



RESEARCH ARTICLE

The Impact of Psychological Trauma on Criminal Behavior in Childhood from the Perspective of Mu'tah University Students

Khaled Omar Mohammad Al-Shyaab*

Faculty of Arts, Al-Ahliyya Amman Univrsity

ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
Received: Nov 17, 2024	Our current research aims to identify the impact of psychological trauma in childhood on criminal behavior, relying on the descriptive analytical approach, and by applying a questionnaire consisting of (20) items divided into two main axes, namely (the causes of exposure to psychological trauma in childhood from the point of view of Mutah University students, The level of criminal behavior among children from the point of view of Mu'tah University students), and by applying it to a sample of (50) Mu'tah University students, who were chosen randomly, the results of the research reached: The reasons for exposure to psychological trauma in childhood, from the point of view of Mutah University students, came in at a high level, with the general average being equal to (4.08), and an agreement degree of (Agree), with a standard deviation of (0.88). This indicates that there are many reasons for children's exposure to trauma. Psychological from the point of view of Mutah University students, such as exposure to physical abuse in childhood (beating, burning, etc.), exposure to societal violence (war, terrorism), and exposure to a horrific accident (natural disaster, car accident, etc.). The level of criminal behavior among children exposed to psychological pressure, from the point of view of Mu'tah University students, was high, as the general average was equal to (4.02), and the degree of agreement was (Agree), with a standard deviation of (0.89), and this indicates a high level of criminal behavior among children. Those exposed to psychological stress from the point of view of Mutah University students. There is a statistically significant positive effect of childhood psychological trauma on criminal behavior from the point of view of Mutah University students, as it was found that exposure to childhood psychological trauma explains approximately (57.7%) of the variance in criminal behavior. The research also recommended: Focus on preventing trauma and providing a safe environment for children, with the family taking into consideration the psychological aspects of the child and working to address them.
Accepted: Jan 15, 2025	
Keywords	
Psychological Trauma	
Criminal Behaviour	
Childhood	
Mu'tah University	
*Corresponding Author: alsheyabkhaled32@gmail.com	

INTRODUCTION

Childhood is the important stage in the formation of personality and distinguishes the individual's behavior and tendencies. It is the primary factor in directing individual and societal behaviors. Childhood also plays a role in the birth of cohesive and healthy societies. (Lami, 2019, p. 34).

The childhood stage is also characterized by being the stage in which the child is affected by various external surroundings and the world surrounding him. Here, psychological trauma is an essential factor in shaping the individual's behavior in the future, and psychological trauma always has a reaction to it, as feelings are the important factor that constitutes the source of the child's formation. Mentally and psychologically, the child always expresses his psychological concerns, as he always sees abuse as hate, The reward is true love, so the child's focus is on love and hate, as the psychological condition constitutes an important level of orientation to the outside world. (Abu Tuta, 2021, p. 77).

Satisfying emotions forms a child who has the ability to direct behavior, and here psychological traumas have an expressive role in directing behavior, as the child follows his directions with emotion, and psychological traumas are an alarm bell that sounds towards shaping the behavior of the child, given that psychological traumas are a clear defect in the child's psychological expressions. (Abraham, 2018, p. 13)

Psychological trauma is a type of abuse directed at a child verbally or in action, resulting in a group of disturbances represented in perception. In order for the child to find a way out of these traumas, he uses hostile reactions, whether toward himself or toward others. (Al-Shawi and Bin Hamed, 2020, p. 107)

Psychological trauma is the result of the bad experiences that an individual receives in childhood, and it is one of the most complex traumas to which psychologists and sociologists have drawn attention, as it is a source of shaping criminal behavior, considering criminal behavior as an emotional expression directed by the individual towards society and believing that emotions are expressions. A problem that begins in childhood and develops over the age, The beginning of the formation of emotions is childhood, as healthy emotional development results in avoiding many criminal behaviors.

Criminal behavior is behavior that is inconsistent with human nature and is considered a type of violation of the law and the societal constitution that works to protect society. Criminal behavior is problematic behavior that results from an individual or group of individuals and is loaded with a group of abnormal emotions. Crime in itself is a term that expresses behavior. Evil and evil here is a term specific to the crime itself, which carries expressive traumas that form within the soul of the perpetrator of the crime. (Cornelius, 2020, p. 30)

Here we find that childhood psychological traumas play a role in shaping criminal behavior, which sparked our curiosity in choosing the title of our current research to identify the impact of childhood psychological traumas on criminal behavior.

First, the general framework of the research

1. Research problem:

Criminal behavior is a complex behavior that stems from a group of psychological traumas that the individual is exposed to since childhood, which is a product of the family and society. Criminal behavior consists of a group of phenomena that express anti-social behavior. (Kell Burton, 2022, p. 96)

Criminal behavior has been known since ancient times and the analysis of crime has occupied the attention of many psychologists and sociologists, and most of the explanations of these scholars have come together that criminal behavior is the result of many psychological traumas that the individual receives during his childhood, and that the environment is a source responsible for the emergence of these behaviors.

