

**NATURE AND PREVALENCE OF ELDERLY ABUSE AND NEGLECT IN KANO MUNICIPAL  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF KANO STATE, NIGERIA**

**MOHAMMED MUSTAPHA NAMADI (Ph.D)**

**Department of Sociology  
Federal University Kashere,**

**Gombe State - Nigeria**

**Phone Number: 08033138920; 08050919140**

**Email: mmmnamadi2@gmail.com**

**Abstract**

*Elder abuse is increasingly becoming a matter of global concern in both developed and developing countries. The aim of this study is to explore the nature, and prevalence of elder abuse and neglect in Kano Municipal Local Government Area of Kano State, Nigeria. A sample size of 240 elderly people aged 60 and above was drawn from Kano Municipal Local Government Area of Kano State, using a multistage and purposive sampling techniques. The data were collected using questionnaire; and analyzed using Statistical package of Social Sciences (SPSS). The findings of the study revealed that the most occurring type of abuse among the female respondents was being isolated, then followed by denial of basics, and material abuse. The male respondents experienced more psychological, emotional and verbal abuse than the female respondents. Men were found to be suffering more from psychological, emotional and verbal abuse compared to women. It also showed that most of the respondents who had faced one type of abuse had faced other form of abuse too. The study has identified economic and emotional dependence of the abused as the major factor responsible for elderly abuse in Kano Municipal Local Government Area of Kano State. It recommends that, government should expedite action on the formulation and implementation of National Policy on Ageing in Nigeria in order to help address the challenges faced by elderly persons who are predisposed to abuse.*

**Keywords:** Elderly abuse, Psychological abuse, Financial Abuse, Emotional abuse, Neglect, Physical Abuse

**Introduction**

Elder abuse as an act developed or commissioned to inflict harm directly or indirectly on an elderly person to reduce his or her self-worth and self-esteem (Cooper, Selwood, and Livingston, 2008). Abuse may be described as physical, sexual, psychological or financial. It may be intentional or unintentional or the result of neglect. It causes harm to the older person, either temporarily or over a period of time. (Social Services Inspectorate of the UK Department of Health 1993)

Bonnie (2003) however, defines elderly abuse as “intentional actions that cause harm (whether or not harm was intended), or create a serious risk of harm to an older adult by a caregiver or by other person who stands in trust relationship to the elder, or failure by a caregiver to satisfy the elder’s basic needs or to protect the elder from harm”. WHO (2010) posit that elder abuse can take many forms including physical, financial, psychological, sexual abuse and neglect. This paper conceptualizes abusive actions to include aggressiveness; rough handling, yelling in anger; threats; punching, slapping, kicking, hitting; and speaking in a harsh tone, cursing or saying harsh or mean things to an elderly person.

Elder abuse is a serious human rights violation that requires urgent action (WHO, 2002a). It is also a major public health problem that results in serious health consequences for the victims, including increased risk of morbidity, mortality, institutionalization, and hospital admission, and has a negative effect on families and society at large (Baker, 2007; Dong X, 2013; Lachs, 1998). Despite the severity of its consequences, major gaps remain in estimating the prevalence of elder abuse. Understanding the magnitude of elder abuse is a crucial first step in the public health approach to prevent this type of violence WHO, 2002b).

Knowledge of the prevalence of elder abuse and its predictors in sub-Saharan Africa is still low mostly because of the stigma associated with the phenomenon and its hidden nature and lack of consensus on the age at which old age begins between different societies (Ferreira and Lindgren 2008). There are no reliable data in Kano Municipal Local Government Area on the prevalence and incidence of elder abuse and neglect. In fact, it is hidden by older people, their families and communities to a large extent. Elder abuse and neglect are difficult to quantify as these occur in the privacy of the home. The purpose

of the study was to explore the nature and prevalence of abuse of the elderly in domestic setting in Kano Municipal Local Government Area of Kano State, Nigeria. The study focuses on elderly abuse by family members and other caregivers in the home setting.

