



HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SOCIAL ECONOMIC IMPACT ON THE HOUSEHOLDS

By

Ola, Kehinde Oluwole
Department of Economics and Business Studies
College of Management and Social Sciences
Samuel Adegboyega University, Ogwa
Edo State
E- mail: ko_ola@yahoo.com
08063177785

ABSTRACT

Human trafficking has become a global phenomenon in which countries of the world are putting all necessary mechanism to check its inflows. Studies carried out so far have shown that all efforts to curb its spread amounted to nothing. This paper has the aim of examining the impact of human trafficking on the households and show that the benefits it confers on the households are the main reason for its continuous patronage. The study is designed as empirical research and 500 households are selected in Ogwa City in Edo State. The findings of the study show that there is significant relationship between the number of intending to migrate abroad and the expected improvement in their social-well being of their prospective families. Secondly, the findings of the study reveal that expectations of better standard of living lure many into the hands of human traffickers. Lastly, the findings of the study show that the families of the migrants attain higher standard of living than their counterparts. The study therefore recommends that exodus of people out of the country can be curbed if poverty is reduced in the lands and each household attains a level of well- being.

Keywords: Human trafficking, socio- economic, households, and migration

1.0 Introduction

Human trafficking is one of the greatest crimes committed against mankind in this 21st century and high level of poverty in the developing countries has made it to be highly patronised by people who are in search of better lives. The need to have better lives prompts many of the people in the poor countries to seek good livelihood in high income countries; and many of them do not mind subjecting themselves to conditions which are given by their sponsors. None of them ever have the desire to become victims of human trafficking but seeing opportunities to escape poverty and live in affluence make them to end their journeys in the hand of those who are intoxicated by greediness to make money at all cost. They all have the desire to improve the wellbeing of their people at homes and those at home also are in high expectations that their wellbeing will improve upon the arrivals of their loved ones in the country of destination who have got jobs that will cater for their survival in a poverty stricken countries.

The aim of this paper is to show that the social economic impact of human trafficking on the households will continue to be a pulling factor in luring many people into the hands of the traffickers.

2.0 Theoretical Framework and Literature Review

2.1 Theoretical Framework

The study is based on Todaro's 'Expectancy Concept.' He developed the concept in 1990 from Fei- Renis' Urbanization Model of 1957. The Urbanization Model provides an economic explanation for massive migration of people from rural to urban areas that were being observed in the developing countries. The Todaro's 'Expectancy Concept' lies on the premises that better salary attracts people from rural to urban areas. He assumes that money (wages, income and salary) plays crucial factor in human movement. The expectation of attractive salary provides a linkage for movement of people from rural areas to urban areas (Bogue, 2010). This theory is highly applicable to current movement of people from developed countries to developing countries. In line with Todaro (1990), expectation of better salary makes the people to migrate from rural areas to urban areas.

Many of the migrants from developing countries leave their countries in search of jobs and other means that can better their lives in the developed countries. They are pushed out of their countries by lack of access to employment opportunities and other essential provisions that should have made life pleasant to them; all these have seen or heard of in the developed countries. These opportunities of having better lives become the pull factors that make to seek all possible routes to leave their countries. This concept is in accordance with Everett Lee's refined pull- push theory of 1966. Lee's theory recognises pull factors are positive factors which attract migrant to a particular place and push factors as those negative factors which stimulate out migration from a place.

Furthermore, Todaro assumes that migrants have all necessary information about possibilities of having jobs in destination countries. This gives the model its application to human trafficking activities in the developing countries. The human traffickers serve as information providers in the developing countries; they come in the form of helpers to

people of these countries and they show them that they have access to better living standard if they can take the opportunities of leaving their countries of origin to these countries. They came with stories of various people who have done so and currently living in affluence. The information provided by them makes many of the people in the developing countries who fall into the categories of unskilled labour and semi- skilled labour to fall victims of these human traffickers. This makes Todaro hypothesis to have its relevance to human traffickers' activities in the developing countries. The expectancy of better life cum information provided by the human traffickers makes lots of people to become trafficked people.

