# Looking at a health phenomenon complexity: Parental Violence and its context in a commune of Medellín (Colombia) <sup>1</sup>

# Summary (English)

Introduction: Phenomena affecting health are usually studied in themselves and only some of their aspects are considered, as well as, from one stakeholder perspective. Current research analyzed Parental Violence in its entirety, and considered both stakeholders perspectives, as well as relevant aspects of its context (Parental Dynamics, Family Dynamics, Social Capital, and Social Class) that could be related to it. Method: descriptive cross-sectional study in a population sample in the commune of Belén, Medellín, 2013, surveying 246 parents and 233 children at their homes. Results: those different forms of Parental Violence were predominantly influenced by other forms of parental violence (circularity); to a lesser extent by Social Networks and Support (dimension of Social Capital) and Characteristics of Parental Dynamics (aspect of Parental Dynamics); they were not influenced by Social Class, other dimensions of Social Capital, Family Dynamics, other aspects of Parental Dynamics nor by sociodemographic variables. Discussion: it was possible to analyze complexity of Parental Violence and of its context interaction.

**Keywords:** Parental Violence, Parental Violence Context, Parental Violence and Parental Dynamics, Parental Violence and Social Class, Parental Violence and Social Capital.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Diego A. Sarasti V., MD, MPH, PhD Public Health. Associate Professor, Section of Social Pediatrics, Department of Pediatrics and Puericulture, Medical School, Universidad de Antioquia, Medellín-Colombia. E-mail: diego.sarasti@udea.edu.co

# Mirar la complejidad de un fenómeno en salud: Violencia Parental y su contexto en una comuna de Medellín (Colombia)

# Resumen (español)

Introducción: Los fenómenos que afectan la salud usualmente son estudiados en sí mismos y teniéndoseles presente solo algunos de sus aspectos, así como, desde la perspectiva de uno de los actores involucrados. La presente investigación analizó la Violencia Parental en su conjunto y consideró las perspectivas de ambos actores involucrados, al igual que, aspectos relevantes de su contexto (Dinámica Parental, Dinámica Familiar, Capital Social y Clase Social) que pudieran relacionársele. **Método:** estudio descriptivo de corte transversal en una muestra poblacional en la comuna de Belén, Medellín, 2013, encuestándose 246 progenitores y 233 hijos en sus hogares. **Resultados:** Las diferentes formas de Violencia Parental estuvieron predominantemente influidas por otras formas de violencia parental (circularidad); en menor medida por Redes Sociales y Apoyo (dimensión del Capital Social) y Características de la Dinámica Parental (aspecto de la Dinámica Parental); no estuvieron influidas por Clase Social, las otras dimensiones del Capital Social, Dinámica Familiar, los otros aspectos de la Dinámica Parental ni por variables sociodemográficas. **Discusión:** fue posible analizar la complejidad de la Violencia Parental y de su interacción con el contexto.

**Palabras clave:** Violencia Parental, Contexto de la Violencia Parental, Violencia Parental y Dinámica Parental, Violencia Parental y Clase Social, Violencia Parental y Capital Social

# Olhando para a complexidade de um fenómeno de saúde: A violência parental e seu contexto em uma comuna de Medellín (Colômbia)

# Resumo (Portugués)

Introdução: Os fenômenos que afetam a saúde são geralmente estudados em si mesmos e apenas alguns de seus aspectos são considerados, bem como, do ponto de vista de uma parte interessada. A presente pesquisa analisou a Violência Parental como um todo e considerou ambas as perspectivas das partes interessadas, bem como, aspectos relevantes de seu contexto (Dinâmica Parental, Dinâmica Familiar, Capital Social e Classe Social) que poderiam estar relacionados a ela. Método: estudo descritivo transversal em uma amostra populacional na comuna de Belén, Medellín, 2013, pesquisando 246 pais e 233 crianças em suas casas. Resultados: as diferentes formas de violência parental foram predominantemente influenciadas por outras formas de violência parental (circularidade); em menor grau, por Redes Sociais e Apoio (dimensão do Capital Social) e Características da Dinâmica Parental (aspecto da Dinâmica Parental); não foram influenciadas pela Classe Social, outras dimensões do Capital Social, Dinâmica Familiar, outros aspectos da Dinâmica Parental nem por variáveis sociodemográficas. Discussão: foi possível analisar a complexidade da Violência Parental e da sua interação com o contexto.

**Palavras-chave:** Violência Parental, Contexto da Violência Parental, Violência Parental e Dinâmica Parental, Violência Parental e Classe Social, Violência Parental e Capital Social.

#### Introduction

#### **Parental Violence: definitions**

Parental violence is composed of violence from parent to child and violence from child to parent (also known as filial-parental violence).

United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, article 19, defines parental violence to child as: "...all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, while in parent(s)care, legal guardian(s) or any other person who has the care of the child...". (Convención sobre los Derechos del Niño, 1989).

Child to parent violence is defined as:"... any act by children that provokes fear in parents to gain power and control and that is intended to cause physical, psychological or financial harm to parents" (Cottrell, 2001); therefore, they are "... repeated behaviors of physical, psychological (verbal or non-verbal) or economic violence, directed to parents or to those persons who take their place...". (Pereira et al., 2017). In addition, it includes neglect, omission, or negligent treatment to parents.

## **Parental Violence magnitude**

Scientific literature points out studies that analyzed some aspects of Parental Violence. One study on children between 2 and 4 years of age, from 49 middle and low income countries, in 2013, showed that 62,5% were exposed to aggressive physical discipline and 65,4% to aggressive psychological discipline; it was estimated that in Latin America and the Caribbean there was a prevalence in parenting of 55,2% in physical aggression and 48% in psychological aggression (Cuartas et al., 2019) (CEPAL et al., 2020).

At the same time, in Colombia, 2013, 14,23% of expert opinions on domestic violence, which are carried out only by the National Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences, were due to violence against children and adolescents (Hernández-Cardozo, 2014). From the total number of child abuse cases reported to the Colombian Institute of Family Welfare (ICBF; in Spanish) between 2011 and 2013, according to life cycle stage, 59% were in children between 0 and 5 years old (early childhood); 23% between 6 to 11 years old (infancy) and 18% between 12 to 17 years old (adolescents) ((ICBF) et al., 2013).

In turn, several studies in the general population showed that prevalence of child to parent violence ranged from 2% to 18%.(Gallagher, 2008); but, in general, figures are not conclusive because percentages vary widely (Aroca-Montolío et al., 2014). In Colombia, during 2019, filio-parental violence accounted for 13,26% (2067 cases) of 15590 "violence among other family members" cases that were examined by the National Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences (INMLS; in Spanish) (Correa-Agudelo et al., 2021).

Existing statistics on parental violence in the world, Latin America and Colombia are very fragmentary and do not reflect the real magnitude of this problem (which, as mentioned above, includes violence from parent to child and/or from child to parent); there is a lack of indicators and studies to understand it; in addition, existing statistics are not reliable due to frequent phenomenon of non-reporting. There is variability in statistics due to different definitions of these violences, the different measurement instruments, and diverse data collection and processing systems ((ONU), 2005) (ONU, 2006). Furthermore, there are no studies that simultaneously analyze both forms of violence (bidirectionality) or their contexts.

#### **Parental Violence effects**

Regarding effects of parental violence to child, early repetitive stress is related to alterations in neuroendocrine functions, with structural and functional differences in brain. Trauma onset age and duration define deficit type; thus, trauma degree depends on evolutionary development moment and myelinization process that make brain more or less vulnerable to stress. Prolonged exposure to this violence favors nervous and immune system disruption and leads to social, emotional and cognitive limitations, as well as to behaviors that cause illness, injury and social problems (E. Cabrera & Astaiza, 2016).

Child to parent violence generates deterioration in health and well-being of parents due to abuse (Jauregizar & Ibabe, 2014); among which are: emotional alterations such as depression, anxiety, feelings of guilt and loneliness, etc.; parents impairment fulfillment of their responsibilities with other children; in their physical health, and alterations in marital and work spheres (Aroca-Montolío et al., 2014), relational and leisure (Aroca-Montolío, 2010).

