

**IMPACT OF CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION IN THE REHABILITATION
OF FEMALE INMATES IN OKO-PRISONS, BENIN**

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**UNIVERSITY OF BENIN
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK**

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**BEING A PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL
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CERTIFICATION

We the Undersigned, confirmed that this research was conducted by Azubuiké Benjamin Osaruese with the matriculation number SSC1900819 in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of Bachelor of Science degree in Social sciences, University of Benin, Benin City.

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Date: _____

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DEDICATION

This project is dedicated to God almighty for His love and infinite mercy.

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My heartfelt Gratitude goes to God Almighty for the grace, mercy and help He gave me during the course of this research.

My sincere appreciation goes to my most dynamic and dedicated project supervisor Prof. E. O. Ugiagbe for his thoroughness in critically assessing, correcting and approving this project. Also, to the Head of department Prof. S. O. Ibobor and my Course Advisor Dr. Owie Ukponahiusi and also to my lecturers Mr Charles Mfon, Dr. Omigie (and staff of the department of Social Work for the learning opportunities they provided for me, I am Indeed grateful.

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To God the Most high, thank you I wouldn't have made it without you, God you are faithful and Merciful. Thank You LORD.

Azubuike Benjamin Osaruese

University of Benin

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ABSTRACT

The rehabilitation of female inmates in correctional institutions remains a pressing concern in criminal justice systems worldwide, particularly in developing nations like Nigeria. This study investigates the impact of correctional services on the rehabilitation and reintegration of female inmates at Oko Prisons in Benin City, with a focus on the role of institutional programs, social workers, and governmental support. Using a mixed-methods approach, data were collected from 86 female inmates and correctional staff through structured questionnaires and descriptive statistics. Findings reveal that while correctional facilities offer basic rehabilitation programs such as vocational training, religious services, and mental health support systemic issues including overcrowding, underfunding, limited infrastructure, and a lack of qualified personnel severely constrain outcomes. Moreover, social workers, though pivotal in fostering behavioral change and reintegration, remain underrepresented in Nigerian prisons.

The study underscores the need for a holistic, gender-sensitive reform of correctional policies to address the socio-economic, psychological, and health-specific needs of incarcerated women. Recommendations are proposed for institutional investment, intersectoral collaboration, and policy restructuring to ensure effective rehabilitation and reduce recidivism among female inmates

CHAPTER ONE

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Prison houses the apprehended, prosecuted and convicted law violators. The federal prisons in Nigeria are charged with the uncompromising responsibility of ensuring that offenders are reformed and rehabilitated. Although prisons in recent times are considered as centres for rehabilitation, some factors have made this difficult in Nigeria. Despite the noble objectives of reformation, rehabilitation and reintegration which the Nigeria prison system embarked on to ensure that criminals become changed persons, the realization of this objective has been obstructed by certain factors. Ayodele (2014) asserted that the rate at which ex-convicts are returning to jail is alarming. Reformation of prisoners has not been effective as every year criminals who became more hardened and deadly are leased as against changed individuals expected by the society.

According to Wilfley, Randon, and Anderson as cited in Otu and Eteng (2013), the prison milieu present a range of challenges, including stressors such as feelings of isolation, loss of privacy, boredom a, personal threats and overcrowded living conditions. In developing countries such as Nigeria, inmates are both physically and

mentally deprived, leading to low self-esteem and psychological upheaval. Traditionally, prisons have been dominated by male inmates. Among the various reviewed literatures, it was argued that female inmate or policy makers, social workers, alike. For example, Diaz-Cotto (2002) observed that in most developing nations, female inmates are exposed to inhumane treatment, such as poor sanitary conditions or emotional trauma that expos interferes with rehabilitation. During the past few decades, research has also shown that women respond differently to prison than men (Irwin, 2005). Morris (2008) on the other hand observed that where gender is concerned, there are distinctive differences in adjustments to prison. Women most aspect of prison life is the separation from children partner and loved ones (Irwin, 2005). This observation gives credence to the views of feminist who see the underlying causes of women's neglect and inequality as deeply rooted in the patriarchal system of relationships in society- a system characterized by male dominance, hierarchy and competition (Eteng, 2011).

The Nigeria prison service Manual (2011) reports that realization of one of the major objectives of the prison service- the reform and rehabilitation of convicts are to be done through a complicated set of mechanism consisting among: conscientisation, group work, case work session, recreational activities religious services and adult. In addition are programme, educational development project, skills acquisition programme, mild-range industrial production. Eteng (2011) further opined that the prison's services provider should not only identify the causes of the prisons inmates' anti-social

behaviour but also endeavours to set them on the road to reforms through induced self-discovery and eventual change for the better. It is true that the numbers of female prisoners are very few in comparison to male population. However, because the female prison population is growing at an alarming rate, coupled with their peculiar nature, there we need for prison officials to look at the conditions and needs of female inmate especially the issues that can impact their health negatively. Moreover, even though many of these conditions and issues are similar to those found in all-male prison facilities, female inmates do have certain needs that must be confronted and addressed by correctional administrators and the government.

The study therefore investigate the role of social workers in correction of female inmates in the Nigerian prison facilities. The study is divided into five chapters, chapter one covers introduction, statement of the problem, research objectives and research questions, chapter two will cover literature reviewed and the necessary theoretical framework while chapter three is centred on research method adopted in the study. Chapter four deals with analysis of data collection and chapter five covers summary and conclusion of the study.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

According to Amnesty international, (2008), the conditions in Nigeria prisons are appalling and pitiable. While Ndukwe and Nwuzor (2014) noted that the Nigerian prison service is in a state of serious dilemma. This situation is essentially predicated on

the perceived contradiction that is embedded in the county penal code or philosophy (this implies the country's policy that centres on the rationalization of punishment administered to offender). Thus, one of the fundamental issues confronting prison administrators today in Nigeria is the apparent lack of agreement as to what should be the aim in dealing with convicted offenders.

The reality is that despite the claims of the presence of well-articulated administrative, reformatory and rehabilitative programmes, Nigeria prison have remained more or less or less, a punitive centre (Ameh, 2010). Among these prisons in Nigeria, Edo state prison is the most affected as the Edo state prisons as appearing to have the worst of all prisons in Nigeria. According to Human Right Society (2014), although female inmate constitute only a small percentage at the global level, the challenges resulting from women falling under the provisions of the penal system have prompted official and humanitarian bodies to consider female inmates as vulnerable prisoners, who need particular measures that meet their specific needs. This therefore investigates the role of social works in reintegration of female inmates in correctional facilities in Edo prison.

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The main objective of the study is to examine the impact of correction institutions in the rehabilitation of female inmates in Benin City.

Specific objectives are:

- a. To ascertain the prison services provided for female inmates
- b. To ascertain the factor that hinder effective rehabilitation of female inmates
- c. To ascertain the roles of government in the rehabilitation of female inmates
- d. To ascertain the role of social worker in the rehabilitation of female inmates

1.4 Research Questions

- a. What is the prison services provided for female inmates?
- b. What are the factors that hinder effective rehabilitation of female inmates
- c. What are the roles of government in the rehabilitation of female inmates?
- d. What are the roles of social worker in the rehabilitation of female inmates?

