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The man who set his wife ablaze

Naomi joins the list of Nigerian women murdered by their husbands

ARTICLE | MARCH 8, 2012 - 2:22AM | BY PATIENCE OGBO



Naomi Chidiebere 24, was the happiest woman in the world when she married Dick Chidiebere, 34, at the Jehovah's Witness church at Ijegun in November 2011.

Sadly, Naomi who was the envy of the single ladies at the wedding is lying in the morgue because her husband allegedly set her ablaze following a quarrel.

The incident happened on February 10, 2012 at the couple's four bedroom residence in Ijegun barely three months after the couple

exchanged their wedding vows.

Naomi, who narrated how her husband set her ablaze on her hospital bed before she gave up the ghost, said on that fateful day, said Dick, a sailor, came back home late in the night drunk and she challenged him on his drinking habit, which according to her infuriated him as he beat her up and later rushed into the store where they kept petrol for the generating set and poured it on her as she ran into the closet to hide from his beating.

Naomi further stated that Dick set her ablaze while she was in the closet.

According to a neighbour's report to the police, Naomi ran close to a mile to her friend's house at Ijegun waterside and the friend and her family rushed her to the hospital where she narrated to them how her husband allegedly set her ablaze.

The case was reported at the Satellite Police Station and Chidiebere was arrested as he attempted to travel out of the country. The case has been transferred to the Homicide department at Pantl Yaba for further investigation.




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Chidiebere however denied setting his wife ablaze.

He told the police he heard a mysterious explosion in his kitchen that fateful night and rushed to see what was happening, only for him to discover that his wife's room and wardrobe was on fire and he tried desperately to quench the fire.

"I did not kill my life as it is been alleged. I came back home that night about 12.00am and my wife welcomed me. I am not sure what happened but know we had a little quarrel which I left her to go and sleep in my room. Not too long, I heard a powerful explosion in the kitchen and it woke me up," he said in a statement to the police.

"I ran out to see what was wrong and to look for my wife but she was not around anywhere in the house, I thought she had ran out to get help and I waited till day break but still did not see her. I did not kill her, why will I kill somebody I just got married to? This is a strange fire but I am not responsible."

Police officers however said they found Naomi's wardrobe closet burnt, and her room was in disarray with her sofa also completely destroyed by the fire.

They also recovered a ten-litre plastic container with fuel inside, the burnt mattress was also taken as an exhibit.

It was gathered that Naomi died barely one week after sustaining the burnt; her corpse has since been deposited at the Isolo General hospital for autopsy.

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Comments

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by **Echezona Nnegi (not verified)** | March 8, 2012 - 4:02am

This man deserve death by Hanging please. Nothing less than that. Life imprisonment is NOT good. This will serve as a deterrent to other wife beaters in the Nigeria. Cases like this, is on the rise in our country

reply

by **Aigbiremon Mathias (not verified)** | March 8, 2012 - 10:44am

I think is a sheer madness for men to be beating their wives even on provocation. We must learn to tolerate women because we (men) are their strength. To some beating her is not enough, they even go to the extent of killing them. Anyone that kills with the sword should be buried with the sword. It is hard time that men should be advice on what to expect before they get married rather than expecting angel as wife (because both the man and woman are not angel.) they have their shortcomings

reply

by **princeoha (not verified)** | March 8, 2012 - 10:52am

shut up u did it

reply

by **Tim Riches (not verified)** | March 8, 2012 - 3:01pm

Yeah, it was an accident... so why attempt to flee the country? So Jehovah changes hearts, does he? No JW's in here to give the 'we are not perfect' excuse yet? JW's are no different than anyone else, they just pretend to be 'apart from the world' as a hook to reel in the new converts.

reply

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Advertise here with [Bloovue](#)by **AnonymousROBIN (not verified)** | March 9, 2012 - 5:45am

I see you were the designated idiot for this comment stream. Congratulations.

[reply](#)by **James Jonathan (not verified)** | March 9, 2012 - 4:10pm

To set the record straight,JWs never say they are immune to this type of things or this type of incidents can never happened to a believing member,I can bet you they still have the lowest crime rate in any group of religious organisations in the world,if you don't respect them in Nigeria,they are well respected in other part of the world.your so called freedom of expression today was the outcome of their legal battles,all Jesus apostle were never saint,think before you comment,the police should just ask the local body of elders of the man in question for advice,they will be very much happy to help,I can tell you I am proud being a witness, because I am a man who have been to where no man has ever been to as a non witness,and as a witness I can tell you they have the truth,and when you know the truth the truth shall set you free.