# Focused view of research on Parental Violence, as well as its relationship with the context.

Parental violence is usually studied on itself through analyzing only some of its aspects; likewise, when studying its relationship with the context, only some factors of the latter are considered.

Bibliographic databases were searched looking for studies in the general population showing relationship between Parental Violence and its context, using complete constructs to analyze both aspects and not only circumscribing to the analysis of some aspects of this violence and some risk factors of the context. Thus, regarding parental violence, studies analyzing both violence from parent to child and vice versa were sought, as well as that simultaneously analyzing the context using some of the constructs of interest and that the latter was analyzed in a complete manner.

Thus, to track information on relationship between Parental Violence and its Context, a search for controlled terms associated with these constructs was carried out in the Decs,

Mesh and ApaPsycInfo resources, as well as natural language terms, with the aim of achieving greater sensitivity in the search results. Therefore, for the construct of Parental Violence, terms such as: "Child Abuse", "Domestic Violence", "Emotional Abuse", "Age Groups", "physical violence", "psychological violence" and the natural language term "Child-to-parent violence" were included. Likewise, for the Context constructs, terms such as: "Social Capital", "Social Class", "Socioeconomic strata", "Attitudes", "Family relations" and sociodemographic variables such as "Age Factors", "Sex Factors", "Educational attainment level" were identified.

With the described terms, search strategies were carried out in the information resources Pubmed, ApaPSycInfo, Scopus and Scielo. There were no language or publication date restrictions.

Due to the interest of this research, it was emphasized to look for studies that related this violence with Social Capital, Social Class, Parental Dynamics, Family Dynamics constructs and that these were analyzed completely; Also, studies that analyzed relationship between this violence and Sociodemographic Variables were tracked.

Articles were found only about studies conducted on people already involved in this violence, which analyzed some aspects of it and related it to some aspects of the above-mentioned constructs and variables. Thus, the bibliographical review reported the following:

## **Parental Violence and Social Capital**

Only a few articles were found that related parental violence and Social Capital (Kim & Lee, 2021) (Zolotor & Runyan, 2006). The latter was a cross-sectional study in which mothers from North Carolina and South Carolina, in the United States of America, were interviewed by telephone. This study analyzed some aspects of Social Capital, such as collective efficacy, psychological sense of community, neighborhood cohesion and parental investment in child. In relation to Parental Violence, it analyzed some aspects of this, such as severe physical punishment, neglect in child rearing, psychological violence, and domestic violence.

#### **Parental Violence and Social Class**

Usually relationship between parental violence and social class is established through proxy variables of the latter, such as socioeconomic stratum, economic income, educational level, and social class (Aroca-Montolío et al., 2012); but, not really in a direct way.

Some research indicates that domestic violence is more common in families with economic difficulties (Zunzunegui et al., 1997) or in lower socio-economic conditions (Duffy & Momirov, 2014), mentioned in (Aroca-Montolío et al., 2012); as well as, that child to parent violence is more likely to occur under stressful conditions due to economic poverty (Cottrell

& Monk, 2004), such as parental violence ((ONU), 2005); while other research reports that there is no such relationship (Aroca-Montolío et al., 2012).

To establish the relationship between parental violence and Social Class, it should be borne in mind that the latter has various definitions. Thus, from the "gradational" approach, Social Class can be defined according to a single variable (occupation or income or educational level, etc.) or from categories that synthesize several variables (occupation + income + educational level + ... etc.). From the relational approach, social class is defined according to the type of social relations taken as a basis for classifying it: social relations of production (Marxist and neo-Marxist currents); market and labor relations (Weberian and neo-Weberian currents) and relations based on the technical division of labor (Durkheimian current). (Fresneda-Bautista, 2012) (Wright, 2005) (Sørensen, 2005).

# **Parental Violence and Parental Dynamics**

The different elements of Parental Dynamics, such as satisfaction, dialogue, support, and clarity of norms are related to parental violence. Physical violence use within family has a negative impact on parental relationship satisfaction and family relationships, among other aspects (Meredith et al., 1986). A climate of dialogue is basic in child education for development of her/his personality (Torío-López et al., 2008) and; its deterioration in certain educational parenting styles, such as authoritarian and permissive-negligent, is one of the aspects related to parental and filial-parental violence.

### **Parental Violence and Family Dynamics**

Parental violence has been related to family dynamics; children need to feel affection and support from their parents, to be accepted by them; absence of this support is fundamental in development of child to parent violence (Gámez-Guadix et al., 2012) (Cano-Lozano et al., 2020). In addition, families with parents who are permissive or inconsistent in rules application are at greater risk of their children engaging in abusive behavior (Gámez-Guadix et al., 2012).

### **Parental Violence and Sociodemographic Variables**

Some studies have related parental violence to sociodemographic variables (Zunzunegui et al., 1997) (Suárez-Relinque et al., 2019) (Giraldo Aranda, 2020).

#### Present research purpose

This purpose arose from several concerns that can be expressed in the following questions: Since research under the empirical-analytical paradigm (positivist) is usually analyzing some aspects of a phenomenon and, sometimes, of its relations with the context, would this paradigm be enough to address in research the complexity of the phenomenon under study and its relations with the context? Or, perhaps, could it be that this focused look is due to how (heuristic) this type of research is usually carried out?

Research conducted under the empirical-analytical paradigm, including that developed in health, has a usual way of being done. Thus, the usual research heuristic under this paradigm is to analyze only some factors of the phenomenon under study and interrelate them with some elements of the context, without making full use of conceptual frameworks of the phenomenon and the context.

This is even though many phenomena, including health phenomena, have conceptual frameworks to understand them with sufficient theoretical basis and with indicators that allow them to be measured in a broad and deep way; the same occurs with constructs that could evaluate the context of these phenomena. Likewise, despite existence of research methodologies, data analysis methods and statistical packages that are sufficiently robust to undertake this task.

The present research proposed to show a deep and comprehensive vision not only of Parental Violence, but also of its context and the significant relationships between both. Thus, this study responds to the following research question: Under the empirical-analytic approach, is it possible to comprehensively investigate a health phenomenon and its context by measuring them and their relationships according to conceptual frameworks to analyze them in depth and to properly appreciate significant relationships?

Thus, there were analyzed: Parental Violence, psychological and physical, from parent to child and vice versa; the context of this violence (measuring Social Capital, Social Class, Parental Dynamics, Family Dynamics, and sociodemographic variables); and the significant relationships of this violence and its context. In this way, dynamics of the different types of Parental Violence were analyzed in the population studied to understand this problem complexity. Simultaneously, context factors of this violence were analyzed, in a systematic and complex manner, to determine which were really related to it.

#### Present research source

Data for this research were collected by the author simultaneously with his doctoral thesis in Public Health "Conjugal Violence, Social Capital and Social Class in the commune of Belén, Medellín" (Sarasti-Vanegas, 2016). This research was approved by the Ethics Committee of the E.S.E. Metrosalud, act 11-2011, November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011; and by the Bioethics Committee of the National Faculty of Public Health from the Universidad de Antioquia, act 058, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011. In addition, respondents signed an informed consent when surveyed.

For its part, research design, collection and processing of data, information generation, article preparation and information dissemination were developed following the ethical standards for research (Asociación Médica Mundial, 2013) (Organización Mundial de la Salud, 2000) (Organización Mundial de la Salud, 2001) (Consejo de Organizaciones Internacionales de las Ciencias Médicas, 2002).

#### Materials and methods

In analyzing Parental Violence's different types, parent-child violence was analyzed from parents' perspective and vice versa; at the same time, from children's perspective, it was analyzed parent (father, mother)-child violence and vice versa (the latter is Child-to-Parent Violence).

For a systematic and complex analysis of context factors that could be related to the different forms of Parental Violence, sociodemographic variables, Family Dynamics, Parental Dynamics, Social Capital, and Social Class were studied.

