

**FACTORS RESPONSIBLE FOR CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT
AMONG SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN OREDO LOCAL
GOVERNMENT AREA OF EDO STATE**

BY

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BENIN CITY**

FEBRUARY, 2023

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**BEING A PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF
CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY,
FACULTY OF EDUCATION, UNIVERSITY OF BENIN, BENIN
CITY IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR
THE AWARD OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (B.ED) DEGREE
IN SOCIAL STUDIES EDUCATION**

FEBRUARY, 2023

APPROVAL PAGE

I the undersigned, certify that this project was carried out by Osamatiomwan Evans OSAKPOLOR with the matriculation number EDU1709242 in the Department of Curriculum and Instructional Technology, Faculty of Education, University of Benin, Benin City and approve of it as adequate in scope and quality in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the award of Bachelor of Education in the University of Benin, Benin City.

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CERTIFICATION

We the undersigned, hereby certified that this Research Report was conducted by **Osamatiomwan Evans OSAKPOLOR** with the matriculation number **EDU1709242** in the Department of Curriculum and Instructional Technology, Faculty of Education, University of Benin, Benin City.

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DEDICATION

This study is dedicated to the Almighty God for his unfailing love, divine mercy, wisdom, understanding, strength and provision.

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The researcher wishes to acknowledge the supremacy of the Almighty God who has always guided and protected him on the right path of life. Without his grace this project work would not become a reality today.

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ABSTRACT

This study is on factors responsible for child abuse and neglect among secondary school students in Oredo Local Government Area of Edo state. The total population for the study is 200 students of Oredo local government of Edo state. The researcher used questionnaires as the instrument for the data collection. The data collected were presented in tables and analyzed using simple percentages and frequencies

The major instrument used for this study was the questionnaire. The questionnaire was designed and validated by experts in the department of curriculum and instructional technology, faculty of education, university of Benin, Benin City, Edo state. Data were analyzed using descriptive statistical techniques such as tables, frequencies counts, and simple percentage.

Findings of the study reveals that most children with single parent are vulnerable to sexual abuse, they are also likely to have issues with their relationship in future. It was also reveal that parent's poor standard of living can cause harm to a child's mental development. It was recommended that voluntary organization for the prevention and protection against child abuse should periodically organize in-house seminars, workshop and other

educative programs in villages, quarters to enlighten parents and children on the dangers of child street hawking and other forms of child abuse.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

Background of the Study

It has been the general assumption that children with reasonable physical care would grow into normal happy adulthood. But scientific investigations of psychologists, sociologists and psychiatrists regarding personality development has uncovered the greater importance of the growing up and its lasting effects on the total personality of a person. Adult personality has its root in childhood. Child abuse and neglect is a social and public health problem in Nigeria, as well as a children's rights issue. Abuse and neglect can lead to a wide range of adverse consequences for children and young people. There is generally not a single factor that results in the abuse or neglect of a child; it is usually a combination of various factors. In addition, the duration (such as the duration of an illness) or intensity (such as the level of drug or alcohol abuse) can make it more or less likely that a child will be at risk for abuse (Aber and Cicchetti, 2014). Child abuse is a term used for maltreatment and neglect of children. Child maltreatment may be formally described as all forms of physical and/or emotional ill-treatment,

sexual abuse, neglect or negligent treatment or commercial or other exploitation, resulting in actual or potential harm to the child's health, survival, development or dignity in the context of a relationship of responsibility, trust or power (Woodhouse, 2011).

Child neglect on the other hand is generally seen as a different phenomenon from maltreatment. Child neglect may be defined as: "any recent act or failure to act on the part of a parent or caregiver, which results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse or exploitation, or an act or failure to act which presents an imminent risk of serious harm" (Culp, 2011). Neglect is in many ways the more insidious harm against a child, with long-term effects at least as damaging as physical abuse (if not more so) but often going unnoticed (Bloom, 2011). The term 'child abuse and neglect' refers to the harm experienced by children or young people under the age of 18 years as a result of the actions, inactions or inability of people with a parental responsibility for them (Sylvestre and Mérette, 2010). Parental responsibility in relation to a child means all the duties, powers, responsibilities and authority which, by law, parents have in relation to children (Greenfield, 2010). The harm experienced by the child or young

person may arise from a significant event or may arise from the cumulative effect of abuse and neglect. Most parents love their children, but when stress, tiredness, lack of skills, information and support combine it can be overwhelming (Drotar, 2012). It is certain that no child is ever to blame for abuse inflicted on him or her by an adult. There may be no 'child' factors present at all when a child is abused. However the risk of abuse of a child may be increased if the child has attributes that make parenting more difficult or has high needs. Relevant factors might include being a premature baby, persistently crying, being one of a multiple birth, and/or having behavioural or mental health problems (Rosenbaum, 2011). Some children may be vulnerable because of emotional difficulties they have that both reflect and exacerbate social isolation. The resulting cognitive and emotional deficits serve as signals of vulnerability and/or interfere with their self-protective skills outside the home (Vissing, 2012). Thus, some children are victimised again and again. Cognitive and emotional deficits resulting from sustained abuse (including family violence) or neglect at home may increase the risk of a vicious circle of victimisation outside the home as well. Thus, for example, experiences such as loss, conflict, deprivation or turmoil within

the home may undermine a child's ability to protect themselves, making them a potential target for bullies or sexual predators (Abram, 2010).

Low educational attainment of caregivers has been identified as a risk factor for child maltreatment and neglect (Berger, 2010) and is also associated with poverty. Hence poverty (especially when compounded with other risks such as sole parenthood), low educational attainment and maltreatment can set up a cycle whereby one perpetuates the other (Jacobson, 2010). As with other risk factors, the strength of the relationship between low educational attainment and neglect and maltreatment is unclear, as are the causal pathways. Low educational attainment can both reflect and contribute to disadvantage including precarious employment and low income. Lack of education may also mean a parent has less understanding of issues associated with parenting, or has limited ability to learn themselves (Twardosz and Lutzker, 2010). A further widely recognised stressor is sole parenthood (Alessandri, 2011). Two factors appear to contribute to sole parenthood as a stressor and risk factor for children: the first is the strong link between sole parent households and poverty, especially reliance on benefit income (Chaffin, 2011) although, due to the loss of the absent

parent's wage-earning power, "the majority of single-parent, female-headed families [are driven] into poverty, regardless of whether the mother works." [emphasis added] (Bloom, 2011); the other is that sole parenthood may be associated with lack of family or community-based support networks. And a sole parent is doing the work of two people. While support provided to mothers is significantly associated with them being able to provide support for their children, there is no evidence that lack of support and/or wider family dysfunction necessarily leads to maltreatment (Aber and Cicchetti, 2014).

