

Poverty, Prostitution and Sex Trade in Nigeria: Implications and its Impact on Public Policy

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Abstract

Poverty has become one of the most disturbing aspects of everyday life. The study discusses concepts of poverty, sex trade and prostitution and implications on public policy and the various types of prostitution as well as factors for prostitution. The study relied heavily on content analysis as it's methodology. Beyond economic consideration, many sex workers were aware that sex work has legal, moral, physiology and socio-cultural implications. In addition to that, it emphasizes that sex trading creates an enabling environment where dehumanizing crimes against women thrive. The study however recommends the need for government at all levels and other sex workers advocacy organizations to focus on empowering and supporting women and young girls educationally and with training programmes while providing legitimate jobs as a means to curtail the existing high level of poverty in the society, rehabilitation should be executed and prosecution implemented for those caught in the web of sex trade in order to make sex trading less lucrative an unappealing.

Keywords: *Poverty, Prostitution, Impact and Public policy*

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Background to the Study

The sex industry is one of the non-oil industries that are booming in recent times especially in Nigeria. The industry has a lot of prospects in view of the fact that youths particularly the women aged 15-35 years who hardly find legitimate jobs engaged in transactional sex for money. Nigeria has a large number of adolescents living and making a living on streets. This has been attributed to economic factors like poverty, greed for money, unemployment, illiteracy, trafficking, and laziness from youth and exposure to all forms of risks. The result is the proliferation of prostitution among the adolescents with its attendant problems. The practice of prostitution is at an alarming rate in Nigeria, it is seen as a deviant sub-culture in Nigeria, and it is practiced by prostitutes in private homes, in brothels, and in hotels as an adaptation to poverty, unemployment and as a feasibility way for them to make money. The prostitutes sell sexual favours and their bodies to their customers who pay them huge sum of money in exchange. This dirty and highly immoral profession is associated with social problems as marital instability, sexual harassment, divorce, overcrowding, environmental pollution, alcoholism, fighting, drug addiction, violence crime and delinquency, unwanted pregnancy. Unsafe abortion and transmission of sexually transmitted diseases like HIV/AIDS, gonorrhoea, syphilis etc.

Methodology

This paper relied heavily on the use of secondary sources of data, through content analysis of documents, reports, and statistics among others. The intention is to access the implications of poverty on prostitution and sex trade in Nigeria.

Conceptual Clarification

(a) Concept of Poverty: Townsend (1993) maintained that individual families and groups in the population can be said to be in poverty when they lack the resources to obtain the diets, participate in the activities and have the living condition and amenities which are customary or at least widely encouraged and approved in the societies to which they belong.

According to Townsend (1993), poverty connotes weakness which could be at different levels. Going by his opinion, the poor cannot meet his basic needs such as; security, food, shelter, clothe, water, health and freedom and that the absence of these can affect or impact negatively on the people's socio-economic behavior by making them to venture into any kind of vices including prostitution just to make ends meet.

In fact, poverty is the manifestation of hunger and malnutrition, ill-health, lack of access to education, lack of income and productive resources sufficient to earn sustainable livelihood and other basic services (World Bank cited in Townsend, 1993). In a political sense of view, World Bank described poverty as synonymous to hunger, malnutrition, ill-health, lack of education and income with lack of basic services; this includes creation of job (employment).

Poverty is closely associated with crime. Most of the poor people are not criminals and many criminals are not poor but people from environment dominated by poverty are more likely to commit crime. Other social problems, such as mental illness, prostitution and alcoholism, are common among the poor in part because, their causes as well as effect of poverty are often because there is little medical provision for dealing effectively with them. Poverty tends to breed prostitution, in some cases; the handicap of poverty is passed from one generation to another, possibly as a result of a family being caught in a poverty trap.

(b) Concept of Sex Trade: Gungul and Audu (2014) observed that sex trading is the business of engaging in sexual relations in exchange for financial reward. Aloba and Ndifon (2014) argued that Sex trading is the defiling practice or habit of engaging in sexual activity usually with individuals other than a spouse or friend in exchange for immediate payment of money or other valuables. Prostitutes may be of either sex and may engage in either heterosexual or homosexual activity. Sex trading is also the practice of engaging in sexual activities for money or its equivalent. (People who sell sex and people involved in sex work referred to collectively as sex workers in this study)

Timothy and Joel (2014) stressed that sex trading occur in variety of ways. For instance, some engage in legitimate business in the daytime and go into prostitution at night while some indulge in it as an auxiliary service. It is the habit of offering oneself for hire to engage in sexual action for money (Tyoanande and Samson, 2014).

