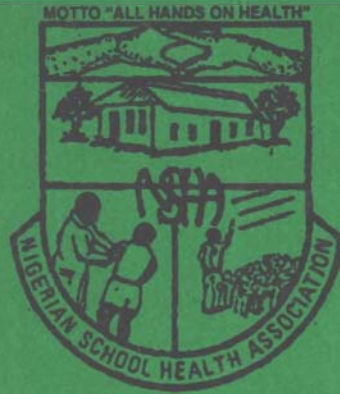


ISSN 0974 3474



**NIGERIAN
SCHOOL
HEALTH
JOURNAL**

VOLUME 27, NUMBER 1, 2015

CONTENTS

<i>Editorial</i>	vii
1. Influence of Religion, Peer, Home, Drug Use and School Factors on Violent Behavior among Secondary School Adolescents in Osun State <i>R.A. Animashaun</i> <i>Dept of Guardian and Counselling, University of Ibadan</i>	1
2. Perception of Violence as a Determinant of Health Status of Women in Lagos State <i>Oladipupo-Okorie, B.O.</i> <i>Department of Physical and Health Education, Lagos State University, Ojo.</i>	18
3. Awareness of Health Consequences of School Violence among Secondary School Students in Owerri West Local Government Area of Imo State <i>Ibhafidon, A, Onuzulike, N.M and Ewuzie, M.A</i> <i>Department of Physical and Health Education, Alvan Ikoku Federal College of Education, Owerri Imo State</i>	28
4. Communal Conflicts in Contemporary Nigerian Society: Implications on Health Education <i>David Onojeharho</i> <i>Department of Environmental Health, College of Health Technology, Ofuoma-Ughelli, Delta State</i>	36
5. Investigations into Causes of Domestic Violence in Itoko Community in Abeokuta south LGA of Ogun State <i>Adeogun A.O. and MO Bello</i> <i>Department of Human Kinetics and Health Education, Tai Solarin University of Education, Ogun State</i>	48
6. Influence of Violence on Maternal Morbidity and Mortality in Ibadan , Oyo State, Nigeria <i>Akinwusi A.T. and Ibrahim D.O.</i> <i>Department of Human Kinetics and Health Education, University of Ibadan, Nigeria</i>	57

7. Views of Mothers Working in Tertiary Institutions in Abeokuta Metropolis on Violence against Women
Edegbai Benjamin and Olanipekun James Bamidele
Physical and Health Education Department, Federal College of Education, Abeokuta 64
8. Domestic Violence in Nigeria: Implications on Health
Bello, O.H.N
Physical and Health Education Department, Tai-Solarin College of Education, Omu-Ijebu, Ogun State, Nigeria 71
9. Parenting and Domestic Violence in Nigeria: Implication for Child Thriving
Jonathan B.N. and Obiechina G.O.
Department of Human Kinetics and Health Education, University of Port-Harcourt, Choba 79
10. Assessment of Health Implication of Violence Among Secondary School Students in Ibadan North Local Government Area of Oyo State, Nigeria
Babatunde E.O.
Institute of Education, University of Ibadan, Nigeria. 90
11. Violence in the School System: Health Implications and Way Forward
Ekpo, E. S., Neebee F. and Edidem E. U.
Department of Physical and Health Education, University of Uyo, Nigeria 100
12. Trafficking of Women and Children for Sexual and Labour Exploitation in Nigeria: The Health Implications
Hassan A.I. and A.A. Sanusi***
**Department of Physical and Health Bayero University, Kano*
***Department of Physical and Health Education, University of Maiduguri* 109
13. X-Raying Poverty as a Potent Factor of the Prevalence of Violence and Terrorism in Nigeria
Famuyiwa S.A. and Ogunsola I.O.
Department of Human Kinetics and Health Education, University Of Ibadan. 122
14. Family Factors as Predictors of Violent Behaviour among In-School Adolescents in Ibadan North Local Government Area of Oyo State, Nigeria
Odelola J.O.
Department of Human Kinetics and Health Education, University of Ibadan, 135

