



A comparative analysis of socio-economic determinants of rape incidence among women of reproductive age (15-49) in rural and urban communities in Nigeria

By

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Abstract

Rape as a form of gender-based violence (GBV) has attracted attention globally due to its devastating effect on the victims and the society. This study examined the factors that determine rape among women of reproductive age (15-49) in rural and urban communities in Nigeria. A national survey data was collected in Nigeria across the six geopolitical zones through multiple stage sampling technique and part of the national survey data was used as sample for this study. Data analysis involved descriptive and inferential statistics and carried out with Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS). The results from the analysis indicated that in the rural community, access to primary and tertiary level of education decrease the likelihood of experiencing rape while in the urban community access to secondary education could trigger the likelihood of experiencing rape, while access to primary education in the urban community would reduce the likelihood of experiencing rape as found in the rural community. The type of employment acquired by the respondents is not significant for all categories of employment in the rural communities, nevertheless, this is only significant and decreases the likelihood of experiencing rape in the urban community for work away from home category. The income variable is not significant for all categories of income in both rural and urban communities. The study recommended that employment and education should be encouraged especially among female gender and this should be taken with caution because of societal cultural value and male dominance. Also, for employments that are susceptible to sexual abuse physical contact should be reduced to the minimal level and these could be achieved through e-commerce, e business, and digital economic activities so that direct contact between gender can be minimized.

Keywords: Rape, gender-based violence, reproductive age, sexual abuse, employment

Introduction

Rape as a form of Gender Based Violence (GBV) is not exempted from any age group though with varying prevalence among age groups. The issue of sexual violence like rape on women of reproductive age is not a thing of surprise in most developing countries like Africa and Nigeria is not an exception. The impacts of the menace on women of reproductive age range from psychological, social, moral, and health issue which may eventually lead to long-term pains on the victims.

Rape is any act of sexual abuse that is perpetrated by the assailant intentionally or unintentionally on the victims usually with force. Rape can take the form of fondling of the breast, fingering of the private part (through vaginal or anal), insertion of penis (through vaginal or anal), and touching of other sensitive parts of the body without the consent of the

victims. Some of the destructive effects of rape on the victims are isolation, anxiety, insomnia, aggressiveness, depression, loss of appetite, and the most devastating effects of rape are infection, diseases (morbidity), and death (mortality) (Tenaw, et al. 2022).

Rape as part of GBV is encapsulated in the Goal 5 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nation. The goal emphasized the eradication of all forms of violence against women and girls and the halt of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) by 2030. Nigeria as a country, is faced with an alarming rate of sexual violence especially among women of reproductive age (Ariche, et al. 2023). In this respect, there is need for Nigeria to take proactive steps against this menace if the goal is to be attained by 2030.

From time immemorial, Rape as a form of sexual violence is more prominent among women of reproductive age than other

age group, until recently in the Nigeria context, the incidence of rape is now found to occur among other age group like the minors and aged. Nevertheless, the prevalence of this menace is still high among women of reproductive age. The World Health Organisation (WHO) identified globally that 1 in every 3 women who are in the age range of 15-45 have experienced some forms of sexual violence during their lifetime (WHO, 2021). Similarly, Adamu (2020) reported that based on UN data, at least one in every four girls and one in every ten boys have been sexually abused before the age of 18 years. This indicates that females are more susceptible to this menace than their males counterpart.

Rape as a form of sexual violence may be perpetrated by intimate partner or non-intimate partner. Ased on WHO estimate, Intimate partner violence and sexual violence as part of violence against women are major public health problem and an infringement on human right (WHO, 2021). According to the organization, about 30% of women globally are susceptible to physical and or sexual intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence during their lives. This indicates that most of the violence against women are often perpetrated by their partners, this is supported by WHO reports that worldwide 27% of women in the age range 15-49 years are subjected to physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence (WHO, 2021).

According to United Nation, violence against women is any form of gender-based violence that leads to or probably results in physical, sexual injury, mental injury, or pain which could be in the form of threats, force or randomly denial of freedom, and can happen in public or private life of the victim (UN, 1993).