Many Arab and foreign studies spoke about the role of psychological trauma in generating many criminal behaviors. A study (Hafsa, 2022) found that the psychological effects of childhood have an important role in creating violent behavior, through a descriptive study that focused on describing violent behavior and the relationship Between psychological traumas leading to criminal behavior.

The study (Mohamed, 2023) also found that childhood is a strong provider of various behaviors, whether those behaviors are positive or negative, as childhood is a passageway for many emotional situations and shocks, including positive shocks or vice versa as negative shocks.

The study (Sharma, 2023) also expressed the role of psychological trauma in childhood and the anti-social behaviors it produces. This study expressed anti-social behaviors through comparative work between two children from juvenile homes, one of whom was a street child and the other from a wealthy family. The study found that Acts of violence and anti-social behaviors were expressed by the street child in a positive way.

The topic of our current research was not the result of a moment, but the result of ongoing research on the role of psychological trauma in childhood and its relationship to criminal behavior. The research problem lies in an attempt to answer the following main question:

What is the effect of psychological trauma on criminal behavior in childhood from the point of view of Mu'tah University students?

This question branches out into a group of the following sub-questions:

- Is there a relationship between psychological trauma in childhood and criminal behavior due to the variable gender?
- Is there a relationship between childhood psychological trauma and criminal behavior due to the educational stage variable?
- Is there a relationship between psychological trauma in childhood and criminal behavior due to the variable of university major?

Importance of research:

The importance of the research can be traced back to the axis it addresses, which is the effect of psychological trauma on criminal behavior in childhood. Perhaps this has importance from both theoretical and applied aspects, which are represented in the following:

First: The theoretical importance:

1. The study is considered an extension of the studies of some previous researchers who studied childhood psychological trauma and criminal behavior.
2. There is a correlation between childhood psychological trauma and criminal behavior.
3. The importance of this study is that it is considered the first, to the researcher's knowledge, that addressed the relationship between childhood psychological trauma and criminal behavior from the point of view of Mu'tah University students.
4. This research may provide indications of the extent of the family's influence in achieving human security.
5. It also gives an indication of the influence of childhood role on anti-social behavior.
6. The results of the study enrich the educational and social literature from a cognitive standpoint.

Second: From the practical aspect:

1. This study may provide the opportunity to develop effective programs in the field of childhood and criminology.
2. Directing the role of social workers in providing attention to childhood psychological trauma and criminal behavior.
3. Researchers at universities and researchers in the field of sociology in general may benefit from the study.

Research objectives:

The current research aims to identify the following:

1. Identify the impact of psychological trauma in childhood on criminal behavior.
2. Identify the types of psychological trauma in childhood.
3. Identifying the relationship between childhood psychological trauma and criminal behavior according to a group of variables (gender - university level - university major).

Search parameters:

- 1- Human Determinants: (50) male and female students from Mu'tah University.
- 2- Spatial determinants: Mu'tah University.
- 3- Time limits: It was implemented in the period between 2023 and 2024 AD

Third: Research concepts:

1- Psychological trauma:

Psychological trauma is a group of psychological disorders that affect behavior in many ways and are related to a group of abuses, whether physical or verbal, directed at an individual or a group of individuals, and they cause effects that are more severe than the normal degree, which is why it is called trauma. (Kill Burton, 2022, p. 8)

We can also define psychological trauma as the result of a group of actions committed with the aim of building a person, whether in word or deed. It is also a powerful tool for spiritual influence on the individual, as it relates to a group of emotions affecting direction, thinking, and a change in the structure of beliefs. (Richard, 2022, p. 24)

We can also define psychological trauma procedurally as a group of traumas produced in childhood that have a positive relationship to criminal behavior, from the point of view of Mu'tah University students.

2- Criminal behavior:

Criminal behavior is a group of anti-social behaviors that are characterized by violence and are a complex group of verbal and active behaviors, and they are inconsistent with societal laws and moral rules. (Allred, 2019, p. 100)

We can also consider criminal behavior to be a group of behaviors directed toward harm toward an individual or group and are characterized by being outside the constitutional text or societal law and threatening individual and societal security and safety. It also has characteristics that lead to violence and hatred. (Borzoi, 2016, p254)

We can also define criminal behavior procedurally as a set of behaviors that are inconsistent with the rules of society and are linked to psychological traumas that the individual is exposed to in childhood, from the point of view of students at Mu'tah University.

