

Exploring the Efficacy of School-Based Approach in Preventing Domestic and Sexual Violence: A Case Study of the Lagos State DSV Kings and Queens Club Amongst Teens in Nigeria

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Abstract : Domestic and sexual violence inflicts profound trauma on individuals, with particularly distressing consequences for young people when experienced in familiar settings such as homes, schools, religious institutions, or with trusted individuals. Research conducted at the Lagos State Domestic and Sexual Violence Agency (DSVA) from 2015 to 2023 reveals a disconcerting trend where young people often misconstrue abusive actions as tolerable, partially acceptable, or merely morally wrong due to a lack of awareness about their rights as guaranteed under the Lagos State Child's Right Law. This paper delves into the grassroots initiatives of the Lagos State DSVA, specifically the Kings and Queens Club, designed to combat domestic and sexual violence (DSV) among teens. The club focuses on raising awareness and ensuring access to support services. The paper provides a concise analysis of the club's impact, contextualizing Lagos State's efforts to eradicate DSV for future generations. Additionally, it comprehensively examines the legal rights of children and young persons as outlined in the Lagos State Child's Right Law 2007, Protection Against Domestic Violence Law 2007, Criminal Law 2011, and Domestic and Sexual Violence Agency Law 2021. In conclusion, this paper aims to inform policy and community development initiatives, emphasizing the effectiveness of school-based approaches in creating a sustainably equitable society for children and young persons.

Keywords : school-based approach, domestic and sexual violence, Lagos state child's rights law, Lagos state DSVA

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