

Research Article

This article is published by JFP Publishers in the *African Social Science and Humanities Journal (ASSHJ)*. Volume 3, Issue 1, 2022.

ISSN: 2709-1309 (Print)

2709-1317 (Online)

This article is distributed under a Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY-SA 4.0) International License.

Article detail

Received: 16 August 2021

Accepted: 20 September 2021

Published: 05 January 2022

Conflict of Interest: The author/s declared no conflict of interest.



Social security as a panacea to kidnapping in south-west Nigeria: A theoretical review

Fasoranti Olayiwola Oluwajenyo¹, Abrifor Chiedu Akporaro², Haruna Ishola Abdullahi^{3*}

¹Department of Sociology, Federal University, Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria.

olayiwola.fasoranti@fuoye.edu.ng

²Criminology and Security Studies, Federal University, Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria. chiedu.abrifor@fuoye.edu.ng

³Department of Sociology, Federal University, Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria.

harunism@gmail.com

*Corresponding author



Abstract: There are various security challenges facing societies around the world. Kidnapping is one challenge that undermines peace and stability in the globe. Kidnapping leads to death of victims, bodily harm, loss of properties and worsening economic conditions. To tackle kidnapping, social security is one valuable measure put in place. However, social security is bedeviled with challenges like corruption, mismanagement, lack of political will, ethnicity, bad policy and programmes. Therefore, this paper addresses the challenges of social security and kidnapping in South-west, Nigeria.

The study intends to fill the gap created by shortage of scholarly materials to explore challenges of social security and kidnapping in South-West Nigeria. The data were obtained secondarily through the content analysis of peer reviewed journals, edited textbooks, and credible online resources. It anchors on social control theory by Travis Hirsch. Findings revealed that corruption, lack of political will, ethnicity, religiosity and other challenges are working against social security drives to combat kidnapping in Nigeria. The paper recommends effective youth empowerment schemes to bring to the shore the potentials among the youths. This paper will be useful by improving knowledge on the social security and kidnapping, improve the extant literature on social security and kidnapping, the policy-makers, employment of labour, organized private sectors and researchers in the field of social and management sciences will find it beneficial.

Keywords – Crimes, Empowerment, Kidnapping, National Security, Programmes, Ransom, Social Security

1. INTRODUCTION

The spate of kidnapping is unprecedented and it causes various disquieteness in the global community. Kidnapping is the one of the key ones, Kidnapping as noted by Aborisade and Ogunmefun (2017), is one of the security issues. kidnapers hide under various criminal shields to commit unlawful activities. As explained by Glatt (2018), kidnapping is a criminal act that involves abduction, transportation and incarceration of a person or a group of people. Kidnapping for ransom is a current trend, whereby kidnapers demand for a ransom in exchange for kidnap victim's release. As maintained by Hutchinson (2016), kidnapping could be politically motivated. This version of kidnapping is orchestrated to achieve political **ambition**. The politically motivated kidnapping started in

Nigeria in the First **Republic**. In this period, political party chieftains, political party grassroots' mobilisers were kidnapped by **reining** party to achieve sinister political **ambition**. Many members of the defunct Unity Party of Nigeria (UPN) felt victims. Another type of kidnapping is bride kidnapping, this form of hostage taking was rampant in the ancient period. However, according to the study conducted by Akpan (2010), this practice exists in some contemporary African societies. It is synonymous to forced girl-child marriage. False kidnapping is another variation of kidnapping whereby kidnapping will be staged in connivance with friends or relatives to extort unsuspected persons.

Meanwhile, kidnapping for ransom has high incidence in Nigeria and other parts of the world. School abduction, as noted by Habila (2016), is the dangerous trends in kidnapping and strategies used by terrorists and bandits to achieve sinister objectives. Kidnapping has negative effects on social and economic well-beings of a society. It creates general fear and instability in the system. Kidnapping also called false imprisonment, kidnapping results in general apprehension (Carrol, 2018). This psychological problem culminates into poor productivity. It scares aware local and international investments. Investors are discouraged by kidnapping because of its threats to investors' lives as well as their employees, businesses/ investments. The incidence of kidnapping creates an avenue for wastage of financial resources. Kidnappers usually negotiate with families of the victims for ransom (Blankenship, 2015). At times the money demanded could not be afforded by the families and friends of victims. The aftermath of this may be killing and maiming of the victims. There are many studies on kidnapping in South-West Nigeria. Aborishade and Ogunmefun (2017) investigated the business of kidnapping in Nigeria. In the same vein, Akpain (2013) examined security crisis in Nigeria: Boko Haram insurgency. Catling Group (2012), studied Kidnapping and Ransom today. Eke (2019), investigated militancy and violence as catalysts to kidnapping in Nigeria. However, none of these studies has investigated social security and kidnapping in Southwest Nigeria. Also, there is dearth of literature on the aspect of social security as a measure to reduce the incidences of kidnapping in the South-West. This is the reason the researcher is motivated to take up the present study to examine how the provision of social security could help reduce kidnapping cases in the study area. The specific objectives of this paper are: To access types of social security and challenges of social security. To investigate types and causes of kidnapping and to assess social control theory by Travis Hirschi theory and kidnapping.

2. LITERATURE SURVEY

2.1. Meanings of Social Security

As noted by Landis (2018), social security is the arrangement to relieve people in adversities and difficulties. This term, as applicable to the United State of America, is referred to as the financial arrangement made available to retirees and other vulnerable groups in the society (Piper, 2017). Social security, as described by Blankenship (2015), encompasses financial and institutional arrangement to assist those in need of assistance in all ramifications. It includes programmes and policies to assist those in adversities. The group of people in adversities could be the unemployed, out-of-school children, widows, orphans and other less privileged members of society. They are stricken by poverty, low education and poor access to social amenities.

2.2. Social Security Programmes

The following are some of the social security programmes in Nigeria.

- **N-power Programme:** This programme was established by the Federal Government of Nigeria. It was founded in 2016 under the leadership of President Muhammed Buhari. It was set to address human resource inadequacy in the primary, secondary schools in Nigeria, security services, agricultural sectors and construction industries. The scheme engages unemployed graduates with the prescribed educational qualifications to teach in primary and secondary schools. The graduates engaged under this scheme are placed

on monthly stipends. This scheme engages graduates' productive time, this prevent them from criminal activities (Okeke & Idoh, 2020).

