THE ROLE OF POVERTY IN THE PREVALENCE OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN NIGERIA: A STUDY OF NAPTIP SOKOTO ZONAL COMMAND (2003-2010)

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MPHIL/SOC.SCI/15058/2011-2012

BEING A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES, AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY, ZARIA IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF MASTERS OF PHILOSOPHY (MPHIL) DEGREE IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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JULY, 2017

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this dissertation is a product of my effort under the supervision of my Supervisors: Prof. Ejembi Anefu Unobe and Dr. Aliyu Yahaya. It has never been presented elsewhere as a prerequisite for any award. All literature and contributions cited are duly acknowledged in the research work.

Christopher LOT **Date**

CERTIFICATION

This research work titled: **"The Role of Poverty in the Prevalence of Human Trafficking in Nigeria: A Study of NAPTIP Sokoto Zonal Command (2003-2010)"** has been evaluated and approved as having satisfied the requirement for the award of Masters of Philosophy degree in International Relations, Ahmadu Bello, University, Zaria.

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DEDICATION

The research work is dedicated to God Almighty who has been faithful, gracious, merciful and provided all I needed throughout the study. You have honoured your word and I know you will continue to honour your word in my life. I also dedicate this work in loving memory and honour of my late father (Mr. Lot, Amwe Oganto) who laid a good foundation and encouraged me to pursue knowledge in order to serve humanity to the glory of God.

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ABSTRACT

Human trafficking entails the forceful or deceitful recruitment of people; mostly young and able bodied people for forced labour, prostitution and other forms of exploitation. This phenomenon has become a recurrent problem in Nigeria despite concerted efforts made by government, international and Non-Governmental Organizations to curbthe menace in the Country.This study which sought to establish the role of poverty in the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria is an attempt to address the root cause of the problem. Hence it focused on the review of existing institutional intervention by the National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and Other Related Matters (NAPTIP) Sokoto Zonal Command as a measure to identify gaps and appropriately provide an alternative approach that will effectively curb the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria. The research was carried out within the ambit of Relative Deprivation Theory and adopted both primary and secondary types of data collection using simple descriptive statistics techniques to generate data for the study through structured interview and questionnaire. The study which interrogated the interface between poverty and the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria, found out that majority of respondents 99 (75.%) agreed that the nature of human trafficking in Nigeria involves the forceful or deceitful recruitment of mostly young and able-bodied people for forced labour and other forms of exploitation, while 71 (53.8%) agreed that poverty and poor access to sources of material wealth plunges people in Nigeria into human trafficking as they desperately seek alternative means of survival and101(76.5%)strongly agreed that factors contributing to porverty provide favourable environment for the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria. The research therefore recommends that a comprehensive synergy involving Government and relevant stakeholders targeted at alleviating poverty will effectively tackled the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria. Other recommendations include strengthening the capacity of NAPTIP, relevant law enforcement agencies and traditional institutions to co-ordinate and sustain a strong security network that will identify, report, arrest and prosecute Traffickers and other offenders; serve as a deterrent and check the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria. In addition, the study recommends that the teaching and promotion of Nigeria's history, national core values of patriotism and nationalism should be given priority and inculcated in the national school curriculum in order to encourage the youths and the entire people of Nigeria to believe in themselves and the country and discourage the excessive quest for illegal migration in search of greener pasture abroad.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AIDS	-	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
CIDA	-	Canadian International Development Agency
CTOC	-	Convention Against Transnational Organised Crime
DFID	-	Department for International Development
ECOWAS	-	Economic Community of West African States
EU	-	European Union
IDPS	-	Internally Displaced Persons
GDP	-	Gross Domestic Product
HIV	-	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ILO	-	International Labour Organizations
IOM	-	International Organization for Migration
NAPTIP	-	National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and other Related Matters.
NGO	-	Non Governmental Organizations
PEA	-	Private Employment Agencies
SAP	-	Structural Adjustment Programme
UNICEF	-	United Nations Children Emergency Fund
UNODC	-	United Nations Office for Drug and Crime
USAID	-	United State Agency for International Development
USSR	-	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
WOTCLEF	-	Women Trafficking and Child Labour Eradication Foundation

CHAPTER ONE

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

Human trafficking entails a forceful or deceitful recruitment of people; especially young and able bodied people for forced labour, prostitution, domestic and other forms of exploitation.It also involves the exploitation of the desperation and ignorance of parents particularly those in the rural areas; to procure women and children for commercial and exploitation purposes.

The protocol of human trafficking assumes that adults and children of both sexes can become victims of human trafficking. It also postulates that individuals free will of victims must have been manipulated, constrained, subdued in some manner to allow for manipulation(Ashcroft, 2004:42).

There is very little doubt that, human trafficking is a lucrative business and may be one of the most difficult to combat. Its corrupting effects on government and institutions are barely perceptible because they are less visible than those caused by gun running and drug trafficking. Exploiting the poverty and low status of women and children in the society, middlemen are able to supply and meet the demand for cheap labour and sex in violation of human rights and international conventions.

The UN (Palermo) protocol supplementing UN convention against Transnational Organized Crime (CTOC) 2000 Article 3 (a) defined 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 consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation here 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*(Saghera,2001:74).

Consequently, a 'man, woman or child victim of trafficking' is any person above or under 18 years respectively, who is recruited, transported, transferred, harbored or received for the purpose of exploitation, either within or outside a country.

Accordingly, trafficking in persons is a major violation of human rights, particularly that of women and children. It is a major contributory factor to the exploitation of human beings for commercial and business purposes. Human trafficking is therefore, a societal problem involving almost every Community or State in Nigeria either as a source, transit or destination. It is therefore not limited to a section or part of a population in the country.

The United States (US) State Department Trafficking in Persons Report 2009 described Nigeria as a source, transit and destination country for the trafficking of human beings for the purpose of forced labour and commercial sexual exploitation. Within Nigeria, women and girls are primarily trafficked for domestic labour. Trans-nationally women, girls and boys are trafficked into Nigeria from other African countries and from Nigeria to countries within and outside Africa(Nwogu, 2005:6).

Every year hundreds of thousands of women and children are trafficked across borders for the purpose of exploitation. Their survival and development are threatened and the right to social and other essential services; protection from exploitation are abused and denied. Poor economic opportunities have indeed led families into more desperate measures as seen in the increasing number of women, young boys and girls and children are being trafficked from one part of the Country to another and from nelghbouring Countries into Nigeria and from Nigeria to other Countries for exploitation purposes(NAPTIP, 2016:12).

Realizing the existence and effects of human trafficking on the socio-economic development of Nigeria as a Country, the Federal Government established the National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and Other Related Matters (NAPTIP) in 2003 with its Headquarters in Abuja, the Federal Capital. Consequently, nine (9)Zonal Commands wereestablished across the country 'to check the activities of Traffickers and curb the Prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria. One of the Zonal Commands is located in Sokoto. Other complementary measures include the establishment of Anti- Human Trafficking Unit of the Nigeria Immigration Service, State Government intervention through Ministry of Social Welfare and Culture Sokoto State and Save the Child Initiative; a non-governmental organization (NGO) based in Sokoto are all working in conjunction with NAPTIP Sokoto Zonal Command to refer suspected cases of human trafficking for investigation and possible prosecution. Despite these institutional interventions, the problems of human trafficking remain insoluble; as new and emerging trends of human trafficking continue to resurface in Nigeria as victims from some neighbouring countries and other parts of the country are continuously traffickedintoNigeria while others are trafficked to Europe and other parts of the world through the country's border around

Sokoto axis or repartriated into Nigeria. Nigeria is therefore a source, transit and destinationfor human trafficking.

This position was confirmed by the Zonal Commander of NAPTIP Sokoto Command, Barrister Hassan Tahir in an interview titled:'NAPTIP discovers centres for pornographic performance in Sokoto'. The investigation reveals that:

> Some of them (victims) were even brought from Niger Republic and Benin by the organisers (Traffickers) to participate in these nocturnal activities which take place almost every day between 9pm and 12am. This no doubt is another form of Trafficking in Persons which is contrary to NAPTIP Act 2015. The under-aged girls (victims) are procured for pornographic performance and subjected to prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation(Abubakar, 2016:4)

As noted above, it is also important to note that women and children are most at risk as they constitute the major population in human trafficking. This is an issue of concern as women and children make up more than half of the population of every society. It therefore, underscores the fact that "the age distribution within a given population is an important element in power calculations. All other things being equal, a nation with a relatively large population of maximum potential usefulness for military and productive purpose, (roughly between twenty and forty years of age) will have an edge in power over a nation in whose population the older age groups predominate"(Morgenthau,1962:133).

In view of the failure of institutional approach to effectively tackle the menace of human trafficking in the country, this study which focuses on the role of poverty in the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria is an attempt to address the underlying (root) cause of the problem.This is a departure from the institutional approach which dwells more on

prosecution, arrest, deportation and other symptomatic effects of human trafficking rather than the root cause of the problem.

According to Helga Konrad:

Many good things, ranging from structural and institutional measures and collaborative initiatives to the development of comprehensive action plans at national levels have been done. Yet, inspite of all these activities, there does not seem to be evidence of a substantial reduction of human trafficking. So, the question is no longer what can be done about human trafficking, but rather how we can do more and does it better. There is no time to waste (Konrad, 2004:13).

This forms the basis for this study which critically examines the role of poverty in the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria; focusing on the operational coverage of the National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and other Related Matters (NAPTIP) Sokoto Zonal Command as a case study. This approach is therefore a proactive and preventive measure aim at addressing the underlying (root) cause responsible for the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

This study focuses on the role of poverty in the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria. The 2010 national poverty statistics indicated that seventy percent(70%) of Nigeria's population are poor and Sokoto State has the highest statistics of poverty in the country as more than eighty percent (80%) of the people live below poverty line.

Exploiting the porous Nigeria's border around the Sokoto axis and other socio-economic challenges currently being experienced in the country, Traffickers have identified Sokoto as a source, transit and destination hub for the recruitment of victims for the purpose of exploitation within Sokoto, from Sokoto State to other States in Nigeria and from other

States and countries to Europe and other parts of the world through Nigeria's border around Sokoto State.

Despite Nigeria's effort to curb the prevalence of human trafficking through the establishment of National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and Other Related Matters (NAPTIP) available data categorizes Nigeria in tier two (2) of the trafficking in persons country list compiled by the United States Government and Transparency International in 2010. This rating places Nigeria among countries that failed to comply with the minimum international standard needed to effectively tackle the menace of human trafficking in the country.

It is against this backdrop that this study examines the role of poverty in the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria; focusing on the efficacy of the operations of National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and Other Related Matters (NAPTIP) Sokoto Zonal Command. Consequently, the research interrogates the interface between poverty and human trafficking in Nigeria.

1.3 Research Questions

1. What is the nature of human trafficking inNigeria?

2. What is the role of poverty in the prevalence of human trafficking inNigeria?

3.What are the factors that create favourable environment for the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria?

4. What are the possible solutions to the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria?

1.4 Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study are as follows:-

1. To examine the nature of human trafficking in Nigeria.

2. To ascertain the role of poverty in the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria.

3. To examine the factors that create favourable environmentfor the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria

4. To recommend effective strategies in tackling the prevalence of human trafficking in Sokoto State,Nigeria.

1.5 Research Assumptions

1. Human trafficking in Nigeria involves the forceful or deceitful recruitment of largely young and able bodied people for forced labour other forms of exploitation.

2. Poverty is responsible for the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria.

3. The factors contributing to poverty in Nigeria provide favourable environment for the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria

4. A comprehensive stakeholder synergy towards addressing poverty is the solution to the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria.

1.6 Significance of the Study

This research focuses on the role of poverty in the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria. This essentially provides another alternative perspective for a critical analysis of the phenomenon of human trafficking as a problem that requires a proactive and preventive

measure aimed at addressing the root cause rather than curative approach which dwells more on arrest, deportation and prosecution of perpetrators and other symptomatic effects of human trafficking.

The significance of this study to the body of existing literature is basically designed to cover the gaps or pit-falls inherent in the existing institutional approach put in place to check the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria; an approach that dwells more on the symptomatic rather than the root cause of human trafficking in the country. The focus of this study on preventive measures will significantly help in addressing the root cause of human trafficking in Nigeria.

Furthermore, the focus of this study on the development of a comprehensive synergy between government and relevant stakeholders targeted at eradicating poverty is in effect an effective strategy that will strengthen the enforcement of relevant laws to effectively prosecute offenders, empower the people and stimulate a ripple or multiplier effect capable of addressing the socio-economic and other relevant challenges that sustain the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria.

The study also helps to bring to the front burner the seriousness and significance of human trafficking as a problem confronting the entire members of the society and not limited to prostitution involving the female gender, a particular ethnic group or a few states in Nigeria. It is therefore an alternative narrative away from the long held default position orthe one-sided perspective of the phenomenon of human trafficking as a problem confronting a part or a section of the population in Nigeria.

The study is therefore expected to confront and expand the level of commitment of relevant government and non-governmental stakeholders to the eradication of human trafficking through an effective exploration and harmonization of both institutional and other relevant human and material resources to effectively eradicate poverty and curb the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria. Indeed, the research is expected to be of immense value in this direction.

1.7 Scope and Limitations

The research focuses mainly on the role of poverty in the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria: A case study of NAPTIP Sokoto Zonal Command 2003-2010. Consequently, the study necessitated a visit by the Researcher to the National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and other Related Matters (NAPTIP) Zonal Command in Sokoto, Nigeria Immigration Service, Sokoto Zonal Command, Sokoto State Ministry of Social Welfare and Culture and Sokoto State Poverty Alleviation Agency all in Sokoto State. The visit afforded the Researcher the opportunity to subject the research questions and assumptions to test through on the spot (first-hand) assessment of the research problem.

