

## SUBSTANCE MISE USE AND COERCIVE SEXUAL ACTIVITY ISSUES IN 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY

BY

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### Abstract

Coercive Sexual Activity has wreaked serious havoc in our society. It has led to murder, severe bodily injuries, psychological sequelae, destruction of bucolic, incarceration, dissolution of marriages, mental illness, gruesome loss of virginity, unwanted and unintended pregnancy, poverty and allied rue to mention but a few. Rapists usually act like people that are under the influence of something overwhelming. The problem of Coercive Sexual Activity seems to be connected with an inebriating or intoxicating substance that alters the physiological and psychological functioning of the body as a normal human being will find it difficult to Mise Use another sexually given the ties that we share and the available psychosocial control mechanisms. Substances are chemical substances that alter body chemistry and their Mise Use is known to bring misery. The issue of Coercive Sexual Activity therefore may have strong ties with Substance Mise Use. Coercive Sexual Activity can influence and be influenced by Substance Mise Use. This paper therefore explored the likely link between Coercive Sexual Activity and Substance Mise Use. It clarified the concepts of Coercive Sexual Activity, Substance and Substance Mise Use. Examined their typologies and allied ontology. The likely relationship between Coercive Sexual Activity and Substance Mise Use was equally explored. The existent strategies of managing Coercive Sexual Activity were recapitulated and recommendations were made on how to bring lasting solution to the problem of Coercive Sexual Activity in our society.

**Key words:** Coercive Sexual Activity, Substance, Substance Mise Use

### Introduction

Coercive Sexual Activity is a psychosocial ill; a very serious one for that matter. It is life treating, immoral as well as amoral act. It is an act that constitutes sexual insult and assault. It involves forceful, deceitful, awful and/or unlawful, sexual exploration or exploitation of another without approved consent. Coercive Sexual Activity is considered a grievous crime the world over in that it is abusive, dangerous, deleterious and disastrous. More often than not, it culminates into humiliation, litigation, post traumatic stress disorder, unwanted and unintended pregnancy, and abortion, sexual dysfunctions', contraction of sexually transmitted diseases, dearth and untimely death. The problem of Coercive Sexual Activity is such a serious one in our society. The media is replete with terrific reportage of Coercive Sexual Activity

cases. Prominent among such cases include; child Coercive Sexual Activity, forcible Coercive Sexual Activity, gang Coercive Sexual Activity, corrective Coercive Sexual Activity, sedative Coercive Sexual Activity and lots more. In a bid to curb Coercive Sexual Activity and by extension its trending consequences in human societies, lots of interventions have been made, among which are criminalization of Coercive Sexual Activity and rendering of free medical and psychological assistance to Coercive Sexual Activity victims. Though, the interventions made so far have made significant contributions to manage the problem of Coercive Sexual Activity in our society. Much more remains to be done most especially in the area of unraveling the independent, moderator and perhaps extraneous variables that make people to Coercive Sexual Activity and be Coercive

Sexual Activity. One variable that appears to have strong ties with Coercive Sexual Activity in our time is Substance Misuse. It seems to compound the problem of indecent dressing, inhibits self control and triggers abusive instincts. This paper will therefore examine Substance Misuse and Coercive Sexual Activity issues in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It will begin by conceptualizing Substances, proceed to identify the types of Substances around us, operationalize Substance Misuse, and proceed to link Substance Misuse with Coercive Sexual Activity issues with special emphasis on concept of Coercive Sexual Activity, types of Coercive Sexual Activity, trend of Coercive Sexual Activity, effects of Coercive Sexual Activity and management of Coercive Sexual Activity.

### **Concept of Substance**

Substance is a chemical substance that alters the physiological as well as psychological functioning of an organism. It is a substance which when taken modifies the way the body responds to stimuli. Substances are chemical combinations that have curative as well as mood changing effects. In other words, Substances are chemical substances that change how body and mind works. The term Substance was supposedly derived from old French 'drogue', a plausible derivative of Middle Dutch "Vote" referring to dry barrel used for the storage of medicinal plant. Suffice it to state that are pharmacological and/or psychoactive substances that influence bodily processes.

### **Types of Substances**

The existent Substances in our society can be classified into five categories namely; medical Substances, stimulants, depressants, opium related pain killers, and hallucinogens. Below is a synoptic survey of the aforementioned Substance categories:

**Medicinal or medical Substances:** As the nomenclature implies, Substances that fall under this category are used for the treatment of bodily ailments. Examples of such Substances include; Paracetamol, Panadol, Vitamin C and the likes. They are usually used for curative purposes.

**Stimulants:** Stimulants are Substances that increase alertness. They heighten the functions of the central nervous system. Stimulants are known to increase activity, alertness, energy and synergy. Examples of stimulants include; cocaine, kola nuts, tea and coffee.