Nkala (2014) sees whoredom in terms of buying and selling or more generally in terms of asymmetrical relationship of exchange in which the sex worker provides sexual services and the customer supplies recompense for those services, usually in the form of money but sometimes in the form of food, lodging, clothes or luxuries or taking care of the sex traders children. However, sex traders are highly mobile moving from one town to the other. Through associations, they develop attitudes and behavior patterns which become part of their roles in the society It should be noted however, that western types and characteristics of prostitution are essentially different from prostitution in Nigeria.

(c) Concept of Transactional Sex: (TS) is often used as an umbrella term to encompass a wide range of practices ranging from sex work to sexual exploitation and abuse.

Transactional sex is the exchange of sex for cash, goods, services, commodities, or privileges. It is often framed by humanitarians as a form of violence in and of itself. Characterized by victim/savior relationships and rescue narratives, these problematic and essential sing representations can have real world implications on policy and programming, along with unintended, often negative impacts on the lives of those engaged in them. To further complicate matters, there is a lack of conceptual clarity, and standardized and consistent use of terminology, such that what many describe as “transactional sex” is commonly conflated and used interchangeably with survival sex, sexual exploitation and abuse, sex work or sex trafficking.

Transactional sex refers to sexual Relationships where the giving and/or receiving of gifts, money or other services is an important factor. The participants do not necessarily frame themselves in terms of prostitutes/clients, but often as girlfriends/boyfriends, or sugar baby's/sugar daddies. Those offering sex may or may not feel affection for their partners.

Transactional sex is a superset of sex work, in that the exchange of monetary reward for sex includes a broader set of (usually non-marital) obligations that do not necessarily involve a predetermined payment or gift, but where there is a definite motivation to benefit materially from the sexual exchange.

Table 1: Distinction Between Sex work and Transactional sex

| Sex work | Transactional sex |
|--|--|
| Self-identities as sex worker publicly | Does not self-identify as sex worker |
| Money or goods explicitly exchanged for sex | Exchanged of money or goods implicit in sexual relationship |
| Often little shared emotional intimacy if money is involved | Often at least some shared emotional intimacy |
| Exchange of money or goods for sex often occurs at the time of sex | Provision of money or goods may be temporally disassociated from the sex (may occur before or after sex) |

Source: Field work, (2022)

(d) Concept of Prostitution: The word prostitution is derived from the Latin word “prostituta” meaning pro (up-front) and situere (offer for sale). According to Merriam Webster Dictionary, the definition of prostitution is the act or acts and practice of promiscuous sexual relationship, especially for money, "Further, it describes the state of being prosecuted as debasement. Prostitution is an institutionalized form of the sex industry. It allows unlimited sexual acts to be committed, as long as money is available. Thus, the two key elements of prostitution are sexual acts and money.

Garner (1999) defined prostitution as the act or practice of engaging in sexual activities for money or its equivalent. Prostitution is also referred to as commercial or public sex workers. Winick (1971) defined prostitution as relatively indiscriminate exchanges of sexual favor for economic gain. The people who marry for money, kept mistress, the wife who hold out on her husband until he parts with his pay-cheque are not prostitutes. What distinguishes a prostitute is a willingness to perform sexual services for virtually any one in return for some gain. In theory, four forms of prostitution are possible. These include women for men, women for women, men for women, and men for men. The concern is on women for men, since it will not be easy for us to identify homosexuality. Men often engage in prostitution for pleasure and none of these that involved has intention that relationship should lead to reproduction. Prostitution is the act of engaging in sexual activity, usually with individuals other than a spouse or friend in exchange for immediate

payment in money or other valuables. Prostitutes may be of either sex and may engage in either heterosexual or homosexual activity, but historically most prostitution has been by female with males as clients.

