

**SEX WORK AS A SURVIVAL STRATEGY AMONG  
FEMALE UNDERGRADUATES.**

**(EKITI STATE UNIVERSITY AS A CASE STUDY)**

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**EKITI STATE, NIGERIA.**

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**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY,  
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## DEDICATION

This work is dedicated to the Almighty God light of the heavens and the earth, the creator of the universe and everything in it, the sovereign, my crag and refuge, the sustainer of my life, my strength, the knower of the unseen and the seen, the most Beneficent, the most merciful, the king, the one free from all defeats, the giver of security and watcher over his creatures, the Almighty, the compeller, the supreme, the creator and inventor of all things, the bestowal of forms. To him belongs the best names, all that is in heaven and earth glorifies his name. To my wonderful parents; chief and Mrs. Olaoyenikan, my brother Olajide Olaoyenikan, my lovely sisters Temitope Olaoyenikan, Rotimi Abimbola etc. they are the spirit that keeps me moving at times of difficulties.

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## ABSTRACT

*The negative implications of sex work in Ekiti-State particularly among undergraduates has become a societal issues that need urgent attention- undergraduates sex work as a survival strategic behaviour had been identified to be common in hotels, bars, brothels, in their hostels, around the campus and on the street as avenue for action, (Onah, 2000*

*This study adopts the descriptive research design by making use of questionnaires in eliciting response on all the variables under investigations and described as they occur in the study. With the purpose of examine the prevalence of sex work behaviour among female undergraduates in EKSU, to investigate the impact of socioeconomic status on sex work behaviour among female undergraduates, this study make use of 150 respondents randomly selected to among undergraduate students in Ekiti State University and five (5) in-depth interview among female students who practiced sex work. This study found out that sex work is common among EKSU undergraduates; it has also identified financial constraint and societal/peers influence on the practice of sex work among female students. The test of relationships between parental/sponsor's financial standing and sex work revealed that there is no significant relationship between them as chi-square ( $X^2=3.023$ ,  $P=0.55$ ) but influence of peer group and financial constraint was identified to be significant to sex work. The university management is therefore advised to ensure disciplines among their staff and remove bad eggs among academia which are encouraging the menace of sex work.*

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## CHAPTER ONE

### 1.0 Background of the Study

The sex work behaviour of the adolescent has been of interest to researchers from various disciplines over the decades. As a result of civilization and western education, the orientation of the undergraduates especially female is experiencing dramatic changes. Undergraduates are engaging in various forms of unhealthy sexual behaviour which include risky sexual practice and premarital sex. Sex is no longer perceived as rightful activities between husband and wife but as activities for recreational and means of surviving. Engagement in this various forms of sexual activities increases their vulnerability to various health related diseases. According to NACA (2013), majority of the HIV/AIDS victims in Nigeria contacted these diseases as a result of immoral sexual behaviour. The need to research this topic is necessary in order to gain insight to the pattern of sexual behaviour among this adolescent.

Sex work is basically sex for money. It is not restricted to any culture, it's global and it transcends all age barriers as some cases girls as young as eight years are involved. Prostitution has evolved over the last two decades, (National Behaviour Survey 2004). According to the National Behaviour Survey (2004), prostitution has indeed become complex in different ways as there are male sex workers in Nigeria who have sex with men for commercial reasons and there is an organization that support them which is based in Ibadan, Oyo state.

Sex work or Prostitution has particularly taken a worrisome and indeed despicable turn on the continent through trafficking in person and violation of people's human right and these have become major issues among Nigerian undergraduates and West Africa as a whole (Human Right Action, 1997). In recent time, sex work has become a lucrative business in Nigeria especially among the undergraduates and the youths generally as many of them depend solely on it as another means of generating income (Ikpe, 2008). Research has it that, 31% of prostitutes are students particularly in Nigeria institutions (Onah, 2000). Onah (2000) is of the view that, there are different forms of prostitutes, those that Stay in the brothels, those that stand on the road side, those that go on sex tour and those that operate from home etc.

Because of the nature of the concept of sex work and difficulty in collecting data from study participants, much work has not really been devoted to the concept in literature. Sex work as "the exchange of several services AND performance in exchange for financial reward." Sex work is a form of job where a particular party offers sexual services to another; in return the other party pays a certain amount of financial reward or other forms of compensation (Weitzer, 2000). The high prevalence of sex work behaviour among female undergraduates is an intricate issue of special concern which require immediate attention form researchers and various stakeholders. While majority of the female undergraduates are engage activities to make a living and finance their

education, some of them are engaging in this activity not just because of financial difficulties but because of fun or recreational purpose.

In Ekiti-State particularly, Ekiti State University, sex work-behaviour can be found in hotels, bars, brothels, in their hostels, around the campus and on the street, (Onah, 2000). Despite the efforts made by the government, the school management and other private organization to eradicate prostitution in the university, it has rather grown to become one of the outstanding social problems that have really apprehended the people of Ekiti State especially Ado-Ekiti(the state capital).

High level of sex work behaviour have predisposes many youth to various health related problems such as the epidemic of HIV/AIDS. Meanwhile WHO(2014) noted that HIV continues to be a major global public health issue, having claimed more than 39 million lives so far. They further report that millions people died from HIV-related causes globally. There were approximately 35.0 million people living with HIV at the end of 2013 with 2.1 million people becoming newly infected with HIV in 2013 globally (WHO, 2014). In Nigeria which is the main focus of this study, NACA (2013) report that the prevalence of HIV is high among youth and about 3 million people as at 2013 are living with HIV/AIDS. They also report that female is the major victims of HIV in Nigeria. Unprotected and casual sexual behaviour has been reported to be the main causes of high prevalence of HIV/Aids.

In literature, people from low-socioeconomic background have been reported to be vulnerable to sex work behaviour as a means of surviving in academic environment. Majority of female undergraduate's from poor background tend to find it difficult to finance their education, to solve this problem many of them will engage in prostitution. Aloba/Ndifon (2014) noted that poverty is one factor that commodifies and dehumanizes women's body for the use and profit of men. Education this day is very expensive, and to live in today world of technology and communication development, the need to be educated cannot be over-estimated.

Furthermore, prostitution has now become an occupation especially for the girls in countries like Netherland, Brazil, Norway etc., prostitution serves as one of the sources of revenue for government in a country that sex work is not prohibited; hence, taxes are paid to the government (Aday, 1990). Aday further says that, sex workers face systematic discrimination throughout the world and are therefore, at risk of variety of abuses, these include police extortion, arbitrary detention and others, Violations of their human and labour rights which in some cases even amount to slavery. In Nigeria, prostitution is an illegal business because, the law prohibits it, but no active action has really been taken against it by the government (Onah, 2000). In Ekiti State particularly, Ekiti State University, sex workers can be found in hotels, bars, brothels, in their hostels, around the campus and on the street, (Onah, 2000). Despite the efforts

made by the government, the school management and other private organization to eradicate prostitution in the university, it has rather grown to become one of the outstanding social problems that have really apprehended the people of Ekiti State especially Ado-Ekiti(the state capital).

Peer-group is also one of the factors that predispose people to engagement in risky sexual related behaviour. Peer pressure is influenced by a peer group, observers or individual exerts that encourages others to change their attitudes, values, or behaviours to conform to the group norms. A female undergraduates that belong to female group in which majority practice sex work as means of surviving may also engage in this activities when compare to those that do not belong to any peer group.

It is on this background that, this research work attempts to find a possible way of coping with this problem.

### **1.1 Brief History of Sex Work**

The sex work has been in existence for over a century, sex work has been widespread in Egypt and ancient Greek where it was highly practiced at various socioeconomic levels. Melissa (2006) noted that sex work practice was tolerated during the middle age but was not in high prevalence. However, in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, negative attitude toward prostitution practice began on a large scale and heavy rules and regulations were put on the use of the body. In the United State

of America, sex work has a long history. In the 18<sup>th</sup> century, sex work behaviour was in high prevalence in Louisiana to San Francisco. However, there was also negative attitude toward sex work behaviour among the United States citizens. At that time in the United States, law against prostitution was based on lewdness and sodomy law.

In Nigeria today, there is high prevalence of sex work among people especially the females in which the female undergraduates are not exempted. Alobu/Ndifon (2014) posits that sex work prevalence in Nigeria is associated with some social problems such as marital instability, Divorce, Unwanted pregnancy and Sexually transmitted diseases. Alobu/Ndifon (2014) further explained that sex work practice begins when girls leave their villages for cities in search of greener pastures. However, it is very hard these days to secure better jobs; the girls will eventually resort to prostitution to make a living.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

The people involved in sex work experience negative effect even though they still make a considerable profit from it. Lex (1992), argued that, sex work has been identified as the core group for transmission of HIV/AIDS and STDs among students of tertiary institutions; thus, they face discrimination throughout the world.

