

Influence of Place Identity and Place Dependence on Resilience towards Boko Haram Insurgency among Maiduguri Residents in Borno State, Nigeria

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Abstract. Generally the importance of a place of residence becomes paramount to its habitants during lose and hard times. The economic viability of a place and self-reference to a place which depends on how individuals appreciate and express themselves in relation to their settings can increase residents' consciousness of a specific place. It is in this vein that this study aims to examine whether place identity, place dependence, age, gender, length of stay, income and occupation influences resilience toward Boko Haram insurgency in Maiduguri. Place attachment and resilience theory was used for this study. The study is unique in having investigated place identity, place dependence and other demographic characteristics on the survival of residents been troubled by terrorism. Though other studies have dealt mainly with areas of threat due to natural disasters, this present study, examine a particular neighbourhood that is subject to terrorist attacks for the past 8 years. This paper relies on a cross-sectional data, with a sample size of 383, using convenient sampling technique. The Pearson correlation analysis revealed significant and positive relationship between place identity and place dependence on resilience, while, age and length of stay indicated positive and insignificant. Income on the other hand, shows negative and insignificant relationship with resilience. The results of the Multiple Linear Regression analysis revealed that, place identity and place dependence are significant predictor of resident's resilience towards Boko Haram insurgent. This is an indication that, in spite of the conflicts and casualties, the residents did not regard their neighborhood as being too hazardous and were holding on to the neighbourhood as a place they are identified with and depend on as a source of their livelihood.

Keywords: Resilience, Resident's, Insurgency, Place Identity, Place Dependence, Maiduguri, Borno State.

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I. Introduction

It is obvious that place of residence remains the main source of people's identity and a source of dependence to many, people occupy certain places, for a certain reason and different purpose, as an individual or collectively. The suitability of a place to fulfill one's functional needs signifies place dependence (Suntikul, & Jachna, 2016). However, the insecurity rebellion of the Boko Haram insurgency has become a main issue to individual life and source of disturbances to place of residence in Borno state. Boko Haram is a group of individual who are allegedly anti-Western education (Ezeibe, 2009). The word "Boko Haram" ordinarily refers to "Western education is sin" (Ikenga and Efebeh 2013; Nwanegbo and Odigbo, 2013; Pérouse De Montclos, 2014; Obi, 2015). The origin of Boko Haram can be traced to the extreme propaganda of Mallam Abubakar Kilakam, an indigene of the Niger Republic, who live in Maiduguri, Borno state. Mallam Abubakar Kilakam promulgated an anti-government message that led to his arrest and subsequent deportation to Niger republic (Alegbeleye, 2014). The Boko Haram sect, arose under the control of Mohammed Yusuf (Obi, 2015) who in 2003, led the sect in movement, which promoted a conventional doctrine that is different and conflicting with the Nigerian secular state referring to it as immoral and un-Islamic (Odo, 2014). Generally, the sect strongly advocates for the abrogation of any form of western education and culture. Members of the group were mostly idle and jobless Nigerian youths from the northeastern part of the country and war refugees across the boundaries from Chad, Mali, Sudan, and Libya (Ikechukwu, 2014).

The activities of the sect had not been noticed by many Nigerians and the worldwide until July 2009, when the group had a clash with security operatives resulting in the death of its leader Mohammed Yusuf (Odo, 2014). Following the death of Yusuf, series of deadly attacks were launched on innocent citizen, public places,

government buildings and establishments, military and police installations, schools, and places of worship (Odo, 2014). This situation has claim thousands of life and destruction of property (Alegbeleye, 2014). Thus, the terrible activities of the sect received both local and international condemnation. Government effort to dialogue with the group proved abortive, as such, the refusal of this group to embrace dialogue necessitated the pronouncement of the state of emergency in May 2013 in the three north-eastern states of Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe (Alegbeleye, 2014). The life threatening activities of the sect prompted some residents to relocate out of Maiduguri. Purokayo and Gabdo (2013) indicated that residential mobility and relocation have gone beyond issues relating to income, economic or demographics and has extended to religious and political conflicts depending on their vulnerabilities. No doubt, the *Boko Haram* insurgency has been a major factor influencing some residents' decision to move in most places affected by insurgency attacks. For instance based on Amnesty International report (2016), between 2015 and 2016 over 2 million people were internally displaced in north-east Nigeria. Accordingly the United Nation High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR 2013) indicated that, about 170,000 people have fled to neighboring countries of; Cameroon (56,000), Chad (14,000) and Niger (100,000) and over thousands of people were reported to be killed (Akokpari, 2007).

