



A N ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFECTS OF STREET HAWKING ON THE CHILD'S EDUCATION IN DAMATURU.

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ABSTRACT

*The study
investigates the
impact Child
Hawking has on
Education of the
children that are
engaged in
street hawking
in Damaturu,
Nigeria. Factors
which contribute
to child hawking
and problems
associated with
child hawking,
were examined.
Participants
consisted of 125
boys and 184
girls Totalling
309 randomly
selected from
four Hawking
Zones of
Damaturu, who
were given*

Introduction

Our societal attitude towards Child
Hawking business is never static but ever
in increase due to factors such as
poverty, ignorance and our peoples' vulnerability
as a result of Boko Haram insurgency, with
accompanying loss of Parents (orphanage),
political issues like increase in population rate in
the cities, within ten years of insurgency. Other
social causes related to girls include means to girls'
socialization, exposing girls to suitors as future
husbands, for family honour, to accrue income, to
maintain their bodily aesthetic needs, to finance
wedding expenses, and to augment family
income. (Ningi, A. et al, 2015 ;) The number of
hawking children in North east streets is
consistently increasing the total number of child



hawkers in the region, making it even than the Adult Hawkers in population. In consideration of the spate of development or civilization the world over, one would expect that children of school age will be accorded with all the necessary support to utilize the opportunities of free education at the basic levels at least. It is however disheartening that significant number of them are seen in almost everywhere on the streets as hawkers. According to UNICEF (2011), reported by Ningi, A. et al (2015), the ugly situation may not be unconnected with the general inefficient implementations of government policies on human development. This situation has necessitated the increase on proliferation of children labourers across Africa in general and Nigeria in particular. However, the situation in Northern Nigeria with specific emphasis to Yobe State is much more complex than researchers have presented it. For instance, children, like their counterparts in other societies have been subjected to street hawking, a practice that violates their rights. In this regard, Mahdi & Usman (2010) as reported by Ningi, et al. (2015), confirmed that men have considered certain socio-cultural values as accommodated “norms” expected of the girls as part of the gender division of

structured questionnaires as well as an interviews, which was conducted in local languages to obtain data for the study. Simple statistical tools; frequency and percentages were used to analyse the data. The major findings of this research reveals that the number of girl- child hawkers are more than the number of boys street hawkers; and that children start hawking as early as five (5) years old and most of them end up not attending any form of school at all. The study therefore recommended that community stakeholders should take decisive step to address the Problems of child hawking so that child education as a whole can start to enjoy the benefits associated with education by future generation.

Keywords: Assessment, Child, street Hawking, Impact, Effects, Education, Damaturu.



labour. At present, some of existing literature pointed that the children were on the streets because they are poor (Sultana, (2010); Umar, (2012); Umukoro, (2013). Even though the children in this study are from poor quintiles, but we argued that poverty alone could not explain their presence on the streets.

In the study area of this research Damaturu, the state capital of Yobe State, the issue of child labour is much more complex than earlier highlighted at the National and regional levels, (Ningi, A. et al, 2012). One third of the total population of school age children are involved in child labour (hence street hawking). Specifically, school age girls" dominated the „trade" due to lack of equal opportunities. Most of these hawkers are between the ages of eight to fourteen years, with very few of them falling above fifteen years (Ningi, A. et al, 2012). The hawking scenario could be overwhelming to a foreigner, but the people have generally accepted it as part of their “economic” culture.

A Child is defined as any person less than eighteen years of age in Nigeria as is defined under the Nigerian Law section 274 of the Child Right Act (2003). A child is a person who has not attained the age of eighteen (18) years. Needy children from poor, lower, middle class and internally displaced parents engage in hawking and small scale business enterprise, they think that it is one of the ways of reducing the incidence of Poverty and unemployment among vulnerable societies because it's their right to be self-defendants, reliant and self-employed which generate them means or source of getting everything to for their family; but with or without knowing the implication of hawking on education of their wards in future generation.

