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Barriers in Implementing a Unified Collaborative Policy to Combat Female Sex Trafficking in Edo-State,Nigeria.

Grace chikaodili Uzochukwu
Walden University

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Walden University

College of Social and Behavioral Sciences

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Grace Uzochukwu

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2021

Abstract

Barriers to Implementing a Unified Collaborative Policy to Combat Female Sex
Trafficking in Edo State, Nigeria

by

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MSN, Drexel University, 2004

BS, BA, Southeastern Oklahoma University, 1987

Dissertation Submitted in Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree of
Doctor of Philosophy
Public Policy and Administration

Walden University

November 2021

Abstract

Human trafficking has been a historical and global concern as well as a global crime against humanity that violates individual rights, freedom, and privileges. Human trafficking has become a growing phenomenon in Edo State, Nigeria, while the existing policy to combat it has proved ineffective. There was a gap in understanding strategies for unification of the policies at the level of Edo State, Nigeria, and the level of the United Nations (UN) to ensure better outcomes in the fight against human trafficking. The purpose of this qualitative case study was to explore perceived barriers to implement collaborative policy unification between Edo state and the UN. The conceptual framework in this study was based on the Narrative Policy Framework of McBeth et al., the Advocacy Coalition Framework developed by Sabatier and Jenkins-Smith, and the Victimology Theory of Braimah. Data were drawn from existing documents and qualitative surveys utilizing 14 participants from the various workforces of human services and law-enforcement sectors. The data were subjected to open coding, categorization, and thematic analysis. The most selected themes that emerged were lack of funding for training, victims' low self-esteem and limited justice system that resulted in ineffective policy implementation. Recommendations for future policy improvement should focus on policy unification and collaboration for disciplinary actions against traffickers regardless of where the crime was committed. Positive social change implications of the study include helping local policymakers, law enforcement, and social services providers in Edo State, improve collaboration with the UN entities and agencies in Nigeria to combat human trafficking.

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Dedication

I am thankful for all the blessings from above for accomplishing and reaching all these educational levels, especially this doctoral academia. My Almighty God! I cherish the wisdom, love, hope, faith, and spiritual strength installed into my life. I am humbled and cheerfully dedicating this study to those female victims of human trafficking in the world, especially in Edo State, Nigeria. I also dedicate this study to my late parents, especially my father who lived to raise his children alone after his wife passed away. Dad, I still recall and remember all those wise words that were shared, the effect still creates a profound impact in my life. You have contributed immensely to what and who I am today through your inspirations and encouragements to be fearless of any challenging situation and to find solutions inside the situation in solving challenging situations.

Anthony Muoghalu may your soul rest in peace, with all your inspiration, support, and mentoring rendered as a brother I never had when you kindly took and maintained that position. May your soul and all the souls of loved ones departed rest in peace and be guided by the Angels.

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Chapter 1: Introduction to the Study

Introduction

Human trafficking is an important topic because it reflects the seriousness of the impact of pain and the emotional deprivation human trafficking victims may have encountered. Human trafficking in the form of modern slavery is another version of trafficking where human beings are forced to perform certain dehumanizing duties and labor and where they are exploited by their employers to be engaged in sexual activities. Recently, the federal government of Nigeria and the governor of Edo state have been proactive in human trafficking, but more still needs to be done. The continued human trafficking results in multiple social, economic, political, and environmental problems. The International Labor Organization (ILO) (2016) reported an estimated economic profit generated just from the sex trafficking industry of \$32 billion, collected on over 2.5 million people globally.

These monetary figures are based only on numbers that are available, accessible, traceable, and documentable. Women and children remain the most vulnerable and most victimized group. The global impact of social media and communication has been linked to increased human exploitation for sexual activities. This global challenge affects many, especially female sex trafficking in Edo State, Nigeria. These effects are a result of multiple factors, such as ineffective and inadequate policy enforcement in Edo State governance as well as a lack of Nigerian government policy implementation in communities where human trafficking is below the United Nation's expectation and standardization (United States Department of State, 2018). The prevalence of this crime

is a challenge for each nation to combat because of its complexity related to the lack of proper policy implementation and training, as well as political and economic disparity. It is the nature of secrecy for the operation and ineffectiveness in implementing with cost, affordability, high demand for sex, and the market and economic gains in the process by its perpetrators McCough (2015). Many scholars have long recognized this phenomenon as a global crisis that challenges and violates human rights as government officials around the world have taken a step to work collaboratively and gradually towards combating crime. The Edo state government has recently become more proactive in dealing with human trafficking in the community. However, there is still much to be done within local governments to combat the problem, searching for a better applicable solution to minimize the rate of this degrading human crime. Despite Edo State's proactiveness and involvement, other regions worldwide are better at controlling and planning the spread of human trafficking. The United States has continued to develop, establish, and create a policy and economic support for the trafficking program to be effective. However, a recent report revealed that not much has been done in Edo State, as it has remained the highest region for female sex trafficking (Braumah, 2013).

There is not a strong applicable disciplinary policy in practice against those offenders in Edo State in helping to combat this crime in the community. There are also no accessible, functional governmental services to protect and aid those victims (Braumah, 2013). This lack of resources for human trafficking victims has left the community in the shade for social change to take effect. Therefore, the purpose of this qualitative case study was to explore perceived barriers to implementing collaborative

policy unification in Edo State, Nigeria. The government must protect its citizens from the hands of human traffickers.

Background of the Study

One of the earliest forms of global human trafficking has been traced back to the African continent, which is tied to the slave trade that has existed for approximately 4 centuries ago. It was one of the most historical, demographic, social, and economic events of its kind (Anfara, 2008). While the significance of African mitigation is historical and unique, neither slavery nor the plantation has been singled out in association with modern-day slavery. As with the slave trade mission in place, it maintained a continuous existence in some Southern European nations from ancient times into the early modern times responsible and contributed to shaping the attitudes and outlooks of modern slavery. In the southern part of the continent, these Europeans have continued to reinvest in the new world of human trafficking (Abramowitz, 2009). The slavery trade reached its peak between 1750 and 1900 (Mires & Kopytoff, 1977) and was the mark of the beginning of a new era as human slavery accounted for nearly 6 million Africans who got transferred and had been traded to both Asia and the Mid-Eastern regions. Atlantic African labor trafficking was established in the 15th century. More public awareness was created, and importantly concerned issues were brought after the arrival of Europeans in what is now known as America deplored an Africa of 12 million people (Miers & Kopytoff, 1977). The humanitarian sentiment against human slavery began to gain positive ground and public interest in the second half of the 1700s.

This was further motivated by the new wave of industrialization Great Britain led, which later became a widespread sentiment to the end of the century (Mires & Kopytoff, 1977). The years 1899 and 1902 respectively marked the beginning of the international conference against human exploitation held in Paris, France. Public awareness increased as many interested partners developed an interest in joining and engaging in public awareness of human trafficking (ILO, 2016). With all these exposures and involvements, the year 1904 was a great landmark by the United Nations (2000 & 2016) as there was a historical event. The focus was on ensuring an establishment and the beginning of an international policy and guidelines for disciplinary action against human trafficking offenders. The United Nations as the leader of global peace and peacemaker developed a universal protocol for protecting, preventing, and as well as suppressing any form of disciplining action for trafficking in persons (United Nations, 2018).

Edo State, Nigeria has recently been involved in combating human trafficking through public campaigning and open discussions in public centers and entertainment venues. Edo State has a well-known community of people with a well preserved and respected richness in culture, especially arts and agriculture. While rich in creativity and ability to strive for higher achievers, there are limited educational opportunities for females, as related to other counterparts in the surrounding communities. Edo State is a famous region for female sex trafficking in Nigeria due to different socioeconomic status, unemployment, and insufficient educational levels. Some of the driving factors could be traced to financial stability as the rewarding factor for being a human trafficking victim (Brammah, 2013). In fact, with globalization, female sex trafficking had reshaped into

more phases of trafficking, whereby many females are vulnerable. It was for several reasons of inadequate implementation of the policy for disciplinary action against the traffickers that this study is focused on. There have been many years of involvement with international stakeholders as well as private, public, and NGOs in combating human trafficking in Edo State, yet the community has continued to see an increase in female sex trafficking. If adequate policy unification fails to be effectively implemented globally, combating human trafficking might never be achieved, and the trend will continue, thereby affecting the communities at large. The risks involved and consequences will continue to harm Edo communities, Nigeria as a nation, and the global for safety and freedom in the communities.

Problem Statement

There are historical and global concerns about human trafficking that need stronger and more defined solutions and policy implementations to stop its existence and prevalence in communities. Human trafficking has been an ongoing global concern and has been in existence for years, increasing more recently due to the rapidly growing era of technologies and global social media connections and linkages. Global representatives are needed to collaborate in creating and unifying a stronger approach and solution to combat human trafficking. In 2000, the United States of America created and executed the Trafficking Victims Protection Act to address human trafficking. The United States Department of State (2014a) created this policy to clearly define the issue of human trafficking as a crime that needs to be combated. Society relies on better approaches and positive outcomes from the policymakers and other branches of collaborative bodies in

dealing with human trafficking. In this study, I focused on policy that could help to combat female sex trafficking in the Edo State, Nigeria, and that of the global communities. Policy unification could be recognized, thereby seeking to investigate the barriers to preventing female sex trafficking. Most of the identifiable problems and challenges of human trafficking for policy implementation in Edo state are from those problems and challenges of corruption in the system, weaknesses in law enforcement to implement existing policy, and improper training with a lack of resources such as funding to perform the needed duties. The lack of proper information, training, and general awareness on both sides of the perspective leaders and the lack of the ability to implement and reinforce the existing policy has delayed the combating effort in the communities (Brammah, 2013). Human trafficking is complex by nature and situation; most of these traffickers are operating globally, locally, state-wide, and across nations, as these victims are taken away from their local locations to multiple locations.

The challenges of human trafficking require the global collaboration of stakeholders and the ratification for policy unification. Some victims of human trafficking never make it to their destination as most journeys in Edo State, Nigeria are through desert areas without an adequate supply of life protection and walk on bare feet as means of transportation for weeks and even months. Many researchers, both international organizers, and nongovernmental stakeholders have tried to intervene in combating sex trafficking in the region. Despite all these efforts and interventions, human trafficking remains a large concern and challenge to communities, especially in Edo State. This crime against humanity violates individual rights, privileges, and freedom as

perpetrators engage victims in sexual activities (Braithwaite, 2013). As it became more of a growing phenomenon in Edo State, Nigeria, the record on human trafficking alarmed as the number of incidences continued to increase from 1,454 in the year 2014 to 11,009 in the year 2016 (Newlyn et al., 2016).

In this study, I explored a collaborative and unification approach to implementing defined and stricter policies on human traffickers, focusing on the question: What are the barriers to implementing a collaborative and unified policy approach to combat female sex trafficking in Edo State, Nigeria? I aimed to understand the possible factors that are preventing the implementation of the global policy unification as applicable in Edo State, Nigeria. The research question was best addressed with a qualitative approach.

Despite support from key stakeholders and influential organizations such as the United Nations, the United States of America and non-governmental organizations need to create a meaningful and accurate estimation on how in-depth the size and scope of the trafficking is weighing on each community and the world.

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this qualitative case study was to explore perceived barriers to implementing a unified collaborative policy to combat female sex trafficking in Edo State, Nigeria.

The existing records reviewed revealed a lack of adequate attention to addressing human trafficking. As a result, those existing legislative acts and policies are rarely reinforced, emphasized, and implemented fully by officers of different governmental sectors designated and responsible for enforcement.

However, this study understood the literature gap through the evaluating of various policies in human trafficking. In addition, I aimed to explore the socioeconomic barriers that have prevented these policymakers and legislators from addressing the problem in both the Edo State and global communities.

The need to establish a collaborative effort involved the partnership on policy implementation and implementing one policy unification. This approach is an addition to the existing policy from the United Nations policy on combating human trafficking.

Research Question

The study focused on the following research question:

What are the perceived barriers to implementing a unified collaborative policy to combat female sex trafficking in Edo State, Nigeria?

Theoretical Framework

It was important to identify and address human trafficking in communities and how it affects the global economic and political sectors (Sabatier & Weible, 2014). The following frameworks and theories were employed in my study: narrative policy, advocacy coalition frameworks, and victimology theory. All these were then analyzed, evaluated, and connected to the theoretical frameworks, theory, and dissertation topic.

The Narrative Policy Framework

McBeth et al. (2014) evaluated the impact and importance of the narrative approach in a qualitative study, along with the history of policy created and implemented. This observation was cited in the Westboro Baptist Church. The narrative policy framework was used to reinforce the importance of the existing policy in Edo State,

Nigeria (McBeth et al., 2014). This was one of the ideal things about the Apostle's admonition, where the power of this narrative was displayed to impact and mold and influence public policy unification. Sheffield et al. (1949) also reported psychological research findings in narrative power using the Second World War educational and propaganda tools.

Advocacy Coalition Framework

This framework was constructively bounded together by those who shared common beliefs and practices that were limited to a set of causal values but with an expectation and assumption for problem perception. In other words, the coalition actors with different beliefs dominated and overpowered other policy subsystems. This policy framework was applicable to support the collaboration of the interested stakeholders in unifying a policy that would be a global disciplinary action against human traffickers in any place the crime may have been committed.

Victimology Theory

This theory sought to explore more factors and trends that have inspired policy unification, which is a major contributing factor in female sex trafficking in Edo State, Nigeria (Brammah, 2013). This was helpful to understand the relationship between the traffickers (perpetrator) and the victims and why certain populations, regions, or ethnicities are more at risk of being trafficked than others. This condition and reflection with Edo state as famous for human trafficking among other states and communities in the country of Nigeria (Farrell, 2015). Some questions include those applicable programs and services that are needed to prepare and protect those vulnerable populations in the

communities. As Dussich (2014) expressed, Edo State, Nigeria is an exemplar of those victimized communities in connection to inadequately equipped and limited opportunities.

Nature of the Study

The context in which human trafficking has evolved and thrived in a complex situation that has spiraled across national groups, states, and communities with diverse traditions and various socio-economic, political, and cultural practices. For this reason, data collected were primarily based on secondary data extractions and enhanced qualitative surveys. I also used previously extracted documents from fieldwork records, observation records, religious and community centers, institutions, and social media links (Cresswell, 2016).

This investigated the individual analysis of a situation and a defined event. These benefits included a less costly study that was easily applicable, available, and accessible for the public. Survey Monkey software was used as part of a qualitative approach.

Furthermore, stakeholders benefitted human rights activists, law enforcement officials, private and governmental sectors, policy, and lawmakers. When collaboratively involved and interested groups work with government officials for a better solution to combat human trafficking, the team effort will yield better outcomes to the community. This study was designed to collect data that served and integrated information extracted from both existing documents and qualitative surveys. These approaches tend to encourage and empower their potential to acquire knowledgeable training and to be prepared to deal with the issues of human trafficking. These groups are those likely to be

in the front, directly and potentially in contact with the victims, such as the healthcare personals, law-enforcement officials, social workers, and religious and community leaders. Some of these private and nonprofit facilities are other potential places for the safety and protection of victims, which could create some consciousness and reservation for fear of being questioned, arrested, and potentially charged for multiple reasons (Russell, 2014). There will always be fear and potential risk for those interested groups involved in combating human trafficking. For these reasons, threats, challenges, and fear among those who may be interested in conducting and/or making contacts with ex-victims continue to exist, as well as those who managed to escape the trail of the crime (Russell, 2014).

Another possible reason was about the privacy of the victims, emotional relapse, the possibility of violating human rights, and ethical considerations (Russell, 2014). These major factors prevented me from contacting and conducting face-to-face interviews with the victims. Therefore, a qualitative survey was conducted as a supportive tool. These interviews were a reflection on those individuals, groups, states, and non-state stakeholders known to be contributing to the field of collaborative and policy unification efforts against human trafficking in the world. In this study, I used both the literature review of documents and qualitative surveys as valid sources of information that served the purpose of understanding human trafficking existence and trials (Russell, 2014).

Definition of Terms

This is the list of the terms most frequently used in this study.

Coercion: An act of humiliation and intimidation threats that creates an unfriendly and fearful environment, emotional abuse, intense manipulation, and forceful demand of sex activities (Polaris, 2016).

Collaboration: The action for team effort purpose of producing and making something great at the end as a group (Dictionary.com, 2021).

Community participation: People in a community group with one common belief, culture, and practice for the benefits and concerns. It consists of the government and other actors in resolving the issues that threaten their community environment (Tsiga, et al., 2016).

Exploitation: The common act of manipulation and advantage taking of another person for selfish interests, in this case, the sexual exploitation, forced labor/services, and other related modern slavery (UNODC, 2019).

Global: A way of relating, applying, operating, and reaching the entire world (Dictionary.com, 2021).

Human trafficking: The United Nations defined human trafficking as the recruitment, transportation, transfer, and harboring of human beings. It is a criminal act, and a form of modern-day slavery whereby human beings are being manipulated, maltreated, and controlled as property. Victims are exploited into forced involuntary labors, organ harvesting, and prostitution as human rights, safety, and existence continued to challenge (Polaris, 2018; UNODC, 2018).

Implementation: The process where decisions, plans, effects, or executions are collectively gathered to achieve a common goal (Dictionary.com, 2021).

Nongovernmental organizations (NGOs): Organizations that are not for financial gain but are instead financially sponsored and supported by both private individuals and the government at large, state, local, and federal levels for operation. In the United States, the donations received are accepted from paying taxes on the funds collected. This is also applicable to Nigeria, except there is no 501C code for tax purposes (Portney& Cuttler, 2010).

Sex trafficking: When somebody you have been forced to have sexual activity against their free will and without consenting (Polaris, 2014).

Stakeholder: A group of people with a common goal and interest in a particular business who assist and support gain or loss by providing guidelines, determining their roles and motivations, and developing and engaging in strategic planning (Preskill& Jones, 2009).

Victims/Survivors: Those who survived the abusive behavior, maltreated under and as human trafficking (UNDC, 2018).

Voodoo/Juju: In simple terms, black magic, or traditional and cultural beliefs and practices, utilized in most of the planet in century age. However, it is still acknowledged as a super national power with the ability to perform wonders through good and bad to heal disease and to place and remove curses and spells on people (UNDC, 2018).

Assumptions

Assumptions are crucial in developing research stages and providing guidelines in and during the process. The information in this study was obtained primarily from previously published literature and supported by the participant outcomes. It was assumed that extracted documents and qualitative surveys were validated and the participants responded accurately about the study. It was assumed that the data used for this study were validated for accuracy when ensuring replication of this study. The assumption remains that global human trafficking continues to exist.

Scope and Delimitations

In this case study, I sought to understand if there were barriers to policy unification and threats to the implementation for stakeholders involved in combating human trafficking in Edo State, Nigeria, and global communities. The participants were mostly from Edo State communities due to the global impact of human trafficking. I selected a sample of 14 participants. I investigated and reported what individual perspectives from areas of human services and law-enforcement officers believed to be factors that prevented the implementation of the existing policy in Edo State and global policy unification. The victims were omitted and not contacted for these qualitative surveys in order to protect them from any potential memory lapse of the past experiences and flashbacks from the past encountered at the hands of those traffickers. In this study, I focused on secondary data analysis and qualitative surveys where data were extracted from previous documents, literature, articles, and policies on both governmental and nongovernmental agencies. These resource documents were from previous scholarly

writing on human trafficking, were validated and reliable, and included reports from other social media links. According to Creswell (2013), a qualitative study using a methodological approach focuses on a small sample approach, which helps gather adequate data from different perspectives that provide the needed outcome of the results to respond to the research questions.

As Yin expressed (2014), that, the qualitative case study focuses on different data resources because the collectiveness of both the secondary documents and qualitative surveys were enlightening to the individual perspectives. An applicable resource for this study was evidenced by cleared reports and assurance, which were used to encourage citizens to understand the ability to contribute to the individual community's awareness, education, and socioeconomic status. This approach eventually helped to create and establish more opportunities in empowerment for training in Edo State and the communities around the world.

The basic delimitation of this study was in policy unification and barriers that prevented the implementation approach to a lack of inadequate enforcement of the police to combat human trafficking. This persistence in combating human trafficking was in conjunction with its complexity in operation, weaknesses, and lack of global policy unification. Therefore, trafficking in persons continues to be a global challenge and should be handled decisively by global bodies with carefully planned strategies, solutions, and executions. One of the main reasons I acknowledged collaborative policy unification is because effective disciplinary action should be expected and applicable to those offenders. The selected and limited access to research based on the data collected

and what other factors have contributed to attracting females in Edo State. Victims have also been used for different forms of slavery duties regardless of what would have been the initial goal and purpose for trafficking, and all are part of human trafficking.

