**DETERMINANTS OF CHILDREN’S PARTICIPATION IN CHILD LABOUR AMONG RURAL HOUSEHOLDS IN NIGERIA**

**BY**

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**AGR/010/8538**

**PRESENTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE AWARD OF BACHELOR OF AGRICULTURE (B. AGRIC) IN AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS AND FARM MANAGEMENT**

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**JUNE, 2015**

**CERTIFICATION**

This is to certify that this project, contribution of children to child labour in Nigeria, was carried

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**DEDICATION**

I dedicate this academic work to the Almighty God who made it possible for me to embark on this journey. His guidance is forever enduring. I am definitely nothing without You, Lord.

My awesome and ever loving parents, Mr. and Mrs. P.O Ogunbiyi will not be left out in my dedication. After God, they made it possible for me to get to this position today. They made it possible for me to be able to carry out this work both morally, financially and in prayers (especially my mother’s).

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

I am totally indebted to my diligent supervisor, Dr. (Mrs.) Fawehinmi Olabisi for being patient enough with me throughout the entirety of this project work. Your encouragement and support has stirred me to brilliancy. I really appreciate your kindness and patience.

Sincerely, in one way or the other, directly or indirectly, other lecturers of the faculty supported me. My sincere appreciation goes to Dr. O. R. Adeniyi (the Head of Department) and Dr. A. Ayandiji who were both kind enough to help in the fast-tracking of my project also.

I am truly thankful to my parents’ family -both from maternal and paternal sides. They were all supportive morally and spiritually. And for the many encouraging messages sent to me by them throughout this project work which somewhat made the work seem easier (even if at the latter parts of the semester, it became tougher each day), I say a big thank you to them all.

However, I will like to draw attention to the large number of children still working in hazardous conditions and acknowledge the efforts of the many organizations and individuals who are seeking viable and sustainable solutions to this problem.

May we start to experience total eradication of child labour in Nigeria very soon. Amen!!!

**TABLE OF CONTENT**

Title page……………………………………………………………………………………….i

Certification…………………………………………………………………………………….ii

Dedication………………………………………………………………………………………iii

Acknowledgement………………………………………………………………………………iv

Table of content……………………………………………………………………………….v-viii

Abstract…………………………………………………………………………………………..ix

**CHAPTER ONE**

* 1. INTRODUCTION……………………………………………………………………………1
  2. Background of the study…………………………………………………………………….1-4
  3. Statement of Research Problems……………………………………………………………4-6
  4. Objectives of the Study……………………………………………………………………….6
  5. Justification of the Study……………………………………………………………………6-7
  6. Plan of the Study…………………………………………………………………………….8

**CHAPTER TWO**

2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW…………………………………………………………………….9

2.1 Concept of Child Labour……………………………………………………………………..9

2.2 Child Labour in Nigeria…………………………………………………………………….. 10

2.3 Child Labour Among Rural Households in Nigeria…………………………………………11

2.4 Child Labour; Causes, Consequences and Cures……………………………………………12

2.5 Legal framework and Policies to Control Child Labour…………………………………12-13

2.6 Reasons for Child Labour……………………………………………………………………13

2.6.1 Poverty…………………………………………………………………………………13-14

2.6.2 Craze for Wealth………………………………………………………………………….14

2.6.3 Lack of Education/Ignorance……………………………………………………………..14

2.6.4 Traditional Practices………………………………………………………………………15

2.6.5 Broken Homes/Divorce……………………………………………………………………15

2.7 Types of Child Labour……………………………………………………………………….15

2.7.1 Sexual Exploitation……………………………………………………………………..15-16

2.7.2 Child Work…………………………………………………………………………………16

2.8 Worst Forms of Labour………………………………………………………………………16

2.9 Impacts of Child Labour……………………………………………………………………..17

2.9.1 Education…………………………………………………………………………………..17

2.9.2 Health…………………………………………………………………………………...17-18

2.9.3 Unstable and Unsustainable Economy…………………………………………………….18

**CHAPTER THREE**

3.0 INTRODUCTION…………………………………………………………………………..19

3.1 Description of the Study Area……………………………………………………………19-22

3.2 Sampling Procedure…………………………………………………………………………22

3.3 Types and Sources of Data……………………………………………...…………………...22

3.4 Analytical Technique………………………………………………………………………...23

3.4.1 Descriptive Analysis……………………………………………………………………….23

4.0 RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS…………………………………………………………...24

4.1.1 Distribution of children schooling and working for 15 hours & above by geo-political zones……………………………………………………………………………………………..24

4.1.2 Distribution of children schooling and working for 15 hours & above by age group……..25

4.1.3 Distribution of children schooling and working for 15 hours & above by place of residence…………………………………………………………………………………………26

4.1.4 Distribution of children schooling and working for 15 hours & above by gender………...27

4.1.5 Distribution of children not attending school and working for 15 hours & above by geo-political zones……………………………………………………………………………………27

4.1.6 Distribution of children not attending school and working for 15 hours & above by age group……………………………………………………………………………………………..28

4.1.7 Distribution of children not attending school and working for 15 hours & above based on residence…………………………………………………………………………………………29

4.2.1 Distribution determinants of children’s reasons based on geo-political zones……………30

4.2.2 Distribution determinants of children’s reasons based on age group……………………...31

4.2.3 Distribution determinants of children’s reasons based on gender…………………………32

4.3.1 Distribution of activities performed by geo-political zones……………………………….32

4.3.2 Distribution of activities performed by age group…………………………………………33

4.3.3 Distribution of activities performed by gender…………………………………………….34

5.0 SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION………………………………35

5.1 Summary………………………………………………………………………………..........35

5.2 Conclusion…………………………………………………………………………………...36

5.3 Recommendations………………………………………………………………………..36-37

REFERENCES……………………………………………………………………………….38-40

**LIST OF TABLES**

Table 4.1.1: Distribution of children according to geo-political zones and working for 15 hours and above………………………………………………………………………………………25

Table 4.1.2: Distribution of children schooling and working for 15 hours above according to their age group……………………………………………………………………………………….26

Table 4.1.3: Distribution of children schooling and working for 15 hours & above according to their place of residence…………………………………………………………………………26

Table 4.1.4: Distribution of children schooling and working for 15 hours & above by gender…27

Table 4.1.5: Distribution of children not attending school and working for 15 hours & above according to geo-political zones…………………………………………………………………28

Table 4.1.6: Distribution of children not attending school and working for 15 hours & above according to geo-political zones…………………………………………………………………29

Table 4.1.7: Distribution of children not attending school and working for 15 hours & above Table 4.2.1: Distribution determinants of children’s reasons based on the geo-political zones based on residence……………………………………………………………………………….30

Table 4.2.2: Distribution determinants of children’s reasons according to age group…………..31

Table 4.2.3: Distribution determinants of children’s reasons by gender………………………...32

Table 4.3.1: Distribution of children by activities performed according to geographical zones……………………………………………………………………………………………..33

Table 4.3.2: Distribution of children by activities performed according to age group…………..34

4.3.3: Table of distribution of the activities performed by gender…………................................34

**ABSTRACT**

In Nigeria, people have variously described children as the future hope or as leaders of tomorrow. Such attributes are often expressed by parents, social critics, political analysts and media commentators, who will always offer sentimental obeisance to the notion that children are indeed the greatest human asset. In effect, it means that children are appreciated, respected, recognized and regarded as valuable human monument worthy of investing upon for the survival and continuous existence of the human race. This study stresses on the need for Nigeria to adopt all the Universal agreements that tend to promote the protection of the rights of the Nigerian citizens, including the child’s rights law, so as to ensure that such rights are not rendered non-justiciable or violated. It is important to bear in mind that recognition of the inherent dignity, equality and the inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world.

**CHAPTER ONE**

**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

* 1. **BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY**

Child labour has been the main thrust of universal discussion over a period of time. Journalists, psychologists, sociologists, politicians, philanthropists and even literary artists have deliberated on and sought for ways of stopping this exploitative and hazardous phenomenon to no avail. The developed, developing and under-developed countries of the world are all guilty of child labour. However, according to International Labour Organization (ILO, 1998), child labour is overwhelmingly a developing country phenomenon, with Africa having the highest incidence.

Children are involved in exploitative work when are too young to do so. Hence, the hours are too long and the works are too difficult for a small growing body (Dunapo, 2002). The International Labour Organization (1998) estimates that the number of child labourers in Africa could surge from today’s 80 million to over 100 million by the year 2015. This is as a result of demographic explosion of impoverished people and inadequate levels of economic growth across Africa. According to Cohen (2005), work ranges from taking care of animals, planting and harvesting food, to being in many kinds of small manufacturing companies for auto- repair, making of footwear and textiles.

