**EVALUATION OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AMONG YOUTH IN THE SOCIETY (A CASE STUDY OF OREDO LOCAL GOVERNMENT EDO STATE)**

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**ABSTRACT**

This project work is to evaluate human trafficking among our youth in the society (a case study of Oredo Local Government Edo State). The need for the study arises because of the alarming rate of increase of human trafficking among the youth in the area study on Edo. From the analysis, it was found that human trafficking brings about total moral breakdown and breakdown peaceful marriage or homes. Human trafficking brings about loss of lives and property; human trafficking terminates academic careers and also brings poor national image or poor reputation in the state. the objective of this study is to alleviate human trafficking or abolish human trafficking from the entire members of the state. The researcher therefore, recommend that there should be the awareness of sex education in all schools, the use of mass media for proper enlightenment to parents and youths. Teaching of moral or religious training in schools should be mandatory in the school curriculum, as these can help in solving the problems. Government and non government agents should educated the entire members of the state on the dangers of human trafficking include it into the school curriculum.

**CHAPTER ONE**

**INTRODUCTION**

* 1. **BACKGROUND OF STUDY**

Human trafficking is an ugly fact of our society that is prevalent even today. Human trafficking is a world-wide problematic issue. Over the years, it has metamorphose into frig teeming growth rate, having reached its peak and without showing sign of reduction in parts of Africa, Eastern, Europe, the Caribbean’s and Latin American countries. It is crucial to note that the increase on the cases of human trafficking in Nigeria is due to the undaunted efforts of the operators and profiteers of the business who are quick to cite unprecedented poverty and the near absence of the basic necessities of life as their driving force.

Human trafficking has brought poor reputation in the state. our main economic problem is human trafficking., since we began on the path of nationhood or society. The main obstacle for striding bodily on this path has been the human trafficking problem because of unemployment. As a result of this, there has been for the past few years steady drift away of young men into other countries. This has the chain result of our society being left under populated or underdeveloped.

Secondly, Nigeria has been bedeviled by myriad of problem most of the problems can be attributed to the pervasiveness of some of the ills that hamper the attainment of the development of the society. As a result of ills that currently hampers the development of the country, human trafficking has become widespread and now occupied a preeminent position among the ills that pervade the Nigeria society. While, it may appear that the problem seem endemic in Edo State especially Oredo Local Government, there are indications that no parts of the country is immune from this social malaise that has ravaged many communities. There are an estimated 80 million by 2015. The international labour organization (ILO) recently estimated that over 12 million Nigerian children especially in Edo State are engaged in child labour. The survey also estimated that over 10, 000 Nigerian are engaged in prostitution in Italy which constitutes in the Italian sex market. Most of these women and girls are initially trafficked victims many people especially women and children are lured with the promise of good jobs and salaries and then sold into prostitution or bonded labour.

Human trafficking is considered to be modern day slavery where many children and women are force fully or fraudulently recruited, transported and harbored for sexual or labour exploitation. The victims of human trafficking are usually made to provide sex under threat and without consent. However, they are also used as labors to work in field and fisheries, sweep shops or as domestic helps. Thirdly, human trafficking is the fastest growing criminal industry in the world with the total annual revenue for trafficking in persons, not less than two hundred and fifty thousand persons, mostly female (i.e. 60% persons ranging from 12 years-18 years, while 40% persons above 18 years are trafficked across the Nigerian borders yearly especially in Oredo, Edo State and other part of Edo State. the business of trafficking in human beings is today organized by groups that are also involved in weapons and narcotics colluding with government officials in dozen countries. There is very little doubt that it is in curative business and maybe one of the most difficult to combat. They are less visible than those caused by gun running and trafficking. Exploiting the poverty and low status of women in the developing world, middle men are able to bring together the supply and demand for cheap labour and sex in ways that linkable not long ago. Though, the fact of human trafficking is not difficult to understand on its own, its dimension and categorization continue to multiply by the day. The educational curriculum might have over sighted this problem, therefore no room was created for this social ills the subjects that deals on moral that is Christian religious knowledge and the Islamic religious knowledge are gradually phasing out as teacher that staunched these courses are not being employed by some employers social studies which exposes our children to the vices and virtues in the society is only studied in the junior secondary classes. So students cannot but cope with the make believe life of affluence, flamboyances, greed which has made people especially the female trafficking a huge success in our society.

Human trafficking is the illegal commerce and trade of people. It is essentially the facet of slavery which relies on direct purchase in contrast to the “natural increase” from enslaving the children of slaves. The United Nations (UN) defines “trafficking in persons” as the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboruring ort receipt of persons by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion of abduction of fraud of deceptions, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments achieve the consent of a person, having control over another person’s for the purpose of exploitation.

**STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM**

This study as a worldwide problem, frightens the growth rate of our economy, reducing lives of people in the world it has also brought poor reputation to the state. because of unemployment human trafficking has increased particularly in Oredo Local Government Area in Edo State, they have gone in search for money which has led the state to be underdeveloped. The research is designed to view the immediate causes and effect of human trafficking among our youth a selected place in Oredo Local Government Area in Edo State. Because people had fail to recognize the effect if would bring to the state.

The researcher hope that this project work would assist the society both at home and in school to reduce human trafficking and more also the problem which the researcher intend to look into are as follows:

What are the effects of human trafficking among the youth in Oredo Local Government Area in Edo State?

What are the causes of human trafficking on the teenagers., adult etc in Edo State?

How does human trafficking affect the nation?

What are the effect of human trafficking on the standard of living of the youth in Oredo Local Government in Edo State?

What are the possible difficulties that the society encounters in human trafficking?

**OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY**

The ultimate goal of this study includes;

To enumerate the various types of human trafficking in Nigeria especially in Oredo Local Government in Edo State.

To examine the effects of human trafficking in Edo State particularly Oredo Local Government Area?

To examine the causes of human trafficking in Oredo?

To proffer solution to the effects and causes of human trafficking?

**RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

In order to find solutions to the problems raised earlier, the following research questions were raised.

Does the poor standard of living bring about human trafficking?

Does high illiteracy level bring human trafficking?

Does high level of human trafficking hinder development?

Does human trafficking brings about frustration among the youth in Edo State?

**SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY**

The study of the effects and causes of human trafficking in Edo State is considered important due to the fact that this is capable of having a great impact on individual and the entire members of Edo State.

