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All correspondences and enquiries should be addressed to:

The Editor

Jos Journal of Social Issues

Department of Sociology, University of Jos

P.M.B. 2084, Jos, Plateau State, Nigeria

E-Mail: [socjosjsi@gmail.com](mailto:socjosjsi@gmail.com)

WEB SITE: [www.jjsi.org.ng](http://www.jjsi.org.ng)

## EDITORIAL NOTE

As stated in the Editorial Note of volume 12 of the Jos Journal of Social Issues, the Journal is a leading scholarly peer-reviewed, refereed, or referenced, multidisciplinary research, and evidence-based journal of the Department of Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Jos, Jos, Nigeria. Since its inception in 1976, the Jos Journal of Social Issues (JJSI) has been standing the test of time; it has continued to be effective, impactful, successful, eye-catching, and widely read within Nigeria and across the globe as well. The editors of the JJSI have diligently been ensuring that its publication is not only being sustained for a long time but that it has the high standard, quality and impact of a good journal and is widely read within and outside Nigeria. Unfortunately, the sustainability, consistency and distinctiveness characterizing the publication of the JJSI, had a changed narrative in the year 2020 when the publication of the Journal was hindered by some formidable factors beyond the control of the editorial board and the Department of Sociology, University of Jos where the Journal is domiciled. Contributors and/or readers of the JJSI who have no idea why it was not published in 2020 need some explanation.

Some of the factors that have implications for peaceful co-existence, security, safety, and the sustainability of the Jos Journal of Social Issues in Jos city include: (1) the closure of tertiary educational institutions by the Federal Government due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in Nigeria, coupled with the declaration of indefinite strike by the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) with effect from Monday, 23 March, 2020 following the expiration of its warning strike that commenced on March 9, 2020. The Union embarked on the strike (from Monday, March 23 to Wednesday, December 23, 2020) which halted academic activities in the nation's tertiary institutions of learning in reaction to the use of force to impose the Integrated Payroll and Personal Information System (IPPIS) in the nation's tertiary educational institutions among other issues; (2) The #End Special Ant-Robbery Squad (SARS), a decentralized social movement characterized by series of mass protests that occurred in October, 2020 in Nigeria, and (3) The security breaches in Jos Metropolis that led to the death of two students and the suspension of academic activities in the University with effect from 20th August, 2021 to 11th October, 2021. The period of the COVID-19 pandemic in Nigeria, that is, 2020 was a period of academic inactivity not only in the University of Jos but also in other national Universities without well-developed

virtual teaching and learning resources; journal publication and other academic activities seemed to be on a downward trajectory in such national universities during the pandemic period in Nigeria. It is therefore just within the last few months of this year that normalcy returned to Jos Metropolis and the University to permit the publication of this volume of the JJSI.

As the Editor-in-Chief as well as the Ag. Vice-Chancellor of the University of Jos faced with the challenges of crisis leadership, one is happy to announce that God has helped the Administration of the University to overcome the life-threatening and scary security situation in the University that claimed the lives of two students and disrupted administrative and academic activities including the publication of the JJSI from August to early part of October, 2021. For instance, it was God's help that enabled the University of Jos Administration under the Acting Leadership of Prof. Gray Goziem Ejikeme to proactively order students to vacate the University of Jos hostels on 20/8/2021 shortly before the brutal attack on Yelwa Zangam village very close to the hostels on 24/08/2021. It was also by the grace of God that the University Administration provided immediate physical security presence that can be visible and felt within and around the University as one of the major mandatory conditions the Senate of the University gave for the resumption of suspended academic activities on the 11th October, 2021.

In this 13th volume of the journal, there are highlights of efforts aimed at ensuring quality control and adding value to the JJSI to increase its impact, standard and quality in line with the best global trend and practice. The topics covered contained in the volume address contemporary social issues that match the major concerns of the Journal in an ever-evolving world.