Due to the diseases that befall these people on daily basis, sex work has been considered a menace in the society and also violence against humanity, (Lex, 1992). These negative effects may include untimely death, frustration, discrimination, unwanted Pregnancy etc. one of the major challenges is that, some of these undergraduate prostitutes are sexually illiterates, they neither attend seminars nor listen to news on television, neither do they care to seek advice from people nor make research from reliable sources where they could be enlightened on the risk of their work. Sex work has then, become their life style. Therefore making it difficult for the government and the institution to cope with.

In country like Nigeria, prostitution is termed as deviance, abnormal and unhealthy in the society. It is also a big embarrassment to the government and the families who their youths (which may be students or not) are involved in such acts, such families will lack their respect from people in the society no matter their position in the society, (Onah, 2000).

This research work then, seeks to investigate sex work as a coping strategy among students of Ekiti State University in Ekiti-State.



### **1.3 Research Question**

The following research questions will guide the study.

- i- What is the prevalence of sex work practices among female undergraduates?
- ii- What are the patterns of sex work practices among female undergraduates?
- iii- Does socioeconomic status have significant influence on sex work among undergraduates?
- iv- Will peer-group have significant influence on sex work among undergraduates?

### **1.4 Objectives of the Study**

- i- To analyse the prevalence of sex work behaviour among female undergraduates
- ii- To examine the pattern of sex work behaviour among female undergraduates
- iii- To investigate the impact of socioeconomic status on sex work behaviour among female undergraduates
- iv- To investigate the impact of peer groups and its influence on sex work behaviour among female undergraduates

## 1.5 Significance of the Study

This significance of the study tends to treat both the theoretical and practical importance. Theoretically, this study will add to the already, existing edge of sex work and survival strategies among undergraduate students using Ekiti State University as the case study, the study will be done in order to know the causes and effects of sex work among university students (undergraduates) and at the same time proffer solution to them.

Moreover, the study will be a guide to future researchers in their research in knowing the causes and effects of prostitution as well as survival strategies of undergraduates and look for means of tackling those problems.

Practically, this research work will enable the prostitutes (especially undergraduate students) to know the dangers surrounding their self-proclaimed means of livelihood other wisely called "runs", so as to stop the rising wave of prostitution. This can be done by the government to make sure of creating employments for our undergraduates to enhance work and learn so as to give room for students to work while purchasing their degree at the same time, organise programmes that will orientate our youths (undergraduates) on consequences of prostitution which should be brought down to their doorstep in every institutions for easy accessibility as well as giving a huge penalty on any students that is caught engaging in such deadly act. Our parents also have a big responsibility to play on this issue as the saying goes "charity begins from

home” by inculcating good manners and morals into the lives of their youths at all levels of acculturation. This study will also help in sensitizing the undergraduates and youths that engage in the act by providing the necessary information on the consequences of this act on their general health and academic performance for their local consumption.

## **1.6 Scope of the Study**

This research covers sex work as a survival strategy among undergraduate students using Ekiti-State University as the case study. It will examine the challenges that are associated with prostitution, students’ survival strategy and how government can control the increasing number of students who are prostitutes.

## **1.7 Definition of Terms**

For the purpose of clarification, the following terms are defined as used in this research work;

**AIDS:** Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

**Brothel:** This is a house where men pay to have sex with prostitutes (sex workers) or where sex workers live.

**Commercial sex:** This is defined basically as sex for money.

**HIV:** Human Immune Virus.

**Pimps:** The third parties who induce a woman into prostitution, openly or by means of deceit and coercion, to extort her earning from her

**Prostitute:** the act or practice of engaging in promiscuous sexual relations especially for money

**Runs:** the sex work attitude of high priced prostitutes

**Sex:** Is an erotic attraction between two people or sexual intercourse that can lead to orgasm in female and the secretion of semen from the penis in male.

**Sex Work:** This is defined as any sexual performance carried out by a person for payment of certain amount of money or in exchange of any material thing. Their aim is mainly on money making.

**Sex Worker:** This is a person who works in the sex industry. They are paid to engage in sexually explicit behaviour which involves varying degrees of physical contacts etc.

**STD:** This may refer to sexually transmitted diseases, it is transmitted during sexual intercourse.

**Survival strategies:** survival strategy as a logical and/or rational pattern that is implanted and implemented to continuously overcome life's challenges so as to gain sustainability in one's chosen environment, in turn, gain financial peace.

**Transactional Sex:** This is sex in exchange for gifts, small favours or money.

## **1.8 Limitation of the Study**

In this research work, the researcher was limited by the unwilling attitude of the respondents to provide correct answers to the questions that were given to them even in the questionnaire because of the fear of being labelled a sex worker despite being assured of information confidentiality.

Financially, the researcher was unable to meet up with the demands of the direct participants who were to be interviewed; this actually led to rigorous negotiation between the researcher and the interviewee before reaching a meaningful consensus.

## CHAPTER TWO

### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### 2.0 The Concept of Sex-work

The term sex work was coined by sex worker activist (Leigh, 1980). Its use became popularized after publication of the anthology; sex work writings by women in the sex industry in 1987, (Leigh, 1980). The work has since spread into much wider use, including academic publications by Labour Unions and by government and inter-governmental agencies such as the World Health Organization (WHO). Sex workers usually referred to as prostitutes, have occupied an anomalous position in societies throughout history.

Weitzer (2000) conceptualised Sex work as the exchange of several services, performance in exchange for financial reward.” Sex work is a form of job where a particular party offers sexual services to another; in return the other party pays a certain amount of financial reward or other forms of compensation. Weitzer (2000) further asserts that sex work is characterized by direct physical contact between sex buyers and sellers as well as indirect sexual stimulation. In literature, sex work is a concept that has been used interchangeably with prostitution, aristoism (especially among students), sexual promiscuity etc.

Sex work (Prostitution) is widely described as the oldest profession; the practice of selling sex for cash or other immediate compensation has existed across

cultures and times from the ancient Greeks. Prostitution also crosses class lines, from the poor 'streetwalker' with their stereotyped drug habits and abusive pimps to the high class brothel and escort service worker with designers' cloths and stylish apartments. While the prostitutes technically sells a service, namely sexual intimacy, the ways in which prostitution is discussed suggest that at least to modern sensibilities, she or he is selling far more than that. A common misconception of prostitution is that a significant majority of prostitutes are women. Women prostitution is easily talked about, than male prostitution at least since the ancient times. The practice of prostitution is at an alarming rate in Nigeria, it is seen as a deviant sub-culture in Nigeria and it is practiced by prostitutes in private homes, in brothels, and in hotels as an adaptation to poverty, unemployment and as a feasibility way for them to make money. The prostitutes sell sexual favours and their bodies to their customers who pay them huge sum of money in exchange. This dirty and highly immoral profession is associated with social problems as marital instability, sexual harassment, divorce, overcrowding, environmental pollution, alcoholism, fighting, drug addiction, violence crime and delinquency, unwanted pregnancy. Unsafe abortion and transmission of sexually transmitted diseases like HIV/AIDS, gonorrhoea, syphilis etc. Most analyses of prostitution suggest that both men and women enter prostitution either professionally or temporarily as relative amateurs, for economic and monetary reasons. Some girls go into prostitution in

other to challenge repressive gender role which restrict women sexuality to a romantic ideology and oppressive marriages.

Misi (2008) noted that sexual promiscuity, sex work and prostitution are similar concepts that address the use of one's body for the purpose of remuneration. Both male and female engage in sex work for survival. It is a common myth that it is only females that are involved in sex work. Generally, women prostitution is more talked about than male prostitution. In Nigeria today, sex work business is a very common means of survival especially among female undergraduates in our various higher institutions of learning. Sex work business serves as a means of survival and escape route from poverty, unemployment, and it is usually regarded as a means of getting financial support to finance academic expenses especially among female undergraduates.

## **2.1 Characteristics of Sex Workers**

Alobo/Ndifon (2014) asserts that in defining sex work, the following qualities must be included;

- i- The reward for performing the sexual act is either money or other material goods.
- ii- The relationship between the provider and the recipient of sexual services neither involve love nor affection.
- iii- Sex work can either be performed by male or female.



## 2.2 Forms of Sex Work

Sex work is divided into different categories. These are;

Call girls according to Weiter (2000), are known to take good care of their health and visit doctors whenever necessary. Almost all of them want their client to use condoms, though they often comply when clients offer a much higher amount of money for condom free sex, (Weiter, 2000).

