



Poverty and Marital Instability as Determinants of Child Molestation Amongst Secondary School Instructors in Kwara State

Muraina Kamilu Olanrewaju¹, Kamaldeen Rahmat Tinuke¹

¹Faculty of Education, Al-Hikmah University Ilorin, Kwara State

*Corresponding author, e-mail: muraina_kamilu@yahoo.com

Abstract

The study investigated the poverty and marital instability as determinants of child molestation amongst secondary school instructors in Kwara state. The study adopted descriptive design of ex-post-facto type. Multi-stage sampling technique was to select 408 participants from 5 local government areas in Kwara State. The variables were measured using validated instrument with reliability co-efficient of 0.81. The data were analysed using Pearson Product Moment Correlation and regression at 0.05 level of significance. The result confirmed that there was correlation amongst poverty, marital instability and child molestation, poverty made the most sizable relative contributions observed via marital instability. Therefore, based on the findings, it was recommended that counselling and marital psychologists should intensify their effort to arrange conferences on the implications of instability on child molestation.

Keywords: Poverty, Marital Instability and Child Molestation

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INTRODUCTION

Child molestation is one of the oldest types of child abuse in the records of mankind. It is a societal trouble whose origins date again to the instances of historic Greeks and Romans. Historical bills have been determined of child molestation, inclusive of incest, amongst historic Greeks and Romans, in debts of existence in the Renaissance, and for the duration of the Victorian generation (Richter and Higson, 2004). For a long time, the international neighborhood has been conscious that violence in opposition to children, which includes sexual abuse was once a giant however under-acknowledged scourge on humanity. Despite the ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child by way of many international locations (UNCRC) globally as a manifestation of this concern, all indicators are that violence of a sexual nature towards young people is on the rise. United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF, 2012).

United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) said in 2015 that one in 4 female and one in ten boys in Nigeria had skilled sexual violence earlier than the age of 18. According to a survey by means of Positive Action for Treatment Access, over 31.4 percentage of female there stated that their first sexual stumble upon had been rape or pressured intercourse of some kind. The Centre for Environment, Human Rights and Development pronounced that 1,200 females had been raped in 2012 in Rivers, a coastal nation in south-eastern Nigeria. According to UNICEF, six out of ten kids in Nigeria trip emotional, bodily or sexual abuse earlier than the age of 18, with one and half experiencing bodily violence.

The world occurrence of child molestation has been estimated at 19.7% for women and 7.9% for males. Most sexual abuse offenders are acquainted with their victims, about 30% are family of the child, most regularly brothers, fathers, uncles and cousins. Around 60% are different acquaintance, such as Friends of the family, child sitters, Teachers or neighbours. Stranger are the offenders in about 10% of toddler sexual abuse cases. Most toddler sexual is dedicated by using men, research on lady infant molesters exhibit that ladies commit 14% to 40% Of offenses stated in opposition to boys and 6% of offenses stated towards girls. One of the most enormous issues adolescents face nowadays is the hazard of sexual abuse. Child molestation is a world phenomenon that is considered as one of the best social troubles of the twenty first century. It is known as a serious violation of human well-being and children's rights.

LITERATURE REVIEW

According to [Collin-Vezina, Daigneault, and Herbert \(2013\)](#) toddler sexual abuse is now not a new phenomenon, nor is it extraordinary to any unique united states or culture. It is an global trouble of brilliant magnitude that can have an effect on kids of all ages, sexes, races, ethnicities, and socioeconomic classes. The solely cause why sexual abuse of adolescents looks to be a new phenomenon is that humans historically by no means mentioned it. Child sexual abuse in the faculty context with instructors as abusers is an even extra silent difficulty nevertheless today. Teachers who contain the most important grownup populace sexually abuse newbies in the faculty state of affairs regardless of having the mandate to defend adolescents ([Ruto, 2009](#)). Teachers preserve positions of believe and when they have interaction in sexual relationships with learners, they violate this trust. The relationship between the instructor and learner is very a lot like the dad or mum and infant relationship. The betrayal of have faith in each relationship is very adverse to the children. Schools need to be secure locations for the usual improvement of newbies for this reason this learn about focuses on an grasp of toddler sexual abuse by using instructors with the purpose of stopping or curbing such abuse.