However, in view of the fact that a number of factors in addition to poverty could be responsible for the prevalence of human trafficking inNigeria, a comprehensive study of all relevant factors that contribute to the prevalence of human trafficking in the country would have provided a broader and holistic approach to the problem of the research. Such approach will be too ambitious and will not be feasible within the scope and timeframe of this study. However, the finding of this research provides useful strategies, solutions and raised

relevant issues of interest for public debate which will form the basis for future research that can accommodate broader scope and longer time frame.

Although, the National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and other Related Matters (NAPTIP) was established at the national level in the year 2003, the Zonal Command came into operation in Sokoto State in 2006. This means that the data from NAPTIP Zonal command does not cover the entire scope of this research i.e 2003-2010. However, the data from Nigeria Immigrations Service (NIS) Sokoto Command complemented the data sourced from NAPTIP as it covers the years 2003-2010. Also, in view of the fact that human trafficking is regarded as a crime NAPTIP and other relevant organizations and agencies that handle such problems are security in nature, the accessibility to victims of human trafficking and Traffickers under their custody tends to be difficult. Also, such organizations treat some information exclusively as secret and tend to hoard them. This means accessibility to such required volumes of data through focus group interview/interactions and other relevant information which could have enriched the data for the research was hindered. Moreso, the accuracy of data collection and poor attitude of record keeping in some public and private organizations in Nigeria equally constituted another limitation. This limitation invariably means that the coverage of this research is generally limited in this direction and thus drew unavoidable methodological constraints. However, efforts were made by the researcher who sought for the assistance of officials from relevant organizations in the administration and retrieval of questionnaire from victims who are under their protective custody. Also, relevant records/information (data) on Victims and Traffickers were sourced from the National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and Other Related Matters(NAPTIP) Zonal Command Sokoto and Nigeria

Immigration Service (NIS) Sokoto State Command. This strategy proved to be useful and successful in the conduct of this study.

In terms of time frame, the scope covers a period of eight (8) years; that is from 2003 to 2010. This research covers five (5) chapters namely background of the study; literature review/theoretical framework; research methodology, presentation, analysis and interpretation of data and summary, conclusion, recommendations and references. That is for chapters one, two, three, four and five respectively.

1.8 Organization of Chapters

This research work is divided into five chapters; the first chapter deals with the introduction, the second chapter deals with the literature review/theoretical framework. The third chapter focuses on the research methodology. The fourth chapter focuses on the presentation, analysis and interpretation of data. The fifth chapter provides the summary, conclusion and recommendations of the study.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 Introduction

This section is primarily concerned with the review of relevant literature on writers' contributions on poverty, human trafficking as a crime against humanity, the involvement of people in this criminal activity and review of theory (ies) relevant to the study.

The trafficking of persons for the purpose of domestic servitude, prostitution and other forms of exploitative labour is a widespread phenomenon in Nigeria and the world in general. Within Africa, Nigeria is the largest single source of trafficked persons to Europe and Asia. Also, the trafficking in persons report of the United States of America {July, 2001} identified Nigeria as a source, transit and destination country for trafficked persons. It further mentioned that the victims of human trafficking are men, women and children(Nwogu, 2005:6).

Apparently, concerted efforts have been made by government and non-governmental organizations, institutions and other relevant stake holders to find solutions to human trafficking in all parts of Nigeria, but the problem still persists. It is also pertinent to state that some solutions proffered by these organizations could not see the light of the day due to lack of a holistic approach to tackle the underlying (root) problem. Other limitations include placing too much emphasis on arrest, deportation, prosecution and limiting human trafficking to prostitution involving the female gender and to a few states in Nigeria. All these create a default position as a result of a single perspective of analyzing and understanding the phenomenon of human trafficking in Nigeria. This also creates a one

sided and incomplete dimension and intensity of human trafficking as a problem confronting Nigeria rather than a part or section of its population. Consequently, the focus of this study on the role of poverty in the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria is an attempt that critically interrogates the interface between poverty and the prevalence of human trafficking in the country. This approach also takes into consideration the involvement of a cross section of the population i.e. young men, women and children. It equally helps in looking for possible solutions that will create effective synergy with existing interventions on human trafficking in the country. Hence, this approach provides a broad base platform and holistic approach towardsaddressing the menace of human trafficking in Nigeria.

2.2 Literature Review

2.2.1 Conceptualizing Poverty

Poverty is multi-dimensional. It wears a multitude of faces and has numerous dimensions. It threatens all aspects of living by depriving people of the capabilities needed to survive, develop and thrive. Poverty entrenches or widens social, economic and gender disparities that prevent people from enjoying equal opportunities and undermines protective family and community environments, leaving people affected vulnerable to exploitation, abuse, violence, discrimination and stigmatization. Poverty inhibits the capacity of families and communities to care for children and other less privilege in the society. It also poses a threat by exacerbating the effects of diseases and armed conflicts.

The United Nations convention on poverty views poverty as" a human condition, characterized by the sustained or chronic deprivation of the resources, capabilities, choices, security and power necessary for the enjoyment of an adequate standard of living and other

civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights. Poverty encompasses deprivation of basic goods and services, it also includes deficiencies in other vital elements of human rights, such as rest and recreation and protection from violence and conflict that expand people's choices and enable them to fulfill their potential" (Gordon, 2003:27).

The notion of deprivation focuses attention on the circumstances that surround people, casting poverty as an attribute of the environment they live and grow in. People living in poverty do experience deprivation of the material, spiritual and emotional resources needed to survive, develop and thrive, leaving them unable to enjoy their rights, achieve their full potential or participate as full and equal members of society. In violating people's rights by denying them the essentials they need and deserve, we harm them and ourselves, permitting and encouraging the seeds of poverty, alienation and despair to take root.

Although, poverty is a global phenomenon threatening the survival of humanity, in Nigeria poverty has reached an alarming level and could be blamed on non-clear government social policies. The 2010 national statistics of poverty revealed that 70% of the population in Nigeria live below poverty line.This measure is based on Absolute, Relative, Dollar/day and Food poverty national average measurement (National Bureau of Statistics, 2010:23).

Across the world, government plays a key role in poverty alleviation. Generally speaking, poverty refers to the condition that exists when people lack the means to satisfy their basic needs such as nutrition, housing, clothing and other essentials of life. The increasing and high level of poverty in developing countries has serious implication for the world economy. Authors are divided as to the meaning of poverty and those areas that should be classified as poverty stricken. This is because, those that are classified as being poor in one area or

country may be equivalent with those classified as averagely better-off in another place. However, Poverty generally means a state of being poor; that is when necessary needs are not met (World Bank, 2001: 68).

The problem of defining poverty is largely a cultural problem in determining what is or what should count as inadequate social functioning that are important or considered to be so; are being gainfully employed, maintaining a household and engaged in satisfying personal and social relationship. When such aspects of life are in jeopardy, a person or family may be considered to be in poverty. Indeed, the poor are usually regarded as those whose incomes are so far removed from the rest of the population that they cannot attain the mode of life considered acceptable in the society. No society can surely be flourishing and happy of which by far the greatest part of the numbers are poor and miserable.

Poverty can also be defined as a situation when the resources of individuals or families are inadequate to provide a socially acceptable standard of living. In other words, the individuals live below the conventional poverty line demarcating the poor from the non – poor. Poverty is also defined as "lack of basic necessities of life". It is seen as a ravaging economic and social occurrence that manifest in the in- ability of the affected persons to acquire the basic necessities of means of self-actualization (Olori,2003:2).

Chambers (1995:173) also defined poverty as "the lack of physical necessities, asset and income". Invariably poverty has both income and non – income dimension. According to World Bank report (2001:68), poverty is defined as the" inability of certain persons to attain a minimum standard of living". Poverty manifests itself in different forms depending on the nature and extent of human deprivation. When the minimum level of consumption to sustain

human existence becomes important in distinguishing the poor from the non- poor; the unemployed and low income earners come readily as the stratums of poor households. It is more likely that this group may not have the capacity to provide the basic needs like food, clothing and transportation for themselves and their teeming dependants. This class of people spread across geographical diversion, urban-rural and occupational categories. Poverty in economic terms can be defined as the situation of low income or consumption.

2.2.2 Conceptualizing Human Trafficking

This study adopted the United Nations protocol normative definition of Trafficking in Persons otherwise known as the Palermo Protocol. The Protocol refers to Trafficking in Persons as the Recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons by means of 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, of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the 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 similarto slavery, servitude or the removal of organs (UNICEF, 2002).

Under section 64 of the National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and Other Related Matters (NAPTIP) Act 2003, the term human trafficking is defined as “all acts and attempted act involved in the recruitment, transportation within or across Nigerian borders, purchase, sell, transfer, receipt or harbouring of a person involving the use of deception, coercion or debt bondage for the purchase of placing or holding the person whether for or

not involuntarily servitude in forced or bonded labour or slavery-like condition" (NAPTIP, 2003)

The definition of trafficking in persons under this Act, is also in line with the United Nations definition in article 3 of the trafficking in persons protocol. Itapplies to any person irrespective of gender, age, place of origin or nationality. The definition of Trafficker also covers attempt as well as participation and abetment, since the same provision has defined the work Aact of trafficking. According to Shansari (2008:4); the definition of trafficking in persons under the NAPTIP Act has the following elements:

1. Acts, in the form of recruitment, transportation, purchases, sale, transfer, receipt or harbouring;
2. Means, in the form of deception, coercion or debt bondage;
3. Purpose in the form of placing or holding involuntarily servitude, forced labour, bounded labour or slavery-like conditions.

2.2.3 Dimensions of Poverty in Nigeria

In order to facilitate cross- country consumption comparison, and aggregate various dimensions, poverty has been variously recognized as follows; absolute, relative, subjective, rural and urban poverty.

i. Absolute Poverty

Absolute poverty refers to the lack of minimum physical requirement of a person or a household for existence and is so extreme that those affected are no longer in a position to live a life worthy of human dignity. Absolute poverty exists when the lives of those

concerned are impaired by physical or socio-cultural deficiencies.- {Adewoye, 1996:4}. Absolute poverty in other words, is a condition where a person or a group of persons are unable to satisfy their basic and elementary requirement for human survival in terms of food, clothing, shelter, health, transportation, education and recreation.

ii. Relative Poverty

Relative poverty is the condition of having fewer resources or less income than others within a society or country or compared to worldwide averages. Relative poverty does not necessarily mean that the persons concerned cannot live a life that is worthy of human dignity; it merely states that because of the distribution structures in a society certain economic subjects are disadvantaged to an unacceptable extent. Relative poverty therefore, is a comparative state of deprivation among individuals or groups. It is a vicious circle which keeps the poor in a state of destitution (Central Bank of Nigeria, 1999:40).

iii. Subjective Poverty

Subjective poverty refers to whether or not individuals or group feel they are poor. In other words, it is the perception of the citizenry on poverty. Subjective poverty is closely related to relative poverty since those who are defined as poor in terms of standards of the day will probably see and feel themselves to be poor (Abdullahi, 1993:6).

iv. Urban and Rural Poverty

Urban poverty refers to the urban slums, ghettos which are usually characterized by environmental degradation, inadequate welfare services, overcrowded accommodation and low level of education and capital resource. Rural poverty on the other hand, is

characterized by poor material condition, high rate of illiteracy, lack of infrastructure, unemployment e.t.c (Abdullahi, 1993:6).

It is equally important to look at the concepts of poverty line, incidence of poverty and poverty gap with a view to provide a broad base of measurement for the analysis of the problem of this research. First of all, poverty line refers to the measure that divides the poor from non-poor, while incidence of poverty is the proportion of the population, for whom consumption falls below poverty line in a given population. Poverty gap on the other hand is the depth of poverty or distance between the income of the average poor and the poverty line. It is the extent to which the income of the poor lie below the poverty line.

2.3 Factors Responsible for Poverty in Nigeria

Nigeria is the most populous black nation in the world with an estimated population of about 140 million people based on the 2006 National Population Census and 163 million based on the 2010 National Population Commission's estimates. The country is endowed with abundant human and natural resources like oil, tin, limestone, Zinc, natural gas, good vegetation and climate which varies from being equatorial in the South, tropical in the center and arid in the North. This great country, a leading third world producer of crude oil has about 5.3% annual growth rate, but it is estimated that 69% of Nigerians live in poverty (National Bureau of Statistics, 2010:3).

The above features are legacies of decades of prolonged military rule, coupled with mismanagement and corruption which have daily impoverished the people and made them "beggars" of a sort amidst plenty. This act of misrule has increased anti – social behaviour among the populace. In a report which confirmed this position, the World Bank stated

that"the Oil- rich Nigeria, hobbled by political instability, corruption, inadequate infrastructure and poor macro-economic management, has undertaken several reforms over the past decade without any significant impact on the population. Nigeria's former military rulers failed to diversify the economy away from its overdependence on the capital-intensive oil sector, which provides 95% of foreign exchange earnings and about 80% of budgetary revenues"(World Bank, 1996:14).

Despite Nigeria's abundant human and natural resources, it is ranked among the twenty poorest countries in the world with an annual Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per Capital estimated at less than three hundred dollars {$300}. More than sixty- nine percent {69%} of the population live below poverty line (National Bureau of Statistics, 2010:11).

According to the Bureau (NBS), approximately 112 million people representing about 69% of Nigeria's population are living on less than $1:00 (one dollar) a day. In other words most Nigerians live below the poverty line. This daunting situation exists despite the fact that the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has grown over the past years. The country is characterized by massive unemployment and a general lack of opportunities for economic ventures, low standards of living, devalued local currencies and a failure to meet the health, food, and habitat and security needs of the people (Kelly, 2001:16).

The major factors responsible for poverty can be traceable historically to the colonial era. An era, in which the colonial masters subjugated, exploited and appropriated both human and natural resources from the colonies to develop the industries and economy of the European countries. As elicited by Andre Gunder Frank (1979), colonialism introduced all sorts of distortion and dislocation in the economy and social systems of third world

countries. However, after Nigeria gained her independence, the political class did almost nothing to re-structure the economy to better the lots of the people; instead they inherited the status quo of internal colonialism.

