



Child Sexual Abuse in Early Childhood Care Education: A Challenge for Care Givers and Psychologists

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Abstract: *This paper examines the effect of Child Sexual abuse on early childhood care education. It describes Child sexual abuses as any form of child abuses whereby an adult or older adolescent person abuse a child for sexual stimulation, or sexual gratifications. It further states some of its effects on children as physical, emotional, cognitive etc. It also highlights some of the major types of child sexual abuse as sexual assault, sexual molestation, sexual grooming and sexual exploitation which effect early Childhood care education. It therefore recommends that caregivers and psychologist should assist victims to overcome the following problems of child sexual abuse: Feeling guilty, twistedness, low self-esteem, distrust and so on. Care givers and psychologist should devise several approach like counseling victims and using team approach in providing solution to these problems.*

INTRODUCTION

Sexual abuse and harassment of girls has been recognized as a form of maltreatment, it has been more concealed, less reported, and has attracted relatively little concerns. According to Ochiabuto (2009) approximately 15% to 25% of women and 5% to 15% of men were sexually abused when they were children. And most sexual abuse offenders are acquainted with their victims, approximately 30% are relatives of the child, most often brother, fathers, mothers, uncles or cousins, about 60% are other acquaintances such friends of the family, baby sisters, or neighbors, strangers are the offenders in approximately 10% of child sexual abuse cases (Anderson and Romanus 2005). In recent time many cases of child sexual abuses has become rampant in the nations, the Nigeria media in full of reports of abuse of innocent children by men and women old enough to be their parent. According to Brown (2010) over 200 cases of child sexual abuse have been recorded in the northern Nigeria between 2005, to 2010.

Early Childhood Care Education

According to Adegbite, (2013); Early Childhood Care Education Consist of activities and experiences that are intended to effect the development changes in children prior to their entry into elementary school. Obianuju (2008) maintained that early childhood care in a programme designed to service children and to train care givers and psychologist how to protect the child from sexual assault and abuse of any kind. Early childhood education (ECE, also nursery education) is a branch of education theory which relate to the teaching of young children formally and informally up to the age of six, (Asakwe, 2009). Early childhood care education transforms children's life in their early age. During this stage of development, children learn and assimilate information rapidly and express interest and fascinations in each new discovery. It is well known that the most important years of learning begins at Birth. The brain at this age is making connection that will last the rest of their lives. At this age, the child is taught to say no to any form of sexual stimulation of



harassment from older adults adolescent persons who are older or equal with them in age. The care giver at this stage guide and protect the child from sexual abuse by using moral development skills to teach the child on the norms and value of the society and thereby transformed their mind from sexual maltreatment.

Child Sexual Abuse (CSA)

This is a form of child abuse in which an adult or older adolescent abuses a child for sexual stimulation and gratifications. Child sexual abuse (CSA) may take several forms, each as asking pressuring at child to engage in sexual activities regardless of the outcome, indecent exposure of the genitals to a child, displaying pornography to a child, actual sexual contact against a child, viewing of the child's genitalia without physical contact, or using a child to produce child pornography. Sandstorm (2007) maintained that child sexual abuse is an abuse in which a child is abused for the sexual satisfaction of an adult person. It also involves contacts between a child sex organ and an adult or other person significantly older or in a position of authority of control over the child, where the child is being use for sexual stimulation and satisfaction of the adult or other person. According to Obianujy (2008) studies have shown that child sexual abuse does not only occur in girls, she affirmed that it is believed that 1 in 3 girls is sexually abused, a general consensus indicate 1 in 5 to 1 in 7 boys is sexually abused. The problem is that most of such abuses are not reported.

Types of Child Sexual Abuse

There are several ways in which child sexual abuse occurs, or forms. These forms determine the type's sexual abuse minted on the child, some of these forms of child's sexual abuses in child includes:

Sexual Molestations

Sexual Exploitation

Sexual Grooming

Sexual Assault

Indecent Exposure of the Genital Organs to the Child

Contact with Child Genitals

Viewing of the Child's Genital without Physical Contact, etc.

Sexual Molestation

This involves offences in which an adult engage in non-penetrative activity with a minor for the purpose of sexual gratification. For example, exposing a child to pornography, or to the sexual act of others.

Sexual Exploitation

These are offences in which an adult victimizes a child for advancement, sexual gratification or profit. This assault may include prostituting a child and creating trafficking in child pornography.



Sexual Grooming

This involves the social conduct of a potential child sex offender who seeks to make a child more accepting of his advances.

Sexual Assault

These are offences in which an adult touches children for the purpose of sexual gratification, indecent exposure of the genital organs to the child. This is an offence of child sexual abuse in which an adult exposes, his or her genital organs to the child indecently, which may lead to sexual interaction between the child and the adult person in satisfaction or for sexual gratification of the adult person.

Contact with Child Genitals

This is an abuse of children which lead to sexual abuse. Most adult do have careless contact with children genitals organs in order to satisfy their sexual urge.

Viewing of the Child's Genitalia without Physical Contact

This is also a child sexual abuse, it involves an adult person having a knowledge of a child's genital organs by convincing a child or deceiving them to expose their genital organ for them to view, pretending to be carrying out observation on the child genital organs and thereby satisfying his or her sexual urge.