

**AN EVALUATION OF THE EFFECTS OF POVERTY
AND UNEMPLOYMENT ON CRIME RATE AMONG
YOUTHS IN ADO EKITI**

BY

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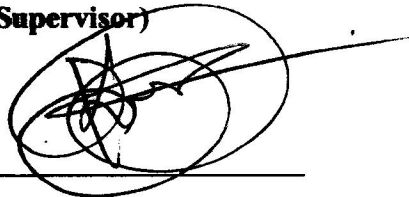
CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that **IFEAKOR CHINEMEREM VIVIAN** with the Matric Number: **SOC/14/2072** carried out this project in the Department of Sociology, Faculty of the Social Sciences, Federal University, Oye-Ekiti. In partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of **Bachelor of Science in Sociology (B.sc Sociology)**

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this work to the glory of God. I also dedicate it to my lovely caring parent **LATE MR AND MRS ELIAS IFEAKOR** for their effort and encouragement towards my education I really appreciate it, I pray you will eat the fruit of your labour in good health and wealth, I love you so much mum and dad.

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ABSTRACT

This study examined the effect of poverty and unemployment on crime rate among youths in Ado Ekiti, Ekiti state. The project set to investigate the cause of poverty and unemployment in Ekiti State. It also attempt, to understand the effects of poverty and unemployment on crime rate in Ekiti State.

The sampling technique used was the convenient sampling technique. For the analysis, such parameters such as frequency table and percentage distributions were employed while for the inferential data such parameters such as means, standard deviation and other inferential analysis. The quantitative data was analysed using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) version 17.

The Findings revealed that approximately 60% of the sample youth were still seeking for job while 29% had written direct application to employer 25% had engaged themselves in training/education to get a job opportunity while 18.3% had attended job interview and 5.4% had registered at a public employment office. It was reported that the level of poverty among the sampled youth was found to be high as 82.9% and the unemployed youths do not have access to soft loan. 62.9% could afford 3- square meal, while 37.1% couldn't afford 3 square meal. Using the chi-square analysis there is significant relationship between unemployment and crime rate in Ado Ekiti.

The study concluded that poverty challenge is captured by the growing number of unemployed youths roaming the street and the poverty has contributed to the high level of crime rate in the community. This research suggest that government should embark on provision of social amenities in the rural areas so as to reduce the urban- rural drift and the youth should try and engage in doing online business and doing small scale business.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the study

The issue of poverty and unemployment has for several decades, become a fundamental global phenomena which have militated against the human development of nations (Okafor 2014) this explains that poverty and unemployment is as old as the society itself, they are epidemic affecting majority of the people in the world. Generally speaking, unemployment is a global trend, it however occurs mostly in developing countries of the world, Nigeria inclusive, with attendant social, economic, political, and psychological consequences. It is therefore, noted that, massive youth unemployment in any country is an indication of far more complex malaise (Okafor 2014).

Records from the National Population Commission (2001) indicate that youths under the age of 30 constitute over half of the approximately 150 million Nigerians. According to Doreo Partners (2013) unemployment rate in Nigeria is growing at the rate of 16% per year with the youth impacted the most and accounting for three times the general unemployment. Nigeria's spiraling youth unemployment can be said to have significantly contributed to the dramatic rise in social unrest (Salami 2013).

Crime is one major problems, a burning issue that Nigeria, as a country is confronted on daily basis. It is not peculiar to Nigeria, as many other countries of the world suffered various crimes. One major cause, universally agreed, is the rising or increasing nature of youth unemployment (Tambari et'al 2017). Nigeria is a nation that is endowed with multifarious and multitudinous resources both human and material. However, due to gross mismanagement, profligate spending, Kleptomania and adverse policies of various government of Nigeria, these resources have not been optimally utilized, these resource have not been adequately channeled to profitable investments to bring about maximum economic benefits. As a result of the foregoing, Nigeria has been bedeviled with poverty and unemployment (Jokunbo, 2005:1). Nigeria that claims to be the giant of Africa is among the world poorest class of people in terms of gross national product (GNP) and access to social and political life. This is in spite of the fact that Nigeria being the **sixth oil producing** nation in the world, yet the poor and unemployed constitute about 70% of her **population** (Dike, 2006:2, Onobun and Obadan, 2002: 186, and Onah, 2006:68). This reflects the

poor management of the economy, irrespective of huge resources injected towards its eradication (Joseph, 2006 :238; Onah, 2006:68; and world Bank, 1996:3). The alarming rate of environmental degradation and its effects on unemployment and food production is also traceable to poverty in Nigeria. Unfortunately, the youths are the most vulnerable in the harsh economic situation they lack the skills to compete in the weak economy and light labour market. Therefore, they loiter around from dawn to dusk while battling with crushing unemployment and poverty.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

As a global phenomena the duo of poverty and unemployment as Aremu (2012) rightly observes, are threatening the survival of mankind. Unemployment in Nigeria is a time bomb waiting to explode if effective interventions are not put in place to mitigate the unsavoury impact of high youth unemployment. The unemployment and poverty situation in Nigeria which is appearing insurmountable is the worst in the nation's 52 years of history (Obi, 2015). They contribute in no small measure to the crimes in the Nigeria society. The increasing rate of crimes such as armed robbery, corruption, "419" or simply financial fraud, prostitution, cultism, nepotism and other social vices strongly correlates with the rate of poverty and unemployment in Nigeria. Furthermore, it is based on this fact that Englama (2011) submit that poverty which anchors on unemployment "causes misery, social unrest and hopelessness for the unemployed. The recent ethnic and religious crises in some parts of this country are largely connected to the problem".

1.3 Research Questions

- i. What are the causes of poverty and unemployment in Ado Ekiti?
- ii. What are the effects of poverty and unemployment in Ado Ekiti?
- iii. What is the effect of poverty and unemployment on crime rate?

1.4 Research Objectives

The general fundamental objective of this research is to explore why, inspite of the rich natural endowment of Ado Ekiti; the people are still bed-ridden with unemployment and stricken with poverty. To this end, this research has the following specific objectives:

- i. To understand the cause of poverty and unemployment in Ado Ekiti.
- ii. To investigate the effects of poverty and unemployment in Ado Ekiti.

iii. To study the effects of poverty and unemployment on crime rate in Ado Ekiti.

1.5 Research Hypothesis

In pursuit of the research problems and to realize the objectives of this study, the following hypotheses have been raised and will be tested:

H1: There is a significant relationship between poverty and crime in Ado Ekiti, Ekiti State.

H0: There is no significant relationship between poverty and crime in Ado Ekiti, Ekiti State.

H1: There is a significant relationship between unemployment and crime in Ado Ekiti, Ekiti State.

H0: There is no significant relationship between unemployment and crime in Ado Ekiti, Ekiti State.

1.6 Justification of the Study

The impact of unemployment and poverty on crime rate among youth is such an interesting subject or study; it is believed that the outcome of this research work will be of interest to the nation, state and to Ado local government itself to showcase the need for adequate youth employment which would be a prerequisite to national development. The research work will provide them with vital information which will enhance an efficient and effective national development; it will provide the knowledge on some of the major challenges facing unemployment in Nigeria. This research work will also serve as a vital material to those who may want to carry out further research work in this regard. It will also provide to the community, the available skill or vocations to train its unemployed graduates and advice the government on measures to take to eradicate unemployment among youths.

1.7 Operational Definition of Terms

For the purpose of clarification .Certain terms need to be defined

Unemployment, employment, poverty, crime, youth and youth development

Unemployment: There seems to be a consensus on the definition of unemployment. Simply put, unemployment describes the condition of people who are without jobs (Okafor, 2011). The International Labour Organization (ILO) defines the unemployed as the number of the economically active population who is without work but available and seeking work, including people who have lost their jobs and those who have voluntarily left work (World Bank, 1993). According to the National Bureau of Statistics (2009), the labour force of a country is a set of people or citizens who are willing and are able to make available at any given point in time their efforts for gainful employment, while the unemployed are the individuals with no work, but are looking for work at the time of any study. Various forms of unemployment have been identified by scholars.

Employment: Employment is a relationship between two parties, usually based on a contract where work is paid for, where one party, which may be corporation, for profit, not-for-profit organization, co-operative or other entity is the employer and the other is the employee. Employees work in return for payment, which may be in the form of an hourly wage, by piecework or an annual salary, depending on the type of work an employee does or which sector she or he is working in.

Poverty: The Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary, fifth edition submitted that poverty is “the state of being poor; the state of existing in amounts that are too small; lack”. Ekong (2012) maintained that poverty is ones inability to attain or enjoy given social, cultural or economic benefits. Poverty is largely a rural phenomenon with an average of between 62 and 75 percent of the population living on less than a dollar a day and also tends to be deeper than urban poverty (Apata et al., 2010).