Fourth: Previous studies:

Many studies have dealt with childhood psychological trauma and criminal behavior, but in different forms than our current research, as expressed in a study (Al-Shaw, Bin Hammed, 2020). It aimed to identify the motives for criminal behavior among adolescents through a study using the clinical method on three male cases and using a set of tools represented by the semi-directed clinical interview, The criminal behavior scale and the man drawing test. The results of the study concluded that one of the most important drivers of criminal behavior is the set of psychological traumas that the cases received in childhood.

As expressed in a study (Janani and Liana, 2021). On the factors that form criminal behavior, using the descriptive approach of a group of theories explaining criminal phenomena, and relying on a group of studies that talked about criminal behavior and the means that lead to criminal behavior. The study resulted in the fact that the group of shocks that the perpetrator of criminal behavior receives during childhood is responsible for directing him to commit such as those behaviors.

The study aimed to (Ibrahim and Abdel Rahman, 2021). To reach the relationship between experiences of abuse in childhood and their relationship to committing anti-social behaviors, by relying on the comparative descriptive approach, and by applying the Adolescent Abuse Scale and the Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Scale, and by applying it to a sample of (309) adolescent high school students, The results of the study concluded that there is a positive relationship between psychological trauma represented by (physical abuse and parental neglect) and the emergence of criminal behavior clearly.

Then the study (Abdul-Allah, 2022) was interested. To identify the relationship between psychological hardiness and incentives for criminal behavior, relying on the descriptive, correlational approach using the Psychological Hardiness Scale and the Criminal Behavior Incentives Scale, by applying it to a sample of (150) juveniles in the Social Observation House in Riyadh, The results of the study concluded that psychological hardiness is a trait derived from childhood and has a positive relationship with criminal behavior. The family and society also have an important role in shaping the psychological hardiness or psychological trauma of the individual.

A study expressed by (Hang Shun, 2023). On the relationship between psychological trauma and the mechanisms of crime through a descriptive study and based on the theoretical analysis of the opinion of a group of scholars of psychology and criminal sociology, and research into a group of studies that express psychological trauma and criminal behavior. The results of the study concluded that psychological trauma has an important role in shaping criminal behavior.

As stated in a study (Mug, 2024). To express the relationship between psychological traumas in childhood and the commission of criminal behavior, through the use of the descriptive analytical approach, relying on the psychological trauma scale and the criminal behavior scale, and by applying it to a sample of (313) crime perpetrators from juvenile homes. The results of the study concluded that trauma Childhood psychology has a positive relationship between drug crimes and sexual crimes, but it was moderate in theft crimes.

Comment on previous studies:

Previous studies relied on the variables of our research, which confirms the current study topic.

Previous studies have supported the approach used in our current research, but the study (Ibrahim and Abdel Rahman, 2021) differed by using the correlational approach.

The samples used differed from the sample of our current research, which confirms the sample used in our current research

We can benefit from the results of previous studies to predict our current results, by emphasizing the positive relationship between childhood psychological trauma and criminal behavior.

Fifth: Research literature and theoretical framework:

1. The first axis: psychological trauma in childhood:

1.1 First: Theories explaining psychological trauma in childhood:

There are many theories explaining psychological trauma in childhood, and we address them through the following:

- **Psychoanalytic theory:**

This theory saw that psychological traumas are a group of repressed feelings that the child sees. This theory saw that one of the most important psychological shocks that a child experiences is during the birth of another child, during the weaning stage, and the incubation stage. They all represent psychological traumas because they are emotionally deprived of certain things, This theory looks at psychological trauma through a set of emotional deprivation, since emotion is the primary responsible for forming personality from the point of view of the pioneers of that theory. (Liana, and Jakayla, 2021, p. 289)

- **Constructivist theory:**

The constructivist theory believes that psychological trauma is a complex group of repressed feelings and emotions that the child experiences in childhood, and the surrounding environment is responsible for the loss of emotional connection, which causes psychological trauma, which creates a group of abnormal and anti-social behaviors, This theory also expresses psychological trauma through the interconnection between parental and child transactions, which are represented by a group of physical and psychological abuse. (Sultan, 2023, p. 44)

- **Behavioral theory:**

Behavioral theory expresses psychological trauma through a group of acquired behaviors resulting from a group of repeated events. These events are represented by a group of abuses, whether physical or psychological. With the repeated occurrence of these abuses, a group of psychological traumas is generated, and these traumas appear in forms represented by feelings of inferiority and hatred. For oneself and thus hatred for others, as represented in various forms of aggressive emotions. (Hinton, 2023, p56)

1.2 Second: Dimensions of psychological trauma in childhood:

The dimensions of negative shocks have been divided into two basic dimensions, namely the internal dimension and the external dimension, and that is what we will discuss in the following:

The internal dimension of psychological trauma:

The internal dimensions of psychological trauma express the set of negative emotions and feelings born within the child, as explained by the following:

