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Legal and General perspective of Child Abuse

Student name

Submitted date

IEEESEM

Introduction:

Background:

God has created every human being with freedom, liberty and blesses them with equal rights to live in the world without any fear. The human rights charter of the United Nations also emphasizes the presence of equal & fair human rights for all. The human charter of the United Nations made maximum emphasize on women's and child rights and their protection level. Both of these creatures are facing several adverse, dangerous and unfavorable environments and scenarios till the life of human beings started on this planet earth.

The increase in child abuse trends has persuaded the entire world to make several regulations in this regard. Children are the most sensitive creature of the entire universe. They are a fragile creature of God which are created upon the base of nature and are exempt from all type of mean, hate, biasness, and anger base emotions and feelings as well (Alaggia, 2019).

Child abuse is a vast term that includes any threat, harm either physical or mental to children by their family members, their caretakers, or by any other person from society. Child abuse adversely affects the growth, confidence, activity, efficiency, pleasure, and level of enjoyment and interest of children from their lives. It turns the childhood era in a nightmare and causes harmful effects on the health of the children and their mental approach as well. Child abuse has several forms or kinds. If any child faces any of such acts, then it will be treated as Child abuse. It includes verbal abuse, physical abuse, sexual abuse, exploitation, emotional abuse, and ignorance as well (Davidson, 2018).

Types of Child Abuse:

The ultimate types of child abuse are four which include the following:

(i) **Physical Abuse:**

Physical abuse refers to all types of injuries, fractures, and life base threats as well, which a child faces due to physical egression performed by adults towards them. The intervention of the accused's intention is not important in this regard.

In the same way, the intensity, nature, and type of injury also do not matter. The human rights commission of UNO mainly made laws against physical abuse towards the child. Therefore, if a child suffered from a light injury or an intense injury, severe legal punishments are available for the accused. Physical abuse involves all types of beating, hitting, kicking with the body, or other things. The trend of physical abuse is quite high among developing countries where labor laws are not present, and children are hired as labor as well. Through which, they faced several types and level of physical abuse frequently. To minimize the physical abuse base incidents, it is so important for health care units as well to inform security enforcement authorities in case any physical abuse by children brought towards their units for treatment (Fabricius, 2018).

(ii) Sexual Abuse:

Intensive use of the internet with the high watching trend of porn movies and other adult content has geared up the lust level among adults. Due to this, the trend of sexual abuse among children is also increasing. Child abuse refers to the establishment of physical relations by an adult with children through forcefully, by giving threats and through blackmailing as well. It also refers to establish physical relations with children without their consent and to give them life threats in case of any action against this filthy act taken by victims. It is known to be as adverse as physical abuse is. The death rate through physical abuse is a little less in contrast to the sexual abuse of children (Fatima, 2018)

Reports indicate that every year, the number of sexual abuse base victims in Asian countries is increasing rapidly. Children from less than one year of age group to 15 years of age group faced sexual abuse at various destinations in entire Asia and European and other countries as well. Child base sexual abuse all type of interaction, kissing, touching, playing and folding, etc. which perform by an individual to satisfy their sexual wants and needs. Such touches make the children uncomfortable and adversely affect their interaction level. Most of the children base sexual abuse victims get effected mental, and several adverse psychological effects arise o them (Alaggia, 2019).

(iii) Emotional Abuse:

Emotional child abuse is also very dangerous. It refers to all types of attitudes, actions, behavior, and responses of family members, friends, relative, and all other

individuals of society, which adversely affect the mental health, quality of mindset and its relevant approaches as well. Emotional abuse refers to the use of disrespect, insulting and inferior base comments, words, and behaviors face by the children. Such actions directly hurt the children and disturb them emotionally. It becomes a cause of depression and crying as well among children. It became the cause of fear regarding others among children. Such victims show hesitation and reluctance to interact and greet others. This type of abuse hold a quite vast scope and include both verbal abuse, mental abuse, and feelings base abuse when adults make fun of children at all time in an insulting manner which discourages them and limits their creativity and confidence on their selves (Fabricius, 2018).

