**EDUCATION AS A TOOL FOR CURBING FEMALE TRAFFICKING:**

**A CASE STUDY OF EGOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF EDO STATE**

**Abstract**

The study focuses on the role of education in curbing human trafficking in Edo State. The study is to confirm that with the present educational system and the various governmental and non governmental system agencies efforts, female trafficking can be brought barest minimum. The study reveals from instrument used that many people are aware of the danger consequences of female trafficking but they are adamant to the various efforts put in place by these agencies to curb it. Finally, with recommendation which can further help to stop this special menance

**CHAPTER ONE**

**INTRODUCTION**

**Background Of The Study**

What a world we live in a male framed world where global economics sets in a concrete a system of winners and losers with poverty disadvantages, and minimal choice for many as the consequences.

The climate is ripe for men’s sexual exploitation of women without bounds abuse of the worst kind, women are setup to lose in this system and the like buzzards circling around a curbing member of the hard, business men prey upon the globes most disadvantage women, entrapping them within their web despicable sex slavery enterprises trading women far and wide as sex chatters.

The business of trafficking in human is today organized by groups that are also involved in weapon and harcotics colliding with government officials in dozen countries there is very little doubt that it is lucrative business and maybe one of the most difficult to combat. They are less visible than those caused by gun running and trafficking of women In developing world, middlemen are able to bring together the supply and demand for cheap labour and sex in ways that would have simply been unthinkable not long ago. Though, the fact of human trafficking is not difficult to understand on its own, its dimensions and categorization continue to multiply by the day.

Suffice to say that bad government led to severe economic hardship on the masses. Then come the structural adjustment programme (SAP) introduce in 1989 with its anti poor condition amities leading the generation of the economic migrants and the phenomenon of brain drain amongst these economic migrants are today’s trafficked women and abuse children who for want something to eat, ignorance or greed or a combination of these feel victims of the international process of co modification of human beings, veracious sexual perverts and organized criminal syndicate.

The educational sector has many lapses which have indirectly affected the economy. The over dependent and emphasis on paper certification neither has nor helped in the development of the schools curriculum. The mass brain drain has created loopholes in the educational system. This has made some so called educated people to be susceptible to trafficking. How can one explain that has reap up to the one level will agrees to be trafficked by a complete illiterate business women who cannot even express herself fluently in English language or a graduate from a Nigeria university to be traffic these sets of people are supposedly educated and should be asset to a nation but have turned into a public enemy. The educational curriculum might have over sighted this problem, therefore the room was created for this social ill.

The subjects that deals on morals that is christain religious knowledge and the Islamic religions knowledge are gradually phasing out as teachers but staunched these courses are not being employed by some employers. Social studies which expose our children to the vices and virtues in the society is only studies in the junior secondary classes. So students cannot but cope with the make believe life of affluence, greed which has made female trafficking a huge success in our society.

**Statement Of Problem**

The problem under focus is enormous, female trafficking as presently practiced is a recent addition to the dictionary of global loves. Trafficking tends to be systematic in its occurrence especially that its span increases as the globalization process intensives. Through previously in existence of prostitution today, contemporary female trafficking is an organized business just as Atlantic slave around the globe. Today, not only young girls are trafficked but teenagers and mothers of children. This phenomenon spells doom to female education and consequently national development.

Hence, this attempts to investigate how education can be used as a tool to curb female trafficking.

**Purpose Of The Study**

The purpose of the study is to look more closely at the role of education in curbing female trafficking which appears not to have been given attention to until recently.

Although, one cannot substitute the stolen life of one person for that of another education is effective in the battle against female trafficking.

It is a jobs sounds too good to be true, it is probably is, education also works to create a skilled population and helps to reduce poverty which is one of the driving forces for women who seek unskilled job opportunities abroad, trafficking of female, opportunity offered by schools, opportunity offered by schools, trade learning centres in order to be trafficked, it is done sometimes by their wish or against their wish.

These are traffickers otherwise known as (trolleys or machines) unread them with their material possessions and promise of better life abroad.

**Research Questions**

1. Are students educated regarding the evil of female trafficking in schools?

2. Are students aware of the strategies to adopt when they threatened with trafficking?

3. Are secondary school students equipped with useful skills to have a successful living?

4. Are parents aware of the danger of female trafficking?

**Significance Of The Study**

The study is to show case the role of education in curbing female trafficking in Edo state.

Education comes from the latin world “Educare” which means to “draw out” education is a process which is viewed as a instrument for transmitting cultural heritage from elders to young ones. In this process one learns a trade or skill.

Education can also be considered as a tool to be used for the interrogation of individuals into the society to achieve self realization, develop consciousness, promote unity and strive for social economic, scientific, cultural and technological process.

With these meaning of education, it is a sure tool in curbing female trafficking and also to create awareness in every female trafficking and there is dignity in realizing your dream and being educated with help you to attain any status in life. Thus, the result of this study will help to solve the problems arising from female trafficking

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The scope of this study in Edo state but narrowed to the schools in Ovia north east local government area in the state.

This is because Bini speaking, news, research, observation show that girls have been with drawn from schools, trade learning centres in order to be trafficked. It is done sometimes with their consent or against their wish, these traffickers (trolleys madams) have lure them with their possessions and promise of better life abroad.

