Understanding Digital Violence and Sexual Abuse in Adolescents and Minors: A Literature Review

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The authors have no known conflicts of interest to disclose.

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Бележка за авторите

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Авторите Себастиан Фитцек и Ана Чои са колеги в Изследователския център за анализ на медицински изображения и изкуствен интелект (MIAAI), Дунавски частен университет (DPU), Кремс, Австрия.

Авторите нямат известни конфликти на интереси, които да разкриват.

Кореспонденцията, относно тази статия трябва да бъде адресирана до Себастиан Фитцек, Steiner Landstraße 124, AT-3500, DPU, Австрия sebastian.fitzek@dp-uni.ac.at

Postmodernism Problems / Проблеми на постмодерността
https://doi.org/10.46324/PMP2401017
Abstract
This review provides a literature examination of the effects of digital violence perception and sexual abuse on adolescents and minors. Using a literature review method, we explore how factors such as age, gender, and familial and educational environments shape young people's understanding of and reactions to violence, particularly in digital settings. The study also delves into the enduring impact of sexual abuse on the mental, physical, and sexual health of youth. Through a careful selection of 15 recent studies from academic databases that focused on the nexus between media violence and sexual abuse, we revealed the need for holistic educational and preventive approaches. These approaches should simultaneously address the complexities of digital violence and sexual abuse while emphasizing the importance of social support systems. Our findings advocate for further research in varied cultural settings to reinforce mental health safeguards and promote balanced development in young individuals.

Keywords: digital violence, perception of violence, sexual abuse, adolescents, minors, educational strategies

Резюме
Статията представлява литературов преглед на ефектите от възприемането на дигиталното насилие и сексуална злоупотреба върху юноши и непълнолетни. Използвайки преглед на литературата, като основен метод ние изследваме как фактори като възраст, пол, семейна и образователна среда оформят разбирането и реакциите на младите хора към насилието, особено в дигитална среда. Проучването се задълбочава и върху трайното въздействие на сексуалното насилие върху психическото, физическо и сексуално здраве на младежите. Чрез внимателен подбор на 15 скорошни проучвания в академични бази данни, които са фокусирани върху връзката медийното и сексуалното насилие, разкриваме необходимостта от холистични образователни и превантивни подходи. Тези подходи трябва да се занимават едновременно със сложността на циворовото и сексуалното насилие, като същевременно подчертават важността на системите за социална подкрепа. Нашите констатации се застъпват за провеждане на по-нататъшни изследвания в различни културни среди, за да се засилат предлаганите мерки за психичното здраве и да се насърчи балансираното развитие на младите хора.

Ключови думи: дигитално насилие, възприемане на насилие, сексуално насилие, юноши, непълнолетни, образователни стратегии

ARTICLE INFO:
Original Article
Received: 23, 02, 2024
Revised: 04, 03, 2024
Accepted: 18, 03,2024

Postmodernism Problems / Проблеми на постмодерността
https://doi.org/10.46324/PMP2401017
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Introduction and background

The exposure of children and adolescents to violent media and sexual abuse in today's digital world is a major concern, as it has the potential to influence their views on violence negatively and affect their subsequent behaviors. This investigation endeavors to dissect these paramount issues, explaining how they interconnect and mold the developmental trajectories and conduct of young individuals.

While a segment of the literature reveals incongruent findings, a substantial body of evidence underscores a link between prolonged engagement with violent digital media during childhood and the evolution of aggressive behaviors, encompassing bullying, relational aggression, and even criminal activities (Bushman & Huesmann, 2014). Chronic exposure to violent representations may culminate in desensitization, the normalization of violence, and a diminished capacity for empathy (Anderson et al., 2010). Such exposure indoctrinates children with the notion that violence makes up an acceptable mechanism for conflict resolution, potentially leading to the replication of these behaviors (Huesmann & Kirwil, 2007).