2.2 Human Trafficking as a Concept

Human trafficking begins to become an issue in 1980s but it does not become phenomenon of high importance until 1990s; and it has become regional, national and international problems that calls for serious concerted effort among the governments of the world (Bruckert and Parent, 2002; and Keefers and Johnson, 2012). It has become one of the greatest means of human exploitation in the contemporary time; and it can be seen as a modern slavery in which victims have become slaves to other people who use them for financial benefits (Bay, 2012). There are lots of definitions that have been given for the term 'human trafficking.' In summary, all of the definitions so far given have the following facts: the victims are recruited, transported, transferred, or harboured by means of threat or use of force or other means of suppression in order to receive their consent for the purpose of exploitation. The commodities that are traded in this illicit business are human beings irrespective of sex as much as they fall within the requirements of their targets (Keefers and Johnson, 2006).

The chief aim of the traffickers is to exploit the people that fall into their traps and they never have the will to assist them to have the good lives they desire. Through their deceptions, they are able to lure countless number of people into traps. It is estimated that over 2.4 million people are transported annually (Riley, 2007 citing UN Statistics). The proceeds generated from human trafficking have made the trade to be a blooming industry in the world and it has become the third illegal trade after arms and drug (Lin, 2009). The operation of the trade shows that it is an organized crime and the players in the trade operate like syndicate. This is confirmed by Doi (2008) citing Salt (1997) describes human trafficking “as an integrated criminal activity motivated by profit maximization.” This makes it difficult for the trade to be easily broken over by the law enforcers.

The traffickers are people with large channel of interconnectivity and these make the trade to have high level of secrecy in the world. The nature of the trade makes it to be very dangerous to the society, in the sense that, they pose threat to social, political, and economic well- being of the state and security (Doi, 2008). It is highly sophisticated and involve low rate of detection by the law- enforcers; it has been able to enjoy large patronage because of the minimal risk involved. The traffickers care less for the lives of people they are trafficking and they are at times involve in killing the people when they are not able to achieve their primary aims of making profit out of them(UNODC, 2011).

2.3 The Demand for Human Traffickers

There is high demand for human traffickers in the world today especially in the developing countries and many reasons have been attributed for this development. The

reasons so far given in the literature include poverty, large family size, lack of educational opportunities, lack of employment, ignorance on the part of the families and children of the risk involved in trafficking, high demand for submissive child labour in the informal sector, the desire of the youth for emancipation through migration, institutional lapses such as inadequate political commitment, non- existence national legislation against human trafficking in human beings, and the absence of a judicial framework allowing for the perpetrators and accomplices of trafficking to be responsible and punished for their act, porous borders, corrupt government officials, involvement of international organized crime groups or networks, limited capacity of or commitment by immigration and law enforcement officers to control trafficking at the borders and lack of political will or desire to enforce existing legislation or mandates (UNODC, 2006).

This study will focus on few of these reasons and the major reasons so far cited shall be considered. One of them is the high level of poverty level in the developing countries. Synder (2012) sees poverty has the root cause of human trafficking. From his personal observation from countries such as Thailand and Cambodia, where he had work with an organisation that fight against human trafficking, he found out that many people fall into trap of human traffickers because of the needs to provide for their families. He found out that in Thailand, the youngest girl in the family has the responsibility of providing for the family and as soon as they old enough; they are sent out to work. There is no question on what she does as long as she sends money home. He also discovered in Cambodia that parents sell their children in the dire need of putting food on their tables. This is a reflection of what happens in other developing countries.

For instance, in Nigeria, many people live below the poverty line cum high rate of unemployment. The estimate for 2011 showed that over 70% of the population lives below poverty line (CIA World Factbook, 2012). This rate has been persistent for past sixteen years because it was above 70% in 1996 (Federal Office of Statistics, 1999). It was 76.6% in 1996. High level of poverty has characterized the economy since 1960 when it rose to 15% and twenty years later, it rose 28% (Federal Office of Statistics, 1999). In terms of unemployment, the situation is similar; this is shown in the table below:

TABLE 1: UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS IN NIGERIA

YEAR	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)
2005	11.9
2006	14.6
2007	10.9
2008	14.8
2009	19.7
2010	21.1
2011	23.9

Source: CBN, 2009; NBS, 2009; and Trading Economics, 2012

Table 1 shows unemployment rate in the economy for the past seven years, the rate has been on a continuous increasing rate. It currently stood at 23.9% as 2011 (Trading Economics, 2012). The high level of poverty cum unemployment has made many youth to seek for places where they can have the opportunities of having well paid employment and thereby escape poverty. It can be concluded that vulnerability of many

people to human trafficking can be attributed to rising unemployment level in the developing countries. The rising level of unemployment is pushing many people in the developing countries into objects of human traffickers because they have become vulnerable in their situations. They are not able to resist the tendency of becoming labour or sex trafficking (Trafficking in Persons Report, 2009).

