ASSESSMENT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ABUSE AGAINST WOMEN AND ITS EFFECTS ON FAMILY RELATIONSHIP IN FOUR SELECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN TARABA STATE, NIGERIA.

BY

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DECLARATION

I, CHRISTIANA SANVO ZADDING, declare that the work in the Thesis entitled: ASSESSMENT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ON FAMILY RELATIONSHIP IN TARABA STATE, NIGERIA**,** has been written by me in the Department of Vocational and Technical Education, under the supervision of Prof. (Mrs.) A. Z. Mohammed and Dr. (Mrs.) E. Ike. The Information derived from the literature has been duly acknowledged in the text and a list of references provided. No part of this Thesis has been previously presented for another degree or diploma at any university.

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Name of Student	Signature	Date

CERTIFICATION

This thesis entitled ASSESSMENT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND ITS EFFECTS ON FAMILY RELATIONSHIP IN TARABA STATE, NIGERIA**,** meets the regulations governing the award of the degree of Masters in Home Economics Education of Ahmadu Bello University, and is approved for its contribution to knowledge and literary presentation.

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DEDICATION

This research work is dedicated to Almighty God and my Late Parents Pasanvo and Ma Amina Jallong, to my late brother Pastor Peter Y. Sanvo, late sisters Suva Sanvo and Martina Sanvo Garba.

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ABSTRACT

The study assesse domestic violence against women on family relationship in Taraba State. The literature reviewed highlighted that most victims of sexual abuse are those with low economic status, under-age, illness, disability or under the influence of alcohol or other drugs. Domestic violence against women is domiciled in the home cutting across race, level of education since women are regarded second class citizens. The study was conducted on married couples in four selected local government areas of Taraba State, with a population of 266,244 using descriptive survey research design. Four research objectives were stated with four correspondent research questions and null hypotheses. The sample of 500 was selected using sampling technique. The instrument used for collecting data for the study was a thirty-three (33) items questionnaire. Data were collected by the researcher with the help of three trained research assistants from the study areas. Data collected were statistically analysed using mean, standard deviation to obtain differences in responses of the subjects while Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient was used to test the four null hypotheses at 0.05 level of significance. The findings revealed that there is a significant relationship between domestic violence against women and family relationship. The first finding showed that, there was a high effect of spousal abuse against women and family relationship which stated that partners gave threatening looks when he/she did not agree with something said or done, which creates fear. Religious and elders in the community in Taraba State should give talks on how good homes should be and how partners live peacefully by giving each other mutual respect and taking collective decision that concerns the family to strengthen family relationship. The researcher further recommended that Taraba State Government should set up guidance and counseling centres on family matters, to educate partners on how best to improve family relationship.

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ABBREVIATIONS

PID	-	Pelvic Inflammatory Disease
PGM	-	Female Genital Mutilation
UDPI	-	United Department of Public Information
IPG	-	Independent Policy Group
UDHR	-	Universal Declaration of Human Rights
CEWAW	-	Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women
USDJ	-	United State Department of Justice.
NCVS	-	National Crime Victimization Survey
SASS	-	Sexual Assault Survivor Services
G.A.R	-	General Assembly Resolution
V.A.W	-	Violence Against Women
WACOL	-	Women Aid Collective
D.F.H.R	-	Denial of Fundamental Human Right
UNEGV	-	United Nations Expert Group on Violence.
LEDAP	-	Legal Defence Assistant Project

Definition of Operational Terms

Domestic violence -	is an abuse physically or emotionally harmful acts between husbands and wives or between other individuals in intimate relationships.
Early Marriage -	is the age at which individual get into marriage especially girls below the maturity age. This happens at 12 years and above when the reproductive organs are not matured for child birth.
Sexual abuse -	is the force of undesirable sexual behaviour by one person up on another.
Spousal abuse-	is threats of physical force to compel a person to engage in a sexual act against her will.
Family relationship	refers to the way family members interact with one another within a household.
Obstetric fistula -	is health problems which occurs as a result of prolong and obstructed labour.
Gynecological disorder	this is a disease of women such as vaginal discharge, sexual dysfunction, pelvic inflammatory disease and painful intercourse which result from sexual and physical violence.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Violence against women in the home has been part of human history and human societies have lived with it without feeling that it was anything wrong (Godwin, 2005). Violence against women is a manifestation of historically unequal power relations between men and women which have led to domination over and discrimination against women by men and to the prevention of the full advancement of women. Violence against women continues to be global epidemic that kills, tortures and maims physically, psychological, sexually and emotionally. It is one of the most pervasive of human rights violation that denies women of their security, equality, dignity, self-worth and right to enjoy fundamental freedom. Violence against women is present in most countries in the world, cutting across boundaries of culture, class, education, income, ethnicity and age (UN declaration on the elimination of violence Against Women and General Assembly Resolution, 1993).

Women Aid Collective (WACOL 2004) stated that domestic violence could be anything that constitutes an action meted out to someone which is capable of depriving the individual from his or her basic human right. (Women Aid Collective 2004) added that domestic violence is a form of bullying whereby a person is dealt with physically, thus resulting to injury

on the victim just because the perpetrator does not know of any other way to handle the situation.

Kantor in Yogo (2008), stated that domestic violence is a pressing global issue which is often associated with women's isolation from supportive kin ties. It is an essential component of gender-based violence which has been defined as those actions and activities that cause physical, psychological and emotional harm to a person just because of mere misunderstanding, (Ityavyar in Okeph, 2005). As a phenomenon, however, violence against women relates to a broad spectrum of issues affecting the existence of the female specie in relation to the family. The female folks suffer in their matrimonial homes because God Almighty constituted marriage in the Garden of Eden, made women help mate and consequently our social system places women in a disadvantaged position (Okpeh, 1999).

The study of Secretary General of United Nation (2004) explained that early marriage involves the marriage of a child below the age of 18 years. Young girls have not achieved full maturity and capacity to act, and lack ability to control their sexuality. When they marry and have children, their health can be adversely affected. Early marriage has inflicted dangerous and devastating effects on young girls who are compelled to tie the knot in most cases.

The convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) adopt in (1979) affirmed that the principle of

fundamental rights and freedom of every human being are guided by a broad concept of human right that stretches beyond civil and political rights to the core issues of economic survival, health and education that affect the quality of daily life for most women and children. United Nation General Assembly (1993) postulated that violence and abusive behaviour continue to be a major cause of death, injury, stress and fear in various families. Domestic violence and abusive behaviour are responsible for poor family relationship, although personality conflicts and troubles within a marriage affect intimate behaviour, (Olson and Defrain 2006).

Htt://bahai-library.com.(2000) stated that, family relationship refers to unity which is strengthened by love. The members of the family all have duties and responsibilities toward one another and to the family as a whole. These duties and responsibilities vary from member to member because of their natural relationships. Such behavior can be seen in a man that stopped the wife from government employment and made her to engage in preparation and sales of local wine (burukutu) for many years. The woman could not further her education after primary school certificate.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

This study's problem was based on, the researcher's experiences, conversations and observations on the happenings in families. Husbands and wives do not discuss family issues but husbands take sole decisions. Through interactions with friends and colleagues, women talk about their situations at

home, there they are commonly abused by their spouses through battering, sexual abuse, giving out female children in marriage at the early years and depriving them neither to participate in the decision of child marriage nor to take part in family affairs. Such early marriages limit education, affects young girls' academic pursuits, the future compromised and other opportunities often leading to early child bearing and increased health risks. Early child bearing affects female reproductive organs and health problems such as unsafe abortion, and obstetric fistula. Husbands take decision whether it suits the family or not. Though most wives and children suffer the consequences of the heads of the families decisions.

It is also observed that violation of women at home has made women situation difficult to participate fully in issues concerning them in the home and in the society. As such, women have no freedom to speak for themselves because of fear of punishment from their husbands. Men think women are meant for giving birth, taking care of the children and doing only domestic works. The problem statement pf the study therefore was whether domestic violence against women had effects on family relations.

1.3 Objectives of the study

The main objective of the study was to assess domestic violence against women on family relationship.

The specific objectives were to:

1. assess the effects of spousal abuse against women on family relationship in Taraba State;
2. examine the effects of sexual abuse against women on family relationship in Taraba State;
3. identify the effects of early marriage of young girls on family relationship in Taraba State; and
4. examine the effects of deprivation of women rights in decision making on family relationship in Taraba State.

1.4 Research Questions

This study provided answers to the following research questions

1. to what extent has spousal abuse against women affected women and family relationship in Taraba State?
2. what are the effects of sexual abuse against women on family relationship in Taraba State?
3. to what extent has early marriage of young girls affected women on family relationship in Taraba State?
4. to what extent has deprivation of women's rights in decision making affected family relationship in Taraba State?

1.5 Research Hypotheses

The following research hypotheses were postulated:-

H01: There is no significant relationship between the effects of spousal abuse against women and family relationship in Taraba State.

H02: There is no significant relationship between the effects of sexual abuse against women and family relationship in Taraba State.

H03: There is no significant relationship between the effects of early marriage of young women and family relationship in Taraba State.

H04: There is no significant relationship between the effects of deprivation of women's right in decision making and family relationship in Taraba State.

1.6 Basic Assumption

1. This study assumed that domestic violence against women affects women physically, morally, emotionally and psychologically. This retards the progress of families, the state and the nation at large.
2. It is assumed that when domestic violence against women is controlled, it will reduce the rate of sexually transmitted diseases (HIV/AIDS) and there will be fewer rates of deaths in the families and state.
3. It is assumed that talks on domestic violence against women will create awareness, thereby allowing women to participate in decision making in the family which will contribute to the development of the families, state and Nigeria as a nation.

1.7 Significance of the study

The findings of this study will help women in Taraba State to identify domestic violence. Through enlightenment they will learn to cope with such situations and be able to enjoy their relationship in the family.

The findings of this study will enable home economists to improve the content in family life relationship through teaching of students. It will help husband and wife to sit together to discuss family issues and take decision.

The findings will educate individuals and families through teachings in the classrooms in Home Economics subjects and courses, through seminars, conferences, giving talks to religious organizations in the church and mosques, in public religion gatherings. The knowledge gained from such teaching will broaden the knowledge of men to consider women as instrument for change because when women are educated, the whole family will be educated either directly or indirectly.

The findings will make husbands to involve their wives in decision making for the progress of their families and to give women rights and privileges for a harmonious relationship since the genesis of human behaviour starts in the home.

1.8 Delimitation of the Study

The study covered different kinds of domestic violence such as spousal abuse, sexual abuse, and early marriage of young girls and deprivation of women's rights in decision-making on family relationship.

The reason for choosing married men and women is that, they are people that have gone through violent behaviour in the home. As such they are in a better position to say much about domestic violence. It was delimited to married men and women in four Local Government Areas in Taraba State.

CHAPTER TWO

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This study was concerned with the review of related literature on the assessment of domestic violence against women on family relationship in Taraba State. These were discussed under the following sub-headings.

2.1 Concept of Marriage and Family Relationship
2.2 Concept of Domestic Violence
2.3 An overview of Domestic Violence Against Women
2.4 Effects of Spousal Abuse Against Women
2.4.1 Prevention of Spousal Abuse Against Women
2.5 Sexual Abuse Against Women
2.5.1 The Effects of Sexual Abuse Against Women
2.5.2 Prevention of Sexual Abuse Against Women
2.6 Early Marriage of Young Girls
2.6.1 Causes of early marriage of young girls
2.6.2 Harmful effects of early marriage of young girls.
2.7 Effects of Deprivation of Women is Rights in Decision Making
2.8 Effects of Domestic Violence Against Women on Family Relationship
2.9 Empirical Studies
2.10 Summary of Literature Review

2.1 Concept of Marriage and Family Relationship

Duran (1997), in wikipedia, the free encyclopedia, (2010) defined marriage as a social union or legal contract between people that creates kinship. It is an institution in which interpersonal relationship usually intimate and sexual, are acknowledge in a variety of ways, depending on the culture or subculture in which it is found. Such a union, often formalized via a wedding ceremony, may also be called matrimony.

Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia, (2010) stated that people marry for many reasons, including one or more of the following: legal, social, emotional, economical, spiritual, and religious. These might include arranged marriage family obligations, the legal establishment of a nuclear family unit, legal protection of children and public declaration of commitment.

Edward (1921) in Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia (2010) stated that marriage is usually recognized by the state, a religious authority, or both. It is often viewed as a contract. Civil marriage is the legal concept of marriage as a governmental institution irrespective of religious affliction, in accordance with marriage laws of the jurisdiction. If recognized by the state, by the religion to which the practices belong or by society in general, the marriage changes the personal and social status of the individual who enter into it. Being married is hard work. It takes a true commitment to work through things in order for it to work. If marriage is such hard work, is it really worth?

Wouldn't it be easier to just live together until you get sick of one another? The number one reason that people "take the plung" is because they say the love one another. The problem with that is that many of those same people don't know what true love means. Htt://www.essortment.com.(2010) pointed out that marriage requires understanding from both parties. Many times the focus is on helping husbands to understand how to talk to their wives, treating them with love and tenderness. However, wives also need to understand how to talk to their husbands. A wife would not want to talk in such a way that belittles their mate, nor would she talk to him like a child. This treatment will result in a negative reaction from her husband that can lead to other problems and the possible disintegration of the marriage.

Http://www.cyh.com(2010) explained that, communication needs to be clear. Neither person should assume that the other one should know what was meant by cryptic commend or actions. When there is any doubt as to the meaning of any form of communication, one should not hastily jump to conclusion and impute bad motives. One person could be less and miss the point as to true meaning, while the offended person responds with some sort of emotional punishment even more misunderstandings. If there had been a conversation in the beginning both might realize that there was a misunderstanding. Once the problem has been identified both can work to fit it and try to avoid that from happening again.

Mattreen (2002) stated that family relationship refers to the way family members live together with one another. Brother and sisters always have some one who belongs to another, who share memories and who can help and support. http://babari_library.com.(2010) explained that, family relationship refers to unity which is strengthened by love. The members of the family all have duties and responsibilities toward one another and to the family as a whole. These duties and responsibilities vary from relationship. Olson and Defrain (2000) in Olson and Defrain (2006) viewed family relationship as the way the family members interact with one another within a household. People have the need to maintain their close personal relationship.

Alson and Defrain (2000) in Olsan and Defrain (2006) stated that, aggression and violence are learned behaviors which start right from the family with specific reference to gender-based violence. (Okpeh 2005) also pointed out that, a lot of violence to which women are exposed to in the society is only a reflection of the violence that is domiciled in the family from where the ugly trend is nurtured to call domestic violence.

http://wtp:/www.stevepawlina.com.(2008) stated that, family relationship is where two individuals, man and a woman sit together to take decision on issues concerning the family. Husband and wife resolve conflicts in a way that suits them. They learn to tolerate one another and learn to adjust to continue the relationship instead of simply kicking the person out of

your life no matter your values and lifestyle. Despite all the difference husband and wife learn to live in good terms with each other and get along fairly. Sometimes they may seem to be always fighting and arguing. They may get fed up with living so closely together.

http://www.essertment.com.//(2010) revealed that, in trying to get together, brothers and sisters can learn three main skill in order to have a fairly peaceful time together. These are communication, respect and negotiation. Communication means that you talk to each other and listen to each other. You have to talk polite allow others to talk also in a friendly manner. Respect means, treating people nicely. People who treat each other with respect will get along together much better than if they are rude, loud and selfish, use your manner. Negotiation means working things out between you. Being the eldest, youngest, middle or what ever does not give any more rights than others in the family (http://.essertment.com./2010).

Ityavyar, (2004) in Okpeh, (2005) pointed out that, domestic violence is domiciled in the family where women, children, and the youth are either direct or indirect victims. The legitimacy of acts of domestic violence such as spousal abuse, sexual abuse, early marriage and deprivation of women's rights are strongly enacted much more within the family than elsewhere. Ityavayar (2004) in Okpeh (2005) further stated that there is relationship between the manifestation of violent behavior and the composition of the family. It is argued that aggression and violence are learned behavior which

starts right from the family. With specific reference to domestic violence, a lot of violence to which women are exposed at the larger levels or society is only a reflection of the violence that is domiciled in the family and vice versa. It is within families that all of us learn to identify and accept domestic violence and alter it as lifestyle (Ityavyar, (2004) in Okpeh (2005).

2.2 Concept of Domestic Violence

Akpan and Usoroh, (2005) defined domestic violence as violence in intimacy which can be physical, sexual, psychological, emotional or threats of physical or sexual violence that are inflicted on women. Violence directed against women is found in many societies.

Genyi (2005) added that, domestic violence is a very serious social, economic and psychological problem that has no cultural or social, economic and psychological group inhibition. Beyond the absence of any unknown barrier not even legal, its occurrence has profound and destructive consequences which ranges from physical, emotional and financial effects on the inhabitants of the home be it the women, children or men.

According to Both (2003) in Genyi (2005), domestic violence is orchestrated as a desire of one party in a relationship to dominate and control the other partner. It may be power breakdown and distortion of an intimate relationship. Relationships that are characterized by violence may be distorted but may not be broken down.

This is inferred from the immediate build up of cordially or even outright expression of a profound level of affection. In such circumstance, it could be attributed to a spontaneous outburst.

Physical injuries and other consequences from domestic violence are sexual abuse and gender inequalities. Physical and sexual abuse can lead to gynecological problems such as pelvic inflammatory disease (PID), chronic pelvic pain and vaginal bleeding among other medical problems. (Utulu *et al,* 2005). Usoroh (2005) continued that physical violence which is intentional use of force example, slapping, pushing, biting, choking, using knife, gun, and other weapons with the potential for causing injury, harm or death. It also includes coercing other people to commit such acts which can be actual or threatening.

Sexual violence comes in three categories. Actual or threats of physical force to compel a person to engage in a sexual act against his/her will. Attempted or completed sex act with a person unable to understand such as rape with an object.

Psychological and emotional violence is defined as harm to the victim caused by acts or threats of acts such as humiliating, name calling embarrassing victim deliberately especially in public, controlling victims movement and activities, isolating victim from friends and family, controlling financial resources, withholding information or resources, threatening to harm a child or pet breaking on object. Economic abuse is

when the abuser has complete control over the victim's money and other economic resources. Usually, this involves putting the victim on a strict "allowance", withholding money at will and forcing the victim to beg for the money until the abuser gives them some money. It is common for the victim to receive less money as the abuse continues. This also includes (but is not limited to) preventing the victim from finishing education or obtaining employment, or intentionally squandering or misusing communal resources. This is real with some men in some families where the husband receives the wife's salaries and gives her as the need arises. This led to a serious conflict between the husband and the wife. This same man was collecting his son's salaries which nearly made the boy to commit suicide.

2.3 An overview of Domestic Violence Against Women

According to Garba (2008) domestic violence is any form of abusive behaviour in any relationship used by partner to gain or maintain power and control over another partner. Violence on the other hand is the intentional use of physical force with the intension for causing injury, harm, disability or death. The researcher is giving an example of a typical case of a man beating his wife each time he sends her to the market with little money to buy foodstuff, he could be expecting the money to buy a lot of things only for her to buy a few items which the money could afford and he ends up in beating her.

According to a recent study conducted by Famwang, (2008) in Oyo, 40% interviewed said they were victims but it has not been documented because there is widespread tolerance for domestic violence. Furthermore, in 2001, working women in Lagos about 64.4% alleged that they were beaten by their partners either husbands or boyfriends, 56.2% market women is married, she is expected to endure whatever she meets in her matrimonial home. This statement in the humble opinion of the researcher is an aberration of matrimonial law to jeopardize womanhood and marital harmony. Also, it gives men open license to man handle their partners. In the word of Banki Moonb, (2007) United Nation Secretary General:

> Violence against women and girls continued unabated in every continent, country and culture. It takes a devastating toll on women's lives, on their families and in the societies as a whole. Societies prohibit such violence yet the reality is that, too often it is covered up or condoned.

According to another recent finding by the amnesty international, 20% of urban women and 29% of rural women do not know if they are victims of abuse. The research also pointed out that in Africa, not just Nigeria, information about women rights are not known, the police force and judiciaries are not capable of aiding female victims and more importantly, safe house where women or victims of abuse could escape to do not exit. The head of department of sociology of the Kaduna State University, Hauwa said, when victims of domestic violence go to their parents' houses, they are

rejected, so they have to go back to that house where they have been battered.

Information found in the Annals of African medicine volume 3, November, 2004, 4-6 said, women in Zaria who come for medical check up, about 178 were questioned, 79 of these women who happened to be pregnant had least secondary school education; 28% and 56 percent experience and had knowledge of domestic violence respectively, of the 56%, 36% beaten up while 22% were forced to have sex. They pointed out that their spouse are the most common culprits and 39% said they could keep domestic violence secrets.

In Enugu, survey research was conducted in two terrtiary health institutions from January 1st to March 31st (2005), the group was made up of 600 men, 70% reported abuse in their families 92% were their female partner while 3% male victims. The most common form was shouting at their partners which was 93%, slapping and pushing 77% and pushing and kicking 46%. (Bureau of justice statistics, 2005). Cultural factors, embarrassment and refusal attacks were said to be responsible for 8.1 of gross under reporting. There are just the state and areas that were able to carry out the survey, many cases remain hindered and it is taking its toll on the society especially where the children become orphaned of one or both parents leaving the children at the mercy of society to cater.

As Ithenaumeh (2006) in Famwang (2008) pointed out that the law provided the protection of individuals against this social menaces, but people are not just aware of it. However, others argued that, the law is not enough to protect as penal code, section 55 allows a husband to punish his wife without inflicting any injury, and this may not stop domestic violence. Before solutions are preferred it would be wise to look at the factor that causes domestic violence and its increase. These factors cut across economic, social, cultural and even psychological. Here also it should be noted that domestic violence is said to rear it ugly head when the economic standing or level of a family is threatened.

Yusuf, (2008) pointed out that, a man is unable to fulfill his economic elements when he does not have enough money to cater for the family or to measure up to her, frustration sets in which he cuts out in violence.

Yusuf (2008) added that, men when drunk with alcohol are capable of violence; they beat their wives and in some case force them to spousal sex. Also,, drug addicts too should not be left out because they are also capable of violence. Yusuf (2008) gave an example of a couple in Iowa, USA who were in the habit of getting drunk together and the man always beats the wife thoroughly. It is worthy to note that this man is not poor. This way of life continuous till the man was imprisoned for five years of domestic violence. The wife waited for him and after his release, she went back to him. Unfortunately he murdered her and left her body. In Nigeria, case of women

stabbed even to death, acid bath and nasty words that affect psyche of the women have been the order of the day.

Representatives of the Legal Defence Assistant Project (LEDAP) by Ezeilo (2004) revealed that, criminal justices in our country provides almost no protection for women from violence. Ezeilo (2004) added that: police and courts often dismiss domestic violence as family matters fail to investigate. In a similar perspective, Ajoni (2008) supported his assertion by saying, poor response of law enforcement agents leads to low reporting. Other challenges in this are rape, and other sexual offence, human trafficking and cultural practices (child marriage, female Genital Mutilation, widowhood practices. Yusuf (2008) pointed out in annals of Africa medicine that, domestic violence also persists more often than not; victims are advised to settle out of court to avoid dabbing into family matters. To curb this social menace orientation and awareness campaigns should be embarked upon in each society. Shelter should be provided for victims to flee to when faced with violent situations, children should be taught from their tender age to respect one another irrespective of sex. The religion bodies and organizations should also lend to those campaigns by counseling intending couples married couple and individual to learn to control or manage their anger as not to reduce to animals in their homes.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDCP) (2005), women who have experienced domestic violence are 80% more

likely to have heart disease, 60% more likely to have asthma and 70% more likely to drink heavily than those women who have not experienced intimate partner violence.