**SCOPE OF THE STUDY (DELIMITATION)**

The scope of the study is based on the evaluation of human trafficking in some selected places in Oredo which are;

Ring Road, Benin City

Ekewan, Benin City

Ogbe, Benin City

**DEFINITION OF TERMS**

Some words are defined or described to show their meaning as used in this study;

Human: Having to do with mankind as opposed to God or animals of persons having the qualities feelings.

Trafficking: Movement of people along road and streets, of an aircraft in the sky, a transport business done by a railway, steamship line etc trading and commerce.

Slavery: The act of being a slave or condition of being sold into country.

Illegal: Against the law

Profiteer: One who makes large profits unfairly.

Madams: persons involved in trafficking and also force them into prostitutions abroad.

Trolleys: Persons involved in trafficking.

Sex chattels: Personal, object for sexual exploitation.

Business: This is an activity with economic significance under taken with primary purpose of creating customers.

Harboruring: A place of shelter for ships

Fraud: Dishonest dealing, one who pretends to be other than he is.

Exploitation: The act of making use of selfishly.

Poverty: The state of being poor.

Prostitution: This is the act in which a woman offers the use of her body for sexual intercourse to anyone who will pay for this.

Drugs: Substance used for medical purpose, either alone or in a mixture.

Abuse: Wrong use of something, like drugs.

Bond: Agreement or engagement that a person is bound to observe, especially one that has force in law, document signed and sealed, containing such an agreement, enter into with somebody.

**CHAPTER TWO**

**LITERATURE REVIEW**

**INTRODUCTION**

Our focus in this chapter is to critically examine relevant literatures that would assist in explaining the research problem and furthermore recognize the efforts of scholars who had previously contributed immensely to similar research. The chapter intends to deepen the understanding of the study and close the perceived gaps.

Precisely, the chapter will be considered in three sub-headings:

* Conceptual Framework
* Theoretical Framework
* Chapter Summary

**2.1 CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK**

**Youth**

In defining the word youth, certain assumptions must be made. First it is the time in life when a person is young, usually between childhood and adulthood (maturity). Again, an individual’s maturity may not correspond to his chronological age, as immature individuals can be found at all ages. Accordingly, youth may be defined through an individual’s personal experience especially in terms of his cultural background and perspectives, and his level of dependency that is the extent to which he still relies on his family emotionally and economically. It is on this experiential perspective that Dahl (2004) defined youth a period of transition from the dependence or a person between the ages of learning compulsory education and finding their first job. Kloskowska (1988) views youth as youthfulness as an abstract construct of such characteristics as the quality of being young and evincing peculiar trait subject to social evaluation. Importantly, youth has long been contentious designation with most emphases in sociology on generationalism, ageism and specificity (Wulff, 1995).

Youth is often regarded as a state of becoming, necessary partway to adulthood. The age category of youth can extend from thirteen to twenty-five years especially in the western world (Miles, 2000) but mostly extended to late thirties to thirty-five in African society due to delayed in transitional phase from youth to adulthood. Age classification of youth is often done for institutional and policy purposes. Another defining characteristic of youth is done in relation to models of behavior. Across several disciplines there is growth in the tendency to view youth as out of control and as a threat to both society and themselves. Viewed from the context of moral panic, youth have often been read as dangerous from media representation and become an object of spectacle and desire for mass audience (Oswell, 1998; Giroux, 1997). Irrespective of the diverse dimensions, youth have been conceptualized, the definition central to current discourse take into account the socio-historic and dynamic dimension that affect the experience of being youth.

This study also utilize the age bracket of 18 – 35 to define youth, stressing that “this category represents the most active, the most volatile, and yet the most vulnerable segment of the population, socio-economically and in other respects (National Youth Policy, 2001). Angulu (1999) considered persons within the age range of 6-36 years as youth. Other scholars like Oluwadare (2004) and (Olajire and Olufunke, 2013) employed the age bracket of 15-30 to define youth. It is also helpful to add that progressive-mindedness is one of the defining characteristics of youth. Therefore, the current thinking is that people beyond the age of 36 who share the ideals of a progressive society are also considered as youth (Uhunmwuangho and Oghator, 2013). Whatever the age limit, youth are men and women considered to be young, energetic, vibrant and resourceful, who are often engaged in social enterprises that requires physical strength and mental capacity (Suleiman, 2006).

Ejiogu (2001) maintained that person who is aged between 17 and 20 years is a youth. The Federal Government of Nigeria (2001), Oluwadare (2004) and (Olajire and Olufunke, 2013) considered youth as a person within the age bracket of 10 to 24 years as youths. World Bank (1999 and 2007) a youth is a person between the age of 15 and 29 years. For statistical purposes, the United Nations (1995; 2007 and 2010) defines youth as individuals between the ages of 15 and 24. According to United Nations, youth do not constitute a homogeneous group; their socio-economic, demographic and geographical situations vary widely both within and between regions. Notwithstanding these differences, regional-level analysis provides a general understanding of their development profile. About 87 percent youths live in developing countries and face challenges deriving from limited access to resources, education, training, employment, and broader economic development opportunities (United Nations Programme on Youth, 2011).

Youth is considered by Conflict Management and Mitigation (2005) as a time of passage between childhood and adulthood, or as “biological markers, between the period of puberty and parenthood. There is a gross lack of consensus on the meaning of a youth and many factors come into play in the search for a working definition. The golden thread here appears to be that dependency and independence are defining extremes for any approach to the meaning of a youth.

In this study, the researcher views youth as a victim of social change and at best an endangered species. Youth simply refers to a young person between childhood and adulthood. It is a transition period between adolescent and adulthood. The researcher is of the view that there is no consensus regarding the age bracket of a youth inasmuch as often the person can engaged in social change and enterprises that requires physical strength and mental capacity of development. Definition of youth perhaps changes with circumstances, especially with the changes in demographic, financial, economic and socio-cultural settings. However, the definition that uses 15- 24 age cohort as youth fairly serves its statistical purposes for assessing the needs of the young people and providing guidelines for youth development.

**Human Trafficking**

Human trafficking is the trade of humans, most commonly for the purpose of forced labour, sexual slavery, or commercial sexual exploitation for the trafficker or others. Article 3, paragraph (a) of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons defines Trafficking in Persons as the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for thei purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs. Human trafficking can occur within a country or trans-nationally. Human trafficking is a crime against the person because of the violation of the victim's rights of movement through coercion and because of their commercial exploitation. According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), forced labor alone (one component of human trafficking) generates an estimated $150 billion in profits per annum as of 2014. Human trafficking is the trade in people, especially women and children, and does not necessarily involve the movement of the person from one place to another. According to Louise Shelley (2010), human trafficking is thought to be one of the fastest-growing activities of trans-national criminal organizations. Human trafficking is condemned as a violation of human rights by international conventions.

