

**PERCEIVED FACTORS INFLUENCING THE PRACTICE OF
PROSTITUTION AMONG FEMALE UNDERGRADUATES OF
TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS IN OWERRI MUNICIPAL, IMO STATE**

BY

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TECHNOLOGY**


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CERTIFICATION


This is to certify that this work ‘ Perceived Factors Influencing the Practice of Prostitution among Female Undergraduates of Tertiary Institutions in Owerri Municipal, Imo State’ was carried out by Ori Ebere Chibuzo (Reg. No:20154942978) in partial fulfillment for the award of Master’s Degree in Public Health, (Health Promotion Option), in the Department of Public Health, Federal University of Technology Owerri.


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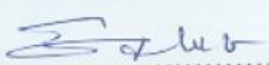
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DEDICATION

This study is dedicated to God Almighty for His infinite mercy and amazing grace and to our mother Mary, the mother of Jesus Christ for her unfailing intercession. It is also dedicated to all the Nigerian female undergraduates that are living a Christian worthy lives expected of them despite the hardship in the country.

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ABSTRACT

The Practice of prostitution is on increase in most of Nigerian Universities among female students. Such sexual practices among female students usually result to unwanted pregnancies, STI (HIV/AIDS) and substance abuse. The study aimed to determining the perceived factors influencing the practice of prostitution among female undergraduates of tertiary institutions in Owerri Municipal, Imo state. The descriptive survey design was employed and random sampling procedure was used to select 400 female undergraduates from two tertiary institutions in Owerri Municipal. A well structured and validated questionnaire was used for data collection. The completed and collected questionnaire was analyzed using Statical Package for Social Science (SPSS) version 20.0. The results were presented in frequency tables and percentages in line with the research objectives. A chi-square (χ^2) statistics was used to test the hypothesis at 5% (0.05) level of significance. The findings of study showed that poverty recorded 318(79.5%) of influencing factors, peer pressure recorded 310(77.6%), uncontrolled liberty and freedom from school recorded 272(68%) while to obtain academic favours from male lecturers recoded 228 (68.5%) with strong influence in the practice of prostitution. For the level of practicing prostitution, 60% of the female students reported high prostitution practice while 30% said they where moderate. Out of 400 respondents, 382(92.5%) of them knew that prostitution results to unwanted pregnancies and abortion, 367 (91.8%) know that it causes STI's such as HIV/AIDS. In conclusion, the base line information from the study showed a significant relationship between perceived risk factors such as poverty, peer pressure, dereliction of parental role and uncontrolled liberty and freedom in school and to obtain academic favour and practices of prostitution among female undergraduates. The level of practices of prostitution among female students was high and most of them have good perception of health implications of prostitutions. Therefore, the female undergraduate, should be counseled on the effect of poverty and bad friends which leads to female prostitution and subsequent poor academic performance.

Keywords: Factors, poverty, peer pressure, perception, prostitution.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.3 Background to the Study

Prostitution has become rampant in the society today among growing teens and youths. These young people see selling of their bodies as the fastest way of getting income for their keeps. In the past, those engaged in prostitution use to be women, today men have joined the trade of selling their bodies for different reasons including drugs, securing jobs or contracts, and good grades in exams. This is because sex consumers include politicians, bosses in offices, lecturers who find pleasure in exploiting the lower classes by offering mouthwatering opportunities in exchange for sex (Alufohai, 2007).

Prostitution is widely described as the oldest profession. The practice of selling sex for cash or other immediate compensation has existed across cultures and times from ancient Greeks. Prostitution also crosses class lines, from the poor street walker, with their stereotyped drug habits and abusive pimps to the high class brothel and escort service worker with designers' cloths and styles apartments (Alobo and Ndifon, 2014).

Misi (2008), opined that prostitution is the use of one's body for the purpose of remuneration or consideration of any form. It could also be addressed as sexual promiscuity. Prostitution is a universal phenomenon that is as old as society and can be traced even in the Bible (Joshua, 2:11; Hosea, 1:2 and Proverbs, 7:10). A common misconception of prostitution is that a significant majority of prostitutes are women. Women prostitution is easily talked about, than male prostitution since ancient times.

Alobo and Ndifon, (2014), opined that prostitution is criminalized in the oriental world, the situation is compounded by its official recognition as a worthy profession in some Asian Countries like China and Japan where parents sell their daughters into what is a recognized profession.

However, Poroma (2015), observed that some countries theoretically abhor and frown at prostitution. The reasons for their castigation of prostitution are not far-fetched.

- Prostitution as a sexual arrangement is debasing to womanhood.
- Commercial sex contribute immensely to the depletion of human resources which is a key factor in national development as infection rate of HIV and other deadly sexually transmitted diseases among

prostitutes is high up to 18- 52% and more recently 'Ebola' disease infection.

- That prostitution accentuates the divorce rate in the society: this is destructive as it negatively impact on the institution of the family, the major unit of production and socialization in the society.

These and a host of other factors propelled the second assembly of the United Nations Organization (UNO) to sign a treaty by thirty two (32) member states in 1991 abolishing slave trafficking and the business of prostitution (Proma et al., 2015). Notwithstanding the criminalization of prostitution in Nigeria as aptly reflected in the Criminal Procedure Act (1963) and consequent efforts by law enforcement agencies at curbing the trade, prostitution still flourish and has assumed the Italian - like multi-billion syndicate business with intricate local and international network.

All over Nigeria, countless girls exist soliciting for men, some patrolling streets and private offices almost nude while others are noted for positioning themselves at strategic points in school campuses, night clubs and hotel. The caption of many Nigerian newspapers which reads, "this call girl affairs", "these sex hungry women", "prostitutes fight customers", "lecturers in sex scandal with campus girls", "human trafficking for prostitution" and " city

centers of Nigeria in siege by prostitutes are manifestation of the magnitude and concern for the problem (Poroma et al., 2015).

The practice of prostitution is at an alarming rate in Nigeria, it is seen as a deviant sub-culture in Nigeria and it is practiced by prostitutes in private homes, in brothels, and in hotels as an adaption to poverty, unemployment and as a feasibility way for them to make money to meet family expectation and solve other problems.

1.4 Statement of problem

Prostitution is evil wind that blows no good to the human society. It is a form of violence against women and a violation of human rights. Globally, there are about 40 millions prostitutes at work as this given moment and 80% of the world population of prostitutes is female and age range is 13-35 years, 1 in 10 men in the world have purchased a prostitute, men between 35-44 years are the most common demographic customer. The murder rate for an American prostitute is 204 for every 100,000 (Eric, 2012).

Instances have shown that female prostitutes are more likely to get murdered because they move out with unknown clients who might be ritual killers and kidnapers. Furthermore, for the fact that the prostitute has collected money for sex, she has conferred on the man the authority and power to decide the

kind of sex he will have. She could be expected to endure brutality, rape and other crime against her behind closed door (Alobo and Ndifon, 2014).

Prostitutes have an increase incidence of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) such as gonorrhea, syphilis, Candida, herpes virginalis etc. A study in Minneapolis, Minnesota revealed that 15% of prostitutes who had prostituted for at least six months have STD (Okafor and Duru, 2010).

Prostitutes are at greater risk of cervical cancer caused by human papiloma virus contracted through sex. They are prone to have unwanted pregnancies which make them to indulge in unsafe abortion that result to pelvic inflammatory diseases (PID). PID causes secondary infertility which leads to broken families and its consequences. Some prostitutes suffer trauma and pelvic pains which subject them to drug, alcohol and smoking addition to ease off pains and these habits could cause cancer which put their lives to more jeopardy and increase mortality rate of the country (Alobo and Ndifon, 2014).

The local and international concern over the problem of prostitution calls for urgent and practical measure. Therefore, it is based on this ugly situation and its negative consequences that are fast spreading in the society that prompted this study which seeks to determine the perceived factors influencing

practice of prostitution among female undergraduates of tertiary institutions in Owerri municipal, Imo State Nigeria.

1.3 Objective of the Study

1.3.1 General Objectives

The main aim of the study is to determine the perceived factors influencing practice of prostitution among female undergraduate of tertiary institutions in Owerri municipal, Imo State, Nigeria.

1.3.2 Specific Objectives.

The specific objectives are:

1. To determine the socio demographic characteristics of female undergraduates of tertiary institution in Owerri Municipal, Imo State
2. To elicit perceived predis posing factors of prostitution among female undergraduates of tertiary institution in Owerri Municipal, Imo State.
3. To ascertain perceived practices that leads to prostitution among female undergraduates of tertiary institution in Owerri Municipal, Imo State.
4. To determine the perception of health implication of practice of prostitution among female student of tertiary institution in Owerri Municipal, Imo State.

1.4 Research Questions

Three research questions that guided this study are:

1. What are the socio-demographic characteristics of female undergraduates of tertiary institutions in Owerri Municipal, Imo State
2. What are the perceived predisposing factors of prostitution among female undergraduates in tertiary institution in Owerri Municipal, Imo State.
3. What are the perceived practices that leads to prostitution among female undergraduates of tertiary institutions in Owerri Municipal, Imo State.
4. To determine the perception of health implications of practice of prostitution among female undergraduates of tertiary institution in Owerri Municipal, Imo State.

1.5 Research Hypothesis

- 1 There is no significant association between poverty and practice of prostitution among female undergraduates.
2. There is no significant relationship between peer group influence and practice of prostitution among female undergraduates.
3. There is no significant relationship between age and practice of prostitution among female undergraduates.

1.6 Significance of Study

The study has its focus on prostitution among female undergraduate and it will help to improve adolescent health care services.

The findings of the study will be relevant in educating female undergraduate on health implications of their social behavior

The outcome of this research would serve as a published evidence of the current perceived factors influencing practice of prostitution among female undergraduates in Owerri Municipal, Imo State, which is needed for epidemiological and comparative purposes.

It can be of significant importance to government and school authorities in making more realistic laws and policies to curb the menace of prostitution and to improve adolescent health. Also, information from this study will help parents to look more inwards and be active to their responsibilities in the training of their female children.

1.7 Scope of Study

The study was limited to female undergraduate students of tertiary institution in Owerri Municipal. It focuses on the perceived factors influencing / affecting prostitution, practices that leads to prostitution, level of practice of prostitution and their health perception on prostitution

practice. The data was collected with a well structure questionnaire based on the above factors.

1.8 Definition of terms.

Abortion	– It involves force termination of pregnancy by drugs or any other means.
Addiction	– The taking of drugs or alcohol leading to physiological and psychological dependence to increase use.
Adolescent	– A period between puberty and maturity. In male 14-25 years, in female, 12-21 years.
Epidemiology	– The study of the distribution of diseases in populations.
Infection	– Invasion and multiplication of micro organism in the body tissue
Mortality	– A state of being liable to die
Public Health	– The field of medicine that is concerned with safeguarding and improving the health of the community as a whole.
Poverty	– Existence of sufficient material, economic and sources to sustain an existence compatible with wellbeing.
Prevention	– Serving to avert the occurrence of; or prophylactic.
Promiscuity	– The use of one’s body for the purpose of remuneration or consideration of any form.
Prostitution	– it is the act of engaging in sexual activity, usually with individuals others than a spouse or friend in exchange for immediate payment in money or other valuables.
Veneral disease	– Refers to those diseases got from sexual intercourse.

CHAPTER TWO

2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Conceptual Framework

2.1.1 Concept of Prostitution / Commercial Sex Work

Every society sets out some norms which are expected of the citizens to faithfully follow for the welfare of the people and any conduct that violates these norms is referred as deviancy. These norms, values and conducts varies from society to society for example, gay marriage is liberalize in most western countries but is criminalize in most African countries. The practice of prostitution has gained prominence in various nations across the globe even though some nations especially in the Arab countries condemn the act in totality but in sub-sahara Africa, the prevalence ranges between 0.7% and 4.3% (Gungul et al., 2014).

The world prostitution is the act of practice of providing sexual services to another person in return for payment. The person who receives payment for sexual services is called a prostitute and the person who receives such services is known by a several names such as “John”. Prostitution is one of the branches of sex industry.