Child Hawking is the process whereby child transporting and selling goods products, or items along the roads, street and from house to house, filling stations, market square or from place to place for daily gain. Abisoye, (2013) defined it as the act of canvassing for sale of items by hawkers along the street, from house to house or in public places in towns. Because our people are not economically liberated, educationally enlightened and that most of our programmes are designed in anticipation of labour among families, especially due to insurgency displacement of thousands of peoples of Northeast region of Nigeria



including Borno, Yobe, Adamawa, Bauchi, Gombe and Taraba States, (NEMA 2015). The form of child hawking business choice include roasted Groundnut (Mandawa), Sachet water, Tomatoes, Local Drink (Ardeb), Cake (Awara), kola nut Better kola, Akara (Kusai), Vegetable (Karrekalu), moi moi (Alele), Banana (Awaya), among others. The war against child hawking is a collective effort therefore requires that, our citizens are properly enlightened on the dangers of child hawking in our societies.

Street Hawking

Street Hawking is the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring, or receipt of a child by means of threat or use of force, other forms of coercion, abduction, fraud, deception abuse of power, position on vulnerability, giving or receiving of payment, benefits to achieve the consent of person having control over a child for the purpose of exploitation (African Network on Prevention and Protection Against Child Abuse and Neglect 2010). According to Ago (2014), Street Hawking is a negation of the international convention on the right of the child. It is indeed inhuman for anyone to engage a child in money making ventures; because such a child is denied basic education which is a right. Insurgent activities have crippled socio-economic, socio-political, religious, norms and values between Republic of Nigeria, Niger Republic, Cameroon republic, Republic of Chad, leaving many Nigerian citizens internally displaced. The frequent attacks have slowed down the nation abilities to achieving the Millennium Development Goals Project (MDGs), Education for All (EFA), as well as Nigeria Vision 2020 Projects (vision 2020). These on the other hand hold a colossal negative impacts on the sociocultural values of the North-eastern people of Nigeria as well as will being of other Nigerians due to increasing in security Challenge. With the present Insurgencies activities in our environment child/ street hawking is the order of the day, which replace all activities in the zone including preventing children going to schools making leaving both women and children vulnerable to underdevelopment.

Hawkers have been identified as one of the three categories of informal labour and branded as “children on the street” (International Labour Organizations, 2012). They remained on the street and still maintained



more or less regular ties with their families. In essence, their focus is home to which they return at the end of the day and have a sense of belonging to the local community. They are more appropriately known as community children as they are the offspring of the communal world. A report by United Nations, 2012, has also shown that the estimated global population of street children stood at 150 million with the number rising daily, as reported by Rachel, O. A. (2020). Thus, street hawking in its simplest form is an informal economic activity which involved selling of items along the roadside or from one place to the other (Ladan, 2009; & Umar, 2011). The experience could be both threatening and unpleasant.

LITERATURE REVIEW.

In Nigeria, the country witnessed one of its first empirical studies on child labour from 1987-1989 in Lagos under the auspices of Ford Foundation. The recent work which is related to this work, is that of Ningi, A. et al (2015) who looked at the cultural dynamics of “girl child” hawking in yobe state. They reported that girls are engaged in street hawking as early as 9 years old and that this trend is similar in almost all over the North-east region. And that Yobe state had been characterized as less engaged in Girl Child Education; thus, the engagement of more girls in hawking business than boys as seen in table 1 above. In order to control or eliminate the ugly practice in the society, government agencies entered into partnership with non-governmental organization. In recent times, report has shown that one hundred thousand (100,000) boys and girls are working as a child labourers in Lagos alone (Ajiboye & Oladiti, (2008); Hosen, Khandoker, & Islam, 2010; & Umukoro, (2013). The situation has necessitated UNICEF to get involved in addressing the problem in the country. However, it places greater attention to Lagos, Kaduna and Calabar. In the study area of this research Yobe State, the issue of child labour is much more complex than earlier highlighted at the National and regional levels (Ningi, 2012). One third of the total population of school age children are involved in child labour (hence street hawking). Specifically, school age girls” dominated the „trade” due to lack of equal opportunities.



