

APA Dissertation Sample

CHILDREN OBESITY

The Impact of Treatment in Children Obesity

Psychology 101

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Abstract

During the recent years, medical experts and government policy makers have presented some valid reasons to feel alarmed regarding the current issues involving obesity among children. For this dissertation, we will only take into consideration the issues involving children in the USA. While most of them agree that this issue deserves outright attention, focus is given on the way problem should be responded. This review on certain pharmacological treatments for issues on children obesity highlights the limitations, suggesting the need for finding a comprehensive solution combining together social, medical, political, as well as behavioral approaches to this rather complicated problem.

Literature Review

In May 2010, it has been called to the attention of medical experts as well as the government that childhood obesity has become an overlooked health problem in the USA. Dr. Owen (2006), reported that this issue can already be considered as an epidemic, considering that it has reached 15% in a year, doubling the next year. Now, over 9 million children are being categorized as obese (Mayward, 2015).

Implications of Obesity among Children

Obesity can easily turn out to be a devastating issue, not just on an individual level, but also in the societal point of view. In fact, obesity is what puts children in danger, as it exposes them to other risks, including other diseases. It also poses some serious issues for a society that struggles to cope up with costs involving health care.

As the number of children affected by obesity continues to increase, we can also expect a long-term increase in the costs of health care involved. According to a report from Dr. Seuss, the cost involved in obesity treatment totals about \$117 billion every year, which is second to the actual costs involved in treating the use of tobacco (Seuss, 2006).



Is Treatment Effective in Treating Obesity in Children?

The continuously widening scope involving obesity among children has alerted medical professionals, prompting them to consider old conceptions again, especially with regard to the disorder, as well as the causes. As researchers have also explained, obesity was considered once as a result, either of a so-called moral failure, or as an evidence of an underlying instance of psychopathology. This understanding has shifted, however. A lot of medical professionals take into consideration obesity as a biomedical, instead of a moral condition, often influenced both by environmental and genetic factors. The search for the appropriate long-term treatment has turned to become complicated. Several drugs that have been authorized in the early part of the 1990s have become a disappointment to many.

Are Treatments Safe for the Young Ones?

A modest amount of weight loss has been recorded for the treatments which were approved. However, some risks involving side effects cannot be avoided. For instance, Sibutramine is observed to have an impact towards pulse rate and blood pressure. Others were also found to be connected with other side effects.

The data regarding the efficacy and safety of these pharmacological treatments involving childhood obesity has raised a question identifying whether or not medication can turn out to be the best solution for this issue. Treatments often have clear costs for patients, including dealing with some risky side effects.

Addressing the different areas involved in identifying the right treatment for child obesity, a physician should be completely armed with the right prescription. With this, there is a need for a broader mobilization, not just of the physicians involved, as well as the parents concerned, but also involving other people, including advertisers, food industry executives, educators, as well as media representatives.



The list of potential approaches involved in fighting childhood obesity, from political lobbying to scientific research, show that both the complexity and severity of the problem can be successfully dealt with. Even though there is no such thing as a miracle drug which can serve as treatment to childhood obesity, research and studies have at least discovered some potential factors which may result to obesity among children, and has also presented the need to have a comprehensive approach towards the issue, including medical, behavioral, political and social change.

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