Awareness Level of Health Consequences of Commercial Sex Work Among Secondary School Adolescents in Oguta L.G.A. of Imo State

By

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Abstract

The main purpose of this research was to find out the level of awareness of physical, emotional and social health consequences of prostitution among in-secondary school adolescents in Oguta Local Government Area (L.G.A) of Imo State. In order to guide the study, three objectives, three research questions and four null hypotheses were postulated. Related literature were reviewed and summarized. Descriptive survey research design was adopted. The population consisted of 4,456 secondary school students in Oguta L.G.A of Imo State. The sample consisted of 500 students from ten randomly drawn secondary schools in Oguta Local Government Area. Structured questionnaire was the main instrument used for data collection. Validity and reliability of the instrument were ensured. Data collected were analyzed using descriptive statistics of frequency, percentage and grand mean; as well as inferential statistics of Chi-Square. The result revealed low level of awareness of physical, emotional and social health consequences of promiscuity

among in-secondary school adolescents in Oguta Local Government Area. Significant relationship existed between male and female in-school adolescents in their level of awareness of health consequences of commercial sex work. Also significant relationship existed among respondents of various ages, religious affiliations and parents' level of education in their level of awareness of health consequences of promiscuous behaviour. Based on the findings, conclusion, were drawn among which is that health educators and curriculum planners should include basic concepts of healthy lifestyles and health promotion in school curriculum as the basis for good behaviour change in adolescent as well as in all adults in Oguta Local Government Area.

Introduction

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Man's nature as a social animal which cannot be effectively fulfilled without inter and intra-relationships has created some social problems and unhealthy lifestyles. Nebraska Health and Human Services System – NHHSS (2005) defined unhealthy lifestyles as a group of behaviours or activities that contribute to immediate as well as long-term danger to the individual system or human body as a whole. The behaviours, according to them, are those unacceptable to community; and in some cases acceptable to the community, but may endanger the well – being of the individual, even when the individual does not perceive the behaviours as unhealthy. According to their reports, unhealthy lifestyle includes commercial sex work, sexual harassment and substance use among others. These are the social problems resulting from hazardous lifestyles of adolescents.

Adolescents comprised of twenty per cent of the total world population, eighty—five per cent of whom live in developing countries. Low education and high unemployment often compound the problems of developing world adolescents. Furthermore, the adolescent population in developing countries including Nigeria is burgeoning, with the number of urban youth growing to a projected six hundred per cent between 1970 and 2025 (WHO, 1997). There is a great need for this segment of the population to be aware of the consequences of their unhealthy lifestyles including commercial sex work.

Onuzulike (2007) explained that sex—work refers to commercialized sex in which the sex—worker offers the use of his/her body for money or material gains. She further highlighted the basic element of sex—work to include temporary relationship, and lack of true love. Sykes (2006) defined sex—work as the practice of offering once body for sale and unworthy use of oneself. He further described sex—work as the practice through which women allow men to use their body for sexual intercourse for an economic reward.

Njoku (1997) also explained that female sex-workers are women who offer their body to promiscuous sexual intercourse, especially for economic reward. Njoku further reported that male sex-workers are men who undertake homosexual actions for payments. Igwe (1996) described sex—work as the habit of exchanging money or material things in return for sexual activity. He added that sexworker is a person that accepts money or material things from anybody known or unknown after sex. He also stated that female indulged into prostitution more than their male counterparts, which he attributes to civilization and urbanization. He further added that women sex-workers often work alone as street women or stays in brothels, in which the woman is called a harlot. Continuing, he

remarked that sex--work is not uncommon. throughout the world. It runs from one ethnic group to another, village to village and urban areas to cities at varying degrees. He also identified four types of sex-work as follows: 1. The "hotel sex-worker"; 2. The "call girl"; 3. The independent sex workers; and 4. The unclassified sex-workers. Njoku (1997) on the other hand, classified 'sex-work' into fair weather girls, street hawkers, bar girls and brothel ladies. The fair weather girls according to him, is classified as sex-workers who installed in a luxury flat. They receive a generous allowance from wealthy and comfortable men. Whenever the man deases to be wealthy, fair weather girls will abandon the men and the flat rented for her. Street hawkers are the class of sex-workers who dress gorgeously and parade along majorstreets with a bid to luring men into sexual relationship. Njoku further added that, bar girls are sex-workers who spend their time in bars for a possible client or customers. Brothel ladies are sex-workers who reside in public houses for possible customers.