With the efforts of present and past government undertaking the education as emergency in Yobe particularly may cartel the problems of Child Hawking and integrate the children back to schools, that is, with the initiation of multiple training and retraining of School Based Management Committees (SBMCs) and Teachers Training and Retraining as well as engaging the Parents Teachers Association. In Enhancing state and community level conflict management capability in North Eastern Nigeria titled 'Managing Conflict in Nigeria' (ESCNEN 2020) sees the Child right as not to commit them in child labour at the age that they are supposed to be in School. The principal of protecting the rights of Children in Nigeria in the Child Right Act 2003 (CRA 2003), in Section 15 guarantees the child to free, compulsory and Universal Basic Education, which the government has duty to provide. Also the Compulsory, Free Universal Basic Education Act 2004, (UBE Act) addresses the issues of access, equality, inclusiveness, affordability and the quality of basic education to children.

In the Eleventh World Conference of the Society for international Development, New Delhi 1969, Seers Identifies a number of objectives for Development in the poorest Countries. These are:-

1. That family incomes should be adequate to provide a subsistence package of food, shelter, clothing and foot wear.
2. That Jobs should be available to all family heads, not only because this will ensure distribution of income such that subsistence consumption levels will be generally achieved but because a job is something without which personality cannot develop.
3. That access to education should be increased and literacy ratio raised.
4. That the populace should be given an opportunity to participate in government.
5. That national independence should be achieved in "the sense that the views of other governments do not largely predetermine one's own government's decision".

Seers argue that the educational and political aims should become increasingly important objectives of development. The 2001 Human



Development Reports (HDR) in Okojie 2011 State that the most basic capabilities for human development are to lead long healthy lives, to be knowledgeable by having access to the resources for a decent standard of living, and to be able to participate in the life of the community. Malnutrition, disease, illiteracy, slum, unemployment, and inequality, measured in terms of aggregate growth rates, has been a great hindrance to success. Development, according to Akintayo and Oghenekohwo, (2004) is a process of economic, social, political and cultural change engineered in a given society by the efforts of all stakeholders both internal and external. But when measured in terms of Jobs, Justice and the elimination of poverty, it has been a failure or only a partial success to stop hawking in our society most especially Yobe state which is dominated by Boko Haram Insurgency. In a similar study by Ningi, A. et al (2015) reported that some of the causes of girls' child hawking is to create means for socialization, exposing girls to suitors as future husbands and to sponsor their weddings, among others.

Rational for Child Education in Nigeria;

How can the best global practice of sustainable education be achieved? This is the direction we want to stress, for upcoming younger generation who need to stand up and setup to take over the mantle, oversee and overhaul their society. It is this generation that should be tasked equipped to fight and say no to Child Hawking in our nation so that sustainable education for development be established. Ningi, (2015) reported that, issues of education was declared a basic human right for every individual in the Universal Declared of Human Right and this has been reaffirmed in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966), (ICESCR,1966), the Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989) (CRC 1989), The African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights (1981), the Africa Charter on the Right and Welfare of the Child (1990), (ACRWC) and the Protocol to the Africa on Human and Peoples Right on the Rights of Women in Africa (2003) (African Women's Protocol), amongst other International and Regional Human Right Instruments.



The term 'right' is often used to describe any advantages conferred on a person by a rule of law in which every child has a right to be educated. Nigeria as a Nation, and the people of Yobe State are bound together for ever by their culture, norm, religion, and customs. Children staying in school is the first step to a good education in order to achieve academic excellence by pupils who are mandated for the formal, informal or both formal and informal school. If the child allowed to be engaging in child hawking, they lose the benefits of instruction, wisdom and education; parents/ guardians lose their parental responsibility; the community and society lose and suffers from the increase in insecurity and crime.

Parents' characteristics.

