

DISCIPLINE

... Ending Violence & Corporal Punishment Against Children

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BULLETIN

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THE DISCIPLINE BULLETIN TEAM,
CHIRN & NABCORP WISH ALL HER
READERS, SUPPORTERS AND MEM-
BERS MERRY XMAS AND HAPPY/
PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR IN 2011 !

3 KIDS SHOT IN COLD BLOOD IN AMA MMIRI

In Ama mmiri Community, Ihiechiowa, Arochukwu in Abia State, eight teenagers were arrested by a vigilante group, accused of cultism their age ranged from 11 to 15. They were accused of organizing spiritual trickery to fleece students out of money promising to make them pass exams through some spiritual means. The vigilantes caught them, tried them in a kangaroo court and sentenced them to death, unless of course, they bailed themselves with N 3, 000 (about \$ 20), each parents of five of the youths quickly raised the ransom, but three of who were fatherless couldn't raise the bail bond fast enough. Their mothers were struggling to raise N 3, 000 ransom. For a life and death matter, some families in Nigeria still can't raise N 3, 000! A food for thought for our voraciously corrupt and inept leaders.

While the families of the three boys ran helter-skelter for days looking for this fund, the vigilantes lost their patience, tied the hands of the teenagers behind them, then shot the three boys in cold blood unable or even unwilling to spend energy digging a grave for them, they stuffed their bodies into a hole. but there was a practical problem. The hole could not swallow the legs of some of the dead boys, so the vigilantes simply cut off the legs and pushed every thing inside.

DIARY OF VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN (VAC)

- **Naval chief's wife abducts two kids over their father's debt owned to her at Gwagwalada FCT, Abuja, Nigeria . Continued in the back page...**

12 YEAR OLD KILL MOTHER FOR BEATING HIM

Confusion pervaded the entire Amusan community in Odeda L. G. A. , Ogun state recently when a 12- year—old boy, Mayowa Abegunrin, allegedly shot and killed his step mother, Modinat Abegunrin, with a done gun reportedly owned by his grandfather, Pa Moses Abegunrin.

The boy had accused the women of maltreating and beating him in a fit of uncontrollable anger, the little boy had allegedly dashed for his grandfather 's loaded gun, rushed to his step mother and fired pointblank at her chest. She died immediately. The police have since arrested the principal actors in the tragedy. One of the elders in the community, Pa Gabriel Ali, said the entire village was still in a state of shock.

"the whole community has decided to step into this matter since the police arrested Mayowa and his grandfather. "We only heard

that the stepmother was maltreating the boy which prompted him to shoot her" all a community leader said. Elder Ali however, pleaded with the police and the court to have mercy on Mayowa and the grandfather over the case.

Narrating his ordeal in the hand of her late mother, the boy said he didn't know how the incident actually happened. He admitted though that he shot and killed the women.

According to him, his stepmother was fond of beating him. "she was beating me all the time," he said. "I have suffered a lot under her care and have complained to my father that his wife usually beats me each time they come to our village" Mayowa said on the fateful day, his stepmother had told him to peel some cassava, a task he claimed to have done.

The little boy, who spoke amidst sobs, continued. "the second time, she told me to peel more cassava, but I refused. Then she got annoyed and started beating me. I got angry and went for my grandfather's dane gun which was already loaded. I then fired at her on the chest, she died immediately.

" I regret my action and beg for forgiveness from my father and our family". They boy said he had been living with his grandfather in the village because his mother had divorced his dad several years ago and remarried the late Modinat.

Mayowa's father, Mr. Muiyiwa Abegunrim, said that he was surprised at what happened. He also explained why he and the boy's Mum were no longer together." Mayowa's mother abounded him when he was one year old.

Ogun State Commissioner of police, Mr. Musa Daura confirmed that both Mayowa and the grandfather are currently undergoing interrogation at the state criminal Investigations Department (SCID) Elewera, Abeokuta.

He said they would be charged to court as soon as investigation is concluded. This is another urgent call to ban corporal punishment and violence discipline in homes.

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[Www. Violence study.org](http://www.violencestudy.org)

NIGERIA AUTHORITY VISITS CHILDREN WITH MAYHEM/VIOLENCE

Recently, Abuja Environmental Prevention Board (AEPB) is in the news again. for child abuse. The agency this time visited ten (10) children with violence and corporal punishment. The offence of the kids was that they were hawking on the street of Abuja the seat of Nigeria. Government . The 10 children who were caught hawking had their wears (trade) sized and sentenced for seven strokes of cane.

The victims who were arrested and tried in the ABPB mobs court presided over by magistrate Adam sentence the to minors to be flogged with seven hot strokes of lashes. The during the trail, the prosecutor Barrister Eze O . Eze argued that the juvenile offenders displayed the wears of trade at unendorsed places within the FCT

The victims were Abigel Jonah, Nasir Mohammed, Ibrahim Sa-ada, Alhasan Suleman, Awal Shaibu, Rabw Helehu, Adu busis Mbam, Madu Oke, Emmanuel John, Fedelia Nwamiw.

It could be recollected that in August this year the same Abuja Environmental Protection Agency mobile court gave similar court order for the flogging a kid hawker. The issue of sentencing children to flogging and other corporal punishment has become a decimal reoccurrence in federal capital territory of Nigeria. However, reaction and condemnation has trailed the action of the ABPB and the ruling of the mobile court. According the Barrister Onoka who condemned the action of AEPB and as described it as Violence Against Children and should be challenged since child Rights Act is operational in Abuja. In a similar reaction Barrister Okwandu K.V a child rights advocate describe the action as an affront on the law.