On behalf of the Editorial Board, I wish to congratulate the Ag. Head of the Department of Sociology, Dr. Gimba H. Dikop on his emergence and effectiveness as the first social worker to be appointed to head the Department of Sociology, University of Jos since its inception in 1976, and also pray that God will help him to have the wisdom, commitment and effectiveness to overcome the challenges ahead and succeed in office. As the first academic member of the Department of Sociology to earn a PhD in Social Work in the Department, his mandate is not only to add value to the standard and quality of academic and administrative activities of the Department, but also to set the stage and drive the process for the introduction of the full-time undergraduate programme in Social Work and Social Administration to be domiciled in a Department of Social Work. We are proud of Dr. Dikop for striving towards value additions to the growth, development, functioning, integrity and credibility of the Department of Sociology where the JJSI has been domiciled since its inception in 1976.

The introduction of a Department of Social Work and the full-time undergraduate programme in Social Work in the University of Jos is long overdue considering that the University has been running the part-time undergraduate programme in Social Work and Social Administration for decades when Prof. Gray Goziem Ejikeme and Prof. A. E. Idyorough proposed it long before the inception of both part-time and full-time undergraduate programmes in Social Work in newer Nigerian Universities. Besides, every Nigerian University that offers the part-time undergraduate course in social work is required by the National Universities Commission (NUC) to run a comparable undergraduate programme. It is expected that once the Senate of the University approves the proposal for (a) the establishment of a Department of Social Work and also (b) the introduction of a full-time undergraduate programme in Social Work, we will hit the ground running.

Also on behalf of the Editorial Board, I wish to express profound gratitude to Dr. P.M. Suchi, Dr. Peter N. Wika, Dr. Janet P. Plang and other vibrant younger sociology colleagues in the Department who, being driven by the sociological imagination, have never reneged on their resolve to be supportive to me in terms of reminding and pushing me to contribute to the sustainability of the JJSI. Ensuring the sustainability of the JJSI is one of the means of achieving the best practices in the Department of Sociology in the University of Jos. The editors of the JJSI have diligently been ensuring that its publication is not only being sustained for a long time but that the Journal has high standard, quality and impact and is widely read within and outside Nigeria. Members of the Editorial Board of the JJSI have been strongly committed to the sustainability, standard, and quality of the journal at a time some other Departmental journals are becoming extinct largely due to the soaring cost of publishing journals that are good. Therefore, JJSI editors need to be encouraged to sustain their insistence on making value additions to the JJSI and the Department as well.

The contributions of the peer reviewers who assisted the Board in ensuring that articles accepted for publication in the Jos Journal of Social Issues have the standard and quality that satisfy the editorial policies of the Board are also highly commendable. The peer reviewers are making relevant contributions to the Department's goal of expanding knowledge and skills and achieving excellence in a knowledge based world.

The online version of the journal is available at the journal's website: [jjsi.org.ng](http://jjsi.org.ng). We encourage interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary approaches to research and publications, and therefore, colleagues who have research-based articles that are relevant to the major domains of the journal are encouraged to contribute to its

subsequent volumes. We wish every reader an interesting, happy and productive reading, and to God be the glory (TGBTG).

**Professor Gray Goziem Ejikeme, FNPA**

**Editor-in-Chief**

*Dip. SW., B.Sc., M.Sc., PGDE, MSSW, Ph.D., Cert. in Drugs (N.J.), VRS (MI), Post-Doc Cert in Gerontology (UNT, TX).*

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Department of Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences

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E-mail: [ejikemeg@unijos.edu.ng](mailto:ejikemeg@unijos.edu.ng), [ejikemegg@yahoo.com](mailto:ejikemegg@yahoo.com)

Phone: 08035015530, 08133202015

**Electronic mails could also be sent to:**

[socjosjsia@gmail.com](mailto:socjosjsia@gmail.com)/[ejikemegg@yahoo.com](mailto:ejikemegg@yahoo.com)/[ejikemeg@unijos.edu.ng](mailto:ejikemeg@unijos.edu.ng)

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# Social Research Traditions and the Relevance of Methodological Triangulation

Anande Vitalis Hunduh (Ph.D)

Department of Sociology, University of Jos, Jos, Nigeria.