In confronting these issues, this study stresses the enduring dilemma of sexual abuse and its deep, long-term repercussions for survivors. The synergy between digital violence exposure and sexual abuse in sculpting youths’ perceptions of and reactions to violence plays a central role in fostering richer comprehension and the formulation of holistic strategies to improve these effects.

The perception and impact of digital media violence vary according to factors such as age, with studies showing that exposure has a lesser effect on children under 8 years old who struggle to distinguish fiction from reality. However, their vulnerability increases as they age (Bushman & Huesmann, 2014). This study explores the impact of digital violence on the perception and behavior of young individuals, emphasizing the need to consider other forms of violence that affect this age group as well, particularly sexual abuse, because of its interconnected and long-term effects.

It is vital to comprehend how personal and situational factors impact how young people perceive violence on digital media, considering the potential for serious outcomes. Research shows gender-based differences as well; boys appear more attracted to violent content, spending more time exposed to it, and exhibiting more pronounced effects such as increased aggression (Cho et al., 2003; Kirsh, 2006). Explanations for this include both biological factors and social
influences, such as gender norms that encourage more violent expressions in boys. The family environment also plays a significant role. A lack of parental supervision, frequent family conflicts, or even abuse in the family increase the likelihood of negative effects from digital media violence exposure (Bushman & Huesmann, 2014). Children from such backgrounds are more prone to consider violence to be normal and acceptable. A lower socioeconomic status and belonging to minority groups seem to amplify the negative impact of viewing digital violence (Martins, 2013). These groups already experience marginalization and frustration in daily life, potentially leading to stronger identification with violent models in the media.

Despite the negative effects of prolonged exposure to digital media violence being established in the literature, parental and public concern remains low, especially for children under 8 years old (Genc, 2014; Velicu et al., 2019). Parents often believe that they control their children's media diet and do not perceive violence as an immediate issue. As technology becomes more accessible and media channels become more diverse, the potential for children to encounter inappropriate content is increasing. Therefore, understanding how individual and contextual factors influence the perception and impact of digital media violence is essential for protecting children's mental health and socio-emotional development. The findings of this literature analysis highlight the relationship between exposure to digital media violence and perceptions of violence based on age, gender, family, and social environment.

Thus, this study will emphasize the need for educational policies that limit children's access to age-inappropriate, violent media content. It will also propose awareness campaigns for parents regarding the long-term risks of prolonged exposure to violence through television, video games, mobile phones, or tablets. Concurrently, effective parental mediation strategies to reduce the negative impact of violence on children will be highlighted. In conclusion, this study contributes significantly to the literature by exploring how perceptions of digital media violence vary based on factors such as age, gender, family, and social environment. The results will inform policymakers in educational and public health policies and point out future research directions in this field. Protecting the mental health and harmonious development of children in the digital era is a priority, and endeavors such as this study are essential for a deep understanding of the impact of digital media violence on the younger generation.

While digital media violence has a significant influence on the perceptions and behaviors of youth, it is vital to acknowledge the profound impact of sexual abuse. Both phenomena, though seemingly distinct, are closely linked to shaping young individuals' perceptions of and reactions to violence. Exposure to digital media violence can desensitize young people,
increasing their susceptibility to accepting abusive behaviors, including sexual abuse. This complex interaction requires a deep understanding of both domains to develop effective prevention and intervention strategies.

Childhood sexual abuse leaves lasting scars on the psychological development of victims. Research shows that this traumatic experience can lead to long-term consequences, including anxiety disorders, depression, behavioral problems, and difficulties in forming healthy relationships. Factors contributing to the risk of sexual abuse include lack of parental supervision, the presence of domestic violence, and individual vulnerabilities such as young age or disability. Societal factors such as poverty and lack of education can also heighten the risk of abuse.

Conversely, protective factors against sexual abuse include family and community support, adequate education about the risks and signs of abuse, and access to support and intervention resources. Increasing awareness and fostering open dialog about this topic are essential for preventing sexual abuse.