The present research was a descriptive cross-sectional study carried out in a population sample of parent-child dyads in Belén commune, Medellín, 2013. Two hundred forty-six (246) parents and two hundred thirty-three (233) children were surveyed; data was collected at respondents' homes.

Measured sociodemographic variables were: (both in parents and children): age, sex, family position (in parents: father/mother; in children: her/his position as a child), having or not social security, educational level, years approved in educational level, having or not prepaid medicine; (in addition, in parents): hours with children during week, hours with children on weekend; (from family): life cycle stage, family type.

In measuring Parental Violence, psychological and physical aggression questions from the Conflicts Tactics Scales (CTS2) 2 questionnaire were used, with Previva3 adaptations.

Family dynamics was measured in satisfaction, dialogue, support, rules clarity terms, and Communication. Also, Parental Dynamics was analyzed in terms of satisfaction, dialogue, support, and rules clarity. Likewise, Parental Communication was analyzed in terms of satisfaction, frequency, and assessment terms. Similarly, Power in Parental Relationships was analyzed insofar as it was democratic, authoritarian, or permissive (lesseferism). Equally, Parental Relationship Conflicts were analyzed. Specific questionnaires were designed to measure Family Dynamics and Parental Dynamics.

For its part, Social Capital was conceptualized from the Neo-Weberian perspective. It was measured using the Harmonized Question Set questionnaires (Harper & Kelly, 2003) (Green & Fletcher, 2003a) (Green & Fletcher, 2003b), one to the respondent and another one to her/his dyadic partner, which measures the following dimensions: Opinions about the local

<sup>2 270</sup> CTS2 questionnaires and 244 CTSPC questionnaires copyrights were purchased from Western Psychological Services (PO number: WPS-SO#70024719).

<sup>3</sup> Previva (Group for Violence and other risk behaviors Prevention), National Faculty of Public Health, Universidad de Antioquia; founder and first director, Dr Luis Fernando Duque Ramírez. Use authorization of the CTS2 questionnaire adapted by Previva was signed on March 4, 2011.

area, Civic Participation, Social Networks and Support, Social Participation and, Reciprocity and Trust.

Also, from Social Capital, the "Information" dimension was measured, which was taken from the National Household Health Survey, Colombia - 2007 (question 910 of module 1). This dimension was adapted by the Colombian Ministry of Health and Social Protection from the Inquesoc questionnaire, which the World Bank designed to measure Social Capital at a local level (Grootaert et al., 2004). Thus, it measures individual's information sources related to news, and no longer about what the government was doing or about the market, as the Inquesoc asks.

In addition, from Social Capital, the "Access to Social Resources" dimension was measured, which measures individual's perception of social resources availability in the neighborhood where she/he lives. For the present investigation, this dimension was designed to establish a relationship between Social Capital and Social Class and answer some questions about Social Capital.

Social Class was conceptualized from a Neo-Weberian approach and was measured using the European Socioeconomic Classification (ESeC) questionnaire (Harrison & David, 2006) (Rose & Harrison, 2009) (Leiulfsrud et al., 2010)4.

The following analysis was performed:

- 1) The description of Parental Violence (psychological and physical) in the last 12 months, according to levels (non-violence, minor, severe). Both from the parents' perspective (Parents to children and vice versa) and from the children's perspective (children to fathers and vice versa, children to mothers and vice versa).
- 2) Exploration of possible correlations between sociodemographic variables and the different types of parental violence. In this way, sociodemographic variables were correlated with 1) (parental violence reported by parents): violence (psychological, physical) from parent to child in the last 12 months and with violence (psychological, physical) from child to parent in the last 12 months. 2) (parental violence reported by children): a) violence (psychological, physical) from parent (father) to child in last 12 months and with violence (psychological, physical) from child to parent (father) in last 12 months; b) violence (psychological, physical) from mother to child in last 12 months and with violence (psychological, physical) from child to mother in last 12 months.

<sup>4</sup> Questions F21, F22, F25, F26, F27, F28, F28a, F40, and F42 from round 5 of the European Social Survey were used. [Internet]. Access site: *ESS DOCUMENT DATE: 02 (europeansocialsurvey.org)*. Last access date: January 27, 2022.

- 3) Likewise, in correlational phase, bivariate relationship between dependent variable (Parental Violence, in its different types) and independent variables (Social Capital, Social Class, Parental Dynamics, Family Dynamics, Sociodemographic Variables) was estimated taking prevalence proportions of Parental Violence different types (psychological and physical; from parents to children and vice versa) and categories of independent variables; looking for those bivariate relationships that were statistically significant.
- 4) In the analytical phase, association between parental violence (psychological, physical, from surveyed parent to child; and from surveyed child to father and mother) with independent variables was analyzed by means of multivariate models for each of these forms of violence. Multinomial Logistic Regression Models were applied, since there were more than two categories in the dependent variables (Hair et al., 1999). Thus:
  - a. The following factors that could influence parental violence in the last 12 months were studied: Social Capital, Social Class, Family Dynamics, Parental Dynamics, Sociodemographic Characteristics, Parental Violence.
  - b. Contextual factors that could influence parental violence in the last 12 months (psychological, physical) were studied (parental violence was excluded for this analysis).

Information biases were controlled by standardizing data collection processes (by interviewers training and questionnaires standardization); as well as selection biases, guaranteeing population representativeness in studied sample. In addition, confounding biases were controlled by isolating effects of independent variables on dependent variable from effects of confounding variables on independent variable.

Likewise, collinearity between the independent variables was controlled by applying a test of independence with the Chi-square statistic and a significance level of 0,05; in those cases in which there was statistical significance, strength of this relationship was measured by means of the contingency coefficient; collinearity was considered to exist only if the contingency coefficient reached a value above 0,90 (Castañeda Abascal & Molina Estévez, 1999).

A pilot test was conducted, and data were collected. The database was cleaned, and variables were recoded and atypical observations due to errors in filling out data were detected. No imputation was made since it was detected exactly in which surveys there was missing information. When this occurred, the interviewer who had completed the survey was responsible for contacting the respondent and completing information. Invalid

responses are those that were given due to random losses and not because respondent did not answer them. Number of invalid responses per variable did not exceed 7% (Medina & Galván, 2007).

Due to many variables that made up the complete database, and also due to the low variability of some of these variables, it was necessary to use dimension reduction methods to obtain a smaller number of variables and to make it easier to propose regression models. For this purpose, optimal scaling techniques were used; thus, by means of categorical principal components, similar variables were grouped together, whether they belonged to the same question or were related in some way.

From these reductions, the first principal component was used, which is the one with the greatest variance, and a score was obtained for each of surveyed subjects; this score was standardized (the mean was subtracted and divided by the standard deviation) and then a transformation was applied to place it in an interval between 0 and 1. The 33rd and 67th percentiles of the percentage scores were then obtained for each of the new variables, and these percentiles were used to divide the group into 3 categories, with this partitioning significantly reducing the risk of obtaining a category with a low frequency of data.

Thus, whenever possible, 3 categories were created, High, Medium, and Low (as in this case variables were categorized on an inverted Likert scale, those percentage scores that were equal to or below the 33rd percentile were classified as High). Questions with answers Yes or No were classified as 1 or 0, respectively, while those indicating frequency were classified as follows: 0 for no frequency, 0,5 for an intermediate frequency and 1 for greater frequency, the sum was made and this was left as an indicator of violence, whether physical or psychological, since the higher the score, the more questions had been answered affirmatively and therefore subject was either more aggressive or more assaulted, depending on the case of interest.

For each multinomial logistic regression model, a backward selection was made to determine which variables should be included in the model; the maximum significance level allowed was 0,2 (according to Fisher, maximum threshold for edge significance). Subsequently, a confounder analysis was performed in each of the models; this was done by incorporating one by one variables that had previously been found to be non-significant and observing whether their percentage variation was greater than 15%; if this was true, the variable was considered a confounder and, to avoid misinterpretations or incorrect models, it was necessary to incorporate them into the model, regardless of whether they were originally non-significant.