[reply](#)by **Shan E (not verified)** | March 9, 2012 - 4:50pm

"Denial (also called abnegation) is a defense mechanism postulated by Sigmund Freud, in which a person is faced with a fact that is too uncomfortable to accept and rejects it instead, insisting that it is not true despite what may be overwhelming evidence." Found at: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Denial>. Yes James JW, denial is a state of mind not a river in Egypt. Wake up! You are in a cult, and you and your cult members are just as bad, if not worse, than "the world" that you despise so much.

[reply](#)by **Shan E (not verified)** | March 9, 2012 - 4:50pm

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[reply](#)by **WIRE MAN REPSY (not verified)** | March 8, 2012 - 6:36pm

What is the happiness in drinking when you can not control yourself?...my guy you need to pray for forgiveness because there is blood in your hands.You are so lucky it is not my sister,....I would have fried you alive God forgive me.

[reply](#)by **DVinny (not verified)** | March 8, 2012 - 7:52pm

Jehovah does change hearts, the proof of that is that the headlines read that a Jehovah's Witness is accused of this crime. When was the last time you read "Baptist steals" or "Methodist robs" or "Catholic cheats"? They all do it of course, human beings do these things, but you won't read their religious beliefs in the headlines because they are not Jehovah's Witnesses. It seems others hold them to a much higher standard than other religions - which is proof that they have higher standards.

[reply](#)by **Jada Buchanon (not verified)** | March 9, 2012 - 8:52am

Actually, people like to point out JW s when they commit crimes because they are always talking about how much better they are than everyone else. When you act like you are the only ones serving God correctly and have his favor, then you'd better believe that people are going to be watching for you to mess up.

Basically, if Jehovah's Witnesses want to keep acting like their religion is so much better than others, then they can't turn around and get upset when they get called out.

[reply](#)

by **Ella (not verified)** | March 9, 2012 - 2:43pm

Perhaps the headlines would read a "Baptist steals" or "Methodist robs" or "Catholic cheats" if they made the same claims as Jehovah's Witnesses as to be the ONLY religion and the ONLY people that have God's approval. According to them, all OTHER religions and all OTHER people who are not Jehovah's Witnesses will die at "Armageddon." To say that Jehovah's Witnesses have higher standards is absurd. They only claim to have higher standards. Or perhaps, they have the same "higher standards" that the Pharisees who stood on the street corners praying in order that all would see their "righteousness"?

[reply](#)

by **James Jonathan (not verified)** | March 9, 2012 - 4:12pm

That is very true.

[reply](#)

by **Anonymous (not verified)** | March 8, 2012 - 9:15pm

dvnyy, you are full of nonesence

[reply](#)

by **Anonymous (not verified)** | March 8, 2012 - 10:01pm

Picture is creepy !!!

He was not a JW in fact the reason she died was because she did not like his drinking,,,,,she obviously tried to change this man to no avail...a reminder to all women when choosing a mate.

Pic still creepy!

[reply](#)

by **Ella (not verified)** | March 9, 2012 - 2:50pm

If he truly was not a Jehovah's Witness, they would not have been allowed to marry in the Kingdom Hall. He is a Jehovah's Witnesses, plain & simple. Don't be deceived and don't be trying to deceive others.

[reply](#)

by **Anonymous (not verified)** | March 10, 2012 - 5:31pm

How come they were married in Kingdom Hall if he was not a baptized JW?

Must be different rules in your country.....here that would never happen.

[reply](#)

by **Alex__ (not verified)** | March 8, 2012 - 10:33pm

"....but you won't read their religious beliefs in the headlines because they are not Jehovah's Witnesses."~DVinny

Maybe if the Jehovah's Witness publications by the Watchtower didn't focus on other religions clergy for every short coming then they (Jehovah's Witness) wouldn't be the focus either.

Don't expect your religion to not take any criticism when yours is handing it out so freely.

reply

by **jacqueline (not verified)** | March 9, 2012 - 3:57am

DVinny, No you seldom see baptists steal etc.. But other religions don't claim to be the only religion on earth that God deals with. They are not putting themselves up as so holy and always being contrary. ! 975 raked in all kinds of degenerates. The Governing Body is counting up the money and moving out of dodge (new york) because people see the witnesses write their own press. They are just like everyone else.

www.friendsofjehovahswitnesses.com BTW I was a JW for over 60yrs. Glad to be free.

reply

by **oliver Ebere (not verified)** | March 9, 2012 - 7:01am

well concocted after thought. i am sure the blaze cleaned up his alcohol soaked brain.

reply

by **Joe Emerson (not verified)** | March 9, 2012 - 7:47am

He is identified as a sailor who drank and set his wife on fire. Some JWs are sailors, JWs definitely do drink, and would any of the over 7 million set a wife on fire? Yes, sad but true. Maybe J.R. Brown, Watchtower's official spokesman, will make a statement here? We're waiting, J.R.....

reply

by **Richard X JW (not verified)** | March 9, 2012 - 12:29pm

JW's are hypocrites.