(iv) Child Neglect:

Many people all around the world believe that child abuse can be only in the form of physical and sexual abuse. But besides these types of abuse, there is another form that I knew as Child neglect (Fatima, 2018). This abuse refers to inappropriate care and attention which is the basic right of children are not provided to them, and they suffer a lot. It refers to all those sufferings, pains, and hardships which the children faced when their parents and family members do not provide effective care and attention to them for which the parents are obliged, and children hold direct right. Many times parents considered giving birth and luxuries to children are quite enough but forget the other factors like giving time to them, giving care and attention to them and to listen to their views, ideas, and their routine life base incidents as well. Such neglect base actions and responses of parents to other family members affect the children's life adversely. This is known to be the most important for abuse, which is highly preset. Reports indicate that every year, the number f child neglect base victims are increasing day by day. Due to limited awareness and information, such actions are not categorized as abuse. But in reality, every type of abuse of children that affect their mental health, physical health, their emotions, and their mindset approach or intellectual abilities and their viewpoint of observing the world moves into an adverse or negative direction will be termed as abuse towards children (Davidson, 2018).

Child Abuse Laws:

To minimize the adverse effects of child abuse incidents, there have been several laws in this regard. United Nations has made one of its specified institute which works for the protection of the child from all type of abuses which they might be able to face at any place in the entire world. Both developed counties and developing countries are bound by the law of UNO (member countries of UNO) to make several regulations for the protection of the child from all types of abuse. For this, the UK, USA, and other Developed countries have made several federal and local level base authorities and hotlines as well, which works daily for the protection of children from all types of abuse. In this regard, several laws, penalties, fines, and imprisonmenthas been made for this. Through this, the trend of child abuse base incidents can minimize up to a great extent (Alaggia, 2019).

In Developing countries, the scope of child abuse laws is quite limited. There are no specific regulations in this regard. The developing countries hold a very limited understanding and practical implementation of child abuse base laws as well. Limited awareness along with less knowledge and education level, child abuse is known as one of the frequent cost abuse, occurred in developing countries. Child neglect and Sexual abuse of a child are the two main types of abuse that are faced by Asian children. The United Nations Human Charter report indicates that the Asian region is considered on top rank upon the base of Child neglect and sexual abuse base categories. Reports indicate that in the USA 4 children die due to physical abuse and one child facesneglect abuse as well daily. Reports stated that more than 70% of children fewer thanthree years of age group face physical and neglect abuse in the USA. Besidesthis, every year, more than 2.9 million child abuse base incidents reported in the USA (Fabricius, 2018).

The trend of Sexual Abuse is high in the UK. Reports state that every 8 minutes, one child is suffering from sexual abuse in England and Wales. From 2016 to 2017, 65000 cases registered regarding sexual abuse with children. Out of these 65,000 sexual abuse cases, 200 cases of sexual abuse committed with babies of 1 year or less than one year age group.

By 2014, 1 billion children from the age group of 2 years to 17 years faced extensive child abuse in the entire world. This trend reached 1.7 billion by the end of the year 2018. This reflects a high trend of child abuse base incidents. The trend of child abuse is the same in both developed and developing countries. The most common form of child abuse includes physical abuse, emotional abuse, and violence base abuse.

Research Aim:

The main essence of this research is to state the attitudes, behavior, responses, and legal rules and regulations present in both developed and developed countries regarding child abuse. This study will explain a general mindset approach adopted and present in the entire world regarding the safety of children from child abuse and the presence of relevant protection laws as well (Dako-Gyeke, 2019).

Research Significance:

This research is important to evaluate how child abuse is considered and evaluated by the entire world. Through this, the child abuse base laws can evaluate easily, and the extent of the gap present among these laws can identify as well.

Research Objectives:

The main objectives of this research are mentioned below:

- (i) To explain the child abuse concept and its scope as well.
- (ii) To explain the attitudes and responses practiced by the individuals towards the child abuse incident, with the victim and the accused one as well.
- (iii) To explain the general legal & mindset approach present in various regions regarding child abuse.

Research Questions:

The researcher can use some specific research questions for the achievement of research objectives. The research questions of this research are mentioned below:

- (i) What is meant by child abuse and its scope as well?
- (ii) What laws and responses are present regarding Child Abuse in different regions throughout the entire world?