Another reason for high demand of human traffickers is poor infrastructure in the developing countries. In Nigeria, lots of social amenities are in dire need of replacement and those who are in good state cannot accommodate the existing facilities. As of today, more than 80% of African people do not have direct access to electricity and blackouts are common occurrences (African Review, 2012). The electric power supply is very epileptic and lots of people do not have power supply in a day. Many wait for days before they can have electric supply and this will only last for certain moment which may not even up to an hour in some areas until many days later; and the incessant will repeat itself all over again (Olufolubi, Utebor Faluye, Akinkerutu, and Famutimi, 2012).

This has made many people who are artisans to cripple under the burden of poverty because they depend on constant supply of electricity for their works. Many of them are idle throughout the day (Olufolubi, Utebor, Faluye, Akinkerutu, and Famutimi, 2012). The study carried out by Ijaiya (2009) showed that electricity consumption has significant effect on poverty, that is, the lower the rate of electricity consumption the higher the rate of poverty. Inability to involve in productive activities as a result of epileptic power supply leads to poverty. No one wants to die of hunger and this made them to resort to all forms of illegal means of having better life those who cannot

withstand the stress again. The chance of having works in another country is enough to pull them out.

Transportation system is also very bad in the country. There are many roads in deplorable state and many others are not motorable. The state of the roads make lots of produce to be destroy before they reach the markets and this reduce the farmers to beggars because the farms are their life sustenance. Many children of farmers abandon farmlands as result of low income earnings nature of their parents; they are discouraged from engaging in farming activities. This is one of the reasons for large numbers of people from rural settlements falling into the hands of human traffickers. Since the farming activities are burdensome to them and they perform poorly in academics as result of low quality education provided by the government at all levels (UNIFEM, 2002).

In the same way, unavailability of proper employment schemes to accommodate these further strength the needs to seek better lives elsewhere. Poor transportation system is a problem to the economy and a reliable means to frustration in human endeavours. High poverty level, high rate of unemployment, constant power outage and poor transportation system serve as pushing factors, that is, those factors that make the people of Nigeria to see their country as a place unsuitable for man's survival and therefore; provide a good reason to abandon the country.

There are other factors that stimulate Nigerians to leave the country by all means; these factors can be clearly regarded as pull factors. In the early sixties and seventies, fewer Nigerians travelled abroad because the economy was buoyant enough to cater for the need of the masses. Those who went abroad did so for the purpose of acquiring higher

education or achieving professionalism in their careers. Some did so with the intension of trading, that is, importing goods from Europe and North America (Dave- Odigie, 2008). The dramatic changes in the trend of this movement can be attributed to certain factors which create divergence between the countries that supply and those who receive. The receiving countries have become well developed economically and the incomes have well risen that the people of such countries have can live affluently. Many of these are showcase in Western and American movies.

The beauty of these places portrays in these movies attract many of the Nigerian youths and they desire to have taste of what they have seen. Good roads, standard and well furnished schools, well paid employments, well furnished houses, good sporting facilities and economies that care for their citizens are advantages that avail Nigerian youths who makes it abroad (UNIFEM, 2002). This is enough to make any man to take any steps either worthwhile or not. United Nation Report (2008) reveals that expectations amounted in the destination countries entice the people of developing countries to fall victims of human traffickers. Infrastructures such as in social and education infrastructures that are available in the developed countries are enough to trigger youth migration.

The tedious works do by many Nigerians are considerable factors in pushing people to the hands of human traffickers. There are enormous numbers of works in Nigeria in which people are subject to which make them to look live slaves. People work from morning to night earning peanuts and they are stressed to dying limit before they reach they abode. What they call homes is not more than a single room accommodating more than eight family sizes (Ola, 2012). There is no certainty of a prospect future in

various jobs they engage themselves in. Those who are traders are constantly in the hands of law enforcers who only have interest in swindle them of their goods and hard- earned incomes which cannot provide a daily food for their families.