### **Literature Review**

There is considerable evidence that, the human society is the site of some of the most persistent social problems including elderly abuse (Andersen and Taylor, 2001). Elderly abuse is not a new phenomenon world-wide (Perel-Levin, 2008), as millions of older adults are abused, neglected, or financially exploited each year globally (Acierno, Hernandez, Amstadter, Resnick, Steve, Muzzy, and Kilpatrick (2010). The detection of forms of elderly abuse is not an easy task due to the complex nature and a myriad of problems its pervasive social reality. That is, it has been argued that, in most cases elderly victims are often unwilling to report their abuse for fear of others' disbelief, fear of loss of independence, fear of being institutionalized, fear of losing their only social support and fear of being subject to future retaliation by the perpetrator(s) (Acierno, Hernandez-Tejada, Muzzy, and Steve, 2009; Comijs, Pot, Smit, Bouter, Jonker, 2009) carried out a research in Netherlands on "Elder Abuse in the Community: Prevalence and Consequences". The results showed that 1-year prevalence of elder abuse was 5.6%. The prevalence of the various types of elder abuse was: verbal aggression 3.2%, physical aggression 1.2%, financial mistreatment 1.4%, and neglect 0.2%. Most of the victims reported emotional reactions immediately after the abuse.

Compton, Flanagan and Gregg (1998) conducted research on "Elder Abuse in People with Dementia in Northern Ireland. The results showed that Abuse was elicited in 37% cases; 10.5% of the respondent had experienced physical abuse and 34% of them had experienced verbal abuse. None of the respondents reported neglect as a form of abuse.

It is therefore evident that the elderly are facing different kinds of abuse all over the world. Studies have indicates that elder abuse exists across different cultural contexts, although prevalence rates vary considerably in studies and countries (Cooper, Katona, Finne-Soveri, Topinkova, Carpenter, and Livingston, 2006; Cooper, Selwood and Livingston, 2008; and Sooryanarayana, Choo and Hairi, 2013). Cooper, Selwood and Livingston, 2008), in a systematic review of forty nine elder abuse studies, noted that the prevalence of abuse reported by the general population studies ranged from 3.2 to 27.5 percent. Over 6 percent reported abuse during the last month and 5 percent of couples reported physical violence. A quarter of older people dependent on caregivers reported significant psychological abuse, while a fifth reported neglect. In a review of twenty six studies Sooryanarayana, Choo and Hairi (2013) noted the lowest reported prevalence rate of abuse in the community was 1.1% in the United States (Fulmer, Paveza, Abraham and Fairchild, 2000) while the highest rates were found in Spain with suspicion of abuse<sup>3</sup> at 44.6% (Pérez-Cárceles, Rubio, Pereniguez, Pérez-Flores, Osuna, and Luna, (2009). However, other studies in both countries provided different results with Acierno, Hernandez, Amstadter, Resnick, Steve, Muzzy, and Kilpatrick (2010) in the US reporting a prevalence rate of 11.4 percent and Garre-Olmo, Planas-Pujol, Lopez-Pousa, Juvinya, Vila, and Vilalta-Franch, (2009) reporting 29.3 percent in Spain.

Most studies show that women are significantly more likely to have experienced abuse than men as found in a British random probability sample of 2,111 people aged 66 and older (Biggs, Manthorpe, Tinker, Doyle, and Erens, 2009). Chokkanathan and Lee (2005) found that women were significantly more likely to experience verbal and physical abuse and neglect when compared to men. Naughton, Drennan, Lyons, Lafferty, Treacy, Phelan and Delaney, 2012) noted that women were more likely to experience interpersonal and financial abuse than men and Tobiasz-Adamczyk, Brzyski and Brzyska (2014) in a Polish study found that women identified themselves as the victims of violence and more often showed depressive symptoms, whereas men more often than women reported feeling social loneliness and low levels social support. Amstadter, Zajac, Strachan, Hernandez, Kilpatrick, and Acierno (2011) and Acierno, Hernandez, Amstadter, Resnick, Steve, Muzzy, and Kilpatrick (2010), on the other hand, found that gender differences were not significant in elder mistreatment.

