

## Socio-Political Implications of Youth Unemployment on Nigeria's Economic Development

Ngozi Nwogwugwu, PhD.; & Godwin Ndubuisi Irechukwu

Department of Political Science & Public Administration, Babcock Business School,

Babcock University, Ilishan-Remo, Ogun State, Nigeria.

Correspondence email: [nwogwugwu@babcock.edu.ng](mailto:nwogwugwu@babcock.edu.ng)

---

**Abstract:** Youth unemployment may be regarded as one of the major problems confronting the Nigerian state presently. Unemployed youths feel alienated from the society and have a total distrust of the political system. A person's job beyond providing for daily subsistence also determines the individual's social status, affecting relationship with peers, people in the person's neighborhood as well as extended family members. The paper a desk research, relied entirely on secondary data, sourced from scholarly peer-reviewed journal articles, relevant published books, materials downloaded from the internet, as well as government and institutional publications. In this paper, we argue that high level of youth unemployment in both urban and rural areas in Nigeria has generated a situation of acute social and political unrest. The frustrated youths have become aggressive in making themselves available to be used by politicians who are not sure of winning the people's mandate during general election. These politicians pay them to engage in anti-democratic process activities, including pre- election, election-day and post election violence. Some youths engage in various criminal activities that frustrate economic development of the state. We recommend that government should put in place social welfare programmes that attend to the needs of unemployed youths, provide the enabling environment for private investors to establish industries that will employ the youths as well as introduce the fiscal policies that will make banks to provide soft loans to the youths who have entrepreneurial skills.

**Key words:** Socio-Political implications, Youth unemployment, Economic development

---

### I. Introduction

Youths in any given society comprise an important social, political and economic force. Not necessarily that they comprise the majority, but rather because most often they comprise the larger portion of the productive population. The dominance of information and communication technology (ICT) in an increasingly globalized world provides the platform for the youths, who are the most active in the use of ICTs to emerge as the pillar that would revolutionize any emerging economy, of which Nigeria is one.

Yaswant (1987) underscores the importance of the youth in any given society stating that youths are the carriers of the culture, custodians of national honour and trustees of the freedom of the country. Nair (2009) aptly captures the relevance of youths in the society by stating that they are the treasure of human resources of a nation having a lot of talent dormant in them, and if tapped in the right direction, would bear great fruits to the benefit of their nation.

Grant (2010) writes that at a global scale, youth unemployment has become one of the major concerns of governments. This has even been worsened by world economic crisis making it the focus of much research and debate at various global fora. Though growing levels of unemployment has been a global phenomenon, Okoye-Nebo et al (2014: 20) write that "since the 1980s, unemployment has continued to remain one of the most cancerous socio-economic problems inhibiting the progress of Nigeria, as a nation and Sub-Saharan Africa".

According to National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) (2013) Nigeria's unemployment rate has been on the increase, standing at 25.9% as at 2013, as compared to 23.12% in 2012 and 23.9% in 2011. It was projected to rise further to 27% by the end of 2014. Awoegbenle and Iwuamadi (2013) write that Nigeria's youth population of 80 million represents 60% of the total population with a growth rate of 3.72% per annum. National demography suggests that with average annual entrant to the labour force between 2006 and 2013 standing at 2.9 million, the youth population will remain vibrant in the country. Unfortunately, majority of the youths have remained unemployed during the same period.

Massive youth unemployment, especially of university graduates in Nigeria implies that the nation is deprived of the services of the millions of educated and professionally trained youth force on the one hand, and the wasting of the human resources of the nation on the other. This has invited the anger of these youths who become frustrated after roaming streets looking for elusive jobs years after graduation. Some of them indulge in various illegal activities; anti-social, anti-political, anti-economic activities, as well as various violent and

criminal activities as ways of expressing their distrust of the system in which they have alienated from making positive contributions to economic development through gainful employment.

Okafor (2013) maintained that "The growing gap between the rich and the poor affects the society through increased violence. The self employed are in quandary as scant infrastructure makes it impossible for them to ply their trade". This is exacerbated by political corruption, poverty, poor governance; increasing population and lack of policy initiatives and implementation to some extent encourage criminal groups to thrive across Nigeria.

