

Factors Responsible for Gender-Based-Violence among Married Adults in Kwara State, Nigeria

Hammed, Ayuba Olawale¹, Yahaya, Abdullahi Shina², Adegunju, Kabir Adewale¹
& Kamaldeen, Rahmat Tinuke³

¹Department of Counsellor Education, Faculty of Education, University of Ilorin, Ilorin, Nigeria

²Dept. of Liberal Studies, Institute of General Studies, Kwara State Polytechnic, Ilorin, Kwara State.

³Dept of Management and Counselling, Faculty of Education, Al-Hikmah University, Ilorin, Kwara State.

Correspondence to 08153916775 or hammedayuba66@gmail.com

Abstract

Gender based violence is a deliberate attempt to met out violence on an individual or individual as a result of their position of being either male or female. Thus, the study investigated factors responsible for gender based-violence among the married adults in Kwara State, Nigeria. Descriptive survey design was adopted for the study and a total sample of 420 married adults participated in the study using multi-stage sampling procedure. Researchers' designed instrument was used to collect data for the study. Simple percentage was used to present the demographic data while the generated hypotheses were analyzed using ANOVA at 0.05 level of significance. The findings of the study revealed that unemployment rate, inability to meet daily needs and unwanted pregnancy due to low income and inability to secure a stable job as factors responsible for gender based-violence among the married adults. It was recommended that government should provide job opportunity for the growing population of the country and also individual should be creative and find ways of empowering themselves for better wellbeing.

Keywords: Age; Gender based-violence; Married Adults.

Introduction

Gender is a social dynamic concept used to identify and measure differences in the roles of men and women, the differing opportunities and constraints they face with respect to access to power and control over resources and ultimately, their well-being, as gender is dictated by social and cultural norms, gender roles can change over time (United States Agency for International Development (USAID), 2014).

According to Muhammed, Okesina, Ibrahim and Adegunju, (2017) gender-based violence is not limited to physical, sexual and psychological violence, but include threats of violence, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty". Gender-based violence cut across cultures and it affects women and children, women, men and transgender individuals can experience this kind of violence. Thus, gender-based violence involves men and women, in whom the female is usually the target and the violence is directed to women.

John (2010) observed that gender-based violence against women takes many forms including sexual assault, incest, wife jilting, female genital mutilation, dowry related violence, trafficking, sexual violence during wars, femicide, sexual harassment, "honour killings, forced sterilization, date rape, bride kidnapping, pornography and child marriage. She also added that violence against women may also take the forms of psychological abuse, intimidation and harassment and concluded that all these are unacceptable violation of human rights.

There are different factors that are responsible for gender-based violence in the homes, community and places of work as posited by John (2010) and Muhammed, Okesina, Ibrahim and Adegunju, (2017). Some of these factors are deep rooted in the patriarchal culture of the Nigerian society, poverty, peer influence, alcohol use and drug use, urbanization, education, lack

of self control, home environment among others. For instance, some cultural values and beliefs are found to be reinforcing gender-based violence and traditional attitudes towards women around the world help perpetuate the violence (Uwameiye & Iserameiya, 2013). Stereotypical roles in which women are seen as subordinate to men constrain a woman's ability to exercise choices that would enable her end the abuse. Another cultural influence is the image created by the society which portrays strong, educated, creative, and clever while a woman is the opposite of all these traits (Uwameiye & Iserameiya, 2013; Ndungu, 2004).

The victims of domestic violence suffer physically, emotionally and psychologically'. They are unable to make their own decisions, express their own views or protect themselves and their children for fear of further repercussions. They are deprived of their human rights and have to constantly live with the threat of violence (WHO, 2004). Therefore, this study investigated factors responsible for gender based-violence among the married adults in Kwara State, Nigeria.

Statement of the Problem

Gender based violence is a common form of domestic violence globally'; it has a negative consequence on people especially the families involved. Gender based violence refers to any behaviour within an intimate relationship that causes physical, psychological or sexual harm to those in the relationship. Such behaviour includes: Acts of physical aggression such as slapping, hitting, kicking and beating. Psychological abuse such as intimidation, constant belittling and humiliating. Forced intercourse and other forms of sexual coercion, various controlling behaviours such as isolating a person from their family and friends, monitoring their movements and restricting their access to information or assistance.

