

ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE

Prevalence and Factors Associated with Perpetration of Non-Consensual Sex among Students of a Tertiary Institution in Ibadan, Nigeria

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Abstract

This cross-sectional survey explored the extent to which students of the Polytechnic, Ibadan had perpetrated Non-Consensual Sex (NCS). A total of 594 randomly selected students completed a questionnaire and three perpetrators were interviewed in-depth. Mean age of the survey respondents was 22.7±2.9 years. Twenty-two percent had ever perpetrated at least a form of NCS, out of which 75.9% reported involvement in this behaviour in the six months preceding the study. Forms of NCS perpetrated included unwanted touch of breast/back side (14.6%), unwanted kiss (9.4%), attempted rape (2.7%) and rape (1.7%). The predictors of perpetration of NCS were alcohol use (OR: 2.2; CI: 1.41-3.33) and cigarette smoking (OR: 2.5, CI: 1.13-5.56). In-depth interview revealed that peer group influence and alcohol consumption contributed to perpetration of NCS. Behavioural change interventions are recommended to prevent perpetration of NCS in this institution. (*Afr J Reprod Health 2012; 16[4]: 108-118*).

Résumé

Cette enquête transversale examiné la mesure dans laquelle les élèves de l'École polytechnique, Ibadan avaient perpétré des rapports sexuels non consentuels (RNSC). Un total de 594 étudiants choisis au hasard ont rempli un questionnaire et trois auteurs ont été interviewés en profondeur. L'âge moyen des interviewés était de 22,7 ± 2,9 ans. Vingt-deux pour cent avaient déjà perpétré au moins une forme de RNSC, dont 75,9% ont déclaré implication dans ce comportement dans les six mois précédant l'étude. Les formes de RNSC perpétrés comprennent les tactiles indésirables de la poitrine/des fesses (14,6%), baisers non désirés (9,4%), tentative de viol (2,7%) et le viol (1,7%). Les indices de la perpétration de RNSC ont été la consommation d'alcool (OR: 2,2; IC: 1,41 à 3,33) et le tabagisme (OR: 2,5, IC: 1,13 à 5,56). Les interviews en profondeur ont révélé que l'influence des pairs et la consommation d'alcool ont contribué à la perpétration de RNSC. Les interventions de modification de comportement sont recommandées pour prévenir la perpétration de RNSC dans cette institution (*Afr J Reprod Health 2012; 16[4]: 108-118*).

Keywords: Polytechnic students, Non-consensual sex, Perpetration, Victims

Introduction

Non-Consensual Sex (NCS) is an act of forcing (or attempting to force) another individual through violence, threats, verbal insistence, deception, cultural expectations or economic circumstances to engage in sexual behaviour against her/his will. As such, it includes a wide range of behaviours from violent forcible rape to more contested areas that require young women to marry and sexually service men not of their choosing¹. NCS also refers to a range of experiences that compel a person to have sex against her or his will¹. The World Report on Violence and Health reinforces the definition and describe NCS as any sexual act,

attempt to obtain a sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances, or acts to traffic, or otherwise, directed against a person's sexuality using coercion, by any person regardless of their relationship to the victim². Experiences of NCS may involve the use of "violence, threats, verbal insistence, deception, cultural expectations or economic circumstances"; the consequence is a lack of choice to pursue other options without severe social or physical consequences³.

NCS occurs throughout the world. Although in most countries there has been little research conducted on the problem, available data suggest that in some countries nearly one in four women may experience NCS by an intimate partner⁴⁻⁶ and

up to one-third of adolescent girls report their first sexual experience as being forced⁷⁻⁹. NCS can occur in premarital, marital and extra-marital relationships. It also occurs in the course of routine activities in the home, neighborhood, community and school. Perpetrators of NCS are usually people with whom the victim is familiar, including intimate partners, peers, family members, teachers, and other youth and adult acquaintances¹⁰ and perpetrators are generally, but not always males.