There is cultural practice of surrogate parenting in Africa: this is an extended family system in which poor family members send their children to rich family members for rearing and caring. The rich family members will cater for the total need of these children until they are able to stand on their own. Kongnyuy, Kongnyuy and Ritchen (2008), in their study on “Child Labour in Cameroun” find out human traffickers exploit this intra-family help system to perpetrate their disastrous activities. While Sachkonye (2010) adds that this system has been bastardised by people who come in as helpers to these poor families and take away their children with the chief aim of training, nurturing and caring for them; but they turn these children into several forms of forced labour. He estimated children who had fallen into this trap as 2010 in Nigeria as 12million children and in Benin as 400,000 (Sachkonye, 2010). These people make the parents of these children to believe that they have the objective of assisting them to cater for their children.

2.4 Economic Benefits of Human Trafficking to the Households

The earnings from trafficked persons or exploited persons constitute part of workers’ remittance to Nigeria. Since there is no clear difference between the two; both income from human trafficking and workers’ remittance enter the country through the same sources- officially or unofficially. Mutume (2005) describes remittances as “the portions of cross-border earnings that migrants send home. There are two types, official

and unofficial. Official transfers use banks, money-transfer organizations and sometimes the Internet. Unofficial remittances are sent through friends or migrants themselves or through traditional networks...” The earnings from the sex workers, forced labour, domestic servants and others take the forms of workers’ remittances to enter the countries in which these people migrate from.

The main reason for remitting these earnings to their countries is to provide for their immediate and extended families in their home countries. Though Ghosh (2006) argues that this purpose is in two forms- altruism and self interest, that is, many of the workers may have the minds of supporting people at homes financially while some may have the desire to acquire remittance based assets at homes. Thus, these people have the minds of ploughing their remittances into productive investments in which they will rely upon when they finally decide to come back homes.

Ghosh (2006), in his studies on “Migrants’ Remittances and Development: Myths, Rhetoric and Realities” affirms that remittances contribute to family budget and are used for basic subsistence. The earnings are also contributed to family welfare and higher standard of living. He further asserts that it takes more than 80% of the family incomes in some countries like Senegal, Turkey, Latin America and the Caribbean. The level of education of children has been raised through these means. The beneficiaries of these remittances include women, children and the elderly, and in the same way, the friends of the senders. The need for survival can trigger many families to send their people abroad because they know that such income received from abroad has higher returns than that of home country. Families of those who remit homes are always able to have access to basic

essential things of lives than their counterpart at homes and there is also an improvement in the status of those families (UNO, 2008).

The remittances make more households to have interest in sending their family members abroad (Doe, 2008). The recipients of such remittances live in affluence and they are able to live above the poverty line in a country in which the government is insensitive to people's plight. There are no fringe benefits that masses derived from the government to cushion the effect of high poverty level. Seeing the improved well being of the recipients' household by neighbour influence them to take similar steps. In the same way, the siblings or other family members of the senders of the remittances may decide to opt for migration also when they are enticed by the changing in social status of their family members. Many of these people look for trolleys. Trolleys are people who claim to have the capacity to take people to Europe without any problems. As Adeniji (2005) discovered, many of them are human traffickers.

2.5 Women Vulnerability to Human Trafficking

The significant numbers of women who are falling victims of human traffickers creates the need to examine the place of women in the contemporary society. Preece (2005), in her report on 'Gender Analysis of the Patterns of Human Trafficking in and through Koh Kong Province' noted that in the present Cambodia and Thailand women are playing more active than men because they make up for defects of men. The changes in the economic pattern of the society have made many men to have less ability to take care of the households. In Cambodia, over thirty years of conflicts have made the economy to be gloomy and led to high cost of living. Men could not provide for their

families singlehandedly without support from other members of the family. This situation occurs in all developing countries, even in those that are not in conflicts the people are facing severe hardship.

