

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN: A CASE STUDY OF BOKO HARAM INSURGENCY IN BORNO STATE, NIGERIA

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Abstract

Boko Haram attacks on women and their involvements are significant in the destruction impacted by this insurgency since the gender is highly vulnerable and attracts low suspicion hence this study. Two hundred questionnaires were distributed in four local government areas namely Biu, Hawul Jere and Maiduguri Metropolitan council and key informant interviews were also conducted. Four Likert-type scale was used to rate the decision of the respondents while Mean Score Values were used to adjudge along with frequency, percentages and graph. The results of the study showed that in all the items suggested in this study, the women decision accepted all the reasons. Kidnapping/Abduction and Forceful Marriage recorded highest Cal. MSV of 3.68 in the types of attack. In the ranking of the pattern, Kidnapping/Abduction ranked highest with frequency 145 out of 194 respondents (74.7%). The reason that Boko Haram attacks women for sexual pleasure has the highest MSV of 3.60 out of other reasons suggested. The Insurgents were attested to the use of women for suicide bombing has the highest MSV of 3.76 from other involvements of women. The various Boko Haram attack has led to loss of virginity and inflicted psychological trauma on the attacked women. Women are mostly attacked for sexual pleasure than any other reasons. Security agencies needed to educate women and create more awareness to them that Boko Haram interest is to involve them as suicide bombers, secret informant and cooking/ catering and none of this should be justified as a religious service.

Key Words: Gender violence, Boko Haram, Insurgency, Women, Borno

ADVANCING KNOWLEDGE
• IMPACTING SOCIETY •

Introduction

Violence against women and girls is one of the most widespread violations of human rights and this was widely demonstrated by the Boko Haram group. It includes physical, sexual, psychological and economic abuse, and cuts across boundaries of age, race, culture, wealth and geography. It takes place in the home, on the streets, in schools, religion setting, the workplace, in farm fields, refugee camps, during conflicts and crisis. It has many manifestations-from the most universally prevalent forms of domestic and sexual violence to harmful practices, abuse during pregnancy, so-called honour killing and other types of femicide as reported by (Gender Issues, 2012).

On 14 May 2013, President Goodluck Jonathan declared a state of emergency in Northeast Nigeria (New York Times, 2013) including Borno State along with the neighboring states of Adamawa and Yobe. BBC News (2013) reported that after fighting between Boko Haram and the state armed forces as many as 200 peoples were killed in the town of Baga. A spokesman for the Nigerian Armed Forces declared that the offensive would continue "as long as it takes to achieve our objective of getting rid of insurgents from every part of Nigeria." Borno has been one of the most raided states in Nigeria by Boko Haram, with about 4,000 death rolls and 1.2M displaced people (Displacement Tracking Matrix, 2015).

In July 2014, Borno state governor Kashim Shettima said that "176 teachers had been killed and 900 schools destroyed since 2011" (Wikipedia, 2016). After the Chibok schoolgirls kidnapping in April 2014, most schools in Borno State were closed. They were scheduled to reopen in November 2014 (Olugbode, 2014). Conservative estimates of 73 people, including the suicide bombers, were killed in female suicide bombings in Nigeria. Borno was worst hit with 26 fatalities in 3 successful attacks (Onuoha and George, 2015). In November 2014, UNICEF reported it has increased its Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) centers in Borno State "from 5 to 67 and is planning to increase this to 100 all because of insurgents attacks (UNICEF, 2014).

The activity of Boko Haram insurgency has various implications on women and girls (Zenn and Pearson, 2014). The authors have observed that 2013 marked the time Boko Haram began to use women and girls as pawns in their activities by abducting them. The group on May 15, 2014 stormed government college, Chibok in Borno state and kidnapped without resistance over 200 college girls (Zenn and Pearson, 2014). In a related account, the terror group on May 2013 carried out a mass assault on a police barrack in Bama, Brono state in which they captured 12 Christian women and children (Agency, France-Presse, 2013). Most of these women and girls abducted by Boko Haram in the northern areas of Nigeria experienced sexual violence including rape, torture and also murder. A recent study for Nigeria's Political Violence Research Network suggests that more than 45% of those killed by the Boko Haram are Christian women and children (Barkindo *et al.*, 2013).

