

**RECENT UPSURGE IN RAPE AND THE PROBLEMS
ASSOCIATED WITH THE MENACE IN URBAN
COMMUNITIES IN OREDO LGA OF EDO STATE.**

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BENIN CITY**

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**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT
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CERTIFICATION

We the undersigned certified that this research work as carried out by **DAVID SHOLA KEHINDE** of the Department Of Adult and Non-Formal Education, Faculty Of Education, University Of Benin. It is adequate in scope and quality for the partial fulfillment of the requirements of the award of the degree Of Bachelor of Education in Adult Education.

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DEDICATION

This work is dedicated to God Almighty for his divine mercy and grace that saw me throughout my stay in the University of Benin.

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To god be the glory, great things he hath done particularly in ensuring the successful completion of this research project.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE	PAGE
APPROVAL	i
CERTIFICATION	ii
DEDICATION	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	iv
ABSTRACT	viii

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

Background of the study	1
Statement of the problem	9
Research questions	11
Purpose of the study	12
Significance of the study	13
Scope and delimitation of the study	14
Limitations of the study	14
Operational definition of terms	14

CHAPTER TWO: REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

The Concept And Historical Antecedent Of Rape	17
Rape In Modern Global Society, Especially Africa	20
Recent Upsurge and Problems of Rape in Nigeria and Its Menace	24
Types of Rape	31
Causes of the Recent Upsurge in Rape	32
Problems Associated With Rape in Urban Communities	38
Possible solution to control the increase of rape cases in urban communities	40
Summary of Reviewed Literature	43

CHAPTER THREE: METHODOLOGY

Research design	45
Population of the study	46
Sample and sampling techniques	47
Research instrument	47
Validity of the instrument	48
Reliability of instrument	48

Method of data collection	49
Method of data analysis	50
CHAPTER FOUR: PRESENTATION OF DATA AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS	
PRESENTATION OF RESULTS	51
DISCUSSIONS OF FINDINGS	62
CHAPTERFIVE: SUMMARY, RECOMMENDATIOMS AND CONCLUSION	
Summary	68
Conclusion	69
Recommendations	71
REFERENCES	73
APPENDIX	78

ABSTRACT

Rape is a worrisome epidemic that is becoming problematic in contemporary Nigeria due to many factors that are already inherent in the Nigerian society such as myths, culture of silence associated with rape, modernizing influences and peer group pressure among several others. Despite decades of feminist activism, men continue to rape women at appalling rates. Consequently, the review of related literatures was done to provide a good basis for the conclusion of this work. Similarly, the descriptive survey research design was employed and to ensure the attainment of the general aim, four (4) research questions were raised and the questionnaire which was tested and validated was adopted as the instrument for data collection. The data collected were analyzed using frequency count and simple percentage.

The finding of this study discovered that the perpetrators of rape in Nigeria cut across all age brackets involving security personnel, close associates, and even relations all caught up in the crime. The paper submits that the responsibility of eradicating this evil in Nigeria lies with the parents. Churches, Civil Societies, Non-Governmental Organizations and Government at all levels.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

Background to the study

Rape is a barbaric/stone age behavioral trait that continues to rule our present world, despite the numerous sophisticated technological achievements of modern humanity. It is a menace that is neither Eastern nor Western in terms of ontology among other things. This age-old problem must be confronted with considerable energies in order to engender healthy humanity at all costs. Rape is a brutal, ugly form of violation of the fundamental human rights of people especially the female gender. This may be vaginal, oral or anal penetration or a combination of all of them, involving the use of physical force or other unlawful methods. Therefore, rape is a devastating blow to the victim who sometimes becomes suicidal from depression (Samuel oluwole 2020).

The incidence of rape has become a sound worry to governments, development planners and researcher across the globe. In U.S. the National Violence Against Women Survey (NVAW) produced an estimate that 14.8% of adult women has been raped sometimes during their lives and that another 2.8% has been victims of an attempted rape (Tjanden & theonnes, 1998). The National survey of adolescents (NWS) found that 12.7% of adult women has been victims

Of completed rape and 14.3% has been victims of other types of sexual assault. The National Survey of Adolescents estimated that 13.0% of female adolescents and 3.4% of male adolescents has been victims of a sexual assault at some point during their lives (Kilpatrick & Saunders, 1970). Data from the NWS and NSA indicate that the revictimization is a problem for women and adolescents. 30% of rape victims in NWS had been raped more than once, and 41.7% of the adolescent victims said that they had been sexually assaulted more than once. (G. Kilpatrick 1996).

The American heritage dictionary of the English language, 4 edition(2000) define rape in terms of the nature of any physical contact and the amount of force or coercion .i.e. rape tend to be defined in supported or refuted by witness or victim statements and further corroborated by forensic evidence. In 2012, the federal bureau of investigation updated its definition of rape, which had originally been instituted in 1972, and which previously limited rape to crime against women. This definition, considered outdated and overly narrow, was replaced by a new definition which recognize that rape can be perpetrated by a person of any gender against a victim of any gender. It has now been amply confirmed by research: according to one study of over 16,000 Americans, 18.3% of women report having been victims of rape or attempted rape at some time in their lives (Black et al., 2011). Of these women, 42.2% were under age eighteen when they were first raped;

an earlier study showed that these women were twice as likely to report having been raped as adults (Tjaden and Thoennes, 2000). In the study of over 16,000 Americans mentioned above, 51.1% of female victims were raped by an intimate partner and 40.8% by an acquaintance (Black et al., 2011). Remarkably few assailants are punished: with estimated U.S. state conviction rates of two to nine percent of total rapes (Kim 2012, 264), “ninety-four to ninety-eight percent of total rapists and approximately eighty-four percent of reported rapists go free” (Kim 2012, 272).

According to Onyejekwe (2008) defined rape as one of the more pervasive forms of violence against women and a crime in which the assailant uses sex to inflict humiliation on the victim or exert power and control over the victim. The Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against women adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1993 defines violence against women as any act of gender based violence that results in physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life (Onyejekwe 2008). Also, rape can be defined as sexual intercourse or other forms of sexual penetration by one person (the accused) with or against another person (the victim) without the consent of the victim (Peters and Olowa 2010). In Africa, 5–15% of the females report a forced or co-arc'd sexual experience. In South Africa,

prevalence of rape, from community based reports show a figure of 2070 per 100,000 per year. Reports from Ethiopia showed from a study of 367 high school girls, that 11.4% of them had started having intercourse and 33.3% of this group was rape. Adolescents however have the highest rates of rape and other sexual assaults of any age group.

From researches on the problems of rape, other researchers began to document the deleterious effects that rape has on women's lives. Within the past 20 years, we have learned that the mental health effects of this crime are devastating as rape survivors are the largest group of persons with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD; Foa & Rothbaum, 1998). The inclusion of PTSD into the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) in 1980 was a major conceptual development in the study of trauma associated with rape (Wasco, 2003). It has spawned a proliferation of research documenting the psychological injury caused by rape. Beyond this focus on psychological impact, emerging research suggests that rape survivors experience more acute and chronic physical health problems than women who are not victimized (Golding, 1994; Koss, Koss, & Woodruff, 1991). Sexual assault also affects women's sexual health risk-taking behaviors and places some at greater risk for contracting HIV (Campbell, Sefl, & Ahrens, 2004). The radiating impact of rape does not stop with the survivor's health and well-being. Research indicates that coping with the aftermath of rape

can cause significant stress for the family, friends, and significant others of rape survivors (Ahrens & Campbell, 2000; Burge, 1983; Remer & Elliott, 1988). Professionals who help women recover from rape are not spared its devastating problems as rape crisis center staff, rape victim advocates, and sexual assault therapists experience vicarious trauma (Schauben & Frazier, 1995; Wasco & Campbell, 2002). Even those who study rape can become emotionally affected by bearing witness to the devastating impact of this crime (Alexander et al., 1989; Campbell, 2002).