Women have to come in to augment where the men have failed and the placing of these burdens on women who primarily they do not have traditional roles of having created vacuum in the society. This vacuum creates some changes in the existing structure of the society. A pertinent question to be asked is can women make for man deficiency? Over the years, many women have dramatically possessed economic powers and they dominate greatly in commerce and industry. Nevertheless, this has not made women to be chief providers of their households. Women have to look for what to do to cater for the needs of their households.

The society perception of women makes women to have less opportunity than men in job placement. This gender discrimination makes women to be found in works that are derogatory to human dignity. Women are relegated mainly to service industry like domestic works and these are poorly paid jobs in the society (Preece, 2005). The heavy burdens placed on women in the contemporary society as a result of social and political imbalance in the country cum traditional perception of women in the same social settings make them to be the major target of human traffickers. They have less economic power and they desire to meet their family expectations of them. Poverty tends toward women and children than men in the developing countries because traditions create imbalance between men and women.

The shame of going back home with nothing further push them into human slavery and therefore ends their journey into sex workers or domestic servants (Koettl, 2009). Evidences have shown that women dominate in the number of trafficked persons and they are mainly from poor families (Koettl, 2009). The cheapness of trafficking women has further made many women to fall into the hands of traffickers. The high demand for women in areas such as household, care- giving work and fast food centres has made room for women because they are charge less than men (UNIFEM, 2002).

The needs to provide for their families make many women to yield to the offer from human traffickers. Many of these women in works that yield little returns and when they are offered jobs that have high income in other countries they will fall victims of human traffickers. They never have the intention of becoming sex workers or forced workers in another country; but the opportunity of escaping poverty entice many of them and they fall into this trap. Lin (2009) in her study on “Human Trafficking Escalates as World Economy Plunges” narrated the story of an Indonesian woman who lived on less than \$2 dollars a day and she travelled two hours every day to do cleaning work in the city of Surabaya in her home country. During the course of involving in her cleaning business, she met a woman who offered her a nanny job at a pay of \$150 a day. This offer was beyond what she could reject and this was how she found herself in Los Angeles as a forced labour.

2.6 Nigerian Factor in Human Trafficking

Nigerian government never aids human traffickers and the actions of government over the years have shown that it frowns against the activities of human traffickers.

Though, the government has never been in support of the activities of human traffickers but Nigerian government has been passive in its effort to curb the perpetrators of the crime. Laws are put in place to deal with the perpetrators but they are never implemented. Thousands of human traffickers are walking freely in the streets of Nigeria and continue without hindrance in establishing their empires. There is government agency established to cater for prevention, trafficking and bringing to book the perpetrators but like any other government agencies it lacks the facilities to carry out these functions effectively.

The agency cannot be proud of having a rehabilitation centre for proper reintegration of deportees to Nigeria. These people are allowed to rust away and fall back into the hands of the traffickers. The only rehabilitation centre available in Nigeria with well furnished facilities is at Ipaja, Alimosho Local Government, Lagos State. It was built by Lagos State Government (Adegbite, 2011). By the time of writing this paper, the facility is isolated with no resident from trafficked person. The complex has 500 rooms with vocational and skill acquisition centres, and different other state of art facilities that make repatriated trafficked people integrate fully into the society (Ola, 2012). The Federal Government has a non functioning one in Delta State. The study conducted by Balogun (2007) showed that the place is not conducive for trafficked people rehabilitation.

The government's shortcoming is also reflected in the monitoring of the outflow of human traffickers and their victims. There is no special unit created by the government to check the movement of people who go out of the country through illegal route. As identified by Adeniji (2005), there were seven major routes used by the human traffickers. These routes were jungles and minor land borders that are not closely guided

by the men of the immigration. The weakness of the government to effectively guide these routes allows perpetrators of this crime to operate unhindered. In many instances, many of the traffickers have affinity with members of the communities along these routes and this further gives room for their easy passage. These people harbor the traffickers and their victims until they are able to secure safe passages for them. There is no effective policy that integrates the communities along the trafficked routes into fight against the human traffickers.

3.0 Methodology

The study is designed as a descriptive survey research and the population of the study is made of all the households in Ogwa and its suburbs in Esan West Local Government Area of Edo State. Ogwa is a homogeneous city, divided into four different communities- Egware, Uphogo, Inzogen and Idumagbho. The people are mainly farmers. There are few local government workers among them. The people are low income earners. The youth have nothing to do after completing Senior Secondary Schools; very few among them make it to tertiary institutions of any kind. At least there is a person that resides abroad in each household.