The insurgency attack on female gender by the Boko Haram insurgents in the Northeast Nigeria cannot be overemphasized. Majority of their attacks have been by raping, killing and abduction in which they engaged them for various evil acts. This gender has also been used by Boko Haram as wartime labour force. They are targeted both for their assets and as “assets” in themselves Turshen (2000). Their value as further affirmed by the author was reproductive and productive. Women and girls in captivity are used for cooking, cleaning and other duties that may be assigned to them by their captors. Many may also be forced to bear children that will grow to further the course of the insurgency.

Significantly, in the last two years, Nigeria has witnessed increasing feminization of terror by Boko Haram in two paradoxical ways - involving young girls as both the victims and vanguards of terror. As victims of terror, in the form of abductees, their fate has received the greatest international condemnation. The group has abducted at least 500 women and girls in north-eastern Nigeria since 2009 (Onuoha and George, 2015). However, the abduction of 276 teenage girls from Chibok in April 2014 by the group has been the largest single incident so far, triggering an international campaign to ‘Bring back our Girls’. Nowadays, there is a misconception of women warriors and terrorist (destroyer). There is a need to draw a line between the responsibilities in the community as mothers, careers, savers of life to mention a few. The study will definitely mined out facts leading to women involvement and see how they have been lured at one stage or the other of their life’s development because of their vulnerability.

Statement of the Problem

The female gender has been seriously terrorized by the Boko Haram insurgents in the Northeast Nigeria. Majority of their attacks have been by raping, killing and abduction in which they engaged them for various evil acts. This gender has also been used by Boko Haram as wartime labour force. They are targeted both for their assets and as “assets” in themselves Turshen (2000). Their value as further affirmed by the author was reproductive and productive. Women and girls in captivity are used for cooking, cleaning and other duties that may be assigned to them by their captors. Many may also be forced to bear children that will grow to further the course of the insurgency.

Boko Haram recruits and use women them as potential wives for the men on the front line to generate vital pieces of information for their operation. Ness (2005) among other researchers reported that, the use of women by Boko Haram might mean that the insurgency has entered a more ruthless phase. The involvement of women as killers tends to be the last card that an organization plays. But we don't know whether Boko Haram has reached that stage, or whether it has decided to play the card early. Hence, whatever be the case, the rise of this army of killer women is alarming, disturbing and indeed frightening to see that those who are the “givers of life” and the “keepers of home and family” have now also become mass murderers. It is against the above background that the study was set-out to find out the causes and

ramifications of Boko Haram attacks on the female, their use as suicide bombers and other service providers as well as the demographic status of the female victims.

Research Aim and Objectives

The aim of this study is to examine violence against women in some parts of Borno State using Boko Haram Insurgency as a case study. This aim is achieved with the following specific objectives and they are to:

- i. determine the types of attacks employed against women by Boko Haram in Borno State
- ii. identify reasons why Boko Haram are attacking women in Borno State.
- iii. assess the involvement of women in Boko Haram insurgency in Borno State
- iv. determine the extent to which Boko Haram attack affect female in Borno State

Research Questions

The following research questions were raised to guide the study.

- i. What are the types of attacks employed against women by Boko Haram in Borno State?
- ii. What are the reasons why Boko Haram are attacking women in Borno State?
- iii. What were the involvements of women in Boko Haram insurgency in Borno State?
- iv. How were the female affected by the Boko Haram attack in Borno State?