In Nigeria, rape have continued to increase almost every day, this sad situation is surprising because of a country that is known for its religiosity, one would expect that sexual escapades will be on a low level. However the surprising part of it is that even member of the clergy are guilty of this act of sexual indiscipline (Okonkwo& Naish 2013). The term “rape” is therefore the most serious kind of sexual assault and is punishable with imprisonment of life; it is also one of those actions that fall under violence against women (Nwammuo, 2013). Rape is a criminal offence. Section 357 of criminal code act, law of federation of Nigeria 1990 CAP77 (cited in WACOL) any person who has unlawful canal knowledge of woman or a girl, without her consent, or if her consent is obtained by force or by means of false and fraudulent representation as to the nature of the act,

or in the case of married woman, by personating her husband, is guilty of an offence which is called rape (WACOL, 2002).

Rape is alarmingly common in Nigeria. It probably has been in existence in the traditional society and only became public knowledge with the advent of the electronic and print media at the wake of modern Pentecostalism in Nigeria sometimes in the 1970s. Its baffling prevalent upsurge is reported to have gone up in the recent past from 12.5 percent to 80 percent in Nigeria (Chiedu, 2012). Rape is a global problem with women and children being mostly vulnerable (Onah, 2010). They are the ones bearing the brunt of this evil in every society of the world according to Chiedu (2012). There are several cases, which are very irritating. Now and then, it is reported that a teacher has raped a student. A religious leader has raped his flock. Robbers have raped a victim. A man has raped a sister-in-law or daughter-in-law. A master has raped a housemaid. A security man has raped his master's wife. A boss has raped his staff. A father has raped his daughter. A young man has raped his grandmother. A minor has raped a fellow minor. A traditional ruler has raped a subject. An 80 year old man has raped an 8 year old girl. From this lengthy assertion, it is quite glaring that rape cases are shocking reality in the Nigerian society. It appears that everyday girls and boys, women and men are sexually being abused even by persons known to the victim, who perhaps shamefully takes due advantage of such familiarity (Udekwe, 2013). Nowadays,

girls and women, sometimes even the men too are sexually harassed by rapists on the streets, markets, and institutions of learning. Several of such cases are reported in the courts, radio stations and newspapers almost daily in Nigeria. It is a known fact that many of these rapists are young men in their teens, while others are matured adults (Obasi, 2007). Historical records show that no fewer than 1200 girls were raped in Rivers state in 2012 (Kawu, 2013).

However victims of rape have no age limit as babies, and the aged are to this menace. Interestingly 90% of victims of rape are female. Is a denial of women self-preservation; it is the intrusion of their, it is an inhuman and violent act. Rape victims are usually ashamed, afraid, and there is little or no law to protect them. Even the law officers that are meant to protect these victims also assault them in different ways, even sexually. The study describe the recently upsurge in rape and the problems associated with the menace in urban communities in Oredo local government area of Edo state.

Statement of the problem

Over the years, there has been an upsurge in the number of rape related cases in the Nigerian society (Agaba 2013) and situation appears to be increasing in astronomical proportion as days roll by (Okunzua 2014). This has created palpable

worries in the minds of many. Some of these sexual assaults and rapes are according to Ifeacho (2012) either reported or intentionally “buried” by the victims or their parents or relations for fear of stigmatization while some few others are reported by the media. There is this growing fear that rape victims are sometimes re-victimized by the society as being responsible for the sexual assaults and carnal knowledge inflicted on them by their assailants. Amnesty international gave a gruesome picture of the rape scourge in Nigeria in one of its publications, some month ago painted the picture of how the Nigerian case is, in some of their statement

“Amnesty International condemns the rape and brutal murder of Vera Uwaila Omozuwa; a 22-year-old 100-level student of the University of Benin, Edo State. Vera Uwaila was raped and killed inside a Redeemed Christian Church of God in Benin city”.

"While the nation is still coming to terms with this gross violation, in Jigawa state 11 men were arrested for raping a 12-year old girl at Limawa in Dutse, the state capital. Although rape is a crime in Nigeria government's response to it continues to be, woefully inadequate".

The situation has not changed, but instead it has grown worse. The picture is just a tip of the iceberg as there are many more cases like this, if unfortunately it has been on the increase all over the world. In the UK, there are about 147,000 rape cases every year and only a thousand Plus are convicted (Kayode 2014). The

trend is the same in India, where in 20 minutes, a case of rape is reported and only less than 25% of these are persecuted (Ibid.). In Lagos state, western Nigeria, about 10,079, which constitute only 18% of the rape that, occurred between 2001, 2005 (Peters and Olowa, 2010; Caroline, 2012) were reported. An (Mirabel centre), reported 170 rape cases between July 2013 and 2014 (Kayode 2014). Also reporting a high rise in rape cases, the command identified gang rape as the most common, as it was at the of the crime chat in 2013 (Ibid.). The statements above, it is crystal clear that rape is a menace all across the world. Rape is not a delightful sight to behold. It is so for the victims, even when the assaulters are persecuted in rare. There is therefore an urgent need for this menace to be tamed, in Nigeria especially in the urban communities where the scourge is assuming an alarming proportion. Is what informed the choice of this research title rape and the problems associated with the menace in urban communities. Is against this backdrop that this work examines the issue of rape and the problems associated with the menace in urban communities in Oredo local government area of Edo state.

Research Questions

For a proper guide to the Study four research questions were formulated, which are stated thus;

1. What is the prevalence of rape in Oredo local government?
2. Who is the major perpetrator of rape in this community?
3. What are Causes of rape in the community?
4. What are the problems associated with the menace in Oredo local government?
5. To what extent does the recent upsurge in rape affect the community?

Purpose of the study

The general purpose of the study is to explore the problems associated with rape in urban communities in Oredo local government area of Edo state.

However, the specific objectives are to:

- find out the prevalence of rape in urban communities.
- find out the major perpetrators of rape in the communities.
- to ascertain the Causes of rape in the community.

- to find out the problems associated with the menace in Oredo local government
- find out the psychological effect of rape on victims.

Significance of the study

The study on the recent upsurge in rape and problems associated with the menace of rape in urban communities will be of immense benefit to Nigeria as a whole. The findings of the study will ascertain the problems of rape in urban communities in Oredo local government of Edo state.

There are a number of literatures that have discussed the subject of rape, the psychological, socio-cultural and health implications of rape. This research work is intended to add to existing research on rape and problems associated with rape. Various bodies and law enforcement agencies have continued to emphasize the need to stop rape, but in adequate punishment to the offenders in the country have made this almost impossible.

Furthermore, the major significance of this study is to proffer solution to the menace of rape in Oredo local government area of Edo state. It is hoped that the Study will help in minimizing problems associated with rape and will increase the body of knowledge on rape.

Scope/Delimitation of the study

The scope of this study is to survey the problems associated with rape. This research work is delimited to Oredo local government area of Edo state. It is to examine the problems associated with the menace in urban communities in Oredo local government area of Edo state.

The validity of this entire result is limited to the accuracy of the information supplied by the respondents.

Definition of terms

Rape: An act of sexual intercourse with an individual without his or her consent, through force or the threat of force. Is an unlawful sexual activity and usually intercourse carried out forcibly or under threat of injury against a person's will or with a person who is beneath a certain age or incapable of valid consent because of mental illness, mental deficiency, intoxication, unconsciousness or deception.

Urban: It means relating to, characteristic of or constituting a city. Urban are created when a large group of people gather to live in a certain area.

Urban community: Is a human settlement with a high population density and infrastructure of built environment. An urban area is the region surrounding a city. Most inhabitants of urban areas have nonagricultural jobs. Urban areas are very developed, meaning there is a density of human structures such as house, commercial buildings, roads, bridges, and railways.

Upsurge: A large or rapid increase. An upsurge in the strength or quantity of something or an increase.

Sexual assault: Is an act in which a person intentionally sexually touches another person without that person's consent. It is a form of sexual

Menace: A person or thing that is likely to cause harm, a threat or danger.

