Police Brutality and Implications to the Society: The Nigeria Experience.

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Abstract

The History of Nigeria can be traced to settlers trading across the middle East and Africa as early as 1100 BC. Numerous ancient African civilizations settled in the region that is known today as Nigeria, such as the Kingdom of Nri, the Benin Empire, and the Oyo Empire. Police brutality, use of torture as interrogative technique and other wanton abuses of human rights remain some of the major flaws of the Nigeria Police Force which has attracted public odium, opprobrium, and condemnation to the Force (Amnesty International, 2015; Ogunode, 2015) . Torture, described as one of the most extreme forms. SARS was controversial for its links to extrajudicial killings, forced disappearances, extortion, torture, framing, blackmail, kidnapping, illegal organ trade, armed robbery, home invasions, rape of men and women, child arrests, the invasion of privacy, and polluting bodies of water by illegally disposing of human remains. This study will apply two of the more popular existing theories: the Structural strain theory, and the symbolic interactionist theory. The research concluded that the best approach to solve this dilemma of unlawful arrest and detention is through intelligent legislation in respect of the laws governing detention for investigative purposes. Other suggestions include, proper training and retraining of police office, deployment of advanced forensic techniques for investigations, improvement in the capacity of the police in their investigative responsibilities, encouragement of professionalism within its rank and file as well as effective punishment of erring officers as deterrence to others, and also recommend that Swift response to public complaints should be priotised so as to avoid other unrest in the society thereby breaking law and order. Proper remuneration should be made.

Keywords: Police, Brutality, Nigeria.

Introduction

Nigeria is a country located in the western part of Africa, she has the largest population in Africa with a promising growing economy. Nigeria is rich in diverse geography with

climate ranging from arid to humid, also rich in culture and diversity of languages (Anthony Hamilton et-al, 2020). The History of Nigeria can be traced to settlers trading across the middle East and Africa as early as 1100 BC. Numerous ancient African civilizations settled in the region that is known today as Nigeria, such as the Kingdom of Nri, the Benin Empire, and the Oyo Empire. Islam reached Nigeria through the Borno Empire between (1068 AD) and Hausa States around (1385 AD) during the 11th century (Nigeria government, 2019), while Christianity came to Nigeria in the 15th century through Augustinian and Capuchin monks from Portugal. The Songhai Empire also occupied part of the region (lumenlearning, 2020).

Lagos was invaded by British forces in 1851 and formally annexed in 1865 (Chioma and Unini 2020). Nigeria became a British protectorate in 1901. The period of colonization lasted until 1960, when an independence movement succeeded. Nigeria is bordered to the north by Niger, to the east by Chad and Cameroon, to the south by the Gulf of Guinea of the Atlantic Ocean, and to the west by Benin. Nigeria is not only large in area—larger than the U.S. state of Texas—but also Africa's most populous country (Reuben Kenrick Udo, et Al ,2020).

Nigeria Police Force was first established in 1820 ("History of Nigeria Police, 2020). In 1879 a 1,200-member armed paramilitary Hausa Constabulary was formed. 1896 the Lagos Police was established. A similar force, the Niger Coast Constabulary, was formed in Calabar in 1894 under the newly proclaimed Niger Coast Protectorate. In the north, the Royal Niger Company set up the Royal Niger Company Constabulary in 1888 with headquarters at Lokoja (Micah and John,2017).

Nigeria which is the largest population in Africa, witnessed so many crimes reported cases due to its vastness in population. Large bulk of its population are youths which even accounted for visibility of manifestation of crimes, human right abuses, and every sort of social vices. However, as the Nigerian society progresses, especially with the advent of the current democratic system of government, new forms of violent crimes have also emerged and the society has become more insecure with many people getting involved in diverse sophisticated criminal activities (Otto and Ukpere, 2012). This phenomenon has affected the NPF; it has exposed its inability to accomplish the bulk of its constitutional responsibility. In response, government has established other law enforcement agencies as Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps (NSCDC) in addition to existing military police to assist in the process of law enforcement and maintenance of order in the country. These established security institutions are charged with the responsibility to protect government properties and ensure civic security. The Economic, Financial and Crime Commission (EFCC) is established and empowered to fight financial crimes; Independent Corrupt Practices and other related Offences Commission (ICPC) to tackle corruption and its perpetrators; National Drug and Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) to combat illegal drug business; National Agency for Trafficking in Persons (NATIP) to tackle human

trafficking; etc. Also, other Private Security Companies such as; ASE Security Limited, Bemil Nigeria Limited, Cardinal Security Limited and a lots more have been given constitutional approval through the Private Security Act to assist in the security business and their activities are supervised by the NSCDC, that is, the Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps.