1.5 Significance of the Study

This study will be of immense benefit because it is not only timely but the findings will help to proffer feasible panacea to the vexed but preventable problem of stigmatization of female ex-convicts not only in the study area but the entire Nigerian society. This study will in doubt help provide impetus for activist to advocate for practical and conscientious positive actions towards enhancing the societal perception of ex-convicts in the Nigeria society especially in Edo State. In practical terms, the findings of this study will bring to the fore the inadequacies, deficiencies, flaws and other problems inherent in the process of reformation, rehabilitation and specifically reintegration of ex-convicts into society due to age long sustained believe held generally.

The findings of this study will be used to develop alternative policies programmes that are viable for the implementation of veritable tool for social development. As a matter of fact, the far reaching findings and recommendations will help policy makers, stakeholders, social workers, psychologists, other professionals and even government officials, and private institutions in formulating and implementing policies that will help address this social phenomenon been investigated in this study.

Theoretically, the findings in this study will unravel a general theoretical position of the society in the context of ex-convicts who are currently traumatized as a result of societal stigmatization. The study will make significant input in the body of knowledge on the societal factors cum perception that militate against the smooth reintegration of ex-convicts in the society.

It is the believe that upon the completion of this thesis, it will serve as a veritable source of reference in the reservoir of knowledge for students, researchers, social workers and anybody interested in the societal processes. The findings will also make good readings and material for those who are interested in further studies in the area of Prisons and Correctional Studies with special reference to the Nigerian society. This study will also provide the much needed exposure of the social economic, cultural and political realities of the study area.

CHAPTER TWO

2.0 INTRODUCTION

Most studies of the prisons have been concerned with the sociological analysis of the prison as a social system and have examined the social structure, normative system, and value orientation of inmates. Awe (2013) asserts that these and other studies have developed propositions concerning the effect of the community on both the institutional and post institutional behaviors of convicts with much emphasis on the male inmates. Yet little attention has been given to an empirical evaluation of the role of social worker in the rehabilitation of female inmates in the Nigerian prisons as they are faced with the prison rehabilitative ordeals. Social worker has greatly helped in the rehabilitation of female inmates through various casework and group work via counselling.

2.1 REVIEW OF LITERATURES

2.1.1 Corrections

There is no society without a prison system and prisons have existed in different civilizations in ancient times. It included short-term detention facilities for the confinement of persons awaiting trial, sentencing, execution, deportation (transportation to other countries as punishment) whipping or some other form of corporal punishment.

Reid (2012) however said that placing offenders in an institution for the purposes of punishment is a relatively modern development. Prisons have been described as the narrow funnel of criminal justice system to which sentences continually pour new offenders into (Bamgbose, 2003). It is perceived to be the darkest region of the apparatus of the justice system in Nigeria (Dambazu, 2007). This is not far from the fact that the Nigerian criminal trial system is accusatorial in nature. The question of why prisons exist and what they are meant to achieve is often asked.

2.1.2 Prisons

A number of definitions have been put forward to denote prison. Among the scholarly definition put forward is that of Shajobi-Ibikunle (2014) that defined prison as define prison as a building to which people are legally committed as a punishment for a crime or while awaiting trial. Implicit in the definition is the legality or lawfulness of prison. That is why globally, government make provision for rehabilitation centre where those who violate the laws of the land will be kept for some time or for life and given corrective measures to enable them become better citizens. Aboki (2007) said that in the triangular relationship of criminal justice system, the third leg carries the prison. To him, prison is responsible for the custody of the final product in the criminal justice process through maintenance of custody by carrying out measures to prevent escape including erecting high walls or chain link, fence, placing guards, constant checks on cell perimeter walls, surveillance from time to time. One can say that a prison is not

expected to be exactly a bed of roses as the inmates are there for penal purposes. But neither is it also supposed to be a bed of thorns and thistles meant to stuff life out of the occupants. In fact, prisons are ideally reformatory institutions (Suleman, 2011). For Omagbemi and Odunewu (2008), prisons are established confinement for the safe keeping of those legally interned for awaiting trials. He maintained that except for those who are to be executed upon the pronouncement of death penalty on them, prisons are expected to transform and reform the interned towards the re-integration of the affected individuals into the larger society on completion of their terms. It therefore follows from their explanation that for prisons to achieve the objectives of reformation and rehabilitation, there is the need for training and retraining of inmates including exposing them to adequate and timely information. Thus, prisons apart from serving as a custodian for convicted people, doubles as a reformation and rehabilitation centres. But once an individual is confined in a correctional institution, he/she loses his/her freedom (Okwor, 2010).

Prisons are also perceived as a total institution, from the perspective of Goffman. While Okunola sees a total institution as a place unlike free environment or community that houses those who are socially rejected, insane or mentally retarded, Goffman on the other hand conceptualized total institution as where there is a basic split between a large class of individuals who are restricted contact with outside world and stereotypical behavioral pattern where social mobility is restricted. Yet from the

labeling point of view, the prison is a place for vagrants, who may pose actual danger to social life in the larger society, which pre-supposes that every person in the prison is a vagrant and irresponsible person. This is the position of Howard (1960) who demonstrated his view with what obtained during the ancient Greek times. Perhaps this conceptualization by Howard is rekindled in the attitudes of “Mr. Political Leaders” towards prisoners, who they regard as the “dregs” of the society.

2.1.3 Prison Rehabilitation Services

A review of the available literature indicates a deep and increasing disenchantment with the operations of the Nigerian prisons. Given its historical development, philosophy, and mode of operation, prisons in Nigeria are perceived to be ill disposed to achieving any meaningful reformation and rehabilitation of incarcerated offenders (Tanimu, 2006). However, the social purpose prison creation in Nigeria is primarily for rehabilitation services. For example, the Nigerian prison service, which operates under the prison Act number 9 of 1972, has reformation and rehabilitation of offenders as part of its fundamental objectives (NPS, 1979). However, it has been observed that many claims of reformation and rehabilitation are made without a sufficient understanding of the concepts. This is why Ahire (1999) opined that reformation could be referred to measures calculated to impart moral improvement in a person’s character so that he will be less inclined to re-offend in the future. Rehabilitation refers to post Release efforts made to make it easier for the offender to resettle in society. Given this conceptual

clarification and in spite of the declared objectives of reformation and rehabilitation, the Nigerian prison is marred with numerous problems. According to Alemika as cited in Shajobi (2014) the Nigerian prison system is a colonial creation and remains a monument to colonial experiences in the administration of criminal justice in Nigeria. The establishment of Nigeria's first "modern" prison in 1872 at Broad Street, Lagos, marked the beginning of the contemporary prison system in the country. In fact, contemporary Nigerian prisons have been described as "human cages with no facilities for correction, reformation, and vocational training" (Ahire, 1990).