Considerable differences exist between the many kinds of work children do. Some are difficult and too demanding, while others are more hazardous and even morally reprehensible. Children carry out a very wide range of tasks and activities when they work.

Not all work done by children should be classified as child labour that is to be targeted for elimination. Children’s participation in work that does not affect their health and personal development or that does not interfere with their schooling is generally regarded as being something positive. This includes activities such as helping their parents around the home, assisting in a family business or earning pocket money outside school hours and during school holidays. Activities like these contribute to children’s development and to the welfare of their families; they provide them with skills and experience and help to prepare them to be productive members of the society during their adult life (ILO, 2010).

The term, ‘’child labour’’ is often defined as work that deprives children of their childhood, their potential and dignity, and that is harmful to physical and mental development. (ILO, 2010). In most extreme cases, child labour involves children being enslaved, separated from their families, exposed to serious hazards and illnesses and/or left to fend for themselves on the streets of large cities- often at a very early age. Whether or not particular forms of “work” can be called “child labour” depends on the child’s age, the type and hours of work performed, the conditions under which it is performed and the objectives performed by the individual countries (ILO, 2010).

Though restrictions on child labour exist in most nations, many children do work. This vulnerable state leaves them prone to exploitation. The International Labor office (ILO) reports that children work the longest hours and are the worst paid of all labourers. Child labour is more concentrated in Asia and Africa, which together account for more than 90% of total child employment. Asia is led by India which has 44 million child labourers, giving it the largest child workforce in the world. In Pakistan, 10% of all workers are between the ages of 10 and 14 years (Weiner, 1991). Nigeria has over 12 million child workers. Child labour is also common in South America. For example, there are 7 million children working in Brazil (ILO, 1992).Though there are more child workers in Asia than anywhere else, a higher percentage of African children participate in the labour force.

The phenomenon of child labour has become increasingly visible and it is a disturbing feature of the contemporary world, especially in developing countries like Nigeria. The International Labour Organization (2003) has estimated that 250 million children between the ages of five and fourteen work in developing countries—at least 120 million on a full time basis. Sixty-one percent (61%) of these are in Asia, Thirty-two percent (32%) in Africa and Seven percent (7%) in Latin America (Abubakar, 2005).

Child labour is especially prevalent in rural areas where the capacity to enforce minimum age requirements for school and work is lacking. Schooling problems also contribute to child labour, whether it be the inaccessibility of schools or the lack of quality education which spurs parents to enter their children in more profitable pursuits (ILO, 2004).

Children work for a variety of reasons. The most important reason is poverty and the induced pressure upon them to escape from this plight. Children work to ensure the survival of their family and themselves. Though children are not well paid, they still serve as major contributors to family income in developing nations. As adults, former child labourers are more likely to rely on their own children’s labour to meet the household’s basic expenses (UCW, 2010).

Child labour is normally concentrated in the informal economy, in the rural sector and in other industries hidden from the public view. Children who are engaged in child labour, either because they are below the legal work age or because they work in hazardous, illegal or degrading conditions are unable to develop to their full potentials. Employers and employers’ organizations can play a role in the global fight against child labour. (ILO, 2004).

Employers can take responsible action to remove child labour from their work places. They can also reduce the risk from hazards for adolescents and they can refuse to hire children. Employers and employers’ organizations can lobby for effective schooling and for remedial programmes, and they can help to raise public awareness and change attitudes.

In Nigeria, especially the rural areas, children perform varying tasks which fall within the category of child labour. Millions of children work under abusive conditions that are dangerous to them. Given the fact that 75.1% of Nigerians live in rural areas and 24.9% in urban areas, majority of working children are found in rural areas in which the dominant occupation is Agriculture. Children work in various activities in the Agricultural sector, including fishing, cattle herding and farming (Asamu, 2005).

* 1. **STATEMENT OF RESEARCH PROBLEM**

Children are future citizens of the nation and their adequate development is utmost priority of the country. Unfortunately, child labour engulfs children across Nigeria. However, despite its menace in different forms, the data shows variation in prevalence of child labour and the statistical figures about child labour are very alarming. There are an estimated 186 million child labourers worldwide. The 2001 national consensus of India estimated the total number of child labour aged 5-14 to be at 12.6 million. Small-scale and community-based studies have found estimated prevalence of 12.6 million children engaged in hazardous occupations.

Many children are “hidden workers” working in homes or in the underground economy. Child labour violates human rights, and is in contravention of the International Labour Organization (Article 32, Convention Rights of the Child). About one-third of children of the developing world are failing to complete even 4 years of education.

Child labour creates unfair business practices. It harms the children forced to work at a young age and puts others who do not use child labour as a disadvantage for charging more for their services. Child labour has existed for so long and even though it is illegal in most countries, children are still being used in sweat shops by wealthy company owners.

Child labour in Agriculture, for example, is often invisible as most children work as unpaid family workers in dispersed small-scale farms or rural enterprises or is actively hidden by labour employers facilitated by the limited reach of labour inspectors in rural areas (IPEC, 2006).

Poverty plays a big part in contributing to the need of child labour. It can be seen very clearly in poor countries where the number of children a couple have is more than they can feed, so the best choice for them is to send the children to work and earn a living. Poverty is one of the main causes of child labour. In many rural areas in Nigeria, children work for their parents for survival and to meet the need for cash, food, shelter and clothing. Many of these parents depend on their children’s work for survival, even though they realize how wrong it is.

Child labour leaves little time for play and rest, which are both basic rights for children and necessary for the healthy growth and development of social and other life skills. Child labour is detrimental to long-term health, education and higher-level skills acquisition and decreases the chances of decent employment in youth and adulthood

Child labour continues to be a great concern in many parts of the world. In 2008, some 60% of the 215 million boys and girls were estimated to be child labourers worldwide (IPJ, 2011). Major engagement was in Agricultural sector, followed by fisheries, aquaculture, livestock and forestry. In addition to work that interferes with schooling and is harmful to personal development, many of these children work in hazardous occupations or activities that are highly harmful. Incidentally, 96% of the child workers are in developing countries of Africa, Asia and South America (IPJ, 2011).

With respect to the child workers between the ages of 5 and 14, Asia makes up 61% of child workers in developing countries, while Africa has 32% and Latin America has 7%. Furthermore, while Asia has the highest number of child workers, Africa has the highest prevalence of child labour (40%) (IPJ, 2011).

**1.3 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

The broad objective of this study is to identify the contribution of Nigerian children to the labour force.

**The specific objectives are:**

1. To identify the incidence according to the geopolitical zones.
2. To profile the activities performed by children.
3. To ascertain the particular reasons behind the children’s participation.
4. To identify the number of hours the children use in working.
   1. **JUSTIFICATION OF THE STUDY**

The availability of detailed and reliable child labour statistics and their analysis on a continual basis are particularly important for establishing policy priorities and targets, formulating and implementing interventions, and monitoring policies, regulation and programs aimed not only at the minimization of the negative consequences of child labour in the short term, but most importantly, the eventual and complete eradication of the practice. In addition, within the empirical literature on child labour, there has been a shift from mere qualification to econometric analysis of determinants. This has coincided with a widespread realization that simply banning child labour is unlikely to eradicate the problem or may even make a household worse off (Benjamin, 2006). There is the wide disagreement on how to tackle the problem of child labour. This stems partly from lack of awareness of the causes of child labour and problems associated with stopping child labour through legislation. This study is therefore expected to determine the factors of children among rural households’participation in child labour in Nigeria.

The significance of this research is that the study will bring to light the determinants of child labour as well as the link between child labour and poverty in Nigeria; this will help make policy on this issue for households and government to safeguard our children and promote their contribution to economic growth and development in Nigeria. The particular policy and research interest in this work is to ascertain the particular reasons for children’s participation in child labour in Nigeria, most especially in traditional African society where there is ineffective machinery to enforce child rights. In this context therefore, the paper seeks an in-depth knowledge of the determinants of the participation of children among rural households to child labour in Nigeria. This will offer policy makers and other agencies interested in child welfare and poverty reduction a good foundation for formulating appropriate policy among rural households. The determinants of the participation of children among rural householdsextend well beyond education to include the household’s characteristics and community characteristics. Knowledge of these determinants would inform a better child welfare management policy in Nigeria, but such analysis is lacking at the national level.

