

Abstract

Child sex abuse (CSA) is a global issue. The current research explored risk factors associated with increase probability of child sexual abuse as well as protective factors that offer shielding effect against child sexual abuse. The study followed a qualitative research design and the sample was recruited through snowball sampling technique. The sample consisting on 6 participants (N=6) in which three were male survivors and three were female survivors of child sexual abuse. Information was gathered by conducting in-person interviews as well as telephonic interview by using semi-structured interview questionnaire. Further obtained information was analyzed through thematic analysis and content analysis. Obtained information comprehended into sets of codes, sub-themes which further transpired into major themes. The major themes revealed five risk factors associated with increase susceptibility of CSA which included chronological age, unhealthy parenting, lack of awareness, environmental facilitators and vulnerable personality traits. The three protective factors associated with resilience and produce shielding effect against CSA were disclosure, unavailability of environmental facilitators and parental monitoring. It will be helpful in identifying the pre-conditions and the context associated with victimization, so that preventing plans can be developed in order to eliminate the risk for children being sexually abuse.