

child abuse  
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100875

59.4%      1762      61.5%      76.2%  
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The Battered- Child Syndrome

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## **The Logical Roots of Differences in Perceptions of Child Abuse between China and the West**

**Qiao Dongping Xie Qianwen**

**Abstract:** The main differences over the perception of child abuse between china and the West could be featured in their different understanding of the concept as well as the nature and significance of the problem. These variations lead to the establishment of child protection systems with different characters. For the West, child abuse is a concept that includes almost all violence behaviors against children and has become a social problem that received extensive attention. As a result, child protective services play an important role within the child welfare system. However, for China, the definition of child abuse has not been clearly defined by the government. Child abuse is not regarded as a social problem and thus no governmental departments are responsible to provide services to abused children or at risk families. In order to understand the differences on their perceptions over child abuse, it is imperative to analyze their underlying internal logic through inquiring the variations on their history, culture, theory and polity. The social construction of child abuse is influenced by different cultures and values; different views about children and about relationships among state, families and children; and different polity philosophies, lawsystems and government's attentions.

**Keywords:** child abuse, child protection, differences in perceptions between China and the West, social construction, logics and roots