Violence against women can adversely affect them physical, mental, sexual, and reproductive health and raise vulnerability to infection such as HIV (Jordan, 2014; WHO, 2021). Specifically, Sexual violence has been found to have damaging effects on victims' health: physical, reproductive, psychological, and well-being (Jina & Thomas, 2013; Mason & Lodrick, 2013; Williams et al., 2013). Rape as a form of gender-based violence no doubt has inflicted negatively on the lives of the victims in terms of health, morally, socially, and psychologically. Also, it has been identified that rape could lead to substance abuse, lack of confidence, anxiety, loss of trust, and commitment of suicides

Studies have identified some contextual factors such as employment, income, education gendered cultural norms, and practice, exposure to other forms of violence racial or class-based discrimination as factors that influence violent against women (Alkan & Tekmanli, 2021; Gibbs et al 2020; Montessanti, 2015;). Economic factor such as poverty has also been identified to increase susceptibility to intimate partner violence (Breiding et al., 2017). The issue of sexual violence like rape on women of reproductive age is not news in most developing countries like Africa and Nigeria is not an exception as earlier mentioned. Understanding the causes of rape as a form of sexual violence is important for setting goals

and priorities which could also help to detect programmes and policies that would be required to eliminate the menace.

Studies (Adeleke, et al., 2021; Ajah et al,2014; Alkan and Teckmali 2021; Charnet and Cheric 2020; Edward, 2014; Jegede, 2019; Naval, 2012; Rennison, Deskerseredy & Dragiewicz 2013; Rennison, et al., 2012) have examined the prevalence of sexual violence in urban and rural areas with different results. However, to the best of our knowledge no study has been able to investigate the determinants of this evil act based on geographical settings, especially in Nigeria.

In spite of the fact that there are some studies that examine socio-economic factors influencing rape these studies have failed to compare these socio-economic factors based on geographical area to see whether the same or different socio-economic factors are responsible for rape prevalence in their study areas. Given the fact that the SDGs aim to eradicate all forms of violence against women and girls and halt IPV by 2030 (UN, 2021), there is need for Nigeria to take proactive steps in reducing this menace. Consequently, in order for this to be achieved socio-economic factors that influence rape need to be identified so that preventive and curative measures can be taken for the menace to be eradicated. This study will serve as advocacy to policy maker and stakeholders through some socio-economic factors influencing rape incidence that would be discovered in the study area so that proactive action can be taken to achieve the SDGs by 2030. Also, as Nigeria is faced with an alarming rate of sexual violence especially among women of reproductive age. the psychological trauma, depression, anxiety, social imbalance among others, and the impact on reproductive health of the victims have necessitated the examination of factors that cause rape incidence among this age group.

Furthermore, some studies have focused on socio-economic factors that influence sexual violence most of these studies are not based on comparative studies at the local, state, or country level and the few studies that are available did not base their geographical comparison on socio-economic factors. This information is needed to help in policy formulation at the local, state, and federal level so that appropriate policies and measures can be taken by policymakers and consequently help to prevent these factors and once these factors are prevented, this would go a long way in curbing the menace. Also, the essence of the comparative study is to identify if varying socio-economic factors or the same socio-economic factors are responsible for sexual violence/rape in the study areas. Therefore, to the best of our knowledge no study has mainly focus on comparative study on socio-economic determinants of rape among women of reproductive age in Nigeria this paucity in literature in this area has necessitated the focus of this study.

Following the introductory part of this paper, Section two of the paper reviews the literature, Section three presents the methodology employed by the study, Section four presents the analysis, results, and discussion, while Section five presents the conclusion and recommendation.

Literature

This study reviews some past literature on some socio-economic variables such as employment, income, education, location, and poverty that influence rape. For instance, the relationship between sexual abuse and employment is mixed in the literature as some study found women access to means of livelihood and economic power as an avenue to reduce sexual violence while some studies observed that access to means of livelihood and economic power by women could lead to sexual violence because of culture, male dominance, and inferiority complex among males gender. Therefore, employment opportunities of the victims were found by some studies to have negatively impacted on intimate partner violence while some studies found positive impact. For instance, Ahoinkorah et al. (2018) and Bamiwaye and Odimegwu (2014), found a higher chance of intimate partner violence (IPV) among women with access to employment opportunity compared to those not employed. This could be explained from the fact that when women are employed they tend to claim equal right with their men counterpart and as men often want to maintain their dominant role this could bring about chaos in the family. However, Reese et al., (2021) in a study in Tanzania on IPV prevalence and risk factors on women found that women who were able to make cash earnings or in-kind earning were able to be protected against victimization.

Hayati et al. (2011) have observed in a study in Indonesia that women with financial freedom are vulnerable to encounter sexual violence. Similarly, Kimuna et al. (2013) observed that working-class women are believed and seen as a threat to male dominance in some tradition and culture. To corroborate this, study has noted that access to income and adding to household income by women, may lead to freedom and awareness of their right which could make women to challenge the tradition and these could make their spouses who want to maintain the gender role to resort to violence (Chibber et al., 2012).