2.1.4 Roles of Non-Governmental Organization

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) for example, is one of the non-government organization that has done much in the aspect of prison inmate rehabilitation. The International Committee of the Red Cross is an international non-governmental organization created in 1863 with its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. It runs its operations based on the principles of independence, impartiality and neutrality (Shajobi-Ibikunle, 2014). Its mandate was conferred by the State Parties to the 1949 Geneva Conventions. The ICRC functions as one of the main guardians of International Humanitarian Law, coming in the protection and assistance to the victims of armed conflicts or internal strife. In prisons, the main purpose of the ICRC is "purely humanitarian" so as to "[...] preserve the physical and moral integrity of detainees, to

prevent any abuse to which they may be subjected and to ensure decent material conditions”. NGOs might use a combined-benefit strategy in order to gain the trust of prison leaders who are more reluctant to cooperate with them.

2.1.5 Role of Social Work in Prisons

Social work emerged as a profession in the twentieth century and today is the profession charged with fulfilling the social welfare mandate of promoting well-being and quality of life. Thus, social work encompasses activities directed at improving human and social conditions and alleviating human distress and social problems. Social workers, as caring professionals, work with people to enhance their competence and functioning, to access social supports and resources, to create humane and responsive social services, and to expand the structures of society that provide opportunities for all citizens (Dubois & Miley, 1999). Social work profession has historically maintained a partisan commitment to working with the poor and the marginally dependent. However, social workers' views of their clients and their preferences with respect to courses of action have differed. Many have viewed the poor and dependents as victims of social disorder, social injustice, and social change (Bruyns, Jonker, & Luyt, 2014). As social reformers, they confronted the root causes of problems, modified societal structures, and engaged in advocating policy and legislative changes to improve environmental conditions and create opportunities. Others viewed the poor and disadvantaged populations as supplicants unworthy, powerless, and in need of personal reform. The history of prisons

is a long and sorry description of our ability to be cruel and of our inability to live up to our highest ideals. Through the early 1970's prisons continued to be organized along military lines with a pyramidal organizational structure with strong lines of communication and authority (Bruyns, Jonker, & Luyt, 2014). The Constitution (Act 108:1996) provides for fundamental human rights and protection for all citizens including prisoners. It also makes provision for detention that is consistent with human dignity.

The Correctional Service Act (Act 111:1998) was enacted in 1998 and its intention is to balance the requirements of safe custody with the development or rehabilitation of all prisoners and persons subject to community corrections. Social workers are often vulnerable when faced with demands of accountability because of the strong tradition of private, intuitive ways of working and this assertion is particularly applicable to social workers in correctional services. Probation officer's report writing and methods of intervention it felt that probation officers differed in how they explain prisoners' behaviour and methods of help they use, producing a picture of a professional or personal preference led service, strongly influenced by ideological positions. It is against this background that social work, as one of the disciplines responsible for the rehabilitation of prisoners in correctional environment, had to define itself.

All of these functions are intertwined and interdependent. For example, the role of restoration can be curative or rehabilitative. Its curative aspects are to eliminate factors, which have caused breakdown of functioning, and its rehabilitative aspects are

to organize and rebuild interactional patterns. Provision of resources can be developmental and educational. The developmental aspects are designed to further the effectiveness of existing social resources or to bring to full use the personal abilities for more effective social interaction. The educational aspect is structured to make familiar the public with specific conditions and needs for now or with changing social resources. Prevention of social dysfunction involves early discovery, control, and elimination of conditions and situations, such as delinquency and crime, which potentially could hamper effective social functioning. The two main divisions of prevention of social dysfunction are prevention of problems in the area of interaction between individuals and groups and secondly the prevention of social ills. Okwendi, Nwankwoala and Ush (2014) averred that the underlying assumptions of social work in the context of corrections are:

- 1) Social Work, like all other professions, has problem solving functions and hence, it can help offenders in their treatment and rehabilitation.
- 2) Social Work practice is an art with a scientific and value foundation and, hence, correctional work is professional in nature.
- 3) Social Work as a profession came into being and continued to develop because it meets human needs and aspirations recognized by society. Hence, it assumes some of the socialization and control functions of society and helps the offenders to reshape their behaviour.

4) Social Work practice takes its values from those held by the society of which it is a part. However, its values are not necessarily or altogether those universally or predominantly held or practiced in society and hence, it emphasizes in treatment and rehabilitation of the offender.

5) The scientific base of social work consists of three types of knowledge: a) tested knowledge, b) Hypothetical knowledge that requires transformation into tested knowledge, and Social Work Intervention with Individuals and Groups c) assumptive knowledge (or “Practice wisdom”) that requires transformation into hypothetical and then into tested knowledge. The correctional social worker uses all three types of knowledge, and carries a professional responsibility for knowing, at any time, which type of knowledge he is using and what degree of scientific certainty is attached to it.

6) The knowledge needed for social work practice is determined by its goals and functions and the problems it seeks to solve and, hence, they are applicable in the administration of correction.

7) The internalization of professional knowledge and values is a vital characteristic of the professional social worker, since he is himself the instrument of professional help and he helps the offender to change his behaviour.

8) Professional skill is expressed in the activities of the social worker. It constitutes his artistic creation, resulting from three internal processes: first, conscious selection of knowledge pertinent to the professional task at hand in order to help the offender, second, fusion of this knowledge with social work and correctional values; and third, the expression of this synthesis in professionally relevant activity to administer correction and to modify offending behaviour.

2.1.3 Factors affecting effective rehabilitation programme

The radical shift in penal philosophy and prison management globally, which emphasizes the identification of the reason for individual's anti-social behaviour for treatment with the hope that the offender is returned to the society not as a social misfit but reoriented and equipped for productive life, has posed a challenge to Nigeria prison. (Umah, 2004) observed that Nigeria prison preaches reformation and rehabilitation, but in practice, advocates for retributive punishment. He maintained that their punishment continues even after discharge from the prison due to public attitude towards them, as they are branded and treated as ex-convicts (stigma) which however is the greatest obstacle to a discharged prisoner's re-integration.

1. Stigmatization-

This stigma is emphasized by the legal or state law which so defines the discharged prisoner. Therefore, the law as it exists today further stigmatizes the discharged prisoner and prevents him from integrating successfully.

2. Overcrowding of Inmates-

In Nigeria, from the year 2000-2010, the population of awaiting trial inmates was fluctuating around 62% of a total prison population of about 44,000. Between 2010 and 2011, out of a total prison population of 40,447, a total 25,380 (63%) persons are awaiting trial. It was however noted that more than half of awaiting trial persons as captured by the report have been convicted more than once (Ugwuoke, 2010). As at January –July, 2013, prison population stood at 53,816 inmates, out of whom 37,429 inmates are awaiting trial while 16,387 inmates are convicted (Prison Quarterly Statistics Prison Headquarters, 2013) Inferring from the above statistics, recidivism is high in Nigeria prison. It has been noted that Nigerian prison has proved dysfunctional, for rather than reconciling the offender with the social order and its laws, the prison has been a center for the dissemination and exchange of criminal influences and ideas, and has usually rendered the prison processed offenders unable to re-integrate into the society (Ugwuoke, 2010).

