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# Information Dissemination Role of Libraries: Solution to Domestic Violence in Awka Metropolis, Anambra State, Nigeria

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**Abstract:** Domestic violence (DV) has always been a hot topic in Nigeria. Women and minors have suffered varying degrees of physical, emotional and mental abuse in the hands of friends, relations, family and spouses in past. Therefore, this study examined the role library and information science could play in curbing this menace in Awka Metropolis as a broad objective, accompanied by three specific objectives. The study adopted a survey research design, with a population of 210 and a sample size of 136, arrived at using Krejcie and Morgan formula. The data collection instrument was a structured questionnaire, and the analysis was carried out using descriptive and inferential statistics. The hypothesis formulated was tested at 5% level of significance. The findings revealed that there was a statistically significant relationship existing between information dissemination and domestic violence (DV) reported cases ( $r = .908$  p-value  $< .05$ ). The study, therefore, concluded that library and information science plays a major role in the reduction of incidence of domestic violence in Awka Metropolis. It was recommended among other things that education of people about fundamental human rights of others should be championed by various private and public libraries so that they can be bold enough to report abuse by others, and that human rights practices need to be inculcated into various school curriculums to forestall the further perpetration of acts considered domestic violence in Awka metropolis.

**Keywords:** Libraries, Information Dissemination, Domestic Violence, Culture, Librarians

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## 1. Introduction

### 1.1. Background of the Study

The scourge of domestic violence (DV) has been a major turn in the flesh of many in the past, especially women and children. They suffer varying degrees of pain, injury, neglect and trauma from the hands of the abusers, who are mostly people they know; a family member, friend or spouse. Capturing this, Dahlberg and Krug [4] and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), [20] aver that DV occurs globally. It occurs in all settings and among all socioeconomic, religious and cultural groups Onyeka Iheako [17]. It is a global burden with serious public health and social implications which cuts across gender and class borders Heise & Moreno [8].

The concept of DV could be used interchangeably with Intimate Partner Violence (IPV), as some authors and countries prefer to do. It is used in many countries to refer to partner violence but the term can also encompass child or elder abuse, or abuse by any member of a household Onyekalheako [17]. DV is any form of harm, physically or emotionally meted out on another person that is usually weaker than the perpetrator. It is also intentional and persistent in nature. That is, for something to qualify as DV, it must have been done over and over again and it is not by mistake. It is the intentional and persistent abuse of anyone in the home in a way that causes pain, distress or injury. The manifestation of DV comes in different ways, it could be physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, spiritual abuse, economic abuse and emotional or psychological abuse Moreno, Jansen, Ellsberg, Heise & Watts [11].

The perpetration of some DV act could be seen as an affront and abuse of the fundamental human right of others. The people abusing others may be ignorance of the enormity of the crime they are committing against others, which is where knowledge and information come in. Ignorance is said not to be an excuse, but having knowledge and utilizing it properly is said to be power. There is no other field that is in the centre of getting, storing and arranging and dissemination of knowledge and information than libraries.

Library is a holding of diverse kinds of information materials and tools for disseminating relevant information Omehia [15]. Olowu [14] posit that "librarians are devoted to improving access to information and satisfying the user's information needs". Librarians in both the public and private sectors are custodians of information and are mandated to provide this information equitably to all library users with different cultural backgrounds including people with disabilities, women and children Tumuhairwe [18]. These groups of people are mostly the victims of DV, therefore, furnishing them with the necessary data and information about their rights and where to report in cases of violence against them could go a long way in reducing DV. It is against this backdrop that this study was necessitated to empirically look at the roles LIS could play in reducing the scourge of DV in Awka Metropolis, Anambra State Nigeria.

### 1.2. Statement of the Problem

Many people lack the knowledge of what rights they have, both the fundamental rights and others. At the forefront of the war against information gap, are libraries and librarians. This is because, in libraries, information and data about almost everything are found there, and those saddled with the responsibility and duties to arrange, store and circulate it are librarians. This is possibly why Eniekebi [7] opines that societies that develop functional libraries are also good in human development and are progressive in life. However, the level of unreported DV in Awka metropolis seems to be on the rise. This is despite the concentration of primary, secondary and tertiary institutions in the area, including public and many private libraries who are supposed to be in charge of the war against DV in the metropolis. One is left to ask if the libraries lack the capacity in terms of human or material resources to take control of disseminating information and data about the ills of DV in the metropolis, as perpetrators of this act seemingly lack knowledge about the rights of others and keep violating it. There also seem to be gross underreporting of cases of DV among the residence of Awka metropolis, a case which might be attributed to cultural issues of not wanting to be stigmatized by others or male domination, where women and children are supposed to be subservient to their male counterparts. These are the issues that led to the need to carry out this study to look at the nexus between LIS and DV in Awka metropolis.