Furthermore, family wealth could have impacted on sexual abuse, for instance, adolescents that perceived their families to be poorer than others are more likely to report more sexual abuse than those that have enough or more than enough wealth. Overall, the authors found that girls from low family background are more sexually abused than the richer ones (Lee et al., 2017; Runarsdottir, 2019), this could be as a result of respect that persons from affluent family are often accorded compared to those from poor family. Similarly, Ajayi et al. (2021), in a study conducted in South Africa university observed that adolescent girls and young women that possessed inadequate family financial support are susceptible to experience sexual violence compared to those with enough financial support. The study therefore emphasised on policy that could enhance economic status of the family should be given paramount attention. Nevertheless, Oshinmal et al. (2014) reported insignificant effect in childhood sexual abuse between poor and non-poor families, although, the authors found low chance of IPV with women having highest wealth

status compared to those with middle and lowest level of wealth status.

Theoretically and as found in the literature, poverty is related to sexual violence as family that are poor are susceptible to economic stress and this could aggravate violence. For instance, men who are unemployed, or with inadequate employment are susceptible to financial and psychological stress which could prompt violence on their partners. Poverty has been shown to increase women's vulnerability to intimate partner violence (IPV). Economic factor such as poverty is identified to increase susceptibility to intimate partner violence (Devries et al., 2013). Poverty has been connected to an increase in domestic violence from theoretical perspective. However, a research in Zambia discovered that wealthy people violently abuse women at higher rates (Ann, 1980). The context and environment where the victims lived were crucial factor that may determine the impact of financial contribution of women on gender based violence, for example, in Bangladesh, women were less likely to encounter psychological, physical, and sexual abuse when they made a corresponding or greater financial contribution than their husbands (Karim & Swahnberg 2021).

Also, some recent studies have indicated that decision making in the household have different outcome on IPV, for instance, some studies have shown that women were less likely to encounter IPV when they participated in equal household decision-making (Camargo, 2019; Haque, et al., 2021; Reese et al., 2017; Tiruneh et al., 2018; Zegenhagen, et al., 2019). Conversely, in Tanzania, women were more likely to experience physical and sexual IPV when their financial contributions were higher than those of their spouses (Abramsky et al., 2019). Meanwhile, authors have explained that inequality of power between gender could result in domestic violence, as cited in a study by Ozpinar et al., (2016). Income has indirect relationship with any of the IPV and any form of IPV has a lower rate of occurrence when the standard of living of the household is higher (Asencios-Gonzalez et al., (2018); Kutin, Russell, & Reid (2017); Ozpinar et al., (2016).

The impact of food insecurity which is a form of economic variable has also been observed on sexual violence among women, it is found that food insecurity could lead to depression, mental health; and this could also lead to direct upsurge in the level of IPV penetration. Also, food insecurity could also indirectly impact negatively on social interaction and leads to quarrel between couple. Studies have identified that household food insecurity could influence high IPV prevalence (Asencios-Gonzalez et al., (2018); Gibbs et al., 2020; Jewkes et al., 2017; Ricks et al., 2016;). Furthermore, Gibbs et al., 2020, identified that women who had borrowed as a result of the need to quench their hunger have the possibility of experiencing IPV.

Location of the victims has also been found to have determine the prevalence of rape among victims, for instance, it is observed by study that there are more chronic and severe IPV in rural areas than urban area which according to the author

was caused by the higher rate of substance abuse and joblessness among rural assailant (Edward, 2014).

Furthermore, Alkan and Tekmanli (2021) found literate level to have impacted on sexual violence as women with no education were found to experience more sexual violence compared to those that are highly educated like graduates. Also, working women were more likely to experience sexual violence from their partners compared to those not employed as husbands feel threaten by their economic status thereby resort to violence in order to maintain their male dominance. Similarly, the authors also identified that women whose husbands are illiterate face a higher level of sexual violence than the educated ones. In the same vein, women with unemployed partners were likely to experience sexual violence since idle mind is devil workshop. In addition, women with partners that are prone to drug abuse are more likely to experience sexual violence from their partners. However, single mothers with children and singles were less likely to experience sexual violence according to the study.