Theoretical Framework and Literature Review

Theoretical Framework

This research is based on two most important theories which are theories of identification by Burke (1966) and narrative by Fischer (1989). Identification is a key term for the discussion of rhetoric in Kenneth Burke's *A Rhetoric of Motives*. He uses it to evaluate the traditional perception of rhetoric as persuasion. Burke suggests that whenever someone attempts to persuade someone else, identification occurs, because for persuasion to occur, one party must "identify" with another. That is, the one who becomes persuaded sees that one party is like another in some way. Burke's definition of identification works not only in relation to the self. Here Burke suggests expanding the realm of rhetoric to include the ways in which we operate rhetorically upon ourselves, forging identifications through unexamined or non-conscious motives, self-protective or suicidal. The key element here that brings in cunning is consciousness, or perhaps more to the point, purposeful unconsciousness, or hypocrisy: "This aspect of identification, whereby one can protect an interest merely by not using terms incisive enough to criticize it properly, often brings rhetoric to the edge of cunning".

The other theory is Narrative theory which was developed by Walter Fisher. Fisher obtained his Ph.D. from the University of Iowa in 1960 and went on to become a professor, among other things. Perhaps Fisher's most notable contribution was his formulation of the narrative approach to rhetoric and

communication theory. However, as is the case with most new theories, narrative theory was not totally accepted by the discipline (Miller, 2005). Narrative theory clashed with several pre-existing beliefs as to the nature of human beings and how they communicate and act. Fisher describes this contrast by identifying the tenets of what he sees as two universal paradigms: the rational world paradigm, and the narrative paradigm (Fisher, 1987). So for Fisher's, by interpreting narratives, one uncovers the motives. For Burke, the analysis of rhetoric uncovers motives. Thus, and for our purpose, Fisher's and Burke's rhetorical theories help us to understand that there are motives behind the narratives that women are incapable, helpless in a man's world and should therefore remain in their traditional roles of mothering and caring. What this implies then is that if the public primarily ascribe certain gender roles (mother and wife) to women, then in order to make sense of these women doing and been involved in what has been ascribed as exclusively male role or occupation, then the public must see them as deviants.

Review of Thematic Areas of the Study

Gender

Earlier definitions of gender were meant to distinguish between the social and biological differences of men and women. As Nelson and Nelson (2010) have noted, gender was "conceptualised as the socially defined roles, attitudes and values which society ascribes as appropriate for one sex or the other." Thus gender marks a difference between the 'sexes' which connotes a biological difference. However, later conceptualisation of gender assumes a broader and sociological connotation. For instance, Eagle and Steffan's (1984) view of gender is tied to power, and so they view it as a social construct based on the assumed power and position that a person possess.

By power, they imply the ability which individuals have to make decisions and to behave as they please. On the other hand, Scott (1994) asserts that gender is "a constitutive element of social relationships based on perceived differences between the sexes." Later, scholars such as Lorber (1994) and Riley (1999) were to push the concept far beyond the level of individual attributes and rather argue that it defines specific forms of social organisation. It is in this respect that Lorber (1994) opines that "gender is a set of social and cultural practices that influence the lives of women and men in society." This makes gender culture specific and constructed through the institutions of the society. Okunade (2001) would prefer that it can merely be described as a social construct of roles and responsibilities assigned to women and men, influenced by environmental, economic, political, cultural and religious factors. While Ogundipe-Leslie (1988) said that it denotes the socially defined capacities and attributes assigned to persons based on their alleged sexual characteristics. It is essentially a process through which sex-linked attributes acquire social meanings.

Violence

“The intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or a group or community, that either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting into Injury, death, psychological harm, mal-development, or deprivation.” (WHO, 1996). Violence may be categorized in many ways which could be types of violent acts: assault, verbal abuse, sexual abuse, etc. It can also be focused from the view of the precipitating factors such as war, robbery, mental illness. The contributing factors in terms of drugs and alcohol, poverty, culture, emotion, psychosis, etc. worth mentioning. Any community that must have witnessed one form of violence or the other have one of the following left behind and these are death or disability, disability of economic, mental illness, pains etc.

