

10-year-old kills friend with grandfather's pistol in Bayelsa

• Source claims they were testing bulletproof charm

Simon Utebor, Yenagoa

A YET-TO-BE identified 10-year-old boy has allegedly killed his unnamed friend, aged 12, with his grandfather's pistol

The incident reportedly occurred in Otuan community, Southern Ijaw Local Government Area, Bayelsa State during the week while the two young friends were playing and mouth-ing possession of bulletproof charms.

An eyewitness claimed that the boys were acting scenes from a movie they had watched when the deceased boasted that he had spiri-tual bulletproof and challenged the 10-year-old boy to shoot him and see if the bullet would enter.

The eyewitness claimed that the 10-year-old quickly ran into his grandfather's room, picked up a pistol and fired shots at his friend, which resulted in his death.

It was gathered that the owner of the pis-tol, an ex-service man, was not at home at the time the incident occurred.

It was also learnt that after firing the shots that killed his friend, the 10-year-old quickly abandoned the gun and fled the scene to an unknown destination.

Another community source explained that "people are currently searching for the boy who is on the run. There is a tradition in the community that whoever kills another per-son would be put to death instantly."

When contacted, the Police Public Rela-tions Officer (PPRO), Bayelsa State Com-mand, Mr. Asinim Butswat, said the matter was yet to be reported to the police.

"It (killing) has not been reported to the police yet. But we will find out if such an inci-dent happened," Butswat, a Superintendent of Police, stated.