* 1. **PLAN OF THE STUDY**

In this study, chapter one (1) contains the introduction. In chapter two (2), the literature review is contained. Chapter three (3) contains the methodology. Chapter four (4) contains the result and discussion and lastly, chapter five (5) contains the summary, conclusion and recommendation of the study.

**CHAPTER TWO**

**2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW**

**2.1 CONCEPT OF CHILD LABOUR**

There is no universally accepted definition of child labour. Varying definitions of the term are used by International Labour Organizations, non-governmental organizations, trade unions and interest groups (William et al, 2005). To them, child labour means work for children that that harms or exploits them in some ways to physically, mentally, morally or by blocking their access to education. Thus, child labourers are child workers between the ages of 5 and 17. Some activities may help children acquire important livelihood skills and contribute to their survival and food security. However, much of the work children do in agriculture is not age-appropriate and is likely to be hazardous or interferes with children’s education (ILO, 2010). A Modular Child Labour Survey conducted among children aged 5-17 by ILO-IPEC in 2000 estimates 15,027,612 working children in Nigeria, or 39.4 percent of the total child population. Earlier estimates on working children include the 1991 Nigerian census, which estimated that 6 percent of children aged 10-11yrs and 12 percent of adolescents aged 12-17 years’ work (National Population Commission, 2002). These census findings did not include children under the age of 10. Furthermore, people can get the term “Child Labour” wrong by comparing it to “Child Work”. Not all children who work are engaged in child labour, there can be benefits for children who work provided their schooling is not compromised and their mental and physical development is not affected.

**2.2 CHILD LABOUR IN NIGERIA**

Child labour is prevalent in urban centers in Nigeria. This is because a large number of people move from the rural areas to the urban areas. Over the years, there has been a rapid growth in Nigeria’s population because of massive rural-urban migration. For instance, Uyo is the capital of Akwa Ibom state. The city has experienced rapid urbanization and many poor rural families struggle for a better life in urban areas. This pushes families to force their children to work in order to supplement family incomes (Okafor, 2010; Nseabasi & Abiodun, 2010).

The number of child labour is increasing in Nigeria. In 1995, the number of child labour was 12 million, while by 2006, the number of child labour under the age 14 has risen to 15 million (Adegun, 2013). The International Labour Organization estimates that about 25 percent of Nigeria’s 80 million children under the age of 14 are involved in child labour. Children work in different sectors such as farms, domestic help, in fishing, mining, armed conflict, street hawking and child trafficking. The number of child labour involved in street hawking is a very common form of child labour in Nigerian cities. Many child labourers in Nigeria are abused physically, mentally, sexually and psychologically (Awosusi & Adebo, 2012). They work long hours under dangerous and hazardous conditions with little pay benefits.

Education in Nigeria is compulsory for a child up till 9 years old. Nigerian government makes primary education compulsory for all children. However, many children do not attend school, about 6 million children in Nigeria, both boys and girls, are estimated to be working. The dropout rates for primary schools are high for both boys and girls because of several factors such as poverty and early marriage teenage pregnancy, poor school, or cultural and religious issues (Awosusi & Adebo, 2012).

**2.3 CHILD LABOUR AMONG RURAL HOUSEHOLDS IN NIGERIA**

Globally, child labour continues to decline, but to a lesser extent than before as there are still 215 million children caught in child labour, with 115 million of them in hazardous work. In the areas of rural Nigeria, it has been detected that child workers that engaged in farming have lower school attendance compared to their urban working peers (Robson, 2004).

There is a relatively high incidence of children participating in economic activities and lower participation of children in school in North East than any other regions in Nigeria (Badmus, 2008). In Nigeria, the most populous black nation with over 140 million people, there exists high incidences of child labour (World Bank, 2006). Traditionally, children living in rural areas have worked with their families, learning skills they would need as adults, but today, they are forced to work on the family farm, and even as labourers in some commercial farms. The situation in rural Nigeria is worse, as children are either not enrolled in school, or they are drop outs, thereby, constituting the pool of child labour (Obasi, 1991).

The global phenomenon is attributed to several factors. The rapid population growth, high rates of unemployment, inflation and low wage rate have contributed to the occurrence and necessity for children to be engaged in economic activities (Grootaert, 1999).

In rural areas of the country, children are found working on farms and herding animals. They are mostly employed by state-owned commercial agriculture plantations, which are responsible for much of the agricultural production (Aredo, 1995). It is quite different in urban areas, as children work on the street as vendors, beggars and even bus conductors (Aderinto, 2000).

**2.4 CHILD LABOUR; CAUSES, CONSEQUENCES AND CURES**

According to the Bureau of Statistics of the International Labour Organisation, in 1995, at least 120 million of theworld’s children between the ages of 5 and 14 years did full-time, paid work (ILO, 1996 and Ashagrie, 1998). Many of them worked under hazardous and unhygienic conditions and for more than 10 hours a day. This is not a new problem. In different parts of the world, at different stages of history, the laboring child has been a part of economic life.

The only thing that has increased is the awareness of and concern for children who work as labourers. This is caused, in part, by the increasing globalization of the world, which has brought not only more information about the condition of labour in different nations to academics and activists the world over, but also goods produced by children in faraway lands into the hands of consumers in high-income countries (World Bank, 1998). This has, in turn, brought two very different kinds of people on the same platform- individuals who are genuinely concerned about the plight of children in poor countries and those who comprise the forces of protectionism in developed countries. These two have rallied together to support a variety of interventions in third-world labour markets, ranging from banning imports into industrialized nations of products “tainted” by child labour inputs, through setting international labour standards to be monitored by international organizations such as WTO or ILO, to labelling products which used child labour so as to boycott them.

**2.5THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND POLICIES TO CONTROL CHILD LABOUR**

Several policies and legislations have been adopted by the Federal Government of Nigeria for improving the welfare of children by eradicating child labour. However, ILO (2002) states some of the policies have deteriorated and are not being imposed. Although there is no direct labour policy in the country, there are several policies and social programmes which aim at improving education, health, population, social development and child welfare if enforced that will help to reduce child labour (ILO, 2000).

In 2002, Nigeria ratified Convention No. 138, the Minimum Age Convention and Convention No. 182, the Worst Forms of Child Labour. Nigeria also adopted the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, which appeared to have laid rest to the argument that children have clearly definable rights in Nigeria.

The Nigerian Government has provided an enabling environment and support for these civil society organizations (CSOs) to thrive and has from their work formulate policies, programmes and interventions for child victims of abuse and violence (Ekpenyong & Sibirri, 2011). In 2000, the Nigerian Government established a national programme to eliminate the worst forms of child labour in Nigeria (Elijah & Okoruwa, 2006). Furthermore, mainly child labourers are engaged at the household level or street hawking. Regulations regarding street hawking have been difficult to control by the government (Togunde & Arielle).

**2.6 REASONS FOR CHILD LABOUR**

Children work for several reasons. Poverty is considered to be the major and top reason why children work. However, there are other reasons, which include lack of education, ignorance, indebtedness, traditional practices, broken homes.

1. **POVERTY:** As earlier mentioned, poverty is considered the top reason why children work. International economic trends have even increased child labour in poor countries. In other words, parents’ poverty and governments’ indebtedness, recession and unwise economic policies resulting in economic crises have enhanced child labour. Economic hardships sometimes force parents and guardians to sell and barter their children or abandon them. Many adolescents and young people start their working life too early and are unable to go to school (Adegoke, 2003).
2. **CRAZE FOR WEALTH:** The exploitation of children for immediate wealth increase has been alarming, as middlemen have exploited the desperation and ignorance of parents. To them, this is the fastest way of swelling their pockets. Perpetual quest for profit is unending as these men use children for different forms of work as long as it benefits them economically. Most of the world’s child labourers are found in the informal sectors selling on the street, at work in Agricultural farms or hiding in houses from media scrutiny (UNICEF state of the world’s children report, 1997).
3. **LACK OF EDUCATION/IGNORANCE:** Nigerian masses, like their 3rd world counterparts are today faced with problems that include hunger, poverty, disease, illiteracy, manipulation and lack of political power (Orewere and Bargo, 1997). The level of illiteracy among Nigerian youths is generally high due to a number of factors such as poverty and social cultural problems. Many of them are ignorant of the fact that their children are sold into slavery or used for prostitution (Fatusi et al, 2002). Parents in rural areas give out their children who are taken who are taken to urban areas and later sold or lent out for a fee (Fatusi et al, 2001). Parents of children who engage in child labour are mainly illiterates or semi-illiterates (Chemai, 2005). Ion Rural poverty, lack of employment or partial employment and illiteracy have given birth to majority of child labour problems (Chemai, 2005).
4. **TRADITIONAL PRACTICES:** Millions of Nigerian women face problem of discrimination, abuse and exploitation in appalling circumstances. Many women suffer discriminatory practices that further lead them to low-skilled jobs, earning low pays and low status (Orewere and Bargo, 1997). Dehumanizing widowhood rites are practiced. The widow is treated as an inheritable part of her husband’s property. She is not allowed to have any of her husband’s property. The widow has no choice than to send her children out to contribute to the welfare of the family and she cannot feed and educate them adequately.
5. **BROKEN HOME/DIVORCE:** The effect of divorce and separation on the welfare of the children is hazardous. Children from broken homes are treated in discriminatory manners within the household by their step-mothers/fathers who tends to give preference to his/her own children in distribution of household chores. Continued disintegration of families makes children vulnerable to sexual assaults (Eweniyi, 2000).

