



**CAMPUS SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN
NIGERIAN TERTIARY SCHOOLS
RESPONSE AND PRIORITIES..**

BRIDGET AKUDO NWAGBARA

INSTITUTE OF TROPICAL DISEASE RESEARCH AND PREVENTION, CALABAR, NIGERIA

OUTLINE

- ① BACKGROUND
- ① OBJECTIVES
- ① METHODOLOGY
- ① RESULTS
- ① DISCUSSION
- ① RECCOMENDATION

BACKGROUND

- ⦿ Threat to academic performance and completion of tertiary education
- ⦿ Perpetuates gender inequalities in tertiary education
- ⦿ Important to explore existing response and set priorities.

OBJECTIVES

- To determine the extent and nature of sexual violence in Nigerian Tertiary Schools
- To determine existing response to sexual violence in Nigerian Tertiary Schools.
- To set priorities for sexual violence response.

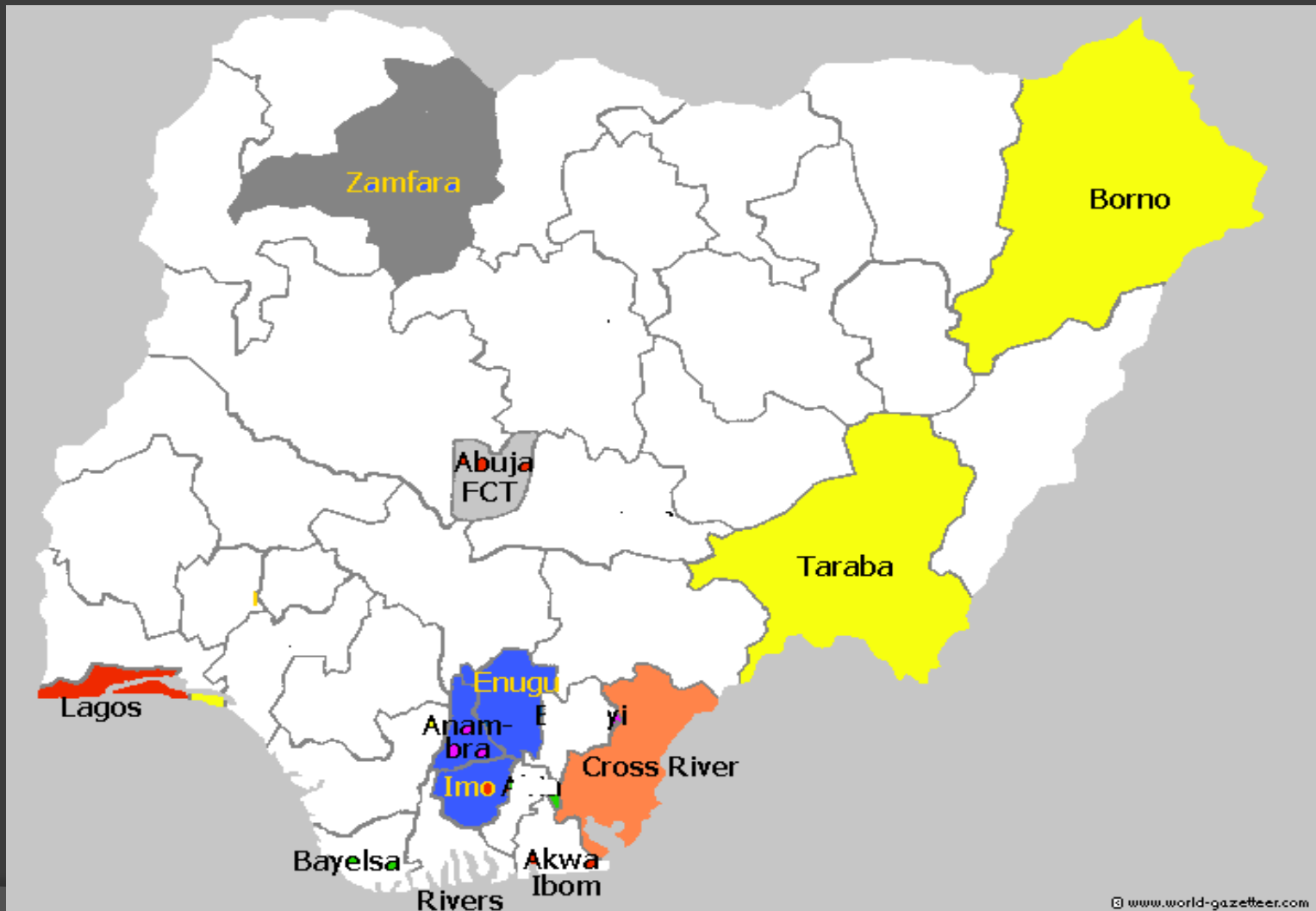
Methodology

- ⦿ Study period-Nov 2010 to Jan 2011
- ⦿ Review of literature relevant to the extent and nature of campus sexual violence in Nigerian Tertiary Schools
- Search terms: Sexual Violence, Sexual harassment, Sexual Assault, Nigeria, Africa, campus, universities, tertiary schools