For this reason, I extracted and focused on both documents and qualitative surveys that were validated and shared by reliable research documents, literature, and articles on both governmental and nongovernmental agencies. In addition to research and publication documents, other applicable documents were from social media connections. However, many global and scholarly researchers have exploited and understood the factors behind why human trafficking is not being combated (Burke, 2015). The gap still exists because there is still not enough information to collect accurate statistics to validate the collaboration on the policy unification among the interested ant trafficking stakeholders.

This would empower those interested groups and stakeholders engaged in combating human trafficking in communities and regions that are most prominent for trafficking. Collaborative bodies that are among those interested groups for the implementation of policy unification could be globally acknowledged and enforced. When closed, those borders and weak ports of entrances that were utilized for the operating channel, the impact, and the outcome was expected to minimize and decrease the number of people trafficking through this operational point.

Limitations

Some of the limitations in this study were based on unpredictable and uncontrolled circumstances (Brutus et al., 2013). Therefore, the population selected and

targeted in this study focused on female sex trafficking in Edo State, Nigeria, which was a limitation, and other regions were excluded from the study. Another important limitation of this study was the use of secondary data extracted from existing documents, which may not provide true, valid information. In addition, I conducted a qualitative survey with participants, in return, helped to explore more in dept information. One of the benefits derived from sending emails is getting responses on time. I had no control over how the participants responded to the interview questions. To avoid any potential bias from the interviews, I objectively evaluated each participant's response individually without prejudging their view and opinion about female sex trafficking in Edo State.

Significance of the Study

The study addressed a gap in policy unification and implementation as I sought to implement global policy unification in conjunction with the collaboration of the stakeholders. It was helpful to explore what factors were obstructing the combating of human trafficking. With that, I focused on collaboratively implementing those existing policies into the global standards of practice. This could be accomplished by establishing stronger collaborative solutions among interested stakeholders of human trafficking, particularly the Edo State government and the legislative bodies. In addition to policy unification, an exploration of the inadequate and unequal socioeconomic distribution of wealth had been indicated in the process. Those evaluations of other potential factors that caused and attracted these victims to be engaged and became vulnerable target population and victims.

The qualitative methodological approach was selected in this study because I aimed to understand the barriers and implications by exploring various documents, literature, journals, books, numerous social media connections, and a qualitative survey supplication. The design used for this study allowed me to explore data collected, and a qualitative survey was conducted with selected representatives who had been in contact with human trafficking cases, including human services representatives and government and law enforcement officer activist representatives. This data was collected through the use of the survey monkey as the questions were presented to participants in selected optional form. The results were analyzed in a figurative form using the survey monkey software and individually, explained the outcome of the respondents based on how the questions were presented and asked.

Summary

More relevant work needs to be done in the field of policy unification and implementation to combat human trafficking, especially factors that triggered both the victims and the traffickers to be involved with human trafficking. The most recent perspective continued to view human trafficking as a criminal act against humanity. Global exposure to various aspects of social media appeared more reasonable to re-establish an innovative approach through the spread of community awareness, public education, and training needed for policy unification and implementation. Nonetheless, it helped to implement global disciplinary action for the offenders. Also, this study addressed those potential factors of socioeconomic status, political and social changes that were used in addressing the victims' freedom and ability to reenter the societal

workforce. The opportunity to be empowered and accepted without being individually restricted, judged, and prejudiced by societal opportunities.

The narrative policy framework, advocacy coalition framework, and victimology theory were used to gain more individual perspectives in understanding trafficking and why persistence was prevented. I also explored other related resources that have triggered the factors for intervention on female sex trafficking. In addition to this Chapter 1 for more on research ability and why collaborative action of stakeholders is needed to have an effective policy unification. Chapter 2 is the review of the literature in conjunction with publication articles on human trafficking.

Chapter 2: Literature Review

Introduction

The purpose of this qualitative case study was to explore perceived barriers to implementing collaborative policy unification in Edo State, Nigeria. The existing records reviewed revealed a lack of adequate attention in addressing human trafficking policy in a current existing lawmaker (legislation). As a result, those existing policies are rarely reinforced, emphasized, and implemented fully by officers of different governmental sectors designated and responsible for enforcement. As Kim (2018) observed, a literature review aids researchers in creating awareness and developing trends of rapport with the audience and readers, in addition to summarizing the existing research. A literature review was essential in research because it provides a comprehensive overview of scholarly work from past to present.

In this chapter, I review my approach for searching for the literature, the theoretical frameworks, and the related and essential key concepts. The theoretical and conceptual frameworks were useful in creating a research path and grounding firmly the theoretical construction. These two frameworks aimed to make research findings more meaningful and remarkable to the theoretical construction in the research forum, which helped in ensuring the generalization. They helped stimulate research work while acknowledging the extension of knowledge by providing both directions and investigations to the research inquiry, empiricism, and rigor of research work.

Literature Research Strategy

In general terms, the databases used in researching information on human trafficking were: Library catalog, open websites were utilized to define what applied to scholarly Google, academic search publications, Scholarly resources on human trafficking, Euro-Just, Europol and Fronted news, Interpol, and UNODC, IOM, science Drive, Wiley, Proust, Springer, Gale, Search engine, Public policy, and administration database and in addition to my study analysis and all are limited to 14 years in publications. In addition, to searching databases, I also reviewed previously researched documents on female sex trafficking provided to me through qualitative surveys with participants from human services and law-enforcement workers.

The first literature review section was created to discuss the narrative policy framework as the main theoretical foundation for this study, with the subsections on advocacy coalition framework and victimology theory. Thereby presenting the Edo state policy on human trafficking with other sections on the definition of female sex trafficking. I also discuss the studies conducted by several researchers that include statistics on human trafficking, the nature, and effect of human trafficking on the victims and offenders, as well as the policy implementation process in Edo state. This policy implementation process focused on combating human trafficking thereby creating and providing services needed for surviving victims of human trafficking, as the Nigerian government remains behind in providing and meeting the standard requirement needed for the Victims of human trafficking. Finally, in this chapter, I also reviewed other related

concepts like trafficking in general, its causes, its consequences, and its impact on local and international environments.

Theoretical Foundation

It is important to identify and address human trafficking, as a global issue, and how it had affected the global economic and political sectors (Sabatier & Weible, 2014). The following frameworks were selected: policy framework, advocacy coalition framework, and victimology. Each of these three contributed to providing the perspectives on how the participants needed to respond to the questions with NPF (Narrative Policy Framework) as the key area of major focus. Then, all these were analyzed, evaluated, and connected to the theoretical frameworks, research questions, and the dissertation topic.

The Narrative Policy Framework

The narrative policy framework was founded in the year 1960 by Walter Fisher. This framework is based on the idea that meaningful communication and utilized to understand the complexity of an event.

Mc Beth et al. (2014) evaluated and expressed the impact and importance of the narrative approach in the qualitative study, along with the history of policy created and implemented. This observation was also cited on the Westboro Baptist Church, where anti-gay interest and activist groups were utilized when referring to the passage of the Bible 1:24-32 noted in Romans as one of the Apostles implementing words of affection with the issue of female sex trafficking in Edo State (Mc Beth et al., 2014). This was one of the ideal things about the Apostle's admonition, where the power of this narrative was

displayed to impact and mold and influence public policy unification. Sheffield, et al. (1949) also reported psychological research findings in ‘narrative power’ using the Second World War educational and propaganda tools as the British people’s resolve never to give up in the face of the hopeless odds and challenges.

An important argument made by McComas & Shanahan regarding NPF was that the influence on NPF could help in shaping the actions and beliefs, and studies related also pointed out the need for community and collaborative involvement in incorporating activities and programs that impact the community welfare.

The Edo state government officials have been proactive in implementing their policies and programs ten combating human trafficking Still, the strategies implemented have not effectively been activated to benefit the community at large.

Advocacy Coalition Framework

This framework was constructively bound together by those that shared common beliefs and practices that were limited to a set of causal values but with an expectation and assumption for problem perception. In other words, the coalition actors with different beliefs donated and overpowered other policy subsystems (Bennett & Hewlett, 1992). This policy framework was applicable to support the collaboration of the interested stakeholders in unifying policy that would be a global disciplinary action against human traffickers in any place the crime may have been committed. Although there were other factors to be exported, Edo state, when traced back, cultural influence played vital roles in those vulnerable victims of female sex trafficking.

Victimology Theory

This theory explores more factors and trends that inspired policy unification, which was a major contributing factor in female sex trafficking in Edo State, Nigeria Brimah, (2013). This would be helpful by understanding the relationship between the traffickers (perpetrator) and the victims and why certain populations, regions, or ethnicities were more at risk of being trafficked than others. This condition and reflection with Edo state as famous for human trafficking among other states and communities in the country, Nigeria Farrell, (2015). Some questions, at times, came upon the areas of “applicable programs and services that needed to prepare and protect those vulnerable populations in the communities. Dussich (2014) expresses that Edo State was exemplary of those victimized communities in connection to inadequately equipped opportunities with imposed limited education and skills needed in the societal aspect of success. In all, each of these frameworks relates to my research topic in its way.

Literature Review

Concept of Human Trafficking

There are many definitions and descriptions of human trafficking. Many scholarly researchers on the subject of human trafficking’ had given it multiple definitions whereas several efforts had been made to define, as well as to generate contentious debates, Olajuwon as cited in EJSR (2018). Defining and separating the human trafficking concept remained a global challenge and, therefore, needed to be addressed. Braimah (2013) traced the importance of conceptualization with human trafficking to be instrumental with the abolition of trafficking in human beings that eroded from the year

1926 slavery convention and onward. According to Braimah (2013), the process expressed an additional international instrument that had been used in integrating other provisions in dealing with the prohibition of human trafficking, which was not limited to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966). In favor of that, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948); and the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (1979) were all part of the group. The United Nations Convention for suppressing the traffic in persons and that of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others (1949) were among the partners. Braimah (2013) documented and implemented other international instruments, which had been developed to be useful in combating human trafficking, particularly towards female sex exploitation. These instrumentals were from the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its two protocols, which were the United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children (UNDP), and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea, and Air.

Gallagher in Braimah (2013) observed that the UNTP gained significant support as an international instrument on trafficking because it initialed the first international agreement and acceptable definition of human trafficking that were recognized globally. An article of three of the UNTP defined human trafficking as trafficking in person byways of transfer, recruitment, transportation, and harboring of persons, by a threatened or forceful act of coercion and abduction, fraud, deception, and abuse power on vulnerable. These involved and included on any payment, exchange, or benefit to achieve

the personal aim without consented in taking control over that person, or exploitation, and prostitution, in forms of sexual exploitation and forced labor.

Braimah (2013) also observed that providing a detailing definition of trafficking by UNDP had a straight aim, in its preamble, it had encouraged and supported the interested groups to adapt to the powerful three Ps: Prevention, Punishment, and protection. These were not just words but applicable words that enhanced other nations and stakeholders in applying the workable and effective solution in combating human trafficking. The U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) made an important statement that generated public support and necessity to prevent the victims from being physically moved from one border to another for exploitation. This, in effect, had created a guideline on human trafficking violations on labor and immigration laws, disciplinary action on government corruption, and organized crime (NYT.Com.USGAO).

Causes of Human Trafficking

Most causes of trafficking could be attributed to both endogenous and exogenous, respectively. Then from the point of exogenous perspective, many researchers had connected with socio-economic and political changes in the global North to the South. Davidson (2016) "observed an idea of trafficking in human beings as an act of wickedness with no justification. By the year 1990s, attention and popularity were gained, marking the end of the twentieth century, in a context of successive change and the establishment of global economic and political orders. After the effect of the era of social democratic consensus, which created state interventions in capitalist societies' market mechanisms to protect human beings and created citizens' unification? These

groups contested successfully to expand the market focusing globally and within nations, thereby, gained and acquiring political positions. Neo-liberal economically restructured new position for another group that visualized and took advantage of the industrialization in the global north, thereby; spread productive section in the global South. Then, the ascertain traffic categories that were previously sanctioned, effectively controlled, and closely monitored; we are unable to be controlled. Then, an effect of unregulated had created an avenue for traffickers to take advantage of weak policy implementation, practices requirements, and guidelines implementation (Davidson, 2016).

During the peak trend of events, the Berlin wall came down, and many communist governmental communities had crumbled. In the effect of the cold war, the closed monitoring of those communist States over their citizens was considered excessive and a violation of human rights. However, loopholes created easy access and a lack of control against the political agenda in western liberal societies and channels to free the traffickers.

The endogenous have caused attribution to many socio-economic, cultural, and political factors in the communities. While the use of instruments of violence distorted that magnified those conditions of hardship, insecurity and therefore created profitable markets for trafficking in the communities. It was unfortunate to witness attribution, from unemployment, poverty, and limited opportunities to excel. The struggle for financial inability has forced motivated the trend for trafficking in human beings globally push/pull variables that made women and girls more vulnerable to be connected to traffickers

compared to gender inequality. These explanatory variables were noted to be mutually encouraged by those irresponsible for the advancement of others.

The era of military governments in Nigeria had contributed immensely to the cause of human trafficking and human rights violations by successive presidential leaders and political instability, social and economic crises. This negatively affected the efforts made in integrating women and children in community involvement and development designed to advance societal effects (UNESCO). Poverty was one of the major factors that dominated motivation to be involved and be vulnerable to the hands of traffickers as most illegal trade scales with criminal connections.

Global Dimensions of Misfortunes Associated with Trafficking in Human Beings

Death is one major issue or outcome of human trafficking. Data published by the international organization for Migration (IOM) estimated that more than 40,000 migrants had died from 2000 to 2013 during illegal and unsafe movement, about 6000 on the US-Mexico border and 22,000 on the borders of the European Union, as many victims were from the Mediterranean regions (IOM, 2014). From 1993 to 2012, the organization for United for Intercultural Action documented 17,306 deaths of refugees and migrants that attributed to the formation of border militarization, detention policies, deportations, and carrier sanctions in Europe (United, 2012), covering the period from 2000 to 2014, reported on the database border death toll of 1,969 at the Australian frontier (ABDD, 2015). There was a high political and media effect on the loss and huge death toll among those trying to get to Europe by crossing the Mediterranean from Libya in early 2015 with an estimated death toll of 2000 (Global post, 2015).

Local Dimensions of Misfortunes Associated with Trafficking in Human Beings

Trafficking victims suffered from different emotional, physical, and psychological problems because of coercion and violence experienced during their trafficking encountered. Health consequences were not limited to bodily injuries, sexually transmitted infections, and other complications from rape or unsafe abortion, anxiety, depression, traumatic and post-traumatic stress, but potentially possible suicidal ideation. The complexity of the outcome of these health issues, victims of trafficking (VOT) have limited access to health care, as most women were trafficked into sex victims below the probability of using health and social services than non-trafficked sex victims (Aha et al., 2013).

What State Actors Are Doing to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings

Many leaders and lawmakers have taken steps to address human tracking. In one example, United States 68th Secretary of State (2013-2017) John Kerry gave a speech related to combating human trafficking as in both local necessity and national security. It created a deliberation effort at submerging a more generated project of preventing unauthorized movement and implementing action against illegal migration. This project to more expansion of state powers about the trafficking of people, vehicles, and transportation routes more generalized and monitored.

In another example of leaders addressing human trafficking, Italian Prime Minister “Matteo Renzi” Made another remarkable comment when he addressed that, human traffickers were the slave traders of the 21st century, and they should be brought to justice Renzi, NYT, (2015). In the 1990s, the European Union made sanctions by the

state government that were administered against transporting passengers without the proper documentation that was strengthened and harmonized within the EU from the year (2005) Somers, et al., as cited in Davidson, (2016). In the western area of Europe, North America, and Australia precisely, surveillance used for monitoring of people and vehicles were massively intensified and placed in operation. Additionally, new traffic regulations had been developed to meet the States' growing desire to control their individual borders Anderson (2014).

In the United States and Europe, respectively, State communities had invested huge funds on erected barriers to migration movements and border protections. The scale of the market for border security was increasing in European regions and the world, with total growth expected to exceed 56.52 billion in the USD for land and maritime borders by 2022 (Baird, 2015). Some of the allocated and distributed funds were spent on constructing and maintaining traditional methods of exclusion that included walls, fences, checkpoints, and security guards. The measurement applied to those unauthorized forms of border crossing that became increasingly in use of high-tech and government made provision in providing demand for unmarked aerial vehicles (UAVs) or drones used to monitor and control the borders. The period of the 2000s was the era of investing in new surveillance systems, allowing for the combination and installation of high-tech cameras and patrols (Anderson, 2014), and commercial trucks that were detected and indicated in the presence of migrants (Albahari& Davidson, 2016).

The 2000s marked a new extension of the European Union's outward assessment of immigration controlled and strengthened border enforcement to *Gatekeepers for buff*

buffed States agreed on through an effort to implement restrictions on visa application, sanctions, military training and an establishment of migration defended facilities” (Davidson, 2016). This was a new transaction in traffic monitoring where the EU member states used their political and economic power to encourage and pay their non-EU neighbors from Northern and Western African States to initiate certain control over them, they contacted and connected to other countries of Africans to work extremely dubious human rights records, such as Libya both under the Gaddafi era, held and processed Andrijasevic, (2010). The innovative technologies of surveillance have been extended and ‘transactional policy network in expenditure into surrounded communities. High-tech venture targeted the figure of the undocumented immigrant funded by the EU, the Seahorse Project, recorded success in 2010 by pulling in Spain, Portugal, Mauritania, Cape Verde, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, and Morocco Anderson (2014).

Nigeria States have applied its legal mechanisms and utilized the international conventions and protocols on human trafficking to address the trafficking in human beings (THB) and respond to the plights of the victims. There were two criminal codes used in Nigeria, the Criminal Code applicable in Southern Nigeria and the Penal Code applicable in Northern Nigeria. These have several provisions for protecting children and youth from harmful and sexual exploitation and are listed in sections 34 and 42 of the 1999 constitution to identify the perceived barriers for implementing existing Edo State Policy and that of the United Nations as collaborative in policy unification. The necessity that deepened democratic culture made by the House of Assembly to pass laws that protected children's rights included the Edo state passing a law that banned prostitution in

2001; Anambra State banned children from working during school hours. Others included signing bilateral agreements with other communities for repatriation and rehabilitation of trafficked Nigerian children. They were signed into law by the National Assembly of the Trafficking in Persons Prohibitions Laws Enforcement and Administration Act (2003); and the establishment of the National Agency for Prohibition of Traffic in Persons to arrest and prosecute those involved in child trafficking through the law orders (Olujuwon, as cited in EJSR, 2008).

Geographical Dynamics of Human Trafficking in Nigeria

Specifically, within the context of Nigeria, there are geographical dynamics to human trafficking. The origin of Victims of Trafficking in Nigeria (VOT) could be possible traced into every part of the communities and region of the country, with the selected state being the most affected communities as in Oyo, Osun, and the Ogun States in the South- West, Akwa-Ibom, Cross River, the Bayelsa States in the South-South; Ebonyi and Imo in the southeast; Benue, Niger, and the Kwara States in the Middle Belt. They were also modified and traceable to other communities such as Lagos, Abeokuta, Ibadan, Kano, Kaduna, Calabar, and Port Harcourt. People trafficked to these communities were mostly utilized for exploitative domestic work, agricultural labor, and prostitution, found in the bigger and busier cities like Lagos (UNESCO). On a global scale, trafficked Nigerians migrated from all Nigerian communities, but some states tend to have more trafficked persons than others. These states include but were not limited to Akwa Ibom, Cross River, Delta, Imo, Ebonyi, Kano, and Lagos and the top-ranked from the Edo State (UNESCO). Other neighboring areas have also responded. Some of the

surrounded nations and sub-regions of the West African countries to Nigerian have been harvested and designated for Nigerian trafficked women and children, such as the Republic of Benin, Togo, Cote d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Cameroun, Gabon, and Guinea. These were the exited point where trafficked persons were destined to work mostly as domestic servants and non-agricultural plantation workers. The recent data identified both women and young females trafficked for prostitution in Benin to be Nigerians, in that most of these victims of trafficking (VOT) were found to be the victims deceived with empty promises trapped to believing that their destination would be into one of the European nations (UNESCO).

There has been an increase in trafficking in Nigerian women and females to the European continent to be engaged in working as domestic servants. Also, another area for an increased number of young females has been trafficked and engaged in the act of claiming asylum to European nations. The data reported on May 9, 2001, by Daily Telegraph states, Nigerian women and young females traveled to Europe through the desert of Northern Africa that took months to reach their final destination and to find out that the Professional work promised was nothing but forced labor and prostitution.” The report made from ICPO- 2000, with 92% of Nigerians trafficked to Europe for prostitution was from the Edo State of Nigeria; this was an alarming figure that needed to be carefully addressed.

