Female Trafficking as Organized Crime in Nigeria: A Study of Public Perception in Onitsha, Anambra State
Ndiora, Uju Christiana, a post graduate student of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology with Registration Number PG-MSc-99-27514 has satisfactorily completed the requirements for the degree of Master of Science in Sociology and Anthropology (Criminology). This work embodied in this project is original and has not been submitted in part or full for any other diploma or degree programme of this or any other university.

_______________________  _________________________
Prof. E.U.M. Igbo               Date
(Project Supervisor)

________________________  ___________________________
Prof. V.I. Okeke               Date
(Head of Department)

________________________  ___________________________
Prof. C.O.T. Ugwu               Date
(Dean, Faculty of the Social Sciences)
DEDICATION

In loving memory of my late mother – Mrs Ndiora, Florence Agbomma. For your natural love for education; you are irreplaceable.
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ABSTRACT

The study was aimed at finding the public perception of Onitsha inhabitants on female trafficking and organized crime in Nigeria. The major objective of the study was to look at female trafficking and organized crime in Onitsha, and suggest ways of reducing or eliminating the crime. The specific objectives included: to ascertain why Nigerians engage in female trafficking; to find out the organized criminal networks that facilitate female trafficking in Nigeria; to find out the links between trafficking in females and the links between trafficking in females and the entertainment and sex industry; to ascertain whether the victims of trafficking in Onitsha, knew the true nature of the jobs they would go into before accepting the offer, to find out how informed, the inhabitants of Onitsha were on female trafficking and to proffer useful suggestions on possible ways of curbing the problem of female trafficking. In order to achieve results, the study utilize two different instruments (i.e. Questionnaire and in-depth interview) to collect the needed data. The questionnaires were administered directly to the respondents by the researcher and her five field assistants, while the in-depth interviews were conducted on sixteen NAPTIP officials by the researcher. The findings of the research showed that: man inhabitants of Onitsha do not know what trafficking in females is. All the victims of trafficking under the NAPTIP shelter in Enugu Zonal officer were not aware of the crime of trafficking in females, prior to their victimization. Some of the victims of trafficking in females knew the type of job they would be going into abroad, before accepting the offer. That the quest to make money is the major motivating factor for traffickers. There is a positive relationship between poverty and female trafficking in Onitsha. There is a significant relationship between awareness and trafficking victimization. Females with lower level of education are not more likely to fall victims of female trafficking than those with higher level of education.
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Chapter One

Introduction

1.1 Background to the Study

Trafficking is a term used to describe the illegal transport of goods across borders especially contraband goods such as drugs – for profit. Over the last decade, the concept has been expanded to cover the illegal transport of human beings especially women and children for the purpose of selling them or exploiting their labour (United Nations Office on Drug and Crime, UNODC, 2004:1).

The British first made law against slavery in 1807, when they passed a law that made the Transatlantic Slave Trade illegal. In 1820, United States of America followed by making slave trade punishable by death. In 1904, an international agreement against the “white slave trade” was created, with a focus on migrant women and children. In 1910, 13 countries signed the international convention, making for the suppression of White Slave Trade i.e. to make it illegal (Kangasputa, 2010).

In 1921 the League of Nations held an international conference in Geneva, in which the term “white slavery” was changed to ‘traffic of women and children’ (Wedan, 2010). This was done to make sure that trafficking in all countries was dealt with, and that races other than those termed “White” were recognized. Males were also recognized as victims. In this convention, 33 countries signed the international convention for the suppression of the Traffic in Women and Children.

In 1949, the United Nations convention on the Traffic in persons and the Exploitation of the Prostitution of others was passed (Woolf, 2010). This convention, however dealt with only
human trafficking that had a sexual purpose. In 2000, the United Nations protocol against trafficking was passed, making all forms of human trafficking illegal (Wedan, 2010).

To the traffickers, ‘people’ are highly profitable, low risk, expendable, reusable and resellable commodities. Whereas alien smuggling usually involves short-term monetary profit, trafficking in persons usually involve long term exploitation for economic gain Organized crime groups profit from both the trafficking fees and the trafficked persons labour. In some cases, the traffickers may profit even by using the trafficked persons as manpower for other criminal purposes, such as selling drugs (Davidson and Donelian, 2003).

Trafficking in persons ‘industry’ worldwide, is also closely intertwined with other related criminal activities such as extortion, rackeering, money laundering, bribery of public officials, drug use and gambling. For example, the American Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) raids on brothels run by traffickers in Toronto had netted heroin and counterfeit currency. The Wah Ching, an Asian organized crime group which engaged in smuggling and trafficking of Asian women, is also involved in gambling, robbery, drug trafficking and loan sharking. The Wah Ching also has connections to Asian organized crime groups in Boston New York City, Los Angeles, Seattle and Toronto (Kelly and Regan, 2000). The involvement of traffickers in a multitude of criminal activities and ties among various criminal associations is quite disturbing, as the ripple effects of trafficking in persons has become a political, economic, criminal, health, migration, and human rights issue.

The West African Newsletter carried the story that a large number of children are being trafficked in West and Central Africa, mainly for domestic work and child labour in shops or farms and nearly 90% of these are girls, (Ochereoma, 2001:14). The United Nations, in their Millennium Declaration on 13th September, 2000, resolved to intensify their efforts to fight
transnational crimes in all its dimensions including trafficking as well as smuggling in human beings (United Nations, 2000).

Policies, Acts and Laws have been promulgated by countries to curb the menace of trafficking in persons for sexual exploitation and other offences but these are yet to produce the desired effects. In spite of these laws, trafficking in females still flourish in many countries of the world and Nigeria appears to have more than her fair share of the scourge.

 Trafficking in women in Nigeria had started right from the ancient days when women in some homes were often times given to either a man or a woman with the intention of alleviating poverty from such homes. According to the report from the National Agency for Prohibition in Trafficking in Persons and other Related Offences (NAPTIP), Onitsha, being the commercial centre in Nigeria and the home of the biggest market in West Africa, also did experience trafficking in persons from the olden days. (NAPTIP Report, 2004).

 Trafficking in persons in Nigeria is a serious problem affecting men, women and children in one way or the other. The volume of commercial activities everyday in Onitsha, limits the chances of knowing when illegal deals are being carried out, and this constitutes a lot of threat to the entire society. In order to narrow the topic down, and because females are the predominant target of the traffickers, they suffer harm of a different nature and degree than the male victims; this research will particularly focus on trafficking in females in Onitsha.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Human trafficking is an organized crime and a modern day slavery involving the movement of victims who are subject to violence, deception or coercion for the purpose of sexual exploitation or forced labour. The United State Department of State (2004) estimates that about
600,000 to 800,000 people are trafficked across international borders each year, while, millions more are trafficked within their own countries.

According to the USDS (2004) or USDS (ibid), USDSOS (2004) Nigeria has assumed the unenviable reputation of a country of origin, transit and destination for human trafficking. Many young, poor and unsuspecting females and children are often tricked into traveling to Europe by criminal syndicates, with promises of transforming their lives from rags to riches. These promises often do not materialize with the result that these females and children are subjected to harrowing experiences, including forced labour, prostitution, sexual abuse and even deportation and death. It is disheartening to note that between March, 1999 and April, 2000, about one thousand, one hundred and twenty six (1,126) Nigerian victims of female trafficking were deported to Nigeria (Abubakar, 2001:26). This figure excludes the dead and those that sneaked into Nigeria through illegal routes. It does not also include thousands of Nigerian females that are stranded in the streets of Asia and Europe or those who were able to find their way around in foreign countries.

Section 281 of the 1999 Constitution of Nigeria stipulates that whoever, in order to gratify the passions of another person, procures, entices or leads away, even with her consent, any girl or woman for immoral purpose shall be punished, and shall also be liable to fine (Abubakar, 2001:29). The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), Articles 9 and 10 state that a child must not be separated from his/her parents against his will except where it is in the best interest of the child. Article II requires countries to combat the illicit transfer of children abroad. Articles 26 and 29 provide for protection against economic, sexual and all other forms of exploitation (OAU Charter, 1979:6-11). With all these efforts and checks in place, trafficking in females is still prevalent in Nigeria. No wonder former President Olusegun Obasanjo in an interview by the press concerning the activities of the Women Trafficking and Child Labour Eradication Foundation
(WOTCLEF) in Abuja, ranked women trafficking as the third largest illegal business in Nigeria (Bisiriyu, 2001:14).

Efosah, a 17-year-old girl who lived with her mother in Lagos was invited to Italy by a neighbor for a holiday. When she got to Italy, she was told she owed ₦700,000 to the unmentioned person that covered her travel expenses. She was forced into prostitution and was severely beaten when she attempted to escape. She eventually became very sick and could not make much money for the traffickers. She was dropped at the road side and was caught in a police sweep operation. In the sweep, 88 other girls were deported along with her, and she arrived home battered and humiliated (Fagbolungbe, 2001:8). The American consulate in Milan reports that a Nigerian slave trade operates in Genoa, Italy (Kelly and Regan, 1999:61). According to the report, Nigerian women and men have been involved in abetting illegal immigration, reducing females to slaves, forcing them into prostitution, and exploiting them for profit.

According to the Central Intelligence Agency report in America, domestic trafficking in Nigeria is more of a localized cottage industry than an organized racket, involving Nigerian criminals (Kelly and Regan, 2000:61). Domestic trafficking is not as sophisticated, complex in nature and structure like international trafficking. The traditional practice of sending children to live with better-off relatives tend to conceal a whole lot of internal trafficking in Nigeria.

