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## CRIME LUCRATIVENESS AS MAJOR DETERMINING FACTOR FOR YOUTH INVOLVEMENT IN CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES IN NIGERIA.

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### Abstract

Unemployment may be a social as well as financial issue that each country deals with frequently, but in an unexpected way. The classical financial specialists affirmed that there can never be a circumstance of adding up to business in any economy. The study investigated the lucrateness of crime as a major determining factor for youth involvement in criminal activities in Nigeria. The research design of a descriptive survey was used in data collection from the concerned. The researcher designed a questionnaire titled "crime lucrateness as a major determining factor for youth crime" to collect the needed data. Hypotheses were formulated and tested using inferential statistics of Pearson product moment correlation at the 0.05 level of significance. The findings revealed that there is a significant relationship between crime lucrateness as a major determining factor and youth involvement in criminal activities in Nigeria. Based on the findings, the following recommendations were made: the government ought to create a conducive environment to pull in speculators to set up businesses in Nigeria; control segments ought to be progressed on, whereas different frailties such as fear mongering, capturing, and armed robbery ought to be annihilated to make Nigeria a sanctuary for investors; and the Nigerian government should devise a National Youth Technique to encourage youth business orientation to reduce youth unemployment as its primary concern.

**Keywords:** Lucrateness, Crime, Criminal, Youth, Nigeria.

### INTRODUCTION

A lucrative activity, job, or business deal is very profitable. Thousands of ex-workers have found lucrative jobs in private section firms. However, lucrative crime are activities which were not legal /right for the benefit of the society but brings more

financial profit to the wallets of the individuals that involves in it (Nikkel, 2020). The lucrative crime varies from one society to another. For example, in a society highest lucrative crime might be a robbery activity while in another society it might be the selling

and buying hard drugs (e.g. cocaine, heroin, marijuana etc.) while in some society it might be cybercrime. All these different means of getting or attaining a financial independence or buoyancy stand in the society which were not legitimate and not acceptable to the society are regarded as lucrative crimes Oboh, (2021).

However, since the percentage of young people graduating from all of these institutions of higher learning nationwide increased by 10% to 20% annually, and with more than 80% of the institutions owned by the government (Federal or State), the remaining 10% to 20% of the institutions were privately owned with majority of them being established between 1999 and 2019. (National University Commission, 2020). With regard to the Nigerian citizenry, the employment creation rate for the year was 15%, which suggests that 85% of graduates from government institutions will be unemployed. However, this does not account for graduates from private institutions. The opportunity to search for profitable crimes in their community has been provided to the young people by this desk. Because time waits for no one, the chapter on unemployment is opened Okechukwu, & Nwekwo, (2020), Ogele, (2020).

Unemployment can be social as well as economic problem which each country battle or contend with frequently but in different ways. The classical financial specialists affirmed that there can never be a circumstance of add up to business in any economy (Ogunyomi & Oginni, 2013). In any case, circumstance in Nigeria has accepted an unfathomable extent. Measurements appears that nearly 75% of those who are able and willing to work, cannot secure productive work or employment particularly among the graduates/ school leavers. The circumstance has gotten to be exceptionally terrible and shows up to have opposed any remedy Awogbenle and Iwuamadi, (2010). Unemployment is one of the major challenges in Nigeria nowadays. In show disdain toward of thousands of graduates created each year and a wealth of common and human assets, the rate of unemployment is expanding at a disturbing rate every day Ojewumi, & Olasupo, (2017).

Kazeem (2016) uncovered that Nigerian tertiary instruction teach deliver up to 500,000 graduates each year other than Nigerian graduates who consider overseas and return domestic to compete for employments. A government agency or organization in November 2016 gotten 700,000 applications for 500 publicized positions. Voice of America (2020) detailed Nigeria's unemployment official figure to be 18 million with extra 3 million anticipated to connect by the conclusion of the year 2021. Nigeria's National Bureau of Insights (NBS) recorded 14.2% level of unemployment within the final quarter of 2016 compare to 13.9% within the going before quarter (Kazeem, 2017). Agreeing to Exchanging Financial matters (2019) unemployment rate expanded to 25.10 percent within the third quarter from 24.70 percent within the moment quarter of 2021. The unemployment rate in Nigeria averaged 12.31 percent between 2006 and 2018, coming to an all tall time of 25.10 percent within the third quarter of 2021. The least record was 5.10 percent within the fourth quarter of 2010 (Akwagyiram, 2018; Exchanging Financial matters, 2021). The developing rate unemployment in Nigeria, particularly among the young people could be a major challenge to national security.

