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THE EFFECTS OF RAPE ON TEENAGERS' BEHAVIOUR: A CASE STUDY OF
SHALOM BAPTIST ASSOCIATION LAGOS.

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BY
ADENIJI, OLUWATOBI AYOMIDE
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ABSTRACT

This essay is an attempt to identify the effects of rape on teenagers, using Shalom Baptist Association as a case study. It is analyzed that rape, a sexual assault has its implications on the lives of its victims especially teenagers. This research analyzed some causes, types and theories of rape. The research is a descriptive survey and the method used is percentage analyses of questionnaires in the study area. Internet materials and the library were also consulted for relevant literatures. So many scholars have come up with various suggestions as solutions to the problem of rape. It may only be minimized because it cannot be totally eradicated. However, despite the solutions proffered, it is discovered within the study area that this act of rape is still in a high percentage amongst other assaults. From the findings, it is discovered that female are more victims than male, a larger number of perpetrators are male. And it is recommended to the teen that they should report any act of rape or an attempted rape, to the church and the association, seminars, talk shows and other programmes that will enlighten these teens should be organized.

5.2 Conclusion

In this essay, it has been identified that the effects and aftermath of rape on its victims is readily available all around. The effects of this act should not be a reason why teenagers will not fulfil their God-given purpose of existence. God's plan for each life is have life in abundance (John 10:10; Hebrews 6:17).

We live in an age that rejects God's revealed punishments for civil crime (such as rape, slander, murder, and so on). Often, this generation rejects God's definition of right and wrong. Christians who are not victims are meant to relate with victims with biblical understanding, wisdom and compassion.

Rape survivors need therapists, counsellors, pastors and care givers who could help them go through the aftermath of the trauma. The love and affirmation that is been shown to these victims makes it possible for them to heal fast and almost completely.

Educating teenagers of the association on what constitutes rape, educating them on how to prevent rape, lobbying for Alternatives to Violence Programs for rapists, and educating women on how to defend themselves may help to reduce rape and the effects of rape.

5.3 Recommendations

It is therefore recommended to:

(A)The association:

- Do not be afraid to talk about rape with teen and youths. Ask open-ended questions and refrain from judgement.
- Provide information on rape and conduct workshops on the topic for teens, youth, and so on
- Pay attention to teens in your care when they appear distressed.

- Provide access to make psychological services such as counselling available for victims
- Be aware of likely places, time and patterns of rape to occur
- Pray for teens

(B) The parents:

- Research school and workplace policies on rape and discuss with your teens. Make the definition of sexual harassment clear to your teen. He or she may have unwillingly witnessed or experienced sexual harassment.
- Do not be afraid to bring up the topic of sexual harassment in your teen's life.
- Take advantage of teachable moments in your adolescent's life, doing role plays providing them with resistant skills
- Reinforce them that when they experience sexual harassment, it is not their fault and something can be done.

(C) Teens:

- Expect respect and keep away from people who do not show you respect.
- Be clear about your limits, let people know what you want and what you do not want.
- Do not allow a person to touch you if it makes you feel uncomfortable.
- Do not drink or smoke
- Do not hangout in places that keeps you isolated from others. It is very wise to be very careful.
- Trust your instincts. If you feel that a person is not trustworthy or a situation is not safe, leave.