

Perceptions on the influence of Emotional Abuse on Masturbation and Lesbianism Practices in Universities in Rivers State

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Abstract

The study adopted descriptive survey design to investigate perceptions on the influence of emotional abuse on masturbation and lesbianism practices in universities in Rivers State. Using a multi-stage sampling process, a sample size of 1,200 female undergraduates from Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Rivers State University, and University of Port Harcourt was chosen for the study. The study employed a self-structured questionnaire titled "Emotional Abuse on Masturbation and Lesbianism Practices Questionnaire" (EAMLPO). The instrument's reliability was established using a test-retest technique, yielding a reliability value of 0.84 using Pearson Product Moment Correlation statistics. To answer the research questions, descriptive statistics such as mean and standard deviation were used. The independent t-test was employed to test the hypotheses at a significant level of 0.05. The study showed that female undergraduates mostly from state-owned universities, 200 level and faculty of education students showed significantly higher level of perception of the influence of emotional abuse on masturbation and lesbianism practices. It was recommended, among others, that higher institutions and secondary schools in Rivers state should recruit counselling psychologists for the purpose of proffering professional services that would help to avert the ugly trend.

Keywords: emotional, abuse, lesbianism, masturbation

Introduction

Lesbianism is no longer regarded as a taboo in many modern societies, but rather as a slightly abnormal way of thinking. Lesbianism is simply the practice of females having sex with other females rather than with males. It might also be viewed simply as a female sexual inclination. When a woman shows sexual and emotional attractions for another woman, she is characterized as a lesbian. It is about sexual intercourse between women rather than between men and women (heterosexual intercourse). However, Hass and Dreyer (2006) stated that public acceptability of lesbianism has risen considerably over the previous few decades, owing mostly to women's liberation advocacy.

According to Alexander (2000), homosexuality is a childhood trauma disorder. This is consistent with Echebe and Onomuodeke (2010) assertion that most adolescents' problems may be traced back to their families. Children can become a problem not only for the family, but also for school and society at large if they are discriminated against or not welcomed at home; if they are beaten up for no reason; or if more is expected of them than they can handle.

As a result, when children receive the love and attention they need, the opposite occurs. This is helping to boost their morale and give them a sense of belonging. It is considered that when children or teenagers receive appropriate moral, psychological, and material support, they will be well equipped, and as a result, all of their peers' and chronic lesbians' efforts and pressures on this practice will be pointless and abortive. Aside from that, children should be treasured by their parents, who brought them into the world. Parents should also pay attention to their children's verbal and nonverbal behaviours in order to know where to support them, rather than calling them names or bullying them, which can lead to inferiority complexes in those children.

Several studies have found that sexual minority women are more likely than heterosexual women to report childhood emotional, physical, and sexual abuse (Austin et al., 2008). Similarly, sexual minority women are more prone to utilize drugs and to flee their homes (Stoddard et al., 2009). A study that thoroughly reviewed 75 studies on sexual assault among sexual minorities in the United States discovered that lesbian and bisexual women had the highest approximate lifetime sexual assault rate of 85% (Rothman et al., 2011). According to Comer et al., (2013), more than 90% of boys masturbate by the end of adolescence, compared to 50% of girls. Masturbation began for the vast majority of them by the age of 14, which is not unrelated to the childhood abuse suffered by the majority of them. He further stressed that boys report masturbating one to two times per week, but girls report masturbating once a month as a result of abuse and sexual addiction.