Trafficking in Human Beings (THB) had boomed in Benin City, the capital of Edo State, and other cities in Delta State. This kind of trend called for attention and needs to be investigated and evaluated to place some workable solutions into the situation. In

responding to the trend of human trafficking, the provision to control the illegal movements as processed, including the use of the highways, seas, and border-controlled devices as an anti-trafficking campaign and strategic approach. It had created some challenges in implementation, because of a drastic movement and integration exchanged from urban communities to rural areas. The record was also found that they were other recruitment areas within the Nigerian States, such as Enugu, Lagos, Ogun, and Anambra, on a limited scale (ICPO-Nigeria Division, 2000).

In the area of traffickers, reports also revealed some Middle East regions as other festinating entry port allocations, like Libya and Saudi Arabia, respectively. The recruitment of young females trafficked to Saudi Arabia came from the Northern States of Nigeria, a high percentage from other States in Nigeria, including Kano, Kaduna, Niger, Sokoto, Katsina, Adamawa, and many other states in the Northern region of the country. Nigeria (NIS-UNICEF). From 2002 to 2004, estimation for the statistical data of Nigeria immigration service in Saudi Arabia, reported a huge record of 9,952 women into the country, with 1,231 accountable as underage females, “what an alarming figure’ indeed, ground to continue in combating against human trafficking.

Edo State Prominence in the Trafficking of Human Beings (THB) Information about Trafficking in Human Beings (THB) in Nigeria had been mostly the product supplied by the print media in Nigeria. They provided reports on those agents working for THB and those who were victims rescued from the captivity of traffickers. The Guardian newspaper of 17 January 2001 in Boogie (2003) reported the Women Trafficking and Child Labor Eradication Foundation (WOTCLEF) where over 1,116

trafficked victims were rescued, with young females representing captives coming from different nations in 2001. Most of these young females were subjected and used in the trafficking of sex slaves and prostitution Cartels.

In addition, Punch Newspaper, in October 2001, reported about Cross River State of Nigeria hosting the main transitional point for THB due to the high-security alert against their activities in Edo state. A prominent Edo Chief, Insecure (Boogie, 2003), observed that traffickers had grouped themselves into a complex Cartel, with many of them having proprieties across the states and other communities in the country. This had incentivized young females and families to continue engaging in such an act for making money (Okojie, 2003).

Edo state research institutions have performed some incredible surveys that were investigating and reporting validity of the situation of THB in the communities, such as, in the year 2002, the Women's Health and Action Research Center (WHARC) conducted a community-based survey on the extent of female sex trafficking in Benin City, the Edo state capital, where several females were randomly selected from the ages 15-30 and were all interviewed in their homes to determine their knowledge on trafficking. Some persons who offered to help them get documents needed to travel outside the country (Okojie, as cited in Dubukumah, 2014) had approached the result shown that 5% of them confessed to having traveled outside were 32%. Then, Dubukumah (2014) reported the effect of respondents to field surveys conducted on THB in Edo state and how the actions were justified by either the entire family members, relatives, or the community due to economic challenges that confronted them and had forced most young females and

minors into prostitution to the Western nations. Dukubumah (2014) identified destination countries of Spain, Italy, Germany, Belgium, and the Netherlands as the most attractive places for traffickers and victims.

The outcomes of field surveys provided ample evidence of the prevalence of trafficking in human beings from the Edo State of Nigeria. Lawal (2009) reported the findings of a field survey titled: “Human Trafficking in Edo state, social and economic studies” noted that certain factors had contributed immensely to human trafficking in the Edo State communities. These factors were not limited but reflected the Nigerian post-civil War effect of three years (1967 – 1970). The point was the effect and period post-war fever, which brought crimes, corruption, and the anti-social effect that, in part, took control of many communities, where a handful of females, girls, and women were forcefully raped. Other contributing factors were not limited to the corruption of military regimes (1966-1979) and again from (1984-1998) respectively, as societal communities continued to encounter instability challenges. The socio-economic influence of the Structural Adjustment Programmed which had lasted for eight years from (1986-1993); that created both physical and sexual abuse of teenage girls, then the collapsing of family values and norms, owing to prevalent in polyandry, adultery, and prostitution to satisfy the inordinate in the society. The lack of parental role models, the uprising of peer pressure, and societal pressure to make quick money despite the risk involved and consequences to overcome the economic deprivation and ability to support the family contributed to traffic financially. These influential factors were a motivation for trafficking in human beings in Edo state, which continued to prevail (Lawal, 2009).

The field survey by Dukubumah (2014) also identified political, economic, cultural, and social factors as motivating factors for human trafficking in Edo State. By describing incidences of corrupt practices among the state agencies, which resulted in mismanagement and distribution displacement of state resources, and the unwillingness of state security agencies to implement and prosecute human traffickers as problems, weaken the political strength of state actors. On the side of the economic sphere, unemployment had created an enormous number of the impoverished, leading some people to seek an alternative source of income in human trafficking. The cultural belief and practices among young females were relegated to domestic duties while their male counterparts were helped to seize potential opportunities in the professional economic standards. The deprivation of these resources tended to force the impoverished young females and girls to gain financial support through sex trafficking. Because of all these factors and influences, many of these females became illiterates, and the impact of lack of professional skills and education level made them most vulnerable to be recruited by human traffickers. In conclusion, a strong connection between illiteracy and human trafficking among young females in Edo state was substantiated to this case study.

The Edo State female perception was considered empowerment regarding sex trafficking. In Osezua (2016), a study titled, “changing the status of women and the phenomenon of trafficking of women for transactional sex in Nigeria” reported that the number of women, especially those uneducated females conceived and perceived trafficking as an empowering process with prestigious tag due to financial gain offered. Some cases reported on agreeable mutual consent between couples' involvement in

international transactional sex activities; consequently, such marriages were not threatened by such women's involvement in transactional sex. Likewise, younger females with prestige and involved in international sex transactions appeared to be held in high prestige and respect by their families and communities due to an improved financial status. Their decision-making position is intended to be valued for the reason of financial power and not to be argued or disputed. These young females, in return, were viewed in the families as economic liberators as they continue to support the family financially, thereby, been perceived as messianic (Osezua, 2016).

The Population Targeted for Trafficking in Edo State

Juvenile prostitution was higher among female teens. At the international level, any person of age could be a target of trafficking, through where most were young females, especially in this study. The data recorded of victims of juvenile prostitution was estimated to be 90% female with ranging ages in 14-17, with that, 82% of victims of internet-facilitated sexual exploitation were females. Then, 71% were aged from 13-17 years old, and 21% were 6-12 years old. More than half of these victims were residing in urban areas and had previously run away and were eloped from home, challenged with economic poverty before their human trafficking experiences. Human trafficking was potentially linked with immigrants, particularly those undocumented papers and illegal without proper papers and documents to live in a foreign land (Portland State University, 2011).

Nonstate Actors in Nigeria on Human Trafficking

Many of these non-governmental organizations and women's rights organizations continued to protest the government's inability to prosecute and discipline well-known traffickers. The conviction of traffickers was quite rare, and even if convicted were typically released within a brief period without proper due process of the law.

Table 1 reflects what non-state actors in Nigeria are doing to help in combating human trafficking in the communities as each organization developed its strategies and activities on how to approach the issue of trafficking (Olujuwon, 2013).

Table 1*Nongovernmental Organizations in Nigeria for Combating Human Trafficking*

Name	Strategies	Activates
Women consortium of Nigeria, Lagos	Sensitization and awareness creation IEC materials	Skills acquisition
Idea Renaissance, Benin Edo State	Empowerment education, public advocacy, monitoring, and evaluation	Skills acquisition and rehabilitation, underprivileged scholarship scheme, public advocacy at the community level, and the anti-trafficking surveillance network
Women trafficking and child labor eradication foundation	Advocacy counseling, education, sensitization, and empowerment	Initiated a private bill that led to the NAPTIP Act 2003 that established brigades in schools, youth advocacy, and an annual competition
Women's Rights Watch, Benin Edo State	Free legal representation, advocacy alerts database of violations of women's rights	Micro-credits skills acquisition center, and an advocacy campaign through the internet and media
Human rights center, Ebonyi State	Sensitization education	Outreach programmed skills acquisition
Central educational services	Sensitization, education, networking	Infusion of trafficking into the school curriculum

Weaknesses in Policy Implementation

History has reviewed Western governments as not always concerned with the issue to suppress prostitution, but rather, viewed trafficking in human beings as part of a wider problem of transnational organized crime that tends to be involved in groups of illegal marketing and forms of activities (Davidson, 2016). Trafficking in human beings was created with phenomena such as people smuggling, money laundering, and drug

cartels. The United Nations Convention on Transnational Organized Crime (2000) was three additional protocols mentioned in the preceding.

However, weak collaboration among global representatives as was involved in negotiations, failed to share a collective understanding of where and how to handle and control the norm and evil forms of human trafficking and business aspect Doezema, in Davidson, (2016). The bonded agreement was finally achieved at the expense of inconsistency in state policies, which contributed to the lack of improper definition of human exploitation, nature, and degree of force that constituted coercion for been unspecified, Davidson, (2016). The unclear and numerous definitions of misrepresentation between trafficking in human beings and other states are categorized as forms of people's movement, such as in smuggling and asylum-seekers (Anderson & Davidson, 2016).

In October 2014, the British Government announced its intention for withdrawing from the sanctioned and rescued operations in the Mediterranean regions. The government's spokesperson defended the move as necessary for detecting illegal migrants from embarking on treacherous voyages. The reaction of Anderson (2014) to this policy statement had likened to the scenario of removing seatbelts in cars to make drivers more risk-free many researchers have reported findings of traveling from North Africa to Europe as not inherently hazardous, and cost-effective. On average, flights from Morocco to Marseilles and Berlin were costly, ranging around 30 Euros and most could not have afforded, and for those people who took the risk of sea crossing on flimsy vessels do so because the EU immigration regime prevented them from using those

unsafe routes and the cost-effect as well. As reported, the Morocco border got much secure and safer when they were supported and offered the help and encouragement needed by the EU. The new set up by immigration legislation law helped create and placed sanctions against trafficking on human beings. This was because of an effect from smuggling that challenged the European Union to create another avenue or port of entering from Libya to become a new and crossing site for many illegal and undocumented people that passed by illegalization (Stock, 2015).

Weaknesses in Law Enforcement

Human trafficking thrived for quite a long due to the disinterested attitude of law enforcement and a feasible legal framework that focused on trafficking for sexual exploitation. Law enforcement agents, in most cases, were not well equipped, trained and lacked some of the technical expertise and gender sensitivity to handle trafficking cases (UNICEF).

Trafficked persons often alleged that some Nigerian officials had colluded with traffickers by assisting them with improper documentation, facilitating their movement across borders and through the port of entry (UNICEF). Law enforcement agents were usually reluctant to investigate violent crimes, especially those made against women and children who could not pay the cost of investigating and bribing the investigating officers. Consequently, perpetrators of rape, sexual assault, domestic violence, and human trafficking went unpunished in Nigeria. As for foreign trafficked persons, they were often treated as undocumented immigrants and deported without proper law's investigation and due process. Therefore, many factors were applicable to enhance vital

roles for those corrupted officials, complexity among those in authority. The weakness or lack of adequate tools to implement to guarantee impunity for traffickers while increasing the fight of trafficking in persons Human Rights Watch impunity for traffickers while increasing the fight against trafficking in persons (Human Rights Watch, 2014).

Other sources for a barrier to combating female trafficking ay in convincing society that human trafficking has been a problem, a serious one and should be taken very seriously whenever contacted or presented. Unawareness had been considered a major barrier, even among law enforcement officers, an estimation of 73% and 77% perceived human trafficking as rare or non-existed (Portland State University, 2011). Those officers preferred not to take proactive measures to investigate human trafficking thoroughly due to the lack of unawareness of the situation and unpreparedness to implement the law accordingly.

The Barriers against Combating Female Trafficking

There are numerous barriers faced by law enforcement when designing, preventing, and implementing the strategies. Those were not acceptable and applicable statistics on female sex trafficking but made planned combative measures less effective. An outcome depended on the account of who was providing the data as the number of individuals trafficked continued to increase from 14500 to 50000. The United States government reported (2018) that an estimation, where millions of people trafficked each year, Edo state alone contributed to 92% of women and children trafficked from Nigeria (ICPO-Nigeria Division, 2000).

It was vital to clarify the definition and prevalence of trafficking to law enforcement and other agencies helped identify and investigate victims and offenders. The elusive and complicated nature of the crime made enforcement more challenging, and ineffective in preventing unclear and multiple aspects of the complexity. The social/political/economic situations must be addressed for a preventive approach and applicable strategy to be effective and a successful approach.

Implementation of Policy and Actors in Edo State

Policymakers and actors against Trafficking in Human Beings (THB) for sexual and labor exploitation in Edo State, governmental and the traditional institutions of the state. That was to be proud and receiving supportive effort of the Nigerian Federal government at eradicating the menace of human trafficking in Nigeria and Edo state. Even though trafficking in females and children have been a global challenge on both sexual and labor exploitation, statistics reported, showed that Edo State had subsequently gained notoriety for these inhuman activities of trafficking NAPTIP, UNODC, IOM Italy, (2017). The Legislative bodies, all along, have been supportive of policy and actions against trafficking in women and children in Edo State. There were two applicable codes, the criminal code applicable in the Southern part and the Penal code applicable in the Northern part of the country Nigeria. These guidelines, protective laws, and other events, were in place to provide various and multiple provisions to protecting children and youth. These harmful activities and sexual exploitation were detailed and explained in sections 34 and 42 of the 1999 constitution (Owobu, 2014). Recently, other nations have established some newly and jointly agreements for repatriation and rehabilitation of

trafficking of Nigerian children; the signing into law by the National Assembly of the Trafficking in Persons Prohibitions Laws Enforcement and Administration Act (2003); and the establishment of National Agency for Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons. All these legislative and executive measures had responded positively but not enough to create a sizable effect on the trafficking occurrence in Nigerian communities. There were still significant enough of these incidences of trafficking in women and children helping to minimize sexual and labor exploitation. Edo State continued to utilize the different approaches in handling the situation as Chief Isekhure, a council member of the Benin traditional, lamented in one of his public speeches that traffickers were identified with the powerful cartel that owned and controlled corporative assets and properties across states of the Nigerian Federation. The International Organization for Migrations IOM Italy (2017) reported that most people arrived in Italy by sea for past years and were identified as Nigerians for past years. Fifty-nine (59%) percent of all victims of trafficking (VOT) assisted by IOM and UN Migration, respectively, and this agency in the year 2016 were Nigerians. It was on the estimation of the Organization that a staggering 80% of Nigerian women and girls who arrived by sea, the same year of 2016 were trafficked for sexual exploitation. Most of the female victims of trafficking (94%) came from Edo state in Nigeria NAPTIP, (2017).

Besides paying large sums of money to their traffickers Edo State, Nigerian VOTs often submitted to a voodoo rite that connected them by contracting to their traffickers. The so-called contract, among other things, prevented victims from revealing the names of their traffickers and giving other details that might implicate and expose them to the

identification of exploiters due to fears and threats placed on them. These threats posed serious challenges to implement policy, where actors and security agencies worked against traffickers. Victims were afraid to act against the instructions and directions because they were warned, threatened, and thereby installed fear in their minds to kill them and those of their families if they report or escape. Another intimidation approach was that of cultural practice and belief in juju (Black power) had been a strong impediment to prosecution of traffickers, noted by Arinze Orakuwe, an executive officer at the Nigerian anti-trafficking agency. Orakuwe (2018) further stated that many had not been prosecuted as anyone was willing to give a report, testify, and identify the proprietors to law enforcement (Pathfindersji, as cited in IOM Italy, 2017) reported that the voodoo bond was an obstacle to the protection of VOTs in addition to the above. IOM referred to a seventeen-year-old Nigerian girl named “Precious” who was assisted by IOM in the Italy zone. She often was unable to sleep because of the fear of punishment of being killed from voodoo rites. That was an example of how powerful fear of the bond had taken over that young girl, and she was often seen running away from different rehabilitation centers in fear of being identified and harmed.

The traditional institution in Edo state had risen to the clamor for a lasting solution to the menace of trafficking in human beings. Responding decisively to the current state of anti-trafficking actions in Edo state, was the paramount ruler of the Edo Kingdom, Oba Ewuare II, used a well-attended gathering of the Chiefs and Priests of the communities in the town hall as an opportunity to revoke the curses placed on those victims of human trafficking and transferred the curse to those human traffickers instead.

This step was applauded and well supported by most Edo communities of the good wishes and those of sympathizers (Pathfindersji, 2018). The traditional ministry of Benin, Chief Sam Igbo, the Oba, was Prime Minister, canceled and eliminated any event and occasion considered juju (spiritually negativity) under the power of the Oba to stop and delete any activity that was considered harmful to the communities.

The traffickers, victims, and their families feared the juju threats, being weaned to stop and if failed to be stopped, thereby, continued to engage in other threading behavior should blame self for any disciplinary action placed against them (Pathfindersji, 2018). The Oba's intervention was an example of roles played by non-state actors in combating human trafficking and safeguarding and protecting the victims. IOM had noted that traditional leaders held considerable moral authority and recognition in societies where traditional beliefs were prevalent. Indeed, victims of trafficking were more at home with non-state actors such as NGOs, civil society actors, and religious organizations, that, they were willingly given the full story of their predicament with traffickers and these non-state actors provided them with a safe environment to externalize their feelings (Pathfindersji, 2018).

The church was an active place in an advocacy approach to the solution on trafficking in human beings. In recent times, it had taken the form of 'Sisters' Advocacy Actions' established by the sisters that made a legislative visitation to the state governors' office to contest and request harsher executive measures against traffickers. The state police commissioner used to arrest and prosecution orders decisively on those suspected owners of brothels who helped the traffickers to lure young girls into

prostitution. The establishment of the “Town Hall Meeting,” organized by the sisters in rural communities of the state was met for social and educational reform for underage girls who were being held in brothels and used as sex workers (Pathfindersji, 2018). In these communities, the sisters held an awareness campaign to educate the public about trafficking and related evil acts against women and children. During some of the gatherings, many were helped to understand how currently illegal youth migration to foreign countries had fueled trafficking and why citizens, regardless of religion and social status, should work together to end illegal migration and trafficking on youths.

Through these interactions, the sisters learned that over 95% of families in those communities have someone who had migrated to Italy or other parts of Europe via Libya. The community members informed the sisters, thereby, made them understand that most of the young people who have traveled outside the country were not in contact with their families. No one knew the whereabouts of the most, as nothing had been heard of them for years (Pathfindersji, 2018). Unfortunately, during the gatherings, some advocating sisters were kidnapped to interfere with the movement, creating fear and discouragement for those of the community members from participating in combating human trafficking. However, and despite the kidnapping of six sisters Advocacy course, the general insecurity and lack of protection for anyone in the country had been a challenging concern for the community and the entire nation, Nigeria. They were not deterred from publicly denouncing the evil act of trafficking, and they did not even show any discouragement and disgrace from reaching out to those in authority to use their position to curb all those inhumanities done to human beings.

The Edo state government had also stepped up to fight against trafficking, in recent years, advocated more on visitation made to Godwin Obaseki, to the present governor Edo State, revealed the projected plan for ensuring the eradication of human trafficking and irregular migration affecting the region by 2020. The governors' focus and Purpose were to empower new Anti-Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants (Tip/SOM), and this task force was established in 2017 to provide homegrown solutions to the menace that had bedeviled the society (Pathfindersji, 2018).

On May 23, 2018, the Edo State, Governor, Mr. Godwin Obaseki, signed the Edo State Trafficking in Persons Prohibition Bill (2018) in Abuja. The new Act was approved by the Edo State House of Assembly that "provided an effective and comprehensive legal and institutional framework for the prohibition, prevention, detection, prosecution and punishment of human trafficking and related offenses in Edo State. According to Governor Pathfindersji (2018); it was also officially incorporated together with the 2017 Edo State Taskforce against human trafficking to become functionally and actively in the State.

The Case of the Collaborative and Unification Approach

Creating freedom of persons from East to West Europe and from global South to global North was considered a potential threat to the legitimate economics, political institutions, and national sovereignty and security of the received States. Trafficking in Human Beings was revived in policy through the feelings of the States concerned. Public awareness initiated social media attention on establishing a universal awareness that emphasized the need to continue to discuss human trafficking as a crime with a strong

focus on females propelled into prostitution. This provided the basis for stronger alliances between governmental actors in States that had already adopted prohibitionists on prostitution, especially the US and Sweden. Then, the governments, religious feminist activists, and non-governmental organizations lobbying the suppression of prostitution, such as those stranded for 'anti-trafficking policy and advocacy that had taken the form of moral obligation and accountability (Weitzer, as cited in Davidson, 2016).

