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ASSESSING THE INCIDENCES OF KIDNAPPING IN KADUNA STATE FROM 2015-2018: THE WAY FORWARD

IBRAHIM IGNATIUS FELIX RUWAN
Department of Psychology, Nigerian Defence Academy, Kaduna
ruwanfelix@gmail.com.

&

ANDREW E ZAMANI
Department of Psychology, Nasarawa State University, Keffi
zamaning@yahoo.com.

&

DASHIT SAMSON ISHAYA
Department of Psychology, Plateau State University Bokkos
samishaya2003@yahoo.com

&

AUDU GODIYA
Department of Psychology, Nasarawa State University, Keffi
audu-godiya@yahoo.com

&

VAKPAILIYA
Department of Psychology, Nasarawa State University, Keffi.
iliyavakpa@gmail.com.

Abstract

The paper examined the incidences, causes and effects of kidnapping in Kaduna State, Nigeria between 2015-2018. There has been a perceived upsurge of the crime of kidnapping in Kaduna State and this social menace has assumed a worrisome state. This act of criminality is perpetrated by emerging criminal groups as well as individual criminals. This paper having gone through some of the causes of kidnapping in the state; being: unemployment, poor security system, leadership failure, poverty, get-rich-quick mentality, and loss of societal value system, found out that, while the motive of kidnapping differs, most kidnappers in Kaduna State indulge in kidnapping for ransom and its pecuniary gains; that government inability to curb the situation has further escalated the crime. This paper therefore recommends that government should do the following: make kidnapping a high-risk crime, training of kidnapping agents in the state, job creation, non-payment of ransom, monitoring the activities of security agents and intelligence

Synergy and collaboration between inter-security agencies and the community.

Keywords: Agencies, Crime, Kaduna, Kidnapping, Security.

Introduction

Kidnapping is a special type of violence according to Anazomnu, (2016). Defining the concepts precisely poses a number of problems. This is because of variations in a nation's jurisprudence and moral view points as well as the availability of other variances such as hostage taking and hijacking. Akpan (2010) attempted to differentiate between hostage taking, hijacking and kidnapping. Practically, kidnapping involves abduction; it is considered to occur when a person is seized or detained or moved from one place to another against his/her will or a situation in which local authority with the intent to use the abduction in connection with some other evil or wicked objective (Protus,2014).

Generally, kidnapping has come to mean any illegal capture or detention of a person or people against their will regardless of age for ransom. Since 1768 the term "abduction" has always been used in this context. In criminal law, kidnapping is the taking away or exportation of a person against the person in false imprisonment, a confinement without legal authority, this is often done for ransom or in furtherance of another crime [New World Encyclopedia, 2018].

The Nigerian Penal Code (16 Feb, 2017), defined kidnapping as when someone is said to have been sported and held for whether ransom illegally or non-consensually. According to Davidson (2010) a group of human beings armed with guns and cell phones apprehend innocent and unsuspecting victims and drag them to whoever and whenever demanding ransom for different duration of time. The widening scale of insecurity in Kaduna State Nigeria is a cause for concern as all are affected by it. Everyone is worried, presently. Hardly can people pray in worship centres, or travel on highways or farm without being scared of being kidnapped. In fact, the abductees and their families are being traumatized by the ordeal of kidnapping.

Commuters plying the Kaduna-Abuja expressway undergo about two hour trip in a state of fear as the usually busy road is plagued by activities of kidnappers. Most times when their activities are curtailed by security agencies, they resurface, leading to another round of horrendous experience. In fact, there are growing security concerns of kidnapping on the Kaduna-Abuja highway despite the presence of security agencies.

Kidnapping in Kaduna State has become a major feature of urban and highway crime committed largely by high profile elite criminals in the cities and township on one hand and armed robbers/bandits on the other hand. Investigations by Mohammed, (2018), revealed that bandits kidnapped at least 100 people along BirninGwari Kaduna road and demanded 5 million ransoms. According to Agande (2018), two Americans and two Canadians were on Tuesday January, 17, 2018 at about 6.16pm kidnapped in Kaduna State by armed gunmen. Consequently, a member of the lower chamber of the National Assembly, Garba Umar Durbunde was abducted at about 1. 48pm on May 31st 2017 at Jere, along Kaduna-Abuja road. He was released upon the payment of N10 Million ransom. The most audacious of kidnap incidences was when heavily armed Kidnappers blocked the Kaduna-Abuja highway for several hours and kidnapped over 50 persons. No hostage was allowed to leave without paying ransom; some paid as low as N50, 000 only (Abdulrahman, 2017).