2.4 Effects of Spousal Abuse Against Women

According to Nevole, former U.S Surgeon General viewed the home as actually a more dangerous place for American, marriage is usually considered to be a loving and supportive social institution, it is, in fact, more violent than the military, except in time of war (Gelles, 2000a in Olson and Defrain, 2006) argued that battering is a major cause of injury for women between two and four million victimized by their intimate partners each year in the united state. Though women are likely to fear attack by strangers, FBI data indicated that 51% of all murdered women are likely by husband, ex-husband, or boyfriend Osattin and Short, (1998) in Olson and Defrain, (2006). Johns Hopkins university study found that one in three US women have been the victim of domestic abuse that half of those have been assaulted before the age of 18 (study: 1 of 3 women", (1995) in Olson and defrain, 2006).

Researchers estimated that approximately three million people, most women are severely assaulted each year by their spouses (Gelles, 2000a in Olson and Defrain, 2006; Adegbulugbe, 2006; and Umar, 2007). Most cases are not reported for a variety of reasons (Ponle, 2007; and Banguda,2007).

Victims often do not recognize the violence as abuse because in some ethnic and cultural group violence against women is the norm (WRAPA, 2008; and Famwang, 2008). Stated that society's traditional respect for family privacy also inhibits reporting, victims may feel guilt of shamed for being abused or may fear the partner will retaliate if they report of the incident.

Spousal abuse occurs because men are generally bigger and stronger than women, husbands have higher rates of inflicting the most dangerous and injurious forms of violence on wives. Much violence by wives appears to be in self-defence (Straus, 1999 in Olson and Defrain, 2006). A dating relationship is apparently more likely to violent than a marital relationship. The national family violence survey of 5,768 couples found that 20% of the dating couples experienced a physical assault during the previous years, compared with 15% of the married couples (Steets and Straus, (1989) in Olson and Defrain, (2006) stated that, courtship is a training ground for marriage and also, apparently, a training ground for spousal abuse. Example of spousal abuse can be found in the family and serve to justify a husband's right to control the behaviour of his wife., during the middle ages, English common law allowed a husband to chastise his wife as long as he used a stick no longer than the width of his thumb, a concept commonly known as the "rural of the thumb". Although legislation was enacted in the American colonies to outlaw domestic violence in 1641, with later laws originating in the late 1800s, the laws were not usually enforced and served only to curtail

extreme case of violence. It is pinpointed that American society's apparent acceptance of domestic violence resulted from long-held beliefs in western society that supported a husband's control of his wife discouraged intervention by the law. (Asia and Olson (2004), in Olson and Defrain, 2006).

Asia and Olson, (2004) in Olson and Defrain, (2006) conducted a survey on 20,951 married couples from all 50 states and had couples complete the enrich couple inventing. The average age was 62 for males and 35 for females, and they had been married from 2 to 30 years. Couples were classified into one of four group based on their level of abuse; non abusive (61%) only wife abusive (8%) only husband abusive (17%) and volatile-both abusive (13%) (Olson and Asia 2004).

Arias and Pape (1999) street and Arias, 2001 in Olson and Defrain (2006) pointed out that, marital violence has been found to be more common among young couple, among couple with low occupational status and income and job dissatisfaction; among couple who are socially isolated: among couple who have a greater numbers of dependant children in the home and among couple who experienced violence in their family of origin. Violent couple relationships are associated with poor conflict – resolution and communication skills, and unequal decision – making responsibilities which tend to be held solely by the husband.

Straus and Gelles (1988) in wikipedea the free encyclopedia (2010) revealed that, spousal abuse received vast media attention during the 1990s. The highly publicized trial of former professional football player and movie actor O.J (Orentha James) Simpson for the murders of his ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend Ronald Lyle Gold. Man thrust it onto the front pages of newspapers for many months. Simpson was acquitted of the murder changes, but evidence produced at his trial showed that, he had been arrested in 1989 for spousal battery and that he had threatened to kill his ex-wife. The disclosure that a prominent sports figure and movie star had abused his wife promoted a national discussion on the causes of domestic violence, its prevalence and effective means of eliminating it.

Straus and Gelles (1998) in Olson and Defrain (2006) further revealed that, despite the attention that domestic violence issues have received, publicized instance of domestic violence continue to occur. Like the case of O.J. Simpson was both a famous football player and actor received a six-month sentence in 2000 for vandalizing his wife's car during an argument. Also in 2001, former heavy weight boxing champion Riddick Bowe was charged with three-degree assault for fight with his wife.(Street and arias, 2001) in Olson and Defrain (2006) pointed out that, psychological abused women have an increased chance of serious or chronic illness, lower levels of relationship satisfaction and lower levels of perceived power and control. These women experience psychological distress including fear, low self-

esteem, depression, an inability to trust others, feeling of inferiority and helplessness. (Arias and Pape 1999) in Alson and Defrain (2006)suggested that, the psychological and behaviour dysfunction of children exposed to inter-personal psychological abuse is similar to that found in children exposed in inter-personal physical abuse.

Asia and Olson (2004) in Olson and Defrain (2006) stated that, researcher and clinical have hypothesised that a number of factors contributed to the likelihood of spousal abuse in a family. These factors are rather similar to those found in the national survey of spouse abuse. These factors are violence in the family of origin, low self-esteem, isolation, alcohol, economic stress, male dominance and other cultural factors.

Violence in the family of origin. The family system theory attributes a tendency toward domestic violence as an adult to growing up in a violence home, where the child learns to be a victim as well as potential victimizers. They often develop a sort of "pecking order" attitude toward violence. You get beaten up when you were small, than when you are big, you repeat what you learned. Female children typically learn to be victims again in their marriage (Gelle, 2000) in Olson and Defrain, 2006).

The United Nations Expert Group on Violence observed that, women (may) become targets for abuse in their role as wives, mother and daughter – in-law, ex-lover or domestic servant. The perpetrators of the abuse are usually

the men of the family, be the husband, ex-husband, lover, ex-lover. Such violence could be linked to common drunkenness.

Low self-esteem, Olson and Defrain (2006) revealed that, the abusive spouse may feel inadequate and may use violence to gain control. The abused spouse may passively accept the violence feeling that she or he deserves nothing better.

Youth. Gelle (2000) in Olson and Defrain, 2006) argued that, age and spouse abuse are statically related. Marital violence is twice as likely among couples who are under age 30 than among those over age 30.

Economic Stress. Although spouse abuse occurs in families at all income levels, economic stress increases the likelihood of wife battering. Spousal abuse is more likely in low income families and unemployed men are twice as likely to batter their wives as employed men are (Gelle 2000a) in Olson and Defrain (2006).

Isolation. (Gelle 2000a) in Olson and Defrain, 2006) stated that, social isolation is also a factor in spousal abuse. Abusers often feel isolated and alone. They have fewer contacts with friends, neighbors and relatives and engage in fewer social activities than non abusers do. In stressful times, they have no social support network upon which to call.

Alcohol. Gelle 2000 in Olson and Defrain (2006) pointed out that, alcohol is implicated in a high percentage of domestic violence incidents. Many men who assault their wives are found to have been drinking.

(Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2004) argued that alcohol facilitates violence by helping break down the abuser's inhibitions. But alcohol is never the sole cause of a violent episode. Drinking is no more an excuse for assaulting another human being than it is for killing someone in a car accident. Other system of social justice would break down if people were not held responsible for their behavior.

Male Dominance. Professionals and clinicians studying abuse from a feminist perspective have identified clues as to why men batter women. They noted that many in our culture believe that males have the right to control their partners. Men have also been socialized to believe that aggression is an acceptable normal response to stress and anger. A patriarchal family system influences males to assume the head-of-the-household role and women to accept subordinate status. Equalitarian decision-making is associated with non violence in families. Research showed that levels of wife beating and husband beating are higher among husband dominant couples than among democratic couples (Gelle, 2000 in Olson and Defrain 2006).

Other cultural factors. In our culture depersonalization and objectification of women are reinforced by pornography and by advertising that uses sexy women to sell products. Victim blaming is common as rape trials often reveal. We live in society with a high tolerance for overt coercion and the use of physical force to gain control over others (Pence and

McDonnell, 2000 in Olson and Defrain, 2006). All of these social factors are viewed as contributing to the epidemic of domestic violence in this country.

2.4.1 Prevention of Spousal Abuse

Pence and McDonnell, (2000 in Olson and Defrain 2006) explained that, counselors commonly advise battered women to leave their husbands and go to a relatives or a friend's home or to a shelter for battered women. But this is easier said than done. Some men panic when women leave because they feel they are losing control. Panic can lead to even more violent behaviour. The first shelter for battered women opened in 1974; today there are several thousand shelter across the country. Shelter provide safety for the abused spouse and children; temporary housing, food and clothing, counseling to build a stronger self-concept and practical guidance such as finding employment and legal assistance (Gelles, 2000a in Olson and Defrain, (2000).

Responding to pressure from the women's movement, police department are now more likely to make arrest in case of domestic violence. Assault against a spouse is seen as a serious offence. After studying, research findings indicated that men who had spent time behind bars were less like to assault their partners again, the Duluth Minnesota, police department was first in the united state to make arrest mandatory for suspected batterers. As a society, our ultimate goal should be the prevention of domestic violence.

To do this we need not to only treat those families in which violence has occurred, but also address the causes of violence. We live in a society that devalues women and children and glorifies power, the use of force and the domineering behaviour associated with alcohol abuse.

2.5 Sexual abuse against women

Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia (2010) referred to sexual abuse as molestation, as the forcing of undesirable sexual behaviour by one person upon another, where that force fails short, it is being called sexual assault. The term also covers any behaviour by any adult towards a child to stimulate either the adult or child sexually. When the victims are younger than age of consent it is referred to as child sexual abuse.

United Nations Children's Fund Innocent Research centre, (2000) stipulated that, sexual abuse and rape by an intimate partner is not considered a crime in most countries and women in many societies do not consider forced sex as rape if they are married to or cohabiting with the perpetrator. The assumption is that, once a woman enters in to a contract of marriage, the husband has the right to unlimited sexual access to his wife. Surveys in many countries revealed that approximately to 15 percent of women report being forced to have sex with their intimate partners.

Genyi, (2005) explained that, sexual violence is divided into three categories, use of physical force to compel a person to engage in a sexual act against his or her will, whether or not the act is completed, attempted, sex act

involving a person who is unable to understand the nature or condition of the act, unable to decline participation, or unable to communicate unwilling to engage in the sexual act because of underage, immaturity, illness, disability or the influence of alcohol or other drugs or because of intimidation of pressure and abusive sexual contact.

According to Heise *et al.,* (2000), sexual violence and exploitation are abuse of power, young women are especially at risk, and the violation can have devastating and long consequence. Statistics on rape suggest that between one-third and two-thirds of rape victims world – wide are young women who can be subjected to sexual violence. Women are at risk of becoming infected with HIV and other STI, physical injuries and psychological trauma. Studies also showed that young people who have been victims of sexual abuse are more likely to engage in high-risk sexual behaviour than those who have not been abused.. Similarly, poverty leads many young women in sub-Sahara Africa and elsewhere into sexual relationship within the family who will give the young women other necessities such as clothing and food in exchange for sex.

2.5.1 The Effects of Sexual Abuse Against Women

www.path.orgf2000') pointed out that, violence against women is often categorized as sexual or emotional violence. Globally, one-third to one-half of all physical abused women also report for sex (Koss et al 1994)

Sexual and physical violence appear to increase women's risk for

many common gynecological disorder including vaginal bleeding, painful menstruation, vaginal discharge, sexual dysfunction, pelvic inflammatory disease and painful intercourses (Walker et al., 1992) added that, sexual abuse may also be linked to the etiology of chronic pelvic pain, a debilitating condition that frequently has no identifiable cause. Chronic pelvic pain is responsible for ten percent of all gynecological visits and one quarter of hysterectomies. (Walker et al., 1992) continued that, a number of studies have found that women suffering chronic pelvic pain are more likely to have a history of sexual abuse by their partners.