Street Prostitution may on its own refer to those that involved young girls, some of them in their teens. They do their soliciting in limiting but well known areas of the city. These areas include popular places like well-known hotels in the major cities and around girl's hostels in the universities. These sex workers usually dress in skimpy provocative clothing, regardless of the weather, (Akpan, 2000). Street prostitutes are often called "street walkers" while their customers are referred to as "tricks" or "Johns". The sex is performed in the customer's car, in a nearby alley or in a rented room, (Akpan, 2000). From Aloba/Ndifon (2014) point of view, street prostitution is a form of sex work in which the sex workers solicit customers while waiting at street corners in some form of skimpy dresses and other forms of indecent clothes that expose private body parts. Their aim is to attract the best customers that can offer large amount of money to splash on them. These sets of sex workers are also called street-hookers, street workers, i.e. the names distinguish them from other sex workers.

Child Prostitution is in the world today, a problem of frightening reality. Child prostitutes whether occupational or full-time also become involved in crime and abuse (Mili, 1997). However, because of the high incidence of sexually transmitted disease such as syphilis, customers are willing to pay for higher prices for children who are considered more likely to be virgins and thus, less likely to be infected, (Tolu, 1997).

Ewah (2010) observed that, child prostitution involves children between the age of eight years and twelve years of age which are definitely not undergraduates anyway. He further said that at this age, girls often receive their introduction to this activity through their parents, sisters in the street who are already into it and other family members. Child prostitutes generally continued their involvement because; they earned a lot of money. Also many seemed to fear rejection by their families if they stop, especially. Those whose' parents were involved in pornography, (Margret, 2000).

Sex Tourism is a type that involves the travelling of the prostitute for sexual intercourse with their client or to engage in their sexual activity, (Mencken, 2009). A specialized agency of the United Nations defines sex tourism as "trip organized from within the tourism sector or from outside this sector but using its structures and networks with the primary purpose of effecting a commercial sexual relationship by the tourism with residents at the destination, (The World Tourism Organization 2007).

Escort Agency is a type of sex work in which a third party which serves as the middle man is involved in sex worker/ recipient relationship. In this form of sex work, that agent has the personal profile of the sex workers, the clients call the agent to supply any available prostitutes, and such agents in return will be rewarded financially. Alobu/Ndifuon (2014), there are various kinds of Escort agencies. There are male-for-male .female-for-male and female-for-female escort.

Window or Doorway Prostitution is a form of sex work which has to do with brothels with sex works on public display. Alobu/Ndifuon (2014) noted that window prostitution is preferred in cold climate while doorway prostitution is preferred in warm places.

Aristoism is also a form of sex work that is common in our various higher institutions of learning. This is usually common among female undergraduates who use sexual services as a means of survival and funding their education. In Nigeria today, sex work is in high prevalence among female undergraduates, it is no longer perceived as immoral behaviour as more and more female undergraduates are engaging in this activity by the day. While high level of poverty has been reported in literature to be the main cause of sex work among female undergraduates, some female undergraduates whose parents are financially buoyant also participate in these activities for fun.

Beer-Girl Prostitution may also refer to a kind of sex work that is combined with legal business to boost sales. It usually occurs in beer restaurants where prostitutes are employed to beers in bars and clubs. Sexual services are also offered to boost income. Beer girl prostitution is very common in some bars on the streets of Lagos state, Nigeria.

The following are other forms of sex work;

- i- Indoor prostitution
- ii- Phone sex operator
- iii- Exotic dancing
- iv- Webcam nude modelling
- v- Adult film performing

Meanwhile, in Nigerian higher institutions of learning, the high prevalence of undergraduate sex workers is an intricate issue of special concern. Okafor/Duru (2008) noted that some people prefer having sex with undergraduates to street hookers which leads to high level of sex work among female undergraduates in higher institutions. Olugbile Abu and Adelekun (2008) reported that sex work is very common and rampant in our Universities. The mechanism of action in these activities involves students standing outside the hostels and halls to solicit for sexual related business while other people may prefer staying where people that can identify them will not be able to observe them. Meanwhile, University rules and regulations have failed to

control this immoral behaviour especially among female undergraduates. Since majority of undergraduates are adults, there is a limit to which University rules concerning sexual behaviour can be applied.

### **2.3 Sex Work as a form of Labour**

Daezema (1995) claims that the location of sex work in the realm of personal services combined with the legal sanctions association with it, means that, even under a tolerant regimes, such as in the Netherlands, it is likely to take place in the informal sectors. In the case of sex work, the division between social and commercial contacts between the public domain of labour and the purchase of services and the private domain of sexual behaviour is not always clear. It is easy enough to identify sex work in a formal work setting, such as a brothel or flat but less easy to separate sexual services provided within informal networks from sexual relations with multiple social contacts where gifts are expected (Mencken, 2009). For the purpose of applying labour standards, a distinction must be made between private or social and public or commercial behaviour. It has been chosen therefore, to define sex work in the public domain by association with a public market place. The market place may be a publication or generally known to be available and transactions are based at least particularly on a competitive price structure.

## 2.4 Health Consequences of Sex Work among Undergraduates.

Prostitutes are at risk and are also sometime the target of serial killers who may consider them easy targets, or use the religious and social stigma associated with prostitutes as justification for their murder. Being criminals in most jurisdictions, prostitutes are less likely than the law-abiding to be looked for by police if they disappear, making them favoured targets of predators.

Prostitution is associated with the spread of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) such as HIV. One of the main reasons for the rapid spread of HIV in Nigeria is the massive transmission among sex workers and clients. HIV is tied to prostitution in Africa with one study finding that encounters with prostitutes produced 84% of new HIV infection in adults, and other sexually transmitted diseases like gonorrhoea, pelvic inflammatory diseases and syphilis. The risk for HIV infection is increase because of multiple sex partners and limited safe sex practice. Some customers are willing to pay more for a sexual encounter if they do not have to use a condom. Based on research conducted by the centres for Diseases Control and Prevention, the rate of HIV infection for prostitutes is three times higher if they smoke crack cocaine. Other health issues associated with prostitution are early pregnancy for juveniles, rape, tuberculosis, posttraumatic stress disorder, assault and other act of violence. Considering the economic health issue of prostitution, it is argued that street prostitution is not victimless as it may damage the reputation and quality of life in the

neighbourhood and diminish the value of property. Maxwell (2000) and other researcher have found substantial evidence that there is strong co-occurrence between prostitution, drug use, drug selling, and involvement in non-drug crime, particularly property crime. Because prostitution is considered criminal in many jurisdictions, its substantial revenue are not contributing to the tax revenues of the state, and it workers are not routinely screened for sexually transmitted diseases which is dangerous in cultures favouring unprotected sex and lead to significant expenditure in health services. Prostitution also lowers the value of property as well as degrades the status of women.

Various Health-related problems are associated with sex work. It is common knowledge that sex work is a form of risky sexual behavior which predisposes the victims to the risk of contracting sexually related diseases such as Gonorrhoea, Syphilis, and HIV/AIDS. Janice (2008) noted that sexually transmitted diseases like Gonorrhoea, Syphilis, Candida, Herpes vaginals and HIV/AIDS are at alarming rates in our higher institutions of learning. The high rate of HIV/AIDS is a big problem in Nigeria.

Apart from sexually transmitted diseases, sex workers are also vulnerable to abuse of psychoactive substances. Okafor/Duru (2008) noted that psychoactive drugs such as Cocaine, Alcohol, Marijuana and Cigarettes are highly consumed by sex workers. This predisposes them to various forms of health-related problems such as lung cancer (for cigarette addiction) and some form of liver

cirrhosis which is associated with the abuse of alcohol. In addition, sex workers are also prone to unwanted pregnancies and abortion which may be detrimental to their health. Some female undergraduate sex workers take some drugs that can prevent pregnancy; these drugs in the long run can cause infertility to the users and reduce their chances of bearing children in the future.

## **2.5 Causes of sex work (prostitution)**

This section of the project addresses various works that have been conducted on the concept of sex work and how it is related to some factors. This section will review good number of reasons why people go into sex work, such as poverty, peer pressure, unemployment and other factors predispose people to sex work.

Poverty as a cause for sex work: because of the disintegration of the family misery. Hunger as a form of poverty has forced some parents to sell their children for prostitution. Some girls who engage in sex work do so because; they see prostitution as the only means of survival in order to get daily meals. Poverty also led some girls to sell their bodies for money and as a result become a professional sex worker; Poverty among female undergraduates is one of the critical factors that predispose them to sex work behaviour. Undergraduates whose parents are not financially buoyant in order to survive may engage in sex work to fund their education. Aloba/Ndifon . (2014) noted that poverty is one factor that communizes and dehumanizes women's body for the use and profit of men. Okafor/Duru (2010) suggest that female undergraduates that lack



buoyant financial capacity tend to engage in aristoism which is a form of sex work practice.