3. Lack of adequate funding-

This appears to be the main reason constraining the Nigeria prison from delivering on its mandate. As a result the prison is littered with worn-out equipment and

machines used for reformation (Umah, 2004). At the end, the prisoner may be discharged without being reformed or rehabilitated. The government scheme of empowering a prisoner upon discharge seems no longer a priority and this goes a long way in explaining the high rate of recidivism in the Nigerian prisons. This is because they still cannot find their footing in the society even after discharge. Therefore, society still perceives them as social misfits to be avoided, thereby making reintegration impossible. Unfortunately, the complementary follow-up after-care services of the prison for discharged prisoners which ensure smooth reentry into the society appears to be totally lacking.

4. Lack of sincere effort policy-

There is as well lack of sincere effort by policy makers and correctional administrators in pursuing the legislative provisions (if any) for discharged prisoners in the area of community rehabilitation and reintegration programmes, which should address the legal stipulation that denies them employment and public appointments, as well as culture based, age-long traditional apathy towards them. High recidivism rate indicates that inmates are not prepared to come back to society as law-abiding citizens. Findings have also indicated that ex-offenders usually respond to the obvious socio-cultural implications of their new status which invariably attracted limited social and economic prospects by placing themselves in tight-knit insular networks of family and close friends for both material and non-material benefits essential to daily life (Pittaro,

2008). It was noted that, ex-offenders expressed the desire to live more honestly and to completely overhaul themselves, their lives, their kinship ties, and their views on the world if there are enabling laws and environmental conditions. Igbo and Ugwuoke (2003) findings revealed that poor environmental conditions of the prison and the negative attitude of the public towards ex-convicts are the two main factors responsible for recidivism (Igbo & Ugwuoke, 2003).

2.1.7 Social Work and Women in the Prison Settings

Women and children in Nigeria prisons across the country are plagued with several concerns ranging from minors serving jail time or awaiting trial parallel to adult detainees in the same prison facilities. Besides, the plight of female inmates is more disturbing as some of them serve with pregnancies while nursing mothers are incarcerated alongside their babies. According to Agbaegbu (2011), the problem of prison congestion in Nigeria rests primarily with the courts and the slow judicial system. Courts have refused to speed up the trial processes, thereby keeping suspects indefinitely in jail without trials. Agbaegbu (2011) Laments that “the country is confronted with a tragic situation bordering on human rights violation, caused by the slow judicial process in the country. Nigeria, arguably, has the highest number of awaiting trial detainees in Africa (Egba, 2011). A situation where over 70 per cent of prison inmates are on the awaiting trial list is unacceptable.

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The state of prisons in Nigeria is nothing to write home about, as most of them are like dungeons with inhuman conditions hardly tolerable even for condemned criminals. Feeding and healthcare system are poor, largely due to corrupt dealings involving dishonest contractors who take advantage of the system, usually in collaboration with officials. Of the about five hundred naira allowance earmarked for a prisoner per day, only about one hundred naira is actually spent (Agbaegbu, inter alia). Therefore, it is not uncommon to find prisoners looking starved, while some have literally turned into living skeletons.

2.1.8 Female Inmates' Health Problems

What comes to mind readily to the general public when discussing prison world-wide, including Nigeria is overcrowding. It is true that the numbers of female prisoners are very few in comparison to male population. However, because the female prison population is growing at an alarming rate, coupled with their peculiar nature, there is need for prison officials to look at the conditions and needs of female inmates especially the issues that can impact their health negatively. Moreover, even though many of these conditions and issues are similar to those found in all-male prison facilities, female inmates do have certain needs that must be confronted and addressed by correctional administrators and the government. Several studies have been conducted to address the issues of women in prisons and their health needs all over the world, including the United States, Europe, and Nigeria (Ramsbotham, 2004; Kitzinger, 2003).

For example, findings from a World Health Organization research titled *Women's Health in Prisons: Correcting Gender Inequity in Prison Health* and involved women's prisons in Europe and the United States in 2012 revealed that majority of female inmates are there for non-violent crimes such as shoplifting, drug-related, and petty theft. Moreover, the results also showed that the prevalence of mental illness in prisons is much higher for women than in men. Other problems of women in prisons points to the fact that the number of women giving birth in prisons has jumped significantly, and that not all prison facilities are equipped or prepared to handle a

growing baby population. Besides, it is not uncommon for women in prison to discover that they are both pregnant and HIV infected (Durosaro, 2002; Ramsbotham, 2004; Kitzinger, 2003; Watson et al, 2004). Therefore, there is a much greater need for adequate nutrition and exercise for female prisoners, especially for those who are pregnant.

Additionally, there is also a need for the provision of thorough hygiene and cleanliness standards throughout prison facilities in Nigeria. The plight of female prisoners in Nigeria is deplorable as most of them are exposed to other dangers, besides health issues. Majority of them are deprived of their freedom. Moreover, their situation is compounded by frequent sexual abuse and harassment in the hand of male warders (Durosaro, 2002). Also, because of the frequent harassment by male officers, some of them become pregnant and give birth while still being incarcerated, a situation that have further worsened their health problems in the form of insomnia, depression, and illnesses (Durosaro, 2002; Ramsbotham, 2004). According to Parkinson (2003), nothing is more terrifying for female prisoners than going through labor alone with little or no support system. The situation, according to Parkinson (2003) creates both emotional and psychological trauma for the pregnant female prisoner, coupled with the misgivings and uncertainty about whether they can keep their babies.

The problems of female prisoners in Nigeria, as well as in other parts of the world are further complicated by the lives they lived before coming to prison

(Parkinson, 2003). Because of their gender, most of them come to prison unprepared and with different sets of problems. For example, they are separated from their children and spouses, some of them have mental and physical health problems, most have been sexually abused, some lack educational backgrounds, and are faced with unsafe prison environment (Kizinger, 2003). Life after incarceration is another problem of female prisoners internationally. Even though some male inmates are exposed to the same or similar predicament, the dilemma of female prisoners are unique and differ significantly in terms of its impact within and outside prison walls (Solanski, 2004; Parkinson, 2003). Most of the female prisoners in Nigeria are poor, uneducated, and held in filthy prison environments that is devoid of the basic sanitary products such as sanitary towels, toiletries, and soaps (Sakaya, 2010.). In Zimbabwe, for instance, it was reported that female inmates used newspapers, tissues, pieces of blankets, and sometimes prison uniforms as alternatives to sanitary towels. In South Africa, it was also reported that prison officials demand to see evidence of soiled sanitary towels before issuing another (Sakaya, 2010).