Prostitution is defined from Latin word as: Pro (up front) and situere (offer for sale). A literal translation therefore would be to put up front for sale or to place forward. The online Etymology Dictionary states, “The notion of sex for hire is not inherent in the etymology, which rather suggests one exposed to lust or sex indiscriminately offered. The word prostitute was then carried down through various languages to the present day western society. Most sex worker activists groups reject the word prostitute and since the late 1970s have used the term sex worker instead. However, a sex worker can also mean anyone who works within the sex industry or whose work is of sex nature and is not limited solely to prostitute.

Prostitution is an act of engaging in sexual activity usually with individual other than spouse or friend in exchange for immediate payment in money or other valuables. Prostitute may be of either sex and may engage in heterosexual or homosexual activity, but historically most prostitution has been by female with males as clients (Alobo and Ndifon, 2014).

Sociologist agreed on three points in defining prostitution, namely:

1. It is sexual in nature and reward for performing the sexual act is either money or other material goods exchange at or near the time of the act.

2. The relationship between the provider and recipient of sexual services involved neither love nor affection.
3. Because there is an exchange of services for material reward, prostitution is either full or part time vocation. Furthermore, prostitutes are not necessarily females or adult; male and female prostitutes of various ages provide sexual services for both the opposite and the same sex.

Gungul et al. (2014), opined that prostitution occurs in variety of ways such as full time prostitution, some engage in legitimate business in the day time and go into prostitution at night while some indulge in it as an auxiliary service. It is the act offering oneself for hire to engage in sexual action for money. Of course, this definition justifies the activity such that it is voluntary and it is only for a financial reward. More so, the moment it is not willingly, then it becomes rape while if is not hire (on temporary basis) then the duration of the contractual agreement becomes questionable since the industry is constantly targeted at obtaining financial reward. Those involved in the sex industry have been given different names such as hookers call-girls, harlots, sluts, and courtesans however; they are mostly preferred to be addressed as commercial sex workers. This business is facilitated by enticing

their potential customers through pornography as pornography is the theory while sex is the practice.

Prostitution is the provision of sexual favors for financial reward (Scott and Marshall, 2012). They went on to say that prostitution may be heterosexual or homosexual activity, but historically most prostitution has been by females with males as clients. Also Strong, Devault et al (2015), defined prostitution as the exchange of sexual behaviors such as intercourse, fellatio (the sexual stimulation of a man's genitals using the tongue and lips), anal intercourse, discipline and bondage, and obscene insults, for money and/or goods. They are of the view that both men and women, including transvestites and transsexuals, work as prostitutes. According to them the most common form of prostitution is women selling sex to men. The second most common is male prostitutes making themselves available to men. Less common is male selling sex to females. Prostitution between two women is rare. Encarta Dictionary (2017), defined prostitution as the performance of sexual acts solely for the purpose of material gain. Persons prostitute themselves when they grant sexual favors to others in exchange for money, gifts or other payment and in so doing use their bodies as commodities. UNAIDS (2014), defines a sex worker as female, a male and transgender

adults and young people who receive money or goods in exchange for sexual services either regularly or occasionally, and who may or may not consciously define those activities as income generating. For them therefore prostitution is sex outside of marriage involving transaction of money or other form of material wealth. Prostitution might be provisionally defined as attending to the sexual desires of a particular individual (or individuals) with bodily acts in exchange for payment of money. Such a definition according to him immediately raises several questions. First, are the actors just anyone? Many feminists have been inclined to say no emphatically, insisting on prostitution as paradigmatically women (presumed straight) selling to straight men UNAIDS (2009).

This approach renders invisibly the fact that a significant number of prostitutes are lesbians or bisexual, that there is a significant amount of prostitution involving sex between gay or bisexual men, and that there is a large undocumented history of commercial sex between women; yet it is nonetheless true that the vast majority of prostitutes are women with male clients and that this type of prostitution has gained the most attention in Euro-American societies. There appears to be very little prostitution in which men sell to women. This last fact is usually attributed to gendered

structures of desires. Although some have claimed that it is caused as much by women's historical lack of disposable income and personal freedom.

According to Ojo (2010), prostitution is the act of performing or offering or agreeing to perform a sex act for hire; engaging in or agreeing or offering to engage in sexual conduct with other persons under a fee arrangement with that person or any other person. It includes also any lewd act between persons for money or other considerations. For Otite and Ogionwo (2010), prostitution refers to as the granting of sexual intercourse to men in return for money. The amount involved maybe prefixed or prearranged or transacted after the act. They believe that men are hardly labelled as prostitutes even when they deal sexually with many women. Prostitution, most times, is used restrictively to mean the act of offering oneself for sexual intercourse for money. Strong, DeVault et al. (2010), opined that estimates of the number of persons who currently work or have ever worked as prostitutes are difficult to obtain for many reasons; including the various definitions of prostitution. While prostitutes may be selective about the kinds of sexual activities that they will perform for money, it is always clear that some kind of sexual act is available from them. In like manner, prostitutes may be relatively selective about the clients, choosing not to take those who

are dirty or deformed, those who request sexual activities that think aberrant, or those who violate certain of the norms of conduct between prostitute and customer. However, within the limits set by these idiosyncrasies, the entrée to a prostitute is the capacity to pay for the relationship.

Marshal and Robert (2015) defined prostitution as the performance of sexual acts with another person in return for payment of fee. Persons who make a living or supplement their income from prostitution usually are willing to engage in sexual activity with most persons who can pay them. Prostitutes sometimes have also been known to impose hygienic, age, health, or racial and ethnic criteria on their acceptance of customers. Prostitution involves payment for a specific act. For example, a call girl responds to a telephone solicitation to engage in a sexual act with a client in his hotel room, and is paid for doing so. But some related kinds of behavior are not as readily classifiable as prostitution. For instance, a person performing sexual acts in exchange for gifts or in the hope of future favors generally is not classified by definition as a prostitute. Similarly, a woman who engages in sexual intercourse in front of a photographer for a mass circulation magazine is apt to regard herself as a model, not as a prostitute. According to Humphrey and Palmer (2013), forms of traditional prostitution differ greatly. At the bottom

of the hierarchy of prostitutes are streetwalkers, who solicit business from persons passing by. B girls or bar girls, who entertain male customers in a bar or night club and encourage them to spend money, are generally also available for sexual relations for a price. Call girls usually operate out of their own homes, often with a roster of regular customers. Many prostitutes, especially street walkers, are in partnership with pimps, who take much of what they can earn. In return, the pimp (somebody, usually a man, who finds customers for a prostitute in return for a portion of the prostitute's earnings) is a permanent figure the prostitute can love.

The pimp often supplies customers and provides bail if the prostitute is arrested. Within categories, prostitutes further distinguish among themselves. Street walkers, who are called hos; identify types such as the turn-out, who is a newcomer; the outlaw, a prostitute who works without a pimp; the rip-off artist, who steals from customers; and the flaky ho, a prostitute not totally committed to the fast life and one whose personal relationships are marked by instability and unreliability. At the top of the scale is the thoroughbred, or lady, the prostitute who has style and a respect for herself. Prostitutes are also known as hustlers and hookers, while their customers are referred to as johns, Palmer further stressed.

Oyeoku et al (2012), believes that prostitution is both a practice in which gender and sexuality play important structuring roles and one that cannot simply be reduced to gender or sexuality. Therefore, prostitution is not really about sex or money at all but rather it is about power and sexual subordination. Of course, there is no reason to assume that sex and money do not already have everything to do with power and sexual subordination. Oyeoku et al (2012), opined that the definition of prostitution is as contested as its legal and moral status. The discussion of prostitution is oriented towards its practices, and the debates over that practice began in the late twentieth century in the United States of America.

Oyeoku et al., (2012), is of the view that even though it is quite common to talk glibly of prostitution as the world's oldest profession, existing universally across time and place, but such talk obscures the differences in social and cultural context. Differences in economic organization, normative sexual practices, and relationship between economic practices and identity are the factors that shape the significance and structure of prostitution within any particular historical space. The term prostitution is not radically isolated from other practices commonly termed prostitution; rather, it is the product of historical development that, as with any other socio-cultural object,

results in shifting regions of continuity and discontinuity with past practices and discourses. Scott and Marshall (2009), stated that the provision of sexual favors for financial reward has probably been institutionalized in every society that has had a coinage. Continuing, the author noted that prostitution as a trade has nearly always involved both women to men, though male prostitution, especially to male clients, is not uncommon. Prostitution tendency is proneness or readiness to engage in or practice prostitution.

2.1.2 Origin of Prostitution

Prostitution is often described as "the world oldest profession". Prostitution at least in the modern sense cannot have emerged before the emergence of money which can only have taken place after the emergence of several trades; however, prostitution has been noted in Bonobo chimpanzee behavior based around access to food and gift and in penguin in regards to access for suitable stones for nest building. Until the age of industrialization the world was basically agrarian, so goods and services were most often obtained by barter. Any item normally exchange for other goods was likely acceptable for a prostitutes sexual services.

One of the first forms of prostitution is sacred prostitution supposedly practiced among Samaritans. In ancient sources there were many traces of

sacred prostitutions, starting perhaps with Babylon where each woman had to reach once in their lives the sanctuary of "Militia" and there have sex with a foreigner as a sign of hospitality for a symbolic price. It was common in Israel too, but some prophets like Hosea and Ezekiel strongly fought it. It was assumed that it was part of the cults of carman were a significant portion of prostitutes were male.

In the Bible there is a story in which a woman name Tamar poses as a false prostitute to seemingly commit incest with her father in-law Judah. In actuality, she was performing a levirate marriage; but Judah, taking her for a harlot promised to give her a kid from the flocks in other to sleep with her. In Jericho, a prostitute's name Rehab assisted Israelites spies and she eventually married a member of the Jewish people.

In ancient Rome while there were some commonalities with the Greek system, as the Empire grew prostitutes were often foreign slaves caught, bought, or raised for that purpose, sometime by large-scale prostitutes farmers. Enslavement into prostitution was sometimes used as a legal punishment against criminal free women.

However, in most villages in Cross River State, Nigeria, prostitution originated when girls leave the village to cities in search for greener

pastures. While there, these girls pass through difficulties in securing a job, so on the alternative there will resort to prostitution for money which there send to their poor parents in the village. During festive periods like Christmas, there will travel down to the village with beautiful gifts items, clothing's, shoes and food items for members of their families. As a result, other village girls will be attracted and would desire to travel to the cities with them with little or no idea of what these girls do to get money. Parents also encourage their daughters to go to cities to work and bring money for the family upkeep. Some of these girls return with HIV/AIDS, some come back confessing what they do in city and some others 'came back very sick and at the point of death. Those who came back with HIV not knowing their status spread the diseases and other sexually transmitted diseases to men who had sexual intercourse with them. This became a social problem that affected significant number of people in villages.

2.1.3 Forms of Prostitution

There are basically two categories of prostitution and which are: female and male prostitution.

Female prostitution pertains to prostitutes who work as streetwalkers, in brothels, in massage parlors, and as call girls. On the other hand, male

prostitution is shaped by three sub-cultures that include the peer delinquent subculture, the gay subculture, and the transvestite subculture. Some academics believe that the great majority of prostitutes in the United States live indoor and, for the most part, unnoticed lives (Queen, 2000).

2.1.4 Types of prostitution

There are different types and ways in which people engage in prostitution.

These are;

Street Prostitution: In this type of prostitution, the prostitute solicits customers while waiting at street corners or walking alongside a street, usually dressed in skimpy, suggestive clothing. Often the prostitute (commonly called a hooker”, “street hooker or “street walker” to distinguish them from other sex workers) appears to mind his/her own business and wait for the customers to initiate contact. Street prostitution differs significantly from “indoor prostitution”, which refers to call girls, escort agencies, and worker in bars, brothels and massage parlous. Generally the indoor prostitution is safer for the workers as she has little or no negative impact on the surrounding community, it is highly paid than street prostitution and the worker are more satisfied with their work than street prostitutes (Weitzer, 2000; 2005).