In this paper, we examine the various causes, trend, as well as social and political effects of youth unemployment in the country. Our proposition is that over the years corruption in the public sector and other factors have hindered the ability of Nigeria to utilize its enormous human resources, leading to massive youth unemployment which has had serious adverse effect on different sectors of the society. The negative effects of youth unemployment include the involvement of unemployed youths, including university graduates in various criminal activities. The paper is sub-divided into seven sections; introduction, conceptual clarifications, theoretical framework, causes of youth unemployment, social and political effects of youth unemployment, conclusion and recommendations.

## **II. Conceptual Clarifications**

### **Youth**

The National Population Commission has gone on to describe the characteristics of the persons identified as youth:

- (i) These are persons who normally would have completed secondary education, and would have been tertiary institutions such as the university, striving to secure employment, or be already employed. This group of persons would need post secondary education, employment and reproductive health information and service.
- (ii) Persons between ages of 18-35 years old, male and female who are citizens of Nigeria have been defined as youth in the 2009 second National Youth Policy document of Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Elsewhere, youth has been defined as a phase, a transition from dependence to independence and possessing distinct feature such as:

- (a) Leaving the parental home and establishing a new living arrangement.
- (b) Completing full time education.
- (c) Forming close, stable personal relationships outside of the family, often resulting in marriage and children.
- (d) Testing the labour market, finding work and possibly setting into a career, and achieving a more or less sustainable livelihood.

The United Nations (UN, 1995) has defined youth as persons in the age range of 15 to 24 years. While the World Health Organisation (WHO) reporting on social and political crimes and health categorized youth as persons between the ages of 10 to 29 years.

### **Youth Unemployment**

Unemployment has emerged as a major source of concern to scholars, policy makers and social commentators across the globe because of its consequences for the wider society at large. It is not a Nigerian or African problem. According to Fajana (2000 cited in Okoye-Nebo, Iloanya & Udunze, 2014), unemployment refers to a situation where people who are willing and capable of working are unable to find suitable paid employment. It is one of the macro-economic problems which every responsible government is expected to monitor and regulate.

According to Pribram (2012), "Unemployment is a well defined term in the area of social sciences particular in economics and commerce. Unemployment is a condition of labour market in which the supply of labour is greater than the number of available openings." In line with this, Fairchild (2013) writes that "Unemployment is forced and voluntary separation from remunerative work on the part of the normal working force during the normal working time, at normal wages and under normal working condition.

Scholars have identified different types of unemployment. Okoye-Nebo, et al (2014) cites Oladele, et al (2011), Alao (2005) and Fajana (2000) as having outlined the different types of unemployment to include; structural unemployment, frictional unemployment, seasonal unemployment, cyclical or Keynesian unemployment, technological unemployment and residual unemployment.

Okafor (2013) writes that findings from his empirical studies on youth unemployment from 1990-2013 showed that the largest group of unemployed in the country, in terms of academic qualification, are secondary school graduates. In addition, 40% of unemployment rate were among urban youths aged 20-24 while 31% of the rate were among those aged 15-19. Two-third of the urban unemployed ranged from 15-24 years old. In 2011, the situation became even more critical with 47.7% of Nigerians aged 15-25 and 25.4% of those between

ages 25-44 were willing to work but did not get jobs. On the average, youth unemployment rate in Nigeria is estimated at 48.5% in 2013 (BLG 2013).

Okoye-Nebo et al (2014) while elaborating on the incidence of youth unemployment in Nigeria, write that the unemployment situation in the country is so bad that university graduates stay at home for upwards of ten years unable to find any meaningful employment. The graduates of Nigerian universities and polytechnics have become unattractive as employers of labour regard as being unemployable. The trend is that many employers within the domestic economy reserve spaces for young Nigerians that are trained in foreign high institutions.

### **Economic Development**

Tawiah (1989) writes that “ economic development refers to an increase ( or expansion) of the National Income or Total Volume of production of goods and services of a country accompanied by improvements in the social, political and economic lives of the citizens inhabiting that country.” According to Ande (2005), Economic development is a process whereby the level of National Production (National Income) or per capital income increases over a period of time. The purpose of economic development is to raise the standard of living and the general well-being of the people in the economy.

