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Trafficking in Women in Nigeria: Poverty of Values or Inequality?

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ABSTRACT The existence of transnational trafficking syndicates is indicative that trafficking in women has become a global scourge. It is a violation of all known canons of human rights and dignity. Unfortunately, there exists little awareness of the ramifications of the phenomenon especially in a developing country like Nigeria. The paper examines the ramifications of this illicit trade in women. Using the In-depth interview method, the author examines the erosion of values within the Nigerian society vis-à-vis the material inequality between the industrialized North and a developing country like Nigeria. Anchoring the analysis on Robert Merton's theory of Anomie the paper concludes that trafficking in women is accentuated by the disparity in income between the industrialized North and the poor South.