Research suggests that NCS occur among all social-economic classes and in all age groups. Data on sexually violent men also show that most perpetrators direct their acts at women whom they already know³. Among the factors increasing the risk of perpetrating NCS are those related to attitudes and beliefs, as well as behaviour arising from situations and social conditions that provide opportunities and support for abuse, for example, alcohol consumption¹¹. Alcohol has been shown to play a dis-inhibiting role in certain types of NCS¹², as have some drugs, notably cocaine¹³. Alcohol has a psychopharmacological effect of reducing inhibitions, clouding judgments and impairing the ability to interpret cues¹⁴. The biological links between alcohol and violence are, however, complex¹². Substance use can impair cognitive and motor abilities, making it more difficult to recognize or avoid danger¹⁵. Men may target drinking women because they perceive them as more sexually available¹⁶ or may actually encourage them to drink or use drugs in order to take advantage of them. For example, a study conducted in South Africa showed that 8.9% of men had raped a woman by force or took advantage of her when she was too drunk to stop them¹⁷.

There is a dearth of research addressing perpetration of NCS among youth especially students of tertiary institutions in Nigeria. The few available studies have focused on females as victims and males as perpetrators^{11, 18-22} and have neglected to explore perpetration of NCS among both sexes. In addition, there are also little or no available studies in Nigeria that explore context of perpetration of NCS using a qualitative approach such as in-depth interview of perpetrators. Most of the existing studies that explore the context of NCS focused mainly on victims. For example,

Ajuwon and colleagues explored the context of rape from the perspective of victims of NCS²³. However, tactics used by the perpetrators to carry out their acts were not explored.

This article therefore describes the extent to which male and female students of the Polytechnic Ibadan, Nigeria have perpetrated NCS and identified the factors associated with the perpetration. It also presents tactics used by perpetrators in ensuring they have sex with their victims. The availability of these data will help to develop campus-based programmes to prevent and discourage students of higher institutions from perpetrating NCS.

Materials and Methods

Setting for the Study

This study was a cross-sectional survey carried out among students of The Polytechnic Ibadan, Nigeria. Owned by the Oyo state government, with three campuses in Ibadan, Eruwa, and Saki, the institution is the first Technical Institute in the country. The school runs mainly National Diploma (ND) and Higher National Diploma (HND). As at 2010 (2009/2010 academic session) when the study was conducted, the students' population in the Ibadan campus was approximately 11,000. The school has four halls of residence including one for males, one for females and two for both sexes.

Measures

A questionnaire and an In-Depth Interview (IDI) guide were designed, pre-tested and used for the data collection. The questionnaire had four components; demographic characteristics, context of first sexual experience, reported perpetration of NCS and victims of the perpetration. The module on perpetration of NCS asked questions on whether respondents had ever perpetrated a list of forms of NCS which included unwanted touch of breast or back side, unwanted kiss, forced viewing of pornography, exchange of money or gift for sex, attempted rape and rape. Respondents were also asked to indicate whether they had ever perpetrated this behaviour and done so during the six months preceding the study. In addition, perpetrators were asked to indicate who their

victims were. Data on non-consensual sexual experiences of these respondents and those who perpetrated it on them had been published elsewhere²⁴.

With respect to the IDI, only those who indicated they have perpetrated attempted rape and rape were invited to participate. Consented respondents were asked to narrate the incidents and state the reason behind their act and the tactics they used to accomplish their mission. Drafts of the instruments were pre-tested among 60 students in the Eruwa campus in order to ensure its clarity and comprehension.

Sampling Procedure

The sample size of the study was derived based on the findings on prevalence of NCS (55.3%) among adolescents in Ibadan, Nigeria¹⁹. The sample for the current study consisted of 594 students who were selected from the four halls of residence in the institution using a four-stage random sampling technique based on the type of the hall, number of rooms and students in each hall of residence. All the four halls of residence were used in selecting the study participants and number of students recruited for each sex was determined proportionately based on students' population in each hall. Likewise, all the blocks in the halls were selected while rooms were systematically selected in each block using tables of random numbers. Number of rooms selected in each hall was based on the number of students to be selected (proportionately) in each hall such that the number of rooms selected was equal to the number of participants. Simple balloting procedure was used to select a participant if there were more than one student in the room at the time of visit.