The high unemployment rate among youths in Nigeria has been ascribed to numerous variables counting quick country urban relocation, fast populace development, unseemly school

educational program, debasement, decrease of the manufacturing sector, recognition of arrangement creators and the young people themselves on work and destitute administration (Adebayo, 2013; Ekeji, 2019). There is an agreement among researchers that joblessness is associated to culpability. Ehrlich cited in Jelilov and Ndanitsa (2015) famous that joblessness is associated with offense since the time went through for honest to goodness work diminishes the chance of illicit work. Diminish in unemployment, agreeing to Fadaei-Tehrani and Green in Jelilov and Ndanitsa (2015) leads to diminish in wrongdoing/crime and bad habits and vice versa. UN-Habitat found that socio-economic imbalance and need of openings for social headway and business are a few of the root causes of crime and viciousness (Ajaegbu, 2012).

#### STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

It has been observed that the rate of youth involvement in criminal activities as form lucrative in the sight of the youth and this have significant effect on the up development in Nigeria.

Since the number of youths graduating from the tertiary Institutions across the country increased between 10% - 20% every year with over 70% been owned by the government either federal or state while the 30% are private owned by either individuals or organizations, every year over 100,000 graduates from these institutions majority of them been youths (National University Commission, 2020). The percentage of the created jobs for this teeming citizen of Nigeria is less than 15% each year and this implies that 85% are added yearly to the unemployed graduate seeking or looking for employment. This gave rise to involvement of youths in perpetration of crime bearing in mind an adage that says, "an idle mind is the devil's workshop". Based on this the study investigated the lucrateness of crime as major determining factor for youth involvement in criminal activities in Nigeria.

#### RESEARCH HYPOTHESES

The following hypotheses were formulated to guide the study.

H0: There is no significant relationship between crime lucrateness as major determining factor and youth involvement in criminal activities in Nigeria.

#### LITERATURE REVIEW:

##### Crime as Lucrative Act

Osawe (2015) portrayed crime/wrongdoing as an "illegal act (disallowed by law or disappointment to act as required by law); unlawful action that includes breaking the law; corrupt movement that's considered unacceptable, act that's despicable, impulsive and regrettable". Wrongdoing is an act that is opposite to the law and unacceptable shameless act.

To Adebayo (2013) crime could be an infringement of the rules to be regarded by all individuals of the society, and upon which the rest individuals of the society mete endorse upon those blameworthy of the infringement. When wrongdoing is committed, the society bears the results. He portrays the nature of such violations to incorporate equipped burglary, kill, assault, car burglary, burglary, extortion, bribery and debasement, nourishment and medicate corruption, betting, sneaking, human trafficking, capturing, medicate trafficking, cash washing, web trick, progressed expense extortion (419) and other illicit activities. The is the picture of the nature of wrongdoing in Nigeria. So also, Sheriff Deputies (2016) within The Life systems of Wrongdoings in Nigeria: A Measurable Think about, uncovered that 7 out of 10 Nigerians are perplexed of getting to be the casualty of

wrongdoing.

### **Reason Why Youth Involve in Bad but Lucrative Activities in Society**

In the view of Schroeder, (2018) no society is free from crime and this has been ascribed to numerous reasons like unemployment, Starvation, Eagerness etc. The major causes of crime or wrongdoing within the state was found to be complex changes in financial, social and social components unemployment, broken homes, destitute instruction, child mishandle, substance mishandle, financial imbalance and community breakdown. These discoveries are not at fluctuation with discoveries in other considers. Herman (2009) recorded six common reasons for wrongdoing or crime in a society that we ought to be mindful of as need of legitimate instruction and judgment, destitution, need of parental supervision, impact of media and environment.