Child sexual abuse has a devastating lifelong impact on the victims, due to the fact sexual abuse generates notable pain and destruction in the lives of these children. It is a violation of the child's bodily and psychological integrity and a transgression of the ethical norms of the infant and society ([Save Children, 2005](#)). In the equal vein [Kibaru-Mbae \(2011\)](#) asserts that infant sexual abuse is a human rights difficulty with serious terrible public fitness penalties inclusive of physical, psychological, emotional and social effects. It violates the rights of kids to freedom and security, privateness and integrity, fitness and in some cases, even the proper to life. The stigma and disgrace surrounding baby sexual abuse leaves the toddler to face the damage in solitude growing worry in the boy or girl, who might also be harmed emotionally, physically, psychologically, and intellectually for life. Rights are violated when teenagers are sexually abused and when the integral steps to punish and rehabilitate offenders, reintegrate baby victims into

society and stop toddler sexual abuse from taking location in the first occasion are now not taken. The problem of infant sexual abuse deserves to be taken severely by means of the world community. It is a violation of the worldwide human rights laws. Sexual abuse of kids is a human rights violation affecting all age businesses inside childhood globally (Heiberg, 2005).

Poverty is a nation or circumstance in which a man or woman or household lacks the monetary assets and necessities for a minimal widespread of living. There is no single definition of poverty however the two most many times used standards are absolute poverty and relative poverty. Absolute poverty refers to a kingdom in which profits is inadequate to show the simple desires required to preserve lifestyles (that is, meals and shelter) (Jaffe Straatman, Harris, Georges, Vink and Reif, 2013). Poverty creates surroundings that is very unfavourable to the improvement of youngsters in each and every way, and impacts their mental, physical, religious and emotional well-being. Slack, Holl, McDaniel, Yoo, and Bolger (2004) grant huge proof documenting the relationship between poverty and toddler maltreatment. Indicating the existence of a poor relationship between profits and more than one variety of baby abuse and neglect. This capacity that as the family degree of earnings decreases, cases of baby abuse and overlook are statistically extra probably to occur. This is a startling revelation which suggests that teens in low socioeconomic reputation households may additionally be greater prone to toddler maltreatment. However, it is extra alarming to be aware that the existence of a relationship between poverty and infant maltreatment is about the extent of what is known. Factor out that a genuinely infinite variety of backyard variables may want to have an effect on this relationship. For example, it is unknown which elements of poverty are accountable for this relationship. Odu & Funmilayo (2011) contend that many adolescents who are confronted with a domestic existence missing in fundamental requirements are prone to being sexually abused.

Globally, researchers have discovered a robust correlation between poverty and infant sexual abuse. Sexual abuse frequently has its roots in poverty Adeniran (2003). Poverty makes dad and mom renege on their duty of offering for the wishes of their children. A guardian may also ask of a lady baby to seem for a succesful individual to take care of her fundamental survival desires such as clothing, and academic fees. Out of confusion, the toddler will provide in to such a proposition and quit up attractive in sexual things to do in return for money. In line with this, Mapp (2011) asserts that poverty can create a threat issue for sexual abuse in that youth may also be tempted to operate sexual acts for a monetary reward.

Marital instability is defined as which includes the gamut of things to do from questioning about and discussing divorce to honestly submitting for both separation or divorce. This can additionally be referred to marriage breakdown, estrangement in marriage, damaged marriages or damaged domestic which covers divorce, separation and desertion as properly as estrangement and the continuation of dwelling collectively although except marital relations. Jaffe (2013) are of the view that teenagers from incomplete and damaged properties are usually greater susceptible to being sexually abused than teenagers from steady domestic environments. Hunter (2010) reiterates that adolescents have been proven to be extra susceptible to baby sexual abuse following parental separation, when they are dwelling with single parents. Children raised in incomplete households usually have extra freedom to do as they wish, because of the lack of parental control. However, in many single guardian houses the above is no longer a problem, due to the fact these mother and father spend exceptional time with their children, in spite of being single. A developing body of literature suggests that youth who journey more than one transitions in household shape may additionally fare worse developmentally than kids raised in secure two-parent households and possibly even than adolescents raised in stable, single-parent families. This physique of lookup gives

what we name the instability hypothesis, the prediction that adolescents are affected by using disruption and adjustments in household shape as plenty as (or even extra than) through the kind of household buildings they experience. If this speculation had been true, it would advise that a tremendous reinterpretation of the outcomes of household shape on children's well-being might also be warranted.