## ABSTRACT

For researchers in the social sciences, when to combine the quantitative and qualitative methods is an issue. This is either because they do not understand the relevance, are more favourably disposed to one, or believe the methods are incompatible. Such dispositions deny the researchers and end users of empirical studies rich information. The objectives of this paper are to lay bare the limitations of using one research methodology, and sensitize social scientists on the benefits of combining social research methodologies. The paper discusses the research traditions and the quantitative and qualitative methodologies, and goes on to look at the limitations of each of the traditions and methodologies. It also discusses the relevance of combining qualitative and quantitative methodologies which includes enabling a social researcher overcome biases and deficiencies of any one method and thus capitalize on their individual strengths; allowing a researcher to produce a fuller account of the situation that covers not only the scales of the issue such as numbers involved, but also gives some insight into the motivational factors that gave rise to the behavior; and increasing the validity of results by incorporating several viewpoints. In addition, methodological triangulation aids in sampling – information from one method can be used as the basis for selecting a sample of people who will participate in the research through a different and contrasting method. It also provides a researcher with the opportunity to check the findings from one method against the findings from a different method. The paper concludes that methodological triangulation is relevant because it enriches social research findings as it provides in-depth information; thus, it recommends methodological triangulation for social researchers. However, the paper cautions that the decision to use methodological triangulation should be guided by how useful it is in addressing a particular question, issue or problem that is being investigated.

## KEY WORDS:

Methodology, Social Research, Research Tradition, Triangulation, Relevance

## Introduction

Social research is concerned with generation of knowledge about the social world. But there is no single pathway to this; there are options and alternatives. For every inquiry, one of the biggest decisions a researcher must make is on the appropriate methods to use. In practice, certain methods tend to be associated with particular philosophy. The discretion to use any one method is usually guided by the philosophical orientation of the social scientist concerned – whether s/he is a positivist or an interpretivist. Throughout the history of social sciences, there has been a conflict between what has sometimes been termed a very narrow positivistic approach, which has taken as its model the natural sciences (Durkheim, 1964), and

# Curbing “Covid-Infodemic”: An Assessment of Fact-Check Sources of Dubawa Nigeria and Dubawa Ghana

Jimme Garba Matyek

Department of Mass Communication, University of Jos, Jos, Plateau State, Nigeria.

## ABSTRACT

The novel coronavirus disease, officially described as 2019-nCoV (or COVID-19) by the World Health Organisation has caused over 4.6 million deaths worldwide as at September 17, 2021. With the World Health Organisation's guidelines, individual country's Centres for Disease Control disseminate information on preventive measures to contain the spread of COVID-19 pandemic through different media platforms to educate the populace about the virus. Unfortunately, these media (both conventional and new) platforms have been inundated with misinformation and disinformation about prevention, control, and cure of the disease causing an “infodemic”. In response to an epidemic of misinformation about the pandemic, the United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres announced a new communication initiative “to flood the Internet with facts and science while countering” the fake news related to COVID-19. This paper investigates sources of fake news reports on COVID-19 in Nigeria and Ghana by fact-check websites: Dubawa Nigeria and Dubawa Ghana. The research design is built on online content analysis. The key findings show that majority of fact-checked reports were false and largely emanated from gossip/disinformation blogs. More specifically, the coding-sheet (<http://bit.ly/DUBAWA>) shows that 106 reports were fact-checked, out of which 84% falsely sourced from gossip/disinformation blogs peddle fake news about COVID-19 in both Nigeria and Ghana. The paper recommends that Dubawa in both countries should continue to fact-check reports and flag sources of fake news about COVID-19. Moreover, it strongly advocates for campaigns (News Literacy) against gossip/disinformation blogs which have been the major sources of fake news reports in a bid to curb misinformation and disinformation about COVID-19.