- **National Directorate Employment (NDE):** This scheme was established among other things to provide succor to unemployed youths. It has other schemes like technical training for the unemployed youths, secondary school teaching services and intervention programmes for those in dire need of employment. It was set up in 1986 by the former president Ibrahim Babangbida. As noted by Mose (2020), unemployment has been established as the major cause of criminal activities such as kidnapping. This scheme was established to provide skills for unemployed youths. The skills will lead to entrepreneurship for the teaming unemployed youths. However, the skills have not been able to achieve its objectives due to corruption, mismanagement and political instability. These factors resulted in the inability of the scheme to reach out to its genuine beneficiaries.
- **Trader Moni:** It was established by in 2016 by President Muhammed Buhari. The scheme targets small scale traders and provides financial assistance for them to ease access to short-term loans with affordable interests. The scheme is under the management the Office of the Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The Vice President, Professor Yemi Oshibajo anchors this programme. It distributes the allocated funds to the qualified traders on sight basis. It reduces the risks which artisans, traders and farmers are exposed to by providing soft credit facilities to this category of the vulnerable.
- **Farmer Moni:** It was founded in 2016 by President Muhammed Buhari. Under this scheme, subsistence farmers are provided with financial support. This program mitigates constraints farmers are passing through. This encourages small-scale farmers into investing in farming.
- **National Insurance Trust Fund:** This scheme provides avenue for financial security for people in the old age. It is compulsory scheme for every employer of labour to register his or her employees under this scheme. This completes other empowerment schemes and creates avenue for social security in a given social structure.
- **Pension Scheme:** Pension, as defined by Piper (2017), is the money saved to ease the cost of living of workers after withdrawal from active service. Every country has its operational pension scheme. In Nigeria, pension administration has experienced different changes. These are defined and contributory pension schemes. In the defined pension scheme, only employers of labour contributed to the pension funds. However, this system was frustrated by mismanagement and failure of the majority of employers to fulfil their obligations resulted in the failure of the scheme. Thereafter, contributory pension established to address the challenges in the old pension scheme. The Contributory Pension Scheme has its own challenges. Some unscrupulous employers of labour make the statutory deduction from their employees' salary without remittance to the concerned workers' pension savings accounts (Mill, 2016).
- **Agric-YES:** This is Agricultural Youth Empowerment Scheme. It is a programme put in place to encourage youths to go into farming. This scheme, provides financial aids and other institutional support like farm settlement, training, access to agricultural input, agricultural market research, legal aids and other incentives to young farmers. Most state governments and Federal Government of Nigeria embark on this scheme as strategy for income security for the youths. The growing unemployment and its undesirable consequences like criminalities compelled government to embarked on this as a palliative measure to check the ugly trends (Nwagwu, 2014).
- **Technical Training:** In a calculated attempt to address biting youth unemployment and wide spread of deviance in the country, governments at various levels established technical training schools. Some renew the existing ones to meet the challenges of skill acquisition for the myriad unemployed youths (Blankenship, 2015; Verchueren, 2020; Newa, Kathungu & Wagarga, 2021).
- **Challenges of Social Security Scheme:** As explained by Kotiikaff, Solman and Moeller (2015), the following are the challenges of social security in Nigeria (Makuya & Salum, 2021).

- **Corruption:** As established by Amnesty International (2020), corruption is using one's official position for personal interest and depriving other citizens of their rights and privileges. Corruption is one of the banes of social security system as a tool for tackling kidnapping. It prevents effective management of various social security schemes. Therefore, the social security schemes are unable to achieve the set goals.
- **Lack of Political Will:** One of the hindrances to social security is unimpressive demonstration of commitment by the political leadership to end the crisis of kidnapping in a social system. Many social security schemes have been politicised. This impedes effective operation of the various aspects of social security scheme to achieve the set objectives (Makuya & Salum, 2021).
- **Poor Financial Management:** Efficient financial management facilitates effective running of social security scheme. Prudent financial utilization will prevent wastage, this enables the scheme to realize its set goals within a given timeframe (Social Security Administration, 2021). Poor financial management undermines the sustainability of social security programmes.
- **Poor Supervision:** In a bid to buttress the financial management of the social security scheme, the monitoring enhances assessment of the objectives of the scheme within a specified period of time. In the process of monitoring, any shortcoming will be addressed (Benafsche, 2021). But due to poor monitoring, lapses are not detected early enough and this leads to non-attainment of set objectives of the scheme.
- **Weak Structural Amenities:** For social security to be functional and sustainable, adequate infrastructural amenities like constant and affordable electricity supply, good road network, affordable and fair communication services, supply of portable water, fair tax regime and effective waste disposal system (Makinde, 2018). The road networks in Nigeria are in terrible state. This prevents small and medium scale enterprises from assessing customers for effective service delivery. Also, in Nigeria, poor electricity supply is a bane to small and medium scale enterprises. Weak infrastructures results in high cost of goods and high security risks for the masses.
- **Lack of Sustainable and Equitable Credit Structure:** Credit system consolidates continuity of the operations of social security system. Money plays important roles in development of social system. Without money, financial support will be delayed (Landis, 2020). This weakens the potentials of social security schemes and the capacity of the current ones to advance.
- **Compromised Criminal Justice System:** This is necessary for the protection of interests of various stakeholders in a system. A functional criminal justice system will promote the interest of various stakeholders and deliver justice in the most appropriate manner (Eke, 2019). The success of a nation depends on the fairness, equity and transparency of the criminal justice system. The ability of citizens to get justice from the criminal justice restores public confidence in the system and what came out of it.

3. SOCIAL SECURITY PROGRAMMES

3.1.1. Kidnapping

As noted by Akpan (2010) and supported by Obarisiagbon and Aderinto (2018), kidnapping is criminal act that involves abduction, transportation and incarceration of a persons or a group of people against their will. It is also referred to as false imprisonment.

3.1.2. Forms or types of kidnapping

In the words of Chinwokwu (2017), the following are the various forms of kidnapping:

- **Express Kidnaping:** This is a type of kidnapping whereby criminal gang held hostage their victims and negotiate ransom for their release in a short period of time (Akanji, 2015).