The selected schools are:

1. Nifor secondary school, Nifor

2. Ebomisi secondary school, Ugbogiobo

3. Ezomo College, Ora

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Female trafficking: the act of sending young girls and women abroad for prostitution.

Sex chattels: personal, object for sexual exploitation.

Trolleysme: persons involved in trafficking

Madams: persons involve in trafficking and also force them into prostitutions abroad

**CHAPTER TWO**

**LITERATURE REVIEW**

**2.1 Review of Theoretical Literature**

**Human Trafficking and Organised Crime**

Sutherland (1937) defined organized crime as a strong parasite that grew in the absence of a strong government. In as much as organized crime, like human trafficking, is a social parasite, its presence is not enough to classify a government as a weak one. This follows from the way the cartels operate, aided with sophisticated technologies and huge profits they make from their business, especially the illegitimate ones. These make it quite difficult to topple them. Cressey (1969), in his contribution, compared organized criminal cartels to a corporation, with board of directors. Bequai (1979), supported the contribution of Cressey by likening organized criminal groups to big businesses that go on domestically and internationally. In 1960, the American government set up a commission, referred to as the President’s Commission, to study organized crime. The commission reported that organized crime is a society that seeks to operate outside the control of the American people and their governments. The commission reported that organized crime involves thousands of criminals, working within structures as complex as those of any large corporation. The criminal groups, according to the commission are subjected to laws more rigidly enforced than those of legitimage governments (Cable News Network, 2003). The organized criminal groups have branches in cities and their major aim is profit maximization. The National Advisory Committee on Criminal Justice Standards and Goals, in America, reported that organized crime is a type of conspiratorial crime, involving a hierarchical co-ordination of a number of persons in the planning and execution of illegal acts. (Cable News Network, 2003).

Aside from the nature of organized crime, efforts have been made to reveal the structure of organized crime. According to Albini (1979), organized crime has a highly organized structure. The person at the head is called the ‘don’ or ‘boss’. The boss makes all the important decisions. Reporting to the boss, is the underboss, who, like the vice president of a company, acts in absence of the president of the company (Albanese, 1985:211-232). The underboss also serves as a mediator between the boss and the lower-level management. The lower level management comprises soldiers who own illicit and licit businesses under the protection of the ‘crime family’ (Ianni and Ianni, 1979:1101). According to Zastrow (1990), organized crime is a large scale operation in which illegal activities are carried out as part of a well designed plan, developed by a large organization that is seeking to maximize profit. Organized criminal groups carry out their nefarious activities through well designed strategies; their major motivation is money making. Organized crime has also been defined as a conspiracy of several persons, motivated for the purpose of economic enrichment. It primarily involves the production and distribution of illegal goods and services, and there exists the potential for corruption and/or violence to facilitate the criminal process (Deroches, 2007:831). Organized crime is crime committed in an organized and systematic manner by a number of persons, in an ongoing association, or group whose primary motivation for association is to gain profit and or influence (Victoria Police Website – 2007). These definitions, also explain human trafficking as a crime carried out by a syndicate, and not an individual or one-man crime. Human trafficking is carried out by criminally minded people that work together with the aim of making money by exploiting the labour of other people. The international trafficking trade appears to be highly organized, involving sophisticated international networks of procurers, escorts, organizers, financiers, corrupt officials and brothel operators (Kelly and Regan, 1999:55). This is in line with Zastrow’s explanation of the organization and activities of organized crime. The American Embassy in Lagos reported that trafficking in women is more of a localized cottage industry involving Nigerian criminal syndicates (US Department of State, 2003). According to the studies by Trafficking Victims Protection and Reuauthorization Board (2008), there are three types of Human Trafficking: migrant smuggling, sex trafficking and labour trafficking. Forte (2006) in his research in New York identified these three major types of human trafficking. Migrant smuggling according to him, is a form of trafficking in which smugglers assist migrants with their consent, to cross a national border, while sex trafficking is the trafficking in humans for the purpose of sexual exploitation. Victims of sex trafficking are forced into commercial sex industry – pornography, prostitution, stripping, live-sex shows or illegitimate message parlors or escort services (Forte, 2006). Still on sex trafficking, the U.S. Department of State estimates that about 70 percent of all victims of international human trafficking are forced into the commercial sex industry, and half of all victims are children. With regard to labour trafficking, Forte said the practice is for the purpose of using humans for forced and indentured servitude such as maids, sweatshop factory hands, migrant agricultural workers or construction site labourers. In addition, because of the high level of poverty in the rural areas, parents and families give out their children to foster parents who engage these children in street hawking and domestic work (UNICEF, 1999). According to Kloer, (2011) Kamlari is a Nepali system of indentured servitude where young Tharu girls, a lower caste, are sold to wealthy landlords and brokers for a fee each year. Kloer, also from her research, revealed that most chocolates produced in foreign countries, including America, are made with cocoa produced by child labour or forced labour. The offending countries include Cameroon, Cote d’ivore, Ghana, Guinea and Nigeria.