Girls Power Initiative (GPI), a non governmental organization, carried out a study titled “Trafficking in Girls in Akwa Ibom and Cross River States of Nigeria” in 2002. The study confirmed the existence of trafficking in females in the two states (Madunagu, 2002). From the findings, the girls captured are trafficked to Ondo State for the notorious “Ondo business”. This business refers to the lucrative cocoa plantation in Ondo State. For this, many girls have been trafficked internally in Nigeria.
In 2003, the Punch reported the discovery of 7 slaves colonies in Ogun, Oyo and Osun States of Nigeria, where 400 children between the ages of 4 and 13 were trafficked, 13 of them died within 3 months of being trafficked. 13 of them died within 3 months of being trafficked to Nigeria from Benin Republic (NAPTIP, 2007).

In reaction to the revelation that Nigerians are involved as victims and perpetrators of human trafficking, the Nigerian government in 2003, promulgated the Trafficking in Persons (prohibition) Law, Enforcement and Administration Acts to punish offenders and rehabilitation the victims. In 2004, the National Agency for Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP) and other Related Offences was inaugurated and empowered to detect, arrest, investigate, prosecute suspected traffickers and to rehabilitate the victims of trafficking. Despite the Nigerian government’s political will and apparent financial commitment to the elimination of trafficking in persons, the scourge seems to be on the increase in terms of mechanism, magnitude and scope. Considering the negative implications of human trafficking on the victims, the traffickers and society at large, Onitsha, as the commercial nerve centre of West Africa and Nigeria in particular cannot be over looked in the fight against this illicit practice.

1.3 Research Questions

This study would attempt to answer the following questions.

a. Why did Nigerians engage in female trafficking despite the legal sanctions?

b. Which organized criminal networks are involved in female trafficking in Nigeria?

c. What were the links between trafficking in females and the entertainment, hotel and sex tourist industries in Onitsha?

d. Did the victims of female trafficking in Onitsha know the true nature of the job they would go into before accepting the offer?
1.4 Objectives of the Study

The general objectives of this study is to look at female trafficking as organized crime in Onitsha, and suggest ways of reducing or eliminating it. From this general objective, the Specific objectives to be achieved by this research are:

a. To ascertain why Nigerians engage in female trafficking.

b. To find out the organized criminal networks are involved in female trafficking in Nigeria.

c. To find out the links between trafficking in females and the entertainment and sex industry.

d. To ascertain whether the victims of female trafficking in Onitsha knew the true nature of the jobs they would go into before accepting the offer.

e. To find out how informed, the inhabitants of Onitsha, are on female trafficking.

f. To proffer useful suggestions on possible ways of curbing the problem of female trafficking.

1.5 Significance of Study

This study is relevant both theoretically and practically. On the theoretical side, the study will provide the general public with information on the involvement of organized criminal groups in human trafficking. This study intends to add to the body of existing knowledge on human trafficking generally and specifically, female trafficking in Nigeria.

In practical terms, the awareness that this study will create, may serve as a strategy for strengthening crime prevention against human trafficking, especially to the inhabitants of Onisha. It will be useful to the body charged with combating human trafficking, especially to the inhabitants of Onitsha. It will be useful to the body charged with combating human trafficking (NAPTIP), because this study will further encourage awareness campaigns; when people are
informed, the chances of their being at risk is significantly reduced. This study will also be beneficial to the victims of trafficking and those handling their treatment. The type of treatment given to someone who willingly chose to engage in prostitution abroad should not be same with that of the unsuspecting victim. This study intends to distinguish between the two types of victims. This work is expected to be useful for policy and programme formulations by both governmental and non governmental bodies that are interested in the fight against female trafficking in Nigeria. This study is also a mark of our humble contribution towards the fight against trafficking in females.

1.6 Definition of Concepts

The definitions given to the various terms below represent the contexts in which they are used in this study.

**Cartel:** This refers to a group of separate companies that agree to increase profits by fixing prices. They do not compete with each other.

**Child:** A child means a person below the age of 18 years.

**Female Trafficking:** This is the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of females by means of abduction, deceit, threat or use of force or other means of coercion, for the purpose of economic exploitation by a person or group of persons. (Scripraphai, 1997).

**Human trafficking:** This is the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons by means of abduction, deceit, threat or use of force or other means of coercion, for the purpose of economic exploitation by a person or group of persons. (Pino, 2009).

**Offence:** This means an act committed or omitted in violation of a statute forbidding or mandating it. (Odocha, 2004).
Organised Crime: This is a large-scale operation in which illegal activities are carried out as part of a well-designed plan involving a network of individuals for purposes of maximizing profit.

Racketeering: This refers to any organized conspiracy to commit or attempt to commit extortion or coercion.

Syndicate: This refers to a group of persons who organize, for the purpose of carrying out matters (usually financial) of mutual interest, often associated with illegal activities.
Chapter Two

Literature Review and Theoretical Framework

2.1 Review of Theoretical Literature

Human Trafficking and Organised Crime

Sutherland (1937) defined organized crime as a strong parasite that grew in the absence of a strong government. In as much as organized crime, like human trafficking, is a social parasite, its presence is not enough to classify a government as a weak one. This follows from the way the cartels operate, aided with sophisticated technologies and huge profits they make from their business, especially the illegitimate ones. These make it quite difficult to topple them.

Cressey (1969), in his contribution, compared organized criminal cartels to a corporation, with board of directors. Bequai (1979), supported the contribution of Cressey by likening organized criminal groups to big businesses that go on domestically and internationally.

In 1960, the American government set up a commission, referred to as the President’s Commission, to study organized crime. The commission reported that organized crime is a society that seeks to operate outside the control of the American people and their governments. The commission reported that organized crime involves thousands of criminals, working within structures as complex as those of any large corporation. The criminal groups, according to the commission are subjected to laws more rigidly enforced than those of legitimate governments (Cable News Network, 2003). The organized criminal groups have branches in cities and their major aim is profit maximization. The National Advisory Committee on Criminal Justice Standards and Goals, in America, reported that organized crime is a type of conspiratorial crime, involving a hierarchical co-ordination of a number of persons in the planning and execution of illegal acts. (Cable News Network, 2003).
Aside from the nature of organized crime, efforts have been made to reveal the structure of organized crime. According to Albini (1979), organized crime has a highly organized structure. The person at the head is called the ‘don’ or ‘boss’. The boss makes all the important decisions.

Reporting to the boss, is the underboss, who, like the vice president of a company, acts in absence of the president of the company (Albanese, 1985:211-232). The underboss also serves as a mediator between the boss and the lower-level management. The lower level management comprises soldiers who own illicit and licit businesses under the protection of the ‘crime family’ (Ianni and Ianni, 1979:1101).

According to Zastrow (1990), organized crime is a large scale operation in which illegal activities are carried out as part of a well designed plan, developed by a large organization that is seeking to maximize profit. Organized criminal groups carry out their nefarious activities through well designed strategies; their major motivation is money making.

Organized crime has also been defined as a conspiracy of several persons, motivated for the purpose of economic enrichment. It primarily involves the production and distribution of illegal goods and services, and there exists the potential for corruption and/or violence to facilitate the criminal process (Deroches, 2007:831). Organized crime is crime committed in an organized and systematic manner by a number of persons, in an ongoing association, or group whose primary motivation for association is to gain profit and or influence (Victoria Police Website – 2007).

These definitions, also explain human trafficking as a crime carried out by a syndicate, and not an individual or one-man crime. Human trafficking is carried out by criminally minded
people that work together with the aim of making money by exploiting the labour of other people.

The international trafficking trade appears to be highly organized, involving sophisticated international networks of procurers, escorts, organizers, financiers, corrupt officials and brothel operators (Kelly and Regan, 1999:55). This is in line with Zastrow’s explanation of the organization and activities of organized crime. The American Embassy in Lagos reported that trafficking in women is more of a localized cottage industry involving Nigerian criminal syndicates (US Department of State, 2003).

According to the studies by Trafficking Victims Protection and Reuauthorization Board (2008), there are three types of Human Trafficking: migrant smuggling, sex trafficking and labour trafficking. Forte (2006) in his research in New York identified these three major types of human trafficking. Migrant smuggling according to him, is a form of trafficking in which smugglers assist migrants with their consent, to cross a national border, while sex trafficking is the trafficking in humans for the purpose of sexual exploitation. Victims of sex trafficking are forced into commercial sex industry – pornography, prostitution, stripping, live-sex shows or illegitimate message parlors or escort services (Forte, 2006). Still on sex trafficking, the U.S. Department of State estimates that about 70 percent of all victims of international human trafficking are forced into the commercial sex industry, and half of all victims are children.

With regard to labour trafficking, Forte said the practice is for the purpose of using humans for forced and indentured servitude such as maids, sweatshop factory hands, migrant agricultural workers or construction site labourers. In addition, because of the high level of poverty in the rural areas, parents and families give out their children to foster parents who engage these children in street hawking and domestic work (UNICEF, 1999). According to
Kloer, (2011) Kamlari is a Nepali system of indentured servitude where young Tharu girls, a lower caste, are sold to wealthy landlords and brokers for a fee each year. Kloer, also from her research, revealed that most chocolates produced in foreign countries, including America, are made with cocoa produced by child labour or forced labour. The offending countries include Cameroon, Cote d’Ivore, Ghana, Guinea and Nigeria.