**Root Causes Of Trafficking:**

According to a 2012 International Labour Organization (ILO) report, 21 million people are victims of forced labor. The Asia-Pacific region accounts for the largest number of forced laborers in the world with 11.7 million victims (56 percent of the global total), followed by Africa with 3.7 million (18 percent) and Latin America with 1.8 million victims (nine percent).

According to the Huffington Post, approximately 75 to 80 percent of human trafficking and slavery is for sex. The rest are forced into labor exploitation, such as agriculture and construction work. In 2015, 5,544 cases of human trafficking were reported, as stated in a study by the National Human Trafficking Resource Center.

Human trafficking can be separated into sex trafficking and labor trafficking. Though they have different purposes, there are general trends that explain the overall root causes of human trafficking. Here are the five main causes of human trafficking:

**1.Poverty, natural disasters and a search for a better life**

Traffickers lie, promising jobs and stability in order to recruit their victims. Upon their arrival to another state or region, captors take control. More often than not, they are held in places where victims did not to want to make their home. Traffickers look for people who are susceptible to coercion into the human trafficking industry. Those people tend to be migrants, fleeing their homes either because of economic hardship, natural disasters, conflict or political instability. The displacement of populations increases individuals’ emotional vulnerability, and frequently they do not have the financial support to protect themselves. This makes them subject to abuse through trafficking.

**2.Women and children are targets**

In some societies, the devaluation of women and children make them far more vulnerable to trafficking than men. Traditional attitudes and practices, early marriage and lack of birth registration further increase the susceptibility of women and children. They are also targeted because of the demand for women in sex trafficking. A report by Equality Now states that 20.9 million adults and children are bought and sold worldwide into commercial sexual servitude, forced labor and bonded labor. Women and girls make up 98 percent of the victims trafficked for sexual exploitation.

**3.Demand for cheap labor**

The service industry, particularly restaurants and kitchens, are common exploiters of human trafficking. There is also a demand for cheap domestic and agricultural labor. Employees are often initially promised a safe work space and a steady salary, only to later find that they are paid less than minimum wage and worked over time. Business owners guilty of this behavior continue to practice these illegal norms because the victims of trafficking can rarely protect themselves and they have very few alternatives.

**4.Human trafficking generates a huge profit**

According to the ILO, the human trafficking industry generates a profit of $150 billion per year. Two-thirds is made from commercial sexual exploitation, while the remainder comes from forced economic exploitation such as domestic work and agriculture. Human trafficking is the fastest-growing and second-largest criminal industry in the world, after drug trafficking.

**5.Cases of human trafficking are difficult to identify**

Some challenges in identifying victims of human trafficking arise because victims are well-hidden or highly traumatized. Those that are traumatized are unlikely to divulge information to investigators, either because they are scared to confront law enforcement, or because they are too troubled to respond. Consumers of human trafficking also contribute to the crime’s hidden nature, according to a report by the Urban Institute. Both traffickers and consumers are aware of the huge risk they take by participating in this illegal behavior and will do their best to cover up any illicit activity (Michelle Simon, 2016).

**6. Political conditions**

Political instability, militarism, generalized violence or civil unrest can result in an increase in trafficking as well. The destabilization and scattering of populations increase their vulnerability to unfair treatment and abuse via trafficking and forced labor.

**7. Social and Cultural practices**

Many societies and cultures devalue, abuse and exploit women and girls, creating perilous living conditions for these women. With little opportunities of upward mobility and with little value placed on women and girls, they are more vulnerable to human trafficking.

**8. War**

Armed conflicts can lead to massive forced displacements of people. War creates large numbers of orphans and street children who are especially vulnerable to trafficking. Their families have either passed away or are fighting a war, complicating child-rearing.

The root causes of trafficking are various and often differ from one country to another. Trafficking is a complex phenomenon that is often driven or influenced by social, economic, cultural and other factors. Many of these factors are specific to individual trafficking patterns and to the states in which they occur. There are, however, many factors that tend to be common to trafficking in general or found in a wide range of different regions, patterns or cases. One such factor is that the desire of potential victims to migrate is exploited by offenders to recruit and gain initial control or cooperation, only to be replaced by more coercive measures once the victims have been moved to another State or region of the country, which may not always be the one to which they had intended to migrate.

Some of the common factors are local conditions that make populations want to migrate in search of better conditions: poverty, oppression, lack of human rights, lack of social or economic opportunity, dangers from conflict or instability and similar conditions. Political instability, militarism, civil unrest, internal armed conflict and natural disasters may result in an increase in trafficking. The destabilization and displacement of populations increase their vulnerability to exploitation and abuse through trafficking and forced labour. War and civil strife may lead to massive displacements of populations, leaving orphans and street children extremely vulnerable to trafficking (www.osce.org/documents/pc/2005/07/15594\_en.pdf).

Poverty and wealth are relative concepts which lead to both migration and trafficking patterns in which victims move from conditions of extreme poverty to conditions of less-extreme poverty. In that context, the rapid expansion of broadcast and telecommunication media, including the Internet, across the developing world may have increased the desire to migrate to developed countries and, with it, the vulnerability of would-be migrants to traffickers. The practice of entrusting poor children to more affluent friends or relatives may create vulnerability. Some parents sell their children, not just for the money, but also in the hope that their children will escape a situation of chronic poverty and move to a place where they will have a better life and more opportunities.

In some States, social or cultural practices also contribute to trafficking. For example, the devaluation of women and girls in a society makes them disproportionately vulnerable to trafficking. Lack of adequate legislation and of political will and commitment to enforce existing legislation or mandates are other factors that facilitate trafficking in persons.

**Elements Of Human Trafficking**

On the basis of the description given in the Trafficking in Persons Protocol, it is evident that trafficking in persons has three constituent elements;

**The Act (What is done)**

Recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons.

**The Means (How it is done)**

Threat or use of force, coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or vulnerability, or giving payments or benefits to a person in control of the victim

**The Purpose (Why it is done).**

For the purpose of exploitation, which includes exploiting the prostitution of others, sexual exploitation, forced labour, slavery or similar practices and the removal of organs.