Administration of the Instruments

The administration of the instruments was done by the first author with the help of four (4) trained research assistants (two females and two males). The questionnaire was self-administered since the research participants could read and write in English Language. It was administered at the hall of residence in the evening typically between 4:30pm and 7:30pm for six days. Verbal informed consent was obtained from the participants before the administration of the questionnaire by

explaining to them the purpose of the research, the risk involved, the duration of interview and potential benefits of the research. The questionnaires were retrieved immediately from the respondents after completion and these were checked for completeness and to identify those who were eligible for the IDI. Those who reported they had attempted to perpetrate rape or had actually done so were recruited for the IDI. Out of 16 respondents (13 males and 3 females) who reported ever perpetrated attempted rape, only one male consented to be interviewed. While out of 10 respondents (6 males and 4 females) who had ever perpetrated rape, only two males consented to be interviewed. Each respondent was provided a 'Reynolds' writing pen as an incentive to participate in the study. The study was approved by the University of Ibadan/University College Hospital (UI/UCH) Ibadan, Ethics Review Committee.

Data Analysis

The quantitative data were analysed using SPSS software version 15. Open-ended questions were coded and the data were cleaned before their entry into the computer. Descriptive and inferential statistics (Chi-square and logistic regression) were used for the analysis. In addition to the Chi-square analysis, logistic regression was also done to determine the major predicting factors for the perpetration of NCS. The data were segregated by sex to detect the influence of gender on perpetrations of NCS and the factors associated with it. Tests were done at 0.05 level of significance. The IDI were recorded on audio tapes, transcribed and analysed using thematic approach. However, hand written notes were taken for one respondent who did not give consent for the recording of the interview session.

Results

Profile of Survey Respondents

The profile of the sample is shown in Table 1. Respondents consisted of 58.9% females and 41.1% males. The ages of the respondents ranged from 16 – 35 years with a mean of 22.7 ± 2.9 . The majority (98.8%) of the students had never married.

Table 1: Socio-demographic characteristic of the respondents (N=594)

Socio-demographic characteristic	Male (N =244) N (%)	Female (N =350) N (%)	Total (N =594) N (%)
Age (in years)			
16-20	61 (25)	103 (29.4)	164 (27.6)
21-25	131 (53.7)	195 (55.7)	326 (54.9)
26-30	50 (20.5)	51 (14.6)	101 (17)
31-35	2 (0.8)	1 (0.3)	3 (0.5)
Level of study			
ND 1	87 (35.7)	115 (32.9)	202 (34.0)
ND 2	50 (20.5)	98 (28.0)	148 (24.9)
HND 1	65 (26.6)	72 (20.6)	137 (23.1)
HND 2	42 (17.2)	65 (18.6)	107 (18.0)
Family origin			
Monogamy	156 (63.9)	230 (65.7)	386 (65)
Polygamy	188 (36.10)	120 (34.30)	208 (35)
Marital status			
Single	242 (99.2)	345 (98.6)	587 (98.8)
Married	1 (0.4)	5 (1.4)	6 (1.0)
Divorced	1 (0.40)	0 (0.0)	1 (0.2)
Ever consumed alcohol	107 (43.9)	94 (26.9)	201 (33.8)
Ever smoked cigarette	23 (9.4)	7 (2.0)	30 (5.1)
Currently having a friend of opposite sex	223 (91.4)	336 (96.0)	559 (94.1)
Currently having a fiancé/fiancée	90 (36.9)	232 (66.3)	322 (54.2)
Ever experienced sexual intercourse	58.6 (143)	54.3 (190)	56.1 (333)

Concerning lifestyle, 33.8% reported they had ever consumed alcohol while just 9.1% reported they were current drinkers. Five percent reported they had ever smoked cigarette of which 0.8% are current smokers. Majority (94.1%) had a friend of opposite sex and over half 54.2% had a fiancé/fiancée.