1. I was brought up a JW so I do know what i'm talking about.
2. Elders hide and protect pedophiles within the congregation
<http://silentlamb.org>
3. They call ex JW's "mentally diseased" - a plain insult and court action worthy.
4. They've lied about 1914 saying it was the start of the end, when in fact they used to teach it would be the end of the end. They now secretly adhere to 2014 using the "as in the days of Noah" and his taking 100years to build the ark.
4. So many innocent gullible people are trapped inside. Many have died penniless after giving their all to the headquarters thus enabling the GB to live in luxury whilst their children scratch out a living.
5. They are wolves, liars, acting as the wicked slave beating their none elite slave class..

reply

by **Jada Buchanon (not verified)** | March 10, 2012 - 5:56pm

Right on Richard!

reply

by **Debbie Moore (not verified)** | March 10, 2012 - 6:37pm

I agree. I was a JW over 45 years and I know for a fact that everything you just said is factual about JW's and how they protect pedophiles in the congregation. I was raped by a man more than 30 years my senior when I was a kid and I was the one blamed for it and then publicly humiliated before the congregation. A week later he was giving a talk at the Kingdom Hall and I was in ICU from trying to commit suicide! I spent the first half of my life trying to die and for the last 17 years been trying to survive because after LOTS of therapy and medication, I realized none of it was my fault. BTW, it happened more than one time!! I did not try to kill myself before it was all made public. The Elders on

the committee completely destroyed my trust. My father was an Elder and he wrote a letter to the man who destroyed me telling him that he forgave him for what he had done to me, his daughter. I NEVER would've allowed him to send that letter because the perv NEVER apologized!!! HE did not deserve forgiveness!!! He never accepted any responsibility for his actions. YEARS later his youngest daughter called me out of the blue and told me he had done the same thing to his 3 daughters but after they saw how I was treated they would not come forward to support me because they didnt want to suffer the same humiliation! I have never had a good relationship with men since because I dont trust men, in general. I am 51 years old and have had 2 failed marriages and I will never marry again. I share my home with an older man and my son, but there is nothing romantic between us, nor has there ever been. He simply rents a room here and it is on another level of my house than my room! But I have my 30 yr old son who will protect me from any man ever hurting me again! My son also knows what abuse is like because we had a sexual predator in our congregation that did some terrible things to him as a child. In fact, the man had spent 13 yrs in prison for raping little boys and I had no idea because the Elders protected HIM - NOT MY CHILD- by not warning me or I NEVER would have let him take my son anywhere! My blood boils when I think of all the abuse myself and my children suffered at the hands of this CULT!!! Yes, I was brought up in it and I believed what I was brainwashed to believe and I left AFTER both of my parents were deceased because I could not handle the thought of being disfellowshipped (kicked out) and not being allowed to ever speak to my family again. Thats how JWS punish their members when they dont adhere to every fricking stupid rule they have. THEY THROW YOU OUT LIKE GARBAGE AND NO OTHER JW CAN EVER SPEAK TO YOU AGAIN! YOU ARE CONSIDERED DEAD TO THEM!!! SO now after 45 yrs of only having JWs as friends, I have nobody left except other ExJWs who understand exactly how I feel and feel the same way! We are treated worse than if we were Judas himself! But at least we are free from the bondage of that mind controlling CULT!! I can't wait for God to reign judgement down on the Watchtower Society for all the families that they have broken up and for the ones who did successfully commit suicide over what happened to them as members. And this man that burned his wife - MAN YOU ARE GUILTY AS HELL AND MAY YOU BURN IN IT FOREVER! - he HAD to be a JW to be married in a Kingdom Hall - that is a REQUIREMENT to be married in a K.H. all over the world! He deserves a tormentuous death by women who have suffered at the hands of sick men like him! He should die by fire just like his wife!!!! That has to be the most painful and horrible way to kill someone. I feel so sorry for what she must have suffered through! But, I know I have talked about way more than just this case - but the reason JWs are brought up specifically after something like this happens is exactly what others have said. JWs THINK they are the ONLY true religion! (NOT) They put themselves above everyone else like they are better than the rest of the world to the point that they do not even allow friendships with people who are not also JWs!!! I know this for a fact since I spent 45 years of my life with them!! People need to listen to people like me - we've been there, done that and will NEVER do it again!! Now we are FREE!!!! JWs dont even believe that Jesus is the Mediator between ALL men and God - they say he is only the Mediator for the 144,000 Anointed ones that have been chosen to go heaven and that the rest are just gonna have to wait and see if they get saved at Armeggedon. They have taken away the hope of many people still in the organization who do not even realize that this is what they are being taught because it is so subtle! Get out of the CULT before it is too late people! I have not had it easy since I left but I would never go back!