### 1.3. Objective of the Study

The broad objective of this study is to examine the

relationship between information dissemination role of libraries and domestic violence (DV) in Awka metropolis. Specifically, the study seeks to:

- 1) Ascertain the nexus between information dissemination and DV reported cases in Awka metropolis.
- 2) Examine the channels of Information Dissemination for DV.
- 3) Explore the forms of Domestic Violence.

### 1.4. Hypothesis of the Study

H<sub>a1</sub>: Information dissemination has no relationship with DV reported cases in Awka metropolis.

## 2. Review of Related Literature

### 2.1. Conceptual Review

#### 2.1.1. Library

A library is a place where information, data and resources are arranged, stored and disseminated for use of variant users. It is a collection of resources in a variety of formats that is organized by information professionals or other experts who provide convenient physical, digital, bibliographic, or intellectual access and offer targeted services and programs with the mission of educating, informing, or entertaining a variety of audiences and the goal of stimulating individual learning and advancing society as a whole Eniekebi [7]. Libraries are characterized by physical presence in the past; a building where all forms of information are stored in various format. But with improved innovation and the advent of Information and Communication Technology (ICT), when libraries are mentioned today, it is no longer associated with physicality, but with information storage capacity and retrieval features, because, information now can be stored on the internet and assessed remotely from different parts of world. Hence, modern libraries have both physical and virtual presence, while others are completely jettisoning physical space and going digital as it is more convenient, less expensive and easier to use by the global digital citizens of the world.

#### 2.1.2. Information Dissemination

The primary function of libraries is that of making sure that the needed materials, information and data gets to the people who need it for different purposes. The users of the materials in the libraries may be students, researchers, organizations and even government. They seek library collections to be better equipped and knowledgeable in certain areas. The collections of libraries range from books, periodicals and newspapers to manuscripts, films and maps. Others are prints, documents, microform, CDs, cassettes, videotapes, DVDs, Blue-ray Discs, e-books, audiobooks and databases Eniekebi [7]. Libraries that are "well equipped with current and relevant materials are considered to be great assets as they provide an avenue for consulting materials that will provide factual knowledge needed for the day to day challenges the users face and at the end, make intelligent

decisions concerning their personal lives" (School Library Support, 2012).

Libraries and librarians indeed have enormous roles to play in information and knowledge sharing which is pertinent for civil behaviour and national development. Iwhiwhu [9] states that libraries play a key role in the advancement of knowledge in every society and that this role can be effectively carried out with well-structured and well-planned library services, which include the packaging and repackaging of information. This is of course possible with well trained and committed staff members.

### 2.1.3. Domestic Violence

Domestic violence (DV) is any form of repeated attack or abuse of someone capable of causing bodily or emotional harm to others. It is the utilization of physical force that induces damage or injury, intense natural force or energy, abusive use of force, passion, fury, disturbance and desecration of another person (US Office: 2004; UN, 2008). It connotes violence perpetrated and occasioned at home by known and identified individuals or groups. It can be in different forms like aggressive behaviour or maltreatment among intimate partners which occur in the privacy of a home, family or clan. All hostile acts committed by any family members against another, spouse, parents, child, siblings, grandparents, in-laws etc, irrespective of sex, status, race, age, religion or emotional state could be categorized as acts of DV Uzuegbunam [21].

