

**CHILD ABUSE IN DAVE PELZER'S
A CHILD CALLED 'IT' AND THE LOST BOY**



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Dedicated to everyone who loves children

*For my beloved parents, Dr. Mashadi Said M.Pd and Dra. A Banri E
who always give me support.*

For all friends in Biblioholik and Inninawa:, Anna, Aan, Anchu, Ary, Armin, Abbas,
Phio, Jimpe, Iccank, Isdah, Dandy, Ochank, Dicky, Jumadil.

Skripsi

**Child abuse in Dave Pelzer's
A Child Called "It" and The Lost Boy**

Disusun dan diajukan oleh


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Telah dipertahankan di depan panitia ujian pada tanggal 15 Maret 2006 dan dinyatakan telah memenuhi syarat

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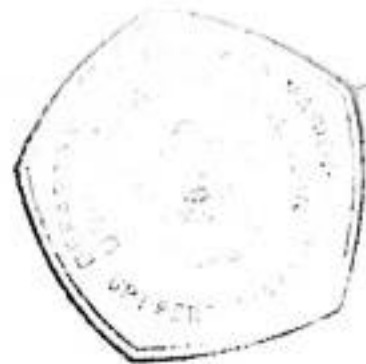


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Pada hari, Rabu 15 Maret 2006, panitia ujian skripsi menerima dengan baik skripsi yang berjudul "Child Abuse in Dave Pelzer's A Child Called 'It' and The Lost Boy" yang diajukan untuk memenuhi salah satu syarat ujian akhir guna memperoleh gelar Sarjana Sastra pada Jurusan Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Sastra, Universitas Hasanuddin.

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Sekretaris

Penguji I

Penguji II

Konsultan I

Konsultan II

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The Writer

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ABSTRAK

Skripsi yang berjudul "Child Abuse in Dave Pelzer's *A Child Called 'It'* and *The Lost Boy*" ini bertujuan untuk menjelaskan; karakterisasi dalam novel *A Child Called 'It'* dan *The Lost Boy*, jenis-jenis kekerasan yang digambarkan dalam novel, jenis-jenis pengabaian yang tergambar dalam novel, efek-efek kekerasan anak pada Dave, dan efek-efek pengabaian terhadap kehidupan Dave.

Untuk mencapai tujuan penelitian ini, digunakan sebuah desain penelitian kualitatif, yaitu, mengumpulkan data primer dengan melakukan pembacaan intensif untuk mengerti isi dari dua novel yang dibahas. Kekerasan (*abuses*), pengabaian (*neglect*) dan efek-efeknya ditunjukkan dengan kutipan-kutipan yang diambil dari novel. Analisis data dilakukan melalui tiga langkah. Pertama, melakukan kategorisasi *abuses*, *neglect* dan efek-efeknya. Kedua, membuat data-data dalam table (apendiks). Terakhir, memaparkan kesimpulan.

Hasil analisis menunjukkan bahwa Dave Pelzer (yang menderita akibat kekerasan yang dilakukan ibunya) dan Chaterine Roerva (Ibu Dave) adalah dua tokoh utama (*major character*) dalam novel *A Child Called 'It'* dan *The Lost Boy*. Sementara *minor character*-nya adalah Stephen Joseph (ayah Dave); Ron, Stan, Russel, dan Kevin (saudara-saudara Dave); Ms. Gold (pegawai Pusat Perlindungan Anak); Alice Turnbough (ibu asuh Dave)

Jenis-jenis *physical abuse* yang dialami Dave adalah dipukul, dibakar, disiksa dengan menggunakan cairan kimia, dipaksa memakan kotoran, dicambuk, ditusuk, ditendang, ditenggelamkan dalam bak mandi, dan ditampar. Sementara jenis-jenis *emotional abuse* adalah diteriaki, diejek, dipermalukan, disalahkan, dan dasingkan dari lingkungan sosialnya. Penderitaan Dave juga diperoleh akibat *neglect* (pengabaian); *physical neglect*, *emotional neglect*, dan *educational neglect*. *Physical neglect* yang dialami Dave adalah tidak diberi makan, tidur di *basement*, tidak diberi seragam sekolah yang layak, tidak diberi pengobatan saat sakit, dan tidak diberi makanan bergizi. *Emotional neglect* termasuk pengingkaran, tidak diperhatikan, tidak mendapatkan kasih sayang orang tua. *Educational neglect* termasuk dilarang mengikuti kegiatan pramuka.

Efek dari *abuse* dan *neglect* terhadap Dave adalah secara fisik mengalami banyak luka-luka di sekujur tubuh, secara emosional Dave mengalami gangguan mental, suka mencuri, keras kepala, sulit mendapatkan teman, dan ingin selalu diperhatikan. Sebagai tambahan, *sexual abuse* tidak ditemukan dalam novel yang dibahas.

ABSTRACT

This undergraduate thesis entitles "Child Abuse in Dave Pelzer's *A Child Called 'It'* and *The Lost Boy*" raises five important objectives, namely to describe the characters in the novel *A Child Called 'It'* and *The Lost Boy*; the kinds of child abuses portrayed in the novels; kinds of neglects that Dave suffered from; to show the effects of child abuses on Dave's life, and the effects of neglects on Dave.

To achieve the objectives of the study, a qualitative design of research was employed. The first, to collect the data, the novels were read thoroughly and closely to understand the content of the novels. Abuses, neglects and their effect were identified and sentences or phrases pertinent to the objectives of the study were quoted. The analysis was done using three steps, namely categorizing the abuses, neglects and their effects on Dave's life. The second was to present the data in the form of tables (appendixes) and lastly was to draw conclusion.

The result of the analysis shows that the main characters of the novels are Dave Pelzer (who suffers from abuses done by his mother) and Catherine Roerva (Dave's mother) who tortures Dave. The minor characters are Stephen Joseph (Dave's father); Ron, Stan, Russell, and Kevin (Dave's brothers); Ms. Gold is from the Child Protection Body who helps Dave; Alice Turnbough (Dave's foster mother).

The kinds of Physical abuses suffered by Dave are being beaten, burned, forced to drink of chemical liquid and to eat dirt, whipped, stabbed, kicked and slapped. The kinds of emotional abuses suffered by Dave are being yelled at, insulted, being the scape goat of every wrong thing, isolated from his social environment. Another problem suffered by Dave is neglects. This includes physical, emotional, and educational neglects. The physical neglects include inadequate food, a place to sleep, clothing appropriate for school, delay of medical care, and inadequate hygiene. The emotional neglects include denial, no attention and love and educational neglect. Educational neglect was forbidding him to join Boy Scout.

The effect of the physical abuses suffered by Dave was wounds in the whole of his body. The effect of emotional abuses on Dave was mental disorder, stealing, strange behaviour, attention getting. In addition, sexual abuse is not identified in the novels.



CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Literary work is a mean of expressing ideas for the writer(s) containing experience such as opinion, values, knowledge, and other kinds of messages. One kind of messages that might be very crucial and essential for the present generation is the messages of how human being behaves towards one another. How adults such as parents, elder brothers and sisters, legal guardians, caregivers, teachers, national and international governments, and other related parties treat children as a vulnerable and weak group is an example of these messages. In addition, literary work of any forms conveys a lot of kinds of messages within the lives of human family and human beings.

Children as a vulnerable group warrant particular attention in respect of protecting and promoting their human rights. Even though they are autonomous rights holders, children are dependent on others to give effect to their rights (for example, they rely on parents or teachers to act on their behalf). This reliance is partly due to their development needs, with children of younger ages being especially dependent on others to meet their basic and evolving needs.

For these reasons, this study is particularly directed to the description of the child abuse in the novel *A Child Called 'It'* and *The Lost Boy* written by Dave Pelzer.

These novels tell about Dave Pelzer's life experience to inform the readers how he was treated not as human being or a boy but as an "it" which means nothing.

Dave Pelzer's *A Child Called 'It'* and *The Lost Boy*—these books are two parts of Dave Pelzer's trilogy, the third book of the trilogy, *A Man Named Dave*, do not analyze in this study—are autobiographical novels that have been nominated for the Pulitzer Prize. Dave is one of the only authors to have three books simultaneously on the New York Times Best Sellers List and the first author to have three books simultaneously on this list in trade paperback (www.davepelzer.com). All of books are highly acclaimed throughout the world. This novel also tells us a case was identified as one of the most gruesome and extreme cases of child abuse in California. That is why writer took *A Child Called 'It'* and *The Lost Boy* as object of this study.

1.2. Identification of Problem

After doing close reading, the writer found lots of social problems rise in the novel, such as American life style, the roles of school and parents in child growth, child abuse, and some of psychological problems on the characters. Besides that, intrinsic matters also become certain problem in this novel, such as characterization, Plot, theme.

1.3. Scope of Problem

The writer assumes that child abuse is a dominant problem appearing in the novel, so this study will be focused in identifying and analyzing that problem.

1.4. Formulation of Problem

Based on identification of problem that is mentioned above and the scopes of the study, the following problems are formulated:

1. What are the characters in the novels *A Child Called 'It'* and *The Lost Boy* like?
2. What kinds of child abuses portrayed in the novels?
3. What kinds of neglects suffered by Dave portrayed in the novels?
4. What are the effects of child abuse on Dave's life?
5. What are the effects of neglects on Dave?

1.5. Objectives of Study

The main objectives that will be achieved in this study are:

1. To describe the characters in the novel *A Child Called 'It'* and *The Lost Boy*.
2. To describe the kinds of child abuses portrayed in the novels.
3. To describe the kinds of neglects that Dave suffered.
4. To show the effects of child abuses on Dave's life.
5. To show the effects of neglects on Dave.

CHAPTER II

LITERARY REVIEW

2.1 Autobiographical Novel

In the Wikipedia (wikipedia.org/wiki/Autobiographical_novel) an autobiographical novel is defined as a novel based on the life of the author. The authors transform the materials of their lives and experience they encounter in their lives into art.

Usually, the author and other characters are given different names. While the events of the author's life are recounted, there is no pretence of neutrality or even truth. The life may be reported the way the author wishes it has been. Many novels are about intense and private experiences such as war, family conflict, and sex, are written as autobiographical novels.

2.2. Biography of Dave Pelzer

Dave Pelzer was born in 1960 and grew up in a middle-class suburb of San Francisco. His father was a fire fighter whose work kept him away for days at a time. His mother was a homemaker and an alcoholic who started abusing Dave when he was four years old.

While his mother cared for the rest of the family, Dave was starved, beaten, burned, and referred to as "the boy" and eventually, "it." His mother made him eat

his brother's faeces, drinks ammonia, and would hold his arm over a gas stove. Dave internalised his mother's hatred and believed he was unworthy of love.

No one stopped his mother. In the Pelzer household, dad worked, and mom raised the boys. Dave says his father was the perfect passive observer. For Dave, survival became a matter of out-witting his mother.

School was a safe haven for Dave. It was a break from his mother's cruelty, and he could steal food from the cafeteria and from classmates' lunches. Teachers noticed his odd behaviour and evidence of physical abuse, but no official action was taken until 1972. Two of Dave's 5th grade teachers risked their careers and notified authorities, saving Dave's life.

From age 12 to age 18, Dave lived in a series of foster homes. Fearful of becoming homeless when he became a legal adult, Dave dropped out of high school and worked double shifts at a factory. He passed his G.E.D. and joined the Air Force. For the first time in his life he felt stability. Despite the years of abuse, Dave could still feel the psychological pull of his mother and he craved her acceptance. He tried to stay away, but life-altering events would bring them together twice before she passed away.

