

Pedophilia absurdity news narratives: Its implications on a girl-child behaviour

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Abstract

The need to reinforcing communication on pedophilia's sexual molestation of prepubescent children in this post COVID era is germane. This was as a result of escalating rate of victims who died of sexual molestation kept dominating screaming headlines of the media in Nigeria. This is scary. A girl-child sexual abuse is seen globally as pedocriminality with a high risk-health implications like *infections, HIV and* urine incontinence. In extreme cases, the victims lose their lives, virginity and maimed for life. This act contravenes the Child Rights Act of 2003. The study aimed to create awareness in media, direct attention of stakeholders on injuries inflicted on girl-children, highlight its implications on girl-child and identify strategies to minimize the oddity in the society. Four research questions guided the study: What are the types of pedophile's sexual molestation of a girlchild, the types of injuries a girl-child suffered from pedophile's sexual molestation, its implications on girl-child behaviour and strategies to minimize it in the society? Anchored on Reinforcement Media Theory. Survey design via purposive sampling of 73 respondents derived from two federal government owned hospitals in Delta and Anambra were studied. Findings shows fingering, anal, vaginal penetration, lacerations and bleedings. In extreme cases - death and destruction of victim's reproductive organs. Respondents recommended media agenda setting, non-violent protest and strict regulations as solutions: The implications is that if neglected, the issue may worsen by year 2030 proposed by W.H.O to get rid of cervical cancer in Africa.

Keywords: Pedophilia, Girl-child, Girl-child's Right, Girl-child sexual molestation



INTRODUCTION

Bre-ak-ing: "Horror Tales of Child Rape Escalates in Nigeria! "Bandits Rape Two Minors in Kwara". "Head Teacher Charged for Defiling 7yrs Pupil! "Police Rescue 46 Teenagers from Baby Factory!" "Girl @ 6 Dead After Sexual Violations From Step Father! "Man 67 Defiles 5yrs old Girl!. "Panic Grips Offa Community as Bandits Invade Primary School Kidnap Scores and Rape Minors".

These were some of the screaming headlines on pedophilia news constantly dominating the media headlines of both the print and electronic in recent time almost on a daily basis. The emergence of pedophilia cases in this era is alarming that no day passes without hearing scary narratives of a girl-child sexual molestation, abuse or violation in different communities in Nigeria: According to Onwubiko (2010), this was a bad example seen via the White –Man's reckless sexual appetite promoted through their reckless sexual relations with dogs, doll, pussy cats and the use of dollar to lure African girls into sucking their penis which was alien to our culture and thereafter fucking the girls anus-This is sexual aberration!. This issue is fast becoming like a culture in newspaper reviews of many radio stations in Nigeria and the researcher has perceived it as another form of sexual terrorism of the minor added to the incidence of banditry and kidnapping terrorisms in Nigerian society. Pedophilia is a term used to describe an adult male gender lustful sexual attraction to prepubescent girl-children.

A male gender with this abnormal attraction is called a *pedophile*. American Psychological Association (2018) sees it as an "abusive sexual behaviour by an adult male gender upon a female gender between the age of two to ten years old. It is usually perpetrated using force on the victim usually referred to as a girl-child. The female gender according to Nwosu (2019:34) is the "food and fruit basket" of any society and should occupy



prominent place in the life of any nation. Positing further that" the rate at which the death of minors dominate media headlines has significantly increased this year and this is scary in this era evidenced by the global corona virus pandemic termed "Covid-19" which poised difficult to manage".