Thus, in the context of the overbearing character of the post colonial Nigerian state, the nation has been characterized by greed and some scholars even referred to the Nigerian State as a rogue state (Joseph, 1996:3); the political class has recklessly vandalized states' resources and this has consequently impoverished Nigerians. For example, the Nigerian economy experienced an oil boom. There was also a sharp rise in government expenditure, with an increased dependence on petro-dollars. Agriculture which was the mainstay of the economy was consequently relegated to the background as the value of oil export rose from its 10% share in the country's export to 82.7% and 90-93% by 1980 (Olukoshi, 1989:14).

This resulted in total dependence on oil revenues, declines in production, neglect of Agriculture and insufficient food supply for the population, a huge external debt and overhauled naira.

An attempt to find a panacea to the low living standard of the population, ostensibly led the Federal Government to institute the Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP) in the 1980's by the Babangida regime. SAP was acclaimed to have not only structurally adjusted the Nigerian economy to the requirements of global capitalism, but also created mass poverty in Nigeria. According to Jega (2002), the incidence and magnitude of poverty has increased dramatically in Nigeria since the 1980's, with the result that 67% of Nigerians are decisively entrapped in conditions of acute poverty. Thus, mass poverty served to condition the minds and attitude of Nigerians and made them vulnerable and susceptible to elite exploitation and

manipulation. As the state was unable to satisfy the basic needs of the people, they in turn resort to other illegal means of survival.

This constitute an area of interest for this research, as it curiously look at the extent to which poverty plays a role in the prevalence of human trafficking. The focus of this research is on the alarming level of incidence of poverty and the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria.

It is equally important to critically look at the factors contributing to poverty in Nigeria in order to situate the perspective of poverty across the country.

2.3.1 Key factors contributing to Poverty in Nigeria

i. Unemployment

Unemployment is a major factor contributing to poverty in Nigeria. There is a strong correlation between unemployment and poverty. When people are unemployed, their source of livelihood depletes over time. The cost of living becomes high and the standard of living goes down. There are many people in Nigeria who lack the opportunity of being employed. The formal unemployment rate in Nigeria as estimated by the World Bank in 2007 was 4.7 percent and Nigeria ranked 61st across the world.

As reported by Teshome (2008:14), the African Development indicators report of the World Bank showed that "education, once seen as the surest, undisputed gateway to employment, no longer looks so certain". This is very true in the case of Nigeria; the fact that you are an educated Nigerian is no guarantee that you will be employed in the formal sector.

Many graduates in Nigeria wander the streets without anything reasonable to do for a living. Employment in Nigeria is usually not based on merit but depends on how connected you are with people in government or that have power. This leaves many highly qualified people in poverty as seemingly no one cares to know what they are capable of achieving. These people are missing out in the main stream economy; based on the income they would have generated if they were employed. More so, the number of qualified jobs in the economy is low and many government resources are misallocated.

Unemployment induced poverty tends to increase the crime rate and violence in the country which in turn perpetrate the poverty circle. Most unemployed youths resort to crimes such as armed robbery, kidnapping for ransom, internet fraud, human trafficking and other form of fraudulent activities. These activities do not support in any way the provision of a decent, stable, sustained and improved living standard.

ii. Political Instability and Corruption

Nigeria's large population and historic ethnic instability has led to the adoption of a Federal system of government. The resultant fiscal decentralization provided Nigeria's state and Local Government considerable autonomy as well as responsibility for providing public service.

However, the lack of a stringent regulations and monitoring system of government has allowed for rampant corruption. This has hindered the fruitful implementation of past poverty alleviation efforts, since resources which could pay for public goods or directed

towards investment (and so create employment and other economic opportunities for citizens) are been misappropriated.

Generally speaking, corruption can be defined as the abuse of entrusted power for private gain. This attitude has become a common act in Nigeria and it has destabilized the political system drastically. Government funds are being misappropriated on a daily basis by the leaders who put interest of their family and friends at heart while ignoring the masses that elected them into office. Indeed, corruption has eaten so deeply into government and economy that everyone seems to be blinded by it. Corruption has almost become an acceptable way of life in Nigeria.

There are several issues involved with bad governance and corruption in Nigeria; use of wrong policies, adaptation of wrong policies and implementation of those wrong policies. All these issues perpetrated as a result of corruption in governance have increase poverty and in-equality as well as contributed to high crime rate in Nigeria.

iii. Non – Diversification of the Economy – Over Dependence on Oil

The non-diversification of the economy is one of the major factors responsible for increasing poverty in Nigeria. Before 1970, the Nigeria economy was driven by the agricultural sector. The oil sector which constituted only 1 percent of the country's export revenue in 1958 rose to 97% in 1984 and has since then not gone below 90%. In 2008, the oil and gas sector constituted about 97% of the export revenue and 81% of GDP.

In Nigeria, those in power have practically ignored other sources of income and today Nigeria depends heavily on exporting oil. The majority of the people have been

impoverished as their agricultural products have become irrelevant due to the neglect by government. The agricultural sector which was their major means of income before the discovery of oil is considered almost useless.

The exploitation and management of Nigeria's abundant natural resources has led to what is known as resource "curse" which is reflected in the Niger – Delta crisis (reflecting the region of the country where most of the oil is coming from). The people in this region are fighting for resource control as they claim in line with the principle of Federalism and derivation; the government is not fulfilling its promise of developing and giving them the large part of the oil revenues. The wealth from natural resources in Nigeria is supposed to be used for development of the entire nation and in particular the oil – producing communities. These oil producing states are still impoverished and expectedly non-oil producing states such as Sokoto State are more impoverished.

Indeed, the overdependence on natural resources such as oil and gas as sources of revenue at the expense of other productive sources can damage the growth process by closing out on the exports in other promising sectors of the economy. The first half of the 1980's gave rise to a huge oil boom in Nigeria and also led to excessive borrowing and investment on wasteful projects that made the corruption in the country more apparent. As the world price of oil crashed in 1986, Nigeria's oil revenue reduced drastically in the economy as poverty and social indicators worsened. This clearly demonstrates the disadvantage of non – diversification and over – dependency on a natural resource such as oil as a source of national revenue.

iv. Inequality

The term inequality implies concentration of a distribution whether one is considering income consumption or some other welfare indicators or attributes (Oyekale and Adeoti 2007:45).

There was an increase in income disparity after the economic growth which Nigeria experience between 1965 –1975 and this income inequality has increased the dimension of poverty in the country. The income inequality between the people in rural and urban areas in Nigeria is remarkably high as those who live in the rural areas base all their source of income on agriculture which is today not the thriving sector in Nigeria as oil has taken over the economy. They don't invest their money to acquire skills as people in the urban area would and this makes them more vulnerable to poverty and leads to some social and economic problems such as violence, corruption and so on (Oluwatayo, 2002:70).

Indeed, there are more rural poor than urban poor. This results from the composition of Nigeria's economy, especially the energy (oil) and agricultural sectors. Oil exports contribute about 15% GDP despite employing only a fraction of the population. Agriculture however contributes to about 45% of GDP and employs close to 90% of the rural population.

This is compounded by the fact that oil revenue is poorly distributed among the population with higher government spending in urban areas than rural. High unemployment rates render personal income even more divergent. Moreover, the process of oil extraction has resulted in significant pollution; which further harms the agricultural sector.

v. Poor Education System

Education is central to development. It promotes economic growth, national productivity, innovation and values of democracy and social cohesion. In Nigeria, the population with no education account for most of the poor. The education system in Nigeria can be regarded as a failure compared to other countries in the world .The United Nations Universal Declaration on Human Rights provides that everyone has the right to education. This right to education has been denied to many Nigerians.

This deprivation of education further limit opportunities for economic empowerment and self- development which in turn worsen the poverty level of those educationally disadvantaged Nigerians.

vi. Long Term Ethnic Conflict and Civil Unrest

Nigeria has historically experienced much ethnic conflict with the return to civilian rule in 1999, militants from religious and ethnic groups have become markedly more violent. While this unrest has its roots in poverty and economic competition, its economic and human damages further escalate the problems of poverty.

For instance, ethnic unrest and the displeasure of local communities with oil companies has contributed to the conflict over oil trade in the Niger – Delta, which threatens the productivity of oil trade. Several civil unrests such as the 'Boko Haram' crisis that have bedeviled different parts of the country might have also contributed to the adoption of populist measures which work in the short – run, but impede in poverty alleviation efforts and sustainable development; thereby worsening the poverty situation in the country.

2.3.2 Psychological effects of Poverty and implication for patriotism in Nigeria

Poverty is a direct correlate of many negative psychological factors that constitute inertia of social forces that reinforce themselves. Poverty reduces a human being to his lowest ebb and forces him to accept a fate of the same kind as what he would wish only his enemy. Its first victim in depersonalizing a man is self-esteem and confidence; which it crushes and without which man is but a shadow of himself(Mefor, 2012:13).

Poverty is so strong that once it attacks and destroys self-esteem, it asserts over the person's life and gradually eats him up until nothing is left. Poverty is therefore the worst thing that can happen to a man and that is why the entire life struggles are but to escape it but majority never succeeds without intervention. This is where and why government must step in; to help citizens, especially the disadvantaged ones, to rise above poverty and live a decent life.

According to John Locke, government is there to make greater happiness available to greater number of the citizens. He further stated that government that fails in this primary responsibility should be over thrown by the people through any means available.

Therefore, Mefor (2012) stressed the fact that poverty crushes the spirit quite effectively, as a talk about patriotism in an empty stomach is so difficult if not impossible. Poor citizens feel powerless to change their circumstances. Often, they are powerless to change their circumstances, because they do not have the tools it takes to succeed financially. If you live in a country such as Nigeria where you are surrounded by images of success; these images crushes the spirit when you discover that you do not have access to what you need to better your life. He further noted that, poverty is far stressful and stress is in itself the foundation of many human ailments. In addition, prostitution, child labour and trafficking and other

vices of human trafficking are on the increase in and around Nigeria and from Nigeria to other countries such as the Middle-East, Italy, parts of Europe, America's and some African countries. No thanks to the increasing crushing poverty in the land.

In view of the above, Government and mean spirited citizens especially those in position of authority need to understand that not leveling the playing field when it comes to poverty cost everyone. It is very costly to society that low-income children end up getting sick prematurely and die younger than other citizens. If patriotism is dying for one's country, Nigerians are already dying in advance. But this manner of dying is in vein since the citizen's death for his country should be to edify the polity and not pollute it. We have a complex war in our hands as a nation, fire raging but nobody seems to be running.

The state of poverty has begun to grow to uncontrollable height and has awoken deep borne resentments that threaten the Nation's unity. The general feeling of anger and helplessness metamorphosed into violence; lives were lost and the image of the country was further tarnished in the international scene. Statistical data made available by National Bureau of Statistics, (2010) has shown that some of the areas with the highest concentration of poverty are located in the Northern part of Nigeria.In all these, poverty and economic stratification has contributed immensely to the uprising of violence across the country. Neglect, unfairness, austerity have bred anger, envy and hatred among the impoverished. The inherent lack has led the people to express their anger, envy and hatred in extreme ethnocentric behaviour, xenophobia and constant insurrection against the government.

So long as the youth remain unemployed, idle and hungry, the more violence will not want in perpetrators. A quest for survival has majority of their values destroyed. With the leaders

not setting good examples themselves corruption has trickled down to every class and become an acceptable way of life and the bane of our society. The time is coming and if Nigeria does not stir a different course and take a practical approach to tackling the problem of poverty, the damage will become irrevocable across the 36 States and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja.

2.4 Poverty and Human Trafficking Nexus in Nigeria

The scourge of poverty goes beyond mere measurement of a household's expenditure or welfare. Poverty has many dimensions and may include inadequate access to government utilities and services, environmental issues, poor infrastructure, illiteracy and ignorance, poor health, insecurity, social and political exclusion. In urban areas, the burden of demand of services has effects on school enrolment, access to primary health care, growth of unsanitary urban slums e.t.c. Also in rural areas, poverty manifests itself more in the agricultural sector and food security. For any meaningful economic growth and poverty reduction, there is the need to enhance and improve access to social services, including health and education (National Bureau of Statistics, 2012:3)

Although poverty is a global phenomenon threatening the survival of humanity, the incidence of poverty in Sokoto State, Nigeria has reached an alarming level and is blamed on non-clear government social policies. Indeed, the inability of successive governments to streamline and harness the enormous potentials for improved service delivery in all the existing structures of poverty eradication has resulted into persistent poverty. Sadly, Traffickers have exploited the quest for better and alternative source of survival and desire for material wealth at all costand the vantage position of Sokoto as a gate-way to

neighbouring countries enroute Europe, Asia and other parts of the world perceived to be ‘greener pasture’ to introduce human trafficking as a new dimension of wealth creation into the psyche of the people.

It is important to stress here that the precarious effects of poor policy implementation by past governments at all levels, corruption and misappropriation of public funds, prolonged military rule in the country, neglect of rural sector and it attendant result of food insecurity has led to the collapse of the Nigerian national economy. This untold hardship has forced a large number of families in Nigeriainto illegal means of survival (Adepoju, 1995:11).

Moreso, the consequences of the implementation of the Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP) featuring inflation, depreciation of the naira, low installed capacity performance of industries, retirement, unemployment, have been the main causes of the rapid growth and indeed the preponderance of informal sector activities which include such activities as drug and human trafficking (Oloruntimehin,2000:8).

Accordingly, the reality of the Nigerian state as a state in economic and political comatose, where millions of the youths see migration out of the country as a solution to their economic misfortunes is a subject of concern; just as an army of jobless people take to crime such as drug and human trafficking. Due to the collapse of certain structures such as the economic structure, to address poverty, welfare, a system to address unemployment, low wages and salaries and attendant result of human trafficking made Nigeria to acquire a reputation of being the leading African country in human trafficking. Nigeria is a country of origin, transit and destination for human trafficking (Falola, 1999:30).

The phenomenon of human trafficking has considerably increased throughout the world and most especially in Nigeria. Generally speaking, human trafficking conditions in most African countries have greatly deteriorated, particularly during the last few decades. Real disposable income have declined steeply, malnutrition rates have risen sharply, food production has hardly kept pace with population growth and the quality and quantity of health and education services have also deteriorated(Ogwumike,2003:12).