There are several theories surrounding domestic violence, including the idea that domestic violence is a learned behavior from childhood and that repressed batterers fall into a cycle of violence. For example, the social ecological model recognizes that factors contributing to domestic violence exist at the individual, relationship, community, and societal level Centre for disease Control and Prevention (2015). Some factors, such as substance abuse, contribute to the frequency and severity of the abuse while others, such as the systematic acceptance of violence against women, has a causal relationship to domestic violence.

Although there are no simple explanations, research indicates that domestic violence has its roots in the subordinate role women have traditionally held in private and public life in many societies. The United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women describes violence against women as "a manifestation of historically unequal power relationships between men and women." (United Nations General Assembly, 1979) At the same time, violence is used to perpetuate and enforce women's subordinate role. In the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women, the United Nations and its member countries denounce domestic violence as one of the "crucial social mechanisms by which women are forced into subordinate [positions] compared with men.". The following sections will outline different theories regarding domestic violence throughout recent history, contributing factors to domestic violence, and the role of alcohol in domestic cases. Apart from the above some other theories include: Social learning theory, Personality characteristic and psychopathology theory, Biological violence theory, Exchange theory, Resources theory, Gender theory, Feminist theory, Family violence perspective etc

Terrorism

Terrorism is, first and foremost, a method, and it is used in times of peace and conflict. In order to meaningfully talk about terrorism, it is crucial to have both a general and a critical understanding of the concept and its intellectual and political implications. This implies that it is almost impossible to unproblematically or apolitically define the concept without generating substantial controversy.. The origin of the concept can be traced to the ancient Greek and Roman republics, although the official use of the term ‘terrorism’ emerged from within a political context and this is usually traced to the period of the French

revolution and the Jacobin reign of Terror (1792-1794). Today, the definition of the concept has acquired an ethnocentric character depending on whether one is considering the American, British, Israelis or even German definitions.

A terrorist organization is an illicit clandestine organization that generally consists of planners, trainers, and actual bombers/killers. A terrorist organization can have various structures, such as an identifiable hierarchy of command, a horizontal structure where leaders are non-identifiable or have no major role, or a cell structure where the terrorists can be “lone wolves.” Terrorism is also asymmetric warfare. Asymmetric warfare refers to the use of random/unpredictable violence by a weak group (i.e., one with a smaller force) against a stronger power (i.e., military, government, or even society in general) to gain advantage (Hoge *et al.*, 2001).

Terrorism involves three basic components: the perpetrator(s), the victim(s) and the target(s) of the violence (Badely, 2007). The perpetrators are seen as fanatics, disaffected groups or minorities who employed terrorism as a tool to oppose the rule and the oppression of an established and militarily superior power (Nicholson, 2003). The victims are seen as innocent people who have no part or are directly involved in the struggle and the struggle or target is political.

Terrorism began to make headlines again in the 1970s and reached a pinnacle in the mid- 1980s. From 1975 to 1984, the average number of reported terrorist attacks increased from ten per week to nearly ten every day (Risks International, 1985). Jenkins (1985) observed that 10% of the world’s countries accounted for 60% of the world’s terrorist attacks. Li and Schaub (2004) examined international terrorist incidents within 112 countries from 1975 to 1997.

Women

Ebohon (2006) has noted that a woman is “the feminine component of the human species who apart from serving as vehicle for nurturing human life is also a producer, a consumer and equally endowed agent for fostering a wholesome political, social and economic development in society.” Given this perspective therefore, most societal notion of what it means to be a woman emphasises peacefulness, mothering, caring and interdependence rather than violence. Society’s stereotype of the women folk is seen in their being identified by their sex when they are found in professions usually associated with the male folk such as women soldiers, women political leaders, women manager or CEOs, and now even women terrorists.

Conversely, those professions usually associated with female folk do not bear the sex prefix. For instance we do not hear of women housekeeper, women teachers or even women nurses. As Sjoberg *et al.* (2011) have noted, this is because women are “assumed to belong to these professions rather than the ones that remain at odds with ideal-type notions of what it means to be ‘a woman’ despite women’s participation.” Thus, although norms associated with manliness (bravery, and self-sacrifice) and womanliness (innocence

and fragility) are as old as society itself, women's association with violence is seen to "fall outside of these ideal-type understanding of what it means to be a woman" (Sjoberg and Gentry, 2007). The involvement of women in terrorist activities and violence attacks the sensibilities of the cultural prevalence of society's concepts of femininity which cannot comprehend the notion of women as militants, terrorists or suicide bombers.