**Depressants:** Depressants on their part are Substances used to literally repress or suppress sensation. They are known to reduce anxiety, bring calm, and even quell pains. Alcohol and Indian hemp are examples of depressants.

**Opium Related Painkillers:** Opioids are Substances that act on receptors in the brain. They tend to kill or quell pains; examples of such Substances include heroin, morphine, oxycodone, vicodin, fentanyl, and heroin.

**Hallucinogens:** Hallucinogens are Substances that distort perception to the extent of inducing hallucination. To be concise, hallucinogens are psychoactive agents that often or ordinarily cause hallucinations, perceptual anomalies, and other substantial subjective modifications or flux in thought, emotion, and consciousness that are not typically experienced to such extent when using other classification Substances.

### **Substance Misuse**

Substance Misuse is wrong, improper or inappropriate use of Substances. It is the act of using Substances in a way that violates the existing protocols. It is the use of Substances in a manner that is not good for one's health. To be concise, Substance Misuse is the act of using Substances in a way that deviates from the approved medical guidelines. Self administration /recommendation of Substances, use of Substances without doctor's prescription, disregard for doctor's prescription, use of Substances for fun and allied Substance malpractices qualify as Substance Misuse. Suffice it to state that pervasive or excessive use of psychoactive Substances, such as alcohol, pain medications or illegal Substances translate to Substance Misuse (Ordu 2012).

### **Substance Misuse and Coercive Sexual Activity issues**

Substance Misuse and Coercive Sexual Activity appear inseparable. The relationship between Substance Misuse and Coercive Sexual Activity is a

complex one. As a matter of fact, Substance Misuse can give rise to Coercive Sexual Activity and vice versa. It is a two way problem. Coercive Sexual Activity as a psychosocial problem is the act of having sexual intercourse with someone without socially approved consent. It usually involves some or a combination of the following; Substance use of individuals, use of force, use of tricks, and other anomalous innovations to have sex with people against their will. From the lexical perspective, Coercive Sexual Activity is an awful and unlawful sexual activity, most often involving sexual intercourse, against the will of the victim through force or the threat of force or with an individual that is not capable of giving valid consent owing to viciousness or deception. In trenchant terms, Coercive Sexual Activity is a sexual insult or assault usually involving sexual intercourse or other forms of sexual penetration carried out against a person's will. It could be by physical force, coercion, Misuse of authority, or against a person not capable of giving valid consent such as one that is unconscious, incapacitated, intellectually disabled or below the age of acceptable consent. Commonly perpetrated Coercive Sexual Activities in our society include; date Coercive Sexual Activity, gang Coercive Sexual Activity, marital Coercive Sexual Activity, incestual Coercive Sexual Activity, child sexual Misuse, prison Coercive Sexual Activity, acquaintance Coercive Sexual Activity, war Coercive Sexual Activity and statutory Coercive Sexual Activity (Gary, 2011). The identified arts that constitute Coercive Sexual Activity are related to Substance Misuse in the following ways.

- **Substance Misuse weakens or eases sexual restraints**

As stated earlier, Substance Misuse alters the functioning of the mind. A healthy mind usually exercises restraint over sexual impulses. However, Substance Misuse erases or eases such restraint and makes people to assault others sexually. A quintessence of the case in view is that of an adult or adolescent who after abusing a mind altering substance proceeds to violate others sexually.

- **Substance Misuse triggers sexual hyperactivity and vulnerability**

Again, the Misuse of Substances that boost sexual energy (Libido) can instigate Coercive Sexual Activity. An individual who takes an aphrodisiac for fun is likely to Coercive Sexual Activity any vulnerable one around when the Substance begins to function. Again, Substance Misuse oriented sexual hyperactivity can trigger Coercive Sexual Activity amongst either or both gender as the sexual desire of the Substance Misuse User has become uncontrollable. Substance Misuse equally exposes people to Coercive Sexual Activity by making them to lose guard. A chaste lady who insists on no sex before marriage while dating a guy and jealously guards her virginity during the period of courtship can be Coercive Sexual Activity by inducing her to sleep using sedatives, depressants and allied Substances and violated sexually without her consent and any form of resistance. This has been the case of so many recorded date Coercive Sexual Activities.

- **Substance Misuse engenders risky behaviors**

Substance Misuse equally makes people engage in risky behaviors. Alcohol for instance gives people Dutch courage. Ladies and even guys that Misuse Substances are known to engage in risky sexual behaviors as they tend to feel invincible. A lady under the influence of a substance can go out with a total stranger at her own risk. Substance Misuse makes people vulnerable to Coercive Sexual Activity through sedation, alteration of perception, and allied psychic inducement. It has a pervasive influence on the human personality. Individuals can consent to sex under the influence of hard Substances and such consent is not usually valid.