It is deeply disturbing that this pervasive violence by men against the minor persists after the lockdown, and has remain at its worst for teenagers aged 8-12 notwithstanding the multiple impacts of COVID-19 risks and vulnerability. Child sexual molestation exacerbates the threats of infections and high level of stigmatized emergencies. But, unlike COVID-19, a girl-child sexual molestation attitudes cannot be cured with vaccine, we can fight it with deep-rooted mutual respectful relationships, improved access to communication for changing harmful attitudes and sustained governmental law enforcement efforts. WHO (2021)

Hence, post COVID-19 global pandemic restrictions would further increase children's exposure to sexual violence termed "shadow pandemic" if proactive measures were not provided by government of different nations to arrest the situation. Sexual violence against minors can trigger unpleasant trauma to the victim, including indelible injuries infections, depression and anxiety disorder. This is the justification for this study as many victims are living with stitches on both their anal and vaginal region because of injuries sustained via pedophiles atrocious absurdities. Thalinger (2021) noted that a girl-child's reproductive system is delicate and very important for future reproduction asserting further that when damaged early in life could distort future birth and decrease nations population. This is in the thinking of Edinburgh, et al., (2019) who observes that women



are the pioneers of nation because they comprises about half of the world population and keys to sustainable socio-economic development. UNICEF(2016) has directed attention that: "eight out of ten girl-children in Nigeria experience emotional and physical sexual abuse before the age of fifteen". Observing further that significant number of the victims are violated sexually by either the father, brother, uncle, houseboy, security guards drivers. Grandpa, pastor, Imam, teacher, or a trusted neighbor. In extreme cases, the victims lose their lives or are maimed for life. One case study being the violation of a 6-months-old baby who died on the spot and the perpetrator – 37 years old pedophile who was caught in the act depriving the child's right to life which contravenes was not prosecuted which contrives the Child Rights Act of 2003. UNECEF (2016). Recently, the researcher witnessed gory sight of a violated girl-child in one of the government hospital who sustained larcenous wound oozing-out blood on her vagina. The mother of the sexually abused girl-child was desperate to see the doctor before anyone else: She could not control her tears in front of some patients waiting for their turn to see the doctor. She was crying profusely and trying to jump the queue because of the critical condition of her daughter whom she said was just seven years old. On subsequent interrogation by the reseacher's journalistic question guide of: "who"," what", "when", "where", "why" and "how" the incident happened. According to her, few hours after the child went to fetch some water from a nearby borehole she returned limping and she teased her of feigning injury to dodge filling up their empty buckets. To her surprise the baby girl refused to eat her dinner and kept shouting all night like someone in hallucinations which made her to examine her closely and discovered she had a blood-stained pant - Her daughter confessed being violated by the security elderly man in charge of the compound where they are fetching water. She soliloquized -"I wanted the government to hear this storybecause Kamsi is also a government child". According to the victim, the pedophile



(security man) told her that if she confesses that, he will kill her. Dr. Basil confirmed that the symptoms were suggestive of anal and vaginal rape, with a rider "Anytime you see this type of issue and kept mute, it means all children in that neighborhood are no longer safe. But, for how long shall we continue keeping quiet amidst this absurdity? I asked no one in particular. This is the for the investigation to let the "government hear this story" according to Mumy Kamsi's pleas. Moreover, the United Nations International Children Emergency Funds, has renewed their call urging Nigeria's federal government to create safe and secure outlets for children to report cases of sexual molestation to appropriate authorities. Besides, Truth Project(2021) argue that by 2030 that Nigeria will be among the countries to experience acute human resource barrenness resulting from high rate of banditry, kidnapping of school children and raping of minors. Thus, African Council for Communication Education, (ACCE) International Conference theme "Communicating Science, Technology, and Innovation in Times of Economic, Distress, Terror, and a Global Pandemic" is a confirmation of high degree terrorist activities going on in the country of which the "rape of minor" is one of them.

The lives of Nigerian girl-children are seriously in danger via pedophilia scare as no day goes by in this nation without hearing a different pedophile news story in the national dailies, social media, television and radio". Recent report from a special police unit set up to combat sexual defilement of the minors in Nassarawa state Nigeria estimates that every day that five out of seven teenagers are victims of sexual assault in Nigeria while two out of the five died on the spot. This is a societal malady, an oddity and sounds absurd in the mind of right thinking members of the society. Child's rape according to Federal Child's Right Act 2003 is not just a criminal offence, but barbaric, endemic and epidemic with fatal implications on the population of the female gender if proactive action is not taken to tackle the challenge. It is not just about arresting the perpetrators