Numerous studies have identified significant relationships between depression and elder abuse. Dong, and Simon (2008) found that depression was associated with elder abuse and neglect among a sample of community dwelling elders in NanJing, China using a screening tool adapted to the Chinese context from VASS and from Hwalek-Sengstock Elder abuse Screening Test (H-S/EAST). Loneliness is a further factor that has been associated with elder abuse.

Dong, Simon, Gorbien, Percak, and Golden, (2007) found that the risk of mistreatment was correlated with higher loneliness scores even when confounding factors were accounted for including age, sex, education, income, marital status, and depressive symptoms. Participants with higher loneliness scores were four times as likely to experience elder abuse.

Several studies have also been conducted on elderly abuse in Nigeria. In a study conducted among 300 elderly people in Akwa Ibom State by Akpan and Umobong (2013) the findings of the study reveals a high prevalence of elderly abuse. The findings of the study indicates that 46.7% of the elderly had complained of medical neglect and bed sores; 47% reported experiencing some form of physical abuse, 44.7% reported lack of visitation, while 49% and 35% reported uncomfortable living condition and theft respectively. In another study conducted by Sijuwade (2008) in Lagos, a higher percentage of the elderly have complained of medical neglect. Similarly, Asogwa and Igbokwe (2010) study in Enugu found high prevalence of denial of freedom of interaction (88%) and verbal abuse (73%). Ola and Olalekan (2012) in Ekiti State reported that over 58% of the elderly had experienced one form of abuse or the other with Abandonment and Neglect topping the list (60.9%), followed by financial abuse (41.6%), physical abuse (37.2%), and sexual abuse (32.1%).

## **Materials and Methods**

### **Study site and Subjects**

This is a descriptive cross sectional study conducted between July and August, 2017 in Kano Municipal Local Government Area of Kano State. The local government has a total population of 1,828,861 (National Population Commission, 2006) and 13 political wards namely Cedi, Dan Agundi, Gandun Albasa, Jakara, Kankarofi, Shahuci, Sharada, Sheshe, Tudun Nufawa, Tudun Wuzirci, Yakasai, Zaitawa, and Zango. Its area covers 499 Km<sup>2</sup> and the indigenes of these areas are the Hausa people. As in most parts of northern Nigeria, the Hausa language is widely spoken in Kano Municipal local government area of Kano State.

### **Sampling Procedure**

A sample size of 240 respondents comprising of older people aged 60 and above was drawn from Kano Municipal Local Government Area of Kano State, using a multistage and purposive sampling techniques. The first stage involved the random selection of six political wards from the 13 political wards in the Local Government Area. The second stage involved the random selection of one Residential Quarters from each of the selected six political wards. Thereafter, purposive sampling technique was used to select fourty households with older people aged 60 and above in each of the six residential quarters. The households were identified through key informants. In each of these fourty households one elderly person aged 60 years and above who has experienced any type of abuse was interviewed.

For the participation in this survey individual 60 years and above who have experienced any form of abuse were considered eligible. The objective of the study was clearly explained to the participants and participation was voluntary. Informed verbal consent was obtained prior to data collection,

### **Data Collection**

The data for the study were collected using questionnaire in order to get a deeper understanding of the nature and prevalence of elderly abuse. The questionnaire was made up of two parts. Part one includes personal data while part two dealt with items on nature and prevalence of elder abuse. The questionnaire was validated by four experts, two sociologists and two gerontologists. Reliability was established using the Split-half method. The coefficient of reliability was .86.

The respondents were specifically asked questions regarding their experience of abuse. They were asked whether they “have faced any type of abuse, neglect or disrespect by any person?” If the respondent answered ‘Yes’, a follow-up questions asked the type of abuse (physical abuse, verbal abuse, economic abuse, showing disrespect, neglect and other) and a follow-up questions elicited the source of abuse which could include: “(1) Spouse; (2) Son; (3) Daughter; (4) Son-in-law; (5) Daughter-in-law; (6) Relative (7) Caregiver/Domestic helper (8) Other”.