Beside the determinants of gender based-violence among married adults in Nigeria and Kwara State in particular, its consequence on the health of victims cannot be over emphasized. The well-known challenges are incidences of miscarriage, psychological trauma, hypertension and insecurity, marital conflict, divorce and also death of partners. Gender based-violence among married adults is recognized as violation of human rights and as an abuse that threatens the security of human and their fundamental right to life and liberty as well as freedom from fear and want (Ushie, 2011).

Oyediran and Isugo (2005) conducted a study on women's perception of wife beating in Nigeria and found that 64.4 percent and 50.4 percent of married and unmarried women, respectively, expressed consent for domestic violence. This was reaffirmed by the Nigerian Demographic Health Survey (2008) which revealed a surprisingly high number of domestic abuses of various forms in Nigeria. Igbokwe, Michael and Kelechi (2013) carried out a study on domestic violence against women in Enugu state and found that verbal abuse (80.95%) and the physical forms of violence (beating, battering, slapping) (69.05%) constituted the major forms of domestic abuse. The greatest socio-cultural factors that promote domestic violence include failure to give the husband a male child (83.33%) and silence of the women about incidence of domestic violence (70.95%). It was observed that the greatest forms of domestic violence experienced by women in Nsukka LGA are physical and emotional forms of domestic violence.

Although extensive studies have been carried out on issues relating to domestic violence, most of the cited studies are done outside Kwara state and to the best knowledge of the researcher, there is paucity of studies on factors responsible for gender-based violence among married adults in

Kwara state. The researcher therefore investigated factors responsible for gender based-violence among the married adults in Kwara State, Nigeria. This was the gap the study filled.

Research Question

1. What are the factors responsible for gender-based violence among married adults in Kwara State, Nigeria?

Research Hypotheses

The following null hypotheses were formulated and tested in the study:

1. Age will not significantly responsible for gender-based violence among married adults in Kwara State, Nigeria.
2. Spouses' educational attainment will not significantly be responsible for gender-based violence among married adults in Kwara State, Nigeria.
3. Length of years in marriage will not significantly be responsible for gender-based violence among married adults in Kwara State, Nigeria.

Research Design

The research design that was adopted for this study is the descriptive survey method''.

Population

The population for this study consists of all married adults in Kwara State projected estimation was 965,000 (National Population Commission, 2018)'' . The target population included married adults drawn from the three senatorial zones in Kwara.

Sample and Sampling Procedure

Purposively, the researcher selected 420 married adults from places such as religious groups/ gathering, cooperative society meetings, government offices or institutions and individual homes across the L.G.A. Purposive sampling technique was considered appropriate for the study because it is a form of non-probability sampling technique which is characterized by the use of judgment and deliberate effort to obtain representative samples by including presumable typical areas of groups in the sample. Random sampling was used to select 420 sample from the population purposively selected for the study.

Instrumentation

The instrument adopted for this study was a self-designed questionnaire titled "Factors Responsible for Gender Based Violence Questionnaire (FRGBVQ). The questionnaire is a four-point Likert-type scale i.e., Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D), Strongly Disagree (SD). The questionnaire is divided into two sections (A and B). The first section comprises of the demographic data of the respondents such as gender, age, educational qualification and years in marriage, section B consisted of 20 items on factors responsible for gender-based violence among married adults, which the respondents filled base on their own perception using a four-point Likert- type rating scale format.

The research instrument was submitted to the researcher's supervisor and other four experts in the Department of Counsellor Education for vetting in order to ascertain the content validity of the instrument. Corrections were effected and the instrument was then adjudged valid for use in the study, the researcher administered the instrument to 20 married adults in Ilorin twice at an

interval of four weeks. The two set of administration were then correlated using the Pearson Product Moment Correlation (PPMC) with a coefficient of 0.75.

Method of Data Collection

The researchers administered the instrument by seeking the consent of the participants before the administration of the questionnaire.’’ The researchers collected the filled instrument from the sample on the spot after the participants have responded to the items on the instrument.

Method of Data Analysis

The data analyses of the study were done using both descriptive and inferential statistics. The data were analyzed using means score and ANOVA. All the hypotheses were tested at 0.05 alpha level.

Results

Research Question: *What are the factors for gender-based violence among married adults in Kwara State, Nigeria?*

Table 1: Item by Item Analysis, Mean and Rank Order on the Respondents’ Expression on Factors for Gender-based Violence

Item no.	The following are factors for Gender Based Violence among married adults:	Mean	Rank
11	difference in educational status of couple	3.21	1 st
5	inability to secure a stable job	3.16	2 nd
1	lack of job satisfaction	3.11	3 rd
16	poor communication among married couple	2.70	18 th
6	in laws interference	2.69	19 th
15	illiteracy on the part of both spouse	2.55	20 th

Table 1 presents the mean and rank order of respondents’ expression on the factors responsible for gender-based violence among married adults. It was revealed that factors responsible for gender-based violence were difference in educational status of couple, inability to secure a stable job and lack of job satisfaction among others. This indicated that since all the mean scores of the items were above the mid cut off point of 2.50, thus, this attested to the fact that all the items are factors responsible for gender-based violence among married adults in Kwara state.