With this, the security unit of the country was widening and upgraded to curtail the crimes and abuse of human rights perpetrated. Unfortunately, the security unit which was responsible to curtail the abuse of human right was noticed to be the culprit of the essence they were set up in the first instance. The Nigeria police force had been known recently to been the force brutalizing the citizens, perpetrating other punishable offences like using of fire arms in an un professional ways, collecting bribes, and even engaging in extortion from youths that commit cyber-crimes offences. Also, Police make use of torture as interrogative technique and other wanton abuses of human rights remain some of the major flaws of the Nigeria Police Force which has attracted public odium, opprobrium, and condemnation to the Force (Amnesty International, 2015; Ogunode, 2015). This has make the Nigeria citizens both home and in diaspora frown at the development. Though, many complains were made and reported to the right channel but no significant measure were put in place. This problem grew worst and resulted to national protest by the Nigeria youths across major cities of Nigeria like Lagos, Ibadan, Osun etc. against police brutality, abuse of human right, and other associated crimes which they have committed.

This paper will attempt to explicitly narrates the police brutality in Nigeria and also the implication it had on peace, security and trust in the police force in Nigeria.

Police Brutality in Nigeria

Police brutality, use of torture as interrogative technique and other wanton abuses of human rights remain some of the major flaws of the Nigeria Police Force which has attracted public odium, opprobrium, and condemnation to the Force (Amnesty International, 2015; Ogunode, 2015) . Torture, described as one of the most extreme forms of violence, resulting to both psychological and physical consequences is sometimes considered as an indispensable interrogation mechanism for gathering strategic intelligence (Constanzo & Gerrity, 2009; Makwerere, Tafadzwa & Musorowegomo, 2012; Justice Project Pakistan, 2014) . Empirical studies have shown that torture and other forms of violent abuse can have enduring negative effects on both survivors and perpetrators, and is ineffective for obtaining reliable information in interrogation (Egede, 2007; Constanzo & Gerrity, 2009).

The activities of the police as an institution are meant to be guided at the national and international level by conventions, standards and treaties (Universal Declaration of Human Rights, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and International

Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,1966). In spite of state prohibitions against torture and custodial misconduct by the police, torture has been reported as being commonly used in police custodies across Nigeria, which is a major reason behind deaths in custody (Amnesty International, 2014;2015).

According to the Network on Police Reform in Nigeria (NOPRIN,2010), personnel of the Nigeria Police routinely carry out summary executions of persons accused or suspected of crime; rely on torture as a principal means of investigation; commit rape of both sexes, and engage in extortion at nearly every opportunity. Violent treatment of accused persons by the police or other law enforcement officers is strongly against Article 5 of the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations, resolution34/169 of 17 December 1979:

> "No law enforcement official may inflict, instigate or tolerate any act of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, nor may any law enforcement official invoke superior orders or exceptional circumstances such as a state of war or a threat of war, a threat to national security, internal political instability or any other public emergency as a justification of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment." (Richard A.Aborisade Abolaji,Adewale Obileye,2015; vol. 15, no 1)

History of Sars and Their Brutality, Toture Cases in Nigeria.
Aside from the overall police units that fell victims of brutalizing Nigeria citizens, the special anti-robbery squad (SARS) has been found to be the top unit in Nigeria Police to be culprit of brutalization and unnecessary use of torture in Nigeria.

The Special Anti-Robbery Squad was founded in late 1992 by former police commissioner Simeon Danladi Midenda. The Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) was a Nigerian Police Force unit created to deal with crimes associated with robbery, motor vehicle theft, kidnapping, cattle rustling, and firearms. It was part of the Force Criminal Investigation and Intelligence Department (FCIID), headed by Deputy Inspector General of Police Anthony Ogbizi.(Vanguard News, 23 December 2017. Retrieved 25 February 2020).