**2.2 Review of Empirical Literature**

**The Trends in Human Trafficking**

The study of human trafficking in Togo, conducted by the Human Rights Watch (2003), documents the problems of internal and external human trafficking. The research which was carried out in Lome and 13 towns and villages in the country, sampled 90 trafficked children who had been released by their traffickers or who had fled and were identified by local authorizes. In-depth interviews were also conducted with 32 local governments, NGO and foreign embassy officials, judges, parents, teachers, police and social workers. Of the 90 children interviewed, 72 or 80% (41 girls and 31 boys) were trafficked according to the UN trafficking Protocol; 13 were trafficked internally within Togo, 24 were trafficked outside Togo to Gabon, Benin, Nigeria and Niger; and 4 were trafficked to Togo from Benin, Nigeria and Ghana. This procedure however, omitted other trafficked persons who were unable to escape.

**2.3 Elements of Human Trafficking**

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC, 2009), identified three elements of human trafficking;

**The Act (What is done) –** Recruitment, transportation, transfer, habouring or receipt of person under the act.

 The means (how it is done): the traffickers use force, fraud, coercion, abduction, threat, deception, or the abuse of power to gain control over the victim.  The end (why it is done): the victim is exploited through forced labour, involuntary servitude, slavery, debt bondage or commercial sex acts and the removal of organs. These elements were also identified by the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Board (2008). 2.4 Trafficking in Females Butegwa (1997) carried out research, based on in-depth interviews in Uganda, Kenya, Mali, Cameroon, Namibia, Tanzania, Zambia and Nigeria. The report is designed to sensitize African Women’s rights, NGO’s to the magnitude of trafficking in women. He discovered that many women are ignorant of trafficking in human beings. Not much is available on the methodology used for this study. Laczko and Gramegna (2003) carried out a research in South Africa for the International Organisation for Migrantion’s (IOM). The study covered Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland and South Africa’s 4 major cities. The study focused on the various definitions of trafficking, the legal dimension, and the trafficking of women and children for sexual exploitation. Of the 232 interviews conducted, 25 trafficked women and children from 11 countries were identified. This confirmed the existence of trafficking in persons to the level it could be called a social problem. Trafficking in females is the use of force and/or deception to transfer females (children and adults) into situations of extreme exploitation. It is a thriving international business in our increasingly interconnected global economy. Going by the research carried out by Cree (2008), approximately 800,000 men, women and children are kidnapped and transported every year. 8 out of 10 of the people trafficked in the world are women or girls and half of the trafficking victims are children. Examples of this may include Latvian women threatened and forced to dance nude in Chicago, Thai women brought to the United States for the sex industry, but then forced to be virtual sex slaves, ethnically Korean-Chinese women held as indentured servants in the commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and hearing-impaired and mute Mexicans brought to the United States, enslaved, beaten and forced to peddle trinkets in New York City. Girls from Nigeria are also lured to Italy with promises of work as bar girls, waitresses or models. They are then forced upon arrival to undress and parade nude before fellow Nigerians who pay $9, 000 to $30,000 depending on the girl’s age and physical attributes (US Department of States: 2003). The International Labour Organisation, ILO (2000) puts the number of children and women shipped across national boundaries and sold into modern day slavery at between 700, 000 to 1000,000. According to the ILo, about 500,000 of these people are brought into the United States of America and Europe for sexual and domestic servitude. Profits made from trafficking in females is a major source of income for the crime rings. According to the studies by the FBI (2006), generally some 9 billion dollar profits is generated from female trafficking every year, only that it is rooted in one of the world’s oldest evils – the enslavement of women. From some of the studies carried out so far, one can deduce some of the continuum of exploitation and abuse these female victims of trafficking face. On one end of the continuum are trafficking cases, characterized by slavery or slavery like treatment of the victims. On the other end is the criminal exploitation they face. Research conducted by University of California at Berkely on behalf of the antitrafficking organization Free the Slaves found that about 46% of people in slavery in the United States are forced into prostitution. Domestic Servitude claims 27%, agriculture 10% and other occupations 7%. In Japan, the prosperous entertainment market had created huge demand for commercial sex workers, and such demand is being met by trafficking women and children from the Philippines, Colombia and Thailand. Women are forced into street prostitution, base stripping and live sex acts. However, from information obtained from detainees or deportees from Japan, about 80% of the women went there with the intention of working as prostitutes (Global Survival Network Report 1999).

**2.5 Causes of Women Trafficking**

Castle and Diarra (2003) carried out a research in Mali, focusing on the causes, context and consequences of youth trafficking in 4 communities at risk. In all, 950 youths were purposively sampled. The research identified variety of contextual migration, of which trafficking is an important subject. The youth (10-18 year olds) migrant basically to fulfill the demand for cheap labour. Veil (1998) researched into trafficking in young girls as domestic workers in 10 West and Central African countries including Nigeria. The research was based on secondary, archival documents and studies by UNICEF, the ILO, NGOs and research institutes. The research documented the following as factors responsible for human trafficking:

 **Demand for Cheap Labour:** Changes in formal and informal economies have increased the global demand for cheap and malleable labour-in many areas of the world. Mobile workers are often sought to fulfill low-skill and service sector jobs. Lack of employment and educational opportunities in villages or poor urban areas have created a ready pool of vulnerable workers (US Department of State, 2003).