2.2 Synopsis of *A Child Called 'It'* and *The Lost Boy*

A couple of Dave Pelzer's novels, *A Child Called 'It'* and *The Lost Boy*, tell us how Dave survived from his mother's mistreatments. In those novels, Dave

experienced so many mistreatments in his childhood life. Normally, as a child, Dave never did something wrong, but his mother always considered him did them. Since 4 years old until 12 years old, Dave experienced all of those mistreatments. Those tortures caused entire of his body full of wounds, sometimes his bones broke and his stomach torn by stabs of knives.

After lived in foster home, he ought to adapt with other boys. Dave Pelzer narrated the Dave's adaptation process in his second part of the trilogy, *The Lost Boy*. Dave must helped himself and control his hyperactive attitude, and his difficulty in associate with others. In that novel, Dave Pelzer also explained how Dave experienced many obstacles since in the foster home. Even Dave should change his temporary parents because of his attitude that is very hard to be controlled. One time he is forced to get into the jail because he was accused to burn his school. However, Dave finally out of his problem with Ms. Gold, Mr., and Mrs. Turnbough helps. After 18 years old, Dave decided to stop his school and proudly enlisted into the United State of Air Force.

2.3.1. A Child Called 'It'

The story begun when Dave aged 4 years old, her mother, Chaterine, contracted a psychical problem. Her mother became an alcoholic and always tortured her child, Dave, inhumanely as release of her annoyance. Actually, Dave was a smart, well mannered and handsome boy who is love by everyone. He changed into a

passive, coward, and think slowly. Boy also was left behind in many subjects of his study.

Many times Dave tried to escape from his house because he could not hold out his mother mistreatments. However, his forces to escape were always detected by his mother then he got other mistreatments again.

2.3.2. The Lost Boy

With his teachers and school nurses helps, finally, Dave could leave his house. After leaving his house, Dave did not have any home and only have a few clothes. He did not know what he should do to survive, and he did not with whom should ask for help. He lived in frightened and alienation of life. He needed affection and careness from his family.

After released from his mother mistreatments, he started the adventure of his new life as a foster child. He met Ms. Pamela Gold who, then, he called as an angel of Child Protective Service Agency. Ms. Gold who always accompanied Dave everytime he got a problem. Ms. Gold helped him to solve his prolems with his temporary parents and assembly against his mother until he won it.

Finally, Dave met Mr. and Mrs. Turnbough, his temporary parents, who could make him, lived with them. After 18 years old, he decided to stop his school and enlisted in The United State of Air Force.

2.3.3 Child Abuse

a. Definition of Child Abuse

According to DeBenedictis, et al (2004) child abuse is the bad treatment of a child under the age of 18 by a parent, caretaker, someone living in their home or someone who works with or around children. Abuse of a child is anything that causes injury or puts the child in danger of physical injury. Child abuse can be physical (such as burns or broken bones), sexual (such as touching of private parts or incest), or emotional (such as belittling or calling the child names). Neglect happens when a parent or responsible caretaker fails to provide adequate supervision, food, clothing, shelter or other basics for a child. Child abuse is any action (or lack of) which endangers or impairs a child's physical, mental or emotional health and development. Child abuse occurs in different ways. All forms of abuse and neglect are harmful to the child.

b. Types of Child Abuse

DeBenedictis, et al (2004) state that child abuse consists of any act or failure to act that endangers a child's physical or emotional health and development. A person caring for a child is abusive if he or she fails to nurture the child, physically injures the child, or relates sexually to the child. In addition, according to DeBenedictis, et al (2004) there are four type major types of child abuse, i.e:

1. Physical abuse
2. Sexual abuse
3. Emotional abuse
4. Neglect

Another type of abuse is child exploitation (distinct from sexual exploitation). This is the use of a child in work or other activities for the benefit of others. Child labour is an example of child exploitation for commercial reasons. Using children in this way detracts from their own physical, mental, and social development (Moran, 2005).

c. Physical Abuse

According to DeBenedictis, et al (2004) physical abuse is any non-accidental physical injury to a child. Even if the parent or caretaker who inflicts the injury might not have intended to hurt the child, the injury is not considered an accident if the caretaker's actions were intentional. This injury may be the result of any assault on a child's body, such as:

- beating, whipping, paddling, punching, slapping, or hitting
- pushing, shoving, shaking, kicking or throwing
- pinching, biting, choking, or hair-pulling

- Burning with cigarettes, scalding water, or other hot objects.
- Severe physical punishment that is inappropriate to child's age.

Corporal (physical) punishment is distinguished from physical abuse in that physical punishment is the use of physical force with the intent of inflicting bodily pain, but not injury, for the purpose of correction or control. Physical abuse is an injury that results from physical aggression. However, physical punishment easily gets out of control and can become physical abuse. Corporal punishment is against the law in schools in some states, but not in others. In many families, physical punishment is the norm.

According to Moran (2005) hundreds of thousands of children are physically abused each year by someone close to them, and thousands of children die from the injuries. For those who survive, the emotional scars are deeper than the physical scars.

d. Sexual Abuse

According to DeBenedictis, et al (2004) sexual abuse of a child is any sexual act between an adult and a child. This includes:

- fondling, touching, or kissing a child's genitals
- making the child fondle the adult's genitals

- penetration, intercourse, incest, rape, oral sex or sodomy
- exposing the child to adult sexuality in other forms (showing sex organs to a child, forced observation of sexual acts, showing pornographic material, telling "dirty" stories, group sex including a child)
- other privacy violations (forcing the child to undress, spying on a child in the bathroom or bedroom)
- sexual exploitation
- enticing children to pornographic sites or material on the Internet
- luring children through the Internet to meet for sexual liaisons
- exposing children to pornographic movies or magazines
- child prostitution
- using a child in the production of pornography, such as a film or magazine

According to Moran (2005) sexual abuse is any sexual activity involving an employee, agent or contractor and a patient, for examples kissing, hugging, stroking, or fondling with sexual intent; oral sex or sexual intercourse, request or suggestion or encouragement by staff for performance of sex with the employee him/herself or with another patient

The above acts are considered child abuse when they are committed by a relative or by a caretaker, such as a parent, babysitter, or daycare provider, whether inside the home or apart from the home. (If a stranger commits the act, it is called sexual assault.)

The legal age of consent for two people to have sexual relations ranges from twelve to twenty-one, and varies by state within the United States and by country. In most states, having sex with a person younger than the legal age of consent is against the law. Even if the two parties agree to the sexual relationship, it is still against the law. Each state is very specific as to its laws about sex with minors.

Sexual abuse is especially complicated because of the power differential between the adult and child, because of the negotiations that must occur between adult and child, and because the child has no way to assimilate the experience into a mature understanding of intimacy. Regardless of the child's behavior or reactions, it is the responsibility of the adult not to engage in sexual acts with children. Sexual abuse is never the child's fault.

Sexual abusers can be:

- parents, siblings, or other relatives
- childcare professionals
- clergy, teachers, or athletic coaches
- neighbours or friends
- strangers

e. Emotional Abuse


According to DeBenedictis, et al (2004) emotional abuse is any attitude, behavior, or failure to act on the part of the caregiver that interferes with a child's mental health or social development.

Other names for emotional abuse are:

- verbal abuse
- mental abuse
- psychological maltreatment or abuse

Emotional abuse can range from a simple verbal insult to an extreme form of punishment. The following are examples of emotional abuse:

- ignoring, withdrawal of attention, or rejection
- lack of physical affection such as hugs
- lack of praise, positive reinforcement, or saying "I love you"
- yelling or screaming
- threatening or frightening
- negative comparisons to others
- belittling; telling the child he or she is "no good," "worthless," "bad," or "a mistake"
- using derogatory terms to describe the child, name-calling



al (2004), neglect is a failure to provide for the child's basic needs. To conclude, there are three types of neglect, i.e.:

- physical
- educational
- emotional

1) Physical Neglect

According to DeBenedictis, et al (2004) physical neglect is not providing for a child's physical needs, including:

- inadequate provision of food, housing, or clothing appropriate for season or weather
- lack of supervision
- expulsion from the home or refusal to allow a runaway to return home
- abandonment
- denial or delay of medical care
- inadequate hygiene

2) Educational neglect

According to DeBenedictis, et al (2004) educational neglect is the failure to enrol a child of mandatory school age in school or to provide necessary special education. This includes allowing excessive truancies from school.

3) Emotional (psychological) neglect

According to DeBenedictis, et al (2004) emotional neglect is a lack of emotional support and love, such as:

- not attending to the child's needs, including need for affection
- failure to provide necessary psychological care
- domestic violence in the child's presence, such as spousal or partner abuse
- drug and alcohol abuse in the presence of the child, or allowing the child to participate in drug and alcohol use

When authorities examine emotional neglect, they take into consideration cultural values and standards of care, as well as the level of family income, which may interfere with proper care. Some overlap exists between the definitions of emotional abuse and emotional neglect; regardless, they are both child abuse.

g. Signs and Symptoms of Child Abuse

According to DeBenedictis, et al (2004), there are two signs of child abuse, i.e. physical and behavioural signs.

The signs of physical abuse are:

- Unexplained burns, cuts, bruises, or welts in the shape of an object
- Bite marks
- Anti-social behavior
- Problems in school
- Fear of adults
- Drug or alcohol abuse
- Self-destructive or suicidal behavior
- Depression or poor self-image

The signs of emotional abuse are:

- Apathy
- Depression
- Hostility
- Lack of concentration
- Eating disorders

The signs of sexual abuse are:

- Inappropriate interest in or knowledge of sexual acts
- Seductiveness
- Avoidance of things related to sexuality, or rejection of own genitals or bodies
- Nightmares and bed wetting
- Drastic changes in appetite
- Overcompliance or excessive aggression
- Fear of a particular person or family member
- Withdrawal, secretiveness, or depression
- Suicidal behavior
- Eating disorders
- Self-injury

Sometimes there are no obvious physical signs of sexual abuse, and a physician must examine the child to confirm the abuse.

The signs of neglect are:

- Unsuitable clothing for weather
- Being dirty or unbathed
- Extreme hunger
- Apparent lack of supervision

h. The Causes of Child Abuse

According to DeBenedictis, et al (2004), there are several factors in a person's life may combine to move them toward abusing a child:

- general stress
- the stress of having children in the family, when one didn't have children before
- dealing with a child who has a disability or difficult behaviors
- the stress of caring for someone besides oneself
- a personal history of being abused (childhood trauma)
- alcohol or drug use
- marital conflict
- unemployment

No one has been able to predict which of these factors will cause someone to abuse a child. A significant factor is that abuse tends to be intergenerational - those who were abused as children are more likely to repeat the act when they become parents or caretakers.

In addition, many forms of abuse arise from ignorance, isolation, or benign neglect. Sometimes a cultural tradition leads to abuse, for example, such beliefs as:

- children are property

- parents (especially males) have the right to control their children in any way they wish
- children need to be toughened up to face the hardships of life
- girls need to be genitally mutilated to assure virginity and later marriage.

i. The results of Child Abuse

According to DeBenedictis, et al (2004), child abuse can have the following direct consequences:

- Your child may become someone who lies, resents, fears, and retaliates, rather than loves, trusts, and listens.
- Your child may become reclusive, and alienated from you and from the rest of your family.
- Your child will have low self-esteem, and is likely to engage in self-destructive behaviors.
- Your child's psychological development and social behavior will be impaired.
- As an adult, your child may abuse his or her own children, who are your grandchildren.
- As an adult, your child may exclude you, including from celebrations and family gatherings. You may not be permitted to spend time with your grandchildren.

