



CENTRE FOR KNOWLEDGE

**AN IN-DEPTH REPORT
ON
RAPE AND THE NIGERIAN JUSTICE SYSTEM
FOR
THE CONSENT WORKSHOP**

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INTRODUCTION

According to a 2014 UNICEF study, twenty-five percent (25%) of girls and 10% of boys in Nigeria have experienced sexual violence before the age of 18.

A four-year research on 287 sexual assault reports conducted by the Lagos University Teaching Hospital between 2008 to 2012 revealed that 83% of the victims were below the age of 19.

Between 2012 and 2013, a year-long survey conducted by the Enugu State Teaching Hospital showed that 70% of sexual assault victims were under the age of 18. Additionally, In the Enugu survey, majority of the victims knew their perpetrators and the assault usually occurred in the victim's or perpetrator's residence.

The horrifying data mentioned above is just a glimpse of the rampant sexual crimes that continuously ripples through the nation.

The recent tragic deaths of University student, **Uwaila Vera Omozuwa**, who died a few days after she was raped and viciously attacked in a church in Benin city on the 27th of May 2020, and **Barakat Bello**, another student who was raped and killed during a robbery attack in her home in Ibadan on the 1st of June 1 2020, shows that gender-based violence is a reoccurring nightmare for girls and women in Nigeria, yet the rape convictions in Nigeria remain alarmingly low. With the current state of our laws and incompetent law enforcement officials, both of which are products of a patriarchal society, most victims of rape and other gender-based violence are unable to get justice.



Rest in Peace Uwa!

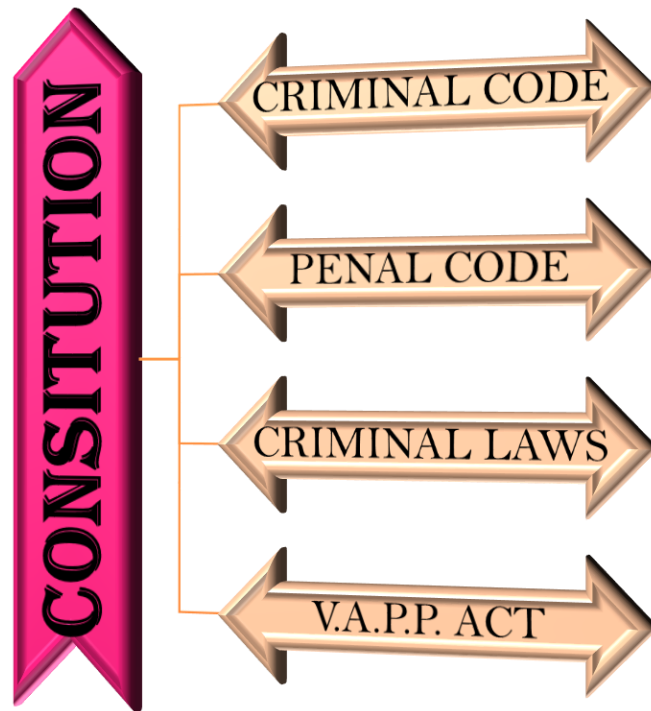


Rest in Peace Barakat!

This report was created in order to explore the various laws in Nigeria that deal with sexual offences - both the laws that prohibit them (such as the Violence Against Persons Prohibition Act) and the laws that inexplicably permit them (such as the Penal Code). Additionally, the rape laws of UK, India, France, China, and Saudi Arabia will be highlighted for the sake of comparisons and international awareness.

Furthermore, this report will delve into the age of consent in Nigeria and the controversial topic of marital rape. Following which, it will examine the requirements and hindrances faced when prosecuting rape and gender-based crimes.

Finally, suggestions and solutions are presented on how to not only curb the rise of sexual crimes in Nigeria, but also how to put an end to gender-based crimes completely.



Q: Why is there no uniformity of law?

A: Due to reasons such as culture & religion influencing laws in Nigeria.

STATE VS FEDERAL LAWS

In Nigeria, State Houses of Assembly can make Laws to operate in the state they serve.

In the event of a clash between the provisions of **State Laws** and the provisions of an **Act** of the Federal Republic of Nigeria - passed by the National Assembly, the provisions of an Act of the National Assembly shall prevail.

Where there is a Lacunae (i.e. no provision) on an issue by an Act of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and a State Law has a provision on the same issue, the provision of that State Law shall be effective within the jurisdiction of that State.

For Context:

The Constitution is silent on the issue of marital rape, however the Penal Code which is applicable in Northern States in Nigeria explicitly states that a man can NOT rape his wife.

In effect, this means a woman in the North can NOT prosecute her husband for the crime of rape.