Crime: Crime is like other concepts in social sciences, which have no generally accepted definition. According to Oxford Dictionary of Sociology (2009), “a crime is held to be an offence, which goes beyond the personal and into the public sphere, breaking prohibitory rules or laws, to which legitimate punishments or sanctions are attached, and which requires the intervention of a public authority... for crime to be known as such, it must come to the notice of, and be processed through, an administrative system or enforcement agency. It must be reported and recorded by the police (or other investigator); it may then become part of criminal statistics; may or may not be investigated; and may or may not result in a court case.” Dambazau (2014)

defined crime as an act or omission against public interest and which is prescribed by law enacted by the legislature in the overall interests of the society, and to which prescribed punishment is attached in the event of violation and it involves four major principles which are public wrong, moral wrong, law and punishment for the criminal. Crime is also seen as a violation of the rules agreed to be respected by all members of the society, and upon which the rest members of the society mete sanction upon those guilty of the violation. It is for the same reason that the legal system views crime as a public and moral wrong.

Youth: Is the time of life when one is young, but often means the time between childhood and adulthood (maturity).

Youth Development: This refers to intentional efforts of other youth, adults, communities, government agencies, and schools to provide opportunities for youth to enhance their interests, skills, and abilities into their adulthoods.

1.8 Scope of the Study

This research centers on the effects poverty and unemployment in Nigeria, with particular reference to Ekiti State. Emphasis is laid on the causes or factors that contribute to poverty and unemployment and its effects in the area; assessment of the various efforts or strategies engineered towards solving the situation and an appraisal of the journey so far; and finally the way forward.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This chapter contains review of relevant literature that answers the research questions, review of literature will be under the following headlines:

- i. Poverty
- ii. Types of poverty
- iii. Causes of poverty
- iv. Unemployment
- v. Youths
- vi. Crime and crime rate in Nigeria
- vii. Theoretical framework: strain theory

2.1 Poverty

Poverty appears to be one of the worst universal problems of man. The concept have assumed not only local but global trend resulting in many countries adopting different policies to put an end to it or in their best reduce it. According to Ukpong (2006) it humiliates and dehumanizes its victim. In fact, poverty is theoretically and methodologically a difficult question, even as Lawal and Hassan (2012) noted that the poverty remains controversial both conceptually and in practical measurement.

The concept of poverty have assumed not only local but global trend resulting in many countries administering numerous policies in a bid to curb this menace. Wenger (2007) describes poverty as a living condition in which individuals fail to achieve a minimum standard of living. Haralambos & Holborn (2000) assert that poverty is a situation where a person is unable to acquire the minimum necessities that make for well-being. Poverty is marked by the inability to get good livelihood, have good house to live in, support oneself without depending on others, inability to acquire good healthcare, good educational training etc.

2.2 Types of Poverty

Haralambos & Holborn (2000) identifies three (3) kinds of poverty. These are absolute, relative

and subjective poverty. They describe absolute poverty as a state where the living condition is really critical and there is difficult in survival. According to them, to determine absolute poverty a yardstick is established against which to measure poverty. Poverty is in this context measured by pricing the basic necessities of life, mapping out the poverty line in terms of the price. The relative poverty according to them, is in terms of adjustment from people of a particular society of what is taken as a reasonable and acceptable standard of living and way of life due to the conditions of the day

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Giddens (2008) says that subjective poverty has to do with whether or not an individual or groups of persons feel they are poor. They explain however that this has a close relationship with relative poverty. Townsend (2010), also argues that individuals, families and groups in the population can be said to be poor when they lack the general resources for quality living as approved by the society. Lack of gainful employment leads to poverty which Aluko (2008) defined as a lack of command over basic consumption needs. Reasoning along the same line the World Food Programme, in 2006 harped on the use of hunger as the key index for measuring poverty.

Economic aspects of poverty emphasize material needs, typically including the necessities of **daily living**, such as food, clothing, shelter, or safe drinking water. Poverty in this sense may be

understood as a condition in which a person or community is lacking in the basic needs for a minimum standard of well-being and life, particularly as a result of a persistent lack of income (World Health Organization, March 2002 and Journal of Poverty, 2007).

2.3 Some general causes of poverty

Ogwumike (2012) clearly without any prejudice enumerate some of the basic causes of poverty. Accordingly, rural poverty is created and perpetuated by a number of closely inter-linked socio-economic processes, policy induced processes, dualism, population growth resources, management and environment, marginalization of women, cultural and ethical factors, exploitative intermediation, internal political fragmentation and civil strife, international process. Townsend (2010) identified the causes of poverty to have been uncovered in the following factors:

1. **Lack of employment opportunities:** Empirically, it has been discovered in several studies that the ability to find and maintain employment is a major protagonist of poverty. When jobs become scarce, there is a general increase in poverty rates.

2. **Low level of education:** The relationship between education and income is a familiar one. Education is essential for national development; hence, it should not be a luxury for the privileged few. Formal education not only enhances the quality of one's life but it also play greater role in material reward. Those with little education are disadvantaged in the labour market. Apart from enhancing the employment opportunities of people, education also serves to break the culture of poverty by reducing ignorance and innocent misdemeanor.

3. **Large family size is also known to contribute immensely to poverty rate in most communities.** Most community members do not appreciate the importance of family planning as means of reducing poverty. High fertility and child mortality rates are also one of the major causes of poverty in terms of education. In effect, if one has too many children, it becomes harder to afford the education for all of them. Secondly, it is pretty hard to feed and provide adequately for all.

4. **Widespread corruption:** The problem is when the phenomenon becomes widespread and entrenched as a normal social practice. Corruption then generates large failures in the system, preventing the implementation of laws themselves, and takes a seat at the core of the causes of

poverty.

5. Ethnic division, conflicts and discrimination: Plenty of economic research indicates that social tensions stemming from religious, ethnic, and racial divisions are frequent causes of poverty too.

2.4 Unemployment

Unemployment is one of the most critical problems in contemporary Nigeria. Unending years of corruption, the unimaginable effects of civil war, the years of military rule that followed, and the continuous high level of mismanagement of resources have hindered economic growth. Though Nigeria is endowed with diverse resources, both human and material but years of rabid negligence and uneventful adverse policies have led to the under-utilization of her resources. Hence maximum economic benefits that would have accrued from genuine harmonization of socio-political and economic forces have eluded the economy, leading to unpleasant dirges of unemployment and poverty. Lack of employment opportunities is the major cause of poverty in simple terms when jobs become scarce; there is a general increase in poverty rates.

Youth unemployment is a grievous social problem which constitutes a threat to any nation. The loss is not only just economic, but socio-psychological since unemployment promotes tension and sense of hopelessness in human societies (Oyebade, 2008). For young people, the effects of unemployment may be particularly scaring. This is because, it tempts or provokes the youths to resort to anti-social behaviours which are inimical to their communities. As the intermediate population group in any country, the youths are basic resource for nation building and the significant means and ends of socio-economic development. Apart from being the leaders of tomorrow, they out-number the middle aged and the aged (Onyekpe, 2010). Youths also represent an important stakeholder in the society and constitute a major part of the labour force. Through their creative and innovative capacity, a nation makes giant stride. However, in the absence of regular income and means of livelihood to ensure life sustenance, the frustration of unemployed youths could be transformed into criminality in the society.

In Nigeria, the manpower structure of the country today, clearly reveals a massive unemployed youths. Awogbenle and Iwuamadi (2010) reported from the statistical data supplied by the

National Manpower Board and National Bureau of Statistics that Nigeria has a youth population of 80 million, representing 60 percent of the total population of the country and from this, 64 million of them are unemployed while 1.6million are underemployed. Relatedly, Doreo (2013), also indicated that the unemployment rate in the country is growing at the rate of 16 percent per year with the youths impacted most and accounting for three times the general unemployment. In effect, the huge youth unemployment situation has forced a large number of the nation's most productive manpower to be redundant. A vast majority of these youths are energetic and possess the capacity for work, yet they are found roaming the street daily and searching for jobs that barely exist (Obaro, 2012).

The present situation of youth unemployment in Nigeria is a reflection of general decadence that has plagued the country for long and a consequence of several factors. Most notable among these factors are; over dependence on oil revenue to the neglect of agricultural sector, implementation of high sounding unviable policies, high profile corruption among the politicians and bureaucrats and the type of education that is being given in secondary and tertiary institutions, which is oriented towards wage employment and bereft of entrepreneurship development (Awogbenle and Iwuamadi, 2010; Murphy, 2008; Alanana, 2003 and Fapohunda, 2003). Successive governments in the country have introduced various programmes to fight youth unemployment in order to curb criminal behaviors. It is on record that all the attempts made by governments have not made any significant impact on youth unemployment (Omorodion, 2010).