- **Bride Kidnapping:** As noted by Habila (2016), this form of kidnapping is taken a bride forcefully against the will of parents, even when the bride agrees to marry the bridegroom. This practice exists in Central Asia and other parts of the world.
- **Tiger Kidnapping:** This is a type of kidnapping whereby relatives or significant others are compelled to make payment as conditionalities for the release of the kidnap victims (Nwagwu, 2014).
- **Mass Kidnapping:** This is a type of kidnapping whereby large number of unsuspected victims are abducted. Examples are kidnapping of 276 girls in a secondary school in Chibok, Borno State in 2014, the Jembebe mass kidnapping, Kaduna kidnapping, and others (Ibrahim & Mukhar, 2017).
- **Political Kidnapping:** This type of kidnapping is perpetrated for political reasons. In the First Republic in Nigeria, political kidnapping was rampant. The strong supporters of some political parties were kidnapped to achieve desperate political ambition (Ibrahim & Mukhar, 2017).
- **Kidnapping for Ransom:** Most kidnappings in Nigeria are orchestrated to demand for huge financial reward from the government or relatives of the kidnap victims. Kidnappers target unsuspected members of the public whose parents or relatives could offer huge ransom to seek their release (Umar & Ikpe, 2016; Okoro, Derbile & Angarga, 2020).

3.1.3. Causes or reasons for high rate of kidnapping

- **Increase in Poverty Index:** Nigeria is the headquarter of poverty in the world. Despite large human and material resources, majority of the citizens are wallowing in abject poverty (International Monetary Fund, 2013). There they viewed kidnapping as the last result to overcome poverty. The youths and other organise themselves to abduct high-profile victims for ransom. The collected ransom will be used thereafter to provide basic and luxury needs of life.
- **Youth Unemployment:** According to National Bureau of Statistics (2021), over 37% of the population of Nigeria are unemployed. And the youth takes the lion share in the increasing unemployment rate in the country. The majority of kidnapping suspects are youths (Knight and Burford, 2014). In order to survive even after graduation most youths take into kidnapping as survival strategy.
- **Versed Disparity between the Rich and the Poor:** As opined by Dugard (2011), aside abject poverty in the land, there is wide gap between the rich and poor in Nigeria. The rich becomes richer and the poor are poorer. This social welfare system is very poor, there is lop-sidedness in the distribution of national wealth (Nnam, 2013; Morgan, 2020). The economic disparity worsens poverty level. Poverty as earlier mentioned led to situations where people take to criminality like kidnapping.
- **Poor Governance:** Governments at various levels have failed in their responsibilities of providing social and infrastructural development for the citizens. Poor governance has been existing for many years. The return of the country into civilian rule since 1999 has not witness the expected national development (Fage and Alabi, 2017). There are cases of corruption, election fraud, budget padding and budget failure. Aside poor governance, lack of confidence in the political system is one of the reasons for kidnapping in Nigeria. In the contemporary Nigerian society, there is wide spread inefficiency of government. There is false federalism, the state governments have strangulated the third tier of government which impedes grassroot participation and development (Bloch, 2016). These resulted in failed social and economic institutions in South-West and other parts of the country. These problems resulted in loss of confidence in the system. Some of the youths therefore, take law into their hands by involving in criminalities.

4. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Theories are concepts, ideas, or propositions that are used in explaining social phenomenon. In the social science parlance, theories are built from research, and vice versa. Theory explains social phenomenon in more transparent and objective ways. To shed more light on the challenges of social security and kidnapping, social control theory by Travis Hirsch was adopted (Abrifor, 2020). According to Travis Hirsch, deviance is caused by lack or presence of the following variables. These are attachment, commitment, involvement and belief. An attachment to the norms and values of a society discourages involvement in deviant behaviour. However, when people are poorly attached or have no attachment to the norms and values of social system, deviant behaviour will arise (Teibowei & Uzobo, 2020). As applicable to kidnappings, kidnappers and their accomplices have poor attachment to social norms and values. They do not feel the impacts of their deadly actions, they inflict pains on victims by making them trek in forest for many days, living without bathing for months, rape and maiming the victims. Another factor raised by Travis Hirsch was commitment. According to Travis, commitment to norms and values of society reduces the chances of indulging in deviant acts. However, people with low commitment to norms and values of a social structure have higher propensity for deviance.

Kidnappers have low commitment to the societal norms and values. This propels them to committing crime like kidnapping and subsequently harming their victims by subjecting them to subhuman acts like flogging, starving and others. In addition to commitment, involvement is another variable mentioned by Travis Hirsch as responsible for deviance (Carrol, 2018). The type of activities which people do and the intensity of involvement determines their perpetration of deviant behaviour. When people are not involved in unproductive activities, there is possibility of involvement in deviant acts. The kidnappers are idle, some of them who engage in economic activities. The activities are not gainful, so, they engage in kidnapping as the last resort. Belief is another factor explained by Travis Hirsch. According to him, those who do not believe in collective conscience have high tendency to involve in deviant behaviour. The kidnappers are the category of people that lack trust in the government and ability of the social system to ameliorate their conditions. Therefore, they engage in kidnapping to make an end meets (Parkinson & Hinshaw, 2021).

4.1.1. Implications of the Social Control Theory for the Challenges of Social Security and Incidents of Kidnapping

Social Control Theory: This theory was by Travis Hirsch. It throws more light on kidnapping by using five distinct variables. These are commitment; the spate of mass kidnapping is a demonstration of low commitment to national values and solidarity. The leaders are indifferent to social security systems. This leads to poor performance and subsequent mistrusts among the members of the public. Among the thrust of the social theory by Travis Hirsch is involvement. This has many ramifications. One aspect of involvement could be explained with respect to the stakeholders in the management of social security system (Orjimo, 2021). These are governments at various levels, the policy-makers, head of parastatals, captains of industries, security agencies and the general members of the public. The level of seriousness towards the success of the social security system is uncalled-for.

The theory also establishes belief. For a society to move forward, common conscience matters and solidarity matters. If kidnappers have strong belief in the social norms and values, they might not involve in the criminality (Bwala & Windsor, 2021). On the other hand, kidnapping is a cult, whose members or groups take oath and hold allegiance to the group. They see kidnapping as an industry with various stakeholders. The stakeholders are the conspirators who are the direct or indirect members of the criminal gang. The economic gains in terms of ransom collected from the victims or their family members attracts other vulnerable members of society to kidnapping. The social security in terms of employment generation, capacity development and others welfare schemes keep youths engaged positively.

