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The Impact of Stigmatization on the Acceptance and Care for People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) in the Society:

A Case Study of Civil Servants in Auchi

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KEYWORDS HIV/AIDS. Stigmatization. PLWHA. Enlightenment and Advocacy Programme

ABSTRACT This study examines the Impact of Stigmatization on the acceptance and care for people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) in the society. It is the contention of the study, that stigmatization is one of the problems associated with HIV/AIDS epidemic in the society. This study was carried out among civil servants in Auchi in Edo State, Nigeria. Three hundred and twenty-four (324) participants took part in the study and questionnaire and focus group discussion were used to obtain information from the participants in the study. Some of the findings of the study are that people have high knowledge of HIV/AIDS, stigmatization can affect the acceptance and care for people living with HIV/AIDS in the society and that enlightenment programmes can change people's attitude towards people living with HIV/AIDS in the society and reduce the level of stigmatization associated with the disease.