

# **IMPACT OF NATIONAL AGENCY FOR PROHIBITION OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS (NAPTIP) AWARENESS CREATION PROGRAMME ON VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN ANAMBRA AND ENUGU STATES.**

*Mmuozoba, Ifeoma Dorathy*

## **Abstract**

Department Of Continuing Education and  
Development Studies, Faculty of  
Education, Enugu State  
University Of Science and Technology,  
(Esut). Enugu  
**Email:** [ifeoma.mmuozoba@gmail.com](mailto:ifeoma.mmuozoba@gmail.com)  
**DOI:**  
<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.16882808>

The study assessed the extent to which NAPTIP's awareness creation has impacted victims of human trafficking in Anambra and Enugu States. One research question and one null hypothesis guided the study. Descriptive Survey research design was adopted for the study. The population for the study was 507 respondents which comprised 30 officials and 477 victims of human trafficking in Anambra and Enugu States. The total population was used for the study. A questionnaire constructed by the researcher was the instrument used for data collection. Mean and standard deviation were used to answer the research question while z-test analysis was used to test the null hypothesis at 0.05 level of significance. The findings from the study revealed that both respondents (officials and victims) were of the view that awareness creation, vocational skills training, counseling, basic literacy education and provision of medical services by NAPTIP has significantly impacted victims of human trafficking to a great extent in the study area. Based on the findings, it was recommended among others that NAPTIP should partner with nongovernmental agencies and other stakeholders in media organisations for more awareness creation in order to bring information to the door steps of the citizens about the effect of human trafficking.

**Keyword:** NAPTIP, Human Trafficking, Awareness Creation

## **Introduction**

Human trafficking is a form off Modern day slavery that involves the recruitment, transportation and exploitation of individuals for labour or sexual purposes. Victims of human trafficking may be men, women or children and may

be trafficked. Trafficking in persons refers to trading in human beings for the purpose of sexual slavery, or forced labour, commercial sexual exploitation which are acts against the laws of any country.

Sex trafficking encompasses the range of activities involved when a trafficker uses force, fraud, or coercion to compel another person to engage in a commercial sex act or causes a child to engage in a commercial sex act. Forced labour, sometimes also referred to as labour trafficking, encompasses the range of activities involved when a person uses force, fraud, or coercion to exploit the labour or services of another person.

Furthermore, human trafficking could be in form of trafficking in organs. It can take different forms. For instance, the victim is compelled into giving up an organ. In other cases, the victim agrees to sell an organ in exchange of money/goods, but is not paid (or paid less). Finally, the victim may have the organ removed without the victim's knowledge (usually when the victim is treated for another medical problem/illness – real or orchestrated problem/illness). Illiterates, Migrant workers, and homeless persons, are particularly vulnerable to this form of exploitation. Organ trafficking is an organized crime, involving several offenders; the recruiter, the transporter, the medical staff, the middlemen (contractors), and finally the buyers trafficking for organ trade often seeks to buy kidneys. Organ trafficking is a profitable trade because in many countries the waiting lists for patients who need transplants is very long.

Human trafficking has been identified as a modern day slavery, though illegal slavery and the slave trade were abolished by the Convention, to suppress the Slave Trade since 1926. Slavery as a historical phenomenon has reinvented itself as modern day human trafficking, through illegal means in almost all parts of the World. The commitment of the international community to the eradication of slavery prior to and after 1926, has been proven with the Anti-Slavery Convention of 1926 which was spearheaded by the League of Nations which later become the United Nations (UN). The successor to the League of Nations being the UN, took up the fight to end slavery. This has led to resurface of modern slavery in form of human trafficking. The successful eradication of

slavery in antiquity has been followed by the fight of modern slavery in the form of human trafficking (Morka. 2017). It is acknowledged that trafficking in persons (TIP) is an organized crime which occurs across international, and within national borders (NAPTIP, 2012, Morka, 2017). NAPTIP as an agency has been established to tackle human trafficking issues in Nigeria. It is therefore crucial to assess how they operate in the prohibition of trafficking related issues.