Pre-test of the structured questionnaire (which included socio-demographic and abuse of adults related questionnaire) was done in other Local Government areas of Kano State, and questionnaire was finalized based on the feedback of pretest questionnaire.

For the purpose of this study older person’s abuse was considered if older persons have faced mistreatment/neglect in any one of the activities: physical, economic, verbal, emotional, neglect, disrespect, sexual and other forms of abuse

### **Data Analysis**

The quantitative data collected through the questionnaire were coded cleaned and entered into a database, and then analyzed using Statistical Package of Social sciences (SPSS Version 21) computer software. The data were presented in descriptive statistics which include frequency counts, and percentages.

## Findings

### Demographic Characteristics

Table 1 also shows that 72% of the respondents sampled are within the age group 60- 69 years, 25% of them belong to the age group 70 - 79 and only 5.8% of them are 90 years and above.

Table 1 also reveals that 69.2% of the respondents are male. The female respondents constitute only 30.8%. More than half of the respondents (67.5%) were married. About 53% of the respondents are living with their family, 14.6% and 7.5% with their spouse and relatives respectively. Further living arrangement shows, 23.3% of them were living with their son. However, only a relatively smaller percentage of them (1.7%) are living with other people.

Table 1 Demographic Characteristics of the Respondents

Variable	Frequency	Percentage
<u>Age</u>		
60 – 70 years	151	62.9
71 – 80 years	54	22.5
81 – 90 years	21	8.8
Over 90 years	14	5.8
<u>Sex</u>		
Male	166	69.2
Female	74	30.8
<u>Marital Status</u>		
Single	19	7.9
Married	162	67.5
Widowed	59	24.6
<u>Living Arrangement</u>		
Son	56	23.3
Spouse	35	14.6
With family	127	52.9
Relatives	18	7.5
With others	4	1.7

### Types and Reasons for the Abuse

Table 2 shows the types of abuse experienced by the respondents. The most frequently occurring type of abuse among the male respondents was disrespect and talking rudely (56.8%), then followed by being isolated (52.7%) and neglect (51.4%). While, the most occurring type of abuse among the female respondents was being isolated (54.2%), then followed by denial of basics (43.4%), and material abuse (41%). The male respondents experienced more psychological, emotional and verbal abuse (41.9%) than the female respondents (38.6%). Most of the male respondents reported that they had experienced this abuse in which verbal abuse (passing harsh words, humiliation etc.). Similarly, the male respondents experienced more disrespect and talking rudely (56.8%) than the female respondents (13.9%). Neglect also emerged as sub them of psychological abuse. The male respondents were being neglected more by their family members compared with the female respondents (51.4% versus 21.1%). Majority of the female respondents reported feeling of loneliness and that they were being isolated as they were being ignored by their children compared with the male respondents. They were not allowed to have communication with their friends and relatives. However, no significant difference between the male and female respondents with respect to denial of basics as a form of abuse. On the other hand, the male respondents experienced more material abuse compared to their female counterparts (47.3% versus 41%).

Table 2 Types of Abuse

Type	Male		Female	
	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
Psychological/Emotional/Verbal abuse	31	41.9	64	38.6
Physical abuse	0	0.0	0	0.0
Disrespect/talking rudely	42	56.8	23	13.9

Neglect	38	51.4	35	21.1
being isolated	39	52.7	90	54.2
denial of basics	32	43.2	72	43.4
material abuse	35	47.3	68	41.0
Financial abuse	8	10.8	13	7.8

\* Multiple Responses

Only a relatively smaller percentage of the male (10.8%) and female (7.8%) experienced financial abuse. The respondents reported that they had to face financial abuse which included theft of money and property. The findings reflected that both male and females respondents were susceptible to financial abuse with slight difference between their vulnerability.

Table 3 Distribution of Reasons for Elderly Abuse.