- **Deprivation:** It is a type of emotion that the child adopts and may be psychological through abstaining from concrete things to which he is accustomed, such as being away from the parents or one of them due to various circumstances such as the divorce of the parents or the death of one of them, or being away from the parents due to educational circumstances such as the child going to nursery or school and leaving the parents for a short period. From time to time, the child is considered a type of psychological trauma due to the child being deprived of his parents, Deprivation also takes physical forms, such as abstaining from requirements that the child wants, such as requesting a specific toy or the like.
- **Emotion:** It may be a form of internal psychological trauma through a feeling of inferiority due to the fact that his gender is male or female and the parents' preference for a particular gender over the other, or it may be an expression group resulting from exposure to physical or verbal abuse, so the child generates internal emotions as compensation for the set of abuses he is exposed to. The child.
- **Babbling:** It is a type of internal behavior that comes from the individual as a result of his exposure to the shock of his inability to express, which creates an urge in him to speak, so he appears to talk but with words that may not be expressive in the appropriate situation.
- **Indifference:** It is a dimension that talks about a lack of interest or interest in topics that may be vital as a result of the traumas of repression that the individual is exposed to during his childhood.
- **Dullness:** These are psychological feelings resulting from multiple shocks that the individual goes through to express his tendencies and inclinations, which generates shocks in the form of deprivation, so the child represses his inclinations, and with repeated suppression, dullness of feelings appears. (Habib, 2021, p. 66)

The external dimension of psychological trauma:

The external dimensions of external shocks are as follows:

- **Family:** The first psychological shock that an individual receives arises from the family itself, as it is the first refuge that the individual has experienced since his birth. The ways in which the family deals with the individual constitute various types of psychological traumas, and these shocks have a dual positive and negative meaning.
- **School:** School is a kind of psychological trauma through educational means and attention to the learner. The use of negative educational means represents an important obstacle to the psychological peace of the individual, so what is called shock occurs in the event of an imbalance between the individual's abilities and the material being learned, as well as those dealing with the child inside the school must be fully aware of the characteristics of childhood and ways to deal with it.
- **Society:** Societies are the sum of psychological traumas for individuals through the set of rights available to individuals within society with their proportionality to duties and burdens. In the event of inconsistency between those duties and rights, it generates a type of psychological trauma. (Michael, 2019, p. 33)

2. The second axis: criminal behavior:

Theories explaining criminal behavior:

There are many theories explaining criminal behavior, but we can address this through:

1 - Behavioral theory:

It is a theory based on the vision of the relationship between the harmful motive for criminal behavior and the behavior itself through a set of the following points:

- Exciter
- Motivation
- Response

Behavior is directed according to the severity of the stimulus. (Lilyana and Jakayla, 2021, p. 100)

Sander's theory: Sander's theory of crime believes that the motives leading to crime are the group of traumas that the individual experiences in childhood, as these traumas are a tool for investigating the crime, as they are characterized by a group of material needs represented by free time and the need for material, but not only the need for material is the factor leading to crime, so we can also describe. Since most of the prisoners are from the middle classes and the rich, However, the emptiness caused by unemployment creates crime due to the strong link between unemployment and lack of self-esteem, which may create in the individual the motivation to commit criminal behavior for self-satisfaction.

Psychoanalytic theory:

Which believes that a group of psychological traumas control the behavior of the id and generate criminal instincts over which we lose control of the superego and failure to achieve psychological balance, given that crime fulfills the instinct of matter and its availability, which ends thanks to unemployment, and that the individual is unable to achieve profitable money, so crimes appear to satisfy instincts.

Social theory:

Supporters of social theory believe that psychological trauma, like criminal behavior, is a product of the environment that forms the individual and directs the individual to acquire various expected behaviors. Crime is an environmental cultural product, and work is the conscious and corrective of that culture. If work is absent and behavioral guidelines are not available, crime results. (Al-Shaw and Bin Hammed, 2020, p. 115)

Dimensions of criminal behavior:

The dimensions of criminal behavior lie in a group of elements related to committing the crime, including the following:

1) Assumed dimension:

It is the element concerned with the criminal character of the victim, which is linked to a group of sexual, racial, and religious beliefs and the perpetrator's affiliation to those affiliations, which was a motive for the perpetrator to commit the crime to confront those beliefs.

2) Physical dimension:

It is the element related to physical injury through committing the crime, whether by beating using a sharp instrument such as a fire or incendiary device or any other cause of bodily injury. However, in the case of assault without physical injury, the law does not recognize it. Here, it is not considered a crime as long as the victim cannot Prove of physical injury.

