

Explaining problems and adversities of children of fathers' involved in substance abuse: A qualitative content analysis in an Iranian context

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Abstract

The aim of the present study is to identify problems of children of fathers involved in substance abuse, in order to provide some basic guidelines and practical suggestions on reducing the problem and strengthening the children's resilience. The present study employed content analysis, a qualitative research method. The population consisted of children of substance abusing fathers. The study was conducted using a purposive sampling refined by a theoretical sampling of 28 children who participated in the study. Data were collected through in-depth semi-structured interviews and focus group discussions. The trustworthiness of this study was evaluated by the four criteria: creditability, dependability, conformability, and transferability. Seven categories of children's problems were found in the FGD and depth interviews. These categories included: Negative attitude toward oneself, Parental support disorder, Accept the role of the misfortune hero, Violence and maltreatment, The drama of chaos, Family routine/ Disorganization, Exclusion and isolation. The findings of this study indicated that the quality of parental – child relationship and between parents are not satisfied. Domestic Violence is one of the obvious signs of family problems. The offenders often seem to lack emotional involvement with family members. The Majority of children in the study had low self-confidence.

Key words: qualitative content analysis, substance use, qualitative method, resilience, children's problems

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Background

Families are hidden victims of drug use. They suffer from Stress and persistent, extreme and intense pain and suffering from depression, deep anxiety and chronic fatigue that stems from anxiety and frustration (Barnard, 2006). Due to the chronic nature of addiction disease, life is very anxious with an abuser. The disease makes them unreliable and aggressive. In fact, these people do not have mood and behavior stability, and their family members do not know how to treat and get along with them. Because of this, in addition to having difficulty communicating and their lifestyle, they often live in anxiety and confusion and suffer from a lot of emotional problems and difficulty expressing feelings (Kimberly et al., 2005; Locke & colleagues 2010; Benishek et al 2011). Over time, the family system undergoes fundamental changes, borders are broken; family members gradually develop alongside the abuser, become sick, and various forms of co-dependency emerge.

Drug abuse and its emotional and behavioral consequences could affect the roles of parents; negative communication and conflicting interactions between parents influence the relationship between them and the performance of children. In family systems in which parents engage in drug use, negative, critical and harassing relationships, along with blame, judgments, complaints, and guilt not only, affect parent relationships but also affect relationships between parents and their children (May & Truman, 2002). Children may experience cognitive impairment and experience feelings of apprehension, hesitation, confusion, anger, and a damaged sense of safety (Haight et al., 2009). These families are often characterized by high levels of dissatisfaction, anxiety, and instability and high prevalence of verbal violence (Fals-Stewart et al., 1996). Children who are exposed to conflict with parents have anxiety and lot of fear (Jets et al., 2003). These negative impacts on children could prevent their confidence in the family and increases the probability of bullying, aggression, violence, delinquent behaviors, victimization, and addition of stress to the family system (Morti et al., 2006). Studies show that among the families involved with drug use, both parental weakness and parental conflicts may have similar outcomes for the child (Kelly et al., 2010). Thus, simultaneous attention should be considered to the relationship between parents and parent-child interactions in the interventions of the family system involving parents involved in drugs.

Denial and silence is one of the basic principles in many families that involve substance use, which makes children unable to easily talk about their experiences and feelings (Haight et al., 2009). Several studies have also shown the relationship between drug use and violence against children and spouses (Hartley, 2002; Donovan & colleagues, 2006; Greer & Taylor, 2006; Freistler et al., 2017). Based on the attachment theory, the result of the experience of domestic violence for children can be the loss of sense of trust, high violence, anger and fear (Lieberman & Van Horne, 2005). Children may choose anger and aggression as an adaptation path to cope with

the stresses in their relationships (Haight et al., 2009). In other words, children in the families' using drugs suffer from multiple harm, because in addition to simultaneously tolerating the observation of parental abuses and the suffering of child abuse, the expression of anger and aggression as an adaptive mechanism, they also have to endure the negative feedback of social environments.

Research shows that, children with drug addicted parents often face emotional, behavioral, physical, cognitive, educational and social problems (Anda et al., 2006; Peleg-Oren & Teichman, 2006). Also children and generally girls may experience intrinsic behaviors, such as social abandonment, low self-esteem and loneliness and these behaviors and feelings could predispose them to depression, suicide and addiction during adolescence. (Straussner & Fewell, 2011).