Feldman, M., Hadjimichael, T., Kemeny, T., & Lanahan, L. (2014) cite Amartya Sen (1999) in providing a very expansive explanation of economic development which is appropriate to the context of this paper. They write that:

economic development occurs when individual agents have the opportunity to develop the capacities that allow them to actively engage and contribute to the economy. In the aggregate, this should lower transaction costs and increase social mobility. Rather than being reduced to a static factor in a production process, individuals become the agents of change in the process of economic development: they have the freedom to realize their potential. The greater the number of individuals able to participate in the economy and the society, the greater the opportunity for new ideas to circulate and be put into action. Economic development is measured by rising real per capita income, Gini coefficients and other measures of the distribution of income and wealth as well as indicators of quality of life, that range from life expectancy to crime statistics to environmental quality (Sen 1999 cited in Feldman, Hadjimichael, Kemeny & Lanahan, 2014: 5)

The importance of the discuss on economic development in Nigeria, has to be understood from the fact that “Nigeria is economically weak due to inadequate domestic economic capacity and social infrastructure needed to boost the country’s productivity, growth and competitiveness” (Onwuka & Eguavoen, 2007: 47)). The fact that the Nigeria depends predominantly on revenue from oil and gas sector, has created a situation where it faces unfavourable terms of trade with other countries especially the advanced industrialized countries from whom it imports its manufactured products. (Obadan, 2001 cited in Onwuka & Eguavoen, 2007). The inconsistency in the implementation of economic policies over the years and the challenge of public sector corruption has hindered the ability of the country to achieve its potentials in spite of enormous resources.

### **Theoretical Framework**

We adopt as the theoretical construct for this paper, Frustration-aggression theory and Functionalist approach. The major proposition of this theory is that human needs can propel them toward misunderstanding or conflict. It holds that every human being has certain needs which are arranged in order of priority. There are some of these needs that are called fundamental or basic needs and that failure to satisfy them could result in frustration and consequently the frustrated person or group may be forced to aggressively react in a manner that will lead to a crisis or conflict.

Dollard, Doob, Miller, Mowrer, and Sears (1939 cited in Ajayi & Nwogwugwu, 2014) argue that people are motivated to act aggressively by a drive induced by frustration. “The concept of frustration denotes condition that arises when goal attainment is blocked, while aggression constitutes actions aimed at harming perceived stumbling blocks” (Jegede & Ajayi, 2008: 147). The implication of the proposition of this theory is that frustration will inevitably lead to some form of aggression. Also, there are certain unacceptable practices such as youth unemployment that have become institutionalized in the society, which serve as source of pain. As long as the very active young people are not provided with the opportunity for self actualization in terms of gainful employment after being educated, the tendency for them to be frustrated and become aggressive as such taking out their frustration on the society exists.

The Functionalist Approach is favoured by many scholars who seek explanations of deviant behaviour and crime. Functionalist approach sees deviant behaviour as being the consequence of malfunctioning social

structure of the society, which exerts a definite pressure upon certain individuals in the society to engage in non-conforming or conforming conduct. Merton (1957) puts this in very clear perspective asserting that any society in which there is strong emphasis on specific goals to be achieved by people without building of the institutional mechanisms for their attainment, will inevitably lead to what Emile Durkheim called "anomie" or "normlessness" or "deviation".

Merton (1968) argues that a society has both approved goals and approved ways of attaining them. When some members of the society accept the goals (employment) but do not have access to the approved norms is likely to be weakened, and they may try to attain the goals by other socially unacceptable means (fraud). In other words, criminal behavior occurs when society approved means are not available for the realization of highly desired goals.

These theories could be used to link to the rising number of unemployed youths involvement in political, financial and economic crimes in Nigeria. A country that produces thousands of university graduates every year without commensurate employment opportunities may be creating a fertile ground for a feeling of frustration among these unemployed graduates. Naturally, there is a feeling of joy and great expectation when a student graduates from a university – these expectations gradually fades away and is replaced by feeling of frustration after some years of joblessness caused by the inability of the various sectors of the economy, especially the productive sectors to grow to accommodate these new graduates in terms of job opportunities.