3) The moral dimension:

It includes the intent and will to commit the crime through the perpetrator's knowledge of the characteristics and inclinations of the victim, and the result of that knowledge creates the motive to commit the crime. (Ibrahim, 2023, p. 77)

Characteristics of criminal behavior:

- Criminal behavior has a set of characteristics, which are as follows:
- Every crime whose target is personal or racial characteristics of a group or religion.
- They are crimes committed against specific characteristics.
- A group of crimes carrying hate messages towards discriminatory groups.
- They are crimes against societal distinction.
- The crime is not limited to the criminal act alone. It may be a group of words that carry meanings of insult and slander, all of which incite hatred.
- It also carries a set of protected characteristics, such as gender, race, politics, age, disability, religion, and sexual orientation (Greyson, 2016, p. 66).

Fifth: The field aspect:

We discuss below the field procedures for research in order to reach the research objectives, and it addresses the methodology used in the research, the research population and sample, the research

tool, verifying the validity and reliability of the tool, and the statistical methods necessary to analyze the results of the study and answer its questions.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

This research follows the descriptive analytical method. Due to its suitability to the nature of the current research and its ability to achieve the desired goals, this approach is concerned with studying the phenomenon as it exists in reality, describing it accurately and expressing it qualitatively by describing and clarifying its characteristics.

Research population and sample:

The research population consists of all male and female students at Mutah University, and a random sample of (50) individuals was selected from the study population.

Search tool:

After reviewing previous studies related to the research topic and the theoretical framework of the research, the questionnaire was used as a tool for the study. The questionnaire consisted of the following:

First: Demographic data for members of the study sample.

Second: The questionnaire axes consist of two main axes as follows:

- The first axis: The causes of exposure to psychological trauma in childhood from the point of view of Mutah University students. It consists of (10) paragraphs.
- The second axis: The level of criminal behavior among children from the point of view of Mutah University students. It consists of (10) paragraphs

Validity of the search tool:

To verify the validity of the study tool, the following was done:

Content validity (arbitration):

The tool was presented to the specialized arbitrators. In order to guide their opinions, the judges were asked to express their opinion on the clarity of the statements, their suitability for what they were designed for, and the suitability of the statements for the axis to which they belong, while making amendments and suggestions through which the questionnaire could be developed.

Internal construct validity:

This is done by calculating the correlation coefficient between the sample's answers to each item and the total score for the axis to which it belongs, as follows:

The first axis: The causes of exposure to psychological trauma in childhood from the point of view of Mutah University students

Table 1: Internal construct validity of the first axis items

Paragraph	Pearson correlation coefficient
Exposure to physical abuse in childhood (beating, burning, etc.) leads to psychological trauma for the child	.537**
Exposure to emotional abuse in childhood (insult, threats, neglect) leads to psychological trauma for the child	.616**
Domestic violence causes children to suffer psychological trauma	.694**
Neglect by caregivers causes children to suffer psychological trauma	.627**
Exposure to a horrific accident (natural disaster, car accident, etc.) causes psychological trauma in children	.655**

Exposure of children to sexual harassment leads to psychological trauma for the child	.669**
The sudden loss of a loved one by a child leads to psychological trauma	.582**
Parental divorce causes psychological trauma for children	.726**
A child's exposure to societal violence (war, terrorism) leads to psychological trauma	.720**
Discrimination between children exposes the child to psychological trauma	.739**

Significant at the significance level of 0.01

It is clear from the previous table that the correlation coefficients between the items and the total score of the axis are all significant coefficients at a significance level less than or equal to (0.01), in addition to having medium and high scores, which indicates that the items in the axis have a high degree of validity and validity for field application

The second axis: The level of criminal behavior among children from the point of view of Mutah University students

Table 2: Internal construct validity of the items of the second axis

Paragraph	Pearson correlation coefficient
The child easily feels angry and overly nervous about situations	.608**
It is difficult for children to control anger when exposed to pressure from others	.650**
The child intentionally harasses others and participates in quarrels and fights	.559**
Child participation in acts of sabotage is a form of criminal behavior among children	.552**
The child intentionally ignores laws and rules to harm others	.745**
The child lacks a sense of responsibility towards others	.773**
The child's difficulty in building healthy relationships affects the child's behavior	.555**
Children's feeling of boredom and dissatisfaction with their lives affects their behavior	.593**
Living in poor areas or areas with high crime rates affects a child's behavior	.694**
Influence by friends who commit criminal behavior affects the child's behavior	.821**

**Significant at the significance level of 0.01

It is clear from the previous table that the correlation coefficients between the items and the total score of the axis are all significant coefficients at a significance level less than or equal to (0.01), in addition to having medium and high scores, which indicates that the items in the axis have a high degree of validity and validity for field application.

Stability of the search tool:

The reliability of the tool was verified using Cronbach Alpha reliability coefficients for each axis of the questionnaire.

