

**DETERMINANT OF ADULTERY IN THE MODERN GENERATION**

**By: Dr. Isaac K. Damoah**

**Email: [damoahisaac1974@gmail.com](mailto:damoahisaac1974@gmail.com)**

.....\*\*\*\*\*.....

**ABSTRACT**

The study used explanatory research design, qualitative research approach, the research strategy used was cross-sectional survey, the population of the study was 10 authors, the sampling design were surveyed of published papers by journals and papers published at the various websites. The source of data collection was primary source and the method of data collection was research. The problem statement of the study was " determinant of adultery in the modern generation" The objectives of the study was achieved and the background of the study was brief introduction of adultery. Concerning the literature review the study considered authors who had written about adultery. The study found out the causes of adultery, empirical evidence of adultery, consequences of adultery, misconceptions about adultery and religious views on adultery. At the end the study discovered the causes of adultery. The study recommended that church leaders must teach their congregation to understand the causes and the consequences of adultery. Actors and actresses should act films to educate the public to know the causes and consequences of adultery.

.....\*\*\*\*\*.....

**BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY**

**Introduction**

The word "adultery" comes from the Latin word call "adulterium". Adultery is a sexual relation between married person and unmarried couple. It is questionable on social, religious, moral and legal grounds but accepted by many jurisdiction as offense and mistreatment of marital relationship. Many countries regard adultery as serious crime and people who fall into this act are punished. Sometimes men who commit adultery pass through treatment such as capital punishment or torture. Throughout the world, adultery is happening everywhere and it is common as marriage. Those who commit adultery

create confusion in a family and is the main factor to call for divorce. Punishment of adultery are fine and incarceration.

**OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

- To find out the causes of adultery
- To find out the consequences of adultery
- To find out the empirical evidence of adultery
- To find out religious views on adultery
- To find out misconceptions about adultery

## CAUSES OF ADULTERY

### Technology

Technology has created chance for many people to engage in adultery but difficult discover those involve in this sinful act. Adulterous relationship which began online is 10 percent and about 40 percent of online interactions end up to be practical adultery. Social media like Facebook, Twitter and Instagram promote extramarital affair. This makes easier to have secret relationship with someone which enables adultery to progress.

**Lack of happiness:** When there is conflict between married couples and they don't bother to mind each other.

**Unfaithfulness:** This happens when married couples are not straight forward in dealing with each other.

**Loneness:** This is situation whereby one of the couples does not feel comfortable with the marriage relationship. In this case the one who is not comfortable with the relationship may compel to seek for loving relationship.

**Revenge:** The couple who feels that she or he is being cheated will recompense by seeking a lover elsewhere.

**Narcissim:** Those who narcissistic are not content with their life partners.

**Lack of sexual satisfaction:** The married couples love each other but sexually they are not able to satisfy each other and the extramarital lover fulfills his or her heart desires.

**Love:** It is possible that a married man or married woman will fall in love with someone through beauty.

**Emotional distance:** If one of the couples works for long hours or travels often, the partner will feel neglected.

**Milestone birthday:** It has been discovered that men often cheat their wives when they have milestone birthday.

**Economic dependence:** When the man is economically dependant on his wife.

**Problems:** Inability to solve marital problems and makes excuses to find a way to call for divorce.

**Porn:** Watching sexy films, become addicted and develop interest in their style of having sex.

**Alcohol:** Becoming drunkard makes one to behave irrationally. Sometimes a drunkard experiences feelings of infatuation and separate from his or her better half.

**Aging:** When one of the couples are older than the other partner, there would be possibility of involving in extramarital affair.

**THESIS STATEMENT:** The problem statement of the study was determinant of adultery in the modern generation. The study found out the Causes of adultery, consequences of adultery, empirical evidence of adultery, misconceptions about adultery and religious views on adultery.