The influence of such crusaders was visible in the United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, for Women and Children UN, (2000). That continued to the historical framework of human trafficking as a threefold entailing the freedom movement of women and children. Recently involved with other genders from the, which recently involved other genders from the private domestic realm and other nations without State sanction. Hence, the protocol definition of human trafficking singled out prostitution, contrary to domestic and labor workers as a potential site of coerced labor, and the protocol that is specifically concerned with suppressing, preventing, and punishing trafficking in women and children. Other anti-trafficking policies existed in many communities that continued to have a long history of state control over the mobility and sexuality of roving women and children alike (Kaptur, as cited in Davidson, 2016).

A collaborative and unification approach in eliminating Trafficking in Human beings (THB) began with preventive strategies approach in all countries of the world. Implementation of successful and preventive strategies would be included in modifying and adjusting existing laws, increasing training for law enforcement officials,

collaborating between interested agencies of state and non-state organizations, and improving inaccessibility on victims who interacted and cooperated with law enforcement (Portland State University, 2011). Contrary to the prevention of human trafficking should be defined by lawmakers in such illegal exploitation, aspects of good anti-trafficking laws included in a broader definition of the concept of coercion, and well-articulated. The definition of trafficking; technically developed for victims; explicated relief for trafficking victims, protection for victimized children, and provision for legal access for the victim's expression (US Department of State, 2004; Newton et al., 2008)

Researchers Perrin (2010) and Newton et al. (2008) debated on the creation of anti-trafficking laws and reformation of prostitution laws that could be accessed and feasible suspicions and potential victims. Then, the risk for exploitation was identified, acceptable, and treated for the same as a similar victim of a crime. Along the same line of expression, Newton suggested for law enforcement personnel to protect victims and provide services like those for mentally and physically health-challenged these types of nurturing environments could empower victims to be testified and made a report against offenders. Other important collaborative actions included making community resources such as bystander mobilization, providing education and trained, safe, facilitated centers, victim resources that connected, intervened, and investigated (Mitchell et al., 2010).

Part of the collaborative approach was emphasized collaboration among law enforcement agencies on regional communities, federal, and international levels. Trafficking in Human Beings (THB) involved the mobility of people between points of entry source and destination, thus involving various jurisdictions requiring the

cooperation of multiple law enforcement agencies. The British Prime Minister (Theresa May), the British Home Secretary, reported her intention to introduce a Modern Slavery Bill aimed at strengthening existing anti-trafficking law and erasing the evil act in the community (Davidson, 2016). Nigeria ratified the United Nations policy on Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially for Women and Children in 2001, thereby, passed a national law against trafficking entitled “Trafficking in Persons Prohibition Law Enforcement and Administration Act of 2003.” Nigeria was one of the few African nations that passed such a law, and the Child Rights Act in 2003, which dealt exclusively with the issue, pertained to the welfare of child trafficking.

In 2006, the regional African continent conference, which was ECOWAS and CCCAS, held their first meeting in Abuja, Nigeria. Other active members of NAPITIP, presented with other supportive members by UNICEF, ILO, UNODC, and the IOM. The President for special adviser on issues of trafficking in persons held a conference, designed to share each country's experiences and develop a common platform of action against trafficking in persons in West and Central Africa regions. Presently, over 15 member States from both ECOWAS and ECCAS, included was UNICEF that was signed into law for the Multilateral Cooperation Agreement on Combating Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children (Table 2), which emphasized the creation and revision of laws, increased training, collaborative efforts, and victim’s considerations. Human trafficking could be combated if not fully eliminated in our communities both at local and global levels when properly verifiable with applicable policy unification.

Table 2*Gender and Age Group of Trafficked Victims*

Age group	Percentage	Source
Children	28.0	UNODC
Women	51.0	UNODC
Men	21.0	UNODC

Source: UNODC, 2016 Report in Qualitative Field Survey, 2020

Summary

The expected outcome came through creating and revising existing laws, increased training, collaborative efforts, victim considerations, and human trafficking prevention for both local and global levels.

The reflective themes were carefully selected after performing literature research on social demand, qualitative for human trafficking, the vulnerable population, and political perspectives when creating policy. Socio-economic status tends to be the driving force due to the continuous demand for prostitutes (ILO, 2012). Monetary gain tends to be another contributing factor for victims and traffickers to be engaging in sex crimes as the demand and supply of victims remain in the endless market. Those with limited educational background, financial instability, and poverty were more susceptible to the crime of human trafficking in our communities as a trend for trafficking.

The policy unification process could take years to be addressed but with human trafficking being a global concern, it may take fewer years to be addressed due to the impact of social media. This qualitative research design will help in understanding and addressing those populations that are most targeted so they could avoid being a victim of

human trafficking. In conclusion, the information obtained will be a guide that provides solutions for combating human trafficking.

Chapter 3 emphasizes the five key components of the methodology and describes how this study was conducted, expectations, and outcomes.

Chapter 3: Research Method

Introduction

The purpose of this qualitative case study was to explore perceived barriers to implementing collaborative policy unification in Edo State, Nigeria. The idea and aim of the study were to seek an alternative approach on how to apply effective policy unification in combating trafficking in Edo State, Nigeria.

The goal for developing an effective strategic approach would be focused on those barriers that prevented the policy implementation and those challenges that were likely to affect the effectiveness of combating human trafficking. Other possible challenging factors were socio-economic, political, and cultural influences that need to be addressed in this research study. The formation of policy implementation that would be, also, applicable in global disciplinary action and punishment in any part of the world regardless of where an actual crime is being committed and operated. This research study was used in conjunction with determinants on the progress made within the Edo State community in Nigeria. This would include other Nations in establishing global collaboration of partnership with stakeholders around the communities, with better workable policy, such as the U. S. Department of State's expectation (2010). Chapter 3 consists of five components, described how this study was conducted as listed below:

1. An explanation of the design, rationale, and questions to the study.
2. An explanation of the method and the reasons for selection.
3. Giving the method clarification and position.
4. Describing the approach of the method in assimilating.
5. Describe the design and ethical concerns related to this study.

All the selected valid documents were from various literature, books, and other related social media links on human sex trafficking.

Research Design and Rationale

This study aimed to explore perceived barriers to implementing collaborative policy unification in Edo State, Nigeria. The reason and supportive data for this study were comprehensively extracted from previously written and validated documents related to human trafficking and a qualitative survey. The need to seek to explore findings to a better understanding of barriers, experienced, knowledge, and perceptions of Edo State communities on female sex trafficking, for the need for policy unification and collaborative efforts. This was elaborated on how stakeholders and other interested groups related to various networking systems collaborate with different organizations for policy unification. To fully understand the impact and perception of these victims and organizers working with human trafficking communities, it was important to obtain a concept for those that were economically trafficked for commercial sex and seek to understand their personal views about the trend. This created a focal point for a better understanding of the importance of collaborative policy and its impact on diversified cultural norms, practices, and perceptions (Seidman, 2006).

Case Study

The aim of this study was based on both compiling and exploiting the existed literature on female sex trafficking by using secondary data from the previously written and related literature that contained valid documents and enhanced with a qualitative survey. This study was selected as most fitted to help understand the Edo State's abilities

when it comes to combating human trafficking. Case studies are usually utilized in performing data analysis (Yin, 2014). According to Creswell, (2007), defined the history of case study for been popularly utilized in various aspects of discipline among researchers. The face-to-face interview approach could have been applicable in this study, but it was replaced with a qualitative survey considering the effects and risks. As was cited by Creswell (2007) which expressed where the combination of ideas and solutions were part of the focus and plan on how qualitative research design related to matching methodologies. Thereby, accumulated outcomes related to credibility, reliability, and validity of literature were implemented these research questions were elected on the idea of seeking to understand issues based on human sex exploitation, on re-collective experiences with a focus on a “qualitative understanding over the quantitative” analyzed Moustakas, (1994). To further seek to understand, needed to develop sequentially, the study examined the impact on the victim’s experiences and knowledge acquired. Merriam (2009) identified a case study as a research method that allowed for the extensive and incredible research study for collective data on both existing and previously related literature, documents, and qualitative survey.

According to Merriam’s definition, case study research was viewed as an intensive analysis with unique characteristics that made it different from other study design methods (Merriam, 2009). The heuristic section called for elements of understanding of the phenomenon being studied, which brought innovative ideas to verify what the research topic was seeking to understand (Merriam, 2009). This research sought to expand and explore those established characteristics of the case study. This included

the need to understand the challenges and experiences of victims and the intervention on the factors that were identified. This also helped to gain the insight necessary to move forward in the fight against female sex trafficking in Edo state.

Justification of the Qualitative Method

Through the integration of culture and language, a meaningful and helpful topic was merged into an understanding of the analytical and evaluation of perspectives. In that aspect, a socially constructed phenomenon and communication tool with different meaningful ideas and considerable influence on different people. The choice of conducting an interview allowed for an in-depth understanding of the experiences expressed by everyone thereby affirming the value of those individuals (Seidman, 2006). Then, trying to understand how researchers analyzed the victim's experiences, exposure, knowledge, and perceptions. It was better to assess the abilities, to compare similarities and dissimilarity experiences that helped to reform the larger community that was aggressively involved in addressing issues of human trafficking.

As of the policy unification and collaboration efforts, the validation of the existing documents and a qualitative survey was the focus for this study, with that aspect of research method that benefitted and considered in a qualitative research approach. However, the topic selected for the research study had not been proven in any way. It remains a gap in a validated research study developed to seek and implement policy collaboration within stakeholders interested in female sex trafficking. When potentially acknowledged, the possibility of the effect of a lack of validated study remained the point

that, conducting an inclusive qualitative survey, with existing documents in the creation of understanding to be utilized.

This methodological approach was deemed appropriate for determining answers to research questions based on individual experiences, exposure, knowledge, and perception for seeking to understand. The social and economic factors played a vital role in influencing the victims to be targeted by the traffickers, continuing to be engaged in those challenges. This study was set with the capacity and ability to utilize one of the three methods, quantitative, mixed, and qualitative, but, despite all, the qualitative approach was selected for its uniqueness in quality and flexibility, when used in both secondary and qualitative survey analysis.

The qualitative method was selected as the most fitted and applicable approach for the study due to its flexibility in usage and application. This qualitative approach expressed the scope of other applicable questions and approaches capable of utilizing each method as reported by Trochim and Donnelly (2007). In some cases, the selection method was just a matter of preference and the type of data to be studied. There is an identifiable research literature on human trafficking that utilized mixed methods without focusing on the collaboration of networks and stakeholders as a collective point of interest (Estes & Weiner, 2001; Shared Hope International, nod. Williamson et al., 2009).

With all these applicable methodological approaches, selecting the qualitative method was most applicable and best fitted to the research method based on the topic and research questions selected. In addition, related and similar were integrated into research questions within their role. However, their comprehensive approach served to support

combating human sex trafficking across the globe and within the community boundaries. The applicable and complexity of barriers prevented the recognition of the victims and mitigation of sexual exploitation of females; with an establishment and coordination of stakeholders, groups were required and developed to gain insight into the impact and weight of female sex trafficking in Edo state communities. The collaborative effort on stakeholder is functionally and implementing the researched the missing gap created an avenue and source to developing reason in researching and developing this study on policy unification. The research questions identified for this study were directed at understanding how stakeholder's policies operated within global boundaries and how they would continue to operate in a collaborative network in the unification of global policy.

Justification of the Case Study Design

The supportive study remained that various existing qualitative research designs and qualitative surveys were still applicable to this study; therefore, selecting the most fitted research design was the goal as the selected and established question for this methodological study was a concern. The selected frameworks were presumed to be appropriate in responding to Creswell's designed question (2007). Certainly, developing the preferable qualitative research designs was traced into groups of narrative research, grounded theory, ethnography, and phenomenology to list the most acceptable and applicable theories. All these research methods brought to the group its individuality, uniqueness, and different approaches to this study's scope, thereby contributing to supportive requirements on the qualifications. Narrative research focused on an

individual's experience as a single entity, with the reported outcome or “narrative” History of the individual’s life (Creswell, 2007). Meanwhile, focused and concentrated on both qualitative surveys and secondary data analysis on human sex trafficking, especially trafficking in Edo State, Nigeria, which was the main attraction for this study. However, the scope of this study was set to concentrate on the case study that was validated and extracted from previous documentations and the outcome of the qualitative survey.

Ethnography was intended as part of research methodology; however, the importance of multiple levels from various documents and stakeholders were not as connected with female sex trafficking and policy unification as a determinant factor. The design and scope of this Ethnography expectation on the researcher became more interactive with people and situations, focused on the cultural aspects of the Edo State community (Creswell, 2013). The goal of this research was to utilize both active subjective data in the environment and utilize existing documents that were proven to be validated (Creswell, 2007). As emphasized in seeking to understand the challenging situation for combating human relationships with victims involved in the situation. Finally, this study's research strategy uses a phenomenological approach intended with the scope of limitation to personalized experiences of individual and validated information as needed. This method was to estimate and determine the broader picture for this study (Merriam, 2009) utilizing the frameworks for answering the research questions that were most appropriate for the study.

Role of the Researcher

Human trafficking had been a global concern and challenge for years with no sight of being combated soon. Instead, the new era of human trafficking emerged, such as organ harvesting, enrolled in the horrifying criminal acts of crime, human abuse, and rights violations. The idea for researching human trafficking came to be of reasons from different encounters and exposures, which one of them came about during the school assignment on level PPPA-8115. Another encounter and exposure were when I attended the Catholic retreat hosted by a group of Rev. Sisters in Philadelphia and from reading different literature, books, news reports, and non-governmental sites on human trafficking because of the encounters mentioned above. All these, at one point, created a deep passion for looking beyond and for understanding better. Since then, it had been an open passion to search for more information. At that point, my passion and interest for human trafficking began to gain stronger ground for the topic and, more importantly, the UNICEF and UN involvement protocol in combating human trafficking. The catholic retreat invitation for three days and two nights, sponsored by Sisters of Missionary of Blessed Trinity in Philadelphia 2016, was true, a reflective retreat, coupled with the day of keynote guest speaker who happened to be one of the ex-victims. Her speech consisted of multiple levels as she shared her individual experiences as a victim and that of her relatives victimized by human traffickers right here in our community. She explained how it all started with a trusted family member and a friend she confined to inadequate and deprived socioeconomic status. After the conference, I approached her, requested permission, and the organizing sister, in which she agreed and permitted me to use her

story and testimony for future reference if and whenever I decide to select human trafficking for Dissertation. One of the organizers, Sister T. S., who also happened to be one of the directors of the resident centers where the victim was residing at the time, accepted the request and agreed to stay connected and that, she kept with an update for articles through emails regarding human trafficking in our communities. It is everyone's responsibility as societal citizens to seriously be involved in any form that helped to protect each other through the creation of awareness, aggressive interventions with solid solutions on how to combat the criminal act of trafficking on human beings.

It was a moment of tearful and emotional gesture as I sat quietly listening for her testimonies and encountered experiences. During the process, my thinking was far on how and what can be done. What solution and what can be done to ease the situation as she continued to share her horrifying experiences. "She explained with in-depth courage that the worst came to play when another family member became a victim, like herself, and that, was what had broken her years of silence, and past trauma to act and exposed them to the law." She made it clear and explained that the action taken was not easy without struggle and support from the law enforcement and mostly the Christian ministry, who provided them with a safe environment, protection, and hiding places for the family members during the trial periods and after-effects.

All these events impacted and strengthened my deep passion, desire to assist and ambition, and interest in assisting and empowering, motivated, and passionate without personal emotion. After I got home, I started researching more by reading different literature and books, about human trafficking to gain insights, thereby understanding the

trend better. Furthermore, my passion for contributing socially led to the ideas on how to contribute to the community, where I could impact through research study in combating the crime of human trafficking before it became acceptable ways of normal activity. "I kept asking myself what the possible solution could be. "As I silenced my feelings and thereby controlled my emotions to be able to think clearly and meaningfully on the approach for these criminal activities that were done on human beings. My thought process went over and through my thought process, and my final question was, "if these types of activities could happen in the United States where the laws and orders were placed properly and disciplined accordingly" Then, what could happen to those nations where injustice was daily practices and could only be existed in paper and not in practice. "This helped to empower me more to seek ideas and solutions in creating social changes in the community. That was a concern to the global communities at large, and the solution must be in place to properly combat the trafficking in the communities.

This thought process helped me to investigate Nigeria, where I was born, and to my greatest surprise and shock, I found Edo State one of the most prominent states where human trafficking was the hub. Edo state is among the thirty-nine states in Nigeria, located in the mid-Western region, as the most notorious community known for female sex trafficking for many years. It was amazing, written literature and researchers on human trafficking found many victims of female sex trafficking victims originating from this community. These human traffickers were busy operating and performing all kinds of criminal activities in our back yards and many communities around the world. This was considered a serious offense, affecting global communities and the solution to be

rendered to combat effectively. It was another supporting point that enhanced my interest in a solution that created an impact in the lives of those vulnerable females as it had existed for years and challenged global communities on various levels. This research was established to implement policy unification through the collaboration of the stakeholders to search for an end to actions and activities of human trafficking in our communities.

For a better understanding of the outcome of any given research study, a researcher needs to refrain from personal bias and personal experience that would reflect and pertain to the topic and opinion to understand and deal with the issue by being conscious free-minded, and acting professional (Moustakas, 1994). Through these approaches, the experiences in the previously written literature for individual encountered experience and case study approaches could be retrieved with the extraction of those written experiences, thoughts, and knowledge (Moustakas, 1994). The role I must play in contributing to social changes will be cumulatively and comprehensively gathered the previously existing policy solutions, ideas, and implementation in combating female sex trafficking in Edo state and other nations. In addition, they were evaluating and elaborating on policy unification that would be focusing and emphasizing, therefore, addressing those social issues and applicable solutions.

Reducing Bias

In qualitative research studies, the intensity of the emotional behavior and present experiences could be expressed personally and not that of personal interest. These emotional behaviors and experiences could interfere in making rational researcher decisions. For the reason of being open-minded when collecting existing literature and

qualitative surveys helped reduce the presumed personal bias. Some of this personal bias came in different forms, prejudice, and preference in styles, approaches, tastes, likes, and dislikes. Therefore, when considering the use of both a qualitative survey and existing secondary data, it intended to reduce some of those personal biases but not the reason for utilizing and selecting both data approaches. In this study, policy unification and collaborative implementation favored both qualitative surveys and secondary data collection thereby, personal bias was ultimately limited.

On a personal note, I was mindful that any bias would affect and offset the validity and reliability of research findings and the outcome of the study. The issue of bias came into question due to qualitative data filtered through the researcher as a thought process with mindful of being both the interview and the secondary instrument for data collected and evaluated before presenting documents as a research dissertation (Creswell, 2013).

Method of Data Collection Using Qualitative Surveys and Secondary Data Analysis

For qualitative studies, there are ways of collecting data, such as interviews, field notes, observation, and document extraction. The qualitative survey was selected due to its richness in various analytic approaches (Turner, 2010). This method approach had two phases; data collection through a qualitative survey and documents, literature, books, journals, related resources, social media, and field notes. These collected data resources were the main foundation for this data analysis and were carefully validated. A framework was developed as a result of the information received through the review of female sex trafficking. This human trafficking challenges, tend not to discriminate,

rather, it has affected many communities by diffusing the safety, comfort, and joy. The interview question for this study is located in Appendix A. These questions were utilized to obtain opinion information from both the human services and law-enforcement workers regarding their perspectives on the issue of human trafficking. These questions were reflected with the narrative policy framework, advocacy coalition framework, and victimology theory with a total of 7 open-ended questions.

Procedure for Data Collection

The data were obtained from the respective sources, reviewed documents/records, analyzed with qualitative surveys to be upheld. The remarkable characteristic about this data collection by Patton (2002) has stated that “the quality of qualitative research depends on the researcher’s skill, ability, sensitivity, and methodological approach in creating an attractive study for the readers” (p. 92).

Data Procedure

In this qualitative study, the data collected were both from the outcome of a qualitative survey and secondary data from the previously researched documents that were validated and approved to be reliable to complete this study. The data procedure has strong quality, validity, and credibility to present standardized trustworthiness in this dissertation outcome.

Existing Documents and Qualitative Surveys

Qualitative research was based on focusing and concentrating on the strength of a qualitative survey and that of previously researched scholarly literature, books, and documentary studies. These documents and qualitative surveys were my primary

instrumental tools for collecting data for analysis. Then, the concentration was primarily on secondary data collection based on using existing literature that was validated, reliable, and fitted for the study as approved and complemented with a qualitative survey. The goal of this study continued to emphasize ineffective work in implementing policy unification that would be combatively reduced the trend in female sex trafficking Creswell (2013).