 **Male Domination:** Apart from the economic factor, some poople balme women’s trafficking on the fact that women in Third World countries are held in low esteem and consequently manipulated and controlled by a male-dominated society. One of such persons is Jane Edeki of the African Women Empowerment Group (AWEG), a nongovernmental advocate group based in Nigeria. From their research, Edeki asserted that if women were empowered by the male-dominated society, they would not lend themselves easily to being trafficked (Oshadare, 2004). Imokhuede (2001) is of the view that the traditions of Nigeria are characterized with beliefs that put women in a position of inferiority. Edeki’s view is subjective because even in the advanced societies of the West, gender inequality abounds. Therefore, inequality in terms of gender empowerment cannot be enough and sufficient motivation for some African women to consent to their being trafficked.

 **Weakness of Legislations:** The seminal study conducted by Hughes, Sporcic, Mendelson and Chigwin (2005) covering Japan, Bosnia and Herzegovina is very revealing. An added causative factor of trafficking in women is the total absence, in some cases, of legislation criminalizing the practice as well as the non-enforcement of such legislations in countries where they exist. Hughes et al reported that although the Israeli Knesses (Parliament) amended the criminal code to make the buying and selling of human beings for prostitution a criminal offence, the law had little impact as trafficked women were not treated as victims but as criminals and illegal aliens. The studies by Dana (2011), in United Kingdom revealed that United Kingdom has demonstrated repeatedly that it is unable to protect the victims of trafficking. The little she has done so far was through international help.

In Nigeria, the absence of a specific legislation against human trafficking within and from the country to other countries until recently may have watered the ground for women and girl traffickers to carry out their nefarious activities. It took the pioneering effort and campaigns by the Women Trafficking and Child Labour Eradication Foundation, WOTCLEF and a coalition of other advocacy groups against the practice of women trafficking to bring the issue of women trafficking to the front burner of national discourse. In summary therefore, the major causes of women trafficking are widespread poverty sparking off the push-pull factors, high level of illiteracy, unemployment and poor living standards as well as burdens of poverty and desperation of poor and illiterate parents who are ignorant of the impact of human trafficking (UNICEF, 2004).

**2.6 Methods and Techniques of Trafficking**

Afonja (2001) carried out research in Edo and Delta States of Nigeria. The study used structured questionnaires, indepth interviews and Focused Group Discussion to elicit information from households heads, women and girls at risk, victims of human trafficking, NGOs and other stakeholders making up a sample size of 500. The researcher noted that participation in trafficking involves a third party, which takes the form of invitation from family members, friends, even strangers, who approach either the household heads or the girls concerned. The so called Italios, adolescents aged 10 – 19 year olds, their sponsors, and host in the country of destination are involved in the human trafficking process. Before departure from the state, rituals are performed by the parents, Italios and sponsors to cement a covenant between them, to protect them from being apprehended and to incur favour with their employers. Parents involved in initiating the contractual arrangements provide all or part of the funds for the journey and may also be indebted to the sponsors. Trafficking of girls and women from Nigeria is said to be especially well organized and centres on a female figure called “Mama” or “Madam”. She plays a key role in luring young women to leave their homes for Italy. The trafficking web is organized at three levels; the first centres around “Mama” living in the country of origin; the second centres around the Nigerian “Mama” in Italy; and the third, the “Messengers” – the persons transferring the money from Italy to Nigeria (IOM, 196). As part of the ‘recruitment’ drive, Nigerian girls are contracted in the suburbs of cities such as Lagos or Benin City and in the country side in the South and East. Many of those who are trafficked to Europe for prostitution have tended to be of the Ibo tribe and from Edo and Delta States (Pearson, 2002). Nwokeoma (2010) carried out a study on the opinion and perception on factors affecting human trafficking in Imo and Edo States of Nigeria. He adopted cross sectional survey design and used multistage random sampling processes to achieve a required sample size of 1200. He utilized both primary and secondary sources of data. The findings established a high level of human trafficking in both states. In Edo state however, there was a higher level of trafficking in women but recorded higher level of child trafficking in Imo state. He recorded that the traffickers were mostly close relatives and surprisingly parents. The age group of persons with most vulnerability of being trafficked are 15 – 24 for women, and 6 – 15 for children. The victims were also found to go through traditional forms of bondage to ensure loyalty and obedience to the exploiters. The victims of trafficking are controlled through many different ways: physically, through beatings, burnings, rapes and starvation; emotionally, through isolation, psychological abuse, drug dependency and threats against family members in home countries and financially through debt bondage and threat of deportation (FBI, 2006).