Akpan et al., (2006) revealed that, sexual abuse affects the lives of women who live within the boundaries of those abusive relationships. (Akpan et al., (2006) viewed sexual abuse as a crucial public health problem that has devastating physical and emotional consequences for women. (Gonzalez et al., 1998 retrieved 2009) further stated that, in addition to causing immediate injury and mental anguish, sexual violence increases women's risk of future ill health. A wide range of studies showed that women who have experienced sexual violence have greater risk of subsequent health problems. The more severe the abuse, the greater the number of symptoms and the more severe the effect of women's physical and mental health.

Valladaries et al., (2000) stated that in many parts of the world, marriage is interpreted as granting men unconditional sexual access to their

lives a “right” through force if necessary. Among 98 percent of currently married women in Pradesh, India, 68 percent report being coerced into sex by their husbands, 31 percent report being forced through beatings. (Khan, et al., 1996) stated that the high level of non-consensual sex occurring in marital unions is supported through both qualitative and quantitative data.

Bradlen (1985) pointed out that, sexual abuse can put women at risk of infection and unwanted pregnancy if forced to have sex or dare using contraception or condoms because of their partner’s reaction. A history of sexual abuse lead to unwanted pregnancy and indirectly by increasing sexual risk (Beritchman et al., (1991); Bayer and Fine (1992), Buther and Burtain (1990) revealed that, childhood sexual abuse is associated with earlier age at first intercourse and an increase in certain risk behaviours such as having sex with many partners.

The study of the Secretary General United Nation (2007) pointed out that, depression is one of the most common consequences of sexual abuse and physical violence. Women who suffer sexual abuse are at risk of stress and anxiety disorders, including post-traumatic stress disorder. A study in Michigan, United States found that, 59 percent of women had experienced several sexual abuse in the previous 12 months had psychological problems compared to 20 percent of those who report on abuse. Studies showed that, sexual abuse of intimate partner is the most common cause of post-traumatic stress disorder in women. It has also been shown that, women who have

been sexually abused are at risk of suicide. Post-traumatic stress disorder in particular appears to be a significant risk factor suicide.

Bethea, (1999); Gelles, 1997) Olson and Defrain (2006) further explained that, the effects of forceful, hurtful, exploitative sexual relationship can last for a long time. The abused person may carry a burden of guilt, shame, lower self-esteemed and depression for years and may suffer from sleep disturbance and/or eating disorders (including anorexia and builmai). Individual difficulty trusting one's partner, and in ability to relax and enjoy lovemaking, avoidance of sex inhibited sexual desire, and inability to achieve orgasm (Mitcheel, Finkelhor, & wolak, 2001; in Olson and Defrain, 2006). One study by the Illinois Department of children and family services found that more than half of the 445 teenager mother questioned had been sexually abused and had been forced to have sex.

2.5.2 Prevention of Sexual Abuse

Therapist might work on developing family members' self-esteem and improving family relationships. People who have been victims of sexual abuse are more likely to engage in high-risk sexual behaviour than those who have not been abused. Similarly, poverty leads many women in sub-Saharan Africa and elsewhere into sexual relationships within the family who will give women money and other necessities such as clothing and food in exchange for sex.

In an effort to prevent sexual abuse, many organizations and schools in this country should have educational programs for women on "good touch and bad touch".

Education can also help women on how to behave in sexual abusive situation. Teachers, physicians, mental health professional and police officers are key figure in women protection. Home economist should give talk to women on sexual abuse during women gathering in the church, mosque and conference.

2.6 Early Marriage of Young Girls

According to Gurmu and Etan (2005), marriage is one of the proximate determinants of fertility. It affects fertility via frequent and regular exposure to sexual relations and the age at entering into marital life. Given the fact that fertility often takes place within marriage, there is an inverse relationship between age at first marriage pregnancy and the actual commencement of the process of child bearing (Islam, 2009). The study of Secretary General of United Nations (2004) also explained that, early marriage involve the marriage of a child below the age 18 year. Young girls have not achieved full maturity and capacity to act, ability to control their sexuality. When they marry and have children, their health can be adversely affected.

Early marriage which also referred to as child marriage is common all over the globe has infected dangerous and devastating effects on young children who are compelled to tie the knot in most case. (Saturday submit 20th, February, 2010) revealed that, such marriages take place all over the world, but are most common in sub-Saharan Africa where more than 30 percent of girls aged 15 to 19 were married. In Ethiopia, it was found that 19 percent of girls were married by the age of 15 and in some region such as Ambana; the proportion was as high as 50 percent. UNICEF global assessment found that in Latin America and the Caribbean, 29 percent of women aged 15 to 24 were married before age of 18.

Utulu (2005) stated that, early marriage limit education and other opportunities for girls often leads to early child bearing and increase health risk, which include effects of unsafe abortion. Girls under fifteen (15) years of age are five times more likely to die childbirth than women in their twenties. They are also at higher risk for obstetric fistula, which can result from prolonged and obstructed labour (Wang, 1995).

2.6.1 Causes of Early Marriage

Wikipedia the free encyclopedia (2010) stated that, early marriage can arise due to number of reason such as these:

- To raise the economic and social status
- Religions hurdles and barriers

- Gender bias promotes early marriage of girl
- Lack of education
- Myths and misconception about early marriage
- Pressure from older members of the family and community
- The notion that early marriage leads to larger families and hence providing for heirs to the throne.
- Some communities regard their girl children as a burden and think of getting them by marrying them off early in particular societies.

Physical abuse almost always is accompanied by psychological abuse, but psychological abuse is often present in relationship which there is no physical violence (Arias and Pape, 1999; Street and Arias, 2001 in Olson and Defrain 2006). Argued that, abuse has been conceptualized as a development process in which psychological abuse occurs first and eventually may progress into physical aggression. (Streets, in Olson and Dafrin 2006).

2.6.2 Harmful Effects of Early Marriage on Young Girls

Early marriage can cause severe problems like the following:

- Psychological and emotional stress like forced sexual relation, denial of freedom, personal development and education
- Denial of personal development and education
- Maturity level becomes an issue as the young girl is no expectancy to play the role of a mother.

- Girl children undergo severe health problems, like pregnancy and childbirth
- Girl brides are also involve in early childhood care.
- That to contracting sexually transmitted disease when girl children are exposed to such an environment.
- As girl children are still vulnerable and submissive. They can be subject to the atrocities of domestic violence abandonment.
- Mental and emotional stress in girl bride is high because they are not old enough to cope with maternal marital or in-law issues.

Though the respective government and society doing much to abolish early or child marriage through campaigns, laws, polices and individual support people. The consultative forum on women empowerment (2003) pointed out that, both men and women in most families violent force young women to go through the degrading and excruciating painful experience through which if they are lucky to survive they have to live with a wide variety of physical and psychological problem for the rest of their lives.

2.7 Effects of Deprivation of Women's Rights in Decision Making

Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia (2010) explained the term women's right as the freedom and Entitlement of women and girls of all ages. The convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women (CEDAW) adopts in 1979, and the convention on the rights of the child

(CRC) adopted in 1989, affirmed the principle of fundamental rights, and freedom of every human being. Both CEDAW and the CRC are guided by the broad concept of human rights that stretches beyond civil and political rights to the core issue of economic survival, health and education that affect quality of daily life for most women and children. The two conventions call for the right to protection from gender-based abuse.

The National Consultative Forum on Women Empowerment (2003) revealed that, in the home front, women particularly if they do not own resources, they cannot have a say in the affairs of the nuclear home and in the affairs of the large extended family. Women lack access to treatment due to their poor economic and illiteracy nature yet they are the most vulnerable. As gender disparities increase, the epidemic affects most women who bear the negative consequence of the gender imbalance. As the epidemic is maturing, it is drawing to women who have had only one sex partner, (study of secretary general 2007).

The consultative forum on women empowerment (2003) pointed out that looking at educational system a design whose objective was to train men to fill lower cadre administrative position in the colonial service. The predominant gender roles which assign females to production work within the homes and agricultural role of feeding the family served to keep the females out of school. The fruits of education were denied them consequently the production of further knowledge as an out come of

education was predominantly a male affair. It is important to note that this state of affairs has been changing, considered a human right and national policy and women emphasize the important of equal access. Some effort is made to encourage girls to enroll at the higher level though equal representation is yet to be achieved. It is the successful participation at the higher level of the educational system that allows women to find a niche at the leadership levels. In the home, socio-cultural biases are at root of some harmful traditional practice that undermines women's fundamental human rights. Female genital mutilation (FGM) widowhood rites, wife inheritance, child marriage and denial of inheritance right to women are some of the practices that militate against equality in the homes. Research has shown that certain categories of women have limited understanding of their rights and how to protect rights. Some women have come to accept the systematic discrimination against women and view other women opposes the system as "alleviant." (Women' Aid Collective (2006).

According to United Nations General Assembly Special Session (2000) women participation in decision making and power is important in the family to bring about progress on systematic changes that are needed for gender balance. Women's choice in education and career compel women to assume the burden for household responsibilities. Initiative and programs aimed at women increased participation in decision-making are burdened by

a lack of human and financial resource for training to promote gender equality in the home.

The consultative Forum on women empowerment (2003) revealed that, in terms of resource and control of the factors of production, women have limited control. It has been estimated that women constitute 65% of agricultural labour with men taking up about 55% in Nigeria, yet the incomes derived from agriculture by women are low if at all they are given. Women access to land, not to mention ownership is limited. Women can buy land but the custodian/brokers are always men, inheriting land and property is however a problem as the male relatives are unwilling to give titles to the females who may even be persuaded to cede the little. Access to other resource credit and agricultural inputs, tractor and fertilizer is dominated by men, women have limited access.

Another traumatic practice that infringes on the human right of female is the marriage of girls at tender age to elderly men, before their bodies reach adequate maturity. In this way they are forced into early sexual activities which lead to pregnancy, and complications, obstructed labour and its equal fistula and drop foot condition.

Women are deprived the right of eating some nutritive foods particularly during pregnancy such as eggs, meat, fish, some vegetables are amongst the long lists of food women are prohibited from eating as elderly mother in-law enforce and/or sanction these.

Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia (2010) gave the following human right to full and equal participation in power and decision-making. The human right to participate on equal terms with men in shaping and implementing decision and policies affecting themselves and their families

- The human right to equal access to public service
- The human right to equal access to education and information
- The human right to freedom of expression of opinion
- The human right to equality between men and women and to full and equal partnership in the family. Since women are not given the right to participate in the decision of marriage and its dissolution in the family, marriage relationship is always problem which bring much impact on family members. Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia (2010) argued that, in order to have good relationship in the family, the statement on the protection of the family can be used to strengthen women's argument for adequate arrangement for child care within the family. There should be equal opportunity for women to enable them participate fully in all activities of the family to make considerable contribution.

The United Nations Expert Group on Violence (2004) observed that, women (may) become targets for abuse in their role as wives, mother and daughter-in-law, ex-lover or domestic servant. The perpetrators of the abuse are usually the men of the family, be they husband, ex-husband, lover, ex-lover. Such violence could be linked to common drunkenness.

2.8 Effects of Domestic Violence Against Women on Family Relationship

According to National Centre for injury, prevention and control (2005) violent and abusive behavior continue to be a major cause of death, injury, stress and fear in our country. Crime victimizes millions of women annually. Suicide took the lives of 29,350 Americans in 2000. Approximately 25.9 million violent and property victimizations also occurred that year (united state department of justice, 2005).

Data from the recent national crime victimization survey (NCVS) indicated that, there were 691,710 nonfatal violent victimizations committed by current or former spouses, boyfriends or girlfriends of the victims in 2001. These intimate partners were against women. By contrast, intimate partner in the same year committed 3% of all nonfatal violence against men. (Remison, 2003) showed that, in 2000, 1,247 women and 440 recent years indicated that 33% of female murdered victims were killed by intimate partners and 4% of male murdered victims only. Personality conflicts and troubles within a marriage clearly contribute to marital breakdown behavior.