As frustration prolongs and the feeling of deprivation of what is expected increases, there is a greater probability that the individual or people can resort to illegitimate activities in order to actualize their expectations in the society. The rise in political and social crimes (robbery, kidnapping, thuggery, terrorism) committed by youth is a sign of "gap" in the society. The society already has expectation for individuals and established means of achieving them. When the means are limited as youth unemployment as at 2013 was estimated to be 48.5%, the young people are forced to achieve the goal through illegal means in order to fulfill perceived societal expectations.

Kidnapping is increasingly becoming difficult to completely eradicate across the different geo-political zones in Nigeria. Unfortunately, some unemployed youths seem to view the crime as a lucrative business given the age range of those who had been apprehended over the last few years. Incidentally, various factors have been regarded as the triggering factors from one zone to the other, including the agitations for resource control and perceived marginalization in the case of the Niger delta region. As the military have moved to curtail it in one zone or state, there seem to be shift to other zones and states, with a recurring decimal being the involvement of youths, some of whom are regrettably university graduates.

### **Causes of Youth Unemployment**

Several scholars such as Awogbenle and Iwuamadi (2010), Ayinde (2008), Morphy (2008), Echebiri (2005), amongst others have identified various causes of unemployment and specifically, youth unemployment in Nigeria. We have chosen to emphasize five of the major causes of youth unemployment in this paper, and they are:

Firstly, over-emphasis on university certificate and neglect of entrepreneurial or skill acquisition trainings. According to Manning and Junam, (1998), the total number of graduates produced in Nigeria was 73,339 in 1986 and 1987 that rose to 131,071 in 1996 and 1997. The licensing of private universities which commenced in 1999, and subsequent creation of new federal universities, has increased the number of universities to about 100 and still counting, which means that every year hundreds of thousands of University graduates enter the labour market looking for non-existent jobs, lacking the necessary skills to create jobs themselves. Anyadike et al (2012) write that the reality is that the economy lacks the capacity to absorb all unemployed graduates because over 800 industries and 37 factories were closed down in 2009 alone.

Secondly, rapid population growth (140,431,790 as per 2006 Census) and it is currently projected to be over 180million going by the annual growth rate of 3.2% continues (National Population Commission and ICF Macro, 2009). Okoye-Nebo, et al (2014) write that the high population growth rate has resulted in the rapid growth of the labour force, which is far outstripping the supply of jobs. Their argument is that accelerated growth of population on Nigeria's unemployment problem is multifaceted. The high population growth rate affects the supply side through a high and rapid increase in the labour force relative to the absorptive capacity of the economy. While the population increases, the number of industries has been reducing, as several have had to close as a result of unfavourable operating environment. The principal adverse condition has been epileptic power supply, leading to some industries, including multi-national companies (Michelin and Dunlop) relocating to some other African countries. The implication is that if nothing drastic is done to provide the enabling environment for industries to thrive and grow, then the rate of unemployment will continue to grow geometrically, with very grave consequences for the polity.

Thirdly, among the causes of youth unemployment is outdated school curricula and lack of employable skills. Some scholars have argued that as far as the formal sector is concerned, the average Nigerian graduate is

not employable, as he or she does not possess the skills needed by the employers (Okoye-Nebo, et al 2014). This is due to the fact that curricular of most Nigerian schools are patterned to meet the needs of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and not the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Unfortunately, those who are charged with the responsibility of development of curricular of educational system are people who are not in touch with the present dispensation. As such, outdated materials are updated for a new generation that has no need of them. University graduates who desire to gain employment have to acquire information technology skills that would make them employable from training institutions, whereas such should be part of their curricular in the first instance.

Fourthly, the high level of public sector corruption has been identified as a cause of youth unemployment in Nigeria. Awogbenle and Iwuamadi (2013) write that in spite of enormous wealth that accrues to Nigeria through the sale of crude oil, the level of employment in the country has been on the decrease over the years. Corruption which has permeated the entire social structure of Nigeria, has robbed the country of developing a vibrant economic base. Okafor (2010) writes that funds that should have been used in executing developmental projects especially provision of critical infrastructure across the country, have been misappropriated, diverted, or embezzled and stashed away in foreign banks, while some incompetent and corrupt bureaucrats and administrators in the public enterprises and parastatals either liquidated them or provided the platform for those enterprises to be bought by associates and friends. National interests has been sacrificed in the altar of personal interests as the ruling (political) class has replaced the vision, policy, and strategy, which should be the thrust of every leadership with transactions (contract award and other mundane money related activities). Successive governments in Nigeria, took turns to prey on the nation's wealth, by using public power, resources, good will, utilities, as instrument of abuse of public trust for personal gains (Okafor, 2005).