Escort/ out-call Prostitution: Escort agencies maintain a data base of employees of different types in order to cater for a wider client base. Some agencies may specifically deal in a certain type of prostitution. There are; male-for-male, female –for male, and female-for female escort agencies, as well as few male –for-female agencies, Agencies commonly specialize in only one sex. Transsexual prostitutes are available from some escort agencies.

Sex tourism: Some sex tourism organize themselves around a number of websites where they boast about their conquests, share photo of their sex partners, discuss tip on finding prostitution at the best possible rate in foreign countries and how to avoid detection both at home and abroad.

Window or doorway prostitution: This has to do with a brothel with sex worker on public display. Window prostitution is preferred in cold climates while doorway prostitution is preferred in warmer places.

Massage parlor: This is a premises ostensibly dedicated to providing massage, but a range of sexual services may be provided.

Door knock or hotel prostitution: Here clients are approached in their hotel rooms or boarding houses.

Survival sex prostitution: This is a matter of degree where starvation or other serious deprivation is imminent, particularly for dependent, food; security may be the currency rather than money.

Bondage and discipline prostitution: Here sexual fantasy through role play involves the inflicting of pain, but genital contact is not routine.

Beer girl's prostitution: Here young women are hired by major companies to promote and sell products in bars and clubs. Sexual services are sold to supplement income.

Transport prostitution: Here the sex worker man board vehicles to service the crew or passenger or pick up client at the station and terminals.

2.1.5 Causes and Predisposing Factors of Prostitution

Poverty: This is one of the major reasons that cause prostitution business. Poverty is the system that communizes and dehumanizes the bodies and person of women and children of both sexes for the use and profit of men. Prostitution in Nigeria is a serious social problem and its solution has been rendered difficult by the problem of poverty.

Trafficking: The trafficking of Nigerian girls and women into Italy for prostitution started around the second half of the 1980s following the increasing economic difficulties caused by the structural adjustment

programmes imposed by the then Nigerian Government on the order of the International Monetary Fund. They started leaving the country on promises of fantastic well-paying jobs in Europe, in factories, offices and farms. They arrived in Italy only to find themselves sold into sexual slavery and force to prostitute themselves to pay the so called debts which they are told they incurred in being helped to come to Europe.

Parent overlook on their children: Some parents have formed the habit of sending their children away for unnecessary reasons due to one thing the other which is very bad and can lead the child into any business like prostitution. Most parent do not give the children the proper guidance and counselling, they over pamper them, they allow them mingle with the wrong peers and this could lead to deviant ant criminal behaviour as well as prostitution.

Laziness from youth: Laziness is a disease that affects our youth today and can lead to prostitution that is seen as an easy business that generates fast money. Some youths need manner from heaven, in fact, they do not want to suffer to make a living and this is affecting the society, they see prostitution as a free business one can do without employment and stress.

Unemployment: If there is no employment, women particularly may resort to prostitution as a means of occupation in order to earn a living. And also most girls whose parents are unemployed go into prostitution to train them in the higher institution while some girls do so because of greed for money.

Otengwo (2002), observed that many ladies turn themselves to prostitution just for the sake of purchasing power and they have unaccountable ways of seducing those they perceived as rich people, meaning that most of the ladies today do not believe in the philosophy of hard-work but rather prefer selling themselves instead of working to get what they want.

Lautt (1984), identified three causes of prostitution: these are;

- a) **Exploitation:** This is associated with teenage runaways who are approached by exploitative pimps at bus stations etc., offered food, and then later convinced or coerced into paid sex.
- b) **Recruitment by a big-sister figure:** This involves sexually active youth who hang together, party together and offered each other support for adventure and excitement. After receiving occasional payment for partying, sex for fun gradually becomes sex for profit. Those in the group already accepting money for sex convince newcomers to redefine the meaning of their sexual activity.

c) **The independent pragmatic decision:** This involves more mature individuals, 18-24, who make a pragmatic decision to enter the profession based on economic necessity; given a poor job market and limited skills, they can simply make more money that way. In addition to these points, some people also take up prostitution because they are emotionally attached to someone-a "friend" or "lover" that encourages them to take up the trade.

Peer group influence:

One of the numerous reasons why teenagers and adults are involved in commercial sex work is influence from peers. Proceedings of the first International Workshop on Child Abuse in Africa, held at Enugu, Nigeria (1986), observed that girls are influenced by their peers to start moving around in bars and meeting men so that they should earn their living in town. During the first days of the newcomers, friends provide all necessary things like food, accommodation and clothing. Friends may also tell her to get medicine from a healer to attract customers and also on use contraceptives. Further, the excitement of an illegal endeavor, the night life, and the freedom from supervision attract some women and men to prostitution.

Experience of Psychological trauma:

Psychologists and social scientists believe that many people in developed countries become prostitutes because they have been emotionally, physically or sexually abused as children or as adults. John Ashcroft in Encyclopedia (2010), agrees with the above assertion when it reported a story of how a young prostitute claimed it was early sexual intercourse with the father that turned her into a prostitute. Oyeoku et al., (2012), opined that the conventional image of the first experience of prostitution has commonly been one of innocence betrayed or, to judge from the biographies of many former prostitutes, a severely traumatic experience. However, for the bulk of girls who enter prostitution from a background of premarital promiscuity, the transition is untraumatic, and for some, may even be an entry in a far more leisurely and less pressured way of life. Women in prostitution were often assumed to have an underlying personality disorder.

De-Schampheleire (2010), concluded that 61 prostituted women had emotional difficulties that resulted first in addictions, and later in prostitution, which was itself described as a diversion from other psychological problems. Significant unconventional sexual behaviors such as rape, sexual harassment, and pedophilia occur throughout Nigeria (Esiet

et al, 2001). Men are often the perpetrators of such acts. Most of these men go unchallenged, unreported, and unpunished owing to several constraints. All these can make a girl to become traumatic. Scholars have reported that childhood sexual abuse can be seen as a factor preceding entry into prostitution.

Low self esteem

According to Saha (2008), the young adolescent girls at Baina Beach typically have very low self-esteem. They have negative self-image caused by various factors such as lack of education, dysfunctional family relationships, abusive family members, very poor social and economic situation of the family and her staying in a stigmatized locality, namely the red-light area. The resultant low self-esteem is a principal contributory factor to their belief that they are not talented, cannot learn jobs that require skill, and that they are of no use to the family in times of need. The one thing that they have observed from their childhood that they believed requires no skill, qualification or learning is the act of prostitution. Further, in cases where the parents push a child who is unwilling, the lack of will and poor self-image causes the adolescent girl to succumb to the exploitation.

Lack of knowledge/awareness of the consequences

Lack of knowledge/awareness of the consequences of being a prostitute is also a reason why some girls took to the trade. For instance, in the eyes of young adolescent girl, the prostituted woman is one who does not have to labour hard and yet earns ten-fold of the earnings that her entire family can earn. Besides, she enjoys the advantages of being able to interact openly with the opposite sex, drink, smoke and put on makeup. Thus, the image of the prostituted woman, in terms of the occupation that she is involved in, is not entirely negative in the eyes of some adolescent girls (Philippa, 2013).

Ultimately the adolescent girl sees the prostituted woman as the one who gets richer food, affords better comforts, is socially satisfied, able to support her family comfortably and is an economically independent woman. This perception is not balanced by the true situation of the prostituted woman. The extreme exploitation existing in the life of the prostituted women is not evident to the young adolescent girl as she observes it from the exterior. This creates a false picture in the mind of the adolescent. For her the only factor that restrains her is the social stigma that is accorded to the prostituted women.

Lack of Sexuality Education

Another reason for commercial sex work is lack of knowledge about sexuality particularly among adolescents. The young adolescents are at the stage of development when their curiosity regarding their own body, the opposite sex, the nature of sexual relationships is high. Sexuality education according to Ofordile (2008), is a process of acquiring information and forming attitudes and beliefs about sex, sexual identity, relationships and intimacy. It is universally accepted that young people have a right to sex education partly because it is a means by which they are helped to protect themselves against abuse, exploitation, unintended pregnancies, sexually transmitted diseases and HIV/AIDS (United Nations, 2012).

However, young people may lack knowledge about sexuality due to either absence of proper role models, lack of parental guidance, absence of persons they can trust or confide in, or cultural inhibition to discuss sexual needs and behaviour. Nigerian cultures frown at the open discussion of sexual matters and desires. A great deal of the pressure to remain quiet about sex matters in Nigerian cultures is rooted in socio-cultural values, customs, expectations, beliefs, and ideas about what constitutes good and bad behaviour (Izugbara, 2014).

Words commonly used to depict sexual desires, parts of the body, sex, masturbation, and menstruation in many Nigerian cultures are often ambiguous and indirect, reflecting the cultural quietude expected on sexual matters. These conditions create situations of high risk when the young girl is involved in situations of interaction in the prostitution market or interaction with the opposite sex of her age. Any negative incidences have a direct impact on her route into prostitution market, remarked (Izugbara 2014).

Socialization Process

Izugbara (2014) agree that Nigerian cultures tend to frame male and female children as separate people with different capabilities, potentials, and constitutions. Their socialization also tends to be tailored to produce them as different persons. While male children are socialized to see themselves as future heads of households, breadwinners, and owners (in the literal sense, sometimes) of their wives and children, female children are taught that a good woman must be an obedient, submissive, meek, and a humble housekeeper. The main reason for scolding and disciplining boys was found to be their failure to act, walk, eat, and speak, like males. Female children

were also often scolded for not living up to expectations regarding femaleness.

In these cultures as in many others in Nigeria, femaleness (femininity) and maleness (masculinity) are viewed as natural separate identities and models into which responsible women and men respectively must fit. The language of cultural socialization aims at instilling in young males and females a good sense of what it takes to be men and women (Asanga, 2010). Izugbara (2002), have described some of the key values around which Nigerian cultures construct femaleness and maleness. These scholars believe that it is not uncommon in many Nigerian homes for boys who act violently, stubbornly, take risks, and talk aggressively to be depicted as acting properly. Boys who cry, are shy or easily frightened, avoid fights, or easily give into bullying and intimidation by peers are often scolded and warned to stop acting like girls and women. Certainly, male socialization practices in many Nigerian cultures aim largely to train them to be domineering, ruthless, and in control, and to see themselves as naturally superior to women. On the other hand, female socialization often aims at making girls and women submissive, easily ruled or controlled, and to see themselves as natural inferiors to men (The Social Science and Health Research Network (SSHARN, 2001). These socialization experiences inscribe superiority into

maleness and masculinity, and inferiority into femaleness and femininity. These agenda of cultural socialization of locating men and women in specific places in (hetero) sexuality and endorsing the belief that the natural order of things is for men to control women. The implication is that women may feel that they are not worthy and so can take to any profession they like including prostitution which is mainly a way of pleasing men.

Homosexuality

Currently, same-sex sexual relations have been reported among young people, but the practice tends to be more prevalent among adults too. Izugbara (2014), argue that despite the acknowledgement of the existence of homosexuality in many cultures of the world including Nigeria, the practice appears to be unpopular. Nigerians tend to view homosexuals as sick, subnormal, and dangerous people. Homosexuals dwell at the very margins of respectability in the larger Nigerian public image. Homosexuality is also frequently associated with witchcraft, magic, and the possession of diabolical powers. In the discourse surrounding sex in Nigerian local cultures, heterosexuality is celebrated as the natural order (Izugbara 2014). The failure of men and women to fit into this natural order exposes them to taunts. These taunts, as part of cultural narratives are directed at males/females that deviate from standard 'roles. Such men in Nigeria are

called women‘, weaklings‘, incapacitated‘, effeminate‘, girls‘. These men are not respected. In local cultural images, they lack fit. On the other hand women that deviate from standard roles are called men‘, masculine‘, wicked‘, stubborn‘, and tigers‘.

They are stigmatized. This is because our cultures view taking the role of the other (i.e. male taking the role of women or vice versa) as the ultimate humiliation, an unfortunate crisis, and a transgression. The labels and names applied to these unfits ‘aim at denying them proper humanity. This intensely discursive process of negatively labeling people who transgress culturally-accepted codes of sexual identity and codes) is the objective condition for homophobia in indigenous Nigerian cultures (Izugbara, 2014). Such people may deviate and take to prostitution as a way of covering up their supposed deficiencies.

