

**PERSONALITY TRAITS, SOCIAL ANXIETY, AND PEDOPHILIA AMONG UNDERGRADUATES OF BENUE STATE UNIVERSITY, MAKURDI.****Victor Odeh Ojobo**Department of Clinical Psychology,  
Federal Medical Centre, Makurdi.Email: [victorjobo@yahoo.com](mailto:victorjobo@yahoo.com)**Abstract**

The study examined personality traits, social anxiety and pedophilia among Undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi. A multi-stage sampling technique and co relational design were adopted for the study. Three hundred and seventy-nine (379) participants participated in the study; 219 (57.9%) were male while, 159 (42.1%) were female. Their ages ranged between 16 and 48 years with a mean of 28.16 and a standard deviation of 8.46. Data were collected using the Big Five Personality Inventory (BFI), Fear of Negative Evaluation (FNE) and Erotic Preferences Examination Scheme (EPES) to measure personality traits, social anxiety, and pedophilia respectively. The results indicated that jointly, personality traits significantly and positively influence pedophilia ( $R = .251 = R^2 = .063$  ( $F(5, 373) = 5.037, t = 10.468, p < .05$ ). Social anxiety have no significant influence on pedophilic behaviour ( $R = .098 = R^2 = .010$  ( $F(1, 377) = 3.669, t = 22.254, p > .05$ ). Personality traits and social anxiety was also found to have joint influence on pedophilia ( $R = .356 = R^2 = .127$  ( $F(6, 3722) = 9.007, t = 8.993, p < .05$ ). It was concluded that personality traits influence pedophilia while, social anxiety has no influence on pedophilia among Undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi. Finally, it was recommended that clinicians should assess personality traits in patients/clients with a history of pedophilic behaviour for proper intervention.

**Keywords:** Personality traits, Social Anxiety, Pedophilia, Undergraduates**Introduction**

Pedophilic behaviour is an abnormal sexual behaviour in which an adult or older adolescent develop sexual interest involving sexual attraction to children below the age of 13. APA (2013) defines pedophilia as a psychiatric condition in which an adult or older adolescent experience a primary or exclusive sexual attraction to prepubescent children. The chief feature of pedophilia is recurrent, powerful sexual urges and related fantasies involving sexual activity with prepubescent children (typically 13 years old or younger).

Nevid, Rathus, and Greene (2011) observed that for the sexual behaviour with prepubescent children to be termed or clinically diagnosed as pedophilia, the person who exhibits the

pedophilic acts must be at least 16 years of age and at least 5 years older than the child or children toward whom the person is sexually attracted or has victimized. Therefore, the clinical definition of pedophilia is brought to bear only when sexual attraction to children below the age of 13 is recurrent and persistent. This is because not all those who abuse children sexually are pedophiles; they become pedophiles when they have a primary or exclusive sexual interest in prepubescent children.

Gray, Brown, MacCulloch, Malcolm, Smith and Snowden (2005) states that those who exhibit this abnormal sexual behaviour, oftentimes, attempt to conceal their sexual attraction to children, however, they tend to show deviant sexual responses to child stimuli when tested with more subtle methods that do not require verbal reports of arousal. Although pedophiles are by definition attracted to children, their sexual preferences and behaviour vary a great deal. Some do not act out their impulses but have disturbing fantasies and inclinations to molest children.

Most cases of pedophilia do not involve “dirty old men” who hang around schoolyards in raincoats but, people who are usually (otherwise) law-abiding, respected citizens in their 30s or 40s; most are married or divorced with children. They are usually well acquainted with their victims, who are typically either relatives or friends of the family. Some limit their sexual activity with children to incestuous relations or family members; others only molest children outside the family. The molesters often begin the unholy act with the children when the children are very young and continue for years until the molesters are discovered or the relationship is broken off. Molesters often take advantage of children by informing them that they are “educating” them, “showing them something,” or doing something they will “like.” Some molesters restrict their deviant sexual activities to looking at or undressing children, whereas others engage in exposing their genital to children, kissing, fondling, oral sex, and anal/vaginal intercourse.