Sexual Assault Survivor Services (1990), added that domestic violence affects every member of the family, including the children, family violence creates a home environment where children live in constant fear. Children who witness family violence are affected in ways similar to children who are physically abused. They are often unable to establish

nurturing bonds with either parent. Children are at greater risk for abuse and neglect if they live in violence. (Child Welfare Partnership, 1995) also stated that, violence affects the lives of millions of women worldwide, in all socio-economic and educational classes. It cuts across cultural and religious barriers, impeding the right of women to participate fully in home decision making. It also occurs when a family member, partner or ex-partner attempts to physically or psychologically dominate another. Women are neglected in decision - making of the family particularly if they do not own resources, they cannot have a say in the affairs of the nuclear home nor the affairs of larger extended family. Women share a lower status and are not consider equal of men – socially, economically and politically despite the equal rights. (Report of the Consultative Forum on Women Empowerment, 2003).

Carlson (1984) explained that, statistics showed that over 3 million children witness violence in their home each year. Those who see and hear violence in the home suffer physically and emotionally. (Pickering, 1989) in Olson and Defrain, (2006) continued that, families under stress produce children under stress. If a spouse is being abused and there are children in the home, the children are affected by the abuse.

Terr *et al.,* (1991) observed that, children exposed to family violence are more likely to develop social, emotional, psychological and/or behavioral problems than those who are not. Recent research indicated that children who witness domestic violence show more anxiety, low self esteem,

depression, anger and temperament problems than children who do not witness violence in the home. The trauma they experience can show up in emotional, behavioral, social and physical disturbances that affect their development and can continue into adulthood.

Gillberg (1996) by American academy in Traumatic stress revealed that, many children in families where domestic violence has occurred appeared to be prettified. They are forced to grow up faster than their peers, often taking on the responsibility of cooking, cleaning and caring for younger children. It was also noted that, many of these children were not allowed to have a real childhood. They don't trust their fathers because of his role and they may have been worried about what to expect when coming home. They learned at a young age to be prepared for anything.

Regier *et al.,* (1995), also added that, children may also be isolated. Typical activities such as having friends over to their house may be impossible due to the chaotic atmosphere. "Kids aren't going to have their friends over when mom has a black eye". However, school performance is not always obviously affected. Children may respond by being overachievers. http://social.jrank.org/htm (2009) argued that . Although violence in the home can be directed toward children, the elderly, or other household members, most often this term is used to represent violence between adolescents or adults who are currently or were previously involved in a romantic or intimate relationship. Domestic violence occurs between

spouses, ex-spouses, and couples who are dating or who dated previously. The violence between these individuals is not limited to the home setting and may occur in locations outside the home as well.

Href-http://social.frank.org.impact/on/victims&children.(2009), stated that, domestic violence focuses on the structure of the family. It is believed that certain characteristics put a family or a couple at risk for violence. Individuals who have witnessed violence within their own family as a child may be more likely to imitate similar behavior in their relationships as adults. At the same time conditions lead to stress and conflict in the family. Factors such as low socio- economic status; low-income occupations; which may result in frequent unemployment and little to no social support from family create high levels of stress. It is hypothesized that individuals who have learned to resolve conflict with violence use violence as a method of coping these types of stresses. An equal distribution of power in the relationships between men and women assigns women a lower status. From this position of subordination, women become dependent upon their spouses or partners and are subjected to the demands and abuse of their mates.

http://socialjrank.org.htm. (2009) pointed out that, permission for violence by men against their wives has been reinforced through western religion and law for countries. Although legislation was enacted in the American colonies to outlaw domestic violence in 1641 with later laws originating in the late 1800s, the laws were not usually enforced and served

only to curtail extreme cases of violence. http://www.stevepowlina.com/blog/2006 (2009) also revealed that, one of the most difficult matters to confront with in respect to family relationships is that, you don't control the entire relationship yourself. Whether the relationship thrives or withers isn't up to you alone. As the saying goes, it takes two to tango.

Pavlina (2006) retrieved (2009) added that, when major family relationship problems are encountered, its common to attempt a control strategy. You get the other person to change. Sometimes this approach works especially if your request and the other person are both reasonable. But many times it just leads to frustration. If you can't change the other person, you should just accept him as he is. This strategy sometimes works. In another way, if changing and accepting the other person is both unworkable for you, the only option is to change yourself in a way that solves the problem. http://www.maypole.org.uk/domestic%abuse/mother/child/relationship.html. (2009) revealed that, when a father is abusive, children can be closer to their mother, and even be very protective of her. However, children strategies to cope with abuse can sometimes result in an apparent closer bond with the abusive parent. Abusive men typically manipulate their children in a number of ways, deliberately shaping the opinions of both their parents.

United Nations Children Fund, Innocent Research Centre Florence, (2000) retrieved (2009), postulated that, the convention on the elimination of

all forms of discrimination against women adopted in 1979 and the convention on the rights of the child adopted in 1989, affirmed the principles of fundamental rights and freedoms of every human being. Both CEDAW and CRC are guided by a broad concept of human rights that stretches beyond civil and political rights to the core issues of economic survival, health and education that affect the quality of daily life for most women and children. The two conventions call for the right to protection from gender – based abuse and neglect. The strength of these treaties rests on an international consensus and the assumption that all practices that harm women and children no matter how deeply they are embedded in culture must be eradicated. Government should protect women from crimes of violence and also to investigate violations when they occur and to bring the perpetrators to justice.

In an International Publication Issue on Women in Action (1990), pointed out that, the South African women met during their conference in Amsterdam and talked about how and why women are oppressed in a different way to men. They talked about women at work and women in the family. The conference agreed that black women who work outside their homes are the most oppressed of all women in South Africa. They spoke of how difficult it is for working women to join trade unions and the political struggle because they go home after work and do another shift at home. Women are treated as minors in their families. Malibangwe delegates called

for house work and child care to be shared by men and women in the home. They committed themselves to making sure that this is raised in every organization. Only when men take equal responsibility for their homes will women be able to take part fully in organizations. The conference discussed how women can free themselves. All agreed that this cannot happen while all people are oppressed because of their race, or because they are poor, or because they do not have political power. But the freedom of women will not just happen with national liberation. Women said that struggles in other countries have shown that women are still oppressed even after liberation. South Africa needs laws to protect women's rights. But this is not enough. The way in which society (families) sees and treats women must also change. The main problem facing the women's struggle is that there is no strong women's organization The daily challenges faced by women from many different classes and cultures, witnesses to the abuses of child prostitution and the expanding sex industry in Thailand and the Philippines, the rape and dowry deaths of Indian brides, the exploitation and loneliness of the women migrant workers, and the impact of Japanese – style management. At the same time, the conference provides a powerful and optimistic portrait of a very different reality. Burmese women confident in the vitality of their matriarchal tradition. The conference also considered taboo for women sexuality and sexual politics, poverty and class oppression.

2.9 Empirical studies

Different researchers carried out research on domestic violence in different parts of the world. One of these studies was conducted in Lagos – Nigeria by Baudri (2005) in exploring socio-economic correlates of wife – battering in Nigeria: The research design used was survey carried out using multi-stage sampling method with a validated 77 item – structured wife – battering interview schedule. This was used to collect data from 450 married men and women aged between 15 – 50 years. Five null hypotheses were stated. Twelve trained field assistants were recruited for the main survey. Data were collected and processed using descriptive and inferential statistics.

Research findings indicated that; the incidence of wife – battering tended to occur more early in marriage. The result revealed that, polygamous marriages were more prone to conflict and some women who have attained higher educational qualifications were beaten more than those who had secondary education or who were illiterates. Thirty five percent (35%) of the respondents claimed to have beaten their wives, 41% of the female respondents admitted to have suffered assaults associated with alcohol. Forty-four percent (44%) of the male respondents admitted to have beaten their wives. The area covered for the study is not enough to generalize for the whole country. The population of the study is not known so the researcher does not know how the author got the sample of 450 married men

and women. The research work did not indicate whether the hypotheses were rejected or accepted.

Amaike and Quadri (2005) conducted a research on perception of sexual violence against women in the era of HIV/AIDS in Nigeria using the university of Lagos students. Purposive sampling technique was adopted to select a sample of 400 respondents both male and female students, cutting across the different Faculties, Departments and Levels. The results revealed that, the socio-economic levels of the respondents' families were informed about sexual violence and its link with HIV/AIDS. The respondents believed that forced sexual relationship predispose women to contact HIV infection.

The researcher discovered that the author did not indicate the group of people used in carrying out the research. The population was not known. The method of collecting data was not indicated. The result can not be generalized for the whole country because proper research procedure was not followed. It can only be used for that particular university or for the purpose the research was carried out.

Yogo (2008) conducted a research on impact of domestic violence against women. The research problem was marrying off of girl-child forcefully to men or traders from big cities. Women were not considered during family decision – making and women – labor. The research design used was survey with the use of questionnaire and interview. The population for the study was 10675 people in Baba I community. The sample of the

population composed of 100 women chosen randomly from different women groups. The researcher used qualitative and quantitative analysis. Frequencies and percentages were used in analyzing the data. The results revealed that ignorant made people to behave the way they did. It was recommended that, people who had no access to education should be enlightened through seminars, workshops, conferences and religious gathering about the education of girl-child. Through education, parents will know their roles as parents and give women and children right as human beings.

Imaobang and Usoroh (2005) carried out a research on domestic violence during pregnancy. The objective of the study was to investigate the issue of domestic violence during pregnancy in Uyo local government area of Akwa Ibom state of Nigeria. The instrument for the study was use of questionnaire on rate of violence against pregnant women. The research revealed that education and occupational status as well as period of marriage have significant influence on domestic violence during pregnancy. The study did not indicate the number of hospitals in the local government as well as the criteria he adopted in choosing the population and how he came at choosing the hospital was not stated. This mean the population of pregnant women was not known nor the sample for the study. The instrument used in carrying out this research was used by the present researcher to conduct her research.

Ellsberg et al., (2002) conducted a research on domestic violence against women: methodological and Ethical Consideration. The study was carried out on family planning in Nicaraguan Leon (UNAN) and Limed University, Sweden. The aim of the study was to measure the prevalence and characteristics of physical and sexual violence directed by intimate partners against women as well as women response to abuse. A random sample of women of 488, aged 15 – 49 were interviewed. A structured questionnaire was on women's reproductive health including use of contraceptive and detailed birth histories, child health and nutrition. Survey design was used in conducting the research. Data was collected through the use of structured questionnaire which were filled and collected while some subjects responded orally through oral interview and the responses were filled as in the structured questionnaire. Data was analysed using SPSS 9.0 for logistic regression and chi-square tests. Significance was tested by means of 95 percent confidence interval and P-values of <0.05. the study found prevalence of physical violence from a partner of 28percent, with 12 percent of women reporting violence.

Hamby and Skupien (1998) used young women, who had very low incomes to carry out a research. The study was designed to determine lifetime and 1 year prevalence rate of various types of partner perpetrated violence and injury in a sample of native women from western Oklahoma. The purpose of the study was to generate culturally, historically and socially

specific hypotheses regarding risk and protective factors for intimate partner violence against Native American women. The study was conducted using semi-structured qualitative interview with 77 Native American women, who had experienced physical or sexual intimate partner violence were compared with those who had no history of such violence. The study used in-person interview, lasting for 40 to 70 minutes; these were conducted in private office settings by one of two native American women interviewers who obtained written inferred consent from each participant before the interviews. Women were offered information on available local counseling and family services. Statistical Analysis of Software (SAS) Version 8.01 was used for analysis. Lifetime prevalence and associated 95 percent confidence interval (CIs) were computed for intimate partner violence and intimate partner injury by type and severity. The chi-square statistics was used to test for associations between categorical statistics to test for linear associations among ordinal variables and the non-parametric Wilcoxon Sum Rank Test to assess association between continuous variables and intimate partnership violence. The findings revealed that socio-economic and demographic sample characteristics are the criteria which partners used in exhibiting sexual violence against women. More than half (58.3%) of study participants were clients of the women ranged in age from 14 to 45 years. Participants were significantly younger than other study participants. This showed that intimate partner violence and injury in the lives of low-income

Native American women existed. This study revealed that everywhere in the world there is violence against women be it of a lower or higher magnitude. The literature was well stated as well as the statement of the research problem but the method of determining the sample size and sampling technique was not clearly stated. The method of data analysis was very appropriate and clearly stated and the SPSS statistical package which was used in the study is the same package that this study employed. The study only reported on intimate partner injury rates. It also used in-person interviews, but recruited volunteers through several public advertising venues.