An article 3 of the Trafficking in Persons Protocol is meant to provide consistency and consensus around the world on the phenomenon of trafficking in persons. Article 5 therefore requires that the conduct set out in article 3 be criminalized in domestic legislation. Domestic legislation does not need to follow the language of the Trafficking in Persons Protocol precisely, but should be adapted in accordance with domestic legal systems to give effect to the concepts contained in the Protocol .

In addition to the criminalization of trafficking, the Trafficking in Persons Protocol requires criminalization also of:

· Attempts to commit a trafficking offence.

Participation as an accomplice in such an offence

· Organizing or directing others to commit trafficking.

National legislation should adopt the broad definition of trafficking prescribed in the Protocol. The legislative definition should be dynamic and flexible so as to empower the legislative framework to respond effectively to trafficking which:

· Occurs both across borders and within a country (not just cross-border)

· Is for a range of exploitative purposes (not just sexual exploitation)

· Victimizes children, women and men (Not just women, or adults, but also men and

children)

· Takes place with or without the involvement of organized crime groups

(Human%20Trafficking\_.html).

**Illegal Phenomenon**

There are approximately 20 to 30 million slaves in the world today. According to the U.S. State Department, 600,000 to 800,000 people are trafficked across international borders every year, of which 80% are female and half are children. According to some estimates, approximately 80% of trafficking involves sexual exploitation, and 19% involves labor exploitation. Human trafficking is one of illegal phenomenon that all countries agreed to abolish. It is mostly related with sexual and labor exploitation. As the US department victims of trafficking (2004) statistic indicated, from the total no of trafficked people 80% engaged to sex trafficking where as 19% engaged to labor trafficking. This data indicate that the relationship of trafficking with the sex industry is very high. In a countries where the act of prostitution is acknowledged the flow of sex trafficking in that region also increase, in other words, in a country that criminalized such an act, the result will be the opposite. Based on 2007 data gathered by the ILO, the United Nations estimates that 2.5 million people find themselves victims of forced labor (including sexual exploitation) as a result of trafficking: 56% are in Asia and the Pacific, 10% are in Latin America and the Caribbean, 9.2% are in the Middle East and Northern Africa, 5.2% are in sub-Saharan countries, 10.8% are in industrialized countries and 8% are in countries in transition. It has, however, been difficult to quantify the exact extent of trafficking, not only because of the clandestine nature of the crime, but also because, until few years ago, there had been little agreement on the definition of human trafficking. Bales (2004) estimates that between 1815 and 1957, more than 300 international treaties were enacted for the purposes of suppressing the slave and trafficking trade.

**Prevention Strategies For Human Trafficking**

* Reducing the vulnerability of potential victims through social and economic development Discouraging the demand for the services of trafficked persons.
* Lack of Public education (awareness) Lack of border control
* Preventing the corruption of public officials.

**Suggestions to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings**

1. Considering as priority goals the fostering of social, economic and political stability, and the reduction both of migration caused by deep poverty and of supply factors of trafficking. Policies followed in pursuit of these goals should also promote both economic development and social inclusion.
2. Improving children’s access to educational and vocational opportunities and increasing the level of school attendance, in particular by girls and minority groups.
3. Tackling underground economic activities that undermine economies and enhance trafficking.
4. Enhancing job opportunities for women by facilitating business opportunities for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). Organizing SME training courses and targeting them in particular at high-risk groups.
5. Taking measures to raise levels of social protection and to create employment opportunities for all.
6. Addressing all forms of discrimination against minorities \_ Developing programmes that offer livelihood options and include basic education, literacy, communication and other skills, and reduce barriers to entrepreneurship
7. Encouraging gender sensitization and education on equal and respectful relationships between the sexes, thus preventing violence against women.
8. Ensuring that policies are in place that allow women equal access to and control over economic and financial resources
9. Promoting flexible financing and access to credit, including microcredit at low interest Promoting good governance and transparency in economic transactions.

**Human Trafficking In Nigeria**

Although human trafficking has become a global problem, nevertheless, African countries (including Nigeria) serve as major sources of trafficked persons. According to the report which the United Nations Children Emergency Fund (UNICEF) presented to the Conference of African Ministers in Benin Republic in 2004, human trafficking is prominent in 53 African countries. The report revealed that 89 percent of the 53 nations involved had been trafficking human beings to and from neighbouring countries, but an appreciable volume of the traffic flows to Europe (see Akaigwe, 2004; Njoku, 2005). The African children were said to be “the biggest victims of the complex phenomenon, and are twice as likely to be trafficked as women”. Some are engaged as child soldiers in war-torn African countries, while many others work as domestic servants, farm labourers or sold into prostitution. Awake (June 22, 2002) observed that most ‘modern-day slaves’ are often women and children. The paper noted that they toil against their will either as child labourers or even prostitutes. For instance, the report on child labour released in 2008 showed that an estimated 284,000 child labourers existed in West Africa and many of them worked in coca farms “on slave labour wages or for nothing in order to put chocolate into the mouths of consumers” (The Punch, February 20, 2008).

In Nigeria specifically, human trafficking involving women and children has been going on in several locations and communities. The report on Trafficking in Persons, 2004 cited in Maduagwu (2004) described Nigeria as a source, transit and destination country for trafficked women and children. The report noted that Nigerians were trafficked to Europe, the Middle East and other countries for purpose of forced labour, domestic servitude and sexual exploitation. It also described Nigeria as a destination country for Togolese, Beninese, Ghanaian and Cameroonian children trafficked for forced labour (See Maduagwu, 2004). A recent report on human trafficking and migration to Europe shows that in 2014, 170, 100 arrived Italy by sea, compared to 141, 484 migrants that were ferried through the Mediterranean Sea from Libya in 2013. According to the report, the migrants had come from Syria (42, 323), Eritrea (34, 329), Mali (9,908) Nigeria (9,000), Gambia (8, 691), Somalia (5, and some other nations (4,095). Among the migrants, 64, 625 were said to have applied for asylum (Ojugbana, 2015:29). In the case of Nigeria, most of the migrants were victims of human trafficking hoodwinked by syndicates as a result of their desperation to travel to Europe or Asia for a better life.

Thus, human trafficking is a complex phenomenon of which many people are involved at both family and community levels, as well as at the border or international transactions. The Guardian Opinion (June 29, 2004) observed that Nigeria is a well-known player in human trafficking. According to the paper, the country serves as” a base camp and transit channel for traffickers and their human commodity”. The paper also noted that inside the country and at border areas some locations are known to be target spots for operations.