Boko Haram menace in Borno state

Boko Haram grew out of a group of radical Islamist youth who worshipped at the Alhaji Muhammadu Ndimi Mosque in Maiduguri, capital of Borno state, in the 1990s (Walker, 2012). Its leader, Mohammed Yusuf, began as a preacher and leader in the youth wing, Shababul Islam (Islamic Youth Vanguard), of Ahl-Sunnah, a Salafi group (Crisis Group Middle East/North Africa, 2012). His erstwhile mentor was Sheikh Jafaar Mahmud Adam, a prominent Islamic scholar and preacher at the mosque (Walker, 2012). Yusuf was a charismatic and popular *Malam* (Quranic scholar) who spoke widely throughout the north. His literal interpretation of the Quran led him to advocate that aspects of Western education he considered in contradiction to that holy book, such as evolution, the big bang theory of the universe's development and elements of chemistry and geography, should be forbidden: in Hausa "Boko Haram" (African Report, 2014).

While critical of the government, Yusuf was involved in official efforts to introduce and implement Sharia in several northern states in the early 2000s. The failure to achieve this fully helps explain Muslim youths' anger with government "deception" and "insincerity" and the call for an authentic Islamist revolution. Most accounts date the beginning of Boko Haram – its formal Arabic name is Jama'tu Ahlis Sunna Lidda'awati wal-Jihad (People Committed to the Propagation of the Prophet's Teachings and Jihad)

In May 2013, Boko Haram sect made real its threat by abducting more than 12 Christian government officials, wives and children in Bama Police station Bornu state. Shekua claimed to be responsible for the Bama abduction in a video message, he then promised to make the hostages his servants if certain conditions, such as the release of Boko Haram members and their wives from prison were not met (Agency France-Press, 2013). The various attacks of violence in Nigeria from religious intolerant act is dated to year 2000 but those from Boko Haram are dated to 2009. Larger percentage were not targeted directly on women while in some, women were directly involved in launching the attacks.

Violence Preventive measures

Violence is a multifaceted problem with biological, psychological, social and environmental roots. There is no simple or single solution to the problem; rather, violence must be addressed on multiple levels and in multiple sectors of society simultaneously (WHO, 2002). Based on the perspective provided by the ecological model, violence prevention programmes and policies can be targeted at individuals, relationships, communities and whole societies, and delivered in collaboration with different sectors of society in schools, workplaces, other institutions and criminal justice systems. Violence prevention is most likely to be successful if it is comprehensive and scientifically based. In general, interventions that are delivered in childhood and those that are sustained over time are more likely to be effective than short-term programmes. Some of these include: Educational, Social development, Therapeutic and Treatment programmes

The Gaps in the Study

There is dearth of information on activities of Boko Haram in Northeastern parts of Nigeria and Borno state from previous research studies. Some of these are on Abduction of women and girls, arbitrary arrest of women by government security agents, use of women as pawns in their activities, inflicting collective terror on women, demoralizes women education and livelihood crisis to mention a few.

Methodology

Borno state is located in the Northeastern part of Nigeria and is bordered by Chad Republic, Adamawa, Yobe and Gombe states. The design for this research is descriptive survey design. The use of this design is pertinent because an in-depth description and interpretation of the gender violence most especially against women and girls is required. Structural Questionnaires were used to determine the opinion of respondents on the angle of the On-going Boko Haram Insurgents in Borno State.

The population of the study comprised of the Four (4) selected Local Government areas in Borno state that have been affected or attacked by the Insurgents. The Local Government comprises of Biu, Hawul, Jere and Maiduguri Metropolitan Council (MMC). The targeted populations were women. A total number of 200 respondents from the four local Governments were sample. Random sampling technique was used.

