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Julius - Maximilian - University Würzburg, Germany**

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Department of Adult Education and Community Services
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PERCEIVED DETERMINANTS OF RAPE INCIDENCES AMONG FEMALE TEENS IN IBADAN

by

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Abstract

Rape is a social evil that has been rampaging the society at large with serious physical, sexual and reproductive and mental health problems to its victims. Few researches have been conducted on this phenomenon therefore, the present study sought to explore the perception of female teens hawkers in Ibadan on the determinants of rape through a mixed-method survey that covered eight notable markets in Ibadan, involving 40 respondents. The study found that parental carelessness, child labour and not reporting cases of rape to police and law enforcement agency are strong determinants to rape incidences while indecent dressing does not. The study recommended that female teens should be enlightened on how to prevent them from being raped by perpetrators. Government should review its law on rape such as the rules on sentencing and on admissibility of evidence; removing the requirements for victims' accounts to be corroborated and mandating state assistance to victims and there is need for aggressive advocacy coupled with community-based health education interventions aimed at changing biased gender norms, cultural beliefs, perceptions and attitudes that promote or sustain rape and such should target lawmakers at various levels (local, state and federal), judiciary personnel, police, community-based organisations, faith-based organisations as well as educational and research institutions

Key words; Rape, Female Teens Hawkers

Introduction

Rape occurs globally having far reaching physical, psychological, social and otherwise effect on the victims which is long standing (WHO,2017). Rape carries a heavy social stigma sometimes resulting in rejection by families and communities (Alemika,2013). Societal norms have been supportive of sexual violence through supportive of male superiority and sexual entitlement, weak laws and policies related to sexual violence and gender equality. Most African societies due to patriarchy women are not in a position to control their sexual lives. There is a general agreement that sexual violence against girls and women is rooted in gender power inequalities prevalent in society and in hierarchical gender relations (Jewkes ,2002). Idoko, Nwobodo, and Idoko (2020) were of the view that most women get lured into sex because of financial difficulties and a supposedly financially beneficial friendship cum relationship transcends the confines of a safe inter-relationship as the party financially poised in the situation exploits the prevalent exposure offered by the physical presence/ availability of the dependent fellow. In many other countries there are limited researches on rape Nigeria inclusive where in Nigeria there has been rising newspaper reported cases of rise in rape incidences (Idoko, Nwobodo and Idoko, 2020).

Teens and adolescents worldwide often face tremendous sexual violence which is a growing problem and a leading sexual and reproductive health concern. The prevalence of this violence ranges between 15 and 40% in sub-Saharan Africa, with studies showing rates of sexual coercion and abuse among female adolescents in Nigeria between 11 and 55% (Fatusi and Blum, 2009 in Folayan, Odetoynbo, Harrison and Brown, 2014). A survey in Nigeria showed 31.4 and 5.7% of sexually active adolescent females and males, respectively, reported forced sex (rape) at sexual initiation (Positive Action for Treatment Access, 2013). Prior reports have shown that 4-6% of all adolescent girls in southwestern Nigeria experience rape (Fawole, Ajuwon, Osungbade and Faweya, 2002 cited in Folayan, Odetoynbo, Harrison and Brown, 2014). Less than one in five (18.1%) of 10,000 respondents who have been raped in Nigeria report the offence to the police due to this stigma, women and adolescents may be unwilling or unable to obtain a medical examination to substantiate their report of rape (CLEEN Foundation 2005). Rape results in stigmatization of the victim, resulting in rejection by families and communities, and with police sometimes unwilling to make official reports (Folayan, Odetoynbo, Harrison and Brown, 2014).