Trustworthiness

These concepts of trustworthiness have included those selected areas of validity, quality, and credibility as indicators for evaluating the truthfulness and the validity of qualitative research and separately explained along the line. This aspect of credibility has been proven truthfully and convinced enough to be trustworthy before finalizing the accountability on the accuracy of validity before finally applied to the situation. The validity also posed the quality of being logically accepted with proven evidence of support on the findings. Certainly, has provided the required supporting need for the research findings in a collaborative effort by the evidence from the data extracted from written literature and that of an outcome on the qualitative survey (Guano, et al., 2008). Lecompton and Goetz evaluated the usefulness of validity and quality to respond to the researchers' concerning concerns and be focused on determining the accuracy, quality, and/or inaccurate or poor-quality accountability (as cited in Creswell, 2013). They expressed criticism against the qualitative research method, where perception failed to comply with the tradition of validity and reliability. This criticism was an idea supported by Lincoln and Gobi, (as cited in Creswell, 2013), which expressed the connection of

field engagement by the researchers that used transparent methods, triangulation of data tools, and knowledge contributing to establishing credibility.

For this study, I strived to report accurately the findings of the study given with defined knowledge, quality, and exposure to the research in which there were provisions and identifications. This was another way of ensuring the study's validity by utilizing triangulate brought into an argument that triangulation provided multiple perspectives from other sources that cumulatively validated the (Creswell, 2007). The study's goal was seeking to involve and include stakeholders, the perspective of triangulation of data through an outcome of a qualitative survey. In other words, selecting a triangulation strategy for ensuring validity is not limited but also enhanced measurable on stakeholders, thereby providing insight into an opportunity to verify for accuracy of the data obtained. It is an avenue for trustworthiness where collectible data were incorporated by having both a qualitative survey and that valid documents evaluated before presenting the accuracy of the data (Creswell, 2007),

Additionally, Creswell expressed the need for validation in qualitative studies, utilizing evaluation for accuracy of the documents and qualitative survey. Then, having valid documents, evaluated, and confirmed to support the reliability of the reliability as the protection of research by ensuring the data obtained were validated. Creswell (2007) the strength of reliability allowed the scholars and potential readers to determine the transferability of data, as an approach of transferability was powerful, encouraging, and meaningful when evaluating the validity of data for the Edo State.

For the most part, valid and reliable researchers were the center and backbone for the purposeful connection of collective documents and qualitative surveys to support the study (Creswell, 2007; Merriam, 2009). The point was that the research study was established to allow for the purposeful connection of the documents and qualitative survey by integrating with various stakeholders that were interested in combating female sex trafficking in Edo State communities and global perspectives. This notion brought out a favorable outcome that would help to enhance the richness of the collective and purposeful reliability of the data collected.

Ethical Considerations

Creswell (2013) suggested that ethical issues in a qualitative study intended for multi-levels and various stages co-exist before reporting the study findings. This appeared at the initial introduction of the study, during data collection, validity, and verification period, and during publication on the study's outcome; therefore, frequent evaluation was needed to avoid violation, self-checking, and needed feedback.

This approach was one of the stages, a powerful contributing factor for an ethical process during research, developed to prevent, protect, and to be avoidable doing any possible harm to the subject. Smith et al. (2009) acknowledged the need by addressing and viewing an ethical issue as a unique and dynamic mixture of adhering to the data collected and evaluated as the main stemming of research. Most of these criminal acts are sensitive cases of using human subjects for studies as minors. Therefore, sex trafficking must acknowledge the protection, self-respect, potential risk, and awareness of privacy and safety before collecting data and/or conducting an interview. To maintain potential

ethical standards and policy, all collectible documents and qualitative surveys must be presented to the Walden University School according to the procedure and requirement to ensure and provide valid and reliable data. The next step on completing the required application form and submission to Walden University Institutional Review Board (IRB) was approved before conducting and collecting the data process. This approval must be obtained with approving numbers before collecting data according to institutional policy and guidelines for conducting a qualitative survey for the dissertation study.

Another step is obtaining informed consent before obtaining and started informed consent before obtaining and starting the secondary data and qualitative survey for data validation, reliability, and transparency in protecting the research study. I freely selected to utilize both the email and secondary data approaches, where provision for validity and reliable data was collected and extracted for the study. An inadequate data that could be providing the yardstick for confirming the legislators' and stakeholders' ability to collaboratively, implementing policy unification. Then, this will call for an expected reduction in the number of human trafficking in Edo State and the other communities at large. Data collected and analyzed on this research had created a tremendous positive enhancement that impacted social changes for female sex trafficking with policy unification and socio-economic implementation in Edo State and global communities.

Summary

I selected a qualitative design as best fitted to meet the purpose of this study because it allowed and provided an avenue for flexibility in the pursuit of understanding the actual problem. The qualitative methodology was best fitted for this research study

due to the broadness and nature of the research structure (Creswell, 2007; Merriam, 2009; Stake, 1995; Yin, 2009). The topic selected focused on both qualitative surveys and secondary data collection for those existing and validated documents (Stake, 1995). Therefore, female sex trafficking and policy unification seek a positive approach to effectively implement policy unification and collaboration in evaluating how to integrate aspects with other organizations. Through this collaborative process, an understanding of the scope of difficulties and barriers encountered by shareholders is shared and addressed to achieve the goal of combating human trafficking in Edo state and globally.

This research was designed to extend collaborative involvement and integration on different interest groups at the federal, state, local and global levels on the front lines of addressing those social challenges. Maxwell (2013) viewed qualitative research as a flexible package that consisted of quality in ensuring, enhancing, and integrating methods of approach. These descriptions added beauty to this study since it allowed for an opportunity to seek and to understand what has been discussed about this topic on female sex trafficking. This represented an opportunity to assimilate and accept the research as needed and not to test and present what we think about the presented experience of these victims.

This chapter has given forthcoming views and evaluations about the research designed for integrating into the course of this study. The focus of this study was based on a qualitative study approach that permits the researcher to collect data from a qualitative survey and existing documents, valid and reliable sources for the study (Yin, 2014). The researcher's bias was addressed before data collection with an integrated

reflection throughout the conduction of a qualitative survey and the data extraction and evaluation. The point of trustworthiness was addressed as an ongoing process including reviewing evidence in the quality of the study by considering the elements of credibility, transferability, dependability, and conformability and any violation of the data collection process. Cultural awareness and sensitivity were addressed and considered as many victims lacked the knowledge of the new environment and surroundings post captivity periods. This chapter began with an introduction and was followed by the imperatives of the outcome of a qualitative survey, secondary data analysis, and the justification of both data for analysis. The chapter also gave the research setting and a summary of the demographic variables of the subjects of the study. This data collection section explained how data were collected and converted by utilizing Survey Monkey software for patterns, trends, and analysis, and data categorization and identification of common themes as listed. The data analyzed provide some details of how the data were collected and analyzed through stage by stage of the studies. The evidence of trustworthiness was explained by stating the adjustments to credibility, transferability, dependability, and conformability strategies. The chapter rounded up with the restatement of the research question, outcomes of the findings, and the emergent themes and summary analysis.

Chapter 4: Results

Introduction

Human trafficking has been a historical and global concern as it has been a global crime against humanity that violates individual rights and privileges by obstructing their free will, thereby coercing them into different forms of slavery activities. It became a growing phenomenon in Edo State, Nigerian, without definite insights into combating the existing policy.

The purpose of this qualitative case study was to explore perceived barriers to implementing collaborative policy unification in Edo state Nigeria. From the records reviewed, there is a lack of adequate attention in addressing human trafficking policy in current existing law (legislation). As a result, those existing policies were rarely re-enforced, emphasized, and implemented. The aim is to exploit and elaborate on those socio-economic factors that prevent both lawmakers and legislators from adequately addressing human trafficking as a problem in the Edo State and global communities. Another goal was to identify those perceived barriers obstructing existing policies to be implemented in Edo State and the United Nations as collaborative policy unification.

Chapter 4 summarizes the sources of the research data and findings made for this study by collecting both secondary data analysis and study respectively, thereby providing uniqueness and relevant conclusions grounded on the study's outcomes. In addition, those expressions, created imperatives on data analysis that focused on justification of study settings, demographics, data collection, data analysis, and that of

proven trustworthiness with segments. Also, this study continues to seek to understand why human trafficking continued to exist in Edo State and global communities despite all the efforts made by different groups to combat the criminal act. There is an existing and available academic literature on the roles and methods used in managing the criminal groups and the relationships between actors in human trafficking and the overlap of criminal markets. To overcome this gap in the available academic literature, other sources of information were considered social media articles, European area (Euro just, Europol, and Fronted news) that included international links as in Interpol and UNODC for documentaries and reports. Others were the national reports of statistics regarding the victim's interaction with the trafficker/recruiter, statistics regarding the extent of involvement in criminal groups for Trafficking in Human Beings (THB)

The Setting of the Study

A qualitative data approach was selected using the 14 participants for this study through human services agencies, such as Hope Live Here, a shelter for domestic abuse and victims of human trafficking, and professional network links. These participants were either working in human services or law enforcement sections of the same criteria for two or more years in the services. Given that all the participants had worked and/or still working in the public sectors, some of their email information was derived by searching through the different social media and professional network links without exposing the personal information, thereby using available email addresses for the study. Some of these human services sectors were also non-profit organizations in Nigeria and Edo state. The interview was completely based on email, where both the consent to participate was

provided and was based on anonymous and volunteering bases. Links from Survey Monkey with the 7 open-ended questions (Appendix A) were emailed to 32 participants who completed within two weeks, which were targeted at ten respondents or when the saturation point was reached. The outcome was that 14 participants responded with their complete responsibility for 2 weeks, thereby exceeding the expectation for the completion. The state is located in the south-south geographical area of Nigeria. It is a multi-ethnic state with two main dialects, the Bin and Edo speaking the dialect. It is a high illiteracy state by Nigerian standard and has a long history of the institutional monarchy (13th – 19th Century). The initial pre-colonial states in Africa were developed to establish diplomatic relations with the European power in the diplomacy between Oba Zola (1483–1514) and Alonso d' Aver of Portugal. This Edo kingdom flourished relationship with the British association was destroyed in 1897 by the British after the Edo King disagreed with an earlier British expedition, due to cultural conflict during a religious festival that spiked the argument that resolved their relationships (Encyclopedia Britannica, Retrieved from April 14, 2020).

Benin City is the capital and largest city in Edo State in Southern Nigeria. It is located in the Northern part of the Benin River, about 320 Kilometers by road when coming from Lagos. Benin City is the center of Nigeria's rubber industry, oil wells, agricultural products, and other significant industrial factories. Benin City is where most of Nigeria's advanced educational learning institutions were located, such as Ambrose Ali University located at Espuma, the University of Benin at Unbowed and Keenan, Edo University in Idaho, and Igbo me University in Okada, Benson Idahoan University, and

Wellspring University in Benin City with that, Figure 1 represents the setting participants in the areas of human services and the law-enforcement sectors. The presented responses

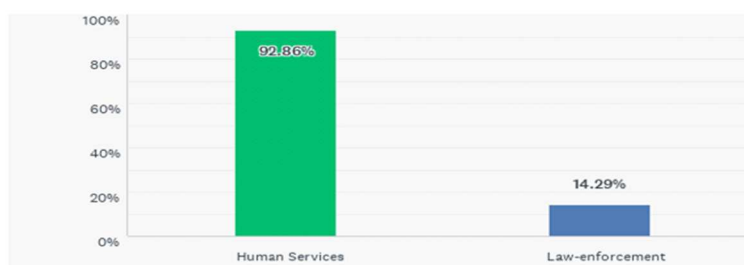
1) Human services 2) Law-enforcement

Figure 1

Participants in Human Services/Law Enforcement Sectors

Appendix 1 : Participants in Human services/Law-Enforcement Sectors:

Answered: 14 Skipped: 0



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Demographics

Women and children are naturally, by nature, the most prevalent and continue to be vulnerable and targeted populations for being victims of human trafficking. The victims of Trafficking in Human Beings (THB) for sexual and labor exploitation are included on both the male and female gender with preponderance more on females. The children are usually found within the age brackets of 6 to 15 years. The table below clearly presented the percentage supporting what was stated in the content that both women and children are the most targeted populations for human trafficking.

The participants in this research were identified by reaching out to those who have worked or working where human trafficking issues, programs, and policies on human trafficking were addressed in the Edo State, Nigeria. The pre-qualifying criterion created for participants was the age, which must be older than 18 years, and gender of

males and females. The participants were exclusive on income status, ethnicity, and race as there were irrelevant to the study. These participants consisted of 8 females and 6 males, with 90% from human services and 10% from law enforcement. I presented the question to the participants in the form of yes and no categories. To maintain both privacy and confidentiality in this study, each participant was identified utilizing the acronyms HS for human services and LE for law-enforcement officers. The following are in numerical order.

Table 3

Gender Characteristics of Female and Male on Data Collection Analysis

Participant number	Gender	Organization type
HS-1	Female	Human Services
HS-2	Female	Human Services
HS-3	Female	Human Services
HS-4	Female	Human Services
HS-5	Female	Human Services
HS-6	Female	Human Services
HS-7	Female	Human Services
HS-8	Female	Human Services
HS-9	Male	Human Services
HS-10	Male	Human Services
HS-11	Male	Human Services
HS-12	Male	Human Services
LE-13	Male	Law Enforcement
LE-14	Male	Law Enforcement

Surveymonkey.com: Demographics of Individual Participants

Data Collection

Secondary data analysis was used along with qualitative surveys in this qualitative approach and was selected as the most fitted research approach involving a more in-depth analysis of themes. All these official documents are reported and national reports, the statistics regarding the victim's interaction with the trafficker/recruiter, and the extent of involvement of criminal groups in THB.

I reviewed documents from various sources, such as newspaper clippings, articles, and other social media links that provide deep insights into the activities of THB. The data was transferred to appropriate pages and places in the body of the content with a brief explanation on how the Survey monkey software was able to individually analyze by utilizing the graphic.

The identifiable participants were as a result of the directions and guidelines from the Walden research and protocol. An email was sent, followed by a phone call to the director of one of the area facilities for human protection and safety. This was to obtain the permission, explain the purpose, and information was emailed, detailing the request to inform the staff members of willingness to volunteer for the study. An invitation letter, consent note, and qualitative survey questions were sent to all qualified participants.

A link to Survey Monkey with the 7 open-ended email questions was sent to 32 separate participants through qualitative survey linkages based on voluntary and free will to the participant; with that, these email questionnaires could be found in (Appendix A) of this research dissertation. In the beginning, the target and aim were to get 10

participants or until saturation point was reached, that is, from the requirements sent for saturation as stated in Chapter 3. In the qualitative survey, a saturation point was reached when 14 participants responded as they all received the same questions, and respondents were from both the human services and the law enforcement sector.

Imperatives of Data Analysis

Sabot and String, as cited in Ruggiano and Perry (2019), defined secondary data analysis (SDA) as an investigative, where data extracted from the previous studies were analyzed. It was undertaken by the same researcher(s) or different researcher(s) to explore new research questions by using different analytical strategies that were not part of the primary analysis Hinds, Vogel, Clarke-Steffen, Sabot, Strange, Thorne, Pope, Rogers, and Williams to mention. However, few of them on this concept were then identified as proponents of Qualitative Secondary Data Analysis (Ruggiano& Perry, 2018; Heaton, 1998). There is consensus among researchers on four qualitative secondary data analysis approaches, such as listed, initiated as research where the secondary data analysis focused on a different unit of analytic view from that of the previous study. Secondly, the research involved a more in-depth analysis of themes from the previous study of data from that study. Thirdly, analyses of data from the previous study that appeared important, but not sufficiently focused on the primary analysis; and fourthly, analyses with a data set that included those data from a previously written study, with newly collected data that compromised the previous study's purpose and research questions (Hinds et al., as cited in Ruggiano& Perry2019).

When utilizing the critical interpretive synthesis, Ruggiano and Perry (2019) examined research articles published between 2006 and 2016 that involved qualitative secondary data analysis (QSDA) and assessed the context, purpose, and methodologies outlined. Some scholars have promoted the practice of sharing data SDA, asserting that it may answer new research questions, and increase statistical power Perrine et al., and (2013). This is also for sharing existing documents which documents allowed for the creation of new knowledge without extra cost, time of administration, and data collection. This maximizing the output of large-scale studies that were funded by public and as well as private sources such as media link articles, European (e.g., Euro-just, Europol, Fronted news) and included the international (e.g., Interpol and UNODC) documents and reports that were publicly available and accessible.

Data Analysis

This secondary data analysis used the five steps recommended by Yin (2014). These steps included but were not limited to data compilation, data disassembly, data reassembly, data interpretation, and data conclusion before reaching the point. Ritchie et al. (2013) also perceived the researcher's ability to obtain, comprehend, and manage data extracted for significant and challenging stages of obtaining data analysis. I used secondary data from many sources, and those enabled my research to achieve methodological triangulation in line with the objective sought by Heale and Forbes (2013) data analysis procedure. Heale and Forbes have suggested that methodological triangulation enhances data analysis when utilizing secondary search, thereby ensuring comprehensive data collections for utilizing other multiple data sources. I made all the

summaries and notes from Academia, Social Media Articles, European (e.g., Euro-just, Europol, and Fronted- news), and international (e.g., Interpol, IOM, and UNODC) official documents and reports, as well as global reports, were validated accordingly.

The statistics regarding the victim's interaction with the trafficker /recruiter, and the statistics regarding the extent of involvement of criminal groups in THB, were manually summarized by reading and documenting the content unto an audiotape recorder. This conversion process was how the electronic versions of the data I extracted and utilized were secured.

Table 4

Trends in the Form of Exploitation among Detected Trafficking Victims, 2007-2014

Year	Trafficking for other forms (%)	Trafficking for sexual exploitation (%)	Trafficking for forced labor (%)	Source
2007	9.0	59.0	32.0	UNODC
2008	8.0	61.0	31.0	UNODC
2009	8.0	58.0	34.0	UNODC
2010	12.0	57.0	31.0	UNODC
2011	7.0	53.0	40.0	UNODC
2012	6.0	56.0	38.0	UNODC
2013	8.0	53.0	39.0	UNODC
2014	8.0	54.0	38.0	UNODC
Average	8.25	56.375	35.375	

Source: UNODC, 2016 Report in Qualitative Field Survey, 2020.

At the end of the completion on all data analyzed and the collectible literature, documents from various sources, a conclusion was made with no noticeable difference on the secondary data extraction as all collaborated bodies were similar to each other and there was no concern on the theory and framework selected Yilmaz (2013).

The qualitative survey required questions that were used in preparing and helping the participants comprehensively and individually respond to the questions about human trafficking. For this season, data analysis is a thing of challenging and crucial point for evaluating data to have a validated study that is identifiable and selective on preferred themes (Creswell, 2013).

Survey monkey analysis was organized and presented in a way that; the data obtained were verifiable through the use of the qualitative approach when utilizing the survey monkey software (2021). The data were analyzed to create patterns of verification, with secondary analysis; uniqueness was created due to the comprehensive data. I utilized survey monkey software to analyze the data to have the same approach in reaching out the results (Shenton, 2004); Srivastava and Hopwood (2009). When analyzing, I compiled and selected those themes that effectively complemented the stated theories and frameworks of the narrative policy framework, advocacy coalition framework, and victimology theory. As Onwuegbuzie et al. (2012) posited and confined that survey monkey is one of the newest technologically approaches for qualitative researcher usage identifying patterns and has enhanced transparency in the analytical process that helped reduce time spent in creating data analysis. I used the themes that emerged during data analysis and collection to the procedure in the Survey Monkey to understand the research questions and establish the study's findings. Codes were connected and collaborated and were not concerned with the theory and framework selected (Yilmaz, 2013).

Justification for Data Analysis

Many reasons were used to justify the reliance of this secondary data analysis, such as human trafficking for sexual exploitation, forced labor, slavery, or practices similar to slavery, servitude, or organ harvest (Olateru-Olagbegi, as cited in Maiangwa & Ani, 2014). They were shrouded in secrecy that required the familiar resources and competencies of stakeholders and communities of interest to specialize in security and non-governmental organizations to access reliable and valid data. This study is intended to achieve its objectives. Secondly, prior empirical qualitative studies on Trafficking in Human Beings (THB) have relied on primary data obtained from victims of THB. Lastly, the reliable findings are reliable because their interviewees divulged live experiences that do not represent facts about the criminal activities. Many of the interviewees were under oaths of secrecy not to give the facts and their sponsor's information to well-organizers of THB Cartels that are not ready to expose the secret of their trade and means of operational activities to the researchers. Carling as cited in Maiangwa and Ani (2014) reported the recruitment phase involves using traditional religious rituals and charms known as juju to secure and maintain the victims' submission. Juju practices are black magic rites in which the aim is to intimate by use of body tissues, fragments, or body fluids of the girls, taken by the priest and placed before shrine alters for ritual oaths Bahamas, as cited in Maiangwa and Ani, (2014). The belief in juju and its usefulness has been considered effective in sustaining the trade that when arrested, the victims were reluctant to testify against their Madams and Masters for fear of incurring the wrath of the juju on themselves and that of their family members.