SARS was controversial for its links to extrajudicial killings, forced disappearances, extortion, torture, framing, blackmail, kidnapping, illegal organ trade, armed robbery, home invasions, rape of men and women, child arrests, the invasion of privacy, and polluting bodies of water by illegally disposing of human remains. After widespread protests in Nigeria and worldwide under the motto "End SARS"(P.M. News. 7 November 2011. Retrieved 26 February 2020) the unit was disbanded on 11 October 2020. Inspector General of Police M.A. Adamu said that a new unit called Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) would replace the SARS (The Guardian, October 13, 2020; accessed 18 October

2020). Within hours of the announcement, some Nigerians took to Twitter with the hashtag #EndSWAT,and demonstrations continued amid fears that police reform would not materialize.(CNN. Retrieved 16 October 2020).

The incident that spurred SARS' formation was the death of Col. Israel Rindam (Nigerian Army) at the hands of police officers at a checkpoint in Lagos on September 1992, leading to the arrest of three police officers. (Refworld - UNHCR, 30, January,1994; accessed 18 October 2020). When the information reached the army, soldiers were dispatched into the streets of Lagos in search of any and all police officers. The Nigerian police withdrew from checkpoints, security areas, and other points of interest for criminals; some police officers were said to have resigned while others fled for their lives. Due to the absence of police for two weeks, the crime rate increased and SARS was formed with an initial force of 15, operating in secrecy to avoid the army. Due to the existence of three already established anti-robbery squads that were operational at that time, Midenda needed to distinguish his squad from the already existing teams. Midenda named his team Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS). After months of dialogue the Nigerian Army and the Nigeria Police Force came to an understanding, and official police duties resumed in Lagos. The SARS unit was officially commissioned in Lagos following the subsequent ceasefire. SARS was one of the 14 units in the Force Criminal Investigation and Intelligence Department, which was established to detain, investigate, and prosecute those involved in violent crimes such as armed robbery and kidnapping.(vanguardngr.com, accessed 21 October 2020).

Following several reports of human rights violations submitted by members of the public to the office of the Inspector General of Police, on 7 August 2015, the then-Inspector General of Police Solomon Arase announced he would split the SARS unit into two units, an operational unit and an investigations unit, in order to curtail cases of human rights violations. (Premium Times Nigeria, 7 August 2015; Retrieved 26 February 2020). In September 2016, Pulse.ng compiled a report on Nigerian police brutality entitled "Meet SARS, the Police Unit with license to kill", highlighting the brutality and ignorance of the squad's rules of engagement. (Pulse Nigeria; 23 September 2016, Retrieved 26 February 2020).

Some Recorded Police Brutality in Nigeria.

(1) In mid-1996, the SARS Lagos branch arrested two security guards at their place of work under suspicion of assisting in a robbery. The two guards were not charged with a crime when arrested. In January 1997, the bodies of the guards were placed at a morgue without an explanation for their deaths.(Nigeria Country Report on Human Rights Practices for 1997 Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor accessed 18 October 2020).

(2) In October 2005, a SARS operative killed a bus driver in Obiaruku, Delta State, for failing to pay a bribe. The operative was removed from their SARS position and

arrested on charges of murder.(Country Reports on Human Rights Practices - 2005 - Nigeria (Page 2) Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, accessed 18 October 2020).

(3) In 2009, after several years of operations, the squad grew in number and strength. Due to the increased presence of internet fraudsters and secret societies in Nigerian universities, SARS operatives infiltrated them and made several successful arrests, but in the process harassed innocent people(www.wikipedia.org; JStalin: Special Anti-Robbery Squad ; Revision as of 14:32, 27 November 2020). What SARS became was a national scourge that witch-hunt machinery against Nigerian youth with dreadlocks, piercings, cars, expensive phones and risque means of expression.

(4) In May 2010, Amnesty International disclosed that it would be suing the Nigerian Police over human rights abuses, stating that SARS operatives in Borokiri, Port Harcourt, had arrested three bicyclists and detained them for over one week while they were "beaten every night with the butt of a gun and iron belt.(P.M. News. 27 May 2010; Retrieved 26 February 2020).

(5) On 20 May 2010, a Federal High Court in Enugu State ordered the then-Inspector General of Police Ogbonna Okechukwu Onovo to produce a Special Anti-Robbery Squad officer who had shot dead a 15-year-old boy at his high school. According to the SARS officer, the teen was mistaken for a kidnapper.(allAfrica.com. 19 May 2010; Retrieved 18 October 2020).

(6). On 27 July 2010, Sahara Reporters published an extensive editorial report detailing how SARS and other police units had made a profit of ₦9.35 billion ($60 million) from roadblocks and extortion within 18 months.(Sahara Reporters; Retrieved 26 February 2020).