2.10 Summary of Literature Review

Literatures reviewed in this chapter revealed that, domestic violence is domiciled in the family where women and children are the victims. They are exposed to the violence perpetrated by men against women. Violence ranges from physical, emotional and psychological. Sexual violence compel women to engage in sexual act which leads to physical injuries, unwanted pregnancy and high risk of ill health which lead to death and scondaring of family resource. Men when drunk with alcohol are capable of violence; they beat their wives and force them to spousal sex. Young women who have been victims of sexual violence are more likely to have high risk of sexual behaviour than those who have not been abused. Poverty also lead many

women in sub-sahara Africa to sexual relationship within the family, men who will give the young women other necessities such as clothing and food in exchange for sex.

Early marriage below the age of 18 years of birth affects fertility via frequent and regular exposure to sexual relations. Early marriage limits education and other opportunities for girls leads to early child bearing and increase health risk such as obstetric fistula which result from prolong and obstructed labour. Early marriage occur as a result of economic and social status of the parents while some communities regard girl children who have not gone to school and burden and they give the young girls in marriage.

Women participation in decision making and power is important in the family to bring about progress on systematic changes that are needed for gender balance. Women are denied the right to resource and control. Another tranmatic practice that infringes in the human right of female is the marriage of girls at tender age to elderly men. Young girls are forced to early sexual activities which lead to pregnancy and complications during birth. Once the girls get problem during birth, they are abandoned by men. In order to achieve harmonous relationship in the family, women should be given the right to participate in decision making and policies affecting the families. Marital violence is found to be more common among young couple, couple with low occupational status and job dissatisfaction and among couple who experience violence in their family of origin. People should be given talks

and enlightened on the prevalence of domestic violence and the coping strategies to avoid destruction of lives and properties.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

This chapter presented the research design and methodology under the following sub-headings: -

3.1 Research Design

3.2 Population of the Study

3.3 Sample Size and Sampling Procedure

3.4 Instrument for Data Collection

3.4.1 Validity of the Instrument

3.4.2 Pilot Study

3.4.3 Reliability of the Instrument

3.5 Procedure for Data Collection

3.6 Procedure for Data Analysis

3.1 Research Design

For this research study survey design was used. Abdullahi, (1995) in Ekeh (2003) stated that survey is a design that is conducted in the field and data are derived from questionnaire to document information from the respondents. The choice of this design was based on the fact that the entire population can not be covered, therefore, sample representative was used in this study.

3.2 Population of the Study

The population comprised of married men and women. The total number of married men was 122,230 and married women 144,244, which gave the total population of 266,474 as distributed below:

Table 3.1: Population of Married Men and Women in Four Local Government Areas in Taraba State

LGA	Married Men	Married Women	Total
Ardo-Kola	17813	21626	39439
Jalingo	28799	34161	62960
Wukari	49714	56994	106708
Zing	25904	31463	57367
Total	**122230**	**144244**	**266474**

Source: National Population Census (2006) for Taraba State

3.3 Sample Size and Sampling Procedure

The sample size for the study was five hundred married men and women, the subjects were picked using proportionate sampling method (10%) then the sample was later obtained using convenient random sampling method to obtain the desired sample because of the differences in population distribution. According Krejcie and Morgan (1970), for a large population over 100,000, a sample of 500 was appropriate, using the above procedure the following selection was made as indicated in Table 3.2 below.

Table 3.2: Sample Size for the Study

LGA	Married Men	Married Women	Total
Ardo-Kola	33	41	112
Jalingo	54	64	123
Wukari	93	107	147
Zing	49	59	118
Total	229	271	500

3.4 Instrument for Data Collection

The research instrument that was used for data collection was the questionnaire. The questionnaire had thirty-three items which were divided into three parts. Section A required personal information about the respondents which contained four items from number one to four. Section B answered research question five to twenty-four which focused on effects of domestic violence against women and section C was on effects of domestic violence against women on family relationship, which had nine questionnaire items.

3.4.1 Validity of the Instrument

The drafted questionnaire was vetted by three specialists in Home Economic Education in the department of Vocational and Technical Education ABU, Zaria, to determine the validity of the instruments. The necessary corrections were made on the vetted questionnaire items. The data

that was collected from the pilot study were coded in Tables for the purpose of determining the reliability co-efficient of the instrument.

3.4.2 Pilot Study

A pilot study was conducted in Sabon-Gari Local Government Area of Kaduna State to determine the suitability of the instrument for the study and to ascertain any difficulty that the researcher may have when carrying out the actual research study. In order to reduce any ambiguity in the items, fifty (50) copies of the questionnaire were produced with thirty-three (33) questions and distributed to the respondents who were responded to them, and thereafter collected.

3.4.3 Reliability of the Instrument

The data collected from the pilot study were statistically analysed for the purpose of gathering the reliability co-efficient. The Spearman-Brown method was used to analyse the reliability coefficient. Consequently, reliability co-efficient of alpha level of 0.87 was obtained. This reliability co-efficient was considered adequate for the internal consistency of the instrument. According to Spiegel and Stevens (1999) instrument is considered reliable if it lies between 0 and 1, and that the closer the calculated reliability coefficient is to zero, the less reliable is the instrument, and the closer the calculated reliability co-efficient is to 1, the more reliable the instrument.

3.5 Procedure for Data Collection

The researcher travelled to the four Local Government Areas in Taraba State and administered the questionnaire personally with the help of three trained research assistants. The researcher visited the families in their various homes and working places and administered the questionnaire to the married men and women in the research areas. The researcher and three trained research assistants collected the completed questionnaire which took them four weeks to administer and collect the filled questionnaires.

3.6 Procedure for Data Analysis

Data were analysed using percentages and tables to obtain the differences in responses of the subjects from both men and women. The results of the analysed data were used to answer the research questions. Frequencies and percentages were used to analyse the demographic variables, mean and standard deviation were used in answering research questions, while Pearson Product Moment Correlation Co-efficient statistics was used to test the four Null-Hypotheses at 0.05 level of significance.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

This chapter presented the data analysis for the study under the following sub headings:

1.1 Bio data of respondents

1.2 Answers to research questions.

1.3 Testing of Null-hypotheses

1.4 Major findings.

4.1 Bio Data of Respondents

The bio-data of the respondents were also analysed and presented in Table 4.1

Table 4.1: Bio-data of Respondents by their Local Government Area

Local Government Area	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Ardo Kola	112	22.4
Jalingo	123	24.6
Wukari	147	29.4
Zing	118	23.6
Total	**500**	**100.0**

Table 4.1.1 showed that 147 (29.4%) of the respondents were from Wukari Local Government Area, 123 (24.6%) from Jalingo Local Government Area; 118 (23.6%) were from Zing Local Government Area and 112(22.4%) were from Ardo Kola Local Government Area.

Table 4.1.2: Distribution of Respondents According to Age

Age (in Years)	Frequency	Percentage (%)
15-25	16	3.2
26-35	82	16.4
36-45	248	49.6
46-55	154	30.8
Total	**500**	**100.0**

Table 4.1.2, showed that 248(49.6%) of the respondents were between 36-45 years, another 154 representing 30.8% were between 46-55 years, 82 respondents representing (16.4%) of the total responses were between 26-35 years and 16 (3.2%) were between 15-25 years. This revealed that majority (49.6%) of the respondents fell between 36-45 years of age.

Table 4.1.3: Distribution of Respondents by Gender

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	228	45.6
Female	272	54.4
Total	**500**	**100.0**

The gender status of the respondents according to Table 4.1.3 showed that, 272 (54.4%) were females while 228(45.6%) were males. This showed that majority (54.4%) of the respondents were females.

Table 4.1.4: Distribution of Respondents by Years of Marriage

Years in marriage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
0-10	142	28.4
11-15	41	8.2
16-25	174	34.8
26-30	143	28.6
Total	**500**	**100.0**

Table 4.1.4 showed that, 174 (34.8%) of the respondents were married between 16-25 years; 143 (28.6%) have been in marriage for between 26-30 years and 142(28.4%) were between 0-10 years and 41 (8.2%) have been in marriage for between 11-15 years. This revealed that majority (34.8%) of the respondents have been into marriage for between 16 – 25 years.

Table 4.1.5: Distribution of Respondents by Educational Qualifications

Educational Qualification	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Primary education	9	1.8
Secondary education	25	5.0
NCE/OND	204	40.8
Degree/HND	262	52.4
Total	**500**	**100.0**

Table 4.1.5 revealed the distribution of the respondents by educational qualifications. Respondents having degree/HND certificate were 262 in number representing 52.4%, 204(40.8%) had NCE/OND certificate,

25(5.0%) had secondary education and 9 (1.8%) had primary education. The majority (52.4%) of the respondents were degree/HND certificate holders.

4.2: Answering Research Questions

4.2.1 Research Question One: *To what extent has spousal abuse against women affected women and family relationship in Taraba State?*

Summary of the opinion of respondents on spousal abuse against women and family relationships in Taraba is presented in Table 4.2.1

Table 4.2.1: Opinion of respondents on effects of spousal abuse against women on family relationship.

S/N	Effects of Spousal Abuse against women on family relationship	Level of Respondents				Mean	SD
		SA	A	D	SD		
1	Prevent the partner from visiting friends or family, the partner live in isolation	123	193	128	56	2.7660	.94712
2	Prevent the partner from going to school or work this leads to depending on spouse	89	219	107	90	2.5940	.96904
3	Gives threatening looks when he or she does not agree with something you said or did this create fear	178	214	80	28	3.0840	.85698
4	Your partner push, kick, slap, punch or chock makes you to be afraid of self-expression	150	171	79	100	2.7420	1.09262
5	Threatening with weapon results in injury	149	144	128	79	1.05506	2.7260
	Aggregate mean =					2.4482	
	2.0						

Table 4.2.1 revealed that 193 agreed and 123 disagreed that spousal abuse against women on family relationship prevented the partner from visiting friends or family, the partner lives in isolation. This had a mean of 2.7660 and Standard deviation of .94712.

Questionnaire item two responses revealed that 219 respondents agreed that spousal abuse prevent partners from going to school or work. On the contrary 128 respondents disagreed that spousal abuse prevents the partner from going to school and work. The responses to this questionnaire item had a mean of 2.5940 and standard deviation of .96904

For questionnaire item three, the responses revealed that 214 respondents agreed that spouses often gave threatening looks when he or she did not agree with something said and that created fear. On the contrary, 80 respondents disagreed that spousal threatening looks do not instills fears on the woman and strained family relationships. The responses to this questionnaire item recorded a mean of 3.0840 and standard deviation of .85698.

Questionnaire item four responses revealed that 171 respondents agreed that partners' push kicks, slap, punches or chock makes the spouse to be afraid of self expression. On the contrary 79 respondents disagreed to this. The responses to this item had a mean of 2.7420 and standard deviation of 1.09262.

Questionnaire item five responses revealed that 149 respondents strongly agreed that threats with weapons resulted to injury, while on the contrary 128 respondents disagreed that threats from husband to women with weapons do not results to injury and the mean scores of the responses was 1.05506 and a standard deviation of 2.7260

The level of respondents' opinion on the relationship between effects of spousal abuse against women on family relationship showed that 392 respondents agreed that partners' threatening looks when he/she does not agree with something said and done, creates fear. This opinion attracted the highest mean response of 3.0840.

From Table 4.2.1 statistics revealed that the aggregate means of all the items was 2.4482 which is higher than the 2.000 therefore this means that their responses in these items is significant as it has between disagree and agree.

