

Fear, suspicion trail school teacher's murder

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The fast-growing neighbourhoods around the 3 - 3 Quarters, on the outskirts of Onitsha, appeared to be in confusion last week. Friday, as the police and other security agencies failed to find a clue to the murder of a young woman found on College of Education Road.

Residents who spoke with Saturday Punch, said they now live in fear of their lives as a result of the killing.

The dead woman, simply known as Anulika, was said to be a member of the teaching staff of a private school in Onitsha.

Sources in Onitsha told *CRIME DIGEST* that she might have been raped by her assailants before they murdered her.

But the police in Onitsha and Awka

had nothing to say about the mysterious death, since nobody had reported the matter to them.

The Nwafor Orizu College of Education authorities have rejected the notion that the deceased might have been killed by suspected members of a campus secret cult in the college.

The Provost, Dr. Clara Obiagwu said that the deceased was not a student of the college and possibly, could not have been attacked by students.

Mr. Joel Nduka, a neighbour of the deceased, said she had called her friend that she would be coming over to her place at 3 - 3 to spend the weekend.

Unfortunately, Anulika never made it to her friend's place. Her supposed friend, who craved anonymity, described the deceased as an easy-going native of Ihiala in Ihiala Local Government Area of Anambra State.

The lady said, "Anurika had called to inform us that she was coming to Nsugbe to spend the weekend as she usually did. But when we did not see her, we did not complain because we thought she changed her mind only to be told that she was raped to death and her body dumped beside the fence of the College of Education."

Anulika's friend waved away insinuations that she might have been murdered by unknown ritualists, since her vital organs were missing.

She said, "The girl's body was intact as at the time of the discovery, so I don't subscribe to the insinuations that she was a victim of ritual killing because if she was, at least her vital parts could have been removed.

"But as it stands, she was intact and we only saw blood all over her body which showed that she was gang-raped by group of hoodlums."