

FROM
SIMEON NWAKAUDU
(MAKURDI)

A gang of perverts has raped to death a nine-year-old girl, Kwaghadoo Agbami, after a late night's traditional marriage in Makurdi, Benue State.

The crime was committed just as a group of women expressed aversion for a recent report that a Senior Secondary school girl was abducted and gang-raped in Ilesa, Osun State, by suspected political thugs.

Although the actual time of the Makurdi rape was not known, little Kwaghadoo Agbami was missing from the house, shortly after midnight.

She was said to have gone to put her younger brother to bed in the one room apartment close to the venue of the marriage party. The bridegroom is the son of the landlord of the compound where the deceased lived.

The landlord, Tsetim Shawa, told *The Guardian* that he had seen the girl some few minutes to midnight, before the party came to a close.

Shortly after the party ended, the elder sister of late Kwaghadoo approached Shawa with the news that they were looking for the girl.

The landlord said he immediately formed a

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Girl, 9, Dies From Gang Rape

search party with the sister of the girl, but that their effort yielded no fruits. He persuaded the elder sister of the girl to be patient till morning so that the matter could be reported to the police.

But by morning, somebody raised alarm that the body of Kwaghdoo was lying behind the toilet of the compound, everyone rushed to the scene.

Shawa said "The surprising aspect of this ugly inci-

dent was the fact that the girl's body was dragged from the front of their one room apartment to the back of the toilet. Nobody heard any cry, not even her brother who slept in their room."

At about 9.30am on Friday morning when *The Guardian* visited the scene of the crime, the body of little Kwaghdoo was still exposed, waiting for the arrival of the police.

Though it looked as if she was brutally raped, since her private part was bleeding, her tongue stuck out and excreta stained her pants, she looked like someone strangled.

A police team from the Homicide Department, which arrived later arranged for photographs of the body.

When contacted, police spokesman Samuel Jinadu said he was yet to receive

full briefing on the incident, but he would brief the press when he got more information about the crime.

In the Osun case, the group, speaking under the aspics of Women, Law and Development Centre, Nigeria (WLDCN) denounced the abduction and subsequent rape of the school girl, allegedly for her failure to give false evidence against a politician.