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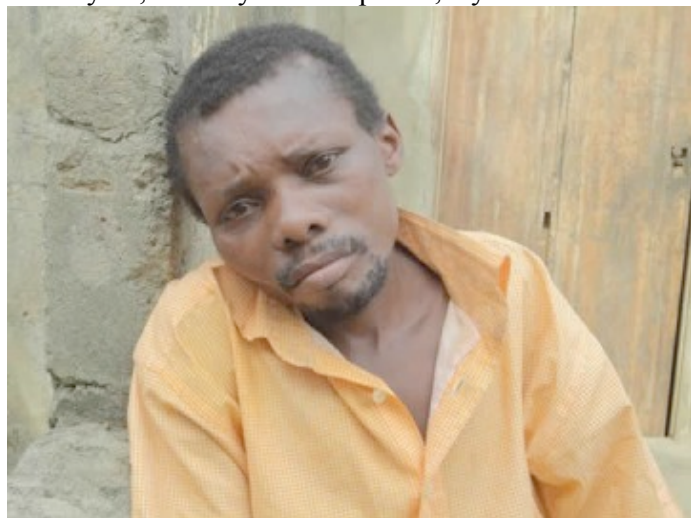
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Girl, 8, raped, murdered by her father's friend

January 28, 2012 by Etim Ekpimah, Uyo



A primary two pupil of St. Atana Church School in Nung Oku, Ibesikpo/Asutan Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State was allegedly raped and murdered on January 1, 2012 by her father's close friend, Mr. Samuel Atagha, aka Ufia.

CRIME DIGEST learnt that Atagha went to the deceased's residence around 7.45 pm on the fateful day when her father, Mr. Innocent Francis, was not at home. He reportedly tricked the girl to go out with him on the pretext that he was going to buy something for her.

Our correspondent learnt that the girl's younger brother, Obedient, was present in the house and he overheard Atagha asking her to go out with him so that he could buy her something.

The boy said he warned his sister not to go out since it was late.

When it was 9.30 pm, the girl's family began to look for her. Francis said they were worried since she had never stayed out late at night and nobody in the house had sent her on errand.

Later, he asked Obedient whether he knew the whereabouts of the girl and was informed that Atagha had taken her out.

Francis said, "When we did not see her throughout the night, my friends, including my tenants and I went to Atagha's house to ask him about my daughter's whereabouts.

"He denied ever seeing the girl that day. He told us that we had come to incur his wrath for something he had no knowledge of. But when he noticed that we were very serious, he ran away and we did not see him for many days.

"When we took the matter to his family, he appeared and confessed that he did it and that we should not let any other person hear about the matter."

Francis had quickly informed the police about the matter immediately and Atagha was arrested.

He said, "I only did my bit by informing the police about the alleged killer of my daughter. Because I am poor, many people seem to take advantage of my situation and treat me badly.

"I don't know if the police will be able to avenge my daughter's death. My daughter was easy-going, obedient and loving. I could not imagine how somebody – not even my own friend – could do this type of thing to me. The world is wicked. This is an abominable offence."

Francis said that his daughter's corpse was still lying in the bush where Atagha allegedly hacked her to death. Part of the body, especially the belly, had begun to decompose. But the face was still recognisable. He said the corpse was left there as evidence and that they would only bury the girl once the police gave them the go-ahead to do so.

One of the tenants and a close friend to Francis, who gave his name as Innocent, described the slain girl as too precious to lose. He said the victim could cook any type of food and when somebody sent her on errand, she would promptly go without any argument.

He said, "This is not the type of girl anybody can lose. Great injustice has been done to the little girl. We hope the government will intervene in this matter."

The spokesman for the Akwa Ibom State Police Command, Mr. Onyekaozuru Orji, confirmed the incident and said the Police had arrested the alleged killer.

Orji said the matter was under investigation and if it was established that Atagha actually raped and murdered the girl, he would be charged to court for manslaughter.

He said, "This is a matter of manslaughter. We are investigating the matter. If it is established that Atagha actually raped and murdered the girl, he would be charged to court for manslaughter. There is no hiding place for criminals in this state."

Orji advised parents and guardians to keep constant watch over their children and wards and should not, in any way, entrust them to anybody.

"That is a pointer to members of the public that they should not be too trusting. We should mind the kind of people we leave our children and wards with. People should properly screen the people they leave their children and wards with," he said.

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• *Mcosy* January 28, 2012 at 1:28 am

That's man's wickedness, and it a lesson to parent not to be too trusting about who they allow their children and wards to play around with

[Link](#)



• *Emmy* January 28, 2012 at 1:41 am

Y? aw on ds earth wuld smne do dt kind of thing. either d death is avenged or not, d girl is dead. i just pray dt God in His infinite mercies will bring hapiness to d family.