## KEY WORDS:

COVID-19, Fact-checking, Fake News, Gossip/Disinformation Blogs, Infodemic

## Introduction

The outbreak of the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) on December 1, 2019 in Wuhan, China has been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organisation (WHO). Concerted efforts by the United Nations and member states through their respective national centre for disease control and prevention to curb the spread of COVID-19 have been dependent on information like washing of hands, social/physical distancing and wearing of face masks as non-pharmaceutical preventive measures. Where there is a suspected case of the contraction of the virus, the WHO has also reeled out possible signs and symptoms that include dry cough, tiredness, aches and pains, sore throat, diarrhoea, conjunctivitis, headache, loss of taste or smell, a rash on the skin, or discolouration of fingers or toes,

## Customs, Laws and Rights of Widows in Northern and Eastern Nigeria

Oyedoyin Abiola Oyerinde and Aretha Rekiya Samuel (Ph.D)

Department of Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Jos , Jos - Nigeria.

### ABSTRACT

In Africa, widows experience some loss of status in the society. In many developing countries, a woman's position could be influenced by her father or husband. Widows go through a lot of hardship that emanates from the society, the husband's family and tradition. This paper analyses the predicament of widows in Nigeria with specific emphasis on the Northern and Eastern regions. The aim is to promote understanding of the differences in the treatments of widows among these two culturally distinct regions in the country. Through desk review of the literature, the study adopted a comparative method to examine the cultural diversity in both regions, which have influenced the way widows are treated. These include widowhood inheritance, the rites (or ritual cleansing) and conditions surrounding the two culturally distinct regions in Nigeria. The findings show that there is a distinction in the treatment of widows in these two regions: while maltreatment is almost non-existent in the Northern region; the opposite is the case in the Eastern region. Despite different dialogues that try to emphasize the predicament of widows in Nigeria, there has been a lapse in the area of national consensus regarding the improvement of this aspect of widows' existence in the country. The paper recommends that there is a need for continual community education and public awareness so that these practices are discontinued. The extension of women's rights organizations' services to local areas is also recommended.

### KEY WORDS:

Customs, inheritance, Nigeria, rites, widowhood, widows

### Introduction

"We are treated like animals just because we are widows" (Walle, 2016).

The plight of widows in many parts of the world needs to be widely known and encouragement given to make sure that not only are they helped and protected in the countries where there are the greatest abuses, but also we in more advanced countries do not sit complacently while our own laws and procedures may well be inadequate to meet the needs of all widows (Butler-Sloss, 2016, as cited in Reed, 2020, p.685).

Widowhood is an actual reality for as long as people are born and death is inevitable. Widows are found in every society but in Africa, the dilemma of the widow is such that women dread to become widows. In Africa, widows go through a lot of deprivation that comes from the society, the husband's family and tradition. All widows suffer some loss of status in the society because in many developing

# Parental Socioeconomic Background and Street Hawking Among Teenagers in Ibadan North Local Government Area of Oyo State, Nigeria

Helen Ajibike Fatoye and Elizabeth Obasola Olaitan

Department of Social Work , Faculty of Education, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria.

## ABSTRACT

Street hawking among teenagers negates the International Convention on the rights of children and exposes them to dangers associated with being on the streets and on roads which put their lives at risks with short and long term consequences. Few studies have examined the influence of parental socioeconomic background on street hawking among teenagers in Nigeria. This study aimed to add to this body of literature by examining the influence of parental educational attainment, income level and occupational status on street hawking among teenagers in Ibadan North Local Government Area of Oyo State, Nigeria. The study adopted cross-sectional research design involving a sample of fifty (50) teenage street hawkers in the study area using a self-designed validated instrument. Among other findings, it found a significant inverse relationship between educational attainment of parents and extent of involvement in street hawking among teenagers in Ibadan North LGA. This implies a higher tendency (50%) among parents with no formal education to engage their teenage children in street hawking throughout the week than parents with some form of formal education especially tertiary education (10%). Among others, it recommends that government at all levels should reduce educational cost and make provision for vocational trainings after school. Government should also provide advocacy on dangers associated with street hawking particularly to parents and teenagers with lower or no formal education in order to shift their focus away from street hawking.