Table 3: Cronbach alpha coefficients for the study axes

Axis	Number of paragraphs	Cronbach's alpha value
Reasons for exposure to psychological trauma in childhood from the point of view of Mutah University students	10	0.877
The level of criminal behavior among children from the point of view of Mutah University students	10	0.895
The total score of the questionnaire	20	0.938

The results of the previous table indicate that the reliability coefficients using the Cronbach alpha method were appropriate for the purposes of scientific research for all aspects of the questionnaire. All of them were scientifically acceptable and met the requirements for application. The results of the previous table also indicate high reliability coefficients using the Cronbach's Alpha method on the total score, reaching (0.938). From the above it is clear that the questionnaire is characterized by a high degree of reliability, so it can be relied upon as a tool for study and its results can be trusted.

Data analysis methods:

To achieve the objectives of the study and analyze the collected data, several appropriate statistical methods were used using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences, which is symbolized by the abbreviation (SPSS). This is done after encoding and entering the data into the computer, as follows:

The answer was given: (strongly agree = 5 degrees), (agree = 4 degrees), (neutral = 3 degrees), (disagree = 2 degrees), (strongly disagree = 1 degree), and then the researcher calculated the arithmetic mean. For the answers of the study population, the following statistical methods were used:

- (Percentage & Frequencies)
- (Mean & Standard Deviation)
- (Pearson correlation coefficient)
- (Cronbach's Alpha- α)
- (Regression Test)

RESEARCH RESULTS AND THEIR INTERPRETATION

First: demographic data

Frequencies and percentages were calculated for the research sample members as follows:

Table 4: Distribution of study individuals according to academic qualification

Variable	Categories	Frequency (n)	(%)Percentage
Axes		31	
Specialization	Male	31	
	Female	29	
	Practical colleges	19	
		21	

	Theoretical faculties		
--	-----------------------	--	--

It is clear from the table that a percentage of (62%) of the total members of the study sample are males, a percentage of (38%) of the total members of the study sample are females, a percentage of (58%) of the total members of the study sample are students in practical colleges, and a percentage of (42%) of the total members of the sample The study is for students in theoretical colleges.

Answering the study questions:

The first question: What are the causes of exposure to psychological trauma in childhood from the point of view of Mutah University students?

To identify the causes of exposure to psychological trauma in childhood from the point of view of Mutah University students; The arithmetic means and standard deviations for the first axis items were calculated as follows

Table 5: Arithmetic means, standard deviations, and ranking for the items of the first axis

Paragraph number	Paragraph	Arithmetic average	Standard deviation	Rank	Degree of approval
1	Exposure to physical abuse in childhood (beating, burning, etc.) leads to psychological trauma for the child	4.19	.836	1	Degree
2	Exposure to emotional abuse in childhood (insult, threats, neglect) leads to psychological trauma for the child	4.03	.929	8	Degree
3	Domestic violence causes children to suffer psychological trauma	4.08	.991	7	Degree
4	Neglect by caregivers causes children to suffer psychological trauma	3.97	.835	9	Degree
5	Exposure to a horrific accident (natural disaster, car accident, etc.) causes psychological trauma in children	4.15	.921	3	Degree
6	Exposure of children to sexual harassment leads to psychological trauma for the child	4.13	.882	4	Degree
7	The sudden loss of a loved one by a child leads to psychological trauma	4.11	.809	5	Degree
8	Parental divorce causes psychological trauma for children	4.09	.871	6	Degree
9	A child's exposure to societal violence (war, terrorism) leads to psychological trauma	4.17	.809	2	Degree
10		3.87	.878	10	Degree

	Discrimination between children exposes the child to psychological trauma					
Degree	0.88	4.08	General average			

It is clear from the previous table that the reasons for exposure to psychological trauma in childhood, from the point of view of students at Mu'tah University, were of a high degree, as the general average was equal to (4.08), and the degree of agreement was (Agree), with a standard deviation of (0.88), which is a low value that indicates homogeneity. Opinions of the study sample members about the causes of exposure to psychological trauma in childhood from the point of view of Mutah University students.

The standard deviation values for the items in this axis ranged between (0.991 - 0.809), and all items had low values. This demonstrates the homogeneity of the opinions of the study sample members regarding all paragraphs.

In the first place was paragraph No. (1): (Exposure to physical abuse in childhood (beating, burning, etc.) leads to psychological trauma for the child), with an arithmetic mean of (4.19) and a standard deviation of (0.836), and in the second place was the paragraph No. (9): (A child's exposure to societal violence (war, terrorism) leads to psychological trauma), with an arithmetic mean of (4.17), and a standard deviation of (0.809), In third place, paragraph No. (5): (Exposure to a horrific accident (natural disaster, car accident, etc.) causes children to suffer psychological trauma), with a mean of (4.15) and a standard deviation of (0.921), while it came in last place. Statement No. (10): (Discrimination between children leads to the child being exposed to psychological trauma.) with an arithmetic mean of (3.87), and a standard deviation of (0.878).