Locally, for instance, Nigerian women and girl victims of trafficking are mainly recruited for sex trafficking and domestic servitude while boys are forced to work on large plantations/commercial farming, construction sites, quarries and mines, or engage in petty crimes and the drug trade. Nigerian victims are taken to other West and Central African countries (Côte d'Ivoire, Benin Republic, Mali, Equatorial Guinea, Cameroon, Gabon and Guinea), as well as to South Africa. Women and girls – primarily from Benin City in Edo state, Nigeria – subjected to forced prostitution are trafficked mainly in Italy but as well in Spain, Scotland, the Netherlands, Germany, Turkey, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Sweden, Switzerland, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Norway, Ireland, Greece and Russia. According to the 2014 trafficking report, sexual exploitation of young women is one of the most persistent trafficking flows of these women from Nigeria to Europe, as it is very well organized and difficult to detect Victims of sex trade and forced labour who are also transported to North Africa (Libya, Algeria and Morocco), the Middle East (Saudi Arabia) and Central Asia (UNESCO, 2006). With the above happenings, NAPTIP have a duty to address these issues using one or two measures, assessing how they carry out their duties is of utmost need, which is what this study intends to ascertain.

The vulnerable populations are the target of human traffickers, they include women and children, especially young girls. They are often lured with promises of employment, education, or a better life,

only to be forced into exploitative situations. Rural Communities; poverty and lack of economic opportunities in rural areas make individuals from these communities more susceptible to trafficking. Traffickers often target these areas for recruitment. Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) are also vulnerable to human trafficking. The displacement caused by conflicts and insecurity in some parts of Nigeria such as the South East (Anambra and Enugu States precisely) has created a vulnerable population at risk of trafficking (Morka, 2017).

There are so many Contributing Factors to human trafficking in South East Nigeria. For instance, high levels of poverty in Southeast Nigeria drive many individuals to seek better economic opportunities elsewhere. Traffickers exploit this desperation by offering fraudulent opportunities. Limited access to quality education in certain areas contributes to a lack of awareness about the risks of trafficking and makes individuals more susceptible. Gender-based discrimination and unequal access to resources can increase vulnerability, particularly among women and girls. Corruption within law enforcement agencies and border control can enable trafficking networks to operate with relative impunity. Certain cultural practices and beliefs may make individuals more susceptible to trafficking, such as the use of child labour in some communities.

In 2000, to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons, especially women and children in the Italian city of Palermo, the Protocol Act was adopted by the United Nations (UN). The protocol which in addition to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNCTOC), an international treaty that was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2000, joins state parties to legislate and act to combat this source crime. In 2001, Nigeria signed and endorsed the Palermo Protocol. The NAPTIP) was founded following the Trafficking in Persons Prohibition Law Enforcement and Administration (TIPPLEA) Act No. 24 of 14th

July, 2003 as amended in 2005 and further re-enacted in 2015(NAPTIP, 2017).

Currently, Nigeria is confronted with the problem of internal human trafficking which poses much risk to victims and the society at large. According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) (2016) report, in 2012 alone, 400 cases of Trafficking in persons were reported to NAPTIP. The database analysis for that year alone shows that: Internal trafficking within the country was 283 of (70.8%) while; external trafficking was 117 of (29.3%). On record, 1749 trafficked persons were rescued both internally and external in the same reporting year. The breakdown of these cases of traffickers shows further that: 381 of the victims were between 0 -17yrs of age, 334 were between the ages of 18- 27yrs while, 34 of the victims were found to be above 28 years old (UNODC, 2016). These calls for urgent need to assess the activities of NAPTIP in prohibition of human trafficking as it has eaten deep into the fabrics of the Nation.

Anambra and Enugu State are two States in the South East zone of Nigeria known for their commercial will power, trading is the mainstream of income in this zone. The people of the southeast are seriously money minded. With the rate of unemployment, insecurity, lack of access to opportunities, low level or lack of education and unfavourable economic conditions, which have struck the region, many people want to move to other countries. They possess the get rich quick syndrome whereby most of the people engage in illegal activities just to make money. The high class are the ones exploiting the lower classes in the zone. Commercial sexual exploitation is prevalent in the southeast where women and young girls are the most vulnerable. They are being preyed on and sold false promises of working in well -paid jobs in the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Italy, Libya, and Lebanon, among others.

When they arrive in these countries, many of them are forced into sex work and their passports are often confiscated by their traffickers. To regain their travel

documents, and especially their freedom, the women are told that they must pay their employers huge sums by engaging in sex work.