Residents of Sabon Gaya community along the Kaduna-Abuja expressway in Chikun Local Government Area of Kaduna State recently appealed to the Federal Government to declare a state of emergency on the highway due to incessant kidnapping of travelers of innocent citizens.
On November 13, 2017 villagers blocked the Kaduna-Abuja highway protesting the killing of the commander of the Civilian JTF in the area HarmaHalilin, by suspected kidnappers. On 21st November 2017 as confirmed by (FRSC, 2017), one ArdoNijiga who was travelling in a commercial bus when armed men suspected to be kidnappers struck at 6.30am at the Sabon Wuse Area along Kaduna-Abuja highway and kidnapped him and later killed him.

Consequently, suspected kidnappers have killed at least 18 people in Rijana, a village along Kaduna-Abuja expressway for providing information to security agencies in January 2018. In fact, three police officers namely Aliyu, Sani and Beli have been arrested for allegedly kidnapping and abductions with one civilian who gives them information.

Recent kidnapping around Kaduna State have turned deadly with the victims either killed or left to die unattended to by the kidnappers. This has heightened fear among residents urban or rural or even travelling along Kaduna-Abuja expressway. There have been a number of high-profiled abductions in recent times in Kaduna State; these included an army officer, Col. SamailaInusa, and one Mallam Mansur Ahmed, a Director with the Dangote Group. And three (3) clerics: Rev. Emmanuel Dziggan, Rev. Yakubu Dzama and Rev. IliyaAnto and one Afolabi Alege. Out of these, only four (4) survived to tell the tale while two of them: Col. Inusa and Rev Anto were not so lucky - they were killed. A chief magistrate court in Kaduna State has remanded the chief of Bugon of kurama Chiefdom of Kaduna State one DaminaKurmi in prison custody for alleged criminal conspiracy of kidnapping. It is sad that the incident of kidnapping in Kaduna State is quite very high, for every high profile kidnapped case that finds its way into the media you have a hundred other cases that are unreported.

The kidnappers are predictably unpredictable. They fish in troubled waters taking away big fishes surrounded by security personnel. Let us take the case of the former Minister of Environment, Mrs. Laurencia Laraba Mallam who was kidnapped along her 73-year-old husband Mr. Pius Mallam along Jere area of Kagarko Local Government Area of Kaduna State; they had police escort.

Another case of kidnap on the Kaduna-Abuja expressway was that of the Sierra Leonean Deputy High Commissioner to Nigeria, Major-General Alfred Nelson (rtd) who was also kidnapped on 02/07/2017; he also had police escort. As a matter of fact, kidnapping has assumed a new height in Kaduna State and in Nigeria at large.

It was recently reported that notorious armed bandits operating along Abuja-Kaduna expressway had kidnapped 87 passengers traveling along the route. The bandits were said to have selected their victims based on appearances. In May 2018, unknown shooters attacked Mangada in BirninGwariLGA of Kaduna State, where they kidnapped the three wives of a famous businessman, AdamuNakwana. Some armed bandits kidnapped 32 passengers along the BirninGwari axis of Kaduna State striping the female passengers naked as they moved them to the bush. In another incidence that took place between Kiryoyi and Maganda villages

in BirninGwariLGA, 25 persons were allegedly kidnapped by the bandits disguised as security operatives at visible "roadblocks".

The concern of this paper is to investigate the possible causes of kidnapping and the corresponding effects it will have on the victims, relatives, the Kaduna community and Nigeria as a country and make suggestions on how possible this menace can be controlled in the society and in Kaduna State Nigeria.

Kidnapping in the United States remains one of the most common crimes in the country. Kidnapping statistics for US adults continue to remain elusive; the crime of kidnapping is not separately recorded by the uniform crime report (US Department of Justice Report, 2001).

