

## **The Epidemiology of Poly-Victimization in Pakistan**

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The present study assesses developmental epidemiology of poly-victimization. Sample ( $N = 178$ ) was selected through purposive sampling (14-17 years) from different NGO's based in Lahore. To assess victimization, Juvenile Victimization Questionnaire (JVQ) was used which assess 34 different acts of victimization by summing into five aggregates such as conventional crime; childhood maltreatment; peer and sibling victimization; sexual victimization and witnessing indirect violence. The sample was divided into three groups: slightly victimized; moderately victimized; and highly victimized groups on the basis of their obtained scores on JVQ to assess highly victimized group. The Descriptive analysis was run and results were derived for age and gender which showed that boys have frequent exposure to conventional crime and girls reported frequent exposure to sexual victimization. The results further suggested that adolescents reported to experience witnessing indirect violence, sexual victimization and conventional crime most of the time. Chi Square analysis indicates non-significant differences between gender and age with reference to victimization category but still the results stress the need for early recognition and intervention in order to take remedial steps to prevent future victimization.

*Keywords.* Poly-victimization, child maltreatment, conventional crime, sexual victimization, peer and sibling victimization, witnessing indirect violence.