2.2 Review of Empirical Literature

The Trends in Human Trafficking

The study of human trafficking in Togo, conducted by the Human Rights Watch (2003), documents the problems of internal and external human trafficking. The research which was carried out in Lome and 13 towns and villages in the country, sampled 90 trafficked children who had been released by their traffickers or who had fled and were identified by local authorities. In-depth interviews were also conducted with 32 local governments, NGO and foreign embassy officials, judges, parents, teachers, police and social workers. Of the 90 children interviewed, 72 or 80% (41 girls and 31 boys) were trafficked according to the UN trafficking Protocol; 13 were trafficked internally within Togo, 24 were trafficked outside Togo to Gabon, Benin, Nigeria and Niger; and 4 were trafficked to Togo from Benin, Nigeria and Ghana. This procedure however, omitted other trafficked persons who were unable to escape.

2.3 Elements of Human Trafficking

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC, 2009), identified three elements of human trafficking:

- The Act (What is done) – Recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of person under the act.
• The means (how it is done): the traffickers use force, fraud, coercion, abduction, threat, deception, or the abuse of power to gain control over the victim.

• The end (why it is done): the victim is exploited through forced labour, involuntary servitude, slavery, debt bondage or commercial sex acts and the removal of organs.

These elements were also identified by the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Board (2008).

2.4 Trafficking in Females

Butegwa (1997) carried out research, based on in-depth interviews in Uganda, Kenya, Mali, Cameroon, Namibia, Tanzania, Zambia and Nigeria. The report is designed to sensitize African Women’s rights, NGO’s to the magnitude of trafficking in women. He discovered that many women are ignorant of trafficking in human beings. Not much is available on the methodology used for this study. Laczko and Gramegna (2003) carried out a research in South Africa for the International Organisation for Migrantion’s (IOM). The study covered Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland and South Africa’s 4 major cities. The study focused on the various definitions of trafficking, the legal dimension, and the trafficking of women and children for sexual exploitation. Of the 232 interviews conducted, 25 trafficked women and children from 11 countries were identified. This confirmed the existence of trafficking in persons to the level it could be called a social problem.

Trafficking in females is the use of force and/or deception to transfer females (children and adults) into situations of extreme exploitation. It is a thriving international business in our increasingly interconnected global economy. Going by the research carried out by Cree (2008), approximately 800,000 men, women and children are kidnapped and transported every year. 8 out of 10 of the people trafficked in the world are women or girls and half of the trafficking
victims are children. Examples of this may include Latvian women threatened and forced to
dance nude in Chicago, Thai women brought to the United States for the sex industry, but then
forced to be virtual sex slaves, ethnically Korean-Chinese women held as indentured servants in
the commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and hearing-impaired and mute Mexicans
brought to the United States, enslaved, beaten and forced to peddle trinkets in New York City.

Girls from Nigeria are also lured to Italy with promises of work as bar girls, waitresses or
models. They are then forced upon arrival to undress and parade nude before fellow Nigerians
who pay $9,000 to $30,000 depending on the girl’s age and physical attributes (US Department
and women shipped across national boundaries and sold into modern day slavery at between 700,
000 to 1000,000. According to the ILo, about 500,000 of these people are brought into the
United States of America and Europe for sexual and domestic servitude.

Profits made from trafficking in females is a major source of income for the crime rings.
According to the studies by the FBI (2006), generally some 9 billion dollar profits is generated
from female trafficking every year, only that it is rooted in one of the world’s oldest evils – the
enslavement of women. From some of the studies carried out so far, one can deduce some of the
continuum of exploitation and abuse these female victims of trafficking face. On one end of the
continuum are trafficking cases, characterized by slavery or slavery like treatment of the victims.
On the other end is the criminal exploitation they face.

Research conducted by University of California at Berkely on behalf of the anti-
trafficking organization Free the Slaves found that about 46% of people in slavery in the United
States are forced into prostitution. Domestic Servitude claims 27%, agriculture 10% and other
occupations 7%. In Japan, the prosperous entertainment market had created huge demand for
commercial sex workers, and such demand is being met by trafficking women and children from the Philippines, Colombia and Thailand. Women are forced into street prostitution, base stripping and live sex acts. However, from information obtained from detainees or deportees from Japan, about 80% of the women went there with the intention of working as prostitutes (Global Survival Network Report 1999).

2.5 Causes of Women Trafficking

Castle and Diarra (2003) carried out a research in Mali, focusing on the causes, context and consequences of youth trafficking in 4 communities at risk. In all, 950 youths were purposively sampled. The research identified variety of contextual migration, of which trafficking is an important subject. The youth (10-18 year olds) migrant basically to fulfill the demand for cheap labour.

Veil (1998) researched into trafficking in young girls as domestic workers in 10 West and Central African countries including Nigeria. The research was based on secondary, archival documents and studies by UNICEF, the ILO, NGOs and research institutes. The research documented the following as factors responsible for human trafficking:

- **Demand for Cheap Labour:** Changes in formal and informal economies have increased the global demand for cheap and malleable labour-in many areas of the world. Mobile workers are often sought to fulfill low-skill and service sector jobs. Lack of employment and educational opportunities in villages or poor urban areas have created a ready pool of vulnerable workers (US Department of State, 2003).

- **Male Domination:** Apart from the economic factor, some people blame women’s trafficking on the fact that women in Third World countries are held in low esteem and consequently manipulated and controlled by a male-dominated society. One of such
persons is Jane Edeki of the African Women Empowerment Group (AWEG), a non-governmental advocate group based in Nigeria. From their research, Edeki asserted that if women were empowered by the male-dominated society, they would not lend themselves easily to being trafficked (Oshadare, 2004). Imokhuede (2001) is of the view that the traditions of Nigeria are characterized with beliefs that put women in a position of inferiority. Edeki’s view is subjective because even in the advanced societies of the West, gender inequality abounds. Therefore, inequality in terms of gender empowerment cannot be enough and sufficient motivation for some African women to consent to their being trafficked.

Weakness of Legislations: The seminal study conducted by Hughes, Sporcic, Mendelson and Chigwin (2005) covering Japan, Bosnia and Herzegovina is very revealing. An added causative factor of trafficking in women is the total absence, in some cases, of legislation criminalizing the practice as well as the non-enforcement of such legislations in countries where they exist. Hughes et al reported that although the Israeli Knesses (Parliament) amended the criminal code to make the buying and selling of human beings for prostitution a criminal offence, the law had little impact as trafficked women were not treated as victims but as criminals and illegal aliens. The studies by Dana (2011), in United Kingdom revealed that United Kingdom has demonstrated repeatedly that it is unable to protect the victims of trafficking. The little she has done so far was through international help.

In Nigeria, the absence of a specific legislation against human trafficking within and from the country to other countries until recently may have watered the ground for women and girl traffickers to carry out their nefarious activities. It took the pioneering effort and campaigns by
the Women Trafficking and Child Labour Eradication Foundation, WOTCLEF and a coalition of other advocacy groups against the practice of women trafficking to bring the issue of women trafficking to the front burner of national discourse.

In summary therefore, the major causes of women trafficking are widespread poverty sparking off the push-pull factors, high level of illiteracy, unemployment and poor living standards as well as burdens of poverty and desperation of poor and illiterate parents who are ignorant of the impact of human trafficking (UNICEF, 2004).

2.6 Methods and Techniques of Trafficking

Afonja (2001) carried out research in Edo and Delta States of Nigeria. The study used structured questionnaires, indepth interviews and Focused Group Discussion to elicit information from households heads, women and girls at risk, victims of human trafficking, NGOs and other stakeholders making up a sample size of 500. The researcher noted that participation in trafficking involves a third party, which takes the form of invitation from family members, friends, even strangers, who approach either the household heads or the girls concerned. The so called Italios, adolescents aged 10 – 19 year olds, their sponsors, and host in the country of destination are involved in the human trafficking process. Before departure from the state, rituals are performed by the parents, Italios and sponsors to cement a covenant between them, to protect them from being apprehended and to incur favour with their employers. Parents involved in initiating the contractual arrangements provide all or part of the funds for the journey and may also be indebted to the sponsors.

Trafficking of girls and women from Nigeria is said to be especially well organized and centres on a female figure called “Mama” or “Madam”. She plays a key role in luring young women to leave their homes for Italy. The trafficking web is organized at three levels; the first
centres around “Mama” living in the country of origin; the second centres around the Nigerian “Mama” in Italy; and the third, the “Messengers” – the persons transferring the money from Italy to Nigeria (IOM, 196). As part of the ‘recruitment’ drive, Nigerian girls are contracted in the suburbs of cities such as Lagos or Benin City and in the country side in the South and East. Many of those who are trafficked to Europe for prostitution have tended to be of the Ibo tribe and from Edo and Delta States (Pearson, 2002).

Nwokeoma (2010) carried out a study on the opinion and perception on factors affecting human trafficking in Imo and Edo States of Nigeria. He adopted cross sectional survey design and used multistage random sampling processes to achieve a required sample size of 1200. He utilized both primary and secondary sources of data. The findings established a high level of human trafficking in both states. In Edo state however, there was a higher level of trafficking in women but recorded higher level of child trafficking in Imo state. He recorded that the traffickers were mostly close relatives and surprisingly parents. The age group of persons with most vulnerability of being trafficked are 15 – 24 for women, and 6 – 15 for children. The victims were also found to go through traditional forms of bondage to ensure loyalty and obedience to the exploiters.

The victims of trafficking are controlled through many different ways: physically, through beatings, burnings, rapes and starvation; emotionally, through isolation, psychological abuse, drug dependency and threats against family members in home countries and financially through debt bondage and threat of deportation (FBI, 2006).