Literature Review:

Children of the current era are the asset of the future era. The mental abilities, personality, behavior, attitudes and their responses towards life will affect the future of their countries and the entire world as well on a collective basis. The incidents or sufferings from which one goes through from their childhood era remain stuck in mind and affect the personality and behavior of the children till the end of their life even after they reach to adult level as well. Learning of confidence, interacting with others without any hesitation long with pleasure, and interest in life are some important features that present in every child who lives their life in a secured and safe environment. Children who suffered from any traumas in their childhood remain a little depress and confuse throughout their entire life. The extent of depression, low confidence and limited mindset approach hold by children is largely dependent upon the situations and circumstances face by them I an early age (Alaggia, 2019).

Child abuse has become a common practice. Through which adults use children to release their frustration. Children are fragile and are not competent enough to make noise, raise voice and to make a defense of themselves. Adultstook benefit from this and target the children to decrease their own personal & professional life base depression. Adults usually targeted the children for sexual abuse and physical abuse and satisfied their inner anger and hate base emotions for the entire society or a particular individual of the society. On the other hand, Child neglect base abuse is highly practiced by working parents who hold not enough ties to rescue their kids and to stand with them at a time of need and critical situations. The early independence approach adopted by parents to make a distance among a child of 1 year with their parents provides a direct chance or opportunity towards the animal-like individuals to make the children prey on their inner animal needs and wants (Fatima, 2018).

The article of the 19th convention of the United Nation's human rights base charter has made several child protection acts and rules. This act emphasizes the safety and security of the children from all types of internal and external harmful environmental factors, which can raise threats or harm for the children. Any mental threat which is provided to children with force full kissing, hugging and touching are known as first degrees of child abuse. Children are the sensitive human being who holds nothing bad towards anyone in the entire world. Therefore, it is considered as the duty of the entire society to keep an I depth eye over the children in their surroundings. Through which, any child abuse base incident can examine and observe on the

initial basis, and effective steps can make In this regard to eliminate the child abuse activity (Deb, Child Abuse and Neglect: An Introduction. In An Empirical Investigation into Child Abuse and Neglect in India (pp. 1-40). Springer, Singapore., 2018).

Child abuse can be of a type. Any act, practice, behavior, and attitude which is practice with or without any harmful intention with kids and become the cause of a small or large physicalinjury or source of permanent threat and harm among children and turn their life into a nightmare is treated as child abuse. More than 85% of the children who suffered from child abuse became silent and showedthe least interest in all typesof daily activities like playing, schooling,watching TV, and from several other activities as well. They are not able enough to explain in front of others about what they are feeling and from which phase of life they are going. They prefer to hide their sufferings from others due to continuous threats, to blackmail, and brainwashing made by the criminal who committed any child abuse with them. Through which, physical heath, as well as mental health, goes into the adverse direction and makes them mentally and physically ill. It causes emotions of hate,embarrassment, and anger among the children, and some of thembecomea rebel in their future and considered their parents and other their close relation base individuals as responsible for the entire incident and are not ready to forget the entire sufferings of their childhood (Fabricius, 2018).

Several developed countries like the UK, USA, and France have made several strict child abuse protection laws and regulations. For this, the role and intervention level of schools, teachers and psychiatrist teacher's role is very important. The teachers of pre-school are trained enough to identify and notice any abnormality arise in any of their students. The prolonged silence with no participation in in-class activities, the practice of low confidence level, and the practice of reluctant behavior while interacting with the other classmates, teachers, and family members as well. Teachers evaluate the sentence made and drawings of children as well and notice every aspect or factor from the performance level of children in the class. This enables the teachers to inform the local county officer and sheriff as well about the incidents faced by children. Teachers at pre-school and primary levels are bound to investigate the consecutive absent of the children from schools and can make home visits as well to identify the actual reason behind absent trendsamong children (Pulla, 2018).

The United Nations base child protection Act and it's Human Rights charter both directly emphasize the implementation of local and domestic level laws in this regard. Through this, child abuse base incidents can minimize up to a great extent, and a healthy and secure future and life can provide to children. Through this, thelaws have been revised and accused of child abuse are entitled to heavy punishment of imprisonment and death only with no fine and penalty over this action. Such rules and regulations are made to increase the threat of accountability and criminal liability upon the practice of child abuse. Through which, such incidents can minimize up to a great extent (Chasnoff, 2018).

