



**Factors Responsible for Husband Battering
as Expressed by Married Adults in Lagos State, Nigeria**

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Abstract

Several factors have emerged as a major concern on the factors responsible for husband battering as expressed by married adults in Lagos State. The study examined factors responsible for husband battering as expressed by married adults in Lagos State. The study also examined the influence of moderating variables of gender, employment status, age in marriage and educational qualification. Descriptive survey designed was adopted. The population consists of married adults in Lagos State. The sample consists of two hundred married adults in Lagos State and was selected using a proportional and simple random sampling techniques. One research question was raised and four null hypotheses were also postulated respectively. Data were collected using a researcher-designed questionnaire tagged “Factors Responsible for Husband Battering Questionnaire (FRHBQ)”. Data analysis was done using t-test and Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) at 0.05 level of significance. Finding revealed that poor communication between couples is the most causality of husband battering among married adults in Lagos State. The findings of the study also revealed that there was a significant difference in the perception of respondents on factors responsible for husband battering on the basis of employment status and no significant difference in respondents’ perception on the basis of gender, age in marriage and educational qualification. Based on the findings of this study, it was recommended that couple should jealous moderately and avoids envying their partner on irrelevant issues so that husband battering could be prevented in the home.

Keywords: husband battering, married adults, Lagos state

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Introduction

Gender Based Violence (GBV) can include physical, sexual, psychological, or other forms of violence. Many forms of violence constitute GBV, this study focused on physical assault or abuse as a form of GBV. Physical assault can be understood to include any behaviour which causes actual physical harm to the victim, is designed to do so, or a threat to do so. Physical assault affects both men and women although it is often synonymous with violence against women due to its unbalanced impact on women (Berkowitz, 2004). The various forms of physical abuse share many risk factors in both men and women. Some are psychological and behavioural characteristics such as poor behavioural control, low self-esteem, disorders in personality and conduct. Others are due to experiences, such as lack of emotional bonding and support. Abuse of drugs and alcohol is frequently associated with interpersonal violence, and poverty as well as income disparities and gender inequality stand out as important community and societal factors (Adegboyega, 2021; Atkinson, Greenstein & Lang, 2005)

Violence against men in developing countries is emerging as a growing concern for public health practitioners as it is well known that men are vulnerable to many forms of violence, and domestic violence represents the commonest form (Heise, Ellsberg & Gottemoeller, 2004). Domestic violence, or intimate partner violence (IPV), is defined by the American Medical Association as a pattern of physical, sexual and/or psychological abuse by a person with whom the victim has had an intimate relationship (Barber, 2008). The World Health Organization (WHO) defines domestic violence as any act of “gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or mental harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life (World Health Organization, 2006). Domestic violence is an important cause of morbidity and mortality for men in every country where these associations have been studied (Heise, Ellsberg & Gottemoeller, 2004). In a literature review of population-based studies, Krug et al. found that 10%–69% of men reported that they had experienced physical abuse from a female partner.

The visibility of female violence against men has seen an upsurge in the recent past both in Nigeria and the world over. For a long time, female violence against men was ignored and unacknowledged as a violation of men’s fundamental rights. In fact, female violence against men was not even captured in the mainstream definition of domestic violence (Adegboyega, 2022; Babor, 2003).

The definition was only putting women and children in the “victims” category and men only as perpetrators (Cherlin, 2004). The reason why this was the case is because men constructed violence orchestrated by women as an assault to their masculinity identities which fundamentally affected reporting of such incidences when they occurred (Coker et

al, 2002). However, this situation is changing mainly due to increased sensitization of the vice by some Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), increased media representation through especially the “new media” and an increased number of male victims seeking solutions (Cools & Kotsadam, 2017).

For many years rape, domestic abuse, and other forms of violence against men were considered to be private matters, best kept silent and in the family. Efforts to eliminate such abuses were deemed futile and when placed against real issues concern with gender specific violence is often still minimized as trivial (Crowell & Burgess, 2006). Domestic violence affects men and women of all ages, races, religions, and incomes. However due to the “secrecy” of domestic violence, it is often a hidden social problem. The “invisibility” of the problem is largely attributed to the belief that it is a private family matter, which should not be made known to outsiders (Dahlberg & Butchart, 2005). Thus, IPV by women against men, like other forms of family violence, can be considered a significant health and mental health problem in this country. However, in recent decades, domestic violence against men has emerged as one of the most widespread and frightening problems in the world. Although this violence varies widely in form and prevalence, it is virtually universal and usually results in severe physical injury for the victims who are men, at times resulting in death (Davis & Greenstein, 2009). Consequently, it is increasingly being recognized as a major political, social, legal, economic and developmental problem. Whether domestic violence operates as direct physical violence, threat, or intimidation, it perpetuates and promotes hierarchical gender relations. It is manifested in several forms, but all serve to preserve male control over resources and power.