Child abuse occurs in every country in the world, and despite considerable efforts and resources, rates of maltreatment and neglect in developed countries have not markedly diminished, nor are researchers much closer to being able to assess which children are at risk, and what programmes effectively change long-term behaviour so as to prevent maltreatment (Berger, 2010). Child abuse and neglect have immediate and long-term consequences. In addition to negatively impacting on the child, child abuse and neglect impacts on the family, the school community, and even future generations. The ability to survive and thrive in the face of child

abuse and neglect depends on a variety of factors, including the extent and type of abuse or neglect, whether it was continual or infrequent, the age of the child when abuse was initiated, the child's relationship to the abuser, and how the abuse or neglect was responded to if discovered or disclosed. Outcomes are also dependent on the child's personality traits, inner strength, and the support the child receives from those around them (Berger, 2015). Neglected children are also at considerable risk. These children are more likely than other children to suffer from a serious physical injury due to an accident such as falling, drowning, fire, or ingesting poison. They are also at a greater risk than other children of being physically and sexually abused from an unrelated caretaker, often times a significant other or friend of their parent(s) (Berger, 2010). It is worthy of note that some children will not develop behavioral problems, so it cannot be assumed that a lack of behavioral problems is evidence against child abuse or neglect. When there are behavioral problems as a result of child abuse and neglect, they will most likely be related to difficulty following rules, being respectful, staying in their seats and keeping on-task, temper tantrums, and difficult peer

relationships. As children become older they are more likely to engage in self (Woodhouse, 2011).

Statement of the Problem

Many child deaths, however, are not routinely investigated and postmortem examinations are not carried out, which makes it difficult to establish the precise number of fatalities from child abuse in Oredo local government area of Edo state. It is widely believed that the good image of any social or community depend largely on the social background of its children. Therefore, the problem of child abuse in the local government has been a total neglect in large extent. A situation brought about probably by the undesirable element in our society mostly associated with women folk and partly perhaps the government who have not given enough attention to the ugly situation in the area but rather sitting on their chairs in offices. Among the fatalities attributed to child abuse, the most common cause of death is injury to the head, followed by injury to the abdomen. Intentional suffocation has also been extensively reported as a cause of death. Injuries inflicted by a caregiver on a child can take many forms. Serious damage or death in abused children is most often the consequence of a head injury or injury to the internal organs. Head trauma as a result of abuse is the most common cause of death in young children, with children in the first 2 years

of life being the most vulnerable. Because force applied to the body passes through the skin, patterns of injury to the skin can provide clear signs of abuse. The skeletal manifestations of abuse include multiple fractures at different stages of healing, fractures of bones that are very rarely broken under normal circumstances, and characteristic fractures of the ribs and long bones. One of the syndromes of child abuse is the “battered child”. This term is generally applied to children showing repeated and devastating injury to the skin, skeletal system or nervous system. It includes children with multiple fractures of different ages, head trauma and severe visceral trauma, with evidence of repeated infliction. Fortunately, though the cases are tragic, this pattern is rare. Children may be brought to professional attention because of physical or behavioural concerns that, on further investigation, turn out to result from sexual abuse. It is not uncommon for children who have been sexually abused to exhibit symptoms of infection, genital injury, abdominal pain, constipation, chronic or recurrent urinary tract infections or behavioural problems. To be able to detect child sexual abuse requires a high index of suspicion and familiarity with the verbal, behavioural and physical indicators of abuse. Many children will disclose

abuse to caregivers or others spontaneously, though there may also be indirect physical or behavioural signs.

There exist many manifestations of child neglect, including non-compliance with health care recommendations, failure to seek appropriate health care, deprivation of food resulting in hunger, and the failure of a child physically to thrive. Other causes for concern include the exposure of children to drugs and inadequate protection from environmental dangers. In addition, abandonment, inadequate supervision, poor hygiene and being deprived of an education have all been considered as evidence of neglect. Data on non-fatal child abuse and neglect come from a variety of sources, including official statistics, case reports and population-based surveys. These sources, however, differ as regards their usefulness in describing the full extent of the problem. Official statistics often reveal little about the patterns of child abuse. This is partly because, in Oredo Local Government Area of Edo State there are no legal or social systems with specific responsibility for recording, let alone responding to, reports of child abuse and neglect. In addition, there are differing legal and cultural definitions of abuse and neglect between societies. There is also evidence that only a small

proportion of cases of child maltreatment are reported to authorities, even where mandatory reporting exists. Case series have been published in many countries. They are important for guiding local action on child abuse, and raising awareness and concern among the public and professionals (Corso and Mercy, 2011). Case series can reveal similarities between the experiences in different countries and suggest new hypotheses. However, they are not particularly helpful in assessing the relative importance of possible risk or protective factors in different cultural contexts, this study is therefore set to investigate the factors that are responsible for child abuse and neglect among parents in Oredo Local Government Area of Edo State.

Research Questions

1. Does single parenting influences child abuse and neglect among secondary school students in Oredo Local Government Area of Edo State?
2. Does poverty contribute to child abuse and neglect among secondary school students in Oredo Local Government area of Edo State?
3. Does divorce influences child abuse and neglect among secondary school students in Oredo Local Government area of Edo State?

4. Does the death of parents influences child abuse and neglect among secondary school students in Oredo local Government area of Edo State?
5. Does societal influence affects child abuse and neglect among secondary school students in Oredo Local Government Area of Edo State?