15. Forms and Prevalence of Sexual Violence among Female Undergraduates in Nigeria: Breaking the Culture of Silence in Reporting Sexual Abuse
Okeke S.R.
Department of Human Kinetics and Health Education, University of Ibadan, 144
16. Relationship Between Aggressive Behaviour and Reading Achievement among Students with Reading Disabilities in Ibadan, Oyo State
Lazarus U. Kelechi
Department of Special Education, University of Ibadan, Nigeria 155
17. Determinants of Ineffective Solid Waste Management in Gwagwalada Satellite Town, Abuja
Oyerinde O. O., Adeniran J.A. And Omoteso A.M.
Department of Human Kinetics and Health Education, University of Ilorin 167
18. Sexual Harassment against Female Students in Higher Institutions in Nigeria: Consequences and Way Forward
Bruce-Agbogidi E.T. and Bruce-Agbogidi D.T.**
**Depart. of Educational Psychology, Guidance and Counselling;*
University of Port-Harcourt
***Depart. of Teacher Education/Health Education,*
Niger Delta University, Wilberforce Island 177

X-RAYING POVERTY AS A POTENT FACTOR OF THE PREVALENCE OF VIOLENCE AND TERRORISM IN NIGERIA

Famuyiwa S.A. and Ogunsola I.O.

Department of Human Kinetics and Health Education, University Of Ibadan

Abstract

Nigeria has the potentials that could make any nation great. However, the high rate of poverty is worrisome, as it leads to social instability and violence in the forms of militancy and terrorism in various parts of the country. Sometimes, these forms of crime are associated with religion, ethnicity and/or politics. Nigeria has one of the world's highest economic growth rates, averaging 7.4%; yet this is not felt by the greater populace, as it does not translate to the food they eat, or affects their kind of lifestyle or meets their basic daily needs. The World Bank's economic report of 2014 stated that the level of poverty in Nigeria may have been underestimated, as it was found to be as high as 33%, despite the claim that the nation is Africa's biggest economy. Hunger itself, which is often a by-product of poverty, is a state of hopelessness and desperation. Desperation and frustration lead to anger and wonton destruction of lives and property. Poverty thus leads to different crimes, such as destruction of lives and properties, kidnapping, and militancy, to mention a few. This paper therefore x-rays the link between poverty and insecurity in the country, and concluded, among others, that government should take urgent step in reducing the rate of poverty through providing social amenities and employment opportunities for the populace. It was also recommended that corruption should be given zero-tolerance and that government officials should be made accountable to the people.

Keywords: Poverty, violence, insurgences, security and terrorism

Introduction

Nigeria by all indications is facing a serious security challenge; the country is now home to terrorists and insurgents with their dastardly incessant killings, destruction and abduction. According to Human Rights Watch, cited by Adetumbi (2014), more than 700 people were killed in 40 separate attacks by the Boko Haram insurgents in 2014 alone. These are just a few incidents of the growing spate of

killings and wanton destruction in many parts of Nigeria as a result of bombing, mass murder, abduction, kidnapping and other crimes against humanity, which is on the increase in the country. News of bomb explosions with indiscriminate killing by unknown gunmen is daily making headlines in both domestic and international media. Security, therefore, seems to have virtually collapsed as crimes become permanent features of daily life in Nigeria, while the state seems to 'watch with a sense of helplessness, fear, foreboding and paralysis' (Onanuga, 2013 and Jibrin, 2014). A thorough analysis of this situation shows that it is orchestrated mainly by poverty. That is, without adequate attention to poverty as the cause, violence, as experienced in different forms, such as terrorism and theft, would continue unabated.

Poverty and Violence

Poverty is the state or condition of having little or no money, goods, or means of support. It is a state or condition of being poor; the lack of minimum food and shelter necessary for maintaining life. In order to survive, human beings need basic resources such as clean water, sound education, good health, clothing and shelter. Within the society there is a wide range of poor people having less income, which makes the poor inferior to the rich. Poverty is the state for the majority of the world's people and nations. According to the World Bank (2008), most of humanity live on just a few dollars a day. Whether living in the wealthiest or poorest nations of the world, the most visible indicator is the high level of inequality. Poor people are noticed to have less access to health, education and other services, problem of hunger, malnutrition and diseases afflict the poor in the society, they are typically marginalized from society and have little representation or voice in public and political debates, making it even harder to escape poverty. The question to ask therefore is: why do we have the poor? Is it enough to blame them for their predicament? Are they lazy, or did they decide to be poor? Is it the government that must be blamed for their situation? Has the government pursued policies that actually harmed successful development? Such causes of poverty and inequality are no doubt real.