**2.7 Consequences of Female Trafficking**

Trafficking in women is a global problem affecting large numbers of girls and women. It is lucrative and is linked with criminal activity and corruption, as it is often hidden and hard to address. The research carried out by IOM (1996), pointed out that women who have been trafficked face a range of dangers, including violence and sexual abuse. In some cases, trafficked women encounter State complicity as they are arrested and detained as illegal aliens. The Women’s Consortium of Nigeria, (WOCON), a Nigeria-based advocacy group that provides support for victims of trafficking, reported in their study that some employers disclosed the identify of trafficked women to immigration officials as illegal aliens, resulting in the deportation of such victims, often under inhuman conditions (WOCON, 2000). WOCON reported that between March 23, and July 19, 2000, a total of 247 Nigerian girls and women whose ages range from 18 to 38 years were deported from Italy, Saudi Arabia, Holland, South Africa, Togo and Mali to Nigeria. Of the number, those from Italy were 163, Saudi Arabi 17, Holland 20, South Africa 2, Togo 41, while 4 were deported from Mali. According to the report, Edo State had the highest number of 162 deportees adding that 26 of the deportees tested positive to the Human Immune Virus/Acquired Deficiency Syndrome, HIV/AIDS. The consequences of human trafficking are:

\*  Human trafficking undermines public health. It brutalizes men, women and children, exposes them to rape, torture, and HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted and infectious diseases violence, dangerous working conditions, poor nutrition, and drug and alcohol addiction. Trafficking into the sex industry has serious societal consequences as it contributes to the spread of HIV and AIDS. Some trafficked women were required to engage in unprotected sex. Particularly disturbing is the case uncovered by Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), where at least one trafficker was purchasing HIV positive female because he found them to be cheap labour (Richard, 1999). Increasing numbers of adults and children trafficked into prostitution suffer severe psychological trauma from separation, coercion, sexual abuse, and depression often leads to life of crime, drug and alcohol addiction, and sexual violence.

\*  Human trafficking deprives countries of human capital. Trafficking has a negative impact on the labour market in many countries, this contributes to an irretrievable loss of human resources for developing countries. Long-term effects of trafficking include depressed wages for all workers, a lower number of individuals left to care for an increasing number of elderly persons, social imbalance in the proportion of males to females, and an undereducated generation. Forcing children to work at an early age and subjecting them to 10 to 18 hours of work per day, denies them access to the education necessary to break the cycle of poverty and illiteracy that makes conditions ripe for trafficking. At-risk individuals cannot acquire the skills necessary to compete in their country’s labour market, leaving national labour force, ill-equipped to compete in the global economy, where success is based on skilled workers. The United States Department of State Report (2003), summarized the following as consequences of trafficking in females: “violation of human rights, promotion of crime, social breakdown and deprivation of human capital”. Most of the researches done so far have proved the existence of human trafficking, factors that sustain human trafficking and its consequences. Much efforts have not been directed towards enlightening the persons at risk, especially women, in order to reduce the victimization rate. It is the place of this research therefore, having considered Onitsha a fertile ground for human trafficking, base don its disposition, to find on the awareness level of the inhabitants of Onitsha, on the scourge of female trafficking. This research will in turn, inform the agencies involved in managing human trafficking, whether to launch more awareness campaign in the area or not.