and fixing life thereafter: It is about getting justice and preventing menace in the society. 3The case of Kamsi was not the only case that is worth probing as Dr.Basil narrated other shocking tale of many victims who needed genital stitches on their birth carnal after being raped by some family's members. Nigerian Women on Right Advocacy: A nonprofit organization that has helped pay medical bills for poor patients since 2018 lamented that only a fraction of rapist are brought to justice and assert it is important that abusers are arrested and punished. Adding that some communities are responsible for the pedophiles not being punished, as people hide behind religion to drop their cases. Drawing from these scholarly Postulations, the media has the power to enforce news and commentaries on pedophilia cases prevalent in the society in this pandemic season noted for observing social distancing phenomenon, wearing of nose masks, hand washing exercise and avoiding crowded places. Hence, the study is poised to create awareness of the rising cases of pedophiles in the society, examine the nature of injuries pedophiles inflict on the victims both physical and psychological, and highlight possible media mix germane to minimize the issue for sustainable socio- economic development. Four research questions derived from the aim of the study guided the investigation. They are: What are the types of pedophile's sexual molestation of a girl-child? What type of girl-children suffered from pedophile's sexual molestation?. What injuries do implications do pedophile sexual molestation have on girl-children behaviour? What are the strategies to minimize it in the society?.

Conceptual Clarifications

American Psychological Association, (2018) defined pedophilia as a molestation or sexual assault behavior by an adult male gender upon a female gender under the age of ten to zero month. A pedophile is a person with abnormal sexual feeling for a girl-child: A pedophile is a man guilty of any erotic behaviour towards a girl-child to stimulate



any of the victims's sexual organ with a male organ or finger which may result in deep or light penetration. Akinbola (2012). The act of using a girl-child younger than the age of consent for sexual stimulation in the thinking of Wales, (2019) is called child molestation or child sexual abuse. Reinforcing this assertion, WHO(2013) opine it is child rape and child molestation. In its literal sense, pedophilia act occurred when an older adult male gender forcibly engages in sexual activity with a girl-child either in the victim's home or perpetrated outside the environment usually by luring the victim out in the family. However, one of the definitions widely accepted by Child Protection Services is that of WHO (2013): Pedophilia is the involvement of dependent, developmentally immature children and adolescents in sexual activities that they do not truly comprehend, to which they are unable to give informed consent. Therefore, a pedophile is one guilty of sexual molestation offence committed against a girl-child who is too young and unable to give sexual consent willingly. The discovery of child sexual abuse began in the 70s which has made research studies in this area a welcome development.

Girl-Child

A girl-child is a tender female gender between one day old to twelve years old - a victim of pedophiles sexual assault. A girl child is a female gender referred as a baby girl at birth. She belongs to the sex that have babies at maturity for continuation of life on earth. From three years upwards they go to school, make friends, play games, do some household shores and play multiple roles in the family like cooking, washing of clothes, fetching of water, etc. By assigning household tasks in a definitive way, children link certain types of work with gender later in life. Okunna (2011). However, specific roles makes children to link certain types of work with gender and assigning equal roles for girls and boys help to discourage gender inequality phenomenon in the society.



Nwodu, et al., (2013). Assigning specific roles to women in child upbringing should be discouraged in this era and playing multiple roles in every sphere of life plays key roles in providing early childhood gender status quo. David, et al., (2018). A girl-child are humanities future mother, hence, Moore (2017) is of the view that their lives should be protected for humanity socio-economic sustainability, testifying that they do domestic work. and other chores which makes a home more suitable and conducive for other members of the family.