According to Onodugo, and Onodugo, (2015). Nigeria may be a society that is self-destructively divided and embroiled in intense internal conflict. Because those who work as specialists are not actually performing the tasks that are expected of them. Nigerians behave in a way that complies with each person's specific wishes. People at the top of the social scale are delaying progress because they do not understand how to balance the needs of people with little or nothing with their own. Because of this, a growing percentage of the population is becoming impoverished, while less and fewer people in charge of the state's apparatus are using it to drain the nation's resources, Standing (2021).

Ogbonna, (2019) stated that those who are cut off from the nation's resources are forced to turn to crime in order to stabilize themselves in this position. They are essentially turning to thievery and seizure as a means of obtaining what they need to lead a somewhat normal existence. Nigeria is currently experiencing a situation where the government requires foresight to define what the people desire.

Ajaegbu (2012) moreover famous that the rise in savage crime such as (theft, capturing, thuggery, fear mongering among others), committed by the youth may be a sign of "gap" within the society. Agreeing to him, the society as of now has desires for people and set up implies of accomplishing them. In any case, when the implies are restricted as the youth unemployment is 46.5% in 2011 (Sanusi, 2012), individuals are constrained to realize their objectives through illicit implies to satisfy societal desires. Kidnappings have ended up an awfully profitable commerce as seen by those who lock in on it over the nation. The unemployed youth are accessible for enlistment into different awful packs counting political thuggery.

### **Effects of Youth Involvement in Bad Lucrative Activities**

The impacts of crime on people and the country at large are huge and gigantic. At person level, individuals are made to live in fear, uneasiness, and doubt in their possess arrive. Concurring to Ajaegbu (2012) "neither homes, nor markets are secure in Nigeria since of visit events of equipped burglary incidents". Private homes, churches, foundations, and open places are not cleared out behind by buglers and burglars. The negative mental impacts of being stole incorporate discouragement, uneasiness, and post-traumatic push (PSTD) may final for life (Uzochukwu, 2019).

Felson and Boba, (2010) regularly, crimes often lead to misfortune or loss of lives and properties. Numerous lives have been lost and valuable merchandise or properties have been wasted or lost because of different crime perpetrated or executed by unemployed

youths. A few casualties of seize did not return domestic to tell their stories. A great number of people have died as a result of criminal activities by armed criminals.

Bello (2011) submitted that "the fear of wrongdoing and wrongdoing itself has made frailty to lives and property among individuals". At the national level, different violations such as psychological warfare, militancy, equipped theft, capturing and other such abominations, executed by young people has painted the nation as risky. As a result, venture and trade would endure as speculators are frightened to contribute in a hazardous economy (Onwuka et al., 2015).

Onwuka et al. (2015) opined that businesses would be migrated to more secure situations whereas the ones that cannot move would attempt to contribute more in security subsequently expanding the taken a toll of generation. For occurrence, the Joined together States Division of State Travel Admonitory based on Nigeria security report as at 28th April, 2020 demonstrated that travelers ought to reevaluate travel to Nigeria due to wrongdoing, fear based oppression, respectful turmoil, seizing, marine wrongdoing such as seizing, seizing, boarding, and burglary (Nation Security Report, 2020).

Unemployment has been a major calculate for most of these wrongdoings. Wrongdoing panic outsiders and speculators who would have contributed to the improvement of the country. The position of youth in society, agreeing to Ozerdem (2016) contains a bearing on their authority possibilities and conceivable part in guaranteeing peace. Youth who developed up with the mindset of cutting corners and questionable implies to create closes meet would develop up to gotten to be a degenerate pioneer of tomorrow, this circumstance predicts peril for maintainable peace. Concurring to Agbiboa (2015) there cannot be peace without improvement and there can be no improvement without peace.