Increase child abuse base incidents at an easy age of children adversely affect their growth, personality, confidence, interest in life and their behavior, responses, and views as well. Those who suffer from child abuse face limited interaction abilities and bring long-lasting effects on their personalities. To eliminate such trends, the constitutions of the entire world and the UNO charter have made several extensive punishments for those who get involved in violence base activities towards children regardless of the type and nature of child abuse (Chasnoff, 2018).

Children who have been subjected to abuse lead spend a very torture some life as the trauma of abuse keeps haunting them for their entire life and in most cases there is no help available. Child abuse is a sad and harsh reality of Pakistani society and has gained lots of importance in recent times but backward mindsets still try to conceal the real facts and are afraid to report cases of abuse and rape inflicted on children. Pedophilia is at rampant rate in Pakistan and everyday comes shocking and mortifying news of child abuse. Zainab rape case from Kasur was a national tragedy as it shook society to the core and strict actions regarding legislation against child abuse and penalization of pedophile was done. Another infamous scandal was the Child abuse case from Kasur where multiple numbers of children were being abused and video graphed for child pornography which is very alarming and saddening for the government and authorities and call for strict action against such sick mindset. The Nation reported that there have been number of cases of menace toward children but often go unnoticed due to fear of stigma attached with it. Also media fails to report such incidents and culprits roam free (2019). The Nation a leading Pakistani daily newspaper writes that history of pedophilia in Pakistan can be traced to the year 2001 when a serial killer named Javed Iqbal lured 100 children and brutally murdered them (Alaggia, 2019).

Before the case of Javed Iqbal came to mainstream attention there have many cases of abuse in various parts of Pakistan. Before 21st century media and digital systems were not strong enough to report and verify the news regarding the child abuse so most of the cases remain hidden and children keep on suffering for the rest of their lives. Sahil, an NGO which works for the rehabilitation of children who have been victims of abuse and advocate of safe environment for young kids reports that the cases of abuse were 2,321 in year 2007, which increased to 1838 by 2008 which went up to 2303 by year 2011 (Deb, Child Abuse and Neglect: An Introduction. In An Empirical Investigation into Child Abuse and Neglect in India (pp. 1-40). Springer, Singapore., 2018).

The News another Pakistan daily maintains that there have been 1300 cases of sexual abuse and molestation of children in the past 6 months. These case were reported between January, 2019 to june, 2019 and it was shocking to see such high amount of abuse cases despite of strict legislation and penalization of such grave offense. 729 female children and 575 male children were abused in this time period and are scared for life. This report also reveals that among these cases 652 were reported in province Punjab, 458 reported in Sindh, 32 were reported in Balochistan and 51 were reported in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (Dako-Gyeke, 2019).

Zainab rape case has been highlighted by media which lead to speedy inquiries and led to justice by giving death sentence to the criminal. Media has played a vital role in the awareness against such heinous crimes by giving coverage to such cases but this is not enough. There needs to be proper counseling systems in order to find out the reason behind such increasing cases of pedophilia. Not only the abused but the abusers should be sent to psychological counseling in order to find out the root cause of what led them to such grave crime. According to Khan, we live in a society which is highly regressive and suppresses natural course of human sexual development, lack of sex education in schools, access to drugs and all forms of negative influences leads a person to act in different manners (Ragavan, 2018).

Methodology:

To complete this research, the presence of an effective research methodology is necessary. Through which the entire research can performsuccessfully, and the actual desire result of the research can achieve effectively. This section describes the complete details about the research design and research framework in which the researcher is used. Being a human intervention base research issue, this research will be Quantitative. Thus, only primary data collection means will be used by the researcher only to make access to the required data of research.

The research is quantitative in nature. This research is descriptive in type and will describe the rules and perceptions regarding child abuse and its relevant Laws in an explanatory form. The entire research will conduct into a None contrived environment with minimum researcher's intervention level. Along with this, the relevant data of research will gather only one time during the entire research conduct process. Thus, the time horizon of research will be cross-sectional.

Being quantitative research, only primary data collection means will be used to gather the required data of research. For this, the researcher main intends to identify the perspective and responses of the public regarding child abuse. Therefore, this research is quantitative. For data collection means, a research questionnaire technique will be used. Through this, a series of well-structured and close-ended questions will be asked from the respondents over the several research issue base questions.