The trafficking of many women and girls to various countries where they are forced into prostitution and child labour presents a very disturbing situation occasioned by many young people looking for greener pastures outside the country. Some of them are pushed into it by a lack of financial support and the desperation of wanting to leave the country by all means. They are usually deceived with mouth-watering promises of better working conditions, higher pay and gainful favourable employment, but once they get to their destinations, the picture changes. They are subjected to sexual assaults, robbed of their freedom, locked up in rooms, enslaved by fear and made to swear by voodoo oaths that they would not escape.

The NAPTIP is charged with the following power/responsibilities to enforce and administer the provisions of these Acts;

i. Enforce and co-ordinate all other laws on trafficking in persons and related 1 offences, ii. Thoroughly investigate all cases of trafficking in persons including child labour, forced labour, forced prostitution, exploitative labour , bonded labour, removal of organs, illegal smuggling of migrants, sale and purchase of persons and other forms of exploitation related to slavery and slave-like activities. In reconnaissance of the above duties of NAPTIP in curbing or prohibiting human trafficking, it is pertinent to assess their activities based on how it has influenced victims of human trafficking. This present study intends to focus on the extent to which NAPTIP's awareness creation has impacted victims of human trafficking in Anambra and Enugu States of Nigeria.

There is need to assess the activities of NAPTIP on awareness creation and its impact on the victims of Human Trafficking. Awareness creation refers to the process of educating and informing a target audience about a specific issue, problem, or opportunity to

influence their knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors. It involves disseminating information, engaging communities, and encouraging positive action to address a particular challenge. The NAPTIP was set up to checkmate the irregularities and menace of human trafficking in Nigeria. The Agency creates public enlightenment through seminars, publications, radio and television programs, workshops, and other means of public education on the dangers of trafficking in persons. They establish and maintain communications to facilitate rapid dissemination of information about offences under the Act. They do these through education and sensitization campaigns whereby they educate the public about the dangers of human trafficking. These campaigns often involve media such as radio, television, and social media to reach a wide audience. NAPTIP awareness creation also involves Community Outreach Programs where they work at the grassroots level to engage communities in discussions about human trafficking. This includes working with traditional and religious leaders to raise awareness and prevent trafficking. Awareness Creation as an activity of NAPTIP in human trafficking prohibition also comes in the form of Training and Capacity Building. They provide training to various stakeholders, including law enforcement agencies, civil society organizations, and government officials, on how to identify and combat human trafficking.

In creating awareness, NAPTIP partners and collaborates with other government agencies, NGOs, and international organizations to enhance its awareness and prevention efforts. This includes partnerships with schools, universities, and youth groups to reach vulnerable populations. NAPTIP operates hotlines and other reporting mechanisms for the public to report suspected cases of human trafficking. This helps in identifying victims and apprehending traffickers. Humans are being trafficked for the purpose of labour called 'forced labour'. Forced labour is a situation in which people 4under the threat of violence or some other form of

punishment are forced to work against their freewill; their freedom is restricted and a degree of ownership is exerted. Men and women are at risk of being trafficked for unskilled work, which globally generates US\$31 billion according to the International Forms of forced labour can include domestic servitude, agricultural labour, sweatshop factory labour, janitorial, food service and other service industry labour, and begging. Some of the products that can be produced by forced labour are: clothing, cocoa, bricks, coffee, cotton, and gold.

There is need to create awareness on the menace of human trafficking, how victims can make reports or lay complaints, and the kind of immediate help or attention that will be offered by NAPTIP in rescuing victims and giving them necessary support. Awareness creation is meant to convey the knowledge and skills that will contribute to alleviating poverty, changing livelihoods, improved environment and having a positive effect on the national economy. Awareness creation programme is aimed to prevent the spread of human trafficking and also aims to reduce negative perception of people living with the psychological trauma. The programme is linked to life skills and values such as negotiation, problem-solving and assertiveness. Awareness campaigns, many individuals especially in the rural areas, may still lack awareness of the signs of trafficking and the risks involved. Cultural beliefs and practices can also contribute to lack of understanding. The awareness programme is directed mostly to those considered as high risk individual such as youths who want to make money or changed their living standard in the society. Awareness programme should involves the schools, law enforcement officers, community members and also be aware of the effects of human trafficking, Andrew (2019) stated that traditional migration patterns for work or trade may intersect with trafficking routes. People migrating for economic opportunities can become victims of trafficking if they are deceived or coerced into exploitative situations.

