

**How to Cite:**

Abyss, K. D., Almudhafar, S. M., & Almayahi, B. A. (2022). The rights of disabled children in Iraq. *International Journal of Health Sciences*, 6(S7), 5271-5278.  
<https://doi.org/10.53730/ijhs.v6nS7.13129>

## The rights of disabled children in Iraq

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**Abstract**--Disability is generally defined as a physical, mental, or psychological injury that causes harm to the child's physical or mental development, or both, and may affect his psychological state and the development of his education and training. Thus, the individual or the child becomes a person with special needs and is less than his peers of the same age in physical functions perception, or both. Handicapped children are usually classified into the following groups: Physically handicapped children disability physical Mentally retarded intellectual disabilitysocially handicapped children disability Social. Disability occurs for several reasons or factors, the most important of which are congenital factors , communicable diseases , non - communicable physical diseases , functional psychological and mental disorders , accidents , malnutrition , addiction to alcohol and drugs , and During pregnancy problems occur . Since the disability, of its various types, drains a huge effort, incurred by the state and the family, so it depends Methods and programs protection From disability on me How aware are we? and understand us for factors Causing and how it happens and its effects somatic and psychological and mentality and on interaction All Worker Of which with Jealous of the factors and prevention Not Just Prevent happening The Worker Cause but Should prevent Without deficiencies occur career and mitigate from him And therefore Prevent has evolved the condition to me Degree disability or Disability and Mitigation From severity and its degree and its effects and its reflections Social. There are also rights and duties that must be provided to disabled children in order to make them feel that they are not marginalized in society

**Keywords**-- reflections social, children disability, psychological injury, Disability and Mitigation.

## Introduction

Disability is defined in general as a physical, mental or psychological injury that causes harm to the child's physical or mental development, or both, and may affect his psychological state and the development of his education and training. Age in physical functions or cognition or both. Disability is not a disease but a state of deviation or noticeable delay in development that is considered normal in terms of physical, sensory, mental, behavioral, linguistic, or educational, resulting in special difficulties that other children do not have ( ). These difficulties and needs require the provision of special opportunities for growth and education and the use of adapted tools and methods that are implemented individually and in the educational language. Hence, it can be said that the disability may be one or several different impairments in the same child and may cause complete or partial disability. The disability may be Hereditary primary as a result of genetic factors, i.e. congenital since birth

It may be secondary in the sense that it affects the individual or the human being after the completion of the brain and body growth as is known in road accidents or the individual's injury with diseases that lead to a disability that prevents him from practicing life easily and smoothly, as follows: A quick review of some of the views of specialists in defining the concept of disability ( )

“The World Health Organization” considers that disability is represented in every deficiency suffered by the individual as a result of an organic, physical or mental disease that leads to a state of disability that does not enable him to perform his basic duties on his own or to carry out his work and continue with it at the normal rate .

Also the definition provided by “Abdel-Moneim Nour” in 1973, which indicated that “the disabled is the individual who has one or more obstacles that prevent him from benefiting from his abilities except with external assistance on scientific and technological bases that bring him to the level of normal or close to it .”

Also, the Rehabilitation of the Disabled Law No. 39 of 1975 defines the concept of disability as

“It is represented in every individual who is unable to rely on himself in the practice of a certain work or to do any work in which he depends on his physical or mental capabilities, or as a result of a deficiency in these two aspects, or the presence of a congenital disability

So, disabled children are individuals who suffer, as a result of acquired genetic or environmental factors , from a lack of ability to learn, acquire experiences, skills, or perform work that The average individual, who is similar in age and cultural, economic or social background ( ) .

Types of handicapped children

Handicapped children are usually classified into the following groups ( ) :

A-Children who are physically handicapped (disability physical) :

This type includes blind children, deaf-mute children, Children with cleft upper lip, cleft palate, deformity of the foot and crippled child .

Causes : caused by diseases Such as polio, cerebral palsy, congenital heart disease, road accidents, fire and other types of physical injury. See picture (1). These cases can be summarized into three causes Main groups:

1. birth defects
2. infection
3. Accidents .