Purpose of the Study

The main purpose of the study is to examine the factors responsible for child abuse and neglect among secondary school students in Oredo local government area of Edo state. Therefore, its specific objectives are to:

1. Determine the means of child abuse and neglect among secondary school students in Oredo local government area of Edo state.
2. Identify the factors that are responsible for child abuse and neglect among secondary school students in Oredo L.G.A of Edo State?
3. Determine the consequences of child abuse and neglect in Oredo Local Government Area of Edo State
4. Examine the factors that protect a child from risk of abuse or neglect in the study area

Significance of the Study

This study will be significant to parents, caregivers, nanny, children, teenagers, government and the general public on the issues of child abuse and neglect among secondary school students in our society. This study will help to identify the factors that contribute to parental child abuse and neglect of children in Oredo L.G.A of Edo State and suggest what can be done to prevent child abuse and neglect in Oredo L.G.A of Edo State. The study will also be significant to students by identifying factors that can protect them from risk of abuse or neglect. The study will show the extent that non-violent and no abusive disciplinary methods or practices that parents or caregivers should employed such as explaining to children why their behaviour was wrong and telling them to stop, withdrawing privileges and using other nonviolent methods to change problem behaviour of children.

Furthermore, it is a valuable tool for the researchers, health administrators, counsellors, health practitioners, educationist, lecturers, teachers and various associated study on child abuse and neglect as well as a reference work to others who intend to replicate this study. It is hoped that

the results of this research will go a long way in helping to alleviate these problems of child abuse and neglect in Oredo L.G.A of Edo State.

Scope and Delimitation of the Study

This study will examine the factors responsible for child abuse and neglect such as poverty, divorce, lack of attention, death of ones parents, societal influence, single parenting, children been accused of witchcraft, low educational attainment of parents, sole parenthood, it will be delimited to government owned secondary school students in Oredo Local Government Area of Edo State.

Delimitation of this study

Definition of Terms

The following terms were operationally defined.

Abuse: This means the misuse of something. It can also be described as the illegal use of something

Neglect: Failure to provide for a child's basic needs. Neglect maybe physical, medical, educational, or emotional

Child abuse: can be defined as causing or permitting any harmful or offensive contact on a Child's body; and any communication or transaction of any kind, which humiliates, shames, or frightens the child

Physical abuse: Failure to provide necessary food or shelter, or lack of appropriate supervision

Medical abuse: Failure to provide necessary medical or mental health treatment

Educational abuse: failure to educate a child or attend to special education needs

Emotional: inattention to a child's emotional needs, failure to provide psychological care, or permitting the child to use alcohol or other drugs.

Sexual abuse: Includes activities by a parent or caretaker such as fondling a child's genitals, penetration, incest, rape sodomy, indecent exposure, and exploitation through prostitution or the production of pornographic materials.

CHAPTER TWO

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This study deals with the related literature on this study. It is discussed under the following sub headings,

- Concept of Child Abuse
- Causes of Child Abuse
- Types of Child Abuse
- Incidences of Child Abuse
- Factors that Causes Child Abuse in Nigeria
- Effects of Neglect and Abuse on the Child
- Preventing Child Neglect and Abuse
- Summary of Reviewed Literature

Concept of Child Abuse

Child abuse can be defined as causing or permitting any harmful or offensive contact on a Childs body; and any communication or transaction of any kind, which humiliates, shames, or frightens the child. Some child development experts go a bit further, and define child abuse as any act or omission, .which fails to nurture or in the upbringing of the children The

child abuse prevention and treatment act defines .child abuse and neglect as: "at minimum, any recent act or failure to act on the part of a parent or caretaker which results in death serious physical ' emotional harm, sexual abuse or exploitation, or an act or failure to act which presents an imminent risk or serious harm" In addition the oxford-advanced learner's dictionary of contemporary English defines it as the crime of harming a child in a physical, sexual or emotional way. It should be noted that any child of any sex, race, religion and socioeconomic background could fall victim to child abuse and neglect.

Causes of Child Abuse

Several reasons have been put forward as predisposing factors to child abuse. These include poverty, high cost of living, lack of sponsorship, poor school performance, single parenthood, large family size, peer group pressure, poor home conditions, lack of parental care, unemployment, parent pressure and poor scholastic achievement (Donli, 1990, Fawole, 2003, Godfrey 1996). Under development in Nigeria, the view of Durough (1986), has made the provision of social welfare services like education, healthcare, thereby prompting parents to resort to child labour and exploitation. Amidst

such situation mentioned above, some Nigerian parents and guardians exposed their children to street hawking and other child labour in order to support the family income. Federal Government of Nigeria has declared education as one of the rights of the child through the Universal Basic Education Programme (1999). Ogbe (2007) claimed that yet the Nigerian children continue to suffer abuse in one form or the other. He continued by stating that the major cause of child abuse is economical which is associated with poverty. Ebigbo (1995) stated that the hawking of wears and food on the roads, streets, motor parks, plank shades, mechanic shops, is an economic means of making ends meet either sponsored by parents, guardians, caregivers or the child personal interest. Ogbe (2007) quoting Fawole (2003) cited cultural beliefs in treating the child as another cause of child abuse as children are seen as mere properties of their parents. Problems have been known to be associated with single parenthood. Hamburg (1993) pointed to the fact in addition to having fewer financial resources; single parent may be less able to supervise their children. This is evidence that a child living in a single parent family and having little parental supervision will be susceptible to delinquent behaviour and substance abuse. The

implications of single parenthood to child rearing can be viewed in relation to the Brazilian proverb quoted by Stolcke, (1992) “when the father leaves the home, the household trembles, when the mother leaves it, the house crumbles”. Ekpu (2004) cited Hamburg (1993) that marital separation commonly involves major emotional distress for child relationship. Usalo (2002) reporting Oloko (1986) that the worst child abuse is among the less social and poorest people and they are the most vulnerable groups in the society. Children from such groups will continue to be sent to work as long as their families depend on their income or proceed in order to survive. United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) (1990) reported that “state funding for education declines and a segment of the population can no longer afford to send their children to school”. Pemedede (2004) stated that manifestation of child abuse is apparently a clear picture of government attitude towards education. This condition has forced many children out of school thereby engaging to hard labour. Bidemi and Adefuye (2007) stated that formal education has become a slogan not a reality that is education in Nigeria has become a privilege not a right considering the state or standard of education in the country. In a situation where government

plays passive role in enhancing quality education, abolition of free education as well as poor funding will lead to child abuse (Pemedede, 2004). The Federal Ministry of Health (1990) cited that in the northern part of Nigeria, street trading serves as marriage preparation for girls, since they are expected to meet their suitors during trading and helps their mothers accumulate a dowry without which marriage loses esteem. The focus of this study therefore is to examine the socio-economic factors of two principal actors (father and mother) as correlate of child abuse in Oredo local government area of Edo state, Nigeria.