In a similar view, Oloko cited in Okpalakunne (2006) explained that child trafficking consists of both national and trans-national recruitment and movement of children for the purpose of providing cheap, manipulatable and exploitable labour for domestic and agricultural work, commercial sex work or prostitution, begging, unregulated industrial work and street trading.

The South-east and South-south geo-political zones of Nigeria are noted for active involvement in human trafficking. For instance, several thousands of children are known to have been trafficked from Igbo land, Akwa Ibom and Cross River states to Lagos, Benin Republic, Togo and Gabon for the purpose of engaging them in child labour, which is akin to child slavery. The high rate of child trafficking became a major source of concern to the Akwa, Ibom State government that it banned “all forms of trafficking in children from the state to other parts of the country to serve as house-helps or cheap labour of any form” in 2004. The government also threatened to “deal drastically with parents who persist and promote trafficking in children” (See Solomon, 2004).

The Western part of the country is also involved in child trafficking for the purpose of using them as cheap labour for domestic work, agricultural production, including cocoa and rubber farms. Nwakamma (2004) reported that Asewele, a community in Ondo State is a spot for child slavery. He stated that both males and females were sold at a price of about N25, 000.00 each across the border and there were always prospective buyers. He also noted that despite the efforts being made by the police and immigration officers, Nigerian borders are still vulnerable as far as child trafficking is concerned.

In Benin city, capital of Edo State, there were syndicates who specialized in recruiting and sponsoring young ladies to Europe especially Italy, Amsterdam and Belgium for prostitution. Taire (2004) observed that it was since 2000 that the issue of Nigerian women in general, and ladies from Benin city and its environs in particular going to Europe to work as commercial sex workers had become a real cause for concern. Similarly, THIS DAY (May 3, 2004) in a story culled from Economist stated that people-trafficking in Benin-city was an organized and lucrative trade. The paper observed that it was riot possible to know how many ladies were shipped out each year, but that “every one in Benin-city knows who has gone”. The paper noted that the girls were recruited by local sponsors “who pay up-front for transport, and the girls therefore start out with thousands of dollars in debt”

By 2004, it was estimated that no fewer than 100,000 young Nigerian women had been sold into sex slavery as prostitutes, servicing ‘top guns’ and ‘big boys’ in Europe’s flourishing underground sex industry. According to an official of the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP), Alhaji Mohammed Babandede out of about 90,000 sex workers of Nigerian origin in Italy 50,000 of them were from Edo State. This, according to Aihaji Babandede, represented 60 percent of prostitutes in that country (See Njoku, 2005). Sequel to this, the United States of America placed Nigeria on her Tier 2-Watch list of countries involved in trafficking in persons. According to Joann Schneider, Deputy Director of the Office to Combat and Monitor Trafficking in Persons, Washington, Nigeria did not comply with the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking though United States recognized that Nigeria was “making significant efforts to do so” (See Emeozor, 2004).

It was as a result of the menace of human trafficking in Nigeria and its increasing damage to the nation’s image abroad that some anti-human trafficking organizations were formed by some patriotic individuals to stem the ugly tide. Among these organizations the most influential, powerful and well focused was the Women Trafficking and Child Labour Eradication Foundation (WOTCLEF) founded by Mrs. Amina Titi Abubakar, wife of former Vice President of Nigeria, Alhaji Atiku Abubakar. WOTCLEF initiated and sponsored the Anti-Human Trafficking and Child Labour bill which was passed by the National Assembly and subsequently signed into law by the former President, Chief Olusegun Obasanjo on July 14, 2003 (Njoku, 2005). The legislation (Act) provided for the establishment of the National Enforcement and Administration to be known as National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons and other Related Matters (NAPTIP). It gave the agency sweeping powers to initiate prosecution of barons or syndicates of the illicit trade. The NAPTIP mission statement is the full commitment to the prevention of all forms of human degradation and exploitation. Through the coordinated use of nation crime prevention and law enforcement resources, we are determined to stamp out human trafficking and to liberate and uplift the vulnerable especially women and children, from dehumanizing exploitative usage, as well as to ensure their rehabilitation and effective reintegration into the society (cited in Adoba, 2004).

In 2005 the NAPTIP Act was amended which criminalized the keeping of brothels and the use of children as domestic house helps. The properties of the offenders of this amended act have become targets for seizure by government (Olayinka, 2011).

Moreover, the Federal Government has encouraged NAPTIP to establish a National Investigation Task Force (NITF). The NITF has been upgraded to effective coordinating offices in many states of the federation particularly in states with worst human trafficking problems. NAPTIP has also established shelters where victims of human trafficking are taken care of during rescue and rehabilitation period. Those shelters exist in zonal offices located in Lagos, Kano, Benin, Enugu, Uyo, Sokoto and Maiduguri (Olayinka, 2011). Besides, NAPTIP was said to be increasingly making use of the Police, Immigration Service and traditional rulers in its fight against human trafficking in Nigeria. It was also said to have successfully investigated many cases and had also succeeded in securing the convictions of many syndicates involved in human trafficking in the country.

The NAPTIP was also said to be increasingly collaborating with some national and international agencies in its fight against human trafficking. For instance, the NAPTIP was said to be collaborating with International Organization for Migration (IOM), Spanish Police, the Italian Anti-Mafia Bureau and Benin Republic Police etc. The collaboration with these agencies was said to have resulted in the arrests and trial of some syndicates involved in human trafficking and the formal repatriation of some victims of the illicit trade, Okumephana (2004) stated that the collaboration between NAPTIP and other agencies had resulted in the arrests of syndicates involved in 13 different cases of which four had been charged to court by December, 2004. However, the Executive Secretary of NAPTIP, Mr. Simon Chudi Egede has revealed that his agency has secured more than 100 convictions with many of them serving various jail terms ranging from two to 24 years in prison (See Olayinka, 2011).

Above all, NAPTIP was said to have been committed towards the rehabilitation of victims of human trafficking. According to the Executive Secretary of NAPTIP, Mr. Simon Chuzi Egede between 2009 and 2010 the agency spent about N50 million on over 100 victims empowering them with trade equipment and seed money to enable them start their own businesses. He stated that so far about 4,934 victims had passed through the agency with 1,884 recorded between 2009 and 2010. Mr. Egede further stated that out of this figure 526 victims had been rehabilitated either by returning to school or assisted to acquire vocational skills (See Olayinka, 2011).