Anambra and Enugu States are States known for a high prevalence of human trafficking, both as a source and transit area. It is a hotspot for trafficking activities. The human trafficking problem in Southeast Nigeria is influenced by a complexity of factors such as lack of awareness creation, lack of vocational skill, lack of counselling services, lack of basic literacy education and inadequate medical care/services. Any nation which lacks the factors listed above are prone to poverty, greed, insecurity, unemployment and they serve as significant drivers of human trafficking in the Zone. Poverty rate, inflation have, insecurity, unemployment issue, which erupts as a result of lack of awareness creation, lack of vocational skill, lack of counselling services, lack of basic literacy education and inadequate medical care/services in a region such as southeast Nigeria has led to increase in human trafficking in the region. These have led to various immoral acts such as kidnapping, prostitution, robbery, picking pocket, extortion of money, many illegal acts and misconducts. Traffickers exploit the scarcity of employment options by offering fake job placements, which often result in victims being forced into exploitative labour conditions and sexual slavery.

Acts of human trafficking has very negative consequences on individuals and the society in general. These acts also involve some well known personal/human risks and strategic/societal risks. The personal risks of human trafficking violate the human rights of its victims; it is degrading and dehumanizing; it results in loss and deprivation of property rights; it results in personal health risks; and ultimately result in death of victims. While the strategic risks of human trafficking incites public sector corruption; and irregular migration. As an organized crime, it can diversify into other types of crimes like drug trafficking and arms smuggling; violence; spread of HIV/AIDs and other diseases; undermines human capital development potential; it promotes money laundering and other financial crimes which 1 can



distort the economy; it also brings about a negative image for the country.

Human trafficking is a crime that affects any, but mostly vulnerable members of the society, especially women and children. Unfortunately, human trafficking is often made possible due to desperate desire of individuals to migrate in search of the proverbial greener pasture. Accordingly, individuals who are more vulnerable are anyone that fit the specific form of exploitation for profit relevant to the designs of the trafficker(s). These individuals might be women for the purpose of sexual exploitation or children for purposes of a worse form of child labour as the trafficker counting on the inability of children to resist control and payment for low to no wages.

The prevalence of human trafficking in Southeast Nigeria remains a pressing concern, with reports indicating a high incidence of trafficking for forced labour, sexual exploitation, and other forms of exploitation. Despite the efforts of NAPTIP in combating trafficking, there is a need to systematically assess the extent certain activities carried out by the agency such as awareness creation, vocational skill acquisition and training, counselling services, provision of basic literacy education and provision of medical care/services has influenced on the victims of human trafficking. Hence the problem of this study is therefore, put in a questions form; to what extent does NAPTIP's awareness creation impacted victims of human trafficking in Anambra and Enugu States, Nigeria?

### **Purpose of the Study**

The purpose of this study was to assess the extent to which NAPTIP's awareness creation has impacted victims of human trafficking in Anambra and Enugu States Nigeria.

### **Research Questions**

The following research question guided the study.

1. To what extent has NAPTIP's awareness creation impacted victims of human trafficking in Anambra and Enugu States?

### **Hypotheses**

The following null hypotheses were formulated to guide the study and they were tested at .05 level of significance:

H<sub>01</sub>: There is no significant difference between the mean responses of NAPTIP officials and victims on the extent to which awareness creation has impacted victims of human trafficking.

### **Human Trafficking**

Trafficking, often referred to as human trafficking, is a severe and illegal practice that involves the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, or receipt of individuals through force, coercion, deception, or other means for the purpose of exploitation. It is violation of human rights and a criminal offense under national and international law. Traffickers seek out individuals who are vulnerable, such as those living in poverty, lacking education, or facing other challenges. They may recruit victims with false promises of employment, education, or a better life. After recruitment, victims are often transported across national or international borders (Balfour, Callands, Okech and Kombian, 2020).

The key element of trafficking is the exploitation of the victims. This can take various forms, including sexual exploitation, forced labour, forced marriage, child soldiering, organ trafficking, or other forms of exploitation that violate the victim's human rights and dignity. Traffickers use various means to control their victims, including physical violence, threats, psychological coercion, debt bondage, and confiscation of identification documents. These tactics are employed to maintain control over the victim and prevent them from escaping. Traffickers engage in these activities for financial gain. They profit from the exploitation of victims, often by subjecting them to deplorable living conditions, long working hours, and minimal or no pay (Bales and Robbins 2015).