Thus, the impunity in the commission of crime is linked to youth unemployment in the face of economic insecurity and work-worried life in which most of the youths have found them in the country. Given the prevailing intensity of youth – unemployment and upsurge of criminality, it is surprising that only very few studies have documented the relationship between the twin social phenomena in Nigeria. Furthermore, many of the previous studies have focused predominantly on the effect of general unemployment on the nation's economy. Thus, this study aims to investigate the causes of youth unemployment and types of criminal behaviors committed by the unemployed youths in the country. It further explores the effects of criminality on jobless youths and communities and the relationship between youth unemployment and criminality in Nigeria. Both Olowa (2012) and World Bank Poverty Task Force (2009) link' poverty with inadequate access of people to employment opportunities. They hold that employment is a key determinant of poverty. Omonijo et al., (2013), argued that the higher the rate of unemployment the higher

the poverty level. In other words, high level of unemployment prevailing in Nigeria could be a strong factor in her high level of poverty (Toluwase, 2013). When people lack access to job opportunities, they tend to live in abject poverty. Such persons would not have resources to ensure their means of livelihood. Therefore, gainful employment is important for individual to earn income and escape from “income” poverty (Olowa, 2012).

2.5 Youths

The United Nations, for statistical purposes, defines those persons between the ages of 15 and 24 as youth without prejudice to other definitions by Member States. In 1995, the world youth population - defined by the United Nations as the age cohort 15-24 - is estimated to be 1.03 billion, or 18 per cent of the total world population. The Secretary-General first referred to the current definition of youth in 1981 in his report to the General Assembly on International Youth Year (A/36/215, para. 8 of the annex) and endorsed it in ensuing reports (A/40/256, para. 19 of the annex). However, in both the reports, the Secretary-General also recognized that, apart from that statistical definition, the meaning of the term ‘youth’ varies in different societies around the world. When the General Assembly, by its resolution 50/81 in 1995, adopted the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and beyond, it reiterated that the United Nations defined youth as the age cohort of 15-24. The General Assembly resolution A/RES/56/117 in 2001, the Commission for Social Development resolution E/2007/26 & E/CN.5/2007/8 in 2007 and the General Assembly resolution A/RES/62/126 in 2008 also reinforce the same age-group for youth.

YOUTH is best understood as a period of transition from the dependence of childhood to adulthood’s independence. That’s why, as a category, youth is more fluid than other fixed age-groups. Yet, age is the easiest way to define this group, particularly in relation to education and employment, because ‘youth’ is often referred to a person between the ages of leaving compulsory education, and finding their first job.

2.6 Youth unemployment and poverty in Nigeria

Youth unemployment can be said to be a situation where too many young people are chasing too few jobs. In certain parts of the world, i.e. Sub – Saharan Africa, youth unemployment rates can be as high as 60%. More than one third of the young people in the world are unemployed, have

completely given up looking for job or are working but still living below the \$2 a day poverty line. (International Labour Organization, ILO, 2008).

The role that work plays in the life of people may easily be understood when compared with unemployment. According to Ogunbameru (2004), most people work to earn a living, to make money and to confer a sense of achievement. In other words, being employed makes one happy, wanted and needed in the society. The converse is unemployment. It not only dehumanizes the affected individual directly, but also turns him or her into liability in the society. According to Uddin (2013), youth unemployment could be described as the conglomerate of youths with diverse background, willing and able to work, but cannot find any or cannot find the type of job that they are trained to do and which they will be proud of as their area of expertise. Such a situation has a pronounced socio-economic consequence which may weaken and damage the moral fabrics of the affected youths and societies (Rao, 2014). In this connection, the symbolic relationship between youth unemployment and criminality exists, because it is one of the cheapest options, the young people can choose in intolerable circumstance in societies where social values are defective. Consequent upon the intensity of youth unemployment in Nigeria, some of the youths tend to lose their moral conscience in order to meet the basic necessities of life. These categories of youths often see themselves as forgotten generation and are psychologically dejected for being unable to contribute productively to the society. This situation has increasingly encouraged criminality among youths such as armed robbery, murder, assassination and arson (Ogbebor, 2012). Criminality in any society is a legal wrong and behavioral act which deserves public condemnation. According to Paranjape (2012), it is essentially a part of social behaviors which emanates out of the relationship of individual in the society. Considered from this view point, a man or woman resorts to criminal act out of his or her intelligence and free will. The paradox of it is that no one is born a criminal, but it is the circumstance that makes him or her so, not because he or she wants to be a criminal, but rather forced to lend to criminality.

Youth's Unemployment in Nigeria

According to National Bureau of Statistics (2009, 2010), the national unemployment rates for Nigeria between 2000 and 2009 showed that the number of unemployed persons constituted 13.1% in 2000; 13.6% in 2001; 12.6% in 2002; 14.8% in 2003; 13.4% in 2004; 11.9% in 2005;

13.7% in 2006; 14.6% in 2007; 14.9% in 2008 and 19.4% in 2009. As regards the age group, the report shows that as at March 2009 in Nigeria, for persons between the 15 and 24 years, 41.6% were unemployed; persons between 25 and 44 years, 17% were unemployed. Furthermore, for those with only primary education, 14.8% were unemployed, and for those with only secondary education, 23.8% were unemployed; while for those with tertiary education, 21.3% were unemployed. For those who never attended school and those below primary education, 21.0 and 22.3% were unemployed respectively.

For Awogbenle and Iwuamadi (2010) and Okafor (2011), the statistics from Manpower Board and National Bureau of Statistics showed that Nigeria has a youth population of 80 million, representing over 60% of the total population of the country. Also 64 million are unemployed, while 1.6 million are under-employed. The 1990-2000 data on youth unemployment showed that the largest group of the unemployed is the secondary school graduates. Also, 40% of the unemployment rate is among the urban youth aged between 20-24 and 31% of the rate is among those aged 15-19. Also, two-thirds of the urban unemployed range from 15-24 years.

For Osalor (2010), despite achieving an inspiring growth rate of 7% per annum since 2001, Nigeria remains crippled with massive unemployment levels that continue to exact a considerable toll on its socio-economic prospects. Credible data on this count is lacking for most of sub-Saharan Africa, but Abuja concedes that 70% of the population was jobless as recently as 2007. The Federal Government has since revised the figure to just below 29% in accordance with new World Bank findings. Although the percentage drop seems incredible, it still translates to more than 40 million jobless in a country of 148 million. The implications have been especially harsh for Nigerian youths, an estimated 95% of whom are without a source of livelihood.

These figures only reconfirm the perception that high growth rates have failed to improve Nigeria's entrenched macro-economic deficiencies, born out of decades of failed governance, mismanagement and conflict. The downstream effects of youth unemployment are fuelling rapid alienation and social unrest across the Nigerian landscape, the immediate symptoms of which are evident in the palpable rise in organised crime, armed insurgency, vandalism and drug trafficking.

Human development indices for Africa's second largest economy continue to be appalling despite the country's bountiful resources, escalating oil fortunes and a vigorous reforms programme initiated after the return of democracy in 1999. A 2007 UNDP survey on poverty and

extreme deprivation of 108 countries ranked Nigeria at the 80th position, giving it a Human Poverty Index of 37.3 “among the lowest for the entire continent. For a country that earns an estimated \$2.2 million in daily petrodollar revenue, these figures reflect an impudent malaise that has invaded every aspect of Nigerian life (Osalor, 2010).

It must be noted that though the above figures may not have captured the totality of youth’s unemployment in Nigeria, it however points to the reality of youth unemployment, which portends great danger for the country’s stability and national development as unemployment has the potential of raising an army of criminals; as it is often said that an idle hand is the devil’s workshop.

Within this sort of context, youth-unemployment and criminality constitute an intertwined social problem which are mutually reinforcing. They are both symptoms of social disorganization in the society (Rao, 2006). Unemployment has affected the youths from a broad spectrum of socio-economic groups both the less educated and well read among them. As such, the rising wave of criminality, which has devastating effects on the society, is traceable to various factors such as unemployment, poverty and greed among others (Ololo and Meisamari, 2012). Buttressing this view, Ademola and Olajubutu(2009) argued that unemployment has been identified as one of the major causes of social vices including armed robbery, destitution, prostitution, political thuggery, kidnapping and many more. Anderson (2009) observed that when the wider economy fails, many people particularly the youths go underground and take to crime. They seize such negative opportunity because they see it as an avenue to seek revenge on a system that has provided them nothing but frustration. Thus, most of those who engage in criminality in Nigeria are mostly young, educated persons who complain about hunger and unemployment. (Obaro, 2012).