Child/teens rape is a form of sexual violence reported by different authors in Nigeria by Kunnuji and Esiet (2015) and Ohayi, Ezugwu, Chigbu, Arinze-Onyia and Iyoke (2015). According to Federal Republic of Nigeria, Criminal Code Act, 1990 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 personating her husband, is guilty of an offence which is called rape. Any person who commits the offence of rape is liable to imprisonment for life, with or without caning. Ezugwu, Ohayi, Iyoke and Nnaji (2017) submitted that to be able to give a valid consent, the individual must have attained the age of consent while the age of consent varies from country to country and an individual who has not reached the age of consent is legally incapable of consenting to sexual intercourse. In Nigeria, the age of consent is 18 years according to Kunnuji and Esiet (2015) and every one below the age of 18 years is considered a child. Although child rape is very devastating and constitutes a significant public health problem globally, it is the least reported form of child abuse (Eke, Ofori, Tabansi and Harcourt, 2011). On the other hand, Achunike and Kitause (2014) provided insights to vivid accounts of rape in Nigeria and its impact on victims, including physical injuries, fatigue and chronic headaches, and emotional problems, such as suicide attempts, stress disorders, depression, and sexual dysfunction. In Jos, North central, Nigeria, Daru, Osagie, Pam, Mutahir and Silas (2011) reported that with prevalence rate of 5.6%; 63.8% of these cases of rape (n=120) were female children under the age of 16 years. In Minna, North central Nigeria, about 90.1% of female victims of sexual abuse were children under the age of 17 years (Abdulkadir, Musa, Umar, Musa, Jimoh and Aliyu Na'uzo, 2011). Rape in children has severe reproductive health, social and psychological implication for the affected child and a study among female out-of-school adolescent in Iwaya, Lagos, south western Nigeria, showed that 14% and 35% of them had been victims of rape and statutory rape respectively and reported that 18% of the girls in the study population had experienced forced sex and 45% of them had experienced statutory rape (Kunnuji and Esiet, 2015). Female child rape constituted 6.6% of all gynecological emergency in a tertiary hospital in Enugu according to Ohayi, Ezugwu, Chigbu, Arinze-Onyia and Iyoke (2015). Most of the perpetrator of these child rapes were people known to the victim, mostly relations, friends, co-tenant and people living in the same neighborhood (Odidika, 2015).

Statement of the Problem

The high prevalence in child rape in Nigeria has attracted the attention of not only the government and non-governmental organizations in Nigeria, but also international non-governmental bodies (Uzoanya, 2015 in Agbo, 2019). Studies conducted in Nigeria have shown that young people are particularly very prone to the experience of rape, with young females being more vulnerable. It has also been noted that the groups of young people that are mostly affected include, street traders (Fawole, Ajuwon, Osungbade and Faweya, 2002), out-of-school youths (Okoro and Obozokhai, 2005) and in-school adolescents (Shittu; Zechariah, Ajayi, Oguntola, Izegbu and Ashiru, 2007). The senate in Nigeria has passed a bill in 2015 which prescribed life imprisonment for rapists and anybody who has sexual relationship with children under the age 11 years, but unfortunately, efforts by governmental and non-governmental organisations to quench the continuous incidence, yet new reported cases continue to emerge in frontline news which is very worrisome with different degrees of consequences. Literature shows that some factors leads to rape among teens. This study tries to confirms as well as validate what literature has done on some of these factors.

Objectives of the Study

The main objective of the study examined the perceived determinants of rape incidences among female teens in Ibadan while specific objectives are to :

- a) determine the perception of female teens on indecent dressing as a determinant of being raped
- b) determine the perception of female teens on parental carelessness as a determinant of being raped
- c) determine the perception of female teens on child labour as a determinant of being raped
- d) determine the perception of female teens if cases of rape should be reported to police and law enforcement agency

Literature Review

Concept of Rape

Rape has been defined differently by various authors and constitutions. In the Nigerian criminal law, rape is defined as 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 threat 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 (Criminal Code Act, 1990, Section 357). This simply implies that rape means the physical force or otherwise coerced penetration even if slight of the vulva by the male reproductive organ. Chiazor, Ozoya, Udume and Egharevba (2016) believed that rape, like other forms of violence against women is an infringement on women's rights, privacy, self-preservation and dignity. It is the crime of forcefully having sex with someone against the person's wish (Chiedu, 2012). In the words of Umaira (2017) rape may be define as a sexual intercourse between a man and a woman or a girl against the will or consent of the female partner