Also, Mr. Ben Ezinma the Program e Manager CHIRN and National Coordinator **National Action on Ban of Corporal Punishment and Violence Against Children (NACORP)** queried whether child right Act passed by the National Assembly Abuja and signed into law in 2003 is not applicable in Abuja and whether such law is not binding on AEPB.

Mr. Willy Ogbu a child rights advocate based in Abuja has condemned the constant torturing and abuse of children by AEPB in the discharging their duties. Again, Mr. Ezinma stated that the action of the AEPB violated the rights of the child to dignity as provided for in part 2 section 11 subsection (1) and (2) of Child Right Act of Federal Republic of Nigeria of 2003 which says (1) **no child shall be subjected to physical, mental or emotional injury, abuse, neglect or maltreatment including sexual abuse;** (2) **no child shall be subjected to torture, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.** The national coordinator NACORP further stated that the action of the AEPB contravenes the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights of which Nigeria is a signatory, he called for sanction against AEPB for violating the laws. In a related development Mr. Ezinma has formally petitioned the National Human Rights Commission, Abuja and copied to the minister of Justice, minister of women Affairs and social development, minister of FCT, UNICEF Abuja, Senate Committee and House of Representatives Committees on Women Affairs, Justice etc drawing their attention to the violence against the children by the authority of AEPB Abuja. He also called for action to save the children from violence and abuse in the hands of AEPB.

DIARY OF VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

- Bashiru killed 37-day-old daughter in Kano State.
- A baby smashed to death by his father Pastor Brown Betta in Uyo, Akwa Ibom State
- 7 year old girl Frank Ikpe two hands burnt by her aunt in Lagos
- 12 year old Moshood Babalola killed by Oluleke Ogunyemi 30, at Ile-Ife Osun State
- 4 kids killed and 2 seriously injured by a madman in Zamfara State.

2009 VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN (VAC) STUDY ANALYSIS

These 573 incidences are by no means isolated cases. Rather this represent a growing trend in parts of the country. The 573 violence occurred in 136 cases. Of the total member of 573 recorded 46 victims were male while 61 were female. 466 sex could not be identified.

The total member of culprit (those who committed the violence against the children were 140; the male culprits were 55 (39.3%) and female culprit 27 (19.3%), while the unidentified were 58 (41.4%).

Among the state in Nigeria incidence were higher in Abia and Lagos with 17.6% and 16.8% respectively. Also among the print media used The Sun newspaper report the highest number of violence cases and incidence against the children with 35 cases followed by Daily Champion,; The Nigeria Tribune, Daily Trust reported equal cases.

National Vanguard and Daily Independent came last respectively. Among the electronic BCA came first with 9 while FRSCN came next with 7 cases. Other media shared 30 cases.

The survey also showed that 21% of those who visited the children with violence were their parents, 5% guardians non relations 5%, while the unidentified is 69%.

Again in the category of the violence physical assault/torture was 57%, sexual assault 5%, abduction 17% while detention was 21%. In all the cases, 160 resulted to death being 28%, psychologically/injury trauma 503 being 72%. Going by this finding it is indeed expedient to intensify public campaign against violence on children. The media should equally increase the coverage of reporting of violence on children.

Discipline is produced by information unit of CHIRN. For CSOs, Institutions, Policy makers and stakeholders on child protection., contact: # 12 Road A., (upstairline) World Bank Housing Estate, P. O. Box 2682, Umuahia Abia State, Nigeria. E-mail: info_chirn@yahoo.com, chirnrights@yahoo.com +234(0)8033367479, +234 (0) 8052774607

FLASH BACK

- ◆ Innocent Abraham self styled man of God claimed he has delivered 140 kids of witchcraft Via crude method of violence, torture ie beating, flogging in his "Medical" mission centre (spiritual healing centre) in Bauchi, Bauchi state, Nigeria.
- ◆ Over 200 children taken to prayer houses and other places for tortures/deliverance in Bauchi state, Nigeria (The Sun 17/9/2009)

NGO AND INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF NATIONAL ACTION ON BAN ON CORPORAL PUNISHMENT & VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN (NACORP), NIGERIA

- N- Dozie Integrated Development Foundation, Umuahia Abia State.
- Rural Alert Project, Umahia, Abia State.
- Feed the Family Foundation, Lagos State
- Grassroot Development Empowerment Foundation, Ebonyi State
- Transform Rural Design Organization, Umuahia, Abia State
- Ngadi Ifanyi. Annoba Ikpuiiu, Oboro Kwuano, Umuahia, Abia State
- Broadcasting Corperation of Abia State, Umuohu Ndume Ibeku Umuahia
- Gender Abruast Health Foundation, World Bank Osisioma Ngwa Abia State
- Public Private Sector Development Initiative (PPSDI), Suit B51, Shakir Plaze Area 11 Garki Abuja
- Abuja Children's Home Uaru Abuja, Old Abuja
- Smile's Network Internation Initiatives, Garki, Abuja
- Hope in Life Project, Mohammed Buitari St, Pawari ward Damaturu Yobe State
- Humanity Development & Peale Initiative (HUDPIZAMFARA) GUSAU Zamfara State
- CANON Foundation, Kadina State
- Future Hope Foundation (FHF), Zamfara State
- Trust Support Association, Zamfara State
- Safe Emirate Progressive Association, Zamfara State
- Child Rights and Survival Organization, Oyo State
- Ben Igwe, Minister of women Affairs Owerri Imo State
- Child Rights Network (CHIRN), Abia State
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