Though, many residents have resisted and still decided to stay even with the susceptibility that has resulted in persistent worry and distress. Previous studies have examined residents' endurance using place identity and dependence in area of natural disaster, flood prone area (Anacio et al., 2016), storm (Capenter, 2013) and wildfire prone area (Anton and Lawrence, 2014). However, none of these studies looked at the area of insecurity that involved life and death situation. Hence, it is against this backdrop that, this present study intends to examine whether place identity, place dependence, age, gender, length of stay, income and occupation have influences on residents resilience in a neighbourhood confronted with terrorist activities that involved life and death situation.

II. Literature Review

2.1 Resilience

In the process of life, people come across different and difficult challenges that make them react to such situations with a torrent of strong emotions and a sense of uncertainty (Fitzpatrick and Young, 2015). Yet people still acclimatize well over a period of time; this process of adapting over time is an act of resilience. Fitzpatrick and Young, (2015) defined resilience as a manner that involves time and effort that engrosses people in taking a number of strategies due to loss of properties, death, and terrorist assaults. Thus, resilience in people retorts may differ based on prevailing environmental adversities. Muggah (2014) viewed the concept of resilience as a continuing effort by individuals or communities to endure, manage and raise in spite of stress and shocks.

According to Siebert (2005) and Feldman (2011), resilient people have good skills, self-determining, hardly affected by dejection, very stable and calm under stress, and easily bounce back from weaknesses. Hence, in the context of this study, "resilience" can be termed as an individuals or community's ability to persist and progress in a difficult situation.

2.2 Place Identity

The place is an indication of ones' neighbourhood (Pred, 1986). Place identity according to Fresque-Baxter and Armitage, (2012) is a reflection of self-identity which is often tied to a sense of belonging to a particular place and consequently depends on how individuals appreciate and express themselves in relation to their settings. Place identity is further conceptualized by Barcuset al., (2015) and Saradjet al., (2015) as a close connection between an individual and the physical environment. As such the choice of neighbourhood expresses an individual life style (Dekker et al., 2005).

Hence, the preference of neighbourhood by individuals can partially tell their identity and shows who they are and what kind of taste they have. This is evident in a study conducted by Bilig, (2006) where he concluded that place remains the main source of identity for many Gaza settlers, as many were found to consider their homes as a place of their identification despite the threats posed to them by the Israeli. Therefore, it can be assumed that residents who have stayed long in a place and identify with the place may exhibit higher reliance hence, may not wish to leave.

2.3 Place Dependence

Place dependence can be viewed as how residents view the worth of a specific place and the capacity of the place to satisfied the needs of it habitants, compared to other places. It reflects the conative domain on how people's needs are met through their community (Jorgensen and Stedman, 2001; Pretty et al., 2003; Bergstrom 2012; Fernando and Cooley, 2016). Additionally, place dependence signifies the suitability of a place to fulfill one's functional needs and objectives (Suntikuland Jachna 2016). Furthermore, they also indicated that the economic viability of a place can increase residents' consciousness of a specific place, even though these

residents do not always consciously monitor their connections with a place or comparing the quality of their life with those in other communities. Hence, an individual may show resilience and would not want to leave a place that provides him/her a means of livelihood. As such, studies have shown that, if a place satisfies people's needs, they tend to develop place dependence that would possibly endure and remain in the neighbourhood even when the place is under threat.

2.4 Demographic characteristics

A growing body of evidence suggests that resilience have shown that socioeconomic and demographic characteristics of the residence within a neighbourhood play a significant role in influencing their decision to remain or relocate during periods of insecurity or natural disaster. Goroshit, and Eshel, (2013) conducted a study on their resilience of older and younger Israelis, and found that older Israelis are more resilient than younger ones, they concluded that, their long experience of wars and terror attacks have perhaps strengthened their effort. Similarly Bonanno, Galea, Bucciarelli and Vlahov (2007) on the other hand use age and gender to observe whether there are significant predictors of resilience and found out that, people 65 years of age or older were resilient more than people between 18 and 24 years of age. While in terms of gender, women were found to be less resilient as men.