Types of Rape

Types of rape have been classified by Chiazor, Ozoya, Udume and Egharevba (2016) as sadistic rape where the 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; date rape is when individuals have agreed on social engagement and the assailant may be an acquaintance or a person one have been dating; in power rape the perpetrator want to capture, conquer and control their victims; gang rape is when a group of people participate in the rape of a single victim while anger or retaliatory rape involves expression of hatred and rage towards the victim

There are several types of adolescent sexual assault known also as rape to be known as acquaintance rape, date rape, statutory rape, and incest (Lu, Lu and Halfin, 2013). Scholars such as Eyong and Emechebe (2019) described acquaintance rape as sexual assault by a person or persons known by the victim which is observed to occur in more than half of the cases; incest occurs when the perpetrator is a family member including step-parents or other parental figures in the home; date rape occurs when sexual assault is perpetrated by someone who had agreed to go on a date with her usually accomplished with the use of alcohol and/or drugs. Acquaintance rape perpetrators could include the following friends (Olaleye and Ajuwon, 2011); family members (Awosusi and Ogundana, 2015); teachers (Ajuwon Olaleye, Faromaju and Ladipo, 2006) and class mates or colleagues (Phinias, Jerihanos and Kudakwashe, 2017). Majority of rape cases involving acquaintances and other categories of known persons are usually carried out in familiar places and private settings (CLEEN, 2014). Rape which is perpetrated by someone with whom the survivor has willingly entered a dating or romantic relationship is often referred to as date rape (Ogunwale, Oshiname and Ajagunnahe, 2019)

Consequences of Rape among Female Teens

Adolescent female victims are also more likely to delay seeking medical care after rape (Snyder, 2000). Adolescent rape survivors may experience a wide range of immediate and long-term emotional and mental health consequences following assault. These include depression, posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), anxiety, and feelings of guilt and shame (Ackard, Neumark-Sztainer, Hannan, French, and Story, 2001). Rape survivors are more likely to experience avoidance symptoms (for example not wanting to think or talk or have feelings about the trauma) and less likely to complete stress-targeting therapies (Murphy, Sink, Ake, Carmody, Amaya-Jackson and Briggs, 2014).

The physical consequences of rape are many according to Akinlusi, Rabi, Olawepo Adewunmi, Otun and Akinola (2014) which include fatigue and chronic headaches, pains such as abdominal and anal pain, body and genital injuries such as disrupted hymen, vaginal bleeding, rectal bleeding and anal tear as well as Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) including Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). The child is often left with trauma, depression, guilt, self-blame, mental health disorder (Abayomi, 2014; Adeosun, 2015), juvenile delinquency (Abayomi, 2014), secrecy and lack of trust (Adeosun, 2015), reduced interest in school, truancy and ultimately thwarted academics (Adigeb and Mbua, 2015) while Singh, Parsekar and Nair, (2014) categorized these consequences into psychological (trauma, low self-esteem, depression, guilt, self-blame and mental health disorder), physical (unwanted pregnancy, STIs and HIV/AIDS); behavioural (truancy, juvenile delinquency,

sexual risk behaviours) and interpersonal (secrecy, lack of trust). Child rape just like other rapes has many negative effects on both the raped and the rapists, ranging from social, psychological or emotional, and physical consequences to health challenges on the survivors (Click, 2016).

Factors Contributing to Rape

There are certain factors contributing to rape incidences in Nigeria which includes the following:

Lax Rape Laws

In Nigeria there are legal enactments which prohibit the perpetration of rape which include the Violence Against Persons Prohibition Act of 2015 (Buba, 2015 and Onyemelukwe, 2016); The Child Right Act of 2003 (Ojo and Olufemi 2013), as well as the Nigerian Criminal and Penal Codes (Otitodiri, 2014). Despite the enactment of all these laws rape incidence still persists due to the laxity of laws against rapist and this has been a real problem for the safety of girls and women. Perhaps this could be attributed to that fact that when people perceive 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 as 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. To Ogunwale, Oshiname and Ajagunnahe (2019) prosecution of rape perpetrators is a very demanding exercise characterized by difficulty in getting reliable evidence and witnesses needed to prosecute rape cases. The police, in some cases reportedly demonstrate inappropriate rape-related investigations and attitudinal dispositions such as victim blaming as well as insensitivity to survivors' situations. Awosusi and Ogundana (2015) reported, for instance, that the police indulge in poor investigational practices which compromise the prosecution of cases.