Domestic violence is a serious social and public health issue and it cut across socio-economic, geographical and cultural backgrounds and its effect is far-ranging Ogbuagu, Tanyi, Takob & Yuni [13]. According to Jill [10], physical violence, threats, and verbal attacks have far-ranging effects that may lead to physical injury and, for some, permanent disability. Violent punishments such as corporal punishment have been found to lead to delinquency in adolescent and subsequently violent crimes. Anikweze [1] identified violence as a threat to adolescents' well-being. The adolescent may become socialized in violent behaviour. The anger may become directed towards either parents or other children. They may become aggressive, becoming troublesome at home and school. They may also become withdrawn, isolating themselves from others and may underachieve, academically. Victims of domestic violence (whether children or adults) may suffer physical injuries such as minor cuts, scratches and bruises. Others may be more serious and cause lasting disabilities such as broken bones, internal bleeding and head trauma, among others Dobson, 1984; CDC, [5]. Some injuries are not physical but emotional. Victims often have low self-esteem, finding it difficult to trust others. The anger and stress experienced by victims may lead to depression and other emotional disorders sometimes leading to suicide CDC [3].

#### (i). Forms of Domestic Violence

Domestic violence come in different forms, some of the most common forms are:

a) Physical abuse: this has to do with the excessive use of

force physically in a way that causes injury to the victim or puts the victim at risk of being injured. This is the most common of all forms of DV as Obi and Ozumba [12] found that 83% of respondents in their study reported physical abuse. This include but is not limited to, scratching, pushing, shoving, throwing, grabbing, biting, choking, shaking, slapping, punching, burning, use of a weapon and use of restraints or ones' body size, or strength against another person United States Department of Health and Human Services [19].

- b) Sexual abuse: this is another form of common abuses reported. It includes all forms of sexual assaults, harassment or exploitation. It involves forcing a person to participate in sexual activity, using a child for sexual purposes including child prostitution and pornography. Marital rape also comes under this.
- c) Neglect: neglect also comes as a form of DV. It includes failure to provide for dependants who may be adults or children, denying family members food, clothing, shelter, medical care, and protection from harm or a sense of being loved and valued.
- d) Economic abuse: This abuse comes in the form of stealing from a trusted loved one or defrauding them of their resources. Also included in this category is withholding money for essential things like food and medical treatment, manipulating or exploiting family member for financial gain, preventing a loved one from working or controlling his/her choice of occupation.
- e) Spiritual Abuse: this form of abuse comes in the form of preventing a person from engaging in his/her spiritual or religious practices or using one's religious belief to manipulate, dominate or control him/her.
- f) Emotional Abuse: This is by no means the list of DV even though it came last. they include actions such as threatening a person or his or her possession or harming a person's sense of self-worth by putting him/her at risk of serious behavioural, cognitive, emotional or mental disorders. Name-calling, criticism, social isolation, intimidating or exploitation to dominate, routinely making unreasonable demand, terrorizing a person verbally or physically and exposing a child to violence and shouting at a partner could all be included in this category of DV Obi & Ozunba [12].

#### (ii). Channels of Information Dissemination for Domestic Violence

Information stored properly may be of no use if not disseminated or made available to the people who need it. Many people may be lacking in knowledge about various forms of DV, where to report and consequences thereof, hence, the need to properly sensitize the people about all these. There are various channels through which information can be disseminated, some of the most prominent ways include:

- a) Radio: this is one of the oldest means of information dissemination that has a wide coverage. This will involve librarians and other stakeholders organizing DV

sensitization programmes and doing jingles on the ills of DV, types and places to report.

- b) Television: Another popular information dissemination channel is television. It involves using visuals to exemplify what is being said. A lot of people are also using this as a form of making people aware of things. It is more expensive than using radio stations, but paints the picture more clearly than radio do which is only voice.
- c) Newspapers: this is another traditional channel for information dissemination. It is one of the oldest as well, with wide readership, coverage and appeal to people, especially the aged.
- d) Online medium: the world is gradually shifting from the more traditional medium of information gathering and dissemination to online medium. This involves the use of Social Medias like Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram, Telegram and the likes. This is the medium for the youths, with wider coverage, more flexibility, more appeal and less expensive. Using this medium to disseminate information about DV could be a game changer because more youths will be reached.
- e) Places of worship: worship centres could also be utilized to teach people about DV. People tend to believe their Reverend Fathers, Pastors, preachers and Imams more. So, if teaching of DV and how to avoid it is taught through their platforms, it could carry more weight.
- f) Town hall meetings: meeting places could also be utilized for information dissemination regarding DV. So, libraries and librarians could arrange with meeting officials to be given some time to talk about DV.
- g) Programmer materials: librarians could also make use of flyers, pamphlets, guides, and DVDs to sensitize the people about different forms of DV, the consequences, how to handle it, how and where to report cases of DV.
- h) Seminars/Workshops: Seminars and workshops could also be organized for library professionals, information professionals and other stakeholders who will in turn lead the campaign against DV in the various places of abode and workplaces. The seminars and workshops could also be organized in schools; both at the nursery, secondary and tertiary schools levels, to inculcate the virtues of civil behaviours on the children from early stage.

