



UNIVERSITÀ
CATTOLICA
del Sacro Cuore

Dottorato di ricerca in Criminologia
Ciclo XXVI
SPS/12 – Sociologia Giuridica, della Devianza e Mutamento Sociale

**The Grey Areas in Trafficking of Nigerian Women: from Trafficked Woman to Perpetrator
of Trafficking**

Tesi di Dottorato di : Eva Lo Iacono
Matricola: 3911181

Anno Accademico 2012/2013



UNIVERSITÀ
CATTOLICA
del Sacro Cuore

Dottorato di ricerca in Criminologia
Ciclo XXVI
S.S.D: 14/C1 - SPS/12

**The Grey Areas in Trafficking of Nigerian Women: from Trafficked Woman to Perpetrator
of Trafficking**

Coordinatore: Ch.mo Prof. Ernesto Ugo Savona
Tutor: Ch.mo Prof. Dina Siegel-Rozenblit
Tesi di Dottorato di: Eva Lo Iacono
Matricola: 3911181

Anno Accademico 2012/2013

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<i>ABSTRACT</i>	6
ABBREVIATIONS	7

PART I

CHAPTER I - Introduction

1.1 Research Question: Grey Areas in Nigerian Trafficking for Commercial Sex Work	8
<i>1.1.1 Aims and Objectives of the Study</i>	11
<i>1.1.2 Organisation of the Thesis</i>	12
1.2 Explanation of Terms: Grey Area and Vertical Mobility in Human Trafficking	13
<i>1.2.1 Definitions of Human Trafficking</i>	15
<i>1.2.2 A Focus on the Condition of Vulnerability</i>	18
1.3 Literature Review	19
1.4 Criminological Debate on Prostitution of Migrant Women	27
<i>1.4.1 Overview on Main Approaches and Policies on Trafficking in Human Beings</i>	30
1.5 Sociological Theories: Social Capital and Crime	32
<i>1.5.1 Theories on Women Offenders</i>	35

CHAPTER II - Methodology

2.1 Rationale to a Vertical Mobility Approach: a New Proposal	40
2.2 The Methodology for a Sensitive Research Topic	44
<i>2.2.1 Triangulate Different Data-gathering Technique: Observation, Interview and Content analysis</i>	46
2.3 Considerations	56

CHAPTER III - Background to the Study: National Regulations and Social Context

3.1 The Italian Anti-trafficking Law and Measures for Victims Protection	59
3.2 Nigerian National Strategies on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings	63
3.3 The Social Context	66
<i>3.3.1. The Role of the Woman in the Trafficking Business</i>	69
<i>3.3.2 Voodoo Rites and Magic</i>	72

PART II. Nigerian Trafficking in Women: The Italian Case

CHAPTER IV - The Hierarchy in the Nigerian Trafficking in Women: The Pyramidal Structure vs. The Horizontal Structure

4.1 Nigerian Trafficking in Women: Is It Organised Crime?	76
4.1.1 <i>How Trafficking in Nigerian Women Works? The Hypothesis of the Three Levels</i>	78
4.2 The Pyramidal Structure vs. the Horizontal Structure	83
4.3 A Focus on Networks: Does a Network of Madams Exist in Italy?	87
4.4 Nigerian Communities and Churches: The Palermo Case	90
4.4.1 <i>The Nigerian Community in Palermo</i>	92
4.4.1.1 <i>The Nigerian Women of the Pellegrino della Terra Association</i>	96
4.5 Considerations	99

V CHAPTER - From Trafficked Woman to Madam. An Analysis on the Vertical Mobility in Empirical Cases

5.1 On the Street as a Trafficked Woman	101
5.1.1 <i>The trafficking chains: The debt, the native family and the illegal judicial status</i>	108
5.2 On the Street as an Independent Prostitute	113
5.3 On the Street as a Madam	118
5.3.1 <i>Unusual Cases of Madams</i>	122
5.4 Considerations	124

CONCLUSIONS	127
-------------	-----

BIBLIOGRAPHY	134
--------------	-----

Web sites	147
-----------	-----

ANNEXES

Annex I	149
Annex II	154
Annex III	159