**2.7 TYPES OF CHILD LABOUR**

**i. SEXUAL EXPLOITATION:** This type of child labour is a grave abuse of rights and is consequently deplored by the convention on the rights of children. Commercial sexual exploitation has become a problem of special concern in Nigeria as many of them are already victims of HIV/AIDs and other sexually transmitted infections (Hodges, 2001). Child prostitution is now common in some Nigerian towns with about ten thousand (10,000) children involved in prostitution. In the last decade, there has been large-scale trafficking of children to Europe, particularly Italy for work in the sex industry, while boys do all kinds of menial jobs. These children are promised legitimate and lucrative work, but on arrival, they are handed over to prostitution rackets. They are forced to engage in sex and odd work (including drug trafficking) to pay off tickets and accommodations (Human Right Publication, 2000).

**ii. CHILD WORK:** Most child work occurs in agriculture, mining and in the informal sectors of the economy. While some of the children help in farming, fishing and cattle rearing to beef up the family economy, others work in mines and public settings, industries, workshops and in and market stall minders, car washers and hawkers. It has become increasingly common to find so called “any work” children, offering to carry any type of menial tasks such as street hawking, apprentices in workshops or as bus conductors (UNICEF, 2001). For instance, in Mali and Burkina Faso, children climb down shafts up to 80 meters deep just to work in gold mines (Hodges, 2000).

**2.8 WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOUR**

Whilst child labour takes many different forms, a priority is to eliminate without delay. The worst forms of child labour as defined by ILO Convention No. 182:

**(a).**All forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and “serfdom” and forced or compulsory labour, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict.

**(b).**The use, procuring or offering of female children for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performances.

**(c).** The use, for procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs as defined in the relevant international trade.

**(d).** Work which by its nature of the circumstances in which it is carried out is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children.

**2.9 IMPACTS OF CHILD LABOUR**

**(a) EDUCATION:** If children work for long hours instead of going to school, it can have a considerable impact on their development and their ability to access on education. In some communities, it may be the norm for children to work. In small communities, for example, children work on their family’s farming plots out of necessity, yet this is often at the expense of their education.

An education is important for all children’s development and to empower them with the skills needed to support themselves in the future.

**(b) HEALTH:** Child labour can have significant effects on the health and well-being of children. Millions of children often have to go to work long hours in hazardous conditions. If children are injured at work, they will often inadequate medical treatments, if any at all. They can also suffer long-term health problems due to malnutrition, exposure to chemicals, abuse and exhaustion.

In Agriculture, children may be exposed to toxic pesticides or fertilizers. They work with different blades and tools and carry heavy loads (FOS & ILO, 2001).

In mining, children may use poisonous chemical, face the risks of mine collapse and sometimes, work with explosives. In construction, children may carry heavy loads, work at tall heights and risk injury from dangerous machinery. In manufacturing, they may use toxic solvents, perform repetitive tasks in painful positions and risk injury from sharp tools.In domestic works, children risk abuse, work long hours and live in isolation from their family and friends.

Children who are engaged in child labour suffer serious psychological harms which can result in behavioral forms. This can seriously impact on a child’s social development and their ability to successfully complete their schooling (Omokhodion & Omokhodian, 2004).

**(c)UNSTABLE AND UNSUSTAINABLE ECONOMY:** It is not sustainable for countries or industries to rely on child labour. A wealthy, educated work force is essential to long-term productivity. It is important that adults are paid a fair wage, so that they do not need to send their children to work at the expense of their education and personal development.

**CHAPTER THREE**

**RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

**3.0 INTRODUCTION**

In this chapter, the source of data, sampling method & sample size, research instruments, data analysis, study area (which was Nigeria), as well as methods used in achieving the objectives of the study discussed were all determined.

**3.1 DESCRIPTION OF THE STUDY AREA**

The study area is Nigeria. Nigeria, with a total geographical area of 923,768square kilometers, is located between latitudes 4°N and 14°N and longitudes 2°2’ and 14°30’ east. The nation is bordered in the north by the Republics of Niger and Chad, in the south by Atlantic Ocean, in the east and west by Republics of Cameroon and Benin respectively.

The spatial extent of the country bestows on her various climatic regimes and physiographical units representing a wide variety of ecological zones. Nigeria is divided into seven agro-ecological zones. These are semi-arid, found only in the northern region; the savannah, found in the northern and middle region; a small highland area found in the middle and southern region; a larger transition environment of savannah derived from the forest overlapping the southern and middle regions; mangroves in the Niger Delta; freshwater swamps in the Niger Delta and Lowland rain forest in the south. These agro-ecological zones manifest correspondingly varied environmental characteristics such as length of growing period, which for instance is 151-180 days for the northern Guinea Savannah, 181-210 days for the southern Guinea savannah and 211-270 days for the derived Savanna/coastal Savanna (Jagtap, 1995).

The agro-ecological setting and technology base, in principle, determine the production systems. Two major production systems dominate these zones:

(a) The traditional production system, which is found in all parts of the country and consists of land holdings of less than 2 hectares with a variety of food crops intended mainly for consumption purposes.

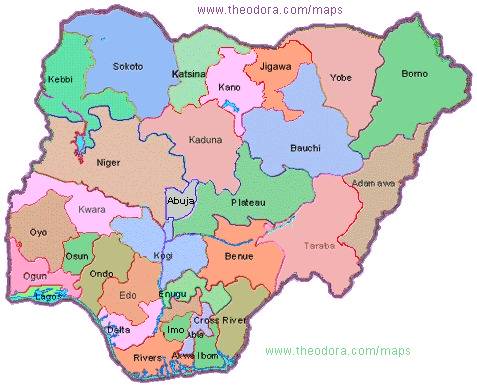
(b) The improved irrigation production system which comprises the improved small-scale irrigation using low-lying or waterlogged areas for crop and livestock production, as well as large-scale mechanized and/or commercial irrigation farming systems (AFDB, 2005).

The annual rainfall in these zones varies from as low as 250mm in the extreme north-eastern part to 750mm in the southern part (FGN, 1999); in years of good and copious rainfall, average rainfall ranges between 500-1800mm. Rainfall is largely erratic in the northern region, while the humid areas with torrential rainfalls are found in the southern part. Annual rainfall decreases northwards; 2,000mm in the coastal zones of the Niger Delta to 500-700mm in the North (Library of Congress, 2006). The sub-humid areas with areas with moderate rainfalls and derived vegetation are found in the middle-belt.

Nigeria is a country of marked ecological diversity and climatic contrasts. The lowest point is the Atlantic Ocean at sea level while the highest point is the Chappal Waddi at 2,419m. Nigeria has diverse biophysical characteristics, ethnic nationalities, agro-ecological zones and socio-economic conditions. It has evolved over time and space in terms of administrative structures and nature of governance. It started as an amalgamated British colony in 1914, became a federation in 1963, then became independent in 1960as a two-unit region comprising the Northern and Southern provinces. An additional Mid-Western region was created in 1963. Also in 1963, Nigeria was proclaimed a republic.

Nigeria is the most populous country in Africa with an estimated population of 131,859,731 inhabitants (July, 2006 estimate, World Factbook). The average annual growth rate according to the 2006 estimate was 2.38%. Nigeria’s population is divided among 478 different ethnic groups, some numbering fewer than 10,000 people. Of the different ethnic groups, ten (Hausa, Fulani, Yoruba, Igbo, Kanuri, Tiv, Edo, Nupe, Ibibio and Ijaw) account for nearly 80% of the population. 25% of the population is in the former Western region (12% of area), 21% in the former Eastern region (9% of area), and 53% in the former Northern region (79% of area). The lowest population densities are in the Northern regions, especially in Borno, Adamawa, Kebbi, Kwara, Taraba, Yobe and Zamfara states.