500 households are used in the study using clustered sampling technique and this technique is chosen based on the advantage that it is useful in the area where there is no complete and updated list of houses in any large geographical region (Shaibu, 2009). Many of the houses in the communities are old houses and the major source of water is rainfall. There is a water reservoir in each house feeds by rain. There is high level of illiterate and teenage pregnancies. A simple questionnaire is designed to elicit

information on the study conducted and the questionnaire is in unstructured format to give room for flexibility in responses. The questionnaire has twenty items on statements which relate to social- economic impact of human trafficking on the households.

4.0 Data Analysis

Data of 500 respondents were obtained and analysed using frequency counts and percentage. The data obtained showed that 78.0% of the respondents fall between ages 15- 35. This was intentional done because these are the people who vulnerable to human trafficking situations. These are the age categories in which people strive to achieve better life. Many of those in these categories are school leavers, unemployed, young graduates, singles, young married couples with less commitment and artisans who are just coming into trade. The study targeted these sets of people in order to have correct information about the study.

The data similarly showed that 69.2% of the respondents were holders of First School Leaving Certificates, Senior School Certificates, Ordinary National Diploma or National Certificates in Education (NCE). The larger percentage of these people is to reach the people that are vulnerable to human trafficking as early stated up. In Nigeria, these groups are generally fall into the categories of low income earners, not only that, they are job seekers and the certificates hold by these categories are not realistic in providing adequate well being for their future survival. They need to acquire higher certificates or seek for countries where they can earn income that is sustainable.

This study has the target of achieving three research questions. These are:

- i. Is there a significant relationship between numbers of those intending to migrate and the expected improvement in the social well-being?
- ii. Is the expectation of better standard of living abroad lure many people into the hands of human traffickers?
- iii. Do families of the migrants attain higher standard of living than their counterparts?

To achieve these research questions, the researcher adopts Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient to determine the relationship that exists between variables under study. The Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient though has its weaknesses, has the advantage of allowing researcher to measure the extent of relationship between variables. The chief aim for adopting this technique is that the data are primary data and the usage of complex technique will require some refinement in the data. The Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient has the value which varies from -1 to +1. The negative sign indicates that there is inverse relationship between the variables while the positive sign indicates positive relationship between the variables.

Research question one which deals with relationship between numbers of those intending to migrate and the expected improvement in the social well-being measures on Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient has the value of 0.67. This is positive and strong. This shows that there is positive and strong relationship between numbers of those intending to migrate and the expected improvement in social well-being. The implication of this is that as long as the expectation of improvement in standard of living abroad continues to exist number of those who want to migrate will continue to increase.

Referring to Todaro's expectancy concept, people will always migrate when their destinations have brighter prospects than where they presently reside.

The analysis of data on research question 2 showed that the computed Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient is 0.76. This is also positive and strong. This shows that there is positive and significant relationship between expectations of better standard of living abroad and high risk of falling into human traffickers' hands. The need to have better high standard of abroad can become a game for people to fall into the trap of human traffickers. Todaro's expectancy concept assumes that people have information about attractive salary and job opportunities elsewhere and these lure them into migrating to those places. Evidences show that information is supplied to trafficked people by human traffickers themselves (Adeniji, 2005; Negash, 2006; and Synder, 2012). They have people who specialize in luring people into trafficking through information they supply to them. Thus, expectation of better living standard can lure people into the hands of human traffickers.

Lastly, the computed Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient is 0.56. This is positive and significant; and this indicates that the families of migrants attain higher standard of living than their counterpart, but the value shows that in comparison there is little difference in the living standard. The families of migrants have access to remittances from abroad and also varieties of goods like cars, clothes, and households' equipment which their counterparts in Nigeria may not have access to. These goods are not easy to acquire in the local markets in Nigeria and this gives them a higher level of living than other families in their neighbourhood.