The rights of a girl-child include non-discrimination; the rights to survival, and development of potential, rights of protection from family violence, and other environmental hazards. Rights to be shielded from bad influences, abuses, exploitation as well as full participation in family, cultural and social life. A girl-child has proven themselves much better than boys in every field of human endeavor due to their hard work and dedication. A girl-child is a very important asset in any nation because they are nation builders and help with housework as well as assisting in industrial work. Moreover, the female gender care for elders and younger family members as well as preparing other siblings for greater responsibilities of adulthood. Reiterating this assertion, Wolife (2017) declares that it is girl-children that finally grows into a womanmother who bear children to replenish humanity population, and need to be protected from an infant stage to maturity from all types of assault. In sum a girl-child is a treasure to be cherished, nourished and celebrated not exploited. Girl-child sexual abuse in Nigeria is an offence under several sections of chapter 21 of the country's criminal code. The age of consent remains 18 years. There are some conditions that increases the risk of a girl-child sexual assault in Nigeria which can be found in schools, baby factories and the practice of domestic child labour (Truth Project, 2017). Girl - child sexual abuse studies and intervention strategies have become a discourse in the international



community's since 1960s as was observed by Ojo (2013), but Edwards (2012) claimed that studies on girl-child molestation were non-existent until the 1970s and the first national estimate of girl- child sexual abuse cases was published in 1978 when U.S. states enacted mandatory laws that required physicians to report cases of suspicious girl- child abuse. Therefore, increased awareness of child sexual abuse has encouraged more victims to come forward to report cases of pedophilia, whereas in the past victims of pedophiles often kept their abuse secret. The child sexual abuse plaintiff's attorney Thomas A. <u>Cifarelli</u> has written that victims of sexual abuse and molestation should be afforded certain procedural - legal aids to safeguard and protect them from harassment during the legal process. Gender Policy, (2016. In June 2021 in Zambia, the issue of teacherstudent sexual abuse and sexual assault was brought to the attention of the High Court of Zambia and \$45million Zambian kwacha (US\$13,000) was awarded to the plaintiff - a 9-year-old girl for sexual abuse and rape by her school teacher. This claim was brought against her teacher as a "person of authority" "had a moral superiority (responsibility) over his students. World Health Organization cited in Geneva report (2020), Studies conducted in Nigeria discloses that young girls are victims in majority of reported assault cases in hospitals. Yahaya(2012) has shown that traumatic stress, including stress caused by sexual abuse, causes notable changes in brain functioning and development of a girlchild. According to the researcher, severe child sexual abuse has a deleterious effect on brain development.

Evidence of Reported Cases of Paedophilia - Girl-Child Molestation in Nigeria



Africans have a shocking attitude to sexual molestation of under aged children especially in Nigeria society. They used to pretend like it does not happen and that if it does in the case of the clergy, imams or fathers that it is sacrosanct. However, there are evidence of investigations and prosecutions of cases of Pedophilia in Nigeria , hence the victims and their parents should speak out and loud. Cases of sexual violence against children in Nigeria have become a regular fixture in the news. One prominent case being the violation of a six-month old baby in Kano State . Owing to such un savory occurrences, individuals and both governmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have expressed increased concern over the spate of incidences of sexual abuse and violence against children all over the country.

A 20-year-old cobbler sexually assaulted five-year-old in Lagos. Kingsley Philip pleaded "not guilty" to the charge of "fingering his neighbours four-year-old daughter, in his apartment in Idimu, Lagos State. Vaginal discharges from the child alerted her mother to the sexual assault, to which the daughter confirmed that their neighbor inserted his fingers into her private parts. Akinlusi, (2021). Another case was that of Luleka Mzizi – A house help living with her aunt. According to Akinlusi(2021): No one around her noticed that the little Luleka was pregnant till her time of delivery. Shocker turned up as she was confirmed pregnant the night she complained severely of stomach pain and was rushed to the hospital for check up. Her parents trusted her innocence much and never thought of putting herself in the family way at the early stage. Luleka Mzizi had a healthy baby boy and her aunty had no idea she was pregnant until she saw the baby with her own eyes. According to her, Luleka began to gain weight, and her aunty assumed that she was gaining weight because she was feeding her well. Her baby bump was not very large; she just appeared to be over weight. The little girl began to complain about cramps and back pain in the middle of the night, and the pain became more serious



that her aunty agreed to take her to the hospital to seek medical assistance . When they arrived she gave birth to a healthy baby girl and spent two months in a coma in the hospital. After giving birth, she did not return to her previous level of performance.