Studies by Lewicka (2005, 2010), Raymond et al., (2010) and Stedman (2006) linked the reasons of residents staying preference with the length of residence in a place. In another vein, Anacio et al., (2016) studies indicate that, resident's length of stay facilitates an individual's to establishment economic endeavor precise for that place. For instance, an individual may not be born in a place, but due to his or her length of stay in the area, has developed necessary networks and skills to practice a certain economically satisfying activity. As a result, the place gains meaning as a place where one can depend upon economically, and thus, relocating to another place to avoid any events would also mean foregoing established economic activities. On the other hand when resident's create good relationship between various parts of the community they tends to share values and norms indicating the strength of social control, which results in enhancing of trust between residents and their willingness to collectively find solutions to common problems (Hart, et al., 2002).

2.5 Theoretical Framework

The structure that hold, guide and explain the justification behind the aim of this study is the theoretical framework, Khan (2010) this study adopt Attachment theory of Bowlby (1969) and resilience theory of KutLewin 1943 (Unga; 2008).

Attachment theory was propounded by Bowlby, (1969) to observe "maternal deprivation on infant's behavior during and after parting from the mother". In later years environmental psychology and professional's in built environment use the theory as place attachment theory to explain attachment or bond that people tend to have toward certain places otherwise known as human-place bonding (Tuan 1974; Proshansky, Fabian, and Kaminoff 1983; Altman and Low 1992; Ram et al., 2016; Cretney et al., 2016).

Resilience theory of KutLewin, (1943) postulated that, the behaviour of individuals cannot be sufficiently explained in natural environment without giving emphasis in understanding their historical background. Resilience theory as related to individuals and community is to acquire the basic understanding of positive adaptation as well as risk endurance that enable individuals to become functional, productive and accepted members of their immediate neighbourhood and society (Unga; 2008). The main significant idea of resilience is to assess the level of individual's endurance towards risk experience in their settlement (Rutter, 1999)

In order to understand why people don't move, this research draws on the literature of place attachment to explain the significance of resilience as an important attributes for residence by analyzing the relationship between place identity, place dependence and resilience despite out flux of some residents of Maiduguri to other places due the insurgency. Here the present study review work of various authors on place identity and place dependence to explain why residents don't move despite the insecurity challenges in their neighbourhood.

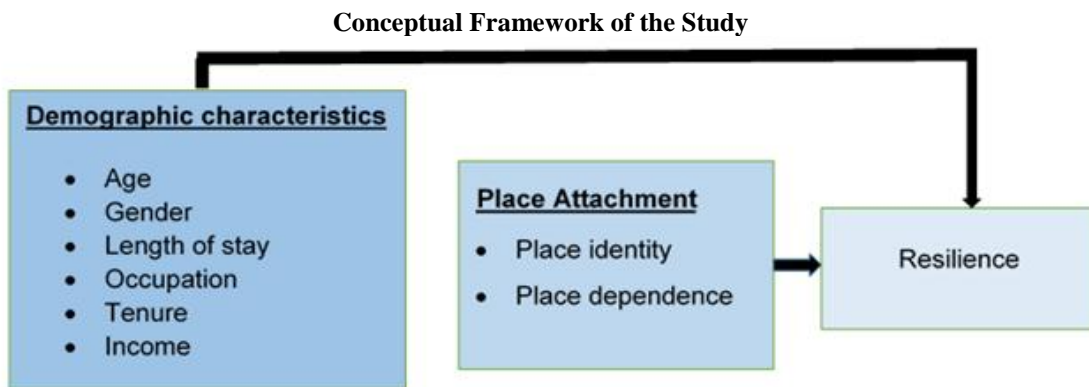


Figure 1. Conceptual framework of the study

III. Methodology

The study was conducted in Maiduguri, Borno state, North Eastern Nigeria.



Cochran formula, (1977) was employed to determine the required sample size from a total population of 540,016 spread across Gwange having population of 142,122, with sample size of (s = 101), Bolori 102,154 (s = 73), Yerwa 211,119 (s = 149), and Mai Sandari districts 84,621 (s = 60) respectively. Though 10% of the total sample size of 383 was added as specified by Singh and Masuku (2013). A total number of 421 questionnaires was administered using convenience sampling technique while 383 was used for the analysis.

The use of convenience sampling was necessary due to the problem of insecurity which prompted government to restrict movement in some areas in the metropolis and also for the safety of the researcher, as well as time constraint which is associated with other forms of sampling. Convenience sampling allows easy accessibility to respondents and also saves time.