In 2010, according to National Crime Information Centre (NCIC) for missing persons file, over 65, 000 individuals were categorized as persons over the age of 21 not meeting the criteria for entry for any category who is missing and for whom there is a reasonable concern for his/her safety.

In 1976 parental kidnapping in the United States stood at 60,000. By 1984, it was between 459,000 and 751,000. In 2010, the US Department of Justice reported 200,000 cases of parental Kidnapping. This comprised both domestic and international abductions. In 1999, an estimated
58,200 children were victims of non-parental abductions. The Federal Government of the US estimated 840,279 missing persons (kidnapped) cases in 2001; 50,000 were classified to be younger than 18. Around 100 cases per year can be classified as abduction by strangers.

According to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, referring to US Department of Justice Reports (2001), about 800,000 persons are reported missing every year and about 2,000 missing persons a day. Around 5% of these are under age 18.

Kidnapping and hostage taking have become an international concern in recent years. Since the mid-1990's. Kidnapping and hostage taking have dramatically increased as a preferred tactics of political terrorism (US Department of Justice Report, 2001). According to police statistics, nearly 2,000 people worldwide have been taken hostage during the last 10 years. However, the actual number of cases could sometimes be higher. Hostage taking and kidnapping could occur anytime and anywhere. It is pertinent to state that the renewed popularity of hostage taking and kidnapping seems a by-product of series of important international development in the war on terrorism. Hostage taking and kidnapping have well served terrorists as a supplement tactics to campaign against coalition forces. Hostage taking and kidnapping have become one of the most valued weapons in the modern terrorist arsenal (Maclyntyre, 2006).

Statement of the Problem

The violent crime of kidnaping is currently a global menace that has kept many residents in Nigeria without sleep as every person: male and female, young and old seems to command some kidnapping value within the country. According to a presidency source, Nigeria recorded 1177 cases of kidnapping in a space of 14 months from 2016 to 2017. While 525 suspects were prosecuted, 652 are still being investigated (Chembio Publishers, 2018). It is

pertinent to state here that the fact that over 1000 persons were arrested as kidnap suspects within such a short time, speaks volume of the extent which the crime has erodes the security fabrics of the country. Kidnapping has taken an alarming dimension and as the incidences of kidnapping increase in Nigeria, various explanations have been adduced including harsh socio-economic conditions, cult group activities, and political rivalries among others with varying degrees of endorsement on one hand and condemnation on the other. In tune with this confusion, law enforcement agencies appear to be at a loss as to the best way to curtail this development.

In a communiqué by Idris (2017), the Inspector General of Police (IGP) attributes increasing rate of kidnappings in the country to weak laws saying the menace could conveniently be brought to a permanent end if the National Assembly comes up with stringent laws. He added that mere parading of suspected kidnappers by his agency without either taking them to law courts for prosecution or possibly sentencing to death had rather boasted the morale of the kidnappers in their nefarious activities. Consequently the IGP also complained of lack of adequate funds which has hindered the reinvigoration of the Police Force Forensic Laboratories. He said that the annual budget is a far cry from the actual requirement to address security challenges, especially violent crimes like kidnapping, armed robbery and terrorism in the country, and to maintain law and order (Yahaya, 2017). He however appealed to the people that the fight against kidnappers was a community fight and that tracking machine has been deployed to state to assist in enhancing the police anti-kidnapping drive (Idris, 2017).

Brief History about Kidnapping in Nigeria

Before Colonial Nigeria, kidnapping was a means of sourcing for slaves to be sold to foreigners. After the abolition of slave trade, kidnapping for rituals continued in many countries and regions in West Africa. Fetish and animist beliefs have allowed such practices especially in Nigeria.

In the recent past, political kidnapping was introduced by the Niger Delta militants who targeted foreigners especially Americans and the British, mainly to draw attention to their plight of environmental degradation caused by oil and gas exploration and production in their environment. The hostages were usually kept for a week and released after a press conference which will be broadcast by CNN and BBC. This trend continued and actually brought the desired publicity to the Niger Delta issues.