## 2.2. Empirical Review

Some studies have been carried out in the past in the area of information science, libraries or domestic violence. The essence of this review is to know what others have done in this area, how they did it and their findings. Below are some of the studies carried out:

Omehia [15] reviewed Library and Information Science education in Nigeria, Library and Information Science curriculum reforms, ICT and LISE, entrepreneurial skills in LISE and major challenges facing LISE in Nigeria. The paper presented a module for a proposed curriculum, identified the entrepreneurial skills needed by LISE graduates and posited that a dearth of qualified IT

professionals in Library schools, poor funding, poor policy implementation among others are the major challenges facing LISE in Nigeria. The study recommended that effective policy implementation is an essential tool to enhance LISE transformation in Nigeria. Also, the opportunities the information technology application offers will transform library and information science education, and these will help bridge the gap between the two worlds.

Ogbuagu, Tanyi, Takob and Yuni [13] investigated domestic violence against women as a form of poverty and used the principal component analysis and the Foster Greer and Theorberke (FGT) decomposition methods to analyse the data collected for the study. The study further used bar charts to show the perception of Nigerians towards domestic violence and related them to different poverty levels. The findings suggested that the Southern regions are more involved in domestic violence than the Northern region of Nigeria. Also, when examined across poverty levels, the results showed that the poorer an individual is in Nigeria, the more likely he is to think that it is justified if he beats the wife for one reason or another.

Onyekalheako [17] determined the roles of the age of victims, family size, educational attainment and employment status on violence against women who are married. A total of 682 respondents were recruited and given structured questionnaires, assistance was offered where there were incompletely filled questionnaires due to misunderstood questions which were then explained in very simple terms and subsequently filled out. Using a 5% level of significance, population proportion of 0.5, the minimum sample size was calculated as 384 using the Cochran's formula for sample size. The data was analyzed using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 18. The result showed that three hundred and eighty-two respondents (56%) out of the total study population of 682 (100%) had experienced domestic violence while 300 (44%) had not. One hundred and thirty women (34%) sustained varying degrees of injuries; with 66 (17.3%) of them suffering pregnancy loss as a consequence of abuse. Two hundred and twenty-four women (32.8%) had experienced only one form of abuse while 158 (23.2%) reported multiple forms of abuse. Violence against women most prevalent among women within the 25 – 34 years age range constituting a total of 170 (44.5%) cases of abuse. Those married women with only primary education formed the subset that had the greatest number of abused women; 138 cases (38.1%). The study, therefore, concluded that domestic violence is a pervasive problem in Nigeria with greater than 50% of the married women in the study having been abused by their partners.

Ekundayo, Babatunde and Ake [6] examined the perceptions, experiences, and the various ways in which the occurrence of domestic violence have shaped the lives of Nigerian young people. Data emerging from a survey with the use of questionnaire administered to 150 in-school and out of school young people in Omu-Aran, Kwara state was used. Analyses were based on frequencies and percentages. Findings showed that the experiences of respondents exert

considerable influence on their perceptions of violence, family life and significantly shaped their decision as relates to choosing a life partner. The study concluded that domestic violence is indeed a social problem that affects Nigerian young people in the family setting.

Oni-Ojo, Adeniji, Osibanjo and Heirsmac [16] examined the impact of domestic abuse on female employees' productivity among the Nigerian workforce. The study delved into the various types of gender-based violence, the levels of gender-based violence, the forms and prevalence of domestic abuse, why some employers address the gender-based violence issues and why others do not, and the effect on the victims, employers, co-workers and organizations at large. Not only that the legal effects of domestic abuse: the law, policies and practices on the workforce, and the toll on the productivity of the female workforce in Nigeria were the focus of the study. The study concluded that domestic abuse on the female workforce in Nigeria is a criminal matter under assault in the Criminal Code in which the victim(s) can bring a civil action under the tort of assault as this affects their productivity and ultimately their overall performance and the organization at large.