CHAPTER TWO

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This review of literature would be discussed under the following sub- headings:

- ❖ The Concept And Historical Antecedent Of Rape
- ❖ Rape In Modern Global Society, Especially Africa
- ❖ Recent Upsurge And Problems Of Rape In Nigeria And Its Menace
- ❖ Types Of Rape
- ❖ Causes Of The Recent Upsurge In Rape
- ❖ Problems Associated With Rape in Urban Communities
- ❖ Possible solution to control the increase of rape cases in urban communities
- ❖ Summary Of Reviewed Literature

The Concept And Historical Antecedent Of Rape

Rape is a type of sexual assault usually involving sexual intercourse or other forms of sexual penetrations carried out against a person without the person consent. Rape is also known as physical force, coercion, abuse of authority, or against a person who is capable of giving valid consent such as one who is unconscious, incapacitated, has an intellectual disability or is below the legal age of consent (Wikipedia 2006). According to World Health Organization (WHO) it defines rape as a form of sexual assault, while the Center for Diseases Control and Prevention (CDCP) include rape in their definition of sexual assault; they see rape, as a form of sexual violence. (G. & et al 2002). The term rape originates from the Latin word “rapere” (supine stem raptum), “to snatch, grab, carry off”. Globally, women are also mobilizing and making their voices heard. Women’s activists and korganizations are speaking up, drawing attention to the problem of rape, and directing decision-makers towards a solution by engaging in activities aimed attending the impunity associated with rape as well as creating effective legal mechanisms that protect women, and deny perpetrators sanctuary from prosecution and punishment.(Hawkesworth 2006). Rape is recognized as a crime across the

United States. When a male stranger attacks a woman at night, kidnaps her, or breaks into her home, and then forces her at gunpoint to submit to sexual acts, what (Williams 1984) calls the ‘classic rape,’ the violation is easy to recognize and name. Although many women experience such assaults, this scenario does not describe the typical rape experience. In reality, rape is most likely to be perpetrated by a man known to the victim an acquaintance, ‘friend,’ classmate, employer, or partner. Rape by intimate partners is more common than stranger rape (Bachman and Saltzman, 1995, Randall and Haskell,1995; Russell, 1990) and women who are or have been married are more likely to be raped by their husband than by a stranger (Russell, 1990).

According to (Kilpatrick, 2007) in is study of rape in America conservatively estimated that about 20 million women (18.0%) have been raped during their lifetime, including rape that occurred in childhood. This finding is consistent with the 2010 CDC report that nearly 1 in 5 (18.3%) of all women has been raped in her lifetime, as well as with Tjaden and Thoennes’ (2006) earlier finding that 17.6% of women have experienced such an assault. Importantly, these recent estimates are considered more valid because they include explicit screening and behaviorally specific questions. In absence of such careful screening, many victims do not label their experience as rape or a crime (Williams et al., 2000). Research has found that among persons surveyed who reported at least one experience that met the legal

definition of the crime of rape, approximately half did not label it as rape (Fisher et al., 2003; Koss, 1985).

Rape in war or peacetime violates Article 3 to the 1949 Geneva Conventions, and is punishable by the International Criminal Court (ICC). However, perpetrators are hardly prosecuted for their crimes. The climate of impunity makes it easier for subsequent rapes to take place. Women rape survivors often face a myriad of emotional, physical, legal, and medical issues, resulting in significant repercussions. Many are helpless and feel a prolonged fear for their safety. This trauma can last a lifetime. Sexual violence also magnifies the risk of HIV transmission (Vetten and Bhana 2001; Rothschild, Reilly and Nordstrom 2006).

Rape In Modern Global Society, Especially Africa

Globally, Rape is an act that involves any unwanted, nonconsensual sexual contact, ranging from kissing or fondling to rape or attempted rape. Rape does not necessarily connote the use of force but may follow coercion. Rape occurs in both gender but is known to affect the female gender more commonly. Several factors such as societal norms, economic factors, wars and conflicts plus cultural factors make the victim vulnerable.

Rape is difficult to estimate because of variations in how data sources define sexual violence and also how information about it is gathered. In South Africa the

menace is 4.5 – 7.2% while in Nigeria rates of 14.2- 81.0% had been documented. (Olayinka, 2014).

In Nigeria, it has been reported as part of intimate partner abuse, domestic violence and among infant welfare clinic attendees. Pregnancy is also not an exception with domestic violence rates of 10.0-14.2% reported among pregnant women in United Kingdom and Lagos, Nigeria. Sexual coercion which is a form of rape has been defined as the use of force or attempt to force another individual through violence, threats, verbal insistence, deception, cultural expectations, and economic circumstances to engage in any sexual activity against his or her will. It occurs in all age groups with rates of 13.4-55.0% among youths in Nigeria and Uganda. (Ogunbode,2014).

Rape is an extreme form of sexual violence occurring across all racial, ethnic and socioeconomic groups. It is underreported with 50-84% of its extreme form not reported. Although it occurs in all ages, the young are at greatest risk. Rates of 12% had been reported among adolescents in Ibadan and 25% among college students in the United States of America.(Folashd,2014). In most cases the victims are females while the perpetrators are males, usually known to the victim and included boyfriends and faculty members. The risk factors documented for perpetrators include alcohol and drug use, coercive sexual fantasies, impulsive and antisocial tendencies, history of sexual abuse as a child, multiple sexual partners,

poverty, witnessed family violence as a child, strongly patriarchal relationship or family environment, societal norms that support sexual violence and weak laws and policies related to gender equity. Sexual violence has immediate and long term effects which can be tremendous and devastating. It has physical, psychological, social and health behaviour consequences. Among victims there is an increased incidence of strain in relationships, insomnia, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, and suicidal tendencies. The various health related effects are chronic pelvic pain, premenstrual syndrome, sexually transmitted infections, gastrointestinal disorders and psychosomatic complaints. (Adetola 2014). Cultural norm can influence gender based violence either positively or negatively. In societies with male-dominated sexual relationships and values, victims are less likely to report to avoid breaking traditional norms and stigmatization, while in cultures and religions where punitive measures are enforced, the reporting is much improved. Adolescents and young persons are quite adventurous, including in matters related to sex. Studies among Nigerian youths have shown increased adolescent sexual activity and decreasing age of first sex, averaging 16 years in both gender. These high risk behaviors potentially have sexual abuse as one of the many consequences. Most research on sexual violence is based on data obtained from reproductive-age women in intimate partnerships. However, comparatively few studies have explored the prevalence of sexual abuse specifically among

young women. The university community is a blend of people of different cultures and gives more freedom for these students thus creating a lot of reproductive health issues. This study was therefore designed to find out the pattern of sexual violence and perceptions about sexual coercion among female undergraduates.(Ogunbode, 2014).

Rape cases are not limited to Nigeria alone; other countries of the globe have their own side of the story too. The recent happening in India perhaps testifies to the fact that rape epidemic is already widespread. It is news that four men identified as Akshay Thakur, Pawan Gupta, Mukesh Singh and Vinay Shama have been sentenced to death by hanging because they gang raped and murders a 23 year old Physiotherapy student in New Delhi, in India. In Chicago, there came a report that a 9 year old girl was found raped, beaten, and poisoned on the seventh floor stairway of her Cabrini Green housing project on January 9, 1997 (Adeleye, 1997). Added to this, Kenya equally has a track record of rape case. Sadly, Kenyan government survey reveals that "One in five women and girls are victims of sexual violence". This survey indicates that more than 240 victims of child rape cases in Kenya are from 3 years of age and above. In South Africa which is currently being spotlighted as the country with the highest record of rape in the whole world, with a rape case occurring every 26 seconds including rape of babies as young as 2 weeks old (Ejim, 2013). It is observed that in South Africa, "One in four men had

committed rape" (Elombah, 2009). Elombah estimates that 500,000 rapes are committed annually in South Africa. As can be deciphered, almost in all the countries, especially South Africa and Nigeria, the rate of rape cases is quite striking. It is therefore no exaggeration to accept that "There is an epidemic of rape in Nigeria and our chief protectors and prosecutors are also chief rapists".