The research questionnaire will be administered personally by the researcher. Through which, the extent of ambiguity and misunderstanding among respondents regarding the research questionnaire and its questions can remove, and a more close interaction can make among research respondents and researchers.

For data collection, a sample size of 100 will be suitable. A simple random sampling technique can be used in this regard. Through which, the effective samples can be designed easily, and more accurate data can gather by the researcher. The respondents of this research are those who are parents of children from less than one year to 15 years. For sampling, a simple random sampling technique will be used. Through this, any individual in the relevant population can be select as a member of the research sample. This sample size of 100 will compensate for the inappropriate and incomplete responses provided by respondents as well. The questions will be asked on a scale of 1 to 3 dimensions. These three dimensions will reflect different responses which the respondents might make toward each question asked from them.

For research analysis purposes, the pie chart technique can be used. Through which the inferential statistics base research analysis tools can implement easily, and the required data can analyze easily.

Data Analysis:

This section mainly explains the empirical detail of the data gathers by the research for analysis purposes. Below, an analysis of different research questions are made:

In the firstquestion, the respondents are asked about the knowledge of child abuse, its scope, and the type they have. Without having a complete knowledge or idea about a particular concept, no one can make any significant addition to that concept. The respondents are asked about what type of child abuse they are aware of and up to what extent they hold knowledge.

Along with this, the extent of knowledge which they have regarding child abuse, its scope, and type is authentic and valuable or not. For this question, 35% of respondents give Yes response towards this and 50% state a No response for this. On the other hand, 15% of respondents state Neutral response for this. Overall, it reflects that the majority hold limited knowledge about child abuse and its scope and all types, as well.

Description	Responses in %
Yes	35
No	50
Neutral	15

In the second question, the respondents are asked about is it necessary to have strong and intense child abuse base laws and regulations. The question mainly emphasizes over demand for death penalties to those who accused of any child abuse. Most of the countries in the entire world have made severe laws and regulations for child abuse to eliminate child abuse base incidents. Far of death penalty directly restrict the individuals to commit this sin and increase the extent of security and safety for children. Thus, a secure environment can be offered for the brought up of the children, which brings healthy effects towards their health, physic, and mindset as well. For this, 85% of respondents state Yes for this question. Besidesthis, 5% of respondents state No for

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this statement. In addition to this, 10% of respondents state Neutral response, which reflectsneither yes nor no for this. This reflects that the majority of respondents state that death penalties should be provided to all those who perform any child abuse.

Description	Responses in %
Yes	85
No	5
Neutral	10

In the next question, the respondents are asked about the need forawarenessprograms, content, and advertisement through which the society can be aware of the child abuse, its types, and relevant laws and regulations which has been made by the countries and UNO at national and international level. The presence of effective awareness campaigns and advertisements will help to make society very clear about child abuse, its scope, and types. Through this, the individuals can easily evaluate what actions and activities are termed as Child abuse and will bring different punishments towards them. Besidesthis, suchan advertisement campaign will help to hold knowledge about child abuse base laws and regulations as well. For this, 90% of respondents state Yes response. Besides this, 7% of respondents state No for this, and 3% of respondents state Neutral response towards this. Overall, the structure of responses reflects that the majority of respondents believe that it is compulsory to arrange several awareness base program through which society can be easily aware of child abuse.

Description	Responses in %
Yes	90
No	7
Neutral	3

In the next question, the respondents are asked about the need for improvement towards child abuse base laws and regulations. In developed countries, several law base regulations have been made in recent years to increase the protection level for children and to provide them security from the criminal mind individuals. But, this situation is quite adverse in developing countries where limited laws and regulations are present regarding child abuse and its protection base strategies. For this, 75% of respondents state Yes towards this statement. Besides this, 20% of respondents state Neutral response for this statement. Along withthis, 5% of respondents state No for this. This reflects that most of the respondents believe that there is an immense need to make quality base improvements towards the child abuse base laws to increase the children's protection level.

