

# 2-week-old baby dies as parents exchange blows in Ondo

By Dayo Johnson

**A**KURE—A brawl between a young couple, Ekene and Rose Ijokun, has led to the untimely death of their two weeks old baby boy in Eleyowo community, Akure, Ondo State.

The wife, Rose, reportedly strapped the two weeks old baby to her back during the fight with her husband.

A police source said the young couple are fond of fighting over many issues until the recent fight, which claimed the life of their baby.

Speaking with newsmen, Rose's aunt said: "The baby was strapped to the back of my sister, Rose, when her husband, Ekene, started a verbal attack on her before it resulted

in fisticuffs.

"I didn't see it as anything as they usually have such fight even when she was pregnant and they later reconciled.

"But this time, it was the other way round as the disagreement degenerated into a physical assault, which eventually claimed the life of the innocent baby. The baby was hale and hearty before the incident.

"While they were fighting and refused all pleas by their neighbours to stop fighting, I removed the baby from her back and placed him on the bed.

"It was then that I realised the baby was lifeless. The baby must have been hit during the fight by his parents. All efforts to revive the baby proved abortive as he was declared dead on arrival at the Basic Health Centre in the

community."

*Vanguard* gathered that the couple have been handed over to police detectives for questioning.

Speaking of the unfortunate incident, the community leader, who is the Olisa of Eleyowo, Chief Eso Ojo, described the incident as very bad.

Ojo said: "We have never seen such a case in our community. Many times, we have received reports on the couple and it's unfortunate it ended this way."

While calling for calm, the community leader said the case is being handled by the Ondo State Police command.

Contacted, the state police command spokesperson, Tee Leo Ikoro, said the matter was yet to be reported at either the Oba-Ile or Eleyowo police stations.