Kidnap for ransom started in the Niger Delta when an international oil company was not patient enough for negotiations to go through, went ahead to pay N300, 000 as ransom to release one of their expatriates. The introduction of this large sum of money at that time made the militants rethink the whole process of taking hostages and releasing them after achieving the publicity they desired. They also saw it as a means of financing their arms and ammunition purchase.

Kidnap for ransom proved very lucrative as companies started paying large sums to get their men freed. When the international oil companies re strategized and hardened protection around expatriates and other company employees, the militants turned their attention on high net-worth Nigeria individuals.

The trend continued until the federal government of Nigeria introduced amnesty programme.

The militants surrendered their arms and ammunition and stopped the kidnappings. But it was too late; kidnapping had given birth to copy cats especially in the eastern states down to North Central and has taking over Kaduna State in recent years.

It is a pity that in Kaduna State, road kidnaps have recorded the most incidents; this is because kidnappers prefer to strike where security is weakest, in transit far kidnappers have the capacity to breach security at work sites, farm and residences, when resident kidnap occurs, and it is likely the perpetrators had assistance from an insider.

Theoretical Framework

In criminal law kidnapping is the unlawful taking away or transportation of a person against that person's will, punishable in every country. Consequently, kidnapping can also be seen as false imprisonment in the sense that it involves the illegal confinement of individuals against his own will by another individual in such a way as to violate the confined individual's right to be free from the restraint of movement. This involves taking away of persons against the persons will, usually to hold the person in false imprisonment or confinement without legal authority.

Theories have been put to explain kidnapping within Kaduna State and Nigeria as a whole.

Economic Theory of Kidnapping

It is pertinent to emphasize that economist and researchers across the globe have applied economic theory of kidnapping to describe hostage negotiation as a bilateral monopoly price negotiation. This implies that a hostage has only one seller i.e. the kidnapper and exactly one buyer i.e. either the employer or family of the hostage. The market situation is similar to a monopoly where the seller (kidnapper) gets to charge any outrageous price he wishes. This means that there is no market price or going price established for the hostage. This also implies that there is no fixed price one group of kidnappers may settle for a higher price other kidnappers may settle for a lower/less price. It is the family of the hostage that will have to deal with these kidnappers (cheap/expensive); the family has no any realistic alternative means to secure the release of the hostage and so the only price that matters is the one being demanded in the current situation.

It is important to also note that there is only one buyer. The market structure resembles a monopsony, unlike other markets (I phone market) where the seller knows that he will always have many buyers, a kidnapper never has this reassurance. If for some reasons the family of the hostage declines to pay the ransom, the kidnapper has nowhere to turn since there is no way other person/buyer except the single buyer. In this kind of a market, the two price determinants are the willingness to accept failure and the capacity to pay. In this case therefore, it is important to note that the party that is more willing to accept failure i.e. which appears to be more willing to walk away from the transaction has more bargaining power. Those who are able to pay more have less bargaining power. This is one of transportation that all depends on the bargaining power of each party, eventually for a happy ending both parties

need to negotiate and cooperate by giving up something. The kidnapper has to give up the hostage and the employer or family has to give ransom.

Political Theory of Kidnapping

From the political perspective, kidnapping is seen as a political tool which is motivated by the attempt to suppress, outsmart intimidate and subjugate political opponents. Awunah (2015) posited that the menace of kidnapping in the country started in the Niger Delta where it was politically motivated or used as another pattern of agitation. The crime gained national prominence because of the ransom paid in exchange for the release of the victim. Nyam (2016) argued that kidnapping was seen as a political tool by the youth of the Niger Deltans where militants wanted both national and international attention. For example in 2011 election one Dr. Jahalil Abubakar Tafawa Balewa leader of one of the many groups campaigning for the then President Good Luck Jonathan was abducted in his office in Abuja by four (4) armed men. Dr. Tafawa Balewa who had been rescued from the pangs of the kidnappers had reportedly made arrangements to pay N7million ransom of the N100 million demanded by them.

Furthermore, the Anambra State born former Central Bank Governor, Prof. Charles Soludo who then was PDP gubernatorial candidate, had his father kidnapped by the aggrieved opponents of the same party who felt marginalized by the PDP political process.