Given the vulnerability of children and the need for parental support, parenting and parental care to achieve optimal growth and livelihoods and survival, the dangers of drug abusing by parents are more for them. Despite the devastating and prolonged effects of the use of drugs by the parents on children, few studies have been conducted in Iran on the field of evaluating physical, psychological and social performance of children in families involved in the use of drug and no serious consideration has been given to the problems of the children. What is primarily important in protecting children with drug addicted parents is the recognition of the effects of drug use on psychosocial development of children and their problems. This recognition is important in the framework of support services, drug abuse prevention, mental health services and other forms of intervention. This research seeks to grasp the needs, issues and problems of children of substance user fathers (COSUFs) in order to provide supportive solutions to reduce these problems.

Method of study

The present study employed content analysis, a qualitative research method. The population consisted of children of fathers' of substance abuse. Coordination with four centers in 2015 (in Tehran the capital city of Iran) was taken and all interviews, after winning the trust of participants, were conducted by the researchers. The study was conducted using a purposive sampling refined by a theoretical sampling of 28 children who participated in the study. Data were collected through in-depth semi-structured interviews and focus group discussions. Interviews began with simple and general questions followed by questions that were more detailed. The average interview time was about 60 minutes. Immediately after each interview, the data were transcribed verbatim and simultaneously analyzed. In coding, transcripts of interviews were investigated line by line and word by word, and coded by key phrases in the text or inferred by the researchers; codes of similar nature and meaning were placed in a category. Categories and codes for each interview were compared with the next interview to identify the properties and relationships between them, and then similar categories were conceptually and characteristically merged, located around a joint axis

which then formed a wider category which was related to other categories.

The trustworthiness of this study was evaluated by the four criteria: credibility, dependability, conformability, and transferability. Credibility was assured via the triangulation strategy – in addition to semi-structured interviews, field notes and the researchers' prolonged engagement in the subject matter. Dependency was provided by peer reviews and group member checks. Conformability of the data was accomplished by the researcher, who conducted thorough reviews to gather ideas from other researchers and maintained the study documents. Transferability of data was provided by offering a comprehensive description of the subject, participants, data gathering, and data analysis. This description offers other researchers the opportunity to extend the study. In this study, which received ethical permission from the University of Welfare and Rehabilitation Sciences, the researchers observed ethical considerations such as obtaining informed consent, maintaining anonymity, confidentiality, and the right to withdraw from the study at any time.

Results

The analysis of the information obtained from the collaborators on the problems and issues of children with drug user fathers led to the following categories and concepts:

1. Negative attitude toward oneself

In this research, the negative attitudes toward self are one of the main issues and categories concerning children's difficulties. This category consists of the following three themes, overlooking the strengths of the children in the shade of addiction stain, the child's doubts about being worthy to get kindness, and Children's Concerns for other's Confirmation.

1-1- Overlooking the strengths of the children in the shade of addiction stain

The addiction problem affects a family in such a way that it is less important to address some issues for both children and healthy parents. One of these cases is the appreciation of the strengths and efforts to discover it. It seems that the pressure from perceived differences and focusing on it and spending energy to hide the differences has led to the child's presence in the school environment and the success of education and good behaviors are also not much to be considered. On the other hand, the heavy shadow of addiction makes some of the strengths of the family seem insignificant to others.

"I think that when it comes to the family, they cannot see their own success. There is a great disgrace to this issue that successes become small and trivial."

1-2. Doubt the child is worthy to receive kindness

The need for children to love and good-natured behaviors has not been well addressed from parents and especially the fathers. Some interactions formed in the family induce a sense of misuse and the formation of this conception that the child is loved for matters outside his being. On the

other hand, the children analyze the love received from others considering the conditions of the family. Therefore, the child's perception of family differences, especially in families with a poor financial status, which has more differences externally, love has the meaning of pity (again, a matter beyond the child's existence).

"He would take us out on holidays on the pretext of having fun, we would end up in deserts around Tehran, and he would go after drugs. No matter what we said, he would not listen to us, we were very afraid."

1-3 Concerns for other's Confirmation.