Recent Upsurge And Problems Of Rape In Nigeria And Its Menace

Rape is on the increase in Nigeria. The Mass Media is replete with catalogue of cases of rape. Rape has become a social phenomenon of epidemic proportions and not an isolated criminal act affecting just a few women and girls in Nigeria. It has become a common feature in Nigeria for children, less than twelve years to be victims of sexual assault. Adolescent and young adult women are in high risk range. In Nigeria, even old women are not spared of this assault. Over the years, there has been an upsurge in the number of rape related cases in the Nigerian society (Agaba 2013) and situation appears to be increasing in astronomical proportion as days roll by (Okunzua 2014). This has created palpable worries in the minds of many. Some of these sexual assaults and rapes are according to (Ifeancho 2012) either reported or intentionally buried by the victims or their parents or relations for fear of stigmatization while some few others are reported by the media. There is this growing fear that rape victims are sometimes re-

victimized for the sexual assaults and carnal knowledge inflicted on them by their assailants. The Nigeria communal code (NCC) refers to rape as any person who has unlawful carnal knowledge of a woman or girl without her consent, or with her consent, if the consent is obtained by force or by means of threats or intimidation of any kind, or by fear of harm, or by means of false and fraudulent representation as to the nature of the act, or in the case of a married woman by impersonating her husband, is guilty of an offence, which is called rape. According to Brigneti and Egbonimali (2002), rape is an act of sexual violence that involves intercourse without consent or against someone being unwilling to engage in the act. The issue of rape cannot be trivialized. It cuts across race, tribe and class. It is a universal phenomenon. And it is endemic. It is an issue that has been subjected to debates by human rights bodies all over the world (Human Right Watch/Africa). Rape is the most gruesome form of violence against women. It is a denial of women's right of self-preservation. It is an intrusion into the right of privacy of the victim. It is a particular kind of human violence which carries powerful meanings in any culture, ancient and modern. The act of rape is not new. The problem is that it is on the increase and the effects are becoming more harmful to the victims and their relatives. A nationwide survey undertaken in 2005 by the CLEEN Foundation, a Nigerian NGO, which promotes public safety, security and justice, found that only 18.1 per cent, less than one in five of some 10,000 respondents who had been

raped had reported the offence to the police. According to CLEEN's figures, 2,241 cases of rape and indecent assault were reported in 1999; 1,529 in 2000; 2,284 in 2001; 2,084 in 2002; 2,253 in 2003; 1,626 in 2004 and 1,835 in 2005.

Lately, Nigeria has been overwhelmed by anger and resentment against rising rape incidents. They seem unending and the glory details too bloodcurdling to recall (Tessy 2020). On Saturday, June 13, Nigerians were shocked about the brutal rape and murder of Grace Oshiagwu, in a church in Ibadan, Oyo state. The 21 years old student was discovered with deep machete cuts on her body. On May 27, a UNIBEN student named miss Uwaila Omozua, was raped and murdered in side a church in Benin city Edo state. On June 1 and 5, Barakat Bello, 18 and pregnant Azeezat somuyiwa,29, were respectively hacked to death after being raped in Ibadan, oyo state. . (Igoma, 2020).

It is quite glaring that rape cases are a shocking reality in the Nigerian society today. It appears that everyday girls and boys, women and men are sexually being abused, even by persons known to the victims, who perhaps shamelessly take undue advantage of such familiarity (Udekwe, 2013). In Nigeria, some men seem to be on rampage nation-wide raping women and children. According to Women of Compassion Worldwide in 2008, 1128 cases of rape were reported in Delta State alone in the first seven months of that year. A 2010 National Crime and Safety

Survey conducted by CLEEN Foundation, with support from Macarthur Foundation, put Cross-River, Ebonyi and Bayelsa States at the top of the log among the 36 States of the Federation in terms of robbery, rape and murder (Sunday, Sun January 6th 2013). Up north in Zamfara State, Abdullahi Ibrahim, a police inspector, was sent packing for raping a 15-year old girl in Maradun Local Government Area of the State.

In 2012, there were hundreds of reported rape cases across Nigeria. The Daily Sun of October 5th, 2012, told the story of a 20-year-old lady who was allegedly raped and had her lip chopped off by two men. It was followed by similar report by the same paper of October 16th, 2012, where the case of a father who raped his 12-year-old daughter was equally told. There was also the story of one Temitope Alo, who defiled eight minors. The girls were between eight and 15 years. The incident took place around Koloba area, Ayobo, a Lagos suburb. In October 2012, the Police in Bayelsa State had to contend with rising cases of rape in relief camps set up for persons displaced by floods. About five of such cases were recorded at the camps situated at the sport complex in Yenagoa. Similarly not too long ago, a Corp member was gang-raped by four men in a classroom, at noon, in Kano. Historical records show that no fewer than 1200 girls were raped in Rivers state in 2012 (Kawu, 2013). Equally, a man is allegedly reported to have been raped to death in the early hours of Tuesday, July 17, 2012 by his six wives in Ogbadibo Local

Government Area of Benue State (Malcolm, 2012). In Enugu State, a notorious aged women rapist was arrested by the police sometime in May 2013 in Opi village, Nsukka Local Government Area. He was said to have confessed in the Court that he committed the act because he could not find any young lady to marry (Kawu, 2013).

According to Punch Newspaper, of 11th April, 2012, page 4, the Office of the Public Defender, a department under the Lagos State Ministry of Justice, raised the alarm over the increase in cases of child abuse and rape in the state. The Director, OPD Mrs. Omotola Rotimi stated that on a daily basis, cases of defilement of children by people who are sometimes very close to their families are received by her office. She lamented the inability of OPD to secure high number of convictions for perpetrators of rape, because of the unwillingness of victims to report such cases, largely due to the perceived social stigma that such a step would attract. In another edition of the same paper, a 62 year old man was arraigned before a Magistrate Court in Ogun State, for defiling his 10 year-old step-daughter.

The Nation Newspaper of Friday, October 5, 2012, reported that a 70-year old man was banished for defiling a 3-year old child in Utulu, Oru West Local Government Area of Imo State. Yet in another headline in the punch Newspaper of 30th January, 2012, Mr. Innocent Francis, father of 8-year old Endurance, who was raped and murdered, alleged that his life was being threatened for reporting the

plight of his daughter to the police. Ekiti State Police command arrested an 85-year old man, Samuel Oladipupo, for raping a 12-year old J.S.S 1 pupil (Punch, 29th November, 2012). It is not only Nigeria that is witnessing an upsurge in rape cases, it is a phenomenon that is wrecking untold damage in other parts of the world, too.

In Nigeria, the trend is at alarming levels. According to Dr. Omolara Smith, President, Zonta Club II, Ibadan, the figures have shot up from 12.5percent to about 84 percent in recent months (Sunday, Sun, January 6th, 2013). She feared that this figure could rise if adequate measures are not taken to arrest the development.

Types of rape

Date Rape: This is a type of rape in which the individuals have agreed on social engagement. The assailant may be an acquaintance or a person one have been dating. The term "date rape" is used to refer to several types of rape, broadly acquaintance rape, which is a non-domestic rape committed by someone who knows the victim.

Gang Rape: this is when a group of people participate in the rape of a single victim. Rape involving two or more violators (usually at least three) is widely reported to occur in many parts of the world.

Spousal rape: Is also known as marital rape, wife rape, husband rape, partner rape or intimate partner sexual assault, is rape between a married or de facto couple without one spouse's consent. Spousal rape is considered a form of domestic violence and sexual abuse.

Rape of children: Rape of a child is a form of child sexual abuse. When committed by another child (usually older or stronger) or adolescent, it is called child-on-child sexual abuse. When committed by a parent or other close relatives such as grandparents, aunts and uncles, it is also incest and can result in serious and long-term psychological trauma.

Sadistic Rape: This rapist is obsessed and forces the victim to act out a part in some sort of role-play, it could involve mutilation, or torture as a means of getting the rapists excited.

CAUSES OF THE RECENT UPSURGE IN RAPE

There are many theories on the causes of rape and several have been identified as important to our understanding of rape and focus not only on individual characteristics but also on societal

roots. The factors that cause rape and interventions with offenders need an entire article of their own. A brief review suggests that understanding the causes of rape requires an examination of genetics (and associations of genetics with antisocial behaviors for those with abusive childhood, developmental psychopathology, and gender theory (Caspi, Marshall and Barbaree, 1990).