5. STATEMENT OF PROBLEM

There was peace and stability in the Nigerian system when the various indices of social security were in place. Among the indices of social security was graduate employment scheme. This engages youth productively. When people are meaningfully engaged in positive live activities, the possibility of engaging in crimes will be limited. Therefore, the social security system was evasive. Teeming unemployed graduates are left to roaming about without functional social security system. This instigated crimes such as kidnapping and armed robbery. The aftermaths of these criminal activities are lost of lives and properties, diversion of scarce financial resources to repair vandalized property and rehabilitation of suspects.

Criminal activities scare away foreign and local investors because, investment insecurity undermines investment success. When these crimes reached the zenith, it instigated calls for self-determination. This worsens the existing fragile security due to consistent confrontation with formal security operatives. In order to ameliorate crimes in the security operations where enhanced through employment and deployment of security operatives to hotspots. As per bank robbery, bank management keyed into electronic surveillance like Closed Circuit Television (CCTC) Cameras, engagement of private security outfits, introduction of mobile and internet banking and modern access control like automatic and bullet prove doors. Despite these, kidnapping and armed trends increased in schools and banks. With consequential loss of lives and property. Lack or inadequate social security has been identified as the root of these criminal activities. Most of the suspects arrested in connection with these crimes attribute their involvement in kidnapping and armed robbery to joblessness. Social security is a mean of engaging idles hands productively. Therefore, this study will assess the provision and challenges of social security as solutions to crimes in South-Western Nigeria.

Table 1: The Beneficiaries Government Enterprise and Empowerment Program

S/N	Categories	Number	Amount (₦)	Percentage (%)
1.	Artisans	200,000	42,424,242,424.242	30.30
2.	Youth Business Venture	260,0000	55,151,515,151.5151	39.39
3.	Farmers and Agricultural Workers	200,000	42,151,515,151.5151	30.30
	Total	660,0000	140,000,000,000.00	100.00

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Social_Investment_Program retrieved

From Table 1, the sum of One Hundred and Forty Million Naira Only, ₦140,000,000 has been so far invested in the Government Empowerment Programme. The Youth Business Venture has a lion share of 39.39%. While artisans and agricultural workers obtained 30.30% of the fund. This shows the commitment of the Federal Government to empower youth. Youth empowerment has been established to discourage kidnapping.

Table 2: Percentage Distribution of Kidnap Attempts and Kidnap Cases Across Ten Most Vulnerable States in Nigeria

S/N	STATE	Kidnap Fatalities	Attempt	Percentage (%)	Number of Kidnap Victims	Percentage (%)
1	Borno	429		33.75	82	12.93
2	Kaduna	209		16.44	117	18.45
3	Katsina	147		11.57	120	18.93
4	Rivers	131		10.31	52	8.20
5	Adamawa	91		7.16	35	5.52
6	Niger	62		4.88	32	5.04

7	Delta	58	4.56	96	15.14
8	Zamfara	58	4.56	29	4.57
9	Taraba	56	4.41	47	7.41
10	Edo	30	2.36	24	3.79
	Total	1,271	100.0	634	100.0

Source: <https://www.com/statistics/250557/number>

From Table 2, the kidnapping incidences from the states with highest occurrences. The weak response to military actions leads to spill-over to South-Western states. Borno State has the highest number of kidnapping attempt fatalities. Borno State is one of the states that is worst hit by kidnapping in Northern Nigeria. From 2011 to 2020 it recorded 429 fatalities, this represents 33.75% of the Followed by Kaduna State with 209 cases of kidnapping. Kaduna State has the 117 victims and Katsina State records 18.93% of the total victims of kidnapping for the period under review. On the aggregate, 1,271 fatalities were recorded while 634 persons were held hostage. The increasing trends of kidnapping justify the need to look inward and deplore effective ways of checkmating kidnapping aside normal physical security like use of security forces. This report is in tandem with newspaper reports on kidnapping in Borno State and other listed states in the table.

Table 3: Kidnap for Ransom Payment 2011 to March, 2021

S/N	Year	Ransom Paid in Naira (#)	Percentage (%)
1	2011	85,000,000=00	3.97
2	2012	310,000,000=00	14.48
3	2013	100,000,000=00	4.67
4	2014	7,000,000=00	0.33
5	2015	105,200, 000=00	4.11
6	2016	465,990,000=00	0.02
7	2017	582,005,000=00	27.18
8	2018	79,750,000=00	0.04
9	2019	373,035,000=00	17.42
10	2020	32,950,000=00	1.54
	Total	2,140,930,000=00	100.00

Source: <https://constellis-production> retrieved 10 July 2021

From Table 3, the sum of #2,140,000,000.00, was paid as ransom. In the year 2017, the highest ransom of # 582,005,000.00 was paid. This represents 27.18% of the total amount paid between 2011 to 2020. The payment of ransom to kidnapers is one of the challenges of the measures put in place to end kidnapping. With effective social security system, the vulnerable people will be empowered. This discourages kidnapping, the ransom payment is an indication that the concern authority has lost grip of the national security. The ransom received by the kidnapers in the specified period exceeds a year budget for a state in the Northern Nigeria. This calls for drastic actions to end kidnapping across various countries.



Figure 1: Chibok Secondary School Girls who escaped from Boko Haram Militants in 2014

Source: <https://abcnews.go.com/International/>

From Figure 2, on the night of April 14–15, 2014, 276 female students were kidnapped by the suspected Boko Haram Terrorist Group from the Government Girls Secondary School in Chibok, Borno State. The picture above showed the escapees from the Boko Haram captivity. Kidnapping has serious implications for educational stability. The exploration of social security option will engage the kidnapers positively to discourage kidnapping as noted by Travis Hirshi.



Figure 2: Girls who were kidnapped from a boarding school in Zamfara walked in line after regaining freedom from on March 2, 2021, Afolabi (2021)

Source: <https://www.cfr.org/blog/mass-kidnapping-nigeria-captures> retrieved, 20 August 2021

Mass kidnaping in Nigeria captures international attention-Aagin Figure 1 shows the pictures of the students released by their abductors. On the 26 February 2021, 279 students of Government Girls Secondary School, Jangebe, Zamfara State, were kidnapped and released four days later (Cambell, 2021). There are reports of payment of

ransom to seek their release. This avalanches of kidnapping and inability of physical security control like army, police and other security forces. The application of alternative method like social security by addressing the various challenges mitigating against the social security system.