## **EMPIRICAL EVIDENCE OF ADULTERY**

According to American Psychological Association 20-40 percent of marriage had dissolved through adultery. About 50-60 percent of married couples cheated on their partners. About 57 percent of men who had married and 54 percent of married women accepted that they had been unfaithful to their partners. Married men involved in extramarital affair was 22 percent and married women engaged in extramarital relationship was 14 percent. Men and women who reported about cheating their spouses with a brother-in-law or a sister-in-law was 17 percent. The couples who engaged in extramarital relationship the average last for 2 years. About 2.5 percent of children were the product of adulterous relationship. 17 percent of men and 68 percent of women regretted of involving in adultery. American Association For Marriage and Family Therapy reported that 35 percent of women and 45 percent of men experienced emotional affairs outside their marital relationship. A research paper shew that one-third of men and one-quarter of women might involve in extramarital affair once in their lives. In the United States studies proved that 20 percent of married couples cheated in their relationship and 70 percent of unmarried couples cheated in their relationship. According to General Social Survey the percentages of couples engaged in extramarital affair aged between 18-34 was 11percent and between 35-64 was 17 percent. Those aged 65 was 18 percent. Research indicates that 58 percent of Africa men and 51 percent of Africa women engaged in extramarital affair. In Africa countries such as Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania adultery issues are common and it is the main cause of divorce. Research

conducted by condom manufacturer shew that 29,000 people in 36 countries confirmed that Nigerian women were the most unfaithful women in the world. The men in Thailand were the most unfaithful men in the world and 54 percent of them accepted to involve in extramarital affair. South Korea was the second of the countries engaged in extramarital affair followed by Malaysia. South Korea had 34 percent and Malaysia had 33 percent. The two countries leading cheating women were Nigeria (62 percent) and Thailand (59 percent). Malaysia women admitted to engaged in adultery was 39 percent, Russian women was the fourth of the countries engaged in adultery representing 33 percent and Singapore was the fifth representing 19 percent. According to independent survey conducted by AE proved that Nigerians were leading with population of 160 million in cheating on their women.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

Many writers have written countless articles about adultery which educates the public to know that adultery is not good. Notwithstanding the views of the writers, the study investigated into determinant of adultery. Because of this, the study found out other writers' views concerning adultery. In 14th July,2021 Cathy Meyer wrote an article entitled "How people who commit adultery justify cheating, according to an expert". In his article said adultery destroy marital relationship and no wonder people were not sincere sometimes. No one liked to be cheated but it would definitely occur in our lives. When this happened, it would help us to understand the reactions of our partners being cheated. Unfaithful partners

did their best to justify themselves after committing adultery. Adulterers were aware that they had done wrong but managed to defend themselves with the following statements:

- It was normal
- It would never happen again
- It happened to strangers so it implied nothing

Unfaithful partners were good at defend themselves in order to be free from guilty conscience. Some complained about not getting their hearts desires. The men and the women said they lacked emotional connection from their partners. In April 20, 2021 Henry Gornbein wrote an article entitled " 14 most common causes of infidelity in a marriage". According Gornbein he had been practicing family law for more than 45 years, discovered the causes of infidelity in a marriage and the reasons for divorce. People met online and began to interact which led to extramarital affair. Due to his experience, he stated the causes of infidelity as follows:

- **Facebook:** Many people had involved in extramarital through Facebook and constitutes a third of all divorce which represent 25 percent.

**Growing apart:** This is a situation where couples were not United in purpose and had lost interest in each other.

**Choice:** If a couple felt she or he had married a wrong person, the fellow would be compelled to seek a lover elsewhere.

**Respect:** When couples looked down upon each other, they wouldengaged in extramarital affair.

**Unappreciated:** Many married people engaged in extramarital affair because they were not appreciated at home.

**Body image:** When a couple put on weight or the body looked old, the other partner would involve in extramarital affair. With respect to the views of the above mentioned authors, the study found out the causes of adultery, empirical evidence of adultery, misconceptions about adultery and consequences of adultery.