Factors that predispose adolescents to commercial sex-work include poverty, unemployment, peer group pressure, greed avarice, prenatal influence, media influence, numerous socialization agents, depressed nature of home, family and national economy;

as well as lack of sexual satisfaction (Onuzulike, 2002; Horn, 2001; Amarachukwu, 2000; Brikhead, 2000, Brook, 2000). Other reasons for commercial sex-work include broken homes, cultural factors, alcoholism, drugs abuse, traumatic childhood experiences, poor family upbringing and ignorance of the consequence of commercial (Gagnon & Williams, 1978).

Mastio (1994) explained that the health consequences of commercial sex-work are AIDS/HIV infections, sexually transmitted infections (STIS), premarital pregnancy, illegal abortions and eventually death. This situation is a pathetic one and it requires changes because the adolescents are people in whose hands, lies the future of any nation. The extent to which in-school adolescents in Imo State are aware of these consequences remained unclear. It was against this background that the researcher decided to investigate the level of health consequences of commercial sexwork among secondary school adolescents in Oguta L.G.A of Imo State.

The following research questions and hypothesis guided the study.

- 1. What is the level of awareness of physical health consequences of commercial sexwork among secondary solool
- adolescents in Oguta Local Government

Area?

- 2. What is the level of awareness of social health consequences of commercial sexwork among secondary school adolescents in Oguta Local Government Area?
- 3. What is the level of awareness of commercial sex-work among secondary school adolescents in Oguta Local Government Area?

The study was further guided by four null hypotheses tested at .05 level of significance. These hypotheses are as follows.

- There is no significant relationship between male and female adolescents in Oguta Local Government Area in their level of awareness of health consequences of commercial sex-work.
- There is no significant relationship among adolescent of various religious affiliations in Oguta Local Government Area in their level of awareness of health consequences of commercial sex-work.
- There is no significant relationship among adolescents of various ages in Oguta Local Government Area in their level of awareness of health consequences of

commercial sex-work.

4. The in-school adolescents' level of awareness of the consequences of commercial sex-work was not dependent on their parents' level of education.

Methods

The study adopted a descriptive survey which aimed at collecting data on and describing in a systematic manner the characteristics, features and facts about the given population with regard to the title of the study. The population for the study consisted of 4456 students in the ten (10) existing secondary schools in Oguta Local Government Area. Multi-stage sampling procedure was used to draw a sample of five hundred secondary school students from the Local Government Area. The study was done

in three stages. Stage one consisted of clustering of the subjects into ten existing secondary schools in the Local Government Area. Simple random sampling technique was used in drawing all the ten secondary schools in Oguta Local Government Area of Imo State. In stage two, there was stratification of the subjects into five categories as follows: JSS 2, JSS 3, SS 1, SS 2 and SS 3. The JSS 1 students were not part of the strata since they were yet to be admitted into the various schools as at the time of the study. In stage three, the first ten students from each of the five strata to arrive for morning assembly were chosen and used for data collection. Fifty students were selected from across the five strata in each of the ten secondary schools. On the whole five hundred secondary school students were selected and used for the study, (see table 1).

