

The One Bullet Story: Lessons from Nigeria September 2006

By

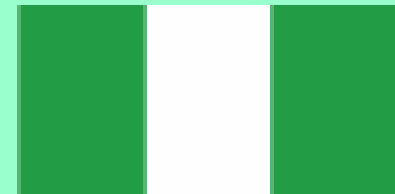
Daniel E. Basse & *Mansur A. Ramalan*, IPPNW Students, Jos, Nigeria

Edited by Ime A. John MD MPH, IPPNW Co- President



*“One Bullet Story” is a Project of
International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW)*

Map and flag of Nigeria



Case # 1

Businessman Shot Mistakenly by Police

A story of a 30-year old Nigerian referred to Jos University Hospital for surgical treatment and management of a gunshot injury to the thigh, gluteal region and leg ...



Oliver's story...

Oliver was a successful businessman who was shot by the police because he was mistakenly suspected to be an armed robber. The police shot him in the thigh, gluteal region, and leg while attempting to run away from his house.

Cont...

He attempted to escape because he thought that the *police* were armed robbers, since they did not identify or introduce themselves.

Cont...

- **Oliver had three different surgical operations to fix his leg and manage his wounds in the leg, thigh and gluteal regions.**
- **A fourth surgical operation is been planned for him.**



Cont...

- **He has been in the hospital since March 2006.**
- **Wound debridement was done for him, as well as daily wound dressing since his admission.**
- **He has been recovering well.**

Oliver lying calm on bed nursing his wounds



His injured and repaired knee joint



Gunshot injury at the left gluteal region



The costs.....

- Travel expenses
- Surgery and nursing care
- Anesthetic cost for three surgical operations
- Costs of theatre time
- Surgical materials
- Post-operative care

= \$3,000 USD

Economic costs for loss of time at his business

= \$4,500 USD

+ psychological & social effects that are hard to measure.....

Case # 2

Student Shot by Cult Members

- 23 year-old female student at University of Jos, Nigeria, shot in the head on her way from examination hall by cult members.
- Haematoma was evacuated from her intracranial injury through a borehole and was nursed in ICU for 4 days.
- Developed serious complications and died four days after admission.

Medical Costs - Estimated \$700.00 USD

Case #3

Teenager Shot During Civil Unrest

- 16 year-old male shot in the abdomen during the Yelwa crisis in Jos, Plateau state in 2004.
- Damaged the small bowel and liver. The perforated intestine and severed liver were repaired.
- He recovered, was discharged 3 weeks later.

Medical Costs - Estimated \$850 USD

Case #4

Housewife Shot by Armed Robbers

- 30 year-old housewife shot by armed robbers, multiple gun shot injuries to the leg.
- Had surgery to set the fractured tibia.
- Discharged after 2 months in hospital.

Medical Costs – Estimated \$1200 USD

Case # 5

Child Shot by Stray Police Bullet

- 3 year- old male, shot in the chest by a stray police bullet.
- Had a flail chest pneumothorax and heamoptysis. A chest tube was inserted to drain the blood collection in the chest.
- He died the same day.

Medical Costs - Estimated \$500 USD

Conclusion

Let's all join hands :

- To **Support** tougher legislation on the use of gun;
- To **Advocate** for policies that *Aim for Prevention* of violent conflicts;
- To **Educate** the public on the human impact of gun violence today.