Reasons	Frequency	Percentage
Emotional Dependence of the Abused	115	47.9
Economic Dependence of the Abused	113	47.1
Changing Ethos	95	39.6
Economic Dependence of the Abuser on the Abused	75	31.3
Increasing Longevity and Need for Care of Older Persons	2	0.8
Lack of Effective Legal Deterrents	70	29.2

\*Multiple Responses

Table 3 reveals the reasons for the elderly abuse. Majority of the respondents mentioned emotional and economic dependence of the abused as the reasons behind the abuse. Then followed by changing ethos (39.6%) and economic dependence of the abuser on the abused (31.3%). However less than 1% of the respondents indicated increasing longevity and need for care of older persons as reason for the abuse.

Table 4 Reasons for Not Reporting Abuse

Reasons	Frequency	Percentage
maintain confidentiality	138	57.5
did not know how to deal with the problems	27	11.3
they have lack of confidence in any person or agency to deal with the abuse	13	5.4
Ignorance of dealing with the problems	32	13.3
did not report for other reasons	30	12.5
Total	240	100.0

Table 3 reveals the reasons for not reporting the abuse. Majority of the respondents sampled (57.5%) stated that they wanted to maintain confidentiality of family matter. 13.3% of the respondents mentioned ignorance of dealing with the problem as reasons for not reporting the abuse, and 12.5% of them indicated that they did not report the abuse for other reasons. However, 5.4% of the respondents mentioned lack of confidence in any person or agency to deal with the abuse and as their reason behind not reporting the abuse.

### **Types and Perpetrators of Abuse**

Table 5 shows the perpetrators of abuse. Table 5 reveals that caregivers are the major perpetrators of elderly abuse (38.3%), and very closely followed by relative (26.3%).

Table 5 Perpetrators of the Abuse

Perpetrators	Frequency	Percentage
Spouse	8	3.3
daughter	5	2.1
Daughter in law	19	8.0
Son	13	5.4
Son in law	20	8.3
Relative	63	26.3
Caregiver/Servant	92	38.3
Other	20	8.3
Total	240	100.0

However, 8.3% of the elderly abused people reported son in law as the abuser, 8% stated daughter in -law, 3.3% reported spouse as the abuser. Only a relatively smaller percentage (2.1%) reported daughter as the perpetrator of the abuse.

### Duration and Frequency of Abuse

Table 6.0 shows the duration and frequency of the abuse. The results in this table shows that about 36.3% of elderly have been facing abuse for three to five years, 12.9% elderly reported for one to two years, 10.8% stated that the duration is approximate six to ten years. About 3.3% of the abused elders have been facing the same situation for more than ten years. The respondents also stated that 7.5% of them are abused at least once in a week, 7.1% elderly face it once in a month, 4.6% said that they encounter abuse almost daily. However, 2.1% of them experienced abuse very rarely and 10.4% of them face the abuse once in few months.

Table 6 Duration and Frequency of Abuse

Duration of Facing Abuse	Frequency	Percentage
Less than 1 year	12	5.0
1 – 2 years	31	12.9
3 - 5 years	87	36.3
6 – 10 years	26	10.8
Over 10 year	8	3.3
Once in a Few Months	25	10.4
Once in a month	17	7.1
Once in a week	18	7.5
Almost Daily	11	4.6
Very Rarely	5	2.1
Total	240	100.0

Table 7 reveals the reasons for not reporting abuse. The results in this table shows that majority of the respondents (63.8%) stated that they wanted to maintain confidentiality of family matter, and 15.8% of them did not know how to deal with the problems. While 12.5% of the elders said that they have lack of confidence in any person or agency to deal with the abuse. However, 7.9% of the respondents did not report cases of abuse for other reasons.

