reduce the amount of time and money available to spend on the child. In such cases children's basic needs can be neglected (45).

Another limitation of this study is measuring the breadth and depth of violence against children is complicated by the fact that violence can take many forms (physical, sexual and emotional), occur in any setting (including the home, school, workplace and over the Internet) and be perpetrated by individuals (parents and other caregivers, peers, intimate partners, authority figures and strangers) or groups (9); however, in the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS5), UNICEF just collected information from an angle as home violence which were found most common in Vietnam, there are some reported trends about sexual violence and others violence still happening to Vietnamese children. In addition, the number of study related to child violence, especially home violence was limited, hence the references to compare and refer were not reflected other concepts of home violence in children.

6.2 Recommendations

For policy makers

Law on Child Protection, Care and Education in Vietnam has released since 2004, and has been revised few times to update the situation. The strength in this law implementation is built up the law fits with current regulation of other Laws, especially is the equal treatment of every child, gender equality, no religion discrimination Civil Laws. Laws on children also assigns the responsibility of family, school and society with the rule: Children's benefit is the priority of all activities of Administrations, organization, and individuals in both domestic and foreign environment to attribute for protecting and caring children career. All the child's right must be respected and followed. Every action violates to child right and affects children's development is forbidden. In addition, a financial budget is built to protect, care and educate children from government budget, foreign support and legal incomes (14).

On the other hand, there are some weaknesses in implementing: the definition of the age for children in Vietnam is 16, but in the Child Right Protocol from the United Nations, children are whom under 18 years of age. Secondly, Laws assigned the administrative organization in charge of implementing the laws but there was no regulation about cooperation between related ministries and organizations (14). Budget spending for child protection, care and education is still lacking, and lack of human resources to implement.

From the above weaknesses, here are some suggestions to prevent violence on children for policy makers:

- To change the official age of children from 16 to 18 to follow the Protocol of United Nations, and to remove the definition that children just consist of Vietnamese citizen.
- To supplement rule of respecting, listening, considering and responding children's aspirations.
- To supplement regulations about cooperation between organizations to protect, care and educate children better.

- To raise people's awareness about child protection and child's right. Especially to the rural area, poor area, and remote area where the traditional custom is strongly conservatived about gender equality.
- To appeal for more project from domestic and foreign organizations to change the perception about violence, especially psychological aggression, due to its characteristic, not many people realize that their screaming or yelling to their child are counted as aggression to children. In the serious consequences, it can cause low self-esteem.
- To adjust suitable socioeconomic development plan for region where the child violence prevalence is high.
- To universalize education for all people, especially woman in poverty, woman living in remote area with special circumstance.

For community level

Home violence on children exist in every community with various forms. Hence, the key human resources can directly deal with this is health volunteers:

- Child violence is a difficult pattern to detect, so the health volunteers should be encouraged and reinforced to get the trust from the community. Those village health volunteers should be informed about the characteristics of violence against children to promote and prevent violence, especially risk factors come from gender equality, Christian household head living in the setting, and education level of the household head and the mothers.
- The teamwork between health care workers in child protection field and the volunteer should be upheld for all activities.
- The additional support from the local health authority is needed to advocate the good knowledge in remote and ethics area.

For household level

Home is consider as the most safety place for children but also can be a dangerous place. Results from findings show that low education level of household head and mother counts important part in doing violence to children. Thus, encouraging all household members in the house involving education and improve their ability,

advocated good knowhow to minimize child violence at home. Especially in remote and poor areas, women still are not allowed to go to school for knowledge whereas those women have to spend whole their lifetime to cultivate the rice, take care of their babies and sometimes being abuse by their husband.

For further studies

It was suggested another study which mainly focus on specific regions where the prevalence of violence is higher than the rest. For the high prevalence of home violence on children, it would be better if future studies can investigate the motivation of acting violently on children based on the characteristics of the regions.

The desirable study with several additional variables to find more about risk factors for child violence against children: children disability, family size, parent with low self-esteem and mental disorder, and alcohol abuse parents.

With a very fast development in term of socioeconomics, Vietnam is under pressure of some new negative phenomenon of child violence. Such as, there were some cases reported that the baby caretakers in day care center do violence to children by slapping to force them eating, hitting in the bottom to force them obey and other severed punishments. Considerably, human trafficking, especially children trafficking for illegal organs selling, sexual exploitation among female children ring the alarm of child protection. Thus, the future studies on children will contribute to child protection career if they expand to those critical occurrences.

Additionally, high prevalence of child violence can be deducted if future studies can predict the trends of psychological and behavioral factors, more experimental studies will be carried out on the practical situation, and for child violence, a study with a mixed method design will be recommended to investigate a sensitive issue as child violence.

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Frequency and percentage of home discipline method

Code	Method		Frequency (n=5231)	Percentage
CD3C	Shook child	Yes	139	2.7
		No	5,080	97.1
		Missing	12	0.2
CD3D	Shouted, yelled or screamed at child	Yes	2,864	54.8
		No	2,352	45.0
		Missing	15	0.3
CD3F	Spanked, hit or slapped child on bottom with bare hand	Yes	1,810	34.6
		No	3,412	65.2
		Missing	9	0.2
CD3G	Hit child on the bottom or elsewhere with belt, brush, stick, etc.	Yes	677	12.9
		No	4,545	86.9
		Missing	9	0.2
CD3H	Called child dumb, lazy or another name	Yes	879	16.8
		No	4,344	83.0
		Missing	8	0.2
CD3I	Hit or slapped child on the face, head or ears	Yes	106	2.0
		No	5,090	97.3
		Missing	35	0.7
CD3J	Hit or slapped child on the hand, arm or leg	Yes	588	11.2
		No	4,635	88.6
		Missing	8	0.2
CD3K	Beat child up as hard as one could	Yes	11	0.2
		No	5,205	99.5
		Missing	15	0.3



Certificate of Exemption from Ethical Review
The Committee for Research Ethics (Social Sciences)



Certificate of Exemption No.: 2016/016.2604
MU-SSIRB No.: 2016/222 (B1)
Title of Project: DETERMINANTS OF CHILD VIOLENCE ON CHILDREN AGED 1 TO 14 YEARS IN TWO DIFFERENT AREAS IN VIETNAM
Principal Investigator: Miss Duong Thuy Nguyen
Advisor: Asst.Prof.Dr. Cheerawit Rattanapan
Name of Institution: ASEAN Institute for Health Development

The Committee for Research Ethics (Social Sciences) is in full compliance with International Guidelines of Human Research Protection such as Declaration of Helsinki, The Belmont Report, CIOMS Guidelines.

Date of Determination: April 26, 2016

Chairman

Head of the Institute

(Emeritus Professor Dr. Santhat Sermsri)

(Assoc. Prof. Dr. Wariya Chinwanno)
Dean of Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities

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