Bello (2003) identifies adoption of untimely economic policy measures as a cause of unemployment in Nigeria, which is the fifth in our listing. Bello (2003) writes that these untimely economic policies contributed to the demise of small scale and cottage industries operated in both formal and informal sectors. The introduction of structural Adjustment Programme (SAP) in September 1986 that ushered in liberalization, deregulation and devaluation programme of the domestic currency, exposed several infant industries which needed protection to unfavourable operating conditions which led to their collapse, resulting in serious job losses.

### **Social, Political and Economic Effects of Youth Unemployment in Nigeria**

Ndiofin, Apori, & Ndiofin, (2012) write that "security is a contextual issue which no state in the international system consigns to the periphery; it is a core value that makes the state relevant in the international system". The World Health Organization (WHO) (2004) reports that death rate attributable to violence across Africa is estimated at 60% per 100, 000 more than twice the global rate. The level of involvement of unemployed young people in crime and violent activities across sub-Saharan Africa has been on the increase. Some scholars have attributed rising incidence of prostitution, armed robbery, rape, and other forms of violent activities to the high level of youth unemployment in these countries.

Edward (2011) writes that the problem of social and political crime in Nigeria has been exacerbated by the high rate of unemployment and economic hardship which has forced many university graduates to go into various crimes. A 2009 World Bank Report on "Employment and Growth" warned that "the share of young people between the ages of 15 - 24 outside the labour force is growing, despite the country's strong growth performance over the years." All Africa (2010) reported that the UN-Habitat study on crimes and violence stressed that socio-economic inequality and lack of opportunities for social advancement and employment are among the root causes of crime. In Nigeria, it may be deduced that a large number of the youths involved in criminal activities are from disadvantaged families and with limited opportunities for living a good life, they fall prey to social and political criminal networks.

Furthermore, Ibrahim (2006) reported that an empirical survey of children and youths in organized armed crime in Nigeria, showed that disenchantment and frustration of young people due to mass poverty and unemployment, has increased the number of aggrieved youths and resulted in the emergence of "area boys" and Almajiris who targeted the very society that alienated them. Awogbenle and Iwuamadi (2010) reported that their survey revealed that armed militant groups in Nigeria namely: Bakassi Boys, O'dua Peoples Congress (OPC) and Egbesu Boys were made up of youths within 16-17 years (40%), 18-19 years (10%), 20-21 years, (20%) and 20-23 years (20%). Approximately 70% of these youths were unemployed which explains why it is easy to recruit them into armed militancy activities.

Bennel (2002) argued that urban society is becoming increasingly criminalized, especially with the proliferation of youth gangs. Neither homes or markets are safe in Nigeria because of frequent occurrence of armed robbery (including bank robberies), homicide acts, rape, assassinations of differ kinds, ritual murders, vandalism, car theft, cyber crimes (popularly referred to as yahoo-yahoo), computer crimes, prostitution, use of illegal substances, drug peddling, gun running (proliferation of small arms), etc.

Political godfathers are known to have used unemployed youths to undermine the democratic process, thereby hindering the election of competent leaders by the electorate. Unemployed youths have been used by political godfathers across the country to engage in anti-democratic activities during the fourth republic. Political Godfathers usually hire unemployed youths to oppress, intimidate or kill political opponents who they believe stand the chance of defeating them in general elections (Sanni, 2007; Abdullahi, 2005). In other instances, during elections they are engaged to monitor and defend the votes of their particular candidates by standing at the polling booths to steal or prevent ballot boxes from being stolen depending on their strength and popularity in the political wards (Abdul-Jelil, n.d). Sometimes, the political godfathers use these unemployed youths to engage in stuffing of ballot boxes with ballot papers, illegal thumb-printing of ballot papers, ballot box snatching, mobilize children for under-age voting, amongst other activities that border on rigging of elections (Olarinmoye, 2008).