Male-Child Preference

In most Nigerian cultures, the birth of a male child is often heralded with greater joy than that of a female child. People do not become men and women in the sterile environment of the womb rather; they do so in specific social and cultural contexts (Izugbara, 2014). In Nigeria, the social production of masculinity and femininity is often begun at home through

socialization practices, which aim at instilling specific personalities and identities into male and female children. Ejikeme (2001), reports that the male child is often and simply the preferred child in many Nigerian cultures, and that several couples go to the extent of consulting oracles to ensure that they will give birth to a male child. The preference for male children in Nigeria is considered one of the strongest in West Africa (Ibanga, 2004).

Male children are less likely than female ones to suffer rejection, prejudice, discrimination, and abandonment. They are also more likely to be sent to school. Many girls in Nigeria are often left at home to do domestic work or engage in child labour as a way of life or as a means of supplementing family resources and during emergencies and disasters, many Nigerian parents selectively attend to the male child. This view is in line with Nwosu (2007), who reported that during the civil war in Nigeria, many parents fled with their sons, livestock, bicycles, clothing, and jewelry, leaving their female children behind.

Dressing patterns of the undergraduate students

Dressing patterns of undergraduate students may be a predisposing factor to prostitution. According to Olugbenga (2008), fashion has traditionally been considered as a form of collective behaviour because it constantly introduces

something novel into the society. People wear clothing for protection and concealment of their bodies, but they also wear fashionable clothing to feel a part of a group and to differentiate themselves from others Taylor (2002), In most tertiary institutions in Nigeria Olugbenga (2008), observed that the type of fashion being paraded by some students on campuses do not give the feeling of acceptance by other members of academic community. In recent past this has motivated authorities of these institutions to enact dressing code to curb the ugly incidence from becoming status symbols amongst the youths and eroding the societal values and virtues. Komolafe (2007), reported on how skimpy dressing could be controlled on campuses.

According to Komolafe, skimpy dressing sends sensations down the spine of on-lookers. The disturbed persons may not be able to hold their emotions tight and thus may result to approaching the girls for sexual relationships which may attract payment of money or other material things in exchange, which is prostitution. Skimpy dresses expose the nipples and bare-bottom which are meant for privacy. The issue of indecent dressing was seen as a critical issue, describing it as de-sanitization of the environment.

Adejumo (2007), noted that there is a dress code that specifies that ladies should be dressed in a way that there would not be nudity, exposure of their

chest (boobs), cleavages, back and middle thighs. He further opined that studies have proved that seeing a nude lady does not affect the psychic of a man as much as seeing a lady half nude.

According to Adejumo the sight of such nudity sends sexual signals to the brain and a complex reaction takes place in the anatomy of the men, who, if not able to control themselves, resort to rape or prostitute such a lady.

Other Cultural Factors

Some family disruption like the death of a mother or the remarriage of a father, often preceded a girl's drift into prostitution; but the passage of an army was also a major determinant especially during wars and disasters. Oyeoku et al., (2012), reports that the practice in which a female is devoted or married to a deity or shrine can encourage prostitution. This he said can be seen among some communities in Nsukka and the Ewe of Ghana.

2.1.6 Prostitution in Nigeria: Issues and challenges

The practice of prostitution is at an alarming rate in Nigeria. Nigeria is a religious nation with Christianity and Islam as the two major religion and the nation social and moral practice is correlated to its religious norms hence the practice of prostitution is seen as a derivant sub-culture and is not

encouraged. This is why it is not legalized in an attempt to protect the nation's moral values. (Gungul et al, 2014).

Prostitution is practiced all over the homes, street, hotels, brothel across the major cities of Nigeria. These prostitutes sell sexual favours and their bodies to their cost ones who pay them huge sum of money in exchange. Their unjustifiable reasons attributed to economic, social and psychological reasons (such as poverty, unemployment, bribery, corruption etc) for engaging as marital instability, sexual harassment, divorce, overcrowding, environmental pollution, Alcoholism, fitting, delinquency, unwanted pregnancy, usage abortion and, transmission of sexually transmitted infections like HIV/AIDS, gonorrhoea, syphilis etc (Aloba and Ndifon 2014).

Balogun (2007), observed that sex trade has become rampant on Nigerian campuses to such an extent that 80 percent of prostitutes that patronize night clubs, hotel, brothel and tourist centers in Nigeria are student of tertiary institution. There undergraduates would attend lectures during the day, only to metamorphose in the evening into a call-girls or pimp and cheap sexual machines. Inordinate desire for affluence and desperation by many Nigerians, especially ladies lure them to engage in immoral and illicit

activities, despite high level of religiousness which Nigerians overtly demonstrates.

George Okoli, (2007), opined that today the Nasarawa State University in fast gaining reputation as an abode for girls of easy going virtue despite the high prevalence of HIV/AIDS in the country. Goerge observed that most people may be wondering why prostitution would be flourishing inside university/college campuses, under the very nose of university staff and security agents. One of the response believe, is that university campus authorities have failed to strike the right balance between ensuring students liberty and enforcement of existing campus codes of conduct. Saying that the students are adults that should know better, they let them call the shots. The problem is that with unbridled liberty and freedom, the students began to push the limits of acceptable behaviour taking advantage of the freedom given creative ways to “adults”, the young girls devised creative ways to trade in prostitution right inside the campuses. (Uzokwe, 2008).

According to Okon (2008), young female undergraduates of tertiary institution mainly between the ages of 18-25 years, take advantage of the proximity of their school to the major cities, leave their campuses dorms on Fridays, pretending to be going home for the weekend, but to their actual

destination at high brow brothels, night clubs and streets in different cities. Okoh further reported that, in most cases the girls return back to the school after the weekend with large sum of money.

Investigation conducted by various newspapers correspondents show that the method of operation employed by these girl vary from campus to another and from individual to another. The hardened ones who see their campuses as too boring, do not operate inside the university campuses, instead, they brazenly take their trade directly to their customers “where the real action is “it means that at night they take taxi into the nearby cities or towns, to hot spots that give them maximum exposure to men willing to pay anything for sexual pleasure. Some walk the street until male customers who are willing to patronize them materialize. Because the girls do not fear for their safety or health, they follow the customer to their homes, brothels or night clubs

Okafor and Duru (2010), observed that many female undergraduates from tertiary institutions are in the practice of prostitution. According to them, it is more lucrative now as a student in the campus because men no longer patronize brothels and street prostitutes rather they prefer students. The campus situation is so bad to the extent that professional prostitutes are hail bent to gain admission into higher institutions (Okafor, and Duru, 2010).

Olugbile et al., (2008), opined that sexual promiscuity is very rampant in Nigeria Universities and the average campus has several networks. Most of these students stand outside their hostels and halls to solicit for business. The hardened ones who see their campuses as too boring do not operate inside the University campuses. They brazenly take their trade directly to their customers at night to nearby cities, clubs or hot spots that would give them maximum exposure to men who will like to patronize them. However, the reader may wonder why promiscuity would be flourishing inside university campuses under the very nose of the staff and security agents. One of the reasons the researchers believe is that the university authorities have failed to strike the right balance between ensuring students' liberty and enforcement of existing campus codes of conduct (Olugbile et al., 2008).

This is based on the premise that the students are adults that should be able to take care of themselves independent of their parents. With unbridled liberty and freedom the students began to push the limits of an acceptable behavior, taking advantage of freedom bestowed on them as "adults" Uzokwe (2008),

At this point, one would ask, what is the actual cause of sexual promiscuity or prostitution among our female undergraduates? According to Uzokwe (2008), one of the causes is dereliction of parental responsibilities. Many years ago, families in Nigeria put a lot of premium on morality, honor and character. Parents took time to bequeath same to their wards during their formative years. There were injunctions and periodic denial of basic necessities for doing things that impinge the family name. Vices like promiscuity, stealing and the like when displayed by a member of the family are capable of soiling the family image.

No family would want to be blacklisted or blackmailed so parents paid serious attention to the moral and social welfare of their children, at times taking corrective actions when bad behaviors were detected. Compare this day to the ages past, certain behaviors that would repulse people no longer do. The reverse seems to be the case.

On the other hand, teachers these days no longer play the invaluable traditional roles they used to. They are no longer character builders because children have grown 'wings and tails'. These children, especially the female ones, feel they have the protection of their parents and or boyfriends. Consequently, young girls go through school exhibiting signs of

unacceptable behavior which metamorphose into bigger issues in future with no one to stop or correct them. Eventually, those who find their ways into the universities end up continuing on a larger scale what they started in secondary schools (Okafor and Duru (2010).

Again, Olugbile (2008), wrote that peer influence is everywhere in the campus where everyone wants to be like others and end up prostituting. The bad girls that embrace prostitution gradually corrupt the more conservative ones. If for example one person had three cell phones, flashy clothes, another wants to do same or more. For those who are probably not from very rich homes they are forced to do otherwise.

Furthermore, some universities are not helping matters. Their fees are so much that it is hard to understand where they expect the students to get the money from. Being in a precarious condition, they turn to prostitution based on the fact that they are looking for money to settle their school bills.

Equally, Misi (2008) , also pointed out that the politicians and government officials are not left out in the cause of female undergraduate prostitution. According to him, anytime these politicians and government officials visit the university town on official work, the pimps recruit for them young university girls for their relaxation and entertainment, at the end of which

they settle them with huge sums of ill-gotten money (Olugbogega, 2008). Due to the fact that the girls glorify wealth, some of them therefore do what it takes to belong by taking to prostitution.

On the issue of Health implication of prostitution, the Alobo and Ndifon (2014), observed that most prostitution result to unwanted pregnancies. These pregnancies could be terminated through unsafe abortion which might lead to pelvic inflammatory diseases, destruction or injury to the pelvic organs, sepsis, secondary infertility and maternal death.

Alternatively, if the pregnancy is carried to term, and delivered, the baby might suffer some abnormalities due to some drugs ingested by the mother, or the baby might be abandoned without being breastfeed or cared for because the mother is not ready for the child. The unbreastfed or abnormal child will face other health challenges.

Alobo and Ndifon (2014), opined that prostitution leads to the spread of Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs), Human Immune Deficiency Virus/ Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS), Human Papiloma Virus (HPV), herpes, gonorrhoea, syphilis etc. these infections attacks the reproductive organs and causes infertility.

Some women suffer trauma and pelvic pain, from their purchasers who might be acting under the influence of hard drugs. In most cases, these women indulge in alcoholism, smoking and drug abuse to ease off pains. Smoking predisposes them to lung cancer while HPV infection predisposes them to cervical cancer. Above all, prostitution exposes women as easy prey to the hands of ritual killers which are rampant in the country.

Observations points to the fact that prostitution has become a serious problem in the universities. A number of reasons have been adduced for the rise in this phenomenon among which are: lack of education on the part of parents, family breakdown, greed, peer group pressure, improper parental upbringing, bad influence from the environment, ignorance, cultural and economic factors. They leave their hostels and lectures and move to the streets and hotels of Nigerian cities in search of clients. This has become a major cause of the high rate of truancy and the associated poor academic performance among these University undergraduates. Experience has shown that often times some undergraduates gets infected. Consequently, these undergraduates that get infected with sexually transmitted infections if not well treated, ends up with infertility when the later get married. Infertility in the family leads to divorce, and in what becomes vicious cycle, the

abandoned wife goes into further prostitution as a means of survival or as a result of feeling of loneliness.

2.1.7 Views from Nigerian laws

There is no known law in Nigeria against prostitution. Social tolerance for prostitution has varied widely; some cultures in Nigeria have accepted it as a natural part of life, regulating it to prevent the spread of diseases or illness, and to prevent abuse of women. Other cultures have turned a blind eye, criminalizing it but not enforcing the law.

The government of Nigeria has not come up with any law that would regulate prostitution, except the law that regulates trafficking in person. However, religious institution condemns the act through preaching. Therefore prostitution is legal in Nigeria but regulated prostitution is only restricted to particular areas like the Muslim societies where it is punishable by death.