The United Nations General Assembly in adopting the Universal Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against men defined violence against women as “any act of gender-based violence that results in, physical, sexual and psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life” (United Nations, 2005). This abuse usually involves a variable combination of the threat of violence, emotion violence, forced sex, and physical assault (Dienye & Gbeneol, 2009). Manifestations include: beating, biting, kicking, boxing, slashing, stabbing, spitting, scalding, and strangling. The consequences include physical and mental pain and suffering, disfigurement, temporary and permanent disabilities, miscarriage, maiming and death (Gracia & Merlo, 2016). In this study, husband battering is defined as the violent victimization of men by the women to whom they are married or with whom they share a marriage-like relationship.

Hines, Brown and Dunning (2007) epitomised this attitude to domestic violence (and through this to abused husbands) in statements such as 'only violence against women should be evaluated as a social problem requiring concern and social intervention'; or 'only men can be perpetrators of violence' (Katz, 2006); or 'women are typically victims and not

perpetrators of violence in intimate relationships' (Katz, 2006). This is not a single voice but rather a common belief shared by the vast majority of those dealing with domestic violence (Kaur, 2011), and a principle that is widespread among most current writers on this subject. Domestic violence is generally seen as a manifestation of patriarchal values; or a symptom of a social structure which is predominantly patriarchal and embedded in stereotyped male and female gender roles (Ilika, Okonkwo & Adogu, 2002) and of male supremacy (Leonard, 2005; Koss, 2007); a tool in the hands of men which is used 'to control female intimates' (Hines, Brown & Dunning, 2007) and not the result of individual failings of the relationship. It is an expression of male power that is used by men to reproduce and maintain their relative superiority and authority over women (Khawaja, Linos & El-Roueiheb, 2008), which is encouraged and expected by the society (Lowenstein, 2005); and a reflection of system rules which assign men the right to own and control women, and a by-product of the system that holds women subordinate and oppressed (Cherlin, 2004)

Statement of the Problem

Domestic violence occurs in all countries, rich or poor, developed or developing, with no regard to caste, creed, color, social status, wealth, urban or rural residence, or the ages of victim and aggressor. Malaysia is no exception to the problem of domestic violence. The available data reveals that there has been an increase in reports relating to wife battering over the past few years. Statistical records from Police in Lagos (2010) indicated that the reported cases of violence have increased from 540 cases in 2003 to over 1000 cases in 2009. This near 30 percent increase in the number of violence cases reported is a significant increase that warrants notice. Heise, Ellsberg and Gottemoeller (2004) saw the increase in reported cases as an indicator of women's "awareness of their right to be free from violence".

The high number of battered women as indicated by the data shows the seriousness of the problem and it should be realized that the number of victims dealt with by the police statistics is only the tip of the ice-berg of the overall number of women being abused in Malaysia (Mahapatro, Gupta & Gupta, 2012). Bearing in mind that there are still many unreported cases of violence in our society, this would mean that many are still suffering in silence. Many people still consider domestic violence to be a private matter and they believe that what happens in the home should stay in the home. However, the increase in the reported cases does indicate that women are developing an awareness of their right to be free from violence.

Kaur (2011) cited the following reasons for under-reporting: “(1) Fear of further or escalating violence should the victim report an incident; (2) Hopes that the relationship can be salvaged; (3) Mistrust of agencies; and (4) Lack of knowledge about what most agencies could do to help. Furthermore, only physical or sexual assaults are recognized as domestic violence by law, and only those reported by the victim are recorded in the statistics by Police. Those who do not report and those who suffered emotional, psychological and financial abuse do not appear in any record. Not only are they hidden by not appearing in the statistics, they are also hidden from family, friends, and other social networks