A total number of fifty respondents were selected from each of the four Local Government Area which are women, the method of data collection were structure questionnaire. Data collected from questionnaire and interviews reports were sorted using excel Microsoft package. Data representation was done with Tables and Graphs, while Frequency, simple percentage and Mean Score value were used to analyze the raw data generated. The calculated mean score was compared to the tabulated mean score to take decision.

Calculation:

Calculated mean score value = Frequency of SA x 4 + Frequency of A x 3 + Frequency of D x 2 + Frequency of SD x 1 + Frequency of U x 0 / Total number of respondents

Result and Discussion

Data Presentation

Research Question 1: What are the types of attacks employed against women by Boko Haram in Borno state?

Types of attack employed against women by Boko Haram in Borno state

In Table 1 the Mean Score Values for all the reason that can be used to identify the pattern of the Boko Haram attack on women were decided being accepted by the respondents in all the studied areas. The Calculated Mean Score values (Cal. MSV) were higher than the Tabulated Mean score values for all the types of attack. Kidnapping/Abduction and forceful marriage have the highest Cal. MSV of 3.68 while the least values of 3.12 were in Slaughtering.

Table 1: Types of Attack Employed against Women by Boko Haram in Borno state

Types of attack employed against women by Boko Haram	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Tab MSV	Cal. MSV	Decision
Shooting	104	63	26	1	2.50	3.39	Accepted
Slaughtering	80	71	30	13	2.50	3.12	Accepted
Burning	91	70	23	10	2.50	3.24	Accepted
Bombing	121	51	13	9	2.50	3.46	Accepted
Verbal Threat	94	69	15	16	2.50	3.24	Accepted
Kidnapping/Abduction	148	35	6	5	2.50	3.68	Accepted
Selective Killing	81	76	26	11	2.50	3.17	Accepted
Female assault and Sexual abuse	116	59	10	9	2.50	3.45	Accepted
Forceful marriage	153	28	5	8	2.50	3.68	Accepted

Research Question 2: What are the reasons why Boko Haram are attacking women in Borno state?

Reasons why Boko Haram attack women

Six different reasons were responded to by women from Borno state where the incidence of this menace is relatively higher. In Table 2 all the reasons were accepted by the respondents decision since their Cal. MSV were higher than Tab. MSV. The highest Cal. MSV of 3.60 was from the fact that Boko Haram attack women for sexual pleasure followed by Cal. MSV 3.26 for Boko Haram use violence against women as a war strategy while the least Cal. MSV of 2.56 was from they attack women so as to sell them to raise money.

Table 2: Reasons Why Boko Haram Attacked Women in Borno state

Reasons of the Boko Haram attack on women	SA	A	D	SD	Tab. MSV	Cal. MSV	Decision
Boko Haram attacked women for sexual pleasure	136	42	12	4	2.50	3.60	Accepted
Boko Haram used violence against women as a war strategy.	82	83	26	3	2.50	3.26	Accepted
Boko Haram attacked women so as to recruit them as part of their fighting force.	88	67	33	6	2.50	3.22	Accepted
They attacked women so as to sell them to raise money.	46	53	59	36	2.50	2.56	Accepted
Boko Haram attacked women as a way of revenging and punishing communities that they feel have betrayed them.	79	69	25	21	2.50	3.06	Accepted
Boko Haram abducted women for the purpose of marrying them.	92	70	20	12	2.50	3.25	Accepted

Research Question 3: What were the involvements of women of Boko Haram insurgency in Borno State?

Involvement of women in Boko Haram gender violence

The women involved in the various ways as secret informant, suicide bombers, shopping for feeding, cooking and catering, killings and sex slaves. All these reason were decided as accepted by the respondents. The highest Cal. MSV of 3.75 is from suicide bombers involvement; followed by 3.56 for as Sex slaves and the least values of 3.11 for killings were recorded as shown in Table 3.