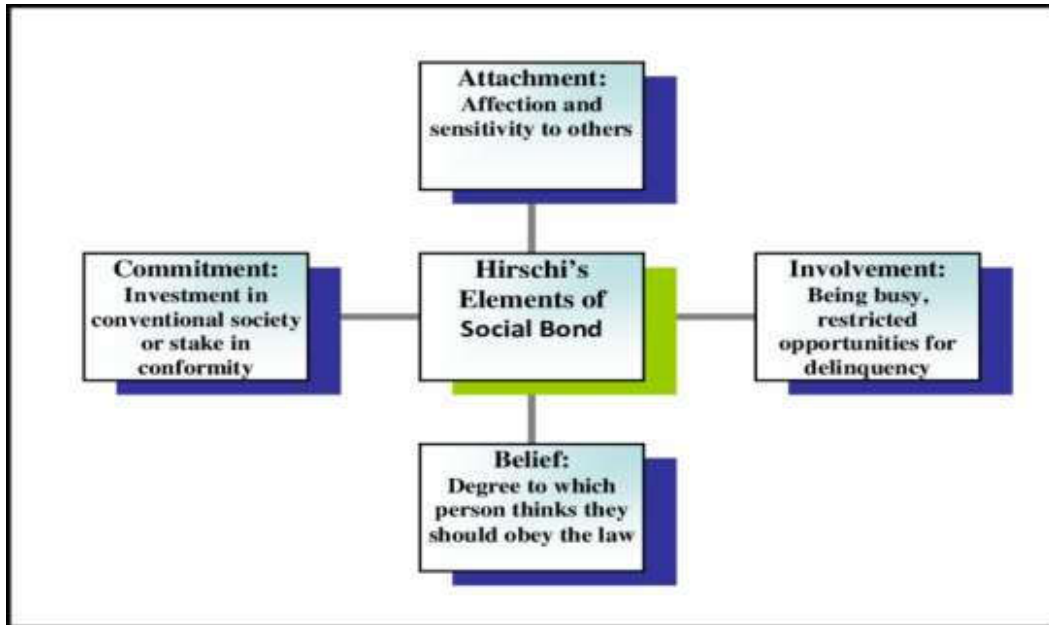


Figure 3: Hirsch's Social Bond

Source: Google.com/search?q=diagram+of+socail+control Retrieved 10 May 2021

From Figure 3, the four variables of social control theory as explained by Travis Hirschi were depicted. The attachment explains the level of social cohesion which discourages deviance. Weak attachment is synonymous to insensitivity to others. The kidnappers possess weak attachment to the social structure. Attachment is the level of investment in the social structure, kidnappers have little or no commitment in the social structure. They kill, destroy and rape because of low investment in the social system. At the same time, kidnappers' idleness enable them to commit deviance. Finally, kidnappers have poor belief in norms and values of social structure. This warranted their illegal activities.

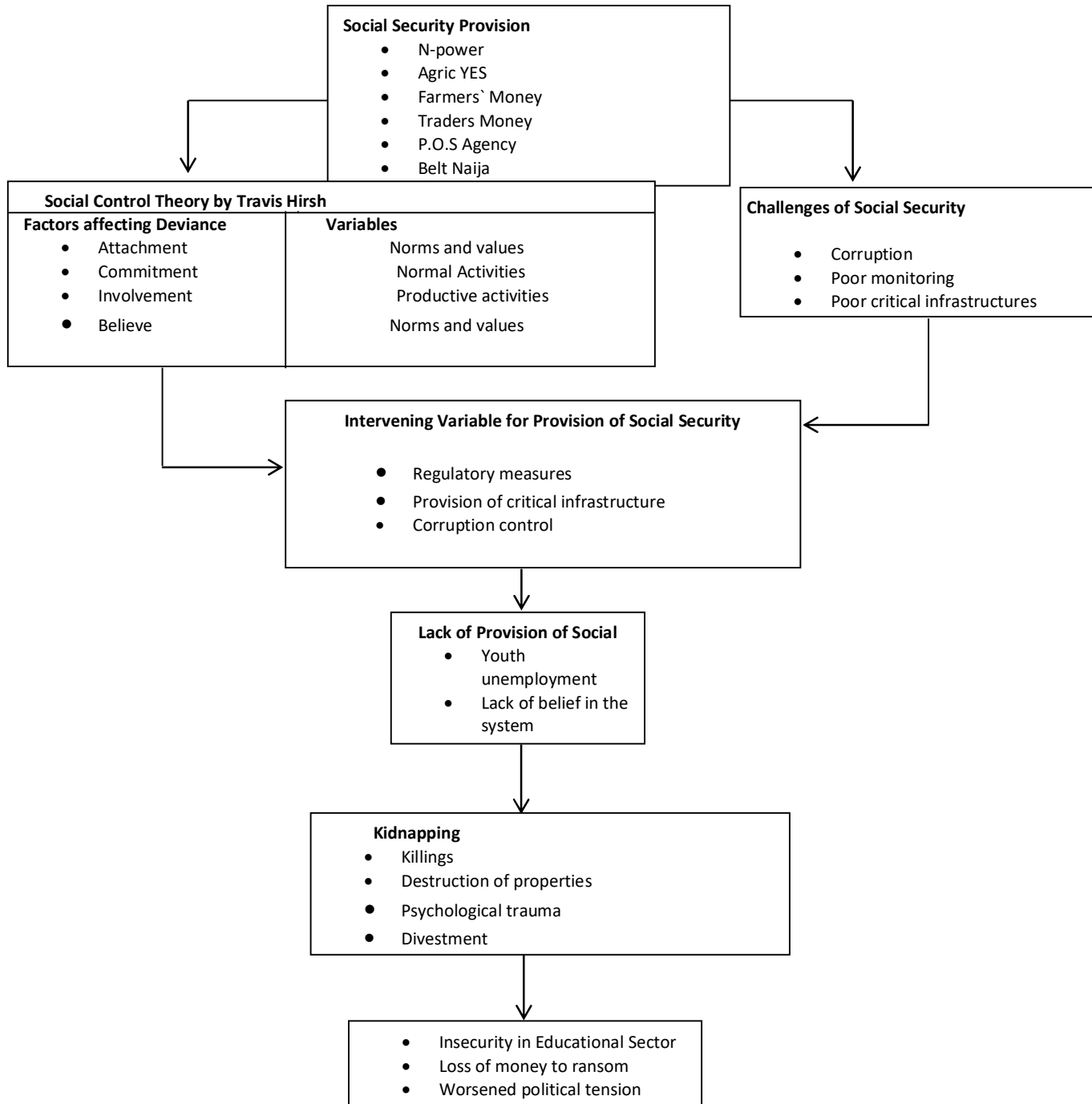


Figure 4: Conceptual framework
Source: Erunke (2021)

