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It was self-defence, says woman that killed husband over child's upkeep

By Esther Onyegbula

A 29-year old, Primary School teacher, Jacinta Igboke, who was arrested for stabbing the father of her child to death in Satellite area of Lagos, during a quarrel over the upkeep of the toddler, has told the Police in Lagos that she did it in self defense.

Vanguard gathered that an argument ensued when the suspect went to demand for the upkeep of the toddler from his estranged lover, Arinze Ani, in his shop, at Old Ojo road, Satellite.

It was gathered that in the heat of the argument that she allegedly stabbed him with a knife in the chest.

Recounting how the incident happened, Igboke said "when I got pregnant, Ani's parents were not in support of our relationship because they said I was older than him and that he was supposed to marry a woman from his village in Enugu State.

"He was born on November 19, 1990 while I was born on 29 October, 1990. They said they would only accept the baby."

Igboke explained that she reported Arinze at the human rights section of the Satellite Police Station consequent upon which he was invited for dialogue. At the meeting, it was resolved that she should live with him at his Ijegan residence, adding that their co-existence was fraught with quarrels.

"Ani's brother and sister lived with us, but the sister later left after she got married. Six months after I gave birth, I went out one day but when I returned, I found out that they had packed out.

"I went back to the police station in July 2019 and they invited him. He said he didn't want to marry me. The police told him he must take care of the baby and instructed him to give me N10,000, one carton of noodles and rice every month for our baby's upkeep.

"Since then, he never bought any foodstuff for the baby and he didn't pay the N10,000. All he did was to send N2,000 or N3,000 into my account. Most times, I had to go to his shop to ask for the money.

When I got to his shop, the first time he was not around. I went to a market to buy some clothes for my child. I went back to the shop and showed him the clothes. I asked him to give me money so I could buy shoes and some other things the boy needed. He pushed me away and a motorbike almost hit me.

"I entered his shop again angrily and he pushed me. I fell on a pavement and hit

fence. I didn't know when I stabbed him," she added.

Confirming the incident, the Lagos State Police Public Relations Officer, DSP Bala El-kana, said the suspect would be transferred to the State Crim-

investigation.

He said, "we received a distress call that the woman allegedly stabbed her boyfriend on the right side of the chest, killing him in the process. A police team was mobilised to the location where the suspect was rescued from a mob and the body of the victim recovered.

"The body of the victim was taken to the mortuary for autopsy. The suspect and the victim were lovers and between them is a male child of about one and half years whose upkeep is believed to be

my head on the ground. I then picked up a knife in self-de-

inial Investigation and Intelligence Department for further

the source of their constant quarrels.



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