The results of being abused as a child vary according to the severity of the abuse and the surrounding environment of the child. If the social environment of the family or school is nurturing and supportive, the child will probably have a better outcome. According to DeBenedictis, et al (2004), results of abuses are as follows:

1) Results of physical abuse

Physical abuse may result in:

- difficulty establishing intimate personal relationships
- difficulty in adulthood with physical closeness, touching, intimacy, or trust
- high levels of anxiety, depression, substance abuse, medical illness, or problems at school or work
- becoming an abusive parent or caregiver

2) Results of emotional abuse

Emotional abuse can result in serious behavioral, cognitive, emotional, or mental disorders.

3) Results of sexual abuse

Some results of prolonged sexual abuse are:

- low self-esteem
- a feeling of worthlessness

- an abnormal or distorted view of sex
- personality disorders
- difficulty relating to others except on sexual terms
- tendency to become child abusers or prostitutes
- other serious problems in adulthood

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

3.1 Research Design

This study uses a qualitative descriptive method. The use of this method is due to the problem statements and the objectives of this research. The method employed in the study has several characteristics (Bogdan and Biklen, 1982: 39-48). Firstly, it is descriptive in its nature. The study aims at describing the life of Dave according to what has been written in the novel *A Child Called 'It'* and *The Lost Boy* as the first source of the data of this research. The data are written in the form of description about Dave's life. They are not in the form of numeral. Thus, no statistical procedure is employed in this study. Secondly, the primary data are taken from a novel and the secondary data are taken from references which support the primary data. The data are recorded as they are. No manipulation is done merely to suit the purpose. Thirdly, the study employs inductive process in its analysis. It is not aim at proving hypothesis that has been held before the study was conducted.

3.2 Techniques of Collecting Data

There are two kinds of data, the primary and the secondary data. The primary data are obtained from a novel *A Child Called 'It'* and *The Lost Boy* while the

secondary data are obtained from related references from books and online sources.

Techniques of collecting data are described below.

3. 1. 1 Primary Data

The primary data are collected from the novel *A Child Called 'It'* and *The Lost Boy*. The following procedures are taken in collecting the primary data.


1. Doing closed-reading and deeply understanding the intrinsic aspects that relate to and support the objectives and problems of this study.
2. Marking or noting and re-writing some parts of the novel if they are related to the problems and the objectives of the study.

3. 1. 2. Secondary Data

Secondary data is any resources of information except of the novel. It can be reference from many other disciplinary, which might be used to get better understanding of the primary data. Of course some articles of professional writers in literature and social science from the online sources are quoted in order to enhance and make the study more reliable. In addition, the primary data act as the main resources and secondary data function as supporting resources.

3. 3 Technique of Data Analysis

In analysing the data, there are three main techniques or methods used to reach the objectives. First, to categorize or classify the data according to the broad



themes or topic. Second, to display the data in form of table as seen in the appendix and the third is to draw a conclusion (Miles and Huberman, 1984: 21-24).

3. 4 Research Procedures

The procedures of the research are as follow:

1. Doing a closed reading toward the primary data, i.e. the text of *A Child Called It*.
2. Making a note or remark about all problems and other supporting ideas of the novel.
3. Making a note about the intrinsic elements related to the main objectives.
4. Making a formulation of problems and other supporting ideas based on the focus of the study.
5. Collecting the related data then making a classification of them according to the objectives of the study.
6. Analysing the data and answering the scope of problems that have been formulated in the first chapter
7. Concluding the result of the study.

CHAPTER IV

ANALYSIS

4.1. Characterization

One of the most important intrinsic elements of a novel is the character. The characters are considered as the means of expression to drive the plot and let the story run. The characters are expressed through their own nature. The novelist's intelligence and sensitivity are tremendously demanded in making his characters come into being on the page.

As the writer has found in Literary Criticism class, the characters may be used as a basis in judging how good a work is. Once the characters are poorly drawn, the whole novel is weak and monotonous, and the writer has failed. Also in literary work, we often grip the message, which is trying to be delivered by the writer, implicitly or explicitly, through the character.

The characters themselves according to the Meriam Webster Encyclopaedia of Literature is "a descriptive of a human virtue or vice of general type of human character"

To some extent, on top of their appearance the characters always have their obligation to hold their own role in a story, which is formed by their author through a lot of experiences, opinion, or contemplations. Such creative processes will consequently show how a human act, feels, and thinks. Therefore, in literary work the

character's act, feeling, and thought are exposed to tell some motivations. Though, the characters in a novel are fictitious which constructed from the writer's imagination, but their attitudes and personalities mostly reflection of the daily life of mankind.

4.1.1. Dave Pelzer

Dave Pelzer was the main character of this novel. As a child, he could not do anything but to obey his parents especially his mother. As a child he suffered a lot. He was treated differently from his brothers even though his brothers often committed the same "mistakes"; he loved his mother before his mother was sick, he was very afraid with her; he was eager to save his lives from his mother's violence.

Originally, he was a smart student and easy to associate with other students, but when his mother changed to be a cruel mother he was avoided by his friends. Moreover, he became target of his friends' naughtiness. Then he became a dumb student who did not take note of his lessons. He sometimes slept in the class when his teachers stood in front of class. His teacher then also avoided him because his odorous body and his dirty uniform.

At home, he had to carry out various household chores by himself. He is forbidden to eat and sleep at his room; he was only permitted to sleep in the basement. Clearly, he is banned to use house facilities, and other facilities which

properly he had to get as a child, such as toys, proper clothes, health, education and affection.

He got many injuries in his body caused by his mother torturing, such as; arm bone fracture, burned, fester wound in his stomach, respiratory disease, and many other hurt. He also experienced some dirty and disgusting treatments like eating his brother faeces because his mother forced him to do so.

The consequences of his mother's mental illness affected Dave. He is often desperate; lackness of spirituality, kept shouting in the school while slamming the door because he did not know who should be the target of his anger. He hated everything. He hated his friends, father, and brothers even himself.

"Inside, my soul became so cold I hated everything. I even despised the sun, ...I cringed with hate whenever I heard other children laughing, as they played outside...I wanted so much to strike out at something every time I was called upstairs to play the role of the family slave, by picking up after those slob (Pelzer, 2001:133)."

"I hated mother most and wished the she were dead (Pelzer, 2001:133)."

"I also hated father...(Pelzer, 2001: 134)."

"The boys who lived upstairs were no longer my brothers ... I came to despise the neighbours, my relatives, and anybody else who had known me and the condition under which I lived. Hate was all I had left (Pelzer, 2001:135-136)."

"At the core of my soul, I hated myself more than anybody or anything (Pelzer, 2001:136)."

Then Dave's life spirit was up and down. Sometimes he had the spirit to stay alive and then changed hoping that his mother killed him because of not being able to stand his mother's violence that he suffered. He sometimes became aggressive and then changed to become cowered and could not do anything but surrender of being too feared.

When he was free from his mother's violence and was under a court's responsibility, Dave had to live at an orphanage center. Then, there was a change at himself. When he was happy, he was over happy, as well as when he was sad. Dreaming of his mother's willing to kill he suffered every night.

Dave found it difficult to adapt himself with his new environment He found it difficult to go along with others. He became a thief and showed off. He showed his aggressive manner among his friends till he was acknowledged a champion. Stealing is a job that he liked best because according to him, it is challenging. When he did it successfully he was very satisfied while what he stole was not needed by him.

"Sometimes I do not play at the garden, but going to the candy shop to steal candy bars. I steal many candy bars which I actually do not need. I do not really like candy bars. I realize that the candy bars I stole will have never been finished. I steal those candy bars only to prove that I am still a champion in stealing. For me stealing is satisfying because it is very challenging ... (Pelzer, 2001:147)"

Dave also liked to blame himself. He always thought that his parents' quarrel was because of him. He blamed himself why he was born to the world. He had a

strange behavior. He always missed and wanted to know how his parents and his brothers were while he did not have to do that because it would be dangerous for himself. He always wanted to know the answer why he suffered from that such a bad condition, why he was treated that bad.

Because of his strange, aggressive, and closed attitudes, Dave was taken to the psychiatrist and was suggested to learn a number of books of basic psychology. Eventually, he became open and told his foster parent, Alice, all what he suffered from.

At the age of 15, Dave started to find a job to earn money. He worked harder and spent to work almost the whole day. He always thought that when he was 18 he could be independent so that he started to work harder and saved money.

He entered a group of his friends to enjoy life as he could earn money. He became adult in his younger age. However, he sometimes acted strangely. For example, he was over feared, wild, and frustration. However, he always obeyed his foster parent's advice unlike others who behaved overacting.

Several weeks before he finished his studies at Parkside Junior High, a group of children from the wealthy family proudly showed their ability to hold an eve party and their plan to have a holiday at Disneyland or to Hawaii using first class facilities. Dave could not afford to do so. He accepted himself as a poor.

Dave also asked his foster mother to teach him how to cook because although he was 16 years old he still did not know how to cook.

“ ... I am now 16 but I do not know how to cook (Pelzer, 2001:259).”

Dave was very neat. He always put his belongings in a proper place. He was different from his fellow friends who had never taken care of their rooms.

4.1.2 Catherine Roerva

Catherine Roerva is Dave's mother; she is a woman of average size and appearance. She was a woman who loved her children and her greatest asset was her toughness and dominant in the family. She always had ideas, and she always took command of all family matters. She loved to cook exotic meals for her family and decorated their home in creative and imaginative ways each holiday season. She was full of energy, often taking her kids on tours of downtown San Francisco while her husband was at work, exposing them to Golden Gate Park and Chinatown. But then, when David was four or five years old, his mother changed drastically. Her behaviour became very rude and aggressive and she drank a lot. She became easily frustrated, and it seemed that her biggest source of frustration was Dave, the loudest and wildest child of hers.

Catherine Roerva had never been satisfied to torture Dave. The violence became worse and worse from physical violence to psychological ones which caused

wounds on Dave's whole body. This eventually made Dave blame himself as a naughty boy and all what he did was wrong. Moreover, he also considered that quarrel between his mother and father was because of him.

When Dave was at the hand of Catherine, he always suffered from her cruelty. She always exaggerated things and concocted stories that made Dave to be blamed in front of the people helping him. She tried to send Dave to the mental institution in order that other people thought that Dave was mentally ill.

“Without warning, Mother stepped in front of Gordon and me. ‘You’re wrong! You’re all wrong! You’ll see! I warned that social worker broad, and now I’m warning you!’ Mother screeched, as she thrust her finger at Mr. Hutchenson. He’s bad! He’s evil! You’ll see. And next time he’ll hurt somebody! The sooner that boy is dealt with, the sooner you’ll see that I was right and I didn’t do damn thing wrong! You’re fooling yourself if you think this is the end of it. You watch! There’s only one place for that boy. You’ll see!’ Then she stormed out of the room yanking Kevin behind her (Pelzer, 2001:217).”

“...she’s trying to have you put away in a mental institution! (Pelzer, 2001:202)”

4. 1.3 Stephen Joseph

Stephen Joseph was Dave Pelzer father. He was a fireman, working in the heart of San Francisco, he stood about five feet ten inches tall and he weighed about 190 pounds. He had broad shoulders and forearms. He had thick black eyebrows. He cannot do everything to saved Dave lives from his wife violence.

When Dave was forced to eat his brother's formatted Hot Dog in front of his mother and father, Stephen did not take any action. He only saw how Dave ate it all because his mother forced him to do so.

Dave could do any thing but to obey his mother when his mother stabbed his stomach with a knife and blood flowed from his own stomach. Because Stephen got stressed seeing his wife's violence, he drank a lot and became a drunker.