In some countries like the United Nations, prostitution is illegal. The UN General Assembly adopted a convention stating that prostitution and the accompanying evil of trafficking in person for the purpose of prostitution are incompatible with the dignity and worth of the human person, requiring all

signing parties to punish pimps and brothel owners and operators and to abolish all special treatment of prostitutes. As of January 2009, the convention was ratified by 95 member Nations including France, Spain, Italy, Denmark, etc.

Solution to Combat Prostitution

In a global patriarchal society where there is legitimate male use of female bodies as disposable commodities, it is not possible to successfully combat prostitution. To express outrage and call for an end to prostitution and trafficking of young women and children is contradictory and incoherent where people do not first put a stop to commercialization of women's bodies. As long prostitution is tolerated and government permits it to be practiced as a legal and valid employment alternative, violence against women shall continue to be and it shall not be possible to eliminate prostitution. The following issues should be critically examined as a first step to the proposal of strategies to combat prostitution. There as follows;

1. The abuse of women which prostitution constitutes and the need to outlaw it and find alternative solutions to men's problems of social identity, their difficulties of relationship and sexuality and sexual identity.

2. The recognition on a global unanimous basis that prostitution is a violation of women's human rights and that it is inherently a humiliation of their dignity as persons, as women and as mothers.
3. The legitimization of prostitution and its promotion as an employment alternative is a direct cause of the International trafficking of women and children for prostitution and of pedophilia.
4. Prostitution is essentially violence and abuse of persons and should never be tolerated as a valid and healthy social exchange between men and women.
5. Poverty and the feminization of poverty is one of the root causes of trafficking in women and children for prostitution.
6. The need to create legal possibilities of migration of people from poor countries, taking the economic interests of both immigrants and the receiving country into consideration;
7. The need to put at the fore front the interests of women and children and not the interest of state to combat illegal immigration and organize crime;

8. The need to consider that there can never be "consent" in prostitution because no woman has ever "chosen" to be a prostitute where she has had valid alternatives to prostitution. There are various studies which show this often unmentioned fact;
9. The need for a revival of solid cultural and social values which the so called modernity and urban civilization has eroded in many countries, both developed and developing. These are some of the issues which should be first addressed before one can objectively make proposals for strategies and programmes to combat prostitution.

2.1.8 Health Implication of Prostitution

Prostitutes are at risk and are also sometime the target of serial killers who may consider them easy targets, or use the religious and social stigma associated with prostitutes as justification for their murder. Being criminals in most jurisdictions, prostitutes are less likely than the law-abiding to be looked for by police if they disappear, making them favoured targets of predators.

Janice (2008), intimated that sexually transmitted diseases like gonorrhoea, syphilis, candida, herpes virginals and worst of all HIV/AIDS are alarmingly

high among girls who are sexually promiscuous. Drugs like cocaine, marijuana and alcohol are used most frequently by these girls at the expense of their health. They are also mostly under the influence of “psychotropic drugs” that put them in a state of fearlessness and shamelessness.

In the same vein, Poroma et al (2015), opined that most cases of infertility are caused by being promiscuous thereby infected by numerous infected customers or acquaintances. Most female or male infertility, he added, can be attributed to husbands and wives who patronize sex hawkers and bring home infections and sexually transmitted diseases. In what becomes a vicious cycle, infertility may lead to divorce and in some cases the abandoned wife goes into prostitution as a means of survival. Again, physical injuries and bruises may also lead to general break down in health condition. Furthermore, most of the girls in this practice are sometimes physically assaulted by their “purchasers” who might be acting under the influence of hard drugs (Janice, 2008).

Prostitution is associated with the spread of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) such as HIV. One of the main reasons for the rapid spread of HIV in Nigeria is the massive transmission among sex workers and clients. HIV is tied to prostitution in Africa with one study finding that encounters with

prostitutes produced 84% of new HIV infection in adults, and other sexually transmitted diseases like gonorrhea, pelvic inflammatory diseases and syphilis. The risk for HIV infection is increase because of multiple sex partners and limited safe sex practice. Some customers are willing to pay more for a sexual encounter if they do not have to use a condom. Based on research conducted by the centers for Diseases Control and Prevention, the rate of HIV infection for prostitutes is three times higher if they smoke crack cocaine. Other health issues associated with prostitution are early pregnancy for juveniles, rape, tuberculosis, post-traumatic stress disorder, assault and other act of violence.

Considering the economic health issue of prostitution, it is argued that street prostitution is not victimless as it may damage the reputation and quality of life in the neighborhood and diminish the value of property. Maxwell (2000), and other researcher have found substantial evidence that there, is strong co-occurrence between prostitution, drug use, drug selling, and involvement in non-drug crime, particularly property crime. Because prostitution is considered criminal in many jurisdictions, its substantial revenue are not contributing to the tax revenues of the state, and it workers are not routinely screened for sexually transmitted diseases which is dangerous in cultures favoring

unprotected sex and lead to significant expenditure in health services. Prostitution also lowers the value of property as well as degrades the status of women.

2.2 Theoretical Framework

2.2.1 Theories of prostitution

There are at least three theories about prostitution: Functionalist, Feminist and Social-Psychological. The first two focuses on explaining why prostitution persists despite effort to eradicate it and the later focuses on the individual mostly women and their reasons for engaging in prostitution more than other women.

Functionalist theory: The theory rooted in the work of Kingsley Davis (1971), assert that there are two reasons why prostitution exists. The first is the system of sexual morality that ostensibly condemns prostitutes, but has the unintended consequence of encouraging it. This creates advantages for prostitution in two ways: dividing sex into "meaningful" (with one spouse). and "meaningless" (with a prostitutes), This has the effect of encouraging men to go to a prostitute if they want to have "meaningless" sex. Second by defining certain sex act like anal or oral sex as immoral, not to be indulged in with one's moral spouse, the moral order encourages men to turn to

immoral women for these sex acts. The moral systems in effect create a demand for prostitution.

The second reason for the existence of prostitution is also ironic; prostitution functions to strengthen sexual morality. This act contrasts the idea as keeping wives as pure daughters or the respectable citizenry. The sex industry encourages men to go to prostitutes for premarital sex, extramarital sex or other immoral sex so that they don't have to pressure or persuade respectable women to engage in the same immoral sex. By thus preserving the sexual morality of conventional women, constituting nearly half of human kind, the level of society's morality should be higher than if any woman engages in the same sexual immoralities.

Hence, Davis theory suggests that prostitution exists because the moral system paradoxically encourages it, and in turn serves the important function of preserving feminine virtue.

Social psychological theory: Under this view, a combination of social and psychological factors causes some women to become prostitutes. These include:

Predisposing factors: Struggling with parental promiscuity, parental neglect, child abuse, or other traumatic events.

Attracting factors: There is some belief that a woman can have an easy life or lots of money as a prostitute.

Precipitating factors: Being unemployed, meeting a prostitute friend or being pressured by a pimp to sell sex.

Most psychologist stress the predisposing factors that lead to prostitution as feeling of loneliness, unworthiness, lack of self control and inability to establish stable relations with others. Sociologist disagrees with this assumption that prostitutes are abnormal even if they have been abused. It seems largely to people as a matter of emotional socialization. With this emotional detachment, a woman may find it easier to enter into prostitution. In short, some women are more likely than others to become prostitutes not because they are abnormal but because they are normal for being able to withhold affection from their customers in the same way as a normal child abuse victim withhold affection from her parent. But this capacity for emotional detachment may only predispose a woman towards entering prostitution; it is not enough she is more likely to begin selling sex if the attraction and precipitation factors (e.g. money and contact) also appear in her experience as has been suggested by the theory and some research (Perkins. 2007; Henry, 2010).

Feminists theory: They argue that society maintain a sexist view that only promiscuous women are a threat to the moral order, and this is why prostitutes are far more likely to be arrested than their male customers. Why such men are not considered a threat? Because the moral system reflect the larger, patriarchal, gender stratified system that dominate and exploit women?

Feminist theory asserts that the patriarchal system encourages prostitution by creating both demand and supply for it. On the demand side, boys are socialized to be dominant over girls, and when adults, to desire sexual domination of women which can be easily realized through sex with prostitutes. If a young man doesn't want to go along, his peers will pressured him. On the supply side, girls are socialized to be submissive to boys, and later as adults to men in work, play and sex. Simultaneously, women are relegated to predominantly low status employment including prostitution. All these explain why prostitution is usually more prevalent in traditional societies marked by great gender inequality, when compared to more modern societies with less gender inequality.

Feminist asserts that the patriarchal system encourages prostitution, while prostitution reinforces patriarchy. This is by perpetuating beliefs that oppress

women in many domains of their lives. Hence, by selling their bodies as a commodity, prostitutes convey the message that women can be bought or used as an object-reinforcing the prevailing patriarchal notion that "all women have a price". Hence, men continue to support the patriarchal structure of gender inequality, which in turn encourages prostitution.

2.3 Empirical Studies

According to a study carried out by Gungul et al (2014), on prostitution as a social evil in Nigeria: Issues and challenges. The researcher elicited data from both primary and secondary sources; They concluded that though prostitution may have contributed to the economic and social wellbeing of commercial sex workers, it still calls for moral questioning considering the hazard involved in the business and it is also counter-productive to be global guest for women emancipation in political and socio-economic scene of the society. From their work they made recommendation that employment opportunity should be expanded and sex education should be prioritized to discourage the morally bankrupt business.

Alobo and Ndifon (2014), conducted a study on addressing prostitution concern in Nigeria: Issues, problems and prospects. Their study emphasized that prostitution creates a setting where crime against woman becomes a

commercial enterprise thereby providing a congenial environment for the alienation, abuse and dehumanization of women, it suggest that in addition to needing health service prostitutes must be provided with the economic, social and psychological means to leave prostitution. They concluded by proffering a socio-legal solution to the menace.

Balogun (2007), investigated into the causes, prevalence and effect of female prostitution in Nigerian tertiary Institutions. The study took place in college of education Ekiadoor, Benin, Edo State. The instrument used for the study was questionnaire and oral interview. A total of ninety respondents were used for the study and it was found out among other things that prostitution is prevalent in Nigeria tertiary institutions, that corruption, poverty and bad friend leads to female prostitution, and involvement in prostitution leads to poor academic performance.

Okafor and Duru (2010), conducted a study on sexual promiscuity among female undergraduates in tertiary institutions in Imo State: An issue for healthy living using 415 final year degree students in Imo State. A descriptive survey design and a well structured questionnaire were used for the study. It was concluded that the high prevalence of sexual promiscuity in

institution of higher learning calls for reflection and the steady rise in the number of people being infected with HIV/AIDS as a result of promiscuity is an evil wind that blows no good and should be discouraged in order to maintain healthy female products for productive healthy family living.

2.4 Summary of Literature Review

In summary, the reviewed literatures related to prostitution were focused on factors influencing practice of prostitution, which comprised of concept of prostitution, definitions, forms and types of prostitution; causes/predisposing factors, and consequences/health implications of prostitution.

In all, prostitution is still posing a negative consequent as the reviewed literatures stated, and this study is considered necessary to educate female undergraduates on the negative effects of social behaviour.

CHAPTER THREE

MATERIALS AND METHODS

3.1 Study Design

The study design adopted was descriptive survey which elicited information from the respondents on issues related to perceived factors influencing practice of prostitution, the practices that lead to prostitution among female students and its attendant health implications. It is also an urban based study.

3.2 Area of Study

The study was carried out in the two tertiary institutions in Owerri Municipal comprised of Alvan Ikoku Federal College of Education Owerri and Imo State University Owerri.

Alvan Ikoku Federal College of Education lies on the sloppy banks of the River Nworie and is flanked on the west by Owerri-Onitsha Federal Highway and North-West by the Owerri-Orlu highway. The college was established in September, 1963. It was the second college of education in Nigeria. It commenced with a hundred and fifty (150) students and fourteen (14) academic staff. By December, 1965, the college graduated the first batch of students. The college activities were disrupted by the Nigerian civil

war (July 1967-January 1970), it reconvened after civil war and extended from shell camp to the present main campus (44.6 hectares) which was developed with the assistance of the British Government and UNESCO. The federal government took over the college in the year 2010. In 2013, A.I.F.C.E celebrated her golden jubilee. The college mission is teaching, training and research, and to be corporate body with perpetual succession. The college is made up of five school and twenty-four departments. It has a population of about twenty thousand, four hundred and sixty two students (24,462). sources – Registry Department A.I.F.C.E Owerri.