Trafficking is a global problem that affects people of all ages, genders, and backgrounds. It is often associated with organized criminal networks that operate across borders. To combat human trafficking,

many countries have implemented laws and established law enforcement agencies, and international organizations and NGOs work to raise awareness, provide support to victims, and promote prevention efforts.

Human trafficking, as defined by international law, particularly the United Nations Protocol known as the Palermo Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, consists of three main elements; the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, or receipt of persons; through threat, use of force, deception, fraud, or other forms of coercion; for the purpose of exploitation, which can include forced labour, sexual exploitation, forced marriage, or organ trafficking (Bassey, 2017).

### **Types of human trafficking**

Human trafficking can manifest in several forms, including; sex trafficking which involves the recruitment, harboring, or transportation of individuals for the purpose of forced prostitution, pornography, or other forms of sexual exploitation. Labour Trafficking which involves the recruitment, and transportation of individuals for forced labour or services, often in sectors such as agriculture, construction, domestic work, and manufacturing. Child Trafficking which encompasses the trafficking of children for various forms of exploitation, including forced labour, sexual exploitation, child soldiering, and child marriage; Forced Marriage which involves the coercion of individuals into marriage against their will, often for financial gain, cultural traditions, or immigration purposes; Organ Trafficking which involves the illegal trade in organs, where individuals may be coerced or deceived into donating organs or having their organs removed for transplantation without their informed consent; debt Bondage which occurs when individuals are trapped in a cycle of debt and forced to work to repay that debt. Debt bondage is a form of labour trafficking. Domestic Servitude which involves the exploitation of domestic workers who are often isolated and

subjected to long hours, low pay, and abusive conditions; Child Soldiering which involves the recruitment and use of children for armed conflict, including as combatants, spies, messengers, or in support roles.

### **Factors Contributing to Human Trafficking**

Several social, economic, and cultural factors contribute to human trafficking:

**Poverty:** Economic vulnerability is a significant factor. Poverty can push individuals to seek better opportunities abroad, making them susceptible to traffickers' false promises of employment and a better life.

**Lack of Education:** Limited access to quality education reduces awareness about the risks of trafficking and limits individuals' ability to make informed choices.

**Unemployment:** High levels of unemployment, particularly among youth, create a pool of potential victims seeking employment opportunities.

**Gender Inequality:** Discrimination against women and girls in access to education, economic opportunities, and decision-making can increase their vulnerability to trafficking.

**Conflict and Instability:** Regions affected by conflict and instability may be particularly prone to trafficking, as displaced populations are more vulnerable to exploitation.

**Cultural Norms:** Certain cultural practices and traditions may normalize practices that contribute to trafficking, such as early marriage or dowry systems.

**Corruption:** Corruption within law enforcement agencies and government institutions can enable traffickers to operate with impunity.

**Demand for Cheap Labour and Services:** The demand for cheap labour and services in various industries, as well as for commercial sexual exploitation, fuels human trafficking.

**Lack of Legal Protections:** Weak or poorly enforced anti-trafficking laws and inadequate victim protection mechanisms create an environment where traffickers can operate with relative ease.

Migration: The movement of people across borders, whether forced or voluntary, can make individuals vulnerable to traffickers who exploit their precarious immigration status.

Efforts to combat trafficking also include international agreements and conventions, such as the United Nations Protocol commonly known as the Palermo protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children. These legal frameworks provide a basis for cooperation among countries to combat human trafficking and protect the rights of victims. Overall,

trafficking is a serious violation of human rights and a criminal offense that involves the exploitation of vulnerable individuals. It is a complex issue that requires international cooperation, legal measures, and awareness-raising to combat effectively.

#### **NAPTIP**

NAPTIP is a law enforcement agency of the Federal Government of Nigeria, established on 4 July, 2003 under the Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Enforcement and Administration Act of 2003 in order to combat human trafficking and other similar human rights violations (NAPTIP, 2022).

NAPTIP is a national concurrence to the international obligation under the Trafficking in Persons Protocol and responds to the need to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons, especially women and children, complementing the United Nations Transnational Organized Crime Convention (UNTOC) (Lamai, 2021). It is one of the agencies under the supervision of the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster management and social development (NAPTIP, 2022).