reply

by **Jada Buchanon (not verified)** | March 11, 2012 - 7:03am

Debbie, I am so sorry for what you and your child have been through! I count myself lucky to have escaped from the watchtower without experiencing anything like what you have. I hope the Governing Body, the other powers that be in that disgusting organization, and those horrible pedophiles burn in hell!

Experiences like yours are what keep me focused on trying to help as many people out of that cult as possible.

reply

by **bracket (not verified)** | March 9, 2012 - 3:24pm

May her soul rest in peace. God will grant her the peace she could not find in the hand of this temperamental drunker, with history of wife and girlfriend beater. I hope he gets 100 yr in prison. Bastard.

[reply](#)

by **Anonymous (not verified)** | March 9, 2012 - 8:18pm

Domestic abuse is very common with the Jehovahs Witnesses. It is put down to the stress and strain of modern life. They end up accepting it. Jehovahs witnesses still promote smacking children, even where countries forbid it. Go to one of their churches and you will doubtless see a child taken out the back and smacked to a point of screaming. It is normal and the only complaint you will see is judgmental people annoyed at the child's screams. Wife abuse is common as they are to be "in subjection to their husbands." it is a very primitive, sad situation. I am so sorry for this poor woman. May this man see the inside of a prison for as long as he lives. Thankfully the modern world is more moral than this man, his beliefs and the bible he got them from.

[reply](#)

by **Anonymous (not verified)** | March 11, 2012 - 6:52am

You JW haters are looney. If you want to call them out because they claim to have higher standards that's fine, but don't be a hypocrite. This man was obviously NOT attempting to follow the teachings of Jehovah Witnesses who are known for their peace-loving stand against war, hatred and violence.

And, there IS a very low incidence of such abuse among JWs in comparison with people of other religions or non-religions. So, it is no wonder that the thin-skinned are in a frenzy to jump on any of the few rare incidents.

If any JW or genuine former JW experienced abuse from any person, then that is very sad. The person who did such a loathsome and disgusting deed is going against our teachings which tell us to imitate Jesus love and manner of speech and action.

JWs who engage in any form of wife abuse would be dis-fellowshipped. JWs are taught that they are entitled to loving treatment and that the victim can Scriptural separate from a person who is a physical abuser. We have numerous publications which explain proper family relationship and behavior - NEVER - is any form of abuse condoned. It is constantly counseled against.

If any JW abuses a child, they are reported to the authorities and disfellowshipped by the elders. Just as with any legal process, the alleged offense has to be proven. Someone may experience an injustice, but if there are no witnesses - there may not be sufficient evidence for disciplinary action. However, if proven, such a person can never have any sort of position of leadership within any congregation even if eventually reinstated. This is quite unlike many other stories in the news where entire church organizations tolerate and cover up abuse by moving child abusing clergy from one church to another.

Former JWs don't want to follow the Bible. That's their choice, but some of them attack JWs because they can't face the truth about themselves. True, like anyone, some may have experienced or perceived a personal injustice. However, that is not because a fellow Witness was trying to follow JW teachings and it is no excuse for them cease following the Bible. Their personal experience does not represent the experience of the vast majority of persons who decide to enjoy fellowship with JWs. This is one of the reasons that JWs are one of the fastest growing religions in the world.

[reply](#)

by **Anonymous (not verified)** | March 12, 2012 - 1:33am

"And, there IS a very low incidence of such abuse among JWs in comparison with people of other religions or non-religions."

Prove it without quoting a Watchtower publication.

[reply](#)

by **Anonymous (not verified)** | March 12, 2012 - 7:24pm

What dream world do you live in?

Take off your rose colored glasses, do your research on the Watchtower Organization, and you will not waste more of your life serving the governing body at head office.

I was a pioneer, elder's wife, etc. for 30 years.

It is a straw house.

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