Types of Child Abuse

Emotional Abuse: it is also seen as verbal or mental abuse, and psychosocial maltreatment. It includes acts or the failure to act by parents or caretakers that have consent or could cause, serious behavioral, cognitive emotional, or mental disorders This can include parents/caretakers using extreme end/ boxcar forms of punishments, such as confinement in a closet or dork room or being tied to a chair for long periods - of time or threatening or terrorizing a child less severe acts, acts, but no less damaging ore

belittling or rejecting treatment, using derogatory terms to describe the child, habitual scapegoat or blaming.

Neglect: the failure to provide for the child's basic needs neglect can be physical, educational, or emotional. Physical neglect can include not providing adequate food or clothing appropriate medical care, supervision, or proper weather protection (hats or coats). It may include abandonment. Educational neglect includes. Failure to provide appropriate schooling or special educational needs, allowing excessive truancies. Psychological neglect includes the lack of any emotional support and love, never attending to the child, spousal abuse, drug and alcohol abuse including allowing the child to participate in drug and alcohol use physical abuse: the inflicting of physical injury upon a child. This may include, bruising, hitting, punching, shaking, kicking, beating, or otherwise harming a child. The parent or caretaker may not have intended to hurt the child; the injury is not an accident. It may, however, be the result of over-discipline or physical punishment that is inappropriate to the child's age.

Sexual Abuse: the inappropriate sexual behavior with a child. It includes fondling a child's genitals, making the child fondle the adult's genitals,

intercourse, incest, rape, soloing, exhibitionism and sexual exploitation. To consider, child abuse, these acts have to be committed by a person responsible for the care of a child (e.g. a baby-sitter, a parent, or a daycare provider) or related to the child. If a stranger commits these acts it would be considered sexual assault and handled solely by the police and criminal courts

Incidences of Child Abuse

- i) Child trafficking
- ii) Hawking on the street.
- iii) Begging in the street
- iv) Children living under the bridge
- v) Children deprived of standard education
- vi) Exposing children to sexual harassments
- vii) Preventing child from proper medication

Child abduction These and many more are incidences of child abuse in Nigeria

Factors that Causes Child Abuse in Nigeria

So many factors have in one-way cloth other brought about or increased the rate of child abuse in Nigeria. These causes may be as a result of certain activities and parental actions which has gone beyond control and has affected the Nigerian child some of this factor includes: -

Poverty: this factor has been seen to be one of the major causes of child abuse in Nigeria. Its responsible for the increasing number of street kids in the mayor Nigerian critics, - wherever there is a highly level of poverty take for instance in Nigeria today, naturally you see people resorting to begging on the streets for a living because there is loss of jobs, dignity and the resulting effect will gradually shift to street begging. The poor standard of education of children is a result of poverty considering the fact that Nigeria schools happen to be very 'expensive that only the rich can-afford it, leaving the poor masses with no-other option that to enroll in low standard schools, stay at home or go out in the street begging for arms to aid themselves. Poverty has made so many children resort to the sleeping under the bridge due to high cost of living and rent which the poor cannot afford as such at this present state the child is prone to summary hazard that might be detrimental to his/her health and might eventually in one way or the other

led to death. While most people in financial need do not maltreat their children, poverty can increase the likelihood of maltreatment, particularly when poverty is combined with other risk factors, such as depression, substance use, and social isolation. Poor children also experience a disproportionate amount of neglect and social deprivation thanks to poverty. They are less likely to feel valued and loved. They often have lower self-esteem, less self-confidence, and greater incidences of mental health problems.

Effects of Poverty on a Child

- Poverty stunts physical growth and development
- Poverty hinders social and emotional development
- Poverty shortens life expectancy
- Poverty inflates infant and child mortality rates
- Poverty increases the likelihood a child will have a chronic health condition.
- Poverty ravages children with preventable diseases.
- Poverty increases the violence children personally experience and witness.

Changes in income alone, holding all other factors constant, have a major impact on the number of children being harmed. Reduction in income and other economic shocks increase the number of children being subject to neglect and abuse.

Single Parenting; one of the vital aspects of the society is family. It is a primary source whom young born interacts and mingle with. Parents facilitate their children in each step of their life and love them unconditionally. However, as a result of single parenting this love and warm heartedness is seemed to decrease that directly have an effect on the child overall health status and upbringing. The family is a huge institution and parenting is supporting and establishing pillars. Parents are responsible to teach children about the norms and values of the society and accountable for developing psychological and emotional well-being. single parenting can therefore be defined as a parent either father or mother alone practicing and taking responsibility of nurturing children in the absence of another parent.

Divorce: divorce is actually one thing that has also brought child abuse to its climax; it also has destroyed marriages etc. In a situation where by a family/home is broken as a result of divorce, the children in such a home are

left to themselves. At this point in time certain group influence that a detrimental to their behavioral way of life and otherwise. The child in question might be smoking at a very tender age, involved in-certain him oral acts and might liven join touts on the streets.

Lack of attention: anyone left to himself is prone to many things, parental love, care and attention truly matters in child upbringing. Lack at attention from parents to the children leaving them to house helps who tend to inculcate various ways of behavior into the children, this impacts actually makes them L. wayward. Imagine a situation where 'both father and mother leaves home in the morning and is set to come back by midnight house, in this case the children set eye on their parents only on weekends not knowing what and what has transpired in their absence. Until parents began to devote most of their time to the upbringing of their children, child abuse will have an upper - hand in the society at large.

Death: So many orphans have been exposed to child abuse at a very high rate considering the fact that they do not have parents any longer who take care of them or look after them. Orphans who are left to their uncles and relatives after a - the death of their parents tend to suffer child abuse due to

some level of hatred and wickedness from their aunts/ uncles. This wicked uncles might send this orphans to go hawking which exposes them to risk of death by accident, sexual harassment, rape and kidnap etc. and also poor feeding, maltreating them and sometimes they are not sent to school.

Societal influence: This is seen from an ideology that indulging in under aged sex refreshes the blood. Following the context, so many men of high age grade tend to sleep or rather make love to maidens as old as their daughters all in the name of a quest for fresh blood which I don't think is obtainable in such an act but is an abuse to the teenager involved in such a mess. It is no longer news to hear that a father impregnates his own daughter causing her unnecessary pains which are not worth it.