It should be noted that the NAPTIP’s figure on victims of human trafficking rescued between 2009 and 2010 shows that the ‘modern-day slavery’ has not in any way abated. This is particularly when considered in the light of the number of victims rescued by the agency which might probably have been a small percentage of the entire persons trafficked within the period. For instance, Daily Independent Editorial (February 25, 2011) painted a grimmer picture of how “thousands of mostly unskilled Nigerian youths battle their way through the harsh, cold weather of the Sahara desert to Southern Europe” The paper noted that for many of these youths “it was the Devil’s alternative choice”. That is, according to the paper, either “to remain un-catered for by the emergent avaricious political class that has continued to channel state resources for personal aggrandizement or to risk their lives outside Nigeria as factory hands, doing menial jobs or plain prostitution”. The paper noted that many Nigerian youths “took the plunge and died in the process”, while “some of those who survived and succeeded in their chosen careers are now smiling to the bank and even sending valuable money home” (Daily Independent Editorial, February 25, 2011).

Similarly, the National Anti-Human Trafficking Campaign report released by its National Co-ordiantor, Richard Ossai shows that human trafficking between Nigeria and the world “is taking a worse dimension”. Ossai in his report stated that “besides slave work abuse, the victims are losing their vital parts for a paltry $150 in return for the permanent damage done to them”. He, however, acknowledged that the federal government in collaboration with various organizations has done more than any other African country in the fight against human trafficking, a feat he noted has resulted in Nigeria moving out of the status of countries with worst cases of trafficking. But the scourge of human trafficking still persists in the country which he (Ossai) described as “a dehumanizing act” (See Nigerian Pilot, January 20, 2011).

The major reasons for the persistence of the ugly phenomenon of human trafficking in Nigeria include pervasive poverty in the society especially at the family level; the frightening problem of unemployment among the populace particularly the youths, and ignorance of the prospective victims of human trafficking about their fate in foreign countries. Some other reasons include bad leadership that has failed to improve the welfare of the citizens thereby resulting in mass disillusionment and the urge by many citizens to leave the country in search for better living conditions in other countries; the abuse of traditional method of fostering children and get-rich-quick syndrome in contemporary Nigerian society. There is also the pressures of urban migration which have stretched the demands for house helps and, in turn, induced the internal trafficking of young boys and girls conscripted sometimes into near slave labour (The Guardian Editorial, June 29, 2004).

Moreover, there is the problem of the existence of powerful and influential syndicates within and outside Nigeria that coordinate and finance the despicable business, and the lure of huge profit that accrue to them annually from it. For instance, it was revealed by Mrs. G.B. Idiodi, the Executive Director of Light Bearers Organization (LBO) that “the perpetrators of human trafficking are believed to be raking in between $7 billion to $10 billion dollars annually” (See Nzama, 2004). Besides, there is the alleged complicity of some security personnel in trafficking of persons especially within the borders (See Emeozor, 2004). Thus, although some officials of NAPTIP claim that Nigeria is winning the war against human trafficking, nevertheless, the sordid business still persists (See Godwin, 2014:15). For instance, Ojugbana (2015:29) reported that between January, and March 3, 2015, 463 Nigerians were among 7,882 migrants that arrived Italy by sea from Libya.

**Effects Of Human Trafficking On Nigeria’s Image**

The concept of national image subsumes a mental picture in which a nation-state portrays or projects about herself in her relations with other nation-states in international system. It is a significant factor or an essential element for the perception and assessment of national character. Morgenthau (1949) described national character as those “fundamental intellectual and moral traits which reveal themselves on all levels of thought and action and which give each nation its unmistakable distinctiveness”. It is in recognition of the need to portray good national image among comity of nations that Nigeria established NAPTIP and as well collaborates with various organizations in the fight against the scourge of human trafficking. Despite these efforts, however, the incidence of human trafficking persists and has continued to create negative effects on the country’s image in the following ways:

1.Human trafficking portrays Nigeria in a bad light. It creates erroneous impression that the country is incapable of providing for her citizens especially in terms of employment and social welfare, hence the exodus of her able-bodied youths to foreign countries.

2.It dents the image of the country as many young prostitutes of Nigerian origin are allegedly often spotted in sex parlours and streets of some European countries (Italy, Holland and Belgium etc) soliciting for male clients. An official of the NAPTIP, Alhaji Mohammed Babandede revealed in 2004 that there were no fewer than 100,000 Nigerian women sold into sex slavery as prostitutes in Europe (See Njoku, 2005).

3.Human trafficking involving Nigerian ladies gives the ugly impression that Nigerian citizens help to sustain the underground sex industry in Europe involving young teenagers.

4.The human trafficking conundrum erroneously portrays Nigeria as a country in throes of political and economic crises. This is despite the fact that the country conducted free, fair, credible and peaceful general elections recently, and is making efforts to improve socio-economic conditions of its citizens. Human trafficking, therefore, creates wrong impression of the image of the country.

5.It frustrates the efforts of the government towards the achievement of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) particularly Education for All. Many of the victims of child trafficking are deprived of the opportunity to acquire formal education. Besides, Ezinma (2010) reported that over 12 million Nigerian children are in the bondage of child labour and more are at risk of joining the child labour condition. He stated in his report that it is quite sad that many years after the goal of International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour work (IPEC) was launched, the prevention and elimination of worst form of child labour (WFCL) is still a mirage in Nigeria. This casts doubts on the commitment of the country towards eliminating child labour which is akin to child slavery.

6.Brain drain which is another dimension of ‘human trafficking’ deprives the country high-skilled manpower needed for rapid national development. Ibekwe (2010) summarized the negative effects of brain drain on developing countries, including Nigeria as follows:

*Brain drain in developing countries has financial, institutional and social costs: little return from their investments in higher education; increasing dependency on foreign expertise due to dwindling professional sector; diminishing ability of several developing countries to offer basic health care services to their subjects; widening gap in science and technology between the richer and poor countries; crumbling middle class population; failing tax system and disappearance of jobs and society (Ibekwe, 2010).*

With particular reference to Nigeria, Professors Wilma Meus and David Sanders, both of the University of the Western Cape’s School of Public Health, South Africa stated in their research report that Nigeria has incurred loss of $420 million (N53.34 billion) through the loss of 21,000 doctors to the United States of America. Meus and Sanders stated that conservative estimates showed that the United States has saved at least $3.86 million (N490.2 million) in training fees by employing doctors from Nigeria (See Bagshaw, 2003). Similarly, thousands of medical experts of Nigerian origin reside and work in United Kingdom.