From the above, it is clear that there are many reasons for children's exposure to psychological trauma from the point of view of Mutah University students, such as exposure to physical abuse in childhood (beating, burning, etc.), exposure to societal violence (war, terrorism), and exposure to a horrific accident (natural disaster, car accident, etc.).

The second question: What is the level of criminal behavior among children exposed to psychological stress from the point of view of Mutah University students?

To identify the level of criminal behavior among children exposed to psychological stress from the point of view of Mutah University students; The arithmetic means and standard deviations for the second axis items were calculated as follows

Table 6: Arithmetic means, standard deviations, and ranking for the items of the second axis

Paragraph number	Paragraph	Arithmetic average	Standard deviation	Rank	Degree of approval
1	The child easily feels angry and overly nervous about situations	3.44	.830	10	degree
2	It is difficult for children to control anger when exposed to pressure from others	4.27	.859	1	Very degree
3	The child intentionally harasses others and participates in quarrels and fights	4.19	.860	2	degree
4	Child participation in acts of sabotage is a	4.07	.907	6	Degree

	form of criminal behavior among children				
5	The child intentionally ignores laws and rules to harm others	3.76	.874	9	degree
6	The child lacks a sense of responsibility towards others	4.02	.905	7	degree
7	The child's difficulty in building healthy relationships affects the child's behavior	3.98	.967	8	degree
8	Children's feeling of boredom and dissatisfaction with their lives affects their behavior	4.11	.935	5	Degree
9	Living in poor areas or areas with high crime rates affects a child's behavior	4.18	.888	3	Degree
10	Influence by friends who commit criminal behavior affects the child's behavior	4.13	.924	4	degree

It is clear from the previous table that the level of criminal behavior among children exposed to psychological pressure, from the point of view of Mu'tah University students, was high, as the general average was equal to (4.02), and the degree of agreement was (Agree), with a standard deviation of (0.89), which is a low value that indicates Homogeneity of the opinions of the study sample members about the level of criminal behavior among children exposed to psychological stress from the point of view of Mutah University students.

The standard deviation values for the items in this axis ranged between (0.967 - 0.83), and all items had low values. This demonstrates the homogeneity of the opinions of the study sample members regarding all paragraphs.

In the first place was paragraph No. (2): (It is difficult for children to control anger when exposed to pressure from others), with an arithmetic mean of (4.27) and a standard deviation of (0.859). In the second place, paragraph No. (3): (He The child deliberately harassed others and participated in quarrels and fights, with an arithmetic mean of (4.19) and a standard deviation of (0.86), In third place was paragraph No. (9): (Living in poor areas or areas with high crime rates affects a child's behavior), with an arithmetic mean of (4.18) and a standard deviation of (0.888), while in the last order came phrase No. (1): (The child easily feels angry and overly nervous about situations.) With a mean of (3.44), and a standard deviation of (0.83).

From the above, it is clear that the level of criminal behavior among children exposed to psychological pressure is high, from the point of view of students at Mutah University, as it is difficult for children to control anger when exposed to pressure from others. The child also intentionally harasses others and participates in quarrels and fights, in addition to living in poor areas or areas with High crime rates affect the child's behavior

The third question: What is the effect of childhood psychological trauma on criminal behavior from the point of view of Mutah University students?

To identify the impact of childhood psychological trauma on criminal behavior from the point of view of Mutah University students, a simple linear regression test was used, and the results were as follows:

Table 7: The effect of childhood psychological trauma on criminal behavior

Independent variables	Regression coefficients	Regression coefficients	Significance level
Fixed amount	2.271	15.029	.000
Criminal behavior	.455	12.088	.000
828=.Correlation coefficient		Determination coefficient = .577	
Test value =F 146.109		Probability value = 0.00	

From the previous table, we find that the correlation coefficient was equal to (0.828), which indicates that as the child's exposure to psychological trauma increases, criminal behavior increases, and the coefficient of determination was equal to (0.577). From this, we conclude that exposure to psychological trauma in childhood explains approximately (57.7%) of the variance in criminal behavior, and the F value was equal to (146.109), which is a statistically significant value at a significance level equal to (0.00) less than (0.05), which indicates the presence of... A statistically significant positive effect of childhood psychological trauma on criminal behavior from the point of view of Mutah University students.