In Nigeria, most of the toiletries used by inmates are provided by non-governmental and religious organization which is a problem for the female prisoners who might be nursing mothers or pregnant (Hassan, 2010). Hassan (2010) noted that the government has failed to provide welfare for inmates, adding that without the support of nongovernmental and religious organizations that provides free counseling, foods, and

clothing to inmates, the situation would have been worse. The situation in Nigeria prisons is in sharp contrast with those of developed countries where friends of inmates can visit and even stay overnight; where inmates have access to vocational and educational programs, as well as access to good healthcare and decent feeding (Solanski, 2004). Furthermore, Solanski (2004) cites one of the largest prisons in the United Kingdom –HM Holloway prison in London, which was opened in 1852, first as a mixed prison, but became a female prison only in 1903, as an embodiment of prison environment where inmates are allowed to stay with their children and are provided with adequate healthcare and social services system (Narey, 2000)

2.4 Effects of Incarceration on Female Inmates

Relevant and accurate research data on female inmates in Nigeria prison system are scarce. This insufficiency indicates that researchers should focus more on the plight of female incarcerations in Nigeria. Most of the research on prison populations has been based on male inmates where most of the funding has been directed. This may be because the male inmates' populations by far outnumber those of the females. The second reason why there is dearth of research among female prisoners could be that they do not cause as many problems as their male counterparts (Okwendi, Nwankwoala, & Ush, 2014). The implication of the neglect and inequity in attention between male and female prisoners has led to a lack of educational opportunities, vocational, social, and personal growth for female inmates when compared with those available in male

prisons (Santos, 1995). It is essential that we critically examine the effects that incarceration has on female inmates if we are to reduce recidivism among released inmates who have spent many years in prison.

2.2 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.2.1 Rehabilitation Theory

The rehabilitation theory was adopted as the basis for the theoretical framework of this study. According to Packer as cited in Dambazau (2007), rehabilitation theory posits that offender should be treated as an individual whose special needs and problems must be known in order to enable prison official's deal effectively with her. They also argued that one cannot inflict a severe punishment or inhuman treatment to inmates in the prison and expect them to be reformed and reintegrate themselves into the society upon release. Although it is important to inflict punishment on those persons who breach the law, so as to maintain social order, the importance of rehabilitation is also given priority as it is the only assured way of ensuring that offenders do not return to crime particularly since they have acquired skills that will help them engage in productive activities upon release (Wikipedia, 2009). The theory of rehabilitation therefore, seeks to reduce recidivism because it believes that through retraining programmes for

offenders through proper counselling, a more purposeful life would be guaranteed to ex-convicts.

Rehabilitation theory is the most valuable ideological justification for punishment. It promotes the humanizing belief in the notion that offenders can be saved and not simply punished. It recognizes the reality of social inequity (Asokhia, 2013). To say that some offenders need help to be rehabilitated is to accept the idea that circumstances can constrain, if not compel and lead to criminality; it admits that we can help persons who have been overcome by their circumstances. It rejects the idea that individuals, regardless of their position in the social order, exercise equal freedom in deciding whether to commit crime, and should be punished equally according to their offence irrespective of their social background (Tan, 2008). Furthermore, this theory is relevant to the study as it tries to establish the justification or rationale behind the treatment of the convict by changing the attitude and behaviour of criminals so that they will be able to choose lawful means, in satisfying their needs (Dinitz & Dine, 1989). This theory emphasizes the need to retrain the convict so that he can live a lawful and independent life which upon release. It advocates that vocational training be designed to transform convicts' life styles through the vigorous application of discipline, education, work and other relevant programmes.

2.2.2 Ecological theory

The Ecological Theory which supports the idea that changes in social environment have a notable influence on individuals argues that, it is important to construct environments that support individuals post incarceration, so that society can prevent multiple offenses and reduce recidivism rates and crime. Ecological Theory supports the idea that resource availability such as stable employment, education, societal attitudinal change and other support services would create a positive environmental support structure for post-incarcerated individuals and would be very effective in reducing recidivism rates. In this regard, the study attempt to investigate correction of inmates in Oko and Benin prison, Benin City.

CHAPTER THREE

Research Methods

3.1 Introduction

This section aimed at showing the various methods, design, systems and procedure used in obtaining the information and analyzing the data relevant to this research work

3.2 Research Design

Research design is a plan on how data will be collected, analyzed and the extent to which corrections reached are applicable and generalized (Omorogiuwa, 2006). The research design for this study is the survey research design. A survey research design is one in which a group of people or items is studied by collecting and analyzing data from only few people or items considered to be representative of the entire group (Nworgu 1991). The area of this study is the Oko prison, Benin. Therefore a sample of the population known as the sample survey was selected for this study.

3.3 Population of Study

The population consists of all the prison inmates in the two prisons in Edo State. As at the time of this field work, Nigerian prisons in Edo State had a population of 731.

However, the two prison population Oko and Ogba prisons constitute a total population of 340.

S/N	Name of prisons	Number of prison inmates	Number of female inmates	Sample 40%
1.	Okoko Prison	220	58	37

2.	Benin prison	80	28	13
Total		340	86	60

Source: Fieldwork, 2023

A total of one hundred and forty seven (86) participants (female prison inmates) will be selected through simple random sampling of forty percent (40%) of all the inmates in the two prisons in Edo State. As shown in the table above.

3.4 SAMPLE SIZE AND SAMPLING TECHNIQUE

A sample size of 60 will be selected, however, the questionnaire was increased to 70 to make up questionnaires that might be wrongly filled or not returned. In other to obtain a representative sample, an appropriate sampling technique or procedure was followed. The Probability sampling technique of simple random sampling was appropriate. However equal number of individuals was selected from each prison cells to form the sample of the study. This was done to ensure that the sample reflected the true characteristics of the general population of the study so as to ensure valid generalization of the whole.

3.5 INSTRUMENT OF DATA COLLECTION

The instrument for data collection was questionnaire. The questionnaire was structured into two sections, section A and B. In section A: This section of the questionnaire contained demographic characteristics of participants such as age, sex, occupation, origin among others. Section B deals with the aspect of the questionnaire contained questions derived from the research questions. Instructions on how questions would be

answered were provided. However the instrument was also structured following the 'Yes', 'No' and 'Call not tell'.

3.6 METHOD OF DATA COLLECTION

Data were collected basically by the use of structured questionnaire designed from the sole purpose of elicit data from participants.

3.8 METHOD OF DATA ANALYSIS

This chapter entails the analysis of research data collected from participants in the university. Research data were derived with the aid of questionnaires which were properly constructed and effectively distributed within the population of this study. However, data were subsequently analyzed to find answers to the research questions as stated in chapter one of this work and to further make valid generalization or conclusion. The descriptive statistic method was employed in the data analysis, using a graphic representation such as Pie-chart, Bar chart, cone chart and percentage frequency distribution. With these the researcher was able to describe and summarize demographic as well as responses of participants. It also explained the frequency distribution of participants as the responses or opinions of participants agree or disagree with the stated research questions.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

4.0 Introduction

This chapter presents and interprets the quantitative data generated through structured questionnaire among participants/inmates and prison warders in Edo State. A total number of 87 questionnaires were administered among the participants alongside with prison warders. The headings for this analysis and presentation of data are divided into two and are as follows: socio-demographic characteristics of participants and the analysis of research question.

