

## INTRODUCTION AND AIM OF THE WORK

Child abuse and neglect knows virtually no barriers cultural, ideological or geographical. There is no reason to suppose that the problem is a modern one. Light estimated that one in one hundred children in U.S.A. is abused, neglected, or sexually molested (Light, 1973).

Douglas Besharove, predicted that, one million cases of suspected mistreatment will be reported each year in U.S.A. (New York Times, 1973).

NO community is likely to escape. Child abuse and neglect is not a disease to be treated, but a disorder of family life to be managed. The prime consideration must be the safety of the child.

It is impossible to determine whether the increase is due to more incidents of abuse, more effective identification, or more expansion in the reporting requirements themselves (Bourn, 1978).

Although child abuse and neglect is a well studied problem in the developed countries, few if ever attention has been paid to this problem in Egypt.

The aim of this study is to explore and evaluate this problem among school-age population. This includes :

- 1- Incidence of abuse.
- 2- Causation or predisposing factors.
- 3- Impacts of abuse on children psychological make up.

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