Bibliometric Studies Perspective on Child Protection Policy

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Abstract.
For this inquiry, papers from international journals that are indexed by SCOPUS are accessed using the VosViewer 1.6.17 software. Nonetheless, 533 articles from the years 1975 to 2021 were picked with the keywords "CHILD PROTECTION, CHILD ABUSE, AND CHILD POLICY." Scholarly interest in this subject increased significantly between the years 2017 and 2021; the highest year was 2018 when 50 publications on the subject of child protection were published. In general, the findings of bibliometric study on "CHILD PROTECTION, CHILD ABUSE, AND CHILD POLICY," especially forms of violence and the causes of violence against children, are currently being researched in the field of psychology. Child safety and public policy are still hotly debated subjects. So far, there are just 18 articles.

Keywords: child protection, child abuse, child policy, bibliometrics

1. Introduction

This study analyzes the topics of child abuse, child protection, and child policy over a period of almost five decades. Because there is a dearth of data on this issue, the choice of time throughout the data selection procedure is not limited. This issue was selected because, in contrast to the view of Tomlinson et al. (1), Noviani (2), Coogan et al. (3) and Dewi et al. (4) that violence against children will have a negative effect, security is a fundamental right that must be upheld (5) by those in positions of responsibility (6).

In contrast to studies that use primary data sources (interviews, observations, questionnaires, experiments, etc.), in this paper the author wants to provide a new discourse on the use of bibliometric studies in mapping child protection policies. This bibliometric study has been conducted by Lee (7), Mifrah et al. (8) and Putera & Gustina (9) on the subject of their studies and were able to provide another perspective in exploring certain themes. In the context of child protection policy, this kind of study is also needed, because scientific evidence in child protection studies is needed in the formulation of
policies and practices to prevent mistakes in handling child victims of violence and neglect (10).

2. Research Method

This study is based on a bibliometric analysis carried out by Putera and Gustina (9), using information acquired from Scopus on October 6, 2021. With no time restriction, the article retrieval approach employs the keywords "CHILD PROTECTION, CHILD ABUSE, AND CHILD POLICY." Furthermore, VosViewer software version 1.6.16 was used for analysis and visualization.

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Distribution of articles

This research uses international articles indexed by SCOPUS. The number of articles selected is 533 articles spread from 1975 to 2021. The attention of researchers in the world to the issue of child protection, child abuse, and child policy increased sharply in 2017-2021, where the peak was in 2018, which published 50 articles with the theme of child protection. If we pay closer attention, we’ll find that in the previous 10 years there has been an increase in the number of articles published on the topics of “child protection, child abuse, and child policy” (2011 - 2021). Fig 1 depicts the specifics.

Based on observation data, 533 articles were written by authors from 16 countries (see Fig 2) which are divided into 5 clusters (blue, purple, green, yellow and red colors). As for country of origin, the contribution of authors who pursue the subject area of child
Publication on child protection, child abuse and child policy by country of authors.

The majority (43%) of articles with the subjects of child protection, child abuse, and child policy accepted and stored in institutional repositories between 1975 and 2021 fall into the category of "All Open Access," even as 34% of articles are considered published versions of documents or manuscripts accepted for publication (Bronze), where the Publisher intends to provide free access temporarily or permanently. As
shown in Fig 3, only 4% of documents in journals that provide authors open access publishing alternatives (Hybrid Gold) and only 10% of papers in journals that publish open access (Gold) are hybrid gold documents. This composition closely matches the pattern of articles that have been published in the Scopus database (9).

![Pie chart showing distribution of articles by subject area]

Source: Scopus database, 2021.

**Figure 4:** Publication of articles on child protection, child abuse and child policy based on subject area.

The social science topic area accounted for 67% of the publications on "child protection, child abuse, and child policy" during data observation, followed by health and medicine (26%) and psychology (4%). Fig 4 provides further information.

![Word cloud showing keywords related to child protection, abuse, and policy]

Source: Scopus database, 2021.

**Figure 5:** Discourse on child protection, child abuse and child policy in 2017 - 2021.
There are 53 articles with a total of 178 recorded keywords grouped into five clusters after the author separates the data depending on the year of publication (the author divides it into five-year periods). Child protection, kid abuse, child, and human are among the 52 terms in Cluster 1 (red color), which incorporates them often. 50 terms are covered by Cluster 2 (green), including "child welfare," "child protective services," "pre-school kid," and "adult." 39 keywords make up Cluster 3 (blue hue), including "people," "male," "female," and "child welfare." Cluster 4 (yellow color) contains articles, teenagers, and physical abuse, with a total of 21 items registered under its keywords. There are 16 terms in Cluster 5 (purple), including risk factors, risk assessment, risk factors, and regulations. Fig 5 depicts the conversation on child abuse, child protection, and child policy from 2017 to 2021.

Source: Scopus database, 2021.

Figure 6: Discourse on child protection, child abuse and child policy in 2012 - 2016.

There were 119 articles published during the years of 2012 and 2016 that dealt with "child protection, child abuse, and child policy." Four major clusters of the 86 keywords found in the 119 articles have been identified. Child abuse, human, human, and child protection are some of the 29 terms in Cluster 1 (red color), which is commonly used. Article, female, male, and child neglect are among the 26 keywords in Cluster 2 (green), which also contains, that are often used. Child welfare, child sexual abuse, risk assessment, and child care are among the 16 terms that make up Cluster 3 (blue), which frequently appears in search results. Child safety, child welfare, policy, and social work are among the 15 terms in Cluster 4 (yellow color), which also contains other frequently appearing topics. Fig 6 depicts the entire visualization of dialogue in this area.
Figure 7 displays the 44 keywords that make up the keyword discourse from 2007 to 2022, which is condensed into four clusters. Child abuse, human, people, and child welfare are the three terms that appear most frequently in cluster 1 (red color), which is made up of 17 keywords. Cluster 2 has 14 keywords in all (green color). The terms "article," "female," "male," "adolescent," and "preschool kid" are most often used. Child protection, child care, domestic violence, and child maltreatment are all topics covered in Cluster 3 (blue), which has 12 articles. Cluster 4 (yellow), which has just one keyword—legal aspect—is made up entirely of yellow. Figure 7 shows specifics of the subject-area dialogue from 2007 to 2011.
Fig 8 shows the discourse on child abuse, child protection, and child policy from 1975 to 2006, with a total of 121 articles divided into 5 clusters and 51 keyword items. Human, humans, kid, and child protection are among the 18 terms that make up Cluster 1 (red color). Child abuse, articles, health care policy, and female are the 15 keywords that make up Cluster 2 (green). Adolescent, newborn and kid, and preschool are the three terms in Cluster 3 (blue color) having the highest frequency of occurrence in the United States. Law enforcement is the only term in Cluster 5 (purple).

4. Conclusion

As conclusion, the results of the bibliometric study on the subject of "CHILD PROTECTION, CHILD ABUSE, AND CHILD POLICY," specifically forms of violence and causes of child abuse, are now being worked on in the psychological fields of study. Public policy and child protection concerns still have incredibly few and wide variances. The word "policy" is present in just 18 of the results. The researcher contends that the study of child protection policies is still a relatively unexplored area because the academic contribution to this subject will have a practical and theoretical influence on the efforts of nations throughout the world to offer child safety and a decent living for children.

References