4.1 ANALYSIS OF RESPONDENTS' DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

Table 4.1.1: Age of the Respondents

Characteristics	Frequency	%
18-24 years	44	50.6
25-32 years	23	26.4
33-45 years	14	16.1
46 and above	6	6.9

Results from table 1 revealed that majority 44(50.6%) of the respondents fell at the age range of 18-24 years, followed by 25-32 years, 33-45 years and the least is 46 years and above.

Table 4.1.2: Marital Status of the Respondents

Characteristics	Frequency	%
Single	43	49.4
Married	33	37.9
Separated	3	3.4
Divorced	4	4.6
Widow	4	4.6

Results from table 2 revealed that majority 43 (49.4%) of the respondents were single, followed by married (37.9%), divorced (4.6%), widow (4.6%) and separated (3.4%).

Table 4.1.3: Educational Level of the Respondents

Characteristics	Frequency	%
Primary	9	10.3
Secondary	46	52.9
HND/BSC	26	29.9
Post Graduate	6	6.9

Results from table 3 revealed that majority 46 (52.9%) of the respondents' level of education were secondary school, followed by HND/BSC, primary school, and post graduate represents the lowest 6 (6.9%) of the respondents.

Table 4.1.4: Occupation of the Respondents

Characteristics	Frequency	%
Public Servant	11	12.6
Trader	27	31.0
Farmer	8	9.2
Craft	1	1.1
Semi-skilled worker	12	13.8
Student/others	28	32.2

Results from table 4 revealed that majority 28 (32.2%) of the respondents were students, followed by trader, semi-skilled worker public servant, and crafts represent the lowest 1 (1.1%) of the respondents.

4.2 Analysis of Research Questions

Research Question One: What is the influence of corrections in female inmates?

Table 4.2.1: Influence of corrections in female inmates

Item Questions	N	Mean	Standard Deviation	Decision
Corrections influence positive change in behavior pattern	87	3.84	0.43	Agreed
Corrections help female inmates to develop and maintain good social relationship	87	3.82	0.42	Agreed
Corrections provide health education for female inmates who suffer from alcohol and substance abuse	87	3.70	0.53	Agreed
Corrections enhance moral reasoning	87	3.72	0.45	Agreed
Grand Mean		3.77	0.46	

Criterion Mean= 2.5

Table 5 shows that a grand mean of 3.77 was obtained for all the four items which are above the criterion mean of 2.5, indication that the respondents agreed that corrections have influence on the female inmates and those influence are positive change in behavior pattern; corrections help female inmates to develop and maintain good social relationship; corrections provide health education for female inmates who suffer from alcohol and substance abuse; corrections enhance moral reasoning.

The study revealed that corrections have influence on the female inmates and those influences are positive change in behavior pattern; corrections help female

inmates to develop and maintain good social relationship; corrections provide health education for female inmates who suffer from alcohol and substance abuse; corrections enhance moral reasoning. This result is in line with the findings of Freuddenberg (2001), who found that Correctional systems have direct and indirect effects on health. Indirectly, they influence family structure, economic opportunities, political participation, and normative community values on sex, drugs, and violence. He asserts that correctional systems can have a direct effect on the health of urban populations by offering health care and health promotion in jails and prisons, by linking inmates to community services after release, and by assisting in the process of community reintegration. The result of this study is also in line with the findings of Uche, Uche, Ezumah, Ebue, Okafor and Ezegebe (2015) who in their study on the Enugu State prison inmate revealed that 85.5% of the female inmates respondents said that rehabilitation programmes have impacted on them positively, 13.8% of the respondents had no impact of the rehabilitation programmes, while 0.7% had negative impact of the programmes.

Research Question Two: What is the prison services provided for female inmates in correctional facilities in Edo State?

Table 4.2.2: The prison services provided for female inmates in correctional facilities in Edo State.

Item Questions	N	Mean	Standard Deviation	Decision
Training and Skill acquisition:				
a. Tailoring	32	4.0	0.00	Agreed
b. Printing	35	3.86	0.36	Agreed

c. Crafts	21	3.71	0.46	Agreed
d. Carpentry	1	3.0	-	Agreed
Educational programmes such as Adult and remedial education programmes, and Vocational training programme	87	3.24	0.89	Agreed
Religion Services such as Christian and Islam Religious Services	87	3.89	0.32	Agreed
Psychological/ mental health service	87	3.45	0.79	Agreed
Grand Mean		3.59	0.47	

Table 6 shows that a grand mean of 3.59 was obtained for all the seven items which are above the criterion mean of 2.5, indication that the respondents agreed that the prison services provided for female inmates in correctional facilities in Edo State are Training and Skill acquisition; Educational programmes such as Adult and remedial education programmes, and Vocational training programme; Religion Services such as Christian and Islam Religious Services and Psychological/ mental health service. Table 6 also shows that the highest training and skills which the respondents are mostly involved in is printing, which is followed by tailoring, crafts and carpentry.

The study revealed that the respondents agreed that the prison services provided for female inmates in correctional facilities in Edo State are Training and Skill acquisition; Educational programmes such as Adult and remedial education programmes, and Vocational training programme; Religion Services such as Christian and Islam Religious Services and Psychological/ mental health service. The study also found that the training and skills program for female inmates includes printing, printing,

tailoring, crafts and carpentry (Ahire, 1999). The findings from this study is also in concordance with the findings of Review of the Department of Corrections (2007) who revealed that the department provides four primary types of rehabilitative programs such as: Academic education programs which are provided at 58 of the department's facilities. These programs include Mandatory Literacy, Adult Basic Education, General Education Development, and special education; Vocational education courses are offered in 34 institutions. These programs provide training leading to certification in 32 occupational areas. These occupations range from lower-skill jobs such as construction trades, to more high-skill positions in computer programming and architectural drafting; Substance abuse treatment programs are provided in 27 institutions. The department offers three types of treatment. Modality 1 is an intensive 4- to 6-month outpatient program, while Modality 2 is a 9- to 12-month long residential therapeutic community program. The third type of program—Program Center based—is a 9- to 18-month residential therapeutic community program at three work release centers offering a continuum of substance abuse and educational services focusing on relapse prevention and re-entry skills; Sex offender treatment programs provide cognitive-behavioral therapy for willingly participating inmates diagnosed with a sexual disorder. The Review of the Department of Corrections (2007) report also revealed that those inmates who do complete the general education programme (GED), vocational education, and

substance programs generally have successful outcomes in terms of program completion and lower recidivism.