The state of Nigeria poorly defined criminal laws and weak law enforcement creates an environment where rape is committed with freedom (Amnesty International 2006). The rate at which rape incident is multiplying in Nigeria is alarming. This is likely because "Sex is a powerful force" (O'Donovan, 1997). It is something like fire. Sex simply refers to sexual intercourse between two parties" (Amaugo, 2006). It is "When a male and female person has such closed contact that involves the introduction of the male's penis into the female's vagina"(Ayonrinde, 1984). There are many theories on the causes of rape and

several have been identified as important to our understanding of rape and focus not only on individual characteristics but also on societal roots. (caspi, 2002). Nigeria economic and political conditions, as well as social norms support stereotypical divisions between men and women. Other causes of rape include alcohol and drug abuse, idleness, pornography, psychological disorder, and bad company, at any rate, experts, in considering the persistent nature of these rape cases in Nigeria advance the following causes for the unfortunate reality:

Lax Rape Laws

Rapists in Nigeria are so free due to the laxity of laws against rapist and this has been a real problem for the safety of women. It is necessary to resolve the problem with law implementation in Nigeria. When people know that there will be justice for their actions, without regard to money and influence, the level of crimes will decline drastically. Tade and Udechukwu (2020) noted that the cause of increase in rape cases in the Nigerian society are gaps in the laws of the Country and that the Law Court insists that the victim provides the bed sheets used to rape, her underwear and not washing herself before going to the Police Station or the hospital if not the accused has the privilege to walk free even if the act was indeed committed. While it may not be impossible for a woman to falsely accuse an innocent man of raping her. Onyejekwe (2008) believed that rape is a crime

notable for placing the woman on trial particularly for cultural reasons. She is either charged as a false accuser, gold digger, frivolous, or a scorned woman.

Peer group pressure/influence

Peer group is an important factor in the upsurge of rape cases in Nigeria. Innocent youths who keep regular company of rapists may easily learn their evil ways no matter how careful they think they are. According to Isangedighi (1990) [29], most adolescents are led into sexual promiscuity by peer influence. It is often said that children who are more influenced by their parents are more likely to adopt socially acceptable sexual behaviour than those who are more influenced by their peers. As it happens, most adolescents in trying to remain relevant and to gain the continual approval of their friends try to experiment sex through raping.

The Nature of Adolescent

Adolescents generally have strong desire for sex. This is said to be motivated by hormonal increase and activity which create an upsurge of sexual interest in the adolescents. Psychologists believe that adolescent period is a time of sexual activeness with their sexual drive developing to the highest point (Benwell, 2000).

This period is the most critical and precarious stage in the adolescents which is

marked with confusion and turbulence (Jersild, 1963). This propels the adolescents to experiment on anything including rape in order to satisfy their sexual drive.

Influence of indecent dressing

Indecent dressing in women and girls are inappropriate mode of dressing that often exposes parts of one's body that should be covered from public view (Diara and Nweze, 2011). Indecent dressing can engineer sexual desire culminating in sexual seduction. According to Eze (2011), It has been fashionable, particularly among the youthful female folk, to dress so half nakedly that some parts of their body that are supposed to be 'hidden' are exposed to the public. It is maintained that "Ladies attract men by wearing sexy or transparent dresses" (Okpara, 2005). This type of fashion is particularly rampant among girls in urban communities, which apparently is becoming a common mode of dressing for the masses in Nigeria today. A survey by Ayogu (2011), sheds light that even some parents buy clothes for their children to wear with such negative " Inscription like: I am a sexy girl, Hug me tight, Lovely babe-sexy babe, I am 4 u, Kiss me fast, Touch me, Deep kiss, Romance me, Fuck me! Devil's advocate". Expectedly, the wearing of these psychedelic and ludicrous dresses that advertise ladies nudity side by side the unusual painting of their faces presents a very strong pull to rapists to carry on their exploits.

Exposure to Modernity

Adolescents in Nigeria today are being bombarded by modernizing influences. They read about sex in novels, books, magazines and newspapers. It is said that the adolescents also “Watch various types of pornographic movies aside from being exposed to sexually overloaded advertisements in newspapers and the television. All these and the sexually graphic music, movies, obscene literature directed at the adolescents arouse their interest in sex. Some parents allow their wards to spend too much time watching television programmes where sex is used by most manufacturers to advertise their products. These adverts help put the younger generation under terrific pressure to go into sex by all means. As a result of this exposure, the adolescents are perpetually under pressure to experiment on sex, even if it means raping. It is believed that some of them desire to experience it once, just to know how it is. But they become captured by the power of immorality. This situation makes raping inevitable among the Nigerian youths.

The Problems Associated With Rape In Urban Communities

Crime not only affects its immediate victims, but also impacts secondary victims and society as a whole. 'Indirect' victims, such as family members, friends, or even victim service professionals, may experience immediate and long-term consequences i.e. vicarious traumatization (McCann and Pearlman, 1990).

The issue of rape is both a physical as well as spiritual problem. It equally has physiological, psychological, moral and social consequences on the raped, whether man or woman. According to Obasi (2007) Rape leaves painful memories and a lifelong consequence on the victim. It inspires permanent damages on its victims. Rape equally degrades as well as violates a whole tribe or nation. According to Ashiru & Orifowomo (2015), rape devastate the lives of the victims and their families, causing severe physical and psychological pains and sufferings, including death, sexually transmitted infectious diseases and unwanted pregnancies. It is a form of gender based violence which knows no border. Rape is a global pandemic affecting both the young and old, people of various classes and both the uneducated and educated, regardless of their race, ethnic background or religion. Sadly, women and girls are the most affected of this crime.

According to Inuwa Sani, a Child Psychologist, the trauma that follows this bitter experience is better imagined than described. Alhassan (2013) captures the problems thus: In the months following a rape, victims often have symptoms of

depression or traumatic stress. They are more likely to abuse alcohol or drugs to control their symptoms. Nearly one-third have thoughts of suicide, and approximately 17 percent actually attempt suicide. Thirty percent of victims will go on to develop major depressive or post-traumatic stress disorders in their lifetime, long-time negative effects on sexually and inabilities to form or maintain trusting relationships are common. Moreover, rape could have direct effect on the family in many ways. This happens if in the course of the act, the rapist or the raped contracts sexually transmitted diseases like HIV and AIDS, gonorrhea, and syphilis among others that may permanently damage their reproductive system, thus rendering them sterile or resulting to untimely death (Ferguson, 1998). Added to this is the fact that rape may lead to unwanted pregnancy, abortion, abandonment of babies or other forms of child abuse and suicide (Nzeakor, 2002; Wasike, 1999). In addition, pregnancy resulting from rape may shorten one's life, leads to school drop-out, and also leads to rushing into an unplanned marriage and marrying the wrong person (Finn and Finn, 2012). Psychologically too, rape may bring guilt, anxiety, fear, disappointment, frustration, anger at self and others, image depression and lowered self-esteem (Litchfield and Litchfield, 2012). Rape could also usher in demoralization, prayerlessness, and backsliding from Christian faith (Ferguson, 1999).

Possible solutions to control the increase of rape cases in urban communities

Suggested solutions to the problem of rape by Estrich (1998), tally with those of Amnesty International's (2006) observations on Nigeria that of providing support structures necessary for women victims. These include getting men involved in finding a lasting solution to this crime in such areas as, the police departments, hospitals and district attorney's offices. This way, men can be trained and given the expertise to deal sensitively with the physical and emotional issues involved, in order to win the victim's cooperation and successfully prosecute the perpetrator. Following the trend of this discussion, it is worthwhile to proffer the mentioned solutions.

- Parents should build a strong, healthy and open relationship with their children and be very vigilant. They should closely observe their children for any sign of vulnerability or abuse. Parents should also know the right time and place to discuss sex related issues with their children and get to know the company they keep. Furthermore, they should educate their girl-child on the dangers of rape and places to go to so that they are not caught up in this menace. They should also be careful about entrusting their children in the hands of persons they do not know or trust very well. Parents should ensure that the girl-child put on clothes that do not expose essential parts of their bodies.