On the other hand, Nigeria’s health care and education sectors have “been in deplorable state partly due to inadequate number of experts as a result of the effect of brain drain.” In the case of health sector, for instance, the report on the progress of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as documented by Anuforo (2010) shows that;

*Nigeria really still does not have the kind of public health system that the country…. needs. The life expectancy in Nigeria is about 55 years, while in other middle income countries it is about 70, and higher income countries about 80 plus. Nigeria is just not achieving the health and maternal survival of the child befitting a country of its stature (Anuforo, 2010).*

It should be noted that Nigerians in Diaspora were said to be over 20 million contributing greatly to the development of their various countries of residence (Nwanunobi, 2006).

1. Human trafficking exposes some Nigerian citizens to all forms of inhuman treatment in foreign countries. These include physical assault, rape, detention and in some extreme cases execution. Many Nigerians are also known to be languishing in prisons in some countries of the world due to the misadventure associated with human trafficking.
2. It gives rise to frequent deportation of Nigerian citizens from foreign countries with its attendant diplomatic implications. The former Head of Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS), Trafficking Unit, Miss Nnenna Mbagwu revealed that a total of 2,562 Nigerian girls were deported from Europe in 2002. She also stated that 189 minors who were being ‘towed out’ of the country ostensibly for child slavery were intercepted in the same year. (Daily Champion, January 30, 2003).

9. Human trafficking exposes Nigerian youths to the danger of being used as ‘guinea pigs’ for scientific and medical researches in foreign countries. The National Coordinator of the National Anti-Human Trafficking Campaign (NAHTC), Mr. Richard Osai lamented that human trafficking between Nigeria and the world “is taking worse dimension”. He stated that “besides slave work abuse, the victims are losing their vital parts for a paltry $150 in return for the permanent damage done to them” (See Nigerian Pilot, January 20, 2011). This is not only an act of indignity against such victims, but also portrays them as sub-humans without protective rights.

It impugns on Nigeria’s national character. It was partly as a result of the bad image which human trafficking paints about the country that the Federal Government resolved to embark on re-branding Nigeria project.

**CHAPTER THREE**

**RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

**3.1 Area of Study**

Oredo is a Local Government Area of Edo State, Nigeria. Its headquarter is in Benin City. Its capital city is Benin city, which also is the capital city of Edo State. Benin city also remain the capital city of the Benin Empire. Thus it is the area of the study.

**3.2 Research Design**

Research designs are perceived to be an overall strategy adopted by the researcher whereby different components of the study are integrated in a logical manner to effectively address a research problem. In this study, the researcher employed the descriptive survey research design. This is due to the nature of the study whereby the opinion and views of people are sampled.

**3.3 Population of the study**

According to Udoyen (2019), a study population is a group of elements or individuals as the case may be, who share similar characteristics. These similar features can include location, gender, age, sex or specific interest. The emphasis on study population is that it constitutes of individuals or elements that are homogeneous in description.

This research was carried out on the evaluation of human trafficking among youth in the society using selected places in Oredo Local Government of Edo State.

The selected places include;

Ring Road, Benin City

Ekewan, Benin City

Ogbe, Benin City

A sum of five (500) individuals resident in the selected areas in Oredo LGA Edo State form the population of the study.

**3.4 Sample size determination**

A study sample is simply a systematic selected part of a population that infers its result on the population. In essence, it is that part of a whole that represents the whole and its members share characteristics in like similitude (Udoyen, 2019). In this study, the researcher adopted the simple random sampling (srs.) method to determine the sample size.

**3.5 Sample size selection technique and procedure**

The Taro Yamane (1967:886) provides a simplified formula to calculate sample sizes.

Assumption

 95% confidence level

 P = 0.05



n= 500/1+500(0.05)2

n= 500/1+500(0.0025)

n= 500/1+1.25

n=222

Therefore, for this study, the sample size is 222

**3.6 Research Instrument and Administration**

The research instrument used in this study is the questionnaire. A 15 minutes’ survey containing 10 questions were administered to the enrolled participants. The questionnaire was divided into two sections, the first section inquired about the responses, demographic or personal data; while the second section were in line with the study objectives, aimed at providing answers to the research questions. The research instrument (HTAYS) was administered to the enrolled participants.

**3.7 Method of data collection**

Primary and secondary sources of data collection were used. The primary sources include oral interviews and questionnaires while the secondary sources include textbooks, journals, internet, published and unpublished articles.

**3.8 Method of data analysis**

The responses were analyzed using the frequency tables, which provided answers to the research questions.

**3.9 Validity and Reliability of the study**

The reliability and validity of the research instrument was determined. The Pearson Correlation Coefficient was used to determine the reliability of the instrument. A co-efficient value of 0.68 indicated that the research instrument was relatively reliable. According to (Taber, 2017) the range of a reasonable reliability is between 0.67 and 0.87.

**CHAPTER FOUR**

**DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS**

**4.1 DATA PRESENTATION**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Summary** | **Frequency** | **Percentage** |
| No. Of questionnaire retrieved | 150 | 68 |
| No. Of questionnaire not retrieved | 72 | 32 |
| Total no. Of questionnaire administered. | 222 | 100 |

The total sample size for this study is 222 which doubles as the total number of respondents enrolled in this survey. The table above reveals that 32% of the copies distributed to the study participants were not retrieved while 68% were retrieved from the participants. Hence the study analysis was carried out using the total number of questionnaires retrieved.

**Table 4.1: Demographic data of respondents**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Demographic information** | **Frequency** | **percent** |
| GenderMale |  |  |
| 70 | 46% |
| Female | 80 | 54% |
| Religion |  |  |
| Christian | 68 | 45% |
| Muslim | 44 | 35% |
| Others | 38 | 20% |
| Age |  |  |
| 21-30 | 32 | 21.3% |
| 31-40 | 64 | 42.7% |
| 41-50 | 31 | 20.7% |
| 51 + | 23 | 15.3% |
| **Education** |  |  |
| WAEC | 28 | 18.7% |
| HND/BSC | 89 | 59.3% |
| MASTERS | 27 | 18% |
| PHD | 06 | 4% |
| **Employment Status**  |  |  |
| Employed | 11 | 7.3% |
| Self-employed | 66 | 44% |
| Unemployed | 40 | 26.7% |
| Student | 33 | 22% |
| **Marital Status** |  |  |
| Single | 33 | 22% |
| Married | 66 | 44% |
| Separated | 40 | 26.7% |
| Divorced | 00 | 00% |
| Widowed | 11 | 7.3% |

**Source: Field Survey, 2021**

**ANSWERING RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

**Question 1:** Does the poor standard of living bring about human trafficking?

**Table 4.2:**Respondent on question 1

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Options** | **Frequency** | **Percentage** |
| Yes | 125 | 85 |
| No | 00 | 00 |
| Undecided | 25 | 15 |
| **Total** | **150** | **100** |

**Source: Field Survey, 2021**

From the responses obtained as expressed in the table above, 125 respondents constituting 85% said yes. 25 respondents constituting 15% were undecided. There was record for undecided.