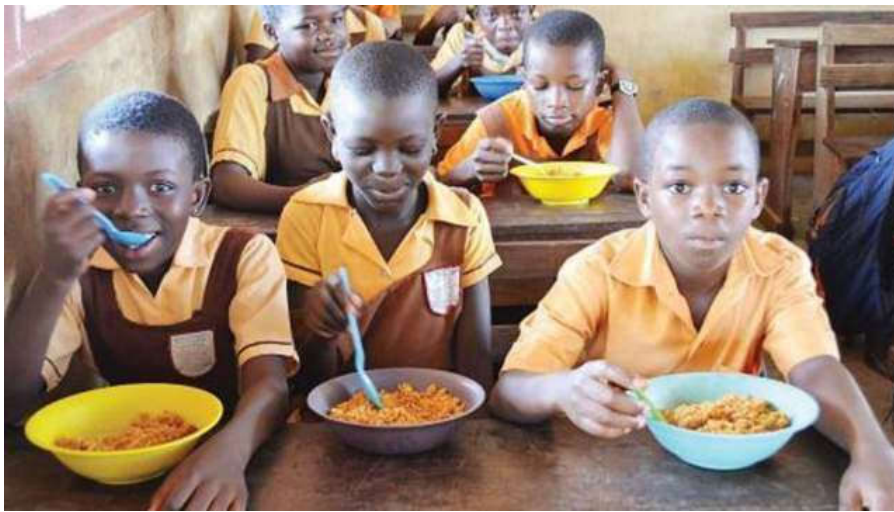


Figure 5: A Cross-section of Primary School Pupils benefiting from National Home-Grown School Feeding Scheme
Source: <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2021/05/nhgsfp-were-feeding-10m> retrieved 16 July 2021

From Figure 5, a cross-section of school children benefiting from the Nigerian Home-Grown School Feeding Programme. The programme aims to achieve effective feeding of school children in order to attract enrolment and commitment. It is a capacity building for the vulnerable in Nigerian society.



Figure 6: Beneficiaries of M-power Scheme, organised by Federal Government of Nigeria
Source: <https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/top-news/428358-nigeria-launches-> Retrieved 29 May 2021

From Figure 6, a cross section of beneficiaries of Federal Government M-power Scheme for unemployed graduates. The scheme among others things bridge the skill gaps for graduates. It covers different areas of human endeavour such as M-power Security, M-power Teaching, M-power Traffic, M-power Health and M-power Engineering. Is part of social security scheme to empower unemployed youths productively.

6. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

As noted by Riddell and Tisdall (2021), methodology are the various means whereby a researchers achieve the objectives of the study. In this study, content analysis of peer reviewed journals, edited textbooks and credible online sources were adopted. Data in this study were sourced secondarily and descriptive analysis. Systematic reviews of the dependent and independent variables were explored. Meanings of kidnappings were explored through texts, effects of kidnapping, and social security. The implications of kidnapping on economy, politics, social and other aspects of human endeavours were explored. This led to the theoretical reviews on social security and kidnapping. This led to the theoretical reviews on social security and kidnapping. Kidnapping has negative implications on economy, politics, social and other aspects of human endeavours. Also, the inadequate literature on kidnapping and social security warranted the study.

7. DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

From the frequency distribution results kidnapping rate is increasing in Nigeria and other parts of the globe. The roots of kidnapping have practical and theoretical underpinnings. From figure 1, in 2014, mass kidnapping that witnessed international attention occurred. Although some of the kidnapped students luckily escaped form kidnappers. The abduction of girls more than 200 girls form Jangebe Secondary School in Zamfara State is another episode of mass kidnapping in schools. There are series of mass kidnapping in Nigeria that calls for concern. From Table 1, in 2011 the global number of kidnapping was 5,554, in Nigeria, in the same year # 85,000,000=00 was paid as ransom to kidnappers. This was 3.37% of the ransom paid by government or families of kidnappers. From Table 1, in 2012, about 1,283 kidnap cases were recorded, which was 1.79% of the years under review.

The appreciable reduction in kidnap rate might result from various security measure put in place to checkmate kidnapping. However, #310,000,000=00 was paid as ransom to kidnapers in Nigeria. This might be responsible for low rate of kidnapping in Nigeria in 2012. However, effective social security measure should have been put in place to engage youths positively. This affirmation is in line with study conducted by Abosisade and Ogunmefun (2017). However, from Table 3, in the subsequent year, the number of kidnapping incidences increased to 3, 137 persons. The kidnappers might have lavished the ransom collected in 2012 or other sets of unemployed youths joined the kidnap syndicates. This view is aligned with the study carried out by Eke (2019). From table 3, in Nigeria, #100,000=00 was paid as ransom to kidnappers. There was a sharp reduction in the ransom compared to what was collected by ransom in the preceding year. This short-term impact of security measures manifested here. From table 1, in 2014, there was an unprecedented upward in kidnapping globally, 9,461 persons were abducted.

Meanwhile, there was an astronomical increase in the ransom paid to kidnappers in 2014. From Table 3, #7, 000, 00=00 was paid to kidnappers. From Table 3, the payment of ransom in 2013 has not been brought under control. This shows poor adoption of information communication technology (ICT) in tracking kidnappers despite assiduous commitment to National Identity Number (NIN), and Subscriber Identity Mode (SIM) link. Poor technology has been identified as a major cause of insecurity in Nigeria. This is in tandem with the research conducted by Lawrence, Saxome and Gard (2021). On the aggregate, from Table 1, 71,747 persons were kidnapped globally between 2010 and 2020. However, from Table 3, the sun of # 2,140,930,000=00 was paid to kidnappers as ransom between 2011 and 2021. From Table 2, the ten state with highest number of fatalities had 1,271 fatalities. As established by Adekunle (2018) and supported by Akanji (2018) and Aborisode and Ogunmefun (2017), continuous payment of ransom to kidnappers is a serious threat to the war against kidnapping.