2.7 Consequences of Female Trafficking

Trafficking in women is a global problem affecting large numbers of girls and women. It is lucrative and is linked with criminal activity and corruption, as it is often hidden and hard to
address. The research carried out by IOM (1996), pointed out that women who have been trafficked face a range of dangers, including violence and sexual abuse. In some cases, trafficked women encounter State complicity as they are arrested and detained as illegal aliens.

The Women’s Consortium of Nigeria, (WOCON), a Nigeria-based advocacy group that provides support for victims of trafficking, reported in their study that some employers disclosed the identify of trafficked women to immigration officials as illegal aliens, resulting in the deportation of such victims, often under inhuman conditions (WOCON, 2000). WOCON reported that between March 23, and July 19, 2000, a total of 247 Nigerian girls and women whose ages range from 18 to 38 years were deported from Italy, Saudi Arabia, Holland, South Africa, Togo and Mali to Nigeria. Of the number, those from Italy were 163, Saudi Arabia 17, Holland 20, South Africa 2, Togo 41, while 4 were deported from Mali. According to the report, Edo State had the highest number of 162 deportees adding that 26 of the deportees tested positive to the Human Immune Virus/Acquired Deficiency Syndrome, HIV/AIDS. The consequences of human trafficking are:

- Human trafficking undermines public health. It brutalizes men, women and children, exposes them to rape, torture, and HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted and infectious diseases violence, dangerous working conditions, poor nutrition, and drug and alcohol addiction. Trafficking into the sex industry has serious societal consequences as it contributes to the spread of HIV and AIDS. Some trafficked women were required to engage in unprotected sex. Particularly disturbing is the case uncovered by Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), where at least one trafficker was purchasing HIV positive female because he found them to be cheap labour (Richard, 1999). Increasing numbers of adults and children trafficked into
prostitution suffer severe psychological trauma from separation, coercion, sexual abuse, and depression often leads to life of crime, drug and alcohol addiction, and sexual violence.

- Human trafficking deprives countries of human capital. Trafficking has a negative impact on the labour market in many countries, this contributes to an irretrievable loss of human resources for developing countries. Long-term effects of trafficking include depressed wages for all workers, a lower number of individuals left to care for an increasing number of elderly persons, social imbalance in the proportion of males to females, and an undereducated generation. Forcing children to work at an early age and subjecting them to 10 to 18 hours of work per day, denies them access to the education necessary to break the cycle of poverty and illiteracy that makes conditions ripe for trafficking. At-risk individuals cannot acquire the skills necessary to compete in their country’s labour market, leaving national labour force, ill-equipped to compete in the global economy, where success is based on skilled workers.

The United States Department of State Report (2003), summarized the following as consequences of trafficking in females: “violation of human rights, promotion of crime, social breakdown and deprivation of human capital”. Most of the researches done so far have proved the existence of human trafficking, factors that sustain human trafficking and its consequences. Much efforts have not been directed towards enlightening the persons at risk, especially women, in order to reduce the victimization rate. It is the place of this research therefore, having considered Onitsha a fertile ground for human trafficking, base don its disposition, to find on the awareness level of the inhabitants of Onitsha, on the scourge of female trafficking. This research will in turn, inform the agencies involved in managing human trafficking, whether to launch more awareness campaign in the area or not.
2.8 Review of Relevant Theories

Social Disorganization Theory.

Emile Durkheim introduced the concept of social disorganization to explain the increases in crime that accompanied the transformation of preliterate and peasant societies, where influences surrounding a person were “steady, uniform, harmonious and consistent” to modern Western civilization which he believed was characterized by inconsistency, conflict and unorganization (Sutherland, 1934:64). He also believed that capitalism and industrial development with the attendant problems, had been responsible for the disintegration of the homogenous neighborhoods and families as agents of social control.

In the 1940s, American researchers, Shaw and Mckay (1942) found that delinquent offenders clustered in certain neighbourhoods in Chicago, Illinois. This clustering persisted overtime—even when the ethnic composition of the neighborhood changed dramatically. Shaw and Mckay theorized that delinquency and crime were not caused at the individual level, but are normal responses by normal individuals to abnormal social conditions. The urban areas are characterized by high rate of turnover in the population (residential instability) and mixes of people from different backgrounds (ethnic diversity). These make the urban areas endemic to crime as people facing residential instability, differences in customs and lack of shared experiences will more easily take to crime.

Faris (1955) contributed to the social disorganization theory. He defined social disorganization as the weakening or destruction of the relationship which hold together, a social organization. Faris’ central position was that crime rate is a reflection of the degree of disorganization of the control agents, the higher the rate of disorganization of control agents, the higher the rate of crime. He further explained that high level of disorgansiation is more likely in
rapidly growing industrial cities, and this could lead to highly organized criminality as well as less organized forms of group, individual crime and delinquency.

In his contribution to the social disorganization theory, Sampson (1993) stated that poor, unstable communities often lack the organisation and political connections to obtain resources for fighting crime and offering young people an alternative to deviant behavior. According to him, inadequate supervision or incomplete socialization of children by family and relatives make them more likely to join gangs and further become full time criminals if social control are insufficient to address delinquent behavior at an early stage. Crime and delinquency are however, aspects of social disorganization; not its products.

Differential Association Theory: This theory was developed by Sutherland (1937). He asserted that mobility, economic competition and individualistic ideology are the features that breed crime in societies. Societies with these characteristics are more likely to be fertile grounds for criminal behavior. He further explained that criminal behaviours are not inherited (biological), but rather learned behaviours, and this learning, is through social interaction with others.

Sutherland proposes that through interaction with others, individuals learn the values, attitudes, techniques and motives for criminal behavior. The techniques may be simple or sophisticated. This theory focuses on how individuals learn how to become criminals but does not concern itself with why they become criminals.

Strain/Anomie Theory: This theory was developed in America at the start of the 20th century. America was seen as the land of opportunity and this led to a huge wave of immigration there. Many individuals migrated in search of the American dream of prosperity, but found that the dream was not equally attainable by everyone. Strain theory was postulated by Emile Durkheim but has been advanced by Merton (1938), and Agnew (1992) to show that social structures
within the society may encourage citizen to commit crime. Merton, (1938) posited that crime is not just a function of deprivation, but the result of a disjuncture or lack of connection between ends (goals) and the means of attain those ends (Lynch, 2008). According to Merton, there are culturally assigned goals and aspirations (material and non material things that all individuals should expect out of life). Then there are acceptable means of achieving the goals and aspirations (like obeying laws, seeking education and working hard). According to Merton, it is important that the culturally desired goals be achieved through legitimate means by all social classes.

Often, much emphasis is placed on achieving these goals but the legitimate means are not equally attainable for some citizens. This lack of access to legitimate means leads individuals to seek the goals by whatever means necessary. According to Merton, crime is bred through this process as some people would respond to the strain/anomie between aspiration and the lack of opportunity by indulging in criminal behavior. He further asserted that individuals respond to anomie by being innovators, conformists, ritualists, retreatists, or rebels.

The theory postulates that crime is concentrated among the lower classes as they have the fewest legitimate opportunities for achievement and therefore, are most vulnerable to this strain. Crime however, cuts across social classes.

Agnew (1992) contributed to strain theory by correcting the erroneous impression that crime is mostly perpetrated by people in the lower class. He proposed that crime be not tied to social class. He argued that should attempts to realize goals be blocked by others, the negative effect may lead to pressure. This pressure may persuade any individual (no matter his/her social class) to adopt illegitimate means to attain the goal.

Rational Choice Theory: This theory adopts a utilitarian belief that man is a reasoning actor who weighs means and ends, costs and benefits, and makes a rational choice. Cornish and Clarke
(1986) see crime as an event that occurs when an offender decides to risk breaking the law after considering his or her own need for money, personal values or learning experiences and how well a target is protected, how affluent the neighbourhood is or how efficient the local police are. Before committing a crime, the reasoning criminal weighs the chances of getting caught, the severity of the expected penalty, the values to be gained by committing the act and his/her immediate need for that value. Keel (2007), in support of rational choice theory, posits that people have the freedom to choose what behaviours they engage in, and that they make those choices based on rational calculations.

The theorists believe that a co-ordained strategy would potentially prevent more crime and so be more cost-effective than imprisoning the few offenders that are currently apprehended. This theory is predicated on the assumption that humans have sets of hierarchically ordered preferences or utilities. By reducing the opportunity for the commission of crimes, through target hardening (that is to make it more difficult to break into houses or steal from shops), and encouraging more authority figures to assume responsibility, potential offenders will be deterred.

The theory has been criticized on the ground that better protection in one area will simply displace crime into a less well-protected area. The main problem is in re-ordering political priorities from a penal-oriental strategy towards a crime prevention strategy.

Marcus Felson (1998) developed routine activity theory as a sub-field of rational choice theory. The theory says that crime is normal and depends on the opportunities available. If a target is not protected enough and the reward is worth it, crime will take place. Crime does not need hardened offenders, super-predators, convicted felons or wicked people. Crime just needs an opportunity. Crime is mundane and happens all the time. This assertion is controversial among sociologists who believe in the social causes of crime.
2.9 Theoretical Framework

From the review of the relevant theories done so far, the theory of Anomie as postulated by Robert Agnew and the Rational Choice Theory of Cornish and Clarke formed the theoretical basis for this study. This is in line with the view of Barak (2006), that criminal behavior is not necessarily always simple and straightforward. In many cases, more than one theory can relate to a particular crime.

Agnew (1992) revised the Anomie theory of Merton (1938) and proposed a general strain theory that is focused on the individual and not social class. The theory of Anomie posits that the social structures in the society can promote criminal behavior. When the society lays much emphasis on material wealth and accords individuals, status based on their level of wealth acquisition, it is natural that the members of that society will all seek to acquire wealth. The situation is further worsened when the means for achieving the highly valued wealth is not evenly distributed in which cases some individuals may come up with their own means which may be criminal.

