

" SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS "

The children of parents with chronic schizophrenia have a substantially increased risk of psychiatric disorders. The risk, however, is not an inevitable consequence of the parents illness but rather is the result of the involvement of children in the abnormal parental illness and family disorder that lead to maladaptive communication, and impaired parent-child interaction, and hence the disturbance of personal and social adjustment.

Fifty chronic schizophrenic parents (25 fathers and 25 mothers) were taken from Benha University Hospital, Benha Teaching Hospital, Tanta University Hospital and Tanta Mental Health Hospital. Their children (80) were studied, they were (38) males and (42) females, their age varied from 6-12 years with a mean of 9.48 ± 1.99 .

It was found that the prevalence of psychiatric disorders among offspring of schizophrenics was 48.75% compared with 21.25% in the control group, and that

the difference was of statistical significance as regard social behavior disorders, feeding disorders, excretory function disorders, psychoneurotic disorders and psychotic disorders.

The family history of psychiatric disorders was significantly increased among schizophrenic parents compared with parents of the control group.

As regard family structure it was found that the incidence of divorce and polygamy was increased among schizophrenic families which reflects the disturbance of interparental relationships. The separation of parents was also increased due to long time hospitalization.

The interparental relationship among schizophrenic families was characterized by domination, conflicts, helpless dislike and aggression.

The attitude of the diseased parents toward their children was of significant difference in rejecting attitude, this reflects why we have a big group of our cases reported both dislike and aggressive attitude

toward their diseased parents. The attitude of healthy parents was of significant difference in overprotectiveness, and this interprets the increased incidence of dependence among their children.

The attitude of the child toward his siblings was characterized by conflicts, jealousy and dislike.

Family crises occurred in 64% of cases and was statistically significant. Financial crises occurred in 28% of cases and separation in 24%, and divorce in 14%, while there is no increase in death of an important person in the family, or in migration.

Offspring of schizophrenics showed significant difference in both sudden onset of weaning and toilet training, but there is no much difference was reported as regard : age , sex , birth order, prenatal and natal history, feeding , growth and development, and history of physical illness.

The commonest type of punishment in our sample was severe beating, and the play was not allowed.

These are factors which lead to runaway behavior among