4.1.4 Ron, Stan, Russell and Kevin

Ron, Stan, Russell, and Kevin were David's brothers. In years Ron, Stan, and Russell were good with Dave, but in the summer of 1972 they took turns hitting Dave and appeared to enjoy it. They were yelled by their mother to do so. Kevin was a baby.

4.1.5 Ms. Gold

She loved a child. Her hair was long, blonde, and shiny. She liked to help children in a bad condition and those who were treated badly by their parents. She helped Dave and took away Dave from his mother.

Ms. Gold loved Dave very much and helped him when he got a problem. She also gave him love that he had never found from her mother.

Ms. Gold made Dave self-reliance and made him more special. She helped Dave with his problems. Every day, Ms. Gold elicited information about how Catherine (Dave's mother) treatment on Dave. She made Dave wanted to tell all

about his mother treating him rudely. She also made Dave more mature and tough and brought Dave to other's care rather than her own mother.

4.1.6 Alice Turnbough

Alice is a foster mother of Dave whom he loved very much. Dave was saved by her when he was 13 years old. She treated Dave as her own child. She patiently taught Dave for his future life, listened to Dave's stories, and when Dave encountered difficulties in expressing himself, Alice taught him how he could express himself well and clearly. To Alice Dave did he express his own feeling and his ambitions Alice always improved his spirit to achieve his ambition. As she was a very great foster mother, Dave acknowledged her his mother.

4.2. Child Abuse in the Novels

After doing a close reading toward both of Dave Pelzer's novel, *A Child Called 'It'* and *The Lost Boy*, I found many types of child abuse in those novel. Those child abuses especially were experienced by Dave from her mother and his friends.

As I wrote before in the literary review that there are four types of child abuse, i.e. physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse and neglect. However, in this study I only want to elaborate three kinds of child abuse. I couldn't find an example of sexual abuse in those novels.

4.2.1 Physical Abuse

Many types of physical abuse were experienced by Dave from his mother and his friends. However, most of them came from his mother, Catherine. When his friends saw that Dave covered by wounds, they always did another physical abuse. They were tempted to mistreat Dave because they saw he wore a dirty and odorous uniform. Also because his thin body after he didn't eat for some days. His mother mistreated him based on illogical reasons that she made. Firstly, Dave and his brothers were forced to look for their mother's stuff, but his mother didn't tell them what kind of stuff actually they had to look for. After being exhausted in looking for that unknown stuff, Dave then asked his mother about that unknown thing, but his mother hit him until his nose bled. While hitting her child, she kept shouting loudly to force Dave to look for that unknown thing and banned him to ask.

“When I timidly asked her what it was that I was to find, Mother smacked me in the face. (Pelzer, 2001:31-32)”

Not satisfying beating him because of being failed to find unknown things, she bit Dave because according to her he did not wash the dishes well and was very slow. Moreover, she bit Dave because his slowness to clean a table and it lasted long till her mother was getting tired before she went back to her favourite place, her sofa while watching TV and drank alcohol.

"Mother smacked, punched and kicked me until I crumpled to the floor. (Pelzer, 2001:37)"

"By the end of the session, my nose bled twice and I was missing a tooth. (Pelzer, 2001:53)"

"After he left, Mother would yank me out of bed and drag me to the kitchen. While I stood shivering in my pyjamas. She'd smack me from one side of the kitchen to the other. ... That tactic didn't last long. Mother would yank me up by the ears and yell into my face with her bourbon breath for minutes at a time. (Pelzer, 2001:51-52.)"

After all, Dave was scared with his mother. The violence that his mother did to him was more scary till Dave's arms was broken but she had never acknowledged that she was the one who did it. She told her husband and the doctor that Dave fell from the bed. She bit Dave when she was drunk and did not like to see Dave playing with his brothers. She then bit Dave endlessly till she got very tired of beating him.

"I closed my eyes as the oncoming blows began to rock me from side to side. I tried to protect my face with my hands, but my mother would only knock them away. Her punches seemed to last forever. Finally, I snaked my left arm up to cover my face. As mother grabbed my arm, she lost her balance and staggered back a step. As she jerked violently to regain her stability, I heard something pop, and felt an intense pain in my shoulder and arm. The startled look on Mother's face told me that she had heard the sound too, but she released her grip on my arm, and turned and walked away as if nothing had happened. I cradled my arm as it began to throb with pain (Pelzer, 2001:34-35)."

Not long after Dave recovered from his broken arm, his mother bit him again of no reason. Her habit to beat Dave became a good exercise. She designed several ways of beating to make Dave more suffering, even a more dangerous one like burning

Dave. This had been inspired by her reading from a magazine, news about a mother who burnt her child on the stove.

“Now it’s time I showed you what hell is like. Gripping my arm, Mother held it in the orange-blue flame. My skin seemed to explode from the heat. I could smell the scorched hairs from my burnt arm. ... Mother then ordered me to climb up onto the stove and lie on the flames so she could watch me burn (Pelzer, 2001: 41-42).”

Then, the burning made Dave’s hand burnt but did not burn Dave’s body because his brother Ron came to help him. His mother did not want other brothers of Dave to see her beating Dave. When Ron came, his mother told Dave to see Ron and proudly said that Ron was a good child unlike Dave.

In the Summer Dave’s family had a holiday at Russian River. Dave was very happy because Dave eventually could enjoy his life after being suffered from his mother’s cruelty. Dave thought that holiday was a good thing for him but his mother tortured him again His mother always had a good idea of torturing him. At that time, his mother bit him when he was playing with his brothers and his father, Stephen Joseph. When they were playing seriously, his mother yelled and told that Dave had to be punished and had not had to play with them. Because her voice was very loud and woke up his little brother, Dave sat at the cabin and very scared. She was cynically smiled at Dave and told Dave to eat his little brother’s dirt (feces), Russell’s.

“As soon as they left, she brought out one of soiled diapers. She smeared the diaper on my face. I tried to sit perfectly still. I knew if I moved, it would only be worse. I didn’t look up... After what seemed like an hour, Mother knelt down beside me and in a soft voice said, ‘Eat it’. She sneered (Pelzer, 2001: 55).”

That incident made Dave’s nose bleeding because his mother pressed it strongly to force the dirt to be swallowed. Because Dave knew that the cruelty of his mother ended when his brothers were present, he kept struggling to get free till his brothers came. He could only ask to be forgiven for something he did not know why he was bitten. He really did not understand why he was tortured till his nose was bleeding.

The torture that his mother did changed to food. Many times Dave was not given any food for several days that made him find food from the rubbish can at the kitchen. His mother knew if Dave was looking for food from the rubbish can for eating, so she poured ammonia to the can so that Dave could not find any food.

“For a few weeks I quit the garbage routine, but I finally had to return to it, in order to silence my growling stomach. Once, I ate some left-over pork. Hours later I was bent over in extreme pain. I had diarrhea for a week. While I was sick, Mother informed me she had purposefully left the meat in the refrigerator for two weeks, to spoil before she threw it away. She knew I couldn’t resist stealing it... Mother sensed I was getting food some way, so she began sprinkling ammonia in the trash can. After that, I gave up on the garbage at the house and focused my sights on finding some other way to get food at school (Pelzer, 2001:63).”

Besides ammonia that his mother always used to torture him, she also used Clorox. Getting bored of using these, she used other kinds of liquid, liquid for dish to

have Dave swallowed that made him difficult to breathe and which later made his tongue get blistered.

“With the spoon in her hand, Mother began to creep towards me. As some of the ammonia sloshed from the spoon, spilling onto the floor, I backed away from Mother until my head struck the counter top by the stove... Without hesitation I opened my mouth, and Mother rammed the cold spoon deep into my throat. Again I told myself this was all too easy, but moment later I couldn’t breathe. ...after a few seconds, I could feel the force of my pounding fists weaken. My fingernails scraped the floor. My eyes became fixed on the floor. The colours seemed to run together. I began to feel myself drift away. I knew I was going to die (Pelzer, 2001:74-75).”

“Although Mother never made me swallow ammonia again, she did make me drink spoonfuls of Clorox a few times. But Mother’s favourite game seemed to be dish-washing soap (Pelzer, 2001:77).”

In July as the days before, having completed all the house chores, that became his daily task, Dave went back to the basement, where he slept, Dave was asked to go upstairs. She snapped him and stubbed his stomach that made it torn and bled.

“I focused all of my attention on Mother’s face. Out of the corner of my eye I saw a blurred object fly from her hand. A sharp pain erupted from just above my stomach. I tried to remain standing, but my legs gave out, and my world turned black. As I gained consciousness, I felt a warm sensation flowing from my chest. It took me a few seconds to realize where I was. I sat propped up on the toilet. I turned towards Russell who began chanting, ‘David’s going to die. The Boy’s going to die.’ I moved my eyes towards my stomach. On her knees, Mother was hastily applying a thick wad of gauze to a place on my stomach where dark red blood pumped out (Pelzer, 2001:87).”

His mother did not take him to the hospital or gave a fist aid to Dave. She then asked Dave to do the chores and she took a rest. His mother did not feel guilty of doing it without any reason. With a basic knowledge of treating his wound, he tore

his clothes and dressed the wound. The next day when he saw the injury, the wound was infectious and suppurated without his mother's help.

After that incident, Dave did not have any more spirit to live. He could only wait other torture, which never ended. When Dave just started to pray, his mother called him again to clean the bathroom. In the bathroom, his mother tortured him again as she read at the newspaper. She locked the door of the bathroom and put poisonous liquid in it, which made him difficult to breathe.

“Mother had another favourite game for me while Father was away. She sent me to clean the bathroom with her usual time limits. But this time, she put a bucket, filled with a mixture of ammonia and Clorox, in the room with me and closed the door. The first time she did this, Mother informed me she had read about it in a newspaper and wanted to try it. Even though I acted as if I were frightened, I really wasn't. I was ignorant about what was going to happen (Pelzer, 2001:107).”

With a thin body because of being seldom to eat and being often tortured by his mother, Dave became the target of his friends' aggressiveness. While he suffered from his mother's cruelty and violence, he also suffered from his friends' beating him.

“Because I was an outcast of the entire school, my classmates at times took over where Mother left off. One of them was Clifford's way of showing off to his friends. All I could do was fall to the ground and cover my head, while Clifford and his gang took turns kicking me (Pelzer, 2001:137).”

4.2.2. Emotional Abuse

Torture suffered by Dave not only physical but also emotional. The emotional abuse suffered by him was so seriously that he became depressed. This emotional

suffering may not recover soon but may be months or years or even a long the life of Dave which can ruin his own future life.

Emotional abuse, as well as physical abuse, was not only done by his mother but also his friends and sometimes his beloved father. It started when he and his brothers were asked to find something lost. His mother yelled at them which made them feared and scary. Later, only Dave who searched his mother's goods which lost and his brothers banned to helped him.

“When she yelled at us, her voice changed from the nurturing mother to the wicked witch. Soon the sound of Mother’s voice began to send tremors down my spine (Pelzer, 2001:30).”

“While father was at work, Mother would often yell and scream while forcing the entire house for something she had lost (Pelzer, 2001:31).”

When Dave made a mistake, for example when the voice of Dave was too loud when playing with his brothers, according to his mother, Dave broke the rules that she herself made. Doing this, he had to be punished by being not allowed to play with his brothers, standing still at the corner of the house, or in front of the mirror while mother yelled at him saying that Dave was a naughty, stupid while grabbing Dave’s head and smashed his face against the mirror.

“...Mother would simply grab me and smash my face against the mirror, smearing my tear streaked face on the slick, reflective glass. Then she would order me to say over and over again, ‘I am a bad boy! I am a bad boy!’ I was then forced to stand, staring into the mirror (Pelzer, 2001:30).”