Further observations also indicate that violent crimes committed in Nigerian societies of contemporary times involve the youth in most cases (Nwogu, 2012).For instance, an analysis of most of the apprehended criminals in the country shows that a large chunk of the young people that engage in criminal activities are those without gainful employment. Figures supplied by the Nigerian Prisons Service to the National Bureau of Statistics (2009) indicated that in 2006, the number of people aged 16-35years, in convict prisons was 49.8% and in 2008, the number almost doubled, increasing astronomically to 92.5% within a period of 3 years. Ogbebor (2012) reaffirmed that over 70 percent of Nigerian prisoners these days are young people and majority of these persons are youths. Also available statistics from the Nigeria Police crime-records

showed that, between the periods of 2005-2009; 16, 925 robbery suspects were arrested by the police and majority of them were youths (Cleen Foundation Crime Report, 2010).

Presently, kidnapping is now a major criminal enterprise for the unemployed youths in the country. Nigeria Police Crime Records and Statistics have shown that from 2006 to first half of 2012, a total of 2,184 cases of kidnapping were recorded over the past four and half years (Police Crime Statistical Records, 2012). This heinous crime has become a lucrative but unhealthy trade in form of kidnapping for ransom by the unemployed who are mostly youths (Cleen Foundation, 2010). The failure of the government both at the three tiers of government (Local, State and Federal) to provide adequate employment opportunities have lured some of the youths into criminality in the country. Thus, Nigeria is currently suffering from a growing crime-problem which is progressively threatening its sovereignty, security and development (Ilemika, 2011). The severity ranges from one system to another, depending on their individual approaches to ensure job availability. Patterson et al (2006) describes youth unemployment as a situation where people who are well and capable of working are unable to find suitable and paid employment. According to the United Nations youth unemployment is the unemployment of young people between 15 and 24 years old (en.wikipedia). Eme and Eme (2012) agree that there is a link among unemployment rates, poverty levels and welfare challenges in an economy.

Umo (2012:3) observed that poverty and high unemployment rates among youths have grown to be endemic universal problems that deserved considerable attention and resources. According to him youth unemployment accounted for 75 percent of the 202 million unemployed people in the world. In his opinion there is need for adequate involvement and empowerment of the youths in order to get an economy on a firm footing.

According to the Nigerian Economic Society (2012) conference communiqué the incidence of poverty and the rate of unemployment in Nigeria increased significantly between 2004 and 2011, rising from 54.4% in 2004 to 69% in 2010. The immediate implication was that Nigerians living below poverty level rose from 68.7 million in 2004 to 112.5 million in 2010. In the same period, the unemployment rate rose from 13.4% to 23.9%.

Ike (2004) maintains that understanding of unemployment and poverty based on a minimum income levels is essential to poverty measurement, partly because it is quantitative, and so can be compared over time and between groups, and be subject to the rigour of statistical testing.

Measuring poverty in this way requires the definition of a poverty line, which is a standard of living that separates the poor from the non-poor. There are a number of ways of setting this line for example as a minimum income or as a certain level of consumption or expenditure.

He observed that in most surveys carried out on Nigeria, the approach taken has typically been to fix two lines relative to the standard of living: a moderate poverty line equivalent to two-thirds of mean per capita expenditure, and a core poverty line, equivalent to one-third of mean per-capita income. These lines define three groups: core, or extreme poor, moderately poor, and non-poor. Unemployment has some social consequences and one of these consequences is increase in crime rate. The university graduate consists of the principal fraction of unemployed accounting for nearly 35% to 50%, the rate of unemployment within the age group of 20 to 24 years is 40% and between 15 to 19 years it is 31% (World Bank, 2005). In Nigeria, the unemployment rate measures the number of people actively looking for a job as a percentage of the labor force. Olaniyi (2012:1) stated that: ...despite several policy initiatives to stem the tide of unemployment and poverty the twin problems have continued to account for the myriad of social vices such as, high incidence of armed robbery, kidnapping, corruption, drug trafficking, advance fee fraud (419), prostitution, human trafficking etc.

2.7 Crime and crime rate in Nigeria

Crime is an offence which goes beyond the personal and into the public sphere; breaking, prohibitory rules or laws to which legitimate punishment or sanctions are attached and requires the intervention of a public authority (Marshall, 2008). Another scholar Henslin (2008) defines crime as the violation of rules that have been written into law. In the light of the above definitions, crime is therefore a social problem judging from its negative consequences on the well being of the populace.

In the U.S, crime is often perceived as a problem amid areas with high levels of poverty (Urdang 2012), statistically; countries with higher poverty level especially poorer areas and ghettos have usually much higher crime rates than other areas made up of middle or high class individuals. (Danziger & Haveman, 2001). Ludwig (2010) opined that people resort to crime only if they perceive that potential benefits outweigh the cost of committing a particular crime. As Ludwig (2010) puts it "if legal ways of obtaining finances cannot support one, then illegal ways are

resorted to in order to survive". Crime offers a way in which impoverished people can obtain goods and services that they cannot get to or achieve through legitimate means.

Olaniyi (2012:1) stated that: ...despite several policy initiatives to stem the tide of unemployment and poverty the twin problems have continued to account for the myriad of social vices such as, high incidence of armed robbery, kidnapping, corruption, drug trafficking, advance fee fraud (419), prostitution, human trafficking etc. In agreement to this point Effiom et al (2014) opines that having established an understanding of effect of poverty on the behavior of youths, it can be concluded from the findings of this study that poverty influences criminality among members of impoverished communities making especially the youth to become vulnerable to crime activities. Low income, unemployment tends to spur property – related crimes. E.g. (burglary, substance abuse).

According to Attoh (2012) there has been a growing over the increasing trends of violent crimes and terrorist activities in recent time, especially the use of improvised explosive devices by criminal element in Nigeria.

The role that work plays in the life of people may easily be understood when compared with unemployment. According to Ogunbameru (2004), most people work to earn a living, to make money and to confer a sense of achievement. In other words, being employed makes one happy, wanted and needed in the society. The converse is unemployment. It not only dehumanizes the affected individual directly, but also turns him or her into liability in the society. According to Uddin (2013), youth unemployment could be described as the conglomerate of youths with diverse background, willing and able to work, but cannot find any or cannot find the type of job that they are trained to do and which they will be proud of as their area of expertise. Such a situation has a pronounced socio-economic consequence which may weaken and damage the moral fabrics of the affected youths and societies (Rao, 2014). In this connection, the symbolic relationship between youth unemployment and criminality exists, because it is one of the cheapest options, the young people can choose in intolerable circumstance in societies where social values are defective.

Consequent upon the intensity of youth unemployment in Nigeria, some of the youths tend to lose their moral conscience in order to meet the basic necessities of life. These categories of youths often see themselves as forgotten generation and are psychologically dejected for being

unable to contribute productively to the society.

This situation has increasingly encouraged criminality among youths such as armed robbery, murder, assassination and arson (Ogbebor, 2012). Criminality in any society is a legal wrong and behavioral act which deserves public condemnation. According to Paranjape (2012), it is essentially a part of social behaviors which emanates out of the relationship of individual in the society. Considered from this view point, a man or woman resorts to criminal act out of his or her intelligence and free will. The paradox of it, is that no one is born a criminal, but it is the circumstance that makes him or her so, not because he or she wants to be a criminal, but rather forced to lend to criminality.

Within this sort of context, youth-unemployment and criminality constitute an intertwined social problem which are mutually reinforcing. They are both symptoms of social disorganization in the society (Rao, 2014). Unemployment has affected the youths from a broad spectrum of socio-economic groups both the less educated and well read among them. As such, the rising wave of criminality, which has devastating effects on the society, is traceable to various factors such as unemployment, poverty and greed among others (Ololo and Meisamari, 2012). Buttressing this view, Ademola and Olajubutu (2009) argued that unemployment has been identified as one of the major causes of social vices including armed robbery, destitution, prostitution, political thuggery, kidnapping and many more. Anderson (2009) observed that when the wider economy fails, many people particularly the youths go underground and take to crime. They seize such negative opportunity because they see it as an avenue to seek revenge on a system that has provided them nothing but frustration. Thus, most of those who engage in criminality in Nigeria are mostly young, educated persons who complain about hunger and unemployment. (Obaro, 2012).

Further observations also indicate that violent crimes committed in Nigerian societies of contemporary times involve the youth in most cases (Nwogu, 2012). For instance, an analysis of most of the apprehended criminals in the country shows that a large chunk of the young people that engage in criminal activities are those without gainful employment. Figures supplied by the Nigerian Prisons Service to the National Bureau of Statistics (2009) indicated that in 2006, the number of people aged 16-35 years, in convict prisons was 49.8% and in 2008, the number almost doubled, increasing astronomically to 92.5% within a period of 3 years.