It was Turner (1998) as cited by Nsarebisi (2009) who established the relationship between "money and politics". He said that where there are political motivations for kidnapping that ransom is also demanded. Such ransom, according to him, is often used to further the political objectives of the kidnapping organizations or simply to facilitate the survival of the organization.

Nsaebasi (2009) in his treatise stated that the most top kidnapping operations are masterminded by government officials, opposition groups and unrewarded, uncompensated members of election rigging militant groups and many others.

Kidnapping is then seen as instrument for political vendetta and settling of political scores. The operation is organized and targeted mainly at key serving politicians or foreign workers or contractors working directly for government once the victim is kidnapped, a high negotiation is expected which will ultimately lead to a very heavy ransom, and such a ransom will be used to further political goals, self-settling of aggrieved groups or a way of financially crippling a serving politician.

Social Learning Theory of Kidnapping

Fundamental Learning Theory suggests that behavioral patterns are acquired by links (contingencies) established between the behavior at its consequences. When behavior is followed by desired results (reward) that behavior is reinforced (made more likely) on the other hand, when behavior is followed by undesirable or aversive consequences that behavior is punished (made less likely). Social Learning Theory is a simple extension of this basic idea, suggesting that behavior as (aggression) is learned not only through one's direct experience, but also through observation of how such contingent can occur in one's environment. Some

have referred to this as vicarious learning. In this model, aggression is viewed as learned behavior. Accordingly, it is agreed that through observation people learn consequences for the behavior, how to do it, to whom it should be directed, what provocation justifies it, and when it is appropriate. If aggression is a learned behavior, then kidnapping a specific type of aggression can also be learned.

Psychoanalytic Theory of Kidnapping

The most widely recognized theory that addresses the root of all forms of violence is the psychoanalytic model. Despite its influence on writers in the political, sociology history and criminology literature, this model has weak logical theoretical and empirical foundation (Beek,2002). Freud viewed aggression more generally as an innate and instinctual human trait which most should outgrow in the normal course of human development. A later development in Freud's theory was that humans had the energy of life force (Eros) and death force (thanatos) that sought internal balance. Violence was seen as the displacement of thanatos from self and onto others. A member of more narrow violence–related theories have drawn on psychoanalytic concepts and ideas, but none are widely regarded as psychoanalytic theory of violence.

Frustration-Aggression Theory of Kidnapping

The link between frustration (being prevented from attaining a goal or engaging in behaving and aggression) has been viewed as the master explanation for understanding the cause of human violence. The basic premise of the Frustration Aggressive (FA) hypothesis is twofold. 1. Aggression is always produced by frustration; and 2. Frustration does not inevitably lead to aggression. Sometimes, for example, it results in problem solving or dependent behaviors. And aggression is known to occur even in the absence of frustration. Thus, it is not reasonable to view frustration alone as a necessary and sufficient causal factor. In an important formulation of Frustration-Aggression hypothesis, Berkowitz (1989) posited that it was only aversive frustration that would lead to aggression. The newly proposed progression was that frustration would lead to aggression. Whileresearch findings have been, at time inconsistent, it is reasonable to conclude that aversive stimuli doesfacilitate, but probably not instigate aggressive behavior (Tedeschi and Felson, 1994).

Causes of Kidnapping in Kaduna State

Unemployment

An idle mind, they say, is the devil's workshop. When the youths become idle, they usually resort to all manner of activities. It is unfortunate that youth joblessness and unemployment in Kaduna State is one of the root causes of the high number of kidnapping cases in Kaduna State. Kaduna State has a very high rate of unemployment and the rate keeps growing every day. This is one of the major reasons why many Kaduna State youth have picked up kidnapping as an avenue to generate money which they will use to establish themselves in the society. This higher rate of unemployment among the youth, especially in Northern Nigeria and Central belt of Nigeria like Kaduna State and neighboring states, have also been exploited by politicians and the so-called big men who employ the youths as political thugs and henchmen, well-armed during election, when they are disbanded during election these youths who have been weaponries turn to kidnapping as a means of earning a living.