Children in the family are less likely to be approved and esteemed by their parents, and their successes are less visible. On the other hand, differences in the family make it doubtful whether family patterns are appropriate and good, so that children wait for others to comment to be evaluated for the desired behavior.

"Confirmation to be seen is too great among kids. I was studying to be seen. My interaction with others was good to say he is a polite kid, he is an intelligent child, and to get me up there, Let my teacher support me."

2. Parental support disorder

Parental support disorder consists of four sub-themes: over support, Family's desire not to attend needs and feelings, unstable security and stability in the family, and the lack of attention to the relationship between the siblings.

2-1. Over support

An imbalance in the protection of children is one of the common problems of a family whose father is a drug abuser. Over protection is one of them and is done by mothers.

"I never let the kids lift a finger, since they were going through adverse life; I tried to pamper them as much as I could."

2-2. Family's desire not to attend needs and feelings

Essentially, the expression of needs and emotions require to be replied, and families usually are not prepared to respond to the needs of children and family members. Family members refuse to express their feelings and needs in order to support family stability and not impose a negative emotion on the system.

"It's as if there were always mechanisms in the house that these feelings should be suppressed and poured into the inside until they talked about it. In our family it did not come up that if it caused something to hurt us, we can talk about it. And to some extent the mother tried to cover these issues."

2-3. Unstable security and stability in the family

One of the challenges posed by all children was the existing threats to the family's psychological stability and security, the probability of parental separation, the concern of children to worsen family situations in the absence of father, domestic violence and parental conflicts, and etc... All are annoying experiences for children, which mothers also confirmed their prevalence in the family. The concern of the children for the deterioration of the situation in the case of leaving the family by the father was reported only by sons and in the case of girls; this concern was a form of compassion for the father.

"The father who uses crystal is aggressive, insulting, beating, threatening, has abnormal behavior, the child seeing all these, giving the child a humiliation, fear and panic. He wants to take refuge, but there is no place. And the child loses his trust."

2-4. Lack of attention to the relationship between siblings

The lack of encouragement by parents to improve the relationship between sisters and brothers are other problems reported by children in this study, which a number of children referred to.

"My relationship was not good with my brother; we always struggled with each other. My mother did not try to improve our relationship. She would say that it's better that you keep being sulky."

3- Accept the role of the misfortune hero

The topic of accepting the role of the hero of misfortune refers to the reproduction of the roles played in the family by the child and the other members of the family. A child living in silence, isolation, denial, high self-sacrifice and violence has a negative attitude toward him/herself. He/she is also inconsiderate to his/her health status and cares for the wellbeing of family members. Children reported that she/he committed to bad mood.

This category is characterized by three themes; sacrifice responsibility for the release of others from suffering and resistance to earn comfort.

3-1.Sacrifice

The children consider addiction as an unresolved, big and unique problem therefore the individual's and the family's positive points are unimportant too. The unwillingness to recount their family problems with others and he/she has a few opportunities to discover the problems of other families and children, as a result they induce that are stuck in a disappointment situation.

"I felt very lonely. I thought I was tainted. Because my father was addicted I was separated from others. I cannot feel good in life, because I have an addict in my life, I must always experience anger. Feel negative. It was one of the emotions that separated me from others."

3-2.Responsibility for the release of others from suffering

This theme refers to the fraternal efforts and concerns to protect others, including family members or friends, and reduce their hardship, so that children prefer to meet the needs and concerns of others rather than address their needs and provide comfort for themselves.

"What's common among kids is that you want to find the role of a savior, if one asks for us, we will do it perfectly and it will be confirmed; as far as we can play the role of a hero, help everyone, if we are given a responsibility we can do it in the best way"

3-3. Resistance to earn comfort

The children reported a kind of resistance to physical and mental well being, an inner desire to maintain the conditions and negative emotions that prevented them from enjoying the opportunities of being happy, and relieving the painful circumstances.

"I think, because I have a problem, I should not be happy and I do not have the right to be happy until this problem is resolved. I do not know correctly, maybe we are accustomed to tension and worry, although sometimes I have the opportunity to something, it's as if I lose my balance, as if I'm afraid and feel guilty."

4. Violence and maltreatment

Violence and misconduct are other hardships of children in addiction situation, characterized by mental maltreatment, neglect, and physical abuse and exploitation of children.