Since its establishment, the agency have investigated over ten thousand cases of human trafficking and prosecuted about five hundred defaulters (Lamai, 2021). Between 2003 and 2017, they convicted over 331 human traffickers and rescued about 3000 victims from Libya and other places (Olaleye, 2018). Senator Basheer Mohammed took Mrs Imaan Suleiman Ibrahim as the Director General of the National

Agency for over from the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP) in May, 2021 (Eno, 2021). In September, 2021, Senator Basheer Mohammed was replaced by Fatima Waziri-Azi. NAPTIP 4through the advocacy of Women Trafficking and Child Labour Eradication Foundation (WOTCLEF), was established under a federal bill on July 14, 2003 by the Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Enforcement and Administration Act (2003). NAPTIP is mandated to enforce the Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Enforcement and Administration Act (TIPPEA) in Nigeria (Ibenegbu, 2017).

NAPTIP by the help of Director General of the agency, Imaan Sulaiman-Ibrahim requested for more support from the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, EFCC, in their quest to rid the country of human trafficking and its attendant consequences on the image of Nigeria. Since its inception, the agency has had over 331 convictions on human trafficking, as of September 2017 (Eno, 2021). Between 2003 and 2017, over 3000 victims have been rescued by NAPTIP (Eno, 2021). The agency has been at the forefront of rescuing and rehabilitating Nigerians from Libya, with the help of Federal Government, International Office or Migration, and other international organizations, which has gotten a commendation from United States (Ibenegbu, 2017).

#### **Awareness Creation**

Awareness is a process that seeks to inform and educate people about issues with the intention of influencing their attitudes, behaviours and beliefs towards the achievement of a defined purpose or goal. Awareness creation means making people conscious about a problem or issue and making the issue more visible within a community. According to Emeka (2020), about 80-90% incidence of human trafficking cases occur through better offers in the area of good jobs, better living conditions, good business and other means of travelling outside the country and these could be reduced or checked by NAPTIP and other agencies. However, the ignorance of majority of



people on the dangers of trafficking in the country makes them prey to traffickers.

Awareness is directed mostly to those considered as high risk individuals such as students, women, children, youths and the commercial drivers, the majority of the society are guided by ignorance and misinformation about human trafficking, especially those living in rural areas and urban slums. Rinechart (2016) further argued that everyone in the society irrespective of age and class needs the same information about human trafficking, and suggested that education programmes must incorporate this and packaged in such ways as will easily enhance understanding and will be culturally appropriate and convincing to specific audiences. This implies that, while the content, tone and complexity of the message will vary from each audience, the basic information intended to be passed across must be made available.

Also, awareness creation should be designed to inform young people about human trafficking and also enable them to act on the information (Legger 2018). Providing information alone is of limited value and awareness techniques must actively engage young people both intellectually and emotionally (Emeka 2020). Moreover, awareness should also help training, which in turn may lead to action and healthier lifestyle. The author emphasized that when awareness is employed in this manner, information becomes a basis for action. Nzeagwu (2015) opined that extending awareness about human trafficking to the in-school and out-school youths when he argued that behavior change can occur if there is articulated programme of human trafficking.

Awareness creation is very important as far as human trafficking is concerned because education is burdened beyond the school environment. This is necessary because not all school environment and where the out-of-school youths and young adults are left without basic knowledge, their chances of survival could be quite insignificant for instance. Generally, the awareness level of young adults and

out-of-school youths is inadequate and going by the findings made in previous research as reviewed in this work shows that this group population are at very high risk of being attacked by human traffickers if nothing is done to address this situations.

Although, efforts are being made to increase the level of awareness about human trafficking and ways of protecting the citizens, different means are employed to create this needed awareness and disseminate information about human trafficking includes through radio, television (TV), the use of peer pressure, use of National Agency for Prohibition of trafficking in persons (NAPTIP) workers, different security agencies, use of printed materials, use of rallies, campaigns in the public places, workshops and seminars etc. therefore, thus study evaluate the activities of the National Agency for Prohibition of trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP) in Anambra and Enugu States.

## **METHOD**

The research design adopted for this study was descriptive survey design. The population for the study was 507, comprising officials of NAPTIP and victims of human trafficking in Anambra and Enugu States. In Anambra state, the population for the study comprised of 10 officials and 229 victims of human trafficking totaling 239 respondents while in Enugu State, the population for the study comprises of 20 officials and 248 victims of human trafficking totaling 268 respondents. In the two states, Anambra and Enugu States, the total number of officials are 30 while the total number of victims are 477 giving the grand total number of the respondents for the population as 507. The number of respondents was 507 respondents. There was no sampling carried out because the sample was manageable for the use in the study.