Fullilove (2009) observed that the victims of pedophilic behaviour may suffer from a litany of psychological problems involving anger, anxiety, depression, eating disorders, inappropriate sexual behaviours, aggressive behaviour, drug abuse, posttraumatic stress disorder, low self-esteem, sexual dysfunction, feelings of detachment and suicidal behaviours among others.

The origin of pedophilic behaviour is complex and varied. Some cases fit the stereotype of the weak, shy, socially inept, and isolated man who is threatened by mature relationships and turns to children for sexual gratification because children are less critical and demanding. Seto (2009) observed that men who exhibit pedophilic behaviour tend to have fewer romantic relationships than other men, and the relationships they do have tend to be less satisfying. Other theorists believed that childhood sexual experiences with other children may have been so enjoyable that

the man, as an adult, attempts to recapture the excitement of earlier years; men who were sexually abused in childhood reverse the situation to establish feelings of mastery.

Studies of pedophilia in child sex offenders often report that it co-occurs with other psychopathologies, such as low self-esteem, depression, anxiety, and personality problems. Okami and Goldberg (1992) stated that research on personality correlates and psychopathology in people who exhibit pedophilic behaviour (pedophiles) is rarely methodologically correct, in part owing to confusion between pedophiles and child sex offenders, as well as the difficulty of obtaining a representative, community sample of pedophiles.

Notwithstanding, Wilson and Cox (1983) studied the characteristics of a group of pedophile club members. The most marked differences between pedophiles and controls were on the introversion scale, with pedophiles showing elevated shyness, sensitivity, and depression. The pedophiles scored higher on neuroticism and psychoticism, but not enough to be considered pathological as a group. The authors caution that there is a difficulty in untangling cause and effect. It could not be ascertained whether pedophiles gravitate towards children because, being highly introverted, those who exhibit pedophilic behaviour find the company of children less threatening than that of adults, or whether the social withdrawal implied by their introversion is a result of the isolation engendered by their preference that is, awareness of the social (dis)approbation and hostility that it evokes.

Dennison, Stough, and Birgden (2001) examined the big five-dimensional personality approach to understanding sex offenders among 64 males incarcerated for child sex offenses (pedophilia) and 33 male comprising no sex offenders. The study aimed to examine whether normal personality variation provides useful theoretical insight into the nature of sex offenses against children. The Revised NEO Personality Inventory (NEO PI-R), a measure of the five-factor model (FFM) of personality, was administered to 64 males incarcerated for child sex offenses. Sex offenders were categorized into different offender groups comprising incest within the immediate family, incest within step-family and extra-familial offense. A comparison group of 33 non-offender males also completed the NEO PI-R. The results indicated that the sex offender groups were significantly higher in neuroticism and significantly lower in extraversion and conscientiousness compared to the non-offender group. Significant differences between the sex offender groups and comparison groups for NEO PI-R facets were also found among the two different participant groups.

Social anxiety is a factor that is perceived to have implications for pedophilic behaviour. It is defined as the fear of interaction with other people that brings on self-consciousness, feelings of being negatively judged and evaluated and as a result, leads to avoidance (Goldin, Ziv, Jazaieri,

Hahn, & Heimberg, 2013). Social anxiety can severely impair a person's daily functioning and quality of life; prevent people from completing educational goals, advancing in their careers, or even holding a job in which they need to interact with others. Some with this problem often turn to tranquilizers or try to “medicate” themselves with alcohol when preparing for social interactions. In extreme cases, they may become so fearful of interacting with others that they become essentially housebound (Nevid, Rathus & Greene, 2011).

There existed dearth of empirical literature about social anxiety and pedophilic behaviour however; since social anxiety affects people with this problem in several ways including social interactions, it is, therefore, perceived that individuals who engage in pedophilic behaviours do that because of their fear of social interactions to form intimate relationship with the opposite sex in a healthy manner. Hence, social anxiety could be implicated in pedophilic behaviour.