Joshua (2013), Draman (2003) and Bjorn (2002) tried to categorise poverty into: absolute, relative, administrative, consensual and contextual poverty. Absolute poverty is a state of deprivation in which people lack access to basic needs which include food, safe water, sanitation, health, shelter, education, and information due to meagre income. Relative poverty is viewing poverty from a comparative point of view, in which it is not seen as absolute but relative. Imagine

a hypothetical world of three countries. A is poor, B is poorer, while C is the poorest based on some established standards. Administrative poverty, according to him, includes all those who are eligible for state welfare because they are either temporarily unemployed and/or unable to earn an income. The fourth category of poverty is what he called consensual. This type depends on the perceptions of what the public deems to be below basic sustenance. The last typology which is contextual is based on the comparison of poverty to the socio-cultural and economic levels of a particular society. The importance of this definition is seen in the sense that it helps to contrast the poor and non-poor in a given society. The World Bank views poverty phenomenon as multidimensional and a situation in which people are unable to fulfil their basic human needs as well as lack of control over resources, lack education and skills, poor health, malnutrition, lack of shelter, poor access to water and sanitation, vulnerability to shocks, violence and crime and lack of political freedom and voice.

Around the world, in rich or poor nations, poverty has always been present. In most nations, inequality exists between the rich and the poor; and the gap between the rich and the poor is quite wide and often widening. The causes are, however, numerous, including a lack of individual responsibility, bad government policy and exploitation of the masses by people in power. It is therefore not out of place that many feel that high levels of inequality will affect social cohesion and lead to such problems as increasing crime and violence.

Poverty in all its manifestations and magnifications is antithetical to development. Inequality, poverty and unemployment have been recognized as major blemishes to developing economies ever since economists began to take interest in the Third World (Killick, 1981). Therefore, we cannot meaningfully talk about development without addressing poverty.

Poverty is a major problem against development in Nigeria. As in most developing countries, this has been the remote cause of almost all the social ills in the country. In spite of her abundant human and material resources, Nigeria has been classified as one of the poorest countries with high suffering indices (Chika, 2004). The World Bank places Nigeria among the world's five 'extremely poor' countries of the world. Countries also rated as extremely poor are India, China, Bangladesh, DR Congo, Indonesia, Pakistan, Tanzania, Ethiopia and Kenya. Unemployment, corruption, non-diversification of the economy, income inequality, laziness, and a poor education system can be considered some of the key factors contributing to poverty in Nigeria (Ucha 2010). In Nigeria, however, the ripple effects of poverty have led to social breakdown of law and order as

witnessed in the form of terrorism, kidnapping, stealing, raping, and corruption, to mention a few.

Violence, on the other hand, exists as a result of many factors and could be defined in many ways. According to the World Health Organisation (WHO) it is the intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community that either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, mal-development or deprivation. Simply put violence is a behaviour involving physical force intended to hurt, damage, or kill someone or something. It may cause physical pain to those who experience it directly, as well as emotional distress to those who either experience or witness it. Individuals, families, schools, workplaces, communities, society, and the environment are all harmed by violence. Violence could be seen to exist in different forms:

1. **Self-directed violence:** This includes suicidal behaviour and self-harm.
2. **Interpersonal violence:** including violence inflicted against one individual by another, or by a small group of individuals, and can be categorised as:
 - a. *Family and intimate partner violence;* involving violence among family members, and intimate partners, including child abuse and abuse of the elderly. This often takes place in the home.
 - b. *Community violence;* involving violence between people who are not related, and who may or may not know each other (acquaintances and strangers). It generally takes place outside the home in public places.
 - c. *Collective violence:* This includes violence inflicted by large groups such as states, organized political groups, militia groups or terrorist organizations.

Relationship between Poverty and Violence

Poverty is a denial of choices and opportunities, a violation of human dignity. It means lack of basic capacity to participate effectively in society. It means not having enough to feed and clothe a family, not having a school or clinic to go; not having a land on which to grow one's food or a job to earn one's living, not having access to credit. It means insecurity, powerlessness and exclusion of individuals, households and communities. It means susceptibility to violence, and it often implies living on marginal or fragile environments, without access to clean water or sanitation (Joshua 2012). Poverty and crime have a very 'intimate' relationship that has been described by experts from all fields, from sociologists to economists.