Negative Peer Influence

Youth interact often more with those of their age group and which could in a way influence their behaviour as they crave for belongings among their peers. In line with this, Chiazor, Ozoya, Udume and Egharevba (2016) in Njideka (2020) stated that most adolescents in trying to remain relevant and to gain the continued approval of their friends try to experiment sex through raping. 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. In this case, parents should endeavour to teach sex education to their children at home before their peers teach them outside the homes

Exposure to Immoral Sites

Social media platforms have been only of the source of watching immoral sites for instance Njideka(2020) described that youth viewing sites such as pornographic movies, sex novels and magazines could lead to moral bankruptcy. To the author she further said that adolescents read about sex in novels, books, magazines and newspapers, watch various types of

pornographic movies aside from being exposed to sexually overloaded advertisements in Newspapers and the Televisions. In addition to 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 and these adverts help put the younger generation under terrific pressure to go into sex by all means (Njideka, 2020). As a result of this exposure, the adolescents are perpetually under pressure to experiment on sex even if it means raping. In a quest to experience it once, just to know how it is, they get addicted to it that is why all hands must be on desk to tackle this issue of rape (Chiazor et al, 2016). Hence, parents should monitor what their wards especially the adolescent watch on the television and internet or what they read in the magazines, books and newspapers. If you do not want your child to bring shame to your family, play your part as a parent.

Culture of Silence

Silence is one of the worse causes of rape in Nigeria as a lot of families in Nigeria would prefer to cover the crime, even against the will of the victim as they are afraid that the woman will not get married because of that (Njideka, 2020). Therefore, women in Nigeria prefer to hide, rather than get justice. Also, according to some shocking myths, HIV infected men may believe that intimate intercourse with a virgin girl may lead to the cure from HIV in Nigeria, when a woman is raped and it becomes public knowledge, she and her family are ostracized due to the dishonour associated with rape (Njideka, 2020). This social stigma associated with rape forces female victims to conceal rape assaults in order to save themselves from shame and public embarrassment. Even parents of the raped often find it difficult to come out publicly to report such cases (Chiazor et al, 2016). Speaking up about your experience and informing the necessary authorities is a step in the right direction. Letting perpetrators walk free will only lead to more cases of rape and no justice for you or any other victim of sexual violence Johnson-Salami (2016) in Njideka (2020) asserts that a culture of silence aggravates this problem partly, from humiliation and intimidation of victims by the Police, as well as the embarrassment of public acknowledgement. This culture of silence reinforces the stigma already attached to the victim rather than to the perpetrator, as the dominant perception is that women have generally provoked the abuser to attack. Consequently, victims are often unwilling to testify about their experiences as rape brings dishonour, to a woman's family and community.

Alcohol and Drugs

It is true that most causes of rape in Nigeria are possible due to the problems with alcohol and drugs in Nigeria as unemployed youth try to find succour in alcohol and drugs (Njideka, 2020). This situation leads to the increase of violence among youth. Therefore, the Nigerian Judiciary must ensure that punishments of rapists must be swift and severe in order to discourage such acts among others (Ibenegbu, 2018 in Njideka, 2020).

Indecent Dressing

Indecent dressing is another factor that leads to rape in Nigeria as parents purchase all sorts of dresses for their children which expose the inner body and contour of the kids all in the name of latest fashion or dress in vogue. Sometimes young female children are dressed shabbily in boxers, short nickers, pants and leggings (Achunike, and Kitaase, 2014). As a

result, teens who indulge in such dresses become vulnerable and at risk of sexual violence by men by arousing sexual urge in men and adolescents especially the sexy and irresponsible ones. Ayogu (2011), after conducting a research on sexual abuse revealed that parents knowingly or unknowingly buy clothes with inscriptions such as I am a sexy girl, Kiss me deep, hug me tight, Romance me or Fuck me baby for their female children to wear, such provoking dresses may entice men to lure them into rape.