Gibbs et al. (2018) observed that education Provides resilience to IPV according to the authors; education enhances increase in gender equality and reduces dominance between genders. Education has been observed to play prominent role in sexual abuse as studies have observed that the uneducated women were more likely to experience sexual abuse compared to those who were graduates. For instance, Rao, (2020) in a study conducted in various regions of India found that higher level of education has an indirect relation with the likelihood of a women experiencing sexual violence. Similar to this finding, a study carried out in Nepal (Atteraya, 2015) found that women that are not educated have a greater chance to experience sexual abuse from their intimate partners compared to educated women. Also, in a study conducted in Serbia, it was determined that women with a lower level of education were more likely to experience physical or sexual violence (Djikanovic, 2010).

Methodology

Study Area:

This study was conducted in Nigeria in one of the sub-Saharan African countries. Nigeria is bounded in the west by the Republic of Benin, in the east by Cameroon, in the south by the Atlantic Ocean, and in the North by the Niger Republic. The country is blessed with high youthful population, with over 250 ethnic groups. Hausa, Ibo, and Yoruba are the main ethnic group, and English language is the official language. The country also has a large fertile land and Lagos State is the commercial and business hub of the country with major political and administrative power reside in Abuja – the federal capital (FCT). Currently the country has 36 States including the Federal Capital Territory and 774 Local Government Areas (LGAs) and six Geopolitical Zone



Figure 1: Six Geopolitical Zones in Nigeria

Sources: Author

Study Population

The study population is mainly all female of reproductive age in the age range of 15-49 from the six geopolitical Zone in Nigeria

Sampling Size and procedure

The sample size for the study is obtained with the formula adopted from Bordens and Abbott (2018)

$$N = Z^2 P (1-P) / ME$$

Where:

N= sample size

Z= confident level (95% = 1.96)

P = Part of the population that are victims of rape

According to the NDHS report, the number of women that experienced sexual violence were 8.9% and 9.7% in urban and rural area respectively therefore, the two estimates represent P in each State

ME = the error margin as given as 5%. Therefore, the sample size is given as:

Urban LGA for the 6 geopolitical zones: $(1.96)^2 * 83\% (1-8.3\%) / (5\%)^2$

$$3.841 * 0.083 (1- 0.083) / 0.05)^2$$

$$117 * 117 = 1,404$$

Rural areas across the 6 geopolitical zones is estimated as $12 * 117 = 1,404$

Rural areas across the 6 geopolitical zones $(1.96)^2 * 9.7\% (1-9.7\%) / (5\%)^2$

$$= 3.841 * 0.097 (1-0.097) / 0.05)^2$$

$$= 135$$

The rural LGA sample size in 12 states is estimated as $12 * 135 = 1620$

Therefore, the total sample size of this study is given as = 3024

This sample size encompasses age groups from minor to elderly; however, for the purpose of this analysis since this study focuses on women of reproductive age (15-45), therefore, part of the total sample was used for the analysis and this comprises of 432 for rural communities and 455 for urban communities and these sum up to a total sample of 887 women of reproductive age.

Sampling

Cross sectional data that involved the use of electronic pre-coded questionnaire were administered on 3024 respondents through a multistage sampling technique. The sampling procedures for the multistage sampling involved the random selection of two states from each of the geopolitical zones for the first stage. The second stage involved the stratification of the LGA in the selected states into urban and rural and from this, one LGA each in the urban and rural areas were selected at random. For the third stage, the list of all wards in each selected LGAs were carried out and from this; 5% were randomly selected. Furthermore, from the selected ward, major streets were selected at 5% and this complete the fourth stage. The final stage entailed the selection of houses in the wards and this was systematically selected at three spaced interval and eligible respondents in the systematically selected house were interviewed with the electronic pre coded questionnaire. The eight research teams were assisted by 24 field assistants for the collection of the cross sectional data. The data collection period was done within the period of one month.

Survey Instrument and Data Collection procedures

The study used a standardized questionnaire which was adopted from past studies that focus on similar questions in relation to our study. The survey instrument covers all the relevant variables for dependent, independent, and intervening variables in order to address the specified objectives of the study. Validity and reliability of the questionnaire were done and the research instrument was pretest with 100 respondents in Lagos before embarking on the major survey in the six geopolitical zones. Each research team member was allowed to recruit 6 research assistant and organize a training workshop for each state, at the end, 72 field assistants were recruited for the whole country based on experience and qualification. However, the recruited field assistants for the survey were all females as the respondents were all expected to be females.