Nigeria’s economy has been dominated since the late 1960s by the export of oil, a sector dominated by the Government. By the mid-1970s, about 75% of Federal revenue came from petroleum. The share of exports accounted for by the fuel, mineral and metals continued to rise and stood at 96% in 1991 (World bank, 1993). In 2004, the share of the export commodities from petroleum and petroleum products was 95% while cocoa, rubber and others contributed most of the remainder exports. Nigeria’s industrial production growth rate was 2.3% (2004 estimate) (CIA World Factbook, 2004). GDP growth rose marginally in 2004, led by oil and natural gas exports. The capital-intensive oil sector provides 20% of GDP, 95% of foreign exchange earnings and about 65% of budgetary revenues (2004 estimate) (CIA World Factbook, 2004).



Map of Nigeria showing its 36 states

**3.2 SAMPLING PROCEDURE**

Demographic health survey on the determinants of participation of children to child labour among rural households in Nigeria including population, gender, age group, place of residence each state of the federation and the geographical zones.

**3.3 TYPES AND SOURCES OF DATA**

The study relied on data mainly from secondary sources. The sources include agencies within the country.

**3.4 ANALYTICAL TECHNIQUE**

**3.4.1 DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS**

This study uses descriptive statistics to explain the data collected. The description statistics include the use of averages, percentages and ranks. The purpose of descriptive survey design according to Ezeani (1998) is to collect detailed information that describes an existing phenomenon. The descriptive analysis was used to investigate the socio-economic characteristics of the children, determinants of the participation of children to child labour among rural households.

**CHAPTER FOUR**

**4.0 RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS**

**4.1 DISTRIBUTION OF CHILDREN ATTENDING SCHOOL AND ECONOMIC**

**ACTIVITY**

In Nigeria, for a household (the father, mother and children) working for 15 hours and above. Surveying the six geo-political zones of the country, for North Central, out of 308,958 of the total adult respondents, 284,334 were both father and mother working, representing 92% of the total. 7,349 were only the father working, representing 2.4% and 17,276 were only the mother working, representing 5.6%. For North East, out of 310,052 of the total adult respondents, 292,269 were both father and mother working, representing 94.2% of the total. 7,931 were only the father working, representing 2.6% and 9,852 were only the mother working, representing 5.6%. For the North West, out of 177,250 of the total adult respondents, 170,315 were both father and mother working, representing 96.1% of the total. 5,862 were only the father working, representing 3.3% and 1,073 were only the mother working, representing 0.6%.

For the North East, out of 52,517 of the total adult respondents, 38,404 were both the father and mother working, representing 73.1%, 553 were only the father working, representing a total of 1.1% and 13,560 were only the mother working, representing 25.8%. For the South South, out of 274,672 of the total adult respondents, 212,668 were both the father and mother working, representing 77.4%, 5,708 were only the father working, representing a total of 2.1% and 56,296 were only the mother working, representing a total of 20.5%. For the South West, out of 104,838 of the total adult respondents, 76,331 were only the father working, representing 72.8%, 8,487 were only the father working, representing 8.1% and 20,020 were only the mother working, representing 19.1%.

For the age group of 5-17 years old constituting the child labour force, the total number of respondents in the survey in the geo-political zones was 1,228,288. The number of children attending school and whose father and mother are both working for more than 15 hours is 1,074,321, representing 87.5%. The number of children attending school and whose father only is working is 35,890, representing 2.9%. The number of children attending school and whose mother only is working is 118,077, representing 9.6%. Out of all these, 742,420 are male with 658,227 having both father and mother working, representing88.7%. 23,225 are having only the father working, representing 3.1%. And 60,968 are having only the mother working, representing 8.2%.

Of the total survey, 298,997 working children and attending school were found to be from the urban area, with 242,000 of this having both their father and mother working, representing 80.9%. 12,992 were found to be having just their father working, representing 4.3%. And 44,005 were found to be having just their mother working, representing 14.7%. In the rural areas,the total number of working children and in school was found to be 929,291, with 832,321 having both their father and mother working, representing 89.6%. 22,898 were found to be having only their father working, representing 2.5% and 74,042 of them having only their mother working, representing 8.0%.

**Table 4.1:1:** Distribution of children 5-17 years old by Zone, Sector, Gender, Age group (Hours worked 15 hours and above) and Schooling status and Gender of Head ATTENDING SCHOOL AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

15 hours and above

**SCHOOLING**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Father and Mother** | **Father** | **Mother** | **Total** |
| **Total** | 1,074,321 | 35,890 | 118,077 | 1,228,288 |
| **Geographical Locations** |  |  |  |  |
| North Central | 284,334 | 7,349 | 17,276 | 308,958 |
| North East | 292,269 | 7,931 | 9,852 | 310,052 |
| North West | 170,315 | 5,862 | 1,073 | 177,250 |
| South East | 38,404 | 553 | 13,560 | 52,517 |
| South South | 212,668 | 5,708 | 56,296 | 274,672 |
| South West | 76,331 | 8,487 | 20,020 | 104,838 |
| **Age of Child** |  |  |  |  |
| 5-9 years | 249,168 | 6,883 | 21,383 | 277,434 |
| 10-14 years | 526,581 | 17,001 | 57,638 | 601,220 |
| 15-17 years | 298,572 | 12,006 | 39,056 | 349,634 |
| **Gender** |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 658,227 | 23,225 | 60,968 | 742,420 |
| Female | 416,094 | 12,665 | 57,109 | 485,868 |
| **Place of Residence** |  |  |  |  |
| Rural | 832,321 | 22,898 | 74,072 | 929,291 |

Nigerian Child Labour Survey (children aged between 5-17 years)

**Table 4:1:2:** Percentage Distribution of children 5-17 years old by Zone, Sector, Gender, Age group (hours worked 15 hours and above) and Schooling status and Gender of Head ATTENDING SCHOOL AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITY.

15 hours and above

**SCHOOLING**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Father and Mother (%)** | **Father (%)** | **Mother (%)** | **Total** |
| **Total** | 87.5 | 2.9 | 9.6 | 100 |
| **Geographical Locations** |  |  |  |  |
| North Central | 92.0 | 2.4 | 5.6 | 100 |
| North East | 94.2 | 2.6 | 3.2 | 100 |
| North West | 96.1 | 3.3 | 0.6 | 100 |
| South East | 73.1 | 1.1 | 25.8 | 100 |
| South South | 77.4 | 2.1 | 20.5 | 100 |
| South West | 72.8 | 8.1 | 19.1 | 100 |
| **Age of Child** |  |  |  |  |
| 5-9 years | 89.8 | 2.5 | 7.7 | 100 |
| 10-14 years | 87.6 | 2.8 | 9.6 | 100 |
| 15-17 years | 85.4 | 3.4 | 11.2 | 100 |
| **Gender** |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 88.7 | 3.1 | 8.2 | 100 |
| Female | 85.6 | 2.6 | 11.8 | 100 |
| **Place of Residence** |  |  |  |  |
| Rural | 89.6 | 2.5 | 8.0 | 100 |

Nigerian Child Labour Survey (children aged between 5-17 years)

**4. 2 DISTRIBUTION OF CHILDREN NOT ATTENDING SCHOOL AND**

**ECONOMIC ACTIVITY**

Surveying the six geo-political zones of the country, for North central, out of 216,563 of the total adult respondents, 201,769 were both father and mother working, representing 93.2%. 5,681 were only the father working, representing 2.6%. And 9,113 were only the mother working, representing 4.2%. For North East, out of 371,358 of the total adult respondents, 351,716 were both the father and mother working, representing 94.7%. 15,037 were only the father working, representing 4%. While 4,605 were only the mother working, representing 1.2%. For North West, out of 115,634 of the total adult respondents, the number of both the father and mother working was 112,862, representing 97.6%. There was no number that could be found for the number of only fathers working. But the total amount of only women working was found to be 2,772, representing 2.4%.

For South East, out of a total number 17,101 of the total adult respondents, 11,150 were both the father and mother working, representing 65.2%. 1,365 were only the father working, representing 8%, and 4,586 were only the mother working, representing 26.8%. For South West, out of 128,569 of the total adult respondents, 78,468 were both the father and mother working, representing 61%. 9,275 were the only the father working, representing 7.2%. And 49,826 were only the mother working, representing 31.8%.