Agnew’s theory describes the situation in many developing countries, particularly Nigeria. According to Igbo (1999), in Nigeria, material wealth has become the yardstick for measuring success and people have come to glorify and worship material wealth regardless of how it is achieved. Nigerians accord people status and respect as they find wealth while those that do not have it are disrespected. This disrespect is further seen as a motivating factor to strive to acquire wealth, while in reality, it leads to anger and frustration.

Our society elevates the wealthy to high political, traditional and even religious positions without judging whether they are valuable individuals in the society. This has led to flouting of the approved means as people embark on the search for wealth through fair or foul means
including trafficking in females. The Rational Choice Theory of Cornish and Clarke (1986) was considered relevant to this study as it states that the offender risks breaking the law after considering his/her own need for money, personal values, learning experiences and how well a target is protected.

Trafficking in females is an organized crime that involves a network of individuals, not a one man affair. Those that engage in this crime must have resolved within themselves to engage in it, and to them, their decision is rational. Motivated by the need for money and social gain, the individual engages in learning the skills and techniques for the crime, and so some extent, what the individual has learnt gives him confidence in his (rational) choice.

Those that engage in trafficking in females equally consider how well a target is protected and the possibility of taking the victims to the desired destination. To this effect, female traffickers do not encounter much problems as the society is already agog with the desire to achieve material success. The victims are enticed when they learn that they are finally going to make much money that will earn them the desired status. The corrupt officials are “settled”, so they look the other way while these female victims are being trafficked.

2.10 Research Hypotheses

1. Females that live in poverty are more likely to fall victims of female trafficking than those from rich homes.

2. Females that are aware of the true meaning of female trafficking are less likely to fall victims of female trafficking than those that lack awareness.

3. Females with lower level of education are more likely to fall victim of female trafficking than those with higher level of education.
Chapter Three
Methodology

3.1 The Study Design

This study adopted the survey design. Survey design was chosen because the study involved a large population. Again the unit of analysis for this study was individuals. These individuals are those we got relevant data from. Consequently, the study employed cross-sectional survey design, which implied using selected samples from a segment of the population to analyze a large population at a given time Obikeze (1999). Cross sectional survey is a research process in which a part or fraction of the population is studied, and the sample is made to be representative of the entire population. This method provided the researcher the opportunity to use the sample drawn, to represent the different segments of the populations under study.

3.2 Area of Study

The area of study for this research was Onitsha, in Anambra State. Onitsha is a commercial city located in the Southeastern part of Nigeria. It has boundary with Asaba on the Southern part of the state. It is predominantly occupied by the Igbo speaking people of Nigeria, since it is a town in one of the five Igbo speaking states of the country. Onitsha is a heterogeneous city in terms of inhabitants and has a population density of about 40.85 square kilometers (Census News: 2006). Onitsha, as one of the towns in Anambra State, is made up of two local government areas. These are: the Onitsha North, and Onitsha South local government areas of the town.

According to the 2006 population census, Onitsha has a total population of 519,409.09 inhabitants. The population is made up of 275,070.21 males and 244,338.88 females (Census news, 2006:14). These are made up of mostly businessmen and women, public servants,
technicians and students. It is basically a commercial city as it is the home to the biggest market in West Africa, (the Onitsha Main Market). The researcher choose Onitsha, because of its strategic location and the important position it occupies in Anambra State in particular, and Nigeria in general.

### 3.3 Study Population

The population of this study was 579462.0. the percentage composition of the population of study comprises of NAPTIP staff members at Enugu, which constitutes 0.0065% of the entire population. The researcher considered it worthwhile to elicit information on the scourge of trafficking in women from the national body charged with the social problem. The next was the inmate victims of female trafficking, which constitutes 0.0029% of the population. This study provided the victims of trafficking, the opportunity to state their experiences and suggest ways of curbing the crime. The third group was the convicted traffickers, which constitutes 0.00098% of the study population. Finally, the Onitsha residents, constitutes 99.99% of the study population. The awareness that this study created may serve as a strategy for strengthening crime prevention against trafficking.

### 3.4 Sample Size

Six hundred and thirty one (631) respondents constituted the sample size for this study. The compositions were 600 residents of Onitsha, 15 trafficking victims under NPATIP shelter in Enugu, 5 convicted traffickers with NAPTIP in Enugu and 16 NAPTIP staff in Enugu. The inclusion of trafficking victims and traffickers in this study was quite relevant as we intended to elicit useful information from both the victims and the perpetrators of this crime of human trafficking. Enugu is where the NAPTIP umbrella office for the South East Zone of Nigeria is located. Since Onitsha falls under the South-East Zone of Nigeria, we therefore got the needed
information from the NAPTIP office in Enugu. This sample size of 636 was considered large enough to permit a credible study.

3.5 Sampling Procedure

Multistage cluster design and systematic random sampling methods were adopted for this study. Onitsha is a large, urban and commercial area. It has spread overtime to some surrounding areas that were not originally part of the town as indicated by the map supplied by Onitsha Planning Authority.

According to the map of Onitsha by the planning authority, there are 24 layouts in the town. For the purpose of this study, these layouts were merged in tows, and this left us with 12 research areas or clusters namely; Akpaka and Trans Nkisi Layouts, G.R.A. and Out, Ozalla and Omagba, Inland Town and Odoakpu, Niger Bridge and Iguide, Fegge and Woliwo, Presidential and Military Barracks, bridge head and Okpoko, Awada and Isiafor extension, Isiafor and Owerri Road, Nkutaku Ugbo Urumili and Habour Industrial Layout, Niger Bridge approach and Ayaneji. The criteria for this merger was necessitated by the political delineations of the area by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC). It was also necessitated by the geographical locations, considering their proximity to one another.

The next stage was the compilation of streets in each of the clusters. The exercise was aided by the street index provided by Onitsha Town Planning Authority (OTPA), which gave the total number of streets to be 4, 998. The simple random sampling ballot method was used to select 10 streets from each of the 12 clusters. The ballot method is a device where every subset in a population is serially numbered on identical slips of paper. The papers are further folded identically into a box. The systematic random sampling technique in which every “nth” number is selected was applied to this list of selected streets to select the desired number of dwelling
units (5), for this study. In this study therefore, the nth number was every 4\textsuperscript{th} building on each street, and from there, one respondent was drawn from each household (male or female family head or anybody up to 18 years. These gave us a total of 600 respondents (5\times10\times12=600).

The purposive and proportionate stratified sampling techniques which entailed the total selection of the inmate victims of female trafficking under the care of NAPTIP in Enugu and the selection of equal percentage of NAPTIP staff in Enugu were adopted. Therefore, the total population of the 15 inmates and 50\% (16) of NAPTIP staff were used. The total of the sample size was therefore 631. The inmate victims of female trafficking were included in the sample frame, but their responses were elicited also through a different set of questionnaire.

**Table of Sample Distribution**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Structure</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Sample Size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NAPTIP staff</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inmate Victims at NAPTIP</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residents of Onitsha</td>
<td>509,409.09</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>57945709</strong></td>
<td><strong>631</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.6 **Instruments for Data Collection**

The relevant data for this study collected through two major instruments; the questionnaire and the in-depth interview (IDI) method. The questionnaire which was primary source of our data, contained two sections. The first part was channelled towards collecting information on the personal data of the respondents. The second part was aimed at addressing the
purpose of this study, the research questions and the hypotheses. A uniform set of questionnaire was administered to all the 600 selected adult respondents from Onitsha. The questionnaire contained structured and unstructured questions and constituted the basis from which quantitative data were derived and analysed. Another set of questionnaire was also administered to the 15 inmate victims of trafficking. The questionnaires were administered on one-on-one basis to all the respondents. The researcher therefore employed 5 field assistants and trained them to see that the objectives of the study were realized.

In-depth interviews were purposively conducted with 16 NAPTIP staff in Enugu.

3.7 Method of Data Analysis

Data collected from the in-depth interview through use of tapes and field notes were qualitatively analyzed by relating the responses in the interviews to the objectives of the study. The responses were coded according to the themes in the work. Those obtained from the questionnaire were interpreted, using statistical tools such as tables, simple percentages and the chi-square ($\chi^2$). The $\chi^2$, being a non-parametric inferential statistical technique, was used to test the hypotheses of the study with a view to enabling the researcher draw valid conclusions on the hypotheses.
Chapter Four

4.0 Presentation and Analysis

This chapter presents the analyses of the data collected for the study. The study was designed to find out the awareness level of the inhabitants of Onitsha, on the scale of trafficking in females. The analyses of data in this study was done under four main categories namely: the socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents; the substantive issues of the research; the test of research hypotheses; and the in-depth interview. The major findings of the research and their discussions followed suit.

Six hundred (600) questionnaires were administered to the inhabitants of Onitsha; a total of five hundred and forty (540) were duly filled, and returned out of the 600. This gave a questionnaire return of 90%, which was considered statistically adequate for the purpose of our analysis.

The response rate is thus shown in table 1 below

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Questionnaire</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Returned</td>
<td>540</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not returned</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total (Distributed)</strong></td>
<td><strong>600</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Field Survey (June, 2012)*
The 90% response achieved was due to repeated visits made on the respondents by the researcher. This analysis is therefore, based on the five hundred and forty (540) dully filled and returned questionnaires.

4.1 Socio-Demographic Characteristics of the Respondents

This section deals with the socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents such as sex, marital status, educational qualification, religion and occupation.