**Question 2:** Does high illiteracy level bring human trafficking?

**Table 4.3:**Respondent on question 2

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Options** | **Frequency** | **Percentage** |
| Yes | 114 | 70 |
| No | 22 | 20 |
| Undecided | 14 | 10 |
| **Total** | **150** | **100** |

**Source: Field Survey, 2021**

From the responses obtained as expressed in the table above, 114 respondents constituting 70% said yes. 22 respondents constituting 20% said no while the remaining 14 respondents constituting 10% were undecided.

**Question 3:** Does high level of human trafficking hinder development?

**Table 4.4:**Respondent on question 3

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Options** | **Frequency** | **Percentage** |
| Yes | 97 | 63 |
| No | 30 | 20 |
| Undecided | 23 | 17 |
| **Total** | **150** | **100** |

**Source: Field Survey, 2021**

From the responses obtained as expressed in the table above, 97 respondents constituting 63% said yes. 30 respondents constituting 20% said no while the remaining 23 respondents constituting 17% were undecided.

**Question 4:** Does human trafficking brings about frustration among the youth in Edo State?

**Table 4.5:**Respondent on question 4

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Options** | **Frequency** | **Percentage** |
| Yes | 120 | 80 |
| No | 30 | 20 |
| Undecided | 00 | 00 |
| **Total** | **150** | **100** |

**Source: Field Survey, 2021**

From the responses obtained as expressed in the table above, 120 respondents constituting 80% said yes. 30 respondents constituting 20% said no. There was record for undecided.

**CHAPTER FIVE**

**SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**5.1 Introduction**

This chapter summarizes the findings into the evaluation of human trafficking among youth in the society using Oredo Local Government Edo State as case study. The chapter consists of summary of the study, conclusions, and recommendations.

**5.2 Summary of the Study**

In this study, our focus was to evaluate human trafficking among youth in the society using Oredo Local Government Edo State as case study. The study specifically was aimed at enumerating the various types of human trafficking in Nigeria especially in Oredo Local Government in Edo State; to examine the effects of human trafficking in Edo State particularly Oredo Local Government Area; to examine the causes of human trafficking in Oredo and to proffer solution to the effects and causes of human trafficking.

The study adopted the survey research design and randomly enrolled participants in the study. A total of 150 responses were validated from the enrolled participants where all respondent residence in Oredo Local Government Edo State.

The study findings reveals that; Poor standard of living bring about human trafficking; high illiteracy level also bring about the act of human trafficking; high level of human trafficking however hinder development and human trafficking brings about frustration among the youth in Edo State. More also, it was found that human trafficking brings about total moral breakdown and breakdown peaceful marriage or homes. Human trafficking brings about loss of lives and property; human trafficking terminates academic careers and also brings poor national image or poor reputation in the state.

**5.3 Conclusions**

Human trafficking varies from country to country, but it usually preys on vulnerable situations. People in vulnerable and precarious situations are looking for a way out and in their desperation can fall prey to human traffickers. We see these in multiple different circumstances. Trafficking primarily involves exploitation which comes in many forms, including: forcing victims into prostitution, subjecting victims to slavery or involuntary servitude and compelling victims to commit sex acts for the purpose of creating pornography. Human trafficking is a hidden crime as victims rarely come forward to seek help because of language barriers, fear of the traffickers, and/or fear of law enforcement. The safety of the public as well as the victim is paramount.

**5.4 Recommendations**

Based on the responses obtained, the researcher proffers the following recommendations:

Combat of Human Trafficking

* Considering as priority goals the fostering of social, economic and political stability, and the reduction both of migration caused by deep poverty and of supply factors of trafficking.
* Policies followed in pursuit of these goals should also promote both economic development and social inclusion.
* Improving children’s access to educational and vocational opportunities and increasing the level of school attendance, in particular by girls and minority groups. 
* Tackling underground economic activities that undermine economies and enhance trafficking. 
* Enhancing job opportunities for women by facilitating business opportunities for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). Organizing SME training courses and targeting them in particular at high-risk groups. 
* Taking measures to raise levels of social protection and to create employment opportunities for all.
* there should be the awareness of sex education in all schools, the use of mass media for proper enlightenment to parents and youths. Teaching of moral or religious training in schools should be mandatory in the school curriculum, as these can help in solving the problems.
* Government and non government agents should educated the entire members of the state on the dangers of human trafficking include it into the school curriculum.

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**APPENDIXE**

**QUESTIONNAIRE**

**PLEASE TICK [√] YOUR MOST PREFERRED CHOICE(S)**

**SECTION A**

**PERSONAL INFORMATION**

**Gender**

Male [ ] Female [ ]

**Age**

20-30 [ ]

31-40 [ ]

41-50 [ ]

51 and above [ ]

**Religion**

Christian [ ]

Muslim [ ]

Others [ ]

**Educational level**

WAEC [ ]

BSC/HND [ ]

MSC/PGDE [ ]

PHD [ ]

Others……………………………………………….. (please indicate)

**Employment Status**

Employed [ ]

Self Employed [ ]

Unemployed [ ]

Student [ ]

**Marital Status**

Single [ ]

Married [ ]

Separated [ ]

**SECTION B**

**Question 1:** Does the poor standard of living bring about human trafficking?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Options** | **Please Tick** |
| Yes |  |
| No |  |
| Undecided |  |

**Question 2:** Does high illiteracy level bring human trafficking?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Options** | **Please Tick** |
| Yes |  |
| No |  |
| Undecided |  |

**Question 3:** Does high level of human trafficking hinder development?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Options** | **Please Tick** |
| Yes |  |
| No |  |
| Undecided |  |

**Question 4:** Does human trafficking brings about frustration among the youth in Edo State?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Options** | **Please Tick** |
| Yes |  |
| No |  |
| Undecided |  |