Emotional abuse is defined as any non-physical action or activity that uses humiliation or fear to dominate, subdue, threaten, or isolate another person (Ahmed et al., 2015). Verbal attack, domination, control, isolation, ridicule, or the exploitation of intimate information for degrading, are all examples of emotional abuse (Follingstad et al., 2005). This focuses on the victim's emotional and psychological well-being and serves as a precursor to physical violence. Because of its catastrophic consequences on the development of school children, emotional abuse or violence is the most harmful of the three types of child abuse (sexual, psychological, and physical). It differs from other types of child abuse because it is difficult to detect. Unlike other types of abuse, the perpetrator of psychological abuse may abuse multiple victims at the same time. Some adolescents have even reported experiencing their first instances of psychological maltreatment at school (Kacker et al., 2007). This topic has been identified as a universal, complicated, and persistent problem that is on the rise; but it has yet to be thoroughly investigated (Ahmed et al., 2015). Exclusion, denial, terrorization, alienation, oppression, and exploitation are all examples of emotional abuse. The importance of children's mental health should not be underestimated in educational environments where teaching and learning occur.

Most studies on the effects of childhood physical abuse have tended to focus on adult interpersonal relationships rather than sexuality or have used childhood physical abuse as a family risk factor or covariate (Mullen in Ahmed et al., 2015). The emphasis has been mainly on adult violent and criminal behaviour, drug misuse, self-injurious habits, emotional problems, and academic and vocational difficulties. In their national telephone survey of 10- to 16-year-old youths, Boney-McCoy and Finklehor (in Ahmed et al., 2015) found an important association between severity of psychological symptoms and sexual and parental assault histories. There is also a broad, primarily clinical, literature which links childhood physical

abuse, drug abuse, and other self-injurious behaviours. Also, Eke (2015) opined that some individuals who performed this act did not go into it of their own volition, but instead were cajoled and recruited into practicing it by other individuals who are more skilled in it, while some volunteered in order to refine the rudimentary experience they had before or while in their second practice. Thus, experience is enhanced when admitted to the tertiary level of education where they have ample independence coupled with the fact that more experienced individuals are there to support them.

The consequences of childhood physical abuse for adult sexuality are potentially important. There are no such studies that have been conducted which addressed the issue of lesbianism and masturbation in connection with sexual and emotional abuse. All these gaps may be as a result of the fact that lesbianism and masturbation is an alien practice to the African and Nigerian culture. However, given that such foreign sexual practices have also permeated Nigeria through technology and societal dynamics, it becomes important for a study to be carried out that will address this issue before it gets out of hand.

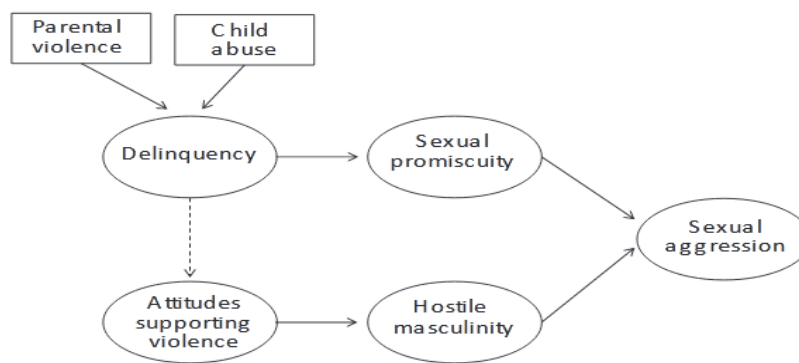


Figure 1: The Confluence Model of Sexual Aggression (Hall & Hall, 2011)

The development of derogatory views and beliefs towards women contributes to sexual harassment in the context of aggressive masculinity. Also, for sexual promiscuity process, early and enhanced sexual interactions contribute to sexual harassment. Although each pathway can independently predict sexual aggression, the Confluence Model as shown in figure 1 also suggests that pathways can interact to predict sexual aggression. According to the model, individuals with both a high level of aggressive masculinity and a high level of tolerance for impersonal sex are more likely to display sexual violence. The Confluence Model has been validated several times with various populations and has been shown to account for around 30 per cent of the incidence and extent of sexual harassment (Hall & Hall, 2011).