It was Okoro (2010) who stated that it is no longer news that the unemployment factor in Nigeria with its alarming increasing rate is among the country top five headaches. Unemployment has succeeded massively in pouring into the minds of its victim's bright but negative thoughts and ideas on how to make fast cash by ignoring all cautions. Today, the newest idea seems strongly to be kidnapping. So far, the list of victims has grown so high. It becomes less difficult to predict the future from here. In an interview after his release, a victim of kidnapping identified his kidnappers as "young graduates who did not have employment and were looking for how to survive."

Poor Security System

It is pertinent to state that there is a serious security deficit in the Kaduna State. It is a pity that the Kaduna State Governor who is the Chief Security Officer of the state and who in synergy with the federal government has the exclusive power over security matters in the state seems not to be in control of security. The number of killings, clashes between herders and farmers and kidnapping and hostage taking is on the increase. It was Abubakar (2017) who clearly stated that security agents especially the police were found of leaking intelligence shared with them. He made this allegation when General DanbazauAbdulrahama Minister for Interior visited a community (Rijana village) along Kaduna-Abuja expressway. He said this had made the people not to trust security personnel with any information.

He argued that in the process of giving information and sharing intelligence with the police, "we have lost eighteen (18) people in our community". He continued, "there was one of us who was seen as a very brave man; he gave a list of suspected kidnappers to the security agents and three days later, he was stabbed to death in the presence of his wife."

Three police officers and one man have been arrested for allegedly kidnapping and abducting people in Kaduna State. And the policemen are Aliyu, Sani, Beli and a civilian who allegedly gave information to the policemen.

Loss of Societal Value System

It is a pity that most youth in Kaduna State have mortgaged the culture of respect, love for human lives, hard work, friendliness and receptiveness to strangers in exchange of the Western culture and lifestyle. These have given rise to modern crime and social evil destroying the core value of our society. Onovo (2009) attribute the rising crime in the state and the country to the celebration of fraudsters by leaders. He frowned at the appointment of persons indicted of corruption as head of parastatals and political appointees of government at different levels.

Leadership Failure

Increase rate of kidnapping and other criminal activities is a direct consequence of failure of leadership. In fact, there has been a perceived sense of leadership failure at all levels both at the local governments level and at the state level. The Political leadership is too engrossed with issue of power acquisition because of their selfish tendencies which negate the responsibilities expected of them. These present group of leaders give little or no value to matters of government and nationhood and pay no attention to matters concerning the dignity of lives of the people. The primary responsibility of government is to protect lives and property of her citizen and provide for the welfare of the people. Kaduna State today has

become the den of kidnappers been exploited by politicians and the so-called big men in our society who employ them and arm them.

Get-Rich-Quick Mentality

A wise man once said that the love of money is the root of all evil. In Kaduna State today the mentality of get rich quick or die trying prevails, especially among the youths. This is the kind of mentality that usually leads individuals to go into kidnapping and they can even kill a fellow human being for rituals to make money as quick as possible. These kinds of individuals prefer to make money today by any means possible and don't really care about any consequences that may arise tomorrow as a result of their activities. This high quest for money which is akin to greed and avarice has made many Kaduna State youths impatient for quick bucks to take kidnapping as a form of business. This is usually accompanied by other criminal activities such as armed robbery, electoral thuggery, etc.

Poverty

Poverty is one of the major driving forces that usually push people to go into the act of kidnapping. The effects of poverty in a particular population cannot be overemphasized. Poverty and impoverishment is on the increase in Kaduna State. In fact, most families cannot afford one square meal. Poverty and lack over a long period of time usually leads to frustration, depression and a feeling of helplessness, for some people to accept to go into kidnapping when the carrot of easy money is dangled before them. As such, a poor man needs money to keep life going and because of that can easily be convinced to venture into the field of kidnapping to make money to be able to provide for himself and his family.

There have been recent reports about certain very wealthy individuals who are kingpins in the "business" of kidnapping in the South East region of Nigeria who recruit those who are very poor in the society to work for them as kidnappers. Whenever they carry out operations successfully, they are then rewarded handsomely. The large "profit" that is usually made is the major incentive in this kind of situation.

Corruption

Corruption is another major reason why the illicit business of kidnapping thrives in Kaduna State. According to transparency International in the year 2017 Nigeria was ranked 148 out of 180 on the list of the most corrupt nations of the world.