(7) A September 2016 report published by Amnesty International detailed extensive torture and detainment without trial. The report detailed SARS forcing confessions, withholding food, and other abuses.

(8) On 10 August 2019, while SARS operatives were on a raid in Ijegun to arrest kidnappers in the area, several shots were fired in a bid to subdue the kidnappers; one of these shots hit a pregnant woman who was reportedly killed instantly. An angry mob was said to have lynched two of the officers on the spot (Sahara Reporters. Retrieved 26 February 2020).

(9) On 21 August 2019, four SARS operatives were arrested and charged with murder after being caught on film manhandling and then shooting to death two suspected

phone thieves in broad daylight. The suspected thieves were shot dead after they had already been arrested.(Punchng.com, accessed 18 October 2020).

(10)On 5 September 2019, operatives of the Special Anti-Robbery Squad in Lekki, Lagos, allegedly kidnapped, tortured, and robbed Nigerian rapper Ikechukwu Onunaku for no clear reason. According to publications by Punch Nigeria, SARS operatives forced Onunaku to make several ATM withdrawals.(Punch Newspapers. Retrieved 26 February 2020).

(11)A Police officer attached to the Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) in Ogun State Command has allegedly caused the death of Remo Stars FC assistant captain Tiyamiyu Kazeem according to the club's media officer Oladimeji Oshode.

(12). Ifeoma Abugu, who was allegedly raped and murdered by personnel of Special Anti-Robbery Squad, SARS, while in detention at the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja.

Literature Review

To fully understand the excessive police brutality in Nigeria, some past researches were consulted to give indebt meaning of the project topic. Amongst some consulted researches is found below.

Richard A. Aborisade and Abolaji Adewale Obileye, 2008; Analyzed how Nigeria as a country deals with serious cases of abuse of police authority and human rights infringements by security agents in Nigeria and how often it stimulates intense public debate. Though, the research agreed that there have been consistent denials by the leadership of the Nigerian Police on the use of torture-based interrogations to elicit information from arrestees, and the paper also support that extant literature affirms that the police rely on different forms of torture as principal means of investigation. This paper appraised the recurrent problem of brutality and abuse of human right by the Nigerian police. Triangulating both quantitative and qualitative methods of data collection which included questionnaires administered on 1000 accidentally selected inmates, 50 purposively selected in-depth interviewees and 10 officials of the five prisons in Ogun State who were key informants. The study found that the police rely heavily on the use of torture to elicit "confessions" from arrestees. Former detainees reported experiences that included being bound and suspended mid- air in painful positions, kicked and beaten with machetes, gun butts, boots, fists, electrical wires, animal hides, and other instruments. The lack of capacity to conduct proper criminal investigation is responsible for the reliance of the police on torture induced confessions. Therefore, there is need for the government to improve on the capacity of the Police in their investigative responsibilities and encourage professionalism amongst its rank and file.

John Domingo Inyang (Ph.D) and Ubong Evans Abraham,2003; explores the Nigeria police system with particular reference to the formal and informal police institutions. It discusses

the history of policing in Nigeria and the challenges affecting the one-agency police institution which is the conventional Nigeria Police Force. The inability of the NPF to control the rising spate of crime and the fact that the institution is regarded as oppressive tool in the hands of the rich has given room for public distrust and subsequent debate on how to improve safety and security for foreigners and Nigerians within the country. The partnership theory of Dennis Rosenbaum is the theoretical framework that is adopted as a guide to the study. The research recommends amongst others that the informal police methodology should be recognized by the government and given the necessary financial support to partner with the formal police force in order to enhance the process of providing security for Nigerians and foreigners residing and doing business in the country.

Theoretical Framework: Structural strain theory, Symbolic Interactionism and Police Brutality

A substantial amount of scholarly attention has been drawn to the topic of police brutality and human rights abuses over the last few decades (Hickman, & Green, 2001; Holmes, Smith, Freng & Munoz, 2008; Frank, 2009; Alemika, 2003; King, 2009; Wolfe & Piquero, 2011) . In spite of that, a large number of scholars have asserted that theory based research has only recently emerged to specifically explain the brutality of police behavior (Chamlin, 1989; Lersch, 1998; Hickman, Piquero, Lawton & Green, Wolfe & Piquero, 2011). There are theorists of various orientations that attempts at finding the causality of violence perpetrated by the police (Britt, 1979; Westmarland, 2006; Holmes et al . , 2008).