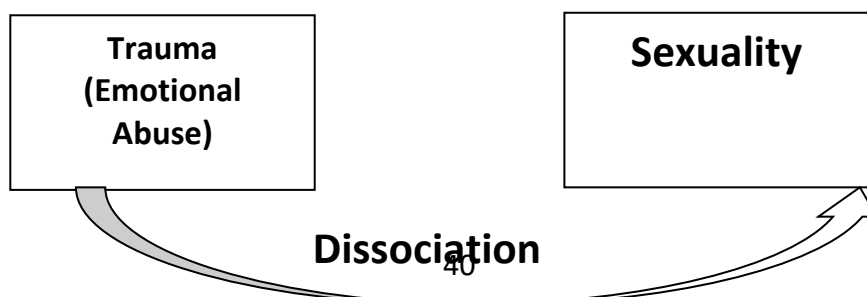


Figure 2: Relationship between trauma and sexuality (Hall & Hall, 2011)

Wilson in Ahmed et al., 2015 stated that the process of dissociation is the mediating of the relationship between trauma and sexuality. Dissociation is a safety-oriented cognitive process in which a person attempts to suppress recollection or affect that "disrupts the emotional balance". Dissociation may lead to reality detachment in which events are viewed without feelings, self is robotic, and others are depersonalized objects. Because the individual feels like an object, he or she may be able to respond sexually, even to the point of orgasm, bypassing his or her desire or excitement. These men and women are able to have sex with the other person's body without love, intimacy or even as a partner, by concentrating on body parts such as breasts or genitals rather than on the entire person. When an adult has been sexually abused as a child, the only structure he or she has for sexuality is one whose components are violence, uncontrollable sensation, utter uncertainty, humiliation, and ambivalence; especially if the abuse was at the hands of someone the child relied on. The gradual growth of sexual desire and excitement at developmentally acceptable intervals should have avoided the premature emergence of genital eroticism beyond the child's ability to understand or control.

Research questions

The following research questions guided the conduct of the study:

1. What is the perception of female university undergraduates on the influence of emotional abuse on masturbation practices in Rivers State based on ownership of university?
2. What is the perception of female university undergraduates on the influence of emotional abuse on lesbianism practices in Rivers State based on ownership of university?
3. What is the perception of female university undergraduates on the influence of emotional abuse on masturbation practices in Rivers State based on level of study?
4. What is the perception of female university undergraduates on the influence of emotional abuse on lesbianism practices in Rivers State based on level of study?

Hypotheses

The following hypotheses guided the conduct of the study:

Ho1: There is no significant difference in mean ratings of the perception of female university undergraduates on the influence of emotional abuse on masturbation practices in Rivers State based on ownership of university.

Ho2: There is no significant difference in mean ratings of the perception of female university undergraduates on the influence of emotional abuse on lesbianism practices in Rivers State based on ownership of university.

Ho3: There is no significant difference in mean ratings of the perception of female university undergraduates on the influence of emotional abuse on masturbation practices in Rivers State based on level of study.

Ho4: There is no significant difference in mean ratings of the perception of female university undergraduates on the influence of emotional abuse on lesbianism practices in Rivers State based on level of study.

Methodology

The study used a descriptive survey design. The study's population included 40,969 female undergraduates in the three universities in Rivers State, with 10,930 from Ignatius Ajuru University of Education (IAUE), 12,719 from Rivers State University (RSU), and 17,320 from

the University of Port Harcourt (Uniport). Using a multi-stage sampling process, female university undergraduates in the universities were purposively selected. Disproportionate stratified random sampling technique was used to determine the sample size of the various levels of study and Faculties. Finally, purposive and convenience random sampling techniques was used to select only female undergraduates from the universities. A sample size of 1,200 female undergraduates from IAUE, RSU, and Uniport was chosen for the study.

The study employed a self-structured questionnaire titled "Emotional Abuse on Masturbation and Lesbianism Practices Questionnaire" (EAMLPO). The instrument was split into two parts: A and B. Section A had items meant to elicit demographic information from the respondents. Section B included items designed to assess the perceived influence of emotional abuse on masturbation and lesbianism among female undergraduates at Rivers State. Masturbation and lesbianism had six (6) items each. The modified Likert scale with a four-point rating of Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D) and Strongly Disagree (SD) was used to elicit the responses. The score ranges from 1 – 4, whereby strongly disagree is scored 1 and strongly agree is 4.

