

Economic and Domestic Problems of families of disabled Adults or Children

Dr. Tariq Mahmood¹, Prof. Dr. Thameem Ushama²

¹Postdoc Fellow, ISTAC, International Islamic University, Malaysia.

²ISTAC, International Islamic University, Malaysia.

*Corresponding Author: Dr. Tariq Mahmood, Postdoc Fellow, ISTAC, International Islamic University, Malaysia.

ABSTRACT

This article is about the problems of families in which one or two children are disabled, and parents have to deal with how to handle the disabled children and what are other relatives' responses regarding these ones. It is very difficult to survive life with the disability, for the children who experiences but it is not easy for the parents of disabled children. No one, can tell about the main causes of disability but in Islamic point of view, it is the divine's will to create whatever he wants. Sometimes, healthy couples have children with disabilities and sometimes couples with disabilities have healthy children. Besides this, sometimes disability may be because of illness or because of any kind of accident also. And the person or child has to survive a life with this disability also. In short, it may be stated that survival of life with disability is not easy for the disabled and for other members of family also the problems which may not be similar to all.

Keywords: Disability; Problems; Attitude of the People; Solution; Treatment of disabled children.

ARTICLE INFORMATION

Received: 23 January 2025

Accepted: 04 February 2025

Published: 07 February 2025

Cite this article as:

Dr. Tariq Mahmood, Prof. Dr. Thameem Ushama. Economic and Domestic Problems of families of disabled Adults or Children. Open Access Journal of Business and Economics, 2025;1(1); 52-55.

Copyright: © 2025. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.



INTRODUCTION

It is sorrowful to note that the disability of a child is a problem for the disabled itself but the families of disabled children also have long life problems. In this regard, no one can tell with confirmation the reason behind this disability.

Children with disabilities can be found everywhere in the world belonging to different races, religions, sex and social economic conditions. These children are also considered as the punishment for their parents' deeds. From a religious perspective. On the other side of coin such children are absent from government agenda and are also deprived of basic rights. (Sajjad Hussain & et al, 2020)

Approximately, 1 to 10 poverty assessment of the population in most 3rd world countries are handicapped or disabled in some way due to poverty. (WHO, 2011) As far as the disability problem is concerned, it is found everywhere but its effects are more dangerous in the poor families of the developing countries. In developing countries, when the abled persons are deprived of their rights, how may it be possible that disabled may get their rights while they can not spend a life in a normal way.

In Pakistan however children with disabilities are being deprived of rights that guarantee their safety and prosperity in various spheres of life(Ali, 2014). As the case of disabled in Pakistan is quite strange as here the rights are shown more in media programmes but these rights fulfilled just in theory but in practice, abled are striving to behind gaining their rights while no one cares about the disabled even he is closed relative to this one. How can I be hopeful regarding their rights from strangers or aliens?

OBJECTIVES OF STUDY

There are many objectives of study, some important are presented as under:

- i- To know about the life of disabled children;
- ii- To know the family life of the disabled children;
- iii- To search the problems of parents of disabled children;
- iv- To resolve the problems of disabled children;
- v- To find the people's attitudes regarding the disability of children and about their family members.

LIMITATION OF RESEARCH

This research is limited to the disability of family members. No online and YouTube videos or social media lectures are utilized for this research.

LITERATURE REVIEW

For this research, different published research material books, research articles, published research theses about the families of disabled children have been reviewed for conducting this article.

METHODOLOGY OF STUDY

In this, descriptive and analytical methodological study has been used to conduct this study.

PRESENTATION OF THE RESEARCH

Disability of one child in the family has a problem for the whole family with the disabled child also. In 24 hours, there is only the time when disabled are sleeping, which may be considered a so-called easy time for parents and the brothers and sisters of disabled. Otherwise the remaining time is not spent free from tension for other members of disabled child.

In the families where disabled children are found, it is considered that their brothers or sisters are also just like disabled children. Sometimes, the whole family is considered as family of mental patients or disabled. Normally, neighbors also try to avoid building up relations with those families where disabled child is residing.

It is considered about the people where disabled child is present, that Allah's punishment is being applied because of some deeds. While sometimes, it is considered that disabled child is a trial of God, anyhow, these types of remarks are not endless and these types of views about the disabled child, they have to hear all their life. And they listen quietly but in the inner part, they are weeping to see their disabled child.

Disability does not simply affect the health status of the individual who directly experiences that condition, but it has important consequences on the health and well being of the other family members as well. (Balbo & Bolano, 2024) As Balbo & Bolano argued that effects of disability have to be borne by the whole family. In the societies, some members of the family hate these disabled persons while someone tries to banish their children to avoid these disabled. May be behind this cautious behavior, the strong fear present or they want to keep them safe from any kind of future disability.