- Civil Societies and NGOs should initiate elaborate enlightenment campaigns against rape and rapists. They should exhibit zero-tolerance to rape by engaging in rape intolerance attitudes and as well as dispelling sex myths in Nigeria using the media.
- Hawking by children and female teenagers should be completely banned.
- For the fight against rape to be won, every perpetrator of rape should be exposed and made to take full responsibility for his or her actions.
- There is need for the upgrading of the existing obsolete laws so as to ensure better protection of rape victims. The laws on rape should give more protection to victims.
- The high cost of Bride price often hinder matured males from getting married. Bride price or dowry should be reduced drastically so as to encourage every male adult to have a wife or a sex partner in Nigeria.
- The judiciary and legal system should ensure that all cases of rape, in particular when the victim is a minor, are heard behind closed doors.
- The Nigerian law on rape should be strengthened to give it the desire.

Summary of reviewed literature

This reviewed literature covers the concept of rape, situation of rape in Africa, situation of rape in Nigeria. Also covered in the review of literature is the types of rape, causes of the recent upsurge in rape and the problems associated with rape in urban communities.

The review show the way rape is eating deep into our society and the world at large. Rape is a hurdle to economic development, a public health problem, and a violation of women's fundamental human rights. Rape victims tend to be silent as a result of humiliation and intimidation by the police, as well as the "embarrassment" of public acknowledgement. Rape is pervasive in Nigeria and is likely going to worsen if no steps are taken immediately to end this scourge. It is very worrisome that Nigerian females now lose their virginity through rape. The persistence of this menace in modern Nigeria is no doubt a thing of great concern to all in the society, including the academia, legal, religious, medical, and political circles of the day.

Lastly, In order to reduce the recent upsurge of rape in Nigeria, this paper suggests that all social institutions, parents, Churches, Civil Societies, NGOs, and government agencies should as a matter of necessity and urgency provide qualitative sex education and guidance to the teeming Nigerian youths. This will

no doubt help bring the current rape menace to the barest minimum in Nigeria.

Perpetrators of rape should be exposed and punished appropriately.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the description of the study area and the sources of data. . It will be organized under the following sub headings:

- i. Research design
- ii. Population of the study
- iii. Sample and sampling techniques
- iv. Research instrument
- v. Validity of the instrument
- vi. Reliability of instrument
- vii. Method of data collection
- viii. Method of data analysis

Research Design

Research design is the researcher's plan of how to proceed to gain an understanding of some group or some phenomenon in its context (Ary 2010). Based on that theory, the design adopted for this study is the descriptive survey research. According to Gay (1992), descriptive survey research involves collecting

data in order to test hypotheses or to answer questions concerning the current status of the subject of the study. According to oyelusi (2002), the descriptive survey research design is the most desirable way of extracting information from the willing respondents who will also want to conceal their identities.

In this study, the descriptive research was done in Oredo local government of Edo state. The focus of this research was to find out the problems associated with rape in urban communities in Oredo local government. The descriptive survey design was therefore considered suitable since a structured questionnaire is used to seek for the opinion of people. This method provides appropriate methodology for investigating human behavior, perception and opinions of people.

Population of the study

Population is defined as all the members of a real or hypothetical set of people, or objects to which a researcher wishes to generalize the result to the research study. However, the population of this study is made up of four (4) urban communities (wards) in Oredo local government area which include; New Benin, Ring Road, Airport Road, Etete. It has an area of 249km² and a population of 374,671 (National Census commission 2006).

Sample Size and Sampling Technique

A sample is referred to as the extracted portion acting as the representative of the target population on which the researcher will administer its instrument. Sampling techniques is therefore the method of selecting the sample from the population. The sample size of this study consists of 120 respondents from the different communities in the population. This was arrived at using simple random techniques. In this case, the researcher decided to use thirty (30) random persons from the four (4) communities to form the sample size.

Research Instrument

The questionnaire as an instrument used in gathering information in a descriptive survey was employed in this study. This instrument allows the researcher to gather objective data from large number of respondents. The questionnaire was divided in to two (2) sections: section A which was meant to illicit demographic variables of respondents, while section B was designed under research questions and this had an option YES and NO. The instrument questionnaire was distributed to the respondents and explanation on how to fill the questionnaire was provided to the respondents who collected in the spot.

Validity of the instrument

This is the extent to which a research instrument and in this case, the questionnaire, is able to measure accurately what it meant to measure. It is the degree to which the results obtained from the analysis of the data actually represent the phenomenon under study. A draft copy of instrument (questionnaire) was giving to my supervisor who is a research expert and two other expert researchers in the department to validate. Their criticisms and corrections were duly observed to produce the final copies of questionnaire.

Reliability of the instrument

Reliability of an instrument is the ability of the instrument to adequately and consistently measure the trait which it was designed to measure. According to Osunde (2005) is the degree of precision co-existence of measurement obtained from using a test instrument. In establishing the reliability of the instrument, internal consistency reliability method was used. Thus, an instrument is reliable when it can measure a variable accurately and constantly and obtain the same result under the same conditions in different times. The reliability of this instrument was determined using test-retest method. In using this method, the researcher used a sample size of twenty respondents outside the population but bears similar traits with the target population of the study. A draft questionnaire

was administered on this people and after a period of eighteen (18) days, the same questionnaire was administered on the same set of people. The results gathered from these two administrations were correlated using pearson product moment correlation coefficient statistics and a coefficient of 0.69 was gotten implying that the instrument is reliable.

Method of data collection

The questionnaires were administered to the students and before they answered the questions, the researchers explained what they needed to know. After the administration, the questionnaire was collected immediately.

Method of data analysis

The researcher used simple percentage and frequency count for the analysis of data collection. The data was represented in table and analysis was made. Items having 50% and above were regarded as positive responses, while items below 50% were regarded as negative responses.

CHAPTER FOUR

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS OF FINDINGS

This chapter presents the results of data analysis of the demographic data of respondents and the four (4) questions that guided the study. The major findings of the study are also presented.

Section A

Age Distribution

Age	Number of Respondents	Percentage%
18-25	66	55
26-35	19	15.8
36-45	15	12.5
46-55	11	9.2
56-Above	9	7.5
Total	120	100

Source: Field survey, 2021

The table above shows that 55% of the respondents belong to the age bracket of 18-25. While 15.8% falls within the ages 26-35, age bracket 36-45 has 12.5% of the total sample size. Similarly, age brackets 46-55 and 56 and above has a

representative of 9.2% and 7.5% respectively. This implies that majority of the respondents belong to age bracket 18-25 (55%) of the total respondents.

Marital Status

Marital status	Number of respondent	Percentage%
Married	36	30
Single	77	64.2
Divorced	7	5.8
Total	120	100

Source: Field survey, 2021

From the table above, 30% of the respondents are married, 64.2% are single, while the remaining 5.8% are divorced. This implies that majority of the respondents are single 64.2%.

Educational Qualification

Qualifications	Number of Respondents	Percentage%
Pry. School	17	14.5
O'Level	67	55.8
Degree	36	30

Total	120	100
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Source: Field survey, 2021

The education qualification of the respondents varies as seen in the table above. 14.2% of the respondents have only primary school leaving certificate, 55.8% are O'level certificate holder, while the remaining 30% are degree holder.

Gender

Gender	Number of Respondent	Percentage%
Male	58	48.3
Female	62	51.7
Total	120	100

Source: Field survey, 2021

This table shows the gender of the respondent here it is seen that 48.3% of the respondents are male. 51.7% are female. This implies that majority of the respondents are females.

Community

Community	Number of Respondent	Percentage%
Etete	30	25
New benin	30	25

Ring road	30	25
Airport road	30	25
Total	120	100

Source: Field survey, 2021

The community of residence of the respondent varies as seen in the table above, 25% of the respondents are residence of Etete, 25% of the respondents are residence of Ringroad, similarity, New Benin and Airport Road has a representative of 25% and 25% respectively this implies that the community of residence has an equal percentage.

Section B

In this section, an analysis of the respondents responses to the items under each research questions would be done. However, as stated in the methodology, this section would also be analyzed using frequency count and simple percentage.

Research question one: What is the prevalence of rape in oredo local government?