Two specialists in Measurement and Evaluation from Ignatius Ajuru University of Education in Port Harcourt determined the instrument's validity. The instrument's reliability was established using a test-retest technique. The validated instrument was administered on thirty female university undergraduates from Federal University of Technology, Owerri who were not part of the study. This yielded a reliability value of 0.84 using Pearson Product Moment Correlation statistics. To answer the research questions, descriptive statistics such as mean and standard deviation were used. The independent t-test was employed to test the hypotheses at a significant level of 0.05.

Presentation of results

Research question 1: What is the perception of female university undergraduates on the influence of emotional abuse on masturbation practices in Rivers State based on ownership of university?

Table 1: Mean and standard deviation of the perception of influence of emotional abuse on masturbation practices among female university undergraduates in Rivers State based on ownership of university

S/N	Perception of influence of emotional abuse on masturbation practices	State Universities (IAUE & RSU) (n=800)		Federal University (Uniport) (n=400)		Mean set 1200	
		\bar{x}	SD	\bar{x}	SD	$\bar{xx}/2$	SD
1.	Verbal assault on girls usually exposes them to masturbation.	2.48	1.35	3.05	0.97	2.77	1.16
2.	Forced isolation could lead to masturbation practices.	3.83	0.47	3.27	0.74	3.55	0.60
3.	Control and dominance throughout childhood are predictive of subsequent masturbation practices among girls.	3.75	0.57	3.21	0.85	3.48	0.71
4.	Sexual behaviour problems were predictive of subsequent ridicule.	3.77	0.60	3.15	0.92	3.46	0.76
5.	Majority of emotionally abused girls engage in masturbation practices.	2.87	0.97	3.25	0.94	3.06	0.95
6.	Use of intimate knowledge for degradation predicted masturbation practices later in girls.	3.44	0.97	3.16	1.02	3.30	1.00
Grand mean		3.35	0.82	3.18	0.91	3.27	0.86

Table 1 showed that the mean scores on the perception of influence of emotional abuse on masturbation practices among female university undergraduates in the study area range from 2.51 - 3.89. This indicates that the respondents agreed that forced isolation; control and dominance throughout childhood; ridicule and use of intimate knowledge for degradation could lead to masturbation practices. The grand mean and standard deviation of the State-owned universities (\bar{x} =3.35, SD=0.82) and federal-owned university (\bar{x} =3.18 SD=0.91) indicated that respondents from State-owned universities had higher perception on the influence of emotional abuse on masturbation practices among female university undergraduates in Rivers State.

Research question 2: What is the perception of female university undergraduates on the influence of emotional abuse on lesbianism practices in Rivers State based on ownership of university?

Table 2: Mean and standard deviation of the perception of influence of emotional abuse on lesbianism practices among female university undergraduates in Rivers State based on ownership of university

S/N	Perception of influence of emotional abuse on lesbianism practices	State Universities (IAUE & RSU) (n=800)		Federal University (Uniport) (n=400)		Average score 1200	
		\bar{x}	SD	\bar{x}	SD	$\bar{xx}/2$	SD
7.	Emotional abuse cannot lead to lesbianism	3.36	0.62	3.38	0.82	3.37	0.72
8.	Verbal assault usually triggers lesbianism	3.32	0.71	3.28	1.01	3.30	0.86
9.	Undue dominance predisposes women to lesbianism	3.05	0.96	3.37	0.88	3.21	0.92
10.	Bullying in childhood exposes girls to lesbianism.	2.98	0.95	3.02	0.98	3.00	0.96
11.	The use of intimate knowledge for bullying with male peers and non-peers in childhood predicted lesbianism practices among girls.	2.33	1.05	3.05	0.96	2.69	1.01
12.	Control over relationship with boyfriends predicted lesbianism practices at a very young age.	2.93	0.95	3.12	0.84	3.02	0.90
Grand mean		2.99	0.87	3.20	0.92	3.10	0.89