On May 2017: 34-Year-Old Raped Seven-Year-Old in Lagos. This pedophile broke into the toilet where the girl was relieving herself and proceeded to rape her there. The child's screams alerted her mother. The accused however denied the crime which took place in Bariga, Lagos State. On June 2017: 20-Year-Old Sexually Molested 11year-old Deaf Girl in Ogun. Nurudeen Akintoye narrowly escaped a lynching when he was recently arrested for sexually molesting a deaf and dumb girl, in a bush in Obafemi-Owode, Ogun State. The girl, who was hitherto a virgin, was seen bleeding from around her vaginal area which reportedly prompted the attempted lynching of the pedophile perpetrator of the crime. Wolife (2017). Furthermore, a Man Charged For Violating Girl Seven Year Old: A man, (name withheld) who allegedly defiled his seven-year-old daughter, is facing trial at an Ikeja Chief Magistrates Court. The accused, who resides with his parents at 41, Odo Oba St., Bariga, Lagos, is being tried for defilement. Man 40 Arrested For Raping 7 Year Old Girl: A 40 year old man, Ezekiel Adegbenga has been arrested by the Police in Ogun State for allegedly having carnal knowledge of a 7-year-old girl. According to the Police Public Relations Officer Abimbola Oyeyemi, the suspect was arrested at No.4 Olufunmi- Ajayi Street, Iyana Ilogbo, Ota, following a complaint from the mother of the victim.

The Life of the Nigerian Adolescent in the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic and its Impact on Academics and Sexual Reproductive health.

Although adolescents are not vulnerable to COVID-19 virus itself; however, the impact of different types of molestations during this



According to the study conducted during the lockdown, there was a sharp increase in the number of reported cases of adult rape, child molestation and sexual violence all over the country. These he declared was because adolescents and sexual predators were kept within a confined space for a prolonged period of time and Some of these victims were unable to voice out because their predators are mostly familiar people and not strangers. Adding further that findings on why some cases were not reported promptly indicates "the culture of blaming victims instead of predators) thus, limiting access to get help from parents or outsiders(Akinyele, 2020).

According to him, "This lead to the declaration of a "state of emergency" on rape and sexual violence nationwide". Similarly, There was an increase in the rate of teenage pregnancy and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) in Nigeria as some states recorded more teenage pregnancy than usual due to several factors that include lack of comprehensive sexuality education, idleness and wanting to explore, pornography, lack of access to contraceptives, rape and sexual violence to mention but a few. Thalinger(2021). Prepubescent children are vulnerable during COVID-19 pandemic lockdown in Nigeria.

Nigeria has a population of about 178 million, with 22.5 per cent of the population between 10 and 15 years old and COVID-19 came and met the world unprepared and Nigeria just like other countries of the world had to lockdown and ceased physical and socioeconomic activities for a while, jobs were lost, the business closed, religious gathering stopped, and



schools were shut down in many parts of the countries for almost seven months leaving adolescents and prepubescent children vulnerable. (Ojo, 2013)

Many adolescents were cut off from their friends and peers in their school, having to stay at home to do house chores all day with little or no academic activity. Privileged adolescents with access to technological tools such as phones and laptops continued learning via E-learning platforms (google classroom, zoom, television) having to make necessary adjustments, while underprivileged adolescent with no access to technological tools were encouraged to learn vocational skills and trade, some were given goods to sell via hawking thereby exposed to all kinds of sexual exploitations while some drop out of school to focus on these trades.

The study recommended that parents, teachers and guardians via PTA meeting should utilize the post COVID 19 pandemic season as bonding time between them and their students and children and using the opportunity educate their students / children (both male and female) on sex, to help them make better decisions about their future relationships. While provisions should be made for pregnant students' teenagers to go back to school or equipped to learn a vocational trade. The study further recommended that authorities must do more for the country's hungry and ill-fed children to go back to school, going by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) projection, at least 1.15 million Nigerian children between 12 and 16 years may drop-out of school because of acute economic distress if measures were not taken to address the situation.