Table 1

Names of the selected secondary schools in the LGA	No. of	students from	1		
	JSS2	JSS3	SS1	SS2	SS3
1. Agwa Sec.Sch	10 .	10	10	10	10
2. Comm Sec. Sch Awa	10	10	10	10	10
3. Egbuoma Sec. Sch	10	10	10	10	10
4. Ejemekeuru/Akabor Sec.Sch	.10	10	10	10	10
5. Eziorsu Sec. Sch	10	10	10	10	10
6. Izombe Sec. Commerical Sch	10	10	10	10	10
7. Oguta Girls High Sch	10	10	10	10	10
8. Priscillia Mem Sec. Sch	10	10	10	10	10
9. St. Michael's Sec.Sch.	10	10	10	10	10
10. Trinity High Sch	10	10	10	10	10
Total	100	100	100	100	100

The instrument for data collection was a structured questionnaire developed by the researcher. The instrument had four sections. Section A was concerned with the bio-data of the respondents, while sections B-to-D contained twenty-four close ended questions based on the objectives of the study. Validation of the instrument was effected by three experts from the Department of Public Health and Community Medicine of Madonna University, Elele Campus. The modification of the instrument was based on the judgment of the experts. The validated instrument was administered by researcher on face to face basis with the help of their form teachers from each of the ten schools used for the study. The data generated were presented using descriptive statistics of frequency, percentage and grand mean; as well as Chisquare statistic. The analysis was based on 497 (99.4%) duly completed copies of the questionnaire. Three (6.0%) copies of the questionnaire mortality were recorded. The researcher made use of university grading system in which scores 70% and above were considered high level of awareness, scores between 50% and 60% were considered moderate level of awareness while scores below 50% were considered low level of awareness. The result from data collected were marked and graded accordingly.

Results

The following results were derived from the collected and analyzed data.

Table 1
Frequency distribution of level of awareness of physical health consequences of commercial sex-work (n=497)

Ph	ysical Health Consequences of				. 25 mgs.
coı	mmercial sex-work	High	Moderate	Low	Total
1.	commercial sex-work deprives	51 (10.2%)	143(28.7%)	299(60.1%)	497
	one of his/her good health because				
	it is a hazardous lifestyle		43, 3 v		n di Maryagas
2.	commercial sex-work causes death	6(1.2%)	94 (18.9%)	397 (79.8%)	497
	due to unsafe abortion				and the second of the second o
3.	commercial sex-work leads to high	79 (15.8%)	171 (34.4%)	243 (48.8%)	497
	risk of contracting reproductive				241388
	tract infection (RTI)				es, Miss esy
4.	It exposes one to high risk of	121 (24.3%)	139 (27.9%)	223 (44.8%)	497
	contracting hepatitis B			•	eg aş jild
5.	It leads to weakened cervix or	86 (17.3%)	102 (20.5%)	309 (62.1%)	497
	incompetent cervix which has	•		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	in makadi d
	long term effects.	t :		e y e	ale Carrette d

Table 1 shows generally low level of awareness of physical health consequences of commercial sex-work. From the table above, 51(10.2%) respondents' possessed high level of awareness that commercial sex-work deprives one of his/her good health because it is a hazardous lifestyle, 143 (28.7%) possessed moderate level of awareness while 299 (60.1%) possessed low level of awareness, 6 (1.2%) possessed high level of awareness that commercial sex-work causes death due to unsafe abortion, 94 (18.9%) possessed moderate level of awareness while 397 (79.8%) possessed low level of awareness on the same subject. The table also revealed that 79 (15.8%) respondents possessed high level of awareness that

commercial sex-work leads to high risk of contracting reproductive tract infection (RTI), 171 (34.4%) possessed moderate level of awareness, while 243 (48.7%) possessed low level of awareness on the same issue. The table further showed that 121 (24.3%) respondents possessed high level of awareness of commercial sex-work exposing one to high risk of contracting hepatitis B, 139 (27.9%) possessed moderate level of awareness, while 223 (44.8%) respondents possessed low level of awareness on the same issue. On the other hand, table 1 indicated that 86 (17.3%) respondents possessed high level of awareness, 102 (20.5%) possessed moderate level of awareness while 309 (62.1%) respondents possessed low level of awareness on the same issue.