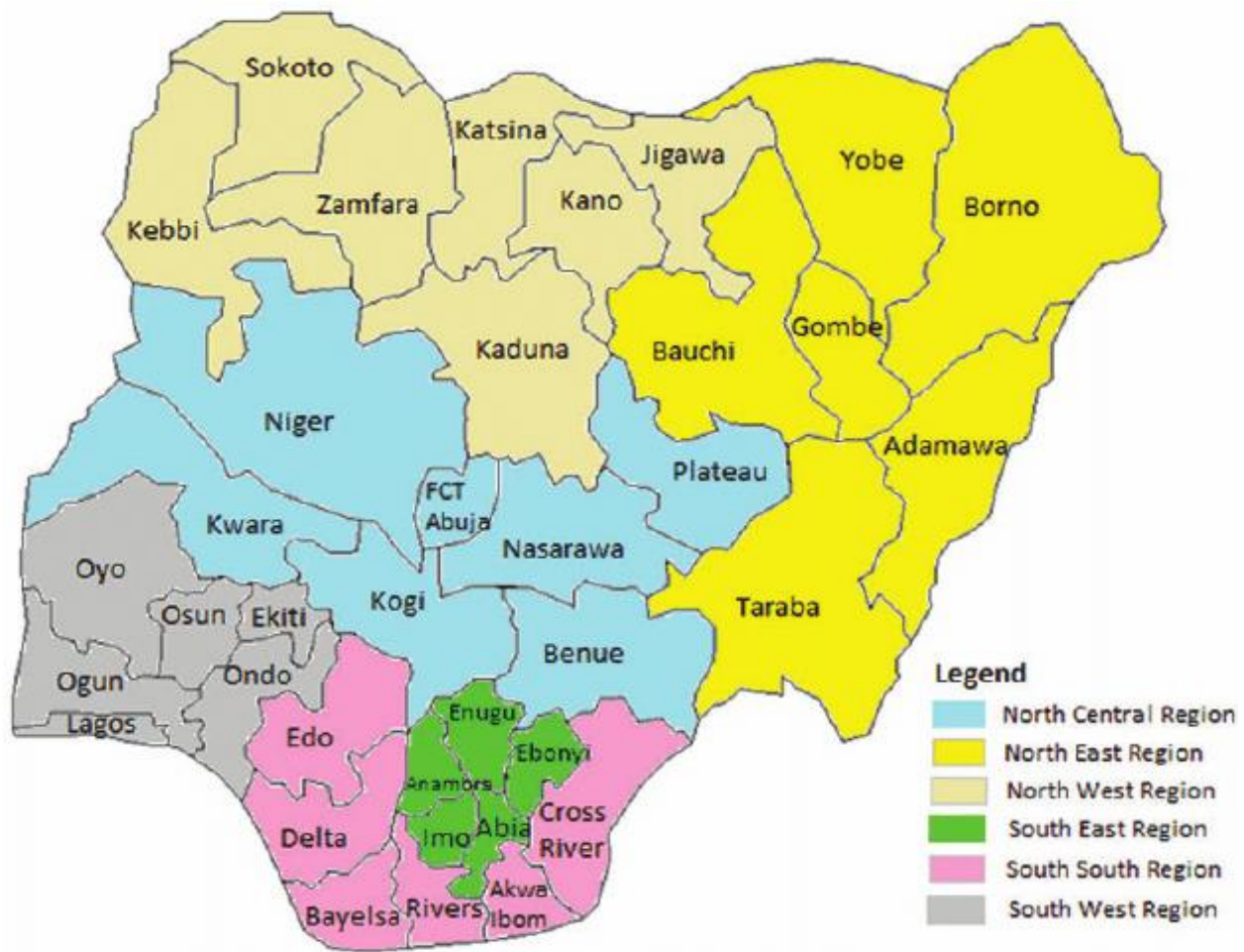


Image Credit: Research Gate

CRIMINAL CODE (CC)

Applicable in Southern Nigeria.

SECTION 357 - 358

Under the CC, rape is when any person has **sexual intercourse with a woman or girl, without her consent, or incorrectly obtained consent.**

Consent can be incorrectly obtained where it is obtained:

- by force/threat/intimidation,
- by means of false and fraudulent representation as to the nature of the act, or
- by a person impersonating a married woman's husband in order to have sex

Additionally, under the CC, sexual intercourse with under-aged girls or people with unsound mind is the offence of defilement, hence a person could be charged for rape and defilement.

PENAL CODE (PC)

Applicable in Northern Nigeria

SECTION 282

Under the PC, rape is when a man has **sexual intercourse with a woman against her will, without her consent, or with incorrectly obtained consent.**

Consent can be incorrectly obtained where it is obtained:

- by putting her in fear of death or hurt or
- by a person impersonating a married woman's husband in order to have sex

Additionally, under the PC, **sex with a girl under 14 years of age** or who is of unsound mind is rape, irrespective of whether there is consent. This inexplicably states that the age of consent in Northern states is 14.

The Penal Code also, explicitly states that sexual intercourse by a man with his wife is not rape in Section 282 and a man can physically abuse his wife in Section 55.

SECTION 55. CORRECTION OF CHILD, PUPIL, SERVANT OR WIFE.

*(1) Nothing is an offence which does **not** amount to the infliction of grievous hurt upon any persons which is **done**:*

*(a) **by a parent** or guardian for the purpose of **correcting his child** or ward . . .*

*(b) **by a schoolmaster** for the purpose of **correcting a child** . . .*

(c) by a master for the purpose of correcting his servant or apprentice . . .

(d) by a husband for the purpose of correcting his wife, such husband and wife being subject to any native law or custom in which such correction is recognized as lawful.

Laws that allow men to rape or “correct” their wives, sanction violence within the scope of the law itself and indirectly perpetuate or promote intimate partner violence against women and girls.

CRIMINAL LAWS OF LAGOS (CLL)

Applicable only in Lagos

SECTION 258

Under the CLL, rape is when a man has sexual intercourse with a woman or girl without her consent, or with incorrectly obtained consent.

Consent can be incorrectly obtained where it is obtained:

- by force, impersonation threat or intimidation of any kind, or
- by means of false and fraudulent representation as to the nature of the act,

As with the Penal Code, the Criminal Laws of Lagos explicitly states that sexual intercourse by a man with his wife cannot be unlawful, and therefore a man cannot rape his wife.

N.B. – Although all 3 laws mentioned above state that rape can only occur when the vagina of the woman is penetrated, this does not mean that anal intercourse without consent is allowed. It is still recognized as a crime and is covered under different sections in each legislation.

VIOLENCE AGAINST PERSONS PROHIBITION ACT 2015 (VAPP)

Only Applicable in States that have Domesticated it.

Section 1

The VAPP Act defines rape as when a person intentionally penetrates the vagina, anus or mouth of another person with any other part of his/her body or anything else without consent, or with incorrectly obtained consent.