Mainstreaming Child Rights Act Into Nigeria Higher Institutions Curriculum to improve course delivery on Child Rights reporting in Nigerian higher Institutions well informed reporting is a major benefit of the Rights of the child. It was time for Nigeria to



portray positive image of the child. (Ogundimu, 2021). The UNICEF Facilitator on Media , Dr. Nancy Ogundimu posit that 'Training the Trainers Programme of UNICEF' on the reviewed curriculum on child reporting, held in is a Child's Right and irresponsible reporting of issues on children could end prejudices and stereotypes that may have negative influence on public opinion. Presenting a paper on "Child's Righ: Not only a Human Right", UNICEF posit further that "Access to Water and Sanitation Hygiene Services (WASH), is a Child's Right and not only a Human Right" According to her, that out of every two million Nigerians about 1.2 million are children. On Improving Child Rights reporting in Higher Institutions: UNICEF Communication Specialist, Dr. Geoffery, Njoku said the Workshop was organized to generate and improve course delivery on Child Rights reporting in Nigerian higher Institutions. One of the participants at the Workshop, Head Department of Mass Communication Nigerian Institute of Journalism, Dr. Jide Johnson posit that:

Review of Some Policy Documents for Rights of the Child of 1989 and the 2063 Agenda Policy are some of the international instruments that condemned sexual abuse in its entirety especially as it affects the girl child. Other modalities for intervention, prevention and protection of the rights of the girl child, are equally stated in these documents that were endorsed by many countries of the world including Nigeria. In Nigeria, there are policy instruments denouncing the abuse of the girl child. These include, the National Gender Policy of 2006; the Nigeria Child Rights Law; 1978 Children and Young Person's Law that have been domiciled in many State to protect the rights of the girl child and save her from any harm especially, sexual abuse such as Ekiti State of Nigeria Child's Rights Law, 2006 and Child's Rights Law of Lagos State, 2007. Some States including Ekiti State also developed State Gender and Development Policy of 2011;



Ekiti State Gender- Based Violence Prohibition Law in 2011 which was revised in 2019 among others.

In addition, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) is an international treaty that legally obliges states to protect children's rights. Articles 34 and 35 of the CRC require states to protect children from all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. These include outlawing the coercion of a child to perform sexual activity, the prostitution of children, and the exploitation of children in creating pornography. States are also required to prevent the abduction, sale, or trafficking of children. As of November 2008, 193 countries are bound by the CRC, including every member of the United Nations except the United States and Somalia (Choji, 2017).

Theoretical Framework

Reinforcement Media theory proposed in 1960 by Joseph .T.Clapper was employed as a framework for the study which argues that the media do not have a dominant effect, but rather reinforces reader's, listener's and viewer's attitudes, beliefs and motives. Therefore, aggressive communication of lost values will result in reviving, re-awakening and reinforcing of values once believed dead or forgotten. Nwabueze(2014) validate the assertion that some unethical issues are seen largely via people who has lost morality. Positing further that, abnormal attitudes of people stems from loss of cultural values and issues such as pedophilia in the opinion of Obiefuna, (2011) is a taboo and "morally unthinkable". Besides, Afolabi(2019) posit that "Nigerian values have disappeared over the years and further queried "Are Nigerian values intact? The former governor of Anambra state, Peter Obi argue that Nigeria underdevelopment can be traced to the gradual degradation of morality, corrupt practices ,ethnicity and loss of values: Hence, his rhetoric "Are we cursed or are we the cause?" therefore, the belief



that mass communication is a veritable tool in the recovery of human values via reinforcement of relevant information required to discourage obscenity which pedophilia is one of them. . Besides pedophilia acts are taboo in Nigeria which need to stop.

Research Design

The researcher adopted survey qualitative research design for this study and used face-to-face interview guided by pre-determined questions via open-ended questionnaire to obtain original information from respondents based on the research questions of this study. The researcher considered this method appropriate because of the access to interact with the victims and eye witnesses of this issue of pedophilia in their natural habitat which according to Nwodu(2018) is appropriate in studying recent events in their natural settings especially events that needs the application of journalistic questionnaire guide- The 5Ws and H to obtain details of the phenomenon being studied.