As in most developing countries, poverty has been the remote cause of almost all the social ills in the country. Inspite of her abundant human and material resources, Nigeria has been classified as one of the poorest countries with high suffering indices (Chika 2004:16).

In the few decades, poverty has become pervasive in Nigeria. During the same period, the country has slipped from a position of a buoyant and upcoming economy to rank according to the British Department forInternational Development (DFID) among the poorest 20 countries in the world (Ayua, 2001:16). Placing Sokoto State, Nigeria within the national poverty context, it is possible to determine the extent of poverty and how much of problem it poses for the State and the country at large. Some people who are threatened by poverty often engaged in various illegal activities like armed robbery and illegal drug trade and other criminal activities such as human trafficking in order to sustain themselves.

In line with the various concept and definition of poverty, Anyanwu (1997:14) categorized the following as poor especially within Nigerian context.

1. Households or individuals below the poverty line and whose incomes are insufficient to provide for their basic needs.

2. Households or individuals lacking access to basic services, political contract and other forms of support.
3. People in isolated rural areas who lack essential infrastructures.
4. Female headed households whose nutritional needs are not being met adequately.
5. Persons who have lost their jobs and those who are unable to find employment as a result of economic reforms such as the Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP) and those who are in danger of becoming 'new poor' and
6. Ethnic minorities, who are marginalized, deprived and persecuted economically, socially, culturally and politically.

Human Trafficking has been increasingly attributed to incidence of poverty worsened by the neo – imperialist capitalist pattern of development culture which maximizes individual profiteering and well-being above communal well-being. This information is relevant in the conduct of this research which questions the veracity in the systemic connection between poverty and human trafficking inNigeria.

Human trafficking as articulated by the United Nations (UN) protocol to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons especially women and children, UNGASS (2000) defines human trafficking as:

> The recruitment, transportation, transfer and harboring 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 given or receiving of payment, of benefit to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person for the 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 practice similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs. Consent of the victims becomes irrelevant within the context of this definition. The protocol assumes that adults and children of both sexes can become victims of human trafficking. It also postulates that individuals free will of victims must have been manipulated, constrained, subdued in some manner to allow for exploitation.

The process of trafficking in human beings has essentially been divided into three more phases namely; recruitment, transfer and exploitation in the country or place of destination. Women and girls are the major social groupings of the population that have been identified both as perpetrators and victims. Human trafficking abounds in the form of trafficking for child labour and prostitution(NAPTIP, 2005:22).

Studies have in one way or the other sought to link poverty with incidence of human trafficking especially for sex trade. They argue that the level and persistence of poverty in the sub-Saharan Africa aggravates the incidence of human trafficking among low income countries. Central to the presentation of this argument is the concept of the feminization of poverty. This conception provides that women are the majority percentage of the world's poor. Women provide over 75 percent of the world's labour and yet have less than 10 percent control over world resources and assets (CIDA, 2005:213).

In Nigeria where about 69 percent of the population is reported to be living below income poverty line of $1 per day; many people (mostly women) embrace various available means of livelihood including crime such as human trafficking as a means of survival and an

escape route from poverty. It is also important to stress further that gender inequalities in the social, economic and political spheres of development further marginalize women and reinforce their disadvantaged position in the society especially in the access to and control over resources, lack of decision making power at family, community and national levels, invisibility of women's economic contributions to the growth of the society as well as the non – recognition of women's labour in the national accounting processes.It is equally important to stress that women formal representation in both private and public institutions is very limited. Such gender disparities continue to increase women's proclivity to poverty manifestations in Nigeria (Fayomi, 2009:65).

In order to properly understand the linkages between poverty and human trafficking, it is important to examine the identified causes of human trafficking. Trafficking can be a social, cultural and or economically induced especially according to and within the context of incidence.

2.5 Causes of Human Trafficking in Nigeria

i. Social and Cultural Factor

The patriarchal nature of the Nigerian society dictated by social systems and practices enables the gravitation of women and girls toward human trafficking both as perpetrators and victims. Systemic discrimination, subordination and invisibility of women promoted by cultural norms and practices characterize gender relations at the household family levels and perpetuate the perception of women as inferior. This perception increases gender inequalities which in turn exacerbates the burden of poverty for women. As a result, even though women make up half the population and also make indispensable contributions

through the development and growth of the Nigerian economy, direct economic productive labour and social reproduction; endemic institutionalized discrimination ensure that, women lack access to and control of resources; occupy an irrelevant minuscule percentage of decision making power and remain vulnerable to human trafficking, poverty and numerous sexually transmitted diseases including HIV/AIDS.

ii. Property and Inheritance Rights

As with all heavily patriarchal societies, the expectation of men and women differ with regards to already compartmentalized roles and behaviour expectations. Women and men rarely enjoy the same opportunities or privileges due to discriminating attitudes and treatment differentiations. Men have much greater control over resources and decision making than women in Nigeria. Women have less say in decision making and are less able to act as subjects to issues of land or property ownership.

The non- monetized daily maintenance activities by women and that of persons and institutions that make production possible is by and large never accounted for in the calculation of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP); devalues women's work and increases their invisibility.

These practices reduce the chances of women's economic autonomy and in longer terms increased their vulnerability to human trafficking, poverty, disease and death.

iii. Economic Factors

Poverty is directly linked to be major cause of trafficking for both perpetrators and victims. The quest for survival as a result of prevailing inequitable allocation of resources and

unemployment are considered major motivators for indulgence in human trafficking. With the current high rate of unemployment among graduate youth, gendered nature of access to and allocation of productive resources restricted mobility for women in the formal labour force (women represent a greater majority in the informal and unskilled labour) due to lack of appropriate capacity; lack of access to appropriate degree of education and other related factors. Women represent a greater percentage of unskilled and cheap labour. The dire need to meet economic demands and escape poverty drives women and girls to seek solace in human trafficking especially in the area of sex work and prostitution. In this case, human trafficking becomes an alternative poverty alleviation strategy for survival.

2.6 The Historical Evolution of Nigeria as a Nation-State

Nigeria is the most populous country in Africa and indeed in the black nations of the world with a population of 140 million people, based on the 2006 National Population Census and 163 million based on the 2010 National Population Commission's estimates, it's population is largely dominated by three ethnic groups- Yoruba, Hausa-Fulani and Igbo. The Yoruba are in the West, the Hausa-Fulani in the North and Igbo in the East. However, there are hundreds of other ethnic groups of a wide ranging population sizes spread across the country.

Nigeria became an independent country on 1st October 1960. It became a Republic in 1963. Between 1967 and 1996, several restructuring exercise were conducted to create development across the nation. Currently, Nigeria is a federation of 36 States (Sokoto State inclusive) comprising a total of 774 local government areas and the federal capital territory (FCT) Abuja. Nigeria's 36 States have been regrouped into six geo-political zones- North

Central Zone, North East Zone, North West Zone, South East Zone, South-South Zone and South West Zone. This arrangement is generally accepted and used by the political class to facilitate the balancing of the distribution of appointments and nominations within political parties and governments to reflect the federal character. Similarly the National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and other Related Matters (NAPTIP) has its head office in Abuja and equally has eight operational zonal command (offices) reflecting this geo-political arrangements. The zonal Commands (offices) are located in Benin, Uyo (South-South), Kano, Sokoto (North-West), Maiduguri (North-East), Benue (North-Central), Lagos (South-West) and Enugu (South-East) (National Bureau of Statistics, 2010:6).

Sokoto State is one of the 36 States in Nigeria, with a population of about 4.2 million people based on the 2006 census. Sokoto, usually referred to as Sokoto State to distinguish it from the city of Sokoto, is located in the extreme Northwest of Nigeria, near the confluence of the Sokoto River and the Rima River. A state (North-Western) based in Sokoto was established in 1967 and occupies 25,973 square kilometers. This covered what is now Niger State, which was split off in 1976, Kebbi State (split off in 1991), and Zamfara State, which was split off in 1996. Sokoto State lies to the north-west of Nigeria and shares its borders with Niger Republic to the North, Katsina State to the East, Niger State to the South-East, Kwara State to the South and Benin Republic to the West.

As at 2006 it has an estimated population of more than 4.2 million. Sokoto City is the modern-day capital of Sokoto State (and its predecessor, the Northwestern State). The name Sokoto (which is the modern/anglicised version of the local name, Sakkwato) is of Arabic origin, representing suk, 'market'. It is also known as Sakkwato, Birnin Shaihu da Bello or

"Sokoto, Capital of Shaihu and Bello"). Being the seat of the former Sokoto Caliphate, the city is predominantly Muslim and an important seat of Islamic learning in Nigeria. The Sultan who heads the caliphate is effectively the spiritual leader of Nigerian Muslims.

The region's lifeline for growing crops is the floodplains of the Sokoto-Rima river system

(Sokoto River); an area covered with rich alluvial soil. For the rest, the general dryness of the region allows for few crops, millet perhaps being the most abundant, complemented by rice, corn, other cereals and beans. Apart from tomatoes few vegetables grow in the region. The low variety of foodstuffs available has resulted in the relatively dull local cuisine.

2.7 The Harmonized Nigeria Living Standard Survey 2009/2010

The Harmonized Nigeria Living Standard Survey (HNLSS) 2009/2010 was an enlarged scope of previous National Consumer Surveys and also a follow-up of Nigeria Living Standard Survey (NLSS) 2003/2004. The scope of the NLSS 2009/2010 was enlarged to include; demography; health; and fertility behaviour, Education and Skills/ Training, employment and Time- use; Housing and Housing condition, Social Capital, Agriculture; Household Income and Consumption and Expenditure. The survey apart from updating the findings of the early rounds also guided in the performances of the various Government programmes/policies such as National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS); National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP) and Millenium Development Goals (MDGs) now SDGs, in areas of poverty reduction and improvement of standard of living. Two statistical reports; i.e, Nigeria Living Standard Survey report 2010 and the Poverty Profile of Nigeria 2003-2010 were produced to assist various levels of government to evaluate and monitor their social and economic programmes. The World Bank and the

Department for International Development (DFID) provided funding for the conduct of the survey. The Federal Government of Nigeria represented by the National Bureau of Statistics implemented the survey by providing professional leadership. The Harmonized Nigeria Living Standard Survey (HNLSS) 2009/2010 was a follow up to NLSS 2004 and provides an update on the poverty situation in all the six (6) geo-political zones,36 States of the Federation and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja.

i. Poverty Indicators

The major component in the computation of Relative poverty measurement is the household expenditure. Expenditure refers to all goods and services for use of the household. It also includes all monetary transactions (e.g. Donations, Savings, Esusu Contribution, etc)

Poverty line is a measure that divides the poor from non-poor. Using the mean per capita household expenditure, one-third of it gives (separates) the extreme or core poor from the rest of the population while, two-third of the mean per capita expenditure separates the moderate poor from the rest of the population. The cumulative of the core poor and moderate poor gives the poor population, while the non-poor are the population greater than two-third of the population.

The poverty lines for each of the measures are as follows:-

i. Food poverty line is 39,759.49. This poverty is an aspect of absolute poverty measure which considers only food expenditure for the attached households.

ii. Absolute poverty line is 54,401.16. This is the second step in absolute (objective) poverty measure. This method considers both food expenditure and non-food expenditure using the per capita expenditure approach.

iii. Relative poverty line is 66,802.20. This line separates the poor from non-poor. All persons whose per capita expenditure is less than the above are considered to be poor while those above the stated amount are considered to be non-poor.

iv. The dollar per day poverty line is 54,750. This measures, consider all individuals whose expenditure per day is less than a dollar per day using the exchange rate of Naira to Dollar in 2009/2010 i.e. 150/dollar.

v. Subjective poverty measure is the perception of the citizenry. It is neither related to per capita expenditure of household nor the country adult equivalent scale. From the survey result the core poor is 46.7%, moderate poor is 47.2% while the non-poor is 6.1%.

vi. Another critical measure of poverty is the Gini Coefficient (inequality Measurement). This measure can explain the spread of income or expenditure yet cannot explain increase or decrease of individuals or persons in poverty. In 2004, the Gini Coefficient was 0.4296 whereas in 2010 it was 0.4470 indicating that inequality increased by 4.1% nationally.

Table 2.1: Relative Poverty Headcount from 2004-2010

Year	Poverty Incidence (%)	Estimated Population (Total) (Millions)	Population in Poverty (Millions)
2004	54.4 %	126.3 m	68.7 m
2010	69.0 %	163 m	112.47 m

Source: National Bureau of Statistics. HNLSS 2010

Table 2.1: Relative poverty Headcount from 2004-2010. Between the year 2004 and 2010, the proportion of Nigerians whose consumption fall below poverty line has increased as shown in the table. Poverty incidence has increased from 54.4% in 2004 to 69.0% in 2010 indicating an increased of 14.6%. Also, an estimated total population of the country increased from 126.3 million people in 2004 to 163 million in 2010 indicating an increased population of 36.7 million people.

Similarly, the population of Nigerians in poverty has increased from 68.7 million people in 2004 to 112.47 million in 2010. This shows an increased population of about 42 million people added to the population living in poverty in Nigeria within the period under review. This clearly shows how majority of Nigerians were plunged into difficult economic situation which in turn provided favourable condition for the prevalence of human trafficking as an alternative means of survival.

Table 2.2: Relative Poverty: Non-Poor, Moderate Poor and Extremely Poor, 2004 – 2010

Year	**Non – Poor**	**Moderately Poor**	**Extremely Poor**
2004	43.3	32.4	22.0
2010	31.0	30.3	38.7

Source; NBS Harmonized Nigeria Living Standard Survey 2010

Table 2.2 shows the distribution of the population of Nigerians living in poverty into extremely poor, moderately poor and non-poor. It also shows that the proportion of the core (Extremely) poorrose from 22.0% to 38.7% in 2010. Consequently, the increase in the proportion of extremely poor reduce the proportion of moderately and non- poor from 32.4% to 30.3% and 43.3% to 31.0% respectively. This clearly portrays a picture of a continuous deterioration of the standard of living of majority of Nigerians as the proportion of extremely poor people experiencing absolute poverty in the country continue to increase. This extreme condition of deprivation creates favourable environment for act of criminality and economic desperation which Traffickers manipulate to lure people into human trafficking.

a. Head Count Ratio or Incidence of Poverty:

This is defined as the proportion of the population for whom consumption falls below poverty- line in a given population.

b. Poverty Gap

This is the depth of poverty or distance between the income of the average poor and the poverty- line. It is the extent to which the income of the poor lie below the poverty line.

