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Relationship Between the Use of Drugs and Violent Sexual Behavior Among Married Men: A Case Study of Alimosho Local Government Area, Lagos State

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Abstract

This study investigated the relationship between the use of drugs and violent sexual behaviours among married men in Alimosho Local Government Area of Lagos State. Descriptive research design of ex-post facto type was used for this study. Population comprises of all married men in Alimosho Local Government Area of Lagos State. Multi-stage sampling technique was used to select 383 married men and self-developed questionnaire with reliability coefficient of 0.76 was used. Pearson Product Moment Correlation (PPMC) statistical analysis was used to analyze the null hypotheses at 0.05 level of significance. The findings from the study revealed that drug use have a significant relationship with rape of partners (0.47), denial of the right to the use of contraceptives (0.84), forced abortion (0.40) and forced prostitution (0.63). Based on the conclusion, it was recommended that public awareness campaigns should be organized on marital rape to provide accurate information, dispelling myths and stereotypes about marital rape and that counseling psychologists should formulate and implement protocols for addressing violence in relation to pregnancy and abortion that include the provision of counseling, emergency contraception, treatment of HIV/STIs, abortion and post abortion care.

Keywords: Drug use, Rape, contraceptives, Forced abortion and Forced prostitution

INTRODUCTION

Sexual violence is any act (verbal and/or physical) which breaks a person's trust and/or safety and is sexual in nature. The term “sexual violence” includes; rape incest, child sexual assault, marital rape, sexual harassment, exposure, and voyeurism. Substance abuse refers to the overuse/abuse of substance such as alcohol, drugs, prescription medications and food. Sexual violence is a severely traumatic experience that disproportionately affects women and girls (Abiodun, Ogunremi and Oni, 2006). It is often associated with psychological, physical, social distress and occasionally resulting in fatality either from shock, severe injury or murder by the perpetrator in an attempt to conceal his identity (Adeshina, 2008).

Sexual violence encompasses a wide range of activities ranging from rape to physically less intrusive sexual contacts, whether attempted or completed. It involves lack of consent; the use of physical force, coercion, deception or threat; and/or the involvement of a victim that is asleep, unconscious, under aged, mentally incapacitated or physically impaired as a result of voluntary or involuntary alcohol or drug consumption (Badejoko, Anyabolu, Badejoko, Ijarotimi, Kuti and Adejuyigbe, 2016; Lloyd and Huge, 2008). According to Benninger-Budel (2000), the impact of sexual violence on mental health can be as serious as its physical impact, and may be equally long lasting. Sexual violence is associated with an increased risk of a range of sexual and reproductive health problems with both immediate and long term consequences (Flood, 2001).

Sexual violence can also profoundly affect the social wellbeing of victims; individuals may be stigmatized and ostracized by their families and others as a consequence (Abiodun, Ogunremi and Oni, 2006). Coerced sex may result in sexual gratification on the part of the perpetrator, though its underlying purpose is frequently the expression of power and dominance over the person assaulted. Often, men who coerce their spouse into a sexual act believe their actions are legitimate because they are married to the woman (Adeshina, 2008; Lloyd and Huge, 2008). Available data suggests that in some countries, nearly one in four women may experience sexual violence by an intimate partner (Flood, 2001).

In many countries, a substantial proportion of women experiencing physical violence also experience sexual abuse (World Health Organization, 2013). In Mexico and the United States, studies estimate that 40-52% of women experiencing physical violence by an intimate partner have also been sexually coerced by that partner (Creamer, Burgess and McFarlane, 2001). Evidence suggests that male and female survivors of sexual violence may experience similar mental health, behavioural and social consequences (Abiodun, Ogunremi and Oni, 2006; Hamid and Douglas, 2007). However, girls and women bear the overwhelming burden of injury and diseases from sexual violence and coercion not only because they comprise the vast majority of victims but also because they are vulnerable to sexual and reproductive health consequences such as unwanted pregnancy, unsafe abortion and a higher risk of sexually transmitted infections (WHO, 2003).

The incidence of drug use is a global problem which poses a great danger to the health and the behaviour of an individual, the social life, even in some cases to the political stability and securities in many countries. The use of psychoactive substances like cocaine, marijuana, benzodiazepines, barbiturates and amphetamine is prevalent in many African countries (Benninger-Budel, 2000). Drug may be differentiated based on their effect on the body system. Drugs that alter mood, cognition and behaviour are termed 'psychoactive' (Badejoko et al., 2016). Drug use may refer to any drug used that have effect on the emotion, social and beliefs of an individual. The word “substance” has become a popular term because the term drug is often used mistakenly to describe some pharmaceutical or illicit substance (Hamid and Douglas, 2007). In the recent years, many people who work in the field have come to prefer substance as a more inclusive term or have resorted to the cumbersome nomenclatures; alcohol, tobacco and nicotine which are also called drugs.