Table 7 Reasons for not Reporting Abuse

Reasons for not Reporting Abuse	Frequency	Percentage
Confidentiality of family matter	153	63.8
Ignorance in dealing with the problem	38	15.8
Lack confidence in any person or agency to deal with the abuse	30	12.5
Other reasons	19	7.9
Total	240	100.0

## **Discussion**

The study found that the most frequently occurring type of abuse among the male respondents was disrespect and talking rudely, then followed by being isolated and neglect. This is in line with the findings of a study conducted in India where neglect and verbal abuse were the most commonly reported forms of mistreatment followed by physical abuse and material exploitation (Skirbekk and James, 2014). The finding is also consistent with elder abuse experienced elsewhere in Nigeria (Akpan and Umobong, 2013; Sijuwade, 2008; Asogwa and Igbokwe, 2010; Ola and Olalekan, 2012) and other countries in Sub-Saharan Africa (Cadmus and Owoaje 2012).

The study found that the most occurring type of abuse among the female respondents was being isolated, then followed by denial of basics, and material abuse. The male respondents experienced more psychological, emotional and verbal abuse than the female respondents. Men were found to be suffering more from psychological, emotional and verbal abuse compared to women. This findings lend support to the findings of a study from Africa which reveals that 64.3% of men and 60.3% of women experienced elder abuse (Bigala and Ayiga, 2014). It is also in line with the findings of previous studies that have examined gender differences in elder abuse; those that did found mixed results, with some identifying disparate rates across genders (Yon, Wister, Gutman, Mitchell, 2014).

However, this Finding is contrary to the findings from other countries. A study from India shows extent of severe abuse among the females was almost 2.7 times higher than the male older persons (Sebastian and Sekher, 2010). Similarly, in a study in Thailand (Chompunud, Charoenyooth, Palmer, Pongthavornkamol, and Vorapongsathorn, 2010) found female participants being approximately five times more likely to have been abused than the men. Lower reported in this study may be due to the feelings of shame, obligation to protect family name, stigma, fear of vengeful acts from perpetrators, or since many seniors have cognitive and physical impairments and may not be able to express any experiences of abuse (Skirbekk and James, 2014). It is also in line with the finding of Bonnie and Wallace (2002) that high risk factors associated with psychological, emotional and verbal elder abuse includes being a female, among others. Gender made significant difference in the prevalence of psychological, emotional and verbal abuse of the elderly.

Another issue related to the findings of the study is the lethargic attitude of society and non-reporting of elder abuse incidences. Only those cases, which go beyond the manageable limits are reported of otherwise members of society and even sufferers just bear the pain as they feel going the matter outside the home is disgraceful. This non-reporting of cases also encourages perpetrators. Members of society just regard these incidences as family matter and do not take any action on cause of abusing. Erosion of values, apathetic attitude of society, financial crises and health related issues of elders are some of the causes leading to the abuse. Absence of meaningful social attachment among older people and other family members to some extent is also responsible. In most of the cases, elderly people were victimized of being alone as they have no choice to stay alone. Most of the respondents depend on their sons for survival of their life. Their bodily as well as emotional needs are callously ignored which may result in geriatric depression. They had no income resources and forced to depend on begging and on the mercy of others for their survival. However, in Nigeria context this form of elderly abuse mostly manifests itself in taking the property of the elderly without prior notification. From the discussions so far, it is evident that the issue of elderly abuse appears to be a very complex social issue which requires some incontrovertible evidence for it detection and identification.

## **Conclusions**

This study concludes that the prevalence of elder abuse in Kano Municipal Local Government area of Kano State is high. The findings of this study revealed that the most occurring type of abuse among the female respondents was being isolated, then followed by denial of basics, and material abuse. The male respondents experienced more psychological, emotional and verbal abuse than the female respondents. Men were found to be suffering more from psychological, emotional and verbal abuse compared to women. It also showed that most of the respondents who had faced one type of abuse had faced other form of abuse too. However, people are reluctant to report such abuse due to absence of proper way of reporting. Majority of the respondents did not report the abuse because they wanted to maintain confidentiality of family matter. Therefore, this critical phenomenon needs proper attention from the researchers as well as government for its management to enhance the quality of life of the elderly.