The World Health Organization (2013) carried out a global survey and their findings suggest that 35% of women worldwide have experienced either physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence. Also, most of this violence is intimate partner violence with almost one third (30%) of all women worldwide, who have been in a relationship have experienced physical and/or sexual violence by their intimate partner. They also show that around 38% of murders of women are executed by intimate partners. And 7% of women globally, have been sexually assaulted by someone other than a partner. Also, women who have been physically or sexually abused by their partners report higher rates of several important health problems. For example, they are 16% more probable to have a low-birth-weight baby. They are more than twice as likely to have an abortion, almost twice as likely to experience depression, and, in some regions, are 1.5 times more likely to acquire HIV, as compared to women who have not experienced partner violence. They then conclude that there is a need to prevent violence from happening in the first place and to provide necessary services for women experiencing violence.

Tumuhairwe [18] analysed the inclusion of indigenous knowledge and multicultural issues in library and information science/studies (LIS) curricula in Uganda. In North America and Europe, recognition of diversity as valuable to professionalism and necessary for generating culturally competent librarians and library staff is evident. On the contrary, LIS schools and LIS institutions and educators in developing countries of Africa have almost no record on the inclusion of indigenous knowledge and multiculturalism in LIS education. Challenges to the effective inclusion of indigenous knowledge and multiculturalism to LIS education programs in developing countries exist and are largely perception and attitude, inadequacy in skills, and inadequacy in funding.

Yusuf, Arulogun, Oladepo and Olowokeere [22] studied physical violence among intimate partners in Nigeria. The

study carried out a descriptive cross-sectional survey on adult women and men in three selected states of Nigeria. A random effect logistic model was fitted. The result indicated that more female respondents had experienced physical violence compared with males. The result also showed that behavioural factors of partners were found to greatly influence domestic violence against females such as young age and partner's smoking and drinking status.

Buarki, Hepworth, Murray and McKnight [2] carried out a study on educating LIS professionals in Kuwaiti Higher Education. The study presented the results of 54 analysed interviews conducted to present the views and explanations of Library and Information Science (LIS) students, teaching staff and employers on the implementation of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) skills into the LIS curriculum. The findings indicated that there was a lack of common understanding of the term ICT, that LIS students lacked ICT skills and that the LIS curriculum is outdated and the department uses traditional methods to teach ICT courses.

### 3. Methodology

#### 3.1. Research Design

The study adopted a survey research design because of the nature of the study. Data was collected for a phenomenon from sampled respondents through questionnaire, this makes survey research design the most suitable for this study.

#### 3.2. Population of the Study

The population of the study is made up of 210 residents of Awka metropolis. The criteria for selecting these people are those that are married and have one or more kids and house helps. Preference was also given to women as they are assumed to suffer acts of DV more.

#### 3.3. Sample Size and Sampling Technique

The sample size of the study is 136 arrived at using Krejcie and Morgan formula. The formula used in arriving at this figure is given below:

$$S = \frac{x^2 NP(1-P)}{d^2(N-1) + x^2 P(1-P)}$$

Where

s = Sample size.

$x^2$  = Table value of chi-square for 1 degree of freedom at 0.05% confidence level (3.84).

N = population size (210).

P = population proportion (assumed to be 0.5 since this would provide the maximum sample size).

#### 3.4. Instrument of Data Collection

The data collection instrument was a structured questionnaire. It was structured in a Likert scaled format with 5 for Strongly Agree, 4 for Agree, 3 for Undecided, 2 for Disagree and 1 for Strongly Disagree.

**3.5. Validity of Instrument**

The instrument was validated using face and content validity. A draft copy of the questionnaire was given to experts in LIS and instrument and measurement. They looked at the content, made some adjustment and approved the instrument for usage. They ensured the instrument contents are not too lengthy and ambiguous.

**3.6. Reliability of the Instrument**

Cronbach alpha reliability technique was utilized in making sure the instrument for data collection (questionnaire) is capable of producing a consistent result. At the end of the pilot study and analysis, a Cronbach alpha coefficient of .830 was returned, which is judged to be higher than the threshold of .7, and therefore pronounced reliable.

**3.7. Method of Data Analysis**

The analysis was carried out using descriptive and inferential statistics. The descriptive statistics is mean, while the inferential statistics is correlation analysis. The hypothesis formulated was tested at 5% level of significance.