4.2.2: Research Question Two: *What are the effects of sexual abuse against women on family relationship in Taraba State?*

Responses to research question two, on the effects of sexual abuse against women on family relationship is summarized and presented in Table 4.2.2

Table 4.2.2: Opinion of Respondents on Effects of Sexual Abuse against Women on Family Relationship

S/N	Effects of Sexual abuse against women on family relationship	Response categories				Mean	SD
		SA	A	D	SD		
6.	Forced sex without ones consent leads to physical injury	196	217	47	40	3.1380	.88799
7.	Use of illegal drugs or abuse alcohol may cause high desire for sex which result in dangerous injury	174	173	97	56	2.9300	.99352
8.	Forced sex cause the partner to be hospitalized	112	217	108	63	2.7560	.94140
9.	Forced sex leads to high risks of HIV/AIDS infection	142	222	64	72	2.8680	.98616
10.	Leads to damage of reproductive organs	108	184	136	72	2.6560	.97343
11	Use of weapon to threat partner affects reproductive organs which affect physiological change in the body	99	176	142	83	2.5820	.98652
	Aggregate mean					2.84167	

2.0

The responses for questionnaire item six revealed that 217 respondents agreed that forced sex without ones' consent lead to physical injury, while on the contrary 47 respondents disagreed that sexual abuse against women do not have negative effects on family relationships. The mean scores to this questionnaire item were 3.13800 and a standard deviation of .88799.

Responses to questionnaire item seven revealed that 174 respondents strongly agreed that the use of illegal drugs or abuse of alcohol caused high desire for sex which resulted in dangerous injury and on the contrary, 97respondents disagreed that the use of illegal drugs or abuse of alcohol does

not caused high desire for sex which result to dangerous injury to the woman. The mean to these responses was 2.9300 with a standard deviation of .99352.

For questionnaire item eight responses, it revealed that 217 respondents agreed that forced sex caus the partner to be hospitalized, while 108 disagreed that forced sex does not cause partner to be hospitalized. These responses had a mean of 2.7560 and standard deviation of .94140

Questionnaire item nine responses revealed that 222 respondents agreed that forced sex lead to high risks of HIV/AIDS infection. On the contrary, 72 respondents strongly disagreed that forced sex does not lead to high risks of HIV/AIDS infections and these responses had a mean of 2.8680 and standard deviation of .98616.

For questionnaire item ten, the responses revealed that 184 respondents agreed respectively that forced sexual intercourse lead to damage of reproductive organs, on the contrary, 136 respondents disagreed that forced sexual intercourse does not lead to damage of the reproductive organs. The responses to this questionnaire item had a mean of 2.6560 and a standard deviation of .97343.

Responses to questionnaire item eleven revealed that 176 respondents agreed that use of weapons to threaten partner affect reproductive organs as well as have a physiological change in the body. On the contrary, 227respondents disagreed that use of weapons to threaten does not have any

effects on the reproductive organs. The responses to this questionnaire item had a mean of 2.5820 and standard deviation of .98652.

In the overall, the questionnaire item with the highest mean responses was item 6, with a mean 3.1380 and standard deviation of .88799 which also showed that forced sex without ones consent often lead to physical injury.

From the statistics presented in Table 4.2.2 the overall aggregate mean responses on effect of sexual abuse against women on family relationship was 2.82167. This aggregate mean is higher than 2.000, hence the responses on these items had effects on sexual abuse against women on family relationship is significant.

4.2.3: Research Question Three: *To what extent does early marriage of young girls affected women on family relationship in Taraba State?*

In order to answer research question three, questionnaire items 12 to 24 were put up to illicit responses from respondents. The responses were summarized and presented in Table 4.2.3

Table 4.2.3: Opinion of respondents on Effects of Early Marriage of young women on family relationship

S/N	Effects of Early marriage of young women ob family relationship	Response categories SA	A	D	SD	Mean	SD
12	Damage the reproductive organs	154	199	78	69	2.8760	1.00131
13	Cause the partner to suffer poor health	136	209	91	64	2.8340	.96970
14	Leads to early child birth and difficulty in taking care of the children.	166	246	33	55	3.0460	.91518
15	Your partner push, kick, slap or chock makes you to be afraid of self expression	133	219	71	77	2.8160	.99606
16	Cause the partner to be hospitalized for physical injury during sex or child birth	159	222	56	63	2.9540	.96631
17	Leads to poor relationship with partner.	166	246	33	55	2.8980	.92807
	Aggregate mean					2.904	

2.0

From Table 4.2.3, responses to questionnaire item 12 revealed that 199 respondents agreed that early marriage damaged the reproductive organs and on the contrary 78 respondents disagreed that early marriage does not

damage reproductive organs. The responses to this questionnaire item had a mean of 2.8760 and standard deviation of 1.0013.

For questionnaire item 13, responses revealed that 209 respondents agreed that early marriage cause the partner to suffer poor health and on the contrary, 91 respondents disagreed that early marriage of women does not cause them to suffer poor health. The responses to this questionnaire item had a mean of 2.8340 and .96970, as the standard deviation.

Questionnaire item fourteen responses revealed that 246 respondents agreed that early marriage of young women lead to early child birth and difficulty in taking care of the children, and on the contrary 55 respondents strongly disagreed to that notion. The responses to this questionnaire item had a mean of 3.0460 and a standard deviation of .91518.

Questionnaire item fifteen responses as presented in Table 4.2.3 revealed that 219 respondents agreed that partners push, kick, slap or chock make women to be afraid of self expression and 77 respondents strongly disagreed that partner's push, kicks, slap or chocks does not make women to be afraid of self expression. These responses had a mean score of 2.8160 and a standard deviation of .99606.

Questionnaire item sixteen responses revealed that 222 respondents agreed that early marriage on the part of women cause them to be hospitalized for physical injury during sex or child birth. On the contrary, 63 respondents strongly disagreed that early marriage on the part of young

women does not cause them to be hospitalized for physical injury during sex or child birth and with a mean of 2.9540 and a standard deviation of .96631

For questionnaire item seventeen, 246 respondents agreed that early marriage of young women lead to poor relationship with partner, and on the other hand, 55 respondents strongly disagreed that early marriage of young women does not lead to poor relationship with partner. These responses had a mean of 2.8980 and a standard deviation of .92807.

From the Data interpreted in Table 4.2.3 above the questionnaire item with the highest mean and standard deviation in questionnaire item 14, and this attracted a mean score of 3.0460; detail of responses showed that 246 agreed, and on the contrary 55 respondents strongly disagreed that early marriage of young women on family relationship does not lead to early child birth and difficulty in taking care of the children.

An aggregate mean score of 2.904 was calculated for all items under effects of early marriage of young women on family relationship. This showed that their response is significant as it is higher than 2.00 set as the average expected mean.

4.2.4: Research Question Four: *To what extent does deprivation of women's rights in decision making affected family relationship?*

In order to answer this research question four, questionnaire item 18 – 24 were raised to illicit responses to this research question. The summary of the responses is presented in Table 4.2.4

Table 4.2.4: Opinion of respondents on effects of deprivation of women rights in decision making

S/N	Effects of Deprivation of women rights in decision making on family relationship	Response categories SA	A	D	SD	Mean	SD
18	Collects your salary and gives as need arise	48	71	220	161	2.0120	.92171
19	Purchase family items without your knowledge	39	111	222	128	2.1220	.88129
20	Decide on family issues without involving you	77	90	180	153	2.1820	1.03490
21	Deprive you the right to employment	24	89	190	197	1.8800	.8666
22	Deprive you the right to plan your birth	55	93	194	158	2.0900	.96735
23	Deprive you the freedom to express your human right	33	87	209	171	1.9640	.88333
24	Deprive you the right to school	24	73	158	245	1.7520	.87637
	Aggregate mean					1.9742	

2.0

From the responses presented in Table 4.2.4, questionnaire item 18 responses revealed that 71 respondents agreed that most husbands deprive their women the rights by not giving them the necessary financial support as the need arises. On the contrary, 220 respondents disagreed to the statement. These responses have a mean of 2.0120 and standard deviation of .92171

Questionnaire item 19 responses revealed that 111 respondents agreed that women's rights were deprived when their husbands make purchases for the family without the consent of the woman. On the contrary 222 disagreed

with the opinion. These responses had a mean of 2.1220 and a standard deviation of .88129

For questionnaire item 20, the responses revealed that 90 respondents agreed that decision in family issues without involving woman worked against the women's rights and strained the family relationship. On the contrary, 180 respondents disagreed to this notion. The responses scored a mean of 2.1820 and a standard deviation of 1.03490

Questionnaire item 21 responses revealed that 89 respondents agreed that depriving women from employment was against their basic rights. On the contrary, 197 respondents strongly disagreed that depriving a woman from employment does not deprive them their rights and these responses scored a mean of 1.8800 and a standard deviation of .8666.

Questionnaire item 22 responses revealed that 93 respondents agreed that women were often deprive the right to plan the birth of children, on the contrary, 194 respondents disagreed to this notion that most husbands deprive their women the right to plan the birth of children and this responses scored a mean of 2.0900 and a standard deviation of .96735.

Responses to questionnaire item 23 87 respondents agreed that most husbands deprived their women the freedom to express their human rights. On the contrary, 209 respondents disagreed to that statement. These responses scored a mean of 1.9640 and a standard deviation of .88333.

For questionnaire item 24, the responses revealed that 73 respondents agreed that most husbands deprive women of the right to school. while, 245 respondents had a contrary opinion and these scores recorded a mean of 1.7520 and a standard deviation of .87637.

From the overall responses questionnaire item24, 20 has the highest mean scores of 2.1820; on the opinion on the effects of deprivation of women rights in decision making on family relationship showed that 73 agreed, and 245 disagreed on this opinion that partner decide on important family issues without involving the other partner.

Table 4.2.4 statistics revealed that the aggregate mean response of 1.9742 on the items under effects of deprivation of women rights in decision making showed that their responses were not significant. This is because their mean response of 1.9742 is lower than the standard mean of 2.00. This aggregate mean score of 1.9742 showed that majority of them either disagreed or strongly disagreed, with the items under effects of deprivation of women rights in decision making.

4.3 Testing of the Null Hypotheses

Four null hypotheses were raised to give statistical validation to the solutions proffered to the research questions of the study. These null-hypotheses are as follows:

Hypothesis I: ***The null hypothesis states that there is no significant relationship between the effects of spousal abuse against women and family relationship.***

The responses for research question one were tested statistically and presented in Table 4.3.1 to test the statistical backing of the research question.

Table 4.3.1: ***Pearson Product Moment Correlation (PPMC) statistics on the relationship between effects of spousal abuse against women and family relationship.***

Variables	N	Mean	S.D	Correlation r	Critical r	df	Sig (2 tailed)
Effects of Spousal abuse against women and Family relationship	500	13.9120	3.49696	.344**	.195	498	.000
	500	24.2240	6.30343				

**Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)

Table 4.3.1 revealed that the variable effects of spousal abuse against women had a mean of 13.9120 with a standard deviation of 3.49696 and family relationship a mean of 24.2240 with a standard deviation of 6.30343. a correlation of .344 and critical value of .195 was recorded and a df value of 498, the PPMC calculated significance (2-tailed) value of 0.000 is less than the 0.01 level of tolerance at a correlation level of .344. Details of the Pearson Product Moment Correlation (PPMC) revealed the existence of significant relationship between effects of spousal abuse against women and family relationship.

The calculated sig (p) value of 0.00 is lower than the 0.05 level of significance. The correlation index of .344 is greater than the correlation

critical r value of 1095. Consequently, the null-hypothesis which stated that there is no significant relationship between effects of spousal abuse against women and family relationship was rejected.

Hypothesis II: ***The null hypothesis states that there is no significant relationship between effects of sexual abuse against women and family relationship.***

The responses on the relationship between effects of sexual abuse against women and family relationship were examined in Table 4.2.2 and to test the relationship between these variables, the Pearson Moment Correlation was used and the results presented in Table 4.3.2

Table 4.3.2: ***Table Pearson Product Moment Correlation (PPMC) statistics on the relationship between effects of sexual abuse against women and family relationship.***

Variables	N	Mean	S.D	Correlation r	Critical r	df	Sig (2 tailed)
Effects of Sexual abuse against women and Family relationship	500	16.9300	4.58335	.415**	.195	498	.000
	500	24.2240	6.30343				

** correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)

According to the Pearson Product Moment Correlation statistics above, significant relationship exist between effects of sexual abuse against women and family relationship. From Table 4.3.2 the variable effects of sexual abuse against women had a mean of 16.9300 and a standard deviation of 4.58335, while family relationship variable had a mean of 24.2240 and a standard deviation of 6.30343. The correlation coefficient value was .415

and critical value of .195 with df value of 498. This is because the calculated significant value of .000 is less than 0.01 level of tolerance at the correlation level of .415, hence the null hypothesis was hereby rejected.