## CONSEQUENCES OF ADULTERY

**Divorce:** Adultery creates betrayal and emotional pain which lead to divorce.

**Guilt and shame:** The out come of adultery are guilt and shame on the couple who cheated and wounded couple. When the issue comes out, they try to hide it from others except close relatives or friend. It is regarded as a disgrace to the family.

**Loss of trust:** It makes couples to lose confidence in each other and creates lose of intimacy.

**Illness:** The unfaithful partner will be exposed to sexually transmitted diseases. Over the past decade research indicated that adultery could lead to development of mental illness which would affect the person's health.

**Loneliness:** During such situation, the unfaithful partner does not want anyone to come near him or her. He or she does not like to tell anyone because of shame and the fear of getting bad name.

**Sons and daughters:** Adultery has resulted in giving birth to illegitimate sons and daughters.

**Abortion:** The unfaithful partner may become pregnant and would decide to abort the pregnancy.

**Emotional:** It creates emotional problems such as fear, depression and anxiety.

**Relationship:** It breaks the bond of unity between married couples, brings sorrow and affect children of future generation negatively.

**South Carolina:** Adultery is accepted as grounds for divorce but in South Carolina adultery makes dissolution of marriage easier within 90 days.

**Crime:** Adultery is considered as a crime in states where it is treated as illegal. There are twenty states that regard adultery as a crime. If a couple commit adultery in one of these states, the fellow will be sentenced to six months imprisonment and fines 500 pounds.

**Alimony:** A couple who commit adultery has no right received alimony.

**Property:** Dealing with issues of adultery in South Carolina a judge of a law court can exercise his or her discretionary powers to give less of the debt and greater portion of property to the wounded couple.

## **RELIGIOUS VIEWS ON ADULTERY**

### **Christianity**

In the Old Testament Bible adultery is a sin according to the ten commandments. Those who committed adultery were killed but the New Testament Bible says Jesus spoke against adultery and classified it as sin and never enforced the Old Testament

punishment of committing adultery. The Pharisees approached Jesus with a woman fond of committing adultery and expected Him to allow them to stone them (John 8:1-11). He challenged them to stone her if they had not committed sin before. None of them was able to stone her (newworldencylopedia,n.d). Christians condemn adultery as sin in the sight of God (Exodus 20:14; Galatians 5:21). Adultery destroy marital bond between couples but Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox churches believe marriage covenant is sanctified between couples and God. Through Christian teachings, adultery includes lustful thought (Matthew 5:29). A lot of mainline Protestant denominations accept adultery includes rape, incest, fornication and unclean communications. The church of Jesus Christ of the Later Day Saints believe polygamy is not adulterous relationship. Christian identity especially Kukluxklan believe that interracial marriage is an adulterous relationship (what-when-how,n.d).

### **Islamic**

Sex is a gift from Allah and sexual relationship ought to happen between married couples but cohabitation and extramarital sex is not allowed in Islam (Qur'an 24:33). Adultery is accepted as a serious sin and it is regarded as theft (Qur'an ,17:32). The word "Zina" is an Arabic term for premarital and extramarital relationship. The practice of "Zina" is accepted as a crime and those who fall into this act are punishment servely. Islamic law says it is not lawful to shed the blood of a Muslim except a married person who has committed adultery. Adultery is dreadful of all sins but is a unforgivable crime because the results of this act the person who

commit it, family and the society at large. It leads to betrayal, destroy the faith and unity needed to build the family life. Those who commit adultery should be stoned to death which is known in Islam "Rajin". This punishment is not included in the Qur'an but can found in the Hadith and men are excluded. Married man having sex with unmarried woman is not adultery but it is a crime. When the woman is married, then it becomes adultery (advocatekhoj,n.d).

