Information Behaviour, Socio-Cultural Factors and Female Internally Displaced Persons' experiences of, Sexual and Intimate Partner Violence in New Kuchingoro IDP camp, Abuja.

By

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Background

Sexual and Intimate Partner Violence (SIPV) particularly emanating from conflict affected settings and complex emergencies of displacements remains a serious global problem and is regarded as one of the most prominent forms of violence committed by men against women impacting negatively on every sphere of their lives. One in three women experience intimate partner violence (IPV) in forms of rape, sexual harassment, and sexual abuse at some point in their lives, making it one of the most pervasive violations of human rights. This study seeks to explore the information behaviour in terms of need, seeking and use of internally displaced women and girls and the impact of socio-cultural factors on the degree of violence, response and behaviour.

Methods

The study adopted a quantitative research method and semi-structured questionnaire was administered on 306 participants from the general population of 1500 women in the IDP camp. The study adopted the conceptual models of social ecological model and theory of normative behaviour. The social demographic data, information Behaviour scales and degree of Sexual and Intimate Partner violence were measured in percentages. Regression analysis of the information behaviour and the sexual and intimate partner violence and regression analysis of socio-cultural factor scale and sexual and intimate partner violence were carried out.

Results

The socio-demographic result of the research shows that women between 21-25 years are significantly larger than other age group, 58% of these women are employed, 67% are marred, the highest educational level is secondary school education (75%) of which the remaining 25% have primary school education, 75% are living with their husband while 17% are living alone and 8% are still living with their parents. The information need of women in relation to SIPV at the IDP camp is significantly high (67%), however their information seeking behaviour is significantly low (50%), the use of information is significantly low (58%), sexual and intimate violence is significantly high (61%), while socio-cultural factor scale and patriarchal belief scale are significantly very high with 64% and 78% respectively. The regression analysis of Information behaviour and SIPV shows a strong negative correlation which yielded a multiple R value of 0.916 and coefficient of determination R^2 of 0.839 suggesting a variability of 83.9% and p-value of 0.084 suggesting a marginally significant relationship, while regression analysis of socio-cultural factors and SIPV show a strong positive correlation of 0.996 and coefficient of determination R^2 of 0.992 suggesting a variability of 99.2% and p-value of 0.0040 suggesting significant relationship. Therefore, multisectoral programmes and policies aiming to create effective interventions should

be directed toward encouraging their need to seek and utilize information on SIPV correctly and also to influencing their socio-cultural beliefs which is the fulcrum of the behaviours.