The following softwares were used to process research data: Access, to create data collection bases; Excel, to create data processing bases; Stata, SPSS, and R to data processing. Word was used for text processing.

#### Results

# A. Descriptive findings

## a. Parental violence, according to parents

## i. Violence from parents to children

246 parent-child dyads were surveyed; for parents in these dyads, 91 were men, and 155 were women.

According to parents, psychological violence from parents to children in the last 12 months was None in 73,58% (181 cases), Minor in 18,29% (45), and Severe in 8,13% (20). Regarding physical violence from surveyed parents to children in the last 12 months, it was None in 84,55% (208 cases), Minor in 11,38% (28), and Severe in 4,07% (10).

Thus, according to surveyed parents, psychological violence (minor and severe) from parents to their children in the last 12 months occurred in 26,4% out of the 246 parent-child dyads. For its part, physical violence (minor, severe) from parents to their children in the last 12 months occurred in 15,5% of these dyads.

## ii. Violence from children to parents

Psychological violence from children to surveyed parents in the last 12 months was None in 77,24% (190 cases), Minor in 16,26% (40), and Severe in 6,5% (16). For its part, physical violence from children to surveyed parents in the last 12 months was None in 87,4 (215 cases), Minor in 11,79% (29), and Severe in 0,81% (2).

Thus, according to surveyed parents, psychological violence (minor and severe) from children to parents in the last 12 months occurred in 22,8% of 246 parent-child dyads. Physical violence (minor, severe) from children to parents occurred in 12,6% of these dyads.

### b. Parental violence, according to children

#### i. Violence between parents and children

### 1. Violence from parents (men) to children

233 parent (father)-child dyads were surveyed; as to children of these dyads, 99 were men and 134 women.

According to surveyed children, psychological violence from parents (men) to children in the last 12 months was None in 75,97% (177 cases), Minor in 9,44% (22), and Severe in 14,59% (34). Similarly, physical violence from parents (men) to their children in the last 12 months was None in 85,84% (200 cases), Minor in 5,15% (12), and Severe in 9,01%. (21).

Thus, according to surveyed children, psychological violence (minor and severe) from parents (men) to their children in the last 12 months occurred in 24% out of the 233 parent (man)-child dyads. For its part, physical violence (minor and severe) from parents (men) to their children in the last 12 months occurred in 14,2% out of the 233 parent (man)-child dyads.

#### 2. Violence from mothers to children

233 mother-child dyads were surveyed. In children of these dyads, 99 were men and 134 were women.

According to surveyed children, psychological violence from mothers to their children in the last 12 months was None in 70,82% (165 cases), Minor in 14,59% (34), and Severe in 14,59%. (34). Additionally, according to surveyed children, physical violence from mothers to their children in the last 12 months was None in 84,98% (198 cases), Minor in 5,15% (12), and Severe in 9, 87% (23). Thus, psychological violence (minor and severe) from mothers to their children occurred in 29,2% of the 233 mother-child dyads. In comparison, physical violence (minor and severe) from mothers to their children in the last 12 months occurred in 15% of these dyads.

### ii. Violence from children to parents

#### 1. Violence from children to parents (men)

Psychological violence from children to parents (men) in the last 12 months was None in 76,82% (179 cases), Minor in 12,88% (30), and Severe in 10,3% (24). Whereas physical violence from children to parents (men) in the last 12 months was None in 90,99% (212 cases), Minor in 1,71% (4), and Severe in 7,3 % (17).

Thus, according to surveyed children, psychological violence (minor and severe) from children to parents (men) in the last 12 months occurred in 23,2% of these 233 dyads. For its part, physical violence (minor and severe) from children to parents (men) in the last 12 months occurred in 9,0% out of the 233 parent (man)-child dyads.

### 2. Violence from children to mothers

According to surveyed children, psychological violence from children to mothers in the last 12 months was None in 91,42% (213 cases), Minor in 5,15% (12), and Severe in 3,43%. (8).

While physical violence from children to mothers in the last 12 months was None in 91,42% (213 cases), Minor in 3,43% (8) and Severe in 5,15% (12).

Thus, psychological violence (minor and severe) from children to mothers occurred in 8,6% of the 233 Mother-child dyads. At the same time, physical violence (minor and severe) from children to mothers occurred in 8,6% of these dyads.

# c. Occurrence comparison of different types of parental violence according to who perpetrates it

According to parents, in the 246 parent-child dyads, the occurrence proportion of psychological violence (minor and severe) from parents to children was 26,4% (65 cases), and from children to parents, it was 22,8% (56 cases). Also, according to parents, of the 246 parent-child dyads, the occurrence proportion of physical violence (minor and severe) from parents to children was 15,5% (38 cases), and from children to parents was 12,6% (31 cases).

For its part, according to children, of the 233 parent (father)-child dyads, the occurrence proportion of psychological violence (minor and severe) from parents (fathers) to children was 24% (56 cases) and, from children to parents (fathers) was 23,2% (54 cases). Also, according to children, of the 233 parent (father)-child dyads, the occurrence proportion of physical violence (minor and severe) from parents (fathers) to children was 14,2% (33 cases) and from children to parents (fathers) it was 9,0% (21 cases).

On the other hand, when analyzing the 233 mother-child dyads, according to children, the occurrence proportion of psychological violence (minor and severe) from mothers to children was 29,2% (68 cases), and from children to mothers was 8,6% (20 cases). Also, according to children, in the 233 mother-child dyads, the occurrence proportion of physical violence (minor and severe) from mothers to children was 15% (35 cases), and from children to mothers, it was 8,6% (20 cases).

It is striking the greater occurrence of psychological violence (minor and severe) from children to parents (fathers) compared to psychological violence (minor and severe) from children to mothers.

d. Non-violence and different types of violence distribution in the studied population, according to violence reciprocity (none, reciprocal, victim, perpetrator):

The following table shows parental violence (psychological, physical), both from parents to children and vice versa, according to parents; discriminated by violence reciprocity (none, reciprocal (whether minor or severe), victim, perpetrator) of dyad members:

Table 1. According to surveyed parents, violence between parents and children in the last 12 months. Parent is Victim/ Victimizer. n=246

	Non-violence and reciprocity in violence				
	None	Reciprocal (minor or severe)	Victim	Victimizer	
psychological violence	70,73%	19,92%	2,85%	6,50%	
	(174)	(49)	(7)	(16)	
physical violence	79,67%	7,72%	4,88%	7,72%	
	(196)	(19)	(12)	(19)	

According to parents, non-violence predominated, both psychological and physical. For its part, when psychological violence occurred, reciprocity predominated. In addition, when physical violence occurred, both reciprocity and the parent as victimizer prevailed.

The following tables show parental violence (psychological, physical) according to children (fathers to children and vice versa; mothers to children and vice versa); discrimination according to violence reciprocity (none, reciprocal (whether minor or severe), victim, victimizer:

Table 2. According to surveyed children, violence between parents (fathers) and children in the last 12 months. The child is the victim/victimizer. n=233

	Non-violence and reciprocity in violence				
	None	Reciprocal (minor or severe)	Victim	Victimizer	
psychological violence	70,82%	18,03%	5,15%	6,01%	
	(165)	(42)	(12)	(14)	
physical violence	84,55%	7,73%	1,29%	6,44%	
	(197)	(18)	(3)	(15)	

Table 3. Violence between mothers and children in the last 12 months, according to children. The child is the Victim/victimizer. n=233

	Non-violence and reciprocity in violence				
	None	Reciprocal (minor or severe)	Victim	Victimizer	
psychological violence	70,82%	8,58%	0%	20,60%	
	(165)	(20)	(0)	(48)	
physical violence	83,26%	6,87%	1,72%	8,15%	
	(194)	(16)	(4)	(19)	

According to children, non-violence predominated. In addition, according to children, when comparing psychological violence between children and parents (fathers) to psychological violence between children and mothers, violence reciprocity from children to parent (father) was greater than to mother (18,03 % vs 8,58%, respectively) (p = 0,00861106; Chi-Square = 6,90177). Likewise, the parent (father) was a victim more times than the mother (5,15% vs. 0%) (p = 0,000622949; Chi-Square = 11,7061), and the parent (father) was less often the victimizer than the mother (6,50% vs 20,60%) (p = 0,0000480312; Chi-Square = 16,5243).