Data Analysis, Result, and Discussion

- Data Analysis

Data collected were analysed though descriptive and inferential statistics. The descriptive statistics involves the use of frequency and percentage for the demographic and socio - economic variables. The inferential statistics involved the use of SPSS packages to obtain estimates for the crosstabs, chi-squares, and logistic regression

- Variable

i. Dependent Variable

The dependent variable which is rape incidence is measured as: since last two years has anyone ever had sex or had any sexual assault whether with partner or non-partner without the consent of the victims. Occurrence of this is denoted as yes (1) and non-occurrence is denoted as no (0).

ii. Explanatory Variable

One of the explanatory variables is educational level which is divide into four categories- no formal education, primary education, secondary education, and tertiary education; this variable is a categorical variable. The second explanatory variable used in the model is the type of employment (denoted as type of employment) this variable has 3 categories: unemployment (reference category), self-employment, and work away from home. The third variable is the monthly income of the respondents denoted as monthly income. The first category is the range of income that falls in < 29,000 range and this is the reference categories. The second category falls in the rage of income of 30,000 to 59,000, the third category of income is represented by those whose income falls in the range of 60,000- to 89,000 and the last category of monthly income represents those with income range of 90000 and above. The reference income category is denoted by <= 29, 0000.

Ethical consideration:

As part of ethical consideration, ethical approval was sought from the Lagos State University Committee on Ethical Consideration. A written consent was given to the respondents to agree or not to agree to participate in the survey; respondents were also allowed to withdraw their participation at any stage during the collection of data. Assurance were given to the respondents as regards the confidentiality of their information

Results

i. Descriptive Statistics

Analysis was conducted on 887 respondents divided between rural (432) and urban respondents (455) with statistical packages for social Sciences (SPSS) UBM version 24.0. Prior to the conduction of the analysis, the data were filter and outliers were removed for proper results to be obtained at confidence interval of 95% and a P value of 5%.

Table 1: Descriptive Statistics Table

Variable	Rural		Urban	
	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
<i>Age:</i>				
15-19	10	2.30	8	1.76
20-24	35	8.10	44	9.67
25-29	67	15.51	91	20.0
30-34	89	20.60	98	21.54
35-39	87	20.14	68	14.95

40-44	88	20.37	76	16.70
45-49	56	12.97	70	15.38
Monthly Income:				
<=29,000	292	67.59	300	65.93
30,000- 50,000	112	25.93	114	25.05
60,000 – 80,000	14	3.24	18	3.96
90,000	14	3.24	23	5.06
Education:				
No formal	28	6.48	12	2.64
Primary	57	13.19	64	14.07
Secondary	244	56.48	258	56.70
Tertiary	103	23.85	121	26.59
Ethnic Group:				
Hausa	84	19.44	80	17.58
Igbo	112	25.93	119	26.15
Yoruba	104.	24.07	134	29.45
Others	132	30.56	122	26.82
Type of employment:				
Unemployment	35	8.10	26	5.71
Self employed	323	74.77	333	73.19
Work away from home	74	17.13	96	21.10
Religion Attendance:				
Once	126	29.17	122	26.81
Twice	127	29.40	148	32.53
Thrice	179	41.43	185	40.66

From Table 1, the total respondents are 887 and this is divided between rural and urban communities with rural community having 432 (48.70%) and the urban community has 455 (51.30%) for the age variable, most of the respondents fall within the age group of 25 to 49 for both rural and urban communities this is given by the frequency and percentage for both rural and urban communities as 387 (89.59%) and 403 (88.57%) respectively.

However, few of the respondents are within the age range of 15-24 as given by the frequency and percentage of 45 (10.40%) and 52 (11.43%) for rural and urban communities respectively. The monthly income variable as represented by the monthly income received by the respondents. From Table 1 majority of the respondents' income falls within the income level of N29, 000 and below as given by 292 (67.5%) and 300 (65.93%) as frequency and percentage for rural and urban communities respectively. While few of the respondents have income level of 90,000 and above, as depicted by 14 (3.24%)

and 23 (5.06%) as frequency and percentage for rural and urban communities respectively in the table.

In terms of educational level in both rural and urban communities, majority of the respondents possessed secondary level of education as given by 244 (56.48%) and 258 (56.70%) for frequency and percentage respectively and fewer respondents have no formal education as given by 28 (6.48%) and 12 (2.64%) in terms of frequency and percentage in the rural and urban communities respectively as depicted Table 1.