Okoye-Nebo, et al, (2014) write that the inability of the Nigerian state to provide stable power supply has made it hostile to investment. Manufacturing industries that rely on generating plants to power their manufacturing outfits end up operating at higher costs than their competitors in other countries, and in the era of globalization, they choose to close shop or relocate to countries with favourable operating environment. Closure or relocation of such industries leads to loss of jobs and inability to create new ones, which heightens the crisis of youth unemployment in the country (Onifade, 2011).

The closure and relocation of the industries affects economic development as the contribution they were making to the national economy will be lacking. The closure or relocation of manufacturing industries and investors makes it difficult for the country to attract new foreign direct investment which is regarded as a major requirement for the attainment of economic development (Nwogwugwu, Alao & Egwuonwu, 2012). It globally acknowledged that for any country to achieve economic development it must industrial to the extent of having comparative advantage in particular manufactured products. Where industries instead of growing, close shop because of unfavourable operating environment it has grave implications for the national economy.

Contrary to the projections of United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) (2007) that Nigeria was to emerge as the 40<sup>th</sup> most attractive location for foreign direct investment FDI in the world, Ezekiel (2010) and Williams (2011) report that the volume of new FDI attraction had continued to dwindle, as Nigeria attracts less volume of FDI than Angola and Ghana. This may not be unconnected to high level of insecurity in different parts of the country of which unemployed youths have been the principal actors.

### **III. Conclusion**

The high level of youth unemployment in Nigeria has had very grave consequences for the country, negatively affecting social, political and economic development in the country. Among the principal causes of youth unemployment has been public sector corruption which has resulted in mismanagement of enormous public resources over the years. Successive governments have failed to provide the critical infrastructure needed for the productive sector of the economy to grow leading to the collapse of many industries and relocation of some others to countries with favourable operating environment. Epileptic power supply has adversely affected the nation's ability to grow local industries as well as attract foreign direct investment in the productive sector.

Moribund educational curricular have equally made graduates of Nigerian institutions to become hard core unemployable, with domestic employers in the organized private sector preferring foreign trained graduates. Over the years, curricular of higher institutions have not been upgraded to meet the challenges of the new millennium leading to the inability of the graduates to meet with the needs of the present dispensation. Some frustrated youths have become aggressive and engaged in violent crimes against the state that has refused to provide the enabling environment for their self-actualization, while some others have been engaged by political godfathers to engage in activities that undermine the democratic process.

### **IV. Recommendations**

- ✓ There is need for government to go beyond paper policy and ensure that small and medium scale organizations are encouraged to thrive and be able to provide jobs for the large army of unemployed youths in the country. This can be achieved through introduction of a favourable interest rate regime, whereby interest rate on lending to small and medium scale enterprises can be as low as 5% per annum.
- ✓ Entrepreneurial education should be made the core part of the curriculum of all Universities and Polytechnics, to ensure that graduates have the skills to create jobs and not be mere job seekers.
- ✓ Government should provide critical infrastructure needed for industries to operate and be able to employ the youths of the country, especially power supply. It is only if the power supply situation in Nigeria is redressed that manufacturing industries will be able to operate and create the needed jobs.
- ✓ There is need for good leadership which will ensure good governance, formulation and implementation of people oriented policies and programmes, as well as curb public sector corruption which has been a major factor hindering creation of employment opportunities and economic development in the country.

- ✓ There should be consistency in policy implementation. Good policies should be pursued to a logical conclusion for the benefit of citizens, the idea of every new government introducing a new agenda abandoning on-going programmes and projects is detrimental to development.