The college produces N.C.E, degrees and post graduate diploma in education graduates and it has enjoyed and still enjoying reputation in excellence.

A brief History of Imo State University

The university was established in 1981 and academic activities commenced at the temporary site located at former Madonna High School, Ihitte with Professor M.Y.C Echeruo as the first Vice chancellor. The University was relocated to Okigwe. The creation of Abia State in 1992 made IMSU to fell under Abia State and this led to establishment of Imo State University (IMSU) Owerri which was temporary accommodated within the campus of

Alvan Ikoku College of Education from May to December 1992. The University later moved to its own premises within former Federal University of Technology, Owerri at lake Nwaebere Campus. Under the leadership of Vice Chancellor Professor T.O.C Nduizu. The university took-off with the population of 420 students in the 1992/1993 session and it continued to grow steadily to the population of twenty thousand as at of 2016/2017 session IMSU has eleven faculties with seventy two departments and lend mass of one hundred and fifteen hectares. It produces thousands of graduates and post graduate degree holders yearly.

3.3 Study Population

The study population consists of female undergraduate of tertiary institutions in Owerri Municipal. The estimated number of female undergraduate in Alvan Ikoku College of education is ten thousand three hundred and eighty (10,380) and that of Imo State University Owerri is fourteen thousand (14,000). Then, the total study population for both institutions is twenty four thousand, three hundred and eighty (24,380).

3.4 Sample Size and Sampling Methods

3.4.1 Sample Size

Using Taro Yamme's formular

$$\frac{N}{N + 1(x)^2} \\ \frac{24,380}{24,380+1 (0.05)^2} \\ = 398$$

Approx = 400

A sample size of four hundred (400) of female undergraduates from two (2) tertiary institutions in Owerri Municipal, were used at the ratio of:

- Alvan Ikoku College of Education, Owerri (AIFCE) has 170 samples
- Imo State University, Owerri (IMSU) has 230 samples

3.4.2 Sampling Method

This study employed a multi stage sampling techniques in the studied schools.

The studies were first stratified according to their schools/faculties in Alvan Ikoku Federal College of Education, Owerri (AIFCE) and Imo State University, Owerri (IMSU). A simple FCE (school of social science and school of vocational studies) and three (3) faculties in IMSU (Faculty of Sciences, Health Sciences and Agriculture and Vetenary Medicine). Random sampling was used to select (2) department from each making it ten (10)

departments. Proportional sampling method was used to select equal number of students (40 students) from each of the ten (10) departments selected. The students were selected inside the school premises through random process and they had equal chance of being selected.

4.5 Instrument for Data Collection

The instrument for this study was a structured questionnaire because the respondents are literate. The structured questionnaire has four sections, section A B C & D. Section A contained the demographic data of the respondents, and section B contains questions on perceived predisposes factors influencing practice of prostitution among female undergraduate, Section C contains questions on perceived practices that leads to prostitution among female undergraduate and section D comprised of questions on perception of health implication of prostitution among female undergraduates.

3.6 Validity of instrument

The instrument was validated by the researcher's supervisor and two other research experts in health. The instrument was vetted in relevance to the topic, coverage of content areas, appropriateness of language usage and

clarity of the items. Their constructive contributions were used to modify the final draft.

4.7 Reliability of Instrument

The reliability of the instrument was established through pre-testing of the instrument. The instrument was administered to forty (40) students or 10% of the sample size from Imo State Polytechnic Umuagwo, on an interval of two (2) days in one week and the result was compared for consistency via cronbach Alpha test, a reliability coefficient of 80% ($r = 0.8$) was obtained and the value showed that the instrument was reliable for the study.

3.8 Methods of Data Collection

Informed consent of the respondents was sought and the purpose of the study was explained to them. The researcher and two research assistants administered and collected the questionnaire on face to face basis from the selected samples during school session. Information provided by the respondents was treated with confidentiality.

3.9 Method of Data Analysis

The completed questionnaire was sorted out and entered into Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) version 20.0 for analysis. The analysis

was done using descriptive statistics and results were presented in frequency tables and charts were used for graphical presentation of variables in the objectives of the study. The inferential statistics such as chi-square (χ^2) was used to test the relationship between dependent and independent variables at confidence interval of 0.05.

3.10 Ethical Consideration/ Informed Consent

The study received ethical approval from the from the Department of Public Health, Federal University of Technology Owerri and Ethical committee of both tertiary institutions used for the study(AIFCE&IMSU). Verbal informed consent was obtained from the students through the introduction of approval letter issued to the researcher by Department of Public Health and participation was totally voluntary.

CHAPTER FOUR

RESULTS

Socio-Demographic Characteristics of the Respondents

The result of Table I presented socio-demographic information of the respondents; where their ages were as follows: 108 (27%) were below 20 years, 112 (28%) were between 20-29 years, 96 (24%) were between 30-39 and 84 (21%) were 40 years and above. The highest percentage (70%) of students were single followed by married ones with 26.2% and only 3.8% were divorced/separated women. On level of study, 82 (20.5%) were on 100 level followed by 98 (24.5%) on 200 level, majority 124 (31%) were on 300 level while 96 (24%) were in 400 level.

Table 1: Socio-Demographic Information of the Participants

Variables	Frequency	Percentage
Age of the respondents		
Below 20 years	108	27.0
20-29 years	112	28.0
30-39 years	96	24.0
40 years and above	84	21.0
Total	400	100.0
Marital Status of the respondents		
Single	280	70.0
Married	105	26.2
Divorced/Separated	15	3.8
Total	400	100.0
Level of study of the respondents		
100 level	82	20.5
200 level	98	24.5
300 level	124	31.0
400 level	96	24.0
Total	400	100.0

Perceived predisposing factors influencing practice of prostitution among female students.

Table 2 below presents the perceived predisposing factors influencing practice of prostitution among female students where majority 318(79.5%) of the students said that poverty predisposing students to prostitution and the causes of poverty in regards to prostitution were reported as follows; laziness to do job had 147(46.2%), unemployment 96(30.2%) while 75(23.6%) said inadequate payment of salary.

Three hundred and ten; (77.5%) agreed that prostitution influence by peer group. From the number who supported the influence of peer pressure; 174(56.1%) said that female student yield to peer pressure because of poor upbringing ; 44(14.2%) said poor spiritual growth and 92(29.7%) said lack of self control. Dereliction of parental role on their children leads to prostitution; 276(69%) supported the idea and they gave the aspects of parental role dereliction; 69(25%) said poor financial support, 115(41.7%) said poor counseling and 92(33.3%) said inadequate monitoring of children.

Uncontrolled liberty and freedom from school makes female students to exhibit unacceptable behaviour; out 400 participants 272(68%) agreed with the idea. Also, the causes of uncontrolled liberty are stated as follows; 73(26.8%) reported poor security services in the school, 121(44.5%) said

students allowed to live off-campus and 78(28.7%) said inefficient school disciplinary committee. To obtain academic favour can lead female students to prostitution, 278(68.5%) said yes and 122(30.5%) said no to the idea.

Table 2: Perceived predisposing factors influencing practice of prostitution among female students

Statements	Responses	
Poverty predisposes female students to prostitution	Yes	318(79.5%)
	No	80(20.5%)
	Total`	400(100%)
If yes, What causes poverty that predisposes students to prostitution.	Laziness to do job	147(46.2%)
	Unemployment	96(30.2%)
	Inadequate payment of salary	75(23.6%)
	Total	318(100%)
Prostitution is influenced by Peer pressure	Yes	310(77.5%)
	No	90(22%)
	Total	400(100%)
If yes, why do students yield to peer pressure	Due poor upbringing	174(56.1%)
	Poor spiritual growth	44(14.2%)
	Lack of self control	92(29.7%)
	Total	310(100%)
Dereliction of parental role on their children leads to prostitution	Yes	276(69%)
	No	124(31%)
	Total	400(100%)
If yes, this could be inform of:	Poor financial support	69(25%)
	Poor counseling	115(41.7%)
	Inadequate monitoring	92(33.3%)
	Total	276(100%)
Uncontrolled liberty and freedom from school makes female students to exhibit unacceptable behavior	Yes	272(68%)
	No	128(32%)
	Total	400(100%)
If yes, what caused the uncontrolled liberty?	Poor security services in the school	73(26.8%)
	Students allowed to live off-campus	121(44.5%)
	Inefficient school disciplinary committee	78(28.7%)
	Total	272(100%)
To obtain academic favour can lead female students to prostitution	Yes	278(68.5%)
	No	122(30.5%)
	Total	400(400%)

Initiator of the use of sex by female students for academic favour

Figure 1 presented the Initiator of the use of sex between female students and male lecturers for academic favour; 43.9% said male lecturers intimidates the female student because of academic favour, 21.6% said female students lures/seduces the male lecturers while 34.5% said both of them.

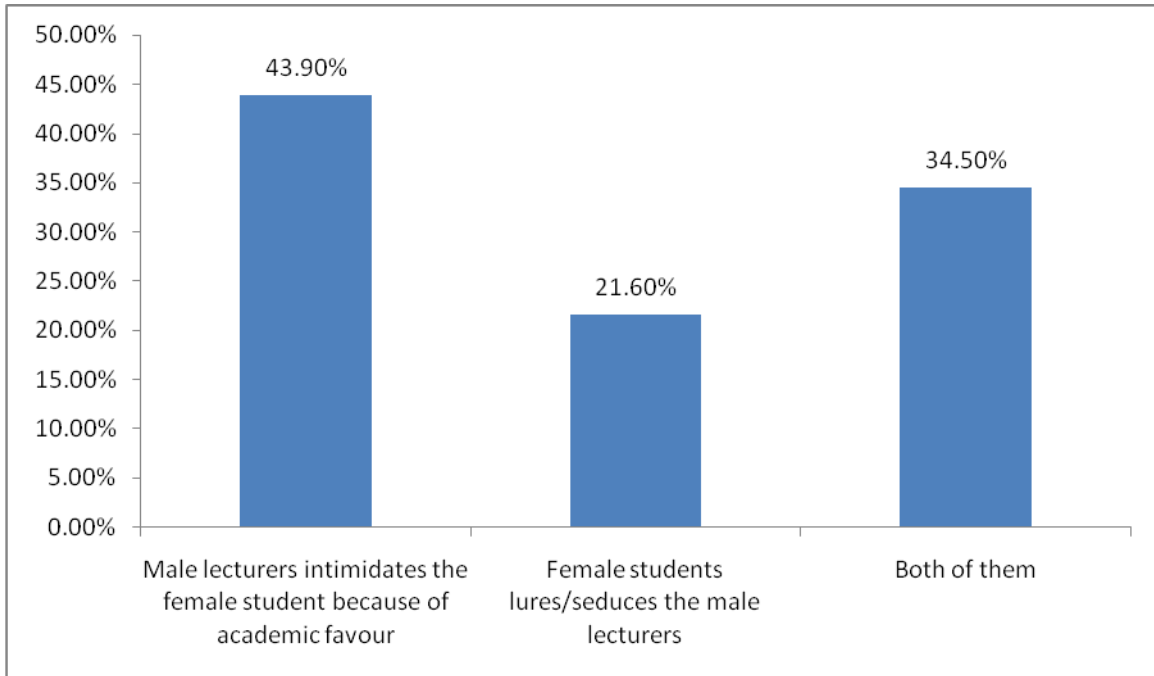


Figure 1: Initiator of the use of sex by female students for academic favour

Perceived Practices that leads to Prostitution among Female Students

Table 3 depicts the rate of perceived practice that leads to prostitution among female students; 184(46%) out 400 of participants agreed that student engage in sexual intercourse with opposite in return for payment and reported the form of payment they received; payment inform 127(69%), inform of material gifts had 51(27.7%) while only 6(3.3%) said oral promises.