In some cases, the victims might face challenges in speaking out about their experiences and encounters due to fear, lack of trust, and possible shame (UNODC, 2018). IOM Italy (2017) reported that the voodoo bond had created an obstacle to protecting victims of trafficking (VOT). Then, IOM referred and reported a seventeen-year-old Nigerian girl named Precious, who IOM assisted in Italy. She often could not sleep, having nightmares and running from one rehabilitation center to another because she and other victims feared the evil act and power of voodoo rite coming after them.

Marshi (2015), reported on recent information from the United Nations UNODC cited Office on Drugs and Crime on “human trafficking and smuggling of migrants” on growing passion about reliable data on the smuggling of migrants. However, emphasis was laid on how most young women and girls have been trafficked to Europe and other similar destinations “The growing evidence and involvement of criminal networks, placing Nigeria among the top ten ranks as a place of concern for a source, destination, and transit nation as was illustrated The Precise data at the international and domestic levels remained subtle as consistent data on trafficking were difficult to obtain due to its unlawful, frequently unseen nature, the scope and cruelty of trafficking activities, and disparities in the definition of trafficking (Marshi, 2015).

Table 5

List of Countries by Absolute Estimates of Modern Slavery, From Highest to Lowest

Rank	Country	Percent of population in modern slavery	Estimated population in modern slavery	Source
1	India	1.41	14285700	GSIR
2	China	0.239	3241400	GSIR
3	Pakistan	1.130	2058200	GSIR
4	Uzbekistan	3.973	1201400	GSIR
5	Russia	0.732	1049700	GSIR
6	Nigeria	0.481	834200	GSIR
7	DR Congo	1.130	762900	GSIR
8	Indonesia	0.286	714100	GSIR
9	Bangladesh	0.435	680900	GSIR
10	Thailand	0.709	475300	GSIR

Source: Global Slavery Index Report, 2014 in Qualitative Field Survey, 2020, capturing the record of countries that practices modern slavery.

Results

This section presents the findings of the study based on the qualitative survey and secondary data collection analysis. Table 6 below is a summary of the emergent themes for the study.

Table 6*Overview of Emergent Themes as Aligned with the Research Question*

Research questions	Data collection method	Emergent themes
What are the barriers to, and implications of, a unified policy for combating female sex trafficking in Edo State?	Qualitative survey / secondary data	Theme 1: Exploitation of vulnerable human beings Theme 2: Lack of training and weak criminal justice Theme 3: Inadequate protections and policy implementation
	Secondary data	Theme 4: Palermo Protocol/New Policy(content)
	Secondary data/qualitative survey	Theme 5: Purpose origin, transit, and destination Theme 6: Search for deterrence Theme 7: Nongovernmental organizations

The research question was as follows: What are the barriers to, and implications of, implementing global policy unification for combating female sex trafficking in Edo State and global? Three themes emerged to answer these questions. The themes were: a.) the exploitation of vulnerable human beings; b.) lack of training and weak criminal justice; and c.) inadequate protection and policy implementation.

Theme 1: Exploitation of Vulnerable Human Beings

The secondary data collection and analysis revealed many findings as to the barriers to combating female sex trafficking. Findings showed that despite all previously researched work on Trafficking in Human Beings (THB), the poverty of individuals, families, and socio-groups coupled with ineffective policy implementation and weak socio-economic and political instability continues to be a challenge for survival in the communities. These factors had contributed immensely to attracting a vulnerable population of being prone to falling into the trap of traffickers, hence, a barrier to combating sex trafficking. Mfon (2013) argued that poverty is synonymous with poor communities of the world, which manifested in the absence of economic power and inequality in wealth distribution. This has supported his research on statistics from the International Labor Organization (ILO), which furnished the figures, that 70% of forced labor in the African communities is for economic exploitation while only 8% is for commercial sex exploitation (Mfon, 2013).

The analysis also showed adolescent girls within the age group 6-15 were usually the most vulnerable and likely to be trafficked; the reported cases on this age group raised from 120 in 2004 to 353 in 2007 respectively an almost threefold increase. During the

same period, reported cases of trafficked adult women increased eight-fold from 44 to 368, Gender in Nigeria report (2012). The financial hardships in the communities had created a weak drive for some parents in Nigeria to introduce their children to the hand of those susceptible and deceitful traffickers who, in effect, made false promises of a better standard of living and job opportunities. Due to hardship, some parents voluntarily approach renowned family or community members to adopt or help raise their children whom they trusted and hoped could provide their children with a better life and well taken care of UNESCO (2006). As noted by Akor (2011), some poor parents will give their daughters to traffickers to break away from poverty without considering the danger, safety, respect, and human dignity. Some women are willing to submit to the criminals despite the risk involved to escape their precarious socio-economic situation at home (Murdock, 2012).

In the review of the secondary data, exploitation in the use of the juju approach, which has been used to deceit and enforced submissive from vulnerable victims, was considered the backbone of the business opportunities in Edo state communities. These ritual oaths were used to intimidate the victims into believing that devastating repercussions would have befallen them or their families should they fail to comply with the demands of the traffickers or pay their debts (Gbadamosi, 2006; UNESCO, 2006). Although the oath was designed to make the victims submissive to their owners once they were trafficked, victims were made to believe that the rituals will harm them if disobeyed. Hence, these rituals believed to have the effect of making the victims and traffickers invisible to immigration officers and successful in the sex trade were

performed before they departed from Nigeria. Most of those trafficked women from Nigeria were recruited from different parts of the country, especially from Edo, Delta, to Northern, Southern, Eastern, and Western cities, especially the capital cities where most financial challenges are likely to occur due to cost and effect (UNESCO, 2006).

Further review and analysis of the document to support the continuous exploitation of vulnerable human beings is an example of the use of deceit portrayed by the true-life story titled, 'a dangerous journey.' This deception story characterized the recruitment process reconstructed by dramatization made in a movie form; it was produced by the Female Prisoner Welfare Project (FPWP), a United Kingdom Charity group, in conjunction with NAPTIP. In the short movie clip, the story was narrated by the name Grace, whose dream of a better life in the West World turned into a nightmare after she was deceived into traveling to the United Kingdom. Her experience was worth recounting on this study as a shared experience. After running away from her hometown, Grace managed to make out a living by hawking items around a market but still nurtured the dream of pursuing her education. Unfortunately, she met a man who at first seemed kind and generous, gentlemanly. However, she was offered to pay for her travel to the U.K. to study, thereby, was given false documents and, was able to go through customs, but her dream of going to college never happened. She was immediately caged in an apartment with other women and forced into prostitution, and whenever she attempts to escape, she was often attacked and beaten (The Guardian, 7 November 2012).

Another similar incidence reported by the Voice of America (VON) also, reflects a similar trend in Nigeria. This 23-year-old Naomi Benjamin was manipulated into

becoming a prostitute. She narrated her numerous failed escapades but, eventually, was deported to Nigeria Murdock, (2012). Additionally, as reviewed in the document analysis, most victims, out of their willingness, get transferred from one location to another for the illegal use of labor and commercial sex activities through the utilization of coercion, fraud, and forceful. Brusca (2011) labeled these forceful and illegal services as unintentional servitude, slavery, or practices related to slavery and forced labor. Unfortunately, revealed by analysis, Nigeria's position in Human Trafficking Crime has been ascribed as the main source for transit and destination country for Human Trafficking. Data showed Nigerian women are trafficked to Europe, the Middle East, and other countries in Africa with the aim of sexual exploitation, forced labor, and involuntary domestic services, while other Nigerian young women and men also travel to other nations like Benin Republic, Togo, Cameroon, and Gabon to work in the plantations as domestic helpers and the sex industry.

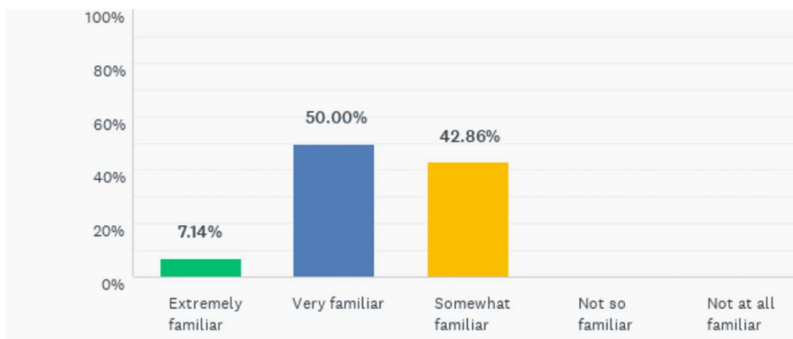
The qualitative survey conducted supported the document analysis findings of human trafficking as ninety 93 three percent of the participants were very familiar and somewhat familiar with the awareness of sex trafficking. In comparison, 79 percent reported that the most targeted for a great deal is the female (See Figures 2 and 3). This consequently shows that a barrier does exist to combat Human Trafficking.

Figure 2

Awareness of Human Trafficking

Graphic 1: on case study (Awareness of Human Trafficking)

Answered: 14 Skipped: 0



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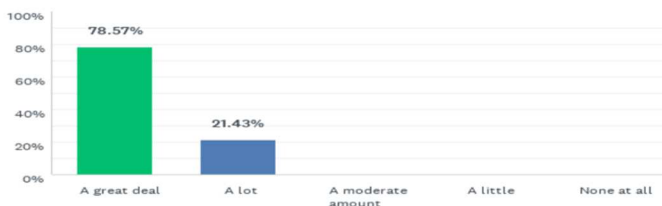
In Figure 2, with the question presented as the awareness of human trafficking and the responses were directed in the form of a.) Extremely Familiar, b.) Very Familiar c.) Somewhat Familiar, these are the ones responded.

Figure 3

Participants' Rating of the Gender Most Targeted

Graphic; 3 Case study, Female /Targeting Population

Answered: 14 Skipped: 0



Powered by SurveyMonkey

In Figure 3, the question presented as Gender most targeted in human trafficking, with the presented response as a.) Great Deal, b.) A Lot and the rest were not responded

c.) Moderate, d.) Little. Then, the outcome of the responses was displaced in the figure above,

Theme 2: Lack of Training and Weak Criminal Justice System

The document analysis revealed the direction of human trafficking. The analysis showed that victims were trafficked more from undeveloped countries than from advanced and economically developed countries (UNODC, 2014). For this reason, the flow of trans-regional human trafficking is mainly detected in wealthy countries of the Middle East, Western European, and North American nations, while the victims are predominately from the global region of East and South Asia, and that included Sub-Saharan Africa regions. Unfortunately, the analysis showed that lack of training and weak criminal justice process is a barrier to combating Sex trafficking in Edo State. For instance, the review of Kigbu's (2015) article on "Challenges in investigating and prosecuting Trafficking in Persons in Nigeria" identified law enforcement agencies to identify victims of trafficking; providing needed services to trafficked victims; lack of coordination of law enforcement agencies to handle human trafficking cases properly; and lack of enabling environment to resolve human trafficking as a challenge.

Further review and analysis showed the Nigeria office of IOM suggested that protective assistance services available within Nigeria to victims of trafficking (VOTS) and UMC vary and are said to be limited in value as a result of an insufficient institutional framework as well as ineffective coordination among states and non-state actors responsible for the provision of these services (IOM, 2013). Hence, if these perpetrators of human trafficking remain unpunished in Nigeria, the criminal acts will

continue to be combated. In addition, Trafficked persons often allege that some Nigerian officials collude with traffickers by assisting them with forged documents and then facilitating their movement across borders and through ports (UNICEF). Law enforcement agents are usually reluctant to investigate violent crimes, especially those against women and children, unable to offer the cost of investigations or bribe the investigating officers. Consequently, foreign trafficked persons were often treated as undocumented immigrants and deported without thorough investigation. Consequently, a combination of corrupt officials, complicit authorities, and weak laws combined to guarantee impunity for traffickers while increasing the plight of trafficked persons (Human Rights Watch, 2014).

With a lack of training and a weak criminal justice system, providing training that will help improve the low self-esteem, a driving force, and a barrier to combating trafficking. This finding is also supported by the qualitative survey participants (see Figure 4), where 86% of participants interviewed indicated low self-esteem is a driving force.

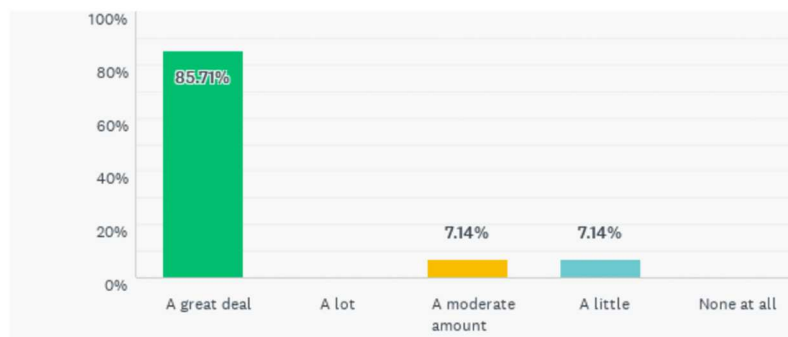
In this Figure #4, below, the response questions were presented as a.) Great Deal, b.) A Lot, c.) Moderate and d.) A Little

Figure 4

Participants' Response to Low Self-Esteem

Graphic : 7 Case Study , Driving force / Low Self Esteem

Answered: 14 Skipped: 0



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In Figure 4, with the question presented as the impact of low self-esteem, with the presented response as a.) Great Deal, b.) Moderate and the rest were not responded c.) A Little.

Theme 3: Inadequate Protection and Policy Implementation

The secondary data analysis revealed human trafficking had thrived due to the disinterested attitude of law enforcement and feeble legal framework focused on trafficking for sexual exploitation. Generally, law enforcement agents are not equipped, lacking technical expertise and gender sensitivity to handle certain cases (UNICEF). A combination of corrupted officials, complicated authorities, and weak policies combined to guarantee impunity for traffickers while increasing the plight of trafficked persons (Human Rights Watch, 2014). Another barrier to combating female trafficking lies in convincing the public awareness and providing the problem on the seriousness of the phenomenon was not exaggerated but reality. Even among law enforcement officers, it

was estimated be around 73% to 77% perceived human trafficking as rare or non-existent (Portland State University, 2011). Consequently, such officers would not take proactive measures to investigate human trafficking properly and thoroughly.

The analysis provided very important information to buttress this inadequate policy implementation in the Nigerian context. For instance, the Italian Prime Minister, Matteo Renzi, was very categorical when he indicated human traffickers were slave traders of the 21st century, and they should be brought to justice (Renzi, NYT, 2015). In the EU in the 1990s, for instance, states administered sanctions against carriers transporting passengers without the proper documentation that were strengthened and harmonized within the EU (Samers et al., 2005), as cited in Davidson, 2016). In Europe, North America, and Australia precisely, surveillance of people, vehicles, and cargo had been massively intensified. In addition, new traffic regulations had been developed to meet states' growing desire to control their borders (Anderson, 2014). Then, US 68th Secretary of State (2013-2017) John Kerry concluded that combating human trafficking is both a moral necessity and a national security concern. This project had led to more expansion of state powers concerning the traffic of people, vehicles, and cargo along routes of transportation.

In the US and Europe, states have spent a huge amount of money on erecting barriers to illegal movement. The scale of the market for border security is spreading in Europe and the world, with total growth expected to exceed 56.52 billion USD for land and maritime borders by 2022 (Baird, 2015). The measures applied to impede unauthorized forms of border crossing became increasingly high-tech. In the year 2000s,

the EU invested in new surveillance systems, such as SIVE, combined radar, high-tech cameras, and patrols Anderson, (2014), Europe's coastlines, along with x-ray technology used to scan commercial trucks at ports to detect carbon dioxide and human heartbeats, for the presence of migrants (Albahari, as cited in Davidson, 2016). The Nigerian State had applied its legal mechanisms thereby utilizing the international conventions and protocols on human trafficking to address the Trafficking in Human Beings (THB) and respond to the victims' plights. The two criminal codes established in Nigeria are the Criminal Code applies to the Southern part and the Penal Code applicable to the Northern part of the country. The provision protected children and youth from harm and sexual exploitation and even Sections 34 and 42 of the 1999 constitution (Owobu, 2014). The necessity of the democratic culture pass laws that protect children's rights, including Edo state passing a law banning prostitution in 2001, Anambra State banned children from working during school hours. Others include the signing of bilateral agreements with other countries for repatriation and rehabilitation of trafficked victims and signing into law by the National Assembly of the Trafficking in Persons (Prohibitions Laws Enforcement and Administration Act 2003). An establishment of the National Agency for Prohibition of Traffic in Persons to arrest and prosecute those involved in child trafficking through the law courts (Olujuwon, as cited in EJSR, 2008).

Unfortunately, despite all these measures and policies put in place as revealed in the document analysis, there still exists a barrier to sex trafficking in the state due to inadequate policy implementation. This theme is also supported by the qualitative survey where 86 percent responded that the lack of funding, training, and support would be a

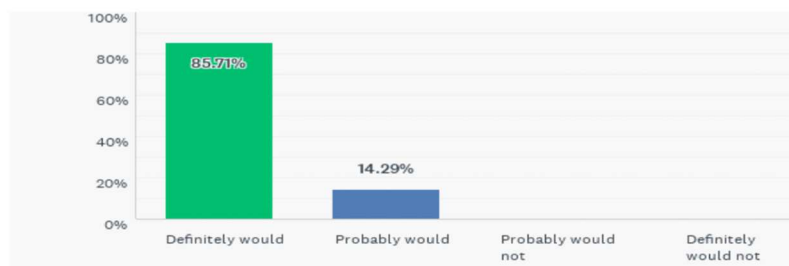
barrier to adequate protection and policy implementation to combating human trafficking (Figure 4). With the majority of respondents indicating this barrier does exist, a further check to finding out if unifying the policy can help reduce the barriers, 57% felt it could be “extremely helpful” while the remaining 43% also affirmed that it be “very helpful” if unification does exist (Figure 5).

Figure 5

Participants' Response to Inadequacy of Needed Funds, Training, and Support

Graphic: 6 Case Study, Lack of Funding /Training / Support

Answered: 14 Skipped: 0



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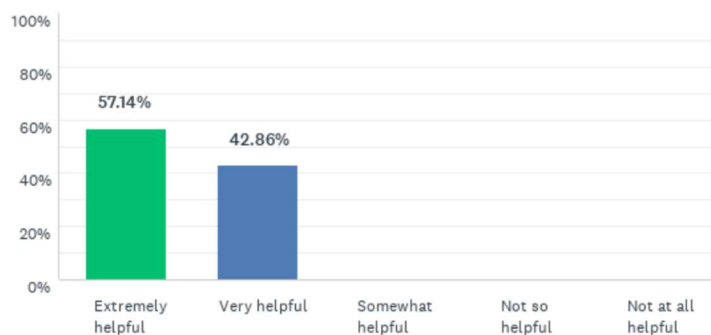
In this Figure #5, above, the question was presented in search of the inadequacy of training and financial support. The response questions presented in the form of 1) Definitely would, 2) Probably would 3) probably would not respond.

Figure 6

Participants' Opinion to Barriers to Policy Unification/Implementation

Graphic :4 Case Study , Barriers to Policy Unification / implementation

Answered: 14 Skipped: 0



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In this Figure #6 above, the response questions presented were 1) Extremely helpful, 2) Very helpful 3) and the rest were not responded.

The research question for the study sought to understand: What impact will socio-economic status, political perception, collaborative networks, and shared partnerships play in reducing female sex trafficking? One theme emerged to answer this research question, which is Palermo Protocol/New Policy Approach.

Theme 4: Palermo Protocol /New Policy Approach

The secondary analysis and the qualitative survey revealed significant findings as to the impact of various partnerships a socio-economic status plays in reducing sex trafficking. The analysis showed a significant role of the Palermo Protocol (PP) was the streamlined conceptualization of Trafficking in Human Beings (THB). Before the intervention of PP, many writers on the subject of 'human Trafficking' have given it definitions. The efforts made to define it had generated as many debates, ambiguities, and

a lack of understanding of the issue (Olujuwon, as cited in EJSR, 2018). Due to the lack of common definition and the widespread misunderstanding of the scope of THB, several syndicators of the crime of THB across continents were inflicted into emotional pains and sorrow on vulnerable groups without the commensuration on punitive sanctions. They were not always concerned about suppressing prostitution but rather viewed Trafficking in Human Beings as a wider problem of transnational organized crime, involving groups of illegal markets and marketers (Davidson, 2016).