### References

- [1]. Abdullahi, I. (2005). "I am a rebel' Youth, Culture & Violence in Sierra Leone." In Honwana, A. and De Boeck, F. (eds.) *Makers & Breakers Children and Youth in Post-Colonial Africa*. Dakar: Codesria.
- [2]. Abdul-Jelil, A. G. (nd). 'Godfatherism' and Nigeria's Fourth Republic: Violence and Political Insecurity in Ibadan.
- [3]. Ajayi, F. & Nwogwugwu, N. (2014). From militancy to terrorism: Need for a fresh perspective to Nigeria's National Security. *IOSR Journal of Economics and Finance (IOSR-JEF)* e-ISSN: 2321-5933, p-ISSN: 2321-5925. Volume 5, Issue 5. (Sep.-Oct. 2014), PP 01-07.
- [4]. Alanana O.O (2003). Youth Unemployment in Nigeria: Some Implications for the Third Millennium. *Global Journal of Social Sciences* 2 (1):21-26.
- [5]. Alao .O. (2005). *Principles of Economics: Macro*. Lagos: Darkol Press and Publishers.
- [6]. Ande, C. E. (2005). *Essential Economics*. Ibafo, Ogun State: Tonad Publishers.
- [7]. Anyadike, N., Emeh, I. G. J. (2012). Entrepreneurship development and employment generation in Nigeria: problem and Prospects. *Journal of Education and General studies*. Vol 1 (4) pp 088 – 102.
- [8]. Awogbenle, A. C. and Iwuamadi, K. C. (2013). Youth unemployment: entrepreneurship development programme as an intervention mechanism. *African Journal of Business Management*. 4 (6), 831-835.
- [9]. Bennely, P. (2002). Improving Youth Livelihood in Sub-Saharan Africa, Report to the International Development Centre
- [10]. Central Bank of Nigeria (2004). *Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2003*. Abuja: Central Bank of Nigeria.
- [11]. Central Bank of Nigeria (1999). Poverty Alleviation in Nigeria. *Bulletin*, Vol 23, No 4.
- [12]. Cruise News (2012). To fight crime in Nigeria, we must first fight unemployment. Retrieved online on 12 october 2014 from <http://www.cruisenigeria.com>.
- [13]. Echebiri, R.N. (2005). Characteristics and Determinants of Urban Youth Unemployment in Umuahia, Nigeria: Implications for Rural Development and Alternative Labor Market Variables. A Paper presented at the ISSER/Cornell/World Bank conference on "Shared Growth in Africa" held in Accra, Ghana, July 21-22.
- [14]. Edward, U. E. (2011). Violent crimes, Economic development and the morality of capital punishment in Nigeria: A Retentionist perspective. Retrieved from [www.transcanyins.org/journals](http://www.transcanyins.org/journals).
- [15]. Ezekiel, E. (2010). Nigeria's foreign direct investment hits \$6 billion. Retrieved from <http://www.punchng.com/Article.aspx?theartic=Art201007232364337>
- [16]. Feldman, M., Hadjimichael, T., Kemeny, T., & Lanahan, L. (2014). Economic Development: A Definition and Model for Investment. Retrieved online from [www.maryannfeldman.web.unc.edu/.../Economic-Development-a-definition-and-model-for-investment.pdf](http://www.maryannfeldman.web.unc.edu/.../Economic-Development-a-definition-and-model-for-investment.pdf)
- [17]. Fajana, S. (2000). *Functioning of the Nigerian Labour Market*. Lagos: Labonfin and Company,
- [18]. Fairchild, T. (2013). *Unemployment in Nigeria*. Enugu: University Press.
- [19]. Florence, (2013). *Issues of unemployment in the developing world*. New Delhi: Pioner Lucknow.
- [20]. Grant, P. (2010). *Youth employment and technological change: the Educational and Social implications*. USA: Aldershot Brookfield.
- [21]. Jegede, A. E. & Ajayi, F. (2008). Economic constraints, restiveness and criminality among Niger- Delta youths: A reflective sociology. *Nigerian Sociological Review*, Vol 3, Nos 1 & 2, Pp 143 – 150.
- [22]. Manning, C. & Junanka, P. N. (1998). Choosy youth or Unwanted Youth: A survey of unemployment. *Bulletin of Indonesian Economic Studies* 34 (1), 55 – 93.
- [23]. Merton, P. K. (1957). *Social Theory and Social Structures*. New York: Force Press.
