



**SJHR VOLUME 5 NUMBER 1 (2015) 65-81**

ISSN 2045-8398 (Print)

ISSN 2045-8517 (Online)

Publishers: Sacha & Diamond, England

www.sachajournals.com

Current Cumulative Impact Factor: 30.7



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## LEGAL REGIME ON DISABILITIES RIGHTS IN NIGERIA

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### ABSTRACT

In Nigeria, persons with disabilities, children, women and adults alike, are relegated and often treated as outcast. They are perceived as “objects” of charity, rather than “subjects” with rights. They suffer untold discrimination in all sectors of the economy and are systematically excluded from active participation in the society. These persons are systematically being excluded from enjoying their invaluable rights and privileges which other members of the society benefit from, even in the face of glaring legislative safeguards in place purporting to protect the rights of this vulnerable group. Persons with disabilities in Nigeria have rather been forced to psychologically live with the fact that they are better surviving as “beggars on the streets” rather than “instruments of social, economic, political and educational growth and development of the country”. This paper therefore seeks to posit that the problems associated with the adequate protection of persons with disabilities in Nigeria, is not rooted in the lackadaisical attitude of the Legislature, federal or state, as oft-argued by most commentators in this regard, but in the implementation mechanisms and logistics put in place to guarantee the proper enforcement of these laws. This paper seeks to unravel the clogs in the wheel of implementation of the rights of the disabled in Nigeria with a view to proffering solutions to over-coming them.

*Keywords:* Disabilities Rights, Human Rights, Nigeria.