Lifetime and current perpetration of NCS

The form of NCS that has the highest prevalence (lifetime) of perpetration was unwanted touch of breast or backside while the least were being drugged and charmed to have sex. Out of all the forms of NCS reported, only three showed that there was a significant difference in the report between the sexes and this included attempted rape, unwanted kiss and insistence on having sex (Table 2). Among those who had experienced sexual intercourse (56.1%), 2.7% reported they raped their partner in their first sexual intercourse

and significantly, more males (2.8%) than females (2.6%) reported this ($p < 0.05$). One hundred and thirty three (22.4%) reported they have ever perpetrated at least a form of NCS out of which 75.9% reported this during the previous six months (See Tables 2 and 3). There was a significant difference in the perpetration of NCS between the sexes of the respondents (27.9% males vs. 18.6% females, $p < 0.05$) (See Table 4). However, this was not so during the previous six months preceding the study because p-value was greater than 0.05. Those who had ever consumed alcohol (34.8% vs. 16.0%), those who had ever smoke cigarette (53.3% vs. 20.7%) and those who had ever had experienced sexual intercourse (27.0% vs. 16.5%) significantly reported the perpetration of NCS than those who had never done so.

Table 2: Forms of NCS ever perpetrated

FORMS OF NCS	Male N (%)	Female N (%)	Total N (%)
Unwanted touch of breast or back side	38 (15.6)	49 (14)	87 (14.6)
Forced to view pornography or sexually explicit materials	4 (1.6)	3 (0.9)	7 (1.2)
Unwanted kiss	35 (14.3)**	21 (6.0)	56 (9.4)
Insistence on having sex	25 (10.2)**	9 (2.6)	34 (5.7)
Charmed someone to have sex	1 (0.4)	2 (0.6)	3 (0.5)
Drugged to have sex	0 (0.0)	3 (0.9)	3 (0.5)
Forced to perform unwanted sexual act(s)	9 (3.7)	5 (1.4)	14 (2.4)
Exchange of gift, money or marks for sex	8 (3.3)	4 (1.1)	12 (2.0)
Attempted rape	13 (5.3)**	3 (0.9)	16 (2.7)
Rape	6 (2.5)	4 (1.1)	10 (1.7)
Perpetrated at least one form of NCS	68 (27.9)**	65 (18.6)	133 (22.4)

** p<0.05

Table 3: Proportion of those who perpetrated various forms NCS during the six months preceding the student

FORMS OF NCS	N	Male (%)	Female (%)	Total (%)
Unwanted touch of breast or back side	87	81.6	77.6	79.3
Forced to watch pornography or sexually explicit materials	7	75.0	66.7	71.4
Unwanted kiss	56	65.7	76.2	69.4
Insistence on having sex	34	68.0	55.6	64.7
Charmed to have sex	3	100.0	0.0	33.3
Drugged to have sex	3	0.0	33.3	33.3
Forced to perform unwanted sexual act(s)	14	77.7	40.0	64.3
Exchange of gift, money or marks for sex	12	62.5	50.0	58.3
Attempted rape	16	69.2	33.3	62.5
Rape	10	83.3	50.0	70.0
Perpetrated at least one form of NCS	133	72.1	80.0	75.9

Likewise, those who had a friend of opposite sex (23.3%) significantly reported the perpetration than those who did not have such friends (8.6%). Concerning perpetration of NCS at first sexual intercourse, more of those who forced their partner during their first sexual intercourse (9.2%) significantly reported that they perpetrated at least one of form NCS during the six months preceding the study than those who did not force their partner at first sexual intercourse (1.1%).

Results of the multivariate logistic regression showed that those who had ever consumed alcohol (OR: 2.2; 95% CI = 1.41 – 3.33) and smoke cigarette (OR: 2.5, 95% CI = 1.13 – 5.56) were significantly more likely to have perpetrated any form of NCS. However, the only significant predicting factor for the perpetration NCS during the six months preceding the study was alcohol

consumption (OR: 2.2, 95% CI = 1.38 – 3.54) (See Table 5).

Reported victims of NCS

The major victims reported by perpetrators were male friends and female friends; others included fiancé/fiancée and fellow students (See Table 6).

Findings from the in-depth interview

Only one male consented to be interviewed for the perpetration of attempted rape and two males for perpetration of rape. Factors underlying this behaviour mentioned by the perpetrators included peer pressure influence and being under the influence of alcohol.