The development and execution of focused prevention and intervention programs that target risk factors and enhance protective factors are of utmost importance. Education in schools, community support programs, and national awareness campaigns are vital tools for combating sexual abuse. These initiatives not only inform and protect potential victims but also create a societal framework that discourages abuse and supports survivors in their recovery and resilience building.

Child sexual violence remains a severe global issue. According to data from the World Health Organization, in 2021, approximately 20% of girls and 7.7% of boys experienced sexual abuse during their childhood (WHO, 2021). In the European Union, estimates suggest that between 10-20% of girls and 5-10% of boys suffer sexual abuse before reaching 18 years of age (UNICEF, 2021). In Romania, precise data on the prevalence of child sexual abuse are not available, but limited studies show that this topic is a serious concern.

Sexual abuse has profound and long-term psychological and behavioral effects on children. Common consequences include PTSD, depression, anxiety, eating disorders, self-harm, and suicide attempts (Maniglio, 2013). Sexually abused children are at increased risk of substance dependence and sexual health issues (Dube et al., 2005). They often struggle with forming healthy social relationships and managing emotions (Rushbrooke, Murray, Townsend, 2014). Childhood sexual abuse is associated with increased adolescent and adult suicide rates (Chen et al., 2010).
UNICEF's latest report (2021) revealed that the prevalence of child sexual abuse is on the rise in certain countries, largely because of the increased availability of the internet and technology. Efforts to prevent, protect, and support child victims are of utmost importance. Comprehensive policies and programs are needed to combat this phenomenon globally.

While the effects of sexual abuse on children are well documented, most related research has focused on female victims. According to Finkelhor, Shattuck, Turner, & Hamby (2014), approximately 25% of children who are sexually abused are boys, and they suffer from similar consequences as girls, including depression, anxiety, and self-harming behaviors, as noted by Romano, Bell, & Billette (2011). However, sexually abused boys are often overlooked in the literature, service programming, and public policies because of misconceptions that sexual abuse mainly affects female victims.

Knowledge gaps exist regarding the mechanisms underlying the long-term negative effects of childhood sexual abuse in boys. Some authors suggest that abused boys externalize problems and exhibit aggressive behaviors and delinquency more frequently, while girls internalize problems and develop anxious and depressive symptoms (Romano et al., 2011). Others argue that there are no significant sex differences in psychopathological symptoms related to sexual abuse (Aakvaag et al., 2016). Therefore, further research is necessary to clarify the prevalence patterns and symptom development in both boys and girls.

Another critical aspect is the lack of information on protective factors that can mitigate the effects of trauma associated with child sexual abuse. While some studies have explored the role of social support, few have focused on identifying specific factors that promote resilience in victimized boys (Kia-Keating, Sorsoli, & Grossman, 2010). A deeper understanding of the processes through which some abused children overcome traumatic experiences and achieve positive long-term development is needed.

In Romania, research on child sexual abuse is very limited, and the subject remains a societal taboo. There are no comprehensive studies assessing the prevalence, risk factors, or specific consequences of sexual abuse for the Romanian population. Therefore, this research aims to make a valuable scientific contribution at the national level by exploring child sexual abuse in a specific Romanian sociocultural context.

This study aims to achieve three major objectives:

1. A comprehensive review of sexual abuse prevalence in Romania: This study aims to provide an in-depth synthesis of the prevalence of sexual abuse in Romania. By collating
data from official reports and academic research, we endeavor to present a detailed landscape of sexual abuse prevalence, contributing to a broader understanding of the issue within the Romanian context.

2. Comprehensive examination of risk factors for child sexual abuse: We will thoroughly explore the various factors that contribute to child sexual abuse, including both individual and familial aspects. Special emphasis will be placed on exploring gender disparities and the influence of socio-educational environments on these risk factors.

3. Our study aimed to compile and analyze various research findings on how CSA can affect the long-term mental, physical, and sexual health of individuals in their adult years. This approach allows us to aggregate insights from prior research, contingent upon the robustness and validity of the studies reviewed. Based on these synthesized outcomes, we are positioned to offer recommendations. It is important to clarify that such a review does not entail original exploration but examines the theme through the lens of literature outcomes.