According to World Health Organization (2013) stated that one in every five women is a victim of sexual violence and globally, 35% of women have experienced either physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence. It is estimated that of all women who were the victims of homicide globally in 2012, almost half were killed by intimate partners or family members (Pardes, 2014; WHO, 2013). Married men should be discouraged from the use of drugs because of its effects on the body such as rendering the penis less sensitive, lowered libido, and making orgasm almost impossible and this put both partners at risk of “chafing” (rubbed raw skin).

Victims of sexual assault including childhood sexual abuse may use alcohol or drugs to numb or escape from painful memories or Post Traumatic Stress Disorder symptoms (PTSD). When they attempt to stop using the drug, symptoms reappear and the likelihood of relapse increases (Adeshina, 2008). Rape victims are 3.4 times more likely to use marijuana, 5 times more likely to use prescription drugs for non medical purposes, 6 times more likely to use cocaine, 10 times more likely to use hard drugs other than cocaine.

Forced prostitution is illegal under customary law in all countries. This is different from voluntary prostitution which may have a different legal status in different countries, which range from being fully illegal and punishable by death to being legal and regulated as an occupation (Pardes, 2014; Stewart and James, 2000). Sexual violence can happen to anyone, regardless of age, race, income level, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation and education level. However, certain vulnerabilities or risk factors contribute to sexual violence victimization and perpetration; consuming alcohol and drugs is among those factors. Like sexual violence, drug and alcohol abuse and addiction crosses all societal boundaries and is an issue in all communities and across the nation (Stewart and James, 2000; UNICEF, 2001).

Substances may have been used by the perpetrator to facilitate a sexual assault. Someone may have been using or abusing substances before an assault occurred, or started using substance as a coping strategy following an assault. Substance abuse and sexual victimization both carry a great deal of social stigma in and of themselves, and when a victim holds both, the stigma can be especially difficult to overcome. The stigma can compound the challenges of the healing process and increase feelings of blame, shame and isolation (Badejoko et al., 2016; Creamer, Burgess and McFarlane, 2001).

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

It has been discovered that these days, men use drugs such as Viagra, marijuana and local herbal

substances mostly to stimulate or boost their sexual performance purchasing these drugs from street drug hawkers. Tramadol is widely abused by these men to delay ejaculation and prolong intercourse (UNICEF, 2001). All early attempts to treat erectile dysfunction (for instance: inflatable penis implants and vacuum pumps) failed and it was not until early 1990s that the treatment of this condition was revolutionized with the discovery of the sildenafil (viagra). The researcher also observed in the immediate environment the reasons some families do not properly space their children. Enquiries were made and it was found out that the wives were either raped by their husbands or they were denied the right to the use of contraceptives and they were under the influence of alcohol, locally made herbs, sexual stimulants and so on, and which was against most of their religious doctrines to go for an abortion. Hence, the study investigates the relationship between use of drugs and violent sexual behaviours among married men in Alimosho Local Government Area of Lagos State.

Research Questions

The following research questions are raised to guide the study:

1. What is the relationship between drug use and rape of partner among married men?
2. What is the relationship between drug use and denial of contraceptives usage among married men?
3. What is the relationship between drug use and forced abortion among married men?
4. What is the relationship between drug use and forced prostitution among married men?

METHODOLOGY

The descriptive research design of ex-post facto type was used for this study. The population comprises of 227,461 married men in Alimosho Local Government Area of Lagos State (NPC, 2018). A multi-stage sampling technique was employed to select 383 participants for the study. At first, simple random sampling technique was used to select 3 Local Council Development Areas (LCDAs) using the Fish Bowl method. This was followed by stratified sampling technique to group the LCDAs into different stratas based on the streets. Also, 10 streets were randomly selected from each of LCDAs. Thereafter, 13 married men were purposively selected from each street. On the whole, 390 participants constituted the sample population for the study. A self-developed questionnaire was used to elicit responses from the participants. Out of 390 questionnaires distributed only 383 were properly filled and use for data analysis. A four point Likert scale of alternative was used in the closed ended questionnaire as SA= Strongly Agreed (4), A= Agreed (3), D= Disagreed (2), SD= Strongly Disagreed (1). Validity and reliability of instruments was done using the split half method. The correlation coefficient of 0.76 co-efficient was obtained. Data collected were analyzed using and Pearson Product Moment Correlation (PPMC) statistical analysis to test the hypotheses formulated at 0.05 level of significance.

RESULTS

Research Question One: What is the relationship between drug use and rape of partner among married men?

Table 1: Relationship between drug use and rape of partner among married men

Variable	Mean	SD	DF	N	r	p	Decision
Drug Use	15.16	2.98					H_o
Rape of Partner	18.24	3.72	381	383	0.470	.000	**Rejected**

The table 1 above showed that there was significant relationship between drug use and rape of partner among married men (r= 0**.470**; p<0.05). This means that drug use had significant influence on rape of partner among married men in Alimosho Local Government Area of Lagos State.

Research Question Two: What is the relationship between drug use and denial of contraceptives usage among married men?