[Link](#)



• *Lucky A* January 28, 2012 at 3:35 am

PIONT OF CORRECTION :This case is not a mansloughter offence; it's is a case of murder / defilement offence. He should be charge for both offence [conconrrent charge]. point to proved : 1. the girl is not up to 14 yrs old, [2] the conscent of the girl is imaterial, [3] the girl's dead was couse by the man who defile her. etc.....

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• *Ijeoma* January 28, 2012 at 8:10 am

DON'T MIND THE USELESS POLICE MAN THAT DOES NOT EVEN KNOW THE LAW!!

Rape of a minor is equally heinous, but see how this fool in uniform conveniently skipped that to talk of 'manslaughter', I shame for Nigerian Police! Tufiakwa!!!

[Link](#)



• *Bolakale Eniola* January 28, 2012 at 4:09 am

Friendship is one of the basic components of human existence and it is accessible to both the poor and the rich, young and old. However, it is not unknown that most of the vicious acts against a man are often committed and perpetrated by his friends. And, more often than not, our innocent and vulnerable children are the victims of such friendships/ relationships made in hell. With a friend like Atagha, Mr Fracis, the father of the victim, needs no enemy! Mr Orji, the spokesman for the Akwa Ibom Police Command needs some tutorials on the difference between a charge of murder and manslaughter. If investigation reveals that Atagha did actually rape and murder the victim he will be charged for murder and not manslaughter though he could be convicted for a lesser crime of manslaughter if it is proved that he

had no intention (mens rea) to murder the victim. Or is Mr Orji trying to tell us that the police investigation has established that Mr Atagha, in doing the unlawful act i.e. raping the victim, unintentionally killed her, thus committing an involuntary manslaughter?

[Link](#)



- Tony U January 28, 2012 at 4:12 am

Did the Police spokesman, Mr. Orji, actually say "MANSLAUGHTER"? I hope NOT!

[Link](#)



- Ayotosin January 28, 2012 at 4:25 am

Wicked people

[Link](#)



- Etim January 28, 2012 at 4:55 am

If what i am reading is truth. How could this old man involved himself with such wickedness. The blood of that innocent girl will continually cry in the family of whoever that is involved.

[Link](#)



- Jummy January 28, 2012 at 5:42 am

So it is not only one part of Nigeria that we have animals living as humans? What do we call this? Very inhuman & animalistic

[Link](#)



- Godcaring January 28, 2012 at 5:54 am

this man should be killed without even saying anything..

[Link](#)



- nasir January 28, 2012 at 6:23 am

This is work of civilization yes, south people you claim western world life style, By dressing naked.

[Link](#)



- Ayo January 28, 2012 at 9:37 am

Can people actually reason this way? An eight years old was raped & killed. Imagine the comment of Nasir below. That is, the girl deserved it?

[Link](#)



• *Collins* January 28, 2012 at 7:31 pm

Nasir, u need to have ur head examined. U STINK!!!

[Link](#)



• *jide* January 29, 2012 at 12:25 am

if this was a very functional society, you would right now be investigated as a possible member of boko haram!

[Link](#)



• *Ademola* January 28, 2012 at 6:34 am

A girl was raped and killed and the police are gonna charge the offender for manslaughter? Does that police guy even know the meaning of manslaughter? I'm smelling foulplay in this whole episode. Pathetic.

[Link](#)



• *Makinde B* January 28, 2012 at 8:20 am

How can the police nt knw the different between manslaughter n murder? This is a clear case of murder. This girl should nt die in vain.

[Link](#)



• *Engr. Seth* January 28, 2012 at 7:06 am

A friend once told me that he no longer trust Nigeria Police, and it's true. How can such case be charged as MANSLAUGHTER ? Before you know it, the wicked offender would be bailed or released. Since the police knows that the deceased parents are poor, their wayo investigation will continue till the complainant become frustrated then the case dies like that. You guys at there you watch and see.

[Link](#)



• *Ijeoma* January 28, 2012 at 8:14 am

WHAT is there to investigate, the man has confessed! Case closed!

His crimes should not be softened under 'manslaughter'!! That little girl was defenseless against that old fool!

Who knows how many girls he has been raping and getting scot free. perhaps this one resisted him???

His crimes: RAPE OF A MINOR, ASSAULT , MURDER!!!!. PEDOPHILIA, OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE etc.... and I a NOT even a lawyer or police, I KNOW this is NOT manslaughter!

IF this devil buys his way out of prison, the blood of that girl would be on the heads of everyone that helps him to escape the law!!