The respondents are normally distributed among the four ethnic groups as stipulated in the Table 1 above and this is given by the percentage and frequency for Hausa - 84 (19.44%), igbo -112 (25.93%), Yoruba -104 (24.07%), and Others -132 (30.56%) for rural community and Hausa - 80 (17.56%), Igbo - 119 (26.15%), Yoruba -134 (29.45%), and Others -122 (26.82%) for the urban community. For the type of employment variable majority of the respondents for both rural and urban communities are self-employed and this is

given by the percentage and frequency for both rural and urban communities as 323 (74.77%) and 333 (73.19%) respectively while the frequency and percentage of those working from home is represented by 74 (17.13%) and 96 (21.10%) for rural and urban communities respectively. However, few of the respondents are unemployed as indicated by 35 (8.10%) and 26 (5.71%) showing by the frequency and percentage for rural and urban communities respectively.

For the variable; religion attendance, from Table 1, majority of the respondents attend religious activity/other program at least thrice as given by 179 (41.43%) and 185 (40.66%) as percentage and frequency for both rural and urban communities and for those that attends religious

activities/program once stood at 126 (29.17%) and 122 (26.81%) for rural and urban as once and 127 (29.40%) and 148 (32.53%) as twice for rural and urban communities respectively.

ii. Crosstab Results

The crosstab for the Types of employment and childhood molestation for those in the rural community depicts a higher count and percentage for those unemployed and self-employed in terms of no experience childhood molestation as given by the percentage and count of 60.3% (38) and 6.81% (291) while those that experience rape incidence stood at 39.7% (25) and 31.9% (136).

Table 2: Crosstabs and Chi-square Result

Variable	Count (Percentage) Rural		Count (Percentage) Urban	
	No	Yes	No	Yes
Type of employment				
-Unemployment	38 (60.3%)	25 (39.7%)	44(41.5%)	62 (58.5%)
-Self Employment	291(68.1%)	136(31.9%)	263(57.8%)	192(42.2%)
-Work away from home	46(97.9%)	50(52.1%)	371(53.7%)	230(46.3%)
Chi-square	14.339***		10.459***	
Monthly Income				
<N29,000	281(62.2%)	131(31.8%)	266(54.5%)	22(45.5%)
N30,000- N59,000	84(57.9%)	61(42.1%)	81(51.9%)	75 (48.1%)
N60,000 – N89,000	9(47.4%)	10(52.6%)	10(47.6%)	11(52.4%)
=>N90,000	8(40.0%)	12(60.0%)	16(57.1%)	12 (42.9%)
Chi-square	12.772***		0.76	
Employed				
-No	382(63.2%)	22(36.8%)	441(70.7%)	183 (29.3%)
-Yes	382(64.1%)	214(35.9%)	373(53.8%)	320 (46.2%)
Chi –square	0.093		39.488***	

Significant level: $p < 0.10$ = 10%, $P < 0.05$ = 5%, $P < 0.01$ = 1%. N = naira

The crosstab for those that worked away from home with experience of rape incidence is higher than for those that worked away from home with no experience of rape incidence; this is given by the percentage and count of 97.9% (46) and 52.1% (50) respectively in the rural communities in Table 2. However, in the urban community the crosstabs for self-employment with no experience of rape incidence and work away from home categories with no experience of rape incidence is given as 57.8% (263) and 53.7% (371) respectively, this is higher than the crosstabs for self-employment with experience of childhood molestation and work away from home with experience of rape incidence depicted as 42.2% (192) and 46.3% (230) respectively in Table 2 in urban communities. For the unemployed category, the crosstabs of unemployment with no experience of rape incidence is lower than the crosstabs of unemployment with experience of rape incidence in terms of percentage and count in urban communities and these stood at 41.5% (44) and 58.5% (62) respectively. The Pearson Chi-squares tests for the

rural and urban communities are given as 14.339 and 10.459 respectively and both are significant at 1% level of significant. This indicates that there exists relationship between the level of employment and rape incidence of the respondents

The crosstab of monthly income and rape incidence indicates in the rural area that those in the income categories of \leq 29000 and 30,000 -59,0000 have a higher percentage and count for those that experience no rape incidence than those that experience rape incidence as given by the percentage and count as 62.2% (281) for those with no rape incidence and 31.8% (131) for those with the experience of rape incidence for the income category of \leq 29,000. Similarly, for the income category of 30,000-59000, the crosstabs for those with no experience of childhood stood at 57.9% (84) and 42.1% (61) for those with the experience of rape incidence as depicted in Table 2.

The last two categories of income i.e. 60000- 89000 and \geq 90000 experience a higher figure for those that experience rape incidence than those with no rape incidence and this is

given by the percentage and counts 52.6% (10) and 47.4% (9) respectively for the income level of 60,000 – 89,000. Also, for income level of >=90000 the crosstab of this income category with no rape incidence as given as 40% (8) and is lower than the crosstab of those with experience of rape incidence as given by 60% (12) in Table 2.