On the other hand, according to children, when comparing physical violence between children and parents (fathers) to physical violence between children and mothers, this violence reciprocity from children to parents (fathers) did not differ than to mothers (7,73% vs. 6,87%, respectively) (p = 0,740544; Chi-Square = 0,109649); neither did it differ whether victim was parent (father) or mother (1,29% vs. 1,72%, respectively) (p = 0,707543; Chi-Square = 0,140744); nor, that victimizer was parent (father) or mother (6,44% vs 8,15%, respectively) (p = 0,507791; Chi-Square = 0,438616).

## **B.** Correlational Findings

From analyzed correlations (see methodology), some showed statistical significance, but they did not show it in modeling.

# C. Analytical Findings

## a. Factors influencing Parental Violence:

**NO common factor influenced all the studied types of Parental Violence; therefore**, these violence types must be analyzed separately.

Parents' and children's perceptions of factors influencing parental violence were different, except that the "Characteristics of Parental Dynamics" was the only common variable raised by parents and children (the latter both as in their relationship with fathers as with mothers) insofar as it influenced psychological violence from parents to children. This relationship was found both in multinomial logistic regression (response variable: non-violence vs. minor violence or vs. severe violence) and in logistic regression (response variable: non-violence vs. violence, minor or severe).

The main variables influencing the different types of parental violence came from themselves. Thus, Parental Violence types that most influenced other forms of this violence were:

# 1. According to surveyed parents:

Psychological Violence from Parents to Children was directly related to: Psychological Violence from Children to Parents, Minor (OR=12,7 times; p=0,000; IC95% = 5,810 - 27,856) and Severe (OR =55,5%; p=0,000; IC95% = 14,316 - 214,760)5 And with Physical Violence from Parents to Children, Minor (OR=3,9 times; p=0,000; IC95% = 1,958 - 7,664) and Severe (OR=3,9 times; p=0,007, CI 95% = 1,455 - 10,659).

For its part, Physical Violence from Children to Parents was directly related to: Minor Psychological Violence from surveyed Parents to Children (OR=4,4 times; p=0,001; Cl95% = 1,847 - 10,453); Psychological Violence from Children to Parents, Minor (OR=5,9 times; p=0,001; IC95%= 2,173 - 16,143) and Severe (OR=6,5 times; p=0,018; IC95% = 1,374 - 30,417) and Minor Physical Violence from Parents to Children (OR=11,2 times; p=0,000; Cl95% = 4,116 - 30,271).

On the other hand, Physical Violence from Parents to Children was directly related to: Minor Psychological Violence from Parents to children (OR=4,4 times; p=0,001; IC95% CI = 1,847 – 10,453) and with Minor Physical Violence from Children to Parents (OR=3,6 times; p=0,002; IC95%= 1,629 - 8,127). For its part, Psychological Violence from Children to Parents was directly related to: Psychological Violence from surveyed Parents to Children, Minor (OR=15,6 times; p=0,000; IC95% = 5,897 - 40,995) and Severe (OR=48,5 times; p=0,000, IC95% = 14,085 - 166,836).}

<sup>5.</sup> This confidence interval marked width is related to low data variability (standard deviation) (Clark, 2004) in the relationship between that violence and the number of cases in this relationship. Despite the above, the important thing is that a relationship is indicated. This comment applies to all following confidence intervals that are wide.

# 2. According to surveyed children:

# a. In Parents (Fathers) – Children relationships:

Psychological Violence from Children to Parents (Fathers) was directly related to: Psychological Violence from Parents (Fathers) to Children, Minor (OR=6,8 times; p=0,000; IC95% = 2,471 – 18,455) and Severe (OR=33,3 times; p=0,000; IC95% = 10,674 - 103,716). While Physical Violence from Parents (Fathers) to Children was directly related to: Minor Psychological Violence from Parents (Fathers) to Children (OR=3,8 times; p=0.000; IC95% = 1,806 – 7,797); Minor Psychological Violence from Children to Parents (Fathers) (OR=4,2 times; p=0.000; IC95% = 2,220 – 8,056); and with Severe Physical Violence from Children to Parents (Fathers) (OR=5,6%; p=0,000; CI95% = 0.016 – 0.197).

For its part, Psychological Violence from Parents (Fathers) to Children was directly related to Psychological Violence from Children to Parents (Fathers), Minor (OR=2,6 times; p=0,011, IC95% = 1,239 - 5,405) and Severe (OR=74,0 times; p=0,000; IC95%= 12,574 - 435,378). Additionally, Physical Violence from Children to Parents (Fathers) was directly related to Physical Violence from Parents (Fathers) to Children, Minor (OR=4,5 times; p=0,012; IC95% = 1,395 - 14,363) and Severe (OR=10,0 times; p=0,000, IC95% = 4,464 - 22,206).

# b. In Mothers-Children relationships:

Psychological Violence from Mothers to Children was directly related to: Severe Psychological Violence from Children to Mothers (OR=57,2 times; p=0,005; IC95% = 3,386 – 965,487), with Minor Physical Violence from Mothers to Children (OR=5,8 times; p=0,000; IC95% = 2,379 – 14,208) and with Minor Physical Violence from Children to Mothers (OR=57,2 times; p=0,005; CI95% = 3,386 – 965,487). For its part, Physical Violence from Children to Mothers was directly related to Physical Violence from Mothers to Children, Minor (OR=4,3 times; p=0,041; CI95% = 1,063 - 17,500) and Severe (OR=35,6 times; p=0,000; CI95% = 8,028 – 158,117).

Whereas, Physical Violence from Mothers to Children was directly related to: Psychological Violence from Mothers to Children, Minor (OR=11,6%; p=0,000; IC95% = 4,672 – 28,897) and Severe (OR=3,8 times; p=0,003; Cl95% = 1,560 – 9,464); Psychological Violence from Children to Mothers, Minor (OR=44,0%; p=0,000; IC95% = 6,768 - 285,551) and Severe (OR=9,0 times; p=0,017; IC95% = 1,492 - 54,458) and; with Physical Violence from Children to Mothers, Minor (OR=9,0 times; p=0,017; IC95% = 1,492 - 54,458) and Severe (OR=44,0 times; p=0,000; IC95% = 6,768 - 285,551).

On the other hand, according to parents, another significant variable related to parental violence was:

a. Families with adolescent children was directly related to Physical Violence from Surveyed Parents to Children, both Minor (OR=3,8 times; p=0,034; CI95% = 1,109 – 12,999) and Severe (OR=34,7 times; p=0,001; CI 95% = 4,02 – 299,139); as well as, it was directly related to Minor Physical Violence from Children to Surveyed Parents (OR=18,7%; p=0,032; CI95% = 0,040 – 0,863).

For its part, according to children, significant variables related to parental violence were:

- b. Families with adolescent children were inversely related to Severe Psychological Violence from surveyed children to Mothers (OR=1,6%; p=0.041; IC95%= 0.000-0.847).
- c. "Hours spent by Parents (Fathers) with their children on weekends" was inversely related to Severe Psychological Violence from surveyed Children to Parents (Fathers) (OR=88,1%; p=0,025; IC95% = 0,789 0,984) and was directly related to Severe Physical Violence from surveyed children to Parents (Fathers) (OR=1,18 times; p=0,012; IC95%=1,037 1,336).
- d. **Family on launching adult children stage** was a significant variable that was inversely related to Physical Violence from Mothers to surveyed Children, Minor (OR=18,9%; p=0,026; 95% CI= 0,044 0,817) and Severe (OR= 5,6%, p=0,000; 95% CI= 0,011 0,278).