## **THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

The fundamental hypothesis upon which this think about was secured is the Hardship Hypothesis of Ted Gurr propounded in 1970. This classical hypothesis clarifies why the youth lock in in viciousness (riots, resistance, overthrows, criminal exercises, etc.). It looks at the mental causes including dissatisfaction and animosity as the essential source of human capacity for savagery. Dissatisfaction is not one or the other essential nor adequate reason for savagery but when it is combined with eagerness, the drive for savagery gets to be more noteworthy. Relative hardship is the inconsistency between what individuals think they merit and what they really think they can get (Gurr, 1970). The theory pushes that on the off chance that there is a noteworthy disparity between what individuals think they merit and what they think they will get, there is a probability of disobedience. Individuals feel that their desires cannot be met in the event that the current statuesque is kept up. In this manner, disappointment produces animosity at person, gather and societal levels.

The same theory pushes that hardship hypothesis is very well-suited in clarifying the relationship between rough wrongdoing and unemployment. A nation that produces thousands of graduates each year without corresponding work/job openings may be making a prolific ground for sentiments of dissatisfaction among the unemployed graduates. As dissatisfaction draws and drags out the feeling of hardship of what was anticipated increments, there is a more prominent likelihood that the person or individuals can resort to ill-conceived exercises in arrange to actualize their desires



within the society.

## RESEARCH METHOD

### Instrumentation

The instrument that was be used in study is a self-designed questionnaire tagged “crime lucrateness as major determining factor for youth involvement in criminal activities Questionnaire”. The questionnaire is designed to find out crime lucrateness as major determining factor for youth involvement in criminal activities in Nigeria.

**Table 1:** Relationship between crime lucrateness as major determining factor and youth involvement in criminal activities in Nigeria

Variable	N	Mean	SD	Df	Calc. r-value	Critical r-value	P-Value	Decision
Youth involvement	200	16.540	1.58	198	0.644*	0.116	0.006	Rejected
Crime lucrateness	200	13.850	1.767					

Source: Researcher’s survey, 2023

**Table 1:** Shows the relationship between crime lucrateness as major determining factor and youth involvement in criminal activities in Nigeria. Based on the analysis of the results, it indicated that the calculated r of 0.644 is greater than the critical r of 0.116 at 0.05 level of significance. Thus, the hypothesis is hereby rejected. Meaning that, there is a significant relationship between crime lucrateness as major determining factor and youth involvement in criminal activities in Nigeria.

## DISCUSSION OF THE FINDINGS

The analysis stated that “there is no significant relationship between crime lucrateness as major determining factor and youth involvement in criminal activities in Nigeria”. Based on the analysis of the results, it indicated that the calculated r of 0.644 is greater than the critical r of 0.116 at 0.05 level of significance. Thus, the hypothesis is hereby rejected. Therefore, there is a significant relationship between crime lucrateness as major determining factor and youth involvement in criminal activities in Nigeria. This support the statement of Kazeem (2016) that the higher the rate of unemployment the greater the rate crime as factor for youth involvement in criminal activities

## CONCLUSIONS

Based on the findings from the study, the following conclusions were drawn:

There is a significant relationship between crime lucrateness as major determining factor and youth involvement in criminal activities in Nigeria. The government must double its efforts in generating employment opportunities for the teeming youths that are unemployed.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Government should create a conducive environment to pull in speculators to set up businesses in Nigeria.

Control segments ought to be progressed on whereas different frailty such as fear mongering, capturing and armed robbery ought to be annihilated to make Nigeria an attractive destination for investors.

### Data Analysis Technique

The data collected was analyzed with inferential statistic in which Pearson Product Moment Correlation (PPMC) Statistic, was used to test the hypothesis at 0.05 alpha level of significant

### Results.

**Hypothesis 1:** There is no significant relationship between crime lucrateness as major determining factor and youth involvement in criminal activities in Nigeria

Nigerian government should establish and adequately fund National Youth Technique to address youth business and youth unemployment as its primary concern.

The government should improve the fight against corruption as this is one the major factor undermining the creation of employment.

There is also the need to beef up the security apparatus to stem the tide of insecurity that is scaring away potential foreign investors.

Encouraging the unemployed youths to engage in agriculture will reduce their engagement in criminal activities.

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