Table 2 showed that the respondents in the universities agreed that emotional abuse cannot lead to lesbianism in item 1 and verbal assault usually triggers lesbianism from item 2. However, item 3 showed that those in the State owned-universities disagreed that the use of intimate knowledge for bullying predisposes women to lesbianism with the mean scores less than 2.50 illustrated. The grand mean and standard deviation of the State-owned universities (\bar{x} =2.99, SD=0.87), federal-owned university (\bar{x} =3.20 SD=0.92) and an overall grand mean of 3.10 indicated that the students from federal university maintained a higher perception of the influence of emotional abuse on lesbianism practices among female university undergraduate students in Rivers State.

Research question 3: What is the perception of female university undergraduates on the influence of emotional abuse on masturbation practices in Rivers State based on level of study?

Table 3: Mean and standard deviation of the perception on influence of emotional abuse on masturbation practices among female university undergraduates in Rivers State based on level of study

S/N	Perception of influence of emotional abuse on masturbation practices	100 level (n=61)		200 level (n=494)		300 level (n=515)		400 level (n=130)		\bar{x}	SD
		\bar{x}	SD	\bar{x}	SD	\bar{x}	SD	\bar{x}	SD		
13	Verbal assault on girls usually exposes them to masturbation.	2.80	1.05	3.48	0.86	1.95	1.16	2.39	1.20	2.66	1.07
14	Forced isolation could lead to masturbation practices.	3.48	0.70	3.67	0.63	3.65	0.61	3.58	0.67	3.59	0.65
15	Control and dominance throughout childhood are predictive of subsequent masturbation practices among girls.	3.18	0.89	3.62	0.64	3.55	0.79	3.62	0.57	3.49	0.72
16	Sexual behaviour problems were predictive of subsequent ridicule.	3.39	0.64	3.59	0.77	3.54	0.81	3.62	0.71	3.54	0.73
17	Majority of emotionally abused girls engage in masturbation practices.	3.30	0.86	2.74	1.26	3.13	0.62	3.28	0.64	3.11	0.85
18	Use of intimate knowledge for degradation predicted masturbation practices later in girls.	3.30	0.95	3.15	1.14	3.49	0.87	3.52	0.75	3.36	0.93
Grand mean		3.24	0.85	3.38	0.88	3.22	0.81	3.34	0.76	3.29	0.82

Table 3 showed the mean scores of perception of emotional abuse on masturbation practices among female university undergraduates in the study area. The result revealed that the students agreed on all the items except the 400 level students that disagreed that verbal assault on girls usually expose them to masturbation. The grand mean and standard deviation of level 100 ($\bar{x}=3.24$, $SD=0.85$), level 200 ($\bar{x}=3.38$, $SD=0.88$), level 300 ($\bar{x}=3.22$, $SD=0.81$), and level 400 ($\bar{x}=3.34$, $SD=0.76$) indicate that female students in level 200 had highest perception of the influence of sexual abuse on masturbation practices in universities in River State.

Research question 4: What is the perception of female university undergraduates on the influence of emotional abuse on lesbianism practices in Rivers State based on level of study?

Table 4: Mean and standard deviation of the perception of influence of emotional abuse on lesbianism practices among female university undergraduates in Rivers State based on level of study