The United Nations and the World Bank both rank crime high on the list of obstacles to a country's development. This means that governments trying to deal with poverty often also have to face the issue of crime as they try to develop their country's economy and society, (Ward, 2013). The whole world also blames crime and corruption for putting at risk Africa's chances of development. Nowadays, the same goes for Latin America. Crime has the capacity to generate vicious cycles causing unemployment, economic downturns and instability. Poverty and crime, when combined, leave people with two choices: either to take part in criminal activities or try to find legal resolution; but this last choice is hindered by quite limited sources of income, where there is any available at all.

Starting from the 1970s, studies in the US pointed more and more at the link between unemployment, poverty and crime. After that, other connections with income level, time spent at school, quality of neighbourhood and education were revealed as well. New research from the UK even indicated that economic cycles may affect variations in property and violent crimes. But most importantly, what reveals the unmistakable connection between poverty and crime is that they are both geographically concentrated in a strikingly consistent way. In other words, where you find poverty (minority neighbourhoods) is also exactly where you find crime. Of course this does not include 'softer' crimes, such as corruption, which causes massive damage to people's lives but in a more indirect type of violence. It therefore appears that, in fact, poverty itself is more tied to violence, criminal damage and also drug use.

Blau and Blau (1982) found that income inequality has a sizeable and statistically significant relationship with violent crime using data from 125 US metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs). They argued that inequality helps explain the relationship between poverty and crime, accounts for the higher rates of crime in the US South, and drives much of the observed relationship between racial composition and crime rates. More recently, using data from 829 urban counties in the USA, Kelly (2000) found that income inequality is correlated with violent crime but not with property crime. Consistent with an economic explanation for criminal behaviour, increases in deterrent measures, such as the size of the police force, have been shown to significantly reduce crime.

The Nigeria Experience as a case in review

One of the nagging problems confronting the Nigerian society and the world these days is the problem of youth violence. According to UNICEF (2007), there are an estimated 300,000 violence cases perpetrated by adolescents under the age of 20

years engaged in more than 33 conflicts around the world. In 2002, more than 877,700 young people in the United States, at ages 10 to 24, were injured from youth violence; over 5,000 youths were murdered, over 80% of these were killed from armed violence, and were males; approximately 1 in 13 months, they required hospitalizations (Bukoye, Adedoye, Usman and Oyinloye, 2012).

Between 2005 and 2010, the police recorded some 1.4 million violent crimes in Nigeria. The predisposing factors included politics, religion, cult activities, land disputes, and Boko Haram insurgency (Federal Bureau of Investigation, 2011). Recently, violence, militancy and social restiveness in Nigeria took fresh impetus that is almost culminating into terrorism, especially with the emergence of the Boko Haram sect in the Northern part of Nigeria. This sect has resorted into suicide bombing and other acts of terrorism.

No doubt, there is widespread poverty in Nigeria. It is a reality that depicts the lack of food, clothes, education and other basic amenities. Severely poor people lack the most basic necessities of life to a degree that it can be wondered how they manage to survive. There are several effects and deficiencies associated with poverty in Nigeria. One of the main effects of poverty is poor health, as is reflected in Nigeria's high infant mortality and low life expectancy. Poor people in Nigeria face several health issues, as they lack basic health amenities and competent medical practitioners. Most children do not have the opportunity of being immunized and this leads to certain physical defects in some of the children. Their health has become low priority and as they have little or no choices, they live with whatever they are provided with, whether healthy or not.

The incidence of poverty in Nigeria has increased since 1980. The Federal Office of Statistics (1999) reported that, while poverty incidence was 28.1% in 1980, it rose to 46.3% in 1985, decreased to 42.7% in 1992 and later rose to 65.6% in 1996. In 2004, it decreased to 54.7% (Table 1). However, Mailafia (2012) gave a more comprehensive report extended to 2010 (Table 2).

Figure 1: Poverty Trend in Nigeria, 1980 – 2004 (in %)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Poverty Level (%)</i>	<i>Total Population (million)</i>	<i>Poverty Population (million)</i>
1980	28.1	65	17.7
1985	46.3	75	34.7
1992	42.7	91.5	39.2
1996	65.6	102.3	67.1
2004	54.7	126.3	69.09

Source: National Bureau of Statistics (2007)

Table 2: Poverty trend in Nigeria, 1980 – 2010

Year	Poverty incidence %	Estimated population (million)	Population poverty (million)
1980	27.2	65	17.1
1985	46.3	75	34.7
1992	42.7	91.5	39.2
1996	65.6	102.3	67.1
2004	54.4	126.3	68.7
2010	69.0	163	112.47

Source: National Bureau of Statistics (2012)