Hypothesis III: ***There is no significant relationship between effects of early marriage of young women and family relationship.***

This hypothesis was meant to establish whether there is a significant relationship between effects of early marriage of young women and family relationship. The results are presented in Table 4.3.3

Table 4.3.3: ***Pearson Product Moment Correlation (PPMC) statistics between effects of early marriage of young women and family relationship.***

Variables	N	Mean	S.D	Correlation r	Critical r	df	Sig (2 tailed)
Effects of Early marriage of young women and	500	17.4240	4.63586	.474**	.195	498	.000
Family relationship	500	24.2240	6.30343				

** correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)

Pearson Product Moment Correlation (PPMC) statistics revealed a means of 17.4240 and a standard deviation of 4.63586 for the effects of early marriage of young women variable and for the family relationship variable a mean of 24.2240 and a standard deviation of 6.30343. Correlation r value of .474 is higher than the .195 critical r. the calculated significant (2-tailed) value of .000 is smaller than the 0.01 level of tolerance confirming the

existence of significant relationship. This revealed that a significant relationship exist between effects of early marriage of young women and family relationship.

Hence the null hypothesis which states that there was no significant relationship between effects of early marriage of young women and family relationship was hereby rejected.

Hypothesis IV: ***There is no significant relationship between effects of deprivation of women's right in decision making and family relationship***

This hypothesis was meant to test the relationship between effects of deprivation of women's right in decision making and family relationship. The results are presented in Table 4.3.4

Table 4.3.4: ***Pearson Product Moment Correlation (PPMC) statistics on the relationship between effects of deprivation of women's rights in decision making and family relationship.***

Variables	N	Mean	S.D	Correlation r	Critical r	df	Sig (2 tailed)
Effects of Deprivation of women's rights in decision making and	500	14.0020	5.27082	.466**	.193	498	.000
Family relationship	500	24.2240	6.30343				

** correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)

Results of the Pearson Product Moment Correlation (PPMC) statistics revealed that effects of deprivation of women's rights in decision making

had a mean of 14.0020 and a standard deviation of 5.27082 and family relationship variable had a mean of 24.2240 and a standard deviation of 6.30343. This was as a result of the calculated significant (2-tailed) value of 0.000 is less than the 0.01 level of tolerance while the correlation r value of .466 is higher than the .195 critical r value. Hence, the null hypothesis is rejected. This showed that, there is significant relationship between effects of deprivation of women's rights in decision making and family relationship.

4.4 Major Findings of the Study

The major findings of the study were that there is a:-

i. significant relationship between effects of spousal abuse against women and family relationship.

ii. significant relationship between effects of sexual abuse against women and family relationship.

iii. significant relationship between effects of early marriage of young women and family relationship; and

iv. significant relationship between effects of deprivation of women's right in decision-making and family relationship.

4.5 Discussion

The first finding of this study revealed that partner gives threatening looks when he/she does not agree with something said or done, which creates fear. This is in line with the findings of Ityavyar in Okpeh, (2005), who pointed out that domestic violence is domiciled in the family where women, children, and the youth are either direct or indirect victims. Result of hypothesis I revealed significant relationship between effects of spousal abuse against women and family relationship. In other words spousal abuse against women has significant effects or impact on family relationship. Results showed that as spousal abuse against women increases, so does the problems of family relationship increases too. The opinion of respondents showed that majority of the respondents numbering 214 agreed that their

partners normally give them threatening looks when he or she does not agree with something said or done this create fear.

The second finding revealed that forced sex without one's consent leads to physical injury is the highest relationship between effects of sexual abuse against women and family relationship. This is in line with the findings of Bradlen (1985) who pointed out that, sexual abuse can put women at risk of infection and unwanted pregnancy if forced to have sex or dare using contraception or condoms because of their partner's reaction. Outcome of hypothesis 2 also revealed the existence of significant relationship between effects of sexual abuse against women and family relationship.

The finding revealed that early marriage of young women lead to early child birth and difficulty in taking care of the children has significant effect on family relationship. This goes to confirm the findings of Gurmu and Etan (2005), who stated that early marriage affects fertility via frequent and regular exposure to sexual relations and the age at entering into marital life. Given the fact that fertility often takes place within marriage; there is an inverse relationship between age at first marriage, pregnancy and the actual commencement of the process of child bearing (Islam, 2009). Utulu (2005) stated that, early marriage limits education and other opportunities for girls often leads to early child bearing and increase health risk, which include effects of unsafe abortion. Girls under fifteen (15) years of age are five times

more likely to die childbirth than women in their twenties. Another relationship between effects of early marriage of young women and family relationship according to the second highest mean response is that it causes partner to be hospitalized for physical injury during sex or child birth.

The Table 4.2.4 revealed that there are effects of deprivation of women's rights in decision making and family relationship. Partners decide on family issues without involving the other, like purchasing family items without the knowledge of the other partner. This finding goes to confirm the findings of the National Consultative Forum on Women Empowerment (2003) which stated that in the home front, women particularly if they do not own resources, they cannot have a say in the affairs of the nuclear home and in the affairs of the large extended family. The result of the fourth hypothesis which stated that significant relationship exists between effects of deprivation of women's rights in decision-making and family relationship. This confirms that there is a greater effect of deprivation of women against their human rights in Taraba State.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

This chapter presented the summary, conclusion and recommendations of the study. The chapter was discussed under the following sub headings

4.1 Summary

4.2 Conclusion

4.3 Recommendations

4.4 Suggestions for further studies.

5.1 Summary

The objectives of the study were to assess domestic violence against women on family relationship, to identify the effects of spousal abuse against women on family relationship, to examine the effects of sexual abuse against women on family and the effects of early marriage on women and family relationship. It went further to examine the extent to which women are deprived the right to participate in decision making of the family and how domestic violence affects family relationship. The study answered four research questions and tested four null-hypotheses. The study was delimited to four Local Government Areas in Taraba State.

Literature reviewed highlighted that people marry for social, emotional and religious reasons. Marriage changes personal and social status of the individual who enter into it. Husbands and wives need to talk to each other in such a way that will not belittle their mate as this will result in

a negative reaction that can lead to domestic violence within the family. Partners should not be aggressive to each other as this will lead to domestic violence. Most domestic violence that occurs in the family is a reflection of what happened in the family of origin. Women are violated sexually, through threats of emotions and are deprived the right to power, right to decision making and right to implementation of the decisions and policies affecting women and their families.

Descriptive survey design was used in carrying out the study. The population of the study was 266,474 which comprised of married men and women drawn from four local Government Areas. A sample size of five hundred (500) married men and women was randomly selected using stratified random sampling.

The data collected were analysed using. Mean and standard deviation to analyze respondents' demographic variables, while Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient was used to analyse the four Null hypotheses, which were all rejected.

5.2 Conclusion

From the data analysed in this study poor family relationship leads to denial of opportunities, properties, wealth and good health. Once the individual lives under fear, he/she cannot be free to contribute to the

development of the family. Drug taking, alcohol and poor economic status are some of the causes of domestic violence against women.

5.3 Recommendations

The following recommendations were thereby made as a result of the findings from this study.

1) The Taraba State Government should set up guidance and counseling centres on family matters where Religious Leaders, elders in the communities and guidance and counsellelling experts will educate and counsel partners to live peacefully and arrived of collective decision to improve family relationship.
2) Religious leaders (both Islamic and Christian leaders) should give talks to their members on effects of early marriage and its negative effects on young women and they should try to discourage early marriage among girls.
3) Home Economists should give talks to people on family relationship during conferences, seminars, workshops and religious gatherings.

5.5 Suggestions for further studies

The researcher suggested that further research should be conducted in the following areas:

i. Causes of marital conflicts and its resolution in the home in the North Eastern States of Nigeria.

ii. Strategies for involving women in power and policy and its implementation to avoid gender-based conflicts in Nigeria.

iii. Strategies for coping with domestic violence cases in the families.

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Appendix I

Dept. of Voc. /Tech. Edu.
Faculty of Education
Ahmadu Bello University
Zaria

Dear Respondent,

REQUEST TO COMPLETE QUESTIONNAIRE

I am a postgraduate student of the above mentioned University conducting a research on the Assessment of Domestic Violence Against Women on Family relationship in Taraba State. Kindly assist by providing honest answers to the following questions and statements. All information will be strictly and confidentially kept. I solicit for your maximum co-operation and contributions to make this study a success.

Thank you for your anticipated co-operation.

Yours sincerely,

Christiana, Sanvo ZADDING (Mrs.)

Assessment of Domestic Violence Against Women on Family Relationship in Taraba State.

Questionnaire to be completed by married men and women.

You are to answer all questions in each section please.

SECTION A: DEMOGRAPHIC DATA.

Please tick or fill in the corresponding box appropriate to your responses.

1. **Local government area.**

a. Ardo-konla ( )

b. Jalingo ( )

c. Wukari ( )

d. Zing ( )

2. **Age**

a. 15-25 ( )

b. 25-35 ( )

c. 35-45 ( )

d. 45-55 ( )

3. **Gender**

a. Male ( )

b. Female ( )

Year of marriage

c. 0-10 years ( )

d. 10-15 years ( )

e. 15-25 years ( )

f. 25-30 years ( )

4. **Educational qualification**

a. Primary education ( )

b. Secondary education ( )

c. NCE/O.N.D ( )

d. Degree/N.D ( )

SECTION B: Domestic Violence against Women and its Effects

Please indicate the appropriate response by ticking (√) the column that is most appropriate to you.

Key

Strongly Agree (SA)

Agree (A)

Disagree (D)

Strongly Disagree (SD)

S/N	To what extend does spousal abuse affect women?	SA	A	D	SD
1	Prevents the partner from visiting friends or family, the partner live in isolation				
2	Prevents the partner from going to school or work. This leads to dependent on spouse				
3	Gives threatening looks when he or she does not agree with something you said or did this create fear.				
4	Your partner push, kick, slap, punch or chock makes you to be afraid of self-expression.				
5	Threatening with weapon result in injury				

S/N	To what extend does sexual abuse on women have an effect on family relationship?	SA	A	D	SD
6	Forced sex without one's consent leads to physical injury.				
7	Use of illegal drugs or abuse of alcohol may cause high desire for sex which results in dangerous injury.				
8	Forced sex causes the partner to be hospitalized				
9	Forced sex leads to high risks of HIV/AIDS infection.				
10	Leads to damages of reproductive organs				
11	Use of weapon to threat partner affect reproductive organs which affect physiological changes in the body				

S/N	What are the effects of early marriage on young women?	SA	A	D	SD
12	Damages the reproductive organs				
13	Cause the partner to suffer poor health				
14	Leads to early child birth and difficulty in taking care of the children				
15	Your partner push, kick, slap, punch or chock makes you to be afraid of self-expression.				
16	Cause the partner to be hospitalized for physical injury during sex or child birth				
17	Leads to poor relationship with the partner.				

S/N	Does your partner deprive you of the following rights?	SA	A	D	SD
18	Collects your salary and gives as need arise				
19	Purchase family items without your knowledge				
20	Decide on family issues without involving you				
21	Deprive you the right to employment				
22	Deprive you the right to plan your birth				
23	Deprive you the freedom to express your human right.				
24	Deprive you the right to school				

SECTION C: Effects of Domestic Violence against Women on Family Relationship

S/N	The following are the effects of domestic violence against women on family relationship.	SA	A	D	SD
25	Your partner abusive behaviour affects your relationship with him.				
26	You suffer anxiety and depression in your marriage				
27	Having difficulty in sleeping, eating and concentrating				
28	Suffer physical and physiological problems				
29	Having high risks of HIV/AIDS infection				
30	Fear of victimization makes the partner to socially and emotionally shy away.				
31	Threatening of partner may result in ill-health or mental disorder				
32	Reduces love for one another				
33	Leads to marrying another wife or divorce				