In the urban community, the same situation also occurs as the income categories of <= 29,000 and 30- 59,000 have percentage and count that is higher for those that experience no rape incidence. This is given by 54.5% (266) and 45.5 % (222) respectively for the income level of <= 29,000 in Table 2. The income level of 30,000 – 59,000 the percentage and count are given by 51.9% (81) and 48.1% (75) for no rape incidence and rape incidence respectively.

The last two categories-of income 60,000-89,000 and <=90,000 in the rural area indicate that those respondents that fall in the categories of income have a higher value for rape incidence than no rape incidence as given by 47.6% (10) and 52.4%(11) as no rape incidence and rape incidence respectively for the income category of 60,000- 89,000. For the income level of 90,000 and above the value for the crosstabs for no rape incidence and rape incidence is given as 57.1% (16) and 42.9% (12) respectively. The total percentage and count for urban community for both no rape incidence and rape incidence stood at 53.8% (373) and 46.2% (320) respectively indicating a higher figure of respondents for no rape incidence than rape incidence.

For the Chi square and the P value in the two communities the chi square and P value for the rural communities as given by 12.772 and 0.05 respectively and these indicate that there exists significant relationship between the level of income of the respondents and rape incidence. However, for the urban communities the result is quite different as the Pearson chi square is given by 0.768 and the P value is 0.857 which is not significant. This shows that there exists no significant relationship between the level of income of the respondents and their experience of rape incidence in the urban area.

The crosstab of respondent employment and rape incidence indicate a higher level of no of rape incidence for those unemployed and those not employed this is depicted by 63.2% (382) and 35.8 % (222) as percentage and count for no rape incidence and experience of rape incidence respectively for those with no employment in the rural area. Also for those that are employed the value for no experience of rape incidence is higher as given by 64.1% (38) than those with experience of rape incidence as given by 35.9% (214). Similarly, the total percentage for the urban communities depicts a higher value for no rape incidence than rape incidence as given by 63.7% (764) and 36.3% respectively as depicted in Table 2.

For the urban community the result is similar to the rural area, as the respondent with no employment experience more of no rape incidence than rape incidence as given by 70.7% (441) and 29.3% 183 respectively. Also, those with employment status were able to experience more of no rape incidence than rape incidence as given by the percentage and count of 53.8% (373) and 46.2% (320). In the same vein, the total values for those in the community indicate a higher level of no rape incidence than rape incidence as given by 61.8% (814) and 38.2 % (503) respectively in Table 2.

The Chi square result and the P value result in the rural area indicates an insignificant result as given by 0.693 and 0.760 respectively indicating no significant relationship exist between the employment level of the respondents and rape incidence. However, the chi-square result and P value result for the urban area indicate different results as the person chi-square indicates a value of 39. 48 and p value of 0.000 which indicate that a significant relationship exists between the employment level and rape incidence in the urban communities.

iii. Logistic Regression analysis

The logistic regression analysis for the study is carried out to examine the factors that determine respondents’ exposure to rape incidence. The result of the logistic regression model is depicted in Table 3 below.

Table3: Logistic Regression Result: Depicting the determinants of rape incidence among women of reproductive age (15-49)

Variable	Odd Ratio (Confidence Interval)	Odd Ratio (Confidence Interval) Urban Community
Education qualification:		
No formal education		
Primary education	-0.262* 90.093 – 0.740)	-0.837* (0.306 – 2.289)
Secondary education	0.739 (0.383 – 1.424)	2.428** (1.393-4.234)
Tertiary education	-0.652* (0.420-1.014)	1.023 (0.695 – 1.505)
Types of employment:		
Unemployment		
Self-employment	0.860 (0.431 -1.717)	1.3331(0.746 -2.377)
Work away from home	0.663 (0.393-1.120)	-0.655** (0.421 – 1.017)

Monthly Income:

- ≤ N29,000		
- N30,000 -N 59,000	0.431*(0.165- 1.123)	0.958 (0.434- 2.113)
- N60,000- N89,000	0.579 (0.218-1.536)	1.190 (0.524 – 2.701)
- N90,000 and above	0.733 (0.197-2725)	1.204 (0.381- 3.803)

Significant level: $p < 0.10^*$, $P < 0.05^{**}$, $P < 0.01^{***}$. Confidence interval at 90%, $N = naira$