Nigeria's poverty level in 1996 was 65.6%, which means 67.1 million of the national population. The incidence of poverty during this period was high and this demonstrates the magnitude of agony the poor were into. The 2007 poverty assessment underscored the fact that Nigeria has undergone five national poverty surveys between 1980 and 2004. Poverty incidence reduced from 65.6% in 1996 (that is, 67.1 million) to 54.7% in 2004 (but with 69.09 million of the population), applying the absolute poverty index. The 2004 survey revealed a 20% point gap between poverty incidences of urban and rural households. The data showed that while 43.1% of urban households were poor, 63.8% of the rural households were also poor. This demonstrates the disparity in accessing opportunities and infrastructures among the different households (Nwagwu, 2009). The National Bureau of Statistics (2007) observed that the percentage of non-poor reduced from 43.3% in 2004 to 31.0% in 2010. Moderately poor indicator exhibited a decrease from 32.4% to 30.3%, and that of extremely poor increased from 22.0% to 38.7%. The data also revealed that relative poverty measurement stood at 54.4% in 2004, increased to 69% in 2010; while absolute poverty measurement that stood at 54.7% in 2004, rose to 93.9% in 2010. The report revealed that the proportion of those living on less than US\$1 per day was 51.6% in 2004 and 61.2% in 2010. This accounts for the placement of Nigeria's misery index at 34.0% by the National Bureau of Statistics (2007). The misery index measures the level of hardship in a country and is calculated using unemployment and inflation rates of that country.

Table 3: Zonal incidence of poverty by different poverty measure

Zone	Food Poor	Absolute Poor	Relative Poor	Dollar Per Day
North Central	38.6	59.5	67.5	59.7
North East	51.5	69.0	76.3	69.1
North West	51.8	70.0	77.7	70.4
South East	41.0	58.7	67.0	59.2
south-South	35.5	55.9	63.8	56.1
South west	25.4	49.8	59.1	50.1

Source: National Bureau of Statistics (2012).

The interpretation of data in Table 3 shows that for the food poor, the absolute, relative and dollar per day measurement of poverty revealed that North-West has the highest incidence of poverty, followed by the North-East. The North-Central is third with highest number of poverty, except on food poor measurement. The South-East has a higher measurement of poverty than South-South, while South-West has the lowest of the zones. Perhaps, this explains the root of insurgency recently plaguing the Northern part of the country.

Poverty is the product of poor management of human and material resources. Bad governance breeds corruption and is a disadvantage to majority of the masses, particularly the rural dwellers who are worst hit. Nwagwu (2014) affirmed that poverty is a product of unemployment, inequality, economic marginalization, uneducated/ illiteracy, etc. The jobless youths are frustrated due to inequality and economic deprivation that have rendered them unemployed. The Niger Delta youths, the Movement for Actualization of Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB), the Oduduwa People's Congress (OPC), and the recent insurgence of Boko Haram (a 'so-called' faceless religious sect) comprised young people without salary-earning jobs. The incidence of suicide bombing, terrorist attacks, kidnapping, destruction of lives and property, armed robbery, vandalization of corporate facilities (such as the public electrical installations and oil pipelines), car-snatching, and other criminal acts are unlawful activities of these groups.

Sampson, Rndenbush and Earls (1997) argued that pervasive poverty alone is not a sufficient condition to create a major conflict, or even to cause an individual to commit an act of violence. Goldstone, Gur and Harff (2002) contended that the condition of poverty may not be sufficient in itself to cause widespread conflict, but that poverty, more than any other factor, contributes to feelings of alienation, exploitation, and dependency and these feelings in turn contribute to a breakdown of social cohesion and violent conflict.

In addition, Stewart and Fitzgerald (2001) and Stewart and Fitzgerald (1991, cited in Draman (2003), argued that conflict has direct and indirect effect on poverty and not vice versa. Gurr, Marshall and Khosla (2000) contended that conflict is more prevalent in countries that are rich than those very poor, because rich countries have more surplus for fighting wars or have more to fight over than the poorest countries. The Crisis Group Africa Report (2014) stated that:

Most Nigerians are poorer today than they were at independence in 1960, victims of the resource curse and rampant, entrenched corruption. In many parts of the country, the government is unable to provide security, good roads, water, health, reliable power and

education. The situation is particularly dire in the far north. Frustration and alienation drive many to join 'self-help' ethnic, religious, community or civic groups, some of which are hostile to the state. It is in this environment that the group called Boko Haram (usually translated loosely by outsiders as 'Western education is forbidden') emerged.