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This heinous crime has become a lucrative but unhealthy trade in form of kidnapping for ransom by the unemployed who are mostly youths (Cleen Foundation, 2010). The failure of the government both at the three tiers of government (Local, State and Federal) to provide adequate employment opportunities have lured some of the youths into criminality in the country. Thus, Nigeria is currently suffering from a growing crime-problem which is progressively threatening its sovereignty, security and development (Ilemika, 2011).

Crime is like other concepts in social sciences, which have no generally accepted definition. According to Oxford Dictionary of Sociology (2009), "a crime is held to be an offence, which goes beyond the personal and into the public sphere, breaking prohibitory rules or laws, to which legitimate punishments or sanctions are attached, and which requires the intervention of a public authority... for crime to be known as such, it must come to the notice of, and be processed through, an administrative system or enforcement agency. It must be reported and recorded by the police (or other investigator); it may then become part of criminal statistics; may or may not be investigated; and may or may not result in a court case." Dambazau (1994) defined crime as an act or omission against public interest and which is prescribed by law enacted by the legislature in the overall interests of the society, and to which prescribed punishment is attached in the event of violation and it involves four major principles which are public wrong, moral wrong, law and punishment for the criminal. Crime is also seen as a violation of the rules agreed to be respected by all members of the society, and upon which the rest members of the society mete sanction upon those guilty of the violation. It is for the same reason that the legal system views crime as a public and moral wrong.

The prevalence of crime in the world today is a cause for serious concern for all and sundry. It undermines the social fabric by eroding the sense of safety and security. Crime impacts on

society in a variety of ways according to the nature and extent of crime committed. It constitutes a problem when its incidence is as rampant in the society as to constitute a threat to the security of persons and property, as well as social order and solidarity (Onoge, 1998).

Crime is a threat to the economic, political and social security of a nation and a major factor associated with underdevelopment; because it discourages both local and foreign investments, reduces the quality of life, destroys human and social capital, damages relationship between citizens and the states, thus undermining democracy, rule of law and the ability of the country to promote development.

The development in societies with particular references to westernization has not helped matters; instead, it has been destructive to the social and cultural values of the society. Reasons for the increase in crime in Nigeria include urbanization which is spreading more widely and rapidly than improvement in the social and economic condition. Crime is a huge threat to public safety. It causes great personal suffering, vast material damage, and place enormous burden on the urban social network. Globally, every five years, 60% of city inhabitants have been victims of one type of crime or another while over half of these crimes have involved personal crime (arson, fraudulence, cheating, 419 syndrome, forgery, etc). It has been noted that Nigerian cities are conducive areas for criminal activities because they provide the anonymity needed for criminal activities (Okafor, 2011).

2.8.1 Theoretical Framework

Strain theory

American sociologist Robert Merton (1957) drew on this idea to explain criminality and deviance in the USA. His theory argues that crime occurs when there is a gap between the cultural goals of a society (e.g. material wealth, status) and the structural means to achieve these (e.g. education, employment). This strain between means and goals results in frustration and resentment, and encourages some people to use illegitimate or illegal means to secure success. In other words, Robert Merton in his postulations on the strain theory posited that in a class – oriented society, few members of the lower class even get to the top. His theory emphasized two fundamental elements:

(a) Cultural goals

(b) Institutionalized

This means to attain the desired goals. The disparity between goals and means engenders frustration which may lead to strain for instance, many young people desire a university education to enable them get white collar jobs but every year in Nigeria over one million graduates are produced in the tertiary institutions. Many of these graduates after many years of searching for employment without any turn to crime.

In short, strain theory posits that the cultural values and social structures of society put pressure on individual citizens to commit crime.

The failure of the state to provide windows of opportunities especially in terms of education and gainful employment to its youths has impelled many youths into some sub-cultures such as crime, cyber crime, public order crime militancy (Attoh, 2012)

The widespread poverty and unemployment in Nigeria is chronic. Hence those who engage in criminal activities are mostly young, educated persons who complain about hunger and unemployment. Sigmund Freud in his early writings averred that aggressive behavior was a response to frustration. It stands to reason therefore, that frustration can lead to many forms of behavior such as waning, sublimation and aggressive fantasy, but direct aggression towards others is the most likely consequence of frustration in the real sense of it. The increasing wave of crime and violent behavior has been attributed to frustration especially by the youths (Soyombo and Attoh, 2009).

As such, strain theory explains criminality as a result of blocked opportunities or impediments which are put on the way of people consciously or unconsciously by the society or government. This leads to social disorganization, which makes the individual (unemployed youth) to try in achieving the societal goals (employment) through deviant means (criminality). To such individual, any institutionalized means is legitimate as long as the end justifies the means.

Furthermore, Merton (1957) postulated that individuals adapt to the inconsistency between means and goals in a society that socializes everyone into wanting the same thing, but provides opportunities for only some.

Merton suggested that, except for the conformist, who accept the culturally defined goals and socially means of achieving them, others take to innovation, ritualism, retreatism and rebellion as

modes of adaptation to achieve societal goals. Innovation which is the adaptation strategy most associated with criminal behaviors, explains the high rate of crime committed by poor individuals (the unemployed youths) in the society who lack access to legitimate means of achieving the societal goals of wealth. Applying this theory, the vexed problems of youth unemployment account for the criminality phenomenon in the Nigeria polity.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

Introduction

This chapter provides the description of the methods that was used in collecting and analyzing the data for this research. It makes clear certain part of the work such as research design, population of study, sampling procedure, sample size, sampling technique, method of analysis and presentation.

3.1 STUDY AREA

3.1.1 Historical Profile Of Ekiti State

Located in the south western part of Nigeria, and popularly known as the Land of honour, Ekiti state was created on October 1st 1996 by the late Former Head of state and Commander-in-Chief of Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, General Sani Abacha, in a nation-wide broadcast to mark the 36th Independence anniversary of Nigeria. The people of Ekiti state are mostly Muslims and Christians while some are traditionalists. The State has sixteen local Councils which include Edo-Ekiti-East, Ekiti Southwest, Ekiti West, Ikere, Irepodun, Ijero, Oye, Ikole, Efon, Moba etc. And its major towns include Ado-Ekiti, Efon Alaaye, Aramoko-Ekiti, Ikole Ekiti, Iyin-Ekiti. Peter Ayodéle Fayose (born 15 November 1960) serves as the current governor of Ekiti State in Nigeria.

3.1.2 Historical Profile Of Ado Ekiti

Ado Ekiti is a city located in southwest Nigeria, the state capital and headquarters of the Ekiti State. Research shows that people of unknown antiquity occupied this particular region about eleven thousand (11,000) years ago. These people were supposedly ancestors of Igbon near Ogotun, Erijiyan, Ijero, Ulesun and Asin (near Ikole). These ancient people were the ancestors of Ekiti. After many generations, a new wave of immigrant groups penetrated this homeland; their leader as Ewi, second successor of Prince Biritiokun, Son of Oduduwa, on account of his wanderings all the way from the Benin forests, the leader was nicknamed Awamaro. Ulesun people welcomed them warmly and neighbouring committees came together to assist the Ewi's in

their settlement. Eventually, Ewi and his people overthrew the existing political arrangements, conquered Ulesun community, displaced its ruler Elesun and established a new town, Awamaro named Ado, meaning 'here we encamp'. Ado-Ekiti is one of the towns of the north-eastern territory of Yoruba land and passed through a succession of military, political and cultural changes from the time of Ewi Awamaro (circa 1310 A.D) who migrated there to form what became Ado-Ekiti.

3.2 Research Design

The research design that was employed for this study was exploratory and descriptive research design. This research design becomes imperative due to the explorative and descriptive nature of the phenomenon under investigation.

3.3 Study Population

The population for this study was the youth in Ado Ekiti State and some law enforcement agent such as policemen in Ado Ekiti State communities.

3.4 Sampling Procedure and Technique

The sampling technique for this study was convenient sampling technique. The convenient sampling will be 200 people in the selected in Ado Ekiti.

3.5 Data Collection Instrument

The research instrument for the study was basically consisting of questionnaire survey. Both primary and secondary data was generated. For the primary data, the questionnaire was employed, while the secondary data was generated through textbooks, internet, journals to mention but a few.

3.6 Data Analysis

Quantitative method of data collection was used, the data generated for this study was analyzed using the descriptive statistic analysis. For the analysis, such parameters such as frequency table and percentage distributions were employed. Quantitative data will be analyzed using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) version 17.

3.7 Ethical Considerations

Data was collected from both primary and secondary with proper consideration of ethical values such as:

Anonymity: the invisibility and deliberate cover up of respondent to ensure confidentiality. Anonymity includes no name or any personal or traceable information about respondent.

Participant will not be forced to be part of the research rather participant will become part of research only by voluntary acceptance.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

4.0. INTRODUCTION

This section presents the data analysis for this study. It includes descriptive statistics of some variables such as the background characteristics of the sampled respondents. Also, study deduced the effect of unemployment and poverty on crime rate in Ado Ekiti State, Chi-Square was used to establish the association among them.