Table 3: Involvement of Women in Boko Haram Gender Attack and Violence in Borno state

Involvement of women in Boko Haram gender violence attack	SA	A	D	SD	Tab. MSV	Cal. MSV	Decision
Secret Informant	104	71	14	5	2.50	3.41	Accepted
Suicide Bombers	152	38	3	1	2.50	3.76	Accepted
Shopping for feeding	80	73	31	10	2.50	3.15	Accepted
Cooking and Catering	108	65	15	6	2.50	3.42	Accepted
Killings	83	64	33	14	2.50	3.11	Accepted
Sex slaves	127	55	6	6	2.50	3.56	Accepted

Research Question 4: How were the women affected by Boko Haram attack in Borno State?

Extent of Boko Haram attack on women

The questionnaire presented nine items on this section in which all the respondents agreed accepted. One serious extent is that some women attacked by Boko Haram lost their virginity and this has Cal. MSV. 3.71, followed by values 3.60 that Women attacked by Boko Haram usually suffer from psychological trauma and the least scored extent of 3.12 is that some women attacked by Boko Haram are rejected by their husband as presented in Table 4

Table 4: Extent to which Boko Haram attacks affect women

The extent to which Boko Haram attacks affect women	SA	A	D	SD	Tab. MSV	Cal. MSV	Decision
Women attacked by Boko Haram usually suffer from psychological trauma	128	56	9	1	2.50	3.60	Accepted
Women attacked by Boko Haram are affected with sexual transmitted diseases	114	64	7	9	2.50	3.46	Accepted
Some women attacked by Boko Haram lose their virginity	152	31	8	3	2.50	3.71	Accepted
Some women attacked by Boko Haram are widowed	88	74	2	6	2.50	3.26	Accepted
Some women attacked by Boko Haram suffer shame and rejection from their communities	95	63	2	10	2.50	3.25	Accepted
Some women attacked by Boko Haram usually suffer mental illness	81	84	2	5	2.50	3.20	Accepted
Some women attacked by Boko Haram are rejected by their husband	83	69	2	17	2.50	3.12	Accepted
Women abducted by Boko Haram are separated from their families	101	73	1	6	2.50	3.39	Accepted
The social and economic activities of women attacked by Boko Haram are negatively affected	88	78	1	12	2.50	3.25	Accepted

Key Informant Interview

Section A: Pattern used by Boko Haram to attack Women:

Since the inception of Boko Haram terrorists group in Nigeria. The group has attacked and abducted women both young and adult, and in most cases used them as bargaining tools or use them for suicide bombing to destroy government facilities and kill people they believe are their enemies. They use to invade villages, market and other public place to abduct their victims which includes women and young girls.

Section B: Reason why Boko Haram attack women:

Boko Haram as a violent group attack women because of the following reasons:

They attack women because they want to use them for their selfish interest i.e attack on government facilities and killing of people. They attack women because they are easy to be abducted. They attack women and abduct them to gain recognition from the international world.

They attack and abduct women because they believe the women can be used as shade to avoid security fighting them as expected like abducted school girls in Chibok

Section C: Involvement of Women in Boko Haram Gender Violence:

Boko Haram as a group are mostly men and have less women amongst them and for this reason they abduct women and used them to satisfy their sexual feelings. They even forcefully marry the women out to their members since they find it difficult to reach out to other women out side. Some of the women are even turned into sex-slaves and in some cases some of the women are subjected to sexually transmitted diseases which may be difficult to be cure because of lack of medical facilities in their captive.

Section D: Extent to which Boko Haram Affects Women

Since the inception of Boko Haram women have suffered greatly in the hands of the insurgents. Some of the abducted women were used as a fighting tools and some were killed or loss their life in the process. Some women were displaced and forced to leave their homes, some lost their loved once during attacks by the insurgents. Some of the women involved in the attack lost some valuable properties which are difficult to be replaced/ Finally it will be difficult to quantify the extent to which women were affected by Boko Haram activities; the above is just an excerpt of its summary.