Men just like women are also victims of gender violence. Gender based violence against men is largely invisible, unrecognised and trivialised. If an abused man seeks help as a victim of domestic violence, the majority of society will see it as a laughable situation. Society chooses not to believe the man and this creates the feeling of guilt and shame in the male victim. The way in which society looks at gender images of men and women are passed down from generation to generation. This has had a severe negative effect on the existence of male victims of domestic violence in our society. Female victims of domestic violence are increasingly treated by society with sympathy and support, while male victims are treated with disbelief. Society’s view on domestic violence has been reinforced by the media’s coverage of the issues surrounding domestic violence, portraying females as the only victims and males as the abusers. Response by society at large is a major concern for men’s rights. Therefore, there is a need to take more comprehensive steps to raise awareness of the magnitude of the problem and effect policies that can lead to its eradication. There are numerous gaps in understanding the pervasiveness of this act in terms of the forms, the causes, levels of reporting and consequences of female domestic violence against men. Thus, there is need to do more research in order to understand what the problem is.

Cools and Kotsadam (2017) indicated that nine percent of women induced violence on their husbands. The fact that female domestic violence against men remains largely unreported suggests that the number of such cases is higher than the statistics show. However, policy formulation and programmes to reduce female violence against men remain ineffective due to lack of proper understanding of the problem.

Method

Research Question

This research question was raised for the study:

- What are the factors responsible for husband battering as expressed by married adults in Lagos State?

Research Hypotheses

The following null hypotheses were formulated to guide the conduct of this study:

1. There is no significant difference in the factors responsible for husband battering as expressed by married adults in Lagos State based on gender.
2. There is no significant difference in the factors responsible for husband battering as expressed by married adults in Lagos State based on age in marriage.
3. There is no significant difference in the factors responsible for husband battering as expressed by married adults in Lagos State based on employment status.
4. There is no significant difference in the factors responsible for husband battering as expressed by married adults in Lagos State based on educational qualification.

Research Design

A research design is a blue print, scheme or specific structure and strategy used by a researcher to investigate the relationships that exist among variables of the study so as to enable the researcher collect the data, which was used for the study. Therefore, the research design adopted for this study was descriptive survey.

Daramola (2006) stated that survey research employs questionnaire and/or interviews in order to determine the opinion, attitudes, preference and perception of person of interest to the researcher. Descriptive research also allows the assessment of certain attributes, properties or characteristics in a situation prevailing at a particular time (Daramola, 2006). Its main purpose is to describe the event in question using the resulting data to explain and predict the given situation. In view of this, the researcher therefore considered descriptive survey method most appropriate for this study because it will assist in finding out the factors responsible for husband battering as expressed by married adults in Lagos state.

Population, Sample and Sampling Procedure

The population for this study comprised four hundred and eight, five hundred and seventy-eight (408,578) married people in Lagos State (NPC, 2006). The target population for this study consists of literate married people that were selected from all the 20 Local Government Areas in Lagos metropolis.

Daramola (2006) defined a sample as a fair representative group selected from the target population. He also described sampling procedure as a systematic process employed to select a required proportion of the target population. Population is the entire group from which the researcher is interested in gaining information and upon which subsequent conclusion is drawn. The sample size for this study is two hundred (200). In selecting sample, purposive, proportional and random sampling techniques were adopted.

Purposive sampling was used to select respondents within Lagos metropolis, there are 20 Local Government Areas in which the respondents were drawn from. This sampling procedure was adopted because it allows the researcher to select respondents based on the purpose of the study. The population consists of married adults who are randomly selected within the 20 L.G.A in Lagos State.

Instrumentation

Instrumentation is a process of developing measuring devices and methods for gathering data in educational researches. The instrument that was used in collecting data for this study is a questionnaire tagged ‘Factors Responsible for Husband Battering (FRHBQ)’. The questionnaire has been known to be one of the most common and effective research instrument to elicit useful information. The questionnaire was designed personally by the researcher under the guidance of the supervisor.

The questionnaire has two sections. Section A: deals with demographic data i.e. personal information of the respondents. It consists of four variables of respondents’ which are gender, length of marriage, age and highest educational attainment. Sections B deal with items that elicit information on respectively on the factors responsible for husband battering. The respondents indicated their responses using Four Point Likert-type rating scale of; Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D), and Strongly Disagree (SD).

Psychometric Properties of the Instrument

An instrument must possess certain qualities or properties. Two of these qualities are validity and reliability. The psychometric analysis is determined by establishing the validity and reliability of the instrument.