The instrument used for measuring level of resident's resilience was adapted from Smith et al., (2008) with 6 items and place identity and place dependence was adapted from Jorgensen and Stedman (2006) the instrument consisted of 4 items each measured on a 5-point Likert scale. While questions on the respondent demographic characteristics included both open and closed-ended questions. A pilot study was conducted on 30 respondents to ensure that the proposed questionnaire is reliable for the present study. Field (2009); Pallant (2007) and Tabachnick and Fidell (2007) recommended that, for good reliability test the Cronbach's alpha is expected to be ≥ 0.7 . The result of the reliability test for the pilot and main study indicated that the items used were reliable with Cronbach's alpha coefficients for pilot study were within the least value of 0.745 to a maximum

value of 0.786, while for main study the Cranach's alpha coefficients ranges from minimum of 0.706 to a maximum of 0.724.

Exploratory Data Analysis was conducted to check for the regression assumption. Norusis (1992) suggested that a researcher could examine in detail a variable or a set of variables before running any specific or confirmatory statistical analysis on any data collected by using exploratory data analysis. Normality test for the variables used in these study as depicted in Table 1 showed that the value of Skewness and kurtosis falls within the acceptable range of +1.0 to -1.0 for Skewness and +2.0 to -2.0 for Kurtosis as specified by George and Mallery (2003). Thus, the variables are assumed to uphold the test for normality. (table. 1)

Table 1. Test for Normality

Variables	Skewness	Kurtosis
Resilience	.087	-.480
Place Identity	-.117	-.373
Place Dependence	-.295	-.128

Collinearity Diagnostic test as presented in table 2 was conducted to check for multicollinearity, among the predictor variables. The Tolerance and Variance Inflated Factors (VIF) of the predictor variables are within the threshold of "VIF < 10 and Tolerance > .1" (Fox and Monette, 1992) respectively. Likewise, the correlation coefficient among the IVs of $\geq .9$ (Fornell and Larcker, 1981; Hair et al., 2010) indicates no correlation among the IVs. Thus, the assumption of multicollinearity is not violated (table.2)

Table 2. Collinearity Statistics

Tolerance	VIF
.712	1.404
.703	1.422
.921	1.086
.930	1.076

IV. Results And Discussions

The descriptive analysis of the respondents indicated that: among a total of 383 respondents, 59.3% (227) were males while 40.7% (156) were females. Most of the respondents are within the age bracket of 18-35 years (61.9%), the respondent's occupation consists of a civil servant (33.1%) and other forms of occupation is (66.9%). Approximately 77% of the respondents reside in the study area for 20 years with about 44.1% of them are owner's occupiers and 45.9% live in rented apartment.

The Pearson correlation analysis in Table 3 shows the relationships between dependent and independent variables, the result signifies a significant and positive relationship between place identity and resilience ($r = .561, p < 0.05$). This indicated that, the more residents identify with a place the more they become resilient. The result of the correlation between place dependence and resilience indicates a significant positive relationship ($r = .573, p < 0.05$) and the significant and positive relationship between place dependence and resilience implies that, the stronger residents depend on a place the higher their resilience. Stokols and Shumaker (1981) argued that, generally people attachment to a specific place is basically due to their dependence on it for useful reasons, it implies that an individual may not want to leave a place that offers him/her a means of livelihood. This is in line with the findings of Carpenter (2013) which opined that place dependence of residents was one of the major factors that inspired dwellers of New Orleans, USA to return back to their place of residence after the devastating impact of Hurricane Katrina. The implication of this correlation result is that in spite of the security inconveniences created by the activities of the Boko Haram the residents of Maiduguri ascertain that, their identity to and dependence on the place is a strong determinant of resiliency.

Furthermore, the result of Pearson correlation analysis to determine the relationship between age, length of stay and income on resilience, the results show that, age and length of stay indicate a positive and insignificant relationship on resilience while income shows a negative and insignificant relationship with resilience as shown in table 3. The insignificant relationship between age, length of stay and income on resilience implies that, once there is an attack irrespective of the respondent's age, length of stay and income residents tend to flee the area.

Table3. Correlation Matrix of Independent Variables and Dependent Variable

Variable	Y	X ¹	X ²	X ³	X ⁴	X ⁵
Resilience (Y)	1					
Place Identity X ₁	.561**	1				
Place Dependence X ₂	.573**	.533**	1			
Age X ₃	.025	.085	.039	1		
Length of stay X ₄	.021	.050	.028	.375**	1	
Income X ₅	-.017	-.007	-.016	.429**	.188**	1

** Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

* Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed)

Multiple Linear Regression was conducted to examine the predictive ability of independent variables (place identity, place dependence, gender and occupation) on the dependent variable (resident’s resilience). The independent variables were dummy coded as 0=unemployed and 1=employed. Hence, the multiple regression equation is given by:

$$\hat{Y} = b_0 + b_1X_1 + b_2X_2 + b_3X_3 + b_4X_4 + e_i \dots\dots\dots (1)$$

Where:

\hat{Y} = resident’s resilience;

X₁ = place identity;

X₂ = place dependence;

X₃ = 1 (female), 0 (male)

X₄ = 1 (employed), 0 (nonemployee)

e_i = Random error.