Poor Parents, Lower Class and Middle class Parents' Children engage in Hawking and Small Scale Business Enterprise. Parents think it is one of the ways of reducing the rate of Poverty and Unemployment in the society because it is their right to be self-reliant and self-employed which generate them source of livelihood without knowing or minding the implication of Hawking on Education of their wards. Hawking by Nigerian Children from lower and middle class parents toward National Development should be matter of National apex precedence which demands the attention and genuine commitment of every responsible member of the society both Federal, State and Local Government. Members should work hand in hand to support the effective implementation of child education programmes in the country.

The Children's Educational Status.

Uneducated children, school dropouts and Internal Displace Persons are the vulnerable as well as future poor people and therefore more easily drawn to hawking business by their family members, peer group, relatives, and other business cores who don't value education and take advantage and chance to misuse children as sale tools. With this kind of child hawking business in Northern Nigeria as a career if care is not taken the end result is that children of lower class, middle class and internal displace persons (IDPs) will never attend schools again.



Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere, has once been quoted as saying that “who-ever controls the minds of children also controls their future”. The most important things which will come to mind when we mention child, is that they are fragile, trail, innocent, neutral and often oblivious of danger. School dropout refers to any person or individual who leaves school before completing his or her course of study. Ago, A. (2014) contended that dropping out of school is most frequent among children from large families and broken homes. Most of the children are orphans and either from broken homes or extended families, which force them engage with house hold work such as fetching water, caring for children and the sick once as well as washing clothes for food and or money.

Peer group influence

According to Ago’s view, students learn and behave better when in group. He believed that peer group influence is very strong. Peer group is a person of the same age bracket. At this stage from which children grow to adolescent rely on one another, exchange information, experience and take advice from each other and left schools going to trader which made them to be higher in hawking business among the school age pupils. Peer Group Education is made up of people with common interest and social position who are usually of the same age. Learning within the peer group is easier because the learning situation is friendly. Inability of a child to pass his/her examination in can lead to self-withdrawal from school which is taken advantage of by peer group and introduce him/her to truancy. Truancy, According to Rachel, O. (2020), is a gateway to serious violent and non-violent crimes. To him, students’ truant act leads to child hawking, stealing, fighting, drug addictions, and destruction of property, sex scandal and armed robbery. Hence when a child is always absent from school or school environment what comes to his/her mind is evil, he plans how to get rich quick and becomes a millionaire in very short time. High percentage of the child hawkers are pupils of primary schools. The research shows that most hawking business during school period and holidays are done by teenagers of school age.



Ningi's (2015) study revealed finance as the first priority need of all adolescents. Both boys and girls ranked finance first. Also finance was found to depend on sibling size, socio economic background of students, age differences and school type. The greater the sibling size, the higher the financial worries and the lower the level of socioeconomic background the greater the frequency of financial worries. Forde's study also revealed that older adolescents, in day schools and rural schools expressed greater worry about finance. Femi and Adelomo, (2016) that involvement in livelihood diversification by households exhibits higher potentials of reducing unemployment increasing household income or minimizing income fluctuation and shocks. In my opinion children who have finance to be their greater worry will stand a chance for greater ricks of affecting their academic performance and other aspects of their live in hold. Higher rate of insurgency which generate poverty, force majority of the self-esteem children to street hawking in Yobe, in the Northeast geopolitical zone of Nigeria.

Factors Contributing to Child Hawking.

Generally Child Hawking in Yobe state is due to high rate of poverty which left many family a beggar and children spend more time in street-hawking business than being in school, for self-dependence since there are no other means of income. Sustenance of such families only depends on the children at most time. In Nigeria, street hawking by children has become a common feature across the country, in Northern state in particular it appears to be the rule rather than the exception. The majority of the children migrated to hawking business in most developing countries; especially Nigeria and Northern part of the country such as Borno, Adamawa and Yobe State, generally their level of living tent to be very low for the vast majority of the internal displace persons (IDPs) as a results of Boko Haram insurgency activities. Ten Years now the way of livelihood is begging and successful are child hawking. These lower levels of living are manifested in form of low income, poverty, inadequate shelter, poor health service, limited study centres, high rate of infant mortality, short life span of both Adult and infant low life work expectancy and in many case a general sense of malaise, malnutrition,



hopelessness for farming, rearing of animals, and other major business by internal displaced persons (IDPs) which let Borno state, Adamawa state and Yobe state, hawking business by children as a result of outbreak of the phenomenon of street child hawking, child prostitution, due to insurgency.

