

2 **Family violence and tourism among children: A viewpoint on Bangladesh**

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Introduction

Family violence significantly impacts children's psychological development and well-being, particularly in developing nations like Bangladesh, which reports one of the highest rates of domestic abuse globally. This chapter explores the interplay between family violence, mental health issues (anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder), and children's tourism experiences in Bangladesh. Despite the growing tourism industry, little attention has been paid to how trauma influences children's engagement with leisure activities at destinations. Using qualitative content analysis of international reports, academic literature, and national media sources, this study examines the effects of family violence on children's social behaviour, mental health, and tourism experiences in Bangladesh. Findings reveal that trauma can hinder tourism engagement but also highlight tourism's potential as a therapeutic tool. Recommendations are provided for tourism stakeholders, policy-makers, and mental health professionals to create inclusive, trauma-informed tourism programs that foster healing and empowerment for affected children.

Overview

Children who are exposed to family violence are at an increased risk of developing long-lasting trauma symptoms, such as mental health, cognitive, and behavioral problems, developmental difficulties, and academic outcomes (Fredland et al., 2015; Noble-Carr et al., 2019). Family violence, encompassing physical, emotional, psychological, and sexual abuse within households, is a pervasive issue in Bangladesh and profoundly affects children's development