Tanimu (2010) also revealed that in Zaria prison, educational facilities are found to be greatly handicapped. In the Zaira prison, for instance, only religious teachings take place. Religious teachers visit the prison to teach and preach to their followers. But in the case of Kaduna prison, in addition to the religious teachings, educational classes are organized for interested convicts to attend. Uche, Uche, Ezumah, Ebue, Okafor and Ezegebe (2015) in their study on the Enugu State prison inmates revealed that all the respondents agreed that rehabilitation programmes exist in the prison (100.0%), that rehabilitation programmes cover adult literacy and carpentry (26.0%) respectively, tailoring (18.0%), arts/crafts and welding (15.0%) respectively, and that the programmes last as long as one is in prison (93.1%). However, majority of the respondents (62.8%) and (31.0%) perceived the programmes as fairly successful and not successful respectively.

Research Question Three: What are the factors that hinder effective rehabilitation of female inmates in correctional facilities in Edo State?

Item Questions	N	Mean	Standard Deviation	Decision
There are limited space in the prison facilities	87	3.43	1.1	Agreed
Rehabilitation programme is handled by competent personnel	87	3.32	1.05	Agreed
Lack of resources	87	3.10	0.98	Agreed

Over crowding	87	3.24	0.96	Agreed
Grand mean		3.27	1.02	

Table 4.2.3: The factors that hinder effective rehabilitation of female inmates in correctional facilities in Edo State

Table 7 shows that a grand mean of 3.27 was obtained for all the four items which are above the criterion mean of 2.5, indication that the respondents agreed that the factors that hinder effective rehabilitation of female inmates in correctional facilities in Edo State are limited space in the prison facilities; lack of resources and over - crowding.

The study revealed that the factors that hinder effective rehabilitation of female inmates in correctional facilities in Edo State are limited space in the prison facilities; lack of resources and over -crowding. The findings of this study are in line with the findings of Tanimu (2010) who revealed that Recreational activities and facilities in prisons are limited and poor in quality. The recreational activities that convicts engage in depends on whether they are inside or outside their cells. When in their cells, convicts engage in games like draft, ludo, cards and “dara” (a game played like checkers). However, due to the shortage of these facilities, convicts have to take turns. Tanimu (2010) in his study found that convicts’ cells are infested with bed bugs, lice, mosquitoes, and other infectious insects. In addition to the verbal complaint received from convicts, smashed lice, bed bugs, and other insects can be sighted all over the walls of the cells. These unhealthy living conditions account for the prevalence of

numerous skin diseases, like scabbies, eczema, rashes, sores, and so on among the convicts. Many convicts were seen scratching bleeding sores on their skin during the interview.

At the center of the health problem is the shortage of medical facilities and medical personnel. At the time of this study, Zaria and Kaduna prison had a shortage of qualified medical staff. While Zaria prison had only a nurse, Kaduna prison had a nurse and a visiting doctor. These are expected to cater for the medical needs of 586 and 979 convicts, respectively. From observations and discussions with convicts, it was discovered that the prison clinic was affected by acute shortage of drugs and other basic medical facilities. To worsen the situation, sick convicts who need to be taken to the hospital either trekked or paid their transport fare and that of the accompanying warder. Given the non- functional state of the prison earning scheme, most convicts cannot afford the financial cost of going to the hospital outside the prison. It is, therefore, no surprise that prison mortality rates continue to rise in virtually all Nigerian prisons. From surveys and observations, it was discovered that clothing were not adequately provided to convicts. When asked whether they were given any clothing, most convicts reported that they were never provided with any kind of clothing by the prison authority.

Uche, Uche, Ezumah, Ebue, Okafor and Ezegebe (2015) in their study found that the major hindrance to habilitation programmes was lack of fund/inadequate funding (35.2%), 27.6% respondents indicated breakdown of equipment, 18.6% said it was lack

of physical infrastructures, 17.9% said it was poor management/administration, while the remaining 0.7% indicated that prison staff do not care to rehabilitate them. Freudenberg (2001) who in his review examined the interactions between the correctional system and the health of urban populations and found that one of that factors that hinder effective rehabilitation of female inmates in correctional facilities is health condition. He found that Health conditions that are overrepresented in incarcerated populations include substance abuse, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and other infectious diseases, perpetration and victimization by violence, mental illness, chronic disease, and reproductive health problems.

Research Question Four: What are the roles of Government and other supportive organizations in rehabilitation of female inmates in correctional facilities in Edo State?

Table 4.2.4: The roles of Government and other supportive organizations in rehabilitation of female inmates in correctional facilities in Edo State

Item Questions	N	Mean	Standard Deviation	Decision
Non-governmental organization (NGO) provides charity services in the prison such as food items, clothes, toiletries	87	3.83	0.38	Agreed
Government must create enabling environment such as: a. building more cells b. bring in more foams c. mosquito nets	87	3.9	0.31	Agreed
Government should provide adequate funding in the area of feeding	87	3.82	0.52	Agreed
Government should provide logistics for	87	3.63	0.72	Agreed

prison workers, such as vehicles				
Grand Mean		3.8	0.48	

Table 8 shows that a grand mean of 3.8 was obtained for all the four items which are above the criterion mean of 2.5, indication that the respondents agreed that roles of Government and other supportive organizations in rehabilitation of female inmates in correctional facilities in Edo State are Non-governmental organization (NGO) provides charity services in the prison such as food items, clothes, toiletries; Government must create enabling environment such as: building more cells, bring in more foams, mosquito nets; Government should provide adequate funding in the area of feeding; Government should provide logistics for prison workers, such as vehicles.

The study revealed that the role government and other supportive organizations in rehabilitation of female inmates in correctional facilities in Edo State are Non-governmental organization (NGO) provides charity services in the prison such as food items, clothes, toiletries; Government must create enabling environment such as: building more cells, bring in more foams, mosquito nets; Government should provide adequate funding in the area of feeding; Government should provide logistics for prison workers, such as vehicles. This finding is in line with the finding of Tanimu (2010) who revealed that the roles of government are to improve on prisons' facilities and programs. There is the need to provide for more functional and adequate educational, occupational, and recreational facilities. Others are accommodation, feeding, clothing, medical, and all such other facilities. There is also the need to introduce more a reformative program,

such as training inmates on Information and Computer Technology (ICT) by the government and other supportive organizations.

Research Question Five: What are the roles of Social workers in the rehabilitation of females in correctional facilities in Edo State?

Table 4.2.5: The roles of Social workers in the rehabilitation of females in correctional facilities in Edo State?

Item Questions	N	Mean	Standard Deviation	Decision
Social workers act as legal authority in the client's life with responsibility for value change	87	3.67	0.54	Agreed
Social workers investigate for the purpose of securing information about the client's failure or success in meeting the obligations of his legal status	87	3.49	0.63	Agreed
The counseling services provided by social workers assist in reintegration of inmates into the society	87	3.36	0.65	Agreed
Social workers assist in skill acquisition process in the prison	87	3.63	0.63	Agreed
Grand Mean		3.54	0.61	

Table 9 shows that a grand mean of 3.54 was obtained for all the four items which are above the criterion mean of 2.5, indication that the respondents agreed that the roles of Social workers in the rehabilitation of females in correctional facilities in Edo State are that Social workers act as legal authority in the client's life with responsibility for value change; Social workers investigate for the purpose of securing information about the client's failure or success in meeting the obligations of his legal status; The counseling services provided by social workers assist in reintegration of

inmates into the society; and Social workers assist in skill acquisition process in the prison.