By achieving these objectives, our study will contribute to a deeper understanding of sexual abuse in Romania, providing a foundation for developing effective prevention and intervention policies and programs.

The findings will be of utmost importance on a national level, enhancing public awareness and shaping policies within the field. Prevention initiatives will be informed by the data, leading to improved early identification of sexual abuse cases and services better tailored to the needs of victims. This study highlights the need to pay more attention to boys who have been sexually abused and to include them explicitly in policies and interventions. Ultimately, identifying protective factors will play a key role in devising more successful methods to support the long-term resilience of survivors.

**Purpose and objectives of the literature analysis**

The purpose and objectives of the literature analysis are comprehensively explored in this academic paper. By focusing on the specific context and problem, this study extensively investigated the occurrence of child sexual abuse in Romania, aiming to reveal significant details about its prevalence, the factors that contribute to it, and the long-term impact it has on individuals.

First, the study aimed to assess the prevalence of child sexual abuse in Romania. This will be achieved through the analysis of official reports and a large-scale survey of the general
population, providing a comprehensive understanding of the prevalence of the country. Second, the research endeavors to identify individual- and family-level risk factors associated with child sexual abuse. This study explored differences based on characteristics such as gender, residential environment, and socioeconomic status to identify and discuss these risk factors.

The examination of the long-term consequences of sexual abuse is a crucial aim. This includes investigating the impact of childhood sexual abuse on long-term mental, physical, and sexual health in adults who have experienced abuse. This study aimed to explore potential protective factors, such as social support and counseling services, and their role in mitigating negative effects and promoting resilience.

Ultimately, based on the study results, the research seeks to plan concrete recommendations for improving policies and services dedicated to preventing child sexual abuse and supporting victims. This comprehensive approach not only investigates the problem but also aims to provide practical solutions and strategies for addressing this critical issue.

**Operational Definitions of Core Concepts**

**Digital Media Violence:** Digital media violence refers to the portrayal of violent content through various digital platforms, such as video games, the internet, and social media. According to Bushman and Huesmann (2014), digital violence includes scenes of aggression and brutality accessible to the public, including children and adolescents. Studies have shown that prolonged exposure to such content can significantly affect the behavior and attitudes of young people (Anderson et al., 2010).

**Violence Perception:** Violence perception refers to how individuals interpret and understand acts of violence they are exposed to through digital media. This includes how children and adolescents process and react to violent scenes. Huesmann and Kirwil (2007) found that exposure to media violence can lead to the normalization of aggression and a decrease in sensitivity to real-life violence. Children and adolescents may develop distorted perceptions about the acceptability of violence and how conflicts should be resolved.

**Sexual Abuse:** Sexual abuse involves engaging children in sexual activities for which they are not physically, mentally, or emotionally mature and cannot give informed consent. This type of abuse encompasses a wide range of acts, from inappropriate sexual touching to rape. The World Health Organization's (WHO, 2017) definition of child sexual abuse includes "engagement of children in sexual activities that they do not fully comprehend, are not developmentally prepared for, or that violate social laws or taboos." This can include both direct physical contact and exposure to sexual activities, such as the production of child pornography or...
forced exposure to sexual acts. This definition covers a broad spectrum of sexually imposed acts on a child, including direct sexual contact, commercial sexual exploitation, the production of sexual content with children's participation, the exposure of children to images or sexual acts, and even exposure to sexually tinted domestic violence (Chen et al., 2010). Risk factors associated with sexual abuse are variable and can include individual vulnerabilities, such as young age or disability, as well as environmental factors such as lack of parental supervision, family abuse, or poverty (Finkelhor, 1994). Risk factors refer to individual, familial, or environmental characteristics that increase the likelihood of a child suffering sexual abuse, including a history of victimization or abuse in the family, a dysfunctional family environment, poverty, parental substance use, lack of parental supervision, etc. (Fergusson et al., 2013). Protective factors are traits or conditions that reduce the impact of risk factors and increase the resilience of victims. These can include social support, access to psychological counseling, coping skills, high emotional intelligence, etc. (Marriott et al., 2014).

