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## RAPE ISSUES IN NIGERIA.

No one ever wants to hear that their child, sibling, or friend has been raped, but rape is a major problem in Nigeria. Sadly, sexual intercourse is not always consensual between both parties involved. There are many myths surrounding rape and the fact there have been strides in rape prevention. There are three broad types of rape acquaintance rape, stranger rap and marital rape (Fay 223). Acquaintance rape is defined as a rape perpetrated by someone the victim knows. Frank, Lucas, and Payne says "Rape involves both completed and attempted forced sexual intercourse, using both ~~psy~~ psychological coercion and physical force. This includes vaginal, anal or oral ~~pen~~ penetration by the offender(s) including penetration by a foreign object". Based on this definition, rape victims or perpetrators can be either male or female, married or single, child or adult, and be of any race. Fay estimate "3-15 percent of all adult women have experienced a completed rape" (223), and according to law enforcement "40 percent of reported rape involve females under the age 18, and 15 percent of reported ~~rape~~ rapes involves females under the age of 12".

Rape can happen anywhere, at home, abroad, while out partying, on campus, in prison, or in a church [just like the reported case of a girl who was raped brutally and was also hit with a fire extinguisher.] ~~any~~ <sup>or</sup> anywhere a person might go.

Unfortunately, "acquaintance rape and sexual coercion, long a problem on college campuses, now frequently involve high school and middle school students. Another ~~one~~ <sup>example</sup> of this takes us back to ~~another~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~example~~ <sup>marital</sup> rape exemption law is the idea that husbands owned their wives. The relationship between a husband and wife was often compared to the relationship between a master and a servant, or parent and child. The point of this illustrate the dominance that a husband had over his wife. The same way we sit on our couch, which is our property, the same way we can paint our house to what ever colour we want it. Also, Marital rape or spousal rape is the act of sexual intercourse with one's spouse without the spouse consent. The lack of consent is the essential element and need not involve physical violence. Marital rape is considered a form of domestic violence and sexual abuse. In most ~~of~~ <sup>countries,</sup> marital rape isn't a crime. ~~Victims of such rape~~ <sup>Victims of such rape</sup> can end up hurting, running away from their partner.

Stranger rape in addition, is the type of rape committed by someone the victim does not know. Less than 20 percent of rapes are committed by strangers, although most people believe that stranger rape is the prototypical rape. This takes us back to the first example about the Nigerian girl who was raped in the church. Sexual assault and rape have always been a part of the college campuses unfortunately. As a typical female college student is between the ages of 18-24, statistics taken from 1995-2013 prove that women around these ages have the highest percentage of rape (Sinzich and Langton 2014). Within 1995-2013, males ages 18-24 reporting sexual assault, or rape. They still cannot break free from the rape culture that society blindly follows. How many times has anyone made an off-hand comment about unwanted sexual advances? How many times has someone joked around about being raped? The answer is too many times. If anyone was to walk into a high school cafeteria or even a college dining area, there would be more than a few people making a joke about being raped. This is because in society rape is not taken seriously. The law represents that rape is have sexual relationships with a minor under the age of eighteen or above too. Committing this crime with a child the age of eight or younger, is punishable with imprisonment in state prison.

Yes, rape is a form of sexual assault, but not all sexual assault is rape. The term rape is often used as a legal definition to specifically include sexual penetration without consent. For its Uniform Crime reports, the FBI defines rape as "Penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim". To see how your state legally defines rape and other forms of sexual assault, we can consider RAINN.

In other instances, the victim may not know the perpetrator like we said, stranger rape can occur in several different ways:

- **Blitz sexual assault:** This is when the perpetrator quickly and brutally assault the victim with no prior contact, usually at night in a public place.
- **Contact sexual assault:** When the perpetrator contacts the victim and tries to gain their trust by flirting, luring the victim to their car, or otherwise trying to coerce the victim into a situation where the sexual assault will occur.
- **Home Invasion Sexual assault:** When a stranger breaks into the victim's home to commit the assault.

Survivors of both stranger rape and acquaintance rape often blame themselves ~~of being~~ for behaving in a way that encourage the perpetrator. It's important to remember that the victim is never to blame for the actions of the perpetrator. The amount of individual serving time for statutory rape in jails today has truly a huge contrast between amounts of male prisoners serving under rape assault compared to women. According to Britain. Leslie Ulwin's documentary film attempts to tell the story of the brutal rape and murder in 2012 of a twenty-three-year old female medical student in Delhi. And also the case in Nigeria of a young lady who was 18 or 19 years old, brutally raped in a church by people she does not know and ~~was~~ also ~~killed~~ died in the hospital. Her case is on going and we hope and pray they find the perpetrator and are punished for their crime.

In conclusion, we should remember that rape victims are not to be blamed for the perpetrator's actions. Instead, they should be giving more ~~attens~~ attention and care. Because rape is a trauma one can come out from. After sexual assault, a medical exam can check for help, check for injuries, even those you may not be able to see, or someone who is trained to help. Remember, "real healing ~~come~~<sup>is</sup> achieved when a victim starts to believe he or she is not responsible for what happened to them."

Thank You.