The findings of the study also lend support to the findings of previous studies that have examined gender differences in elder abuse. It is also pertinent to note that, the findings is consistent with elder abuse experienced elsewhere in Nigeria and other countries in Sub-Saharan Africa

## References

- Acierno, R., Hernandez-Tejada, M., Muzzy, W., & Steve, K. (2009). The National Elder Mistreatment Study. USA: Department of Justice Press, Washington, DC.
- Acierno, R., Hernandez, M.A., Amstadter, A.B., Resnick, H.S., Steve, K., Muzzy, W., & Kilpatrick, D.G. (2010). Prevalence and correlates of emotional, physical, sexual and financial abuse and potential neglect in the United States: the National Elder Mistreatment Study. *American Journal of Public Health*, 100, 292-297
- Amstadter, A., Zajac, K., Strachan, M., Hernandez, M., Kilpatrick, D., & Acierno, R. (2011). Prevalence and correlates of elder mistreatment in South Carolina: The South Carolina Elder Mistreatment Study. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 26 (15), 2947–2972.
- Akpan, I. D. and Umobong, M. (2013), An Assessment of the Prevalence of Elder Abuse and Neglect in Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria. *Developing Countries Studies Online* 3(5):10-15. [www.llste.org](http://www.llste.org) (Accessed 3/7/2017)
- Asogwa, L. O. and Igbokwu, C. C. (2010), Prevalence of abuse of the elderly in domestic setting in Enugu state Nigeria *JHER* 13:197- 208.
- Andersen, L. and Taylor, F. (2001). *The Essentials of Sociology*. Canada. Thomson Learning Inc, Canada.
- Baker M. (2007). Elder mistreatment: risk, vulnerability, and early mortality. *J Am Psychiatr Nurses Assoc* 2007; 12: 313–21.
- Biggs, S., Manthorpe, J., Tinker, A., Doyle, M., & Erens, B. (2009). Mistreatment of older people in the United Kingdom: Findings from the first national prevalence study. *Journal of Elder Abuse & Neglect*, 21(1), 1–14.
- Bonnie, J. & Wallace, R. (2003). “Elder Mistreatment: Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation in an Ageing America”: Panel to Review Risk and Prevalence of Elder Abuse and Neglect
- Bonnie, R.J., and Wallace, R.B. (2002). *Elder mistreatment: Abuse, neglect, and exploitation in an aging America*. Washington, D.C: National Academy Press.
- Cadmus, E.O & Owoaje, E.T. (2012). “Prevalence and correlates of elder abuse among older women in rural and urban communities in South Western Nigeria.” *Health Care Women International* 33, (10):973-984.
- Chokkanathan, S. & Lee, A. (2005). Elder mistreatment in urban India: A community based study. *Journal of Elder Abuse and Neglect*, 17 (2), 45–61.
- Comijs H.C., Pot A. M., Smit J. H., Bouter LM., Jonker C., (2009). Elder abuse in the community: prevalence and consequences. Institute for Research in Extramural Medicine, Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- Compton S. A., Peter Flanagan and Gregg W., (1998). Elder Abuse In People with Dementia In Northern Ireland: Prevalence And Predictors In Cases Referred To A Psychiatry Of Old Age Service. John Wiley & Sons, Ltd Washington, DC. USA: The National Academy Press. Washington.
- Cooper, C., Selwood, A. and Livingston, G. (2008). The prevalence of elder abuse and neglect: a systematic review. *Age Ageing* 37 (2), 151–60
- Cooper, C., Katona, C., Finne-Soveri, H., Topinkova, E., Carpenter, G. I., & Livingston, G. (2006). Indicators of elder abuse: A crossnational comparison of psychiatric morbidity and other determinants in the Ad-HOC study. *American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry*, 14(6), 489 – 497.
- Dong, X.Q, Simon, M. A., Gorbien, M., Percak, J., & Golden, R. (2007). Loneliness in older Chinese adults: a risk factor for elder mistreatment. *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*, 55 (11), 1831-1835.
- Dong, XQ. & Simon, M. (2008). Is greater social support a protective factor against elder mistreatment? *Gerontology*, 54, 381–388.
- Dong X, Simon MA. (2013). Elder abuse as a risk factor for hospitalization in older persons. *JAMA Intern Med* 2013; 173: 153–62.
- Ferreira, M & Lindgren, P 2008. “Elder abuse and neglect in South Africa: A case of marginalisation, disrespect, exploitation and violence.” *Journal of Elder Abuse and Neglect* 20, (2):91-107
- Fulmer, T., Paveza, G., Abraham, I., & Fairchild, S. (2000). Elder neglect assessment in the emergency department. *Journal of Emergency Nursing*, 26 (5), 436-443.
- Garre-Olmo, J.M.D., Planas-Pujol, X.M.D., Lopez-Pousa, S.P., Juvinya, D.P., Vila, A. & Vilalta-Franch, J.P.et. al. (2009). Prevalence and risk factors of suspected elder abuse subtypes in people aged 75 and older. *Journal of American Geriatric Society*, 57, 815- 822.