[Link](#)



- *Jalo* January 28, 2012 at 7:41 am

The man should be sentence to death also without delay, n is a taboo.

[Link](#)



- *Okewumi Tobi Paul* January 28, 2012 at 7:45 am

This is very bad, the man must be charge to court immediately.

[Link](#)



- *padniyi* January 28, 2012 at 7:55 am

wonder will never end.

[Link](#)



- *OsSaI BaRrY OnYeKa* January 28, 2012 at 8:10 am

Dis is 2 bad

[Link](#)



- *Adebayo* January 28, 2012 at 8:11 am

We pray to Allah to protect the parents of the deacesed and give them d wisdom of life

[Link](#)



- *Oyeyemi* January 28, 2012 at 8:16 am

Dis are pp that are nt 2 b allowed 2 live among us.He is a bushpig in man's clothing.For God's sake,this is murder not manslaughterand b4 we know it dis issue wil die down.I fear man oooo...

[Link](#)



- *agent206* January 28, 2012 at 8:21 am

This story sounds too fake. It has lots of pores. 1. No one is blaming, the parents for negligence, how can they leave those small kids alone. That's terrible. 2. In this type of situation, Jungle justice happens, before police even shows up.

There's something weird about this story, and to top it all off, they left the girls body in the place she was murdered. Thus story get plenty issues.

[Link](#)



- *Sir murphy* January 28, 2012 at 8:31 am

What a wicked man,infact justice should be done for dis heartless act.useless old man.GOD go punish u.

[Link](#)



- *monotheism* January 28, 2012 at 8:46 am

azaa alaamotu sa'aah;(this is a sign of end time) what a pity!!!!!!!

[Link](#)



- *Ayo* January 28, 2012 at 9:07 am

The case above is not a case of manslaughter, but rather, rape & murder of a minor. The police should know better.

[Link](#)



- *Addmore* January 28, 2012 at 9:17 am

agent206 This story sounds too fake. It has lots of pores. 1. No one is blaming, the parents for negligence, how can they leave those small kids alone. That's terrible. 2. In this type of situation, Jungle justice happens, before police even shows up. There's something weird about this story, and to top it all off, they left the girls body in the place she was murdered. Thus story get plenty issues.

are you alright at all.so are u telling me that I can't leave my kids alone in my own house again???

[Link](#)



- *emmanuel onoruoiza* January 28, 2012 at 9:41 am

is better u leav d case 4 GOD he will surely avenge and bring happines 2 ur family. 4get about the nigerian police

[Link](#)



- *sola* January 28, 2012 at 9:54 am

Does d spokesman for d state police knows what he's saying at all, d case should be treated as 1st degree murder and not manslaughter at all. He must be a nincompoop to refer to d case as manslaughter, does even know d difference btw d 2 offences.

[Link](#)



• *Umar Farouk* January 28, 2012 at 10:15 am

The police are already planning to bungle the case, imagine the Akwa Ibom Ploce Command planning to turn a murder into manslaughter! If necessary we will appeal this case to Supreme court level, New IGP, your people have started again oh!!!

[Link](#)



• *Moses atem* January 28, 2012 at 10:28 am

Don't trust any body in dis world b/c see such.

[Link](#)



• *makizee* January 28, 2012 at 10:29 am

see ds stupid police spokesperson, someone is accused of raping and killing a minor and he is talking about manslaughter, ode . This is premeditated murder..he should be charged for murder cuz manslaughter carries a lighter weight

[Link](#)



• *kul* January 28, 2012 at 10:55 am

Is d police serious or how could they call this manslaughter? This is pure murder and must be treated as such. Killing of an an 8 year old after raping her couldn't have been by mistake to be called manslaughter. Where are the women rights campaigners? Where are child rights campaigners? Or must she have been d daughter of bigman so and so to qualify for their fight for justice?

[Link](#)



• *chiefonyema* January 28, 2012 at 11:22 am

Atagha should immediately face the wrath of law because there is nothing there to investigate since the devil have confessed, let police no waste time waiting for bribe so that they can get something from both parties. Atagha rot in hell with member of boko haram.

[Link](#)



• *Charlesbabs* January 28, 2012 at 11:45 am

Nasir u ar fool,4 saying dat we southerners accepting civilization is d cause of dis heinos act.

[Link](#)



- *Junwaa* January 28, 2012 at 11:56 am

Gosh i was almost in tears,,d man is wicked,,he is a savage,,an heartless being,,he is wicked,,and he deserves nothing but death!!! He needs to be hung,,God help us in dis wicked society

[Link](#)



- *Atobe* January 28, 2012 at 12:07 pm

This man is a disgrace to this country, Anyway he must be under some emotion turmoils and duress

[Link](#)



- *Olusola Ojekunle* January 28, 2012 at 12:07 pm

This is inhumane, dishearting & barbaric. what a wickedness.

