

## Prevalence and pattern of intimate partner violence in Edo state, southern Nigeria

Ogboghodo E O, Omuemu V O and Okojie O H  
University of Benin, Nigeria

**Introduction:** Much of the initial research on prevalence and pattern of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) was conducted on women and supported the assumption that IPV is primarily perpetrated by men against women. It is also becoming recognized that perpetration of IPV by both partners within a relationship is common. This phenomenon has been described with terms such as mutual violence, bi-directional or reciprocal violence.

**Objective:** The objective of this study is to assess the prevalence and pattern of intimate partner violence in Edo State.

**Methods:** This was a descriptive, cross-sectional study among residents in Edo State, Nigeria, who had been in an intimate relationship for at least one year preceding the study. A pre-tested, interviewer-administered, questionnaire adapted from the WHO multi-country study on domestic violence was the tool for data collection. Data analysis was by IBM SPSS and level of significance was set at  $p < 0.05$ .

**Results:** A total of comprising 980 respondents with a mean age of 30.44 (9.26) years participated in the study. Lifetime prevalence of IPV was 745 (76.0%). Of these, physical IPV 590 (60.2%) was the most suffered. A total of 645 (65.8%) were in a relationship, where bi-directional violence took place, while 210 (21.4%) were in a relationship where uni-directional violence took place. IPV was higher among respondents with a family history of IPV ( $< 0.001$ ).

**Conclusion:** Prevalence of IPV was high in the studied population. All stake holders should ensure collective effort in reducing the prevalence of IPV.

## Biography

Ogboghodo E O has her expertise in Reproductive Health and Epidemiology. She is a Lecturer in the Department of Community Health, College of Medical Sciences, she teaches undergraduate students in the field of Reproductive Health as well as other specialties in Public Health. She is also the Monitoring and Evaluation officer of the Centre of Excellence in Reproductive Health Innovation (CERHI) a project supported by the World Bank and the Association of African Universities (AAU) which will build capacity within West Africa's tertiary educational system for implementing high quality training and applied research for reproductive health professions to tackle policies and programs for reducing the region's reproductive health issues.

oliviadynski@yahoo.com

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