For the age group of 5-17 years old constituting the child labour force, the total number of respondents in the survey of the six geo-political zones was 891,655. The number of children not attending school and working and whose father and mother are both working for more than 15 hours and above is 786,646, representing 88.2%. The number of children not attending school and working and whose father only is working is 33,392, representing 3.7%. The number of children not attending school and working and whose mother only is working is 71,617, representing 8%. Out of all these, 579,847 were male with 518,037 having both their father and mother working, representing 89.3%. 2,469 are having only their father working, representing 1.3%. And 37,119 are having only the mother working, representing 6.4%.

Of the total survey, 156,031 working children and not attending schools were found to be from urban areas, with 109412 having both their father and mother working, representing 70.1%. 7,420 were found to be having just their father working, representing 4.8%. And 39,199 were found to be having only their mother working, representing 25.1%. In the rural areas, the total number of working children but not attending schools was found to be 735,624, with 679,234 having both the father and mother working, representing 92.1%. 25,972 were found to be having only their father working, representing 3.5%. And 32,418 of them were found to have only their mother working, representing 4.4%.

**Table 4.2:1** Distribution of children 5-17 years old by Zone, Sector, Gender, Age group (hours worked 15 hours and above) and Schooling status and Gender of Head NOT ATTENDING SCHOOL AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

15 hours and above

**NOT SCHOOLING**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Father and Mother** | **Father** | **Mother** | **Total** |
| **Total** | 786,646 | 33392 | 71617 | 891655 |
| **Geographical Locations** |  |  |  |  |
| North Central | 201,769 | 5681 | 9113 | 216563 |
| North East | 351716 | 15037 | 4605 | 371358 |
| North West | 112862 |  | 2772 | 115634 |
| South East | 11150 | 1365 | 4586 | 17101 |
| South West | 78468 | 9275 | 49826 | 128569 |
| **Age of Child** |  |  |  |  |
| 5-9 years | 184941 | 2505 | 2383 | 189829 |
| 10-14 years | 315782 | 11985 | 21310 | 349077 |
| 15-17 years | 285923 | 18902 | 47924 | 352949 |
| **Gender** |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 518037 | 24691 | 37119 | 579847 |
| Female | 268609 | 8701 | 34498 | 311808 |
| **Place of Residence** |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 109412 | 7420 | 39199 | 156031 |
| Rural | 679234 | 25972 | 32418 | 735624 |

Nigerian Child Labour Survey (children aged between 5-17 years)

**Table 4.2.2**: Percentage Distribution of children 5-17 years old by Zone, Sector, Gender, Age group (hours worked 15 hours and above) and Schooling status and Gender of Head NOT ATTENDING SCHOOL AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

15 hours and above

**NOT SCHOOLING**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Father and mother (%)** | **Father (%)** | **Mother (%)** | **Total** |
| **Total** | 88.2 | 3.7 | 8.0 | 100 |
| **Geographical Locations** |  |  |  |  |
| North Central | 93.2 | 2.6 | 4.2 | 100 |
| North East | 94.7 | 4.0 | 1.2 | 100 |
| North West | 97.6 | 0.0 | 2.4 | 100 |
| South East | 65.2 | 8.0 | 26.8 | 100 |
| South South | 72.3 | 4.8 | 22.9 | 100 |
| South West | 61.0 | 7.2 | 31.8 | 100 |
| **Age of Child** |  |  |  |  |
| 5-9 years | 97.4 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 100 |
| 10-14 years | 90.5 | 3.4 | 6.1 | 100 |
| 15-17 years | 81.1 | 5.4 | 13.6 | 100 |
| **Gender** |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 89.3 | 4.3 | 6.4 | 100 |
| Female | 86.1 | 2.8 | 11.1 | 100 |
| **Place of residence** |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 70.1 | 4.8 | 25.1 | 100 |
| Rural | 92.1 | 3.5 | 4.4 | 100 |

Nigerian Child Labour Survey (children aged between 5-17 years)

**4.3 CHILDREN NOT ATTENDING SCHOOL AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITY**

**BASED ON AREA OF RESIDENCE**

Agriculture is the prevalentoccupation in the rural areas of Nigeria. A breakdown of each state shows that Borno state has the highest percentage of children not attending school and involved in Agricultural activities. About 86.8% of children are not attending school and at the same time,practicing Agriculture in the state. Plateau comes next, as 77.6% of Agriculture is practiced by children not attending school and working. In Kaduna, 68.3% of children not attending school and working are involved in Agricultural activities. Agriculture is also practiced highly in the Federal capital (FCT); 57.1% of children not attending school and working are involved.

Children who are not attending school and working also practice Agriculture on an average rate (50%) in Katsina.

**Table 4:3:1:** Percentage Distribution of economically active children 5-17 years old by State, Zone, Age groups, Gender, Sector and Major Economic activity in (the past 12 months)

NOT ATTENDING AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Major Economic Activity

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **State of the Federation** | **Agric Hunting and forestry (%)** | **Fishing (%)** | **Ma-nufacturing (%)** | **Electricity gas and water supply (%)** | **Construction (%)** | **Wholesale/retail trade and repairs (%)** | **Hotels and restaurants (%)** | **Transportation storage/communication (%)** |
| Nigeria | 42.1 | 0.3 | 0.9 | 0.1 | 0.6 | 5.9 | 0.2 | 0.4 |
| Abia | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| Adamawa | 25.9 | . | . | . | . | 3.5 | . | . |
| Akwa Ibom | 20.8 | 4.2 | 8.3 | 4.2 | . | 20.8 |  | . |
| Anambra | . | . | . | . | . | 8.3 | . | . |
| Bauchi | 4.2 | . | . | . | 1.6 | 11.7 | . | . |
| Bayelsa | . | 11.1 | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| Benue | 45.2 | . | 3.2 | . | . | . | . | . |
| Borno | 86.8 | . | . | . | . | 1.3 | . | . |
| Cross river | 28.6 | . | . | . | . | .. |  | . |
| Delta | 16 | . | . | . | . | 4 | . | . |
| Ebonyi | 14.3 | . | . | . | .. | . | . | . |
| Edo | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| Ekiti | . | . | . | . | . | 16.7 | . | . |
| Enugu | . | . | . | . | 50 | . | . | . |
| Gombe | 56.6 | . | . | . | . | 3.8 | . | . |
| Imo | . | . | . | .. | . | . | . | . |
| Jigawa | 36.1 | 1.6 | . | . | . | 4.0 | . | . |
| Kaduna | 68.3 | . | 1.6 | . | . | 4.0 | . | . |
| Kano | 40.6 | . | . | . | . | 12.5 | . | . |
| Katsina | 50 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| Kebbi | 43.7 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| Kogi | 12.2 | . | 4.9 | . | . | 4.9 | . | . |
| Kwara | 20.9 | . | . | . | . | 11.6 | . | . |
| Lagos | 3.7 | . | 3.7 | . | . | 7.4 | . | 7.4 |
| Nassarawa | 30.3 | . | . | . | 9.2 | . | . | . |
| Niger | 26.1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| Ogun | 5.1 | 2.6 | . | . | 7.7 | 7.7 | . | . |
| Ondo | . | . | . | . | . | . | 50 | . |
| Osun | 31.3 | . | 12.5 | . | . | 18.8 | . | . |
| Oyo | 2.6 | . | 2.6 | . | . | . | . | . |
| Plateau | 77.6 | . | . | . | . | 2.4 | . | . |
| Rivers | 20 | 10 | 10 | . | . | 10 | . | . |
| Sokoto | 47.8 | . | . | . | . | 4.3 | . | . |
| Taraba | 44.4 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| Yobe | 29.6 | . | . | . | . | 3.7 | . | . |
| Zamfara | 43.2 | . | . | . | . | 2.3 | . | . |
| FCT | 57.1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| **Geographical Locations** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| North Central | 44.4 | . | 1.1 | . | . | 5.6 | . | . |
| North East | 62.5 | . | . | . | 0.6 | 6.3 | . | . |
| North West | 42.4 | 0.3 | . | . | . | 4.7 | . | . |
| South East | 1.3 | . | . | . | 2.8 | 3 | . | . |
| South South | 16.4 | 3.3 | 3.5 | 1 | . | 7.9 | . | . |
| South West | 5.6 | 0.7 | 2.9 | . | 2 | 6.2 | 1.3 | 2.4 |
| **Age of Child** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5-9 years | 38.9 | . | . |  | 0.4 | 5.7 | . | . |
| 10-14 years | 46.2 | 0.6 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 4.4 |  |  |
| 15-17 years | 40.4 | 0.4 | 2.2 | . | 1 | 7.5 | 0.5 | 1 |
| **Gender** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 52.2 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.1 | 0.6 | 3.4 | . | . |
| Female | 24.7 | 0.2 | 1.6 | . | 0.6 | 10.2 | 0.5 | 1 |
| **Place of Residence** | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 4.3 | . | 2.7 | . | 1.9 | 8.5 | 1 | 1.9 |
| Rural | 51.5 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 5 | . | . |