The other analyzed variables that could influence Parental Violence, different from those already mentioned, **did not have a clear relationship** with studied Parental Violence types.

b. Context factors influencing Parental Violence:

There was no common context factor to all the different types of parental violence studied. Thus, diverse context variables influenced each of the parental violence different types.

According to **parents**, significant context variables related to parental violence were:

a. "Social Networks and Support" Dimension (from Social Capital) was inversely related to Minor Psychological Violence from Surveyed Parents to Children (OR=41,9%; p=0,001; 95% CI= 0,253 – 0,694) and to Minor Psychological Violence from Children to Surveyed Parents (OR=48,4%; p=0,006; CI95% = 0,288 – 0,814).

- b. **Family Dynamics Characteristics** was inversely related to Psychological Violence from Children to Surveyed Parents, both Minor (OR=37,4%; p=0,001; Cl95% = 0,209 0,667) and Severe (OR=21,5%; p=0,001; IC95% = 0,086 0,534) and with Physical Violence from Surveyed Parents to Children, both Minor (OR=29,9%; p=0,001; IC95% = 0,142 0,629) and Severe (OR=17,6%, p=0,010; Cl95% = 0,047 0,661).
- c. Communication in family relationships was inversely related to Severe Physical Violence from Surveyed Parents to Children (OR=10,9%; p=0,028; Cl95% = 0,015 0,787).

According to children, context-significant variables related to parental violence were:

- a. "Social Networks and Support" Dimension (from Social Capital) was inversely related to Minor Physical Violence from Mothers to Children (OR=18,9%; p=0,004; IC95% = 0,060 0,592).
- b. **Communication in family relationship** was inversely related to Psychological Violence from Parents (Fathers) to surveyed Children, Minor (OR=28,6%; p=0,019; IC95% = 0,100 0,816) and Severe (OR=29,0%; p=0,008; IC95% = 0,115 0,729) and with Psychological Violence from surveyed Children to Parents (Fathers), Minor (OR=14,2%; p=0,000; IC95% = 0,048 0,416) and Severe (OR=16,6%; p=0,001; CI 95% = 0,055 0,502).
- c. "Hours spent by Parents (Fathers) with their children on weekends" was inversely related to Severe Psychological Violence from Children to Parents (Fathers) (OR=90,8%; p=0,004; IC95% = 0,851 0,969), with Severe Physical Violence from Children to Parents (Fathers) (OR=89,3%; p=0,001; IC95% = 0,833 0,957) and with Minor Physical Violence from Parents (Fathers) to Children (OR=86,3%; p=0,003; CI95% = 0,782 0,952).
- d. "Hours spent by Mothers with their children on weekends" was inversely related to Minor Psychological Violence from Children to Mothers (OR=90,6%; p=0,010; Cl95% = 0,840 0,976) and, with Physical Violence from Mothers to Children, Minor (OR=89,0%; p=0,012; IC95% = 0,813 0,975) and Severe (OR=93,7%; p=0,026; IC95% = 0,884 0,992).
- e. "Conflicts in Parental Relationship" variable was directly related to Minor Physical Violence from Parents (Fathers) to children (OR=3,1

times; p=0,017; IC95% = 1,224 - 7,777); Also, it was directly related to Psychological Violence from Children to Mothers, Minor (OR=3,2 times; p=0,020; IC95% = 1,201 - 8,606) and Severe (OR=6,2 times; p=0,003; IC95% = 1,859 - 20,812); likewise, it was directly related to Physical Violence from Children to Mothers, Minor (OR=6,2 times; p=0,003; IC95% = 1,859 - 20,812) and Severe (OR=3,2 times; p=0,020; Cl95% = 1,201 - 8,606).

The other analyzed context variables, different from those already mentioned, **did not have** a **clear relationship** with diverse studied Parental Violence types.

Models of factors influencing Parental Violence had a better fit (higher Nagelkerke) than models of context factors influencing this violence because the former included the different types of parental violence, which were the main factors related to the different types of this violence.

#### Discussion

As already mentioned, this population study investigated the Parental Violence problem considering all its complexity, for which it analyzed parent-child violence and child-parent violence (father, mother) (Child-to-parent violence). Thus, Parental Violence was studied both from parents' and children's perspectives.

In addition, simultaneously, as already stated, this study systematically and complexly addressed context factors that could be related to Parental Violence. For which it analyzed the relationship the different types of Parental Violence could have with sociodemographic variables, Parental Dynamics, Family Dynamics, Social Capital, and Social Class.

When <u>analyzing Parental Violence in itself</u> in the present population study, it found that psychological violence occurred in about one out of three of these dyads, as stated by as many as parents (at analyzing parent-child dyads) as children (at analyzing parent (father)-child and mother-child dyads);. In contrast, physical violence occurred in approximately one out of five dyads.

On the other hand, it was found that significant variables influencing different types of Parental Violence came predominantly from other types of parental violence, which shows the circularity of this violence in the sense that the main factors associated with it came from the violence itself. Thus, the findings of this research, conducted in the general population, reinforce what has been reported in clinical settings on this circularity (Perrone & Nannini, 2002).

Likewise, according to parents and children, the findings showed that no single type of Parental Violence influenced all other forms of this violence. All the above highlighted that to analyze factors influencing Parental Violence in itself, the different types of this violence had to be considered.

Regarding parental violence (psychological, physical) reciprocity, it was similar between parents and children and between parents (fathers) and children. However, in mother-child dyads, the proportion of mothers who exerted psychological violence was higher than the proportion of children who exerted it. In contrast, the proportion of children who exerted physical violence and the proportion of mothers who exerted it was similar.

When comparing parent (father)-child dyads with mother-child dyads, differences were found only in psychological violence since reciprocity in this violence was greater with parents (fathers); the latter were victims more times and were less victimizers than mothers. This may reflect mothers relate to their children differently than parents (fathers) with their children, and, even for children, the very figure of the mother has specific connotations different from that of the father.

When analyzing <u>context factors related to Parental Violence</u>, the findings showed that parents' and children's perceptions were different, except that "Parental Dynamics Characteristics" was the only common variable raised by parents and children (the latter both in their relationship with Father and with Mother) influencing Parental Violence, and this only occurred in one of its types, Psychological Violence from parents to children.

Likewise, according to parents and children, a single context factor was not found to influence all Parental Violence different types. So, it becomes evident that it is necessary to analyze specific factors influencing each type of this violence.

On the other hand, the issue that, according to parents, family with adolescent children was a significant variable directly related as much to Physical Violence from surveyed Parents to Children, Minor and Severe, as to Minor Physical Violence from Children to Parents, could reflect various difficulties.

Among these difficulties would be: a) families limitation, when they reach this family cycle stage, to make adjustments and increase their flexibility in terms of limits for adolescents, which is necessary to enable the latter their independence process; 2) conflict that could be generated to recognize in adolescents priority that their peer groups take; 3) limitations to support adolescent's own identity development; 4) inability to understand parents identity crises in this phase and; 5) parents difficulty to accept as normal and know how to correct adolescent disruptive behaviors (Moratto Vásquez et al., 2015).

Also, maybe these abusive children could reflect that in their upbringing early stages, they had been excessively controlled, but that, as long as they grew up and tended to be more autonomous, parents would have wanted to continue exerting similar control as before, which would provoke children's violence in their attempt to assert himself (Aroca-Montolío et al., 2012). The preceding, and the issue that children considered that family with adolescent children was inversely related to Severe Psychological Violence from Children to

Mothers, indicate the importance of this family's vital course stage in highlighted parent violence types.

On the other hand, the fact that Children considered that among factors influencing parental violence, "hours Parent (Father) spent with the child on weekends" was a significant variable, which was inversely related to Severe Psychological Violence from Children to Parents (Fathers) and directly with Severe Physical Violence from Children to Parents (Fathers). In contrast, children did not indicate that "hours Mother spent with the child on weekends" was a significant variable related to some types of Parental Violence (psychological, physical), which would point out two critical aspects.

