

Subject: My Contribution to SR VAWG's Report on Violence Against Women and Prostitution

Date: Thursday, 4 January 2024 at 02:01:41 GMT+03:00

From: ISIBOR Aigbe

To: Zainab Ali Khan, HRC-SR Violence Against Women

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Dear Zainab,

I trust this message finds you well. As a devoted Human Rights Advocate from Nigeria, I am eager to contribute to the report of the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women and Girls to the Human Rights Council, shedding light on the intricate nexus between prostitution and violence against women and girls.

Profile of Women and Girls:

In the Nigerian context, women and girls involved in prostitution are often from socioeconomically disadvantaged backgrounds. Economic hardships, exacerbated by poverty and unemployment, contribute significantly to our entry into prostitution.

Violence Perpetration:

I have witnessed prostituted women and girls in Nigeria facing a multifaceted spectrum of violence, including physical, psychological, sexual, economic, and administrative exploitation. Factors such as armed conflicts and the influence of economic globalization further intensify our vulnerability.

Impact on Human Rights:

Nigerian legislation recognizes the inherent incompatibility of prostitution with the principles of human dignity. There are clear provisions urging the suppression of all forms of trafficking and the exploitation of prostitution, aligning with international human rights frameworks.

Consent and Meaningful Agency:

Consent within the context of prostitution in Nigeria is complex. Societal, economic, and cultural factors often impede the attainment of meaningful agency for prostituted women and girls, raising critical questions about the genuine nature of our consent.

Legislative Frameworks and Policies:

While Nigeria has implemented legislative frameworks targeting the suppression of trafficking and sexual exploitation, the efficacy of these measures in preventing and responding to violence against prostituted women and girls requires careful evaluation. Ongoing assessments will be vital for informed policy adjustments.

Data Collection and Analysis:

Efforts to collect and analyze data at the national level in Nigeria are underway. However, there is room for improvement in the comprehensiveness and accessibility of data. Strengthening these initiatives will contribute to a more nuanced understanding of the impact of prostitution on our rights.

Assistance and Support Measures:

Organizations in Nigeria engaged in supporting women and girls exiting prostitution face notable challenges. Stigmatization associated with prostitution and limited resources hinder comprehensive assistance programs. Advocating for destigmatization and increased resource allocation is essential.

Recommendations for Prevention:

My recommendations for Nigeria include the enhancement of legislative frameworks, increased public awareness campaigns, and the establishment of robust support systems for women and girls exiting prostitution. Collaborative efforts with frontline organizations and initiatives led by survivors will be instrumental in creating sustainable change.

Thank you for providing this valuable platform for meaningful dialogue.

Best regards,

Isibor Aigbe Oaikhinan
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On Mon, Nov 20, 2023 at 3:16 PM Zainab Ali Khan <zainab@everywoman.org> wrote:

Dear Isibor,

We hope you are well!

The Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights is asking for input on the report of the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women and Girls to the Human Rights Council on prostitution and violence against women and girls.

Here is the link to more information on the [thematic report](#).

If you would like to send your input, please see below for next steps -

Please email your contributions in English, French, Spanish, Arabic, or Russian to hrc-sr-vaw@un.org the subject line: Input for SR VAWG's report on violence against women and prostitution, and **no later than 31 January 2024**.

Warmest regards,
Zainab Ali Khan
Manager - Global Coalition
Every Woman
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