[Link](#)



- *Tenny* January 28, 2012 at 12:42 pm

What an evil generation! Parents pls,be vigilantn don't toy wt God's heritage. For d innocent raped & murdered in agony girl,oh! May the true comforter,comforts her family. God of true justice will vindicate d blood shed of our little girl.

[Link](#)



- *Kate* January 28, 2012 at 1:11 pm

Orji if ur own daughter has been rape 2 death will u call dat manslaughter ORJI u are very wicked or may be u are just hearing de word without knowing de meaning IDOIT

[Link](#)



- *Agia Benjamin* January 28, 2012 at 1:59 pm

That stupid man must be made to bear the full weight of the law for his actions.This is too hnhuman.

[Link](#)



- *Olukoya Kehinde* January 28, 2012 at 2:51 pm

Let every parent teach their children well. Also the girl's father should have known the type of friend he had in Atagha, let there be carefulness concerning our children, we are just caretakers

[Link](#)



• *munido* January 28, 2012 at 4:11 pm

@nasir or whatever your wretched name is, it's obvious you are an illiterate notherner like most of your brothers. RIP to the little girl

[Link](#)



• *Jummy* January 28, 2012 at 4:18 pm

And u r literate like atagha

[Link](#)



• *Wisla* January 28, 2012 at 5:28 pm

That man should be charged to court, he did not only rape the girl but he also killed her. That is pure wickedness.

[Link](#)



• *Soledayo* January 28, 2012 at 6:10 pm

i cannot imagine a friend hacking his friend's daughter to death, it's a serious matter.

[Link](#)



• *noor* January 28, 2012 at 7:14 pm

oh Allah save us from the evil of this world!!!

[Link](#)



• *bobby king* January 28, 2012 at 7:36 pm

there is nothing there to investigate. the idiot has confessed. he should be charged with kidnapping, raping, murder, this is not a case of manslaughter.

[Link](#)



• *Akoko* January 28, 2012 at 8:32 pm

i want to thats foolishd man kill first before i alter a word.

[Link](#)



- *Ojo Catherine I.* January 28, 2012 at 10:48 pm

This world is full of strange things. Is a story that bring tears to the eyes and i urge that they should not allow the man to go away free cos he will do something worst if justice is not done

[Link](#)



- *ANGEL WHITE* January 29, 2012 at 5:19 am

It's incredible. may God give the parents of that girl the fortitude to bear the death of that innocent girl. as for the peperuatur of this evil he will never go unpunished as long as God liveth

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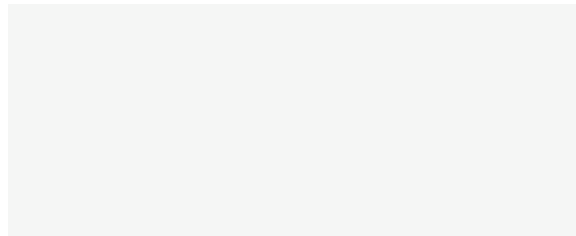
- *Abdul Yussuf* January 30, 2012 at 11:20 am

Pls, my people we should not allow our emotions to mislead us. The crime committed by Ataha warrants death sentence on its faciaall value. But it will not be easy to prove that he planned to kill the girl at the court of law. What is provable before the law is rape leading to death which is manslaughter. A case of murder has to be proven beyond all reasoble doubts. If the police attempts to prove a case of murder, Ataha will be acquitted for lack of evidence that he planned to kill the little girl. Lets give the police chance to do its work.

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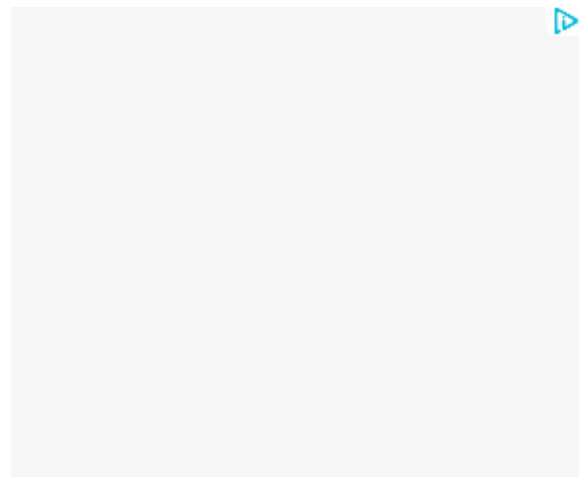
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