4.1.1. Sex

Table II: Distribution of Respondents by Sex

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>312</td>
<td>57.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>228</td>
<td>42.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>540</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey (June, 2012)

Table II above shows a sample that was fairly well distributed between the sexes on almost equal ratio to the respondents. We had 312 (57.8%) female respondents and 228 (42.2%) male respondents. The increasing involvement of women in education and public activities may be attributed to the gender awareness and campaigns launched by the ministry of women affairs in the state, and even the state governors support for gender equality.
### 4.1.2 Table III: Distribution of respondents by Marital States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marital Status</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
<td>281</td>
<td>52.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>42.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divorced</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Separated</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>540</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source:* Field Survey (June, 2012)

Table III above indicates that the respondents who were married and living with their spouses constituted 281(52.0%), while those who were not married represented 229(42.4%) of the sample. Those who were married but due to certain issues were not living with their spouses constitute 30(5.6%) of the sample. It is the traditional belief in Onitsha, that staying married is a sign of being responsible, hence those not married are regarded as not quite responsible. Married and unmarried people were well represented so as to yield balanced opinions in the study.
4.1.3 Educational Qualification

Table IV: Distribution of Respondents by Educational Qualification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educational Qualification</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSCE</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>7.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OND/Equivalent</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>45.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSc and above</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>43.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>540</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey (June, 2012)

Table IV above shows the sample was made up of people, who were fairly educated. According to the table, 248 (45.%) of the respondents were OND or equivalent holders. B.Sc. and above were 235(43.5%), SSCE holders constituted 40(7.4%) while those with only primary education constituted 17(3.1%) of the respondents. The educational qualifications of the respondents guaranteed a proper response to the questions posed in the questionnaire.
4.1.4. Occupation

Table V: Distribution of Respondents by Occupation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Civil servant</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>15.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business persons</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>44.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>38.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>540</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey (June, 2012)

According to the table V above, the respondents that were into trading constitute 241(44.6) of the respondents while the unemployed took up 208(38.5%) of the respondents. The civil servants were 82(15.2%) of the respondents. This is a clear indication that Onitsha inhabitants are predominantly traders. The high incident of unemployment in the nation is also felt by Onitsha residents.
Table VI: Distribution of Respondents by Religion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Religion</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christianity</td>
<td>487</td>
<td>90.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Islam</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African Traditional Religion</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atheist</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>540</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Field Survey (June, 2012)

Table VI above shows that 487(90.2%) of our respondents were Christians, 33(6.1%) of them were Moslims, 18*3.3%) belonged to African Traditional Religion while 2(0.4%) were atheists.

This may be attributed to the fact that Onitsha inhabitants are predominantly Christians.

4.2 **The substantive Issues of the Research**

This section of the data analysis highlights the findings regarding the public perception of the respondent, about female trafficking and organized crime in Onitsha. The findings were discussed under sub-headings, derived from the research questions of the study. The reactions of the respondents to the questions that sought to ascertain their perceptions on the above issues were analyzed as noted below.
4.2.1. How informed are the inhabitants of Onitsha, on female trafficking

In the bid to find out how informed the inhabitants of Onitsha were, or their level of awareness on the scourge of trafficking in females, they were asked if they had heard of trafficking in females before, if yes, then to tick (√) the correct definition of trafficking in persons (see question 7).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Awareness of trafficking in persons in Onitsha</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Have heard of trafficking in persons before</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>51.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have not heard of TIP before</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>30.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not sure if ever heard it</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>10.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do not know if ever heard it</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>7.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>540</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Field Survey (June, 2012)*

The above result shows that 280(51.9%) of the respondents said that they have heard of trafficking in persons before while 260(48.1%) have not heard of the crime before. This implies that many inhabitants of Onitsha are still in the dark as far as the awareness of trafficking in persons is concerned.
Table VIII: Distribution of Respondents by their Opinions on what trafficking in persons is (see question 8)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opinion</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Helping a person to travel abroad for a better job</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smuggling of people into another country</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deceiving or forcing a person to work for another person’s gain</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>37.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Going abroad to work</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>14.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>540</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Field Survey (June, 2012)

Table 4.2.2 revealed that 201 (37.2%) of our respondents could give the correct definition of trafficking in persons while 339 (62.8%) had wrong opinions about what trafficking in persons is. The 62.8% with wrong opinions suggest serious shortcoming on the side of the body in charge of taking care of this crime – NAPTIP – especially the South-East chapter.

**Questionnaire on Victims of Female Trafficking**

Other substantive issues of the research were found out, from another set of questionnaire, distributed to the fifteen victims of human trafficking, under the NAPTIP shelter in Enugu.
4.2.2 Do the Victims of female trafficking know the true nature of the job they would go into before accepting the offer?

In order to find out whether the victims of female trafficking were presented with the true nature of the jobs they would go into, the question was posed to them and they responded thus;

Table VIII: Distribution of Respondents on whether the jobs they were meant to do abroad, were what the traffickers presented to them before they fell victims.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Respondents</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes the true job was presented to me</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No the true job was not presented to me</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey (June, 2012)

The table above shows that most of the victims (87%) were not aware of the true job they were going to do abroad. It also shows that they were deceived into accepting to embark on the journey which eventually made them to be victims of female trafficking.
### Table IX: Distribution of Victims on Whether they are aware of the Crime of Human Trafficking before they became Victims.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Respondents</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes I was aware</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No I was not aware</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Field Survey (June, 2012)

Table IX shows that all the victims (100%) indicated that they were not aware of the crime called human trafficking before they became victims. This is a very serious situation because the traffickers exploit this ignorance to deceive most innocent females. It is also an indictment on the enforcement agency (NAPTIP) because it shows that they have not been doing enough to create sufficient awareness of human trafficking among the people.

#### 4.2.3 The Organizations involved in female trafficking in Nigeria

Here the victims of trafficking in females were asked the organizations they thought, were involved in human trafficking.
Table X: Distribution of Respondents by Opinions on the Organisations that are involved in Female Trafficking in Nigeria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sex industry</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotel/tourist owners</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel agencies/airlines</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigration officers</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road transport workers</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey (June, 2012)

Table XI above, revealed that 14(93%) of our respondents viewed the sex industry, as the organization that is involved in female trafficking in Nigeria. On the other hand, 1(7%) of the respondents view the hotel/tourist owners, as the organization, involved in trafficking in persons in Nigeria.

4.3 Test of Hypotheses

In this section of data analysis, the three study hypotheses were tested.

Hypotheses I

There is a positive relationship between poverty and female trafficking in Onitsha.
Table XI: Distribution of Respondents by Opinions on the Issue of Poverty and Female Trafficking Victimization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Respondents</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poverty is the root cause of TIP</td>
<td>323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty is not the root course of TIP</td>
<td>217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>540</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[X^2 = 1.0918, \text{ df } = 1, \text{ significance level } = 0.01\]

Degree of freedom, \( \text{df} = k-1 \), where \( k \) = number of groups. \( \text{Df} = k - 1 = 2 - 1 = 1 \)

Significance level, \( \alpha = 1\% = 0.01 \)

Critical value = 6.63

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Poverty is the cause</th>
<th>Poverty is not the cause</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Observed 0</td>
<td>323</td>
<td>217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expected E</td>
<td>311 (57.6%)</td>
<td>229 (42.4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deviation (0-E)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(0-E)^2</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(0-E)^2 E</td>
<td>0.4630</td>
<td>0.6288</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
\[ X^2 = (0.4630 + 0.6288) = 1.0918 \]

Since \( X^2 = 1.0918 < 6.63 \), we accept the null hypothesis. The above data \( X_1 \) is a cross tabulation for testing the hypothesis which states that females that live in poverty are more likely to fall victims to female trafficking than those from rich homes in Onitsha. The hypothesis was tested with chi square \((X^2)\) statistics. A calculated chi-square value of 1.0918 was obtained in the study. Since the calculated \( X^2 \) 1.0918 is less than the critical value 6.63, we therefore accept the null hypothesis which states that females that live in poverty are more likely to fall victims to female trafficking than those from rich homes in Onitsha.

This means that poverty is a major cause of trafficking in females. This is a clear indication that females from poor families are more vulnerable to trafficking in females.

This means that poverty is a major cause of trafficking in females. This also is a clear indication that poor females or females from poor families are more vulnerable to trafficking in females.

**Hypothesis 2**

Females that are aware of the true meaning of female trafficking are less likely to fall victims to female trafficking than those that lack awareness.
Table xii: Distribution of Respondents on their awareness level and trafficking victimization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trafficking Victims in NAPTIP Shelter in Enugu</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Those aware of TIP</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Those not aware of TIP</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>246</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey (June, 2012)

\[ X^2 = 3.07 \text{ df } = 1, \text{ significance level } = 0.05 \]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Victims with true awareness</th>
<th>Victims that lacked awareness</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Observed</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expected</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deviation (0-E)</td>
<td>-3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>((0-E)^2)</td>
<td>2.25</td>
<td>0.82</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[ X^2 = 3.07 \]

The above table XII is a tabulation for testing the hypothesis which states that females that are aware of true meaning of female trafficking are less likely to fall victims to trafficking, than those that lack awareness. The hypothesis was tested with chi-square (X²) statistics. A calculated chi-square value of 3.07 was obtained in the study. The critical value is 7.88. since the X² calculated (3.07) is less than the critical value (7.88), we accept the null hypothesis, which
indicates that female that are aware of the true meaning of female trafficking are less likely to fall victims to female trafficking than those that lack of awareness.