Sexual abuse consequently makes colleges risky locations for learners, suffocating many of their dreams, lowering the college ride for the young people to a fighting for survival as a substitute than educational fulfillment and hope for the future. According to [Jaffe \(2013\)](#) in their study for the length 2007-2012 in Ontario, one hundred ten instructors had participated in a disciplinary listening to for trainer sexual misconduct. The perpetrator was once most regularly the victim's classification trainer (82%), some perpetrators taught in their victims' faculties however had been no longer their classification instructors (13%), whilst different perpetrators have been no longer instructing group of workers (5%). Data from extraordinary nations in Africa endorse a excessive incidence of all varieties of infant sexual abuse. According to a 2013 document by using the Gender, Labour and Social Development Ministry it is estimated that in Uganda 77.7% of main faculty youth and 82% of secondary kids had skilled sexual abuse in schools. In two thirds of the cases, the perpetrators have been teachers. Interviews performed in Niger in 2008 with 50 instructors and 174 college students confirmed that 47.7% of college students had determined instructors specific emotions of love for a fellow student, whilst 88% of instructors answered that there had been sexual incidences of various natures, between college students and their instructors ([Plan West Africa, 2008](#)).

Purpose of the Study

The foremost motive of this study is to look into poverty and marital instability as determinants of child molestation amongst secondary school instructors in Kwara State. Specifically, the study sought to make findings on:

- To decide the relationship between poverty and child molestation amongst secondary school instructors.
- To decide the relationship between marital instability and child molestation among secondary school instructors.

Research Hypothesis

- There is no significant relationship between poverty and child molestation amongst secondary school instructors in Kwara State.
- There is significant relationship between marital instability and child molestation amongst secondary school instructors in Kwara State.

METHODS

Research design

The lookup layout adopted in this study used to be a descriptive lookup of ex-post-facto type. The descriptive graph is the systematic empirical enquiry in which the researcher does not manipulate or have direct manipulate of the situation. The population of this study consists of all secondary school instructors in Kwara State. For the motive of this investigation, the researcher employed the multistage sampling technique, the first stage concerned the use of random sampling approach in selecting 5 Local Government Areas in Kwara State, subsequent 10 secondary school were randomly selected in each LGAs. Also, in each selected LGAs, 10 instructors comprising of male and female were randomly chosen. On the whole, total number of participants used for this study is 500

instructors. The questionnaire was administered to respondents. The respondents had been requested to fill their demographical important points and tick the picks that first-class signify their opinions.

Child Molestation

Child molestation Scale developed by [Hunter \(2010\)](#) was used to measure the level of child molestation among secondary school instructors. It has 10 items. The scale used 5 Likert-type ranging from SD (Strongly Disagree) to SA (Strongly Agree). Originally, the reliability index of the instrument as stated by the authors was .89 with test-retest reliability (.95).

Poverty Scale

Poverty scale developed by [Orshansky \(1963\)](#) was used to assess the poverty level of the participants. It has 10 items with 5 Likert scale ranging from SD (Strongly Disagree) to SA (Strongly Agree). The scale has a reliability of 0.85 as stated by the Author.

Marital Instability Scale

Marital instability scale developed by [Heiberg \(2005\)](#) was used to assess the level of the marital instability among participants. It is 10 item scale primarily based on 5-point Likert scale which used the responses, strongly agree (SA), agree (A), undecided (U), disagree (D), strongly disagree (SD). The scale confirmed enough interior consistency with alpha coefficient of 0.70, and reliability indices of 0.81.

In order to measure the extent to which the instrument have been able to achieve their aims, the process of content validity was employed by cross-examination and verification. The knowledge gained from other investigation, literature review, theoretical framework and research method helped immediately to validate contents of the instruments. In addition, a more practical avenue of validity explored included consultation within and outside the department of the researcher. These provided the opportunity to check and test the items as the work progressed. In addition, the researcher extended the frontier consultation to lecturers including the researchers' supervisor for necessary critic and suggestions for amendment on the draft of the research instrument. Consequently, a number of items in the questionnaire were amended. Only those items left are relevant and valid constituting the contents of the questionnaire.

The test re-test reliability co-efficient was used for the study. The instruments were pre-test on 20 respondents which were not included in the scope of the study to ascertain the reliability of the instrument. After the pre-test, the instruments were scrutinized and necessary modifications were made before final administration. The reliability co-efficient of the instrument was determined yielding 0.81. The instruments were administered to the respondents on the day approved by the school authorities for the exercise. The researcher was assisted by 3 research assistants in administration and collection of the instruments. In each selected school, both administration and collection of instruments were done on the same day. On the whole data collection lasted for two weeks. Out of 500 instruments distributed only 408 were properly filled and used for data analysis. Pearson's Product Moment Correlation Coefficient was used to set up relationship amongst the variables and to answer Hypothesis 1 & 2.