Consent can be incorrectly obtained where it is obtained:

- by force/threats/intimidation

- by means of false and fraudulent representation as to the nature of the act,
- by the use of substances capable of taking away the will of that person
- by a person impersonating a married woman's husband in order to have sex

MAJOR PROVISIONS OF THE VAPP ACT

The VAPP Act is an extremely progressive piece of legislation due to the following reasons:

- i. In Section 1c, it acknowledges that intoxication due to any "substance or additive" can inhibit a person's ability to willfully consent.
- ii. It recognizes that men can be raped.
- iii. It is the first legislation to classify both unlawful anal or oral sex as rape and not sexual assault. In other rape laws, only vaginal penetration can be classified as 'rape'.
- iv. The Act states that the instrument used to commit rape does not have to be a penis, it can be another part of the body e.g. hand, or an object e.g. dildo or bottle. The other laws that deal with rape specify that a penis must have vaginal penetration for it to be the offence of rape.

Therefore, we can see that the Act is progressive because it focuses on the violation of the person's body when viewing the act of rape, instead of applying a strict view of the fact that for it to be rape there must be 'sex'.

- v. In Section 2c, it recognizes the notion of 'gang rape' and provides the punishment of a **minimum** of 20 years' imprisonment for those who are found guilty of it.
- vi. In other legislations like the Criminal Code, which is applicable in the South, the law provides the judge with the discretion to sentence an offender to less than the maximum penalty.

In contrast, in Section 2b the VAPP Act takes away this discretion to some extent as it states that once the crime of rape is proven, **the offender must be sentenced to a minimum penalty of 12 years for rape without an option of fine**

- vii. The Act recognizes the rights of the victim to **Financial Compensation** in Section 3. This helps the victim in healing and rebuilding their life after an act of rape.

For instance, the victim might need therapy sessions and medications several years after being raped, and this would normally have been paid for by the victim, however with the

financial compensation the offender could be made to pay to the victim, it could cover these sorts of expenses.

- viii. In Section 4, the Act also provides that **rapists when convicted will have their details entered into a sex offenders register.**

A sex offender register is a system designed to allow government authorities keep track of the residence and activities of sex offenders, including those who have completed their criminal sentences.

Although the VAPPA does not provide relevant details about the modalities of the creation and functionality of the sex offenders registry, it is a commendable step in the right direction. Hopefully, the Act will be amended to address these important omissions.