Figure 1.1

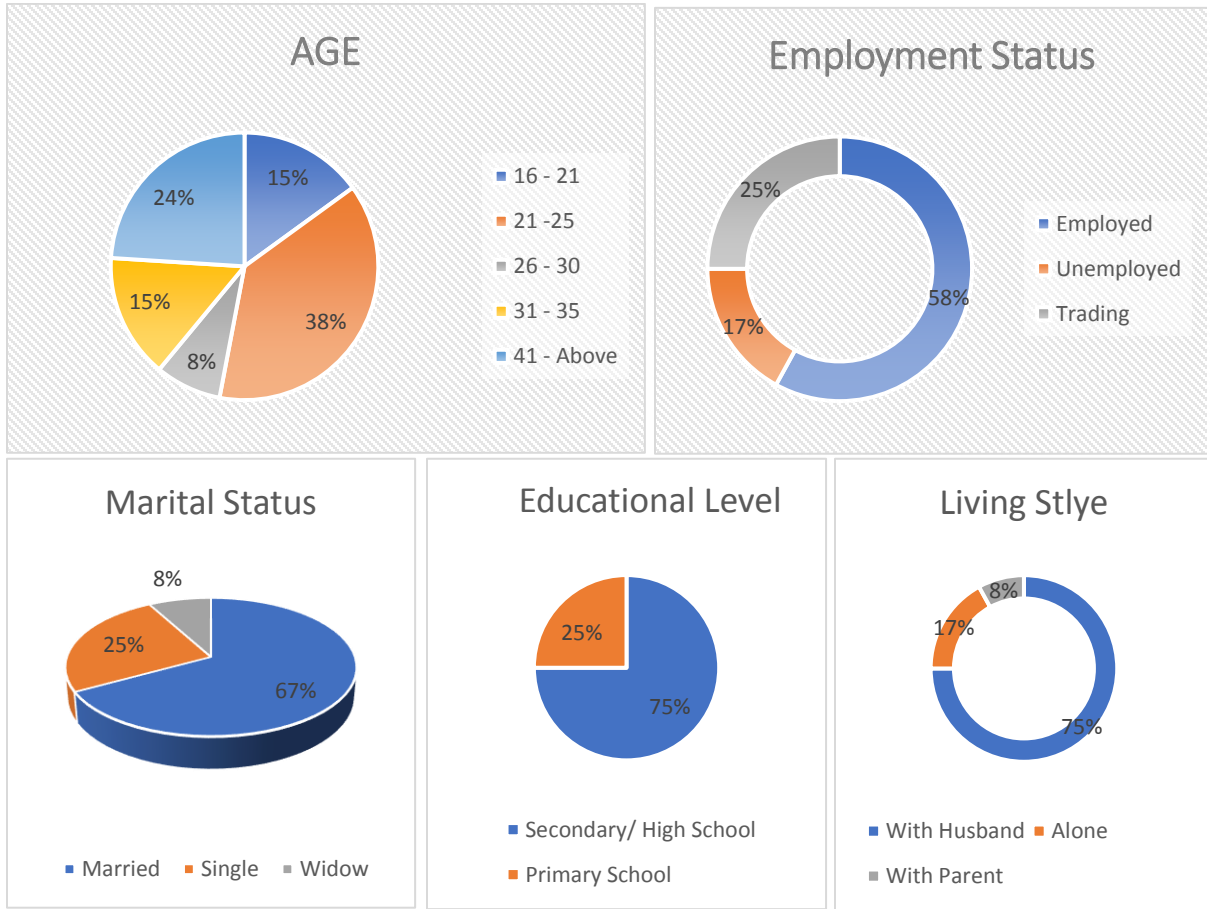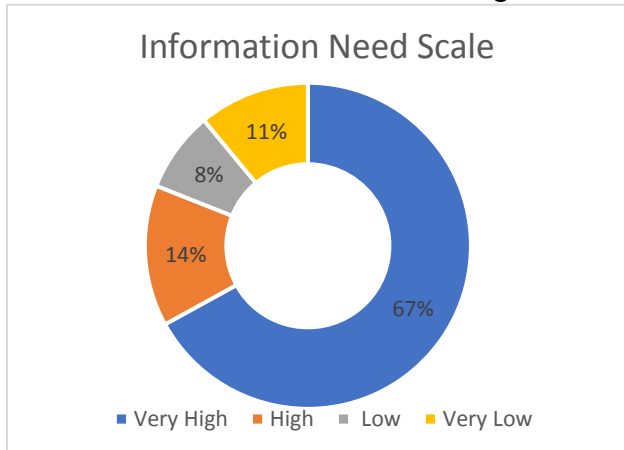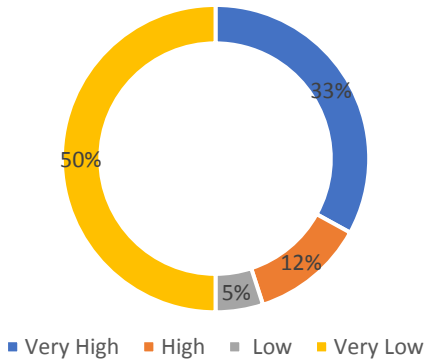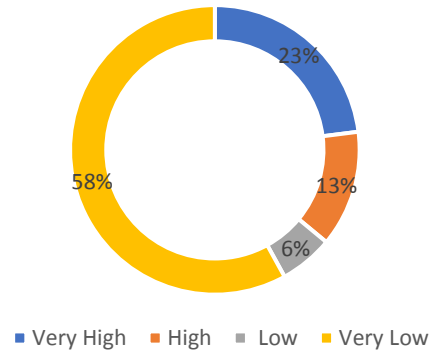Socio-demographic information of women at new Kuchingoro IDP Camp in Abuja

Figure 1.2

Information and Violence Scale among of women at new Kuchingoro IDP Camp in Abuja

Information Seeking Scale

33% Very High
12% High
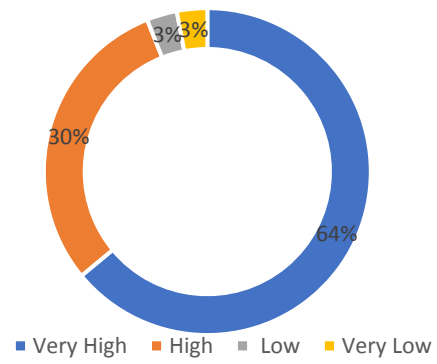5% Low
50% Very Low

Very High · High · Low · Very Low

Information Use Scale

23% Very High
13% High
6% Low
58% Very Low

Very High · High · Low · Very Low

Sexual and Intimate partner violence scale

8% Very High
61% High
27% Low
4% Very Low

Very High · High · Low · Very Low

Socio-cultural factor scale

64% Very High
30% High
3% Low
3% Very Low

Very High · High · Low · Very Low

Cultural Belief Scale

78% Very High
12% High
5% Low
5% Very Low

Very High · High · Low · Very Low

Regression of Information and Sexual and Intimate partner violence (SIPV)

r	-0.916146664
slope	-1.251
intercept	57.2

$y = -1.251x + 57.213$

$R^2 = 0.8393$

(Y-axis: SIPV, values 0 to 70; X-axis: Information behaviour, values 0 to 50)