This study will apply two of the more popular existing theories:

Strain Anomie Theory

According to the Structural Strain Theory developed by American sociologist Robert Merton, in the late 1930s, crime is not simply a function of deprivation but the result of a disjuncture (lack of connection) between ends (goals) and the means to attain those ends. Merton argues that deviance results not from pathological personalities but from the culture and structure of society itself. He begins from the standard functionalist position of value consensus, that is, all members of societies share the same values. However, since members of society are placed in different position in the social structure, for example, they differ in terms of class position; they do not have the same opportunity of realizing the shared values. This situation can generate deviance.

In Merton's word, 'the social and cultural structures generate pressure for socially deviant behaviors upon people variously located in that structure' (Haralambos and Heald,2001). People who aspire the cultural norm of economic achievement but are denied the education, capital, or other means to realize those ends will experience strain. According to Merton, there are three possible responses to this strain.

First, the person may try what Merton calls innovation. Although the individual continues to accept the cultural value of success, he or she will employ illegitimate means, such as theft or robbery, to obtain money because legitimate means to achieve this end are not available.

Another possible response is what Merton termed retreatism. The person gives up the pursuit of economic success and engages in self-destructive behavior, such as drug abuse. Finally, Merton identified the response of rebellion, wherein the person abandons the culturally dictated goal of economic achievement and engages in revolutionary activities or in attempts to reform the system (Lynch, 2009).

In Nigeria, just like in other modern societies, education is an important avenue for social mobility. Individuals who have a good education tend to have good jobs and are likely to attain occupational success. It is therefore difficult for people who have no access to good quality education, do not have social connection, and cannot attain a high level of education and occupational status to rise in society. There is a great temptation for individuals who cannot succeed through acceptable channels of mobility to employ socially prescribed means to attain their ends (Onwuenme, 1982). From the forgoing, therefore, it is clear that the adoption of Strain Anomie Theory will provide support for the analysis on the security situation. Presently, in Nigeria, even those that are opportune to attain a high level of education are found committing crime due to the high level of unemployment and unbearable state of poverty in the country many people are left with no other option than to resort to what Merton called innovation, thereby, become criminals. Similarly, the activities of the militant groups in Niger delta, the Boko Haram in Maiduguri and Bauchi and other related groups can be regarded as what Merton terms as rebellion. In connection to the above, Metiboba (2010) stated that: a school of thought has proffered that until something realistic is done about poverty, ignorance and diseases that stare on the faces of average person in most of families in developing countries, there can be no crime control measure that will succeed in this place. Property crime such as theft, arson, burglary, etc is rapidly increasing and becoming one of the major problems of developmental process in Nigeria (Tanimu, 2003 in Metiboba,2010). Commenting on the issue of Boko-Haram, Magaji, (2009) stated that; We are living in the same country but these youths see the children of Politicians, Governors, Ministers and the rest of them riding expensive vehicles and the majority of the children of the poor are not getting three-square meals. In view of the above issue, Structural Strain Theory clearly described the causes of present security problems in Nigeria. Other causes of insecurity and the nature of policing were further analyzed with the use of conflict theory below.

Symbolic Interactionist Theory: This theory can effectively compliment conflict theory to explain why some officers engage in brutality, torture and other forms of human rights abuses while officers of other units within the same NPF do not engage in it. Therefore, as against the macro-level theory, symbolic interactionism emphasizes the subjective

meanings and significant influences of socialization in explaining the patterns of micro-level social interactions (Mead, 1934). As interactions between people, including violent encounters between civilians and police officers, are reciprocal on the part of two related parties, each party embodies its own reflected appraisal of the self, which subsequently influences one's behaviors when engaging in interpersonal relationships. The concept of "the self" is argued to be greatly influenced by the subjective interpretations and "reflection of appraisals" made by the reference groups (Mead, 1934; Matsueda, 1992). This formation of self-identity is applied to individuals' behaviors and interactions through "role-taking," which then constructs the general social structures (Matsueda, 1992).The theory also "stresses that people help to create their social circumstances and do not merely react to them"(Goffman, 1959; Matsueda, 1999; Brym, Lie& Rytina, 2009). As it can be extrapolated from symbolic interactionism, civilians and police both learn to behave in accordance to the norms, rules and expectations of a given society. In the context of police-civilian interactions, consistent with the perspectives of the Marxists, members of the minority groups and police officers are likely to be viewed as "rule violators" and oppressors respectively in the eyes of one another. This is noticed in the incident that spurred SARS' formation when Col. Israel Rindam (Nigerian Army) died at the hands of police officers at a checkpoint in Lagos on September 1992.