Table 2: Relationship between drug use and contraceptives denial among married men

Variable	Mean	SD	DF	N	r	p	Decision
Drug Use	12.30	2.99					H_o
Contraceptives Denial	11.98	2.978	381	383	0.840	.000	**Rejected**

The table 2 above showed that there was significant relationship between drug use and contraceptives denial among married men (r= 0**.840**; p<0.05). This means that drug use had significant influence on contraceptives denial among married men in Alimosho Local Government Area of Lagos State.

Research Question Three: What is the relationship between drug use and forced abortion among married men?

Table 3: Relationship between drug use and forced abortion among married men

Variable	Mean	SD	DF	N	r	p	Decision
Drug Use	12.30	2.99					H_o
Forced Abortion	11.71	3.04	381	383	0.400	.000	**Rejected**

The table 3 above showed that there was significant relationship between drug use and forced abortion among married men (r= 0**.400**; p<0.05). This means that drug use had significant influence on forced abortion among married men in Alimosho Local Government Area of Lagos State.

Research Question Four: What is the relationship between drug use and forced prostitution among married men?

Table 4: Relationship between drug use and forced prostitution among married men

Variable	Mean	SD	DF	N	r	p	Decision
Drug Use	12.30	2.99					H_o
Forced Prostitution	10.97	3.02	381	383	0.630	.000	**Rejected**

The table 4 above showed that there was significant relationship between drug use and forced prostitution among married men (r= 0**.400**; p<0.05). This means that drug use had significant influence on forced prostitution among married men in Alimosho Local Government Area of Lagos State.

DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

The result of the finding in research question one showed that drug use had significant relationship with rape of partners as expressed by married men in Alimosho Local Government Area of Lagos State. In collaboration with this finding, World Health Organization (2013) confirmed that one in every five women is a victim of sexual violence and globally, 35% of women have experienced either physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence. It is estimated that of all women who were the victims of homicide globally in 2012, almost half were killed by intimate partners or family members (Pardes, 2014; WHO, 2013).

The result of the finding in research question two showed drug use had significant relationship with the denial of the right to the use of contraceptives as expressed by married men in Alimosho Local Government Area of Lagos State. This finding is in line with the study of Badejoko et al (2016) and Creamer, Burgess and McFarlane (2001) who found that substance abuse and sexual victimization both carry a great deal of social stigma in and of themselves, and when a victim holds both, the stigma can be especially difficult to overcome. The stigma can compound the challenges of the healing process and increase feelings of blame, shame and isolation.

The result of the finding in research question three showed that drug use had significant relationship with forced abortion as expressed by married men in Alimosho Local Government Area of Lagos State. Victims of sexual assault including childhood sexual abuse may use alcohol or drugs to numb or escape from painful memories or Post Traumatic Stress Disorder symptoms (PTSD). Adesina, 2008 observed that when they attempt to stop using the drug, symptoms reappear and the likelihood of relapse increases.. Rape victims are 3.4 times more likely to use marijuana, 5 times more likely to use prescription drugs for non medical purposes, 6 times more likely to use cocaine, 10 times more likely to use hard drugs other than cocaine.

The result of the finding in research question four showed that drug use had significant relationship with forced prostitution as expressed by married men in Alimosho Local Government Area of Lagos State. This was supported by Pardes (2014) and Stewart and James (2000) who found that voluntary prostitution may have a different legal status in different countries ranges from being fully illegal and punishable by death to being legal and regulated as an occupation due to drug use. Sexual violence can happen to anyone, regardless of age, race, income level, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation and education level. However, certain vulnerabilities or risk factors contribute to sexual violence victimization and perpetration. These includes: sexual violence, drug and alcohol abuse and addiction crosses all societal boundaries and is an issue in all communities and across the nation (Stewart and James, 2000; UNICEF, 2001).

CONCLUSION

Based on the findings of the research work, it was concluded that drug use has a significant relationship with rape of partner and denial of the right to the use of contraceptives among married men. The prevalence of violent sexual behaviour among married men has serious implications for the development of the society and the psychological development of children. The future of any nation depends on the quality of its children and youths. Consequently, government should pay urgent attention towards eradicating the evil

phenomenon of violent sexual behaviour in Nigerian society. Efforts must be made to ensure that children grow up in stable and responsible homes, so that they can become responsible citizens. The Nigerian society needs to eradicate the stereotype and patriarchal system that tend to give the man absolute power of life and death over the woman, which continuously serves as a catalyst for domestic violence. All stakeholders in the Nigerian society ranging from government, religious bodies, civil society groups, community leaders must embark on vigorous awareness creation and education on the negative implications of domestic violence on the growth and development of children in the society.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings of the study, the following recommendations were made:

- Public awareness campaigns should be organized on marital rape, providing accurate information, dispelling myths and stereotypes about marital rape thereby changing the public's opinion.
- Health personnel should formulate and implement protocols for addressing violence in relation to pregnancy and abortion that include the provision of counseling, emergency contraception, treatment of HIV/STIs, abortion and post abortion care.
- Government should improve the economic condition of Nigerian citizens in order to reduce the financial problem faced by families which may bring about odd jobs.

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