DOMESTICATION OF THE VAPP ACT

22 states are yet to pass the VAPP Act

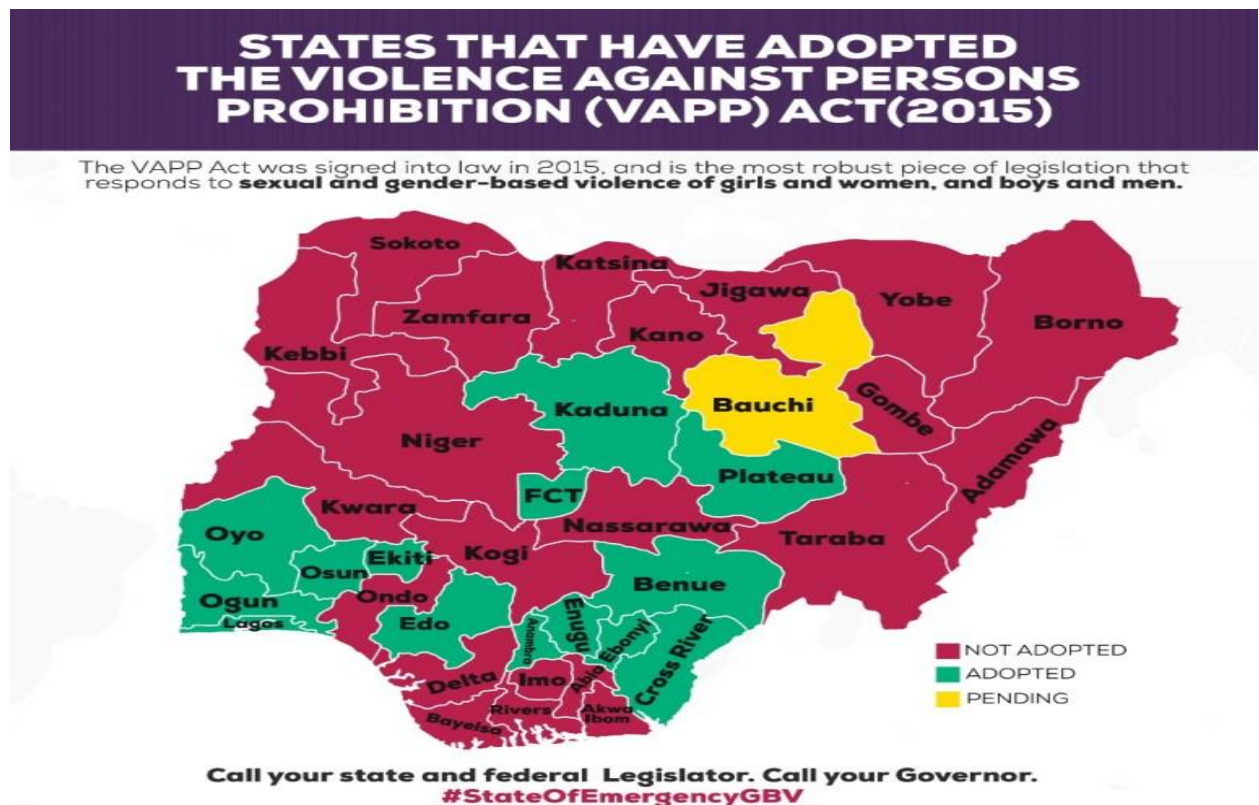


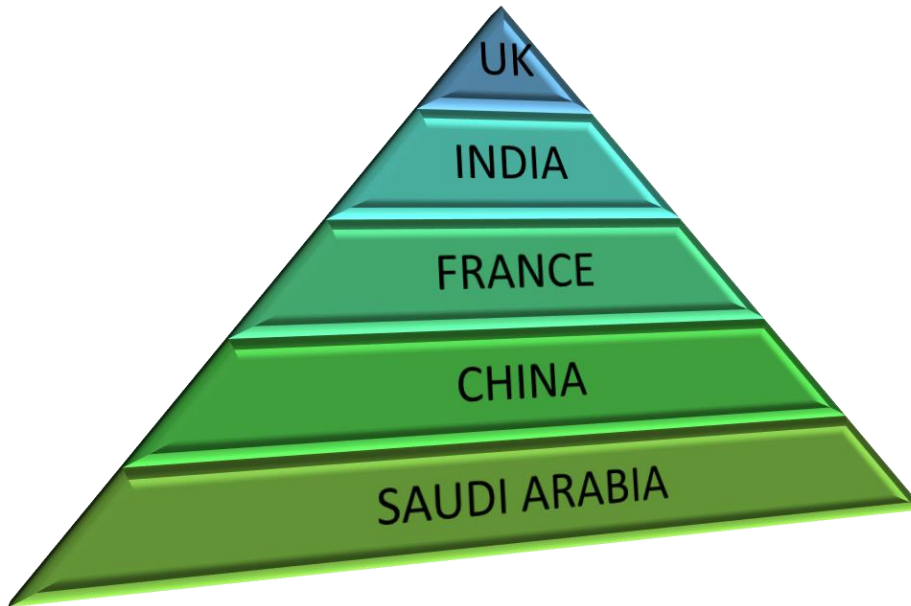
Image Credit: TechHer

In July 2020, following the spike in gender-violence occurrences across the North, the Northern Speakers Forum resolved to domesticate the VAPP Act in all northern states.

PENALTY FOR RAPE

In Nigeria, although the maximum penalty for rape across all the laws is life imprisonment, this is not a mandatory sentence in all of them.

GLOBAL COMPARISONS



UNITED KINGDOM

Life Imprisonment

Section 2 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003 UK

Assault by penetration

(1) A person (A) commits an offence if—

- (a) he intentionally penetrates the vagina or anus of another person (B) with a part of his body or anything else,
- (b) the penetration is sexual,
- (c) B does not consent to the penetration, and
- (d) A does not reasonably believe that B consents.

(2) Whether a belief is reasonable is to be determined having regard to all the circumstances, including any steps A has taken to ascertain whether B consents.

(4) A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable, on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for life.

INDIA

Life imprisonment to death sentence

The Supreme Court of India gave the death penalty to the four men convicted of the fatal gang rape of Jyoti Singh in December 2012. This was a case that ignited global outcry and radically overhauled the country's rape laws.

After the Anti-Rape Bill of April 2013, culprits are now liable to sentences ranging from life imprisonment (which is actually 14 years), imprisonment for their entire life and even the death sentence in the rarest of cases. The amendment also expanded to include several other kinds of sexual assault that amount to rape.

FRANCE

15 years to life

The French are extremely strict about their rape laws. They give 15-year sentences for rape, which can be extended to 30 or life depending on the extent of damage caused to the victim and the severity of the brutality.

CHINA

Death sentence or castration

The sentence for rape in China is death, which is imposed in a haste. Although this might seem acceptable for certain cases, execution without a proper trial is a grave violation of human rights hence the swiftness of their punishment is not to be praised. Proof of the injustice engraved in their autocratic leadership shows in the fact that some convicted rapists that were executed were later found to be innocent.

Castration is also used in some cases.

SAUDI ARABIA

Beheading within days

The punishment for rape in Saudi Arabia is a public beheading. However, before this form of punishment is praised, it is worth noting that Saudi Arabia is infamous for extreme violations of human rights and the oppression of women. Furthermore, the fact that they hand down the same punishment for drug trafficking and rape, proves how dysfunctional their justice system is.

CHILD RIGHTS ACT

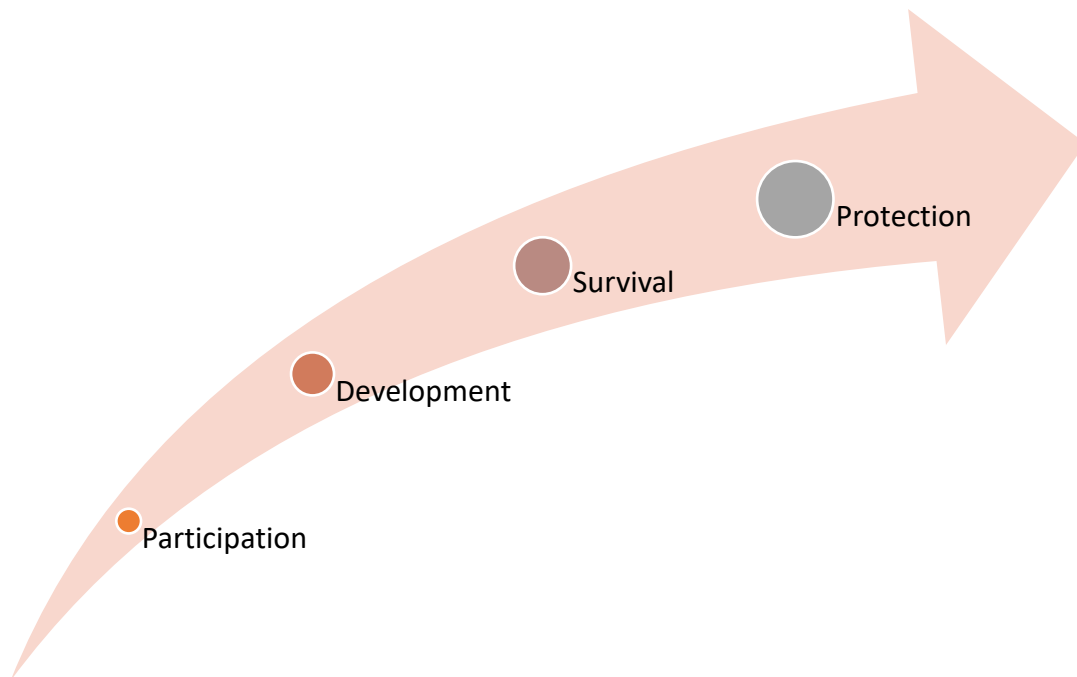
Only applicable in the States which have domesticated it.