There are various state laws that prohibit, as well as punish the enactment of pedophilic behaviour in Nigeria; these are contained in the Penal Code Law and the Criminal Code Law, as well as the NAPTIP Acts 2015 as Amended with punishments ranging from Seven (7) to Ten (10) years imprisonment with an option of fine of not less than One Million Naira (N1, 000000.00). However, despite these laws, pedophilia and pedophilic behaviour have been on the increase in Nigeria in recent times. Hardly does one read through the pages of newspapers or listen to the news without coming across news about pedophilic behaviour being exhibited in the country. For instance, “The DAILY TRUST Newspaper” of November, 6th 2018; and Wantu (2019) reported a story of a thirteen (13) year old girl (Late Miss Ochanya Elizabeth Ogbanje) who died on October 17th 2018 at the Benue State University Teaching Hospital (BSUTH) Makurdi – Benue State, after battling Vesico-Vaginal Fistula (VVF) and other health challenges for months after being a victim of pedophilic behaviours exhibited by her foster parent (Aunt Husband) Mr. Andrew Ogbuja, (a lecturer with Benue State Polytechnic’s Department of Catering and Hotel Management, Ugbokolo) and his son Victor Ogbuja (a student of the Federal University of Agriculture, Makurdi).

Similarly, “The PUNCH Newspaper” of Monday, November 6th 2017, reported cases of convictions of Nigerians for sexual exploitations and unlawful carnal knowledge of “Minors,” as well as abduction and attempted forced marriage of a 13-year-old girl in Gashua-Yobe State. Also, the Sahara Reporter on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of June 2020 reported a case of a man who raped a three month old baby in Adogi Village of Nasarawa State – Nigeria. This is another case of pedophilic behaviour exhibited in Nigeria that precipitated widespread peaceful protest against rape in Nigeria in recent times. These are few out of many reported cases of pedophilic behaviour exhibited in Nigeria that are worrisome to Nigerians in recent times.

This abnormal sexual behaviour is a serious social pathology and a very common phenomenon in Nigeria in recent times with serious mental and psychological health consequences that need to be curtailed. The law enforcement agencies vested with the responsibility of protecting lives and properties are mostly reactive to this serious issue rather than been proactive. They only prosecute pedophilic offenders when the behaviour is enacted without efforts to understand factors that could lead to this abnormal sexual behaviour with the aim of providing lasting solutions to this abnormal behaviour prevalent in Nigeria in recent times. A lot has been known about pedophilia but, little is known about the influence of personality traits, and social anxiety on pedophilia; hence, this has created serious dearth in empirical literature about these variables. It is against this backdrop that the researcher decided to embark on this research to find out the implications of personality traits, and social anxiety on pedophilia in order to make recommendations that will contribute to the global efforts to curtail this social pathology. It was based on this premise that this research idea was conceived.

### **Aims and Objectives of the Study**

The study is aimed at ascertaining the relationship between personality traits, social anxiety and pedophilia among Undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi.

The objectives include:

- i. To examine the relationship between personality traits and pedophilia among Undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi.
- ii. To ascertain the relationship between social anxiety and pedophilia among Undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi.
- iii. To find out the joint effects of personality traits and social anxiety on pedophilia among Undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi.

Hypotheses

- i. Personality traits (Agreeableness, Extraversion, Conscientiousness, Neuroticism, and Openness to Experience) will jointly and independently influence pedophilia among Undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi.
- ii. There will be a significant influence of social anxiety on pedophilia among Undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi.
- iii. Personality traits and social anxiety will jointly predict pedophilia among Undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi.

### **Method**

## **Research Design**

The study adopted a correlational research design to enable the researcher to ascertain the relationship between personality traits, social anxiety and pedophilic behaviour among undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi.

## **Setting**

The setting of this study was Benue State University, Makurdi.

## **Participants**

The participants in this study were both male and female undergraduates of Benue State University Makurdi; the male was 219 (57.9%) while, females were 159 (42.1%). Those who participated in the study were undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi who were not clinically diagnosed of pedophilia but, have tendencies to exhibit pedophilic behaviour. The students' age range was from 16 to 48 years old with a mean of 28.1662, and a standard deviation of 8.46. Analysis of the marital status of the students showed that 199 (52.5%) were single, 127 (33.5%) were married, 26 (6.9%) were divorced, and 27 (7.1%) were widows/widowers. Analysis of their religion showed that 328 (86.8%) were Christians while 50 (13.2%) were Muslims.

## **Instruments**

The data was collected using the Big Five Personality Inventory (BFI), Fear of Negative Evaluation (FNE), and Erotic Preferences Examination Scheme (EPES).