These are largely preventable through care Health before, during and after birth, as well as through genetic counseling . b-children B- The mentally retarded (intellectual disability ) :

It is the case without the rate of Mental functions when the level of mental performance (IQ) is less than 70-75 with Existence of wide difficulties in coping skills, and it is considered the most appropriate time to know and discover underdevelopment Mental is the search for any delay that occurs in the stages of development the child . see picture (2)

Reasons : There are several Causes of intellectual disability, including what affects brain development before birth, during birth or In early childhood, hundreds of causes have been discovered, but the cause remains unknown It is known to one third of infected people. The three main causes of mental disability she :

4. Down's syndrome
5. Weak X Syndrome
6. The mother's consumption of alcoholic beverages

Picture 1A deaf and dumb girl

c- Socially handicapped children (disability social) :

A socially handicapped child is defined as a child who lacks development Balanced personality and full manifestation of his potential is hampered by factors in his social environment, such as Incompetence of the parents, and as a result of cultural and social deprivation. handicapped children Socially, it also includes children who are orphaned as a result of the death or loss of one of their parents, and children The neglected and the destitute poor. It should be noted that physically handicapped children And mentally they face social disabilities to the extent that they are social outcasts .

## Second - the causes of handicapped children ( )

Disability occurs for several reasons or factors, the most important of which are:

First: congenital disorders

Genetic Conditions : And she's talking Because of a defect in the genes inherited from the parents or when their genes meet, or because of Other disorders that occur to the genes during pregnancy due to infections see picture (2), or frequent exposure There are more than 500 genetic diseases associated with intellectual disability, such as PKU , a disorder that affects one of the genes and is known as a metabolic disorder that occurs due to a deficiency or defect in One of the enzymes. There is Down syndrome, which is an example of related disorders Chromosomes, and there is fragile X syndrome that occurs due to an abnormality in the X chromosome This syndrome is considered the most common genetic cause of intellectual disability and these factors are divided into genetic factors, genetic, and non-genetic factors. The genetic genetic factors appear on the child after birth until puberty in a different way, mental deficiency, complete loss of sight or hearing, difficulty in speech, and so on. As for non-genetic factors, they often occur due to malnutrition, lack of appropriate health services, environmental pollution often due to malnutrition, lack of appropriate health services, and high environmental pollution. Therefore, this type is more widespread in developing countries.

Second : communicable diseases

These diseases raise the percentage of disabled people in the world because of the damage that occurs to the fetus when the mother is infected with an infectious disease during pregnancy, or because of a defect in the child's metabolism, resulting from infection with the infectious disease, and thus weakness

Picture2 a child with genetic defect

The child's immunity, and this causes a disability with the recurrence of infection, and the lack of appropriate health services such as polio, trachoma, etc. non-communicable physical diseases

And those diseases are often kinetic (such as polio and herniated disc, or arising from diseases of the ear, heart, eyes, cancer and others

Fourth: psychological and functional mental disorders

Such as schizophrenia, epilepsy, etc

Fifthly: accidents

Such as road and traffic accidents, work accidents, and natural disasters such as earthquakes, storms, volcanoes, war accidents and others

Sixth: Malnutrition

Malnutrition is widespread in the developing world, and one of the most important causes is the lack of protein, calories, vitamins and minerals necessary for the normal growth of the child. The lack of these elements in the child's diet may lead to a defect or deficiency in the performance of some organs of the body or in their general functions, and thus result in disability afterwards.

Seventh: addiction to alcohol and drugs.

The percentage of people with disabilities in the world due to addiction is about 2% of the world's population

Eighth - Problems during pregnancy :

Like using alcohol or drugs by the expectant mother, recent studies have shown a responsibility smoking increase the risk of mental disability. And other factors that increase the risk Mental disability includes: malnutrition, some environmental pollutants, mother's disease During pregnancy, such as injury German measles , syphilis As well as the mother's illness Shortage acquired immunity (AIDS) ) .

Ninth-Problems that occur during delivery :

Most notably, incompleteness The duration of pregnancy and the low birth weight of the child, in addition to birth injuries, and the lack of Oxygenation and cerebral palsy .

Tenth: Problems that occur after delivery :

Where childhood diseases such as Whooping cough , and chicken pox and Measles And the Meningitis And others can do great damage to the brain, and so on Any other accidents of exposing the child's head to a strong blow, and the toxic environmental substances Like lead and mercury, they can seriously damage a child's nervous system .

Eleventh - Cultural deprivation : The children who live in Disadvantaged poor areas are deprived of the daily living and cultural experiences that go through their counterparts in developed regions .

