





University of Eastern Africa Baraton, Kenya



Student assignment – Master's Degree in Global Health Care

Sexual abuse and family planning

Ethical aspects and challenges

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INTRODUCTION

For this assignment were chosen two articles from newspapers. The first article is concerning about sexual assaults on children' at Greek refugee camps. The second article describes family planning advice in Guinea. In both articles are concerning about human rights. Children's sexual abuse is very difficult item, ethically extremely wrong and reprehensible but however it is happening world widely. The second article's item, family planning, is concerning everyday life in every family. It affects to women's life, a role in the family, a working career and can also influence to an economic situation.

Both of the articles are compared to situation in Kenya and tried to find similarities or differences. In the assignment has used course literature and organizations data base for giving searched information to the content.

SEXUAL ASSAULTS ON CHILDREN' AT GREEK REFUGEE CAMPS

The Guardian shared *The Observer's* information 13th August 2016. The article is telling about situation in refugee camp in Thessaloniki, Greek. The Observer has wrote about sexual abuse in refugee camps. Children as young as seven have been sexually assaulted in official Refugee camps. Some camps are so unsafe that youngsters are too scared to leave their tents at night for toilet visit. The level of risk of sexual attack is acute and concerns to women also. They are too afraid to visit the camp toilets alone at night. (Townsend, 2016)

Chairman of British Labour's refugee taskforce Yvette Cooper said the revelations "should shame us all". She called for immediate action to protect vulnerable children. Leader of the Lib Dems Tim Farron has taken contacts to British Government. He says that if the Head Minister May doesn't act now, she will only be shaming her government and also shaming the country.

Also Anita Dullard from International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies has reacted rised incidents of sexual violence and IFRC had alerted the government. The office of the UNHCR has confirmed the problem with Greek authorities. UNHCR says that

they have raised the issue of security and will continue it again and again. This is big problem and it is under discussion. (Townsend, 2016)

Ethical aspects and challenges

This article consider ethically complicated situation. Sexual abuse is happening among people who have escaped from their homes and home country. Most of these people have lost some of their family members. They are vulnerable people and their life in refugee camp can be more vulnerable. Human rights are not came true among them.

Human Rights third article says:

“Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.”

(UDHR, 1948)

The problem about sexual harassment is known and has got lot of attention. It has not disappeared the problem but societies and associations try to minimize it. In this assignment has tried to find researches about gender based violence. Result was poor. There were only articles and written information about GBSV, but no researches. Perhaps the reason is a sensitivity of the problem. Or refugees cultural background, is this an item what is difficult or impossible to talk about.

Revista Migraciones Forzadas-magazine, Julie Freccero writes about security situation among refugees (2015). The article, *Sheltering displaced person from sexual and gender-based violence*, is concerning about individual insecurity. When displaced people are settled in camps and urban areas, their individual insecurity increases. It coursed by break down of family and community ties, adequate housing, limited access to resource and police protection. (Revista Migraciones Forzadas, 2015)

Refugees in Greece and Kenya

World widely is about 65 million forcibly replaced people. 23 million of those are refugees. 6% of all refugees are staying in Europe and 29% in Africa. Comparing Kenya and Greek.

Greek is responsible of 57 000 refugees in August 2016. In the end of 2015 Kenya was responsible of 615 000 refugees. Kenya is hosting more than ten times bigger amount of refugees. And it is one of low-level income countries. (UNHCR, 2016)

This is the first time for centuries, that refugee camps are in European area. Situation in Europe is new and get a lot of attention in social media and newspapers. In Kenya has been refugee camps since the early 1990's, when refugees from Somalia and Sudan arrived there. (Banki, 2004)

The Administration Justice of The UN High Commissioner for Refugees

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has published guidelines about administration justice for ever refugee camp. Camps and settlements are meant to provide safe and secure environment. The minimum standard is provide personal physical security respect for fundamental human rights. Poverty affects especially to women and girls. They are the most vulnerable situation. Abuse, exploitation and various forms of sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) are consequences of displacement and extreme poverty. Inside many refugee camps is limited capacity to monitor whole area and protect residents. Also cultural differences and attitudes of refugees accept exploitative arrangements. This arrangements are possible also among various actors who are working for refugees. All this violate human rights. (UNHCR, 2006)