**2.8 Review of Relevant Theories**

**Social Disorganization Theory.**

Emile Durkheim introduced the concept of social disorganization to explain the increases in crime that accompanied the transformation of preliterate and peasant societies, where influences surrounding a person were “steady, uniform, harmonious and consistent” to modern Western civilization which he believed was characterized by inconsistency, conflict and unorganization (Sutherland, 1934:64). He also believed that capitalism and industrial development with the attendant problems, had been responsible for the disintegration of the homogenous neighborhoods and families as agents of social control. In the 1940s, American researchers, Shaw and Mckay (1942) found that delinquent offenders clustered in certain neighbourhoods in Chicago, Illinois. This clustering persisted overtime-even when the ethnic composition of the neighborhood changed dramatically. Shaw and Mckay theorized that delinquency and crime were not caused at the individual level, but are normal responses by normal individuals to abnormal social conditions. The urban areas are characterized by high rate of turnover in the population (residential instability) and mixes of people from different backgrounds (ethnic diversity). These make the urban areas endemic to crime as people facing residential instability, differences in customs and lack of shared experiences will more easily take to crime. Faris (1955) contributed to the social disorgansiation theory. He defined social disorganization as the weakening or destruction of the relationship which hold together, a social organization. Faris’ central position was that crime rate is a reflection of the degree of disorganization of the control agents, the higher the rate of disorganization of control agents, the higher the rate of crime. He further explained that high level of disorgansiation is more likely in rapidly growing industrial cities, and this could lead to highly organized criminality as well as less organized forms of group, individual crime and delinquency. In his contribution to the social disorganization theory, Sampson (1993) stated that poor, unstable communities often lack the organisation and political connections to obtain resources for fighting crime and offering young people an alternative to deviant behavior. According to him, inadequate supervision or incomplete socialization of children by family and relatives make them more likely to join gangs and further become full time criminals if social control are insufficient to address delinquent behavior at an early stage. Crime and delinquency are however, aspects of social disorganization; not its products. Differential Association Theory: This theory was developed by Sutherland (1937). He asserted that mobility, economic competition and individualistic ideology are the features that breed crime in societies. Societies with these characteristics are more likely to be fertile grounds for criminal behavior. He further explained that criminal behaviours are not inherited (biological), but rather learned behaviours, and this learning, is through social interaction with others. Sutherland proposes that through interaction with others, individuals learn the values, attitudes, techniques and motives for criminal behavior. The techniques may be simple or sophisticated. This theory focuses on how individuals learn how to become criminals but does not concern itself with why they become criminals. Strain/Anomie Theory: This theory was developed in America at the start of the 20th century. America was seen as the land of opportunity and this led to a huge wave of immigration there. Many individuals migrated in search of the American dream of prosperity, but found that the dream was not equally attainable by everyone. Strain theory was postulated by Emile Durkheim but has been advanced by Merton (1938), and Agnew (1992) to show that social structures within the society may encourage citizen to commit crime. Merton, (1938) posited that crime is not just a function of deprivation, but the result of a disjuncture or lack of connection between ends (goals) and the means of attain those ends (Lynch, 2008). According to Merton, there are culturally assigned goals and aspirations (material and non material things that all individuals should expect out of life). Then there are acceptable means of achieving the goals and aspirations (like obeying laws, seeking education and working hard). According to Merton, it is important that the culturally desired goals be achieved through legitimate means by all social classes. Often, much emphasis is placed on achieving these goals but the legitimate means are not equally attainable for some citizens. This lack of access to legitimate means leads individuals to seek the goals by whatever means necessary. According to Merton, crime is bred through this process as some people would respond to the strain/anomie between aspiration and the lack of opportunity by indulging in criminal behavior. He further asserted that individuals respond to anomie by being innovators, conformists, ritualists, retreatists, or rebels. The theory postulates that crime is concentrated among the lower classes as they have the fewest legitimate opportunities for achievement and therefore, are most vulnerable to this strain. Crime however, cuts across social classes. Agnew (1992) contributed to strain theory by correcting the erroneous impression that crime is mostly perpetrated by people in the lower class. He proposed that crime be not tied to social class. He argued that should attempts to realize goals be blocked by others, the negative effect may lead to pressure. This pressure may persuade any individual (no matter his/her social class) to adopt illegitimate means to attain the goal. Rational Choice Theory: This theory adopts a utilitarian belief that man is a reasoning actor who weighs means and ends, costs and benefits, and makes a rational choice. Cornish and Clarke (1986) see crime as an event that occurs when an offender decides to risk breaking the law after considering his or her own need for money, personal values or learning experiences and how well a target is protected, how affluent the neighbourhood is or how efficient the local police are. Before committing a crime, the reasoning criminal weighs the chances of getting caught, the severity of the expected penalty, the values to be gained by committing the act and his/her immediate need for that value. Keel (2007), in support of rational choice theory, posits that people have the freedom to choose what behaviours they engage in, and that they make those choices based on rational calculations.

**2.9 Theoretical Framework**

From the review of the relevant theories done so far, the theory of Anomie as postulated by Robert Agnew and the Rational Choice Theory of Cornish and Clarke formed the theoretical basis for this study. This is in line with the view of Barak (2006), that criminal behavior is not necessarily always simple and straight forward. In many cases, more than one theory can relate to a particular crime. Agnew (1992) revised the Anomie theory of Merton (1938) and proposed a general strain theory that is focused on the individual and not social class. The theory of Anomie posits that the social structures in the society can promote criminal behavior. When the society lays much emphasis on material wealth and accords individuals, status based on their level of wealth acquisition, it is natural that the members of that society will all seek to acquire wealth. The situation is further worsened when the means for achieving the highly valued wealth is not evenly distributed in which cases some individuals may come up with their own means which may be criminal. Agnew’s theory describes the situation in many developing countries, particularly Nigeria. According to Igbo (1999), in Nigeria, material wealth has become the yardstick for measuring success and people have come to glorify and worship material wealth regardless of how it is achieved. Nigerians accord people status and respect as they find wealth while those that do not have it are disrespected. This disrespect is further seen as a motivating factor to strive to acquire wealth, while in reality, it leads to anger and frustration. Our society elevates the wealthy to high political, traditional and even religious positions without judging whether they are valuable individuals in the society. This has led to flouting of the approved means as people embark on the search for wealth through fair of foul means including trafficking in females. The Rational Choice Theory of Cornish and Clarke (1986) was considered relevant to this study as it states that the offender risks breaking the law after considering his/her own need for money, personal values, learning experiences and how well a target is protected. Trafficking in females is an organized crime that involves a network of individuals, not a one man affair. Those that engage in this crime must have resolved within themselves to engage in it, and to them, their decision is rational. Motivated by the need for money and social gain, the individual engages in learning the skills and techniques for the crime, and so some extent, what the individual has learnt gives him confidence in his (rational) choice. Those that engage in trafficking in females equally consider how well a target is protected and the possibility of taking the victims to the desired destination. To this effect, female traffickers do not encounter much problems as the society is already agog with the desire to achieve material success. The victims are enticed when they learn that they are finally going to make much money that will earn them the desired status. The corrupt officials are “settled”, so they look the other way while these female victims are being trafficked.

**CHAPTER THREE**

**RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

**3.1 INTRODUCTION**

In this chapter, we described the research procedure for this study. A research methodology is a research process adopted or employed to systematically and scientifically present the results of a study to the research audience viz. a vis, the study beneficiaries.