Table 2

Frequency distribution of respondents' level of awareness of emotional health consequences of commercial sex-work (n = 497)

High	Moderate	Low	Total
91(18.3%)	195(39.2%)	42 (4%)	497
120(24.1%)	179(36.0%)	198(39.8%)	497
83 (16.7%)	189(38.0%)	225(45.2%)	497
25 (5.0%)	149(29.9%)	323(64.9%)	497
5(1.0%)	141(28.3%)	351(70.6%)	497
107(21.5%)	187(37.6%)	203(40.8%)	497
8(16.7%)	189(38.0%)	22(45.2%)	497
91 (18.3%)	195(29.2%)	225(45.2%)	497
125 (25.1%)	140(28.1%)	232(46.6%)	497
3 (0.6%)	158(31.7%)	336(67.6%)	497
	91(18.3%) 120(24.1%) 83 (16.7%) 25 (5.0%) 5(1.0%) 107(21.5%) 8(16.7%) 91 (18.3%) 125 (25.1%)	91(18.3%) 195(39.2%) 120(24.1%) 179(36.0%) 83 (16.7%) 189(38.0%) 25 (5.0%) 149(29.9%) 5(1.0%) 141(28.3%) 107(21.5%) 187(37.6%) 8(16.7%) 189(38.0%) 91 (18.3%) 195(29.2%) 125 (25.1%) 140(28.1%)	91(18.3%) 195(39.2%) 42 (4%) 120(24.1%) 179(36.0%) 198(39.8%) 83 (16.7%) 189(38.0%) 225(45.2%) 25 (5.0%) 149(29.9%) 323(64.9%) 5(1.0%) 141(28.3%) 351(70.6%) 107(21.5%) 187(37.6%) 203(40.8%) 8(16.7%) 189(38.0%) 22(45.2%) 91 (18.3%) 195(29.2%) 225(45.2%) 125 (25.1%) 140(28.1%) 232(46.6%)

From the table above, 91 (18.3%) respondents possessed high level of awareness that commercial sex-work brings sense of worthlessness, 195 (39.2%) possessed moderate level of awareness, while 42(4%) possessed low level of awareness on the same issue. The

table shows that 120 (24.16%) respondents possessed high level of awareness that commercial sex-work brings about a negative feelings of guilt, 179 (36.0%) possessed moderate level of awareness, while 198 (39.8%) possessed low level of awareness on the same issue. The table also revealed that 83 (36.7%) possessed a high level of awareness of commercial sex-work causes one to be hostile, 189 (38.0%) possessed moderate level of awareness, while 225 (45.2%) possessed low level awareness on the same subject. The results from the above table, show that 25 (50%) possessed a high level of awareness on commercial sex-work • makes one to be aggressive, 149 (29.9%) possessed moderate awareness, while 323 (64.9%) possessed low level of awareness on the same issue. The table also shows that 5(1.0%) possessed high level of awareness on commercial sex-work can damage one's safe-esteem, 141 (28.3%) possessed moderate level of awareness, while 351 (70.6%) possessed low level of awareness on the same issue. Furthermore, the table reveals that 107 (21.5%) respondents possessed high level of awareness commercial sex-work brings about anxiety, 187 (37.6%) respondents possessed moderate level of awareness, while 203 (40.8%) respondents possessed low level of awareness on the same issue. The table also shows that 83 (16.7%) respondents possessed high level of awareness of commercial sex-work leads to depression, 189 (38.0%) respondents possessed moderate level of awareness while 225 (45.2%) respondents possessed low level of awareness on the same issue. Table 2 indicates that 91 (18.3%) possessed high level of awareness on commercial sex-work brings about teenage pregnancy which leads to stress, 195 (29.2%) possessed moderate level of awareness, while 211 (42.4%). Table 2 further reveals that 125(25.1%) possessed high level of awareness that commercial sex-work leads to bitterness, 140 (28.1%) possessed moderate level of awareness, while 232 (46.6%) possessed low level of awareness on the same issue. The table also shows that 3 (0.6%) respondents possessed high level of awareness that commercial sexwork causes one to be withdrawn, 158 (37.7%) possessed moderate level of awareness, while 336 (67.6%) possessed low level of awareness on the same issue.