Discussion

The larger percentage respond to the different types of attack by Boko Haram is indicative of the fact that all the claims and reports of this group is true because almost all these respondents were witnesses of some of these attacks. Onuoha and George (2015) documented that as vanguards of terror, Boko Haram has graduated from using young girls as couriers of arms, foodstuff and money as well as recruiters to increasing deployment of them as suicide bombers. Salkida (2011) reported that a 35-year-old male operative, Mohammed Manga, detonated his explosive-laden car, killing more than 5 persons and destroying several cars. Boko Haram has carried out several of such attacks, involving the fitting of

improvised explosive devices (IEDs) on common means of transportation in Nigeria – vehicles, motorcycles and tricycles – or strapped at the body of the suicide operatives. The sect has relied mainly on vehicle borne improvised explosive device (VBIED), motorcycle borne improvised explosive device (MBIED), Tricycle (popularly known as Keke NAPEP) borne improvised explosive device (TBIED) and body borne improvised explosive device (BBIED).

The pattern of attack identified in this study which includes shooting, slaughtering, burning, bombing, verbal threat, kidnapping/Abduction, selective killings, female assault and sexual abuse and forceful marriage were attested to by all the respondents. This indicated that all these patterns occurred during the terrorism attack of Boko Haram in Borno state. In a similar studies Baker and Cunningham (2008), Osita-Njoku and Chikere (2014) and Onuoha and Geroje (2015) attested to all these patterns.

The motive for the use of female suicide bombers by Boko Haram is not far-fetched. First, security agents and indeed Nigerians have become well accustomed to the use of male suicide bombers. Thus, strange men or boys attract much suspicion or attention from people. In contrast, women and girls do not attract such suspicion and can easily gain access to places without raising attention. In addition, the use of hijab, as expected of a Muslim woman, becomes a good means of hiding and conveying explosives. The females who carried out the suicide bombings in the north reportedly wore hijabs. This becomes more challenging as Islamic religion forbids a man to frisk a woman. In addition, most security or control posts in the north-east are manned by male security, military or 'civilian JTF' operatives. More so, news of female suicide bombers is often sensational and attracts coverage better than their male counterparts as a result of the element of surprise and shock it provides. Each successful attack will therefore project the group as one that should be feared.

In Onuoha (2007) documented the extent that women are affected including the escalation of female suicide bombing, Zen (2014) has posited that “internal videos from Boko Haram camps have shown girls as young as seven among the militants. These girls may also have been psychologically or physically coerced into carrying out the attacks, while the remote detonation of the explosives also suggests the girls did not know they were being used as suicide bombers or the masterminds did not trust they would have sufficient courage to carry out the attacks” (Zen, 2014).

Conclusion and Recommendations

This study has unveiled that Boko Haram attacked women in different ways, the attacks are launched in different patterns, kidnapping and abduction is mostly used on women. Women are mostly attacked for sexual pleasure than any other reasons. Though Boko Haram involved women as sex slaves and secret informant; but mostly as suicide bombers. The various Boko Haram attack has led to loss of virginity and inflicted psychological trauma on the attacked women.

Based on the findings from this study the following recommendations are made:

- i. The government and military should be aware of other patterns of Boko Haram attack such as verbal threat and selective killings and not focused on few that are common like bombing and kidnapping.
- ii. Efforts and strategies should be put in place to recover the people kidnapped and abducted by this group since women ranked this as highest pattern of attack
- iii. Security agencies needed to educate women and create more awareness to them that Boko Haram interest is to involve them as suicide bombers, secret informant and cooking/ catering and none of this should be justified as a religious service.
- iv. The government should make education of youths a priority as this is the major tool to break the cycle of poverty in the northern region of Nigeria. Education equips the youths with prerequisite skill whether in agriculture, entrepreneurship and other fields of human endeavor.
- v. The government security agents should be properly equipped to provide security in communities especially to vulnerable women and girls. such as the vigilancy group
- vi. There should be round- the -clock security in schools to protect school girls from abduction, rape and forced marriage by Boko Haram terrorist group.



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