Factors and Causes of Prostitution in Nigeria

(1) Illiteracy and Poverty: With the high rate of illiteracy in Nigeria, many parents can neither read nor write. The youths are not left out in this illiteracy problem. This has resulted in their being deceived into believing that in big cities, milk and honey flows only to be forced into sex work when they get to city (Ewah, 2010). The first rationalization for the proliferation of prostitution has been poverty, especially if the lady comes from a poor background. Young ladies whose parents are incapable of taking care of their siblings tend to go into such venture (sex work) so as to make ends meet and take care of the family. Many women, no doubt fall through vanity and idleness, love of dress, love of excitement. But by far the large proportion are driven to sex work by cruel biting poverty and unemployment opportunities. From this, it can also be deduced that idleness is a pointer to being lazy which virtually leads to poverty. And it is glaring that laziness can lead to prostitution that is seen as an easy business that generates fast money. Youths of nowadays lack patience to make a living and this is affecting the society. They see prostitution as a free business one can do without stress.

(2) Unemployment: Unemployment has been identified as one of the reasons why most youths engage in sex work (Onah, 2000). Due to lack of job opportunities for the multitude of graduates, most of them resort to sex work as a means of livelihood and survival. Indeed, unemployment has pushed many young people into sex work and in most cases against their will.

(3) Working for Money: despite the sexual drive, the reason for prostitution in all groups is money. Some have to pay for housing and food, others must pay for their drug abuse, while others want an extra week's holiday abroad. Many ladies turn themselves to prostitution just for the sake of purchasing power and they have unaccountable ways of seducing those they perceived as rich people, meaning that most of the ladies today do not believe in the philosophy of hard work but rather prefer selling themselves instead of working to get what they want.

(4) Trafficking: The trafficking of Nigerian girls and women into Italy for prostitution started around the second half of the 1980s following the increasing economic difficulties cause by the structural adjustment programmes imposed by the then Nigerian Government on the order of the International Monetary Fund. They started leaving the country on promises of fantastic well-paying jobs in Europe, in factories, offices and farms. They arrived in Italy only to find them sold into sexual slavery and force to prostitute themselves to pay the so-called debts which they are told they incurred in being helped to come to Europe.

(5) **Laziness from Youth:** Laziness is a disease that affects our youth today and can lead to prostitution that is seen as an easy business that generates fast money. Some youth need manner from heaven, in fact, they do not want to suffer to make a living and this is affecting the society, they see prostitution as a free business one can do without employment and stress. Lutt (1984) identified three causes of prostitution: these are;

- (a) **Exploitation:** This is associated with teenage runaways who are approached by exploitative pimps at bus stations etc., offered food, and then later convinced or coerced into paid sex.
- (b) **Recruitment by a big-sister figure:** This involves sexually active youth who hang together, party together and offered each other support for adventure and excitement. After receiving occasional payment for partying, sex for fun gradually becomes sex for profit. Those in the group already accepting money for sex convince newcomers to redefine the meaning of their sexual activity.
- (c) **The independent pragmatic decision:** This involves more mature individuals, 18-24, who make a pragmatic decision to enter the profession based on economic necessity; given a poor job market and limited skills, they can simply make more money that way. In addition to these points, some people also take up prostitution because they are emotionally attached to someone-a "friend" or "lover" that encourages them to take up the trade.

Dimensions of Sex Work

The proliferation of brothels and hotels for sex workers in most urban centers is not only noticeable but also the increasing number of sex workers rings in the continent is palpable. There has been increase in all categories of prostitutes in Nigeria. This includes the lower-class sex traders which are more commonly practiced by illiterate and unskilled prostitutes. There is also the growing group of upper-class prostitutes, often well-educated, refined and sophisticated who target mainly the political and economic elites in the country.

Harcourt and Donovan (2005) undertook a review of 681 articles on prostitution from 1996-2004 to identify the dimensions of prostitution and the social context in which it occurs. They however noticed that every country and every region have a different composition to its sex industry; and this is shaped by history, social and economic factors, legal framework and policing practices. About 25 types, forms and dimensions of sex work were identified by them and grouped into direct and indirect.

- a) The direct dimension of sex work consists of the following:
 1. **Street prostitution:** Here clients are solicited on the street, parks or other public places, and services rendered in street corners, vehicles, or short stay premises.
 2. **Brothel:** prostitution is carried out in premises explicitly dedicated to providing sex.
 3. **Escort:** Client contacts sex worker by phone or via hotel staff.
 4. **Private:** similar to escort, except services provided in sex worker's premises. i.e. street sex workers bring clients home