The peculiarity of the organizational culture of the police makes police apparatus to act as an officer's situationally dominant reference group when any issue arises on duty (Ouchi, 1979). First, under the precondition of the lack of appropriate constraints imposed by the upper body of the society, a police officer must have internalized his role as a control agent and that of authority in order to engage in the act of human right abuse. The police divisions and the political elites portray the role of police as control agents and "crime fighters," rather than social workers to serve the interest of the public (Fry & Berkes, 1983). Institutionalization of an abstract group identity, as Matsueda (1992) argues, is "the most effective form of social control" because people eventually learn to act according to the expected code of conduct (Mead, 1934:1581). Subsequently, the society at large accepts the authority of the police (whether willingly or not) and interacts with them in a rather submissive manner. Finally, the officers internalize their new occupational identity and enact their expected role to maintain social control in society. As scholars have observed the organizational culture and structure significantly influence the behavior of individual officers and teaches them to internalize values, attitudes, and beliefs that are used to ensure that appropriate occupational and/or organizational behaviors are adopted"(Ouchi, 1979; Fry& Berkes, 1983: 226).The degree to which each segment of the police force employs the "paramilitary police model," embraces the soldier-bureaucrat identities and appraises the value of attaining control over civilians differs considerably (Fry and Berkes,1983). Also, the more an officer is exposed to other officers' misconduct, the more susceptible he is to "slide further down the slippery slope" and taken the role of "brutal officer"–also known as "reciprocal role-taking" (Matsueda,1992; Punch and Gilmour,2010:11). The postulations of both the social conflict and symbolic interactionist theories have provided a holistic

theoretical approach that considers both micro-and macro-sociological explanations for the contravention of human rights by law enforcement officers in Nigeria. The social conflict theory tends to assume that it is the external influence of the elite class which constructs and mandates police officers' behaviors in their daily encounters with civilians. On the other hand, symbolic interactionist theory is able to address the variations between units and segments and explain why only some officers become "bad apples" and why some will rather conform to ethics of their job.

Implications of Police Brutality in Nigeria

(1). **Gross complain and end sars protest**: The police brutality has negative impact on the effective policing of the country Nigeria. The inhuman action has caused Nigerians to lost hope and faith in the Nigeria policing system. This thereby has resulted to people issuing various complaint either directly to the commissioner of police or to the police complaint commission. Also, citizens have frowned at the abuse of human right by taking to their social media handle to lay complain and express their displeasures about the activities of the police brutality in Nigeria via their Facebook, twitter and Instagram account. When the youths of Nigeria are fed up about the incessant brutality of Nigeria police, they took to the street to express their displeasure by staging protest across major cities in Nigeria in October. This is as a result of the brutality of police and also no proactive measures were taken before the protest.

(2). **Death of unarmed ends sars protesters**: After several complaints were made by affected citizens and no significant proactive measures were taken, the Nigeria youths took to the major cities in Nigeria to stage a protest about the issue. The protest was noticed in Lagos, Ibadan, Osun and other states in Nigeria. Un-armed protesters staged protest in an organized manner across the nation but unfortunately, the Nigeria Army was invited and they shot at the protesters in Lagos state while the protesters were holding their peaceful protest without arms in their hands but Nigeria flags, this led to the death of some protesters as announced and displayed by the social media. Had it been the Nigeria police had made significant changes earlier, the issues won't have resulted to the death of various Nigeria youths.

(3). Lynching of innocent police officer: After the shooting at the Lekki toll gate in Lagos which resulted to the death of youths, the youths got angry and retaliated by taking to the street and destroying various police stations in Nigeria. This situation caused unrest in the country which later resulted to the lynching of some innocent police officers who luck ran out of them by hoodlums that hijacked the peaceful protest. Various police stations were burnt down; carious police men were attacked.

(4). Unrest and rancor in the society. The protest was hijacked by hoodlums after the Nigeria army shoot the peaceful protesters, this caused unrest and rancor in the society in which various private and government properties were destroyed and burnt down.