Table 3: Frequency distribution of respondents' level of awareness of social health consequences of Commercial Sex Work (n = 497)

Social health consequences of commercial sex-work	High	Moderate	Low	Total
1. Commercial sex-work leads to stigmatization	367(61.7%)	160(32.1%)	30(6.0%)	497
2. Commercial sex-work can leads to drugs abuse	121(24.3%)	139(27.9%)	223(44.8%)	497
3. Commercial sex-workers are ridiculed by the	50(10.6%)	182(36.6%)	265(53.3%)	497
society and called all sorts of names				
4. It brings moral decadence in the society as innocent	65(13.0%)	206(41.4%)	226(45.4%)	497
girls may be easily deceived by their peers				
5. It gives rise to illegitimate children	83(16.7%)	189(0. %)	225(45.2%)	497
6. Commercial sex-work destroy family's reputation	25(5.0%)	149(29.9%)	323(64.9%)	497
7. It sometimes deprived teens the chance of being	125(25.1%)	140(28.1%)	232(46.6%)	497
educated				
8. Commercial sex-work leads to early marriage as a	121(24.3%)	139(27.9%)	223(44.8%)	497
result of unwanted pregnancy.				

The results above show that 367(61.7%) respondents possessed high level of awareness that commercial sex-work leads to stigmatization, 160(32.1%) possessed moderate level of awareness, while 30(6.0%) possessed low levels of awareness on the same issue. The Table further shows that 121(24.3%) respondents possessed high level of awareness that commercial sex-work can lead to drug abuse, 139(27.9%) respondents possessed moderate level of awareness, while 223(44.8%) respondents possessed low level of awareness on the same subject. Furthermore, 50(10.6%) respondents possessed high level of awareness that commercial sex-workers are called all sorts of names, 182(36.6%) respondents possessed moderate level of awareness, while 265(53.3%) respondents possessed low level of awareness on the same issues. Additionally, 83(16.7%) respondents possessed high level of awareness that commercial sex-work gave rise to illegitimate children, 189(38.0%) respondents possessed moderate level of awareness, while 225(45.2%) respondents possessed low level of awareness

on the same issue. Table also shows that 25(5.0%) respondents possessed high level of awareness that commercial sex-work destroys family's reputation, 149(25.1%) respondents possessed moderate level of awareness, while 323(64.9%) respondents possessed low level of awareness on the same issue. The Table further shows that 125(25.1%) respondents possessed high awareness that commercial sex-work sometimes deprived teenagers the chance of being educated, 140(28.7%) respondents possessed moderate level of awareness, while 232(46.6%) respondents possessed low level of awareness on the same issue. Finally, the Table shows that 121(24.3%) respondents possessed high level of awareness that commercial sex-work leads to early marriage as a result of unwanted pregnancy, 139(27.9%) respondents possessed moderate level of awareness, while 223(44.8%) respondents possessed low level of awareness on the same issue.

Table 4
Chi-Square Test Summary on the Level of Awareness of Consequences of Commercial
Sex-Work Based on Gender (n=497)

Variable	n	X ² - cal value	df	X ² crit value
Gender				
Male	248			
		11.62	2	5.99
Female	249			

Table 4 reveals that X^2 – cal value (X^2 = 11.62) is greater than the observed X^2 – value of 5.99 [(X^2 = 11.62 > 5.99, df = 2, P < .05)]. The hypothesis that there is no significant relationship between male and female adolescents in Oguta Local Government Area in their level of awareness of health consequences of commercial sex-work is, therefore accepted.