Twelfth: Other factors : Poverty problems such as child malnutrition ( deficiency Proteins and shortage Iodine ) , maternal malnutrition, inbreeding, pregnancy after age Forty, all linked to mental retardation . Such as obstructed childbirth, cases of air poisoning and occupational diseases

Third - prevention of disability .

Since the disability, of its various types, drains a huge effort, incurred by the state and the family, so it depends Methods and programs protection From disability on me Bezel so Rakna and understand us for factors Causing and how it happens and its effects somatic and psychological and mentality and on interaction All Worker Of which with Jealous of the factors and prevention Not

Just Prevent happening The Worker Cause but Should prevent Without deficiencies occur career and mitigate from him And therefore Prevent has evolved the condition to me Degree disability or Disability and Mitigation From severity and its degree and its effects and its reflections social . Hence the importance of preventing it or limiting its impact, through the following :

Avoid exposure to radiation and chemicals (such as pesticides and factory waste, and taking medical drugs without consulting a doctor).

Reducing consanguineous marriages as much as possible, and educating members of the community about the dangers of its recurrence in society.

Avoid childbearing after a certain age for the father and mother, as the probability of the birth of a handicapped child increases with the increase in the age of the parents

Prevention of physical disability

Among these avoidable disabilities are:

A- Polio

Which can be avoided by vaccination, but effective vaccination depends on much more than just having a good vaccine. In places where the vaccine is not available or is ineffective, the chances of contracting polio can be reduced in other ways, including: feeding the child from the mother's breast for the longest possible period of time, and not leaving children to take unnecessary injections.

B-Spinal cord injuries

It can be prevented by protecting children from falling from trees, animals, balconies, car accidents, diving, gunshot wounds, and the like.

C- Brain injuries and epilepsy

This can be avoided by taking the necessary precautions during pregnancy and childbirth and by vaccinating children against measles

D.Cerebral Palsy

Which can be prevented by pregnant mothers avoiding premature birth (prematurity) while protecting the child from exposure to lack of oxygen during childbirth or by wrapping the umbilical cord around his neck by vaccinating girls against compulsory rubella at the age of 11-12 years.

E - Incidence of bone deformities

It occurs as a result of several reasons, including: Fluoride poisoning (fluorosis), which is caused primarily by drinking impure or polluted water, and it is a

common cause of bone deformities and public health measures are needed to provide clean water

5- To prevent movement and health disabilities, such as :

- \* Protecting children from falling accidents (from balconies, beds, stairs, and high places...).
- \* Use protective headgear while riding motorcycles.
- \* Use seat belts in the car.
- \* Keep weapons out of children's reach.
- \* Keep toxic substances away from children.
- \* Not to drive cars under dangerous conditions.
- \* Industrial safety procedures (industrial security).
- \* Reducing the use of firearms.
- \* Precaution against slipping on wet floors.
- \* Take the necessary precautions when practicing dangerous sports

Paying attention to first aid methods and educating the public against inappropriate and often harmful intervention.

Fourth - the rights of disabled children

Some of the rights of persons with disabilities can be presented to society as follows

The right of the disabled to be an active member of society, by providing them with all opportunities

The right of the disabled to provide his basic needs (social, psychological, organic)  
The right of the disabled to obtain an appropriate amount of education, rehabilitation and preparation for life

The right of the disabled to have a private marital and family life unless this is not possible

The right of the disabled to a social life that recognizes his abilities, respects his achievements, and gives him importance and appreciation in the eyes of others.

The right of the disabled to obtain a job suitable for his remaining abilities, exempts him from dependence on others and gives him value and importance among others

Since the mid-fifties, most Arab countries have issued a number of laws aimed at ensuring the rights of the disabled in care, protection and work, but they were issued scattered once by the Ministry of Social Affairs within the social security laws and other within the labor law and sometimes issued by the Ministry of Health and other government agencies, and so we find A scattering of laws scattered within ministries and agencies is only collected in a limited number of Arab countries - one law, and these laws focused on work that ensures stability and economic independence for the disabled. These laws also focused on preparing the disabled educationally, pedagogically, socially and psychologically, and here comes the importance of developing educational systems Which is concerned with the care and upbringing of the handicapped child, and the provision of educational resources and modern technological means that help the handicapped and contribute to the development of his remaining abilities in the best possible way ( )

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