Nigeria adopted the Child Rights Act in 2003 to domesticate the international Convention on the Rights of the Child.

- The Convention was adopted on November 20, 1989 by the UN General Assembly, and was ratified by 194 state parties, except Somalia.
- It covers social, economic, civil, cultural, and political rights, thereby highlighting the equal importance of all children's rights.

The Child Rights Act covers every aspect of the lives of children and adolescents. The act covers the following rights:

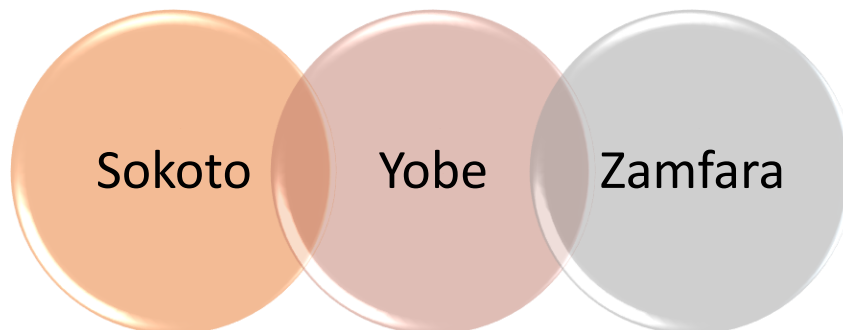
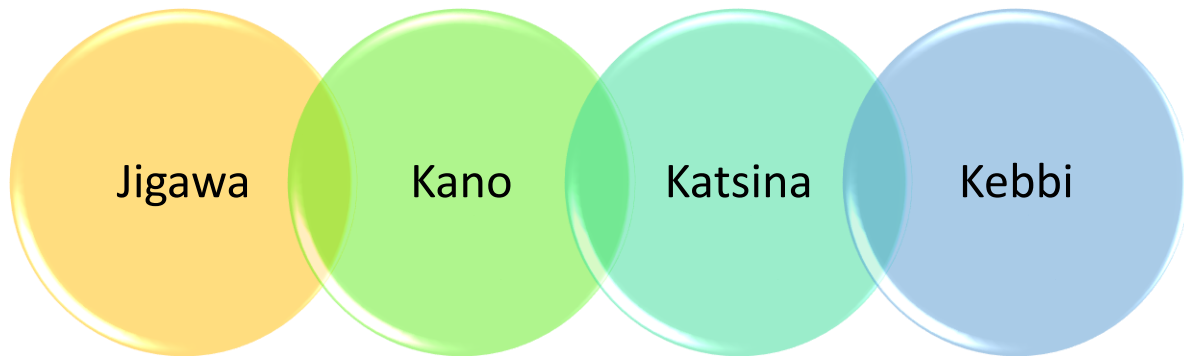
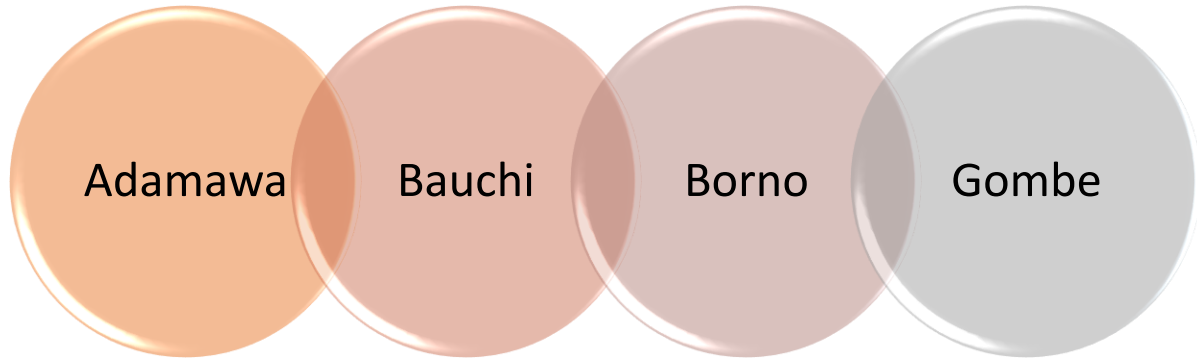
Protection rights, Survival rights, Development rights and Participation rights.