### **Relationship between Coercive Sexual Activity and Substance Misuse**

Coercive Sexual Activity predisposes people to Substance Misuse. A Coercive Sexual Activity victim can Misuse Substances to kill pains, alter his/her emotion for good, escape from nasty reality, and feel among especially when Coercive Sexual Activity is part of an initiation process into a fraternity or sorority. This makes the link between Substance Misuse and Coercive Sexual Activities a complex one. Tackling one without tackling the other may not yield the desired result as Substance Misuse to an

extent influences and is influenced by Coercive Sexual Activity.

### **Effects of Coercive Sexual Activity**

Coercive Sexual Activity no doubt has a devastating effect on the human personality. The stigma, bodily injuries, irreversible damage especially when the victim is a virgin, susceptibility to venereal disease, risk of unwanted and unintended pregnancy, abortion complications, psychological sequelae, sexual dysfunctions, allied psychological problems such as; angst, guilt, self pity, depression, aggression, humiliation, mental delirium, obsession, compulsion, phobia, personality disorder, and allied psychic disturbances associated with Coercive Sexual Activity are not only deleterious but, also disastrous. Corroboratively, the world Health organization outlined the following as consequences of Coercive Sexual Activity; gynecological disorders, reproductive disorders, sexual disorders, infertility, pelvic inflammatory disease, pregnancy complications, miscarriage, sexual dysfunction, acquired sexually transmitted infections, including HIV/AIDS, Mortality from injuries, suicidality, depression, chronic pain, psychosomatic disorders, unsafe abortion, post traumatic stress disorder and vicarious traumatization (Krug, 2002).

### **Management of Coercive Sexual Activity**

Management of Coercive Sexual Activity whether preventive or remeditative can be appreciated under four headings namely;

#### **Psychological Management of Coercive Sexual Activity**

Counseling and psychotherapy are used to manage Coercive Sexual Activity. Behavior modification techniques, defense mechanisms, Rational Emotive Behavior Therapy, Logo therapy and allied psychotherapies are used to assist rapist, Coercive Sexual Activity victims, and those that handle Coercive Sexual Activity cases bedeviled by vicarious trauma to overcome the psychological problems associated with Coercive Sexual Activity before an after the incident. Logo therapy, for instance is used to help Coercive Sexual Activity victims to find meaning in life and live anew (Iwundu, 2019).

#### **Sociological Management of Coercive Sexual Activity**

The society helps in managing Coercive Sexual Activity by controlling the predisposing factors such as deshabelle (indecent dressing), social vices and other sociological basis of Coercive Sexual Activity are controlled through the instrumentality of social control. Rewards, threats, punishment and allied social control techniques are used to manage the problem of Coercive Sexual Activity in our society. Families, schools, churches and mosques to stem the tide of Coercive Sexual Activity in our society by inculcating right social values into members of the society.

#### **Medical Management of Coercive Sexual Activity**

Coercive Sexual Activity is as well managed medically. On a preventive note, male individuals with high inclination of committing Coercive Sexual Activity can be treated medically by injecting feminine hormones into their system and vice versa. Again on a remediative or curative note, medical management is equally crucial to the instant management of Coercive Sexual Activity cases. Coercive Sexual Activity victims are usually hospitalized and their evidence collected and protected before they are treated, and stabilized medically pending the decision to pursue litigation or not.

#### **Legal Management of Coercive Sexual Activity**

Coercive Sexual Activity is managed legally through proper legislation, litigation and/or prosecution. laws are usually made to make Coercive Sexual Activity unlawful in all ramifications. And such laws are implemented with utmost vigor. Rapists are prosecuted and made to face the approved sanctions. Doing this goes a long way to prevent people from raping others as well as correct rapists.

#### **Conclusion**

Substance Misuse is dangerous and egregious. It creates an enabling environment for Coercive Sexual Activity and other social vices thrive. It makes victims to be vulnerable to Misuse as well as hardens Misusers to violate their victims without compunction. Suffice it to state that Coercive Sexual Activity cannot

really be eradicated if nothing is done to stem the tide of Substance Misuse in our society.

### **Recommendation**

- ❖ The ban on the trading as well as consumption of hard Substances in our society should be enforced with utmost vigor to checkmate the occurrence and consequence of Substance Misuse.
- ❖ Aggressive sensitization campaigns should be carried out in our society to enlighten the masses about the dangers of Substance Misuse.
- ❖ Behavior modifications techniques such as; flooding, aversive therapy, counter conditioning, eye desensitization and cognitive behavior therapy should be used to modify Substance Misuse Users.
- ❖ Incarcerated rapists should be treated for alcoholism with applied behavior analysis to avert recidivism after serving their terms.

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