Peer influence in relationship with sex work: The role of peer pressure on influencing student behaviour has been well documented in literature. A female undergraduate that moves along with a sex worker in a group has high probability of ending up being a prostitute. Several studies have shown that peer groups are powerful agents of risk behaviours such as unsafe sex practice in adolescence. Adolescents typically replace family with peers regarding social and leisure activities, and many problematic behaviours occur in the context of these groups.

Maria (2007) is of the view that, many young women and girls fall prey to pressure from their peers, who they perceive as having made it. The young girls and women want to make it too and be able to flaunt their influence like those people, not knowing or caring how they made it,

Women trafficking in relationship to sex work, The trafficking of Nigerian girls and women into Italy for prostitution started around the second half of the 1980s following the increasing economic difficulties cause by the structural adjustment Programmes imposed by the then Nigerian Government on the order of the International Monetary Fund. They started leaving the country on promises off fantastic well-paying jobs in Europe, in factories, offices and

farms. People that have been exposed to human trafficking are vulnerable to sex work.

**Unemployment and sex work:** Unemployment has been identified as one of the reasons most girls and boys engage in sex work, (Onah, 2000). Due to lack of job opportunities for the increasing rate of graduates, students especially girls resort to sex work as a means of livelihood and survival, unemployment has also pushed many young people into sex work and in most cases against their will, (Onah, 2000).

**Sex work as related to personal life:** These set of sex workers call it adventure (Ewah, 2010). Many sex workers engage themselves in this business just for the fun of human sexuality and not for economic benefit or frustration (Ewah, 2010).

**Illiteracy as the cause of sex work:** With the high rate of illiteracy in Nigeria, many parents can neither read nor write. The youths are not left out in this illiteracy problem. This has resulted in their being deceived into believing that in big cities, milk and honey flows, only to be forced into sex work when they get to the city, (Ewah, 2010).

## 2.6 Effects of Sex Work on Youths

The effects of sex work are numerous such as;

**Rape:** Many sex workers have been victims of rape and many being sexually assaulted. The sexual assaults suffered by sex workers continue unchecked because of shame and ignorance, (Tiemoko, 2002).

**Death:** According to Ewah, (2010), some sex workers have been victims of ritual killings. Some commercial sex workers have been gunned down in the streets by unknown gun men, while some who are lucky to be alive are left with some bodily harm especially those who have had acid poured on them and those knocked down by vehicles, (Mencken, 2009).

**Loss of Esteem:** Sex workers lack confidence. Akpan (2002) had said that, commercial sex workers consider themselves as nobody, since there is lack of confidence; they consider themselves as misfit in the society. He went further to say that, the situation has turned them into object or instrument for others to satisfy the urge of others. Ekong (1991) said that, the low self-esteem has led the sex workers into getting involved in some social vices that have destroyed many of them.

**Health :**The World Health Organization (W.H.O.) observed that, many prostitutes who have been sexually assaulted are believed to have suffered from psychological effect of rape and social abuse, those abuses include; rape trauma

syndrome, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). These have done damage to the sex workers because many of them are ashamed and afraid to seek counselling. The reason for this is fear and suspicious of outsider and authorities.

Akpan (2000) stated that, sex work leads to spread of sexually transmitted diseases (S.T.D.), HIV/AIDS, drug abuse, frequent abortion and suicide attempts. Research has shown that, sex workers in brothels live in extremely unhygienic conditions with little good. Most of them live in a 10 x 10 room apartment and medical care often rare. These girls are forced to work round the clock and can only be excused on ground that, they are very weak physically, (Akpan, 2000).

## **2.7 Theoretical Frame work**

The following theories were reviewed in this study.

1. The Deviant theory
2. The Theory of Differential Association

### **The Deviance Perspective Theory**

This theory was propounded by Cesare Lombroso (1876). This theory propounds that, social deviance takes many forms, including suicide, prostitution, alcoholism and crime. The manifestation of this deviant behaviour

constitutes serious disruption and interruption on the social and moral values of society.

Deviances are those activities which do not conform to the norms and expectations of members of a particular society. Actions are deviant in relation to the standards of a particular society at a particular time in history. Deviant behaviour is a social problem since it has a disruption effect on social life. There must be something wrong with deviants. They must have some kinds of pathology, some form of sickness which must be diagnosed physiologically and psychologically.

Hence deviants have some organic defects or pathology which they were born with and which influenced or caused their behaviours and also they were psychologically unbalanced due to some emotional disturbance in their past. This imbalance influenced or caused their deviant behaviour.

Therefore, this theory is of the view that, social problem such as prostitution ensues when people violate existing social norms which govern or regulate it's use in the society, such act of non-conformism is evident when people involve in commercial sex work, perhaps by using their body in making money. This view strongly maintained that a commercial sex worker is a person who involves in sex work with another person in exchange of money or material things.

## **Differential Association Theory**

The Theory of differential Association is developed by Sutherland, (1966). This theory postulates that crime delinquency is a learning process. It argues that people become delinquent due to an access or contact with delinquent patterns of behaviour and isolations from non-delinquent pattern (Sutherland, 1966). Sutherland (1966) argues that, diligent skills and values develop primarily within intimate personal contact. The choice of a delinquent behaviour depends much on the available patterns of social life as in a person's disposition.

Here the theory offers that, the sex work arises through differential association. According to this theory, people will tend to learn the sex work norms of the sub-culture into which they are socialized. The theory of differential Association reacted to the Chicago theory that, problem behaviour has positive correlation with deteriorated neighbourhood and was learned.

## **Application of the Theory**

Differential Association Theory will be adopted as the theoretical framework for the study because, it provides the much needed theoretical anchorage for the study by offering that, deviant behaviour is exhibited as a result that, people mostly youths indulge in the act and on each passing day new members are added. Again most of those who engaged in commercial sex work are people

who interact together, congregating and sharing the same social values. Therefore, sex work involvement is mostly a learned culture.

## **2.8 Statement of Research Hypotheses**

The following hypotheses are generated from the review of literature;

1. Sex work is more likely to have negative effects on the student's general health or wellbeing.
2. Sex work is more likely to be caused by poverty.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.0 Introduction**

This section deals with how data will be gathered from the target population and determines the statistical tools that will be appropriate in the analysis of data. The section comprises of the whole methodology for this study, which focuses on the following areas; research design, study population (characteristics of the target population), research instrument, administration of the instrument (distribution and collection of the questionnaires) and treatment of data (data analysis).

#### **3.1 Research design**

This study adopts the descriptive research design. This design is descriptive because the study makes use of questionnaires in eliciting response on all the variables under investigations and described as they occur in the study. The study shows a relationship between variables and none of the variables were subjected to the experimental manipulation procedure. This descriptive survey will be used to examine the prevalence of sex work among undergraduates of Eksu. The independent variables in this study are socioeconomic status and peer influence why the dependent variable is sex work practice.



### **3.2 Sampling and Sampling Procedure**

The target population of this study were female Undergraduates of Ekiti State Universities Ado-Ekiti. The sample of the study consists of one hundred and fifty respondents, selected using non-random convenience sampling techniques from their various Halls of residence

### **3.3 Research Instruments**

The study will adopt both quantitative (questionnaire) and qualitative (interview through KII) data collection techniques in eliciting response from the respondents. The study makes use of research instrument which three self-designed instrument to collect data of quantitative techniques. To ensure convenience in data collection, the instruments were divided into major three categories/sections. The first section comprises items that seek information on respondent's bio-data; the aim is to ascertain the background information of the participants, this section also contains items that measure respondent's level of socioeconomic status. The items in the second section focus on peer pressure; the objective is to know the level of respondent's peer connectedness. Items in the third section sex work practice, the objective is to assess the respondent level of sex work practice. Furthermore the qualitative techniques will involve interviewing of the direct participants who will be contacted through Key Informants (KII) to have deep understanding of the causes and prevalence of sex work practice among female undergraduates of Ekiti State University since

they are directly involved in it. A number of five respondents will be selected for this interview to further strengthen the validity and reliability of this research exercise.