5. **Window or Doorways:** Brothels with sex workers on public display.
6. **Club, public bar, and dance hall:** Clients solicited in alcohol vending venues and serviced on site or elsewhere.
7. **Other all male venues:** Clients solicited in all-male venues such as barber shops, bathhouses and mining camps, serviced on site or elsewhere
8. **Door knock or hotel:** Unattached males are approached in their hotel rooms or boarding houses.
9. **Transport (ship, truck, train):** Sex workers may board vehicles to service the crew or passenger or pick up clients at stations and terminals.
10. **Citizen Band (CB) radio:** Sex workers drive along highways using CB radio to exchange (jargon) messages with potential truck driver as clients. Services at truck or parking areas.
11. **Sugar Daddies/Sugar Babies:** Is a high-class dating community for financially independent men (sugar daddy), and truly attractive women (sugar babe)- for a group of college aged girls who hang out with creepy businessmen old enough to be their father's
12. **Other methods of solicitation:** through various media including notice boards, newspaper advertisements, Sex worker catalogues with mobile phone numbers and the internet via virtual brothels etc. (Harcourt and Donovan, 2005).
13. **Call Girls:** A call girl is another type of sex trader who has her own residence (Occasionally shared with another sex trader) in order to have a base to meet the needs of her clients. This type of sex worker functions autonomously and advertises her sexual services via soft sell magazines and social media (Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp) outlets. Where they advertise their conquests, share photographs of their sex partners, discuss tips on finding prostitution at the best rate and so on. Apparently, In Nigeria today, many call girls are often undergraduate and postgraduate students who serve her client(s) during social gatherings and political functions
14. **Survival Prostitution:** This is a situation where an individual is vulnerable, starving and experiencing serious deprivation particularly food. Hence food reward might be the currency in exchange of sexual services. Survival sex is mentioned as a strategy for economically disadvantaged women, so that they and their family can survive.
15. **Campus prostitution:** This takes various dimensions ranging from amorous relationship between the female students and their boyfriends for financial gratification to outright extra-campus sex trading which is a common sight in cities and towns. There are some female students who actually compete with the regular/professional prostitutes. They go out in the night to line up along the streets looking for customers. Sometimes the female students are hired to attend functions where they are paid for sexual services. There are other female students who do not operate in the vicinity of their campuses. They travel out either independently or in groups to engage in commercial sexual activities.
16. **Runs Girls:** Is a Nigerian slang used to refer to a girl who likes to hangout, party and most times have sex with different men for money and other benefits. They don't hang out with broke guys/men.

b) The indirect forms include:

1. **Lab dancing:** A recent development involving erotic dancing at close quarters without sexual contact.
2. **Massage parlor:** Premises ostensibly dedicated to providing massage, but a range of sexual services may be provided.
3. **Travelling entertainers:** Actors-dancer and others involved in entertainment may also provide sexual services.
4. **Beer girls:** young women hired by major companies to promote and sell products in bars and clubs and in turn render sexual services to supplement income.
5. **Street vendor and traders:** Ostensibly marketing rural produce or other goods but supplementing income with income from sexual services.
6. **Opportunistic:** A person approached in a social event may occasionally choose to charge for sexual favours if the client appears wealthy enough.
7. **Individual arrangement:** The single mother or divorced that may have sex with her landlord in place of rent.
8. **Swingers Clubs:** Some swingers sex clubs may employ (undisclosed) sex workers if there is a shortage of female guests.
9. **Geisha:** Woman engaged primarily to provide social company, but sex may ensue (Harcourt and Donovan, 2005).

The Link Between Poverty and Prostitution

Prostitution is considered to be the world's oldest profession. Women are most affected by poverty as they are more likely to be poorer than men since they are disadvantaged in terms of access to resources (education/empowerment). Women not only have heavier work burdens and lower earnings than men, but there are also constraints on Women's upward mobility because of cultural, legal and labour market barriers. In most societies women's status and access to resources is mediated through their relationship to men which influences their risk of sexual diseases from sexual relationship and their ability to protect themselves. Women also have heavier workload and earn less than men. There are constraints on women's upward mobility because of cultural, legal and labour market barriers. These are the factors that allow for poverty has a strong grip on them. Thus, women in a socio-economic pit often lack the support. HIV/AIDS exacerbate poverty because women have no source or resources for treatment.