Hypothesis One: *Age will not significantly influence factors of gender-based violence among married adults in Kwara state, Nigeria.*

Table 2: Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) showing the Respondents Expression on Factors for Gender-Based Violence among Married Adults Based on Age

Source	SS	df	Mean Square	Cal. F-ratio	Crit. F-ratio	p-value
Between Groups	170.997	3	56.999	0.97	2.60	.408
Within Groups	24487.565	416	58.864			
Total	24658.562	419				

Table 2 indicates that calculated F-ratio of 0.97 is less than the critical F-ratio of 2.60 with a corresponding p-value of .408 which is greater than 0.05 alpha level of significance. Since the

calculated F-ratio is less than the critical F-ratio, the null hypothesis is therefore not rejected; age will not significantly influence factors for gender-based violence among married adults in Kwara state, Nigeria.

Hypothesis Two: *Spouses' educational attainment will not significantly influence the factors of gender-based violence among married adults in Kwara state, Nigeria.*

Table 3: Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) showing the Respondents Expression on Factors for Gender-Based Violence among Married Adults Based on Spouses' Educational Attainment

Source	SS	df	Mean Square	Cal. F-ratio	Crit. F-ratio	p-value
Between Groups	1557.080	5	311.416			
Within Groups	23101.482	414	55.801	5.58*	2.21	.000
Total	24658.562	419				

* Sig. at $p < 0.05$

Table 3 indicates that calculated F-ratio of 5.58 is greater than the critical F-ratio of 2.21 with a corresponding p-value of .000 which is less than 0.05 alpha level of significance. Since the calculated F-ratio is greater than the critical F-ratio, the null hypothesis is therefore rejected; spouses' educational attainment will significantly influence the factors for gender-based violence among married adults in Kwara state, Nigeria.

Table 4: Duncan Multiple Range Test (DMRT) Showing the Differences of the Respondents' Expression on Factors for Gender-Based Violence among Married Adults Based on Spouses' Educational Attainment

Spouses' Educational Attainment	Group	N	Means	Duncan Groupings
None	1	6	51.66	E
Primary sch.	2	41	61.12	A
Sec. Sch.	3	89	56.71	C
NCE/OND	4	141	58.90	B
1 st Dgr./HND	5	111	58.04	B
Master/Ph.D	6	32	53.47	ED

Table 4 shows the DMRT indicating the significant difference noted in the ANOVA on Table 8. Group 1 with a mean score of 51.66 significantly differed from Group 2 with a mean score of 61.12, but significantly differed from Group 3 with a mean score of 56.71, Group 4 with a mean score of 58.90 significantly differed from Group 5 with a mean score of 58.04 and Group 6 with mean score of 53.47. All the groups differed from one another but the significant difference noted was as a result of the mean of Group 2 with the highest mean score, hence the significant difference noted in the ANOVA on Table 3 was brought about by respondents who have primary school only therefore, the hypothesis is rejected.

Hypothesis Three: *Length of years in marriage will not significantly influence the factors of gender-based violence among married adults in Kwara state, Nigeria.*

Table 5: Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) showing the Respondents Expression on Factors for Gender-Based Violence among Married Adults Based on Length of Years in Marriage

Source	SS	df	Mean Square	Cal. F-ratio	Crit. F-ratio	p-value
Between Groups	25.231	2	12.615			
Within Groups	24633.331	417	59.073	0.21	3.00	.808
Total	24658.562	419				

Table 5 indicates that calculated F-ratio of 0.21 is less than the critical F-ratio of 3.00 with a corresponding p-value of .808 which is greater than 0.05 alpha level of significance. Since the calculated F-ratio is less than the critical F-ratio, the null hypothesis is therefore not rejected; length of years in marriage will no significantly influence the factors for gender-based violence among married adults in Kwara State, Nigeria.

Discussion of Findings

The study revealed that the factors responsible for gender-based violence among married adults in Kwara State are lack of job satisfaction, increase in unemployment rate, inability to meet daily needs and unwanted pregnancy due to low income and inability to secure a stable job. The findings were in line with Dodd (2009) who found that victim of gender-based violence do depend on the perpetrator financially especially in the provision of basic needs which make them to be victim of gender-based violence.