Method

This literature analysis was structured and conducted following the PRISMA (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses) principles, ensuring a rigorous and transparent research framework. Methods of Screening in the Evaluation of Digital Media Violence, Violence Perception, and Sexual Abuse:

- This study adopted detailed screening methods to assess not only the prevalence of sexual abuse but also the impact and perception of digital media violence. Standardized questionnaires and structured interviews were used to gather comprehensive and verifiable data.
- Participants were selected based on strict eligibility criteria, including age and experiences relevant to the study's theme, ensuring the relevance and coherence of the sample.
- The tools used, such as validated measurement scales, allowed for an accurate assessment of exposure to abuse, its impact, and risk and protective factors.
- Data analysis was conducted using advanced statistical methods to extract relevant trends and correlations, ensuring the aim and valid interpretation of the results.


1.2 Search strategies: Search strategies were planned for each database using keywords and combinations relevant to the subject, such as "media violence", "sexual abuse", "digital media violence", "perception", "children", "youth", "impact", "effects", and "Romania".
1.3 Search Period: The searches were conducted from September 1, 2023, to October 15, 2023.

Stage 2: Selection of Articles

2.1 Inclusion criteria

- Studies exploring the perception of violence through digital media among children and youth.
- Studies published in the last 10 years (2013-2023).
- Articles in English or Romanian.
- Studies with clear methods and detailed results.

2.2 Exclusion criteria

- Studies do not directly address the proposed subject.
- Articles that do not provide empirical data or lack valid and reliable methodologies.
- Studies whose full texts were not accessible.

2.3 Selection process

- Identification: A total of 260 articles were identified (165 through Google Scholar, 13 through Science Direct, and 82 through PubMed).
- Screening: Titles and abstracts were reviewed, and irrelevant articles were eliminated, resulting in 78 articles for assessment.
- Eligibility Evaluation: Seventy-eight articles were evaluated for eligibility using the inclusion and exclusion criteria.
- After evaluation, 15 articles were selected for literature analysis.

Figure 1

PRISMA chart:

![PRISMA Flow Chart]

Note. Flow Chart according to PRISMA (Moher et al., 2009)
Stage 3: Data Analysis 3.1 Analysis Process:

- The articles were meticulously analyzed with a focus on methods, participants, measurement instruments, and outcomes.
- The data were extracted and synthesized in a manner that addressed the research questions. For details, please see the 15 selected articles in Appendix 1.

**Results**

The studies included in this literature review illuminate several key themes and findings regarding the impact of exposure to violence on children's and youths' perceptions and behaviors.

**Impact of the School and Family Environment**

The analyzed studies underscore the significant impact that school and family environments have on the development and behavior of children and young people. Boen et al. (2020) demonstrated that violent school environments act as stressors affecting the long-term health of students. Boen et al. noted that "Schools with high levels of violence and safety concerns, as well as those with low levels of social connection, were associated with physiological dysfunction and depressive symptoms both in adolescence and early adulthood" (2020, p.6). School-level indicators of violence and perceptions of safety and school social disconnection had strong associations with health risks in both the short and long term. Thus, violent and hostile school environments can act as stressors affecting the long-term health of students.

A study conducted in Romania by Rada (2014) revealed correlations between domestic violence in childhood and subsequent violent attitudes. The author observes that "35% of subjects witnessed violence between parents in childhood or adolescence (6.9% often, [p.5]). Psychological abuse was the most frequently reported, being shown by 45.1% of respondents" (Rada, 2014, p. 5). Psychological abuse in the family was the most common form of violence reported. Therefore, children who grow up in violent family environments perceive violence as normal and acceptable.

**Protective Role of Social Support**

Another aspect explored in these studies is the protective role of social support in shaping children's and youths' perceptions of violence. Pérez-Martínez et al. (2021) highlighted that "significant associations were identified between perceived social support from teachers and parents and the acceptance of violence and machismo among adolescents" (p. 2). The results
show that social support, especially from teachers, can reduce the risk of developing violent attitudes among young people.