A school was a place where Dave could be free from his mother and enjoyed himself because at home he was not allowed to play with his brothers. At school he tried to find a play to entertain himself by playing his fellows. One day when he went back from school, his mother dragged Dave to his bed room and yelled at him that he had to be held back from the first grade because according to her Dave was naughty and had made the family embarrassed. So, he had to be severely punished.

“She then yelled at me, stating I was to be held back from the first grade because I was a bad boy (Pelzer, 2001:36).”

“...but Mother continued to roar that I had shamed the family and would be severely punished (Pelzer, 2001:36).”

Repeating all the same lesson with his new friends in his old grade, he became well known because he knew the lessons the very well. Staying at the first grade made him known among his friends as a smart boy. One day, he ran home and was very proud of showing his good work to his mother but his mother did not welcome him. She even yelled at him and threw him into the bedroom blaming him as she could not get any gifts for Christmas.

“one day I rushed home to show off a school paper. Mother threw me into her bedroom, yelling about a letter she had received from the North Pole. She claimed the letter said that I was a ‘bad boy’ and Santa would not bring me any gifts for Christmas.” “...Mother raged on and on, saying that I had embarrassed the family again. I stood in a daze, as Mother badgered me relentlessly (Pelzer, 2001:38).”

The reason why she punished Dave was far beyond logic. Dave had to be punished although he played in the playground.

“‘You’ve made my life a living hell!’ she sneered (Pelzer, 2001:41).”

His mother liked to compare between Dave and his brothers. She called Dave not by his name but ‘the boy’.

“I could hear Mother talking to Ron upstairs, telling him how proud she was of him, and how she didn’t have to worry about Ron becoming like David-a bad boy (Pelzer, 2001:43).”

“I existed, but there was little or no recognition. Mother had even stopped using my name revering to me only as The Boy (Pelzer, 2001:Page 50).”

Because his mother did not give him any food to take to school as the punishment, Dave started to steal his friends’ food. Later, his teachers and friends knew if Dave who stole the food. He was dismissed by his friends. No body would like to come with him.

“At school I was a total outcast. No other kid would have anything to do with me. During the lunch recesses, I stuffed the sandwiches down my throat as I listened to my former friends make up songs about me. ‘David the Food Thief’ and ‘Pelzer-smellzer’ were two of the playground favourites. I had no one to talk to or play with. I felt all alone (Pelzer, 2001:58).”

His behavior of stealing food was then told to his mother, then his mother bit him then his mother told to pull out from his stomach the food that he had stolen. Because Dave did not want to do it, his mother put in her fingers into his mouth which made him vomiting all the food out that he had eaten. This torture was done in front her husband to prove that Dave deserved to get it. She asked Dave to eat again the food that he had vomited out in front of his father. Since then, he hated his father because his father did not try to help him.

“I sat on a chair and picked the clumps of hot dogs out of the bowl with my hand. Globbs of thick saliva slipped through my fingers, as I drooped it in my mouth. As I tried to swallow, I began to whimper. I turned to Father, who stood looking through me with a drink in his hand. He nodded for me to continue. I couldn’t believe he just stood there as I ate the revolting contents of the bowl. At that moment, I knew we were slipping further and further apart (Pelzer, 2001:66-67).”

Putting Clorox into Dave’s mouth is another way of torturing Dave. In front of his father, his mother fed the liquid of ammonia which made him difficult to breathe. However, his father did not do any thing for him.

“The next evening was a repeat performance, but this time in front of Father. She boasted to him, ‘This will teach The Boy to quite stealing food’ I knew she was only doing it for her sick, perverted pleasure. Father stood lifeless as Mother fed me another dose of ammonia (Pelzer, 2001:76).”

When his mother fed him with the liquid, Dave hurriedly drank pipe water as much as possible that caused to have a stomached. His mother did not allow him to

use the toilet but he had to throw his dirt into the pail in front of his father and mother. His father did not try to help him.

“Soon I discovered my dreadful mistake, and diarrhea took hold. I cried out to Mother upstairs, begging her to let me use the toilet upstairs. She refused. I stood downstairs, afraid to move, as clumps of the watery matter fell through my underwear and down my pant legs, onto the floor. ... I need to go to bathroom again, but I was too afraid to move. Finally as my insides twisted and turned, I gathered the last of my dignity. I waddled to the garage sink, grabbed a five gallon bucket and squatted to relieve myself. I closed my eyes trying to think of a way to clean myself and my clothes when suddenly, the garbage door opened behind me. I turned my head to see Father, looking on dispassionately, as his son ‘mooned’ him and as the brown seepage spilled into the bucket. I felt lower than a dog (Pelzer, 2001:77).”

His disappointment towards his mother, father, and brothers made Dave not to believe anybody. He also did not believe that he would be any one who was going to help him. Curses and obscenities he received from his mother made Dave more afraid of his mother. Whatever his mother told to do Dave had to obey. If not, he had to be ready for punishment.

“‘Do you hear me?’ Mother yelled. ‘Look at me when I’m talking to you!’ As I looked at her, Mother snatched a carving knife from the counter top and screamed, ‘If you don’t finish on time, I’m going to kill you!’ (Pelzer, 2001: 85)”

When his mother stubbed him, his father did not try to help. His father pretended to read a newspaper in order not see what happened to Dave. Although blood was flowing out from Dave’s stomach, he was still told to wash the dishes. His

father even did not want to know if Dave was suffering. His mother even yelled and insisted that he had to do the chores and finish on time.

“When he did, I stuttered, FatherMo...Mo...Mother stabbed me.’ He didn’t even raise an eye brown. ‘Why?’ he asked. ‘She told me if I didn’t do the dishes on time.... She’d kill me. Time stood still. From behind the paper I could hear Father’s laboured breathing. He cleared his throat before saying, ‘well... you ah... you better go back in there and do the dishes (Pelzer, 2001: 89).”

Since the incident, his father rarely went home. When he went home he was drunk. Days and days passed without his father’s presence at home.

Although his mother asked all the kinds to the zoo, Dave was asked to stand on sharp pebbles as a punishment. He lost circulation in much of his body, as he sat on his hands in his ‘prisoner of war’ position.

In addition, he had never been asked to join them for a holiday that made him sad and sad as if he was not part of the family. One day when his mother asked all his brothers to have some food at McDonald, Dave was told to stay in the car rather than coming together with his brothers.

“Once home, the usual ‘ten-rounder’ left me sprawled on the floor. Mother then told me to sit outside in the backyard while she took ‘her sons’ to the zoo. The section where Mother ordered me to sit was covered with rocks about an inch in diameter. I lost circulation in much of my body, as I sat on my hands in my ‘prisoner of war’ position (Pelzer, 2001:110-111).”

“When we reached the city limits, Mother tried to humour her boys by treating them to McDonald’s. As usual, I sat in the car while they went inside (Pelzer, 2001:151).”

Another kind of punishment that his mother practiced to Dave was to put him into the bathtub full of cold water and his mother put down his head into the water. His mother asked his brother to come and see Dave being punished. Dave was really in a very sad condition.

“The bathtub and the backyard treatment soon became routine. At times when I laid in the tub, my brothers brought their friends to the bathroom to look at their naked brother. Their friends often scoffed at me. ‘What did he do this time?’ they’d ask. Most of the time my brothers just shook their heads, saying, ‘I don’t know.’ (Pelzer, 2001:114)”

At school no body wanted to make him as a friend. Every body disliked him. When Dave was sitting at the deck of a ship on his way to have a holiday with all the students of grade five to Clipper Ship in San Francisco, a friend called Aggie came to him and whispered to him that he did not like him very much and wanted him to die. He even told Dave to leap into the sea and die there.

“Aggie was a tormentor of a different sort. She never failed to come up with new and different ways of telling me how much she wished I would simply ‘drop dead’... As I stood alone on the bow of the ship. Looking at the water, Aggie approached me with a vicious smile and said in a low voice, ‘jump!’ She startled me, and I looked into her face, trying to understand what she meant. Again she spoke, quietly and calmly, ‘I said you should go ahead and jump. I know all about you Pelzer, and jumping is your only way out.’ (Pelzer, 2001:137)”

At the beginning of the school year, Mr. Zieglar, Dave’s teacher and as the sponsor of school paper set up a committee. He asked all the students to name the paper. Dave proposed a good name and a week later his suggestion was accepted by

Mr. Ziegler. As he was very happy to hear that his suggestion was accepted, he ran home happily willing to tell his mother and proving that he was a good one. However, when he told his mother, he did not even get any praise. His mother just enjoyed her habit of watching TV on her sofa.

“Get one thing straight, you little son of a bitch! There is nothing you can do to impress me! Do you understand me? You are nobody! An ‘It’! You are nonexistent! You are a bastard child! I hate you and I wish you were dead! Dead! Do you hear me? Dead!” (Pelzer, 2001:140)”

Mother’s attitude of torturing Dave without any clear reasons made Dave’s father realized and asked his wife why she treated Dave differently from his brothers. With this question, his wife was angry and they quarrelled. Consequently, his father did not know what to do and Dave was told to go away from home.

“Before I can form a word, Mother again yanks on my right ear. My ear feels as if it were on fire... Again I tense my body and again Mother yanks on my ear, but this time she maintains the pressure, forcing me stand on my toes. Mother’s face turns dark red. ‘So you think I treat him badly?’ I pointing her index finger at her chest, Mother continue. ‘I don’t need this. Stephen, if you think I’m treating it badly... well, it can just get out of my house! Suddenly she lets go of my ear and opens the front door. ‘Get out!’ she screeches. ‘Get out of my house! I don’t like you! I don’t want you! I never loved you! Get the hell out of my house!’ (Pelzer, 2001:8)”

Later, Dave went away from home but did not know where to go because he did not have any friends and any one that he could ask for help.

4.2.3 Neglect

4.2.3.1 Physical Neglect

Neglecting a physical need of a child is an abuse. Dave suffered from a physical neglect as told in the novel. With the reason of embarrassing the family and that Dave was naughty his mother did not give any food and had to do all the chores at home. He was allowed neither to play with his brothers nor to have dinner with the whole family. When the whole family had dinner, Dave had to wait at the basement. After the family had had the dinner, he was called not to eat but to clean the table and washed all the dishes.

“She decided that I was banned from watching television forever. I was to go without dinner and accomplish whatever chores Mother could dream up (Pelzer, 2001:36).”

“I was not allowed to eat meals with the family, play with my brothers or watch TV (Pelzer, 2001:50).”

“During one period of time when father was away, Mother starved me for about ten consecutive days. No matter how hard I tried to meet her time limits, I couldn't make it. And the consequence was no food. Mother was completely thorough in making sure I was unable to steal any food. She cleared the dinner table herself, putting the food down the garbage disposal. She rummaged through the garbage can every day before I emptied it downstairs. She locked the freezer in the garage with her key and kept it. I was used to going without food for periods up to three days, but this extended time was unbearable (Pelzer, 2001: 104).”

On Christmas day, his entire brother got new clothes but Dave did not. The clothes that he used were old clothes and already got very old, yellow like cheese and smelled bad. The clothes that he used at home also he used for school. Dave was



really a neglected child. When his mother made food for him for school, he got the type of food differing from his brothers and the pail in which he used for his food was old and rusted.

“Since I was still under punishment, on Christmas day I had to change into my work clothes and perform my chores (Pelzer, 2001:38-39).”

“... Mother had me wear the same clothes week after week, by October my clothes had become weathered, torn and smelly (Pelzer, 2001:47).”