**Hypothesis 3**

Females with lower level of education are more likely to fall victims of female trafficking than those with higher level of education.

Table xiii – Distribution of Victims of Trafficking in females by levels of education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of education of the victims in NAPTIP shelter in Enugu</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SSCE and below</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OND upwards</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Field Survey (June, 2012)

\[X^2 = 6.67, \text{ df} = 1, \text{ significance level} = 0.05\]
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>SSCE and below</th>
<th>OND and above</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Observed (0)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expected (E)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deviation (0-E)</td>
<td>-4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(0-E)²</td>
<td>1.333</td>
<td>5.33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[ X^2 = 6.67 \]

The above table XIII is a tabulation for testing the hypothesis which states that females with lower level of education are more likely to fall victims of female trafficking than those with higher level of education. The hypothesis was tested with chi-square (\(X^2\)) statistics. A calculated chi-square value of 6.67 was obtained in the study. The critical value was 3.84. since the calculated \(X^2\) 6.67 is greater than the critical value (3.84), we therefore reject the null hypothesis which states that females with lower level of education are more likely to fall victims of female trafficking than those with higher level of education. In other words, females that have lower level of education are not more likely to fall victims of female trafficking, than the females with higher level of education.

4.4 Qualitative Analysis of the In-Depth Interview

This section of the data analysis focuses on the in-depth interview schedules. As the second instrument in this study, the aim was to obtain further information from the NAPTIP officials, who by the virtue of the offices they occupy constituted good source of information,
given this type of study. The interview was conducted with sixteen (16) NAPTIP officials in their south-east zonal office in Enugu State.

4.4.1 Analysis of Interviews conducted with the NAPTIP officials in their Enugu Zonal office

4.4.2 Why Nigerians engage in female trafficking

The NAPTIP officials explained that trafficking is females in an international crime and we find Nigerians as perpetrators of this crime because Nigeria is part of the global village; four (4) of the officials explained that the economic gain involved in trafficking in females is the major attraction to this crime.

4.4.3 The major age group that constitute the offenders

The sixteen (16) staff of NAPTIP all agreed that the offenders cut across all age groups. Two (2) of them further explained that most times the offenders fall between the ages of 18 – 45 which, is the productive age. One (1) of the officials further added that in isolated cases, you have offenders falling between 60 to 70 years of age.

4.4.4 Why the traffickers target the females mostly

The NAPTIP officials explained that females are the vulnerable set. Four (4) members of staff explained that the demand for sex is highly, especially outside Nigeria. One (1) of them explained that beastiality (sex with animals) is becoming a common practice outside Nigeria. The females are paid to sleep with animals.
They further explained that the pornography industry and the producers of films use these exploitative measures, just to catch and satisfy people’s anxiety. One (1) of the officials also explained that greed is a cause of victimization of females in female trafficking.

4.4.5 The Effect of Entertainment and sex tourist industry on the females as victims of trafficking

Sadly though, the NAPTIP officials in Enugu zonal office refused to say anything on the above subject.

4.4.6 The measures recommended by the NAPTIP officials, to stop females from falling victims of trafficking.

The officials recommended pro-active measures like enlightenment campaigns, jingles, grassroot sensitization and the forming of vanguard groups.

4.4.7 The measures recommended by the members of staff of NAPTIP to stop or discourage Nigerians from engaging in female trafficking.

The NAPTIP officials unanimously suggested that change of attitude towards wealth acquisition is very necessary today in Nigeria. Nigerians should stop celebrating rogues that are financially well-off.

Timely prosecution of offenders, according to the NAPTIP officials will serve as a deterrent, for intending offenders. They also recommended that school leavers should be trained in skill acquisition, loans should be made accessible for those trained in different skills. There is also need for more agencies to be involved in the fight against trafficking in person in Nigeria.
4.5 **MAJOR FINDINGS**

Below are the major findings of the research after the field work and its analysis were done.

1. The study affirmed that there is a positive relationship between poverty and female trafficking in Onitsha.

2. The study discovered that many inhabitants of Onitsha do not know what trafficking in females is.

3. The study established that there is a significant relationship between awareness and trafficking victimization.

4. The study showed that females with lower level of education are not more likely to fall victims of female trafficking than those with higher level of education.

5. From the study, it was noted that all the victims of trafficking in females were not aware of the crime of trafficking in persons prior to their victimization.

6. The study established that some victims of trafficking in females knew the type of job they would engage in abroad, before accepting the offer.

7. The study found not that Nigerians need to change their attitude towards wealth acquisition (Rich rogues should not be celebrated) in order to solve the problem of trafficking in females.
4.6 DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

The study discovered that many inhabitants of Onitsha have not heard of trafficking in females. Among those that have heard it, many of them do not know what trafficking in females truly is.

1. Persons who are vulnerable to trafficking in females should be sufficiently protected. The first step towards achieving that protection should be by educating them – giving the females the correct information they need to know. In this case, many of the inhabitants of Onitsha have never heard of trafficking in females. Among those that have heard, many of them do not know what it truly means. How then can they protect themselves from a crime they do not know what it is? According to the United Nations Convention (2000). Persons who are vulnerable to trafficking will be sufficiently protected. The first step towards achieving this protection is by giving them the correct information. Education is important because it helps in developing the rational abilities to make timely, critical and appropriate decisions against the strategies used to persuade and attract potential victims of TIP.

2. The study affirmed females that live in poverty are more likely to fall victims to female trafficking than those from rich homes. This is in line with the publication of NAPTIP (2007), where poverty has been singled out, in public debate, as the most important factor in sustaining both trafficking in persons and exploitative child labour. Poverty is a multidimensional concept including lack of access to basic services, insecurity and powerlessness (Ehindero, 2004).
3. The study established that females that are aware of the true meaning of female trafficking are less likely to fall victims of female trafficking than those that lack awareness and trafficking victimization. 100% of the trafficking in females victims, under the NAPTIP shelter in Enugu stated that they never heard of the crime of trafficking in females before they fell victim to the crime. When females are not equipped to be aware of the potential health, social and other consequences of trafficking in females, then they cannot be expected to make or take rational and informed decisions at the initial stages of recruitment. This leaves the females much more vulnerable to trafficking victimization. If we are therefore sincere about curbing trafficking in females in Onitsha, the first step should be geared towards creating awareness among the inhabitants.

4. The study established that some victims of trafficking in females knew the type of job they would go into, abroad, before accepting the offer. 7% of the victims of trafficking in females under the NAPTIP shelter in Enugu zonal office, accepted to be prostitutes abroad. This has worrisome implications on our social and moral contexts in Nigeria. The time has really come for Nigerians to stop recognizing people that have acquired their wealth through foul means. This also has a serious implication on the type of rehabilitative treatments administered to the victims of trafficking.

Those that accepted to become prostitutes outside Nigeria should not undergo same rehabilitative treatment with an unsuspecting victim. This is because, both victims suffered different degrees of harm.
The study showed that females with lower level of education are not more likely to fall victims of female trafficking than those with higher level of education. This is a clear indication that formal education is not the panacea of female trafficking victimization. The social and economic situations in Onitsha particularly need to be improved upon so that there will be less attraction to crime.

Based on the above findings a lot of work is needed in order to curb the crime of trafficking in females, and protect the vulnerable group from falling victims to this crime.

NAPTIP, as a matter of urgency, needs to launch awareness campaigns in Onitsha in order to take pro-active steps towards protecting the females against female trafficking. They should not only wait to save the female victims of trafficking, but gear their efforts towards stopping unsuspecting victims from falling prey to the traffickers.
CHAPTER FIVE

Summary, Conclusion and Recommendations

5.1 Summary

The study investigated the public perception of Onitsha inhabitants on female trafficking and organized crime in Nigeria. The major objective of this study was to look at female trafficking and organized crime in Onitsha, and suggest ways of reducing or eliminating the crime. The specific objectives included: to ascertain why Nigerians engage in female trafficking, to find out the organized criminal networks that facilitate female trafficking in Nigeria, to find out the links between trafficking in females and the entertainment and sex industry, to ascertain whether the victims of female trafficking, in Onitsha, knew the true nature of the jobs they would go into before accepting the offer, to find out how informed the inhabitants of Onitsha, were on female trafficking, and to proffer useful suggestions on possible ways of curbing the problem of female trafficking.

Relevant literature and theories to back up the study were reviewed in the course of the investigation. Three working hypotheses were framed to guide the study. Our study population was five hundred and nine million, four hundred and nine (509, 409.09) inhabitants of Onitsha. For an effective study, a sample of six hundred (600) respondents were selected through a cross sectional survey design.

Two different instruments were used in this study to collect the needed data. These were the questionnaire and the in-depth interview. Simple percentages were adopted to analyse the research questions, while the chi-square was used to test the hypotheses.
The findings of the study showed that, (i) many inhabitants of Onitsha do not know what trafficking in females is (ii) all the victims of trafficking under the NAPTIP shelter in Enugu Zonal Office were not aware of the crime of trafficking in females prior to their victimization (iii) some of the victims of trafficking in females knew the type of job they would be going into abroad, before accepting the offer (iv) that the quest to make money is the major motivating factor for traffickers (v) there is a positive relationship between poverty and female trafficking in Onitsha (vi) there is a significant relationship between awareness and trafficking victimization (vii) females with lower level of education are not more likely to fall victims of female trafficking than those with higher level of education.

5.2 Conclusion

The study reiterates that all human societies, irrespective of their levels of development have crime and criminality to contend with. Heads of different states have proposed indispensable foundations for a more peaceful, prosperous and just world but these are yet to be achieved.