A questionnaire constructed by the researchers was used to generate data and analysed using mean and standard deviation. The instrument was directly administered to 507 respondents from the two States with the help of four research assistants. The research

assistants were briefed by the researcher on the conduct of the exercise, during which the research assistants were acquainted with the purpose of the study and how the instrument should be administered and collected. A total 507 copies of questionnaire were administered to the respondents across the two States, only 485 copies of the instrument were correctly filled and returned and used for the study. The return rate was 97.6%. This 485 formed the sample size for the study.

Both mean and Standard Deviation were used to answer the research questions while null hypotheses were tested with z-test-statistic at .05 level of significance and at appropriate degree of freedom. Z-test is applied when the sample size is equal to or greater than 30 to determine whether observed difference of two samples mean is significant actually (Idoko, 2011). The decision rule for interpreting the

results of the research questions was based on the values of the calculated means. The criterion mean of 2.50 was used to reach this decision.

High standard deviation values indicated of extreme scores/hence, unreliable mean. Lower standard deviation values indicated non-existence of extreme scores (hence, reliable mean). For the hypotheses, z-calculated were compared with z-critical values. When z-calculated are equal to or greater than the z-critical values, the hypotheses would be, but the null hypotheses would be rejected if the t-calculated values are less than the critical values, otherwise they were accepted.

## RESULTS

**Research Question 1:** To what extent has NAPTIP's awareness creation impacted victims of human trafficking in Anambra and Enugu States?

**Table 1:** Mean and standard deviation of respondents on the extent to which NAPTIP's awareness creation impacted victims of human trafficking in Anambra and Enugu States.

n=485											
ITEMS		Anambra State n = 229			Enugu State n = 256			Overall			
S/N		Mean	SD	Decision	Mean	SD	Decision	Mean	SD	Decision	
1	I have heard about human trafficking.	3.2	0.21	GE	3.0	0.17	GE	2.9	1.12	GE	
2	I have been taught how to run away from trafficker.	3.3	0.11	GE	3.2	0.04	GE	3.5	1.04	GE	
3	I now know that trafficking is bad.	2.5	0.11	GE	2.5	0.51	GE	3.2	1.11	GE	
4	I know that traffickers lure people to bad behaviour.	3.2	0.01	GE	2.6	0.11	GE	3.4	1.33	GE	
5	Am aware that human trafficking is not a better job for living.	2.4	0.09	GE	3.1	0.12	GE	3.3	1.40	GE	
6	I am aware that human trafficking is an offence.	2.5	0.11	GE	2.7	0.01	GE	3.4	0.33	GE	
7	I know there is reduction in human trafficking through NAPTIP.	2.9	0.33	GE	2.8	0.09	GE	2.6	0.45	GE	

8	I am aware that human trafficking leads to premarital sex among youths.	3.2	0.50	GE	2.7	0.15	GE	2.8	0.24	GE
9	I am aware that human trafficking leads to forced prostitution.	2.6	0.21	GE	3.1	0.11	GE	3.8	0.09	GE
<b>Grand mean</b>		<b>2.8</b>	<b>0.18</b>	<b>GE</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>0.14</b>	<b>GE</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>0.67</b>	<b>GE</b>

From table 1, the grand mean for respondents in Anambra state was 2.8 with standard deviation of 0.18 while the grand mean for respondents in Enugu State was 2.8 with standard deviation of 0.17. This result indicates that the both respondents rated the extent to which NAPTIP carried out awareness creation has impacted on victims of human trafficking in Anambra and Enugu States.

### Hypothesis 1

There is no significant difference between the mean response scores of NAPTIP officials and victims on the extent to which awareness creation has impacted victims of human trafficking in Anambra and Enugu States.

**Table 2: Z-test analysis for hypothesis 1**

State	n	df	$\bar{x}$	SD	z-calculated	z-critical	Remark
Anambra State (Officials and Victims)	229	483	2.8	0.18	0.55	1.96	Not significant (Do not Reject hypothesis)
Enugu State (Officials and Victims)	256			2.8	0.14		

From table 2, z-calculated (0.55) is less than z-critical (1.96). Hence, at .05 significant level and 483 degree of freedom, the mean scores of the respondents so not differ significantly. Therefore, hypothesis one is not rejected as stated, implying that there is no significant difference between the mean scores of NAPTIP officials and victims on the extent to which awareness creation has impacted on victims of human trafficking in Anambra and Enugu States.