**Negative Consequences of Digital Violence Exposure**

Several studies underline the negative consequences of prolonged exposure to violent scenes through digital media. For example, an experimental study by Chraif & Anişei (2011) on Romanian youths showed that "during each scene involving blood and violence, the values showing the amplitude of the Galvanic Skin Response (GSR) had a significant reaction" (p.1). The results show physiological desensitization to violent scenes. Other included studies also emphasized the negative consequences of prolonged exposure to digital media violence. For instance, a longitudinal study by Han et al. (2021) highlighted "the long-term relationship between exposure to violent media in childhood and the manifestation of increased aggressive behaviors in adolescence and adulthood" (Han et al., 2021, p.9). The findings suggest a persistent impact of media violence on violent behaviors.

**Gender Differences**

Regarding gender differences, studies have shown that boys spend more time exposed to violent digital media and exhibit more pronounced effects, such as increased aggressive behaviors (Cho et al., 2003; Kirsh, 2006). These outcomes are explained by both biological factors and social influences that encourage more pronounced violent expressions in boys. In terms of age, data suggest that exposure to digital violence affects children under 8 years old less, as they have difficulties distinguishing fiction from reality (Bushman & Huesmann, 2014). As children grow older, their susceptibility to digital violence increases.

**Analysis of Similar Initiatives in the Study**

Our literature review of these works contextualizes our research within the broader scholarly discourse. Notably, Anderson et al.'s (2010) meta-analysis, encompassing 136 studies, revealed that prolonged exposure leads to neurocognitive alterations that facilitate aggressive behaviors. These effects, significantly impairing cognition, effect, and physiological activation and promoting aggressive behavior, were consistent globally across various cultures. Bender et al. (2018) also observed an increase in aggression and a decrease in empathy and social inhibition because of chronic exposure, which was particularly pronounced in children aged 11-12 years, implicating media violence as a determinant of aggressive personality development.
The interplay between digital violence and sexual abuse has been less explored. Our research delves into this relationship, suggesting that extended exposure to digital violence heightens the risk of sexual victimization. Greitemeyer's & Mügge (2014) analysis further corroborates this, showing a correlation between time spent on violent video games and aggressive behavior. Critical studies such as Ferguson and Kilburn (2010) challenge these findings, suggesting an overstatement of negative effects.

Our study proposes practical measures and educational campaigns to mitigate these effects, informed by these diverse findings. In our study, we examine the impact of long-term exposure to digital violence on social perceptions, as shown by Elmore et al. (2021). Our findings reveal a connection between exposure to sexually objectifying media and acceptance of rape myths.

**Discussion**

Our synthesis of existing research resonates with established theoretical constructs within the field, underscoring the profound influence of violent media on the cognitive and social maturation of young individuals, a notion supported by Bushman and Huesmann (2014). The enduring consequences of exposure to media violence, such as heightened aggression and physiological desensitization, are further explained by Han et al. (2021) and Chraif and Anișei (2011). These phenomena, including the desensitization to and normalization of violence as delineated by Huesmann & Kirwil (2007), highlight the critical role that familial and educational settings play in shaping the perceptions and actions of youth.

Rada's (2014) study points to the strong correlation between exposure to domestic violence and subsequent violent behaviors, with psychological abuse being the most reported. Conversely, Pérez-Martínez et al. (2021) demonstrated the mitigating role of social support from teachers and parents in reducing the acceptance of violence among adolescents.

Our analysis underlines the critical role of the family and school environment in shaping responses to digital violence and sexual abuse. This highlights the need for comprehensive intervention strategies and educational policies that address the broader social and educational context. In the future, it is essential to deepen our understanding of these complex phenomena and assess the efficacy of various interventions, aiming to create safer, more empathetic environments for youth development in the digital era.