**3.2 RESEARCH DESIGN**

Research designs are perceived to be an overall strategy adopted by the researcher whereby different components of the study are integrated in a logical manner to effectively address a research problem. In this study, the researcher employed the survey research design. This is due to the nature of the study whereby the opinion and views of people are sampled. According to Singleton & Straits, (2009), Survey research can use quantitative research strategies (e.g., using questionnaires with numerically rated items), qualitative research strategies (e.g., using open-ended questions), or both strategies (i.e., mixed methods). As it is often used to describe and explore human behaviour, surveys are therefore frequently used in social and psychological research.

**3.3 POPULATION OF THE STUDY**

According to Udoyen (2019), a study population is a group of elements or individuals as the case may be, who share similar characteristics. These similar features can include location, gender, age, sex or specific interest. The emphasis on study population is that it constitute of individuals or elements that are homogeneous in description.

This study was carried out to examine education as a tool for curbing female trafficking. Selected secondary schools in Egor Local Government Area Of Edo State form the population of the study.

**3.4 SAMPLE SIZE DETERMINATION**

A study sample is simply a systematic selected part of a population that infers its result on the population. In essence, it is that part of a whole that represents the whole and its members share characteristics in like similitude (Udoyen, 2019). In this study, the researcher adopted the convenient sampling method to determine the sample size.

**3.5 SAMPLE SIZE SELECTION TECHNIQUE AND PROCEDURE**

According to Nwana (2005), sampling techniques are procedures adopted to systematically select the chosen sample in a specified away under controls. This research work adopted the convenience sampling technique in selecting the respondents from the total population.

In this study, the researcher adopted the convenient sampling method to determine the sample size. Out of all the entire population of Selected secondary schools in Egor Local Government Area Of Edo State, the researcher conveniently selected 120 out of the overall population as the sample size for this study. According to Torty (2021), a sample of convenience is the terminology used to describe a sample in which elements have been selected from the target population on the basis of their accessibility or convenience to the researcher.

**3.6 RESEARCH INSTRUMENT AND ADMINISTRATION**

The research instrument used in this study is the questionnaire. A survey containing series of questions were administered to the enrolled participants. The questionnaire was divided into two sections, the first section enquired about the responses demographic or personal data while the second sections were in line with the study objectives, aimed at providing answers to the research questions. Participants were required to respond by placing a tick at the appropriate column. The questionnaire was personally administered by the researcher.

**3.7 METHOD OF DATA COLLECTION**

Two methods of data collection which are primary source and secondary source were used to collect data. The primary sources was the use of questionnaires, while the secondary sources include textbooks, internet, journals, published and unpublished articles and government publications.

**3.8 METHOD OF DATA ANALYSIS**

The responses were analysed using the frequency tables, which provided answers to the research questions.

**3.9 VALIDITY OF THE STUDY**

Validity referred here is the degree or extent to which an instrument actually measures what is intended to measure. An instrument is valid to the extent that is tailored to achieve the research objectives. The researcher constructed the questionnaire for the study and submitted to the project supervisor who used his intellectual knowledge to critically, analytically and logically examine the instruments relevance of the contents and statements and then made the instrument valid for the study.

**3.10 RELIABILITY OF THE STUDY**

The reliability of the research instrument was determined. The Pearson Correlation Coefficient was used to determine the reliability of the instrument. A co-efficient value of 0.68 indicated that the research instrument was relatively reliable. According to (Taber, 2017) the range of a reasonable reliability is between 0.67 and 0.87.

**3.11 ETHICAL CONSIDERATION**

The study was approved by the Project Committee of the Department. Informed consent was obtained from all study participants before they were enrolled in the study. Permission was sought from the relevant authorities to carry out the study. Date to visit the place of study for questionnaire distribution was put in place in advance.

**CHAPTER FOUR**

**DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS**

This chapter presents the analysis of data derived through the questionnaire and key informant interview administered on the respondents in the study area. The analysis and interpretation were derived from the findings of the study. The data analysis depicts the simple frequency and percentage of the respondents as well as interpretation of the information gathered. A total of hundred and twenty (120) questionnaires were administered to respondents of which 100 were returned. The analysis of this study is based on the number returned.

**4.1 DATA PRESENTATION**

**Table 4.1: Demographic data of respondents**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Demographic information** | **Frequency** | **percent** |
| Gender  Male |  |  |
| 60 | 60% |
| Female | 40 | 40% |
| Religion |  |  |
| Christian | 100 | 100% |
| Muslim | 00 | 00% |
| **Age** |  |  |
| 18-25 | 00 | 00% |
| 26-35 | 15 | 15% |
| 36-40 | 29 | 29% |
| 41 + | 56 | 56% |
| **Family Economic Status** |  |  |
| Very High | 24 | 24% |
| High | 32 | 32% |
| Very Low | 21 | 21% |
| Low | 23 | 23% |

**Source: Field Survey, 2021**

**ANSWERING RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

**Question 1:** Are students educated regarding the evil of female trafficking in schools?

**Table 4.3:**Respondent on question 1

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Options** | **Frequency** | **Percentage** |
| Yes | 60 | 60 |
| No | 19 | 19 |
| Undecided | 21 | 21 |
| **Total** | **100** | **100** |

**Source: Field Survey, 2021**

From the responses obtained as expressed in the table above, 60 respondents constituting 60% said yes. 19 respondents constituting 19% said no. While the remain 21 respondents constituting 21% were undecided.