Table 5
Chi-Square Test Summary on the Level of Awareness of Consequences of Commercial
Sex-Work Based on Religion Affiliations (n = 497)

Variable	n	X ² - cal value	df	X ² - crit value
Religion Affiliations	1 7 , .			
Pentecostal	58			
		9.32	2	5.99
Anglican	200			•
Roman Catholic	239			

Table 5 reveals that X^2 -cal value (X^2 =9.32) is greater than the observed X^2 -value of 5.99 [(X^2 =9.32>5.99, df=2, P<.05)]. The hypothesis that there is no significant relationship among adolescent of various religion affiliations in Oguta Local Government Area in their level of awareness of health consequences of commercial sex-work is, therefore accepted.

Table 6 Chi-Square Test Summary on the Level of Awareness of Consequences of Commercial Sex-Work Based on Age (n=497)

'n	X ² - cal value	df	X ² - crit value
- *			
34			
			5.99
129			
315			
19			
	34 129 315	34 23.67 129 315	34 23.67 2 129 315

Table 6 indicates that X^2 – cal value (X^2 – 23.67) is greater than the observed X^2 – value of 5.99 [(X^2 = 23.67 > 5.99, df = 2, P < .05)]. The hypothesis that there is no significant

relationship among adolescent of various ages in Oguta Local Government Area in their level of awareness of health consequences of commercial sex-work is therefore accepted.

Table 7

Summary of Chi-Square (X²) Analysis of Frequency Distribution of Respondents' Level of Awareness of Health Consequences of Commercial Sex-Work Based on their Parents' Level of Education (n=497)

Variable	n	X ² -cal value	df	X ² -crit value
Level of Education		i di Maria		
Non Formal Education	201			
		8.06	2	5.99
Primary Education	154			
Secondary Education	84			
Tertiary Education	58			

Table 7 reveals that X^2 – cal value (X^2 = 8.06) is greater than the observed X^2 value of 5.99 [(X^2 = 8.06 > 5.99, df = 2, P < .05)]. The null hypothesis that in-school adolescents level of awareness of the health consequences of commercial sex-work was not depends on their parent's level of education is therefore accepted.

Discussion

The result of the study revealed that the level of awareness of health consequences of commercial sex-work by secondary school students in Oguta Local Government Area was very low. Respondents showed 121(24.3%) highest level of awareness of physical health consequences of commercial sex-work under commercial sex-work exposes one to high risk of contracting hepatitis B. The results further showed that

139(27.9%) had moderate level of awareness while 223 respondents showed lowest level of awareness on the same issue. The result was supported by the work of Onuzulike (2007) who confirmed that adolescents or secondary school students consequences of commercial sex-work. She further stated that adolescent are supported to be well in informed to prevent the innocent from being

fallen prey into hands of their peers that will lured them into commercial sex-work.

Research Question 2 sought to ascertain the level of awareness of social health consequences of commercial sex-work among adolescent in Oguta Local government Area. The data in table 2 indicated that 107(21.5) respondents showed highest awareness of commercial sex-work causing anxiety in life, 187(37.6%) respondents showed moderate awareness while 203(40.8%) respondents had the lowest awareness. This showed that there was low level aware of commercial sex-work among the respondents. Onuzulike (2006) opined that great proportions of adolescents bring disappointment to their families and friends because of ignorance of the general health consequences among various age cohorts. According to her commercial sex-work leads teenage girls into abortion, school abandonment.

Research Question 3 sought to determine the level of awareness of emotional health consequences of commercial sex-work among secondary school adolescent in Oguta Local Government Area. The result in table 3 revealed that 125(25.1%) respondents showed highest awareness level of emotional health consequences, 140(28.1%) respondents showed moderate level of

awareness while 232(46.6%) respondents had low level awareness of emotional health consequences on the same issue. Literature reviewed that commercial sex-work was the major cause of feeling of guilt, depression and hostile nature of adolescents due to low level of emotional health consequences of commercial sex-work.