WHO, Prevention of Child Maltreatment

World Health Organization has scaled up its prevention actives for child maltreatment. WHO has worked together with the International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN). They have designed and deliver programs for the prevention child maltreatment by parents and caregivers. It is a guide and practical tool, which provides technical advice for professionals in their work: How meet these prevention challenges, measure the extent of maltreatment and consequences and how to design and implement prevention programs. (WHO, 2016)

CONTRACEPTIVE ADVICE IN HAIR SALONS

The Guardian wrote August 2016 about Guinea's way to give family planning advice. 2012 Jhpiego, a health organisation, started project in Guinea. Hairdressers in some popular hair salon's has trained as a community health workers. Hairdressers are giving family planning advice for free during hair cutting and doing braids. The project has been successful. Now in Guinea has seven towns were this kind of family planning advice are giving in during hair cutting. Reaching men is also important and the project has a vision to increase action to tailors 'shops. (Maclean, 2016)

In Guinea women average number of children is five. It is a country what has one of the lowest rates of modern contraceptive use in the world. In Guinea has lot of women who have unwanted pregnancy. Women don't have lot of acknowledgement about contraceptives and a salon is an excellent place to reach them and give information about all kind of methods. Hairdressers have possibility also write referrals. They also earn half the sale price for any pills and condoms they are selling. (Maclean, 2016)

Ethical aspects and challenges in Family Planning

The size of the families depends on many factors: Educational background, religion, economical level of country and personal values. Family planning is decision what can make individually or between partners. Every individual has also own ethical rules and family planning can be one of those.

United Nations, has given 2008 World Population Prospects. All the European countries total fertility rate (TFR) is less than 2,1. In Kenya belong to countries were TFR is 2,1-5 and Guinea is in the group were TFR is over 5. When it is estimating overview about size of families can be say, that in countries where is high standards of living has less children than in developing countries. (UN, statistics, 2010)

In Kenya were a research about using contraceptives. Research was done to 5609 women of reproductive age. The result was that modern contraceptive use in population was 53%. The biggest difference about using contraceptive was religion. The highest number of users were Protestants (66-69%), the second were Catholics (20-25%) and lowest percent were among Muslims (20-25%). (Chakraborty, Mbondo & Wanderi, 2016)

In Guinea has done same kind of research. Religion backgrounds was not asking in this research. Modern contraceptive use has risen during 13 years (1992-2005) from 1,5% to 6,8%. The percent is still low and researchers recommend governments funding for family planning program and the promotion of long-acting and permanent methods. During years 1992-2005 the percent of knowledge about modern methods raised from 28% to 92%. This result is positive but it is also a surprise that knowledge has not raised the use of contraceptives. (Delamou, Koivogui, Dumourg & Delvaux, 2014)

Beijing Declaration about women's rights in family planning

1995 in Beijing has a women's conference. After this meeting the members of conference gave a declaration which is called Beijing Declaration. It consist articles of woman rights. (Beijing Declaration, 1995)

In article number 15 has written:

“Equal rights, opportunities and access to resources, equal sharing of responsibilities for the family by men and women, and a harmonious partnership between them are critical to their well-being and that of their families as well as to the consolidation of democracy;”

(Beijing Declaration, 1995)

In article number 17 tells about the possibility of family planning:

“The explicit recognition and reaffirmation of the right of all women to control all aspects of their health, in particular their own fertility, is basic to their empowerment;”

(Beijing Declaration, 1995)

CONCLUSION

Both articles are just published. Consist of those were interesting but also difficult to analyze, especially the article about sexual abuse in refugee camps. Perhaps it is because it is an item what hasn't searched yet. Hopefully abuse is an item, what will disappear after better camp monitoring s and preventing sexual behaving against person's own will.

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