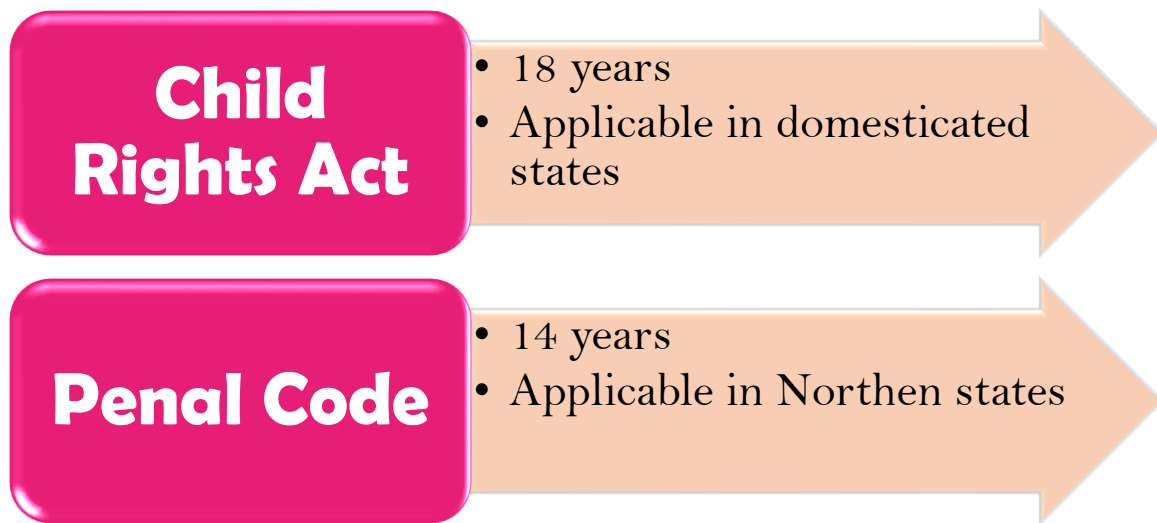
KEY POINTS TO NOTE ABOUT THE CHILD RIGHTS ACT

- ❖ The CRA provides that sex with a child is rape, and anyone who has sexual intercourse with a child is liable to life imprisonment upon conviction.
- ❖ As at now, 11 Northern States are yet to domesticate it.

STATES YET TO DOMESTICATE THE CHILD RIGHTS ACT



AGE OF CONSENT



Section 31 (3) (a) of the Child's Rights Act 2003 states that,
"Where a person is charged with an offence (of unlawful sexual relations with a child) under this section (31 of the same act), it is immaterial that the offender believed the person to be of or above the age of eighteen years."

While the Child's Right Act does not expressly state that the age of consent is 18, section 31 implies it according to the Mischief Rule.

Q: What is the Mischief Rule?

A: The Mischief Rule is a canon of legal interpretation that looks at the mischief a provision of Law seeks to rectify in order for the courts to determine the intention of the legislators and interpret accordingly.

Q: What does the Constitution state about the age of consent?

A: Nothing! Unfortunately, the Constitution is silent on this, thereby legitimizing the Penal Code's stance on the age of consent being 14 in the Northern states that have failed to domesticate the Child Rights Act.

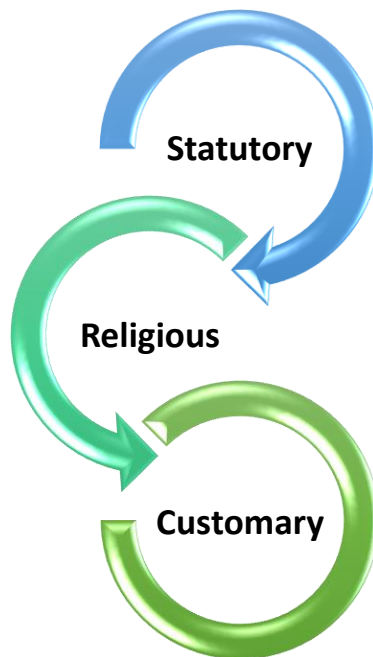
THE MATRIMONIAL CAUSES ACT

The Act needs major amendments as it is silent on the minimum age for marriage in Nigeria.

Section 3 (1) (e) of the same Act, which covers reasons why a marriage could be void only mentions a 'marriageable age' without specifying what the marriageable age is.

MARRIAGE ACT

Section 18 (1) of **Marriage Act** specifies the minimum age for marriage when consent is required to be 21. However, for this law to be applicable, the marriage needs to be officiated at a court registry and currently, not every marriage is mandated to be a Statutory Marriage in Nigeria. Religious and Customary Marriages are still main types of marriages.



TYPES OF MARRIAGES IN NIGERIA

MARITAL RAPE

The Constitution, Matrimonial Causes Act, Marriage Act and Violence Against Persons Prohibitions Act are all silent on the issue of Marital Rape.

Consequently, this silence strengthens the principles and rules of the Penal Code and Criminal Laws of Lagos which explicitly state that a man cannot rape his wife.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT BILL

Following the “Sex for Grades” documentary that led to several Nigerian lecturers being exposed for sexually harassing their students, the Sexual Harassment Bill, which was first introduced in 2016, was revisited to address this pandemic that has been prevalent in universities for decades.

Consequently, in July 2020, the Nigerian senate passed the bill which states that University lecturers found guilty of sexual harassment are liable to imprisonment. Additionally, University Administrators who fail to investigate allegations of sexual misconduct brought against staff members are liable to fines or jail terms.

SEXUAL OFFENCES BILL

Following the 2013 scandal of Senator Sani Ahmed Yerima, who allegedly married a 13-year-old girl, this bill was introduced.

The most controversial portion of the bill is sub-section 2 of clause 7 which prescribes a life sentence for defiling a child who is 11 years old or younger.

Without reading the whole clause, this could be wrongly interpreted as implying that the legal age of consent is 11. However, this is inaccurate.

Sub-sections 3 and 4 of the same clause states that a person convicted of the defilement of a child of 12 to 15 years and 16 to 18 years respectively is liable to imprisonment for life.