**4. Data Presentation and Analysis**

**4.1. Data Analysis**

A total of 136 copies of questionnaire were distributed to the selected respondents following the sample size, in the end, 126 copies were returned, but as a result of incomplete response and mutilation of some of the returned copies, only 120 copies were used, making 6 copies to be invalid.

*Table 1. Distribution of Responses for Information Dissemination DV Reporting in Awka metropolis.*

S/N	Questionnaire Items	SA (5)	A (4)	SD (3)	D (4)	UN (5)	Mean
Information Dissemination							
1	The libraries help to educate me about my fundamental human rights.	-	16	48	50	6	2.62
2	I get information about how to behave in a civil way in other not to harm others from the libraries.	26	34	40	20	-	3.55
3	Libraries do not play any significant role in educating people about the ills of domestic violence.	34	19	27	30	10	3.30
4	Domestic violence disadvantages are made known by various libraries in my areas.	29	30	20	36	5	3.35
Reporting of DV							
5	I have learnt to speak up when acts of domestic violence are perpetrated against me.	29	30	21	40	-	3.40
6	Because of libraries, I now know where to report cases of domestic violence.	-	21	56	43	-	2.82
7	I will not report cases of domestic violence because of fear.	10	21	59	30	-	3.09
8	Reporting of domestic violence cases is discouraged by society.	30	49	16	19	6	3.65

Sources: Field Survey, 2021.

Table 1 shows the distribution of responses from respondents for Information Dissemination and DV Reporting in Awka metropolis. The analysis here was carried out using mean, with an acceptance threshold of 3. That is, any questionnaire item with a mean of 3 and above is regarded as accepted by the respondents, while anyone that has a mean of less than 3 is regarded as rejected by the respondents. For questions measuring information dissemination, when the respondents were asked if the libraries help to educate them about their fundamental human rights, a mean 2.62 shows that the respondents said no because the mean is less than 3. However, when they were asked if they get information about how to behave in a civil way in other not to harm others from the libraries, a mean of 3.55 shows that they agreed to it. Similarly, they also accepted with a mean of 3.30 that libraries do not play any significant role in educating people about the ills of domestic violence. They also agreed that domestic violence disadvantages are made known by various libraries in their areas with a mean of 3.35.

For questionnaire items bothering on DV reporting in Awka metropolis, the respondents accepted that they have learnt to speak up when acts of domestic violence are perpetrated against them with a mean of 3.40 which is greater than the benchmark of acceptance. A mean of 2.82 however, points to the fact that the respondents rejected the insinuations that because of libraries, they now know where

to report cases of domestic violence as buttressed by a mean of 2.82. The respondents however accepted albeit just marginally that they will not report cases of domestic violence because of fear with a mean of 3.09. A mean of 3.65 also shows that the respondents accepted that reporting of domestic violence cases is discouraged by society.

**4.2. Test of Hypothesis**

H<sub>a1</sub>: Information dissemination has no relationship with DV reported cases in Awka metropolis.

*Table 2. Correlation analysis for Information dissemination and DV reported cases.*

Correlations		INFDISS	REPDV
INFDISS	Pearson Correlation	1	.908**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	120	120
REPDV	Pearson Correlation	.908**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	120	120

\*\* Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Sources: Field Survey, 2021

Keys:

INFDISS: Information Dissemination

REPDV: Report of cases of Domestic Violence.

From Table 2 which shows the result of the correlation analysis carried out on Information dissemination and DV reported cases in Awka metropolis, it shows that the correlation coefficient (r) is .908 and the probability value (p-value) is .000 (p-value < 0.05). Going by this, the alternate hypothesis is accepted. It is, therefore, stated that information dissemination has a statistically significant positive relationship with DV reported cases in Awka metropolis.

## 5. Conclusions

Incidences of DV are scourges that need to be discouraged by all well-meaning members of every society. This is because it tramples on the human rights of others and dehumanizes many in society. The study concludes that library and information science plays a major role in the reduction of incidences of domestic violence in Awka Metropolis because it helps in making people speak up against it, and the more people speak up, the more others would be discouraged from such dastardly acts.

## 6. Recommendations

The study makes the following recommendations:

- a) Education of people about the fundamental human right of others should be championed by various private and public libraries in the state through their information dissemination role.
- b) The dictates of civil behaviour need to be inculcated into various school curriculums at both primary and tertiary levels to forestall the further perpetration of acts considered DV.

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