Also, exposing their bodies may make deviant males who lack self-control consider less clothed teens as a signal for intimate activity. Chiazor et al, (2016) stated that this mode of dressing often attracts the opposite sex and causes them to have lustful thoughts that may eventually lead into raping women. Aborisode (2016) stated that rape victims are often perceived as facilitating their victimization through suggestive attitudes, and indecent dressing inspite of the fact that there is no law that regulates dressing in the country. Therefore, victims of rape or sexual assault are perceived as people of low moral virtues that must have led their assailants to the crime one way or the other.

Parental Carelessness and Irresponsibility

Many parents due to quest for money or tight office work feel that bombarding the children with food stuff and other luxuries are always the best for them, Agbo (2019), submitted that such parents abandon their little children early in the morning at the mercy of yard members or even without anybody to guard them, and come back late in the night. In such situations, children are denied of love, affection, close monitoring and guidance. The children become their own mothers, loitering around without restrictions or being monitored. These attitudes expose children to all sorts of dangers including rape

Child Labour

Due to economic recession and poverty in Nigeria, children especially girls hawk goods along the streets as early as 6 or 7 years old. The introduction of young girls into street trading or hawking increases the chances of child rape in Nigeria (Agbo, 2017; Ali, 2018; Chukwu, and Ishemati, 2018). Hawking is prevalent in many middle- and low-income countries (Acqua Udoh and Joseph, 2012). Majority of the hawking population are children, making it the most prevalent form of child labour in Nigeria (Akpotor, 2018). This is obvious especially among female school-aged children who are assumed to be more capable of attracting customers.

Methodology

The population of this study consisted of female teens hawkers in Ibadan. The sample size for the study was 40. The convenient sampling technique was used to select five respondents each from eight notable big markets in Ibadan namely Agbeni, Bodija, Aleshinloye, Ogunpa, Oja-Oba, old Gbagi, new Gbagi and Oje because these are the major markets where female teens who hawk various products less than two thousand naira like sachet water, soft drinks, bread, vegetables, fruits, groundnut, pepper and smoked fish are found. Principles such as confidentiality of the information collected and total anonymity of the participants were respected in the conduct of the study. To ensure informed voluntary participation, the female teens hawkers received an oral explanation of the objectives and procedures of the study. Female teens who are willing and ready to participate in the study were adopted as participants. The ages of the participants range from 11 to 16 years. An In-depth Interview (IDI) which contained four direct questions was conducted in each of the major

markets where female teens were readily available. Information from the first IDI guided probing in the subsequent IDIs. All IDIs were tape recorded with the participants' consent and lasted between 90 and 120 minutes and subjected to thematic analysis while simple percentages were used for demographic characteristics of the respondents

Findings and Discussions

Demographic Data

The female teens hawkers were aged between 11-16 years, 45.0% respondents were aged between 11 to 13 years while 55.0% were aged between 14 to 16 years, 55.0% were in Junior secondary schools while 45.0% were in senior secondary school, 42.5% were Christians while 57.5% were Muslims, 47.5% have being hawking since age 8 while 52.5% started hawking at 8 years of age. 67.5% were from polygamous homes while 32.5% from monogamous family.

Analysis of Research Questions

Research Question One

What is the perception of female teens on indecent dressing as a determinant of being raped?