4-1.Mental maltreatment

Creating fear and panic in children, observing domestic violence, insulting and humiliating, frightening children, mastering and controlling mentally, and proxy attacks are instances of mental abuse that has been extracted from interviews.

"The child wouldn't forget when he is out of the house at midnight (mother says). He couldn't forget it that he/she is forced to sleep in other people's houses because of the risk he/she will be killed by their father. Well, that's a lot of pain."

4-2. Neglect

According to the children's statements, mental neglect has been the greatest pain of children in life. Despite experiencing other types of maltreatment (except sexual abuse), all children had complained of suffering from not being seen. Mental neglect, inadequate supervision, educational neglect, and physical neglect were examples of neglect, extracted from interviews.

"It's as if we're waste. Nobody (parent) see us, nobody cares for our needs."

4-3. Physical abuse

Most children indicated physical abuse by family members. Contrary to other types of maltreatment that fathers were the first guilty, but mothers also participated in physical abuse of kids.

"Our mother would beat us up time and again. We got used to it like our meals".

4-4. Exploitation of children

A number of children referred to forms of exploitation by the father, such as abuse of them to cover the purchase of drugs and forcing them to work for the cost of drugs.

"My dad would take me with himself to buy a drug so that police don't suspect t him."

5. The drama of chaos

The category of chaos drama is related to the confusion and conflict of children, unpredictable events, and the prediction of the annoying events with the root of drug abuse. This category consists of the following three themes: unpredictable behaviors and events, lack of respect for family privacy, and emotional conflict or ambivalence.

5-1.Unpredictable Behaviors and Events

Living in addiction conditions would place children in a confusing and vague environment in which proceedings are not necessarily predictive of outcomes. By the impact of drugs, family happiness is quickly replaced by unhappiness, often which is not controlled by family. Use

of drugs is the cause of many family conflicts and children are confused by the lack of awareness about using drugs or knowing its effects on the father's behavior. Life events have taught the children that the family environment has the aspect of controversy and the children are presentiment to bad events.

"Sometimes even though they were fine, Fear would come to us. What thought was in their head? What the hell does he want of me? Why is he laughing so much with that person? Maybe he wants to get some money that he is so kind to her?"

5-2. Lack of respect for family privacy

It seems that in families for reasons such as dispute and conflict, violence and leaving home by a parent, interference of others in family problems, financial dependence and commuting of abuser friends, resulted in that family privacy has not been well preserved and children's safety has been endangered.

"Once I came home from school with my brother, father brought someone to our home to use drugs. As he saw us said that he is an engineer and we are working on a project! We did not dare to say anything. At this moment, my mother came home and kicked the engineer out of the house!"

5-3. Emotional conflict or ambivalence

Because of the father's appearance, dressing and behaviors, sometimes the children are ambivalent, angered and guilty in the presence of the father in the familial and social interactions.

"I really wanted to go anywhere with Daddy but it did not happen. I understood that time ... my father was really a disaster I did not even want to see him. I was afraid of other people's judgments. They would understand that he was addicted. I tried not to think about these but it was in me."

6- Family routine / Disorganization

The stresses on life and escorting the flow of life into emotions, the struggle to control and prevent the formation of negative emotions and the lack of adequate support, have led families to passively deal with the disruptive processes of consumer life, financial difficulties and life tribulation and be content with living in an unplanned process and being engaged in daily struggle. Family Daytime / Disorganization themes are; faulty cycle of life, neglect of planning, interpersonal barriers and passivity to external conditions.

6-1. Faulty Life Cycle

The faulty cycle of life refers to the reproductive processes of family life that limits the opportunities for change and growth.

"Somehow, I can tell you that we were used to the same routine way that we followed the process of life. In the morning, when we get up, what a bad day, the conflict, fights and this same mental groove always repeated, my father started to use drug and my mother to nagging And call everybody and the conflict with our father and we were watching all these."

6-2. Neglecting to plan

Family focusing to encounter everyday difficulties and financial bottlenecks has disrupted long-term planning, and children do not have the skills to pursue long-term targeting and planning to take on new responsibilities and roles.

"When we were a kid, we were mostly disturbed by the financial issues and the same disorder. Disorder means that we never had a specific plan, we could never have a plan for ourselves, and we could not plan to buy something or go somewhere in the future."