2.8 The Incidence and Measure of Poverty

The scourge of poverty goes beyond mere measurement of a household's expenditure or welfare. Poverty has many dimensions and may include inadequate access to government utilities and services, environmental issues, poor infrastructures, illiteracy and ignorance, poor health, insecurity, social and political exclusion. In urban areas, the burden of demand

of services has effects on school enrolment, access to primary health care, growth of unsanitary urban slums. Also, in rural areas, poverty manifests itself more in the agricultural sector and food security. For any meaningful economic growth and poverty reduction, there is the need to enhance and improve access to social services, including health and education.

There are four (4) main measures of poverty-Relative measure, Objective (Absolute) measure, Dollar per day and Subjective measure.

2.8.1 Relative measure

An analytical attempt was made in summing the expenditure of the household. This household expenditure was deflated using the Consumption Price Index (CPI). The objective of deflated figure obtained was to correct for seasonal and regional variations of the expenditure detaitemser capital household expenditure. Households with expenditure greater than two thirds of the total Household per capita expenditure are Non-POOR whereas those below it are POOR. Further desegregation showed that households with less than one third of total household per capita expenditure are CORE POOR (EXTREME POOR) while those Households greater than one third of total expenditure but less than two third of the total expenditure are Moderate Poor. In the end the relative poverty measure showed that 69% or 112,470,000 of Nigerians are living in poverty.

2.8.2 Absolute (objective) measure of poverty

This method is otherwise known as Food Energy Intake Measure of Poverty. First you obtain the food basket of the poorest 40% of the population (using quintiles). Then compute the food expenditure that can give 3000 Calories per day based on the national food basket for the poorest 40%. With the application of adult equivalence per capita expenditure, you

will obtain the amount in Naira that can be used to purchase food that will meet 3000 calories. The addition of Non-food component using average non-food expenditure of plus or minus 100 Households around the core poverty line will give the objective (absolute) poverty measure. The total expenditure of food and Non-food produce a poverty incidence of 80.2% or 89,096,000 Nigerians living in poverty. This measure is used for poverty headcount comparisons across countries.

2.8.3 Dollar per day

The application of dollar per day in the computation of poverty measure was achieved by adopting the World Bank 2002 purchasing power parity (PPP) which placed on US$1 to be equivalent to N46.2 when this figure was further adjusted to 2003 using Consumer Price Index (CPI) and the exchange rate it gave N59.2 to one US $1. When N59.2 per day is annualized, it gives a poverty incidence of 51.6%. In computing for 2009/2010, the exchange rate of Naira to US$1 which stood at N150:00 when annualized; it gives a poverty incidence of 56.6%. It is important to stress here that until the year2016, the official exchange rate of Naira to US$1 stood at N197:00 to one US$1. This shows that the 2009/2010 projection which stood at N150:00 to US$1 is a reasonable average measure for the conduct of this research.

2.8.4 Subjective poverty measure

This approach is referred to as self-assess poverty measure. It is the opinion of members of Households. The outcome here is not different from other three measures of poverty. It is evident that poverty incidence is on the increase in Nigeria. The self-assessment poverty measure sought to find out from the Household on whether they are very poor, poor,

moderately poor, fairly rich and rich. In 2003/2004, the incidence of poverty was 75.5% while in 2009/2010 the perception index of household living in poverty had risen to 92.5%.

This alarming rate of poverty perception by majority of people across the country (including Sokoto State) sufficiently explains the growing feeling of dis-satisfaction on the deterioration of the average standard of living of the population. This situation tends to influence people to seek alternative means of survival including act of criminality such as human trafficking.

Table 2.3: National Poverty Incidence 2003/2004 and 2009/2010

Year	Food Poor	Absolute Poor	Relative Poor	Dollar Per Day
2004	33.6	54.7	54.4	51.6
2010	41.0	60.9	69.0	61.2

Source:NBS Harmonized Living Standard Survey, 2010

Table 2.3 shows the increasing incidence of poverty by different measures among the population between the period covering 2003/2004 – 2009/2010. This measurement which cut across food, absolute, relative poor and dollar per day, also shows that the proportion of Nigerians in poverty continue to increase from 33.6 – 41.0%, 54.7 – 60.9%, 54.4 – 69.0%, and 51.6 – 61.2%; that is for food poor, absolute poor, relative poor and dollar per day measurement respectively.This also coincides with the 2010 National Bureau of Statistics report which confirmed that 69% of the population in Nigeriaare poor.

Table 2.4:Urban/Rural Incidence of Poverty by Different Poverty Measures Including Food Poor

Sector	Food Poor	Absolute Poverty	Relative Poverty	Dollar Per Day
Urban	26.7	52.0	61.8	52.4
Rural	48.3	66.1	73.2	66.3

Source:NBS Harmonized Living Standard Survey, 2010

Table 2.4 shows that the poverty incidence among the rural population in Nigeria is higher compared to the urban areas. This also explains the mass movement (migration) of people from the rural to urban centres in search of better living condition and escape route from poverty. Consequently Traffickers exploit their vulnerability through promises of high wages and good living condition to lure them into human trafficking.

Table2. 5: Zonal Incidence of Poverty by Different Poverty Measure

Zone	Food Poor	Absolute Poor	Relative poor	Dollar Per Day
North Central	38.6	59.5	67.5	59.7
North East	51.5	69.0	76.3	69.1
North West	51.8	70.0	77.7	70.4
South East	41.0	58.7	67.0	59.2
South – South	35.5	55.9	63.8	56.1
South West	25.4	49.8	59.1	50.1

Source:NBS Harmonized Living Standard Survey, 2010

Table 2.5 above shows the incidence of poverty across the six geo- political zones in the country in terms of food poor, absolute poor, relative poor and dollar per day poverty measurement. On the average the North West which comprises seven (7) States (Sokoto State inclusive) has the highest incidence of poverty across the country. This is closely followed by North-East, North-Central, South-East, South-South and the South-West which has the least poverty incidence in the country. This statistics confirmed confirmed the 2010 national incidence of poverty by different poverty measure across states of the federation and Federal Capital Territory, Abuja. For example in terms of absolute poverty measurement 48.6% of the population of Lagos State in the South-West, while 81.2% of the population of Sokoto State in the North-West are poor.

Table2.6: National Incidence of Poverty by Different Poverty Measure

		Food Poverty		**Absolute Poverty**		Moderate poor based on 2/3 of the weighted mean household per capita expenditure regionally deflated **(Relative Poverty)**		**Dollar per day based on adjusted PPP**	
		Food Poor	Non Poor	Poor	Non Poor	Poor	Non Poor	Poor	Non Poor
Sector	Urban	26.7	73.3	52.0	48.0	61.8	38.2	52.4	47.6
	Rural	48.3	51.7	66.1	33.9	73.2	26.8	66.3	33.7
	National	41.0	59.0	60.9	39.1	69.0	31.0	61.2	38.8
Zone	North Central	38.6	61.4	59.5	40.5	67.5	32.5	59.7	40.3
	North East	51.5	48.5	69.0	31.0	76.3	23.7	69.1	30.9
	North West	51.8	48.2	70.0	30.0	77.7	22.3	70.4	29.6
	South East	41.0	59.0	58.7	41.3	67.0	33.0	59.2	40.8
	South South	35.5	64.5	55.9	44.1	63.8	36.2	56.1	43.9
	South West	25.4	74.6	49.8	50.2	59.1	40.9	50.1	49.9
State	Abia	30.5	69.5	57.4	42.6	63.4	36.6	57.8	42.2
	Adamawa	55.4	44.6	74.2	25.6	80.7	19.3	74.3	25.7
	Akwa ibom	35.6	64.4	53.7	46.3	62.8	37.2	53.8	46.2
	Anambra	34.2	65.8	56.8	43.2	68.9	32.0	57.4	42.6
	Bauchi	23.3	45.9	73.0	27.0	53.7	16.3	73.1	26,9
	Bayelsa	48.5	76.7	47.0	53.0	57.9	42.1	47.0	53.0
	Benue	33.2	51.5	67.1	32.9	74.1	25.9	67.2	32.8
	Borno	46.4	66.8	55.1	44.9	61.1	38.9	55.1	44.9
	Cross-Rivers	42.8	53.6	52.9	47.1	59.7	40.3	52.9	47.1
	Delta	42.8	57.2	63.3	36.7	70.1	29.9	63.6	36.4
	Ebonyi	63.5	36.5	73.6	26.4	80.4	19.6	73.6	26.4
	Edo	39.4	60.6	65.6	34.4	72.5	27.5	66.0	34.0
	Ekiti	35.8	64.2	52.4	47.6	59.1	40.9	52.6	47.4
	Enugu	52.7	47.3	62.5	37.5	72.1	27.9	63.4	36.6
	Gombe	71.5	28.5	74.2	25.8	79.8	20.2	74.2	25.8
	Imo	33.3	66.7	50.7	49.5	57.3	42.7	50.7	49.3
	Jigawa	71.1	28.9	74.1	25.9	79.0	21.0	74.2	25.6
	Kaduna	41.7	58.3	61.5	38.5	73.0	27.0	61.8	38.2
	Kano	48.3	51.7	65.6	34.4	72.3	27.7	66.0	34.0
	Katsina	56.2	43.8	74.5	25.5	82.0	18.0	74.8.	38.2
	Kebbi	**47.0**	**53.0**	**72.0**	**28.0**	**80.5**	**19.5**	**72,5**	**34.0**
	Kogi	50.1	49.9	67.1	32.9	73.5	26.5	67.3	25.2
	Kwara	38.1	61.9	61.8	38.2	74.3	25.7	62.0	27.5
	Lagos	14.6	85.4	48.6	51.4	59.2	40.8	49.3	50.7
	Nassarawa	26.8	73.2	60.4	39.6	71.7	28.3	60.4	39.6
	Niger	20.4	79.6	33.8	66.2	43.6	56.4	33.9	66.1
	Ogun	41.8	58.2	62.3	37.7	69.0	31.0	62.5	37.5
	Ondo	36.1	63.9	45.7	54.3	57.0	43.0	46.1	53.9
	Osun	19.5	80.5	37.9	62.1	47.5	52.5	38.1	61.9
	Oyo	24.6	75.4	51.8	48.2	60.7	39.3	51.6	48.2
	Plateau	44.0	56.0	74.1	25.9	79.7	20.3	74.7	25.3
	Rivers	26.3	73.7	50.4	49.6	58.6	41.4	50.6	49.4
	Sokoto	**56.6**	**43.4**	**81.2**	**18.8**	**86.4**	**13.6**	**81.9**	**18.1**
	Taraba	45.2	54.8	68.9	31.1	76.3	23.7	68.9	31.1
	Y0be	58.5	41.5	73.8	26.2	79.6	20.4	74.1	25.9
	Zamfara	**44.4**	**55.6**	**70.8**	**29.2**	**80.2**	**19.8**	**71.3**	**28.7**
	FCT	32.5	67.5	55.6	44.4	59.9	40.1	55.6	44.4

Source: NBS Harmonized Living Standard Survey, 2010

Table 2.6 shows the percentage concentration of poverty incidence across Nigeria highlighting the incidence of poverty at the rural, urban, national, zonal and state basis. The percentage concentration of incidence of poverty (poor people) in rural areas is higher compared to the urban areas. Similarly, the national average of incidence of poverty (poor people) in Nigeria indicates that more than half of the population are absolutely poor, relatively poor and live below one dollar ($1) per day. At the zonal level the percentage concentration of poverty is higher in the North-West (where Sokoto State is located) compared to other zones in the country. Also, the percentage concentration of poverty incidence across the States of the federation indicates that more than half of the population(56.6%) are poor in terms of food security measure, while more than eighty percent of the population of the State are absolutely poor, relatively poor and live below one dollar ($1) per day. That is, 81.2%, 86.4% and 81.9% respectively. This figure places Sokoto as the State with the highest concentration of poverty in Nigeria within the period under review.

i. Expenditure

Determination of expenditure and estimates of household is fundamental in identifying the consumption patterns of the poor. The expenditure aggregates compute all individual member household expenditure into their primary headings for the purposes of poverty profile. It also includes some non-monetary measures such as consumption from own produce, uses value of owned assets and imputed owner occupied rents. The household aggregate is commonly expressed in terms of per capita expenditure or the household expenditure divided by the household size.

ii. Expenditure Share of Household

This is another method of measuring price change in a household. Using the constant price of 2003/2004 and 2009/2010, changes were noticed in expenditure on the following items listed below:

1. Food Purchase
2. Food own Consumption
3. Total Food Expenditure
4. Education Share
5. Health Share
6. Rent Share
7. Non Food Share
8. Total Expenditure Share and
9. Per Capita Household Expenditure Share.

Table 2.7: Expenditure Share of Household for 2003/2004 and 2009/2010

Items	**2003/2004 Expenditure Shares**	**2009/2010 Expenditures Share**
Food purchase	39.96	36.30
Total food share	54.38	58.37
Education share	5.22	1.40
Health share	7.78	7.51
Rent share	11.05	6.59
Non food share	45.62	41.63
Total food and non food expenditure	147.34	310.63
Per capital expenditure	38.57	97.22

Source:NBS Harmonized Living Standard Survey, 2010

iii. Human Development Dimension of Poverty

The correlation of levels of education with levels of poverty serves as a good measure across the population distribution. The low rate of households that visited a health provider and other vices on health is a measure of the poverty incidence. Other human development dimensions are the ability to read and write in English and the type of school attended. Type of dwelling and quality of life of the citizenry actually summarizes, that the burden of demand for services has effects on school enrolment, access to primary health care and growth of unsanitary urban slums.