Nigerian Child Labour Survey (children aged between 5-17 years)

**4.4 CHILDREN ATTENDING SCHOOL AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITY BASED**

**ON NUMBER OF HOURS WORKED**

Considering the gender characteristic, the percentage of males that work below 5 hours is 22%. 23.9% of females work below 5 hours. 18.6% of the male children work within the range of 5-9 hours. 21.4% of the female children work within the range of 5-9 hours. For the range of 10-14 hours, 16.7% of males work within this period, while 15.4% of the female children work within this period. For the children that work for 15 or more hours, the male children have the range of 42.6%, while 39.2% of the female children are involved in this.

**Table 4:4:1:** Distribution ofworking children 5-17 years old by State, Zone, Age group, Gender, Economic activity and Number of hours worked during the last week.

**ATTENDING SCHOOL AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITY**

Number of Hours Worked last week

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **States of Federation** | **Below 5 hours** | **5-9 hours** | **10-14 hours** | **15 or more hours** | **Total** |
| Nigeria | 740698 | 642722 | 524644 | 1334605 | 3242669 |
| Adamawa | 40950 | . | 1950 | 2925 | 45825 |
| Akwa Ibom | 17289 | 6102 | 4068 | 29493 | 56952 |
| Anambra | 8750 | 3750 | 1250 | 8750 | 22500 |
| Bauchi | 10020 | 13026 | 24048 | 7014 | 54108 |
| Bayelsa | 2388 | 14328 | 3184 | 26268 | 46168 |
| Benue | 25872 | 13552 | 2464 | 35728 | 77616 |
| Borno | 5610 | 12342 | 31416 | 144738 | 194106 |
| Cross River | 4134 | 5512 | 29670 | 31694 | 62010 |
| Delta | 152145 | 181125 | 56511 | 121716 | 511497 |
| Ebonyi | 4424 | 4977 | 9401 | 45899 | 64701 |
| Edo | 67363 | 106764 | 20336 | 26691 | 221154 |
| Ekiti | 16470 | 14274 | 9882 | 6588 | 47214 |
| Enugu | 9096 | 2274 | 1137 | 2274 | 14781 |
| Gombe | 7128 | . | 4158 | 62370 | 73656 |
| Imo | 31395 | 2730 | . | 5460 | 39585 |
| Jigawa | 9779 | 9779 | 7112 | 4445 | 31115 |
| Kaduna | . | 7255 | 11608 | 72550 | 91413 |
| Kano | 4332 | 4332 | 19494 | 38988 | 67146 |
| Katsina | 21630 | 14420 | 1442 | 28840 | 66332 |
| Kebbi | 7511 | 2146 | 16095 | 43993 | 69745 |
| Kogi | 56160 | 23400 | 14976 | 35568 | 130104 |
| Kwara | 11596 | 4460 | 3568 | 8920 | 28544 |
| Lagos | 13264 | 3316 | 9948 | 63004 | 89532 |
| Nassarawa | 21712 | 8968 | 13216 | 72688 | 116584 |
| Niger | 18887 | 18887 | 36663 | 112211 | 186648 |
| Ogun | 27825 | 9275 | 16695 | 7420 | 61215 |
| Ondo | 5265 | 3510 | 3510 | 5265 | 17550 |
| Osun | 9107 | 11709 | 18214 | 35127 | 74157 |
| Oyo | 6159 | 18477 | 28742 | 10265 | 63643 |
| Plateau | 20223 | 14980 | 26964 | 73402 | 135569 |
| Rivers | 79871 | 85899 | 36168 | 64801 | 266739 |
| Sokoto | . | 1566 | 1566 | . | 3132 |
| Taraba | 1500 | 4500 | 2250 | 15000 | 23250 |
| Yobe | 667 | 2668 | 43355 | 20677 | 67367 |
| Zamfara | 22176 | 12012 | 22176 | 60984 | 117348 |
| FCT | . | 407 | 407 | 2849 | 3663 |
| **Geographical locations** |  |  |  |  |  |
| North Central | 132738 | 82941 | 96650 | 341228 | 653557 |
| North East | 87587 | 41504 | 120393 | 325412 | 574895 |
| North West | 65428 | 44255 | 67885 | 177250 | 354818 |
| South East | 53665 | 13731 | 11788 | 623839 | 141567 |
| South South | 323190 | 399730 | 140937 | 300663 | 116450 |
| South west | 78090 | 60561 | 86991 | 127669 | 353311 |
| **Age of child** |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5-9 years | 241456 | 169807 | 150869 | 295100 | 857232 |
| 10-14 years | 323856 | 296781 | 256010 | 655211 | 1531858 |
| 15-17 years | 175386 | 176134 | 117765 | 384294 | 853579 |
| **Gender** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 410601 | 346104 | 311570 | 793003 | 1861278 |
| Female | 330097 | 296618 | 213074 | 541602 | 1381391 |
| **Place of Residence** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 161620 | 130985 | 219296 |  |  |
| Rural | 579078 | 511737 | 305348 | 1006009 | 2402172 |

Nigerian Child Labour Survey (children aged between 5-17 years)

**Table 4:4:2:** Percentage distribution of working children 5-17 years old by State, Zone, Age group, Gender, Economic activity and Number of hours worked during the last week

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **States of Federation** | **Below 5 hours (%)** | **5-9 hours(%)** | **10-14 hours(%)** | **15 or more hours (%)** | **Total** |
| **Nigeria** | 22.8 | 19.8 | 16.1 | 41.1 | 100 |
| Adamawa | 89.3 | . | 4.25 | 6.4 | 100 |
| Akwa Ibom | 30.3 | 10.7 | 7.14 | 52 | 100 |
| Anambra | 39 | 17 | 5.6 | 39.0 | 100 |
| Bauchi | 18.6 | 24 | 44.4 | 13 | 100 |
| Bayelsa | 5.17 | 31 | 6.9 | 56.9 | 100 |
| Benue | 33.3 | 17.4 | 3.1 | 46 | 100 |
| Borno | 2.9 | 6.3 | 16.1 | 74.5 | 100 |
| Cross River | 6.7 | 8.9 | 4814.5 | 51.1 | 100 |
| Delta | 29.7 | 35.4 | 11.04 | 23.8 | 100 |
| Ebonyi | 7 | 7.7 | 14.5 | 71 | 100 |
| Edo | 30.4 | 48.2 | 9.1 | 12.06 | 100 |
| Ekiti | 34.9 | 30.2 | 21 | 14 | 100 |
| Enugu | 61.5 | 15.3 | 7.7 | 15.3 | 100 |
| Gombe | 9.67 | . | 7 | 84.6 | 100 |
| Imo | 79.3 | 6.9 | . | 14 | 100 |
| Jigawa | 31.4 | 31.4 | 22.8 | 14.2 | 100 |
| Kaduna | . | 8 | 12.7 | 79.3 | 100 |
| Kano | 6.45 | 6.45 | 29 | 58 | 100 |
| Katsina | 32.6 | 21.7 | 2.17 | 43.4 | 100 |
| Kebbi | 10.8 | 3.07 | 23.07 | 63.07 | 100 |
| Kogi | 43.1 | 18 | 11.5 | 27.3 | 100 |
| Kwara | 40.6 | 15.6 | 12.5 | 31.2 | 100 |
| Lagos | 14.8 | 3.7 | 11.1 | 70.3 | 100 |
| Nassarawa | 18.6 | 7.7 | 11.3 | 62.3 | 100 |
| Niger | 10.1 | 10.1 | 19.6 | 60.1 | 100 |
| Ogun | 45.4 | 15.1 | 27.2 | 12.1 | 100 |
| Ondo | 30 | 20 | 20 | 30 | 100 |
| Osun | 12.3 | 15.8 | 24.5 | 47.3 | 100 |
| Oyo | 9.7 | 29 | 24.5 | 47.3 | 100 |
| Plateau | 15 | 11.04 | 19.9 | 54.1 | 100 |
| Rivers | 29.9 | 32.2 | 13.5 | 24.2 | 100 |
| Sokoto | . | 50 | 50 | . | 100 |
| Taraba | 6.4 | 19.3 | 9.7 | 64.5 | 100 |
| Yobe | 0.9 | 3.9 | 64.3 | 30.7 | 100 |
| Zamfara | 18.9 | 10.2 | 18.9 | 51.9 | 100 |
| FCT | . | 11.1 | 11.1 | 77.8 | 100 |
| **Geographical Locations** |  |  |  |  |  |
| North Central | 20.3 | 12.7 | 14.8 | 52.2 | 100 |
| North East | 15.2 | 7.2 | 20.9 | 56.6 | 100 |
| North West | 18.4 | 12.4 | 19.1 | 49.9 | 100 |
| South East | 7.6 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 88.7 | 100 |
| South South | 27.7 | 34.3 | 12.1 | 25.8 | 100 |
| South West | 22.1 | 17.1 | 24.6 | 36.1 | 100 |
| **Age of Child** |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5-9 years | 28.1 | 19.8 | 17.6 | 34.4 | 100 |
| 10-14 years | 21.1 | 19.3 | 16.7 | 42.8 | 100 |
| 15-17 years | 20.5 | 20.6 | 13.8 | 45 | 100 |
| **Gender** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 22 | 18.6 | 16.7 | 42.6 | 100 |
| Female | 23.9 | 21.4 | 15.4 | 39.2 | 100 |
| **Place of Residence** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rural | 24.1 | 21.3 | 12.7 | 41.9 | 100 |