INTERPRETATION OF THE SEPARATION OF AGES:

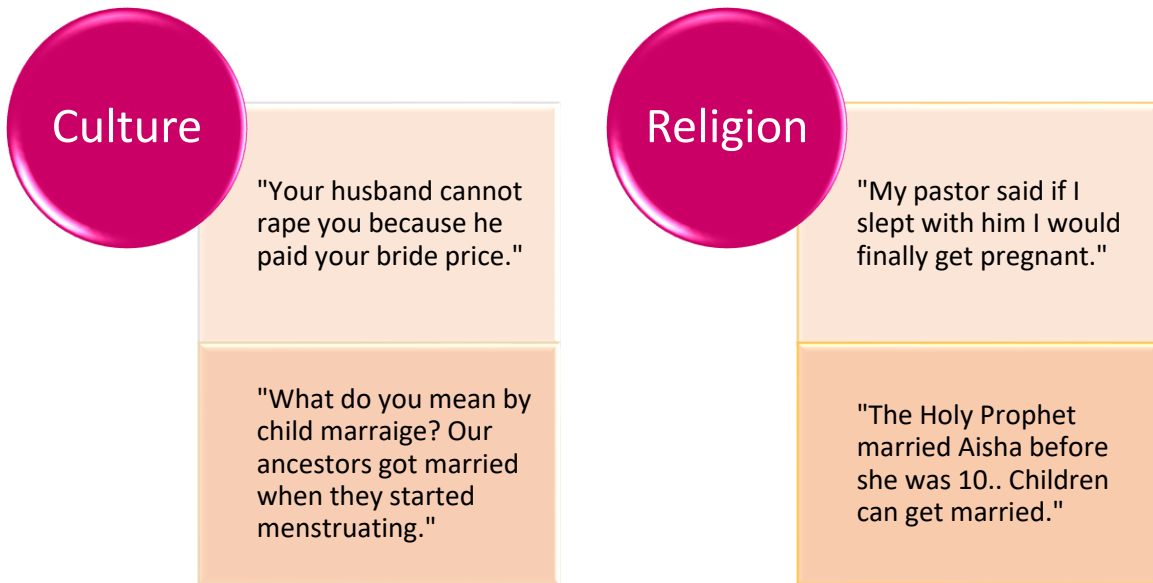
- Anyone who defiles a person under 18 could get a life sentence, but if the victim is extremely young (i.e. 11 or younger) the perpetrator automatically receives the sentence.
- The bill **does not** make 11 years the legal age of consent, it just creates a higher level of protection for really young victims.

POSITIVE ASPECTS OF THE BILL

1. It expressly states that the minimum age of consent is 18.
2. Just like the VAPP Act, it recognizes that men can be raped.
3. Clause 29 gets rid of two Nigerian common defenses and excuses when a sexual crime is committed:

Culture and Religion!

“Any person who for cultural or religious reasons forces another person to engage in a sexual act or any act that amounts to an offence under this Act is guilty of an offence and is liable upon conviction to imprisonment for a term of not less than ten years.”



4. Clause 34 prevents an accused person from introducing information about a victim's previous sexual history in a case without permission from the court under specific conditions.

BENEFITS:

It curbs victim-blaming. People often negatively judge rape victims who are perceived as being promiscuous or sexually active. If, for instance, someone rapes a sex worker, the bill makes it difficult for the defendant to bring up her sex trading activities, unless the rape took place in that context.

HOW A BILL BECOMES A LAW IN NIGERIA



Image Credit: Law Padi

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SUCCESSFUL PROSECUTION OF SEXUAL CRIMES.

Generally, the following are needed to adequately prosecute rape and other sexual crimes:

- I. Competent Forensic Units & Investigations
 - Availability of rape kits
 - Untainted collection and matching of DNA Samples
- II. Sensitized Police Officers and Prosecutors
 - Empathy is needed in order to listen to victims without judgment and help them.
- III. Closed Court Sessions
 - To protect the identity of the victims.
- IV. Corroborative/Supportive Evidence
 - E.G. Medical or scientific evidence such as rape kits, CCTV evidence, or eyewitnesses to events prior to or after the incident

SIGNIFICANCE OF CORROBORATIVE EVIDENCE IN RAPE TRIALS

- In **R v. Saidu**, the victim was found sitting on the accused's lap who was wiping her thigh with a cloth, which was identified as accused's property. Upon examination, the cloth was found to contain human semen, which was also found on the thigh of the girl.

However, because there was no blood found, the doctor who examined her could not say whether the rupture of the hymen as well as the condition of the outer parts of the girl's vagina was recent. The accused was thus convicted of indecent assault, rather than rape, which was inadequate justice because the former crime carries a lighter penalty than the latter.

- The Supreme Court in **Edet Iko v. The State**, held that the fact that the complainant said the accused inserted his penis into her vagina is not ipso facto (by that very fact) sufficient proof of penetration in the absence of corroborative evidence like a medical report to support the evidence of penetration.

The above cited cases show the strict attitude that judges in Nigeria have towards corroborative evidence in rape trials. However, corroborative evidence is hard to prove due to several factors such as lack of rape kits and eyewitnesses. Additionally, CCTV systems are not common in Nigeria compared to the United Kingdom or United States where CCTV footages are much easier to obtain.

HINDERANCES TO JUSTICE

- ❖ Corruptible, incompetent, and bias law enforcement officials.
- ❖ Low conviction rates deterring victims from reporting.
- ❖ Slow and expensive judicial process.
- ❖ Rape culture of victimization and stigmatization.
- ❖ Insufficient rape kits.
- ❖ Ineffective forensic units.
- ❖ Desensitized and unmotivated prosecutors.

BURDEN OF PROOF

In Nigeria, the burden of proof is on the prosecution (in rape cases, this extends to the alleged victim) and the standard of proof is **beyond reasonable doubt**.

This rule has its statutory backing in the highest law of the land, the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The underlying principle behind the notion of this stringent burden placed on the prosecution, is the contention that it is better ten guilty men go scot-free than that one innocent man should be punished for a crime he did not commit.

Q: What measure can be adapted to reduce the burden of proof for rape?

A:

- Shifting some of the burden of proof to the accused will encourage victims to be more open towards reporting their cases as it puts a lot of pressure off them.
- Evaluating the credibility and reliability of the victim's evidence in a careful and sensitive way, as well as offering practical and emotional support to them by training law enforcement officials and prosecutors on how best to handle rape cases.