Effects of Neglect and Abuse on the Child

In this country and in the world at large, millions of children are exposed to one or more forms of domestic neglect or abuse (Spilsbury et al. 2007). A summary of the Report of the Independent Expert for the United Nations Study on Violence against Children (2008) reveals that annually, 150 million girls and 73 million boys experience rape or other forms of sexual violence throughout the world, and that perpetrators are usually

family members of the children. The report stated that annually, more than fifty thousand children fall victim to murder, approximately one or two million children were hospitalized for physical injuries due to violence, whereas only sixteen countries prohibited violence against children, thereby, leaving the vast majority of the children in the world deprived of adequate legal protection (Waterston and Mok 2008). In their study, Goddard and Hiller (1993) revealed that fifty-five percent of the children were subjected to physical abuse, forty percent of the children experienced sexual abuse, and the majority of these children were placed under protection. McGuigan and Pratt (2001) emphasized that the majority of children aged between six months and five years old were subjected to emotional violence by their parents. Physical abuse involves physical violence, such as hitting with the hand or an object, pushing, shaking, burning or biting, directed towards the child by the parents or an adult responsible for the child's care (Yucel 1993). Physically abused children experience various undesired consequences, ranging from soft tissue injuries to deaths with unknown causes. Loss of memory, growth retardation, speech delay, social withdrawal, limited friends and peer relationships, academic failure and suicidal tendencies, as well as,

interpersonal, cognitive, emotional and behavioral problems, are observed in these children. Children who are subjects of continual physical abuse constantly fear their parents, can easily lie to avoid a beating, and can be overly aggressive or overly withdrawn and diffident shying away from physical contact and proximity of an adult (Lewis 1992; Livingston 1987). In addition, impairment in cognitive skills and academic failure is frequently observed in these children (Kaplan et al. 1999; Gokler 2002). Furthermore, suicidal ideation and suicide attempts are more common in physically abused children (Tackett 2002). Sexual abuse is a form of child abuse, in which an adult uses a child as a means to satisfy his/ her sexual needs and desires (Green 1996). According to the National sexual violence resource center report (2015), one in four girls and one in six boys will be sexually abused before they turn 18 years. 12.3 percent of women and 27.8 percent of men were age 10 or younger at the time of their first rape or victimization (Black et al. 2011). Sexual abuse was reported to be more frequent in families with divorced parents, domestic violence, alcohol and substance use, but can be experienced at any socioeconomic level (Hedin 2000). Most of the time, there is no physical indication of sexual abuse. However, in some

cases, a medical examination can reveal certain indications. In sexually abused children, symptoms include abnormal or complete lack of interest in sexual activities, sleep disorders or nightmares, phobias, bedwetting, depression or estrangement from family members or friends, behavioral problems, attention deficit and hyperactivity disorder, lack of appetite and weight loss, being frequently ill, believing their bodies are dirty or there is something wrong with their genitals, not wanting to attend school, abnormal misbehavior and disobedience, overly aggressive behavior, and the avoidance of drawings or games expressive of sexual abuse (Green 1996). Sexually abused children experience higher rates of depression and significantly low self-esteem. Therefore, suicidal ideation and suicide attempts in sexually abused children are more frequently observed with increasing age (Livingston 1987). Sexually abused individuals either avoid establishing relationships or have a tendency to show excessive closeness and have numerous, overly demanding and controlling relationships. Both styles are dysfunctional and are likely to result in loneliness (Tackett 2002). The child is forced to quit school due to economic difficulties the family

faces, and to find employment in order to survive in the time of economic poverty and to support his/her family in their struggle against poverty.

The environment and type of work is generally, physically, and mentally unsuitable for children and endangers their physical and psychological wellbeing. Children are deprived of their childhood and their right to play and receive education, as well as, have health problems due to economic abuse and unhealthy working conditions (Yagci 2006). Emotionally neglected and abused children are exposed to attitudes and behaviors that have negative impacts or are deprived of the attention, love and care they need, and therefore, they are psychologically traumatized according to social and scientific standards (Kara et al. 2004). Kent and Waller (1998) revealed that children's anxiety and depression levels were adversely affected by emotional abuse. In their studies investigating emotional abuse in adolescents, Mullen et al. (1996) and Savi (1999) emphasized that a sense of self in adolescents was negatively affected with increasing degrees of emotional abuse. Children, who experience emotional neglect and abuse become estranged from their families, are stressful, feel worthless, develop a dependent personality, and display maladjusted and

aggressive behavior. These children have mixed emotions for their parents, such as having the feeling of love and hatred simultaneously, fear of abandonment, fear of expressing emotions, fear of injury, feeling angry for the violence and disorder in their lives, depression, feeling helpless and powerless, and feeling ashamed of domestic incidents. Ozturk (2007) reported that emotional abuse adversely affected children's personality development. Traumas resulting from emotional neglect and abuse are as harmful as those of physical abuse, yet their symptoms cannot be easily observed (Polat 2002; Jain 1999). Recent studies have revealed the negative impacts of child neglect on children. Research on juvenile delinquency reported higher criminal tendencies in children neglected by their families. According to the results of the review article by Smith and Walters (1987) on fathers and their role in the family, fathers contribute more to delinquency in male children than the mothers (Ulugtekin 1991). Furthermore, neglected children also experience difficulties with respect to food, accommodation, clothing, hygiene, play, education, safety and medical care

Preventing Child Neglect and Abuse

Article 19 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child currently ratified by almost every country, pertains to children's right to protection from neglect and abuse (Gokler 2002). For a physically and psychologically healthy generation, the issue of neglect and abuse should be tackled from a social level and solutions should be proposed as a society (Bildik 2002; Turhan et al. 2006). All members of different professions involved either directly or indirectly with children, should work in harmony to ensure successful prevention, intervention and supervision. In Australia, a system consisting of physicians, nurses, police officers, social workers, judges, probation officers, teachers and members of other professions employed in child protection or responsible for abused children, works in harmony for the protection and care of traumatized children and children at risk. Coordination eliminates discrepancies in practices and ensures effective implementation. All practices throughout the country should be non-conflicting. Coordination is critical for the effective and systematic implementation of all practices. Furthermore, universities, relevant public institutions and implementation areas, should work in harmony in the needs analysis and in the preparation of programs and practices, as well as in

research. The significance and necessity of coordination in making effective policies should be emphasized (Mathias et al. 1995). Children who are victims of abuse suffer from its effects for the rest of their lives. While the family environment is considered to be a place where children feel the safest, it is also where they are prone to a higher risk. Therefore, society, families and teachers should be informed about child discipline and abuse. For example, parents, teacher or members of different professions, providing services in cases of sexual abuse, should be informed through meetings or seminars, in order to educate children on how to protect themselves when faced with sexual abuse and how to say “no” (Ziyalar 1999). Fighting against neglect and abuse is the responsibility of each and every member of the society. Particularly, health professionals, social workers, as well as psychological counseling and guidance experts, should be more aware of the issue. Creating more awareness among members of these professions, who should be supported in their efforts to provide counseling services to neglected or abused children, is integral in identifying families more disposed to commit child neglect and abuse (Bildik 2002; Keskin and Cam 2005). Stress in the family is one of the causes of child neglect and abuse.