Table 1 Thematic Analysis of the Perception of Female Teens on Indecent Dressing as a Determinant of Being Raped

| Category | Determinant | Conclusion |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|---|
| Female Teen 11-13 years | Indecent dressing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wearing clothes that expose the body may make the opposite sex to stare and long to touch but it should not cause male to rape a girl Indecent dressing is not a strong factor when it comes to rape, so many girls wear indecent dresses on the streets and not all of them are being raped |
| Female Teen 14- 16 years | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Girls that wear clothes exposing private parts may make people stare at them but it doesn't mean that because they wear exposing clothes should make a man to rape them provocative dresses may incite men |

The thematic analysis of the interview was done to determine the perception of females' teen on indecent dressing as a determinant of being raped. Most of the respondents interviewed agreed that indecent dressing is not a determinant of being raped. The views gathered from the respondents showed that participants' perceived indecent dressing as part of young girls dressing due to modernisation. They said they failed to accept the fact that when girls dress indecently it should be a factor that should make a man to commit rape. Some of the participants said:

when girls dress in revealing clothes, people believe they are asking for it. Meanwhile, girls from other parts of the world who wear clothes that are not exposing their body are also being raped. A rapist might have other reasons to

rape, but dressing should never be an excuse for rape (IDI Female Hawkers: Agbeni, Ogunpa, Oja Oba and Old Gbaji markets)

Some respondents stated that:

Indecent dressing is not a root cause of rape not only girls dress indecently even some adult women do so too yet they are not raped. The exposure of the sensitive parts of a girl's body through dressing may arouse sexual urge in some men and some other men may even ignore but arousal of sexual urge should not be a reason to rape a girl (IDI Female Hawkers: Bodija Alensinloye, New Gbaji and Oje markets)

The perception of female teens on on indecent dressing as a determinant of being raped is based on their own view that it is not a contributing factor to being rape. The summary of the thematic analysis does not support the findings of Chiazor et al. (2016) that stated that indecent dressing often attracts the opposite sex and causes them to have lustful thoughts that may eventually lead into raping women. The perception of teens from the interview does not support Aborisade (2016) view that rape victims are often perceived as facilitating their victimization through suggestive attitudes, and indecent dressing; in spite of the fact that there is no law that regulates dressing in the Country. This finding shows that the female teen hawkers were of the opinion that indecent dressing is not a contributing factor to rape incidence

Research Question 2

What is the perception of female teens on parental carelessness as a determinant of being raped?

Table 2 Thematic Analysis of the Perception of Female Teens on Parental Carelessness as a Determinant of Being Raped

| Category | Determinant | Conclusion |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Female Teen 11-13 years | parental carelessness | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lack of care on the part of parent's expose girls to male advances • Parent carelessness of sending girls on errands to men or late in nights can lead to them being rape |
| Female Teen 14- 16 years | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Girls might be raped when parents do not monitor the movement of their children within the house, school and within the vicinity and when men know that are vulnerable due lack of parental care • Inadequate monitoring by parents may cause girls to find means of survival by asking men for help by so doing they may be raped |

The thematic analysis of the interview was done to determine the perception of female teens on parental carelessness as a determinant of being raped. All of the respondents interviewed

agreed that parental carelessness is a strong determinant of being raped by perpetrator. The views gathered from the respondents showed that participants' perceived parental carelessness as a contributing factor to rape incidences. They said that parents that don't care, feed and lack proper monitoring can give room for male who have been having secret desires opportunities to rape girls. Some of the participants said:

When we go to the market to hawk our parents don't get worried even if we come back late, all they are interested is in the sales of the products given to us we hawk together with male teens of our age group and sometimes there are sexual advances from adult men, because we hawk in the market which is a public place it is difficult for such men to rape us ,but if it is not in a public they might have attempted rape (IDI Female Hawkers: Agbeni, Ogunpa Oja Oba and Old Gbaji markets)

Some respondents stated that:

Our parents believe it is our responsibility to hawk before we can go to school or eat, they often say it is from the sales of what we hawk we can use for our schooling and feeding. When we don't sell or sometimes if we lose money, we sometimes ask for help from both adult women and men within the market places. The women in the market places often abuse and don't believe us but men listen to us. These men play with us if we tell them we need help due to our money being lost or not much sales they want to help but can't give us money for free. If our parents are so much concerned they will not send us to the market to be hawking (IDI Female Hawkers: Bodija Alensinloye, New Gbaji and Oje markets)