Table 4.0

S/N	ITEMS	YES	%	NO	%	TOTAL
1	Have you ever heard of rape in this community	103	85.8	17	14.2	100
2	Do you know anyone who has Been Raped?	89	74.2	31	25.8	100
3	Does rape occur in this community often?	69	57.5	57	42.5	100
4	Is the rate of rape case high in the community?	63	52.5	57	47.5	100

Source: Field survey, 2021

Given the findings of this study as shown in table 4.0, 85.8% of the respondent ticked Yes and 14.2% of the respondents ticked No for the item have you ever heard of rape in this community?. Also, 74.2% ticked Yes and 25.8% ticked No for the item do you know anyone who has been raped?. Similarly, 57.5% and 42.5% ticked Yes and No for item 3. While 52.5% of the respondent ticked yes and 47.5% of the respondent ticked Yes and 47.5% ticked No to the item is the rate of rape case high in the community.

Research question two: Who are the major perpetrators of rape in this community?

Table 4.1

S/N	ITEMS	YES	%	NO	%	TOTAL
1	Are family members major perpetrators of rape?	53	44.2	67	55.8	100
2	Do relative involve in rape case?	81	67.5	39	32.5	100
3	Are teachers one of the perpetrators of rape?	68	56.7	58	48.3	100
4	Are peer group major perpetrators of rape?	87	72.5	33	27.5	100
5	Do neighbours involve in rape cases?	84	70	36	30	100

Source: Field survey, 2021

Table 4.1. Explain the following item are family member's major perpetrators of rape? 44.2%of the respondent picked Yes and 55.8% of the respondent picked NO. Also, 67.5% of the respondent picked Yes and 32.5% ticked No for the question

Do relatives involve in rape cases?. While 56.7% and 48.3% of the respondents ticked Yes and No respectively for the item are teachers one of the perpetrators of rape? Furthermore 72.5% ticked yes and 25.5% ticked No in the item are peer group major perpetrators of rape? Similarly, 70% and 30% of the respondents ticked Yes and No to the item do neighbours involve in rape cases?.

Researcher question three: what are the causes of rape in the community?

Table 4.2

S/N	ITEM	YES	%	NO	%	TOTAL
1	Is lack of parental care one of the causes of rape?	81	67.5	39	32.5	100
2	Is poverty a cause of rape in the community?	102	85	18	15	100
3	Is exposure to social media a cause of rape?	109	90.8	11	9.2	100
4	Does inability of female to meet their material needs a cause of rape?	104	86.7	16	13.3	100
5	Is peer group influence one of the major cause of rape?	95	79.2	25	20.8	100
6	Is misleading information acquired about sex education one of the cause of rape?	89	74.2	31	25.8	100

Source: Field survey, 2021

Findings of this study as represented in this table sees 67.5% and 32.5% of the respondent ticked Yes and No to the item is lack of parental care one of the cause of rape and 15% ticked No to the item is poverty a cause of rape in the community? While 85% picked Yes. Similarly, 90.8% and 9.2% picked Yes and No respectively to the item is exposure to social media a cause of rape?. Also, 86.7%

picked Yes and 13.3% picked No to the item does inability of female to meet their material needs a cause of rape?. For the item is peer group influence one of the major causes of rape? 79.2% of the respondent ticked Yes while 20.8% ticked No respectively. Still from the table 74.2% ticked yes and 25.8% ticked No to the item is misleading information acquired about sex education one of the cause of rape.

Research question four: what are the problems associated with the menace in oredo local government?

Table 4.3

S/N	ITEM	YES	%	NO	%	TOTAL
1	Is sexual transmitted disease one of the problems associated with rape?	107	89.2	13	10.8	100
2	Is drug abuse one of the problems associated with rape?	102	85	18	15	100
3	Is abortion a problem associated with rape in the community?	111	92.5	9	7.5	100
4	Can rape lead to un wanted pregnancy?	98	81.7	22	18.7	100
5	Can rape lead to the dropout of the victim from school?	82	68.3	38	31.7	100
6	Can rape have psychological effect on the victim?	109	90.8	11	9.2	100

Source: Field survey, 2021

The result from this table shows that 89.2% and 10.8% of the respondent ticked Yes and No respectively for the item is sexual transmitted disease one of the problems associated with rape? Also, the item is drug abuse one of the problems associated with rape? Has 85% of respondent ticked Yes and 15% of the respondent ticked No. Again, 92.5% of the respondent ticked Yes and 7.5% 0f the respondent ticked No to the item is abortion a problem associated with rape in the

community? For the item can rape lead to unwanted pregnancy sees 81.7% of the respondent ticked Yes and 18.3% of the respondent ticked No. The item can rape lead to the dropout of the victim from school? Sees 68.3% Yes and 31.7% No. Also, a whole 90.8% and 9.2% of the respondents picked Yes and No respectively for the item can rape have psychological effect on the victim?

Discussion of Findings

The present study explored recent upsurge in rape and the problems associated with the menace in urban communities in oredo local government area of edo state. Four research questions were raised and the results obtained from the analysis are discussed thus: On research question one which is on what is the prevalence of rape in oredo local government? From the finding it shows that one hundred and three (103) of the respondent has heard about rape in the community out of one hundred and twenty (120) respondents it shows most of the respondent are aware of the occurrence of rape in the community. In the question do you know anyone who has been raped? More than half of the respondent eighty-nine (89) respondents know someone who has been raped out of the total respondents of one hundred and twenty (120). From the finding does rape occur in this community often? Sixty –nine (69) respondents out of one hundred and twenty (120) picked yes that rape occur often in the community. This affirms the study of Musbau

(2013) which found out that an average of two rape cases occur per day in Lagos, Nigeria alone. Thus, if an average of two rape cases occur daily in Lagos, Nigeria alone and only fifty-seven (57) are reported in one year which the study covers, it deductively shows low reportage of rape cases. However, this may be as a result of the unwillingness of rape victims to report such cases to security personnel or the press. Also, in the question is rape case high in the community? The finding sees sixty-three (63) respondent ticking yes that the rate of rape case is high.

Furthermore, on research question two who are the major perpetrators of rape in this community? Show that neighbors, peer group and relatives are the major perpetrators of rape in the community. Peer group has the highest response of respondent eighty-seven (87). This show that peer group are mostly involve in rape cases in the community. A peer group is archetypally identified as a small “Friendship cluster of adolescents who spend large amounts of time together” (Brown, 2004). It has been widely cited in developmental psychology and sociology that peer group membership is highly influential in shaping and reinforcing the behaviors of its individual members (Brechwald & Prinstein, 2011; Bukowski, & Parker, 2006). Peer group are involved in rape base on their rise in urge for sex. Specifically, peer group dismissive attitudes toward sexual violence were significantly predictive of an individual’s sexual violence perpetration when that individual also endorsed high levels of traditional masculinity attitudes.

However, peer group tolerance toward sexual violence perpetration did not show a significant socializing effect on individual's increasing or decreasing their level of sexual violence perpetration over time after controlling for the individual's original amount of sexually aggressive behavior (Birkett & Espelage, in press). Irrespective of this, findings indicate that dismissive attitudes toward sexual violence have a significant impact in maintenance of behaviors within peer groups. Essentially, students who hold traditional masculinity ideology and have friends that are tolerant of sexually aggressive behaviors will be among the most likely to perpetrate sexual violence.

This finding also answers the question what are the causes of rape in the community? It shows that inability of female to meet their material needs; poverty, peer group influence and exposure to social media are the major cause of rape in the community. They have the highest percentage from the respondent. Other causes of rape such as misleading information about sex education and lack of parental care also has eighty-nine (89) and eighty-one (81) responses from the respondent. Poverty is a major problem affecting many families in Nigeria. Poverty and economic down turn have forced many families into allowing their female children and teens to hawk things for sale, even at unholy hours and places to augment the family income, thereby exposing them to avoidable danger of being raped by rapists (Chiazor 2016). As a result of Modernity, some parents over-

pamper their children by not enforcing strict disciplines on them. They themselves engage in extra-marital affairs incautiously, before them, and so they are more likely to foster children that are rude, arrogant and wayward (Obasi, 2007). Most children under this setting may probably become rapists. There is quite a number of misleading information which serves as an impetus to the growing incidents of rape in Nigeria. Okoro (2011), in his studies revealed that it is a common belief among many ethnic groups that: Without premarital sexual intercourse, boys are bound to have small testicles, suffer from pimples, have difficult erection and not be able to perform well when married. Girls, on the other hand are bound to have small breasts, experience early menopause, painful menstruation and painful nipples when breast-feeding their babies.