Boko Haram is an Islamic sect that believes corrupt, false Muslims are controlling northern Nigeria. The group and its fellow travellers want to remedy this by establishing an Islamic state in the north, with strict adherence to Sharia (Islamic law). It is an Islamic jihadist and takfiri militant sect based largely in the northern part of Nigeria, north of Cameroon and Niger (Shehu, 2011, Moses 2012, Abgambu, Bwala, Ibrahim and Usigbe, 2013, Burstin (2013). Boko Haram men were known to have largely lived at Jadaman Mada near the Maiduguri airport, where they had their Jummat mosque (Adefolarin, 2012). They neither bought commercial foods nor eat from dishes prepared by non members, believing that the sources were abomination (or *haram*). In fact today, they do not eat much, and some of them are said to live on fruits and dairies only. They normally dress in similar costumes as the Taliban of Afghanistan or Pakistan, with long sleeve robes, shortened trousers, a turban, long beard, a small coat to cover the long sleeve robes, covering the abdomen (like a bullet proof jacket) and a chewing stick. Members of the sect would disown their parents, bury member's academic certificates. Their main enemies are the state, the ruling class and the elite group. According to Human Rights Watch, between 2009 and beginning of 2012, Boko Haram was responsible for over 900 deaths (Nossiter, 2012).

However, Obafemi and Galadima (2012) explained that insurgent groups in Nigeria have emerged at different points in the country's political history and assumed different forms. These groups include: the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND), Movement for the Emancipation of the Ogoni People, O'odua People's Congress (OPC), Movement for the Actualization of the Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB), and the Jama'atul ahlul Sunna Lidda'awa Wal Jihad (which means 'brethren of Sunni united in the pursuit of Holy War', popularly referred to as Boko Haram).

Indeed, Nigeria is a fractured state, rich but with a largely poor population. Since returning to civilian rule in 1999, the state has suffered growing security, capacity and legitimacy gaps, demonstrated in the declining capacity of its institutions to deliver public goods, including security, transport, water, health

care, power and education. According to Akinfala (2005) Nigeria is the 3rd among 20 countries in the world with the widest gap between the rich and the poor. He further stated that poverty in Nigeria is the face of the north – for northern youths, as a result of lack of means to satisfy their physiological needs, become hopeless and frustrated, and therefore putting their energy into terrorism. The environment of poverty can lead people to commit terror; in other words, an environment of extreme poverty can be a catalyst for futility, because it could lead to hopelessness and despair. At other times, high poverty could arise as more and more people lose their jobs and are faced with financial difficulty. Countries with the high crime rates tend to also have high poverty rates, as well as other disadvantages. Boko Haram faces no shortage of willing soldiers to continue its war of attrition against the Nigerian government. Poverty can lead to high levels of stress, which in turn may lead to such criminal activities as theft, robbery, or violence. Cramer (2009) postulated that poverty may lead to bitterness and rage, which in turn may cause the poor to protest. Mass protest could provoke repression and tension, and degenerate to armed conflict, completing the causal mechanism of the frustration-aggression nexus (Gurr, 1970).

Moreover, poverty may lead to an actual or perceived inferior education, which would cause youths to count on less access to quality schools, jobs, and role models, decreasing the opportunity costs of crime and increasing the probability of youths spending time on the street associating with gangs. Crime offers a way through which impoverished people can obtain material goods that they cannot attain through legitimate means. When threat or force is used to satisfy their taste, acquiring money and goods, they are induced to commit more violent acts (such as robbery) to get even more. For many impoverished people, the prize that crime yields may outweigh the risk of being caught, especially given that their opportunity cost is lower than that of a wealthy person. Thus, poverty increases crime rates and leads people to attach little value to life. In addition to the fact that most impoverished people cannot fulfil their physiological needs, they often feel insecure in their meagre-paying jobs. Even the most stable of civil service positions have become very unstable.

According to Awogbenle and Iwuamadi (2010), over 64 million Nigerian youths are unemployed and 1.6 million are underemployed. Unemployment causes frustration, dejection, desperation and dependency on family members and friends who also have their own problems to contend with. When youths are not gainfully employed they are unable to get the basic needs of life as demanded by their age group. They therefore become frustrated and vulnerable to crime.