The increase in poverty at national levels show cased a number of variables at other levels of disaggregation. The Poverty Profile of Nigeria is a data bank that significantly improves the availability of statistical data on which effective poverty monitoring and evaluation of Nigerian economy or any part thereof depend on.

A careful benchmarking on monitoring and evaluation of progress on the Nigeria Living Standard Survey (NLSS) 2004 did not manifest in the Harmonized Nigeria Living Standard Survey which showed a tremendous increase on national poverty incidence of 69%. The HNLSS 2009/2010 has provided more data needed on the distributional impacts of both past and proposed macro-economic policies and structural reforms in Nigeria. It also succeeded in establishing the existence of high incidence of poverty in Nigeria, while the classification of poverty incidence on state basis in table 2.6 above clearly shows that the highest concentration of poverty incidence in the country within the period under review is in Sokoto State. The foregoing analysis therefore provides basis for questioning the veracity in the systemic connection between poverty and the prevalence of human trafficking in Sokoto

State, Nigeria. This information is therefore relevant for a forecast of poverty situation, constructive public debate on the challenges, solutions and progress made in poverty reduction in all parts of Nigeria and Sokoto State in particular.. This is also relevant and of significant interest to the conduct of this research which seeks to ascertain the extent of the role of poverty in the prevalence of human trafficking in Sokoto State. Nigeria.

2.9 An Overview of Global Human Trafficking Network

In the twenty first century world, where freedom and democracy are spreading to every continent, it is surprising and morally unacceptable that hundreds of thousands of men, women and children are exploited, abused and enslaved by peddlers in human slavery. As unimaginable as it seems, slavery and bondage still persist in the early twenty first century. Millions of people around the world still suffer in silence, in slave-like situations of forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation from which they cannot free themselves.

Human Trafficking consist of three major elements:

1. Act: Recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring, receipt of persons
2. Means: threat or use of force, coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or vulnerability, giving payment or benefits.
3. Purpose: exploitation, which includes prostitution of others, sexual exploitation, forced labour, slavery or similar, removal of organs, labour exploitation, child abuse and other types of exploitation.

A critical analysis of push and pull factors of human trafficking supports the argument that human trafficking is a crime against humanity; as it violates fundamental human rights and

aggravates poverty among the people through the exploitation of the vulnerability of women, children and the less privileged in the society. There are about thirteen (13) push and pull factors of human trafficking:

a. Push Factors

1. Unequal access to education; that limits women opportunities to increase their earnings in more skilled occupations.

2. Lack of legitimate and fulfilling employment opportunities particularly in rural communities.

3. Sex selective migration policies and restrictive emigration policies/laws instituted often as a 'protective' measure, limit women's legitimate migration. Most legal channels of migration offer opportunities in typically male dominated sector (construction and agriculture work)

4. Less access to information on migration/job opportunities and a greater lack of awareness of the risks of migration compared to men.

5. Disruption of support systems due to natural and human created disaster.

6. Traditional community attitudes and practices, which tolerated violence against women.

b. Pull Factors

1. Women perceived suitability for work in labour intensive production and the growing informal sector which is characterized by low wages, casual employment, hazardous work conditions and the absence of collective bargaining mechanism.

2. The increasing demand for foreign workers for domestic and care giving roles and lack of adequate regulatory framework.

3. Growth of the billion dollars sex and entertainment industry tolerated as a 'necessary evil' while women in prostitution are criminalized and discriminated against.

4. Low risk high-profit nature of trafficking encouraged by lack of will on the part of enforcement agencies to prosecute Traffickers (which include owners/managers of institutions into which persons are trafficked)

5. The ease of controlling and manipulating vulnerable women.

6. Devaluation of women and children's human right (NAPTIP 2010:24).

   Trafficking in persons is indeed one of the greatest human rights challenges of our time. While commenting on human trafficking as a crime against humanity Pope Francis (I) said that 'human trafficking is the most extensive form of slavery in this 21st century' (Balal, 2013:4).

The root causes of trafficking as enumerated are complex and often interrelated. Poverty, weak governance, armed conflict or lack of effective protection against discrimination and exploitation are some examples. The causes of human trafficking fall in between the 'push

factors' (supply) and the 'pull factors' (demand) sides. It is also important to note here that the 'pull factors' on the demand side are of equal salience with the 'push factors' on the supply side for encouraging the activities of human trafficking to continue unabated. Indeed, human trafficking affects mostly women and children all over the world. Trafficked women and children are subjected to prostitution, forced into marriage or illegally adopted; they provide cheap or unpaid labour, work as house servants or beggars, are recruited into armed groups and are used for sports. Trafficking exposes women and children to violence, sexual abuse and HIV infection and violates their rights to be protected, grow up in a family environment and have access to education (Olori, 2003:7).

Indeed, widespread human trafficking practices is the most disturbing, yet common problem for both origin countries and destination countries in the common wealth of independent states. International trafficking in girls and women from the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) for the purpose of sexual exploitation is a highly organized multi-billion revenue earning business. For many years the main supplies are represented mostly by African, Latin America and Asian Countries(Guardian, 2012:1).

It is equally important to note that "today's child worker will be tomorrows uneducated and untrained adult, forever trapped in grinding poverty. No effort should be spared to break that vicious circle. Trafficking in human beings has become a transnational criminal activity such as document fraud, money laundering and migrant smuggling. It is essentially modern day slavery. All countries need to stabilize their political systems because men, women and children in countries experiencing political and economic instability are the most susceptible as potential victims and that in such situations many of these victims increasingly enter this

network of organized crime, while trying to escape poverty, unemployment, conflict or wars"(Masci, 2004:277).

There are many ways criminals in human trafficking get their victims. One way of doing this is by false employment advertisement that promises jobs and safe entry into other countries. When victims apply for such jobs, they are immediately offered the jobs. Also, when they are taken to the countries, they are instead sexually exploited, exposed to hard labour and domestic servitude. In some instances children are taken to be used as soldiers and victims are always held against their will and are even sometimes afraid to ask authorities concerned for help due to fear of deportation or inability to speak the local language when seeking for help. It is equally instructive to note that although human trafficking is prevalent in many parts of the world, it is particularly significant in Asia, Africa, Former Soviet Union and Latin- America.

Most African states are backward economically as a result of this human trafficking situation in Africa has been on the increase. In addition, the harsh living conditions that characterized Africa seem to have thrown people in the continent off balance. The quest for better living condition and the demand for 'slave' in developed countries have encouraged human traffickers to continue with this criminal business.

2.10 Historical Background of Human Trafficking in Africa: The Case of Nigeria

The history of human trafficking is traceable to the era of the trans-Atlantic slave trade. This era witnessed the trading of primarily African people, to the colonies of the New World that occurred in and around the Atlantic Ocean. It lasted from the 15^{th} to the 19^{th} centuries. Most enslaved people were shipped from West and Central Africa and taken to North and South

America to work as unpaid labour on sugar, coffee and cocoa plantations, in gold and silver mines, in rice field, or in houses to work as domestic servants. Apparently, some scholars have also argued that slavery was practiced in Africa before the beginning of the Atlantic slave trade and that slavery and the slave trade were an integral part of African society and states which supplied the Arab world with enslaved people for centuries before the arrival of the Europeans (Ferro, 1997:221).

The Atlantic slave trade was the trade of enslaved Africans to, primarily, South American and European colonies of the Portuguese and Spanish empires; it accounted for only slightly more than 3% of all slave trade. It started (on a significant scale) in 1502 (Antstey, 1975:5) and lasted until 1580, when Portugal was temporarily united with Spain. While the Portuguese traded enslaved people themselves, the Spanish empire relied on the astiento system, awarding merchant (mostly from other countries) the license to trade enslaved people to other colonies. During the first Atlantic trade system most of the traders were Portuguese, giving them a near-monopoly during the era, although some Dutch, English, Spanish and French traders also participated in the slave trade (Emmer, 1998:17).

The second Atlantic trade system was the trade of enslave Africans by mostly English, Brazilian, French and Dutch traders. The main destination of this phase were the Caribbean colonies, Brazil and North America; as a number of European countries built up economically slave-dependent colonial empires in the "New World".

The motives behind the Atlantic slave trade include cheap labour to work on plantation; it is reported that the plantations economies of the new world were built on slave labour.

Another motive is slave trade profits. It is important to stress here that all these reasons are also applicable to human trafficking as it is practice today.

In the case of Nigeria, during the transatlantic slave trade, the emissaries from the king of Portugal visited the court of the Oba (King) of Benin; they maintained close relationship, because the port of Benin was used to handle the peppers, ivory and increasing number of slaves offered by the Oba in exchange for Coral Beads, textile import.

Slaves in Nigeria were initially bought for resale on the Gold coast where slaves were traded for Gold and for this reason the south-Western coast of Nigeria and neighbouring Benin Republic became known as the "slave Coast". In the 18th century perhaps 30% of all slaves sent across the Atlantic came from Nigeria. During the period most of the slaves were supplied from the Oyo and Benin empires and Aro Confederacy.

During the period, Nigerians were sold like commodities in the market place, shipped and transported to Europe and America in the most dehumanizing conditions and the women served as mere sexual tools and subjected to various sexual violence and abuses. Although the transatlantic slave trade was abolished in the early 1880s, subsequently Africans witnessed the era of colonialism in which Africans were exploited, subjugated and oppressed.

Comparing transatlantic slave trade with human trafficking, it will be discovered that human trafficking has become another form of slave trade due to the terrible economic challenges experience in the country; young men and women at their prime age are trafficked for the purpose of exploitation. Trafficking in humans reached its peak in the late 1990s although it

has been in existence for a long time now. Young children and women were lured into human trafficking within and across Nigeria by distant relatives for the purpose of exploitation. Most of these women and children end up being used and eventually dumped by these individuals and this has far reaching consequences on the development of the nation. This trend of trafficking has been identified in Sokoto State where young boys and girls are trafficked from other States and countries into Sokoto, from Sokoto to different parts of the country and from Sokoto to other countries. This shows that Sokoto is a source, transit and destination for human trafficking in Nigeria.

Indeed, human trafficking has become a recurrent socio-economic problem in Nigeria. In addition to being a pervasive and heinous crime, it is also one of the most pressing human right problems in Nigeria. The gravity of the problem of trafficking in persons has defied several efforts by the government and non-governmental organizations. It has proved to be a relatively lucrative profession for those who engage in this act. According to Osakwe (1996:4), human trafficking entails the trafficking of persons usually children and young girls for prostitution and cheap labour, within Nigeria and from Nigeria to other countries in Africa, Europe, Asia and the Americas for the purpose of exploitation.

As stated above, despite all measures put in place by government and non-governmental organizations to curb the menace; human trafficking in Nigeria has persisted with an un-diminishing intensity. Similarly, despite all the humiliation, torture and deportation of several young Nigerian women and children from various European and other countries around the world, many more young Nigerians; mostly women and young boys and girls in

Nigeria are committed and determined to find their ways to foreign nations and engage in prostitution and other humiliating or degrading professions (Akinnisi, 2002:3).

The increasing intensity of human trafficking in Nigeria underscores the fact that the interventions by government and non-governmental organizations have not effectively check the prevalence of human trafficking in the country. This calls for an effective approach that will address the underlying factor(s) responsible for the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria. This study which focuses on the role of poverty in the prevalence of human trafficking in Sokoto State, Nigeria is an attempt to determine whether the high incidence of poverty among the people is responsible for the prevalence of human trafficking in the State.

2.11 The Dimensions of Human Trafficking in Nigeria

Trafficking in persons is an affront to human rights and dignity. Trafficking in Persons has reached an epidemic proportion and is escalating out of control. The evidence is all too clear; millions of people; mostly women and children are trafficked for exploitation into sweat shops, into domestic work, to work on farms, for adoption, as child soldiers and most perniciously into the commercial sex industry, which is now a global multibillion-dollar business. These children are not only ruthlessly exploited they are also deprived of a childhood and denied a future. In a number of countries, for example most children go to school for only a few hours each day because they are required to work long hours to help their family survive, exposing them to dangers that no child should have to bear. These are the very conditions that produce the breeding grounds for trafficking- targets who succumb to the false promise of a better life elsewhere. Trafficking is made possible by a break down

in the protective environment; when social, political or economic conflicts are accompanied by poor legal and justice systems, deepening poverty as well as a lack of educational or economic opportunities for children and their families- not to mention the growing demand from industrialized world for exploitative sex, where children are left much more vulnerable to the prey of Traffickers. Illegal trafficking in human beings has become a global trade. Its success represents a signal failure on the part of the world community, which ought to be working to ensure that every child has the opportunity to grow up in safety and with dignity(Geddes *etal*, 1995:14).

The UN protocol on Trafficking in persons, (Palermo Declaration) defines human trafficking as the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons by means of threat or use of force or other forms of coercion or abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the use of power, or of a position of vulnerability of giving or receiving of payment or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the 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 practice similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs (Sarghera, 2001:74).

From the above definition, five dimensions of human trafficking can be identified in Nigeria. They include:

a. Trafficking for Prostitution
b. Trafficking for Marriage

c. Trafficking for Begging

d. Trafficking for forced Labour

e. Trafficking for ritual

i. **Trafficking for Prostitution:**Trafficking for sex is the most popular form of trafficking in Nigeria in this trafficking women are recruited by Traffickers both knowingly and unknowingly for the purpose of using their bodies for commercial sex. Prostitution can be defined as the exchange of sexual relationship for money. The people involved in this trafficking are mostly women. Statistics shows that Nigerian women and girls deported from various countries overseas such as United States, Italy, Germany, Saudi Arabia and Netherland from 1999 to 2003 were 2,937 for this period (WOTCLEF, 2005:12).

ii. **Trafficking for Marriage:** This involves selling a woman to a man, which mostly happen when the family of the woman needs money to pay debts or for other purposes. This type of trafficking is mostly practiced in Sokoto and other parts of northern Nigeria.

iii. **Trafficking for Begging:** This trafficking is common among old women, children and physically challenged (handicapped) people. It involves bringing them out of their local environment and sending them to unknown or unfamiliar environments where they are subjected to street begging under surveillance. At the end of the day, the slave master seizes the money the beggar collects. This type of trafficking is mostly practiced in Sokoto State and other states in northern

Nigeria where victims are trafficked to Saudi Arabia for Begging, forced marriage and other form of exploitation(NAPTIP News, 2003:5).

iv. **Trafficking for Forced Labour**: People are also trafficked and enslaved or forced to work under harsh and unfavorable conditions at home, factory, offices, construction firms and agricultural plantationsthis is a common feature in both transatlantic slave trade and modern human trafficking. Many Nigerian children for example are trafficked from Akwa Ibom, Cross Rivers and Ebonyi states to Republic of Gabon in Central Africa and domestically from Sokoto to other parts of the country.

v. **Trafficking for Ritual**: There are rampant cases in Nigeria where people are reported missing and later found with some vital parts such as breast, eyes, private parts, tongues, hearts, kidney removed. Such missing parts are usually used for rituals.