In the present social climate, victims are well aware of the difficulties they face in even having their reports taken seriously by a police officer who are notorious for ridiculing them and blaming them for “enabling” their own rape.

THE LINK BETWEEN HUMAN RIGHTS AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

WOMEN ARE HUMANS TOO!!

The consistent rise in the occurrence of gender-based violence, especially sexual crimes, is a human rights crisis in Nigeria.

Gender-Based Violence goes against several Articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights such as:

- ❖ **Article 2** which states that everyone is entitled to all the human rights set forth regardless of gender.
- ❖ **Article 3** which states that everyone has a right to security of person.
- ❖ **Article 5** which states that no one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment.
- ❖ **Article 16** which states that marriage shall be entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses.

STATE OF EMERGENCY ON GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Q: What is a State of Emergency?

A: Actions a Government undertakes during a national crisis, by way of suspending Constitutional procedures, so as to reclaim order and peace.

Q: What are the potential benefits of a State of Emergency on Gender-Based Violence?

A: The domestication of relevant gender-based protection laws across the nation, such as the Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Act and the Child Rights Act, will not only increase the protection of women and children but also ensure speedy investigations and court proceedings. Furthermore, a State of Emergency can lead to the swift enactment of the Sexual Harassment and Sexual Offences Bills, respectively.

Q: What would a State of Emergency entail?

A: **Section 305** of the 1999 Constitution provides for the imposition of a state of emergency in the country or any part of it.

The section authorizes the president to issue the declaration by way of official gazette. however, it states that a two-thirds majority of the National Assembly must ratify the executive proclamation within two days, if the legislators are in session, or 10 days, if they are not.

It states:

305(1) Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, the President may by instrument published in the Official Gazette of the Government of the Federation issue a Proclamation of a state of emergency in the Federation or any part thereof.

(2) The President shall immediately after the publication, transmit copies of the Official Gazette of the Government of the Federation containing the proclamation including the details of the emergency to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, each of whom shall forthwith convene or arrange for a meeting of the House of which he is President or Speaker, as the case may be, to consider the situation and decide whether or not to pass a resolution approving the Proclamation.

(3) The President shall have power to issue a Proclamation of a state of emergency only when:

- (a) the Federation is at war;
- (b) the Federation is in imminent danger of invasion or involvement in a state of war;
- (c) there is actual breakdown of public order and public safety in the Federation or any part thereof to such extent as to require extraordinary measures to restore peace and security;
- (d) there is a clear and present danger of an actual breakdown of public order and public safety in the Federation or any part thereof requiring extraordinary measures to avert such danger;
- (e) there is an occurrence or imminent danger, or the occurrence of any disaster or natural calamity, affecting the community or a section of the community in the Federation;

(f) there is any other public danger which clearly constitutes a threat to the existence of the Federation; or

(g) the President receives a request to do so in accordance with the provisions of subsection (4) of this section.

(4) The Governor of a state may, with the sanction of a resolution supported by two-thirds majority of the House of Assembly, request the President to issue a Proclamation of a state of emergency in the state when there is in existence within the state any of the situations specified in subsection (3) (c), (d) and (e) of this section and such situation does not extend beyond the boundaries of the state.

(5) The President shall not issue a Proclamation of a state of emergency in any case to which the provisions of subsection (4) of this section apply unless the governor of the state fails within a reasonable time to make a request to the President to issue such Proclamation.

(6) A Proclamation issued by the President under this section shall cease to have effect:
(a) if it is revoked by the President by instrument published in the Official Gazette of the government of the federation;

(b) if it affects the Federation or any part thereof and within two days when the National Assembly is in session, or within 10 days when the National Assembly is not in session, after its publication, there is no resolution supported by two-thirds majority of all the members of each House of the National Assembly approving the Proclamation;

(c) after a period of six months has elapsed since it has been in force:

Provided that the National Assembly may, before the expiration of the period of six months aforesaid, extend the period for the Proclamation of the state of emergency to

remain in force from time to time for a further period of six months by resolution passed in like manner; or

(d) at any time after the approval referred to in paragraph (b) or the extension referred to in paragraph (c) of this subsection, when each House of the National Assembly revokes the Proclamation by a simple majority of all the members of each House.

SUGGESTIONS & SOLUTIONS TO DEAL WITH GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN THE NIGERIAN JUSTICE SYSTEM.

- Overhaul of legislations that inadequately address the issues of sexual crimes such as the Penal Code by House Committees on Women Affairs, Human Rights and Justice, with proper regard towards the plight of victims in proving they were raped.
- The declaration of a State of Emergency on Gender-Based Violence in Nigeria by the House of Representatives.
- The launch of a more effective campaign against rape and other acts of violence against women and girls by the Government.
- Mandating State Governments to compulsorily domesticate the Child Rights Act, Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Act and other Anti-Rape Laws.
- Creating a Sexual Offenders Registry for Convicted Rapists by the **National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP)**, whereby both their names and pictures are made available to the public for awareness and easy identification.
- Placing a time-limit on rape trials in order to ensure speedy court proceedings and swift access to justice for victims.
- Provision of rape kits in all primary healthcare centres across the country.
- Amending the Constitution, in order to include a provision which allows the burden of proof to be placed equally between the prosecution and defense, thus granting the

victim reprieve from having to go through a traumatic trial which might not favor the victim in the end, considering the low rate of convictions in Nigeria and the other obstacles previously mentioned.

- Sensitization of Law Enforcement Officials and Prosecutors in order for them to appropriately handle reports and testimonies from victims.
- Criminalizing marital rape and ensuring relevant legislations back it up statutorily, such as the Constitution, Matrimonial Causes Act and Marriage Act while the Penal Code & Criminal Laws of Lagos should completely strike out the provisions that legitimize it.
- Providing adequate training and sufficient funding for forensic units in Nigeria.