That is to say that Kaduna State which is part of Nigeria is equally corrupt. The members of the political class in Kaduna State and Nigeria as a whole are known for rampart embezzlement of the public funds for their individual or personal use. Because of the level of embezzlement of public funds perpetuated by politicians, some youths in a bid to get their own share of the proverbial "national cake", are compelled to kidnap members of the political class by demanding that they pay hefty ransoms. Also, because corruption is very high and has become a culture in the country, men now see kidnapping as more of a game and nothing bad. This concept adds to the increasing number of kidnapping in Kaduna State. This is evident by the kidnapping activities in the state where high-profile politicians and their relations are kidnapped.

Illiteracy

Illiteracy is the inability to read or write. When people can read and write, they gain knowledge that can help them in life and they are not easily persuaded or misled, their knowledge will help them to understand the core consequences of a particular action. The kidnapping carried out by some persons especially members of the Boko Haram Sect are caused by illiteracy. These men are fed with false information by their leaders and that is why they risk their lives and go as far as taking very high risks to kidnapping. They are told that if they will die through kidnapping, they inherit the kingdom of heaven.

The Kidnapping activities in Kaduna State is to an extent been influenced by level of illiteracy of the people. They are easily influenced by criminal and radical ideologies and misleading information that easily is enticing but dangerous. They easily get persuaded to join kidnapping for ransom with little or no knowledge of the consequences.

Greed

Some want to own everything in the world. When people are not contented with what they have, they may turn to crime of kidnapping to make more money.

A wicked business man can kidnap his business rival to take some money from him and become richer. There have been reported cases of kidnapping in Kaduna State and other part of the country which was influenced by greed, where a father arranged and kidnapped his son who was living with his younger brother, that was well-off. A woman was arrested when she arranged to get herself kidnapped in order for her husband to pay a ransom which she will collect and share with her accomplice. Just in April 2018 a reported case of a Lagos Chief (Baale) made the headlines when security agents found that the Chief actually faked his kidnap. He concluded with his brother to report the case of his kidnap to the police and asked the market in his area to close down while he took off to hide in plain sight in Ibadan about 100 kilometers away.

Politics

Some thugs who are sponsored by politicians arrange for the kidnapping of their opponent; sometimes they do this so that their opponents will make concessions or change their votes on the issue. Some kidnap activities in Kaduna State were politically motivated. Some prominently high-profiled politicians that were in the past kidnapped were politically influenced by political opponents.

Lack/Absence of Adequate Laws to Deal with Kidnappers

The absence of adequate laws that are supposed to facilitate the prosecution of criminal cases including kidnapping has led to the proliferation of the activities of kidnappers in Kaduna State. The judiciary should come up with special courts that will judiciously deal with kidnap cases, where there is a speedy dispensation of justice on kidnap cases, where those found guilty are severely punished by reforming and rehabilitating the behavior of kidnapping.

Effects of Kidnapping in Kaduna State

The effects of Kidnapping in Kaduna State will be discussed from the dimension of the victim and the dimension of its impact on the state. The effects of Kidnap on the Victim have serious consequences on the victim. In fact, the motive of kidnap determines how the victim is treated.

When kidnap is carried out with either terrorist, political, or ransom reasons, there may be physical torture and threat of being killed. It is sad to note that kidnap places her victims under psychological pressure just same with those that experience trauma. The shock of unprecedented events, the sudden realization of being held captive load their mind with trauma-inducing thoughts. Kidnappers threaten their victims in order to compel them to give certain details about their loved ones, family members or employers so that calls can be put across them for ransom. These victims are sometimes beaten, tortured and even threatened with death or with threat of even cutting very important parts of their body. After these victims/hostages gain freedom, they come up with serious psychological problems with symptoms of disturbing recurring flashbacks, numbing of memories of the event, hyper arousal, stress reactive, intrusive thoughts, denial, impaired memory, helplessness and hopelessness. Some of these psychological effects of
kidnapping on the victims are as follows:

Psychological Stress and Trauma

The traumatic experience that the victims of kidnapping in Kaduna State undergo usually leaves an indelible mark on them that lasts a lifetime. This has a negative psychological effect, especially in children. In fact, in most cases it leads to depression, anxiety and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) which unfortunately has a long-lasting effect. As a matter of fact, the case of a 100-level cadet of the Nigerian Defence Academy Kaduna who was kidnapped along Mando, Kaduna - BirninGwari expressway after spending three (3) days in the kidnappers' den and ransom paid by his mother to secure his release came back traumatized and insisting to leave the academy. It took the grace of the psychologist and counselors in the battalion line to calm him back to studies and training.

