

Sexual Violence and Adolescents: Implications for The Mental Health of VVF Victims

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ABSTRACT The paper looked into the traditional practice of early marriage and childbearing as a form of violence against adolescents in Nigeria. The concept of violence was located within the required sexual relationship between the girl-child that was forcefully given out in marriage to a man that is usually old enough to be her father or grandfather leading to early pregnancy for a girl that is not matured enough to undergo the physical and emotional responsibility attached to her new status. The result is that of a girl who experiences Vesico Vaginal Fistula (VVF), a condition afflicting under-aged girls who found themselves in motherhood position. Because of the societal rejection of the girls and their condition, the probable mental status of these girls were examined and recommendation made for possible eradication of this practice.

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