The Big Five Personality Inventory (BFI) is a 44-item inventory developed by John, Donahue, and Kentle (1991) to measure personality from a five-dimensional perspective which includes:

- a. Extraversion: High energy and activity level, dominance, sociability, expressiveness, and positive emotions.
- b. Agreeableness: Prosocial orientation, altruism, tender mindedness, trust, and modesty.
- c. Conscientiousness: Impulse control, task orientation, goal-directedness.
- d. Neuroticism: Anxiety, sadness, irritability, and nervous tension.
- e. Openness to Experience: It exemplifies the breadth, depth, and complexity of an individual's mental and experiential life.

### **Psychometric Properties**

John et al. (1991) provided the original psychometric properties for American samples while Umeh (2004) provided the properties for Nigerian samples. The instrument has a Cronbach Alpha of .80 and a 3-month test-retest of .85. BFI has to mean convergent validity coefficients of .75 and .85 with the Big Five Instruments authored by Costa & McCrae (1992) and Goldberg (1992) respectively. The divergent validity coefficients obtained by Umeh (2004) with University Maladjustment Scale (Kleinmuntz, 1961) are Extroversion .05, Agreeableness .13, Conscientiousness .11, Neuroticism .39, Openness .-24.

The Fear of Negative Evaluation (FNE) is a 30-item inventory designed and developed by Watson and Friend (1969) to measure an aspect of social anxiety, inadequate social interaction, shyness, and performance anxiety.

### **Psychometric Properties**

Watson and Friend (1969) provided the original psychometric properties for American samples while the properties for Nigerian samples were provided by Omoluabi and Agbu (2003). The reliability coefficients for American samples are 14-day test-retest = .78 and KR-20 = .94. The reliability coefficient for Nigerian samples include 14-day test-retest = .81, KR-20 = .86, split-half = .76, and Odd-even = .76. Correlating FNE with STAI Y – 2 (Spielberger, 1983), a concurrent validity coefficient of .63 was obtained from Odedeji's (2004) data, while Omoluabi and Agbu obtained .51 with NSII.

The Erotic Preferences Examination Scheme (EPES) was first developed by Kurt Freund in 1971 to measure and diagnose paraphilia with different subscales used in measuring different aspects of paraphilia including pedophilia in potentially paraphilia and abnormal sex offenders. The pedophilic subscale is an 18-item questionnaire used to measure and diagnose pedophilia in individuals with pedophilic tendencies.

### **Psychometric properties**

Kurt Freund provided the original psychometric property with an alpha reliability coefficient of .92. To determine the suitability of the subscale for use in Nigeria and this study, the researcher conducted a pilot study with the selected subscale using a sample of 82 participants mainly selected from the general population of youths in Makurdi through convenience sampling technique. The analysis of the result of the pilot study conducted to ascertain the suitability of the pedophilia subscale shows a Cronbach's alpha of .77 and variance of 68.0%.

With regards to the reliability and validity of the instrument, the instruments reliably measured what it was designed to measure. Therefore, the instrument is valid and reliable and can be used for the study.

### Procedure for Administration

Before the instruments were administered on the respondents, the ethical principles of psychological research with human participants were considered and strictly adhered to. Permission was sought from and granted by the relevant authorities of the university; the consent of the students was sought and also given, and confidentiality of their responses was guaranteed. They were made to understand that they have the right to discontinue, decline or refuse to participate or respond to the instruments anytime they feel like before the completion of the instruments. The instruments were administered to the participants individually by the researcher and research assistants after the research assistants were trained on how to administer the instruments by the researcher. The reasons for engaging research assistants were for easy administration and collection of the instruments.

The instruments were administered and collected within 24 hours since there were no fixed time limits for the administration and collection of the instruments. The instructions on the use of instruments were simple and straight forward for the respondents to understand what they were expected to do. The researcher and the research assistants at the time of collection provided answers and explanations to questions and issues that emanated from the instruments by the respondents. After this, a debriefing was done for the respondents.

### Results

The first hypothesis stated that personality traits (Agreeableness, Extraversion, Conscientiousness, Neuroticism, and Openness to Experience) will jointly and independently influence pedophilia among Undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi.

Table 1: The level of relationship between personality traits and pedophilia among Undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi.