In support of the new applicable solution for combating Trafficking in Human Beings (THB), it would be effective to put perpetrators behind the bars to reduce their evil acts and operations. This was fully activated in the instrument known as the Palermo Protocol, which streamlined the conceptualization of Human Trafficking and placed a moral burden on states to implement the combativeness. The key element necessary for an act to constitute trafficking in persons to the Palermo protocol includes a.) the movement of persons: recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, or receipt; b.) vulnerability population; and.) The purpose: for sexual exploitation, forced labor, practices similar to slavery, servitude, and harvesting of organs (Olateru-Olagbegi, 2006).

In Nigeria, inequality between men and women in social and legal practices is demonstrated in the under-representation of women in the political and economic sectors of the country. As Okome (2001) rightly pointed out, in Nigeria, with many other countries, women are regarded and treated as second-class citizens and inferior human beings, subordinated to men.

The analysis further revealed the unequal status of women to their male counterpart and the resultant human right abuses suffered by women is well reflected in the legal–constitutional mechanism of the country. The 1999 constitution of Nigeria stressed the equality of all human persons and prohibited any form of discrimination, including gender or sex-based discriminations as enunciated in section 15 of the constitution. Nevertheless, despite its claim of upholding gender equality, the 1999 constitution of Nigeria is criticized for predominantly using masculine language (Imam, 2000). Furthermore, the discrepancies and inconsistencies between the national constitution and customary laws undermined the legislative system and jeopardized the status of Nigerian women. Although section 43 of the constitution permitted both men and women to own property, the Nigerian customary law, which bases property rights on the line of men, is still operational in many communities in the country (Olateru-Olagbegi & Afolabi, 2004).

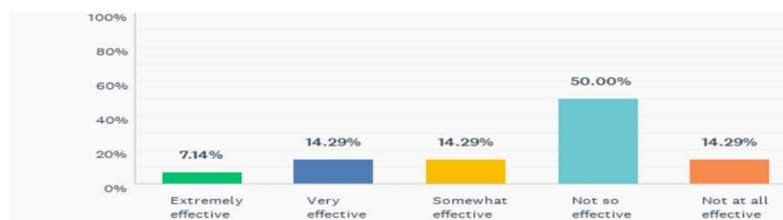
To verify if the current policy does help reduce female sex trafficking, an interesting finding did emerge. The qualitative survey (Figure 6) revealed participants' opinions on how effective current policy on trafficking has worked. The findings showed that the participants' opinion was diverse. The largest percentage of 50% indicated the policy is not so effective, 14% indicating not effective, while only seven percent feel that it is extremely effective.

Figure 7

Participants' Response to Current Policy Effectiveness

Graphic 2: Case Study, Effectiveness of present policy on Trafficking

Answered: 14 Skipped: 0



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Figure #7, above with the responded questions presented in the form of 1) Extremely effective, 2) Very effective, 3) somehow effective 4) Not much effective 5) not at effective.

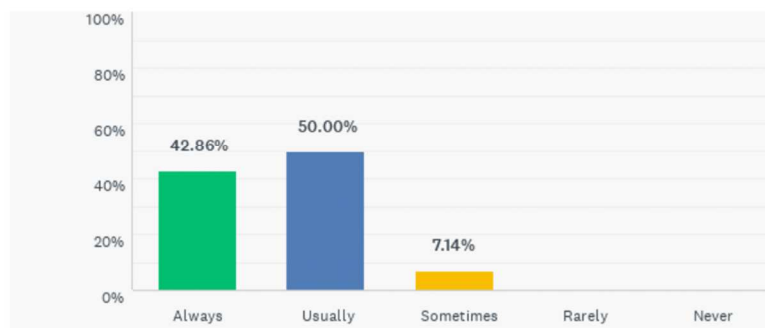
Additionally, I sought the participants' perception of how socioeconomic status impacts reducing female sex trafficking despite the present new policy "Palermo Protocol" (Figure 7). 43% of the respondents feel the socio-economic status of poverty is "always" a cause of trafficking irrespective of the policy in place. Most of the participants, 50%, feel poverty is "usually" a cause of involvement in sex trafficking.

Figure 8

Participants' Response on Socioeconomic Status/Poverty

Graphic 5 : Case Study, socio economic status/ poverty

Answered: 14 Skipped: 0



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Figure 8 above on social economic status and poverty. The responsive questions were presented in the form of 1) Always, 2) usually, 3) Sometimes and the rest were not responded to.

Theme 5: Purpose, Origin, Transit, and Destination (Nations)

Before explaining the different ways in which the monitoring, rehabilitation, and implementation of existing laws in the community, it is important to understand the purpose, origin, and destination of those been trafficked, hence the purpose of this theme. The secondary analysis revealed that the purposes of Trafficking in Human Beings (THB) was as diverse as the devious intentions and needs of the perpetrators of THB, and these are in the form of sexual exploitation, forced labor services, slavery-like or practices similar to slavery, servitude, and organ harvest (Olateru-Olagbegi, 2006). For this dissertation, the selection of the trafficking for sexual exploitation involving Edo women and teenage girls was examined and evaluated at greater length. This entails

considering women and young girls who have suffered intimidation through trafficking and who were then deprived of their basic human rights (Galiana, 2003).

In Nigeria, the origin of Victims of trafficking (VOTs) is traced to rural communities in some states in the South-West; States in the South-South, States in the Southeast, and some states in the southeast in the Middle Belt. They were also traceable to certain major capital cities like Lagos, Ibadan, Kano, Kaduna, Calabar, and Port Harcourt. To say the list. People trafficked to these regions were mainly for exploitative domestic work, farm labor, and prostitution which were common in Lagos cities (UNESCO, 2006). On a global scale, trafficked Nigerians came from all parts of Nigeria, but some states provided more trafficked persons than others. These states include but are not limited to Edo, Akwa-Ibom, Cross River, Delta, Imo, Ebonyi, Kano, Ogun, Oyo, and Lagos (UNESCO, 2006).

The recruitment process of the sex trafficking trade across the world is the same, and in the epic study of Burmese women trafficked to Thai brothels, Hnin Pyne classified her victims by their means of entry into prostitution, voluntary, bonded, Involuntary Asia's Watch and the Human Rights Project (1993) States that 'voluntary indicates that the Victims approached the owner of a sex establishment, bonded with an involvement of parents or guardians, who got paid from an agent or owner for giving away their daughter. An involuntary conveys the use of deception and coercion of the woman by the agent or owner' cited in Asia's Watch and the Human Rights Project, (1993).

The analysis further revealed road transport was the most common means of transportation to these countries, given that traveling by air is usually more expensive and

likely to expose those victims and traffickers to airports security checkpoints. Trafficked persons endure the hardship of traveling through various countries before reaching designated points (Fayomo, 2009). En route to Europe and the Middle East, many Nigerian girls and women had traveled across the Sahara to North Africa and used small boats to travel across the Mediterranean region (Akor, 2011). Many of these women and young girls who traveled by road across the Sahara and the Mediterranean regions often lose their lives in the process due to lack of adequate supply of food/ hydration and proper life support, also were challenges from weather conditions, hazards, and physical exertion (The Guardian, October (2012). While traveling on these remote routes, some of the women were hired or sold out by their recruiters to earn money. To compound matters, traffickers often changed and used complicated routes to avoid being tracked by the law enforcement agencies (Mazzitelli, 2007).

Lastly, the analysis revealed, law enforcement agents lack adequate training to identify and apprehend traffickers, it is not uncommon to find a measure of complicity on the part of some law enforcement agents such as Customs, Immigration, and even the Police officers working in the public sectors to be awarded and be involved in combating the trafficking situation. Most of the victims of trafficking (VOTs) found themselves deceived into believing that their destination would be in Europe (Akor, 2011; UNESCO, 2006). Nigeria is also a receiving country for trafficked persons for sexual exploitation from neighboring countries, particularly Benin, Togo, and Ghana Olateru (Olagbegi&Ikpeme, 2006). This rising trend in the trafficking of Nigerian women and young girls to the United Kingdom to work as domestic servants has created an

increasing number of young girls claiming asylum in the United Kingdom, (Daily Telegraph March 9, 2001). Record shows, about 92% of Nigerians trafficked to Europe for prostitution came from the Edo state of Nigeria (ICPO-Nigeria Division, 2000).

Trafficking in Human Beings (THB) had boomed in Benin City, the capital of Edo state, and from other cities in Delta state. In response to the mounting anti-trafficking campaigns, these intended to focus on urban centers to the countryside. Then, from the record, it was noted that they were also recruited from other Nigerian states, such as Imo, Enugu, Lagos, Ogun, Anambra, and Akwa-Ibom (ICPO-Nigeria Division, 2000). The reports also revealed the Middle East as another destination point, most notably Libya and Saudi Arabia. The recruitment of girls trafficked to Saudi Arabia came predominantly from the Northern States of Nigeria, with a high percentage from capital cities. (NIS-UNICEF). From the statistical data of Nigeria immigration service (2002 – 2004), the Saudi Arabia authorities deported 9,952 women and 1,231 underage children unaccompanied.

Having understood the origin and menace of trafficking in this theme, the next theme reveals the effort towards rehabilitation in the community as they search for deterrence continues to emerge due to the monitoring of the menace of trafficking.

Theme 6: Search for Deterrence

The secondary data analysis revealed the ILO Statistics on Nigeria's position in Human Trafficking. As the document review suggests, as cited by Oucho (2012), Nigeria alone accounted for about 12% of victims of human trafficking globally. Also cited on Evbayiro (2013), suggested that the 2000 women trafficked to Italy with 60% being from

Nigerians, out of that, 80% came from Edo State. In addition, media analysis expressed those 45,000 Nigerian women were trafficked to Europe each year to engage in dehumanizing activities to make a good living. Some young children were relocated across borders to Gabon and the Benin Republic for reduced labor offered by criminals (This day Live, 2013). The recent 2015 report on (UNODC) estimated that about 750,000 to one million people were trafficked yearly in Nigeria, with over 75% trafficked across the states while 23% are trafficked within the Edo state (UNODC, 2015).

Like most member states of the United Nations, Nigeria had ratified most of the international and regional treaties protecting human rights generally and women's rights. These treaties included an International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR); the International Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW); the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, dehumanization or Degraded Treatment and Punishment; the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR); the Protocol to the African. Charter on Rights of Women in Africa (Women's Protocol); and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (African Children's Charter) (Okeke, 2010). Nigeria had also ratified the 2000 UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime and the UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children (Palermo Protocol).

Analysis revealed that Nigeria signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Italy in 2000 and 2010 and Great Britain in 2004 to extradite trafficking offenders to their

home countries for prosecution and punishment (UNESCO, 2006). In July 2005, Nigeria, and Cote d' Ivoire, Burkina Faso, Guinea, Benin, Mali, Liberia, and Niger signed a multi-lateral agreement against child trafficking in West Africa (UNESCO, 2006). Similarly, sections 222A, 223, 224, 225A, 227, 365, 366, and 367 of the Nigerian Criminal Code and Sections 271-281 of its Penal Code dealt with offenses that may constitute cross-border trafficking for prostitution and slavery (UNICRI, 2004). A major gap in the Criminal Code was that the definition of human trafficking was not deferred on what constituted trafficking, nor does it deal with the various forms of trafficking. It only dealt with those offenses that constituted cross-border trafficking for prostitution and slavery. Although the Criminal Code criminalizes the procurement of women and girls for prostitution in or outside Nigeria [Section 223 (2)] and thereby made the trafficking an offense (Section 369), the penalties that the Code attached to these offenses seem rather lenient.

Also, the analysis revealed penalties punishable fines and imprisonment of two to seven years, which seem unlikely to deter traffickers or make the trade a risky and difficult endeavor (Nwogu, 2007). By way of improving its legal frameworks on trafficking in persons, and in line with Article 5 of the Palermo protocol, which required states to enact community anti-trafficking laws, Nigeria enacted the 2003 trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Law Enforcement Act (NAPTIP Act). Akin to the Palermo Protocol, the NAPTIP Act clarifies the concept of human trafficking, criminalizes human trafficking, and provides for severe penalties, ranging from two years to life imprisonment. The Act also made it possible to establish the National Agency for the

Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons and other Related Matters (NAPTIP) in 2004 (United States Department of State, 2012). Since the establishment of NAPTIP, it has been mandated, among other things, to coordinate and enforce the laws against trafficking in persons as well as investigate and prosecute offenders and rehabilitate victims (Akor, 2011; UNICRI, 2004). NAPTIP had established offices across the country and collaboration within the Nigerian Police, Immigration Office, and relevant NGOs. The establishment of NAPTIP also impacted several convictions and convictions of traffickers (UNESCO, 2006).

Furthermore, the analysis showed that penalties for trafficking offenses related to sexual activities involving minors under 18 stipulated in the NAPTIP Act were severe than other penalties found in the Criminal or Penal Codes (Nwogu, 2007). However, the entire NAPTIP Act had been criticized for emphasizing more on the prosecution of traffickers than the prevention of trafficking and the protection of victims. The challenges in the NAPTIP Act regarding the protection of victims and witnesses have made it difficult to secure the testimonies of victims and witnesses in prosecutions despite the existing laws put in place to deter sex trafficking.

Theme 7: Nongovernmental Organizations

The analysis showed that many non-governmental organizations and women's rights organizations continue to advocate against the government's inability to prosecute notorious criminals of traffickers. The convictions of traffickers were rare, and if convicted, they were usually released without due process of the crime committed. There was an increase in the number of the NGOs among are, Women consortium of Nigeria,

Lagos; Idea Renaissance, Benin Edo State; Women Trafficking and Child Labor Eradication Foundation; Women's Right Watch, Benin Edo State; Human Rights Centre, Ebonyi State; and Central Educational Service, to list few (Olujuwon, 2013).

Also, the analysis revealed that churches have been very active in the advocacy approach that churches have been very active in advocacy approaches to trafficking in human beings. In recent times, it has taken the form of 'Sisters' Advocacy' Actions taken included visitation to the state governor to advocate for harsher and better punishable executive measures against traffickers and the need for the state police commissioner to use legal power and position to arrest and prosecute decisively on suspicious owners of brothels who helped traffickers to lure young girls into prostitution.

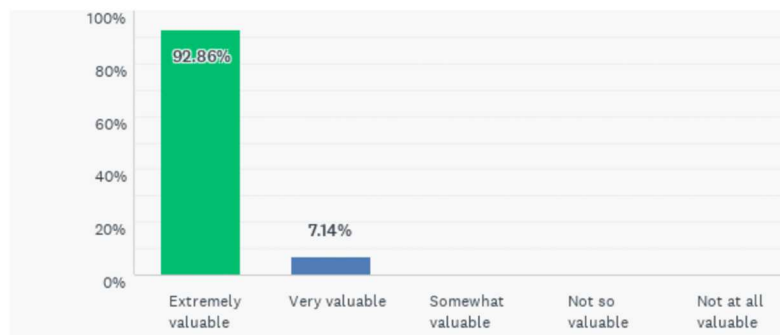
In addition, findings revealed that Town Hall meetings were organized by the sisters in rural communities where underage girls were being held in brothels and used as sex workers (Pathfindersji, 2018). In communities, sisters held an awareness campaign to educate about trafficking and related activities against women and children. The effort by the different social groups revealed that existing law does not protect victims of sex trafficking within the community, however, efforts and actions as demanded by the sisters may yield a better result to monitoring, rehabilitation, and empowerment of victims of sex trafficking. The qualitative survey also supports the secondary findings as ninety-three percent of the participants indicated a need for rehabilitation and empowerment is important

Figure 9

Participants' Response to Empowerment and Rehabilitation

Graphic :8 Case Study, Empowerment / Rehabilitation/ /Support/ Training

Answered: 14 Skipped: 0



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In this #9 Figure above, the responsive questions were presented to the participants in the form of 1) Extremely valuable, 2) Very valuable, and the rest were not responded.

Evidence of Trustworthiness

The key elements of trustworthiness were all applied and utilized throughout this study credibility, transferability, dependability, and conformability. An acceptable fact about the combination of the secondary analysis and enhancing with case study data collection method of this study is that Trafficking in Human Being (THB) is so shrouded in secrecy that it required the familiar resources and competencies of state apparatus and the department of the UNO pro-active and involvements. The state-operated and non-governmental organizations accessed reliable and valid data, which this study argued for to achieve its objectives. The foregoing is the basis for turning to Academia, Social Media Articles of European (e.g., Euro-just, Europol, and Fronted news) and

International (e.g., Interpol, IOM, and UNODC) documents and reports as well as global reports with case studies to enhance the outcome of the study. The statistics regarding the victim's interaction with the trafficker/recruiter, statistics regarding the extent of involvement of criminal groups in THB, I reviewed documents, newspaper clippings, articles, recognition, and other case study resources that provided deep insights into the activities of THB.

Information about how secondary database research and case study were collected was based on both the literature that was reviewed from the Academia, Emerald Insight, Gale, Sage, Pro-Quest, Springer, Wiley, Science Direct (Elsevier) search engines Google, Google Scholars, and that of case study data analysis, respectively. For the literature data and information to be more relevant, the literature search was limited to those of 14 years in publications and enhanced with case study data analysis on 14 participants through qualitative survey as the participants were validated from their commitment to volunteer and met all the required criteria making the outcomes.

Credibility

To achieve credibility for this qualitative study by secondary analysis and enhanced with a case study using survey money for the analysis as another way of adding beautification to the study. Consulted and extracted were made from different reports and findings on the state institutions, UNO departments, and investigations of THB reports, police reports, NAPTIPS reports, court cases, WOTCLEF reports, arrests, trials, and convictions of human traffickers. Data and information from different sources were normally compared during the study. It had provided ways of substituting for member

monitoring and sense-making, in-depth engagement and frequent review of documents, and peer debriefing (Houghton, et al., 2013). Such comparisons enabled validation of the interpretations of the view and in-depth understanding from the different sources of literature and outcome. According to Harper and Cole (2012), the researcher achieved optimal credibility by adopting that ensures the accuracy of findings when 14 participants corresponded on the qualitative survey with the valid outcomes. An effort using the case study for data on triangulation resulted in credibility (Yin, 2009). I have achieved that constructive validity (Sanders & Rojon, 2014; Tanggaard, 2014; Zohrabi, 2013) by consulting myriads of literature on THB, and that data collection on strategic points, met the requirement set by Yin (2014) who stated that maintaining credibility entails those multiple sources of evidence were referred to a single source of evidence.

While analyzing the data collected, I took measures that ensured both internal and external validity in the research sequence. I was conscious of my personal biases interfering with the notes and summaries collected. I tried my best to defer from my values, beliefs, and overall perspectives, including, practices and reviews, not to interfere with my data collection analysis and interpretation as described by (Klieg, 2012), Smith and Noble (2014). The conscious efforts and activities helped refine and authenticate the themes and findings that emerged to enhance the goal.

Transferability

According to Marshall and Rossman (2016), the readers were in a better position to decide whether a study was equally transferable or not. However, the outcome of a qualitative case study on the challenges of trafficking in human beings in Edo State could

be widely applied in different parts of the world where efforts had been made and failed. Thereby evaluating and implementing what all stakeholders are encountering on the fight and challenge against human trafficking appeared not to be a desirable level of curbing the scourge of THB. Transferability emphasizes how research findings and outcomes were used to benefit an environment, individuals, and global communities (Borrego et al., 2011). The outcome of the data collection on this case study as reported in Chapter 3 and the beginning of this chapter where the themes emerged from the data outcomes with the participants' responses was the same and that created and supported the transferability in the case.

Dependability

Dependability, as it sounds, is another important part of the rigor in trustworthiness and was utilized throughout the entire research process and shall be ensured through an audit trail. My data were obtained through multiple data sources, as has been affirmed previously. I crosschecked all transcripts with the sources I summarized to select and filter out discrepancies in the in-depth understanding I gained. I made matches and verified with what the writers intended with the secondary data analysis and information that integrated into the literature collected. In enhancing the study with the case study and maintaining consistency throughout the process from contacting the participants, sending the qualitative survey questions and data collections and analysis proved needed dependability to the study (Thomas & Magilvy, 2011).