Students exhibit maximum body exposure at night in order to lure men into sex for favour; 329(82.3%) agreed with the idea and 71(17.8%) disagreed. Out of 329 that agreed with the idea; 51(15.5%) said student exhibit that outside the school hostel, 72(22.9%) said they go to nearby cities and 206(62.6%) said at hot spots.

Female students sleep with male lecturers, 324(81%) said yes and gave their reasons as; 280(84.4%) said because of academic success, 20(6.2%) said for protection in the school and 24(7.4%) said because of other reasons.

Table 3: Perceived Practices that leads to Prostitution among Female Students

Statements	Responses	
Female student engage in sexual intercourse with opposite sex in return for payment /favour.	Yes	184(46%)
	No	216(54%)
	Total	400(100%)
If yes, what form of payment do they receive?	Money	127(69%)
	Material gifts	51(27.7%)
	Oral promises	6(3.3%)
	Total	184(100%)
Students exhibit maximum body exposure at night in order to lure men into sex for favour	Yes	329(82.3%)
	No	71(17.8%)
	Total	400(100%)
If yes, Where do the students exhibit such practices	Outside the school hostel	51(15.5%)
	They go to nearby cities	72(22.9%)
	They go to hot spots	206(62.6%)
	Total	329(100%)
Female students sleep with male lecturers	Yes	324(81%)
	No	76(19%)
	Total	400(100%)
If yes, what is the reason?	For academic success	280(84.4%)
	For protection in the school	20(6.2%)
	For other reasons	24(7.4%)
	Total	324(100%)

Level of practice of prostitution

Figure 2 presented the level of practice of prostitution; 60% said high among students, 30% said moderate while 10% reported low level of practice of prostitution.

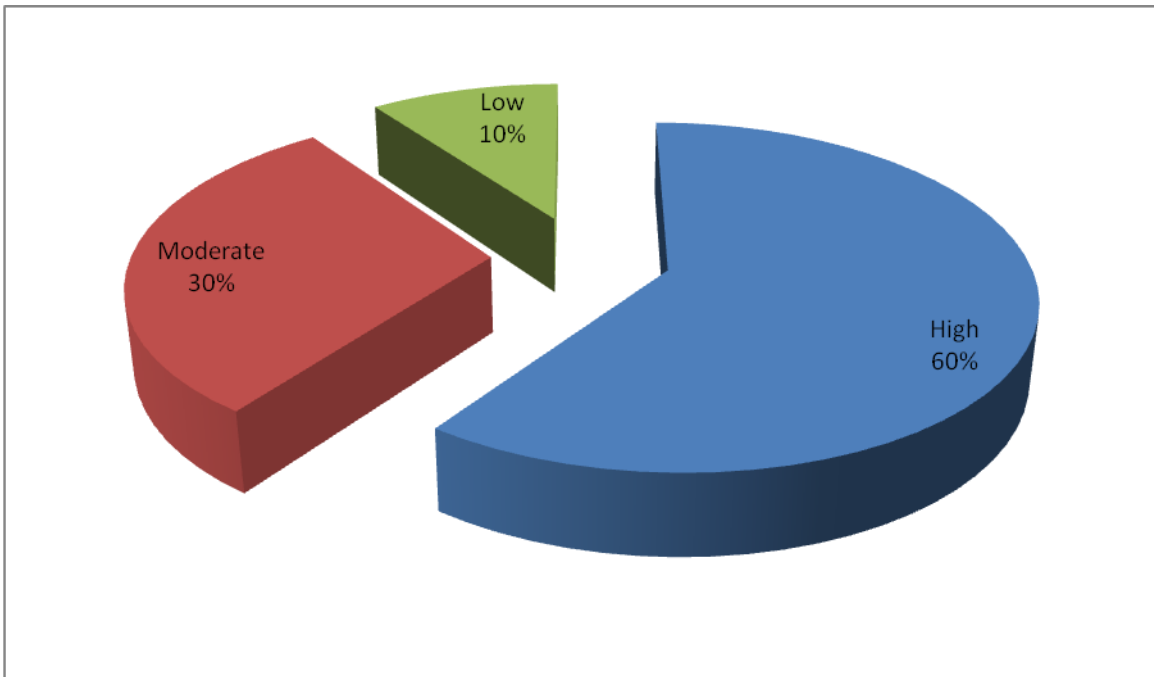


Figure 2: Level of practice of prostitution

Perception of Health Implications of Practice of Prostitution

Table 4 depicts the knowledge of health implications of practice of prostitution; 382(95.5%) said prostitution results to unwanted pregnancy and abortion. Based on their knowledge; 181(47.4%) reported that unwanted pregnancy and abortion were caused by lack of knowledge of family planning and 201(52.6%) said non use of family planning devices.

Prostitution causes STIs such as HIV/AIDS, Gonorrhoea, Syphilis etc; 367(91.8%) agreed with the idea and only 33(8.3%) disagreed. Out of 382 that agreed with the idea; 302(82.3%) said student practice unprotected sex and 65(17.7%) said they engaged in frequent sexual contact with multiple clients.

Prostitution leads to cancer due to excessive intake of alcohol, smoking and drug abuse, 378(94.5%) said yes to the idea and gave their reasons as; 127(33.6%) said they do that to be relief from sexual pains and 251(66.4%) said they do that to be high and bold during sex.

Prostitution exposes students to assault, ritual killings, kidnapping etc; out 400 participants 378(100%) agreed with the idea. They gave reasons as follows; 181(56.7%) said because they move out with unknown clients and

138(43.3%) said they accept money and offer their body to be use anyhow by clients.

Table 4: Perception of Health Implications of Practice of Prostitution

Statements	Responses	
Prostitution results to unwanted pregnancy and abortion	Yes	382(95.5%)
	No	18(4.5%)
	Total	400(100%)
If yes, what could cause it?	Lack of knowledge of family planning	181(47.4%)
	Non use of family planning devices	201(52.6%)
	Other reasons	0(0%)
	Total	382(100%)
Prostitution causes STIs such as HIV/AIDS, Gonorrhoea, Syphilis etc	Yes	367(91.8%)
	No	33(8.3%)
	Total	400(100%)
If yes, what cause the disease occurrence?	Unprotected sex	302(82.3%)
	Frequent sexual contact with multiple clients	65(17.7%)
	Other reasons	0(0%)
	Total	367(100%)
Prostitution predisposes one to cancer of cervix, and other organs	Yes	378(94.5%)
	No	22(5.5%)
	Total	400(100%)
If yes, this could it be due to:	Frequent contraction of HPV	127(33.6%)
	Habit of abuse of substances like hard drugs, alcohol, smoking etc	
	Other reasons.	251(66.4%)
		0(0%)
	Total	378(100%)
		0(0%)
Prostitution exposes students to assault, ritual killings, kidnapping etc	Yes	319(79.7%)
	No	81(20.3%)
	Total	400(100%)
If yes, how could it happen?	Because they move out with unknown clients	181(56.7%)
	They accept money and offer their body to be use anyhow by clients	138(43.3%)
	Other reasons	-
	Total	319(100%)

CHAPTER FIVE

DISCUSSION, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Discussion

The findings from a descriptive survey design on the perceived factors influencing the practice of prostitution among female undergraduates of tertiary institutions in Owerri Municipal, Imo State. It showed that such factors as poverty, peer pressure, uncontrolled liberty and freedom from school are highly responsible for the prostitution among female students. This agreed with (Ahufohai, 2007), who said that incidence of prostitutions are increasing globally, mostly in Nigeria as researchers say it is largely caused by some factors such as poverty, peer pressure, uncontrolled liberty and freedom of movement.

With regards to the poverty which is one of the major reasons that cause prostitution business. Poverty is the system that communizes and dehumanizes the bodies and person of women and children of both sexes for the use and profit of men. Prostitution in Nigeria is a serious social problem and its solution has been rendered difficult by the problem of poverty.

Prostitution has become rampant in our society today among female undergraduate students mainly because they see selling of their bodies as the fastest way of getting income for their keeps. According to Misi (2008),

prostitution is the use of one's body for the purpose of remuneration or consideration of any form. It could also be addressed as sexual promiscuity. From the results, the influence of poverty among female students showed a significant relationship with practice of sexual intercourse in returns of payment. It was observed that poverty which predisposes female students to practice of prostitution could be caused by unemployment, laziness to work and inadequate payment. These students cannot find part time jobs to sustain themselves. More so, even when there are menial jobs, some students are lazy to work and some that do part time jobs are inadequately paid.

From the findings of the research, it showed that prostitution is influenced by peer pressure (77.5%). These students mingle with bad peers and succumb to their pressure because they had poor family upbringing and lack self control. As indicated in the result, parents derailed in the role of counseling, adequate monitoring of their children in the school and financial support. Also, the university authority failed to strike the right balance between ensuring students liberty and enforcement of existing campus students code of conduct with was similar to what was observed in the studies tertiary institutions in Municipal (Olugbile et al, 2008).

Female students use practice of sexual intercourse with male lecturers to obtain academic favours as strongly shown in the result (68.5%). This agrees with Alufohai (2007) who stressed that sex consumers including lecturers pleasure in exploring the lower classes by offering mouth watering opportunities in exchanging for sex.

Certain practices such as, female students engaging sexual intercourse with opposite sexing return for payment, Students exhibiting maximum body exposure at night in order to lure men into sex for favour and female students sleeping with male lecturers for academic favour were perceived bad practices that leads to prostitution among students.

Nigerian youth today see prostitution as an easy business that generates fast money. The payment students prefer for engaging in sexual intercourse with opposite sex are money. This agrees with Olite and Ogonwo (2010) who defines prostitution as the grating of sexual intercourse to men in return for money.

Female student exhibit maximum exposure at night in order to lure men into sex for favour and they could be seen outside hostel or at hot sports or at nearby cities. This agrees with Oligbile et al (2008), who opined that sexual promiscuity is very rampant in Nigeria Universities and the average

campus has several networks. Most of these students stand outside their hostels and halls to solicit for business. The hardened ones who see their campuses as too boring do not operate inside the University campuses. They brazenly take their trade directly to their customers at night to nearby cities, clubs or hot spots that would give them maximum exposure to men who will like to patronize them.

The rate of increase in practice of prostitution could be that the university authorities have failed to strike the right balance between ensuring student's liberty and enforcement of existing campus codes of conduct which was similar to what was observed in the studies tertiary institutions in metropolis (Olugbile et al., 2008).

According to Okon (2008), young female undergraduates of tertiary institution mainly between the ages of 18-25 years, take advantage of the proximity of their school to the major cities, leave their campuses dorms on Fridays, pretending to be going home for the weekend, but to their actual destination at high brow brothels, night clubs and streets in different cities. Okon further reported that, in most cases the female undergraduates return back to the school after the weekend with large sum of money.

On the aspect of perception of students on health implications of practice prostitution, the findings showed that they have a good knowledge of health implications of practice of prostitution. Highest percentage (91.8%) of them stated Prostitution is associated with the spread of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) such as gonorrhoea, syphilis, candida, herpes vaginalis and worst of all HIV/AIDS.

Poroma et al (2015), opined that most cases of infertility are caused by being promiscuous thereby infected by numerous infected customers or acquaintances. Most female or male infertility, he added, can be attributed to husbands and wives who patronize sex hawkers and bring home infections and sexually transmitted diseases. In all prostitutes are at risk and are also sometime the target of serial killers who may consider them easy targets, or use the religious and social stigma associated with prostitutes as justification for their murder (Maxwell, 2000).

Also, drugs like cocaine, marijuana and alcohol are used most frequently by these girls at the expense of their health. They are also mostly under the influence of “psychotropic drugs” that put them in a state of fearlessness and shamelessness (Janice, 2008).

Conclusion

The base line information got from the study was collated and analyzed and it showed that there are significant ($P < 0.05$) relationship between perceived predisposing factors such as poverty, peer pressure, uncontrolled liberty and freedom from school, obtain academic favour, and the practice of prostitution among female students. Some practices exhibited by undergraduate students as engaging in sex with opposite sex for payment, maximum body exposure at night to lure men into sex to favour and sleep with male lecturers lead to practice of prostitution. However, most of the students have good perception of health implications of practice of prostitution. They know that prostitution is associated with spread of sexually transmitted infection (STDs) such as gonorrhoea, syphilis, Candida, herpes virginals and worst of all, HIV/AIDS.