**3.3.1 Bio Data Form:** This category comprises items which seek information about respondent's demographic data. These include the sex of the respondents, their age, their marital status, religion, ethnicity, etc. Requesting these background information will go a long way in explaining how these influence sex work practice, because it is observed in the literature that socio-demographic factors have an influence on individual behaviour. In this section some socio-demographics data are not categorised, respondents are instructed to provide required information in the space provided. In this section Gender has two level Male and Female; marital status has two levels: single, and married. Religion background of respondents has three levels: Islam, Christianity and traditional while Ethnicity has three levels; Yoruba, Igbo and Hausa. The rest of the items measure respondents' level of socioeconomic status.

**3.3.2 Section B: Peer Group Scale:** This section seeks data on respondent's level of connectedness to their friends or peer. A standardised psychological scale will be adopted to measure this variable. Inventory of Parent and Peer Attachment (IPPA) developed by Armsteng/Greenbarg (19987) will be used to measure peer group. The IPPA was developed in order to assess adolescents' perceptions of the positive and negative affective/cognitive dimension of

relationships with parents and close friends particularly how well these figures serve as sources of psychological security. This scale assessed three broad dimensions: degree of mutual trust, quality of communication, and extent of anger and alienation. The instrument is a self-report questionnaire with a five point Likert scale response format. The IPPA consists of 25 items for the mother, 25 items for the father, and 25 items for the close friends. However, only the 25 items that measure closeness with a peer will be adapted to measure peer influence in this study. The IPPA is scored by reverse-scoring the negatively worded items and then summing the response values in each section.

**3.3.3 Section C: Sex Work Practice scale:** This item seeks to collect data on the respondent level of engagement in sex work practice. The items are self-designed scale which consists of ten items, designed in a Likert format. The response format will be coded as 1=never, 2=sometimes, 3=rarely and 4=always. The respondent level of sex work behaviour will be ascertained by summing up their total scores on each item. The scores can range from 10-40 points, the higher their scores, the higher the engagement in sex work.

### **3.4 Sampling Procedure**

The quantitative data collection procedure will be done through convenience sampling techniques while the qualitative data will be collected through interview from the respondents who will be identified through Key Informant Interview. The administration of the questionnaire will take place at

student halls of residence. A copy of the questionnaire will be given to each respondent in order to provide the needed information; after the administration of the questionnaire, the assurances of anonymity will be given by the researcher so as to encourage frank response.

### **3.5 Data analysis**

In this study, data collected from the respondents will be subjected to both inferential and descriptive statistics. First, the data will be analysed in simple percentages for personal data. Secondly, the research hypotheses will be tested to allow further deductions and inferences. The entire hypothesis will be tested at 0.05% level of significance, so that the relationship between the independent and dependent variables could be established.

### **3.6 Ethical Consideration**

The ethical consideration of the respondents will be guided in such a way that no respondent will be forced in any way to respond to the instruments, and the interviewee will be chosen through a Key Informant, thereby reaching a consensus to buy her time in answering the interview questions and also assuring them of information confidentiality in order to enhance their free, fair and sincere response.

## CHAPTER 4

### DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF RESEARCH FINDINGS

#### 4.0. INTRODUCTION

This chapter focuses on the presentation and data analysis of research work on sex work and survival strategies among undergraduate students using Ekiti-State University as the case study.

The analysis of the study was done in line with the research questions raised for this project work. The background characteristics of undergraduates as well as factor influencing sexual work as a surviving strategy and implications sex work on. The selected characteristics were presented in percentage while their questions on sexual harassment were validated using Pearson Chi-square statistical technique at 0.05 level of significance.

#### 4.1 Research Analysis

**Table 1: Percentage distribution of respondent by department**

Department	Frequency	Percentage
Zoology/Biochem/Chem Plant	28	18.7
Science/Geology/Mcb	26	17.3
Economics/Social Sc	13	8.7
Accounting/BusinessEdu.	29	19.3
Others	54	36.0
Total	150	100.0

Source: Data survey 2015

The percentage distribution of respondents by their department revealed that 18.7% were from Zoology/Biochemistry/Chemistry, while Plant Science/Geology/Microbiology takes (17.3%), Accounting /Business education (19.3%), Economics/Sociology (8.7%) and others (36%).

**Table 2: Percentage distribution of respondents by level in the departments**

Level of Respondents	Frequency	Percent
100	62	41.6
200	40	26.8
300	28	18.8
400	19	12.8
Total	150	100.0

**Source: Data survey 2015**

The percentage distribution of respondents by level in the departments revealed that more sample were from 100 level (41.6%) followed by 200 level (26.8%), 300 level (18.8%) and 400 level (12.8%).

**Table 4a: Percentage distribution of respondents by Religion Affiliation**

religion of respondent	Frequency	Valid Percent
Christian	120	82.8
Islam	23	15.9
Traditional	2	1.4
Total	145	100.0

**Source: Data survey 2015**

The percentage distribution of respondents by religion affiliation disclosed that more respondents are from Christian religion; follow by Islamic (15.9%) and Traditional religion (1.4%). This implies that the sampled population is characterised with more Christianity than other religions.

**Table4b: Percentage Distribution of Respondents by Monthly**

**Income/Allowance**

	Frequency	Valid Percent
below 10,000	69	47.3
10,000-20,000	57	39.0
21,000-30,000	10	6.8
31,000-40,000	2	1.4
41,000-50,000	1	.7
50,000 above	7	4.8
Total	146	100.0

**Source: Data survey 2015**

The percentage distribution of respondents by monthly income/allowance disclosed that most of the undergraduates get below 10,000 per month (47.3%), followed by (39%) while those who received more such as (21,000-30,000), (31,000-40,000) (41,000-50,000) and (Above 50,000) were just (6.8%), (1.4%), (0.7%) and (4.8%) respectively. This simply inferred that most of the sampled population earned below the minimum wage which invariably implies poor income.

**Table 5: The Financial Standing of Parents and Sponsors of the Respondents**

<b>Father's Financial Standing</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Valid Percent</b>
Poor	4	2.7
Below average	26	17.7
Above average	56	38.1
Rich	43	29.3
Very rich	18	12.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Mother's financial standing</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Poor	1	0.7
below average	20	13.3
above average	68	45.3
Rich	48	32
very rich	13	8.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Sponsor's financial standing</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Valid Percent</b>
Poor	1	0.9
below average	11	9.8
above average	37	33
Rich	50	44.6
very rich	13	11.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: Data survey 2015**

The financial standing of parents and Sponsors of the respondents revealed that most of the fathers were above average (38.1%), those who were rich were just (29.3%) while those categorized as poor or below average were (2.7% or 17.7%). The mother financial status showed that most mothers above average (45.3%) and those who were rich were (32.0%) while those categorized as below average or poor were (0.7% or 13.3%). Those respondents that has



sponsors disclosed that most of their sponsors were rich (44.6%), (11.6%) very rich and (33.0%) above average but those who were below average are (9.8%) and (0.9%) poor. This implies that the financial standing of both parents and sponsors are above average as most of them are categorized as above average, rich and very rich.

**Table 7: Percentage Distribution of Parental Level of Education**

<b>Mother Highest Edu. Qualification</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
school cert	22	15.0
OND/NCE	41	27.9
HND/BSC/BA	75	51.0
post graduate	9	6.1
Total	147	100.0

  

<b>Father Highest Education</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Valid Percent</b>
school cert	12	8.3
OND/NCE	24	16.7
HND/BSC/BA	72	50.0
post graduate	36	25.0
Total	144	100.0

**Source: Data survey 2015**

The percentage distribution of respondents parent's highest level of education revealed that most of their mothers had HND/BSC/BA (51.0%) followed by OND/NCE (27.95%) while school Cert were (8.3%) and post graduates (6.1%). Also, the father's level of education revealed that most of them were HND/BSC/BA (50.0%) followed by Postgraduate (25.0%) while OND/NCE

were (16.3%) and School Cert (8.3%). This signifies that most of the respondent's parents are having at least university education.