6-3. Interpersonal barriers

Mental employment with lost opportunities, depression, feeling guilty, perfectionism, and low self-esteem are the inner barriers of children to change living conditions and get out of the routine.

"I treat myself very arbitrarily, I cannot accept my mistakes and misunderstandings, I cannot accept that I am a human being, and I can make a mistake and compensate in another opportunity."

6-4. Passiveness to external conditions

Interview analysis shows that although children blame themselves for their own problems and have special focus on themselves in identifying problems, they are waiting for a change outside of themselves in order to change their living conditions, so that external factors have impacted them to a great extent and as a factor of changes have less authenticity.

"This disorder affects us. I cannot behave arranged. I cannot plan for our lives. Let's say I'll get up, I do our work, and I'm going to party. Our schedule has no specific time. Our program is more chaotic."

7. Exclusion and isolation

Deprivation results from the relation between two main mechanisms: Exclusion and isolation. Abnormality of life conditions and Mental employment of children toward the judgments of others including peers, the fear of the secrets of the family to be revealed and the lack of family's competitive advantage to share family experiences among peers (such as family travels, family recreations, parental reward, etc.) caused children and, in some cases, families, to restrict their communication as a mechanism for self-protection. Exclusion and isolation are the main themes extracted in this study; Isolation is more tolerable than humiliation, interaction with others is a threat to reveal the differences, the unwillingness of others to communicate with the family, and disregard of the norms and rules of the situation display power are the themes.

7-1. Isolation more tolerable than humiliation

It seems that curbing relationships for children and families is a shield that protects them from contempt, judgment, and banishing, while due to the low credibility of the family, the children are not as well considered in the Family relationships.

"It was frightening for me that very soon they ask me how my family was, when I was communicating with others."

7-2. Interacting with others is a threat to reveal the differences

One of the interaction results for children is that they further recognize aching differences between their family and others.

"These children, mother said, are definitely isolated. Children cannot have a comprehensive analysis, but when they see how normal families behave with their kids, how they participate in their games, how they will be rewarded, how they are encouraged, and the child will compare and find out. Therefore, in itself, there is a fundamental difference that affects him\her and leads to a deterioration."

7-3. Unwillingness of others to communicate with the family

Other reasons for limiting family relationships are the reluctance of others to communicate with the family.

"The one that happened (mother said) to me was from my brother that he said they may have AIDS. Do not have much contact with them. It's a pain, a scar. My husband quickly took us to a Hepatitis Vaccine."

7-4. Disregard of the norms and rules of the situation to display power

This theme reflects the fatigue of children from obtaining the consent and approval of others. By spending the childhood and finding sources of power and support (such as jobs, new friends, etc.), children would experience the freedom from constraints and established criteria by others (individuals outside of themselves). This experience of power is so dangerous because it is leading to job loss or school drop-out.

"I did not study at high school. I played stock and laughed. I joked. I dropped out of the class. I was playing volleyball. I did not care what others would judge about me. I wanted to live comfortably. I did not want to live for others."

Discussion

In this study, negative attitudes toward themselves were the main themes extracted and were the main complaints of children. Many studies have also shown that children of parents of alcohol and drug users are at risk of problems, including negative attitudes toward themselves and low self-esteem (Lutharet al., 1998; McNichol & Tash, 2001; Haight et al., 2008; Bee & McDaniel, 2013). Family flaws and most importantly, having an unusual father has caused doubt in the children regarding their worth. Shame caused by the inner family problem may also lead to sentimental forms such as being bad, lack of energy, hesitate to be self-affirming, and a feeling that he\she does not deserve the other's love and pain (Straussner & Full, 2011)

Violence and maltreatment are one of the other hardships of children in the condition of addiction, characterized by mental maltreatment, neglect, physical abuse and exploitation of children. The results of this finding are consistent with the studies by Hartley, 2002; Donohue et al., 2006; Graber & Taylor, 2006; Jeffreys et al., 2008; Bee & McDaniel, 2013; and part of the study by Freisthler et al (2017) which showed that there is a relationship between drug use and violence against children and the wives. But it does not coincide with the section of their study, in which the use of drugs by parent is not related to the neglect of

children.