Table 4: Socio-demographic characteristic by perpetration of at least a form of non-consensual sex

Socio-demographic characteristic	Yes %	No %	χ^2	p-value
Sex				
Male	68 (27.9)	176 (72.1)	7.15	0.007
Female	133 (18.6)	285 (81.4)		
Age (in years)				
16-20	40 (24.4)	124 (75.6)	1.41	0.703
21-25	70 (21.5)	256 (78.5)		
26-30	23 (22.8)	78 (77.2)		
31-35	0 (0.0)	3 (100.0)		
Level of study				
ND 1	53 (26.2)	149 (73.8)	3.64	0.303
ND 2	32 (21.6)	116 (78.4)		
HND 1	24 (17.5)	113 (82.5)		
HND 2	24 (22.4)	83 (77.6)		
Family origin				
Monogamy	82 (21.2)	304 (78.8)	0.84	0.36
Polygamy	51 (24.5)	157 (75.5)		
Ever consumed alcohol				
Yes	70 (34.8)	131 (65.2)	27.04	0.00
No	63 (16.0)	330 (84.0)		
Ever smoked cigarette				
Yes	16 (53.3)	14 (46.7)	17.4	0.00
No	117 (20.7)	447 (79.3)		
Currently having a friend of opposite sex				
Yes	130 (23.3)	429 (76.7)	4.09	0.043
No	3 (8.6)	32 (91.4)		
Currently having a fiancé/fiancée				
Yes	75 (23.3)	247 (76.7)	0.33	0.57
No	58 (21.3)	214 (78.7)		
Ever experienced sexual intercourse				
Yes	90 (27.0)	243 (73.0)	9.38	0.002
No	43 (16.5)	218 (83.5)		

Strategies employed by these perpetrators to ensure they had sex with their victims included use of physical force, forceful kissing, removal of clothing, forceful undressing of the victim, “sweet talks” and romantic moves.

Factors contributing to perpetration of NCS

1. Peer pressure influence: This was mentioned by two of the perpetrators interviewed; Seye and Tobi (not real name). Seye (21 years old) attempted to rape her former girl friend, although they have parted for long, but his friends encouraged him to continue the relationship (though he was no more interested

in her) so that he could possibly have sex with her at least one more time. His narrative is as follows;

It all happened between me and my former girl friend during a holiday at home. I had left her as my girlfriend because she was hiding something from me. When I got back home during that holiday, some of my friends advised me that I should continue to behave as if I love her even though I was not interested in her and that at any time, I can still make love to her. I later took to their advice. I came to her one day in her room and wanted to make love to her, she said she was in love with another person.

Table 5: Predictors of perpetration of Non-consensual sex

Characteristics	Life time			Six months preceding the study	
	OR (95% CI) P	AOR (95% CI)	P	OR (95% CI) P	AOR (95% CI) P
Ever taken alcohol					
No					
Yes	1 2.8 (1.88 – 4.16) 0.00	1 2.2 (1.41 – 3.33)	0.00	1 2.6 (1.66 – 3.98) 0.00	1 2.2(1.38 – 3.54) 0.001
Ever smoked cigarette					
No					
Yes	1 4.4 (2.07 – 9.20) 0.00	1 2.5 (1.13 – 5.56)	0.024	1 2.6 (1.18– 5.74) 0.018	1 1.6 (0.69 – 3.72) 0.00
Had a friend of the opposite					
No					
Yes	1 3.2 (0.97 – 10.7) 0.05	-		1 7.4 (1.00 – 54.8) 0.05	-
Ever experienced sexual intercourse					
No					
Yes	1 1.9 (1.25 – 2.82) 0.002	1 1.4(0.89 – 2.10)	0.16	1 1.5 (0.97 – 2.36) 0.07	-

Table 6: Victims reported by perpetrators

FORMS OF NCS	VICTIMS OF NCS			
	Male friend	Female friend	Fellow students	Fiancé/fiancée
Unwanted touch of breast or back side	7(8.0)	80(92.0)	-	-
Forced viewing of pornography or sexually explicit materials	5(71.4)	1(14.3)	-	-
Unwanted kiss	16 (28.6)	38(67.9)	-	2(3.6)
Insistence on having sex	8(23.5)	22(64.8)	1(2.9)	3(8.8)
Charmed to have sex	2(66.7)	1 (33.3)	-	-
Drugged to have sex	2(66.7)	-	-	1(33.3)
Forced to perform unwanted sexual act(s)	4 (28.6)	9 (64.3)	-	1(7.1)
Gave gift or money in exchange for sex	5 (41.7)	7(58.3.)	-	-
Rape attempt	3(18.8)	13(81.3)	-	-
Rape	4 (40)	6 (60)	-	-