WOTCLEF (2001:68) stated that it was reported in the media that child abuse always occurred in Nigeria where girls are secretly camped, impregnated, give birth and discharged without their babies. These babies are later sold most times for ritual purposes. The report further revealed that some motherless babies' homes are in this habit of selling children for ritual purposes.

Available account shows that human trafficking, especially prostitution started in Edo State involving women and girls who were trafficked to a number of European countries for the purpose of exploitation. A report further stated that "the craze to go to Europe actually began in the late 1980's when some young Benin girls were trafficked there by Nigerian

Pimps to work in factories and do household chores for "kind" Europeans. When they arrived there, they found that they had been deceived. To escape deportation or suffering most of them resorted to prostitution. But they managed to come back home with so much money that they converted to Nigerian Naira. The notion soon spread around town that their people are plucking dollars on the street of Europe. Since then, its' no longer a matter of being lured there under false pretense, but of girls begging to be taken there by sponsors" (Newswatch, 2006:16).

Human trafficking is one of the greatest human rights abuses being witnessed in Nigeria. It involves trafficking of people; mostly women and children as Labour, Prostitutes, Hawkers; all these, leads to child abuse. Like a wild fire the issue has continued to assume a worrisome dimension. Human worth and human values are daily being diminished and being made to pave way for selfish economic consideration. In this age and era, the situation is not only deplorable but obviously absurd. Recently the dynamics of human trafficking has escalated and operates in two major ways namely: internal trafficking and Cross Border (external) trafficking.

a. Internal Trafficking

It is internal when it takes place within a society or country. An increased number of people are trafficked from rural communities to cities such as Lagos, Abeokuta, Ibadan, Sokoto, Kano, Calabar and Port-Harcourt. Trafficking to these cities is predominantly for exploitative domestic work, farm labour and prostitution. Some children are lured into human trafficking by their family members (NAPTIP News Magazine, 2005:29).

b. External Trafficking

External trafficking also known as cross border trafficking takes place across international boundaries and it occurs when human beings are trafficked from one country to another. Internationally, trafficked Nigerians come from all parts of Nigeria but record shows that some states have more number of trafficked persons than others. These states include Edo, Cross-River, Rivers, Delta, Ebonyi, Imo, Sokoto, Kano, Ogun, Oyo and Lagos (NAPTIP News Magazine, 2005:34).

West African destination countries for Nigerian trafficked people are; Republic of Benin, Togo, Cote d'voire, Equatorial Guinea, Cameroun, Gabon and Guinea. Trafficked persons are engaged to work in these destination countries mostly as domestic servants and on farm plantations. Most of these trafficked persons found themselves deceived into believing that their destination would be Europe, Middle-East and the America (WOTCLEF News Magazine, 2005:8).

Common European destinations for trafficked persons from Nigeria are Italy, Belgium, Spain, Netherlands, Germany and the United Kingdom while destinations in the Middle-East are Saudi-Arabia, United Arab Emirates (Dubai), etc. The victims are often forced to work as prostitutes, domestic servants, beggars, forced into marriage and other forms of exploitation. According to Cornell (2001) an increasing number of young girls claiming asylum in the United Kingdom are in fact, trafficked persons. Cornell, also stated that about 29% of Nigerians trafficked to Europe are from Edo and Delta states of Nigeria, but recently recruitment record shows the influx of trafficked persons from other Nigerian states such as Imo, Enugu, Lagos, Ogun, Anambra and Akwa-Ibom. The United States Agency for

International Development (USAID), claimed that in 2004 alone over 300,000 Nigerians have been illegally trafficked out of the country since the business in human trafficking gained roots in the country (Mojeed, 2008:16). Also, estimates shows that between 60% and 80% of girls involved in sex trade in Europe are Nigerians (Christian Science Monitor, 2003:6).

The Middle East is indeed another major destination, especially Saudi-Arabia. The recruitment of persons trafficked to Saudi-Arabia comes predominantly from Northern part of Nigeria especially Kano, Kwara, Kaduna, Niger, Borno, Taraba, Yobe, Nasarawa, Plateau, Kebbi, Sokoto, Katsina, Adamawa, Zamfara, Jigawa, Gombe and Bauchi States. From March 2002- April, 2004; the Saudi-Arabia authorities deported 9,952 women and investigation revealed that majority of the women deported are from the above mentioned states (UNICEF,2003:14).

Apart from the above two major ways in which human trafficking operates in Nigeria; Internal and external trafficking, there are other geographical dynamics in the operations of human trafficking in Nigeria. That is, the categorization of Nigeria as a transit and destination country. For example, trafficked Togolese children enroute to Gabon via Nigeria stay along the coast in Cross-River State, Nigeria waiting for boats to ferry across the seas. This makes Nigeria a transit country. Also as a destination country, Nigeria receives Togolese women, young girls and children from Benin, Liberia and Ghana. Moreso, over the years Buzu women from Niger Republic have been trafficked by Traffickers into affluent homes in Sokoto and other States in Northern Nigeria to serve as household helpers

and concubines. Occasionally, some of the trafficked Buzu women end up marrying their employers who are affluent business people (UNICEF, 2004:14).

It is also important to stress that the Modus Operandi of the trade of human trafficking in Nigeria and Sokoto State in particular involves enticement, deception and transportation of persons especially women, young boys and girls(children) for begging, forced marriage, labour, domestic services, pornographic, sexual and other forms of exploitative labour. This is carried out through the efforts of a well-organized and coordinated network running within Sokoto and neighbouring countries. To be able to understand the methods of operation of human trafficking in Sokoto and other parts of Nigeria, it is important to know the people involved in the act. One of the group is the traffickers; the traffickers are syndicate run by the head mostly refer to as "Madam" "Mama" or "Hajiya" who usually resides in the foreign or destination country and receives, houses and deploys the unfortunate victims once they arrive at their destination (NAPTIP News Magazine 2005:18).

For the syndicate group to operate effectively, the head keeps a line of staff or co-conspirators who play specific roles in getting the victims and facilitating their trips to Europe. Among these are recruits, trolleys, passport racketeers some of whom are believed to include embassy staff, immigration officials, law enforcement agents and even fetish priests whose job is to administer fearsome oaths on the victims to bind them perpetually to the 'Madam'. In some cases, the agent cajole desperate, poor and greedy parents to sell valued family property such as a house or a parcel of land to finance their daughter's (Child) trip overseas usually unaware of the predicament awaiting their children(Epra, 2004:16).

Before these victims are taken from the shores of the country, they are made to swear to certain fetish oaths of secrecy, allegiance to 'Madam' or 'Hajiya' and a commitment to pay back the fund used for their trips which usually turn out to take several years due to frequent manipulations. In this way, the victims are held spell bound to their madam or trafficker and become easily controlled and continually intimidated when they make attempt to escape.

Experience has shown that the victims are conveyed through long and tortuous routes mainly through Sokoto enroute Sahara desert to coastal waters of North African countries, notably, Morocco, Tunisia and Libya from where they are made to embark on the Journey in small unsafe boats to arrive the European shores of Spain, Portugal and other means of transportation to Saudi-Arabia, Dubai (United Arab Emirate) amongst others. It should be noted that Europe has a very long borders especially on the sea and it is very easy for traffickers to rent boats and reach the Europeans shores at night (NAPTIP News Magazine, 2005: 19).

In most cases, these victims travel through the Sahara desert and cover long distances by road. They stop over in one or two small transit countries. The duration of the unknown journey may last for two to eight months. The girls are exposed to several risks along the routes such as: restriction of movement in transit camps, sexual violation, pregnancy, hunger, thirst and sandstorms in the deserts, drowning at high sea and repatriation before arrival at destination.

After they might have arrived in Europe, the girls are often made to undergo a process of ritualistic initiation which may involve data collection of underwear, pubic hair, and other items deemed fit for the fetish ordeal. The exercise is further aimed at instilling more fear in

the girls in order to prevent them from revealing anything that could lead to the arrest of the 'madam'. After all these gruesome experience, the girls are disposed of whatever travelling documents made for them by their traffickers so that they can loss their identity. In this way, it is difficult for them to get off the hook of their slave master as they are pushed into the streets to begin a lavish but profitless sale of their bodies for the sole benefit of their captors (Epra, 2004:16).

At the end of the day, the trafficked remain victims of the traffickers 'manipulations. The traffickers place the victims in the streets or sell them out to bars and hotels for prostitution or marriage and all sorts of things like begging on the streets using or inflicting violence where women do not cooperate. The 'Madams'or 'Hajiya' who are mostly Nigerians are responsible for handling all the money earned to repay the debt incurred in their transportation. The debt is between 50,000 to 100,000 dollars. To make as much as 150,000 dollars, one would have had sex with several partners a day for three years. The trafficker occasionally gives them peanuts say 50 dollars a week for their upkeep. Otherwise they only feed them and give them nothing (Newswatch, 1999:8).

It is equally important to stress that girls who constitute majority of the victims of human trafficking are made to believe by their tormentors that monies are being sent to their helpless parents. As such, some feel consoled that if they are suffering the benefit of the suffering are not lost to their parents after all. But again that is another myth as no such thing ever happens. Occasionally, a parcel consisting of cheap apparel may be sent in the name of the girl and the poor woman in the village would jump for joy that her daughter was doing well abroad. Consequently the poor woman will spread the 'good' news around and

would want to introduce the ‘good job’ to another woman so that her daughter can be trafficked, so it goes round in the family.

Apparently, this crime against humanity continues to spread in Sokoto State and other parts of Nigeria with their specific peculiarities and has finally become the order of the day. Most people in Nigeria fall into this trap due to the quest for and the promise of better life which becomes an illusion and they finally find it impossible to gain independence back to where they were. Whenever any of them pay their debt, they are reported to the police and deported without any property (NAPTIP News 2005:19).

2.12 Trends of Human Trafficking in Nigeria

Nigeria is a source, transit and destination country for trafficking and also experiences internal and external trafficking of women and children. Internally, trafficking takes the form of recruitment and transportation of children from rural to urban centre and other forms of exploitative conditions, while the external trafficking is across the shores of Nigeria. Both are exploitative and happen under slave-like conditions. Internal Trafficking involves trafficking of persons mostly from rural to urban while External Trafficking involves the trafficking of persons from Nigeria to Europe, Asia: Saudi Arabia and other parts of the Middle East, America and other African countries such as Libya, Mali, Gabon, Tunisia, and Morrocco e.t.c.This is done through major road, air and sea routes as outline below:

- Nigeria-Cotonou-Togo-Morocco by road;
    - Europe (by air)
- Nigeria-Ghana-Morocco-Libya-Spain (by Road)
- Kano-Kwara-Kaduna-Saudi Arabia (by air)

- Abuja-Maiduguri-Chad-Libya-Spain (by road)
- Akwa-Ibom-Cameroun-Gabon (by road and sea)
- Lagos-Spain-Germany (by air)
- Lagos-Liberia (by air)
- Lagos-Cote D/voire (by road)
- Lagos-US/London (by air)
- Shaki(Oyo)-Guinea-Mali-Cote D/voire (by road)
- Edo-Italy (by air)
- Kano-Sokoto-Niger Republic (by road)

Challenges

- Inability to discern the crime of trafficking in persons from genuine traditional relationships and fostering in many Nigerian cultures; Sokoto State inclusive.

- Inadequate funding of relevant law enforcement agencies involve in combating the crime of trafficking

- Victims are reluctant to testify in court as a result of the following:-

    1. Intimidation or threat (real or perceived) of physical harm to the persons of the victim by the Traffickers or their Associates.

    2. Post-trauma depression as a result of prolonged exploitation

    3. Fear of voodoo

- Slow judicial process

- The commitment of states and local governments as well as the public sector to the eradication of trafficking in persons in Nigeria is still very minimal.

- Lack of proper understanding of the phenomenon of trafficking in person by the Bar and Bench.

Table 2.8: Basic statistics at a glance

Total population of Nigeria 2010 (estimated) = 167 million	
Estimated children population 2010 (UNICEF, 2010)	= 77,907 million
Mean age of marriage	= 17 years
Primary school enrolment	=Girls 77% Boys 84%
Average completion rate	Boys= 84% Girls=69%
Data on Abuses	
Average age of trafficked children	= 15 years
Nigerian girls in European sex trade	= 60-80% Girls trafficked into Europe
Common trafficking route = Mali, Morocco and by boat to Spain or West coast to Libya or Saudi Arabia.	
Means of transportation= 90% travel by road across the Sahara desert others through airport, seaports and bush paths.	
Categories of child labour	= Boys:-used as Scavengers, car washers, Bus Conductor, Drug Peddlers, Farmers.
Nigerian children engaged in exploitative child labour	= about 8 million

Source:NAPTIP News, 2005:19

It is important to point out that a number of studies carried out indicated that a good number of people willingly engage in trafficking as a way of solving their economic crisis. The poor economic situation in Nigeria and Sokoto State in particular has worsened the problem of unemployment and high rates of school dropout. These circumstances have created a large pool of inactive and unengaged children and adolescent who are much more vulnerable to trafficking than their peers who go to school. The motivation to find work away from home is often driven by a question of bare survival (UNESCO Policy Paper, 2006:33).