### Discussion of Findings

In this chapter, the following were presented under the following sub-headings; discussion of findings,

conclusion, educational implications, recommendations, limitation of the study, suggestion for further research and summary of the study.

The finding from research question one revealed that both respondents rated the extent to which NAPTIP carried out awareness creation influenced victims of human trafficking to a great extent in Anambra and Enugu States. Results from the test of hypothesis further showed that the respondents do not differ significantly from their responses on the extent to which awareness creation has influenced victims on human trafficking in Anambra and Enugu States. The

findings is in accordance with Legger (2018) who observed that awareness creation should be designed to inform young people about human trafficking and also enable them to act on the information. It is also with the view of Emeka (2020) who said that providing information alone is of limited value and he argues that awareness techniques must actively engage young people both intellectually and emotionally. Moreover, awareness should also help training, which in turn may lead to action and healthier lifestyle. The author emphasized that when awareness is employed in this manner, information becomes a basis for action.

### Conclusion

The study concludes that both the respondents rated the impact of awareness creation and vocational skills training to a great extent in Anambra and Enugu States.

### Recommendation

National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP) should partner with non-governmental organisations agencies and other stakeholders in media organisations for awareness creation in order to bring information to the door steps of the citizens about human trafficking.

### REFERENCES

- Andrew, A. B. (2019). Title of the article about migration and trafficking. *Journal Name*, 12(4), 123–145.
- Bales, K. (2012). *Disposable people: New slavery in the global economy* (3rd ed.). University of California Press.
- Balfour, G., Callands, T. A., Okech, D., & Kombian, G. (2020). A qualitative analysis of the intervention experiences of human trafficking survivors and at-risk women in Ghana. *Journal of Human Trafficking*, 8(1), 1–15.
- Bassey, O.U. (2017). *Overview of human trafficking*. A paper presented at the four weeks certified training course for social workers at Benue State University, Makurdi.
- Emeka, P. C. (2020). Engaging youth through participatory approaches to anti-trafficking education. *Journal of Human Trafficking Prevention*, 12(4), 88–105.
- Eno, G. (2018, April 11). 3,500 victims of human trafficking rescued by NAPTIP. *Vanguard News*. Retrieved July 28, 2025, from Vanguard.
- Eno, Gabriel (2018). "3, 500 victims of human trafficking rescued by Naptip - Vanguard News". *Vanguard News*. Vanguard News. Retrieved 13 May 2018.
- Ibenegbu, G. (2017). *Top 10 functions of NAPTIP*. *Naija.ng*. Retrieved July 28, 2025, from Naija.ng.
- Ibenegbu, George (2017). "Top 10 functions of NAPTIP". *Naija.ng - Nigeria news*. Naij.com. Retrieved 12 May 2018.
- Lamai, S. (2021, January 12). *Umar Farouq advocates domestication of TIPPEA in all states* [Press release]. Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development. Retrieved July 28, 2025, from fmino.gov.ng
- Legger, J. (2018). Active learning and emotional engagement in trafficking awareness campaigns. *International Journal of Trafficking Studies*, 5(3), 121–136.
- Morka, G. (2017). *Nigeria winning war against human trafficking-NAPTIP*, Daily sun, Friday September, 12p. 19
- National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP) (2022). *Women's Consortium of Nigeriacommitted to the enforcement of Women and children's rights*". [www.womenconsortiumofnigeria.org](http://www.womenconsortiumofnigeria.org). Retrieved 2022-03-30
- National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons. (2022). *About us: history, mandate*,

*and achievements*. Retrieved July 28, 2025, from official NAPTIP website; see convictions and rescue statistics as of September 2023.

Nzeagwu, A. (2015). *Human trafficking awareness and behavior change among Nigerian youth*. *Journal of Social Change*, 10(2), 45–62.

Olaleye, A. (2018). 331 persons convicted for human trafficking, says NAPTIP. *Punch Newspapers*. Retrieved July 28, 2025, from Punch.

Presidential Media Team. (2020). President Buhari appoints Imaan Sulaiman-Ibrahim as Director-General, NAPTIP [Press release]. The State House, Abuja.

United Nations (2012). *Guiding Principle on Internal Displacement*, United Nations, New York.

WHO (2015). Returning home: forced conscription, reintegration, and mental health status of former abductees of the Lords' Resistance Army in Northern Uganda. *BMC psychiatry*, 9:23.