**Table 8: Percentage of respondents by types of residence**

Types of residence	Frequency	Percentages
rented/family owned	31	20.8
one room apartment	8	5.4
room and parlour	5	3.4
one wing/2 bedroom	7	4.7
3 bedroom	33	22.1
flat owned bungalow	37	24.8
Duplex	28	18.8
Total	149	100.0

**Source: Data survey 2015**

The percentage distribution of respondents types of residence disclosed that most of them lived in flat owned bungalow (24.8%) followed by 3 Bedroom Flat (22.1%), rented/Family owned house (20.8%), Duplex (18.8%), while room and palour (3.4%) one room apartment (5.4%)

**Table 9: Percentage Distribution of respondents on factors contributing to sex work as a survival strategy**

Factors that lead to sex work	almost never/never true	not very true	sometimes true	often true	always/often true	Total
Having bad friend can lure a female to sex work	33(22%)	18(12%)	44(29.3%)	12(12%)	37(24.7%)	150(100%)
To avoid social rejection, students always abide by group norm	16(10.7%)	53(35.3%)	39(26%)	25(16.7%)	14(9.3%)	150(100%)
If my friends are aristos ladies, I can always manage to engage in sex work	62(41.3%)	37(24.7%)	30(20%)	11(7.3%)	8(5.3%)	150(100%)
Friends can predispose female undergraduates to sex work	31(20.9%)	26(17.4%)	40(27.7%)	35(24.3%)	16(10.7%)	148(100%)
Friends are powerful agent of risky behaviour such as sex work	17(11.3%)	23(15.3%)	52(34.7%)	30(20.0%)	28(18.7%)	150(100%)

**Source: Data survey 2015**

The Percentage Distribution of respondents opinion on factors contributing to sex work as a survival strategy showed that most of the respondents posited that Having bad friend can lure a female to sex work is sometimes true (29.3%) followed by those who said always true (24.7%) while those who said it is never true were 22.0% and 12% not very true. Also to avoid social rejection, students always abide by group norms was upheld by most of the respondents as not very

true (35.3%), followed by (26%) sometimes true while 16.7% said often true, 10.7% said almost never true and 9.3% always often true.

The opinion that if my friends are aristos ladies, I can always manage to engage in sex work was disregarded as never true as most of the respondents said it is never always true (41.3%), followed by (24.7%) not very true while those who said sometimes true (20%), often true (7.3%) and (5.3%) always often true.

The opinion that Friends can predispose female undergraduates to sex work was found to be often true as most of the respondents disclosed that it is sometimes true (27.7%), followed by (24.0%) often true, 20.9% never true, not often true and (10.7%) always true.

Finally, the opinion that Friends are powerful agent of risky behaviour such as sex work was taken to be true as most of the respondent posited that it is sometimes true (34.7%), followed by (20%) often true, (18.7%) always often true while (15.3%) said it is not very true, and (11.3%) said always never true.

**Table 10a: Respondents perception toward sex work**

<b>when I have no cash</b>	Frequency	Percent
strongly disagree	106	70.7
disagree	29	19.3
undecided	5	3.3
Agree	3	2.0
strongly agree	7	4.7
Total	150	100.0
<b>having sex with men</b>	Frequency	Valid Percent

strong disagree	94	63.9
Disagree	20	13.6
Undecided	16	10.9
Agree	12	8.2
strongly agree	5	3.4
Total	147	100.0
<b>as a female undergraduate</b>	Frequency	Percent
strongly disagree	89	59.7
Disagree	31	20.8
Undecided	14	9.4
Agree	14	9.4
strongly agree	1	.7
Total	149	100
<b>sex work</b>	Frequency	Percent
strongly disagree	47	31.3
disagree	35	23.3
undecided	17	11.3
Agree	38	25.3
strongly agree	13	8.7
<b>Financial Difficulty</b>		
strongly disagree	39	26.0
Disagree	21	14.0
Undecided	31	20.7
Agree	41	27.3
strongly agree	18	12.0
Total	150	100

**Source: Data survey 2015**

The perception of respondents on sex work as a survival strategy revealed that most of them do not see sex work as survival strategy as disagreed with opinion “When I have no enough cash I can always exchange sex from money” as (70.1%) strongly disagree and (19.3%) disagree , while few support the opinion

which were (4.7%) strongly agree (2.0) agree and undecided (3.3%). It was also found that most of the respondent disagree that having sex with men in exchange for money is normal as (63.9%) strongly disagree and (13.6%) disagree , while few support the opinion which were (3.4%) strongly agree (8.2%) agree and undecided (10.9%).

It was also established that most of the respondent disagree with the opinion that as a female undergraduates engaging in aristo is one of the way to make a living as (59.7%) strongly disagree and (20.8%) disagree , while few that support the opinion were (0.7%) strongly agree (9.4%) agree and undecided (9.4%).

It was also established that most of the respondent disagree with the opinion that sex work is one of the strategy for female undergraduates in higher institution as (31.3%) strongly disagree and (23.3%) disagree , while few that support the opinion were (8.7%) strongly agree (25.3%) agree and undecided (11.3%).

It was also established that most of the respondent agree with the opinion that financial problem is related to sex work among female undergraduate as (27.3%) agree and (12.0%) strongly agree , while few that disagreed with the

opinion were (26.0%) strongly disagree (14.0%) disagree and undecided (20.7%).

<b>Financial Difficulty</b>		
strongly disagree	39	26.0
Disagree	21	14.0
Undecided	31	20.7
Agree	41	27.3
strongly agree	18	12.0
Total	150	100

**Source: Data survey 2015**

### **4.3 TEST ASSOCIATION BETWEEN SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS AND EFFECT ON SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

This study further validate the relationship between the socio-demographic variables (such as department, age, level, religion income) and dependents variable (sex work is a survival strategy which was recoded from agree/strongly agree =Yes and strongly disagree/disagree/undecided=No)

**TABLE: Bivariate Analysis on Socio-Demographic Characteristics and Sex work among Undergraduates**

Department	SEX WORK IS SURVIVAL STRATEGY		Total	Pearson Chi-Square
	No	Yes		
Zoology/biochemistry/chemistry	27 96.4%	1 3.6%	28 100.0%	X <sup>2</sup> =3.418 Degree of Freedom= 4
Plant science/geology/microbiology	25 96.2%	1 3.8%	26 100.0%	p=0.490
Economics/sociology	11 84.6%	2 15.4%	13 100.0%	
Accounting/ business education	28 96.6%	1 3.4%	29 100.0%	
Others	49 90.7%	5 9.3%	54 100.0%	
Total	140 93.3%	10 6.7%	150 100.0%	
<b>Age group</b>				
15-19	49 94.2%	3 5.8%	52 100.0%	X <sup>2</sup> =1.542 2
20-24	74 91.4%	7 8.6%	81 100.0%	p=0.46
25-29	14 100.0%	0 0.0%	14 100.0%	
Total	137 93.2%	10 6.8%	147 100.0%	
<b>Religion of respondents</b>				
Christian	113 94.2%	7 5.8%	120 100.0%	X <sup>2</sup> =.406 2
Islam	21 91.3%	2 8.7%	23 100.0%	.816
Traditional	2 100.0%	0 0.0%	2 100.0%	
Total	136 93.8%	9 6.2%	145 100.0%	
<b>Level of Respondents</b>				
100	60	2	62	X <sup>2</sup> =8.165 <sup>a</sup>



	96.8%	3.2%	100.0%	3
200	37	3	40	p=0.042
	92.5%	7.5%	100.0%	
300	23	5	28	
	82.1%	17.9%	100.0%	
400	19	0	19	
	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%	
	139	10	149	
	93.3%	6.7%	100.0%	
Income of respondents				
below 10,000	62	7	69	2.870 <sup>a</sup>
	89.9%	10.1%	100.0%	5
10,000-20,000	54	3	57	.720
	94.7%	5.3%	100.0%	
21,000-30,000	10	0	10	
	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%	
31,000-40,000	2	0	2	
	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%	
40,000-50,000	1	0	1	
	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%	
50,000 above	7	0	7	
	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%	
Total	136	10	146	
	93.2%	6.8%	100.0%	

**Source: Data survey 2015**

The test of relationships between respondents' background characteristics and sex work as a survival strategy revealed that most of the background characteristics such as department, age, religion and income except level do not have a significant relationship with sex work as a survival strategy. The chi-square statistics for department and sex work ( $X^2=3.418$ ,  $P=0.49$ ) revealed that there is no significant relationship, we therefore conclude that department of respondents; do not necessarily determine undergraduate engagement in sex

work. The chi-square statistics for age and sex work ( $X^2=1.542$ ,  $P=0.46$ ) revealed that there is no significant relationship, we therefore conclude that age of respondents, do not necessarily determine their engagement in sex work. More so, the chi-square statistics for religion and sex work ( $X^2=0.406$ ,  $P=0.816$ ) revealed that there is no significant relationship, we therefore conclude that religion of respondents; do not necessarily determine their engagement in sex work. More so, the chi-square statistics for level respondents and sex work ( $X^2=8.165$ ,  $P=0.042$ ) revealed that there is a significant relationship, we therefore conclude that the level of respondents determine their engagement in sex work. Also, the chi-square statistics for monthly income and sex work ( $X^2=2.870$ ,  $P=0.720$ ) revealed that there is no significant relationship, we therefore conclude that monthly income of respondents, do not necessarily determine their engagement in sex work

