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Smugglers kill three kids in Ogun

From Adeyemi Adepetun (Abeokuta)

TRAGEDY struck late Sunday evening when three siblings were hit by a driver on the Lagos-Abeokuta Road, at Ilepa in the Ifo Council of Ogun State.

According to a witness account, the siblings whose ages ranged between seven and 10 were hit by a driver of a suspected smuggled second-hand vehicle.

The Guardian learnt that the vehicles were six and that the drivers were allegedly smuggling them into the country from the neighbouring Benin Republic through Ijoun border town in Ogun State when one of the drivers hit the kids.

The children, according to the witness account, were coming from a church service at about 5 p.m. when one of the drivers on top speed hit the children at the road side in attempt to overtake another vehicle heading for Lagos.

Mr. Ola Fadeyi, a resident of the area, said: "The drivers of the tokunbo vehicles (second-hand vehicles) were very reckless in their driving. The car that hit the children veered off the road and hit the children, in an attempt to overtake a commercial bus heading for Lagos", he said.

At the scene of the accident, angry youths blocked the road with used tyres and made bonfire. They smashed the windscreen of a Mercedes Benz car and later set the Toyota Carina car on fire.

The Police Public Relations Officer in the state, Mr. Olufemi Awoyale could not be reached for comment on the accident at press time.

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