Confirmability

I thereby ensured the conformability and qualitative objectivity through a reflective on verifying the entries. My journal entries included my decisions concerning methodology, secondary data analysis, and theme developments that I discussed in the outcomes. According to Houghton et al. (2013), the attribute of confirmability on research is found in the objectivity and creativeness of data. The procedure about the data collected for this research ensured that literature on THB has been consulted and met with institutional standardization. They included the Academia, Social Media Articles, European (e.g., Euro-just, Europol, Frontex news) and International (e.g., Interpol, IOM, and UNODC) validated documents and reports as well as global reports, statistics regarding the victim's interaction with the trafficker/recruiter, statistics regarding the extent of involvement of criminal groups in THB. To strengthen the attribute of confirmability, data and information from various databases, the UNO departments, institutions of the state, and others have been harmonized, and contents relevant to the research questions and problem statement of the study were considered. In addition to enhancing this study's secondary data analysis with the case study, a qualitative survey was conducted, where both the researcher and the participants maintained mutual understanding through the data process and the consistency in the outcomes of the entire trustworthiness segment.

Summary

In this study, I sought to identify the barriers preventing the global policy unification and collaborative implementation of the stakeholders in combating human

trafficking in Edo state. The study design was selected as the most fitted for this qualitative method because of its ability to provide applicable theories to these real-life challenges of human trafficking. The outcome of the data collection of secondary analysis and case study were identified for factors that involve such areas of lack of awareness, training, funding and weak policy implementation, and poverty. The challenges of poor socio-economic status and inadequate wealth distribution of a country were greatly and widely gaped between the low-middle and elite. These factors created an avenue for the vulnerable population of women and girls to be most targeted due to the demand and supply in the entertainment industries and cartel market for exploitations. These coded data were utilized in identifying only 3 themes in addition to the themes established for secondary analysis, which corresponded with the theoretical framework for barriers for not implementing Policy Unification and Collaborative efforts of the stakeholders. It was a big surprise that barriers for policy implementation and policy unification were among the list of concerns according to the participant selection and response. What follows in Chapter 5 is the interpretation of findings, limitations of the study, recommendations, implications of social changes, and the conclusion to cape the study.

Chapter 5: Discussion, Conclusions, and Recommendations

Introduction

Human trafficking has been a historical and global concern as it has been a global crime against humanity that violates individual rights and privileges by obstructing their free will, thereby coercing them into different forms of slavery activities. The purpose of this qualitative case study was to explore the perceived barriers to implementing collaborative policy unification in Edo State, Nigeria. The study with the overall objective of responding adequately to the over-arching research question states, “What impact will socio-economic status, political perception, collaborative networks, and shared Partnerships play in reducing female sex traffic?” This led to the identification of a solution to the problem of where selected themes were applicable using secondary data analysis and case study data collection, concentration on the findings of the study. This data collection and secondary data analysis method encouraged and enhanced more on the use of trustworthiness. Since the data consisted of comprehensive existing articles, documents, media links, other related social media, and data collection. After evaluating and analyzing both secondary and case study data, the point remains with the findings reviewed, where barriers were due to lack of funding, improper training, awareness, policy unification, a collaboration of international bodies, and the economic disparities that attract certain vulnerable population to fall into the hands of the traffickers. The relevant conclusion will be drawn and recommendations were made for action on future studies.

Interpretation of the Findings

Chapter 5 is a discussion of the findings based on the results discussed in Chapter 4. The starting point in most of the research study was made in various aspects and concepts sprouting from the themes related to the theoretical framework and research question that was utilized in this case study. The themes that emerged from the coded data analysis were most fitted and appropriately related to the framework and research question. The section explained the connection of the theories of the narrative policy, advocacy Coalition, and victimology concerning those barriers that were preventing the implementation of policy unification against sex trafficking in Edo State, Nigeria.

An appropriate conception of the phenomenon and a common definition was the first step that was required for a unified and concerted effort. This brought perpetrators to justice and consequently, deterring those who intend to join in the collaboration efforts for international agreement on what constitutes trafficking in recent persons (UNHR, 2014). The concept of human trafficking was often misunderstood with those of migration and forced labor because some of the major elements of human trafficking involved movement from one place to another place and that of forced labor respectively (Maiangwa& Ani, 2014). However, most migration was the result of human trafficking. Similarly, the criminal justice institutions and legislative authorities were often not equipped and not properly trained to adequately address that phenomenon on policy unification.

The long delay in global collaboration to a consensus about what constitutes the scope of trafficking in human beings created the right situations across global

communities for trafficking in persons to thrive and for the perpetrators of the heinous crime to escape severe and deterring global criminal justice measures. Until recently, human trafficking was equated with sex work in Nigeria, due to a lack of support from the government (Ijeoma, 2007). The following themes are discussed concerning the findings on barriers preventing policy unification.

United Nations Palermo Protocol (Barriers of Policy Implementation)

This issue of human trafficking had gone a long way to strengthen the global legal framework in combating human trafficking and forced labor in Nigeria and other communities. Despite the progress made from different bodies, impunity and program in place still prevail in large communities of the globe, as shown, for instance, by the low levels of victim detections and traffickers conviction recorded in Sub-Saharan Africa and communities of Asia. Most communities in these countries are part of the parties to the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol and appropriate legislation in place (UNODC, 2018).

As human trafficking is globally growing and rapidly affecting our communities, so were many factors responsible for trafficking in human beings in global societies. These factors range from the poverty of individuals, groups, families, cultural beliefs and subjecting vulnerable groups to deliberate methods that listed the use of threat, force, abduction, fraud, coercion, deception, abuse of power or position, exploitation of the vulnerability. Others were due to greediness from both parties, to be instantly wealthy, and other factors could be displacement of women due to civil wars, communal and armed conflicts.

The situation at times tends to be pressured for many victims to take a risk with their lives to escape their precarious socio-economic situation at home Murdock, (2012). The victims being moved were mostly used for labor or commercial sex acts through coercion, fraud, or force labor (Marshi, 2015). Brusca (2011) described these force labor services using the terms unintentional servitude, slavery, or practices related to slavery and forced labor. In Edo state, besides those victims paid huge money to their traffickers,

Another pressure emerged from the cultural beliefs and practices in which Nigerian VOTs often committed and engaged in a voodoo rite, which bound them by contract to their traffickers. The contract, among other things, prohibits and prevents victims from revealing the names of their traffickers and other information that may implicate the exploiters. As noted by Akor (2011), some of these economically challenged parents go to the extent of submitting their daughters to traffickers to break away from poverty and their greediness for wealth (Akor, 2011).

Global Challenge

Human trafficking is a global challenge that required a global intervention with common disciplining action on those offenders. It is a crime that does not differentiate anyone, and anyone could be a victim, targeted and be forced against the wills and consent in spite of their ethnicity, age, educational level, or socioeconomic status, there are certain population that is most targeted, possibility of the nature of vulnerability and been manipulated (Butler, 2014). The targeted population was a theme where 78% of the participants favored what they think about the impact of human trafficking on females. The victimology theory describes the population as those individuals at the greatest risk

of being victimized and taken advantage of by the perpetrator of human trafficking. These populations were being manipulated into human trafficking by false and empty promises of a better life and financial empowerment. Another targeted population of human trafficking is not far from those of low socio-economic families and those challenged by poverty to survive. Women are another vulnerable group considered to be targeted as victims of human trafficking, and their perpetrators are aware of these weaknesses and use it against them.

Driving Force

The driving force for wealth is a negative contributing factor, which is manifested by some of the victims, such that both the victims and the exploiters are equally blamed in the issue of human traveling for the sponsorship and profit made on trafficking. The Nigerian position in human trafficking was ranked third among other crimes in the country after economic fraud and drug trafficking (UNESCO, 2006). With pervasive poverty among the local population, Nigeria provides an ample supply of women and young girls who desperately seek a better life by being easily lured by traffickers to relocate outside the country for the promise of economic prosperity. (Bowers, 2012).

Trafficking on Nigerian women became prominent with the growth of drug trafficking and Advanced Fee Fraud called (419) in the early 1990s (Akor, 2011). Since then, more than 300,000 Nigerian women have been trafficked out of the country for sex exploitation (Onyejekwe, 2005). Nigerian women accounting for over 10,000 trafficked women brought into Italy, followed by the Netherlands, Spain, Belgium, and the Middle East, and the United States (Onyejekwe, 2005). This evidence is substantiated by the

current study, where many participants on the survey also attested to this menace in this current century.

Other factors attributed to this issue were the absence of parental role models, parental pressure, peer pressure, and societal pressure to be wealthy regardless of how it is earned had been contributing and motivating factors for Trafficking in Human Beings in Edo State (Lawal, 2009). Osezua (2013), in a study titled changing the status of women and the phenomenon of Trafficking of women for transactional sex in Nigeria, reported that some women, especially the uneducated women, conceived and considered trafficking as a career with prestige and community acceptance attached.

Likewise, young women involved in international sex transactions were held in higher regard and respected within their families of orientation and community. Young girls, who could financially support their families, were viewed as financial liberators, and their means of income were perceived as messianic and not questioned Sequa (, 2013). The current study also supported this assertion as my findings indicated that concerning the theme of a driving force, low self-esteem was rated by 85% of participants as favoring sex trafficking when asked about the low impact self-esteem played on the lives of women the victims. This driving force has continued to increase the contributing factors in the existence of human trafficking.

Edo state history and record have been recorded as a destination hub where human trafficking activities have been a driving factor in deprived socioeconomic status and lack of funding for training, educating proper policy implementation, and improper distributing of national wealth. As the demand for the sex market persists and continues

to increase so are the perpetrator's supply and demand to continue locating the victims.

The recent global trend in social media has created the internet and social media awareness to connect to victims and possibly those operating secrecy in the world.

Armed Impact

An inability to implement policy and provide the necessity among the masses and lack of adequate resources to effectively respond to crime on traffickers with a fertile training and support to carry out their operation of activities. This is exacerbated by more people in a desperate situation, lacking access to basic needs. These armed groups were involved in conflict with civilian exploitations. Armed groups and other criminals took advantage, and increased traffic on victims, such as children for sexual exploitation, sexual slavery, forced marriages, armed combat, and various forms of forced labor (UNODC, 2018).

The abduction of women and girls for sexual slavery had been reported in many conflicts in Central and West Africa, the Middle East. Also, had been reported on women and girls were trafficked for forced marriages in the same communities by recruitment and exploitation of children in extractive industries. This had been reported as conflicts in sub-Saharan Africa, and also the financing of the activities of armed groups (UNODC, 2018).

Lawal (2009) reported the findings of field survey titled: Human Trafficking in Edo state, a social and economic factor, which accounted for human trafficking in Edo state, included were the impact of Nigerian Civil War (1967 – 1970) during the six weeks' conflict by Biafra forces where many girls and women were raped. Other

contributing factors were the corruption of military regimes (1966-1979; 1984-1998); the socio-economic effect of the Structural Adjustment Programmed (1986-1993).

Traditional Institutions

The traditional institution in Edo State had risen to the clamor for a lasted solution to the menace of trafficking in human beings. Responding decisively to the current state of anti-trafficking actions in Edo state was the paramount ruler of the Edo Kingdom, the Oba Ewuare II. The highly revered Monarch used a congregation of the Chiefs and Priests of the Kingdom to revoke the curses placed on victims of human trafficking and to curse human traffickers instead. This step was applauded by the majority of Edo State communities and sympathizers (Pathfindersji, 2018). The Iyase of Benin was Oba's Prime Minister, under the power of the Oba, denounced that spiritual power (juju). When it became a problem for everybody, the Oba decided to make it plain to everyone, about the traffickers, victims, and their families, for the juju threats to stop, and if not stopped, consequences will follow (Pathfindersji, 2018).

Limitations of the Study

It was expected that limitations associated with secondary data analysis would make an impact on this study. Such constraints included but were not limited to the quality and reliability of the information, which were not easily guaranteed. This was the aim for this study in Trafficking in Human Beings (THB); this study was shrouded in secrecy, where the best primary data collection for socio-economic were analyzed and highly spurious data and information. Consequently, the decision to obtain secondary

data for this study was very important and encouraged by the need to obtain authentic and verifiable data on Trafficking in Human Beings (THB).

The researcher's reliable data were highly needed to adequately respond to the research questions guiding the study and the problem statement identified at the beginning of the study. The amount of threat, force, abduction, fraud, coercion, deception, abuse of power or position, exploitation of a vulnerability by which victims of Trafficking (VOTs) were engaged (Gbadamosi, 2006; UNESCO, (2006). The nature of the profiteers of Trafficking in oaths of secrecy had made it more challenging to combat (Olateru-Olagbegi, as cited in Maiangwa& Ani, 2014).

By the same token, an empirical methodology of selecting secondary data as primary data collection for THB research often ended in misinformation from the criminal syndicate. The potential chance was rewarded for misleading data and possibly dealing with what appeared to be seeking information about highly formidable criminal gangs with local and international networks. Reasonably access to such data and information relies on state institutions and international organizations like UNO departments with credentials, sanctions, and enabling to access data and information. These were obtained from overt and covert state security operational, special anti-trafficking committees of government, judicial bodies, legislative and executive branches.

The limitations of this secondary data analysis were further compensated for by being research involving a more in-depth analysis of themes from the present case study, which helped in researching with the following limitations on data from those articles to this study.

The limitations of this case study were that the participants were only workers from human services and the law-enforcement sectors, and there were no issues about confidentiality because they were voluntary and anonymous bases. In support, the churches were not contacted to participate, but the nonprofit organization where the victims were sheltered was inclusive and had been helping in raising awareness about human trafficking. These victims tend to feel safer and more comfortable residing in this facility, and for all their needs, support, and empowerment.

Recommendations

This qualitative case study was utilized to explore the perceived implementation of collaborative policy unification in Edo State, Nigeria. It can be replicated in other communities, where both the poverty, deprived socio-economic status, funding for training, and ineffective policy implementation could be applicable for future research.

Another future replication could be using the quantitative approach, selecting other states in Nigeria, especially in the northern part of states, where human trafficking persists. The current trend in organ harvesting could be another interesting topic to be exploited in the future and so many other areas of human trafficking as in male gender in Edo State. In collaboration, the Government of Nigeria, and Edo State, is looking into the report of the Nigeria office on IOM for the protection and assistance services available within Nigeria for victims of trafficking (VOTS) and UMC. The limited value as an insufficient institutional framework, ineffective coordination, and collaboration among states and non-state actors to provide these services IOM, (2013). The quantitative case study could be applicable for future study and in any global communities

Implications

Based on the findings of this study, there are important implications for social change that created an effective community awareness program through television shows, seminars, theatre, and workshops in the community halls. The idea of an effective solution for the prevention approach that helps the communities in combating human trafficking. An established plan to guide and help members be active and leaders to advocate through term work by helping each other combat human trafficking. Also, the country's music movie industries could be utilized to reach out to the massive as people utilize social media. Additionally, community and religious leaders should be trained and allowed to be involved in the effort to combat human trafficking.

Under NAP TIP Act, the Nigerian authorities need to be active, creative, and properly trained staff members to have the necessary skills to be able to identify the victims of traffickers and provide the assistance needed to perform the assigned duties. This assistance includes suitable and safe rehabilitation centers for safety, protection, psychological and emotional help, access to an emergency healthcare center, and interpreting and translation services. Mostly, the information about their rights, interests, and skills needed to function in the societal workforce.

Other possible and potential public authorities and security agencies in the country were, Police officers, the customs authorities, the health and welfare services, and immigration authorities, all should be saddled with the general responsibility to ensure that their staff had knowledge, training, and experiences required in dealing with human trafficking, which helps identify and investigate the victims. It will be helpful to

investigate creating anti-trafficking watchdogs, commissions, and community leaders in rural areas to investigate and handle the recruiters in various local communities. This preventive measure could benefit Nigeria by undertaking renewed and aggressive initiatives. The Nigerian government has begun to reduce the scale of sexual exploitation and human rights abusers for Nigerian girls and women who found themselves trapped in the cycle of the human trafficking business.

This crime of trafficking in persons is not always defined by trans-nationality and should be treated as a criminal justice priority in all global jurisdictions and communities. Meanwhile, the transnational trafficking networks are still prevalent and must be responded through international collaboration and unification. The National justice measures, strategies, and priorities should also be acknowledged for increasing their part in national awareness of the trafficking issues. The interest groups and peacekeeping groups need to be supported and be part of the depolarization field can identify and report cases of trafficking in persons. In line with their mandated policy unification, the fear of reprisals against themselves or their families prevented many victims from accepting to cooperate with security and governmental forces. In situations where victims were reluctant to approach the relevant authorities, such people must be identified, protected, and offered assistance to enable the law-enforcement officers to investigate and prosecute the traffickers properly and accordingly. Hence, communities need to be properly informed, educated to create awareness, and proactive in policy unification and as well as in implementation.

Conclusions

Human trafficking is a global challenge and has affected many communities in the world. This issue of human trafficking has gone a long way to strengthen the global legal framework in combating human trafficking and forced labor in Nigeria and other communities. Despite the progress made from different bodies, impunity and program in place still prevail in large communities of the globe, as shown, for instance, by the low levels of victim detections and traffickers conviction recorded in Sub-Saharan Africa and communities of Asia. Most communities in these countries are part of the parties to the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol and appropriate legislation in place. This is a starting point to achieving a substantial action against human trafficking that must start with a universal acceptance consensus about the scope of Trafficking in Human Beings (THB). In the past, the most formidable challenge was to call for a joint global effort against Trafficking in Human Beings (THB). The legal frameworks related to trafficking and prostitution across geographic borders (Wennerholm, 2002). Now that most countries and their government officials understood and are aware of this crisis; they get involved in combating it, according to the reports from the majority of the themes.

The inadequate diagnosis of the concept and processes of sex trafficking has led to some poor approaches to solving the crime in Nigeria and other parts of the world. An international agreement on what constitutes trafficking in persons is very recent and precisely explained by UNHR (2014). The policy unification and collaborative of stakeholders in combating global human trafficking required attention which is creating challenges for the legislators to address. Given that human trafficking persists in the

world, governmental officials will continue to lobby lawmakers, politicians, and activists for lobbying for visitation to existing policies and solutions to combat human trafficking. Some of the key elements necessary for an action to constitute trafficking in persons according to the Palermo protocol include but are not limited to transferring of persons: recruitment, transportation, harboring, or receipt by order of threat, force, abduction, fraud, coercion, deception, abuse of power or position or vulnerable population for sexual exploitation, forced labor, and services (Olateru-Olagbegi, as cited in Maiangwa&Ani, 2014).

This entails for all stakeholders to be involved in the Palermo Protocol of policy implementation on the advocacy coalition of a framework in all member states of the United Nations to continue to collaborate in combating human trafficking. These Organizations had established the Global Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in line with article 3 of the United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons. The special support and encouragement to Women and Children of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. The vulnerable population was deceived into giving a receipt of payments to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person for exploitation (OSCE, 2010).

In terms of improving its legal frameworks, trafficking in persons and Article 5 of the Palermo Protocol required each member to enact domestic anti-trafficking laws. Nigeria government on its contribution, engaging slightly into implementing effective acts, in the following acts of 2003 Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition), the Law Enforcement Act (NAPTIP Act), and Akin to the Palermo Protocol, the NAPTIP Act.

The clarification on the concept of human trafficking, criminalization of human trafficking, and provision for global penalties ranged from two years to life imprisonment. The Act also made it possible to establish the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons and other Related Matters to be disciplined (NAPTIP). In 2004 United States Department of State (2012), with an establishment of NAPTIP, had been mandatory, among other things, to implement and enforce the laws against trafficking in persons as well as investigate and prosecute offenders as well as rehabilitate the victims (Akor, 2011; UNICRI, 2004).

The Edo State government, on May 23, (2018), signed into law the Trafficking in Persons Prohibition Bill (2018) as a plan in combating human trafficking. The new Act was approved by the Edo State House of Assembly to provide for an effective and comprehensive legal and institutional framework for the prohibition, prevention, detection, prosecution, and punishment of human traffickers and other related offenders. The Edo State Taskforce against Human Trafficking was created by Governor Oba Pathfinders (2018), which became functional and implementable (2017).

The data and literature presented from this study may help many communities around Edo state, other states in Nigeria, and global communities generate a better avenue in getting others involved in making public awareness of spreading the need to combat this human crime. This can be achieved by becoming a proactive activist in reaching out to politicians and legislators in creating and adjusting the policies that will be enforced, thereby creating accountability in combating human trafficking in our communities.

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Appendix A: Interview Questions

1. How familiar are you and understand human trafficking?
2. How effective do you think present policy in human trafficking is in Edo State, Nigeria, and in other communities?
3. How much impact do you think human trafficking has on females as most victimized?
4. What impact, if any, do you think policy unification will play in combating human trafficking if implemented?
5. How much of an impact is derived from socioeconomic status to traffickers and victims?
6. What impact, if any, does low self-esteem play on those victims?
7. What role will the supportive and rehabilitation services play in preparing and empowering victims of human trafficking in re-entering back to society?