RESULTS

Research Hypothesis One: There is no significant relationship between poverty and child molestation amongst secondary school instructors in Kwara State.

Table 1: Significant relationship between poverty and child molestation amongst secondary school instructors

Variable	Mean	SD	DF	N	r	p	Remark
Poverty	34.82	17.73	406	408	.713	.000	Significant
Child Molestation	31.73	11.31					

The table 1 above showed that there was significant relationship between poverty and child molestation amongst secondary school instructors in Kwara State ($r = .713$; $p < 0.05$). The implication of this showed that poverty had significant influence on child molestation amongst secondary school instructors in Kwara.

Research Hypothesis Two: There is significant relationship between marital instability and child molestation amongst secondary school instructors in Kwara State.

Table 2: Significant relationship between marital instability and child molestation amongst secondary school instructors

Variable	Mean	SD	DF	N	r	p	Remark
Marital Instability	30.14	10.81					
Child Molestation	31.73	11.31	406	408	.705	.000	Significant

The table 1 above showed that there was significant relationship between marital instability and child molestation amongst secondary school instructors in Kwara State ($r = .705$; $p < 0.05$). The implication of this showed that marital instability had significant influence on child molestation amongst secondary school instructors in Kwara.

DISCUSSION

The end result of the first hypothesis stated that correlations existed between poverty and child molestation amongst secondary school instructors. The end result tested that elements accountable for child molestation among instructors are residents in poverty. This discovering is regular with that of [Mapp \(2011\)](#) asserts that poverty can create a chance aspect for sexual abuse in that young people can also be tempted to operate sexual acts for a monetary reward. [Slack, Holl, McDaniel, Yoo, & Bolger \(2004\)](#) grant huge proof documenting the relationship between poverty and toddler maltreatment. Indicating the existence of a poor relationship between profits and more than one variety of baby abuse and neglect. This capacity that as the family degree of earnings decreases, cases of baby abuse and overlook are statistically extra probably to occur.

The second hypothesis confirmed that there was significant relationship between marital instability and child molestation among secondary school instructors. The study pointed out that there was correlation existed between the two variables. Children delivered up in a step father or mother domestic or in an unstable household had a robust inclination closer to

supplies abuse however the correlation used to be even larger for been sexually abused. This in line with Jaffe (2013) of the view that young people from incomplete and damaged residences are commonly extra inclined to being sexually abused than teenagers from secure domestic environments. In some cases, dad and mom may also additionally flip a blind eye to their children's sexual relationships with instructors or different adults absolutely to acquire economic guide for their children' education.

CONCLUSION

It used to be certainly set up that child molestation is regularly occurring in schools. Incidents of child abuse through instructors consist of a vary of behaviours such as rape, sexual remarks and touching, kissing, sharing pornography, transactional intercourse for marks, as well as favouritism. Many elements make a contribution to child molestation via instructors such as learner poverty, learner unstable family, negative enforcement of the legal guidelines and policies, unscientific thoughts on the remedy for HIV and AIDS, and abuse/misuse of modern-day technology. Learners themselves, specifically girls, make a contribution to their personal abuse via their seductive dressing and behaviour. Child molestation has a far-reaching and bad influence on learner's potential to analyze and remain at school. It violates human rights of young people inclusive of their proper to non-public protection and bodily integrity. Findings point out that child molestation affects negatively on the emotional health, bodily health, and tutorial success of the molested learner. Child molestation is a bad journey that no toddler need to have to go through. It is a complicated phenomenon that deprives youth of their childhood, human rights and dignity.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings of this study, the following had been recommended;

1. The Ministry of Education need to put in force and enforce a revised National Teacher's Code of Conduct that prohibits all types of child molestation such as these involving bodily contact (e.g kissing, touching, sexual intercourse) and non-contact types (e.g sexual massages, pornography) which includes prohibiting relationships between instructors and learners.
2. In-service coaching for instructors on sexual abuse have to be equipped in colleges through the Ministry of Education. Teacher ought to study how to strategy the concern in a touchy way, due to the fact it is contentious and adolescents are no longer used to person discussing it without delay with them.
3. There is want for academic psychologists to educate group of workers about trainer sexual misconduct, highlighting such trouble as unacceptable behavior, as nicely as physical, emotional and behavioral symptoms of sexual abuse and how to take care of the problem.
4. Learners have to research how to distinguish between love and sexual advances. If they assume of sexual things to do as love, they will most in all likelihood consent to it easier. They can be notion this throughout workshops equipped through colleges with academic psychologists.

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