S/N	Perception of influence of emotional abuse on lesbianism practices	100 level (n=61)		200 level (n=494)		300 level (n=515)		400 level (n=130)		\bar{x}	SD
		\bar{x}	SD	\bar{x}	SD	\bar{x}	SD	\bar{x}	SD		
19.	Emotional abuse cannot lead to lesbianism	3.20	0.93	3.70	0.61	3.10	0.61	3.22	0.67	3.31	0.70
20.	Verbal assault usually triggers lesbianism	3.07	1.03	3.65	0.75	2.99	0.77	3.34	0.65	3.26	0.80
21.	Undue dominance predisposes women to lesbianism	3.56	0.72	3.64	0.73	2.67	0.91	3.05	0.89	3.23	0.81
22.	Bullying in childhood exposes girls to lesbianism.	3.03	0.80	3.43	0.91	2.58	0.86	2.92	0.84	2.99	0.85
23.	The use of intimate knowledge for bullying with male peers and non-peers in childhood predicted	3.13	0.81	2.51	1.32	2.48	0.83	2.86	0.86	2.75	0.96

	lesbianism practices among girls.										
24.	Control over relationship with boyfriends predicted lesbianism practices at a very young age.	3.11	0.73	3.57	0.73	2.50	0.80	2.69	0.86	2.97	0.78
	Grand mean	3.18	0.84	3.42	0.84	2.72	0.80	3.01	0.80	3.08	0.82

Table 4 showed that the students in the different levels of study agreed that emotional abuse cannot lead to lesbianism for item 19 and for item 20, verbal assault usually triggers lesbianism. However, those in level 3 disagreed to item 23 that the use of intimate knowledge for bullying with male peers and non-peers in childhood predicted lesbianism practices among girls with mean scores less than 2.50. The grand mean and standard deviation scores of level 100 (\bar{x} =3.18, SD=0.84), level 200 (\bar{x} =3.42, SD=0.84), level 300 (\bar{x} =2.72, SD=0.80), and level 400 (\bar{x} =3.01 SD=0.80) show that the students from 200 level maintained a higher perception on emotional abuse as influencing lesbianism practices among the students.

Ho1: There is no significant difference in mean ratings of the perception of female university undergraduates on the influence of emotional abuse on masturbation practices in Rivers State based on ownership of university.

Table 5: t-test summary of perception of influence of emotional abuse on masturbation practices among female university undergraduates in Rivers State based on ownership of university

Variables	N	Mean	SD	Df	t-cal	t-crit	p-value	Decision
State Owned Universities (IAUE & RSU)	800	3.35	0.35					
				1198	6.476	1.960	0.000	Ho is rejected
Federal University (UNIPORT)	400	3.18	0.57					

Table 5 showed that the calculated t-value for group is 6.476 at degree of freedom of 1198 and p-value of 0.000, which is less than 0.05 level. Hypothesis one was rejected. Therefore, this showed that there was a significant difference in the mean ratings of the perception of influence of emotional abuse on masturbation practices among female university undergraduates in Rivers State based on ownership of university. This implies that the State-owned universities had significantly higher response on the perceived influence of emotional abuse on masturbation practices than their counterparts in the federal university.

Ho2: There is no significant difference in mean ratings of the perception of female university undergraduates on the influence of emotional abuse on lesbianism practices in Rivers State based on ownership of university.

Table 6: t-test summary on perception of influence of emotional abuse on lesbianism practices among female university undergraduates in Rivers State based on ownership of university

Variables	N	Mean	SD	Df	t-cal	t-crit	p-value	Decision
State Owned Universities (IAUE & RSU)	800	2.99	0.61	1198	5.553	1.960	0.000	Ho is rejected
Federal University (UNIPORT)	400	3.20	0.59					

Table 6 showed that the calculated t-value for group is 5.553 at degree of freedom of 1198 and p-value of 0.000, which is less than 0.05 level. Hypothesis 2 was however rejected. Therefore, this showed there was a significant difference in the mean ratings of the perception of influence of emotional abuse on masturbation practices among female university undergraduates in Rivers State based on ownership of university. This implies that the State-owned universities had higher response on the perceived influence of emotional abuse on lesbianism practices than their federal counterpart.

Ho3: There is no significant difference in mean ratings of the perception of female university undergraduates on the influence of emotional abuse on masturbation practices in Rivers State based on level of study.