Table 1: Socio Demographic Characteristics

Age of Respondents in Group	Frequency	Percentage
20-29years	110	74.8
30years and Above	37	25.1
Total	147	99.9
Monthly Income		
None	60	40.8
Less than 18,000	25	17.0
18,000-29,000	23	15.6
30,000-50000	31	21.1
51,000-79,000	8	5.4
Total	147	99.9
MARITAL STATUS		
Married	30	20.4
Single	110	74.8
Widowed	2	1.4
Separated	5	3.4
Total	147	100
ETHNICITY		
Yoruba	101	68.7
Igbo	32	21.8
Hausa	12	8.2

Fulani	2	1.4
TOTAL	147	100%

The background characteristics of sampled youth in Ado Ekiti disclosed that majority were within ages 20-29years (74.8%) and those youths in ages 30years above were just (25.5%). Also, the monthly income of sampled youths revealed that majority (40.8%) do not have any monthly income while 21.1% reported they earned N30,000 –N50,000 per month and less than 6% reported they earned above N51,000 per month.

More so more than 70% were not in any marital union while 20.4% are presently married and 3.0% were separated. The Yoruba were (68.7%), Igbo (21.8%) while Hausa were (8.2%) and Fulani (1.4%). This implies that Ado youths were dominated by Christians who were Yoruba but they were majorly earned no income.

Table 2: Other Bio Social Characteristics

TYPE OF FAMILY	Frequency	Percentages
Monogamy	119	81.0
Polygyny	16	10.9
Others	12	8.1
Total	147	100
RELIGION		
Christianity	109	74.1
Islam	30	20.4
Traditionalist	6	4.1
Others	2	1.4
Total	147	100
WHAT IS YOUR EMPLOYMENT STATUS		
Employed	26	17.7
Self employed	56	38.1
Retired	33	22.4
Unemployed	29	19.7
Others	3	2.0

Total	147	99.9
OCCUPATION		
IF EMPLOYED WHAT IS YOUR		
Civil servant	26	17.7
Farming/agricultural	7	4.8
Business/trader	19	12.9
self employed	17	11.6
Others	20	13.6
None	58	39.5
Total	147	100
WHAT IS YOUR HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION		
None	3	2.0
Primary	8	5.4
Secondary Education	25	17.0
Post-Secondary	99	67.3
Others	11	8.1
TOTAL	147	100

The family type of the sampled respondent showed that majority were from monogamy types of family (81%) while (10.9%) from polygyny and 8.2% belong to other forms of marriage. Christianity took prominent religion practiced in Ado as majority were from Christianity (74.1%), while Islam (20.4%), and traditionalist (4.1%)

The employment status of sampled respondents disclosed that majority were into self-employed (38.1%), followed by retired (22.4%) and unemployed (19.7%) from those who were employed majority were civil servants (17.7%), business/trader(12.9%) and only (4.8%) were involved in farming/agricultural activities. Majority of the sampled respondents were educated as more than (60%) had post-secondary while (17%) had secondary education but only 2% were illiterate with no formal education.

TABLE 3: LEVEL OF UNEMPLOYMENT SITUATION AMONG YOUTH IN ADO EKITI

DOES YOUR JOB AND LEVEL OF EDUCATION CORRELATE WITH ONE ANOTHER	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	62	42.2
No	85	57.8
Total	147	100
ARE YOU LOOKIN FOR WORK OR TRYING TO ESTABLISH YOUR OWN BUSINESS?		
Yes	85	59.9
No	57	40.1
Total	142	100
DURING THE LAST FOUR WEEKS HAVE U TAKEN ANY STEP TO FIND WORK OR ESTABLISH UR OWN BUSINESS		
Yes	70	52.2
No	64	47.8
Total	134	100
WHAT STEPS DID TO U TAKE TO FIND WORKS DURIN THE LAST FOUR WEEKS		
Education /training	24	25.8
Attending job fairs	17	18.3
Registration at a public employment office	5	5.4
Registration at a private employment office	9	9.7
Direct application to employers participation	27	29.0
Others	11	11.8
Total	83	100
DID YOU ATTEND ANY TERTIARY INSTITUTION?		
Yes	96	65.3
No	35	23.8

No response	16	10.9
Total	147	100
IF Y IN QUESTION 4, HOW LONG HAVE YOU GRADUATED FROM TERTIARY INSTITUTION AND ACTIVELY BEEN LOOKING FOR JOB		
Less than a week	4	5.3
less than 2 months	6	8.0
less than six months	13	17.3
one year	22	29.3
above one year	30	40.0
Total	75	99.9
WHAT SORT OF JOB ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?		
manual job	18	12.2
clerical job	6	4.1
Technical	16	10.9
administration job	31	21.1
professional job	18	12.2
Others	21	14.3
Total	110	74.8
IS THERE ANY MINIMUM LEVEL OF INCOME PER MONTH BELOW WHICH YOU WOULD NOT ACCEPT A JOB?		
Yes	80	68.4
No	37	31.6
Total	117	100
HOW HAS GOVT BEEN HELPFUL IN HELPING UNEMPLOYED YOUTHS IN GETTING TRAINED IN VOCATIONAL ACTIVITIES		
Very helpful	5	3.8
Somewhat helpful	31	23.7
Not helpful	86	65.6

Do not know	9	6.9
Total	131	100

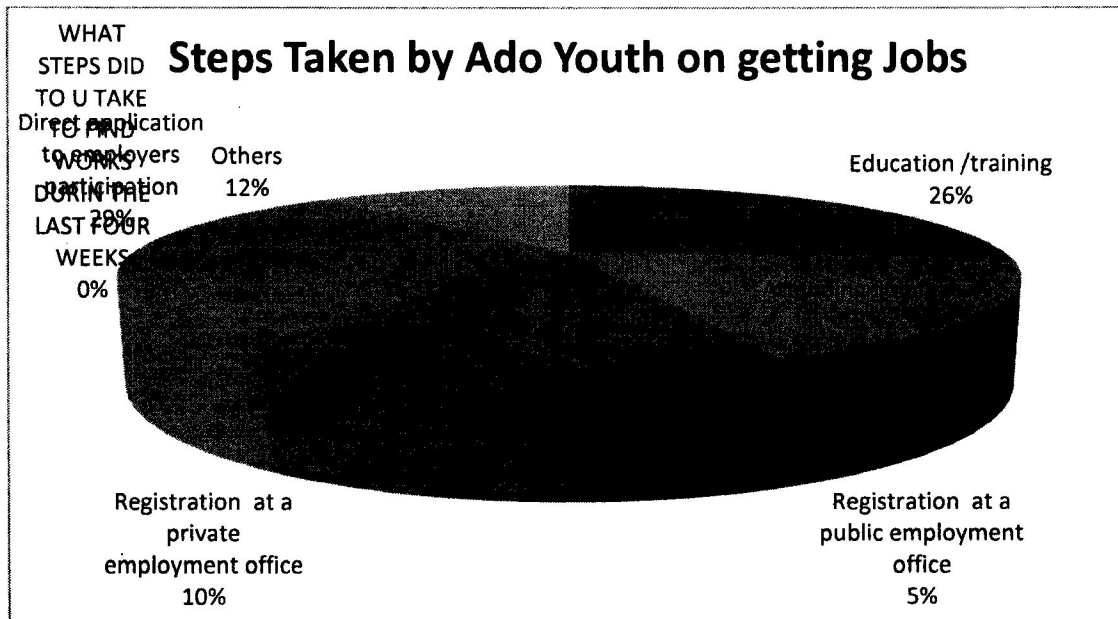


Figure 1: Steps Taken by Ado Youth on getting Jobs

Table 3 above shows the level of unemployment situation among the youth in Ado Ekiti, it was found out that 57.8% of the youth are working in a job that is not correlating with their education while less than 43% were doing a job relating to their education. Approximately 60% of the sample youth were still seeking for job or trying to establish their business. During the last four weeks of the study, it was found that 52% of the respondent had taken steps to find work or established own business while 47.8% said NO! it was found out that 29% had written direct application to employer 25% had engaged themselves in training/education to get a job opportunity while 18.3%) had attended job interview and 5.4% had registered at a public employment office, details in figure 1 charts..

The situation of unemployment was very high among the higher educated youth in Ado as majority reported to have attended tertiary institution 65.3% while 23.8% of the youths said they

have not attended higher institutions and 10.9% do not give any certain answer. Most of the youths graduated above one year ago (40%) while 29.3% of them graduated from higher institution approximately one year ago and only(17.3%) graduated less than 6 month ago. The amazing response from this graduates youths was that the majority were seeking for administrative jobs (21.1%) while (12.2%)of them were seeking manual jobs and 10.9% were seeking for technical jobs. This could be causes of unemployment among the youth in Ado. Another reasons was that majority had set minimum level of wages/income per month they will accepted for a job as (68.4%) said “Yes” and 31.6% said “No”. Also, seeking to know whether the government has been helpful toward unemployment youth in Ado Ekiti it was found that majority see governments as not helpful towards helping to get jobs as 65.6% reported not helpful while 23.7% said somewhat helpful and 3.8% said very helpful.