Solutions for coping with family stress can be better and easily proposed after identifying whether the stress is economic or social. Training activities for neglect and abuse prevention involve the identification of people at risk, provision of counseling and protective services, in addition to conflict and stress management training (Bildik 2002; Keskin and Cam 2005).

Children who are victims of abuse experience losses in various domains. The most severe and irreparable is the loss of childhood. Loss of self-confidence, and desperation, severely affect the lives of these children. They suffer from chronic depression and anxiety. Therefore, a comprehensive posttraumatic program must be developed for both the child and the family (Kaya et al. 2004). Sustainability of parent training programs for families can be revised by making necessary adjustments. Participation of families at all levels and with varying needs, should be taken into account. Families might lack the knowledge and skills to conduct a needs analysis. Parent training programs should focus on helping parents recognize their abilities and incompetency. Reluctance of families to participate in the program resulting from the administration of the same program to families,

with various levels of knowledge and needs, can be alleviated through these adjustments (Olds et al. 1997).

Summary of Literature Reviewed

The reviewed literature is summarized as follows;

The concept of child abuse and neglect is a very eclectic one. Its understanding as it occurs varies from individuals, ethnic group, religious institution, professional bodies etc.

However, this study discussed the occurrence of child abuse and neglect as it occurs in various forms like physical abuses, verbal abuse, emotional or psychological abuse, child labour, child abandonment and child sexual abuse.

The experience of child abuse and neglect has very significant consequences in the life of an individual. It has effects on the health in physical well being, intellectual and cognitive development and emotional, psychological and behavioural aspect of his/her life.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

This chapter presents the procedures and methods that were used in collecting data for this study. They are treated under the following sub-headings.

- Research Design
- Population of the Study
- Sample and Sampling Technique
- Research Instrument
- Validation of the Study
- Reliability of the Study
- Method of Data Collection
- Method of Data Analysis

Research Design

The researcher used descriptive research survey design in building up this project work the choice of this research design was considered appropriate because of its advantages of identifying attributes of a large population from a group of individuals. The design was suitable for the

study as the study sought to factors responsible for child abuse and neglect among secondary school students in Oredo Local Government Area of Edo State.

Population of the Study

The population consists of two hundred (200) students drawn from five (5) public secondary schools in Oredo Local Government Area of Edo State.

Sample and Sampling Technique

A target sample size of two hundred (200) 5% of the total population of secondary school students was selected through simple random sampling techniques and used for the study selected from the five (5) public secondary schools in Oredo Local Government Area of Edo State.

Research Instrument

The major research instrument used is the questionnaires. This was appropriately moderated. The students were administered with the questionnaires to complete, with or without disclosing their identities. The questionnaire was designed to obtain sufficient and relevant information from the respondents. The primary data contained information extracted

from the questionnaires in which the respondents were required to give specific answer to a question by ticking in front of an appropriate answer. The questionnaires contained structured questions which were divided into sections A and B.

Validity of the Study

The questionnaire used as the research instrument was subjected to face its validation. This research instrument (questionnaire) adopted was adequately checked and validated by the supervisor her contributions and corrections were included into the final draft of the research instrument used.

Reliability of the Instrument

To determine the reliability of the instrument, the test-re-test procedures was adopted. In this vein, 20 copies of the instrument were administered on the respondents who were not part of the target population. After a time lag of two weeks the instrument was re-administered on the same group of respondents. Thereafter, their responses on the two occasions were collated and correlated using pearson product moment correlation coefficient statistical to determine its reliability index which was given as 0.75.

Method of Data Collection

The researcher and two other research assistants personally administered the questionnaire to respondents through face to face interaction and were also collected from them same day.

Method of Data Analysis

Frequency counts tables and percentages will be in the presentation and analysis of the data that will be generated from this study.

CHAPTER FOUR

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

The chapter presents the analysis of data collected, interpretation and discussion of result. It was divided into three main sections. Section A deals with the demographic data of the respondents, section B deals with the research questions while section C deals with the discussion of results.

Section A: Demographic Data of the Respondents

Table 1: Sex of Respondents

Sex	Frequency	Percentage %
Male	92	46%
Female	108	54%
Total	200	100

Table 1 showed that 92(46%) of the respondents are male students while 108(54%) are female students. This means that more female students participated in the study than their male counter-part.

Answers to Students' Research Questions

Table 2: Research Question 1: Does single parenting influence child abuse and neglect among secondary school students in Oredo Local Government Area?

S/N	Items	Agreed F	%	Disagreed F	%	Mean (X)	Decision
1.	Most children with single parent are vulnerable to sexual abuse	118	59%	82	41%	2.66	Agreed
2.	Most children with single parent are likely to have issues with their relationship in future	126	63%	74	37%	2.82	Agreed
3.	Children with single parent are easily influenced by bad friends	153	76.5%	47	23.5%	2.88	Agreed

**Criterion X= 2.50
(Agreed)**

Aggregate X= 2.79

Table 2 showed that the respondents agreed that most children with single parent are vulnerable to sexual abuse; they are likely to have issues with their relationship in future and are easily influenced by bad friends with mean score of 2.66, 2.82, and 2.88 which is above criterion score of 2.50.

Table 3: Research Question 2: Does poverty influence child abuse and neglect among secondary school student in Oredo Local Government Area?