8. RESEARCH IMPLICATIONS

The study opens windows on the roles of social security in curbing increasing kidnapping waves. It is based on theoretical method. It analysed secondary data on social security and kidnapping. The produced data could be

subjected to analysis and improvement by other researchers in social and management sciences. The research in social security will now find its footing in Nigeria and other parts of Africa. This the dynamics of social security, as it is popular assumed to the retirement benefits for retired and other senior citizens. There are a number of variables in social security which the basis of social security as they are used to checkmate crimes like kidnapping and armed robbery. The study also touches human capacity as part of entrepreneurship development scheme to address kidnapping in all ramification.

9. CONTRIBUTION TO THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY AND FUTURE RESEARCH

The study uses secondary data with various descriptive analyses on social security and kidnapping. It stands as scientific basis to fill knowledge gaps in the social security and violence crime control. It improves the number of literatures on social and security and kidnapping. The also improves the knowledge of individuals, security agencies, government at various levels, non-governmental organisations on social security as an avenue to improving youth capacity building for crime control.

10. CONCLUSION

This study deals with kidnapping, forms of kidnapping types of kidnapping, social security and challenges in curbing kidnapping and global trends in kidnapping. From the findings, kidnapping is global crime, almost every society experience one form of kidnapping or the other. The ugly trends of kidnapping for ransom is assuming unimaginable proportion. There is an urgent need to curb kidnapping via effective social security schemes. Youth empowerment discourages kidnapping. It is established that youths have the lion share in kidnapping suspects. The ransom payment is an indication that the concerned authority has lost grip of the national security. The ransom is an attraction or bait to other idle hands in society to join kidnapping. Therefore, as the concerned authority is working hard to end kidnapping through military and other security apparatus. The economic environment should be conducive enough to dissuade youths from joining the criminal gang. Through rigorous support for social security system. This paper will be useful to individuals, security agencies, and government at various levels, non-governmental organizations and researchers in social sciences. By exploring the methodological, theoretical and analytical shortcomings of the study.

11. ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The authors acknowledge the commendable work of scholars whose publications were cited in this study. The crime reporters in the dailies such as the Punch, Guardian and Vanguard. The staff member of Chrisland University Library, University of Lagos Library, Lagos State Library Board, Badagry Division and other staff for their immense contributions. The efforts of lecturers in the Departments of Sociology and Criminology and Security Studies Federal University Oye-Ekiti for their objective contribution towards this work. The contributions of Professor Fazoranti Olayiwola of the Department of Sociology Federal University, Oye-Ekiti and Doctor Abrifor Chiedu of the Department of Criminology and Security Studies, Federal University, Oye-Ekiti for their valuable mentorship and supervision.

References

- Aborisade, R.M., & Ogunmefun, F.M. (2017). The Business of Kidnapping for Ransom. *Lapai Journal of Sociology* 7(1), 182–192.
- Abrifor, C.A. (2020). Conceptual Clarifications on Deviance, Crime and Social Control. *In Fundamentals of Contemporary Sociology*. Pag. (239–259) (Eds) Fasonranti Olayiwolo and Omotosho Babatunde. Petoa Educational Publishers, Ado-Ekiti, Nigeria

- Adekunle, A. (2018). *111 Yobe Schoolgirls not accounted for- Yobe Police Boss* Vanguard Media Limited, Nigeria. Vanguard Newspaper. Retrieved 4 March 2018.
- Akanji, O.O. (2015). Security crisis in Nigeria: Boko Haram insurgency and the prospects of peace *Conflict Studies Quarterly* [Special Issue], 58–73.
- Akpan, N. S. (2010). Kidnapping in Nigeria's` Niger Delta: An Exploratory Study. *Journal of Social Sciences*, 24(1): 33–42.
- Alade, O.A., Longe, Oluwatosin, T., James, O., Awoseni, A. (2020). Perceived Effects of N-power Scheme on Poverty Reduction among Graduate Youths in Kwara State, Nigeria. *Nigerian Journal of Rural Sociology*, 20(10), 77–82
- Badru, A. (2021). *Makinde`s Integrated Approach to Agriculture: Start Them Early Project (STEP): Raises Alarm on Aging Farmers*. The Punch Saturday 29 May 2021. Available at: <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2021s/05/makindes-integrated-approach-to-governance/>
- Bazza, M.B. (2019). The Family and the War Against Insurgency and Terrorism in the North East. 1(1),
- Banafshe, M. (2021). Book Review: The Human Right to Dignified Future in International Context-Legal and Philosophical Perspective ,91–92
- Blankenship, J. (2015). *A Social Security Dummies Manual: Your Guide to Retirement Dependents and Family Benefits*. New York. Create Space Independent Publication
- Bloch, F. (2016). *Social Security Law and Practice.: A Hand Book of Client Clinical Course*. West Academic Publishing.
- Bwala, J., & Windsor, W. (2021). More Chibok Girls has escaped from Boko Haram in 7 years Later.
- Carrol, D. (2018). *Social Security Books. 9 Essentials that Everyone Should Know*. CreateSpace Independent Publication.
- Catlin Group (2012). *Kidnap and Ransom today*. A report by Catlin Group Limited. London, UK.
- Chinwokwu, E.C. (2017). Managing police personnel for effective crime control in Nigeria. In the national Journal of Police Science and Management 19(1): 11–22.
- Dugard, J. L. (2011). *A Stolen Life: A Memoir*. Simon and Schuster, New York.
- Eke, C.C. (2019). Militancy and Violence as Catalyst to Kidnapping in Nigeria. *International Journal of Police Science and Management*, 21(1), 17–35
- Fage, K. S. & Alabi, D. O. (2017). *Nigerian government and politics*. Abuja: Basfa Global Concept Ltd.
- Fasoranti, O.O. (2013). An Appraisal of the Strategies of Rural Poverty Alleviation in Nigeria: Implications for Rural Development. *Abstract for Economic, Finance on Management Outlook*, 1(46)
- Fasoranti, O.O. (2020). The Meaning, Origin and Status of Sociology. In *Fundamentals of Contemporary Sociology*. Pg.1-29 ,(Eds), Fasoranti Olayiwola and Babatunde Omotosho. Petoa Educational Publishers, Ado-Ekiti, Nigeria
- Glatt, J. (2018). *The Lost Girls: The True Story of the Cleveland*
- Grisham, J. (2011). *The Abduction*. Theodore Books, United State
- Habila, H., (2016). *The Chibok Girls: The Boko Haram Kidnappings and Islamist Militancy in Nigeria*. Columbia Global Reports.
- Hutchinson, D. (2016). *Butterfly Garden; With Audio Recording*, London, Thomas and Merce
- Ibrahim, B., & Mukhar, J.I. (2017). An Analysis of the Causes and Consequences of Kidnapping in Nigeria. *African Research Review*, 11(4), N0; 48, 134–143
- Knight, M., & Burford, M. (2014). *Finding Me: A Decade of Darkness, a Life Reclaimed.*, New York, Hachette Books.
- Kotiikaff, L. Solman, P., & Moeller, P. (2015). *Get What's Yours: The Secret to Social Security*. Simon & Schuster, New York.