Validity: Validity is the most vital property of ensuring that an instrument to be used for a study is valid. Content validity is a measuring instrument (the composite of mea-

surement scales) as the extents to which it provided adequate coverage of the investigative question guiding the study. If the instrument contains a representative sample of the universe of subject matter or interest, then the content validity is good. Therefore, in order to ensure content validity of the instrument, the instrument was given to experts in the Department of Counsellor Education for analysis of content validity and to give suggestions as to what should be further included. Suggestions and modifications were incorporated into what was now constructed and constituted the final form of instrument. The experts adjudged the instrument to possess content validity.

Reliability: reliability has to do with consistency and stability of an instrument. Daramola (2006) described reliability as the consistency, accuracy, stability and trustworthiness of a measuring instrument or score obtained. That is, how far the instrument would give the same score on different occasions or with different set of equivalent items under the same condition. Test re-test method was used on the same set of 20 married adults within an interval of four weeks to ascertain the reliability of the instrument. The two sets of scores obtained were then correlated using Pearson's Product Moment Correlation formular. A coefficient of 0.86 was obtained.

Procedure for Instrument Administration and Data Collection

The questionnaire was personally administered to the randomly selected sample of two hundred (200) respondents in Lagos metropolis. Personal administration enabled the researcher to establish rapport which in turn motivates the respondent to cooperate or respond without coercion. The researcher collected the questionnaire forms on the spot after the items have been completed to minimize loss of the questionnaire.

Method of Data Analysis

The data for this study was subjected to appropriate statistical analysis. Percentage was used to analyze the data obtained from demographic section while percentage and mean ranking were used to identify the factors responsible for husband battering. Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) was used to test the research hypotheses 2, 3 and 4 while t-test was used to test research hypothesis 1 According to Daramola (2006), Analysis of Variance is an inferential technique used for testing of significant difference, involving more than two variables while t-test is an inferential technique used for testing of significant difference, involving two variables. In view of this, all hypotheses were tested at 0.05 alpha level.

Results

Demographic Data

The data presented in Tables 1 to 4 included demographic characteristics of the respondents' and percentages. The moderating variables used were gender, age in marriage, employment status and educational qualification.

Table 1: Percentage Distribution of the Respondents based on Gender

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	85	42.5
Female	115	57.5
Total	200	100

Table 1 reveals that 85 (42.5%) respondents were male while, 115 (57.5%) respondents were female. This shows that female participated more than male in the study.

Table 2: Percentage Distribution of the Respondents based on Age in Marriage

Age in Marriage	Frequency	Percentage (%)
18-24 years	115	57.5
25-30 years	78	39.0
30years & Above	7	3.5
Total	200	100

Table 2 reveals that 115 (12.5%) respondents were between 18-25 years of age in marriage, 78 (39.0%) respondents were in between 25-30 years in marriage while, 7 (3.5%) respondents were 30 years and above in marriage.

Table 3: Percentage Distribution of the Respondents based on Employment Status

Employment Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Employed	160	80.0
Unemployed	40	20.0
Total	200	100

Table 3 reveals that 160(80.0%) respondents were employed while, 40(20.0%) of the respondents were unemployed.

Table 4: Percentage Distribution of the Respondents Educational Qualification

Educational Qualification	Frequency	Percentage (%)
SSCE	25	12.5
NCE/OND	50	25.0
First Degree/HND	120	60.0
Post Graduate	5	2.5
Total	200	100

Table 4 reveals that 25(12.5%) respondents were Senior Secondary School Certificate holders, 50(25.0%) respondents were NCE/OND holders, 120(60.0%) respondents were Bachelor degree/HND holders while 5(2.5%) respondents were postgraduates.

Research Question: *What are the factors responsible for husband battering?*

Table 5: Mean and Rank Order Analysis on Factors Responsible for Husband Battering

S/N	Factors responsible for husband battering:	Mean	Ranking Order
1.	poor communication between couples	3.33	1 st
2.	immature age at marriage	3.30	2 nd
17.	disagreement on family menu	3.27	3 rd
9.	friend's interference into marital affairs of the couple	3.25	4 th
19.	disagreement on number of children	3.24	5 th
3.	ignorance of individual differences	3.23	6 th
5.	inability to satisfy sexual demands of the partner	3.22	7 th
4.	noticeable gap in educational attainment	3.21	8 th
18.	disagreement of financial obligation	3.21	9 th
15.	disagreement on religious matters	3.21	10 th
14.	lack of proper guidance before marriage	3.20	11 th
10.	lack of parenting skills	3.19	12 th
11.	inability of the wife to conceive within a reasonable period of time	3.19	13 th