Description	Responses in %
Yes	75
No	5
Neutral	20

In this question, the respondents are asked about the need to make the children vigilant about the physical and sexual abuse, particularly among children of 3 years age group to 17 years, which mainly become the victim of such filthy action. Having awareness about the kind of touch, interaction and closeness which the others want to make with a sinful intention should be communicated with children. Through which they can easily understand the intentions of others and can make a distance with such individuals. For this, 75% of respondents hold a Yes base response. Besides this, 20% of respondents state No for this as they think that it might be able to bring negative effectson the personality and mindset of the children. Along with this, 5% of respondents state Neutral response for this. Overall, it reflects that it is important to make the children vigilant that no one can make any type of physical, with them like kissing, hugging, touching at awful parts as well.

Description	Responses in %
Yes	75
No	20
Neutral	5

In the next question, the respondents are asked about the establishment of child protection base agencies and institutions in the countries. Establishment of such institutions, a healthy environment can be provided to those who become a victim of any child abuse. Such child abuse protection institutions will provide several child protection techniques and strategies through which the dark phase of children's life can minimize. Various counseling and psychological therapies will provide by this institution to bring the children out of the adverse nightmare of their life. Such activities will help the victim children to cope up with what they suffered at a very early age. For this, 90% of respondents state Yes. Besides this, 10% of respondents state a neutral response towards this. Overall, it reflects that the majority of respondents believe that there should be several child protection base institutions that will help the children to fight with this heart-wrenching situation through encouragement and zeal.

Description	Responses in %
Yes	90
Neutral	10

In this question, the respondents are asked about the presence of open and close communication among children and parents through which they can easily communicate and explain with parents if any abuse faces them regardless of intensity and nature of the abuse. The presence of effective communication with no hurdles and barriers bring a positive effect on children and makes them able enough to raise the voice of any adverse or bad event that happened with them. This brings parents more close towards their children and makes them vigilant and aware as well about the individuals to whom they interact and socialize as well. For this, 80% of respondents state Yes response. Besides this, 15% of respondents state Neutral response for this.

Along with this, only 5% of respondents state No for this. Overall, it reflects that most of the respondents should manage and establish an effective communication system with their parents and the parents should also encourage the children to share their daily routine with the parents. Through this, the parents can keep an effective control over their children and their actions as well.

Description	Responses in %
Yes	80
Neutral	15
No	5

Discussion:

Child abuse is an increasing trend that is affecting the children and their mental growth up to a great extent. Through child abuse the interest of children from their lives and remove the element of interest and pleasure from their lives. Child abuse can be of any type, but regardless of its type, it brings numerous and long-lasting effects towards the children and limit their confidence and interaction level up to a great extent. Child abuse directly affects the mindset and intellectual abilities of the children as well and removes their interest from education and other health curricular and non-curricular activities as well.

Such kind of child abuse base incidents adversely affects the entire life of the victim and their family members as well. Children are known to be the most beautiful, joyful and attractive creatures of God. Their smiles, actions, and behaves grab the attention of others and realize the pleasure present in life. The early age time for children is very sensitive. At that time, their brain grows their body and several other internal changes like mood swings, and intellectual abilities arise among them. Therefore, at that immense age care is required and need by children. But unfortunately, this era turned out to be a drastic nightmare for some of the children who suffered from child abuse.

Such adverse effects of Child abuse has made it compulsory to make several laws and regulations regarding child abuse and to make awareness about it as well. Along with this, awareness about penalties and punishment for child abuse base crimes should also make public to restrict the criminals from such crimes and to make the society a safer place to live for children.

Conclusion:

Child abuse refers to any violence base actions performed by any adult towards the children of any age intentionally to gear up the control and influence over children. Child abuse has different forms. It can be in physical form, emotional, sexual and any other type as well which affects the children adversely and affect the way of their living as well. Several studies and reports of World health organization reflect that those who suffer from intense child abuse at an early age, regardless of the type of abuse, hold a high trend of committing suicide in their adult life. Such victims hold high trust base issues ad are afraid of interacting with others. They face hurdles and recall all their terrible, heart wrenching and painful incidents while making interaction with others. They spend life in a limited social circle and cannot perform well in their professional life as well.

Therefore, it has become a need of time to make several amendments into child abuse base laws and regulations to make the public aware of this crime, and setting strict death base penalties against child abuse can eliminate the trend of this crime from society. Most of the individuals of society hold an emotional attachment with child abuse base incidents and mainly hold a strict punishment for the accused one, which can work as an example for other criminal mind individuals and will reduce the number of such incidents from society.

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