<b>Variables</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>R<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>F</b>	<b>β</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>Sig.</b>
<b>Pedophilia</b>						
Constant	.355	.126	10.790		9.316	.000
Agreeableness				-.244	-4.440	.000

Extraversion	.219	4.365	.000
Conscientiousness	.060	1.212	.226
Neuroticism	.190	3.122	.002
Openness to Experience	-.169	-3.118	.002

he results presented in Table 1 showed that there was a significant joint influence of personality traits (agreeableness, conscientiousness, neuroticism, extraversion and openness to experience) on pedophilia among undergraduates of Benue State University Makurdi ( $R = .355 = R^2 = .126$  ( $F(5, 373) = 10.790, t = 9.316, p < .05$ ). This means that the five personality factors jointly contributed to changes in pedophilia among Undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi by 12.6%. In considering the independent contributions of the five personality factors, agreeableness was negatively and significantly related to pedophilia ( $\beta = -.244, p < .05$ ). This means that undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi whose personalities are predominantly agreeable are less vulnerable to pedophilia by 24.4%. Extraversion has a significant positive contribution to pedophilia among Undergraduates of Benue State University Makurdi ( $\beta = .219, p < .05$ ). This means that undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi who are predominantly extraverted have 21.9% chances of suffering from pedophilia.

However, conscientiousness was not significantly related to pedophilia ( $\beta = .060, p > .05$ ). This means that undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi with personalities dominated by conscientiousness are less likely to contract pedophilia. On the contrary, neuroticism was found to contribute positively and significantly to pedophilia among undergraduates ( $\beta = .190, p < .05$ ). This means that Undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi with personalities dominated by neuroticism have 19.0% vulnerability to pedophilia. Lastly, openness to experience was found to contribute negatively and significantly to pedophilia among undergraduates ( $\beta = -.169, p < .05$ ). This means that Undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi who are predominantly open to experience are less likely to suffer pedophilia 16.9%.

The second hypothesis stated that social anxiety will significantly influence pedophilia among undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi.

Table 2: The level of relationship between social anxiety and pedophilia among Undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi.

<b>Variables</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>R<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>F</b>	<b><math>\beta</math></b>	<b>T</b>	<b>Sig.</b>
<b>Pedophilia</b>						
Constant	.098	.010	3.669		22.254	.000
Social Anxiety				-.098	-1.915	.056

The results presented in Table 2 showed that there was no significant influence of social anxiety on pedophilia among undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi ( $R = .098 = R^2 = .010$

( $F(1, 377) = 3.669$ ,  $t = 22.254$ ,  $p > .05$ ). This means that social anxiety does not predict pedophilia among undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi.

The third hypothesis stated that personality traits and social anxiety will jointly predict pedophilia among Undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi.

Table 3: The level of joint influence of personality traits and social anxiety on pedophilic behaviour among undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi.

<b>Variables</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>R2</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>β</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>Sig.</b>
<b>Pedophilia</b>						
Constant	.356	.127	9.007		8.993	.000
Agreeableness				-.240	-4.328	.000
Extraversion				.214	4.165	.000
Conscientiousness				.062	1.253	.211
Neuroticism				.190	3.130	.002
Openness to Experience				-.169	-3.114	.002
Social Anxiety				-.023	-.453	.651

The results presented in Table 3 showed that there was a significant joint influence of personality traits (agreeableness, conscientiousness, neuroticism, extraversion and openness to experience) and social anxiety on pedophilia among Undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi ( $R = .356 = R^2 = .127$  ( $F(6,3722) = 9.007$ ,  $t = 8.993$ ,  $p < .05$ ). This finding implies that personality traits and social anxiety jointly contributed 12.7% to pedophilia among Undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi.

## Discussion

Personality traits, social anxiety and pedophilia among Undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi was studied. The hypothesis which stated that personality traits (Agreeableness, Extroversion, Conscientiousness, Neuroticism, and Openness to Experience) will jointly and independently influence pedophilia among Undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi was tested and the result indicated that personality traits jointly influence pedophilia among Undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi. Independently, agreeableness and conscientiousness were found not to be implicated in pedophilia. Extraversion, neuroticism, and openness to experience were found to be positively related to pedophilia.