- Lachs MS, William CS, O'Brien S, Pillemer KA. (1998). The mortality of elder mistreatment. *JAMA* 1998; 280: 428–32.
- National Population Commission (2006). *The Nigerian National Population Commission Census of 2006*. NPC Abuja Nigeria.
- Naughton, C., Drennan, J., Lyons, I., Lafferty, A., Treacy, M., Phelan, A. and Delaney, L. (2012). Elder abuse and neglect in Ireland: Results from a national prevalence survey. *Age and Ageing*, 41, 98 – 103.
- Ola, T.M. and Olalekan, A. (2012). Socio-Demographic Correlates of Elderly Abuse in Ado-Ekiti, Nigeria. *International Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences*, 2(20):299-306. Special Issue, October.
- Perel-Levin, S. (2008). Discussing Screening for Elder Abuse at Primary Health Care Level. Switzerland. WHO Document Production Services, Geneva.
- Pérez-Cárceles, M. D., Rubio, L., Pereniguez, J. E., Pérez-Flores, D., Osuna, E., & Luna, A. (2009). Suspicion of elder abuse in South Eastern Spain: The extent and risk factors. *Archives of Gerontology and Geriatrics*, 49, 132–137
- Sijuwade, P. O. (2008), Elderly Care by Family Members: Abandonment, Abuse and Neglect. *The Social Sciences*. 3(8): 542- 547 Medwell Online Journals.
- Skirbekk V, James KS (2014) Abuse against elderly in India. The role of education. *BMC Public Health* 14: 336.
- Sooryanarayana, R., Choo, W-Y., & Hairi, N. (2013). A review of the prevalence and measurement of elder abuse in the community. *Trauma, Violence, & Abuse*, 14(4), 316–325.
- Tobiasz-Adamczyk, B., Brzyski, P., & Brzyska, M. (2014). Health-related quality of life in older age and a risk of being a victim of domestic violence. *Archives of Gerontology and Geriatrics*, 58 (3), 388 - 398.
- UK Social Services Inspectorate, 1993. No Longer Afraid. The Safeguard of Older People in Domestic Settings. Practice Guidelines. London: HMSO.
- WHO (2002a). Missing voices. Geneva: World Health Organization, 2002.
- WHO (2002b). World report on violence and health. Geneva: World Health Organization, 2002.
- WHO Press, Geneva. World Health Organisation. (2002). Active Ageing: A Policy Framework. Switzerland. WHO/NMH/NPH, Geneva.
- World Health Organization (WHO) (2010). Older People – A New Power for Development, 1st October International Day of Older Persons. <http://www.who.inhaging/projects/elderabuse/en/index.html>. Accessed on 3/11/12
- Yon Y, Wister A, Gutman G, Mitchell B. A. (2014). Comparison of Spousal Abuse in Mid-and-Old Aged: Is Elder Abuse Simply a Case of Spousal Abuse grown Old? *J Elder Abuse Negl* 2014; 26: 80–105