Sex trading also cuts across class lines, from the poor street walker/hooker with their drug abuse issues and their abusive pimps to the high-class brothel and escort service worker with designer clothes and stylish apartments. However, a common misconception of sex trading is that a significant majority of prostitutes are women. Nevertheless, the menace of sex trading is disturbing in Nigeria due to obvious reasons such as poverty and unemployment. This deviant and filthy profession is regrettably associated with social, psychological and health consequences such as exposure to female trafficking, sexual violence, alcoholism, cultism, emergence of criminal gangs, drug addiction, violence, delinquency, child abuse, environmental pollution, human exploitation ,unwanted pregnancies ,unsafe and crude abortions and more worrisome is

the vulnerability to sexually transmitted diseases. This therefore reveals that women's sexual health tend to be more at the receiving end of poverty and sex trade and its attendant or accompanying consequences (World Health Organization,2019). Whether you agree on the enforcement of criminalizing or legalizing, there are important facts that need to be understood regarding prostitution and impoverished communities. Understanding the logistics of prostitution illuminates how poverty perpetuates it. Prostitution is an institutionalized form of the sex industry. It allows unlimited sexual acts to be committed, as long as money is available. Thus, the two key elements of prostitution are sexual acts and money.

Supporters of the legalization of prostitution argue that prostitution is a victimless crime. However, that is incorrect. The victims are the sex workers or prostitutes themselves. It is also suggested that crime would decrease if prostitution were legal. However, crime rates and legalization do not, in fact, positively correlate. For public health reasons, it is argued that legalization will help decrease STDs. Others argue that legalization would help people get out of poverty, allowing them to make their own decisions. Facts demonstrate otherwise. Legalizing prostitution would lead to an increase of sexually transmitted diseases, creating public health issues. No other "job" has to cover the range of health issues that arise from this sexual and economic exchange. STDs and unwanted pregnancies are recognized occupational health and safety risks within the prostitution industry. This would not change if prostitution is legalized.

Essentially, legalizing it would increase the rate of those who could expose their businesses publicly to the commercial sex exploitation of their victims. It would serve as justification for criminal enterprises already involved in this criminal element.

The crime rates of rape, violence and homicide is high among sex workers. Legalization would make it more difficult to prosecute rapists, perpetrators and traffickers of commercial sex acts of victims. With legalization, there is no basic presumption stating that buying or selling someone else's body is a crime. Furthermore, it then places the burden on victims of violence to provide proof that they experienced harm or that exploitation occurred.

On average, a prostitute is raped at least once per week, despite their workplace location, street or brothel etc. Prostitution is extremely dangerous for its victims. Homicide is a common cause of death. Decriminalization of prostitution will not protect those whose income source essentially exposes them to crime. Poverty is the primary driving force behind women becoming prostitutes. Prostitution is a repression of women and children and utilizes the vulnerability of poverty to further exploit them. Throughout the world there are limited and extremely scarce opportunities for women who are uneducated and impoverished. This is the same population with the highest rate of children that creates additional economic pressure. There is no requirement for being a sex worker. It requires no education, no references and no experience.

The cycle continues further with the illegitimate pregnancies. Prostitutes often have overseas or international clients, and the child is seen as more lucrative for prostitution. The vast majority of these children cycle back through to prostitution because of inherited poverty and their physical Western blends.

One billion children worldwide live in poverty. Statistically, that accounts for one out of every two children. In countries that are considered to be poor by the United Nations, individuals are even more powerless and the majority struggle. To end the perpetuation of prostitution, the Nigerian government must focus on addressing the issue of global poverty. . Indeed, poverty is the system that communizes and dehumanizes the bodies and person of women and children of both sexes for the use and profit of men.

Implications of Transactional and Sex Trade and its Impact on Public Policy

The Legal Implications

Prostitution subculture is usually characterized by secrecy, stigma and difficulties in leaving the profession. Its ties with criminal underworld and exposes sex traders to open and closet assault and harassment not only from police but from other members of the criminal population. However, while the act of sex trade is illegal in many societies, the act of soliciting is generally punished by the law. In Nigeria for example, section 249 (a) of the criminal code 1944 provides penalties for prostitution and chapter 532 of the penal code Act, federal capital territory 1990 criminalises prostitution and solicitation of prostitutes. It states that “every common prostitute behaving in a disorderly or indecent manner in any public place loitering and persistently importuning or soliciting persons for the purpose of prostitution shall be deemed idle and disorderly persons and shall be liable to imprisonment for one month (Penal code act 1990). Because prostitution is considered criminal in many jurisdictions, its substantial revenue are not contributing to the tax revenues of the state,

The Sociological and Cultural Implications

In the Nigerian context, not all economic activities are regarded as work including sex work. In this light, major cultures in Nigeria frowns on those who carry out sex work activities in the open. Those who engaged in sex work are culturally seen as wayward and morally bankrupt; having no respect and addressed as deviants. No gain saying, culturally, no one would love to marry a sex worker as a wife.