Table 4: Summary of reported crime cases between 1994-2003

Offence	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Murder	1629	1585	1561	1730	1670	1645	1255	2120	2117	2136
Attempted murder	259	321	307	250	248	220	76	253	267	233
Manslaughter	20	25	21	18	27	14	101	14	13	6
Suicide	200	229	238	272	313	323	146	241	152	191
Attempted suicide	291	120	77	58	43	30	41	27	29	38
Grievous harm	17167	16300	1760	5	14720	14362	1593	1	9756	15241
Assault	46924	46543	5274	7	42815	40764	3388	1	1790	9
Child stealing	131	175	146	303	107	147	101	116	55	39
Slave dealing	33	16	7	17	11	21	11	45	17	18
Rape/ Indecent sexual act	2364	2364	2198	2585	2249	2241	1529	2284	2084	2253
Kidnapping	461	415	373	377	282	342	243	349	337	410
Aberration offence	685	462	419	435	516	456	376	434	277	306
Armed robbery	2044	2109	2419	2181	2286	2291	1877	2809	3889	3497
Demand with menace	777	243	88	128	112	63	133	122	88	80
Theft/Stealing	69341	70542	71338	58095	54506	32974	29127	40796	35231	33124
Burglary	7858	7690	6390	7706	5548	4928	3768	5523	2683	2769
House breaking	10532	10568	9237	8562	7847	5979	3636	6059	5448	4706
Store breaking	6137	5646	4235	4729	4036	3643	2446	3089	2973	2990
False pretence	13546	13524	13057	11950	12037	9996	7927	10234	9134	9508
Coining offence	100	8	10	14	14	7	4	32	6	15
Gambling	1308	319	250	203	158	264	189	263	228	148
Breach of public peace	8052	7926	7097	7100	7519	6765	5395	7532	7324	7298
Perjury	61	22	153	97	20	12	16	455	17	50
Bribery and corruption	224	390	579	100	138	75	48	57	43	36
Escape from custody	672	629	712	543	484	552	294	312	229	272
Total	190816	18817	9126	16498	25529	2280	8640	135938	119550	11691
		1	4	8	7	0	4			5

Source: Nigeria Police Force (2003)

Conclusion and Recommendations

Poverty is a denial of choices and opportunities, a violation of human dignity. It means lack of basic capacity to participate effectively in society. It means not having enough to feed and clothe a family, not having a school or clinic to go; not having a land on which to grow one's food or a job to earn one's living, not having access to credit. It means insecurity, powerlessness and exclusion of individuals, households and communities. It means susceptibility to violence, and it often implies living on marginal or fragile environments, without access to clean water or sanitation. However, violence and warfare are consequences 'not of intent per se, but an unwelcome result of pursuing goals that are incompatible with those of others' (Groom 1988). Thus, when conflict is destructive it becomes violent conflict. Violence can also be in form of riot, mass protest, clashes, looting. Violence may involve thousands of people in form of demonstrations, riots or individual isolated incidents, involving a few individuals (Anifowose, 2011). It is.

therefore, concluded that one of the ways to reduce violence is to first reduce poverty. Based on this, the followings are recommended:

1. Violence is inevitable in the face of poverty. However, individuals should know that violence is never a solution to poverty and it is the duty of everyone to make the society safe and violence-free. But the government should take urgent and purposeful initiatives to reduce poverty to a harmless level through provision of social amenities both in urban and rural areas.
2. Government at all levels should prioritize job creation especially for the youths, since a jobless person is vulnerable to criminal activities.
3. The youths, on the other hand, should learn to channel their energy into productive activities, especially in the areas of self-empowerment and sports. Employment empowers them to contribute to nation-building in a peaceful and secure atmosphere.
4. Government should give corruption zero-tolerance; public office holders should be made to give account of their stewardship, and law enforcement agencies should be empowered to arrest and prosecute corrupt officials.
5. Individuals and groups that are aggrieved in one way or the other should take the path of dialogue and, where necessary, litigation.