Problems of Child Hawking in Our Societies.

1. Poverty; Most Child Hawking families are in a condition of higher rate of Poverty. Only few families get assistance from government, nongovernmental organization.
2. Ignorance; Lack of proper knowledge/education once a child goes for vendor-ship or apprentice he/she may hardly go back to school for studies again. Parents are also ignorant of the negative impacts of child hawking on their children.
3. child Labour; Any child by chance succeeded in hawking business he/she may never go back to further education.
4. Risk and Hazard; May let to Hazardous, Risks of Life and its dangerous proportion in which at most time children hawking from morning to evening at some time even at let night, running from door to door, station to station, in market square, or chasing one car to motor along the major roads for more than expected school hours threaten their lives and jeopardize their Physical, Mental, Emotional, Moral, Norm and Values for Normal IQ development.
5. Inadequate storage facilities; must hawkers do not know how to store their product and most of what they are hawking is perishable items, that is why at time their product reaper as impure or easily contaminated foots/drinks in other hands their product will perish, abandoned on road side people may not patroness must at time their customers are travellers, children etc.
6. Adolescence hawkers; some of them only have little items with them and at time retuning the item and money, in the case it's may be ex-force them to danger such as given by boyfriend, sugar-daddy, sugar mommy, or someone who is a trafficker, rituals, boko haram, want to recruit them to something unusual etc.



7. Formation of Bad Habits; child hawking can expose children to bad habit, such as truancies to schools, bad friends, negative social practice and survival sex in the society its common among the children.
8. Child hawking can affect children physically, mentally, sociologically, psychologically, their safety, their legal right, in state of violence.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Data Collection,

The purpose of this research is to gather ideas and experience from children who are engaged in street hawking. The instruments used in collecting data were structured questionnaire and an interview which was conducted in local language (Kanuri and Hausa) and the use of observation. Descriptive statistics was used in analysing the data collected. Specifically, table, frequencies and parentages were applied. The data collected from the administered questionnaire were presented. The target populations used are Child Hawkers in Damaturu the municipal of Yobe State. In order to bring out information on hawking children, the instruments solicits for their Educational level, years of experience, members of house hold, types of item hawking and state of origin of their parents by respondents, the simple percentage method was used in analysing the data. Three hundred and nine (309) copies of questionnaire administered and explain in local language (Kanuri and Hausa) were retrieved and analysed. School age hawking boys and girls were randomly selected, because they are directly dealing with the study.

Results.

Table 1: Demographic Information of Respondents

S/No	Sex	Frequencies	Percentage
1.	Male	125	46.35
2.	Female	184	53.65
3	Total	309	100

Source: Field work (2019/2020)

The data in table, 1. Represents Demographic Information Independently collected in Damaturu child Hawkers. The researchers observed that



there are more Girls than boys engaged in Hawking, with 184 (53.65%) and 125 (46.34%) respectively, as indicated on the table.

Table 2. Respondent's Parents/ Guidance Residence

S/No	State	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Damaturu	215	70.3%
2.	Other LGAs	94	29,7%
3.	Total	309	100%

Source: Field work (2019/2020)

Table 2 shows that two hundred and fifteen, (215) Child Hawkers' Parents/guardians live with the wards in Damaturu, which constitutes 70.3% and the remaining ninety-four, (94) Child Hawkers' Parents live outside Damaturu constituting 29.7%. These boys and Girls were sent by their parents from other LGAs for 'greener pasture' in the city.

Table 3. Respondents Current Locations in Damaturu.