Lastly, this study didn't fail to ascertain the problems associated with the menace in oredo local government. The study find out the problems associated with rape. From the finding it shows that all the items are the problems associated with rape. Sexual transmitted disease is one of the problems associated with rape. Rape could have direct effect on the family in many ways. This happens if in the course of the act, the rapist or the raped contracts sexually transmitted diseases like HIV and AIDS, gonorrhoea, and syphilis among others that may permanently damage their reproductive system, thus rendering them sterile or resulting to untimely death (Ferguson, 1998). Added to this is the fact that rape may lead to

unwanted pregnancy, abortion, drug abuse and psychological effect. (Nzeakor, 2002; Wasike, 1999). In addition, pregnancy resulting from rape may shorten one's life, leads to school drop-out, and also leads to rushing into an unplanned marriage and marrying the wrong person (Finn and Finn, 2012). Psychologically too, rape may bring guilt, anxiety, fear, disappointment, frustration, anger at self and others, image depression and lowered self-esteem (Litchfield and Litchfield 2012). Rape could also usher in demoralization, prayerlessness, and backsliding from Christian faith (Ferguson, 1998). In conclusion, this study has shown that sexual abuse is common in these communities and the extreme form, which is rape, occurs in similar rates as in other parts of Africa and developed countries.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In this chapter, the work would be summarized, a conclusion reached and recommendations are being made.

Summary

The findings of this work reveal the following

1. Rape is a type of sexual assault usually involving sexual intercourse or other forms of sexual penetration carried out against a person without that person's consent. The act may be carried out by physical force, coercion, abuse, or against a person who is incapable of giving valid consent, such as one who is unconscious, incapacitated, has an intellectual disability or is below the legal age of consent.
2. Recent upsurge in rape is the increasing frequency of rape cases. The upsurge, especially of gang rape and rapes of girls by miscreants, should rightly become a source concern to all.
3. The causes of rape in the communities examine why some men are prone to rape. Offer probable causes for this inclination, and provides comprehensive review of scientific studies of coercive sex. The causes of rape include

alcohol and drug abuse, idleness, pornography, psychological disorder, and bad company.

4. The problems associated with the menace are those problems that occur after rape occur. The problems of rape to the woman or man can be classified either as physically, mentally or emotionally traumatic. Among the physical effects include unwanted pregnancies, diseases or health problems, and certain disruptions on the woman's natural bodily functions. on the other hand, psychological effects range from self-pity to the more striking suicidal tendencies.
5. Rapes in urban area are characterized as rapes that occur in an overcrowded area and more civilized part of a particular local government or state.

Conclusion

Rape is probably endemic in Nigeria and is likely going to escalate if no proactive steps are taken seriously and immediately. Rape is discovered to have taken new dimension in Nigeria at the moment with some of the female folks raping the males sometimes at gun point. It is worrisome revealing that a statistical percentage of 31.4 of Nigerian females lost their virginity through raping. It is equally unraveled that the ever spreading superstitious belief about sex is one of

the major contributors to the increasing rape cases in Nigeria perpetrated mostly by clergymen, traditional title holders, lecturers, family friends, uncles, aunties, and even unscrupulous parents.

It appears that the crime of rape is one which is extremely difficult for women to overcome, regardless of whether it is acknowledged. However, studies have established that the problem of rape aggravates if it is unacknowledged as a result of the influence of rape myth acceptance. In this case, the victim will be susceptible to psychological distress and lowered self-esteem among other negative effects.

In conclusion, this study has confirmed that intimate partner rape and violence is common in Nigeria. The self-reported consequences of rape in this study including suicidal ideation and other health problems, suggest rape may be playing significant but salient role in the poor state of health of most Nigerian women. The government should provide women, who experience violence with multi-disciplinary services including counseling and other resources that they need for full recovery and integration in their communities, legal support (including provision for compensation) and to ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice and later rehabilitation.

Recommendations

Based on the findings of this work, the following recommendations are made:

- The society should exhibit zero-tolerance to rape by engaging in rape intolerance attitudes and increase level of empathy. Bride price or dowry should be affordable to encourage every adult to have a wife or sex partner in Nigeria.
- Civil society groups should demand that women in Nigeria be treated as equal members of society, and also help create an environment that supports and address all forms of violence against women that have become common place in Nigeria today by raising awareness through the media; building community structures and processes to protect women; and providing assistance to victims of violence.
- For the fight against rape to be won, every perpetrator of rape should be exposed and made to take full responsibility for his or her actions. Under no circumstance should such a one be shielded or protected by parents, teachers, religious institutions, non-governmental organizations, governments or the media. All Nigerians must rise up in condemnation of this social epidemic.

- Every perpetrator of rape should be exposed to take full responsibility for his or her actions and should under no circumstance be shielded or protected by parents, Churches and colleagues.
- Every case should be given a chance to see the light of the day in the law courts in Nigeria. More Civil Societies and NGOs should be formed to battle against this notorious evil in Nigeria. All rape victims should be much love and care to reengineer their self-image.

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UNIVERSITY OF BENIN
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**TOPIC: RECENT UPSURGE IN RAPE AND THE PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH
THE MENACE IN URBAN COMMUNITIES IN OREDO LOCAL GOVERNMENT
AREA OF EDO STATE**

My name is **Kehinde David Shola**, I am here in this city of Oredo local government area of Edo state to administer questionnaires. As this survey is going on, I would be grateful if you could participate by answering some questions for me. Eligible respondents are those that have heard about occurrence of rape in this community.

I therefore solicit for your objective responses to the questions in this paper as this would give soundness and validity to this research work

This questionnaire is purely for academic research purpose. Please read the questions carefully and give responses to each of the items as best as you can. Your responses will be treated with strict confidentiality.

SECTION A: Demographic data

INSTRUCTION: please indicate your answer by ticking the appropriate box where necessary

1. Age: 18-25 { }, 26-35 { }, 36-45 { }, 46-55 { }, 56 & above { }

2. What is your marital status?

(a) Married { } Single { } Divorced { }

3. Educational Qualification: Primary school { }, O'level { }, degree { }

4. Gender: Male { }, Female { }

SECTION B

Key: YES or NO

S/N	ITEMS	YES	NO
	RQ1: WHAT IS THE PREVALENCE OF RAPE IN OREDO LOCAL GOVERNMENT		
	Have you ever heard of rape in this community?		
	Do you know anyone who has been raped?		
	Does rape occur in this community often?		
	Is the rate of rape cases high in the community?		
S/N	RQ2: WHO ARE THE MAJOR PERPETRATORS OF RAPE IN THIS COMMUNITY	YES	NO
	Are family member's major perpetrators of rape?		
	Do relatives involve in rape cases?		

	Are teachers one of the perpetrators of rape?		
	Are peer groups major perpetrators of rape?		
	Do neighbours involve in rape cases?		
S/N	RQ3: WHAT ARE THE CAUSES OF RAPE IN THE COMMUNITY	YES	NO
	Is lack of parental care one of the causes of rape?		
	Is poverty a cause of rape in the community?		
	Is exposure to social media a cause of rape?		
	Does inability of female to meet their material needs a cause of rape?		
	Is peer group influence one of the major causes of rape?		
	Is misleading information acquired about sex education one of the cause of rape?		

S/N	RQ4: WHAT ARE THE PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE MENACE IN OREDO LOCAL GOVERNMENT	YES	NO
	Is sexual transmitted disease one of the problems associated with rape?		
	Is drug abuse one of the problems associated with rape?		
	Is abortion a problem associated with rape in the community?		
	Can rape lead to unwanted pregnancy?		
	Can rape lead to the dropout of the victim from school?		
	Can rape have psychological effect on the victim?		