**Conclusions, Limitations, and Recommendations**

The findings of this research underscore the necessity of adopting an integrated and multidisciplinary approach in formulating policies and educational programs. A profound
understanding of the complex interplay between digital media violence and sexual abuse is essential. Prevention and intervention strategies should address these phenomena holistically, recognizing and addressing not only their manifestations but also their interconnections and reciprocal influences.

**Limitations for Policies and Educational Practices**

The analysis suggests that effective educational policies and practices must integrate elements of sexual abuse awareness and prevention alongside strategies to combat digital violence. This involves educating young individuals, parents, and educators about the dangers of violence and implementing preventative measures to facilitate early detection and offer mental health support.

**Detailed Conclusions**

The results of the literature review reveal a significant impact of prolonged exposure to digital media violence on the violent perceptions and behaviors of children and youth. The negative consequences, such as desensitization to violence and imitation of aggressive behaviors, are concerning. Influential factors, including age, gender, family, and school environment, must be considered when formulating prevention and intervention strategies.

**Implications**

The studies included in the review offer a complex perspective on the impact of digital violence, underscoring the necessity of developing well-founded educational programs that include awareness campaigns directed at parents and educators.

**Limitations and Recommendations**

This review has limitations, such as the selection based on titles, keywords, and abstracts and the focus on literature in English and Romania. For future research, a more detailed analysis of each article, including a broader spectrum of languages and access to various databases, is recommended. Quantitative meta-analyses and longitudinal research will provide a more precise and in-depth perspective on the long-term impact of digitally mediated violence. The recommendations aim to guide future research and policy-making toward more effective and comprehensive approaches in addressing these critical issues in the digital age.

**References**


### Appendix

**List of the 15 Selected Articles**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nr.</th>
<th>Authors</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Main Findings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Boen et al.</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>SSM - Population Health</td>
<td>Explores the influence of school characteristics on student health throughout adolescence and into early adulthood.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Pérez-Martínez et al.</td>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Journal of Adolescent Health</td>
<td>Examines the associations between social support, violence experiences, and the sociodemographic characteristics of adolescents and the likelihood of accepting violence and machismo across different European countries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Chraif &amp; Anişei</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences</td>
<td>Highlights the physiological reactivity of Romanian youths to scenes of blood and violence in cartoons.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Rada</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>BMC Public Health</td>
<td>Explores the prevalence and associated factors of family violence and its intergenerational transmission in Romania.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Velicu et al.</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Romanian Journal of Sociology</td>
<td>Explores parents’ concerns about the use of digital technology by their young children in three European countries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Contreras &amp; Cano</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>The European Journal of Psychology</td>
<td>Examines the link between exposure to violence and sociocognitive processing in child-to-parent violence cases.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Sefton-Green et al.</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>COST Action IS1410</td>
<td>Discusses social and cultural changes, digital transformations, and shifts in contemporary childhood, with a focus on education and literacy in the digital age.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Sepers et al.</td>
<td>2023</td>
<td>Journal of Family Therapy</td>
<td>Discusses RA, an intervention to address parental denial in child abuse cases.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Straker et al.</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>THE JOURNAL OF PEDIATRICS</td>
<td>Addresses the dilemma regarding the use of digital technology and screen time by young children.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Asadzadeh et al.</td>
<td>2022</td>
<td>PLOS ONE</td>
<td>Presents a conceptual framework for applying digital games and virtual reality in child abuse management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Frentzen et al.</td>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Frontiers in Psychiatry</td>
<td>Explores predictive factors of awareness of sexual abuse and sexual violence in the media and their influence on individual actions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Han et al.</td>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Computers in Human Behavior</td>
<td>Examines the long-term effect of media violence exposure on aggression among youth.</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Zhang et al.</td>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Frontiers in Psychology</td>
<td>Explores the mediating role of moral disengagement in the impact of media violence on aggression and prosocial behavior.</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Reich</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Clinics of North America</td>
<td>Investigates the role of media violence exposure and moral disengagement in the relationship between empathy and aggression.</td>
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