**Table: Sex work perception Scale**

Father's financial status	SEX WORK		Total	Pearson Chi-Square
	No	Yes		
Poor	4	0	4	$X^2=.494$
	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%	4
below average	24	2	26	$p=0.974$
	92.3%	7.7%	100.0%	
above average	53	3	56	
	94.6%	5.4%	100.0%	

Rich	40	3	43	
	93.0%	7.0%	100.0%	
very rich	17	1	18	
	94.4%	5.6%	100.0%	
Total	138	9	147	
	93.9%	6.1%	100.0%	
mother's financial status				
Poor	1	0	1	1.639 <sup>a</sup>
	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%	4
below average	18	2	20	p=0.801
	90.0%	10.0%	100.0%	
above average	64	4	68	
	94.1%	5.9%	100.0%	
Rich	44	4	48	
	91.7%	8.3%	100.0%	
very rich	13	0	13	
	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%	
Total	140	10	150	
	93.3%	6.7%	100.0%	
Sponsor financial status				
Poor	1	0	1	p=3.023
	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%	4
below average	10	1	11	p=0.55
	90.9%	9.1%	100.0%	
above average	32	5	37	
	86.5%	13.5%	100.0%	
Rich	47	3	50	
	94.0%	6.0%	100.0%	
very rich	13	0	13	
	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%	
Total	103	9	112	
	92.0%	8.0%	100.0%	

Source: Data survey 2015

The test of relationships between father financial standing and sex work revealed that there is no significant relationship between them as chi-square ( $X^2=0.49$ ,  $P=0.97$ ). We therefore conclude that father's financial status do not necessarily determine sex work among undergraduates. More so, the test of relationships between mother's financial standing and sex work revealed that there is no significant relationship between them as chi-square ( $X^2=1.639$ ,  $P=0.801$ ). We therefore conclude that mother's financial status do not necessarily determine sex work among undergraduates. The test of relationships between sponsor's financial standing and sex work revealed that there is no significant relationship between them as chi-square ( $X^2=3.023$ ,  $P=0.55$ ). We therefore conclude that sponsor's financial status do not necessarily determine sex work among undergraduates.

The implication of these results is that most of the sampled respondents do not practiced sex work or they are not ready to come out openly what actually influence their involvement in sex work. We therefore preceded to in-depth interview with five (5) participants who are actually involved this activity. From their response, it was found that sex work is fun and it is the only way to get money to survive the challenges of campus life

*Some do it for the fun of it and some do it to get money to fill among, wear the best of clothes to etc.*

***IDI/participant/Female one***

*It is very rampant because there is no other surviving ways, it is also common, very easy and for the presence of nearby hotels where you go out and have your money in no wasted time*

***IDI/participant/Female five***

*It's a normal thing it is what people do to actually, some do it for the fun of it and for other reasons*

***IDI/participant/Female two***

The participant actually revealed sex work is not a legal business but some lecturers and other menace of life push some students into it thereby making sex work alternative means of livelihood:

*I have a lot of financial constraint, why I engage in this basically is to sought for a living*

***IDI/participant/Female Two***

*It is not but the lecturers push some students to it because you must offer something to boost your mark.*

***IDI/participant/Female Four***

*It is very rampant and common, not EKSU alone but also in other institutions, I have been in a polytechnic before, and I find that it is also there too.*

***IDI/participant/Female One***

*If I should not deceive you, it is not too good but you just have to hustle and fill among. All hands are not equal and since it's already rampant, there is no big deal in doing it and there is no offence but generally and sincerely, we can say that it should not be encouraged*

***IDI/participant/Female Two***

It was also found that many go into sex work because of pressure from Lecturers.

*I go for sex work because my lecturers are after me and I just have to offer it to pass especially my core courses. This also makes people to actually do it for money. but in another way it cuts through two lines because they have been trying to eradicate it but I don't think it is effective because Nigeria on its own is corrupt and if they don't take it from the scratch, they can't reach any meaningful end like reasons why they do it etc.*

***IDI/participant/Female One***

The study also investigated the influence of peer group in engaging in sex work, it was revealed that

*I am product of peer group influence because I told you before it were group influence that influenced me to this and my friends thought I can't continue living in poverty and they advised me in going out with them. Though, I was not forced.*

***IDI/participant/Female Two***

*Yes, Friends serves as the major influence, they helped in influencing the decision to engage in the practice*

***IDI/participant/Female Three***

It was revealed by participant that prostitution is the only survival means in EKSU regular students, unlike the part-time students who have time to run a business.

*Not really, but for me, I think it is more easier and sometimes less demanding in terms of the finance to start a business with because it's only part time students of EKSU that go for other means considering the availability of time and money. But this is easier and there is fun in it you know.*

***IDI/participant/Female Four***

The question whether sex work has negative effects on student's wellbeing revealed that;

*It depends on whether the person seeks medical attention periodically for check-ups and medical treatment*

***IDI/participant/Female Four***

This findings therefore, nullify the results from the questionnaires that the chi-square statistics for department and sex work ( $X^2=3.418$ ,  $P=0.49$ ) revealed that there is no significant relationship, the chi-square statistics for age and sex work ( $X^2=1.542$ ,  $P=0.46$ ) revealed that there is no significant relationship, also age of respondents, do not necessarily determine their engagement in sex work. More so, the chi-square statistics for religion and sex work ( $X^2=0.406$ ,  $P=0.816$ ) revealed that there is no significant relationship, thus religion do not necessarily determine their engagement in sex work. More so, the chi-square statistics for level respondents and sex work ( $X^2=8.165$ ,  $P=0.042$ ) revealed that there is a significant relationship. Also, the chi-square statistics for monthly income and sex work ( $X^2=2.870$ ,  $P=0.720$ ) revealed that there is no significant relationship,

we therefore conclude that monthly income of respondents do not necessarily determine their engagement in sex work.



## CHAPTER FIVE

### SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECCOMENDATIONS

#### 5.0 INTRODUCTION

This chapter is devoted to the presentation of the summary of findings, conclusion and recommendations drawn from the analysis of the research study sex work as a survival strategy among undergraduate students using Ekiti-State University as the case study.

#### 5.1 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The major findings from the study disclosed that the percentage distribution of respondents' background characteristics disclosed that more respondents are from Christian religion, followed by Islamic (15.9%) and Traditional religion (1.4%).

Also the percentage distribution of respondents by monthly income/allowance disclosed that most of the undergraduates get below 10,000 per month (47.3%), followed by (39%) while those who received more such as (21,000-30,000), (31,000-40,000) (41,000-50,000) and (Above 50,000) were just (6.8%), (1.4%), (0.7%) and (4.8%) respectively

The financial standing of parents and Sponsors of the respondents revealed that most of the fathers were above average (38.1%), those who were rich were just (29.3%) while those categorized as poor or below average were (2.7% or

17.7%). The mother financial status showed that most mothers above average (45.3%) and those who were rich were (32.0%) while those categorized as below average or poor were (0.7% or 13.3%). Those respondents that has sponsors disclosed that most of their sponsors were rich (44.6%), (11.6%) very rich and (33.0%) above average but those who were below average are (9.8%) and (0.9%) poor.

The percentage distribution of respondents parent's highest level of education revealed that most of their mothers had HND/BSC/BA (51.0%) followed by OND/NCE (27.95%) while school Cert were (8.3%) and post graduates (6.1%). Also, the father's level of education revealed that most of them were HND/BSC/BA (50.0%) followed by Postgraduate (25.0%) while OND/NCE were (16.3%) and School Cert (8.3%).

The percentage distribution of respondents opinion on factors contributing to sex work as a survival strategy disclosed that most of the respondents posited that Having bad friend can lure a female to sex work is sometimes true (29.3%) followed by those who said always true (24.7%) while those who said it is never true were 22.0% and 12% not very true. Also to avoid social rejection, students always abide by group norms was upheld by most of the respondents as not very true (35.3%), followed by (26%) sometimes true while 16.7% said often true, 10.7% said almost never true and 9.3% always often true.

The opinion that if my friends are aristos ladies, I can always manage to engage in sex work was disregarded as never true as most of the respondents said it is never always true (41.3%), followed by (24.7%) not very true while those who said sometimes true (20%), often true (7.3%) and (5.3%) always often true.

The opinion that Friends can predispose female undergraduates to sex work was finding to be often true as most of the respondents disclosed that it is sometimes true (27.7%), followed by (24.0%) often true, 20.9% Never true, not often true and (10.7%) always true.

Finally, the opinion that Friends are powerful agent of risky behaviour such as sex work was taken to be true as most of the respondent posited that it is sometimes true (34.7%), followed by (20%) often true, (18.7%) always often true while (15.3%) said it is not very true, and (11.3%) said always never true.