S/N	Items	Agreed F	%	Disagreed F	%	Mean (X)	Decision
4.	Parents poor standard of living can cause harm to a child's mental development	154	77%	46	23%	3.07	Agreed
5.	Most children from poor home can hardly pay their school fees and buy their exercise books	188	94%	12	6%	4.08	Agreed
6.	Most children from poor family background are known to have low self esteem	145	72.5%	55	27.5%	2.67	Agreed

**Criterion X= 2.50
(Agreed)**

Aggregate X= 3.27

Table 3 showed that the respondents agreed that parents' poor standard of living can cause harm to a child's mental development with mean score of 3.07. Item 5 showed that the respondents agreed that most children from poor home can hardly pay their school fees and buy their exercise books with score of 4.08. Item 6 showed that the respondents agreed that most children from poor family background are known to have low self-esteem with a mean score of 2.67 which are above criterion score of 2.50.

Table 4: Research Question 3: Does divorce influence child abuse and neglect among secondary school students in Oredo Local Government Area?

S/N	Items	Agreed F	%	Disagreed F	%	Mean (X)	Decision
7.	Most children whose parents are no longer together are known to be wayward in the society	129	64.5%	71	35.5%	2.67	Agreed
8.	Most children whose parents are divorce lacks adequate care and affection from step-father	200	100%	-	-	3.62	Agreed

**Criterion X= 2.50
(Agreed)**

Aggregate X= 3.15

Table 4 showed that the respondents agreed that most children whose parents are no longer together are known to be wayward in the society and lacks adequate care and affection from step-father with mean score of 2.67 and 3.62 respectively which are above the criterion score of 2.50.

Table 5: Research Question 4: Does death of parent influence child abuse and neglect among secondary school students in Oredo Local Government Area?

S/N	Items	Agreed F	%	Disagreed F	%	Mean (X)	Decision
9.	Most children who lost their parents are known to have psychological problem	126	63%	73	37%	2.69	Agreed
10.	Most female children who lost their parent are the ones into commercial sex workers	83	41.5%	117	58.5%	2.32	Disagreed
11.	Most children who lost their parents are subjected into child labor in the hand of their caregiver	173	86.5%	27	13.5%	3.28	Agreed

**Criterion X= 2.50
(Agreed)**

Aggregate X= 2.76

Table 5 showed that the respondents agreed that most children who lost their parents are known to have psychological problem and are subjected into child labor in the hand of their caregiver with means score of 2.69 and 3.28 which are above the criterion score of 2.50 while some of the respondents did not agreed that most female children who lost their parent are the ones into commercial sex workers with a mean score 2.32 which is below the criterion score of 2.50.

Table 6: Research Question 5: Does societal influence affects child abuse and neglect among secondary school students in Oredo Local Government Area?

S/N	Items	Agreed F	%	Disagreed F	%	Mean (X)	Decision
12.	Bad peer influence can lead to abuse and neglect	192	96%	8	4%	3.59	Agreed
13.	Culture helps to mode the behavior of children in any given society	192	96%	8	4%	3.47	Agreed
14.	Society with low moral standard can encourage prostitution and cultism	157	78.5%	43	21.5%	3.26	Agreed
15.	Culture where parents sends their female children abroad for prostitution encourages child abuse	184	92%	16	8%	3.55	Agreed

**Criterion X= 2.50
(Agreed)**

Aggregate X= 3.48

Table 6 showed that the respondents agreed that bad peer influence can lead to abuse and neglect with means score of 3.59 which is above the criterion score of 2.50. Item 13 showed that the respondents agreed that culture helps to mode the behavior of children in any given society with means score of 3.47 which is above the criterion score of 2.50. Item14 showed that the respondents agreed that society with low moral standard can encourage prostitution and cultism with means score 3.26 which is above the

criterion score of 2.50. Item 15 showed that the respondents agreed that culture where parents sends their female children abroad for prostitution encourages child abuse with a mean score of 3.55 which is above the criterion score of 2.50.

Discussion of Findings

The study examined the factors responsible for child abuse and neglects among secondary school students in Oredo Local Government Area of Edo State. The first concern of this study was to find out if single parenting influence child abuse and neglect among secondary school students in Oredo Local Government Area. It was revealed that the respondents agreed it has negative influence with an aggregate score of 2.79. In this finding, Hanburg (1993), pointed to that fact in addition to having fewer financial resources, single parents may be less able to supervise their children. This is evidence that a child living in a single parent family and having little parent supervision will be susceptible to delinquent behaviour and substance abuse. The implication of single parenthood to child bearing can be viewed in relation to the Brazilian proverbs quoted by Stolcky, in 1992 “when the father leaves the home, the household trembles, when the

mother leaves it, the house crumbles. Ekpu (2004) cited Hamburg in 1993 that marital separation commonly involves emotional distress for child relationship.

The second concern of this study was to find out if poverty influences child abuse and neglect among secondary school student in Oredo Local Government Area. It was revealed that the respondents agreed poverty can cause more harm to students with an aggregate mean score 3.27. In this finding, according to Levenson, (2007) pointed that poverty has made so many children resort to the sleeping under the bridge due to high cost of living and rent which the poor cannot afford as such at this present state the child is prone to summary hazard that might be detrimental to his/her health and might eventually in one way or the other led to death. While most people in financial need do not maltreat their children, poverty can increase the likelihood of maltreatment, particularly when poverty is combined with other risk factors, such as depression, substance use, and social isolation. Poor children also experience a disproportionate amount of neglect and social deprivation thanks to poverty.

The third concern of this study was to find out if divorce influences child abuse and neglect among secondary school student in Oredo Local Government Area. It was revealed that the respondents agreed that when parents are divorced, it makes children go wayward and lack adequate care affection with an aggregate mean score 3.15. In this finding, according to Ekpu (2004) that divorce is actually one thing that has also brought child abuse to its climax; it also has destroyed marriages etc. In a situation where by a family/home is broken as a result of divorce, the children in such a home are left to themselves. At this point in time certain group influence that a detrimental to their behavioral way of life and otherwise. The child in question might be smoking at a very tender age, involved in-certain him oral acts and might liven join touts on the streets.