Recommendations

Based on the findings of the study, the following recommendations were necessary such as;

1. Government should endeavour to provide jobs, (full time, part time or holiday jobs) for students to enable them get money for their up keeps and student should be encourage to work and learn to avoid poverty and it consequences.

2. Parents should not neglect their role of financial support, continuous counseling and monitoring of their children while in University.
3. The school should empower their disciplinary committee and security services to strike balance between students liberty and enforcement of campus code of conduct.
4. There should be continuous sexual health education to students because prostitution is associated with the spread of sexually transmitted infection (STIs) such as gonorrhoea, syphilis, Candida, herpes virginals and worst of all HIV/AIDS. Also if prostitution is not arrested, it will affect the health of the family, destroy the moral standard of the society and, destroy the quality of education in Nigeria.
5. Government should empower law enforcement agencies at local, state and national levels on seeing prostitutions as a criminal offence because it contributes immensely to the depletion of human resources which is a key factor in national development as infection rate of HIV and other deadly sexually transmitted diseases among prostitutes.

5.4 Suggestion for Future Research

- (1) This study was delimited to female undergraduates of tertiary institutions in Owerri Municipal; it could be extended to other tertiary institutions in the state and beyond.
- (2) Prevalence of sexual transmitted infections among female students of tertiary institution in Owerri Urban Imo State Nigeria can be studied

5.5 Limitation of Study

The following limitations were encountered in the course of carrying out this research work. Time factor and transportation were major constraints in distribution and collection of questionnaire from female undergraduates.

In spite of the assurance of confidentiality given to the respondents, response bias was still suspected, some of the respondents may not have been honest on their responses.

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QUESTIONNAIRE

Perceived Factors Influencing the Practice of Prostitution Among Female Undergraduates of Tertiary Institutions in Owerri Municipal, Imo State

Dept of public Health Technology,
School of Health Technology,
Federal University of Technology,
Owerri –Imo State.

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Dear Respondent,

I am a master degree student of Public Health Department of Federal University of Technology Owerri, undertaking a research on the Perceived Factors Influencing the Practice of Prostitution Among Female Undergraduates of Tertiary Institutions in Owerri Municipal, Imo State

Please feel free to answer the questions in the questionnaire and your responses will be kept confidential.

Thank you.

Yours Sincerely,

Ori Ebere. C.

QUESTIONNAIRE

Section A

Personal Data

Instruction: please tick (✓) against the appropriate answer where applicable.

1. Level of study
100 level
200 level
300 level
400 level
500 level and above
2. Age
Below 20 years
20-29 years
30-39 years
40 years and above
3. Marital status
Single
Married
Divorced

Section B: Perceived Predisposing Factors influencing the practice of prostitution among female undergraduates

1. Would you say that poverty Predisposes female undergraduates to prostitution.
Yes No
If yes, what causes poverty

Laziness to do minor jobs to support oneself Unemployment

Inadequate payment

2. Could prostitution among female undergraduates be attributed to peer pressure
 Yes No
 If yes, why do students yield to peer pressure;
 poor family up bringing poor spiritual growth/ lack of self control,
 Others (specify)
3. Could dereliction of parental role on their children lead to prostitution among female undergraduates? Yes No
 If yes, this could be inform of;
 Poor financial support from parents poor counseling from parents
 others (specify)
4. Would you say that uncontrolled liberty and freedom the school gives students makes them to exhibit unacceptable behaviours like prostitution
 yes No
 If yes, the uncontrolled liberty and freedom be as a result of;
 Inefficient security services in the school
 Students being allowed to leave off campus
 Others (specify)
5. Do female undergraduates use prostitution as a means of obtaining academic success from male lecturers Yes No
 If yes, who initiates the act.
 The male lecturer intimidate the female student
 The female undergraduate lure/seduce the male lecturers
 Both are involved

Section C: Perceived practices that leads to prostitution among female undergraduates.

1. Female students engaged in sexual intercourse with opposite in return for payment?
 Yes No
 If yes, what form of payment do they receive?
 Money gift/material things oral promises.
2. From your experience and observation, do you think female undergraduates engage in any of the following below–so as to get maximum exposure to men at night.
 Stand outside the hostels, go to nearby cities, go to hot spots

- Do they come back with these; money, gifts others (specify)
3. Would you say that female undergraduates sleep with male lecturers
 Yes No
- If yes, what could be their reason?
 For academic success, source of protection
 Other favours (specify)
4. Would you rate the level of prostitution among female undergraduates as;
 Relatively high, moderate, relatively low.

Section D: Perception of Health Implications of Practice of prostitution

From your experience and observation;

1. Would you say that prostitution among female undergraduates results to unwanted pregnancies and abortions.
 Yes No
- If yes could it be due to; Lack of family planning knowledge
 Non use of family planning devices/methods Others (specify)
2. Could you say prostitution cause sexually transmitted infections such as HIV/AIDS, Gonorrhoea, syphilis, candidiasis, etc.
 Yes No
- If yes, could it be as a result of
 Unprotected sexual intercourse
 Frequent contacts with multiple clients
 Others (specify)
3. Prostitution predisposes one to cancer of cervix and other organs
 If yes, could it be due to
 Frequent contraction of HPV
 Habit of abuse of substance like hard drugs, alcohol, smoking etc
 Other reasons
4. Does prostitution among female undergraduates lead them to drug abuse, excessive alcohol intake and smoking
 Yes No
- If yes, what might be the reason for their intake of drugs, alcohol and smoking?
 For relief of pain
 To be high and to be bold
 Others (specify)

APPENDIX

Influence of poverty among female students and Practice of sexual intercourse with opposite sex in return for payment

Table 5 showed the influence of poverty among female students and practice of sexual intercourse with opposite sex in return for payment; majority (184) of them agreed and Pearson Chi-Square (X^2) test showed significant relationship ($X^2 = 87.86$; $df = 1$ at P-value of 0.001).

Table 5: Poverty causes prostitution among female students * Practice of sexual intercourse with opposite in return for payment

Poverty causes prostitution among female students		Practice of sexual intercourse with opposite sex in return for payment		Total	
		Yes	No		
Poverty causes prostitution among female students	Yes	Count	184	134	318
		Expected Count	146.3	171.7	318.0
	No	Count	0	82	82
		Expected Count	37.7	44.3	82.0
Total	Count		184	216	400
	Expected Count		184.0	216.0	400.0

Pearson Chi-Square (X^2) = 87.86; $df = 1$ at P-value of 0.001

Relationship between causes of poverty as predisposing factors of prostitution and Practice of sexual intercourse with opposite sex in return for payment

Table 6 showed the relationship between causes of poverty as predisposing factors of prostitution and practice of sexual intercourse with opposite sex in return for payment; laziness to do job (147), unemployment (37) and inadequate payment of salary (0) supported the relationship. Using Pearson Chi-Square (X^2) test, the result showed a significant relationship ($X^2 = 224.746$; $df = 2$ at P-value of 0.001).

Table 6: Relationship between causes of poverty as predisposing factors of prostitution * Practice of sexual intercourse with opposite sex in return for payment

Causes of poverty as predisposing factors of prostitution			Practice of sexual intercourse with opposite sex in return for payment		Total
			Yes	No	
Causes of poverty as predisposing factors of prostitution	Laziness to do job	Count	147	0	147
		Expected Count	85.1	61.9	147.0
	Unemployment	Count	37	59	96
		Expected Count	55.5	40.5	96.0
	Inadequate payment	Count	0	75	75
		Expected Count	43.4	31.6	75.0
Total		Count	184	134	318
		Expected Count	184.0	134.0	318.0

Pearson Chi-Square (X^2) = 224.746; $df = 2$ at P-value of 0.001

Influence of peer pressure and Practice of sexual intercourse with opposite sex in return for payment.

Table 7 showed the influence of peer pressure and practice of sexual intercourse with opposite sex in return for payment;; Counted yes (184) supported the peer pressure influence. Using Pearson Chi-Square (X^2) test, the result showed a significant relationship ($X^2 = 98.93$; $df = 1$ at P-value of 0.001).

Table 7: Influence of peer pressure * Practice of sexual intercourse with opposite sex in return for payment

Influence of peer pressure			Practice of sexual intercourse with opposite sex in return for payment		Total
			Yes	No	
Influence of peer pressure	Yes	Count	184	126 _b	310
		Expected Count	142.6	167.4	310.0
	No	Count	0	90	90
		Expected Count	41.4	48.6	90.0
Total	Count		184	216	400
	Expected Count		184.0	216.0	400.0

Pearson Chi-Square (X^2) = 98.93; $df = 1$ at P-value of 0.001

Relationship between reason for peer influence and Practice of sexual intercourse with opposite sex in return for payment

Table 8 showed the relationship between attribute of peer pressure and practice of sexual intercourse with opposite sex in return for payment; in poor family upbringing was strongly associated (174), poor spiritual growth (37) and lack of self control (0) supported the relationship. Using Pearson Chi-Square (X^2) test, the result showed a significant relationship ($X^2 = 277.97$; $df = 2$ at P-value of 0.001).

Table 8: Relationship between reason for peer influence * Practice of sexual intercourse with opposite sex outside marriage

Reason for peer influence			Practice of sexual intercourse with opposite sex in return for payment		Total
			Yes	No	
Reason for peer influence	Poor family upbringing	Count	174	0	174
		Expected Count	103.3	70.7	174.0
	Poor spiritual growth	Count	10	34	44
		Expected Count	26.1	17.9	44.0
	Lack of self control	Count	0	92	92
		Expected Count	54.6	37.4	92.0
Total	Count	184	126	310	
	Expected Count	184.0	126.0	310.0	

Pearson Chi-Square (X^2) = 277.97; $df = 2$ at P-value of 0.001

Influence of age of the respondents and Practice of sexual intercourse with opposite sex in return for payment

Table 9 showed the influence of age and practice of sexual intercourse in return for payment; below 20 years was strongly associated (108), 20-29 years (76) and 30-39 years (0) supported the relationship. Using Pearson Chi-Square (X^2) test, the result showed a significant relationship ($X^2 = 301.66$; $df = 2$ at P-value of 0.001).

Table 9: Age of the respondents * Practice of sexual intercourse with opposite sex outside marriage

Age of the respondents		Practice of sexual intercourse with opposite sex in return for payment		Total	
		Yes	No		
Age of the respondents	Below 20 years	Count	108	0	108
		Expected Count	49.7	58.3	108.0
	20-29 years	Count	76	36	112
		Expected Count	51.5	60.5	112.0
	30-39 years	Count	0	180	180
		Expected Count	82.8	97.2	180.0
Total		Count	184	216	400
		Expected Count	184.0	216.0	400.0

Pearson Chi-Square (X^2) = 301.66; $df = 2$ at P-value of 0.001

Age of the respondents and form of payment received for engaging in sexual intercourse with opposite sex.

Table 10 showed the influence of age and form of payment received for engaging in sexual intercourse with opposite sex; payment inform of money was strongly associated (127), inform of materials gifts (51) and oral promises (6) supported the relationship. Using person Ch-square (x^2) test, the result showed a significant relationship ($x^2 = 117.35$, $df = 2$ at P.value of 0.001).

Table 10: Age of the respondents * Forms of payment for engaging in sexual intercourse with opposite sex

Age of the respondents			Forms of payment for engaging in sexual intercourse			Total
			inform of money	inform of material gifts	Due to oral promises	
Age of the respondents	Below 20 years	Count	108	0	0	108
		Expected Count	74.5	29.9	3.5	108.0
	20-29 years	Count	19	51	6	76
		Expected Count	51.5	20.0	2.0	76.0
	30-39 years	Count	0	0	0	184
		Expected Count	1.0	1.1	0.5	184.0
Total			127	51	6	184

Pearson Chi-Square (X^2) = 117.35; $df = 2$ at P-value of 0.001