SUMMARY OF SEARCH RESULTS:

This is represented by presenting the most prominent results reached by the research with regard to answering the study's questions and achieving its objectives, as follows:

1. The reasons for exposure to psychological trauma in childhood, from the point of view of students at Mu'tah University, came at a high level, as the general average was equal to (4.08), and the degree of agreement was (Agree), with a standard deviation of (0.88). This indicates the existence of many reasons for children's exposure to trauma. Psychological from the point of view of Mutah University students, such as exposure to physical abuse in childhood (beating, burning, etc.), exposure to societal violence (war, terrorism), and exposure to a horrific accident (natural disaster, car accident, etc.)
2. The level of criminal behavior among children exposed to psychological pressure, from the point of view of Mu'tah University students, was high, with the overall average being equal to (4.02), and the degree of agreement being (Agree), with a standard deviation of (0.89). This indicates a high level of criminal behavior among children exposed to psychological pressure from the point of view of students at Mutah University, as it is difficult for children to control anger when exposed to pressure from others. The child also deliberately harasses others and participates in quarrels and fights, in addition to living in poor areas or areas High crime rates affect the child's behavior.
3. There is a statistically significant positive effect of childhood psychological trauma on criminal behavior from the point of view of Mutah University students, as it was found that exposure to childhood psychological trauma explains approximately (57.7%) of the variance in criminal behavior.

RESEARCH RECOMMENDATIONS:

In light of the results of the current study, the researcher can make recommendations as follows:

- Focus on preventing trauma and providing a safe environment for children.
- The family takes into consideration the psychological aspects of the child and works to address them
- Providing a psychologically safe environment for children in society.
- Develop training programs for teachers and professionals to provide them with the necessary skills to recognize signs of trauma and provide appropriate support to children.

- Cooperating with various entities, including schools, hospitals, and non-governmental organizations, to solve children's psychological problems

REFERENCES

- Abu Tutu, Abdul Rahman (2019). Juvenile delinquents, Dar Al-Ahmadi, Cairo, 1st edition.
- Abraham, Maslow (2018) . theory of Human Motivation, published in psychological review, New York,n5,
- Al-Shawl, Somaya, and Bin Hameed, Masood (2020). Motives of criminal behavior among delinquent adolescents, unpublished master's thesis, Faculty of Human Sciences, Kadin Merbau University.
- Ali Ahmed Abdel Zoghbi (2016). The right to privacy in criminal law (a comparative study), 1st edition, Al-Hadith Book Foundation, Lebanon.
- Habib, Muhammad Shalala (2021). : Fundamentals of Criminology, Legal Library, Baghdad.
- Diaa El-Din, Ahmed (2018). The criminal phenomenon between understanding and analysis, Al-Tobji Foundation.
- Liana, Noor al-Huda, and Jabayli, Norman (2021). Factors that form criminal behavior, a supplementary memorandum for obtaining a master's degree in law, Faculty of Law and Political Science, Abbas Larger Chinchilla University.
- Sultan Al-Shaw (2013). Criminal Investigation Science, 1st edition, Al-Ani Press, Baghdad
- Cornelius. G. Koenig (2020): Integrating Theories of Motivation, academy of management review ,Switzerland,
- Kell Burton (2022),A study of Motivation ,Indiana university ,India .
- Richard .M. Ryan and Edward .I. Deci(2022) :Intrinsic and extrinsic Motivations, contemporary educational psychology, New York,
- Allred K. D & Smith, T.W, (1989): "The Hardy Personality cognitive and Physiological Responses to Evaluative Threat", Journal of personality and Social psychology, 50(1), 257-266. Darvishzadeh, Cobra, Zahra Dashi
- Borzoi. (2016), The Relationship between Resilience, Psychological Hardiness, Spiritual Intelligence, and Development of the Moral Judgement of the Female Students. Journal of Asian Social Science, Vol 12, No 3, pp 170-176. Folkman ,S. ,Lazarus ,R. S. ,Dunkel-Schetter ,C. ,DeLongs , A. ,& Gruen ,R. J. (1986). Dynamics of a stressful encounter: cognitive appraisal ,coping ,and encounter outcomes. Journal of personality and social psychology ,Vol 50 ,N 5, ,P 992-1003. Funk ,S. C. (1992). Hardiness: A review of theory and research. Health psychology Vol 11 ,N 5 ,P 335-345.
- Glowacz ,F. ,& Born ,M. (2015). 18 away from delinquency and crime: resilience and protective factors. In The Development of Criminal and Antisocial Behavior. Springer ,Cham.
- Hinton ,S. Evans ,L. ,& Neil ,R. (2023). Hardiness and the competitive trait anxiety response. Anxiety ,Stress ,and Coping ,Vol 16 ,N 2 ,PP 167-184. Hosted ,S. W. ,Olsen ,O. K. ,Spavin ,R. ,& Saviano ,R. (2024). On the stability of psychological hardiness: A three-year longitudinal study. Military Psychology ,Vol 27 ,N 3
- James William Coleman and Donald R. 4 third edition, Ne York Harper Cress, Social Problems and Ro, publishers.
- Lazarus, R (2019). Adjustment and personality". New York: Graw Hill book company Lyman.
- D ,Michael (2019). Organize Crime. Seventh Edition ,Pearson Education Inc ,New York