The government of Nigeria is firmly committed to combating trafficking in persons in all its forms, ensuring that criminals who engage in trafficking are aggressively investigated, swiftly prosecuted, and severely punished and that the victims are provided with the assistance they need. This firm commitment of the Nigerian government has not reduced the incidence of trafficking in females in the country, as the recent press release of the Nigerian Immigration Service (2012) clearly reports that the crime is on the increase.
Efforts should be geared towards employing proactive measures in combating this crime the study revealed that many inhabitants of Onitsha (a town that has social characteristics that are susceptible to vulnerability) have never heard of trafficking in females, while a good number of the inhabitants that have heard it, do not know what it truly means.

5.3 Recommendations

The study makes the following recommendations against the back-drop of its findings.

(1) The National Agency for Prohibition in Trafficking in Persons and Other Related Offences should use more of crime prevention strategies.

(2) More awareness campaigns on trafficking in females should be launched in Onitsha. The coverage has to be wide and the crime adequately explained.

(3) Efforts should be made towards changing the present mind-set of Onitsha inhabitants particularly. Wealth acquisition should not be our ultimate goal, rather, playing by the established rules should.

(4) The discovery that some females willingly chose to be prostitutes abroad shows that moral decadence has crept into our society. The education, religious and cultural institutions should take part in the campaign against trafficking in females.

(5) The rehabilitative treatments administered to the victims of trafficking should not be generalized. Those that willingly chose to be prostitutes abroad and the unsuspecting victims suffered harms of different degrees. They should therefore, be treated separately.
(6) The governments should make efforts towards the reduction of poverty in the land. Skill acquisition should be promoted and small loans be made available for eligible persons.

(7) Other agencies and NGOs should lend supporting hands to NAPTIP in the fight against trafficking in females.

(8) There should be timely prosecution of offenders in order to deter intending offenders.

5.4 Limitations of the Study

Certain problems were encounter by the researcher in the course of this study, and they may have affected the results of the study. Trafficking in females is a sensitive crime because the society sees the female victims as prostitutes. Some of the victims of trafficking in females may have withheld some of the true responses they would have made owing to the sensitive nature of this crime.

Some of the selected respondents refused to accept the questionnaires from us. Some of those that responded, did after much explanations from us. Some of the respondents actually delayed in completing the questionnaire, so we had to repeat visits in order to collect the completed questionnaire.

Another problem the researchers encountered was at the Enugu zonal office of NAPTIP. Repeated visits and telephone calls were made by the researcher before the questionnaires were completed and handed over to the researcher by the officials in charge of the shelter as outsiders were not given access to the victims.
5.5 **Suggestions for Further Research**

Following from the outcome of this study, the researcher suggests the following areas for further research.


- The Link Between Sex Tourist Industries and Trafficking in Females: A Study of Onitsha.

- Rehabilitation Issues in Trafficking in Females: A Study of NAPTIP Shelter in Enugu State.
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Appendix I

Letter to the Respondents

Dept. of Sociology/Anthropology
University of Nigeria,
Nsukka.
Date ……

Dear Respondents,

I am a post-graduate student of the above named University. I am conducting a research on Female Trafficking and you have been chosen as one of the respondents in this study.

Please, kindly respond correctly and sincerely to the questions below. Your response is purely for academic purpose and would be treated in utmost confidence.

Thanks for your anticipated corporation.

Sincerely yours,

Ndiora, Uju Afam.
Questionnaire

Onitsha Residents

Socio-Demographic Data

1. Sex Male [ ] female [ ]

2. Place of residence .................................................................

3. Marital Status: Married [ ] Single [ ] Divorced [ ] Separated [ ]

4. Qualifications: Primary [ ] SSCE [ ] ND [ ] Graduate and above [ ]

5. Religion: Christianity [ ] Islam [ ] ATR [ ] Atheist [ ]

6. Occupation: Civil servant [ ] Business person [ ] Unemployed [ ] Others [ ]

Knowledge/Awareness Trafficking in Persons

7. Have you heard of trafficking in persons before?

   Yes [ ] No [ ] Not sure [ ] Do not know [ ]

8. If yes, which of the following statements best defines trafficking in persons?

   (a) Helping a person to travel abroad for a better job [ ]
   (b) Smuggling of people into another country [ ]
   (c) Deceiving or forcing a person to work for another person’s gain [ ]
   (d) Going abroad to work [ ]

9. Only woman and children are trafficked in Nigeria.

   Yes [ ] No [ ] Not sure [ ] Do not know [ ]
10. Only poor people and their families are trafficked.
   Yes [ ] No [ ] Not sure [ ] do not know [ ]

11. Prostitution is the only purpose for which persons are trafficked
   Yes [ ] No [ ] Not sure [ ] do not know [ ]

12. Have you ever come into contact with a victim of trafficking?
   Yes [ ] No [ ] Not sure [ ] do not know [ ]

13. Do you think that when people are aware of trafficking in females, it will prevent them from falling victims
   Yes [ ] No [ ] Not sure [ ] do not know [ ]

14. If yes, where did you come in contact with the victim? -------------------------------

15. What was the sex of the victim you came in contact with ..............................

16. What was the nature of the victims of trafficking?---------------------------------

17. For how long was the victim trafficked? ------------------------------------------
Questionnaire
Victims of Trafficking
Socio-demographic data

1. Sex: Male [ ] Female [ ]
2. Age: 10 – 19 [ ] 20 – 29 [ ] 30 – 39 [ ] 40 and above [ ]
3. Place of Residence ____________________________________________
4. Marital Status: Married [ ] Single [ ] Divorcee [ ] Widow [ ]
5. Highest level of education: Primary [ ] SSCE [ ] ND [ ] Graduate and above [ ]
6. What was your occupation before you were trafficked: Civil servant [ ] self employed [ ] unemployed [ ] others [ ]
7. Religion: Christianity [ ] Islam [ ] Traditional Religion [ ] others [ ]
8. What type of family are you from? Monogamy [ ] Polygamy [ ] Single Parent [ ] others [ ]
9. Who do you normally live with: Father [ ] Mother [ ] Father and mother [ ] Alone [ ]
10. What is your father’s occupation: Civil servant [ ] self employed [ ] unemployed [ ] retired [ ]
11. What is your mother’s occupation: Civil servant [ ] Self employed [ ] unemployed [ ] Retired [ ]
### Section II

Factors Responsible for Women Being Trafficked

What is the level of your agreement to the statements below?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Not Sure</th>
<th>Do not know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Women are more trafficked than men</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Ignorance is a major factor to women being vulnerable to trafficking</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Give the reason for your choice of answer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Low income pre-disposes women to trafficking</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>People with low income are more likely to give out their children for trafficking</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>People with high income are more likely to give out their children for trafficking. If yes, why -</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7. Poverty contributes to the likelihood of being trafficked

7. Were you a victim of human trafficking before now?
   Yes [ ] No [ ] Not sure [ ] Do not know [ ]

8. Was the job you were made to do abroad what you were offered here before you traveled?
   Yes [ ] No [ ] Not sure [ ] do not know [ ]

9. Do you regard human trafficking as a good business?
   Yes [ ] No [ ] Not sure [ ] do not know [ ]

10. If you were employed and paid well, would you have agreed to go abroad for a better job? Yes [ ] No [ ] Not sure [ ] do not know [ ]

   Please give reason for your answer.

11. If yes, why?

12. If you were doing well in a business, would you have agreed to go abroad so as to make money? Yes [ ] No [ ] Not sure [ ] do not know [ ]

13. Which of the following are the victims of trafficking made to engage in more:
   (a) Prostitution  (b) Child Labour  (c) Domestic Servant  (d) others

The Involvement of Organized Crime in Trafficking of Females.

What is the level of your agreement to the statements below?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Not Sure</th>
<th>Do not know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Women trafficking is carried by a network of individuals.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Why did you</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. The network involves more than one nation

4. What made you choose the option?

5. Each network specializes in one aspect of trafficking.

6. Give reason for your choice of answer?

4. Do you agree that women trafficking is carried out by organized criminal groups
   
   Yes [ ] No [ ] Not sure [ ] do not know [ ]

5. If yes, can you mention any of the groups? _____________________

6. Which organization below in your opinion is involved in human trafficking (more than one answer is allowed).
   
   (i) Sex industry
   (ii) Hotel/tourist owners
   (iii) Travel agencies/airlines
   (iv) Immigration officers
   (v) Road Transport workers

Reactions/responses:

7. Could you please suggest some possible solutions to the problem of human trafficking?
   
   a. ____________________  b. ____________________  c. ____________________
   
   d. ____________________

8. Why do you think the traffickers are mainly interested in females
How do you see the practice of the following:

9. Human trafficking
   a. ________________________  b. ________________________  
   c. ________________________  d. ________________________  

10. Prosecution of traffickers
    a. ________________________  b. ________________________  
    c. ________________________  d. ________________________  

11. Rehabilitation of victims of trafficking
    a. ________________________  b. ________________________  
    c. ________________________  d. ________________________  

12. Resettlement of the victims
    a. ________________________  b. ________________________  
    c. ________________________  d. ________________________  

INTERVIEW SCHEDULE
FOR NAPTIP STAFF

1. Why do you think Nigerians engage in female trafficking?

2. What is the major age group that constitute the offenders?

3. Why do you think traffickers target the females mostly?

4. Does the entertainment and sex tourist industry, have any significant effect on the females, as victims of trafficking?

5. What measures do you recommend, to stop females from falling victims of trafficking?

6. What measures do you recommend, to stop or discourage Nigerians from engaging in trafficking?