The study revealed that the roles of Social workers in the rehabilitation of females in correctional facilities in Edo State are that Social workers act as legal authority in the client's life with responsibility for value change; Social workers investigate for the purpose of securing information about the client's failure or success in meeting the obligations of his legal status; The counseling services provided by social workers assist in reintegration of inmates into the society; and Social workers assist in skill acquisition process in the prison. This finding is in line with the result of Tanimu (2010) who revealed that Social workers should create awareness on the need for every convicted mail to be involved in one, rehabilitation programme.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

5.0 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

This chapter presents a summary of the research findings, conclusion and feasible recommendations arising from the research findings.

5.1 The following are the major findings of this research:

The findings reveals that majority of the participants were female. For example, 53 (88.3%) of the participants are female. This indicates or reflects the gender of the topic under investigation. The findings also show that among the total participants, majority of them were within the age bracket 18-24years old while the marital status were majorly single (50.6%). The age bracket in this study is very significant pointing to the fact that those commonly involved in crime cases are majority youth. This was followed closely by those married (30%). On the level of education, it was discovered that majority of the participants are primary school certificate holder (68%). Suggesting that majority of the participants are traders. For example, 29 representing 48% indicated trading as their profession. On the years of incarceration, it was also discovered that majority of the participants have spent less than a year in the prison.

The findings further reveals that among the total participants 41 representing 68% of the total participants are primary school holders. 17 representing 28% of the total participants are in secondary school holders while 2 (4%) of the participants are HND/BSC holders. However, the table shows that among the total participants, none has post graduate degree. Suggesting that participants with primary school certificate holders were more. It was also revealed that majority of the participants are traders followed by unskilled workers. This reveals that among the participants, majority of them are trained in shill acquisition followed by those trained in tailoring.

Suggesting that majority of the participants are of the opinion that the rehabilitation programme in Edo prisons is not successful. The findings further reveals that among the total participants in the study, 23 (38.4%) believe lack of physical infrastructures is the major obstacles that affects female inmates rehabilitation in Edo State prisons. It was further revealed that majority of the participants were of the opinion that rehabilitation programmes on female prison inmates in Edo State has positive impact on victims. For example 18(30%) indicated that prison rehabilitee programme of female prison inmates has positive impact on the inmates.

Among the total participants, 34 representing 57% said lip service on the part of the government can hinder effective rehabilitation programme of female inmate in Edo state prisons while 17 representing 28% were of the opinion that payment of lip services from government cannot hinder effective reintegration programme of female inmates. However, 9 representing 15% of the total participants said they cannot tell. This suggest that among the total participants, majority agreed that Payment of lip services from government can hinder effective reintegration programme of female inmates. On whether state of the rehabilitation programme is effective, it was revealed that majority of the participants are of the opinion that the rehabilitation programme in Edo prisons is not successful. It was also discovered that among the participants, majority of the participants are of the opinion that a number of Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) provide charity service to the prison. Suggesting that among the total participants,

majority of them are of the opinion that social workers are in prison facility. For example, 27 (45%) agreed that social workers are never present in the prison facility. The findings also show that social workers are not present in the prison setting and some cases where they are present, their impact is not felt because of the limited number of social worker attached to a prison. For example, it was indicated that the social worker in the prison are those undergoing study not fulltime social workers.

5.2 Conclusion

The study examined the effectiveness of rehabilitation programmes in the prisons. It was discovered that the rehabilitation programmes were not very successful due to lack of fund, inadequacy of rehabilitation equipment, lack of trained personnel, lack of manpower and poor management of rehabilitation programmes among others. The findings show that prisons have not successfully achieved their objective according to the Nigerian Prison Act of (2001) which is to reform and rehabilitate offenders to be good and useful citizens. Therefore, rehabilitation programmes in the prisons are not as effective as expected.

5.3 Recommendation

Based on the findings discussed above, the following four recommendations are put forward thus:

1. The prison authority should provide earning schemes to female inmates to enhance their effective reintegration and rehabilitation into the society.

2. Rehabilitation programmes should not be left in the hands of prison officials alone. Social workers, NGOs and others should be fully involved in rehabilitation of inmates.
3. Government should consider a form of compulsory savings scheme for convicts involved in prison work. A matching grant or a percentage of the amount saved should be given to a prisoner when due for release. This will assist in resettlement of the ex-convicts with the skills acquired while in prison.
4. The findings has also revealed that much done in this area of rehabilitation but few has veered into the aspect of government role. Therefore, further studies can be carried out on assessment of the non-governmental organizations in rehabilitation of female prison inmates.

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QUESTIONNAIRE
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY OF BENIN

I am a 400Level student of the above name institution. I am conducting a research in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the award of a Bachelor of Science Degree (BSW). Please be free to respond as your anonymity will be ensured and your response(s) will be strictly confidential. I wish to indicate that the purpose of this study is purely academic and your response to the questions will be contribute greatly to the success of this study.

Instruction: kindly tick (v) the appropriate box applicable to your responses.

SECTION A: Demographic Data

1. Age of participants: 18-24years [] 25-32years [] 32-45years [] 46 and above []
2. Sex of participants: male [], female []
3. Marital status: Single [] Married [], Separated [], Divorced [], Widowed []
4. Level of education: Primary [] Secondary [], HND/BSC [] Post Graduate []
5. Occupation: Public servant [] Trader [] Farmer [] Craft women / [] semi-skilled worker [] other/students []

SECTION B

Keys: Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Strongly Disagree (SD), Disagree (D)

		SA	A	D	SD
Correction					
1.	All interventions, regardless of their method, are best delivered to address an inmates specific issues				
2.	The most successful approach in reducing reoffending among female inmates is prison based intervention.				
3.	Female correctional workers in this space are not behaving in ways we anticipate.				
4.	Correctional facilities are effective in reforming and rehabilitating inmates				
Prison Services					

5.	Tailoring is one of the services provided in the prison				
6	Adult education and vocational training programme is a service provided in the prison				
7	Craft making is one of the rehabilitation services in prison				
8.	Carpentry is provided to correct female inmates				
Factor that hinders rehabilitation					
9	There are limited space in the prison				
10.	Rehabilitation programme is handled by competent personnel				
11.	Lack of resources affects rehabilitation				
12	Overcrowding is an hindrance to rehabilitation				
Role of government and NGO					
13.	Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) provide charity services in the prison.				
14.	Government must create an enabling environment such as building of more cells and housing material				
15.	Adequate funding is needed from the government				
16.	Government should provide logistics such as vehicle for mobility				
Roles of Social Work					
17.	Social workers helps to provides legal seen around in the prison				
18.	Female in mates is handled by competent social workers				
19.	The counselling services provided by social workers assist in reintegration of inmate into the society.				
20	Social workers assist to ensure female inmates to acquire in skill in the prison				

Benjamin
(Project Student)