Table 7: ANOVA summary of perception of influence of emotional abuse on masturbation practices among female university undergraduates in Rivers State based on level of study

	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.	Decision
Between Groups	6.773	3	2.258			
Within Groups	229.512	1196	.192	11.764	0.000	S
Total	236.284	1199				

Table 7 showed that the calculated F-value for group is 11.764 at degrees of freedom of 3 and 1196 and it is significant at 0.000 probability level which is less than 0.05 level of probability (F= 11.764, df =3/1196, p<0.05). Hypothesis three was rejected. Therefore, this showed there is a significant difference in the mean ratings of the perception of influence of emotional abuse on masturbation practices among female university undergraduates in Rivers State based on level of study. 200 level had a higher response on the perceived influence of emotional abuse on masturbation practices than their counterparts in other levels.

Ho4: There is no significant difference in mean ratings of the perception of female university undergraduates on the influence of emotional abuse on lesbianism practices in Rivers State based on level of study.

Table 8: ANOVA summary on perception of influence of emotional abuse on lesbianism practices among female university undergraduates in Rivers State based on level of study

	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.	Decision
Between Groups	123.925	3	41.308			
Within Groups	327.248	1196	.274	150.970	0.000	S
Total	451.173	1199				

Table 8 showed that the calculated F-value for group is 150.970 at degrees of freedom of 3 and 1196 and it is significant at 0.000 probability level which is less than 0.05 level of probability (F= 150.970, df =3/1196, p<0.05). Hypothesis four was rejected. Therefore, this showed a significant difference in the mean ratings of the perception of influence of emotional abuse on lesbianism practices among female university undergraduates in Rivers State based on level of study. 200 level had a higher response on the perception of influence of emotional abuse on lesbianism practices than their counterparts.

Discussion of the findings

The study indicated that state-owned universities had significantly higher response on the perceived influence of emotional abuse on masturbation and lesbianism practices than their counterparts in the federal university. This finding agreed with Eke (2015) who carried out a study of lesbianism in the State-owned university, and opined that some individuals who performed this act did not go into it on their own volition, but instead were cajoled and recruited into practicing it by other individuals who are more skilled in it, while some volunteered to it in order to refine the rudimentary experience they had before or while in their second practice. Thus, experience is enhanced when admitted to the tertiary level of education where they have ample independence coupled with the fact that more experienced individuals are there to support them. In the same vein, Ahmed et al. (2015) revealed that those who have history of childhood sexual abuse have more positive attitude towards masturbation and gayism. The finding further revealed that sexual exploitation is positively and strongly associated with lesbian attitudes. With the prevalence of childhood sexual assault, female students were inclined to lesbian practices.

The current study has established that female undergraduates at the level 200 had higher perception of the influence of emotional abuse on lesbianism and masturbation practices in Rivers State. A significant difference in the mean ratings of the perception on the influence of emotional abuse on lesbianism practices among female undergraduates in Rivers State based on level of study was found. The current findings have established that emotional abuse among female students as perceived by them in Rivers state was viewed as major sources of lesbianism and masturbation practices among female undergraduates in Rivers State. The perception of the female undergraduates has once again exposed the implications of emotional abuse on

sexuality. Ownership and level of study have revealed their perception to this all-important subject that require the intervention of specialists and advocates to regulate the spread of abuse in all levels.

Conclusion

The study showed that female undergraduates mostly from the State-owned universities and 200 level showed significantly higher level of perception of the influence of emotional abuse on masturbation and lesbianism practices. Emotional abuses are realities of life for many Nigerian female students. Those who are not able to make themselves available for counselling end up getting more emotionally abused.

Recommendations

The following recommendations were made based on the findings of the study:

1. School authorities should enforce compulsory orientation programmes, where talk shows on sex and sexuality should be emphasized. It should not only be written in the school booklets and bulletins.
2. There should be severe penalties for all perpetrators of child abuse and sexual violence on both females and males
3. There is need for training and retraining of guidance counsellors to enable them be in tune with the challenges, prevention and modern strategies in handling victims of rape, and clients with behavioural disorder including lesbianism.

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