(5). Economic crisis, Looting of properties, increase in crimes, banditry, and kidnapping. The unrest in the society led to the citizens discovering various Covid-19 palliatives warehouses and going there in their mass to loot the palliatives. This menace did not end there but extended to other government and private owned business. People practically loot other businesses causing many business owners loss millions of naira to the incident, even the Lagos state government was not left out of the loss, they also lost so many properties.

Furthermore, the police withdrew from their duty posts because of the incident of lynching and unrest in the society, which led to the increase in crimes, banditry and kidnapping because the security officers were not around to hold them.

(6). Abuse of human rights. The un-cautioned police brutality led to various abuse of human right by some police officers brutalizing citizens, engaging in raping citizens they supposed to protect, unlawful arresting of youths and detaining them, collecting of bribe, and also killing innocent citizens by SARS and other police unit and officers.

Findings and Discussion

From my findings in this research, I found out that the police brutality had been in existence in Nigeria as far back as 1992. But not as if the earlier years were totally free from police brutality and misconduct but the most recognized and documented brutality of the Nigeria police force officially became noticed and unbearable from 1992.

Also, Nigeria Police force often brutalize its citizens there were supposed to protect, they make use of torture as interrogative technique to get information from suspects or criminals, and they make use of other wanton abuses of human rights such as bound and suspended the suspect in mid- air in a painful positions, kicked and beaten with machetes, gun butts, boots, fists, electrical wires, animal hides, and other instruments.

Furthermore, the findings also revealed that the deviant behavior of some civilians (citizens) that led them to commit crimes that resulted to police investigation and criminalizing of the offences which led to their brutality in some cases was as a result of the cultural and structural organization of society (Nigeria).

Also, findings revealed that as interactions between people, including violent encounters between civilians and police officers exist in the society, there is a reciprocal effect of the communication on the part of two related parties, each party embodies its own reflected appraisal of the self, which subsequently influences one's behaviors when engaging in interpersonal relationships. This interaction between the two parties at times brings disagreement and conflict which later in turn results to police officers brutalizing citizens either for communicating with him or her with no respect or addressing him rudely, which

the citizens will in turn take offence for such brutality. As it can be extrapolated from symbolic interactionism, civilians and police both need to learn on how to behave in accordance to the norms, rules and expectations of a given society, especially Nigeria. Also, the more an officer is exposed to other officers' misconduct, the more susceptible he is to "slide further down the slippery slope" and taken the role of "brutal officer"–also known as "reciprocal role-taking".

Finally, the incessant brutality of police force in Nigeria as resulted to gross complains by the general public, which most of the complains were not attended to on time which led to nationwide end Sars protest across major cities in Nigeria. Also, the police brutality have led to the death of some innocent civilians which were either unlawfully detained or accused and tortured, or died as a result of the end sars protest. Furthermore, the police brutality case in Nigeria had led to the death of some committed police officers due to the reciprocal effect of the end sars protest. Also, findings have it that the unmonitored police brutality had caused unrest and rancor in Nigeria, death, bad economic experience and also resulted to looting of properties and increase in crimes, banditry and kidnapping and finally, abuse of human right.

Conclusion and Recommendation

The systematic brutality of the police affects virtually every Nigerian, though at different levels, as the impact weighs down more on the poor.

Though, the SARS department of the Nigeria police had been disbanded but the whole police system needs total purge and cleansing. Police officers should be re-orientated about respecting of human right and also stop the collection of bribes on the high-way when discharging their duties.

The operations of the Nigeria Police Force bear almost no resemblance of the requirements of the Nigerian law. The activities of the NPF are at marked variance with protecting human life, safety, and security, as it rather endangers the people they ought to protect.

The best approach to solve this dilemma of unlawful arrest and detention is through intelligent legislation in respect of the laws governing detention for investigative purposes. Other suggestions include, proper training and retraining of police office, deployment of advanced forensic techniques for investigations, improvement in the capacity of the police in their investigative responsibilities, encouragement of professionalism within its rank and file as well as effective punishment of erring officers as deterrence to others.

Swift response to public complaints should be priotised so as to avoid other unrest in the society thereby breaking law and order. Proper remuneration should be made.

So caution should be made by the police directorate to punish any erring officers that violence rule of engagement in Nigeria, also policies and measures should be put in place to curtail the manner at which some citizens address the police men on duty. Also, proper interrogating techniques should be put in place to replace the various brutality and means policemen extract information from suspect that will not lead to abuse of human right.

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