S/No.	Location	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1.	Anguwan Karo	87	28.2
2.	Duriya	70	22.7
3.	Nainawa Tsallake	83	26.9
4.	Nainawa Ba yaye	69	22.3
5.	Total	309	100

Source: Field work (2019/2020)

Table 3 shows that 87 (28.2) are from Anguwan Karo, 70 (22.7) are from Duriya, 83 (26.9) are from Nainawa, 69 (22.3%), are from Nayi nawa Ba yaye.

Table 4. Respondent's Educational Status

S/No	Type of Schools	Frequency	Percentage %
1.	Never attend	60	19.4
2.	Informal/Quranic	109	35.3
3.	Formal	60	19.4



4.	Formal and Informal/Quartic	80	25.9
5	Total	309	100

Source: Field work (2019/2020)

From the table 4. Above must Child Hawkers attended/ attending formal and informal (Quranic) schools are eighty, (60) 19.4%, Child Hawkers that attended/ attending Informal/Quranic Schools are one hundred and thirteen (109) 35.3%, those who attended/attending formal schools are sixty, (60) 19.4%, well those child hawkers who are never attended school are sixty, (80) 25.9% their take hawking as profession.

Table 5. Respondent's Merchandise

S/No.	Type of Item	Freq. Response	of Percentage
1.	Akara(kosai)	31	10.0
2.	Banana(awaya)	25	8.1
3.	Cake/Awara	35	11.3
4.	Groundnut(kolji)	30	9.7
5.	kola nut (Goro)	20	13.51
6.	Local Drinks (Ardeb)	30	9.7
7.	Moi moi (Alele)	35	11.3
8.	Tomatoes(Tumatur)	33	10.7
9.	Sachet water (Njilaidabe)	32	08.11
10.	Vegetable(Karrekalu)	30	9.7
11.	Total	309	100

Source: Field work (2019/2020)

From the table 5. Above the most hawking items are cake/awara, moi moi and tomatoes, with 35 (11.3), 35 (11.3) and 33 (10.7), respectively.

Table 6. Respondent's Age at the Beginning of Hawking.

S/No	Age	Frequency	Percentage
1.	3 – 5	20	6.5
2.	6 – 8	50	16.2



3.	9 – 11	61	19.7
4.	12-14	71	23.0
5.	15 –above	50	16.2
6.	Total	309	100

Source: Field work (2019/2020)

From table 6. Children started Hawking as early as 3 to 5 years which constitutes 20 (6.5%) and continue hawking up to when they are 15 and above with 50 (16.2%). 9-11 and 12-14 with 61(19.7) and 71 (23.0%) respectively, are the ages that high number of child hawkers.

Table 7. Household Population

S/No.	Members	Frequency	Percentage
1.	1-5	70	22.7
2.	6-10	70	22.7
3.	11-15	80	25.9
4.	16-20	60	19.4
5.	21-above	9	2.9
6.	Total	309	100

Source: Field work (2019/2020)

Data from table 7. Above shows increase in Members in Households is also increase in Child Hawkets. The greater the members in a house, that is 21-above, that represents 9 (2.9%) the higher the increase in hawking.

Table 8. Respondents' Years of Hawking Experience

S/No	Years of Experience	Frequency	Percentage
1.	1 – 2	30	9.7
2.	3 – 4	40	12.9
3.	5 – 6	61	19.7
4.	7 – 8	100	34.2
5.	9 – above	78	25.2
6.	Total	309	100

Source: Field work (2019/2020)



Table 8. Above shows the data collected by the researcher on years of experience by individual Hawking Business Child. Hawking Children Increase with the increase in Years of experience from one (1) year to six (6) years that is when the children meet puberty decrease with migrating to Adolescent by the hawkers. The Child Hawkers result shows increase in years of experience and decrease with migrating to the adolescent stage drastically.

