



**BABCOCK**  
**UNIVERSITY**

ILISHAN-REMO, OGUN STATE, NIGERIA

# COLLEGE OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

## 2022/2023 PhD Thesis Abstract

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**RT:** Intervention of Law for the Health Care Support of Intimate Partner Violence Survivors in Nigeria

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**AB:** Intimate partner violence (IPV) is a global public health concern that crosses social and geographic divides. There has been an increase in the incidence of IPV in Nigeria. IPV is defined as any behaviour in an intimate relationship that causes physical, psychological, or sexual harm to people involved. IPV affects both male and female gender although the occurrence is more predominant to women. IPV has effect on the health of the survivors which make them visit the health care system giving them more contacts with the health care providers. Unfortunately, the health care providers attend to the ailment that brings them to the health care facility and send them back into the abuse where they are killed or end up killing the abuser. The World Health Organization (WHO) has called on member states including Nigeria to strengthen the role of the health care system in supporting survivors. Furthermore, each state is to update the national guidelines, protocols and standard of operation of their health care system for a multi sectoral response to IPV. Therefore, this study determined whether the extant laws in Nigeria is adequate to support survivors of IPV and compliant with the WHO resolution.

This research adopted a qualitative approaches and interview strategy. The research analysed Primary sources included subsisting statutes, extant domestic legislations, rules of courts, International Treaties and Instruments, conventions, protocols, United Nations documents, official gazettes, notices, and case-laws. Secondary sources included textbooks, scholarly peer-

reviewed journals, law reports, and newspapers. Data were content analysed and presented thematically.

The study found that there are existing laws in Nigeria that dealt with some of the challenges such as stigmatization and discrimination. However, there is no specific legislation or framework addressing the health care support of IPV survivors. It revealed that Nigeria, as a member of the international community, has ratified some international human rights treaties including African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights (Ratification and Enforcement) Act, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, that protect the rights of survivors. Nigerian laws and practises are inadequate and fall short of the WHO resolution.

The study concluded that the legal framework in Nigeria's health care system is ineffective in supporting the IPV survivors. The study recommends that there is a need for a clearly defined national legal framework for the health care support of IPV survivors in Nigeria as recommended by the WHO, to enable a multi sectoral health care support.

**Keywords:** Health care support, Health care system, Intimate partner violence, Legislation, WHO resolution

**Word Count:** 411

*Abbreviations: RFN: Researcher's Full Name, RD: Researcher's Department, RS: Researcher's School, RE: Researcher's Email, RAE: Researcher's Alternate Email, RP: Researcher's Phone Contact, RT: Registered Title, MS: Main Supervisor, ME: Main Supervisor's E-mail Address, SP: Main Supervisor's Phone Contact, CS: Co Supervisor, CE: Co-Supervisor's E-mail Address, CP: Co-Supervisor's Phone Contact, AB: Abstract*

**Suggested Citation:** Ogundipe, O.O., Onyemelukwe-Onuobia, C. and Aderibigbe, T. 2023. Intervention of Law for the Health Care Support of Intimate Partner Violence Survivors in Nigeria.. PhD Thesis Abstract, College of Postgraduate Studies, Babcock University. [https://doi.org/10.61867/pcub.1\(5\).151](https://doi.org/10.61867/pcub.1(5).151)