Data in table 4 indicate that there was a significant difference $[(X^2 = 11.62 > 5.99,$ df = 2, P < .05)] in the awareness of health consequences of commercial sex-work by students in Oguta L.G.A based on gender. The results that gender had significant influence on the students awareness of health consequences of commercial sex-work based on gender was considered interesting but not astonishing. For example, evidence abound in literature that gender influences awareness of health consequences of commercial sexwork. This finding is in consonance with that of Igwe (1996) which stated that female indulged into commercial sex-work more than their male counterparts, due to civilization and urbanization.

Date in table 5 show that religion affiliations had a significant impact on the adolescents awareness of health consequences of commercial sex-work [($X^2 = 9.32 > 5.99$, df = 2, P < .05)]. There is substantial evidence in literature that religion

affiliation influences students' awareness of health consequences of commercial sexwork. The finding agrees with that of.

Data in table 6 indicate that age had significant relationship in adolescents' level of awareness of health consequences of commercial sex-work [$(X^2 = 23.67 > 5.99)$]. Experience has shown that age of adolescents predisposes them to perpetuation of risky behaviours. In other words, as adolescents' advances in age, the tendency to perpetuate commercial sex-work, which is detrimental to his /her health, becomes profound. Thus, the significant influence the age of adolescents' impact on awareness of health consequences of commercial sex-work was not a surprise.

Data in table 7 indicate that there was a significant relationship $[(X^2=.06>5.99, df=2, P<.05)]$ in the adolescents awareness of health consequences of commercial sexwork according to their parents' level of education. The results that their parents' level of education had significant relationship on the adolescents level of awareness of health consequences of commercial sex-work according to their parents' level of education was considered interesting determine the extent of awareness of the health consequences of commercial sex-work by

adolescents.

Conclusion

Based on the findings, the following conclusions were made:

- Respondents revealed low level of awareness of health consequences of commercial sex-work in Oguta Local Government Area of Imo State.
- Adolescents in Oguta Local Area of Imo
 State revealed low level of awareness of social health consequences of commercial sex-work.
- 3. Respondents revealed low level of awareness of emotional health consequences of commercial sex-work in Oguta Local Government Area of Imo State.
- A significant relationship was found in the awareness level of health consequences of commercial sex-work by secondary school adolescent according to gender.
- A significant relationship was found in the awareness level of health consequences of commercial sex-work by secondary school adolescent based on religion affiliations.
- A significant relationship was found in the awareness level of health consequences of commercial sex-work by secondary school adolescent according to age.

 A significant relationship was found in the awareness level of health consequences of commercial sex-work by in-secondary school adolescent based on their parents level of education.

Implications of the Study

The findings of the study have implications for teaching and learning of health education and public health. The result indicated that there is low level of awareness of health consequences of commercial sexwork among adolescents in Oguta Local Government Area of Imo State. This low level of awareness is likely to predispose the adolescents to the risks associated with unhealthy lifestyles.

Thus, valid public health education programmes on prevention of commercial sex-work among secondary adolescents in Imo State becomes inevitable. These should be organized through suitable channels that secondary students have access to such as seminars, workshops and other youth empowerment programme with emphasis on building and maintenance of healthy lifestyles.

Recommendations

On the basis findings and conclusion therefore, the researcher recommended as follows:

- 1. Health education intervention strategies on health lifestyles should be organized for the general public in order to sensitize and enlighten them on the need of the need of these healthy lifestyles or good morals.
- 2. Government, non-governmental agencies as well as health professionals should organized programmes on health consequences associated with unhealthy lifestyles so as to educate the public on the danger inherent of promiscuous lifestyles.
- Curriculum planners and Guidance
 Counselors should include basic
 concept of health education in moral
 instructions, integrated sciences and
 biology for secondary school.

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