- ◎ Mapping of tertiary Schools in Nigeria according to geopolitical zone
 - 118 Universities
 - 44 Polytechnics
 - 37 Colleges of Education

- ◎ Random selection of 9 tertiary schools across the 6 geopolitical zones

Regions of Data Collection



One on One Telephone interview with 18 key informants

- ❖ 12 Students
- ❖ 3 lecturers
- ❖ 2 Doctors
- ❖ 1 Program Officer

PILOTED STUDY TOOL:KEY QUESTION THEMES

- ❑ Campus Sexual Violence Policy Statement
- ❑ A dedicated disciplinary board
- ❑ Education and training of Staff and Students
- ❑ Survivor-Centered Sexual Violence response service
- ❑ Medical Response to campus sexual violence

Nomination and Ranking of response

- ① Assessment of existing response to identify gaps
- ① Nomination of Priority campus sexual violence interventions and strategies
- ① Ranking of nominated interventions using an iterative process

KEY FINDING: EXTENT AND NATURE

- Sexual violence is common in Nigerian Tertiary Schools
- Common forms include asking for sex in return for favors, unwanted sexual remarks, rape
- Prevalence varies from 13%-69%
- Most victims are female
- Most perpetrators are Lecturers and Male students
- Survivors are reluctant to report and seek medical help due to shame and guilt

KEY FINDINGS

- ◎ **None of the Tertiary Schools had;**
 - A formal Policy Statement on Sexual Violence.
 - A formal protocol and guideline to address and respond to Sexual violence on campus
 - A dedicated disciplinary board to investigate, arbitrate and punish offenders
 - A campus sexual violence response team to cater to the needs of survivors
 - Any form of training for campus health professionals and law enforcement agents on how to respond to sexual violence

- Identified two education and awareness raising programs on sexual violence
 - Project Alert-University of Calabar, University of Abuja
 - Gender Equality Movement in Schools Program-University of Calabar

NOMINATED AND PRIORITY INTERVENTIONS

THEME	NOMINATED(n)	PRIORITY(n)
SEXUAL VIOLENCE PRIMARY PREVENTION	7	5
CAMPUS SEXUAL VIOLENCE POLICIES	5	3
MEDICAL RESOURCES	5	4
JUDICIAL/ DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES	4	3
TOTAL	21	15

PRIMARY PREVENTION

1. Awareness Raising programs
2. Engage male lecturers and students
3. Bystander intervention techniques
4. Integrate sexual violence prevention education into academic curriculum and extracurricular activities
5. Relationship Counseling services

CAMPUS SEXUAL VIOLENCE POLICIES

6. Policy Statement on sexual violence:
Defining sexual violence
7. Protocols and guidelines to address and respond to sexual violence
8. Campus and city wide dissemination of Policy statement and protocols

Medical resources for sexual violence

9. Train Campus health providers
10. A dedicated well equipped crisis response centre
11. Well coordinated referral systems
12. Integrate sexual violence screening into routine medical history taking

JUDICIAL SUPPORT

13. Disciplinary regulations and sanctions
14. Multidisciplinary dedicated board to investigate, arbitrate and implement sanctions
15. Train campus law enforcement agents on how to respond and collect evidence

KEY PLAYERS

- National University Commission
- Federal and State Ministries of Education
- Tertiary Schools Unions
- Women's Network in Tertiary Schools
- Sexual Violence Advocacy Groups
- Student Union Governments
- School administrators, staff and student
- Law Enforcement Agents
- Health Professionals

DISCUSSION

- ◎ What we know
- Sexual violence is a common occurrence in Nigerian Tertiary Schools
- Existing response to sexual violence is very poor, non coherent and not comprehensive
- Policy makers and school administrators are not paying attention to sexual violence in tertiary schools

LIMITATIONS

- ◎ Inadequate data to map all the tertiary schools in Nigeria
- ◎ Inadequate data on existing policies and interventions

RECCOMENDATIONS/NEXT STEPS

- Work with identified stakeholders, advocacy groups and donors to address identified gaps and priorities on campus sexual violence in Nigerian Tertiary schools.

DANKIE