20.	substance abuse by either of the couple	3.16	14 th
16.	inadequate knowledge of conflict resolution in marriage	3.15	15 th
12.	jealousy between spouses	3.13	16
13.	poor home background of either spouse	3.11	17
8.	marrying outside one's cultural boundary	3.11	18
6.	infidelity on the part of the couples	3.10	19
7.	interference by in-laws in family matter	3.03	20

Table 6 shows the mean ranking of factors responsible for husband battering of which item 1 which stated that “poor communication between couples” ranked 1st with a mean score of 3.33. Item 2 which stated “immature age at marriage” ranked 2nd with a mean score of 3.30. Also, item 17 which stated “disagreement on family menu” ranked 3rd with a mean score of 3.27. Similarly, item 8 which stated “marrying outside one's cultural boundary” ranked 18th with a mean score 3.11, Item 6 which stated “infidelity on the part of the couples” ranked 19th. With a mean score of 3.10 and item 7 which stated “interference by in-laws in family matters” ranked 20th with a mean score of 3.03. It was revealed that the twenty items have mean score above the midpoint of 2.50, therefore, it can be concluded the items posited to the factors responsible for husband battering.

Hypotheses Testing

Four null hypotheses were formulated and tested for this study. The hypotheses were tested using t-test and ANOVA statistical methods at 0.05 level of significance. The results are presented as follows:

Hypothesis One:

There is no significant difference in factors responsible for husband battering as expressed by married adults in Lagos State based on gender.

Table 6: Mean, Standard Deviation and t-value in the Factors Responsible for Husband Battering as Expressed by Married Adults in Lagos State based on Gender

Gender	N	Mean	SD	df	Cal. t-value	Crit. t-value	P-value
Male	85	65.30	8.04	198	.745	1.96	.389
Female	115	67.89	9.53				

Table 7 indicates that the calculated t-value of .745, critical t-value of 1.96 and P-value of .389 since the calculated t-value of .745 is less than the critical t-value of 1.98 at 0.05 level of significance, the hypothesis is not rejected. This means that there is no significant difference in the factors responsible for husband battering as expressed by married adults in Lagos State based on gender.

Hypothesis Two:

- 1. There is no significant difference in the factors responsible for husband battering as expressed by married adults in Lagos State based on Educational Qualification*

Table 7: ANOVA Result Showing Difference the Factors Responsible for Husband Battering as Expressed by Married Adults in Lagos State based on Educational Qualification

Source	SS	df	MS	Cal. F-ratio	Crit. F-ratio	P-value
Between group	200.19	3	100.09	1.22	2.60	.30
Within group	11122.21	196	81.78			
Total	11322.40	199				

Table 8 indicates the calculated F-ratio of 1.22, critical F-ratio of 2.60 and P-value of .30 at 0.05 alpha level of significance. Since the calculated F-ratio is less than the critical F-ratio, hence, the hypothesis is not rejected. This means that there is no significant difference in the factors responsible for husband battering as expressed by married adults in Lagos State based on Educational Qualification.

Hypothesis Three:

There is no significant difference in factors responsible for husband battering as expressed by married adults in Lagos State based on employment status.

Table 8: Mean, Standard Deviation and t-value in the Factors Responsible for Husband Battering as Expressed by Married Adults in Lagos State based on Employment Status

Employ status	N	Mean	SD	df	Cal. F-value	Crit. t	P-value
Employed	160	67.55	11.58	198	3.66	1.96	.06
Unemployed	40	46.16	5.99				

Table 9 indicates that the calculated t-value of 3.66, critical t-value of 1.96 and P-value of .06 since the critical t-value of 1.96 is less than the critical t-value of 3.66 at 0.05 level of significance, the hypothesis is rejected. This means that there is a significant difference in the factors responsible for husband battering as expressed by married adults in Lagos State based on employment status.

Hypothesis Four:

There is no significant difference in the factors responsible for husband battering as expressed by married adults in Lagos State based on Age in Marriage

Table 9: ANOVA Result Showing Difference the factors responsible for husband battering as expressed by married adults in Lagos State based on Age in Marriage

Source	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Squares	Calc. F	Crit. F	p. value
Between Group	144.91	2	27.16	.29	3.00	.75
Within Group	11177.49	197	92.65			
Total	11322.40	199				

Table 10 indicates the calculated F-ratio of .29, critical F-ratio of 3.00 and P-value of .75 at 0.05 level of significance. Since the calculated F-ratio is less than the critical F-ratio, hence, the hypothesis is not rejected. This means that there is no significant difference in the factors responsible for husband battering as expressed by married adults in Lagos State based on age in marriage.