Regression analysis of Socio-cultural factor and Sexual and Intimate Partner Violence (SIPV)

r	0.995983
Slope	0.894988
Intercept	2.625298

$y = 0.895x + 2.6253$

$R^2 = 0.992$

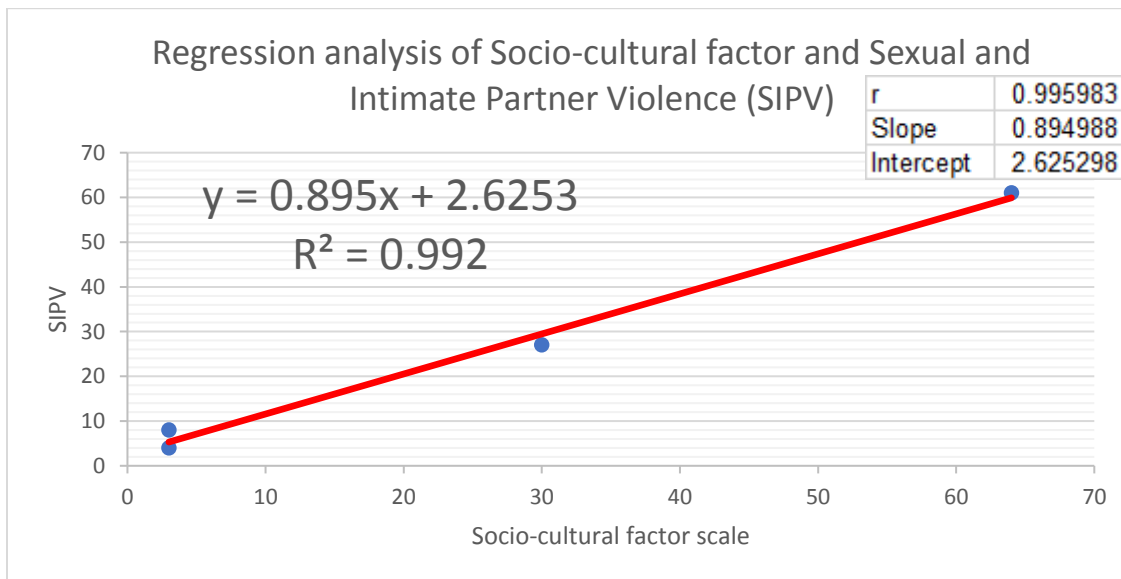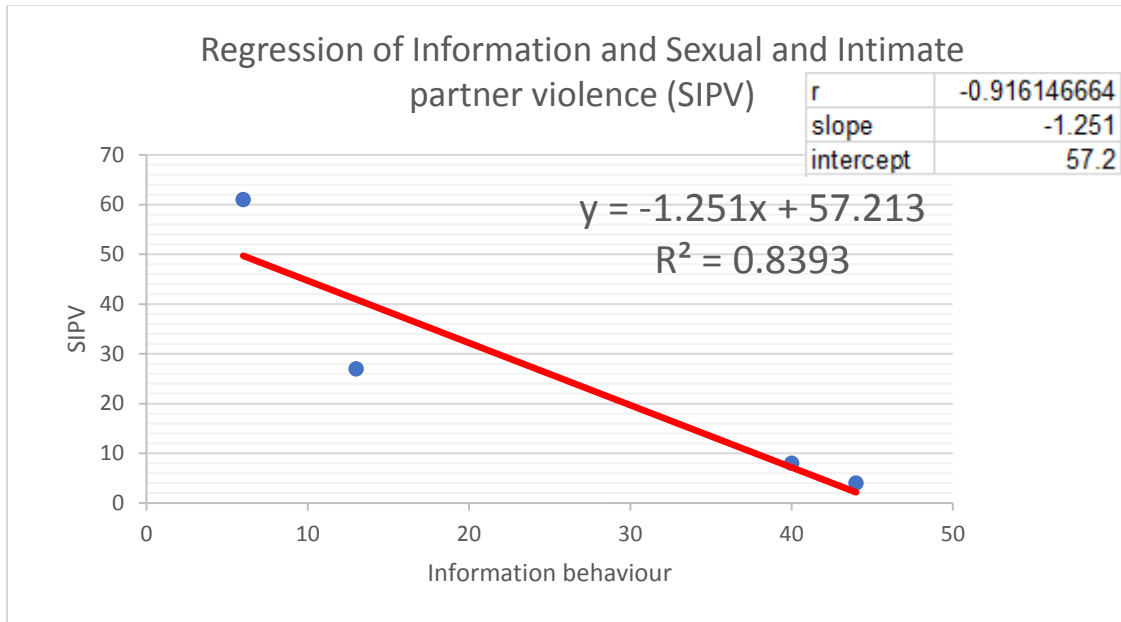(Y-axis: SIPV, values 0 to 70; X-axis: Socio-cultural factor scale, values 0 to 70)

Conclusion

The study revealed that age group, marital status and low educational level of women in IDP camp are indicies that are reflective their information behaviour and pointers responsible for their high level of information deficiecy, low level of information seeking and information use. The overall information behaviour of internally displaced women in new Kuchingoro IDP camp which can be descriebd as low is a major contributing factor that aggravates the occurance of sexual and intimate partner violence engineered by the norms, cultural beliefs and traditions of the community. cultural. Interventions that will support the seeking and use of positive information as well as a cultural shift from the norm will help reduce the incidence of sexual and intimate parnter violence.