The result of this study is closely related to the finding of the studies of personality and pedophilia by Wilson and Cox (1983); and Dennison, Stough, and Birgden (2001) where they all

found a personality to be a factor implicated in pedophilia. Also, there existed some levels of similarities in all the findings which indicated that personality traits are factors that are implicated in pedophilia. For example, Wilson and Cox (1981) found personality traits of neuroticism and psychoticism to be implicated in pedophilia, Dennison, Stough, and Birgden (2001) also found personality traits of neuroticism to be implicated in pedophilia in line with the finding of this study.

Although there are similarities in the findings, there existed slight differences in the findings, for instance, Dennison, Stough, and Birgden (2001) found that personality traits of conscientiousness and extraversion have little influence on pedophilic behaviour while the result of this study indicated that extraversion is significantly and positively implicated in pedophilia. However, despite the similarities and the differences in the findings of these two studies, this study has succeeded in ascertaining the facts in empirical literature reviewed that personality traits are implicated in pedophilia.

The result of the second hypothesis in this study revealed that social anxiety has no significant influence on pedophilia among Undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi. The result does not confirm the hypothesis which stated that social anxiety will significantly influence pedophilia among Undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi. This implies that although Seto (2009) observed that social anxiety was perceived to be a factor that influences pedophilia among men who engage in pedophilic behaviour because the men tend to have fewer romantic relationships than other men. The result of this hypothesis tested did not confirm the observation made by Seto (2009). Notwithstanding, this study has succeeded in contributing something new to existing literature on pedophilia; it has succeeded in closing the gap in empirical literature about the influence of social anxiety on pedophilia. This will help in providing literature for other researchers who wish to know more about social anxiety and pedophilia.

Similarly, the third hypothesis which stated that personality traits and social anxiety will jointly predict pedophilia among Undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi was equally tested. The result indicated that personality traits and social anxiety jointly predicted pedophilia among Undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi. The result of this study is another milestone achievement in the study of pedophilia since there is gap in empirical literature about the joint influence of these factors on pedophilia. This will help in closing the existing gap in empirical literature about pedophilia as well as contribute positively to the existing literature about factors that predict pedophilia.

### **Limitations of the Study**

Like all human endeavours, this study has some weaknesses despite the contributions it made to knowledge. Just like Okami and Goldberg (1992) observed there was difficulty in getting participants that are diagnosed with pedophilia. Hence, the researcher used the students' population since people who exhibit pedophilic behaviour and tendencies could be found among the student's population. Therefore, it was difficult to establish a cause and effect relationship since the data was collected from students' population and not people diagnosed with pedophilia.

### **Conclusion and Recommendations**

Despite the limitations of the study, the study succeeded in ascertaining the influence of personality traits and social anxiety on pedophilia among Undergraduates of Benue State University, Makurdi. The study supported previous studies that found personality traits to be implicated in pedophilia. It has also succeeded in contributing something new to the pool of knowledge and literature about pedophilia particularly, about the influence of social anxiety on pedophilia, as well as the joint influence of personality traits and social anxiety on the abnormal sexual behaviour.

The researcher, therefore, recommends that the personality of individuals that exhibit traits of pedophilic behaviour or have history of child sexual abuse be assessed in clinics/hospitals to ascertain the influence of the individual's personality traits on the abnormal sexual behaviour. This will help clinicians to choose appropriate psychotherapeutic techniques suitable for the management of the abnormal sexual behaviour exhibited by the individual and promote good and acceptable sexual behaviour.

There should be legislative enactments in Nigeria that proscribe marriages of girls less than 13-year-old so that people will not hide under the guise of religious tolerance to perpetrate pedophilic acts.

Religious leaders should come out openly to preach against the marriage of underage girls as a measure to curtail abduction and forced marriage of underage girls as well as pedophilia.

Sex education should be introduced in the primary school curriculum in Nigeria since primary school pupils are usually the victims of pedophilia and child sexual offenses.

Civil societies in Nigeria should intensify their advocacy on child sexual offenses and encourage families of victims to speak out when this behaviour is perpetrated.

Children should be taught how to identify their body parts and show which one is private and which is public. This will help the child to protect him/herself from pedophiles.