Psychological stress and trauma could be so damaging to victims and is by far the most negative effect of kidnapping. This is because those who become depressed and traumatized as a result of being kidnapped they sort to become incapacitated and their productivity level is greatly diminished.

Social Effects

The victims of kidnap dissociate from social group relationships, avoid anything or any person that reminds them of the event; they are easily irritated and readily deny knowledge of what had actually happened. They show extreme stress and become impulsive.

Economic Effects

The high rate of kidnappings in certain areas of Kaduna State and the country has made such areas high-risk zones for foreigners. The number of investors that are supposed to invest in the state have reduced drastically. Many big-time farmers in the state have been scared away by the activities of kidnappers and there were instances where expatriates in construction

firms in the state working on projects had to abandon work for fear of being kidnapped. All these had reduced foreign investments for the state.

Torture and Rape

Kidnappers in Kaduna State sometimes choose to torture and rape their victims so that they can force money out of their relatives. Most women who were kidnapped after gaining freedom while explaining their ordeal that they were raped for the period of time in captivity. In fact, the experience of rape after the release of the victim is excruciating and painful. Victims can/might be infected with incurable diseases.

Conclusion

The menace of kidnapping in Kaduna State specifically kidnapping for the purpose of collecting ransom has become a very serious problem and a cause for concern among the citizenry. It has reached the extent that it calls for urgent attention and immediate measures by government to curbing the problem. One of the major ways that this can be done is by introducing laws that will mete out stringent punishment on the perpetrators. Consequently, there should be a means of fast tracking cases that involve kidnapping.

It is pertinent to observe here that, worried by the increased and rampancy of the incidences of kidnapping in Kaduna State, there has been considerable progress made in this regard as could be seen by actions taken by the Kaduna State Governor, His Excellency Mallam Nasiru El-rufaiin collaboration with the police authority where bold measures were taken to clear the activities of kidnappers by providing patrol vans to all the security agencies in the state.

The state Governor also budgeted N1.5 billion for the procurement and installation of CCTV cameras for monitoring and surveillance towards reducing criminal activities within the Kaduna metropolis.

Similarly, the Kaduna State Governor has also budgeted N193 million for procurement of geo-position interceptor and location of GSM Unit System to check the trends and intercept/locate kidnappers' GSM calls. And another N265 million for procurement of Drones/unmanned Aerial vehicles (UA) to identify location of kidnappers and armed robbers in forest reserves across the state and the establishment of a Forensic Laboratory to assist in determining substantial evidence in cases that proved difficult in the past.

It is pertinent to state that in the 2017 budget alone the Kaduna State Governor allocated N2.6billion to support return of Federal Security Agencies in Kaduna State with communication and logistics and material with the increase focus on the threat posed by kidnappers in Kaduna State, especially the deployment of 90 patrol vehicles to patrol the 200 kilometers Kaduna-Abuja-Zaria highway. It is expected that activities of these criminals will reduce but until road users of these dangerous highways jitter the duration of the farming (Vanguard 24/06/2017. 3.09Am)

Recommendations

Government should make kidnap a high-risk crime and a low-reward adventure. It is sad to make the point that Kidnapping in Kaduna State is a low-risk crime and a high-reward adventure.

Kaduna State government must change the trend by making kidnap a high risk and a low venture.

The criminal justice system must be strengthened and effective to arrest, prosecute and give stiff-jail sentences; this will serve as deterrent to those thinking or planning an adventure in Kidnapping.
There must be trust synergy collaboration and confidentiality of identity in intelligence gathering.

Job creation and generation for the citizenry especially the youths of Kaduna State will promote the fight against crime. When the people are gainfully employed and engaged, they would not need to commit crimes.

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