TABLE 4: SHOWING LEVEL OF POVERTY AMONG YOUTH IN ADO-EKITI

POVERTY LEVEL	Frequency	Percent
CAN YOU AFFORD THREE SQUARE MEAL?		
Yes	88	62.9
No	52	37.1
Total	140	100
DO YOU HAVE ACCESS TO LOAN	Frequency	Percent
Yes	24	17.1
No	116	82.9
Total	140	100
DO YOU HAVE A CAR OR MOTOCYCLE?	Frequency	Percent
Yes	26	18.7
No	113	81.3
Total	139	100
WHAT ALTERNATIVE FOR MAKING A LIVING ARE YOU ENGAGED		

From table 4, it was reported that the level of poverty among the sampled youth was found to be moderate when considering those that could afford 3-square meal, 62.9% said they could afford 3-square meals while 37.1% said couldn't afford 3 square meal. But when considering access to loan, 82.9% of same unemployment youth do not have access to soft loan to meet their daily and only 17.1% do has access. Also car was found to be luxury for majority of the youth in Ado – Ekiti as 81,3% could not afford a car or motorcycle while only 18.7% had car/motorcycle.

When asked what alternative for making a living are you engaged?. The respondents reported they engaged in activities like:

Baking and catering, beads and hat making, bricklaying, building and selling buying and selling, by linking customers to sellers, creative thinking and entertainment, farming, hair dressing, hair dressing, production of skin products(ponmo), helping people to do internet assignment, while some reported they engage in cleaning job at FUOYE, engaged in family business and the likes.

4.3 PERCEPTION OF CRIME RATE AMONG THE YOUTH IN ADO EKITI

TABLE 5: PERCEPTION OF CRIME RATE AMONG THE YOUTH IN ADO EKITI

HOW DO YOU PERCEIVE THE CRIME RATE AMONG THE YOUTH IN EKITI STATE?	Frequency	Percent
Very high	51	37.8
Somewhat high	60	44.4
Not high	19	14.1
Do not know	5	3.7
Total	135	99
DO YOU HAVE ANY EXCUSE FOR CRIME?		
Yes	57	40.4
No	84	59.6
Total	141	100
CAN CRIME MAKE A PERSON TO BE RICH?		
Yes	105	75.5
No	34	24.5
Total	139	100
DO YOU HAVE ANY RECORD OF CRIME AMONG YOUR FRIENDS		
Yes	36	26.5
No	100	73.5
Total	136	100

IF YES WHAT TYPES OF CRIME?		
------------------------------------	--	--

Table 5 disclosed the perception of youths toward the rate of crime in their community it was found that 44.4% said crime rate is somewhat high in Ekiti State, 37.8% said very high while only 14.1% said crime is not high. When the sampled youth were asked whether they have excuses for involvement in crime, majority of the sampled youth still maintain that they have excuses to be involved in crime 59.6% said "Yes", while 40.4% reported they have no reason to be engaged in crime. Also, majority reported that in this types of recession and economic down turn, crime can make someone to be rich, (75.5%) supported with Yes while only 24.5%) said no. The results also reported that (26.5%) of the youths have friends who were involved in criminal activities and the reason given were discussed below; what government can do to avert the pandemic situation is very crucial, these and many more were discus below

4.4 THE TYPE OF CRIME EVER RECORDED AMONG YOUTHS WAS AS FOLLOWS:

Embezzlement of public funds, cultism, rape, robbery, cyber-crime defrauding innocent people indulging in fake credit card, provide adequate security and increase employment, they engage in bribery and corruption, yahoo-yahoo and so on.

The respondents reported that **whatthe government can do reduce crime? The following suggestion took prominent among sampled respondents:**

The government should accept the youth and provide spaces for them in the public sector,

Other respondents suggested that:

- It is necessary in assisting Nigerians youth in engaging their minds and hands in creative skills
- They should adequately deal with them and not receiving bribe before given help.
- By making daily and monthly revenue to circulate to all,
- Government should create employment opportunities for the educated and empower youth
- They should look at the causes of crime and fix up the loopholes
- They should provide employment for youth, by selling of drugs.

WHAT ARE THE STEPS YOU ARE TAKING NATURALLY TO MAKE YOU RICH AND CRIME FREE?

Some respondents said they acquire entrepreneurial skills like bead making, hair dressing, tailoring and the likes

One said:

He learn to be contented with what my parent gave me

While others said:

- They involve in buying and selling
- Creating employment opportunities for myself
- Doing online business and doing middle man for small scale business
- Engage myself in an occupational manual jobs
- Engaging myself in networking business like MMM, RAGP, helping hands etc.
- I am engaging myself in different activities that will bring more income
- I am looking for a little capital to add and increase my make up business

WHAT ALTERNATIVE EMPLOYMENT SKILL CAN BE CREATED BY GOVT FOR THE UNEMPLOYED GRADUATES?

- The sampled youth reported different area they were expecting the government in Ekiti to come in in addressing the problem of unemployment.
- There should be encouragement for the youth by granting loans to start up a business.
- by providing centres for acquiring entrepreneurial skills
- Government should make vocational skill compulsory in the higher institution
- Government should be involved in building industries ii. making entrepreneur skills available for youth, encourage the youth to access soft loan for self-business, building more industries
- engaging the youth in beneficiary activities ii. promotion of vocational skills
- entrepreneurial studies ii. youth empowerment
- building more companies so that graduates can be employed ii. industrial training
- by not making it a must for only graduate to have fair chance of getting job in establishment,

- investing in agriculture creating revenue to get loan to start up business, adequate electricity
- by engaging young people during an early stage

4.3 HYPOTHESIS TEST:

The study proceeded to run a bivariate analysis, which test for the relationship between poverty situation and unemployment status of the youth on crime rate in the sample community.

The hypothesis set for this study was established as follows:

Hypothesis One:

Ho: There is no significant influence between poverty and crime rate in Ado-Ekiti.

Hi: :There is significant influence between poverty and crime rate in Ado-Ekiti.

Table 6: Showing the Relationship between Poverty and Crime Rate

CAN YOU AFFORD THREE SQUARE MEAL?	HOW DO YOU PERCEIVE THE CRIME RATE AMONG THE YOUTH IN EKITI STATE?			
	Very high	Somewhat high	Not high	Do not know
Yes	25	36	17	4
	30.5%	43.9%	20.7%	4.9%
No	24	24	2	1
	47.1%	47.1%	3.9%	2.0%
Total	49	60	19	5
	36.8%	45.1%	14.3%	3.8%
Chi-Square (x2)=9.345, p=0.025				

The results of Chi-Square Tests=9.345, with p=0.025 disclosed that there is statistical evidence to reject Ho and conclude that there is significance relationship between poverty and crime rate in Ado Ekiti as majority who could not afford 3-square meal said the crime is very high (47.1%)

and those who said somewhat high also do couldn't afford 3-square meal (47.1%) while only 20.7% of those who can afford 3-square meals said crime is not high in Ado Ekiti. This implies that alleviating poverty among the youth can reduce crime in Ado-Ekiti.

Hypothesis Two:

Ho: There is no significant influence between unemployment and crime rate in Ado-Ekiti.

Hi: :There is significant influence between unemployment and crime rate in Ado-Ekiti.

Table 7: Showing the Relationship between Poverty and Crime Rate

ARE YOU LOOKIN FOR WORK OR TRYING TO ESTABLISH YOUR OWN BUSINESS?	HOW DO YOU PERCEIVE THE CRIME RATE AMONG THE YOUTH IN EKITI STATE?			
	Very high	Somewhat high	Not high	Do not know
Yes	31	37	12	2
	37.8%	45.1%	14.6%	2.4%
No	19	22	7	3
	37.3%	43.1%	13.7%	5.9%
Total	50	59	19	5
	37.6%	44.4%	14.3%	3.8%
Chi-Square (x2)=1.040, p=0.792				

The results of Chi-Square Tests=1.040, with p=0.792 disclosed that there is no statistical evidence to reject Ho, we therefore conclude that there is no significance relationship between unemployment and crime rate in Ado Ekiti as majority who were still looking for job (37.8%) said the crime is very high, among the same group 45.1 said the crime rate is somewhat high while only 14.6% of those who were looking for job said crime is not high in Ado Ekiti. This implies that unemployment may not necessarily influence the rate of crime in Ado-Ekiti.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECCOMENDATIONS

5.0 INTRODUCTION

This chapter is devoted to the presentation of the summary of findings, **conclusion** and recommendations drawn from the analysis of the research data **on effect of unemployment** and poverty on crime rate in Ado Ekiti.

