

By Job Osazuwa and Victoria Amadi

Man drowns in Lagos well

THERE was wailing yesterday at 4, Adisatu Street, Sari Iganmu Local Council Development Area, Lagos State, when a 27-year-old man, Chukwuma Ndukwe, fell into a well and died before help came his way.

Daily Sun gathered that the incident, which happened at about 2pm, drew sympathisers to the scene, who made frantic but fruitless efforts to bring out the victim alive.

According to the father of the deceased, he was in their apartment with his wife and other members of the family when Chukwuma went behind the house, where the well is located.

"We were all inside when Chukwuma left the room and walked towards the backyard. We awaited his return but to no avail until someone screamed and

we went outside only to find Chukwudi's slipper beside the well," he said.

The parents of the deceased were inconsolable as they watched their child brought out lifeless three hours later from the well. Chukwuma was said to have lived with epilepsy and might have suffered a seizure, which landed him in the well.

A resident of the area, Mr. Uche A. Uche, told *Daily Sun* that he was asleep when he heard loud noises outside. He quickly called emergency lines to inform the authorities of the tragedy. He regretted that he could not reach them due to poor network but someone else was able to reach the Lagos Neighbourhood Safety Corps.

An occupant of the house who didn't disclose her name said: "I was

in my room sleeping when I heard loud noise. I went outside only to discover that someone fell inside the well.

PCRC chieftain advises IGP against neighborhood policing

THE Inspector-General of Police (IGP), Mr. Ibrahim Idris, has been urged to look into the positive and negative implications of the proposed neighborhood policing by some state governments. In a letter to the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Mr. Josak Habila, the chairman of Zone 2 Command PCRC, Archbishop George Amu, said such a security organisation for community policing could have great negative effects and compound the security situation in the country.

When I asked who it was, they said it was my neighbour's son, Chukwuma."

One of the leaders of the LNSC, Mr.

Archbishop Amu, who is the Vice chairman, Christian Association of Nigeria, South, pointed out that the proponents of neighborhood policing might mean well but it could be abused by politicians against their opponents or to score political points.

Amu argued that the proposed neighborhood policing would have negative effects, including serving as a parallel body to the Nigeria Police Force and aid massive fraud whereas the police force is not well funded.

Ajibade Idowu, said members of the neighbourhood were able to bring the area under control and hasten possible help. The youths in the area hurriedly provided equipment to bring the victim out of the well.

He explained that neighborhood policing could be used negatively by politicians, as he recalled that since the police established the PCRC 25 years ago, it has been helping the police force in the area of welfare and intelligence gathering without failure, while the body is non-ethnic, non-religious, non-political and fully independent, and has been functioning without government funding for the past 25 years even as it liaises with the area commands.