The Psychological Implications

Psychologically, society disregards them as people with less self -worth, low self-esteem and lower self-dignity. Because of this socio-cultural definition and poor public image of sex workers, they have resulted in several indulgences such as drug addiction, depression, and suicide.

The Moral and Religious Implications

Harlotry is indeed a debasement, devaluation and a gross abuse of a woman's body, soul and mind for something as cheap as monetary motives. Unfortunately, the magnitude

and proliferation of prostitution in Nigeria is alarming and disturbing. The consequences of sex work are that it is sacrilegious, and God can not dwell in bodies that have been defiled. By implication, it leads to a break in relationship between the sex workers and God. The moral suggestion therefore is that it is sin and the end result of sin is always dead. Sex work and homosexuality are seriously frowned at by the two major religions in Nigeria.

The Public Image Implications

Considering the economic health issue of prostitution, it is argued that street prostitution is not victimless as it may damage the reputation and quality of life in the neighbourhood and diminish the value of property. In addition, the implications of prostitution aside psycho social and health damage to the sex worker, is always incredibly costly and life threatening not just for the individual but the state by way of national public image destruction. Prostitution also lowers the value of property as well as degrades the status of women.

The Health Implications

Commercialization and reckless sexual behaviour increase the prevalence of sexual diseases. (Few clients are ready to pay more for a sexual encounter if they do not have to use a condom) HIV will spread, where and to whom the carrier has visited. This deviant and filthy profession is regrettably associated with social, psychological and health consequences such as exposure to female trafficking, sexual violence, alcoholism, cultism, emergence of criminal gangs, drug addiction, violence, delinquency, child abuse, environmental pollution, human exploitation, unwanted pregnancies, unsafe and crude abortions and more worrisome is the vulnerability to sexually transmitted diseases like genital herpes, gonorrhoea, syphilis, chlamydial, pelvic inflammatory diseases, genital warts and human papillomavirus, Hepatitis B infection, trichonomiasis, chancroid, cervical cancer and HIV/AIDS. Regrettably, beyond the immediate impact of the infection itself, STIs like herpes and syphilis can increase the risk of HIV acquisition three-fold or more, mother to child transmission of STIs can result to still birth, neonatal deaths, low birth weight and prematurity. It is also one of the factors responsible for anti-social behaviours which are antithetical to the peace, physical and social health of the country.

Conclusion

The study aimed at determining the impact of poverty on sex trading and factors responsible for the act of prostitution and deducing implications on public policy. Prostitution tends to be contentious in the society in which it exists. Prostitution illuminates how poverty perpetuates it. The study therefore recommends the need for government at all levels and other sex workers advocacy organizations to focus on empowering and supporting women and young girls educationally and with training programmes while providing legitimate jobs as a means to curtail the existing high level of poverty in the society, rehabilitation should be executed, and prosecution implemented for those caught in the web of sex trade in order to make sex trading less lucrative and unappealing.

Recommendations

1. The following issues should be critically examined as a first step to the proposal of strategies to combat prostitution:
 - a. The recognition on a global unanimous basis that prostitution is a violation of women's human rights and that it is inherently a humiliation of their dignity as persons, as women and as mothers.
 - b. That the legitimization of prostitution and its promotion as an employment alternative is a direct cause of the international trafficking of women and children for prostitution and of pedophilia.
2. There is need for Gender Based NGOs, Sex Workers Advocacy Organizations (SWAs) Religious organizations, and political office holders to empower and support women and young girls both financially and educationally (through scholarship) in order to make them self-reliant in order to make sex trading less lucrative and unappealing. There is also the need to rehabilitate those caught in the web of this trade.
3. The issue of public morality should be emphasized at all levels of education in the society so that children of all ages would stand the needs for morally sound society. Advocacy and campaigns on moral upbringing should be vigorously pursued to instill the moral values in our young girls and our youths in general.
4. Finally, the men who purchase sexual services, the exploiters, human traffickers and pimps who profit from the sale of sexualizing women for their parochial and financial interests need to be prosecuted. This will reduce the propensity for prostitution as an alternative to unemployment. Moreover, if there is no man seeking to buy sexual services no woman will be bought or sold as easy as buying bread.

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