The findings show that the perception of female teens on parental carelessness as a determinant of being raped is based on their views that parental carelessness due to lack of monitoring and guidance may likely cause teens to be at risk of being raped. Participants across all age groups expressed concern that there was poor parental monitoring with regard most especially to female teens, especially after they reached puberty when they became more vulnerable to negative peer influences. This issue was more pronounced when parents would leave their children alone hawking on the streets or in markets places or communities while they tend to other things without taking cognizance of the need to look out for them. The summary of the thematic analysis supports the findings of Agbo (2019), such parents abandon their little children early in the morning at the mercy of yard members or even without anybody to guard them, and come back late in the night. In such situations, children are denied of love, affection, close monitoring and guidance. The children become their own mothers, loitering around without restrictions or being monitored. These attitudes expose children to all sorts of dangers including rape

Research Question 3

What is the perception of female teens on child labour as a determinant of being raped?

Table.3 Thematic Analysis of the Perception of Female Teens on Child Labour as a Determinant of Being Raped

| Category | Determinant | Conclusion |
|-----------------------------|--------------|---|
| Female Teen 11-13 years | Child labour | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor households cannot insure themselves against income fluctuations, thus creating a demand for child labour exposing girls to dangers and assaults • Girls hawk after school hours as a means of livelihood to support parents |
| Female Teen 14- 16 years | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Girls might be raped when they hawk from house to house within communities and secluded areas • Men may easily lure girls who hawk into their rooms to rape them |

The thematic analysis of the interview was done to determine the perception of female teens on child labour as a determinant of being raped. All of the respondents interviewed agreed that child labour is one of the determinants of being raped. The views gathered from the respondents showed that participants' perceived child labour particularly girls that hawk within communities or on streets and from house to house could be easily raped. They said their poverty situation of most parents has made parents to make their children to be involved in earning a source of income through selling of edible items in various market places and on the street which could give some men easily access to involvement in sexual assaults with young teens where there are no under parental guide. This is in line with the study of Omorodion and Olusanya (2000) cited in Ogunwale, Oshiname and Ajagunnahe (2019)) that poverty forces women and girls to take to occupations that carry relatively high risk of sexual exploitation including rape as poverty among women is aggravated by the economic depression which Nigeria has been experiencing over the years. Occupations such as street trading, sex work and apprenticeship have been found to increase women's vulnerability to rape in Nigeria (Olaleye and Ajuwon 2011 in Ogunwale, Oshiname and Ajagunnahe, 2019).

Some of the participants said:

We are children hawking in the market to contribute to our family income as well as to assist our families. We come from poor background and a large family, if we don't hawk we cannot eat nor being able to go to school, whatever we sell our mothers particularly use it for family needs. As girls we experience a lot of sexual advances if not for the fact that we hawk in twos and sometimes male teen of our age group also hawk with us, we might have being forcefully raped by older men. Here men play a lot with us even when they want to buy from us (IDI Female Hawkers: Agbeni, Ogunpa, Oja Oba and Old Gbaji markets)

Some respondents stated that:

Hawking expose us to many dangers, we cannot sell items only to female or women alone we sell both to male and females. Most of our customers are more of men than women, making us have more contact with men. God has been helping us by not being raped (IDI Female Hawkers: Bodija Alensinloye, New Gbaji and Oje markets)

The female teens hawkers perceived that child labour is a determinant of being raped as poverty has rendered teens who come from poor socio-economic background to be the most common victims of rape making them vulnerable whenever they need financial help thus becoming victims of rape. The summary of the thematic analysis support the findings of Agbo(2017) ,Ali(2018) and Chukwu, and Ishemati (2018) that the introduction of young girls into street trading or hawking increases the chances of child rape in Nigeria. The poverty situation in the country has forced some household to send the child to the street to hawk as a means of income for the family by so doing men could easily lure or force to rape them because of their vulnerability as children and exposure to outside world at a teenage age which makes them to be at risk of rape.

Research Question 4

What is the perception of female teens on reporting cases of rape to police and law enforcement agency?