“In September, I returned to school with last year’s clothes and my old rusted, green lunch pail. I was a walking disgrace. Mother packed the same lunch for me every day: two peanut butter sandwiches and a few limp carrot sticks. Since I was no longer a member of the family, I was not allowed to ride to school in the family station wagon. Mother had me run to school (Pelzer, 2001: 57).”

His parents neglected the need for clothes and food. Moreover, his mother liked him very much as he wore very old and smelly clothes. Because he did not have enough food to eat, his body turned very thin and his skin wrinkled.

“She hardly bothered to cover my bruises on my face and arms... by then, mother would forget to feed me any dinner. Breakfast wasn’t much better. On a good day, I was allowed left-over cereal portions from my brothers, but only if I performed all of my chores before going to school (Pelzer, 2001:47).”

In addition to his suffering, his mother did not allow him to use his own room. His mother threw newspaper at him to be used for him to sleep under the dining table.

He even was not allowed to use any staff at home including using his towel to dry up his body after being punished at the bathtub.

“After I finished the bowl of regurgitated hot dogs, Mother returned in her robe and threw a wad of newspapers at me. She informed me the papers were my blankets, and the floor under the table was now my bed (Pelzer, 2001:67-68).”

“For months I slept under the breakfast table next to a box of kitty litter, but I soon learned to use the newspapers to my advantage (Pelzer, 2001:68).”

“Before the family sat down for dinner, Mother came into the bathroom and yelled at me, telling me to get out of the bathtub and put my clothes. I responded immediately, grabbing a towel to dry myself. ‘Oh, no!’ she screamed. ‘Put your clothes on the way you are!’ Without hesitating, I obeyed her command (Pelzer, 2001:113).”

When he got seriously wound at his stomach as a result of being stubbed by her mother, her mother did not help him. Dave himself had to help himself. He was not even sent to the clinic. He did not even get any sympathy from both his mother and his father. Although he was sick of the serious wound at his stomach his mother never stopped command him to do the chores.

“When I awoke the next morning, I stared at my hands which were crusted with dried blood. The shirt covering my chest was entirely red. I could feel the dried blood on parts of my face. I heard the bedroom door behind me open, and I turned to see Mother walking towards me. I expected more sympathy like she had given me the night before, but it was an empty hope. She gave me nothing. In a cold voice, Mother told me to clean myself up and begin my chores (Pelzer, 2001:96).”

4.2.3.2 Educational Neglect

The need for education for a boy like Dave was really needed. His parents did not even allow him to join the Boy Scout where Dave could be with others and improve his skill. When he went back from school, he was asked to do the chores only. When Dave put on his scout uniform his mother was very angry and dragged Dave to the car and took him to the instructor and Dave was asked to tell the instructor that he could not join the meeting because he was a bad boy.

“One Wednesday, I came home from school to change into my blue and gold Cub Scout uniform. Mother and I were the only ones in the house, and I could tell by the look on her face that she was after blood. After smashing my face against the bedroom mirror, she snatched my arm and dragged me to the car. During the drive to my den mother’s house...when we arrived at the den mother’s house, I run to the door crying. I whined to her that I had been a bad boy and could not attend the meeting. The den mother smiled politely, saying that she would like me to come to the next meeting. That was the last time I saw her (Pelzer, 2001:39-40).”

4.2.3.3 Emotional (Psychological) Neglect

Emotional or psychological neglect that Dave suffered from was that he did not get any sympathy from any one including his father and brothers as he was suffering from punishment. No body would like to talk to him nicely. His mother did not take care of him. He got both physical and psychological abuses. Dave did not get any moral support as he did well at school. He did not have time to play with his brothers. Dave did not get any moral support any more since his mother said that he was not a part of Pelzer’s family.

“By this time, for all practical purposes, I was no longer a member of the family (Pelzer, 2001:50).”

When Dave was not allowed to use his own bedroom, he had to sleep under the dining table with some pieces of newspaper. As his father came home, Dave saw his father for sympathy, but his father pretended not to see him. His father did not do anything. He did not even say anything.

“...under the table was now my bed. Again I shot a glance at Father, but he acted as though I was not even in the room. Forcing myself not to cry in front of them, I crawled, completely dressed, under the table, and covered myself with the newspapers like a rat in a cage (Pelzer, 2001: 68).”

For many years, Dave suffered from tortures done by his mother and other people like his father that he hoped to help did not do anything. Every time he was tortured by his mother, and when he got up from bed, he was expecting a hug and love by his mother, but the dream never came true. It was just a dream of love. He still remembered when he was very small how good his mother was that he did not get any more.

4.2 The Effect of Child Abuse

The abuses that his mother did to Dave influenced him both physically and psychologically. For example, because he was not given any food for several days made Dave steals his friends' food in order to have something to eat. He had to do

this because he did not know what to do to find food as his mother poured some ammonia to the trash can where he usually found some food to eat. Stealing was the only way for him to find food. Although at first nobody knew but later he was discovered that he was the one who stole his friends' food.

“Soon after I had begun to dream about food, I started stealing food at school. ... The first few times were easy, but after several days, some students began to discover Twinkies and other deserts missing from their lunches. Within a short time, my classmates began to hate me (Pelzer, 2001:48-49).”

When his friends knew that Dave had stolen their food his friends started to hate him. At that time Dave was considered a naughty boy. This was supported by his smelly old clothes that he used. As a result, Dave passed his days with no friends.

His disappointment to his father as he did not help him when he was stabbed with a knife by his mother made him hate his father. He did not even pay any more respect for his father.

“I turned away. All my respect for Father was gone. The saviour I had imagined for so long was a phony. I felt more angry at him than I did at Mother. I wished that somehow I could fly away, but the throbbing pain brought me back to reality (Pelzer, 2001:91).”

Because of those endless tortures Dave came to realize that his life would not change. He did not even believe that God would help in his struggle of life. He was hopeless.

“As I sat alone in the garage, or read to myself in the near darkness of my parents’ bedroom, I came to realize that I would live like this for the remainder of my life. No just God would leave me like this. I believed that I was alone in my struggle and that my battle was one of survival (Pelzer, 2001: 131).”

Dave stopped dreaming of having brighter future. When he got up in the morning he only expected other kinds of torture that he would receive from his mother. His life was full of fear. As he was treated like an animal eating greedily when he was given some good food by his mother, he felt that his position was worse than an animal.

“At night I no longer dreamed, nor did I let my imagination work during the day. The once vibrant escapes of watching myself fly through the clouds in bright blue costumes were now a thing of the past. When I fell asleep, my soul became consumed in a black void. I no longer awoke in the mornings refreshed.... When I was given luxury of food, I ate like a homeless dog. Grunting like an animal at Mother’s commands. ...(Pelzer, 2001:132).”

Dave turned to hate every thing. He hated the sun, laughs of children, his mother and expected that his mother would die soon. He got bored of being tortured. He also hated his father, as he was not doing anything to help him or took him away from home. He did not even consider his brothers were brothers because his brothers also bit him under his mother’s command. In addition, what he hated very much was he himself because it was him who made his mother act violently and bit him inhumanely.

School was no longer interesting for him. When he finished the class he went out and yelled to any body, smashed the door, and acted wildly.

“Inside, my soul became so cold I hated everything. I even despised the sun, for I knew I would never be able to play in its warm presence. I cringed with hate whenever I heard other children laughing, as they played outside. I wanted so much to strike out at something every time I was called upstairs to play the role of the family slave, by picking up after those slobs. I hated Mother most and wished that she were dead. But before she died, I wanted her to feel the magnitude of my pain and my loneliness for all these years. ... I also hated father. He was fully aware of the hell I lived in, but he lacked the courage to rescue me as he had promised so many times in the past. ... The boys who lived upstairs were no longer my brothers. Sometimes in years past, they had managed to encourage me a little. But in the summer of 1972 they took turns hitting me and appeared to enjoy throwing their weight around. ... I came to despise the neighbours, my relatives and anybody else who had ever known me and the conditions under which I lived. Hate was all I had left. ... At the core of my soul, I hated myself more than anybody or anything. ... School no longer held the exciting appeal that it had years ago. ... for no apparent reason, I stormed out of the classroom, screaming at everyone as I fled. I slammed the door so hard I thought the glass above the door would shatter (Pelzer, 2001:136-137).”

When he was taken away from his home with the help of Children Protection Body, the doctor proved that Dave was tortured. At his stomach there was a bluish scar, his fingers were very dry, raw and red because many years he used the combinations of cleaning chemicals to complete his household chores.

“When the doctor came into the room he seemed very concerned about my hands and arms. My fingers were dry, raw and red from all the years of using the combinations of cleaning chemicals used to complete my household chores (Pelzer, 2001:39).”

The effect of torture that he got was that Dave could not be away from fear. He thought that his present condition of being free from his mother's brutality was just a dream. He even felt that his mother came to his place and wanted to kill him again.

"I felt as if I were watching someone else's life through my own eyes. I became so scared that I first asked, then begged the policeman to check around every corner and enter every room before I did. I knew that somewhere out there Mother was poised, ready to snatch me away (Pelzer, 2001:39)."

"Alone in my dreams I found myself standing at the end of a long, dark hallway. ... The figure transformed into The Mother. She began to march toward me. For some reason, I stood still. I couldn't move; I didn't even try. The closer The Mother came, the more her red face, filled with hatred, came into focus. The mother held a shiny knife above her, poised and ready to strike me down ... I snapped out of my dream (Pelzer, 2001:44)."

When his mother came to visit him, he panicked because he thought that his mother would come to take him home again and tortured him as she had done before. Mary, his foster parent, found it difficult to convince him that his mother did not come to take him home. She only came to visit him.

"No! You don't understand! She's going to take me away! She found me! I yelled. I tried to squirm myself away from Aunt Mary's grip so I could run outside and find a safe place to hide. Aunt Mary's grip didn't budge. 'I didn't want to upset you,' Aunt Mary said. 'She's just going to drop off some clothes. You're going to court this Wednesday, and your mother wants you to look nice.' 'No, I cried. She's going to take me! She's going to take me back!' (Pelzer, 2001:48)"

After it was decided by the court that Dave had to be under the protection of the court Dave could breathe freely.

When he came to school again, Dave felt down and ashamed. At school, he found it difficult to come along with others. His friends always asked why he did not live with his parents any more. He became isolated as he had no friends. When he walked at school he was very shy and could not make friends. He did not want to make mistakes any more.

“I still became lifeless and shy around my classmates. It seemed difficult for me to make friends. I stood out, especially whenever children asked why I didn’t live with my parents. And whenever some of my classmates persisted, I stuttered turned away. I couldn’t look into their eyes (Pelzer, 2001:80).”

“But I still couldn’t comprehend. Maybe, I told myself, I am a moron. Maybe I am crazy (Pelzer, 2001:123).”

“My first day at Fernando Riviera Junior High was a huge improvement over the one at Parkside Junior High in San Bruno. I kept my mouth shut and my head down (Pelzer, 2001:243).”

When he was at the Care House Dave behaved strangely. He showed his skill to steal in front of his friends. It was because he wanted to be acknowledged that he was superior in order to make friends. Dave started to steal not only at the candy store but also at the Care House. Dave was very proud of it. In order to please his friends, he did whatever he was asked to do by his friends. Then, under John’s brag he punctured the tire of his teacher’s vehicle.

“At Aunt Mary’s my awkward sense of humour and naïve excitability made me popular with the older foster children. Whenever some of them were granted permission to leave Mary’s home for the afternoon, I was allowed to tag along. Sometimes they stole candy bars from the local grocery stores. Wanting total acceptance and having already stolen food for years, I immediately followed their lead. If someone stole two candy bars, I stole four. It seemed so easy to me that after a few afternoon trips, I became a legend within the group. I was fully aware that what I was doing was wrong. I also knew that some of the bigger boys were using me, but I didn’t care (Pelzer, 2001:81-82).”