## KEY WORDS:

Parent, Street hawking,  
Socio-economic  
background, Teenagers.

## Introduction

Parents' socioeconomic status plays an important role in determining a child's upbringing and related activities. Parents with high level of education are most likely to engage in activities that would develop the intellectual potentials in their children and pave ways for their children to perform satisfactorily in life. Parents with respected occupations are less likely to allow their children to involve in risky tasks such as hawking. Similarly, parents with high income and active age are less likely to encourage teenage involvement in street hawking considering the negativity surrounding the practice (Alkhuba, 2013).

Street hawking entails the selling of things along the streets, from one road to another. It is an act of seeking for buyers of products or goods along the streets and from house to house. Street hawking among teenagers is about how girls and

## Effect of Foreign Exchange Rate on Economic Growth in Nigeria: An Empirical Analysis

Ajidani Moses Sabo (Ph.D) and Maryam Abu-Goodman (Ph.D)

Department of Economics, Faculty of Social Sciences, Nasarawa State University, Keffi.

### ABSTRACT

The Nigerian monetary authorities have implemented several foreign exchange policies with the aim of achieving faster economic growth but without desired success. This study was conducted to examine the effect of foreign exchange rate on economic growth in Nigeria between 1985 and 2019. Multiple regression techniques were employed on time series data covering the period under investigation. It was found that while nominal foreign exchange rate and foreign exchange reserves have positive effect on gross domestic product, real foreign exchange rate has negative effect on gross domestic product in Nigeria. Therefore, it was recommended that Government of Nigeria should adopt policies that will lead to rise in foreign exchange value of naira. To this end, frantic efforts should be directed at creating enabling environment that would encourage foreign investors to come and invest in the economy and/or Producing manufactured goods for foreigners to come and buy. This will lead to rise in the demand and nominal value for Nigerian currency and hence economic growth in the country.

### KEY WORDS:

Economic growth; Error correction mechanism; Gross domestic product; Nominal foreign exchange rate; Real foreign exchange rate

JEL Classification: E65  
 O47 C32

### Introduction

Exchange rate is a key variable in the context of economic policy making. Its changes affect the performance of other macroeconomic variables in any economy. It provides a key link between a country and the rest of the world, both in goods imports and exports (by changing the relative prices), as well as the stock of foreign debt in domestic currency terms (Martins, 2009). According to Roa and Tolcha (2016), all transactions with the rest of the world can be potentially affected by the level of the exchange rate. A depreciation of exchange is often associated with competitiveness gains in a sense relative price of export will fall and imports become relatively expensive.

In view of the crucial role of foreign exchange rate in influencing macroeconomic variables, the Nigeria government has placed serious emphasis on its determination over the years. Before the introduction of structural adjustment programme (SAP) in 1986, the Nigeria economy was substantially regulated. During that time, Nigerian currency, the naira-was said to be overvalued and that was why it was opened to market forces in 1986 to determine its actual value (Tarawalie, 2010). Between 1986 and 1994, when the SAP lasted, foreign

# Impact of Unemployment on Economic Growth in Nigeria: An Empirical Analysis

Maryam Abu-Goodman (Ph.D) and Ajidani Moses Sabo (Ph.D)

Department of Economics, Faculty of Social Sciences, Nasarawa State University, Keffi.

