

Police arrest woman over alleged poisoning of three-year-old stepson

Raphael Ede 17 April 2021

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Enugu
Commissioner of Police

The Enugu State Command of the Nigeria Police Force has arrested a 29-year-old woman, Nnenna Egwuagu, for the alleged murder of her three-year-old stepson, Wisdom Egwuagu.

The incident reportedly occurred at Umulumgbe in the Udi Local Government Area of the state on April 9, 2021, when the suspect allegedly gave a poisonous substance to the child which reportedly caused his sudden death.

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A statement on Friday by the state Police Public Relations Officer, Daniel Ndukwe, said the stepmother was arrested by operatives attached to the 9th Mile Police Division following a report to the police by her husband, Justine Egwuagu.

Ndukwe said, "Preliminary investigation shows that the suspect confessed to giving a noxious substance suspected to be an insecticide to the child. She claimed that her action was due to her husband's inability to take care of her and their daughter; and that she wanted the child to become sick so that her husband could spend money to treat him. The child was confirmed dead in the hospital and his corpse deposited in the mortuary for autopsy.

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"Meanwhile, the container of the substance and syringe she used in administering the substance to the child had been recovered, while further investigation into the case is ongoing at the State Criminal Investigation and Intelligence Department, Enugu."

The PPRO quoted the Commissioner of Police, Mohammed Aliyu, as describing the act as callous and unfortunate and “advised couples to truly love each other, live peacefully no matter the circumstance and use every legal or morally acceptable means to resolve differences.”

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