“This is it, John bragged. ‘I’ve decided the new kid here is good enough to join our gang. He’s going to flatten the tires of Mr Smith’s new car. And I mean tires, as in two or more,’ he stated as he stared into my eyes. ‘Yeah, man, all right. I’ll do it. But after that, I’m in the gang, and I don’t have to do anything like this again, right?’ I said in a broken voice, as fear overtook my weak efforts to sound thought (Pelzer, 2001:173).”

The question that always came to Dave’s mind was that why his own mother tortured him while he had not done any mistakes. Although he was 17 years old, this question always came to his mind.

“The two questions that tumbled over and over in my mind were whether Mother ever loved me and why she treated me the way she did (Pelzer, 2001: 94).”

One thing that Dave could not change was the way he ate. He ate greedily as if he had not eaten for a long time. He grabbed the food uncontrollably. Thus, Mrs. Lilian Catanze, his foster parent, taught him how to eat correctly.

“She first warned, then ordered me to slow down my eating and to use better table manners. I obeyed her by not seizing everything in sight or shoving food into my mouth. I smiled at her, proving to her that I could indeed chew with my mouth closed (Pelzer, 2001:99).”

Besides his impolite manner, Dave was also stubborn. His foster parent realized it so that was taken to the psychiatrist because of his ill manner. Then Dave was instructed to read basic psychology in order to handle his ill behavior.

His stuttering way of speaking was also a serious problem for Dave. It was because when he was still under his mother's control, he had never had any chance to communicate with others. He had never got any chance to speak with other. When he started to speak his mother yelled at him. Before he could speak his mother stopped him.

"Because of my persistence, dr. Robertson suggested some books for me to study on basic Psychology (Pelzer, 2001:264) ."

"Whenever I became nervous and began to stutter, Alice would teach me how to slow down my train of thought, and have me picture myself saying the words before I spoke them. Within view weeks my speech problem disappeared (Pelzer, 2001:265)."

With that condition, Alice helped him to speak well, slow down and made up his mind. As a result within a few weeks under Alice control, his speech problem disappeared.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

5.1 Conclusion

Based on the analysis, the following conclusions are drawn:

1. The main characters of the novel are Dave Pelzer, who suffers from abuses done by his mother, Catherine Roerva, who tortures Dave. The minor characters are Stephen Joseph (Dave's father); Ron, Stan, Russell, and Kevin (Dave's brothers); Ms. Gold is from the Child Protection Body who helps Dave; Alice Turnbourgh (Dave's foster mother).
2. The kinds of Physical abuses suffered by Dave as told in the novel *A Child Called 'It'* and *The Lost Boy* are beating, stubbing, the use of chemical liquid, burning, forcing to eat dirt, whipping, punching, slapping, hitting, not allowed to eat, sleeping under the table, pushing, dragging, and self destruction.
3. The kinds of emotional abuses suffered by Dave as told in the novel *A child called it* are yelling, insulting, blaming, isolating from his social environment.
4. Another problem suffered by Dave is neglects. This includes physical, psychological, and educational neglects. The physical neglects include inadequate food, a place to sleep, clothing appropriate for school and

Christmas, delay of medical care, and inadequate hygiene. The emotional neglects include denial, no attention and love and educational neglect includes forbidding him to join the meeting of the Boy Scout.

5. The effect of the physical abuses suffered by Dave was scar at the stomach, bruises, being thin, dry and wrinkled skin.
6. The effect of emotional abuses on Dave was mental disorder, stealing, strange behaviour, attention getting.
7. Sexual abuse is not found in the novels.

5.2 Suggestions

1. Since the sources of the data of this research were limited to two novels, namely *A Child Called 'it'* and *The Lost Boy*, it is suggested that another research be conducted with complete sources of the data which include the novel *A Man Named Dave* to ensure a complete analysis on the effect of the child abuses.
2. The focus of this research was only about child abuse. Thus, it might be possible for other focuses such as family education, other violations of human rights, texts analysis, and other literary analyses using the two novels as the sources of the data.

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APPENDIX

APPENDIX 1

CHARACTERIZATION

Main Characters		Minor Characters			
<p>Dave Pelzer</p> <p>Dave Pelzer was the main character of this novel. As a child, he could not do anything but to obey his parents especially his mother. As a child he suffered a lot. He was treated differently from his brothers even though his brothers often committed the same "mistakes"; he loved his mother before his mother was sick, he was very afraid with</p>	<p>Catherine Roerva</p> <p>Catherine Roerva is Dave's mother, she was a woman of average size and appearance. She was a woman who loved her children and her greatest asset was her toughness and dominant in the family. She always had ideas, and she always took command of all family matters. She loved to cook exotic meals for her</p>	<p>Stephen Joseph</p> <p>Stephen Joseph was Dave Pelzer father. He was a fireman, working in the heart of San Francisco, he stood about five feet ten inches tall and he weighed about 190 pounds. He had broad shoulders and forearms. He had thick black eyebrows. He cannot do everything to saved</p>	<p>Ron, Stan, Russell, and Kevin</p> <p>Ron, Stan, Russell, and Kevin were David's brothers. In years Ron, Stan, and Russell were good with Dave, but in the summer of 1972 they took turns hitting Dave and appeared to enjoy it</p>	<p>Ms. Gold</p> <p>She loved a child. Her hair was long, blonde, and shiny. She liked to help children in a bad condition and those who were treated badly by their parents. She helped Dave and took away Dave from his mother. Ms. Gold loved Dave very much and helped him when he got a problem. She also gave him love that he</p>	<p>Alice Turnburgh</p> <p>Alice is a foster mother of Dave whom he loved very much. Dave was saved by her when he was 13 years old. She treated Dave as her own child. She patiently taught Dave for his future life, listened to Dave's stories, and when Dave encountered difficulties in expressing himself, Alice taught him how he could express himself well and clearly. To Alice Dave</p>

<p>her; he was eager to save his lives from his mother's violence. Originally, he was a smart student and easy to associate with other students, but when his mother changed to be a cruel mother he was avoided by his friends. Moreover, he became target of his friends' naughtiness. Then he became a dumb student who did not take note of his lessons. He sometimes slept in the class when his teachers stood in front of class. His teacher then also avoided him because his odorous body and his dirty uniform. At home, he had to carry out various household chores by himself. He is forbidden to eat and</p>	<p>family and decorated their home in creative and imaginative ways each holiday season. She was full of energy, often taking her kids on tours of downtown San Francisco while her husband was at work, exposing them to Golden Gate Park and Chinatown. But then, when David was four or five years old, his mother changed drastically. Her behaviour became very rude and aggressive and she drank a lot. She became easily frustrated, and it seemed that her biggest source of frustration was Dave, the loudest and wildest child of hers.</p>	<p>Dave lives from his wife violence. When Dave was forced to eat his brother's formatted Hot Dog in front of his mother and father, Stephen did not take any action. He only saw how Dave ate it all because his mother forced him to do so.</p>	<p>had never found from her mother. Ms. Gold made Dave self-reliance and made him more special. She helped Dave with his problems. Every day she elicited information about how his mother treatment on him She made Dave wanted to tell all about his mother treating him rudely. She also made Dave more mature and tough and brought Dave to other's care rather than her own mother.</p>	<p>did he express his own feeling and his ambitions Alice always improved his spirit to achieve his ambition. As she was a very great foster mother, Dave acknowledged her his mother.</p>
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sleep at his room; he was only permitted to sleep in the basement. Clearly, he is banned to use house facilities, and other facilities which properly he had to get as a child, such as toys, proper clothes, health, education and affection.

ABUSES AND NEGLECT

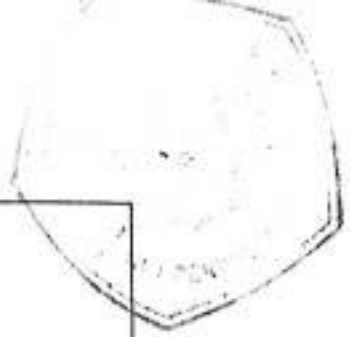
Physical Abuse	Psychological Abuse	Physical	Neglect	Emotional
<p>"When I timidly asked her what it was that I was to find, Mother smacked me in the face." (Pelzer, 2001: 31-32)</p>	<p>"When she yelled at us, her voice changed from the nurturing mother to the wicked witch. Soon the sound of Mother's voice began to send tremors down my spine." (Pelzer, 2001: 30)</p>	<p>"She decided that I was banned from watching television forever. I was to go without dinner and accomplish whatever chores Mother could dream up." (Pelzer, 2001: 36)</p>	<p>Educational "One Wednesday, I came home from school to change into my blue and gold Cub Scout uniform. Mother and I were the only ones in the house, and I could tell by the look on her face that she was after blood. After smashing my face against the bedroom mirror, she snatched my arm and dragged me to the car. During the drive to my den mother's house..... when we arrived at the den mother's house, I ran to the door crying. I whined to her that I had been a bad boy and could not attend the meeting. The</p>	<p>Emotional "By this time, for all practical purposes, I was no longer a member of the family."(Pelzer, 2001: 50)</p>

<p>"Mother smacked, punched and kicked me until I crumpled to the floor." (Pelzer, 2001: 37)</p>	<p>"While father was at work, Mother would often yell and scream while forcing the entire house for something she had lost." (Pelzer, 2001: 31)</p>	<p>"I was not allowed to eat meals with the family, play with my brothers or watch TV." (Pelzer, 2001: 50)</p>	<p>den mother smiled politely, saying that she would like me to come to the next meeting. That was the last time I saw her." (Pelzer, 2001: 39-40)</p>
<p>"By the end of the session, my nose bled twice and I was missing a tooth." (Pelzer, 2001: 53)</p>	<p>".....Mother would simply grab me and smash my face against the mirror, smearing my tear streaked face on the slick, reflective glass. Then she would order me to say over and over again, 'I am a bad boy! I am a bad boy!' I was then forced to stand and stare at the</p>	<p>"During one period of time when father was away, Mother starved me for about ten consecutive days. No matter how hard I tried to meet her time limits, I couldn't</p>	<p>".....under the table was now my bed. Again I shot a glance at Father, but he acted as though I was not even in the room. Forcing myself not to cry in front of them, I crawled, completely dressed, under the table, and covered myself with the newspapers like a rat in a cage." (Pelzer, 2001: 68)</p>

	<p>mirror." (Pelzer, 2001: 30)</p>	<p>make it. And the consequence was no food. Mother was completely thorough in making sure I was unable to steal any food. She cleared the dinner table herself, putting the food down the garbage disposal. She rummaged through the garbage can every day before I emptied it downstairs. She locked the freezer in the garage with her key and kept it. I was used to going without food for periods up to three days, but this extended time was unbearable." (Pelzer, 2001: 104)</p>		
<p>"After he left, Mother would yank me out of bed and drag me to the kitchen. While I stood shivering in my pyjamas, he'd smack me from one side of the kitchen</p>	<p>"She then yelled at me, stating I was to be held back from the first grade because I was a bad boy." (Pelzer, 2001: 36)</p>	<p>"Since I was still under punishment, on Christmas day I had to change into my work clothes and perform my chores."</p>		

