



Date	27/6/ 2024	Location	BENUE
Title	SGBV SENSITIZATION AT ORTESE IDP CAMP		
INTRODUCTION:	<p>Lawyers Alert partnered with Dev Train CEDI to commemorate World Refugee Day by educating Women and girls at the IDP Camp Ortese Guma Local Government of Benue State. The sensitization focused on creating awareness of SGBV, the legal framework, the remedies and to create a referral system as a channel for reporting SGBV cases. It was an avenue to create a safe and secured environment for women and girls, by empowering them to understand their legal rights in cases of SGBV and how to be free from threats.</p> <p>OBJECTIVES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Increase awareness of SGBV and its different forms.● Equip women and girls with knowledge and skills to identify and report SGBV incidents safely.● Advocate for improved camp infrastructure that promotes safety, such as better lighting, designated walkways, and secure shelters.● Foster a sense of community and social support networks where women and girls feel comfortable seeking help and reporting incidents.● Collaborate with camp authorities and security personnel to ensure effective prevention and response mechanisms for SGBV● Raise awareness of existing laws against SGBV.● Inform women and girls about their legal rights and reporting options, including formal justice systems and alternative dispute resolution mechanisms.● Connect survivors with legal aid services to support them through the legal process.● Advocate for improved access to justice for SGBV survivors, including reducing barriers like language, cost, and fear of retaliation.● Challenge social norms and stigma surrounding SGBV to create an environment where victims feel supported in pursuing justice.		



<p>Welcome address/ Goodwill message</p>	<p>Upon arrival, a brief meeting was held with the Camp Coordinators known as, Gloria Gimbo and Mark Terver who welcomed and addressed the team. They appreciated the visit to the camp, further which they Informed the team about the rules guiding visitations, laying emphasis on prior notifications which must state clearly the reasons for the visit, and have it booked at the Camp Coordinators office to avoid duplicity and over engagements of the refugees. In the meeting held with the coordinates, they asked for the set of persons the team wants, DavTrain CEDI requested for Women only. However, Lawyers Alert representative was of the opinion that, SGBV sensitization should include both Women and girls particularly the girls. The camp Coordinators were of the same opinion that that, the teenage girls need the empowerment even more than the women, hence they are always victims of Child marriage and rape cases in the camp, In conclusion, they Camp Coordinators gave the team permission to address both Women and girls.</p>	
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II. Technical Sessions – Snapshot of key comments and findings related to the topic of presentation/discussion/ interactive sessions

Session 1:
 This sensitization sessions focused more on the Preventive measures that's the safety measures. The Legal Framework such as the VAPP Law and the Child's Rights Law. Their Legal rights and the available remedies for SGBV Survivors, the effects of SGBV on survivor, and also, how they can identify and report SGBV cases to the Referral systems.
 The sensitization was facilitated by Lawyers Alert representative Mary Nguemo Tagher Esq and a staff from NAPTIP. They Women and the girls were grouped into two, they were attended to one after another. This was done interchangeably between Lawyers Alert and NAPTIP.



Lawyers Alert through it representative, gave a detail discussion on Sexual and Gender Based Violence. A comprehensive explanation about the different types of SGBV, narrowing it down to their practical life experience in the language they understand perfectly. The types of SGBV discussed were;

Domestic violence

Sexual violence,

Physical violence,

Emotional and psychological violence, Economic violence and

Harmful cultural practices that infringed on human rights.

As regards Sexual Violence; Lawyers Alert defined rape to include, any sexual intercourse with a person without her consent or with her consent through force, threat, violence or deception etc. also any sexual intercourse with a minor without or even with consent given its called rape as provided under Section 31 (1) of the Child's Rights Act which considered any form of sexual intercourse with a person below the age of 18 as rape with or without the child's consent. Also, Section 29(1) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 defines maturity age as 18 years.

Adding that, it's not enough to say that a girl child who's seeing her Monthly flow at the age of 13 or 14 years is matured for marriage. The girls got informed that, it's illegal for someone to have sexual intercourse with them, without their consent and before maturity age. By this, Lawyers Alert was able to feed over two hundred Women and girls present at the Ortese IDP camp with Vita and adequate information as regard Sexual Violence.

Lawyers Alert also spoke about the remedies available for SGBV Survivors in case of Sexual Violence which includes; Access to free medical care within 3-days or 72 Hours to reduce the risk of HIV and 5-days or 120 Hours to prevent unwanted pregnancy which in most cases leads to Child marriage or serve as a threat to life.

Other general remedies discussed were right to free legal services and Psychosocial support.

Lawyers Alert explained the referral system as reporting channels for SGBV cases. This includes;

- The Medical Care: in case of Sexual violence, the survivor has free access to medical care, to reduce the risk of HIV within 3-days or 72 Hours, 5-days or 120 Hours to prevent unwanted pregnancy, in cases of physical or domestic violence survivors are entitled to medical examination and treatments.
- The Nigerian police for arresting the perpetrators.
- With the informed consent of the survivor, Free Legal assistance is given to obtain justice for the survivor. Lawyers Alert in particular offers free legal services to persons whose rights are violated including SGBV Survivors, thereby promoting human rights.
- Psychosocial support and other basic needs to prevent further occurrence such as security and shelter etc.



The whole season was backed up by legal framework which explains the fact that, SGBV is recognized under the Nigerian Legislations and they are protected by the same Laws, as such their rights are enforceable.

Session 2:

The team gave room for questions, however there were no questions instead they made contributions. They were so Overwhelmed with the knowledge acquired , some became so Emotional as they shared their life experience in tears. They urged the CSOs to keep up the good work by helping them to educate the girls on issues like this often.

Another thing that stood out was the fact that, haven listen to Lawyers Alert's SGBV presentation particularly the definition of Rape and Maturity age, a report was made about Child Early and Forced Marriage, where a 14-year-old girl is forced into Marriage by her uncle who tricked her only to give her out in Marriage.

The Camp Coordinators complained of lack of referral system, stating how must times SGBV cases goes unreported due to lack of reporting channels.

Lawyers Alert created referral pathways for reporting SGBV case by giving the Camp Coordinators Lawyers Alert's contacts, that of the Ministry of Justice and Head of Gender Units.

III. Action Plans

- One thousand three hundred (1300) women and girls received increased knowledge on SGBV, Safety and Security Measures.
- Women and girls became aware of their legal rights and access to justice.
- Lawyers Alert created a referral system for reporting SGBV cases.

IV. Meeting Outcomes



Promoting Human Rights!





V. Pictures – the report should have relevant pictures imbedded in it however, if there are more pictures that are good for the repo





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they

should

be

included

in

this



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section (2 max)



VI. Attendance

Summary of attendance disaggregated by sex/PWDs/no of organizations

MALE	FEMALE	PWDS	ORGANISATION
5	6	0	3