5.0 Implications of the Findings and Recommendations

5.1 implications of the Findings

The findings of the study have shown that the existence of poverty in Nigeria is a reality and it is a factor to be considered in any policy to be undertaken by the government. A man that cannot feed himself not to talk of feeding other mouths can be vulnerable to anything that comes his way. The chance of going abroad to have his misfortune change will not be a problem to him. The response of many of the people showed that they are ready to abide with any conditions if only those conditions can take them out of this country. In the same way, an average Nigerian man will not mind risking his life to travel out. Knowing fully that life is worth living in abroad than Nigeria. Lot of youths will rather risk passing through all the odds to end in USA or European countries. Adeniji (2005) in his study revealed that many Nigerian youths ended their journeys having been abandoned by human traffickers in ‘Hotel de Valley,’ Magnaia, Morocco. The desire to reach Europe by land makes them to continue to experience suffering.

The findings further reveal that poverty is a threat to any household and the incidence of poverty is a burden to any household in Nigeria. No household wants to languish in poverty. They will rather take any steps to eliminate poverty. A family can go to any extent to make sure that they get out of poverty. In the contemporary African society, stories abound on people who make rituals or involving in diabolical means to become rich. How will it be difficult for people of that nature to take any opportunity that comes their ways in course of looking for means to end poverty? Many of them will not mind looking for any means to live the country for greener pastures.

The fear of being an unemployed person in a country where there is no opportunity of survival and ended up being poor can trigger the desire to leave the country. A man that knows he is difficult for him to make a living in his own country can go extra mile in finding himself in a place where life will give him some comfort.

5.2 Recommendation

The poverty level in the country is making Nigerians vulnerable to criminal activities. The country is already noted for corruption, drug trafficking and recently terrorism. Evidences have revealed that there are lots of trafficked Nigerians in European countries and USA involving in forced labour, sex trade and domestic servitude; apart from those who have been abandoned, jailed, maimed, and killed. The only cogent reason for their migration is poverty. A man that has all what he needs in his own country in abundant will not be enticed by promises of food, house, cloth and other essential things that he can easily acquire in his own country without begging. Government must look for all means to reduce poverty. An end to poverty is an end to human trafficking. The nation will plough the resources wasted on recruitment, training, equipping of the agency that fights against human traffickers on productive investment. Until a common man on the street can feed his own household, human trafficking cannot end.

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Appendix 1

Questionnaire

SAMUEL ADEGBOYEGA UNIVERSITY, OGWA, EDO STATE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS STUDIES

QUESTIONNAIRE ON “HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SOCIO- ECONOMIC IMPACT ON THE HOUSEHOLDS”

Dear sir/ma,

Please your assistance is needed in filling this questionnaire, which deals with “Human Trafficking and Socio- Economic Impact on the Households.” The information is needed for research purpose alone. Your response is highly appreciated. Thank you.

Yours,

Ola, Kehinde Oluwole

Personal Data

Sex: Male () Female: ()

Age: Below 25 () 26- 35 () 36- 45 () 46- 55 () 56- Above ()

Educational Qualification: FSLC/SSC () OND/NCE () HND/First Degree ()

Higher Degree ()

Unstructured Statements

Indicate Yes or No. Supply the necessary answers where needed.

1. Have you ever thought of leaving the country for greener pastures? Yes/ No
2. If yes in question 1, what makes you to think of leaving the country?

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3. If you have another opportunity will you travel out? Yes/ No
 4. Do you think traveling out will improve your well being? Yes/No

5. Do you think you will be able to support your family and other relations? Yes/ No
6. Do people encourage you to travel out? Yes / No
7. If yes in question 6, do those people include your parents, friends, siblings, colleagues. (Underline as many as possible among the options)
8. Is there a benefit for you in traveling out? Yes/ No
9. If yes in question 8, can you state the reasons?

10. Do you know someone who travels abroad? Yes/ No
11. Is the person sending money and other things like cars to his/her people in Nigeria? Yes/ No
12. Do you think the family of that person lives better than others? Yes/ No
13. How did the person travel out? Though family connection, friends, or travel agencies
14. If someone offers to send you to Europe or America, will you go? Yes/ No
15. Can you travel to Europe by road if you have the chance? Yes/ No
16. Do you know anyone who travelled to Europe by roads? Yes/ No
17. Do you support going to Europe by roads? Yes/ No
18. Are you aware of people who help others to travel out? Yes/ No
19. Can you agree with them if they are ready to help you? Yes/ No
20. Can you abide with their conditions? Yes/ No



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