Findings and Discussion

A reasonable number of hawking children are of poor education, lower class and poverty stricken family status. It was discovered by this research that since many of the children engaged in street hawking begin from their early ages, even before school they may not enjoy schooling with all its restrictions. Even those that may be forced to go to school turned out to be school truants, and finally become drop outs. Some of the Children come from other Local Governments, few are brought for schooling, yet others are in the city for greener pasture. When they meet their peer groups, they are influenced to join them in absconding school. Thus, causing more societal problems in our society if care is not taken by concerned authorities. Child Hawking Business build on indigenous Knowledge requires few inputs to carry out at home hence will prevent children from going to schools and apprentices. The causes of child Hawking in Yobe state is mainly poverty and vulnerability due to insurgency in the area. A lot people had to migrate from their towns and villages leaving all their sources of livelihood behind. Now they have start life all over again. When the family is struggling for, not even three square meal but even two, how can they send their wards to school? While even educational activities are restricted of both formal schools and informal schools.

The researchers contended that “Child Hawking in Yobe State is directly proportional to high rate of Boko Haram Insurgency for long time period with increase in Internally Displace Persons (IDPs) and inversely proportional to the poverty rate and higher rate of illiteracy in the State”. From the number of years experienced by the children hawking, it can be observed that some of them or most of them started engaging in



hawking as a result of the insurgency, which started over 9 years ago. This fact explains the differences of hawking age of the children in Ningi's findings; that the age limit is between 9 – 15 years. It is naturally expected that after 6 years in insurgency activities, younger and more children (3 years and above) become recruited in to the hawking business, as found by this work.

This research also found out that majority of the older children are attending or have attended informal/quranic schools and some attended formal schools. This entails that before the insurgency children have been attending schools and educational activities had been striving in the area.

Conclusion

Challenges facing the children, especially the girls include, exposure to all forms of abuse, being left behind in basic literacy, and lack of safety. Conclusively, this paper is of significant value due to its novelty because in Yobe State, as there has not been a detailed or comprehensive study on the motives for girls involvement in street hawking. As almost all existing study focused more on regional basis and the results are mainly from survey data. Also, previous researches tended to link the problem with poverty, but this study is suggesting that poverty alone cannot explain their presence on the streets. Therefore, it will serve as source of additional literature for those who have interest on human development and enhancing the status of the most vulnerable groups in our society. It will also be a good source of information to policy makers and other stakeholders about the situation in Yobe State where women voices are seldom heard. They should not be abused, exploited, and deprived of their rights to general education.

Recommendation

The following recommendation were made. Although it is widely acknowledged that most parent are vulnerable and less access to material world since their loss to Boko Haram Insurgency Variety of enlightenment programs should be engaged by government to be supported by private sectors. There should be greater collaboration and



synergy between all stakeholders to effectively implement policies and programmes earlier initiated for the benefit and wellbeing of the Nigerian child. It has been observed that there is lack of proper planning and misplacement of priorities by the government. Also, lack of spirit of total commitment at all the three tiers of government hinders any progress towards curbing any planned change in our society. It is therefore, recommended that any strategy seeking to end street hawking must address the issues that underlies their involvement and not simply on preventing them from their daily grandeur.

There should be a planned literacy/vocational programme in which the girl hawkers would be afforded the opportunity to attain some literacy level and at the same time acquire some vocational skills and basic trades like knitting, sewing, weaving etc. Parents should also be sensitized towards accepting their responsibilities. They should also be target for adult education classes as problem started to emanated due to ignorance paving way to harmful cultural practices like street hawking. Whatever gropes up along the line, families do matter in the lives of the children most especially girls". Parent should be made aware that female off springs are great gifts and assets not liabilities. They should also complement with proper parental up-bringing and positive values. Religious institutions should be encouraged in addressing negative values within the society. They should draw attention to the constraints within which the children live, and for which reason street hawking has become an attractive prospect. Many parents are insensitive by refusing to fulfill their own part of the obligation. The hawkers should be encouraged and assisted by non-governmental organizations, and civil societies that would advocate for their welfare and champion their course.

The War against child hawking is a collective effort and therefore requires that our citizens are properly informed of the dangers and adequately mobilised to face the challenges. Thus would help the hawking children and teenager to go back to school again since most of them had/ have an experiences of schooling before. We recommend that researchers and students are to conduct similar research for further studies.



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