Disputes and conflicts between parents were also a common problem in families involved in drug use. The results of Falless Stewart et al. (2005), as well as the results of the National Surveillance on Domestic Violence and National Family Surveillance (O'Leary & Schamcher, 2003), showed that the likelihood of violence against a spouse during drug use is three times as high.

One of the key assumptions of attachment theory is that the experiences of the child with their caregiver during childhood play a central role in their mental health and development. When children experience violence in their families, their sense of trust may be distorted and lead to anger, excessive alertness, and fear of them. In addition, children may use aggression and anger as a way to cope with stress in other close relationships. The children of addicted families may experience parental failure in their role as supporter. Parents may behave in a dangerous or scary way for the child, or allow others to harm the child. Such experiences often scare children very much. These experiences may leave scary images and memories in the minds of the child that are difficult to understand, as well as feelings of apprehension, uncertainty, confusion, and anxiety may also be created (Haight et al., 2009).

Parental support disorder is another major issue in this research. According to the findings of previous studies, the lack of stable security (Tyson, 1998; Semidei et al., 2001), the experience of unsustainable care and disturbance in the life-order (Jeffreys et al 2008), the probability of parental separation and divorce (Bee & McDaniel, 2013), and the separation of the child from the family and being deposited into welfare systems (Jeffreys et al., 2008; Haight et al., 2009), the family's desire not for unmet needs (Black, 2001; Haight et al. 2009) has also been reported in research. As well as having a secure sibling subsystem helps the children to deal with the drug abuse of parents (Walk and Lee, 1998); the analysis of interviews in this study points to its importance as a supportive factor. There were no research cases regarding the over protection of children in family with substance use parent. It should be explained that in this research over protection was provided by the healthy parent. The lack of parental protection was also reported in previous studies (Haight et al, 2009). Silence is a feature that has been mentioned in previous research (Black, 2001; Haight et al, 2009; Bee & McDaniel, 2013); essentially, the need for and expression of emotions need responsiveness, and families are often not equipped to respond. Therefore, in order to support the family and not to impose a negative emotion on the system, mechanisms are created in the family that people ignore or refrain from talking about the needs, questions and feelings that upset the healthy members of the family .

One of the main issues encountered in this study is the drama of chaos. This category is based on three themes: Unpredictable behaviors and events, Lack of respect for family privacy, emotional conflict or ambivalence. The drama of chaos was further reported in Bee research and McDaniel(2013) in African-American Adult Children of

Alcoholics who referred to confusion, disorder, instability and ambiguity in the family as a direct result of having alcoholic parents.

Children are more affected when stress factors disrupt family processes (Patterson, 1983). An important part of this effect is the emotional dimension of high-pressure situations in the family with father's substance use. In addition to damage to the children from dangerous factors such as isolation and exclusion, family routine, drama of chaos, maltreatment and other adversities, there is another damaging capacity in the family, which is less clear, but it affects children too. In this research, most contributing children referred to an essential suffering and it was mental pain due to the observation and knowledge of the suffering of parents, in which they experienced different sentimental feelings similar to parents and especially the healthy parent in difficult situations. And they also took roles beyond their power. This finding is consistent with the results of Benishk et al., 2011; Locke et al., 2010; Kimberly et al., 2005).

The stresses on life and dedicating the flow of life into emotions, attempt to control and prevent the formation of negative emotions, financial problems, lack of adequate support, led families to passively deal with the disruptive processes of abuser life, financial difficulties, and hardship living in life and living in an unconventional way and being entertained with daily routines. Routine and disorganized way of family life is the main theme. This finding matches with the results of other researchers (Benisheket al. 2011; Luk et al., 2010; Kimberly et al., 2005) that the prevailing mistrust and anxiety-free living along with a substance consumer, as well as lack of program Life. Because the addiction disease is a chronic and progressive nature, over time, the family system is undergoing fundamental changes, and borders are broken up or disturbed; members of the family gradually become addicted to the addict and various forms of co-dependence are created.