This study was carried out at two federal government owned hospitals in Delta and Anambra states, Nigeria and purposive sampling method which would permit the researcher to select respondents who met the criteria for the study was used based on being either an eye witness or a victim. The open-ended questionnaire and face-to-face interview were used as instruments for data collection with 73 respondents including two Pediatricians were interviewed which allowed the researcher opportunity to obtain accurate information, observe verbal and non verbal cues. Probe questions helped the researcher to understand the phenomenon better and for the purpose of generalization. The researcher also used follow-up questions to ensure credibility. (Nwodu, et al; 2013).

Conclusion and Policy Recommendations

The result consists of responses of respondents in accordance with the four research questions that guided the investigation. The researcher found three major types of pedophiles sexual molestation of girl-children: Deep penetration via the vagina, light



penetration via the anal canal and fingering. Depending on the age, size of the girl-child, and the degree of force used during pedophilia molestation, respondents opine that internal lacerations and bleeding from both anal and vaginal region do occur which maimed significant number of victim's for life. The study collaborated previous study done by Yahaya, (2012) titled "Trauma and Recovery Chances of Sexually Abused Victim" Findings revealed three types of pedophile's sexual molestation of prepubescent girl-children: Anal, vaginal and fingering sustained from perpetrators who are mainly family members and close neighbors with significant number of victims living with anal and vaginal stitches - Deep penetration caused internal lacerations and bleedings and in extreme cases, implications are death and destruction of victim's reproductive organs which maim the person for life. The study is in tandem with UNICEF, (2015) research on "Degree of Violence on Women", but theirs was on adult female sexual violence and rape. On the implications of pedophiles sexual molestation, the researcher found consequences on three levels: Individual, Inter-personal and Societal levels. On an individual level, it crippled the victims self esteem, the victim develop phobia associating with peers on inter-personal level and live in solitude, hate and withdrawal from the society's functions. Child's Right Act- CRA,2003) provides that sex with a child is rape, and anyone who has sexual intercourse with a child is liable to imprisonment for life upon conviction, but up till now the extent to which the regulation has been implemented remains a puzzle which is the lacuna found and recommended for further investigation. The paper makes case for enforcement of strict regulations via agenda setting role of the media for awareness creation and reinforcement of lost values to tackle the menace in Nigeria. Since Nigeria adopted the Child Rights Law in 2003, only 16 out of the country's 36 States have passed the Act. Intense advocacy continues in the remaining States. This explains that the landmark achievement of the legislative arm of Government has



not yet translated into improved legal protection throughout the Federation as girl-children are abused physically, mentally, sexually, psychologically and morally on a daily basis Akinbola(2012). Child sexual abuse in Nigeria is an offence under several Sections of Chapter 21 of the Criminal Code (Criminal Code Act, Chapter 77, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 1990. The law on defilement of under-aged girls in Nigeria is provided in Section 218 of the Criminal Code, Cap. 42, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 1990 that; "Any person who has unlawful carnal knowledge of a girl under the age of thirteen years is guilty of a felony; and, is liable to imprisonment while prosecution for either of the offences defined in this Section shall begin within two months after the offence is committed.

If all these measures are implemented it would greatly scare pedophiles while girlchild and her interests would be protected and sexual molestation of the girl child would be reduced. The past studies indicated that there's an evidence of pedophilia globally, but none of these studies has investigated the grave nature of these injuries to the girlchild as well as its implications.

Recommendations includes awareness via media agenda setting and use of strict regulations. The researcher has carried out further studies on this challenge titled "Attitudes of Post Graduate Students' Towards Television Media Portrayal of Rape Culture in Nigeria" where proposal for the use of constructive non-violent rape campaign to control the menace from African societies was made. The World Health Organization (W.H.O) posit that African continents are the worst rape crisis region of the world: The implications is that if the highlighted control measures are neglected, the issue may worsen by year 2030 proposed by W.H.O to get rid of cervical cancer in Africa.



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