The perception of respondents on sex work as a survival strategy revealed that most of them do not see sex work as survival strategy as disagreed with opinion "When I have no enough cash I can always exchange sex from money" as (70.1%) strongly disagree and (19.3%) disagree, while few support the opinion which were (4.7%) strongly agree (2.0) agree and undecided (3.3%). It was also found that most of the respondent disagree that having sex with men in exchange for money is normal as (63.9%) strongly disagree and (13.6%) disagree , while few support the opinion which were (3.4%) strongly agree (8.2%) agree and undecided (10.9%).

It was also established that most of the respondent agree with the opinion that financial problem is related to sex work among female undergraduate as (27.3%) agree and (12.0%) strongly agree , while few that disagreed with the opinion were (26.0%) strongly disagree (14.0%) disagree and undecided (20.7%).

The test of relationships between father financial standing and sex work revealed that there is no significant relationship between them as chi-square ( $X^2=0.49$ ,  $P=0.97$ ). We therefore conclude that father's financial status do not necessarily determine sex work among undergraduates. More so, the test of relationships between mother's financial standing and sex work revealed that there is no significant relationship between them as chi-square ( $X^2=1.639$ ,  $P=0.801$ ). We therefore conclude that mother's financial status do not necessarily determine sex work among undergraduates. The test of relationships between sponsor's financial standing and sex work revealed that there is no significant relationship between them as chi-square ( $X^2=3.023$ ,  $P=0.55$ ). We therefore conclude that sponsor's financial status do not necessarily determine sex work among undergraduates.

The implication of these results is that most of the sampled respondents do not practiced sex work or they are not ready to come out openly what actually influence their involvement in sex work. We therefore preceded to in-depth interview with five (5) participants who are actually involved this activity. From

their response, it was found that sex work is fun and it is the only way to get money to survive the challenges of campus life, the participant actually revealed sex work is not a legal business but some lecturers and other menace of life push some students into it thereby making sex work alternative means of livelihood:

The study also investigated the influence of peer group in engaging in sex work, it was revealed that peer group influence and friends on campus thought them this way of life so as not to continue living in poverty and they advised in going out with them, although, not by force.

## 5.2 CONCLUSION

In Nigeria today, sex work business is a very common means of survival especially among female undergraduates in our various higher institutions of learning. Sex work business serves as a means of survival and escape route from poverty, unemployment, and it is usually regarded as a means of getting financial support to finance academic expenses especially among female undergraduates. Sex work is a morally wrong act. Sex work is an expression of lust, spreading diseases that threaten the collective health of a society either through students or every perpetrator of the act in the society". This is as a result of its effect in the society. Hence, because of the high HIV infection rates and large number of sexual partners, student sex workers (including non-students) have been considered a core group for the transmission of HIV/AIDS

and other sexually transmitted diseases. Sex work is a universal phenomenon with morals, social, psychosocial and medial implications. Many of those who engaged in sex work were attempting to earn money to escape poverty. But this negativity is not enough reason for people to indulge in this act of sexual immorality.

Finally, sex work is a menace in the society and thus, should not be legalized especially in the case of undergraduate students whose' aim is to acquire degree and obtain universal knowledge to be important in life. Sex work may not be eliminated completely so far as the urge for sex by both customers and sex workers are concerned. The more restrictive a society is, the greater the pressures for sex work to provide outlets for those who are not married.

Thus far this study has done justice to the objective of the study and has identified that sex work is common among EKSU undergraduates, it has also identified financial constraint and societal influence on the practice of sex work among female students.

Hence, the following recommendations to this research work will contribute in reducing the problem of sex work to a tolerable level and even eradicate it finally in the case of undergraduates who serve as the future of the nation, if fully implemented.

### 5.3 RECOMMENDATION

Based on the findings of this study, the following recommendations are suggested to combat sex work among female undergraduates in Ekiti State University.

The university management should ensure disciplines among their staff and remove bad eggs among academia which are been encouraging the menace.

More research should be carried out to identify the appropriate methods of sanitizing the public on sex work and the various effects on the health.

The government should provide employment since unemployment and poverty are some of the causes of commercial sex work in our society today.

The government should promulgate laws to regulate sex work. These laws will consider sex work as a criminal activity and also give a strong disapproval of it, this will definitely reduce the total dependence on sex work as a profession.

All hands should be on desk to tackle this social problem by exposing and tracking down the people behind the shameful business of sex work.

Students should be encouraged not to engage in any illegal activities that can jeopardize their career.

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## RESEARCH QUESTIONNAIRE

Dear Respondent,

This questionnaire is intended to collect data for my B.Sc honours project, an important requirement for the award of a B.Sc(sociology) Degree. As a colleague, u are expected to help in filling the questionnaire. Honest response to each of the question would be greatly appreciated, and whatever response or information given will be treated with utmost confidentiality, the instrument will be used for academic work only. Thank you

### Section A

Instructions: the items below seek pertinent information about you to enable me describe you as a respondents in the study, please fill in the blank spaces or tick the options that best describe you

- (a) Sex: Male(  ), Female(  )
- (b) Age as at last birthday.....(yr)
- (c) Department.....
- (d) Level/part: .....
- (e) Religious Affiliation: Christianity (  ) Islam(  ), Traditional (  ) Other (  )
- (f) Monthly Stipend.....(N)
- (g) How would you describe your parent/sponsor financially?
- (h) Father
  - a. Poor (  )
  - b. Below Average (  )
  - c. Above average (  )
  - d. Rich (  )

e. Very Rich ( )

(i) Mother

a- Poor ( )

b- Below Average ( )

c- Above average ( )

d- Rich ( )

e- Very Rich ( )

(j) Sponsor

a- Poor ( )

b- Below Average ( )

c- Above average ( )

d- Rich ( )

e- Very Rich ( )

(k) Parent highest educational qualification

(l) Mother's highest

a- School Cert ( )

b- OND/NCE ( )

c- HND/B.S.C,B.A ( )

d- Post-Graduate M.S.C MA.PhD. ( )

(m) Father's highest

a. School Cert ( )

b. OND/NCE ( )

c. HND/B.S.C,B.A ( )

d. Post-Graduate M.S.C MA.PhD. ( )

(n) Type of residence:

- a- Rented ( ) and Family owned( )
- b- One-room apartment ( )
- c- Room and Parlour ( )
- d- One Wing/2 Bedroom ( )
- e- 3 Bedroom ( )
- f- Flat Owned Bungalow ( )
- g- Duplex ( )

**SECTION B**

**Instructions:** This section seek to know your level of peer relation, you are therefore required to provide answers indicating your view on statement provided below .Please tick only one of the opinions and rate your response to the scale. note 1= **Almost never or never true**, 2= **Not very true**, 3=**Sometimes true**, 4=**Often true**, 5=**Almost always or always true**

Items	Almost never or never true	Not very true	Sometimes True	Often true	Almost always or always true
Having bad friend can lure a female to sex work					
To avoid social rejection, students always abide by group norm					

If my friends are aristos ladies, I can always manage to engage in sex work					
Friends can predispose female undergraduates to sex work					
Friends are powerful agent of risky behaviour such as sex work					

### Section C: Sex work perception Scale

This section seek to know your perception of premarital sex you are therefore required to provide answers indicating your view on statement provided below .

1=strongly disagree (SD),2=Disagree(D),3=Undecided(UD),4=Agree(A), 5=Strongly Agree(SA)

Please tick only one of the opinions and rate your response to the scale of 1-5 as provided below.

S/N	Items	SD	D	UD	A	SA
1	When I have no enough cash I can always exchange sex from money					
2	Lack of financial capacity predisposes female undergraduates to sex work practice.					

3	Having sex with men in return for money is normal					
4	As a female undergraduates engage in aristos is one way to make a living					
5	Sex work is one of the surviving strategies for female undergraduates in higher institution.					
6	Financial difficulty problem is related to sex work among female undergraduates					

## INTERVIEW GUIDE

1. Can you identify yourself please?
2. What is your understanding of sex work in Ekiti State University?
3. What did you know about the prevalence of sex work in Ekiti State University?
4. Do you think sex work is encouraged in the university environment?
5. If yes/no why?
6. How can you describe your financial strength?
7. How well do you subscribe to group ideas?
8. How well do you subscribe to group influence?
9. Why do you think undergraduate ladies engage in sex work?
10. Do you think prostitution is the only survival means?
11. Do you think that lack of financial capacity predisposes female undergraduates to sex work practices?
12. Do you think friends can predispose female undergraduates to sex work?
13. Does sex work have negative effects on student's wellbeing?