The findings further revealed that age was not significant factor responsible for gender-based violence among married adults in Kwara State, Nigeria. This indicated that age would not influence factor for gender-based violence among married adults. The finding was in line with Yusuf (2000) that violence is very real in the society with a great proportion of the victims being the married and the middle-age groups. Thus, show that factors responsible for gender-based violence could be the same for people across various age ranges.

Additionally, the results indicated that spouses' educational attainment was significant factor responsible for gender-based violence among married adults in Kwara State, Nigeria. This means that spouses' educational attainment would influence factor for gender-based violence among married adults. The finding corroborated Tjaden and Thoennes (2000) whose finding revealed that educational and religious backgrounds are part of the factors that make married adults experienced domestic violence in different ways.

The results also revealed that there was no significant variation in factors for gender-based violence among married adults in Kwara State, Nigeria on the basis of length of years in marriage. This means that length of years in marriage would not influence factors for gender-based violence among married adults. The finding did not corroborated Almosaed and Alazab (2015) who found significant differences among wives who are married for less than 5 years and more than 10 years in gender-based violence.

Conclusion

This research examined factors responsible for gender-based violence among married adults in Kwara State, Nigeria. The findings of the study factors responsible for gender-based violence among married adults are lack of job satisfaction, increase in unemployment rate, inability to

meet daily needs and unwanted pregnancy due to low income and inability to secure a stable job. There was no significant age and length of years in marriage differences in factors responsible for gender-based violence among married adults in Kwara state, Nigeria. Significant difference was found on Spouses' educational attainment.

Recommendations

Individual married adults should be creative and find ways of empowering themselves for better wellbeing. 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 implications of gender-based violence on the growth and development of children in the family.

Married adults should be empowered economically to reduce gender-based violence. Counsellors should make it a duty to ensure that married adults are properly educated on the challenges of marriage and the consequences of violence on the family.

Government should provide job opportunity for the growing population of the country and also find ways of improving the economy of the nation.

References

- Almosaed, N. & Alazab, S. A. (2015). Why stay? Saudi women's adaptations to violence. *International Journal of Humanities and Social Science*, 10 (1)146-162.
- Daramola, S. O. (2006). *Research and statistical methods in education for students and researchers in tertiary institution*. Bamilex Publishing.
- Dodd, L.W. (2009). Therapeutic group work with young children and mother who have experienced domestic abuse. *Education Psychology in Practice*. 25(1): 21-36.
- Hester, M. (2000). Child protection and domestic violence'. in Hanmer, J. & Itzin, C. *Home truths about domestic violence: feminist influences on policy and practice, a reader*. London: Routledge
- Igbokwe, C. C., Michael, C. U. & Kelechi, J. O. (2013). Domestic violence against women: Challenges to health and innovation. *Journal of Research in National Development*, 11(2) 27-35.
- John, S. (2010). Perceptions of domestic violence in India. *International Journal of Interpersonal violence*, 2(60) 1552-6518.
- Muhammed, S.A., Okesina, F.A., Ibrahim, B.B. & Adegunju K.A. (2017). Domestic violence: the role of counsellors in handling victims and perpetrators. *Counselling issues on women's health, education /empowerment and sustainable development in Nigeria*. CASSON; Mike-B Press and Publication & Co.
- Ndungu, N. (2004). *Gender based violence within Africa region*. An overview of United Nation Wilaf News.
- Olayiwola, O. A. (2007). *Procedures in educational research*. Success Education Services.
- Oyediran, K. A. & Isiugo, A. U. (2005). Perceptions of Nigeria women on domestic violence: Evidence from 2003 Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey. *Africa Journal of Reproductive Health*. 9, 2:35-53.
- Tjaden, P. & Thoennes, N. (2000). *Full report of the prevalence, incidence, and consequences of violence against women*. National Institute of Justice, United States Department of Justice.
- USAID (2014). *Global overview of Gender-Based Violence: A public Health problem*. http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/capacitybuilding/en.
- Uwameiye, B. E. & Iserameiye F. E. (2013). Gender based violence against Women and Its Implication on the Girl Child Education in Nigeria. *International Journal of Academic Research in Progressive Education and Development*, 2(1), 13-19.
- World Health Organization (2004). *Preventing violence: a guide to implementing the recommendations of the world report on violence and health*. USAID.