Reference

- Adefolarin, O. (2012). A critical examination of the Boko Haram insurgence attacks in Nigeria and possible solutions. Retrieved from www.academia.edu/3331715.
- Adetumbi, O. (2014). Boko Haram war claims. Retrieved from www.newsexpressngr.com.
- Aghambu, C., Bwala J., Ibrahim H. and Usigbe L. (2013). Bama attackers were Nigerians, Cameroonians. *Nigerian Tribune*, May 9.
- Akinfala, F.O. (2005). Fraudulent Behaviour Among Bank Employees In Nigeria: A psychological programme as an intervention mechanism. *Afr. J. Bus. Manage* 4(6):831-835.
- Anifowose, R. (2011). *Violence and Politics in Nigeria: The Tiv, Yoruba and Niger Delta Experience*. Lagos: Sam Ironuasi
- Blau J.R. and Blau P.M. (1982). The cost of inequality: Metropolitan structure and violent crime. *American Sociological Review* 47 (February): 129-141.
- Burstin, A. (2013). Boko Haram and the risk of terrorism in northern Cameroon. ISISC Research Associate.
- Chika, N.O. (2004). Poverty, social policy, and women participation in the Nigerian democratic process. In: O.M. Michael (ed) *Challenges and Prospects of Democratization in Nigeria*. Fulbright Alumni (Nigeria), Nsukka: Multi-Educational Services Trust.
- Cramer, C. (2009). Violent conflict and the very poorest. Working Paper No. 129. Chronic Poverty Research Center (CPRC); US.

- Draman, R. (2003). Democratizing security for a safer world: What role for parliamentarians? Discussion paper for Africa-Canada Parliamentary Policy Dialogue. Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, September 23-26.
- Federal Office of Statistics (1999). *Poverty Profile of Nigeria, 1980-96*. Lagos: FOS.
- Goldstone, J.A., Gurr, T.R. and Harff, B. (2002). State failure task force report. Phase III findings. Retrieved 13 October 2013 from www.cidcm.umn.edu/stfal.
- Gurr, T.R., Marshall, M. and Khosla, D. (2006). *Peace and Conflict 2001: A global survey of armed conflicts, self-determination movements and democracy*. College Park, MD: Center for International Development and Conflict Management, University of Maryland.
- Gurr, T.R. (1970). *Why Men Rebel*. Princeton: Princeton University.
- Jibrin, I. (2014). Deepening democracy: Let's work together to stop them killing our children. *Daily Trust*, April 21, pp.51.
- Joshua, S. (2012). Politics, poverty and violent conflicts: Exploring their complex nexus in Nigeria. *Developing Country Studies* 3(7).
- Killick, T. (1981). *Policy Economic*. London: Heinemann Educational Books.
- Mailafia, O. (2012). Conflict and Insurgency in Nigeria. Retrieved from www.ureports.com.
- Moses, C. (2012). Boko Haram killed Cameroonian mayor. *Pilot Africa*, May 11.
- National Bureau of Statistics. (2007). Poverty trend in Nigeria. *Global Journal of Politics and Law Research* 2(1): 41-49.
- National Bureau of Statistics (August 2012). Poverty incidence and population trends in Nigeria, 1980-2010. *NBS Newsletter*.
- Nigeria Police Force (2003). Summary of reported crime cases between 1994-2003. NPF Command Zone 11, Osun State, Nigeria.
- Nossiter, A. (2011). Islamic group says it was behind fatal Nigeria attacks. *The New York Times*, August 28.
- Nwagwu E.J. (2014). Unemployment and poverty in Nigeria: A link to national insecurity. *Global Journal of Politics and Law Research*, 2(1): 19-32.
- Obafemi, O. and Galadima, H. (2012). Complex Insurgencies in Nigeria. Proceedings of the NIPSS 2012 Eminent Persons and Experts Group meeting, National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies, Kuru, Nigeria.
- Onanuga, A. (2013). How Jonathan can combat security crisis. *The Nation*, May 14, p.29-30.
- Sampson, R.J., Rindenburg, S.W. and Earls, F. (1997). Neighbourhoods and violent crime. *Science*, 227:918-924.
- Shehu, S. (2011). Boko Haram: History, ideas and revolt. *The Guardian Newspaper*, July 19, p.88.
- Stewart, F. (2002). Root causes of violent conflict in developing countries. *British Medical Journal* 324(9): 242-345.
- Ucha, C. (2010). Poverty in Nigeria: Some dimensions and contributing factors. *Global Majority / Journal* 1(1): 46-56.
- UNICEF (2007). *Child Poverty in Perspective: An overview of child well-being in rich countries*. The United Nations Children's Fund; Geneva.
- Ward, M. (2013). *Poverty and Crime*. Department of Social and Health Services, Juvenile Justice and Rehabilitation Administration Community and Parole Programs; Olympia, Washington DC.
- World Bank (2008). World Development Indicators. World Bank, Washington DC.