Thus, the general hypothesis for this study is expressed as:

H₀: $Y = \beta_0 + e_i$

H_A: $Y = b_0 + b_1X_1 + b_2X_2 + b_3X_3 + b_4X_4 + e_i$

Therefore, based on the multiple regression result, the regression equation that predicts the resilience of the residents based on a linear combination of identity, dependence, gender and occupation is expressed as:

$$\hat{Y} = b_0 + .344X_1 + .359X_2 + .090X_3 + .038X_4 + e_i$$

Operationally, the proposed alternative hypothesis (H_A) means: the independent variables (place identity, and place dependence) are significant when regressed against the dependent variables (resident’s resilience), while gender and occupation groups were found not to differ on their resilience toward the insurgency. Hence, the ANOVA table 4 illustrates that the Multiple Regression Model of resident’s resilience is significant (F (4,378) = 69.051, p = .000). This shows that, the overall regression model showed that it is a good fit for the data. This implies that, independent variables statistically predict the dependent variable. Thus, the slope of the estimated multiple linear regression Model line is not equal to zero.

Table 4. ANOVA

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	99.154	4	24.789	69.051	.000 ^b
	Residual	135.697	378	.359		
	Total	234.851	382			

a. Dependent Variable: Resilience

b. Predictors: (Constant) Identity, Dependence, Employed and Female

The Multiple Linear Regression analysis as shown in Table 5 indicated that approximately 42% of the variance of residence resilience was explained by the independent variables (R²=0.422). Moreover, the results revealed that place identity (b=.344, p<.05) and place dependence (b= .359, p< .05) are significant predictors of resident’s resilience to *Boko Haram* insurgent. This implies that holding place dependence, gender and occupation constant, resilience will increase by 34.4% with an additional increase in the identity of the residents to their place. Similarly, resilience will increase by 35.9% with an additional increase in the dependence to place while holding other variables entered into the regression model constant. While on the other hand, the result revealed no significant difference in the mean of residents between males and female (.09, p > .05) and that between the employed group and the unemployed group (.038, p> .05). This implies that, for the present study, the resilience does not differ between the gender groups as well as between the occupation categories. The analysis as presented in Table 5 as shown by the standardized regression coefficient indicated that, place

dependence is the most significant predictor of residents resilience ($\beta = .375, t= 8.039, p < 0.05$), as compare to place identity ($\beta = .356t = 7.690, p < 0.05$).

Table 5. Multiple Linear Regression on Level of Resident’s Resilience

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta (β)	t	
(Constant)	.863	.139		6.220	.000
Place identity	.344	.045	.356	7.690	.000
Place dependence	.359	.045	.375	8.039	.000
Female	.090	.065	.056	1.383	.168
Employed	.038	.067	.023	.557	.578

Note: $R^2 = .422$
adjusted $R^2 = .416$

V. Conclusions And Recommendations

There is no doubt that place of residence plays a vital role in human existing, with regards to the findings of this study, age, length of stay and income have no significant relationship with resilience. On the other hand, gender and occupation are also not significant predictors of resident’s resilience. However, place identity and place dependence are found to be significant factors that predicts residents resilience in Maiduguri. The researchers concluded that as such, even with the conflicts and casualties that result to many losses of lives, properties and the current ongoing killing of innocent residents in boom blast and attacks in the area, residents still considered their place of residence as the best place of their identity and place that earn them a means of living.

The researchers recommended that, since the residents of Maiduguri are found to have a sense of place identity and dependence to their neighborhood, despite the deadly activities of the *Boko haram* sect, which involved life and death situation in respect of who you are, government at all level in collaboration with NGOs should make police regarding restructuring of their neighborhoods with special attention on security safety design. Reconstructions of all public and social amenities that have been destroyed in other to add value to their life and have sense of belonging, this will tremendously reduce the huge expense of government on the internal displaced persons camps. Finally, the residents of the area should cooperate with security agencies in flushing out these deadly terrorists in the area, in other to create room for the government and other non-governmental organizations to establish industries that will create job opportunities for the jobless idle youths in the area.

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