Children spend a lot of energy on making things normal, hiding defects and avoiding inappropriate judgments, but this effort is not always successful because others are aware of family defects, and they also do not tend to relate with the family; by growing up and gaining power and resources of more children, others who have been the stress factor in many situations and worsen their psychological energy, will lose their degree, and children, indifferent to their rules and judgments, show their power and this time these are the children that others get away from, a demonstration of power that it's result is that is not necessary in order to progress and gain social status. Another of the main issues in the current research is the withdrawal and isolation. Unconventional way of children's living condition and mental conflict to the judgments of others, including peers, the fear of exposing the secrets of the family, and the lack of family's competitive advantage to share family experiences among peers, causes children and families to restrict communication as a mechanism for self-protection. Although the problems caused by addiction caused others to leave the family, evidence suggests that gaining social support for members of the family involved

in addiction is very difficult. Most contributors believed that others' awareness of drug abuse of a person would lead to their embarrassment. While it may lead to a worsening of their behavior; or others engage in their own activities and do not do anything about them. This finding is consistent with the results of Straussner & Fewell(2011) and Orford et al's (2013) research.

Since awareness of addiction is associated with the stimulation of strong emotions in people and how answering to them is difficult and controversial, others may be unprotected, criticized or hostile, some members of the family are accused of being tolerant, and some are criticized for lack of tolerance (Orford et al., 2013), which leads to a desire for isolation. The present study showed that deprivation of relationship is related to the two mechanisms of withdrawal and exclusion. Isolation More tolerable than humiliation, interacting with others is a threat to reveal the differences, Unwillingness of others to communicate with the family and Disregard of the norms and rules of the situation to display power is its themes. This finding is in line with the results of research by Ashenberg Straussner & Fewell (2011), which are based on the tendency to withdraw and isolation and the inability to confide in others and to take their assistance, are the consequences of parental addiction on children. Disregard of norms and rules is the negative response of children to pressures from community judgment, and refer to a time when the conformance with society imposes a lot of pressure on them, they show their power by disregarding some of the social norms.

Another major issue in the research is the acceptance of the role of a misfortune hero. This category is characterized by three themes of Sacrifice, Responsibility for the release of others from suffering and Resistance to earn comfort. The acceptance of the role of the "hero of misfortune" refers to the reproduction of roles played in the family by the child and the healthy members of family. A child living in silence, isolation, denial, sacrifice and violence, in adulthood, is also careless to his or her well-being and cares for the well-being of others, and in spite of having the facilities doesn't do anything for his well-being, as Black says (2001) in The role of responsible children in alcoholic families that these children do not know how to act in adulthood, be carefree and enjoy. They have essentially serious problems for future prospects.

Although, as in Whig Wegscheider-Cruse's work (1989), there was evidence of survival roles such as hero, scapegoat, lost child and mascot, but as Black (2001) refers to the children of alcoholics, children take on several roles to adapt to The conditions; he points out that children play three roles, as an adjuster, placater and a responsible child, and that few children tend to play the sole role of the acting out child who through the disorder and misbehaviors gets attention. This research also shows that children play different roles in different situations, but these roles include a forgotten Placater, responsible child and a lost child. In only one case, the child was careless to the family and has played the role of acting out with incompatibility at home and creating school problems.

Conclusion

The final outcome from the research findings suggests that children with a father who abuses drugs have many problems, including a negative view of themselves, Parental support disorder, Accept the role of the misfortune hero, Violence and maltreatment, The drama of chaos, Family routine / Disorganization and Exclusion and isolation.

Although numerous studies have shown that parent drug abuse is dangerous for children but Deren (1986), Gifford and Humphreys (2007) believe that drug addiction has a strong correlation with other factors, and only drug abuse is not a problem identified for children; on the social level, drug addiction has a strong connection with poverty and deprivation. At the psychological level, it's likely that people who use drugs are abusive, have low self-confidence and are depressed. Even at the genetic level, it's possible that some of the tendencies that lead to addiction are themselves causes for children's adversity. So, perhaps these variables are the factors that are the cause of problems, either separate or in interaction with substance use. Drug use disorders are therefore not a single issue, and it will not be possible to determine its specific role alone.

To mitigate the effects of life with the misuser father on children, protecting factors such as promoting the resiliency of children and family members, and increasing informal support (relatives, neighbors, friends) and formal (supportive organizations) in order to adapt to Difficulty in life must be considered. To reduce the transaction of drugs and child abuse, community based prevention and neighborhoods should be prioritized.

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