

Niger Delta Weekly: Spotlighting Emerging Trends of Sexual Violence in Ondo State

October 31 – November 06, 2021

Description

This edition of the weekly update spotlights sexual violence in the Niger Delta with a focus on emerging trends of sexual violence in Ondo State. According to data (see map below), more than 45 incidents of sexual violence were reported in Ondo State between January 2018 and September 2021. Recent data also shows new trends of sexual violence including violation of children and aged men and women in the State. In June 2021, for instance, an 80-year old woman was reportedly raped by a 35-year old man in Ondo town, Ondo West LGA. In August, a 4-year old girl was reportedly defiled by a 29-year old man in Akure town, Akure South LGA. The minor was reportedly violated by the suspect who was a neighbor to her parents. Separately, in August, an 11-year old girl with hearing loss was reportedly raped by a 26-year old man in Ode-Irele town, Irele LGA. In September, a 65-year old man was reportedly locked up and raped by two men in Ondo Town, Ondo West LGA. Recently, on October 31, 2021, a 10-year old girl was reportedly raped by a 40-year old man at her parents' house in Isolo community, Akure South LGA.

Why it Matters

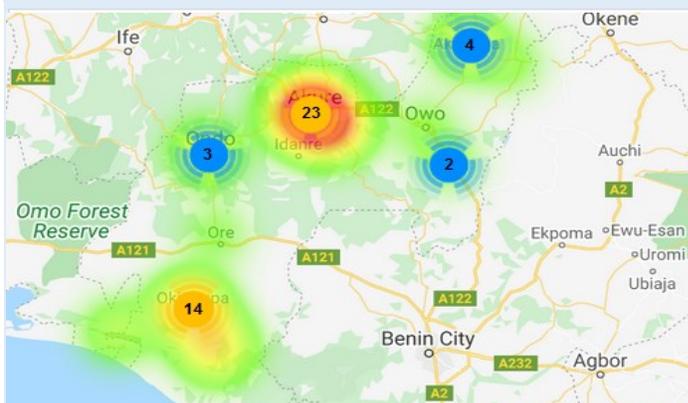
The growing prevalence of sexual violence in Ondo State is alarming, especially the emerging trend of sexual abuse and assaults against children and aged women and men. The prevailing situation is a serious threat to public health, human security and safety in the State. Recurrent incidents of sexual violence against vulnerable residents - children and aged men and women - could cause significant and far-reaching socio-economic and political consequences in the State.

Social: Sexual violation of children and the aged could have wide-ranging psychosocial and health impacts on victims and their families. It could cause mental, sexual and reproductive health challenges including sexually transmitted infections and death. Sexual violation is not only devastating for victims and their families, it could also have damaging impacts on society including social dysfunction. This could engender a feeling of injustice and insecurity among residents.

Economic: Sexual violence against children and the aged could impose huge economic costs on families, communities and the government, including the costs of supplementary healthcare, child welfare, elderly care, and psychosocial support. It could also destabilize the overall development of the child and physical wellbeing of the aged. This could undercut productivity and economic wellbeing of families.

Political: The prevalence of sexual violence could have serious implications for politics and governance in the State. Sexual violation of children and the aged could trigger public outrage, protests and civil unrest which could disrupt governance and cause political instability.

Incidents Heat Map of Sexual Violence in Ondo State, Nigeria



Heat Map shows concentration of reported incidents of sexual violence in Ondo State from January 2018 - September 2021. Sources: All data sources formatted on the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org

Prognosis

Sexual violence against children and aged men and women is increasingly becoming prevalent in Ondo State. Stakeholders should work with the State government and media outfits to raise awareness of the nature and emerging dimensions of sexual violence, and embark on advocacy programs to change attitudes and behaviors that perpetuate and condone sexual violence. Stakeholders should also collaborate with relevant government agencies to enforce the Violence Against Persons Prohibition (VAPP) Act 2021 in the State.

Contact Us

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Report Incidents: IPDU Early Warning System

Please report any verified incident of conflict to the IPDU SMS early warning system: Text report to **080 9936 2222**

Incident Details: Kindly include the State, LGA, Town, Date, and Brief Incident Description.



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