- Landis, A. (2018). *Social Security. The Inside Story, 2018 Silver Anniversary Edition*. Create Space Independent Publishing.
- Lawrence N., Saxone A, Ann, G., & Gordi, U. (2021). How Gunmen Killed eight security operatives in Rivers State, *The Guardian*, pg. 34–37,
- Makinde, W. A. (2018). Re-assessing effects of political instability on foreign investment in Nigeria: An empirical survey. *Journal of Public Administration, Finance and Law*, 47(13): 35–52.
- Makuya, V., & Salum, H. (2021). Retirement Benefits and Economic Wellbeing. *African Social Science and Humanities Journal*. 2(2), 85–103.
- Mill, A. (2016). *Social Security from Medicare to Special Benefits and Essential Primer on Government Retirement Aid*. Adams Media
- Morgan, M. (2020). *Nigeria Kidnapping Problem: The Economics of the Kidnap Industry in Nigeria*.
- Mose, R. (2020). *kidnapped by a client: The Incredible True Story of an Attorney Fight Justice*. New York. Skyhorse.
- Muzan, A.A. (2014). Insurgency in Nigeria: addressing the causes as part of the solution. *African Human Rights Journal*, 4: 217–243.
- Newa, E. O., Kathungu, B., & Wagarga, C. (2021). Factors Influencing Uptake of Career Counselling Service and University Students in Nairobi, City County, Kenya. *African Social Science and Humanities Journal*, 2(1), 47-61
- Nnam, U. (2013). Kidnapping and Kidnappers in the South Eastern States of Nigeria: A Sociological Analysis of Selected Inmates in Abakaliki and Umuahia Prisons. A Postgraduate Seminar Presented to the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki, Ebonyi State, Nigeria.
- Nwagwu, E. J. (2014). Unemployment and poverty in Nigeria: a link to national insecurity. *Global Journal of Politics and Law Research* 2(1): 19–35.
- Obarisiagbon, E., & Aderinto, A. (2018). Kidnapping and the challenges confronting the administration of criminal justice in selected states of Nigeria. *African Journal of Criminology and Justice Studies*, 11(1): 14–54.
- Ogunbameru, O. A. (2020). *Introduction to Sociological Theory*. In *Fundamentals of Contemporary Sociology*. (Eds) Fasonrant Olawiwola and Omotosho Babatunde (Pg.(31–52), Page Petoa Educational Publishers, Ado-Ekiti, Nigeria
- Ojo, S. S., Ayesoro, S. A., & Ojile, O. A. (2020). Impact of Thrift and Loan Associations in Reducing Poverty among Farmers in Lafia Local Government Area of Nasarawa State. 1-- 34
- Okeke, R. C., & Idoh, E. C. (2020). Contemporary Globalization, the Social Sciences and Challenges of Scholarship in the Emerging World Regions. *African Social and Science and Humanities Journal*. 1(1), 13-18.
- Okoro, J. P., Derbile, E. K., & Angarga, L. (2020). The Incidence of Crime and Importance of Crime Management in the Municipal of Upper West Region, Ghana. *African Social Science and Humanities Journal*. 1(1), 52 –70
- Omotosho, B. J. (2017). Employment, Motherhood and Well-beings: A Discourse on the Topic Within Public Organisations in Southwest Nigeria. *Multidisciplinary Journal of Gender Studies*, 6(1), 1263–1287.
- Onah, R.C., & Olise, C. (2020). National Investment Programme and Sustainable Poverty in Nigeria. Challenges and Perspectives. *IOSR. Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences*, 24(100), 20–31
- Onyeashie, J, Onyeachichies, N., & Obi, V.I. (2019). Corruption: A Bequest in the Modern African Novel. *Veritas Journal of Humanities*, 1(1), 125---140.
- Page, M.T., & Okeke, C. (2019). *Stolen Dreams: How Corruption Negates Government Assistance to Nigeria Small Business*. Carnage Endowment for International Peace, New York
- Parkinson, J., & Hinshaw, D. (2021). *Bring Back Our Girls: The Astonishing Survival and Rescue of Nigeria's Missing Schoolgirls*. Swift Press.
- Piper, M. (2017). *Social Security Made Simple: Social Security Retirement and Benefits*. Simple Subject LLC.
- Popoola, O. O. (2016). National Directorate of Employment (NDE) and Rural Empowerment in Oyo State. *International Journal of Business and Social Science*, 7(8), 164–170



- Riddel, S., & Tisdall, E. M. (2021). Transform's Child Rights Dilemma Challenge of Implementation. *Journal of Social Welfare and Family Law*, 28(2), 23–45.
- Social Security Administration, (2021). *Social Security Hand Book 2021*: New York, Barnes Press.
- Teibowei, J. B., & Uzobo, E. (2020). Determinants of Social Bonding among Undergraduates Students in a Nigerian University. *Journal of Studies in the Social Sciences*, 1(1), 45–62
- Uma, K. E., & Ikpe, M. (2016). Boko haram insurgency: Consequences for foreign technology flows in Nigeria. *International Journal of Research in Applied, Natural and Social Sciences*, 4(2), 49–58.
- Verchueren, H. (2020). The Complex Social Security, Provision of the Brexit Withdrawal agreement to be Implemented for Decades. *Journal of Social Welfare and Family Law*, 23(1), 17–23.