**Question 2:** Are students aware of the strategies to adopt when they threatened with trafficking?

**Table 4.4:**Respondent on question 2

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Options** | **Frequency** | **Percentage** |
| Yes | 56 | 56 |
| No | 21 | 21 |
| Undecided | 23 | 23 |
| **Total** | **100** | **100** |

**Source: Field Survey, 2021**

From the responses obtained as expressed in the table above, 56 respondents constituting 56% said yes. 21 respondents constituting 21% said no. While the remain 23 respondents constituting 23% were undecided.

**Question 3:** Are secondary school students equipped with useful skills to have a successful living?

**Table 4.5:**Respondent on question 3

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Options** | **Frequency** | **Percentage** |
| High | 61 | 61 |
| Low | 17 | 17 |
| Undecided | 22 | 22 |
| **Total** | **100** | **100** |

**Source: Field Survey, 2021**

From the responses obtained as expressed in the table above, 61 respondents constituting 61% said high. 17 respondents constituting 17% said low. While the remain 22 respondents constituting 22% were undecided.

**Question 4:** Are parents aware of the danger of female trafficking?

**Table 4.6:**Respondent on question 4

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Options** | **Frequency** | **Percentage** |
| Yes | 60 | 60 |
| No | 20 | 20 |
| Undecided | 20 | 20 |
| **Total** | **100** | **100** |

**Source: Field Survey, 2021**

From the responses obtained as expressed in the table above, 60 respondents constituting 60% said yes. 20 respondents constituting 20% said no. While the remain 20 respondents constituting 20% were undecided.

**CHAPTER FIVE**

**SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**5.1 Introduction**

This chapter summarizes the findings on education as a tool for curbing female trafficking, selected schools in Egor Local Government Area Of Edo State as case study. The chapter consists of summary of the study, conclusions, and recommendations.

**5.2 Summary of the Study**

In this study, our focus was on education as a tool for curbing female trafficking, selected schools in Egor Local Government Area Of Edo State as case study. The purpose of the study is to look more closely at the role of education in curbing female trafficking which appears not to have been given attention to until recently.

Although, one cannot substitute the stolen life of one person for that of another education is effective in the battle against female trafficking.

It is a jobs sounds too good to be true, it is probably is, education also works to create a skilled population and helps to reduce poverty which is one of the driving forces for women who seek unskilled job opportunities abroad, trafficking of female, opportunity offered by schools, opportunity offered by schools, trade learning centres in order to be trafficked, it is done sometimes by their wish or against their wish.

These are traffickers otherwise known as (trolleys or machines) unread them with their material possessions and promise of better life abroad..

The study adopted the survey research design and randomly enrolled participants in the study. A total of 100 responses were validated from the enrolled participants where all respondent are staff and students from selected secondary schools in Egor Local Government Area Of Edo State.

**5.3 Conclusions**

With respect to the analysis and the findings of this study, the following conclusions emerged;

Human trafficking is a threat to human dignity and development of sense of self-worth. It inflicts physical torture and abuse on the victims and result to ill-health on earth and even death. It is also a direct blow on the human resources of a nation. On the other hand, education is a complex way of life if given to citizens; it will help to find solutions to problems that affect them. Women education should be promoted and geared towards social, economic, and above all, effective family care and maintenance of happy home, which will lead to a stable family and society at large. Therefore, all hands must be on deck to curb female trafficking, which is regarded to be the fastest growing branch of organized crime in the world.

**5.4 Recommendation**

Based on the findings the researcher recommends that;

1. Government should provide basic education especially for our women and children, and not only in literacy, but in vocational skills, in order to promote self-reliance and self-sufficiency.
2. Enlightenment campaigns should be mounted in the media and social media on the dangers of trafficking.
3. Doctors and health personnel should disseminate information on the effects of trafficking and prostitution through media programs.
4. Traditional and religious leaders need to put head together and fight the problem of human trafficking in our society; they must preach and also act as a model to their followers.
5. Parents should, as a matter of top priority, adequately socialize their children and assist them to acquire basic skills with which they can earn a living.

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QUESTIONNAIRE

PLEASE TICK [√] YOUR MOST PREFERRED CHOICE AND AVOID TICKING TWICE ON A QUESTION

SECTION A

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Gender

Male [ ]

Female [ ]

Age

18-25 [ ]

20-30 [ ]

31-40 [ ]

41 and above [ ]

Educational level

WAEC [ ]

BSC/HND [ ]

MSC/PGDE [ ]

PHD [ ]

Others……………………………………………….. (please indicate)

Marital Status

Single [ ]

Married [ ]

Separated [ ]

Widowed [ ]

Section B

1. Are students educated regarding the evil of female trafficking in schools?

Yes ( )

No ( )

Undecided ( )

2. Are students aware of the strategies to adopt when they threatened with trafficking?

Yes ( )

No ( )

Undecided ( )

3. Are secondary school students equipped with useful skills to have a successful living?

Yes ( )

No ( )

Undecided ( )

4. Are parents aware of the danger of female trafficking?

Yes ( )

No ( )

Undecided ( )