Problem of Employment

In society, the bitter reality is that no one wants to employ the disabled persons because of their problems. If the person is disabled to walk with legs but he can perform any job where work can be done by sitting, e.g. Gate office, time office or Call Center or operator job if he has some basic

knowledge of reading and writing. While, clerical job may be provided if disabled has some education or matriculation certificate. So that rather than depending upon the other, in this way, disabled can survive their life independently.

Problem on the Occasion of Wedding Party

On the occasion of a marriage party, it is observed that when all relatives are going here and there in a happy mood with bright dress but the disabled are sometimes weeping or quarreling with someone because of ignoring such a happy occasion. Sometimes, because of the long distance, they have to remain hungry for many hours because of going out. But this thing makes them more hungry and more lonely. After this loneliness, their behavior changes quite more disturbed on seeing others gathering in bright dresses and in a happy mood doing conversation. While they are being ignored even about food and drinking water. In such a situation, this is a natural phenomenon of their disturbed behavior and anger.

Problem on the Arrival of Friends

There is also a problem when a friend comes to home but he does not know about disabled children. In this case, it is tried to hide the disabled from the eyes of these friends so that no information or any other thing could be told to his friends. In such a situation, they also feel ashamed and the disabled children also wonder why they are coming to hide from the newcomers. This type of situation remains till the whole life of disabled children. No one can try to know about the thinking of disabled children, what they have about the family members and the persons who hate them in different ways. All their wants and longings go to end as their life ends.

Problem of food

In case, when a family is invited by someone, then it is tried that the disabled must be kept at home but leave alone is also a problem as in case what will they eat? It is sorrowful to note, in many families, food is not given to these disabled people in a proper way or of proper things or proper dishes which they like. Sometimes they are given food at the time when they are sleeping. When the awoke, after many minutes or hours food loses its naturalness and gives bad smells, how it can be used in such a situation.

As an Article of Geneva Convention also argued that International Humanitarian Law reiterates special measures for children under 12 age regarding their foodstuffs. (Article of G.C., 1949). But unfortunately, this is only for the 12 age but in developing countries, many infant babies are still weeping for milk because of mother's death or mother's health problem and many children have not proper food stuff, this is why their growth and habits show the weakness of body. Simply, the situation may be imagined from this, in many areas of Pakistan, people have clean water problem, the food problem is also attached with in poor people's residence areas.

Problem of Clothes

The problem of wearing clothes and putting off clothes remains throughout life. Sometimes, for many days they can not change clothes so because of smell they are more hated but they remain unanswered. Other family members wear ironed clothes while the disabled have to wear unironed clothes and used clothes of others elders. The disabled child feels this but he can not tell this to others. What imagination and thoughts will be in his mind when he sees others who wear new and ironed clothes but he is given used, old and unironed clothes. His thoughts remain in his mind, no one caters him, this is why sometimes they weep lonely without any reason but in actuality, the reason was present but in their mind and words were present which are untold.

Problem of Residence

Problem of residence of disabled remains in the whole life but after the death of parents, no brother or sister will willingly adopt the disabled brother or sister. In such a case, this disabled child also has ownership from the father's property or building. They are bound to spend life on others' will and wants. Especially, when parents of disabled children die, it is empirical evidence that from brother and sisters, no one agrees to live with him or her happily, as each has problems of their own children or financial problems. After parents' death, it is not easy to live with his family for disabled. As from the family members, each one shows there is no space in his house for the disabled. The problem is that no one thinks about the feelings of deprived and disabled children.

Problem of Marriage

Disabled children have a problem with marriage also. As no one wants to like marriage because of their disability. Even the relatives also do not like engagements with the disabled children. How will they settle marriages? If luckily any one disabled is chosen for marriage behind his or her selection, financial position of his parents or property, as sometimes, disabled adults are chosen for marriage by some poor just because of their wealth or property. This may occur just with one percent. In common, disabled adults have to spend life lonely as a bachelor.

Rehabilitation

Disabled children & adults may be rehabilitated by proper care in rehabilitation centers if there is no one relatives or relatives have but no one has space for this disabled one. With rehabilitation, the behavior and the attitude must be proper with these disabled otherwise the results of rehabilitation will not be good. The tone of talking with these disabled children must be not harsh or hatred must not.

