

Ignore the #FakeNews on Social Media that Falsely and Maliciously “Quotes” Ezekwesili on the #BringBackOurGirls Campaign

Our attention was drawn to a false “quote” maliciously attributed to “Obiageli Ezekwesili.” The dubious authors of the fake quote had, in their desperate efforts to mislead the public, deviously ascribed a false quote to Oby Ezekwesili. Propagating falsehood, they fictionally quoted Ezekwesili as saying that the global #BringBackOurGirls campaign for the rescue of 219 abducted Chibok schoolgirls was a “project with Fulani to tarnish” one administration for the benefit of another in the 2015 elections.

Ezekwesili never said and can never make such egregiously false statement on the empathetic campaign she led for the rescue of the abducted ChibokGirls.

Ezekwesili has commenced legal actions for libel against media outlets and individuals who publish and disseminate this disgusting fake news that was fabricated by those who wickedly continue to deny the failure of the Federal Government in 2014 to swiftly respond and rescue ChibokGirls.

We urge members of the public to, please, ignore the patently false, fictional and fake news being peddled by those who have refused to acknowledge the injustice done to the Chibok secondary schoolgirls, even seven years after the tragedy occurred.

Again, Ezekwesili did not and can never describe the #BringBackOurGirls campaign, which she co-led to secure justice and rescue for 219 abducted ChibokGirls as a “project to tarnish anyone” for electoral purposes. The fraudulent statement is an absolute and wicked lie, which all reasonable persons should disregard.

The evident fact is that Ezekwesili has, since April 2014, empathetically agitated for the cause of victims of abduction for the singular purpose of holding Nigerian governments accountable for their rescue.

Ezekwesili's advocacy for victims of terrorist abduction in Nigeria started with ChibokGirls, and 107 of them that were released are today continuing with their education. Over the last seven years, BBOG and Ezekwesili extended and amplified active citizenship by advocating the release of all subsequent victims like Leah Sharibu of Dapchi Secondary School.

Surely, Nigerians can recall how the #BringBackOurGirls and Ezekwesili advocated and helped secure the release of 16 Lassa women including police women and men; three University of Maiduguri lecturers; and their teammates from NNPC Chad Basin oil drilling project in 2018. BBOG advocated the rescue of Red Cross and UNICEF aid workers who were unfortunately gruesomely killed by the terrorists in 2018.

The #BringBackOurGirls movement and Ezekwesili have continued to pressure and hold the Federal Government accountable for the serial cases of abduction of schoolchildren between 2020 and 2021, which are tragically reminiscent of the 2014 abduction of ChibokGirls.

Ezekwesili will take legal actions for libel against media outlets and individuals who publish and disseminate the disgusting fake news that was fabricated by those who wickedly continue to deny the failure of the Federal Government to swiftly act and rescue the 219 ChibokGirls in 2014.

The original author and other peddlers of the fake news have already been identified and reported to Facebook, Instagram and other social media platforms, which are taking appropriate actions.

Ezekwesili uses this opportunity to remind President Muhammadu Buhari and the Federal Government of Nigeria of their constitutional duty to immediately rescue the remaining 112 ChibokGirls, Leah Sharibu, and all other victims of abduction. It is urgent to bring all abducted people home.

A handwritten signature in black ink, enclosed in a hand-drawn oval. The signature appears to read "Ozioma".

Ozioma Ubabukoh

Spokesperson of Oby Ezekwesili

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