She said over her dead body that such a kind of thing must not happen to her. But what I had intention of doing was what was in my mind. All she was saying was just 'rubbish' to me. I dragged her into the room and removed her cloth but she insisted and was saying some things ... I later came back to my senses that it

is not good to force a girl into sex and immediately decided not to do such a kind of thing.

Tobi (18 years old) who raped his girl friend in his room (school hostel) when he was in his first year in the institution gave similar reason. He said:

“I can say it was peer pressure because all my friends were having girlfriends and I thought I should have one too”

2. **Influence of alcohol:** Stanley (23 years old) raped his friend (female) in her room. Although he said that he watched pornographic video on the victim’s phone, he affirmed that what made him to rape her was because he was drunk with alcohol. Although he said he watched pornography (X-rated videos) on the victim’s phone but affirmed that this was not responsible for his act because he was used to watching such with ladies. During his narrative, Sternly said;

“It was because of the drinks (Alcohol) only because I have been watching blue films even together with ladies before”

Tactics used by the perpetrators of NCS

Tactics used by the perpetrators of NCS to ensure that they had sex with their victims included use of physical force, forceful kissing, forceful undressing of the victim, “sweet talk” and romantic moves. They used these means to overpower their victims and have sex with them and these are evident in Stanley’s, Tobi’s and Seye’s narratives.

Tobi’s narrative:

When I was in ND1 (first year) a girl came to our class one particular day, I develop interest in her. I approach her and she agreed to my proposal. After a couple of months, the girl wanted me to pay her a visit so that I could meet her roommates. However, I was avoiding going to the place because I prefer a female to visit rather for me to pay her a visit. On that particular day, I went to the place and her room mates treated me well. I decided to develop more interest in her. On that same day, she called me when I got back to my room and said she wanted to visit me in my room also. I told her I could not understand because I just left her hostel. But she said she wanted to know my room so that we can be visiting each other.

She later came and I took her into this particular room after having some chat outside. When were now discussing, though my roommate was in the room too, I gave him a sign to leave and the guy left. As I was discussing with the girl, I was moving closer to her. She was withdrawing herself away from me, and I said “why all these... but you said you wanted to come to my place, do you think you can come to my place just like that”. She said is it for a purpose that a female should visit a guy? I said is for a purpose to me if she doesn’t understand. So we started “playing about love (romance) and all those stuffs”. So we transferred from one bed to another. I was trying to give her a kiss, she was drawing herself back. I moved closer and pushed her to the bed and she stood up. She said she was not in the mood, and she said she would leave. I was trying to calm her down ... you know that kind of scope that guys do use. I said she should seat that I just like her presence. She went outside and I later brought her back inside the room again. I forcefully kissed and from there the whole thing started (laugh). She went out immediately after scene and stood in front of my room. I was inside the room for about 15 minutes because I did not want to escort her. She later left because she was not happy. After a while, she separated herself from me and my friends also advised me to leave her too.

Stanley’s narrative

Few months ago, I was drunk with alcohol and went to a friend’s (a lady) house. When I got there, she offered me some alcoholic drinks and I took little. I took her phone trying to check for songs and videos clips. I later discovered that she had some ‘blue films’ (pornography) on the phone which I started watching. I expected her to collect the phone from me but she didn’t. I started developing “some things” in my mind. I moved close to her and we started discussing. I tried to touch some parts of her body, but she said “what are you doing”. I started “toasting” (sweet talk) but she said she’s not interested, that she doesn’t want me to take her

to that level. I said I wanted to sleep with her. I later found out that it was difficult for me to control my emotion. I tried to force her but she was trying to push me away. But I later forced her and slept with her.