### **MISCONCEPTIONSABOUTADULTERY**

**Misconception:** When extramarital affair beomes public issue, couples will not enjoy marital relationship again

**Fact:** Couples can regain happiness in marriage

**Misconception:** Adultery is not about sex but is all about marital matters

**Fact:** Adultery is having sex with married couple

**Misconception:** It is not adultery without sex

**Fact:** It seems to be cheating if a couple share sexual feelings with unmarried couple

**Misconception:** Relationship is about sexual attraction

**Fact:** Some affair involves sex but most of the time affair occurs due to emotional connection

**Misconception:** Couples commit adultery because of marital problems

**Fact:** Adultery happens because couples don't know how to deal with marital problems

**Misconception:** Adultery ends marital relationship

**Fact:** More than half of marital relationship survive after committing adultery.

### **METHODOLOGY**

This chapter covers research design, research approach, research strategy, the source of data collection and the method of data collection, the population of the study and sampling design. The research design used for the study was explanatory research design. With explanatory research design, the objectives of the study were achieved. The research approach used was qualitative research approach where the study found out the determinant of adultery. The research strategy used was cross-sectional survey. Through this, the study surveyed papers published concerning the subject under study. The source of collecting data, method of data collection, sampling design and population of the study were thoroughly examined.

### **SAMPLING DESIGN**

The study considered papers published by journals and papers published at the various websites.

### **POPULATION OF THE STUDY**

The population of the study was 10 authors

## **THE SOURCE OF DATA COLLECTION AND THE METHOD OF DATA COLLECTION**

The source of data collection was primary source and the method of data collection was research.

## **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION**

### **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

the causes of adultery, empirical evidence of adultery, the consequences of adultery, misconceptions about adultery and religious views on adultery.

### **CONCLUSION**

The study discovered the percentages of women and men who involved in adultery, unmarried couples cheated on their partners and the results of committing adultery, misconceptions about adultery including religious views on adultery. Due to the mentioned factors, the study concluded that there were things that made married couples to commit adultery.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

#### **Education**

Actors and actresses should act films to educate the general public to understand the causes and the negative effects of adultery. This will help married couples to abstain from adultery.

### **Billboard**

There should be billboards in public centers to warn people about consequences of adultery.

### **Church leaders**

The pastors and elders should teach their congregation to understand the causes and consequences of adultery.

### **AUTHORS' PROFILE**

Dr. Isaac Kwesi Damoah holds Doctorate in Christian Education, Masters in Divinity, Bachelor Of Arts Degree in Theology and Associate Degree in Biblical Studies. He completed Bogoso SenoirSecondary School in the Western Region of Ghana. He is a member of Ghana Writers Association and co-author to International Journal Of Scientific Research And Engineering Development. He is a researcher who has published research papers with International Journal Of Scientific Research And Engineering Development. He is an author and has developed his own website namely, [www.emmasco.home.blog](http://www.emmasco.home.blog)

### **REFERENCE**

Childers,L.(2020, December 18),"What causes people to engage in adultery?",[regain.www.regain.us](http://regain.www.regain.us)

Elliot, L. (n.d)"7 reasons people cheat: causes of infidelity exposed", Christian counseling.[www.christiancounseling.com](http://www.christiancounseling.com)

Roshy,S.( February 17),"15 most common causes of infidelity in marriage."[www.marriage.com](http://www.marriage.com)

White,L.(n.d),"6 fatal consequences of adultery",beliefnet.[www.beliefnet.com](http://www.beliefnet.com)

Kichura,V.(n.d)"What are the consequences of adultery",  
classroom.[www.classroom.com](http://www.classroom.com)

The consequences of adultery,(n.d),  
indigo.[www.indigoian.com](http://www.indigoian.com)

Meyer,C.(2021, July 14),"How people who commit adultery justify cheating, according to an expert",brides.[www.brides.com](http://www.brides.com)

Gornbein,H(2021, April 20),"14 most common causes of infidelity in a marriage,"divorcemag.[www.divorcemag.com](http://www.divorcemag.com)

Nigerians are the most unfaithful,(n.d),  
channelstv.[www.channelstv.com](http://www.channelstv.com)

Linda and Doug,(n.d),"9 most common misconceptions about infidelity",  
emotionalaffair.[www.emotionalaffair.org](http://www.emotionalaffair.org)