## ABSTRACT

This study examined the impact of unemployment on economic growth in Nigeria. The study adopted ex-post factor research design and time series data to investigate the impact of unemployment on economic growth in Nigeria during the 1986-2019. The autoregressive distributed lag analysis method was used to carry out the investigation. It was found that while unemployment as negative impact on gross domestic product, population growth, and public expenditure on education have positive impact on gross domestic product in Nigeria. The study recommends that government and relevant agencies should formulate policies to encourage self-employment and regulate the nation's population growth rate. There is also the need to formulate policies tailored towards developing the informal sector of the economy so as to ensure entrepreneurship development which may likely reduce unemployment and improve the welfare and living standards of Nigerians. Deregulation of the labour market should be paramount to destabilize and decongest the long queue of the unemployed cause by the high demand for formal employment.

## KEY WORDS:

Economic growth; Error correction mechanism; Gross domestic product; Unemployment, population growth, and public expenditure.

JEL Classification: E65  
O47 C32

## Introduction

Unemployment is one of the most serious problems facing Nigeria today. The mass unemployment of qualified and able-bodied men/women has generated much concern all over the world. Adeyemi and Ogunsola (2016) noted that despite the rapid recovery in the global economy that took place in 2013, following two years of severely adverse labour market conditions, global unemployment remained elevated in 2010. According to the National Bureau of Statistics (2020), the number of unemployed in Nigeria which stood at 20 million in 2013 rose to 32 million in 2020.

The above scenario propelled Nigerian government like other nations' governments around the world to take some practical steps towards alleviating unemployment. However, in spite of the frantic efforts towards the eradication of this phenomenon, it is sad to note that Nigeria economy continues to experience increase in unemployment rate. Lack of employment opportunities in Nigeria has resulted in poverty, in turn poverty leads to alienation of poor people from political-economic functioning of the society. For example, the data from National

# The Spate of Unlawful Conducts by Security Agents Against Citizens in Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria: Implications for Policing

Monsurat Isiaka (Ph.D)

Department of Criminology and Security Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ilorin

## ABSTRACT

The spate of unlawful conducts by security agents against innocent citizens particularly in the course of fighting cyber fraud in Nigeria is alarming. Ranging from brutality, arbitrary arrest, illegal detention, defamation, extortion, bribery and extra-judicial killing, these conducts are excruciating to the public and have attracted several reactions including public protest and continual distrust of security agents from citizens and victims of these misconducts. The consequences of these unlawful conducts are particularly damaging to the victims. Against this backdrop, the research examines the spate of unlawful conducts by security agents against citizens in Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria. The areas selected were Tanke, Malete and Oke-Ose. Guided by Gottfredson and Hirschi's General Theory of Crime (GTC) and Agnew's General Strain Theory (GST), the study adopts qualitative method (involving in-depth interviews) to generate data from twenty-four (24) respondents who were purposively selected through snow-ball sampling technique. Content analysis reveals that majority of people complained of the high vulnerability of citizens to unlawful misconducts and the extent of citizens' sufferings resulting from the brutality of security agents ranges from fear, monetary loss and injuries to psychological traumas and loss of lives. Therefore, the study recommends strict punishment of 'bad' security agents and instituting compensations for victims of security agents' misconducts.

## KEY WORDS:

Citizens; Implications;  
Unlawful Conducts;  
Public Perception;  
Security Agents.

## Introduction

The rate of unlawful activities by security agents all over the world is worrisome, ranging from arbitrary arrests and extortion to brutality and extra-judicial killings of innocent citizens. The persistence and severity of these unlawful practices by security agents constitute a major source of concern to criminologists, psychologists, parents and guardians. Of all unlawful activities and police misconducts that occur in most countries, police brutality is particularly widespread.

Few of the cases include the protest against police brutality and racism for George Floyd that started in Minneapolis in the USA on May 26, 2020; the case of Kolade Johnson who was shot in his neighbourhood by the officers of anti-cultism unit of the Nigeria Police Force (NPF) where he was watching a live football match