The first aspect is considering that this finding probably reflects a variation in the type and intensity of interaction between Parent (Father) and children depending on whether it is during the week or on the weekend (Parke & Cookston, 2019) (Yeung et al., 2001). A second aspect is that it also probably reflects a difference in gender roles between parents (Fathers) and Mothers in raising children (Parke & Cookston, 2019).

This difference in gender roles is reflected in Mother's greater involvement than Parent's (Father) (Kotila et al., 2013), which, in part, is explained because the mother's parental role is more mandatory and is more clearly defined culturally, while father parental role is less clear and more discretionary (Parke & Cookston, 2019).

Likewise, Parents (Fathers) could tend to have different processing pathways for their children's physiological difficulties, greater bias in attributing difficulties in parent-child interaction to children, and more hostile and insensitive upbringing (Sturge-Apple et al., 2020). Also, it has been suggested that adolescent parenting styles are different between Parents (Fathers) and Mothers (Steinberg & Silk, 2002).

Thus, this difference between fathers and mothers in the type of activities they perform in interaction with their children is expressed in that mothers do more than fathers in caring for their children (feeding and changing diapers for infants and, as the child grows, providing food, school lunch box and clothing) (Parke & Cookston, 2019) (P. B. Gray & Anderson, 2010); as well as, they assume more administrative responsibilities of this care (arranging social contacts, organizing schedules, taking a child to doctor, monitoring homework and school activities) than parents (fathers) (Parke & Cookston, 2019).

A second aspect that could be pointed out is a gap between Parents (Fathers) and Mothers in hours dedicated to parenting (Negraia et al., 2018) (Craig, 2006), which could be due to the issue that, in general, men dedicate more time to the remunerated job and less to household functions (Departamento Administrativo Nacional de Estadísticas (DANE) - Colombia, 2021) (A, Gray, 2006) (Bianchi et al., 2006). In Colombia, there is a gender difference in activities with children under five years of age because while women reported that 13,1% of their unpaid work activities were dedicated to them, men only reported 8,1%,

according to the National Time Use Survey (ENUT) (Departamento Administrativo Nacional de Estadísticas (DANE) -Colombia, 2021).

Thus, the issue that Children had indicated that "hours Parent (Father) spent with the child on weekends" had effects on Children highlights the relevance of a good quality of the parent's (Father) participation in the upbringing of the children. There are different ways of conceptualizing this participation; the most relevant indicates that it has three components: interaction, availability, and responsibility (M. Lamb et al., 1987) (M. E. Lamb et al., 1985) (Parke & Cookston, 2019).

This participation is influenced, among other aspects, by the father's expectations of his role, manifested in his concrete actions, and varies according to family, community, cultural, and historical context. Therefore, there is no single definition of "successful fatherhood" nor an "ideal role of Father" that is universally accepted or has empirical support (N. J. Cabrera et al., 2000).

With all the above, there are more similarities than differences between parents (Fathers) and Mothers in participation in raising children. Warmth, loving care, attention, and parents' closeness are associated with positive child outcomes, regardless of whether the parent is the father or the mother (Michael E. Lamb & Tamis-Lemonda, 2004).

On the other hand, in the present research, no association was found between educational level and time dedicated by the parent (Father or Mother) to the child, both when correlating and modeling data. This non-association contrasts with what has been reported in different countries (A. Gray, 2006), among which was the United States of America (Bianchi, 2000), and as stated by a study carried out in four European countries (Denmark, Flemish Region in Belgium, Spain, United Kingdom). This last study found that education significantly increased childcare time only among fathers and mothers from Spain and British mothers (Gracia et al., 2011).

Additionally, the fact that, according to children, family in the Launching adult children stage was inversely related to Physical Violence from Mothers to Children, Minor and Severe, could indicate the emotional and physical distancing between children and Mothers that would occur in this family's vital course stage, due to children multiple entrances and exits to the family system in their process of becoming independent, on vocational and partner choice (Moratto Vásquez et al., 2015).

Moreover, the fact that the other analyzed factors (Parental Violence types different from those already indicated, Social Class, Social Capital, Family Dynamics, Parental Dynamics aspects different from those already indicated, and sociodemographic variables) had not been shown a significant influence on any of Parental Violence different types, allows public policy efforts to focus on those factors that were found to be relevant for parental violence

types prevention and management; likewise, it allows focusing investigative efforts on these factors.

Regarding context factors influencing Parental Violence, both parents and children agreed that "Social Networks and Support" (a Social Capital dimension) and "Communication in family relationship" were the context factors that significantly influenced some forms of parental violence.

According to parents, "Social Networks and Support" (a Social Capital Dimension) were inversely related to Minor Psychological Violence from Parents to Children and to Minor Psychological Violence from Children to Parents. Moreover, according to children, Social Networks and Support (a Social Capital Dimension) were inversely related to Minor Physical Violence from Mothers to Children. This finding highlights the "Social Networks and Support" importance in child abuse prevention (Larraín & Bascuñán, 2008) (Ramírez-Herrera et al., 2007) (Modovar & Ubeda, 2017) (García de Galdeano Ruiz & González Llópez, 2007) ((ONU), 2005).

On the other hand, the present study investigated "Communication in family relationship" in terms of satisfaction with its quality, its frequency, and how respondents considered it (whether parent or child). According to parents, Communication in family relationship was inversely related to Severe Physical Violence from Parents to Children. For its part, according to children, "Communication in family relationship" was inversely related to Psychological Violence from Parents (Fathers) to Children, Minor and Severe, and to Psychological Violence from Children to Parents (Fathers), Minor and Severe.

It has been pointed out the relevant influence of communication on the educational style of children in a family, the behavior and development of children, and the importance of good communication in the family relationship for family violence prevention (Aroca-Montolío, 2010) (Torío-López et al., 2008). Likewise, fluent and optimal child-parent communication is one of the factors favoring adequate psychosocial development and a greater adjustment and emotional well-being of children (Aroca-Montolío, 2010). Thus, the present research finding of communication influence in certain types of parental violence could reflect dysfunctional educational styles of children in the family, as well as poor adjustment and emotional discomfort in the parent-child dyad and point out risks for child proper development and adjustment.

Moreover, in the present research, no association was found between children's educational style in the family (democratic, authoritarian, permissive) (Baumrind, 1971) and different types of parental violence, neither in correlational analysis nor in modeling. Another population study did not find this association either (Suárez-Relinque et al., 2019). For its part, a study in the general population did find an association between violence from children to parents and authoritarian style (Ibabe et al., 2013), as well as another, found an

association between violence from children to parents and permissive style (Gámez-Guadix et al., 2012).

The other context factors significantly influenced some types of Parental Violence showed that parents' and children's perceptions differed.

Thus, according to parents, Family Dynamics Characteristics (satisfaction, dialogue, support, norms) were inversely related to Psychological Violence from Children to Parents, both Minor and Severe, and to Physical Violence from Parents to Children, both Minor and Severe. It was found that high satisfaction, positive dialogue, a feeling of support, and clear norms in family relationship were correlated to less parental violence.

For their part, according to children, "Hours Parent (Father) spent with the child on weekends" was a significant variable, both when analyzing factors that influenced parental violence and when analyzing context factors related to this violence. In the latter case, it was inversely related to Severe Psychological Violence from children to Parents (Fathers), to Severe Physical Violence from children to Parents (Fathers), and to Minor Physical Violence from Parents (Fathers) to children.

Likewise, according to children," Hours that mother spent with the child on weekends" was one of the parental violence context variables inversely related to Minor Psychological Violence from Children to Mothers and to Physical Violence from Mothers to Children, Minor and Severe.

These findings highlight the importance for children that parents (father and mother) dedicate time to them. In this sense, present research findings indicate the importance for children of hours that parents dedicated to them on weekends but not hours they dedicated to them during the week. Those mentioned above probably because children accepted that parents spent more time working during the week.

Research on time spent by parents raising children is mainly focused on the labor division between parents, its redistribution among them in recent decades, as well as the impact on parenting due to men's long working hours and women's more significant insertion in the labor market (A. Gray, 2006) (Gershuny, 2000) (Pilcher, 2000).