### References

- American Psychiatric Association. (2013). *DSM-5: Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (5th ed.). Washington, DC: Publisher.
- Costa, P. T., & McCrae, R. R. (1992). Four ways five factors are basic. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 13 (6), 653–665.
- Daily Trust* (November 6<sup>th</sup> 2018). Tragic case of Ochanya Ogbanje. <https://www.dailytrust.com.ng/tragic-case-of-ochanya-ogbanje.html>
- Dennison, M. S., Stough, C., & Birgden, A. (2001). The bid 5-dimensional personality approach to understanding sex offenders. *Psychology, Crime & Law*, 7(1-4), 243-261. DOI: 10.1080/10683160108401796.
- Fullilove, M. T. (2009). Toxic sequelae of childhood sexual abuse export. *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 166, 1090-1092. DOI: 10.1176/appi.ajp.2009.09071058\
- Golberg, L. R. (1992). The development of markers for the Big-Five factor structure. *Psychological Assessment*, 4, 26-42.
- Goldin, P.R., Ziv, M., Jazaieri, H., Hahn K., Heimberg, R. (2013). Impact of cognitive-Behavioral therapy for social anxiety disorder on the neural dynamics of cognitive reappraisal of negative self-beliefs. *Journal of American Medical Association and Psychiatry*, 70(10), 1048-1056.
- Gray, N. S., Brown, A. S., MacCulloch, M. J., Malcolm, J., Smith, J., & Snowden, R. J. (2005). An implicit test of the associations between children and sex in pedophiles. *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*, 114, 305-308.
- John, O. P., Donahue, E. M., & Kentle, R. L. (1991). *The Big Five Inventory-Versions 4a and 5a*. Berkeley: University of California Berkeley Institute of Personality and Social Research.
- Kleinmuntz, B. (1961). The College maladjustment scale (MT): Norms and predictive validity. *Educational and Psychological Measurement*, 21, 1029-1033.
- National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons and Other Related Matters (NAPTIP) News Bulletin (2014). Details of convictions from January 2013 – March 2014. 4(1), 13-16.

- Nevid, S. J., Rathus, A. S., & Greene, B. (2011). *Abnormal Psychology in a Changing World*. (8th ed.). USA: Prentice-Hall.
- Odedeji, O. O. (2004). *The influence of gender, parents' socioeconomic status and anxiety on fear of negative evaluation among adolescents*. Unpublished B.Sc Thesis, Department of Psychology, University of Lagos.
- Okami, P., & Goldberg, A. (1992). Personality Correlates of Pedophilia: Are They Reliable Indicators? *Journal of Sex Research*, 29 (3), 297–328.
- Omoluabi, P. F. & Agbu, J. O. (2003). *Development and standardization of negative self-image inventory (NSII)*. Unpublished Research Monograph, Department of Psychology, University of Lagos.
- Penal Code: Report Cases Citation* (2009). Law lords law report No. 5, volume 1 (1st ed.). Jide Olakanmi & Co. Law Lords Publications.
- Sahara Reporters, New York* (23<sup>rd</sup> June 2020). Man who raped three-month-old baby in Nasarawa arrested. <http://saharareporters.com/2020/06/23/man-who-raped-three-month-old-baby-nasarawa-arrested>
- Seto, M. C. (2009). Pedophilia. *Annual Review of Clinical Psychology*, 5, 391-407.
- Spielberger, C. D. (1983). *Manual of the state-trait anxiety inventory: STAI* (Form Y). Palo Alto: Consulting Psychologists Press.
- The Punch Newspaper* (6th November 2017). Forced Marriage: Abducted 13 year old released from Emir's palace
- Umeh, C. S. (2004). *The impact of personality characteristics on students' adjustment on campus*. Unpublished Ph.D. Research Monograph, Department of Psychology, University of Lagos.
- Wantu, J. (2018). Again, protest in Benue over death of girl raped allegedly by lecturer, son. *The Guardian*: <https://guardian.ng/news/again-protest-in-benue-over-death-of-girl-raped-allegedly-by-lecturer-son/>
- Watson, D. & Friend, R. (1969). Measurement of social – evaluative anxiety. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 33, 448-457.
- Wilson, G. D., & Cox, D. N. (1983). The personality of pedophile club members. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 4 (3), 323–329.