5.1 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS.

This study found that the level of unemployment situation among the youth in Ado Ekiti was so **terrible**; it was found that 57.8% of the youth are working in a job that is not correlating with **their education** while less than 43% were working in a job related to their education. **Approximately 60%** of the sample youth were still seeking for job or they were trying to seek for means of establishing their businesses. During the last four weeks to this study, it was found that 52% of the respondent had taken steps to find work or established own business while 47.8% had not taken such steps. It was found that 29% had written direct application to employer 25% had engaged themselves in training/education to get a job opportunity while 18.3%) had attended job interview and 5.4% had registered at a public employment office. This finding was corroborated by the research of Durosinmi (2012) that unemployment has reached a very alarming proportion in Nigeria, with a greater number of the unemployment being university graduates. This situation has recently been compounded by the increasing unemployment of professionals such as bankers, engineers and doctors. The toll is within the productive segment of the Nigeria population (Vision 2030).

Regarding the level of poverty in the sampled area, it was reported that the level of poverty among the sampled youth was found to be high as 82.9% of these unemployment youths do not have access to soft loan to meet their daily and only 17.1% do has access, although 62.9% reported they could afford 3-square meal, while 37.1% said couldn't afford 3 square meal. But when considering access to loan, 82.9% of same unemployment youth do not have access to soft loan to meet their daily and only 17.1% do has access. In spite of the great endowments in both human and natural resources, this study found support from existing scholars that the huge oil

wealth and revenues, Nigeria still remain a poor country with per capita income average less than \$1.25 per day as at 2016 (USAID, 2016). In the words of Nwaobi, "Nigeria presents a paradox" (Oshewolo,2010) owing to the fact that since independence, majority of its population has remained poor in the midst of abundance. The UNDP has classified the country as 141 poorest nations on human development index. In its report, Nigeria is considered one of the 20th poorest countries in the world with 70% of the population classified as poor and 54.4% living in absolute poverty (Ugoh and Ukpere, 2009). Also in this study, car was found to be luxury for majority of the youth in Ado –Ekiti as 81,3% could not afford a car or motorcycle while only 18.7% had car/motorcycle.

The level of poverty led many graduates to seeking other alternative means of livelihood: When asked what alternative for making a living are you engaged? The respondents reported they engaged in activities like:

Baking and catering, beads and hat making, bricklaying, building and selling buying and selling, by linking customers to sellers, creative thinking and entertainment, farming, hair dressing, hair dressing, production of skin products(ponmo), helping people to do internet assignment, while some reported they engage in cleaning job at FUYOYE, engaged in family business and the likes. Those who could not bear these manual jobs seek for criminal acts.

Furthermore, majority of the sampled youths still maintain that they have justification to be involved in crime 59.6% said "Yes", while 40.4% reported they have no reason to be engaged in crime. Also, majority reported that in this types of recession and economic down turn, crime can make someone to be rich, (75.5%) supported with Yes while only 24.5%) said NO. Also, (26.5%) of the youths reported that they have friends who were involved in criminal activities and the reason given were discussed; government intervention can help to avert the pandemic situation is very crucial, these and many more were raised among the sampled respondents.

In the bivariate analysis on relationship hypothetically tested with Chi-square. The results of Chi-Square Tests=9.345, with $p=0.025$ disclosed that there is statistical evidence to reject H_0 and conclude that there is significance relationship between poverty and crime rate in Ado Ekiti this disclosed that alleviating poverty among the youth can reduce crime rate in Ado-Ekiti. The results of Chi-Square Tests=1.040, with $p=0.792$ disclosed that there is no statistical evidence to reject H_0 , we therefore conclude that there is a significance relationship between unemployment

and crime rate in Ado Ekiti. This implies that unemployment may not necessarily influence the rate of crime in Ado-Ekiti. This was in support with Levin & Wright (2000) who found empirical support by raising a hypothesis that unemployment has a negative effect on economic growth while Layard and Nickell (1999) cannot find the labour market institution that increase unemployment also lower economic growth. It is quite possible that some factors that affect crime rate could be more of poverty which could be alleviated by provision of employments for the yawning youths.

5.2 CONCLUSION

The scourge of poverty and crime has ravaged almost all nations of the world in different dimensions and shades. But in Nigeria, as Akande and Okuwa (2009) pointed out, the poverty challenge is captured by the growing number of unemployed youths roaming the streets all over the country. This study carried out in Ado Ekiti has confirmed that poverty contribute to high crime rate in the community. This was upheld that this peer group was at risk of crime due to unemployment and poverty.

5.3. RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings of this study, the following recommendations are submitted to reduce the high level of criminal activities in Ado Ekiti community.

- i. Empowerment for all young individual without gender imbalance that will improve standard of living of family member which will likely eradicate or combat crime in Ado Ekiti
- ii. The youth should try and engage in doing online business and doing middle man for small scale business.
- iii. They could engaged in an occupational manual jobs like networking business like MMM, sales of recharge cards, Recharged And Get Paid (RAGP), helping hands etc.
- iv. Government should embark on provision of social amenities in the rural areas so as to reduce the urban –rural drift which have consequences of reducing the rate of unemployment.

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APPENDIX

QUESTIONNAIRE

**AN EVALUATION OF THE EFFECT OF POVERTY AND UNEMPLOYMENT ON
CRIME RATE AMONGST YOUTHS IN ADO EKITI, EKITI STATE**

Good day Sir/Ma,

My name is Ifeakor, Chinemerem Vivian and I am a final year student of the Department of Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences, Federal University Oye Ekiti, Ekiti State. This is a questionnaire designed to obtain information from you for the prime purpose of conducting a research aimed at investigating the effect of poverty and unemployment on crime rate amongst youths in Ado Ekiti, Ekiti state.

SECTION A: DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

<p>1. How old are you as at your last birthday?.....</p>	<p>2. Marital Status: Married 1 Single 2 Widowed 3 Separated 4 Others.....5</p>	<p>3. Ethnicity: Yoruba 1 Igbo 2 Hausa 3 Fulani 4 Others.....5</p>	<p>4. Marriage: Monogamy 1 Polygyny 2 Others..... ...3</p>	<p>5. Religion: Christianity 1 Islam 2 Traditional 3 Others.....4</p>
<p>6. What is your employment status: Employed 1 Self-employed 2 Retired 3</p>	<p>7. If employed, what is your occupation?</p>	<p>8. What is your average income per month?</p>	<p>9. What is your highest level of education attainment? None 0 Primary 1</p>	<p>10. Does your job and level of education correlate with one another?</p>

Unemployed 4 Others..... ...5			Secondary 2 Post- secondary, 3 Others.....	Yes () No ()
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Section B

QUESTIONNAIRE

Unemployment among youths in Ado Ekiti

11. Are you looking for work or trying to establish your own business?

Yes No

12. During the last four weeks have you taken any step to find work or establish your own business?

Yes No

13. What steps did you take to find work during the last four weeks?

- a. through education/ training institution
- b. Attending job fairs.....
- c. Registration at a public employment office.....
- d. Registration at a private employment office.....
- e. Direct application to employers, participation.....
- f. others:.....

14. Did you attend any tertiary institution?

Yes No

15. If "yes" in question 4, how long have you graduated from tertiary institution and actively been looking for a job?

- a) Less than a week b) Less than 2months c) Less than six months d) 1 year e) Above 1 year

16. What sort of job are you looking for?

- a) Manual Job b) Clerical job c) Technical d) Administration job e) Managerial jobs
f) Professional job g) others.....

17. Is there a minimum level of income per month below which you would not accept a job?

Yes No

18. How has the government been helpful in helping unemployed youths in getting trained in vocational activities?

- a) Very helpful b) Somewhat helpful c) Not helpful d) Do not know.

SECTION C

QUESTIONNAIRE

19. Can you afford three -square meal?

Yes No

20. Do you have access to loan?

Yes No

21. Do you have a car or motorcycle?

Yes No

22. What alternative for making a living are you engaged in.....

23. How do you perceive the crime rate amongst the youth in Ekiti state?

a) Very high b) Somewhat high c) Not high d) Do not know.

24. Do you have any excuse for crime?

Yes No

25. Can crime make a person to be rich?

Yes No

26. Do you have any record of crime amongst your friends?

Yes No

27. If yes what type of crime?

.....

28. What do you think that the government can do to reduce crime?

.....

29. What are the steps you are taking personally to make you rich and crime free?

.....

30. What alternative employment skill can be created by government for the unemployed graduate?

i.....

ii.....

iii.....

iv.....

v.....