A similar report was also given by Seye, he said:

"I dragged her into the room and removed her cloth"

Discussion

Contrary to popular belief in Nigeria, findings from this study showed that both females and males perpetrate NCS. Therefore there is need to correct the perception that males are always the only perpetrators of NCS in the society. The victims were acquaintances which included; friends, fellows students and fiancé. Research has also shown that women are most often sexually victimized by person they know, typically a current or ex-partner^{25, 26}.

Tactics used for perpetrating NCS in this study are similar to those reported by Hogben and Waterman²⁷. These included the use of physical force, removal of clothing, forceful kissing, and forceful undressing of the victim, 'sweet talk' and 'romantic moves'. Our results are consistent with past research that indicates a strong relationship between alcohol drinking and NCS^{22, 28, 29}. Several studies have shown that alcohol consumption and other substance abuse increase the probability of perpetrating or experiencing NCS^{17, 22, 30}. The major predictors of perpetration of NCS in this study included alcohol consumption and cigarette smoking, two commonly used substances by young persons in Nigeria. Alcohol drinkers were about two times more likely than non-drinkers to have perpetrated any form of NCS.

Alcohol drinking (especially the binge-type) may stimulate some males to plan and carry out rape³¹. Also alcohol impairs judgment. Alcohol may be used as a strategy for perpetrating rape³²; perhaps because people believe alcohol has incapacitating, courage building or aphrodisiac qualities³³. Alcohol is widely believed to increase sexual desire and capacity, and also increase aggressive behaviour, especially in men. This may

predispose some men to act aggressively after drinking alcohol³⁴. Many 'date rapists' report deliberately getting a woman drunk in order to have sexual intercourse with her³³. Men often drink to feel less inhibited, more powerful, aroused, and aggressive. It has been found out in different studies that approximately one-half of all sexual assaults are committed by men who have been drinking alcohol. Depending on the sample studied and the measures used, the estimates for alcohol use among perpetrators have ranged from 34 to 74 percent^{14, 34}. Research has also indicated that a substantial proportion of sexual violence perpetrators are drinking at the time of the incident. For example, a UK study of 142 men imprisoned for rape, 58% reported drinking in the six hours prior to the rape. A further 12% had used a combination of alcohol and drugs.³⁵ Also in a survey of 10,000 US State prisoners, findings showed that 57% of those convicted of rape reported drinking at the time they committed the crime³⁶. Since only three males and no female consented to be interviewed for perpetrating NCS, this implies that young people may not feel comfortable sharing their experiences on how they perpetrated NCS and possible fear of prosecution.

Programme implications

The study provides evidence for the need to implement appropriate interventions to prevent perpetrations of NCS among students of The Polytechnic Ibadan. We proposed four interventions. Firstly, policy such as sexual harassment policy needs to be put in place in our institutions. The policy must highlight different forms of NCS commonly perpetrated by the students and the penalty for anybody found guilty of this act. Representatives of all the stakeholders in the institution, including students, teaching and non-teaching staff, and administrators need to be involved in the development and adoption of the policy for effectiveness. Secondly, interventions in form of behavioral change need to be done to reduce alcohol consumption and cigarette smoking. These are likely to have positive effects since these were the major predictors of perpetration of NCS found in this study even in some other previous studies on NCS. Furthermore,

the above interventions can also be incorporated into the General Studies which is a compulsory course for all the first year students in tertiary institutions. Thirdly, public awareness should be made about the negative effects of NCS on their victims; hence this can possibly prevent people from involving in this type behaviour. Lastly, further studies need to be carried out among students in other tertiary institutions especially in other parts of the country in order to document the extent of this problem and to invent appropriate interventions.

Conclusion

Perpetration of non-consensual sex is a common behaviour among students of The Polytechnic, Ibadan. Tactics used by the perpetrators included physical force, forceful kissing, undressing of the victim and exposure to pornographic materials while the major factors underlying the behaviour were alcohol consumption and cigarette smoking. Hence, behavioral change interventions such as reduction of alcohol consumption and cigarette smoking are suggested as measures to prevent perpetration of NCS among these students.

Contribution of Authors

OSO designed the study, developed instruments for data collection, supervised data collection, analysed the data and prepared first draft of the manuscript. AJA conceived the study, analysed data, and prepared the final manuscript. Both authors approved the final manuscript.

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