Nigerian Child Labour Survey (children aged between 5-17 years)

**4.5 CHILDREN’S AWARENESS TO POSSIBLE HEALTH ISSUES**

According to the table 4.5, out of a total of 399,021 for the North Central zone, 39,209 (9.8%) of the children attested to aware of health issues, while the remaining 359,812 (90.2%) were unaware. For the North East, of the 653,683 of the total respondents, 99,498 (15.2%) were aware of health issues, while 554,185 (84.8%) of them were not aware. Of the 296,596 total respondents for the North West, 16,132 (5.4%) of them were aware of health issues, while the remaining 280,454 (94.6%) remained unaware.

There was a total of 40,985 for the South East. Out of all of them, a total of 5,148 (12.6%) were aware of health issues, while 35,837 (87.4) were not aware. There was a total of 101,410 for South South. 34,911 (34.4%) of them were aware of health issues, while 66,499 (65.6%) were unaware. For the South West, there was a total of 276,368, with 29,755 (10.8%) of them aware of health issues. The other 246,613 (89.2%) were not aware.

**Table 4:5:1:** Distribution of working children 5-17 years old (NOT attending school) by State, Zone, Age group, Gender, Sector and Likely health problems.  
 Aware of any health issues

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **States of the Federation** | YES | NO | Total |
| Abia | 33045 | 13750 | 15000 |
| Adamawa | 1950 | 80925 | 82875 |
| Akwa Ibom | 4068 | 20340 | 24408 |
| Anambra | 1250 | 13750 | 15000 |
| Bauchi | 54108 | 194388 | 248496 |
| Bayelsa | 796 | 6368 | 7164 |
| Benue | 2464 | 35728 | 38192 |
| Borno | 15708 | 153714 | 169422 |
| Cross River | 2756 | 6890 | 9646 |
| Delta | 21735 | 14490 | 36225 |
| Ebonyi | 553 | 3318 | 3871 |
| Edo | 2542 | 6355 | 8897 |
| Ekiti | . | 6588 | 6588 |
| Enugu | . | 2274 | 2274 |
| Gombe | 3564 | 27918 | 31482 |
| Imo | . | 10920 | 10920 |
| Jigawa | 5334 | 48895 | 54229 |
| Kaduna | 8706 | 82707 | 91413 |
| Kano | . | 69312 | 69312 |
| Katsina | 8652 | 11536 | 20188 |
| Kebbi | 2146 | 74037 | 76183 |
| Kogi | . | 38376 | 38376 |
| Kwara | 1784 | 36572 | 38356 |
| Lagos | 3316 | 86216 | 89532 |
| Nassarawa | 9912 | 25960 | 35872 |
| Niger | 2222 | 121099 | 123321 |
| Ogun | . | 72345 | 72345 |
| Ondo | 3510 | 3510 | 7020 |
| Osun | 6505 | 14311 | 20816 |
| Oyo | 16424 | 63643 | 80067 |
| Plateau | 23219 | 40446 | 63665 |
| Rivers | 3014 | 12056 | 15070 |
| Sokoto | . | 36018 | 36018 |
| Taraba | 2250 | 11250 | 13500 |
| Yobe | 12006 | 60030 | 72036 |
| Zamfara | . | 40656 | 40656 |
| FCT | 814 | 4884 | 5698 |
| **Geographical Locations** |  |  |  |
| North Central | 39209 | 359812 | 399021 |
| North East | 99498 | 554185 | 653683 |
| North West | 16132 | 280454 | 296586 |
| South East | 5148 | 35837 | 40985 |
| South South | 34911 | 66499 | 101410 |
| South West | 29755 | 246613 | 276368 |
| **Age of Child** |  |  |  |
| 5-9 years | 54915 | 402739 | 457654 |
| 10-14 years | 69889 | 573866 | 643755 |
| 15-17 years | 99849 | 566795 | 666644 |
| **Gender** |  |  |  |
| Male | 157625 | 963478 | 1121103 |
| Female | 67028 | 579922 | 646950 |
| **Place of Residence** |  |  |  |
| Rural | 204204 | 1211945 | 1416149 |

Nigerian Child Labour Survey (children aged between 5-17 years)

**CHAPTER FIVE**

**5.0 SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION**

**5.1 SUMMARY**

This study focuses on the determinants of the participation of children to child labour among rural households in Nigeria. This research work analyzed the socio-economic characteristics of children (such as age group, gender, place of residence, geographical locations), the type of economic activity they participate in, the number of hours they use in working & attending schools and those involved in economic activity but not attending school.

It was discovered from this analysis that most of the children in the study area belong to 3 age groups (5-9 years, 10-14 years and 15-17 years) which makes them to still be blow adulthood. Also, it was discovered that 89.3% of the children not schooling and participating in economic activity are male, while 86.1% of them are female. It was to be discovered also that 88.7% of the children attending school and participating in economic activity are male, while 85.6% of them are female.

The analysis further explains that Agriculture is the major activity practiced among rural households of the study area, as a total of 42.1% of children were found to participate in them. The economic activity that has the lowest participation rate in the study area was discovered to be Electricity, gas and water supply, as 0.1% is contributed to it.

It was also discovered that of all the 36 states of the study area, Borno, with 86.8% had the largest number of children participating in economic activity.

**5.2 CONCLUSION**

The results showed that there were more female only working and combining schooling with work than their male counterparts, as most males were often seen to have Agriculture as the major economic activity in the study area. Most of the older children are engaged in one work or the other and also combine school along with it. Factors that determine child activity option (child labour) in the study area include age group, geographical locations, place of residence and gender in the household for combining schooling with economic activity when compared with those schooling only. Age of child, rural household, number of working hours and economic activity all increase the likelihood of a child working.

However, an increase in household expenditure (monthly or yearly) is likely to reduce the likelihood of children among rural households participating in child labour.

**5.3 RECOMMENDATIONS**

**i.** Households should be sensitized not to allow the children’s participation in domestic chores and family farm hinder their academic progress. They should also be enlightened on the possibility of the negative effects that could occur by exposing children (especially boys) to hazardous working conditions now and even in adulthood.

**ii.** Household heads in the rural areas of Nigeria should be encouraged to participate in adult education as the observed year of schooling by them is still currently very low.

**iii.** Sensitization of households on the need not to deprive school-aged children of access to full-time schooling because of other younger ones and their peers in the household. All children are entitled to education and therefore, should be allowed access to at least basic education.

**iv.** Credit obtained by households should be used to purchase labour saving technologies to ensure a reduction in the use of children for work on the farm and other productive activities.

**v.** Households should also ensure to reduce the number of working hours a child works for. Majority of the activities of child labour are risky, therefore, if at all the children are participating in child labour in the study area, it is highly imperative to be done at a minimal level.

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