Conversely, Conflicts in Parental Relationships were related to parental violence, specifically with some of its types. According to children, Conflicts in Parental Relationships were directly related to Minor Physical Violence from Parents (Fathers) to Children, to Psychological Violence from Children to Mothers, Minor and Severe, and to Physical Violence from Children to Mothers, Minor and Severe. Regarding the last two mentioned violence types, research, mainly clinical/legal and not so much population surveys, indicates that mothers predominantly suffer abuse from their children (Jauregizar & Ibabe, 2014) (Gallagher, 2008) (Kennair & Mellor, 2007) (Walsh & Krienert, 2007). In its part, according

to parents, no association was found between Conflicts in Parental Relationships and parental violence.

Also, because the other analyzed context factors (Social Class, other dimensions of Social Capital different from Social Networks and Support; Family Dynamics, Parental Dynamics aspects different from Parental Dynamics Characteristics, and sociodemographic variables) had not been shown a significant influence on any of Parental Violence different types, allows to focus on those context factors that were found to be relevant for public policy efforts, for parental violence types prevention and management; as well on research of context factors influencing Parental Violence.

# **Study limitations**

Because this research is a cross-sectional study, it is not possible to study causality; but, as it is an exploratory study of Parental Violence (psychological and physical) and its relationships with context, it opens the way for future research on this topic, and more generally, on context influence on health phenomena. On the other hand, since it was a study based on interviews, it was not possible to do them with young children.

On the other hand, the consulted literature was predominantly in Spanish and English; therefore, literature that could be relevant in other languages still needs to be reviewed.

Moreover, to carry out this study, the researcher had to choose, among several possible options raised in scientific literature, about what to understand by Spousal Violence, Social Capital, and Social Class, which he tried to make as grounded as possible. However, he recognizes that there are other conceptual approaches to understanding them and other methodological approaches to apprehend them. Therefore, he raises caution when comparing these research findings with other studies that use different conceptual frameworks and methodologies.

Likewise, a limitation of the context analysis proposal (using Social Capital, Social Class, Parental Dynamics, Family Dynamics, and sociodemographic variables) is that it does not analyze the cultural context, as well as neither the psychological at the individual level, which they are a set of factors associated with Spousal Violence.

#### **Conclusions**

The present research shows that a complex view, both conceptually and methodologically, is possible and useful to study Parental Violence in the general population; Therefore, it allows us to know factors, proper and contextual, that have a significant influence on it.

Likewise, the epidemiological methodology used in this research is a proposal that contributes to the "ecological model" of understanding the multicausal and multifaceted nature of parental violence (Krug et al., 2002) by going beyond the descriptive and specific aspect given by the risk factors approach and proposing an analytical and holistic approach that apprehends the influential factors on this violence.

Regarding descriptive findings, it was found that parental non-violence (psychological, physical) predominated in the studied population, both according to parents and children. The previously mentioned issue occurred in all the types of studied parental violence, which were: (according to parents): from parents to children and vice versa; (according to children): from parents (fathers) to children and vice versa, and from mothers to children and vice versa.

Despite the preceding, the fact that psychological violence occurred in approximately one out of every three dyads, be they parent-child dyads (when analyzing parental violence according to parents) or father-child and mother-child dyads (in parental violence analysis according to children) and the fact that physical violence had occurred in approximately one out of five in these dyads shows that parental violence is a public health problem that deserves to define a public policy for its attention and management.

On the other hand, a comparison of the different types of parental violence and its occurrence according to who exerted it showed that the percentages were similar in the different dyads (parent-child, parent (father)-child, mother-child), although in the mother-child dyads psychological violence exerted by mothers was greater.

When comparing parent (father)-child dyads with mother-child dyads, according to children, differences were found only in psychological violence, since reciprocity of this violence with parents (fathers) was greater than with mothers, more times fathers were victims, and less often fathers were victimizers than mothers, which indicates the importance of paying attention to such violence in parent (father)-child dyads.

Concerning analytical findings, it was found that, in terms of factors that influenced Parental Violence:

Parental Dynamics Characteristics (satisfaction, support, dialogue, norms) have an influence, according to parents and children, on Psychological Violence from Parents to Children.

Parental violence is circular in the sense that variables with significant influence on the different types of Parental Violence came predominantly from other types of parental violence.

Family with adolescent children was related to various types of parental violence; Therefore, the importance of paying special attention in accompanying families in this family's vital course stage is pointed out.

It is essential that parents dedicate time to their children, mainly the fathers because children recognize a relationship between time dedicated to them and some types of parental violence.

Also, it was found that in terms of context factors that influenced Parental Violence:

Both parents and children agreed that Social Networks and Support (a Social Capital dimension) and Communication in family relationship were the context factors that significantly influenced some parental violence types.

The other context factors that significantly influenced some types of Parental Violence were different according to parents and children. According to parents, Family Dynamics Characteristics (satisfaction, dialogue, support, norms) were inversely related to a type of parental violence (Psychological Violence from Children to Parents). Also, according to children, the hours that parents (father, mother) spent with the child on weekends were inversely related to different types of parental violence, highlighting the importance to children that parents (father, mother) dedicate time to them. In addition, according to children, Conflicts in Parental Relationships were related to certain types of parental violence.

For its part, none of the other analyzed factors regarding parental violence and its context (Parental Violence types other than those already mentioned, Social Class, Social Capital, Family Dynamics, Parental Dynamics aspects different from those already indicated, and sociodemographic variables) could significantly influence any of the different types of Parental Violence allows to focus public policies on those factors that were found to be relevant for parental violence types prevention and management; as well as, to focus future research on factors that did show to influence Parental Violence.

#### Recommendations

To design public policies for attention to Parental Violence that:

- A. Consider mother-child and parent (father)-child dyads as a focus of attention due to specific characteristics of psychological violence that occurs in them.
- B. Look for improvement of Parental Dynamics Characteristics (satisfaction, dialogue, support, clarity norms) aimed at parents and children.
- C. Have strategic action lines for parents and children training and support:

- a. In families with adolescent children (for prevention of Physical Violence from surveyed Parents to Children, Minor Physical Violence from Children to surveyed Parents, and severe Psychological Violence from surveyed children to Mothers).
- b. Family Sharing: Hours spent by the Parent (Father) with the child on the weekends (to prevent Severe Psychological and Physical Violence from surveyed Children to Parents).
- c. Training and support for parents in strengthening:
  - Social Networks and Family Support (to prevent Minor Psychological Violence from Parents to Children and vice versa).
  - ii. Characteristics of the Family's Dynamics (to prevent Minor and Severe Psychological Violence from Children to Parents, as well as Minor and Severe Physical Violence from Parents to Children).
  - iii. Communication in family relationships (to prevent Severe Physical Violence from Parents to Children).
  - iv. Based on stated by children in:
    - Promotion of hours that parent (father) spends with child on weekends (to prevent Severe Psychological Violence from children to Parents (fathers), Severe Physical Violence from children to Parents (fathers)), and Minor Physical Violence from Parents (Fathers) to children).
    - 2. Promotion of hours that mother spends with child on weekends (to prevent Minor Psychological Violence from Children to Mothers, and Minor and Severe Physical Violence from Mothers to Children).
    - 3. In properly managing Conflicts in Parental Relationships (to prevent Minor and Severe Physical Violence from Parents (Fathers) to Children; Minor and Severe Psychological Violence from Children to Mothers; and Minor Physical Violence from Children to mothers).
- d. Training and accompaniment to children in strengthening:

- i. Social Networks and Family Support (to prevent Minor Physical Violence from Mothers to Children).
- ii. Communication in family relationships (to prevent Psychological Violence from Parents (Fathers) to Children, Minor and Severe; as well as Psychological Violence from Children to Parents (Fathers), Minor and Severe).

# Declaration of generative Al and Al-assisted technologies in the writing process

While preparing this work, the author used Google Translator, DeepL Translator, and Grammarly to improve language and readability. During and after using these tools/services, the author reviewed and edited the content as needed and takes full responsibility for the content of the publication.

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