The fourth concern of this study was to find out if death of parent influences child abuse and neglect among secondary school student in Oredo Local Government Area. It was revealed that the respondents agreed that not all are into commercial sex worker but are known to have psychological problem and some suffer in the hands of their care giver with an aggregate mean score 2.76. This is in line with Ross (2004) that said so many orphans

have been exposed to child abuse at a very high rate considering the fact that they do not have parents any longer who take care of them or look after them. Orphans who are left to their uncles and relatives after a - the death of their parents tend to suffer child abuse due to some level of hatred and wickedness from their aunts/ uncles. This wicked uncles might send this orphans to go hawking which exposes them to risk of death by accident, sexual harassment, rape and kidnap etc. and also poor feeding, maltreating them and sometimes they are not sent to school.

Lastly, the concern of this study was to find if societal influence affects child abuse and neglect among secondary school student in Oredo Local Government Area. It was revealed that the respondents agreed that a bad society can damage students and also lead them to abuse and neglect as well as help mode their behavior if properly nurtured with an aggregate mean score of 3.48. This is in line with (Tackett 2002) which stated that sexually abused individuals either avoid establishing relationships or have a tendency to show excessive closeness and have numerous, overly demanding and controlling relationships. Both styles are dysfunctional and are likely to result in loneliness.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

In this chapter, the researcher presents the summary of the study, conclusion as well as recommendations for further research.

Summary

The study examined the factors responsible for child abuse and neglects among secondary school students in Oredo Local Government Area of Edo State, Nigeria. A descriptive research design method which involves collection of data through the use of questionnaire was adopted to solicit information and five research questions were used to guide the research. The population of the study comprised of students from selected public schools in Oredo Local Government Area of Edo State. The sample of the study comprised of two hundred (200) students. Frequency counts, percentages and mean were used to analyze the data collected to answer the research questions, the research questions that were raised are;

- ❖ Does single parenting influence child abuse and neglect among secondary school students in Oredo Local Government Area of Edo state

- ❖ Does poverty influence child abuse and neglect among secondary school students in oredo local government area of Edo state
- ❖ Does divorce influence child abuse and neglect among secondary school students in oredo local government area of Edo state
- ❖ Does death of parents influence child abuse and neglect among secondary school students in oredo local government area of Edo state
- ❖ Does societal influence affect child abuse and neglect among secondary school students in Oredo Local Government Area of Edo state

A total two hundred (200) respondents were used for the study. Which is represented ten (10) percent of the total number of secondary school students selected from the five (5) government secondary schools in Oredo Local Government Area of Edo State, through a simple random sampling techniques.

Questionnaire was the major instrument used for data collection. The questionnaire was made up of section 'A' and 'B'. While section 'A' contained the bio-data of the respondents, section 'B' was meant to elicit data on the

various research questions raised and other matters considered important to the success of this study.

Conclusion

Child abuse and neglect is a subject matter that requires much attention and focus. Since we have come to know that it actually poses a bad image for the nation so many incidences of child abuse such as trafficking, sexual harassment (rape), under age sex, etc should be met to carry several charges in the court of law but that is not the case today as corruption is the order of the day. It is in our hands to put an end to this situation or else Nigeria becomes an island of hoodlums and touts constituting public nuisance.

Recommendations

1. Voluntary organisations for the prevention and protection against child abuse should periodically organise in-house seminars, workshop and other educative programmes in villages, quarters to enlighten parents and children on the dangers of child street hawking and other forms of child abuse.

2. The fact that poor parenting skill is one of the major factors sustenance of child abuse and neglect and has implication from marital counselling, so counsellors should provide necessary counselling hints on effective child rearing techniques to their clients.
3. When the problem is owned by all individuals and communities, prevention will progress, and fewer children will remain at risk.
4. To remind the public that child abuse and neglect are serious threats to a child's healthy development and that overt violence toward children and a persistent lack of attention to their care and supervision are unacceptable.
5. Opportunities for early identification of child abuse, as well as research into preventative strategies should be prioritised.
6. Establishing strong institutions and guidance to tackle abuse when it occurs is both beneficial to the survivors and the continent at large.
7. Provide quality care and education early in life
8. Treatment to prevent problem behavior and later involvement in violence

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APPENDIX

DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY FACULTY OF EDUCATION UNIVERSITY OF BENIN

QUESTIONNAIRE ON FACTORS RESPONSIBLE FOR CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT AMONG SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

Dear Respondent,

This questionnaire is solely designed for the purpose of a research. The researcher is carrying out a study on; factors responsible for child abuse and neglects among secondary school students in Oredo Local Government Area of Edo State. You are therefore requested to kindly help as much as possible to supply the needed information. Your response shall be treated with outmost confidence.

Please read the question carefully and tick in the box provided that corresponds to the answer of your choice. Indicate your response to the statement by ticking the appropriate option. Please do not tick two option for one statement.

SECTION A

PERSONAL DATA

Sex; Male[] Female[]

Class; JSS1 [], JSS2 [], JSS3 []

Section B

The interpretations of the numbers are as follows;

Strongly Agree = SA

Agree = A

Disagree = D

Strongly Disagree = SA

S/N	ITEM	SA	A	SD	D
A	Does single parenting influences child abuse and neglect among secondary school students in Oredo Local Government Area of Edo State				
1	Most Children with single parent are vulnerable to sexual abuse				
2	Most Children with single parent are likely to have issues with their relationship in future				
3	Children with single parent are easily influenced by bad friends				
B	Does poverty influences child abuse and neglect among secondary school students in Oredo Local Government Area of Edo State				
4	Parents poor standard of living can cause harm to a child's mental development				
5	Most Children from poor home can hardly pay their school fees and buy their exercise books				
6	Most Children from poor family background are known to have low self esteem				
C	Does divorce influences child abuse and neglect among secondary school students in Oredo Local Government Area of Edo State				
7	Most Children whose parents are no longer together are known to be wayward in the society				
8	Most Children whose parents are divorce lacks adequate care and affection from step-father or step-mother.				
D	Does death of parents influences child abuse and neglect among secondary school students in				

	Oredo Local Government Area of Edo State				
9	Most Children who lost their parents are known to have psychological problem				
10	Most Female children who lost their parents are the ones into commercial sex workers				
11	Most Children who lost their parents are subjected into child labour in the hand of their caregiver				
E	Does societal influence affects child abuse and neglect among secondary school students in Oredo Local Government Area of Edo State				
12	Bad peer influence can lead to abuse and neglect				
13	Culture helps to mode the behavior of children in any given society				
14	Society with low moral standard can encourage prostitution and cultism				
15	Culture where parents sends their female children abroad for prostitution encourages child abuse				