Disabled children can be rehabilitated through concerted efforts by the government as well as the society in general. The government should provide them with basic needs

and struggle for rehabilitation. Non govt. Organizations can also play an important role in taking care disabled children. (S.Hussain & et al, 2020)

In developing countries just like the Government of Pakistan has made a policy in 2017, that equal education opportunities will be given to all even who is disabled children so that they could survive a life just like rights as a normal child. (Government of Pakistan, 2017) As the policy was framed in 2017, its results and implementations can be imagined from the figures of government authorized itself as in May 10, 2024, it is stated by ministry of education, that 50 percent children will have to admitted in schools to gain cent per cent in primary schools. It is a figure mentioned after the seven years of policy framed, the actual figure in 2017 or seven years before the policy formulation, what will be?

Recreation Opportunities/ Activities

It is better for disabled to keep recreation opportunities or activities so that they could also forget the problems of life and they could also get the chance to enjoy themselves. It is for the family members to provide them chances of visit or any other gathering where they could forget their worries and problems of life. Especially from the relatives and family members who have resources and vehicles, they should donate some days in a month or in a year for recreation of disabled.

Provision of Audio-Video Aids

It is better that for their time spent in activities, mobile or iPhone or laptop whatever you can provide them should be provided. In this way, they can spend their time on social media programmes by watching videos, they can spend their time by using social media apps rather than boring or weeping on their problem of disability. According to resources of other family members, it may be purchased for disabled by which that special person could spend his time.

Provision of Company

In the family, this is also a problem for the disabled that no person in family has time for disabled brother or sister. In a disability, how will he spend his time? But unfortunately, no one wants to spend his time with these disabled because of their poor economic and bad appearance. Anyhow, the case will be somewhat different if the disabled is rich or his parents have a high status job or businessman or a political background. Then because of economic stability, a servant or maid can be hired for his care and for his company. But from this, it may be stated that to some extent, rich disabled persons / children will feel less of a problem as compared to poor children with disabilities or because of domestic poverty. This is just in spending time and the people's behaviour with the disabled children but the real problem of disability can be imagined by those are disabled or who are close relatives, father & mother, brothers & sisters, or other relatives who are living without disabled children.

Concluding Remarks

In nutshell, it may be stated that disability of children may be by birth or by an accident or by health issue, after this, first purpose should be as so that disabled child could live a life in a happy way. The relatives of disabled should provide their time for the disabled child or provide him with such devices so that he could remain busy and he could forget his problem. The truth is that the problem of disabled children or of the family members can not be ended but it may be changed with activities and with special care. Parents, Brothers and sisters, and other relatives, all should be always lofty tongue with the disabled one for consolation to him and for creating a suitable atmosphere so that he could imagine you as his well wisher.

Recommendations

Some are presented as under:

1-Rehabilitation centers should be set up so that they could meet the other disabled, in this way they will know that they are not only but the other people also have different kinds of disability.

2-In society, those who joke about the disabled, they must be discouraged.

3-According to the law of Hajr (Mentioned in Holy Quran), their property and inheritance must be kept with care from any kind of destruction or loss so that their wealth could be utilized on their needs rather than depending on others.

4-Like orphanage house and shelter house, a house for disabled must be established in each district where their treatment must be free and in case of problem of residence, they must be shifted here if no-one from the relatives is handling these disabled.

5-The people should behave positively with the disabled persons and avoid imitating the habits of disabled with jokes and don't disgrace them because of their disability.

6-The persons who have no disability, should keep in mind, blessings of Allah with humble attitude while the persons whose relatives are disabled or have any mental or physical problem, should try to cooperate with disabled by spending money and spending their time with them just for themselves and gaining God's pleasures by doing so.

REFERENCES

1. Ali, F. (2014), Understanding the problems discouraging social inclusion of persons with physical disability, A case study of district Swat. Master thesis, University of Malakand, Khyber pakhtun khaw, Pakistan.
2. Geneva Convention (1949), Article 89, IV and Article 70, AP-1, Geneva Convention, 1949.
3. Balbo Nicoletta & Danilo Bolano (2024). Children disability as a family issue: A study on mothers' and fathers' health in Italy, The European Journal of Public Health, Volume 34(1)79-84.
4. Government of Pakistan. (2017). National Education Policy 2017, Islamabad: Ministry of Education, Federal Government of Pakistan.
5. Sajjad Hussain & et al. (2020). Children with disability: problems & challenges in Pakistan, The Journal of Humanities & Social Sciences, Vol. 28, Issue No: 1, (PP. 87-99).
6. World Health Organization (2011). Disability & Rehabilitation: World Report on disability 2011. Retrieved on January 6, 2019 from http://www.who.int/disabilities/world_report/2011/report/en/.