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FLS, ETC CHAIRMAN OF THE CONFERENCE ON DOMESTIC  
VIOLENCE BY NCHEKWA OHA ADVOCACY FOUNDATION (AN NGO)  
AT EMMAUS HOUSE AKA ANAMBRA STATE OF NIGERIA.  
ON TUESDAY (NKWO) 8<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2016.

**Protocol:**

The topic for this seminar/Conference is DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (D.V) this simply means violence or physical Abuse directed towards a spouse or domestic partner. It should include verbal and psychological violence.

There is no doubt that it has long been observed in one form or the other in various families, communities and nationalities. What may be considered essential mentoring and induction into society of minors in on the perception and interpretation give to the act. With increasing ease and fast communication across the world, it has become necessary to have standard and universally accepted redefinition of domestic violence. Whatever our own views and habits may have been on the topic, we have to key-in with the rest of the world. That is to say we have to respect and entrench internationally accepted standards on Domestic Violence.

**What Are Some Of The Causes-** some of the common causes of domestic Violence between couples: incompatibility, new differences in religious views, misunderstanding, infidelity infertility, suspicion, inadequate communication, wilful disobedience, lack of consideration, selfishness, basic wickedness. Others include renegeing on responsibilities, drugs drunkenness, coming under bad influence leading to behaviour changes

**Types:** It may be physical, verbal-abuses and curses, taciturn, denials of communications, food, rights, rest, care etc.

**Those Involved:** Between spouses, madam/maid or house-help, master/servant, employee, master/apprentice, senior/junior wife. Siblings, parents/children, step parents/ step children, in-laws, nanny/children under their care, between domestic helps caretaker/old folks

It must be mentioned too that imposition of beliefs on people be it religious, political or others, can translate into a form of domestic violence.

For example, in as recently as 2006 in Afghanistan of hamid karzai (not the Taliban) one Abdul Rahman was sentenced to death for converting to Christianity. Note that all he did was change his mind internally and privately. He did not commit any other offence. He escaped death only by international pressure and a plea of insanity. To escape murder by religious zealots he had to seek asylum in Italy. This was just 10 years ago.

### **Need\_For\_Eradication\_Of\_Domestic\_Violence**

There is no doubt that domestic violence exists in our society. Is it part of our culture? If so is there a need to eradicate it? What do you think?

The selection of invitees and participants to this seminar is very apt. As we can see, it includes custodians of our customs, traditions and culture traditional rulers, community leaders, presidents of town unions, the leadership of the churches, schools, legislators, law enforcement agents, married couples, etc.

It has to be accepted that even in the face of overwhelming evidence, because of inertia: fundamental laziness in nature, the world view on many issues cannot be changed over-night. But effort must be sustained in the spread and acceptance of newer ideas, new information, new conclusions and orientations. This is the hall-mark of scientific advancement-making adjustments based on new discoveries and incultrations.

Whatever the case, we have to move with the rest of the world. This group NCHEKWA OHA ADVOCACY FOUNDATION (an NGO) must be congratulated and encouraged for drawing our attention to this monster that some people may take for granted or even attempt to deny its existence.

We should adhere to world standard for curbing domestic violence. Presently United States of America is one of the world leaders in this effort.

As I welcome you all to this seminar let me hope that we shall all take away some positive resolve to eradicate DOMESTIC VIOLENCE in our society and we as individuals and groups shall be the agent for this assignment.

May I thank you for being here.