From Table 3, in the rural communities the category of primary education has a negative relationship with the prevalence of rape among women of reproductive age. This category also has an odd ratio of 0.262 and a confidence interval of (0.093- 0.749), and a significant level of 10%. This indicates that having primary education by the respondents gives a lesser odd ratio of 0.262 of being raped compared to those that are not educated. This indicates that the primary category of education has a lesser 0.262 times the odds of the no formal education group of being raped. This means that a respondent with primary level of education has a lesser 0.265 times the odds of those that have no formal education of being raped. Similarly, in the rural communities, respondents with tertiary education has the odd ratio of 0.652 and confidence interval of (0.420 – 1.014) with significant level at 10% The odd ratio of 0.652 shows that with tertiary level of education of the respondents there is a lesser odd of 0.652 of being raped compared to those with no formal education. That is the tertiary level of education category has a lesser 0.652 times the odds than those with no formal level of education category.

However, in the urban communities the situation is different as the odd ratio is positive and significant at 5% as indicated by 2.428 and (1.393 – 4.234) as the odd ratio and confidence interval respectively in Table 3 for secondary level of education category, the odd ratio of 2.428 depicts that those with secondary level of education category have more chance of 2.428 of being raped compared to those with no formal level of education category. This means that respondents with secondary category of education have a 2.428 more times the odds of those with no formal education of being raped. However, for the primary category of education in the urban communities, the odd ratio is negative and significant at 10% as indicated by 0.837 and 0.306 – 2.289 for the odd ratio and confidence interval respectively in Table 3. This means that respondent with primary level of education has a lesser 0.837 times the odds of those that have no formal education of being raped.

The variable types of employment is represented with three categories: unemployment, self-employment, and work away from home were not significant for all the categories in the rural communities. Nevertheless, for the urban area the work away from home category was negatively related to rape incidence and significant at 5% as given by 0.655 and 0.421- 1-017 as the odd ratio and confidence interval respectively as shown in Table 3. The odd ratio of 0. 655, indicates that those that work from home have a lesser odd of 0.655 of being raped compared to those that are unemployed. This means that

those respondents that worked from home have a lesser 0.655 times the odd of those that are unemployed.

However, for the monthly income variable, none of the categories of income was significant in both rural and urban communities.

Discussion

In the literature, educational qualification in relation to rape incidence result gives mixed results. As some authors found positive relationship between education level and rape incidence while some studies were able to find negative relationship between these variables. Our result also shows mixed result between urban and rural communities. Based on our findings, primary education and tertiary education categories were negatively related to rape incidence at 10% in the rural community indicating that those respondents with education are less likely to be susceptible to being raped compared to those that were not educated our result is in line with some studies (Atteraya 2015; Alkan and Tekmanl 2021; Gibbs et al., 2018; Rao, 2020). For the urban community our result indicates a positive result and thus a higher likelihood of being susceptible to rape for the secondary level category of education this means that having secondary education in the urban communities by the respondents could trigger rape incidence one important reason for this may be the exposure tendency of women as a result of education in the urban area compared to the rural area.

The variable types of employment is not significant for all categories in the rural communities, this indicates that employment types has no impact in the likelihood of being raped by the respondents. Nevertheless, those that are working from home are less susceptible to being raped in the urban communities. This could be based on the setting in the urban communities which often involve different people with different characters, therefore working from home will reduce physical contact of the respondents with people and thus provide safer avenue for women as they would be less expose to environmental hazards. This result is in line with Reese et al., (2021) in a study in Tanzania that argued that working women are less susceptible to being rape compared to those that are not working. However, this study contradicts the study by Ahoinkorah et al. (2018), Bamiwaye and Odimegwu (2014), and Kimuna et al. (2013).

The variable income level of the respondents is not significant for all categories for rural and urban communities. This indicates that for both communities the level of income of the respondents has no meaning for them to be susceptible to rape.

Conclusion

The study concludes that only education variable of the respondents under the categories of primary and tertiary levels of education are the determinants of rape incidence among female of reproductive age in the rural communities, while education variable under the categories of primary and secondary level of education and types of employment variable of the respondents under the categories of work away from home are the factors that determine rape incidence among this age group in the urban communities.

Recommendation

It is recommended that education should be encouraged especially among female gender in the rural and urban communities, however being educated also could have adverse effect as caution needs to be given in terms of extreme exposure to societal vices and custom should also be put in consideration with education so that chaos will be avoided between spouse. For employment, digital economic activities such as internet services, online economic activities, e-business, and e-commerce should be encouraged especially for work that are more susceptible to rape menace due to high physical contact between female and male; as these would help to reduce or eradicate the menace of rape on female gender in the rural and urban communities.

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