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GST 122 ASSIGNMENT

SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Sexual violence is any sexual act or attempt to obtain a sexual act by violence or coercion or with the use of force, acts to traffic a person or acts directed against a person’s sexuality, regardless of the relationship to the victim. It occurs in times of peace and armed conflict situations, is widespread and is considered to be one of the most traumatic, pervasive, and most common human rights violation. During the last few months the cases of sexual violence have drastically increased in our country Nigeria. This lockdown has recorded a high amount of crime rate with sexual violence being one of the most common crimes.

Sexual violence is a serious public health problem which has not be treated as serious as it is and it has a profound short or long-term effect on both physical and mental health, such as an increased risk of sexual and reproductive health problems, an increased risk of suicide or sexually transmitted infections and diseases as the case maybe. Sexual violence also leads to death of the victim and sometimes also the culprit as a result defense to sexual violence. It is observed that women and young girls suffer most times from the effect of sexual violence or assault but it is also important to know that sexual violence can happen to anyone at any age, it is a very disgusting act that can be perpetrated by parents, household staff and even strangers as well as sexual partners.

Sexual violence is highly discriminating and stigmatizing making it difficult for victims of such violence to speak up about it due to this it is generally regarded as an underreported crime. In conclusion it is important to enlighten the general public to speak up against sexual violence as it is never too late to speak about it because their voices may save a life. It is also important that sex education and defense mechanism are effectively added to the school curriculum as it may be able to save a life tomorrow. Centers which provide psychological help to both victims and culprits should be made free of charge, individuals need to be properly enlighten and educated as why people who have been victims of sexual assault should not be discriminated and stigmatized as they maybe going through a lot of trauma. Sexual violence should be treated as severe as murder and the government should also ensure that the culprits do not go unpurnished.