<p>to the other. That tactic didn't last long. Mother would yank me up by the ears and yell into my face with her bourbon breath for minutes at a time." (Pelzer, 2001: 51-52)</p>	<p>"I closed my eyes as the oncoming blows began to rock me from side to side. I tried to protect my face with my hands, but my mother would only knock them away. Her punches seemed to last forever. Finally, I snaked my left arm up to cover my face. As mother grabbed my arm, she lost her balance and staggered back a step. As she jerked violently to regain her stability, I heard something pop, and felt an intense pain in my shoulder and arm. The startled look on Mother's face told me that she had heard the sound too, but she released her grip on my arm, and turned and walked away as if nothing had happened. I</p>	<p>".....but Mother continued to roar that I had shamed the family and would be severely punished." (Pelzer, 2001: 36)</p>	<p>"..... Mother had me wear the same clothes week after week, by October my clothes had become weathered, torn and smelly." (Pelzer, 2001: 47)</p>	<p>(Pelzer, 2001: 38-39)</p>			
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<p>cradled my arm as it began to throb with pain." (Pelzer, 2001: 34-35)</p>	<p>"Now it's time I showed you what hell is like. Gripping my arm, Mother held it in the orange-blue flame. My skin seemed to explode from the heat. I could smell the scorched hairs from my burnt arm. Mother then ordered me to climb up onto the stove and lie on the flames so she could watch me burn." (Pelzer, 2001: 41-42)</p>	<p>"One day I rushed home to show off a school paper. Mother threw me into her bedroom, yelling about a letter she had received from the North Pole. She claimed the letter said that I was a 'bad boy' and Santa would not bring me any gifts for Christmas." ".....Mother raged on and on, saying that I had embarrassed the family again. I stood in a daze, as Mother badgered me relentlessly." (Pelzer, 2001: 38)</p>	<p>"In September, I returned to school with last year's clothes and my old rusted, green lunch pail. I was a walking disgrace. Mother packed the same lunch for me every day: two peanut butter sandwiches and a few limp carrot sticks. Since I was no longer a member of the family, I was not allowed to ride to school in the family station wagon. Mother had me run to school." (Pelzer, 2001: 57)</p>
<p>"As soon as they left, she brought out one of soiled diapers. She smeared the diaper on my face. I tried to sit perfectly still. I knew if I moved, it would only be</p>	<p>"'You've made my life a living hell!' she sneered." (Pelzer, 2001: 41)</p>	<p>"She hardly bothered to cover my bruises on my face and arms..... by then, mother would forget to feed me any</p>	



<p>worse. I didn't look up..... After what seemed like an hour, Mother knelt down beside me and in a soft voice said, 'Eat it'. She sneered." (Pelzer, 2001: 55)</p>		<p>dinner. Breakfast wasn't much better. On a good day, I was allowed left-over cereal portions from my brothers, but only if I performed all of my chores before going to school." (Pelzer, 2001: 47)</p>	
<p>"For a few weeks I quit the garbage routine, but I finally had to return to it, in order to silence my growling stomach. Once, I ate some left-over pork. Hours later I was bent over in extreme pain. I had diarrhea for a week. While I was sick, Mother informed me she had purposefully left the meat in the refrigerator for two weeks, to spoil before she threw it away. She knew I couldn't resist stealing it..... Mother sensed I was getting food some way, so she began sprinkling ammonia in the trashcan. After that, I gave up on the</p>	<p>"I could hear Mother talking to Ron upstairs, telling him how proud she was of him, and how she didn't have to worry about Ron becoming like David-a bad boy." (Pelzer, 2001: 43)</p>	<p>"After I finished the bowl of regurgitated hot dogs, Mother returned in her robe and threw a wad of newspapers at me. She informed me the papers were my blankets, and the floor under the table was now my bed." (Pelzer, 2001: 67-68)</p>	

<p>garbage at the house and focused my sights on finding some other way to get food at school." (Pelzer, 2001:63)</p>	<p>"With the spoon in her hand, Mother began to creep towards me. As some of the ammonia sloshed from the spoon, spilling onto the floor, I backed away from Mother until my head struck the counter top by the stove..... Without hesitation I opened my mouth, and Mother rammed the cold spoon deep into my throat. Again I told myself this was all too easy, but moment later I couldn't breathe.after a few seconds, I could feel the force of my pounding fists weaken. My fingernails scraped the floor. My eyes became fixed on the floor. The colours seemed to run together. I began to feel myself drift away. I knew I was going to die." (Pelzer, 2001: 74-75)</p>	<p>"I existed, but there was little or no recognition. Mother had even stopped using my name; referring to me only as The Boy." (Pelzer, 2001: 50)</p>	<p>"For months I slept under the breakfast table next to a box of kitty litter, but I soon learned to use the newspapers to my advantage." (Pelzer, 2001: 68)</p>
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<p>“Although Mother never made me swallow ammonia again, she did make me drink spoonfuls of Clorox a few times. But Mother’s favourite game seemed to be dishwashing soap.” (Pelzer, 2001: 77)</p>	<p>“At school I was a total outcast. No other kid would have anything to do with me. During the lunch recesses, I stuffed the sandwiches down my throat as I listened to my former friends make up songs about me. ‘David the Food Thief’ and ‘Pelzer-smellzer’ were two of the playground favourites. I had no one to talk to or play with. I felt all alone.” (Pelzer, 2001: 58)</p>	<p>“Before the family sat down for dinner, Mother came into the bathroom and yelled at me, telling me to get out of the bathtub and put my clothes. I responded immediately, grabbing a towel to dry myself. ‘Oh, no!’ she screamed. ‘Put your clothes on the way you are!’ Without hesitating, I obeyed her command.” (Pelzer, 2001: 113)</p>	
<p>“I focused all of my attention on Mother’s face. Out of the corner of my eye I saw a blurred object fly from her hand. A sharp pain erupted from just above my stomach. I tried to remain standing, but my legs gave out, and my world turned black. As I gained consciousness, I felt a warm sensation flowing from my chest. It took me a</p>	<p>“I sat on a chair and picked the clumps of hot dogs out of the bowl with my hand. Globbs of thick saliva slipped through my fingers, as I dropped it in my mouth. As I tried to swallow, I began to whimper. I turned to Father, who stood looking through me with a drink in his hand. He nodded for me to continue. I couldn’t believe he just stood there as I ate the</p>	<p>“When I awoke the next morning, I stared at my hands which were crusted with dried blood. The shirt covering my chest was entirely red. I could feel the dried blood on parts of my face. I heard the bedroom door behind me open, and I turned</p>	

<p>few seconds to realize where I was. I sat propped up on the toilet. I turned towards Russel who began chanting, 'David's going to die. The Boy's going to die.' I moved my eyes towards my stomach. On her knees, Mother was hastily applying a thick wad of gauze to a place on my stomach where darker blood pumped out." (Pelzer, 2001: 87)</p>	<p>revolting contents of the bowl. At that moment, I knew we were slipping further and further apart." (Pelzer, 2001: 66-67)</p>	<p>to see Mother walking towards me. I expected more sympathy like she had given me the night before, but it was an empty hope. She gave me nothing. In a cold voice, Mother told me to clean myself up and begin my chores." (Pelzer, 2001: 96)</p>	
<p>"Mother had another favourite game for me while Father was away. She sent me to clean the bathroom with her usual time limits. But this time, she put a bucket, filled with a mixture of ammonia and Clorox, in the room with me and closed the door. The first time she did this, Mother informed me she had read about it in a newspaper and wanted to try it. Even though I acted as if I were frightened, I really wasn't. I was ignorant about</p>	<p>"The next evening was a repeat performance, but this time in front of Father. She boasted to him, 'This will teach The Boy to quite stealing food' I knew she was only doing it for her sick, perverted pleasure. Father stood lifeless as Mother fed me another dose of ammonia." (Pelzer, 2001: 76)</p>		

<p>what was going to happen." (Pelzer, 2001: 107)</p>	<p>"Because I was an outcast of the entire school, my classmates at times took over where Mother left off. One of them was Clifford's way of showing off to his friends. All I could do was fall to the ground and cover my head, while Clifford and his gang took turns kicking me." (Pelzer, 2001: 137)</p>	<p>"Soon I discovered my dreadful mistake, and diarrhea took hold. I cried out to Mother upstairs, begging her to let me use the toilet upstairs. She refused. I stood downstairs, afraid to move, as clumps of the watery matter fell through my underwear and down my pant legs, onto the floor. I need to go to bathroom again, but I was too afraid to move. Finally as my insides twisted and turned, I gathered the last of my dignity. I waddled to the garage sink, grabbed a five gallon bucket and squatted to relieve myself. I closed my eyes trying to think of a way to clean myself and my clothes when suddenly, the garbage door opened behind me. I turned my head to see Father, looking on dispassionately, as his son 'mooned' him and as the brown seepage spilled into the bucket. I felt lower than a dog." (Pelzer, 2001: 77)</p>	<p>"Do you hear me?" Mother</p>
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			<p>yelled. 'Look at me when I'm talking to you!' As I looked at her, Mother snatched a carving knife from the counter top and screamed, 'If you don't finish on time, I'm going to kill you!'" (Pelzer, 2001: 85)</p>	
			<p>"When he did, I stuttered, FatherMo...Mo...Mother stabbed me.' He didn't even raise an eye brown. 'Why?' he asked. 'She told me if I didn't do the dishes on time.... She'd kill me. Time stood still. From behind the paper I could hear Father's laboured breathing. He cleared his throat before saying, 'well... you ah... you better go back in there and do the dishes.'" (Pelzer, 2001: 89)</p>	
			<p>"Once home, the usual 'ten-rounder' left me sprawled on the floor. Mother then told me to sit outside in the backyard while she took 'her sons' to the zoo. The section where Mother ordered me to sit was covered with rocks about an inch in diameter. I lost circulation in much of my body, as I sat on my hands in my 'prisoner of war' position."</p>	

	<p>(Pelzer, 2001: 110-111)</p> <p>"When we reached the city limits, Mother tried to humour her boys by treating them to McDonald's as usual, I sat in the car while they went inside." (Pelzer, 2001: 151)</p>		
	<p>"The bathtub and the backyard treatment soon became routine. At times when I laid in the tub, my brothers brought their friends to the bathroom to look at their naked brother. Their friends often scoffed at me. 'What did he do this time?' they'd ask. Most of the time my brothers just shook their heads, saying, 'I don't know.'" (Pelzer, 2001: 114)</p>		
	<p>"Aggie was a tormentor of a different sort. She never failed to come up with new and different ways of telling me how much she wished I would simply 'drop dead' As I stood alone on the bow of the ship. Looking at the water, Aggie approached me with a vicious smile and said in a low voice, 'jump!' She started me, and I looked into her face, trying to understand what she</p>		

			<p>meant. Again she spoke, quietly and calmly, 'I said you should go ahead and jump. I know all about you Pelzer, and jumping is your only way out.'" (Pelzer, 2001: 137)</p>
			<p>"Get one thing straight, you little son of a bitch! There is nothing you can do to impress me! Do you understand me? You are nobody! An It! You are nonexistent! You are a bastrad child! I hate you and I wish you were dead! Dead! Do you hear me? Dead!'" (Pelzer, 2001: 140)</p>
			<p>"Before I can form a word, Mother again yanks on my right ear. My ear feels as if it were on fire..... Again I tense my body and again Mother yanks on my ear, but this time she maintains the pressure, forcing me stand on my toes. Mother's face turns dark red. 'So you think I treat him badly? I.....' Pointing her index finger at her chest, Mother continues. 'I don't need this. Stephen, if you think I'm treating it badly..... well, it can just get out of my house!"</p>

	<p>Suddenly she lets go of my ear and opens the front door. 'Get out!' she screeches. 'Get out of my house! I don't like you! I don't want you! I never loved you! Get the hell out of my house!'" (Pelzer, 2001: 8).</p>			
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