Table 4 Thematic Analysis of the Perception of Female Teens on Reporting Cases of Rape to Police and Law Enforcement Agency

| Category | Determinant | Conclusion |
|-----------------------------|--|---|
| Female Teen 11-13 years | reporting cases of rape to police and law enforcement agency | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Girls believe that police releasing perpetrators to go scot free Girls believe that police believe report as false |
| Female Teen 14- 16 years | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Girls believe that police are corrupt and will not do anything on the case Girls believe that police would see them as little children |

The thematic analysis of the interview was done to determine the perception of female teens on reporting cases of rape to police and law enforcement agency. Some of the respondents interviewed agreed reporting cases of rape to police and law enforcement agency is a waste of time as police would see it to be false report and in this part of the world what elders say is usually accepted as truth against what children say , The views gathered from the respondents showed that participants' perceived police and law enforcement agency as not being friendly to the female teen who hawk on the streets as they are being seen as children ,that they do not understand what rape means rather they feel that they use their body to make money not that if such case should happen it could be seen as rape . Some of the participants said:

We are children from poor background let say one of us is being rape, police would see us as young children not believing our statement if it happens we will keep quiet because police cannot arrest the person that commits such crime as we donot have the money to pursue the case nor to offer the police to support us ,what we are looking for is means of survival through hawking and none of our family can afford to hire a lawyer if such incidence happen (IDI Female Hawkers: Agbeni, Ogunpa, Oja Oba and Old Gbaji markets)

Some respondents stated that:

Most of us customers are more of men than women this makes us to have more contact with men, hawking may make us vulnerable to rape because there is no one here to monitor, guide nor support us. Men have easy contact with us while we sell to them with no restrictions because we are not selling in front of our houses. Let imagine if a man rape a teen that hawks whom will the police believe the man, they would think the teen gave herself free to the man because of money (IDI Female Hawkers: Bodija Alensinloye, New Gbaji, and Oje markets)

Rape was perceived by the female teens hawkers to be seldom reported by victims due to several barriers that favour the acceptance and non-disclosure of the incidence, they acknowledged that corruption, for example, could prevent a girl from accessing justice if the perpetrator had the means to pay off police and law enforcement agency. The summary of the thematic analysis supports the findings of Tade and Udechukwu (2020) whom 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. This is also in line with Ogunwale, Oshiname and Ajagunnahe (2019) observation that prosecution of rape perpetrators is a very demanding exercise characterised by difficulty in getting reliable evidence and witnesses needed to prosecute rape cases. This also agrees with Awosusi and Ogundana (2015) that reported, for instance, that the police indulge in poor investigational practices which compromise the prosecution of cases. The perception of female teens on reporting cases of rape to police and law enforcement agency is that based on their believe that police and law enforcement agency would not believe if rape is committed with this perception the likelihood of them reporting such cases if it happens will be low thus making such men to continue committing such crime without being punished.

Conclusion

This study has shown that the female teens have right perception of the contributing factors that can lead to rape. The female teens due to their family background has made them to hawk in public places at a tender age exposing them to dangers which may more likely cause them to fall victims of rape than those who are not on the streets this calls for parents to be concerned about the welfare of their children particularly female hawking on the streets. The study found that parental carelessness, child labour and not reporting cases of rape to police and law enforcement agency are strong determinants to rape incidences while indecent dressing does not.

Recommendations

- Government should review its law on rape such as the rules on sentencing and on admissibility of evidence; removing the requirements for victims 'accounts to be corroborated and mandating state assistance to victims.
- Media through advertising on billboards and in public transport, on radio and television could help to change public attitudes towards rape incidences
- There is need to educate parents on dangers of hawking particularly among females and promoting parent-child interaction through various educational and counselling programmes to parents in markets places and communities would help curb the menace of rape
- Female teens should be enlightened on how to prevent them from being raped by their parents, health educators and school counsellors.
- There is need for aggressive advocacy coupled with community-based health education interventions aimed at changing biased gender norms, cultural beliefs, perceptions and attitudes that promote or sustain rape and such should target lawmakers at various levels (local, state and federal), judiciary personnel, police, community-based organizations, faith-based organisations as well as educational and research institutions.

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