- [24]. Metiboba, S. (2002). Corruption and National Development: A Cost-Benefit Analysis. In Igun, U. A. & Mordi A.A. (eds). *Contemporary Social Problems in Nigeria*. Ijebu-ode: Shebiatimo Publications.
- [25]. Morphy, R. (2008). Nigeria: Youth Unemployment, Poverty – a Time Bomb for Country. *Leadership*, Wednesday, 27 August.
- [26]. Nair, V. (2009). *Youth on the Brink*. New Delhi: Pioneer Lucknow.
- [27]. National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) (2014). Statistical News: Labor Force Statistics No. 476. Abuja: The NBS.
- [28]. National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) (2013). Social Statistics in Nigeria. Abuja: The NBS retrieved from [www.nigeriastat.gov.org](http://www.nigeriastat.gov.org).
- [29]. National Population Commission and ICF Macro (2009). Nigeria demographic and health survey 2008. Abuja: National Population Commission.
- [30]. Ndiofin, C. O., Apori, K. A. & Ndiofin, R. A. (2012). Human trafficking in Nigeria: A metaphor for human rights, crime, and security violations. *American Journal of Social Science and Humanities*. Vol 2 (2) pp 84 – 99.
- [31]. Nwogwugwu, N, Alao, O. T. & Egwuonwu, C. K. (2012). Militancy and Insecurity in the Niger Delta: impact on the inflow of foreign direct investment to Nigeria. *Kuwait Chapter of Arabian Journal of Business and Management Review* Vol. 2, No.1; Sept. 2012, pp 23 -37
- [32]. Okafor E.E (2011). Youth Unemployment and Implications for Stability of Democracy In Nigeria. *Journal of Sustainable Development in Africa*. Vol. 13(1)
- [33]. Okafor, E.E. (2005). Executive Corruption in Nigeria: A Critical Overview of Its Socio- Economic Implications for Development. *African Journal for Psychological Study of Social Issues*, 8(1), 21-41
- [34]. Okoye-Nebo, C., Iloanya, K. & Udunze, U. (2014). Youth Unemployment and Entrepreneurship Development: Challenges and Prospects in Nigeria. *Kuwait Chapter of Arabian Journal of Business and Management Review* Vol. 4, No.4; December. 2014. Pp 20 – 35.
- [35]. Oladele P.O, Akeke, I, Oladunjoye, O.(2011). Entrepreneurship Development: A Panacea for Unemployment Reduction in Nigeria. *Journal of Emerging Trends in Economics and Management Sciences (JETEMS)* 2 (4): 251-256
- [36]. Olarinmoye, O. O. (2008). Godfathers, political parties and electoral corruption in Nigeria. *African Journal of Political Science and International Relations* Vol. 2 (4), pp. 066-073, December 2008. Available online at <http://www.academicjournals.org/AJPSIR>
- [37]. Onifade, D. (2011). Power Supply: We need the facts. *The Guardian*, Wednesday, 23 February.
- [38]. Onwuka, E. C. & Eguavoan, A. (2007). Globalization and Economic Development: The Nigerian Experience. *Journal of Social Sciences, (Kamla-Raj)*14 (1): 45-51.
- [39]. Pribrain, K. (2012). *Encyclopedia of Social Sciences*, vol 147.

- [40]. Sanni, S. (2007). *Political Assassinations in Nigeria*. Ibadan: BOOKCRAFT.
- [41]. Tawiah, K. P. (1989). *Basic Economics for West Africa*. Benin City: Idodo Umeh Publishers.
- [42]. United Nations (cited in NSER, 2006). Assessment of Youths employment in Rivers, Delta, Kaduna, Kano & Plateau States of Nigeria. Financial report.
- [43]. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) (2007). World investment prospect survey 2007 – 2009, New York & Geneva: United Nations. Retrieved from [www.unctad.org/en/docs/wips2007\\_en.pdf](http://www.unctad.org/en/docs/wips2007_en.pdf).
- [44]. Williams, S. (2011, July 27). FDI inflow to Nigeria declines to \$6.1bn. *Daily Trust Newspaper*. Retrieved from <http://www.dailytrust.com.ng/index.php/business/23995-fdi-inflow-to-nigeriadeclines-to-6.1bn>
- [45]. William, K. & Kulian, J. (2004). *Social Problems*. USA: Web Crafters.
- [46]. Yaswant, T. (1987). *Dynamics of Youth Unrest*. New Delhi: People's Welfare.