Discussion of Findings

The findings of the study revealed that poor communication between couples and inability to satisfy sexual demands of the partner are some of the factors that is responsible for husband battering, this mean that lack of good communication skills among couples and the inability to satisfy one's partner sexually leads to violence within the family and husband beating his wife. The above statement is in line with Felson (2002) who was of the opinion that infidelity among partners leads to husband battering. Infidelity can be cause by various factors which include poor communication among partners and the inability of husband or wife to satisfy their partners sexually. Also, Atmore (2001) back up this point by ascertaining that woman get jealous easily when they see their husband with females and the manner of approach and communication can lead to domestic violence in the house and results in husband battering.

It was also revealed that ignorance of individual differences, immature age at marriage, friend's interference into marital affairs of the couple, poor home background of either spouse are some of the factors responsible for husband battering as expressed by married adults in Lagos State. This means that the way we handle issues differ from one another, the inability of partners to understand this concept can result in violence among

couples and leads to husband battering. Also, friend interference in marital affairs and poor home background can result in husband battering. The above statement is in line with White and Kowalski (1994) who recognize home background as one of the factors that leads to husband battering in the society. Also, Campbell (2002) who identified aggressive behaviour of male in their work place can result in emotional stress and leads to husband battering in the home.

Another finding revealed that there was no significant difference in the factors responsible for husband battering as expressed by married adults in Lagos State based on gender. This finding is not supported by Hines, Brown and Dunning (2007) in a study who expressed that men in the society are under pressure to maintain a dominant position over their wives and hence, this gives a psychological stress of recognizing the wife's physical dominance. Gracia and Merlo (2016) furthered stressed that wives exceed husbands in the use of all forms of violence except hitting with something, a mode which de-emphasized physical strength.

It was also deduced that there was no significant difference in the factors responsible for husband battering as expressed by married adults in Lagos State based on educational qualification. This implies that the expression of married adults with different educational qualifications was not different on factors responsible for husband battering. This finding disagrees with the study of Cherlin (2004) who expressed that a significant difference exists in married adults' view of causes of husband battering on the basis of educational attainment. The finding of this study means that husband battering is an occurrence that could be found both among the educated but more on the non-educated couples.

The finding also revealed that there was a significant difference in the factors responsible for husband battering as expressed by married adults in Lagos State based on employment status. This finding corroborates the finding of Cherlin (2004) which revealed that there was no significant difference in the cause of husband battering based on nature of work. The implication of this finding is that the kind of work an individual or husband engages in plays no role in battering of husband battering in which women who are unemployed are more likely to engage in husband battering than women who are employed.

Another finding revealed that there was no significant difference in the factors responsible for husband battering as expressed by married adults in Lagos State based on age in marriage. This implies that women who are older in marriage are usually psychological and emotionally balanced and are less likely to engage in husband battering compared to women who are new in marriage and this also corroborate with the findings of (Koss, 2007) who expressed that age in marriage does not contribute to the factors responsible for husband battering.

Conclusion

The findings of the study revealed that poor communication between couples, inability to satisfy sexual demands of the partner, ignorance of individual differences, immature age at marriage, friend's interference into marital affairs of the couple, poor home background of either spouse amongst many others are some of the factors responsible for husband battering as expressed by married adults in Lagos State. Also, there was no significant difference in the factors responsible for husband battering as expressed by married adults in Lagos State based on gender, educational qualification and age in marriage while there was significant difference in the factors responsible for husband battering as expressed by married adults in Lagos State based on employment status.

Recommendations

Based on the findings of this study, the following recommendations were made:

1. Couples should jealous moderately and avoid envying their partner on irrelevant issues so that husband battering could be prevented in the home.
2. Husbands should avoid engaging in extra-marital affairs so as to prevent being battered.
3. Couples should develop and nurture their trust towards each other so that they do not feel suspicions that could lead to battering of the husband at home.
4. Marriage counsellors should equip couple with appropriate mechanism they can use in coping with stress and frustration so that they can avoid transferring aggression to their partner; thus, preventing husband battering.
5. Couples should avoid substance abuse and avoid taking psycho-active drugs so that they can prevent the temptation of resulting to husband battering as a consequence of drug and substance abuse.

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