The high neglect of the rural areas and the resultant effect of poor infrastructural facilities, dilapidated educational infrastructure and a high rate of poverty, have led rural dwellers to seek for means of improving their standards of living. In an attempt to achieve this, they accept practices such as placing and fostering children in the homes of their relatives and wealthy families. This is a well-established practice, in which poor rural families send their children to family members in urban centres with the belief that the urban families will offer their children better education and work opportunities. In practice, however, especially since economic recession in the 1980's, several of these children are overworked, not schooled and sent to the street to hawk food. While hawking they are in vulnerable position to be picked up by traffickers (detaas, 2006:6).

A study carried out by International Labour Organization (ILO) on human trafficking trends and prevalence rates exemplifies the thin and often blurred line between voluntary and forced labour migration. It revealed how employment agencies come to rural areas to recruit young people, who once they arrived in the urban centres, may be forced into domestic

labour (Broekhuis, 2006:14). In Sokoto State this similar practice is established where individuals (Traffickers) who parade themselves as 'goodwill' relations or associates tour around local government areas and communities in buses and lorry to recruit mostly young boys for 'job' placement in urban centres but once they arrived most of them are forced into domestic labour and other forms of exploitation for the benefit of the Trafficker.

Reef (2005:7) also argued that the (abuse of) children under the 'Almajiri' system of education which is also known as the Tsangaya system as operated in Nigeria provides a fertile ground for the recruitment of children into the human trafficking network. The 'Almajiri' Tsangaya system affords the child the opportunity of reciting the Holy Koran and acquiring the knowledge of Koran in influencing religious obligations. According to Reef, over 10 million of Nigerian children are estimated to be in Almajiri system, most of them can be found in Sokoto and other States in northern part of the country. These children who are often sent to the streets for begging by the 'Mallam' are often at risk of being trafficked by Traffickers. A number of them have been reported trafficked and forced into domestic work, prostitution and other forms of hard labour (Reef, 2005:7).

Trafficking is also sustained by forced displacement associated with frequently recurring and violent religious and ethnic crisis as well as conflicts over the control of resources from crude oil mining and refining in some parts of the country. The on-going 'Boko-Haram' Cattle Rustling, Farmers-Herders crises have in recent times displaced many people in Nigeria. Nigeria allegedly has the highest number of internally displaced persons (IDPS) in West Africa. It is estimated that the number of IDPS would be as high as 1.2 million. (This

figure is still on the increase). The displaced persons are vulnerable and can be trafficked (International Migration Report, 2006:2).

Another important factor is the political culture in operation in the society. Nigeria has been categorized as an example of a subject political culture, with attributes such as little awareness by citizens of the input process or themselves as participants; citizens are largely passive. Citizens have some awareness of government authority which they may like or dislike; policies flow from rulers rather than from citizens, loss of faith in the ability of political system to provide the needs of the people leads to resentment and sense of frustration felt everywhere by citizens (Egonmwan, 2001:40).

This kind of situation in Nigeria makes people indifferent about the political system. On the other hand, those who govern find it difficult generally to implement policies that have direct bearing on the people because there is little awareness of the demand process. Policies are seldom the result of demands and pressures from citizens as they play little or no role in the choice of their representatives and the policy they formulate. Hence, infrastructures and mass empowerment is lacking. This consequently leads to loss of faith in the ability of political system to provide or meet their need and therefore resort to other means of survival including crimes such as armed robbery, drug and human trafficking. This underscores the relevance of this study as it interrogates the interface between poverty and the the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria.

2.13 The Evolution, Functions and Organizational Structureof the National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic In Persons and Other Related Matters (NAPTIP)

The National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and other Related Matters (NAPTIP) came into being on the 8th of August, 2003 with the appointment of its pioneer Executive Secretary/Chief Executive. The Agency which was a creation of Trafficking in persons (prohibition) law Enforcement and Administration Act, 2003 is the Federal Government of Nigeria's response to addressing the menace of human trafficking in Nigeria and its attendant human right abuses in its entire ramification, It is also a fulfillment of her international obligation under the Trafficking in persons protocol supplementing the United Nation's Transnational Organized Crime Convention (TOC) (NAPTIP, 2003).

Nigeria became signatory to the Transnational Organized Crime convention and its trafficking in persons protocol on the 13th December, 2000. Article 5 of the trafficking in person protocol enjoins state parties to criminalize practices and conducts that subject human beings to all forms of exploitation which includes in the minimum sexual and labour exploitation. The Bill to implement the conventional protocol on trafficking in persons in the national legislation was sponsored as a private member Bill by a non-governmental organization; Women Trafficking and Child Labour Eradication Foundation (WOTCLEF) founded by Mrs. Titi Abubakar. The Bill was subsequently passed by the National Assembly on the 7thof July, 2003 by President Olusegun Obasanjo. Consequently, the law became operational throughout the country. The law seeks to address trafficking in persons with its associated problems by creating National Agency for the prohibition of traffic in person and other Related Matters (NAPTIP); a multi-disciplinary crime fighting agency to

address these problems. The act that established NAPTIP has vested the responsibility of enforcing all laws against traffic in persons, including investigating and prosecuting persons suspected to be engaged in traffic in persons as well as coordinating the rehabilitation and counseling of traffic persons (NAPTIP, 2003:4).

FUNCTIONS OF NAPTIP

According to NAPTIP enabling act 2003, the functions of NAPTIP include the following:

a. To coordinate all laws on trafficking in persons and related offences.
b. To adopt measures to increase the effectiveness of eradication of trafficking in persons.
c. To adopt witness protection measures
d. To enhance effectiveness of law enforcement agents to suppress traffic in persons.
e. To establish proper communication channels, conduct research and work on improving international cooperation in the suppression of traffic in person; by land, sea and air.
f. To reinforce and supplement measures in bilateral and multilateral treaties and conventions on traffic in persons.
g. To work in collaboration with other agencies or bodies that may ensure elimination and prevention of the root causes of the problem of traffic in persons.
h. To strengthen and enhance effective legal means for international cooperation in criminal matters for suppressing the international activities of traffic in persons.

i. To strengthen cooperation between the Attorney General of the Federation, Nigeria Police, Nigeria Immigration Service, Nigeria Prison Service, Welfare officials and all other agencies in the eradication of traffic in person.
j. To take charge, supervise, control and coordinate the rehabilitation of trafficked persons.
k. To investigate and prosecute traffickers.

By these functions, the agency became the country's focal point in the fight against trafficking in persons and its associated social problems.

There are about 21 penal provisions (section 11-29, 32 and 46) of the law prescribing different punishment ranging from 12 months for attempts, to life imprisonment for serious offences such as slavery exportation or importation of girls under the age of 18 years for prostitution etc. Exploitation is the key element of the offence which is found in all the penal provisions of the law. To enhance the effectiveness of NAPTIP, the Agency works with other Government Agencies such as WOTCLEF, UNICEF, UNODC, IOM, ILO etc.

Organizational Structure ofNAPTIP

The National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and other Related Matters (NAPTIP) has nine zonal offices (command) across the country, namely; Lagos, Kano, Benin, Sokoto, Maiduguri, Uyo and Enugu with its Headquarters in Abuja.

For effective conduct of the functions of the Agency, NAPTIP has specialized operational departments created by section 8 of the enabling act to implement the mandate of the agency. They include the following;

a. Investigation and Monitoring department
b. Legal and Prosecution department
c. Public Enlightment department
d. Counselling and Rehabilitation department
e. Administration and Finance and
f. Research and Programmme department

It is important to stress here that regardless of the provisions of NAPTIP enabling act, the agency presently lacks adequate facilities such as vocational training programmes for rehabilitation of victims of human trafficking poverty. Morever, the problem of human trafficking requires a holistic approach rather than selected and isolated interventions to tackle it.

In addition, the poor state of the national economy remains a basic policy problem affecting the operation of NAPTIP. As noted above, NAPTIP as an agency focuses more on preventive measures and is much limited in the areas of economic empowerment of victims of human trafficking(NAPTIP 2006:17).

This forms the basis for this research which focuses on the role of poverty in the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria. It is an approach that seeks to cover the gaps inherent in

government intervention through the activities of NAPTIP, consolidate and fashion out effective strategy to tackle the root cause of the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria.

2.14 Tabular Presentation of Available Statistics on the Prevalence of Human Trafficking in Sokoto State Nigeria

2.14.1: Available Record of Victims (Data) of Human Trafficking between 2006-2010 from NAPTIP Sokoto Zonal Command

Table 2.9: Victims Data 2006

S/N	No of victims	SEX		STATE OF ORIGIN	MONTH	PLACE OF RESCUE	AGE RANGE 0-28 YRS
		M	F				
1.	-	-	-	-	January	-	
2.	-	-		-	February	-	
3.	-	-	-	-	March	-	
4.	-			-	April	-	
5.	-	-		-	May	-	
6.	-	-		-	June	-	
7.	-	-		-	July	-	
8.	-			-	August	-	
9.	7				September		
10.	Nill			-	October	-	-
11.	3	-	3	LAGOS AND BENIN REPUBLIC.	November	SOKOTO	
12.	8	-	8	EDO	December	SOKOTO	
TOTAL	18		11				

Source: NAPTIP Sokoto Zonal Command, 2016

Table 2.9 shows the beginning of NAPTIP preliminary activities in the State where only a total of eighteen (18) victims of human trafficking were rescued in Sokoto State. It also shows that eleven (11) of the victims were females whose origin was traced to Lagos and Edo States, Nigeria and Benin Republic. This confirmed the existence of both internal and external trafficking in Sokoto State, Nigeria. It is important to note here that the National

Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons and Other Related Matters (NAPTIP) Sokoto Zonal Command was officially declared opened in 2006; three years after the establishment of the national headquarters of NAPTIP with its head office in Abuja.

Table 2.10: Victims Data 2007

S/N	No of Victims 0-28		Sex		State of Origin	Months	Place of Rescue
			F	M			
1.	15		12	3	Delta, Edo	January	Ilela
2.	15		15	-	Edo	February	Niger Republic
3.	3		3	-	Edo, Imo	March	Ilela border
4.	12		12	-	Edo, Delta	April	Sokoto
5.	20		17	3	Edo, Delta, Imo	May	Sokoto
6.	10		7	3	Kogi, Delta, Edo	June	Kebbi
7.	6		6	-	Kwara-Ondo	July	Sokoto
8.	-		-	-	-	-	-
9.	1		-	1	Borno	September	Sokoto
10.	1		1	-	Edo	October	Niger Republic
11.	17		16	1	Ondo,Oyo, Imo	November	Niger Republic
12.	7		5	2	Enugu, Edo	December	Niger Republic
13.	107		94	13			

Source: NAPTIP Sokoto Zonal Command, 2016

Table 2.10 shows that one hundred and seven (107) victims which includes (94) females and (13) males were rescued in different parts of Sokoto and border townswithin the State and neighbouring Niger Republic. The data also shows that most of the victims traced their origin to several States spread across the geo-political zones of Nigeria such as the South-South, South-East, South-West, North-Central and North-East geo-Political zones of the Country. This data in addition to confirming the Prevalence of human trafficking in Sokoto State, it confirms the status of the State as a source, transit and destination of human trafficking in Nigeria.

Table 2.11: Victims Data 2008

S/N	No of victims 0-28	Sex		State of Origin	Months	Place of Rescue
		F	M			
1.	18	18	-	EDO, Delta, Anambra	January	Dosso Niger Republic
2.	13	13	-	A/Ibom, Edo	February	Illela
3.	16	16	-	Edo, Delta, Imo	March	Sokoto, Kebbi
4.	19	19	-	Edo	April	Niger Republic
5.	10	10	-	Edo	May	Niger Republic
6.	10	6	4	Imo, Ondo, Enugu	June	Sokoto
7.	29	29	-	Anambra,C/River,Akwa Ibom, Edo, Lagos, ogun.	July	Sokoto
8.	8	8	-	Edo, Delta, Imo	August	Niger Republic
9.	21	15	6	Edo, Delta, Imo	September	Sokoto
10.	1	1	-	Akwa Ibom	October	Sokoto
11.	1	-	1	Kaduna	November	Sokoto
12.	1	1	-	Kebbi	December	Sokoto
TOTAL	147	136	11			

Source: NAPTIP Sokoto Zonal Command, 2016

Table 2.11 shows that a total of one hundred and forty seven (147) victims of human trafficking which include (136) females and (11) males were rescued in parts of Sokoto, border towns within the State (Ilela) and neighbouring towns in Niger Republic and Kebbi State. The data also shows that the rescued victims traced their origin to different parts of the country. This shows that Nigerians from different parts of the country are increasingly involved in human trafficking using Sokoto as a centre of convergence and transit route to destination countries for external trafficking.

Table 2.12: Victims Data 2009

S/N	No of victims 0-28		Sex		State of Origin	Months	Place of Rescue
			F	M			
1.	-		-	-	-	January	-
2.	21		21	-	Edo	February	Sokoto
3.	13		13	-	Edo, Osun,Sokoto	March	Sokoto,
4.	7		7	-	C/river, Delta, Edo	April	Niger Republic
5.	1		1	-	Imo	May	Sokoto
6.	1		1	-	Benin Republic	June	Sokoto
7.	3		3	-	Imo, Plateau, Kwara	July	Sokoto, Niger Republic
8.	4		2	2	Mali	August	Niger Republic
9.	1		1	-	Benin Republic	September	Sokoto
10.	9		8	1	Benin Republic & Sokoto	October	Tangaza
11.	2		2	-	Edo	November	Niger Republic
12.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	62		59	3			

Source:NAPTIP Sokoto Zonal Command, 2016

Table 2.12 shows that sixty two (62) victims of human trafficking, which consist of (59) females and (3) males who interestingly traced their origin to States across Nigeria including Sokoto State and other African countries such as Mali and Benin Republic were rescued in the State. This confirms that in addition to victims from other States across the country natives who traced their origin to Sokoto State are increasingly involved in human trafficking within the State and across to other countries. It also shows that victims of human trafficking are sourced within Sokoto State, from other countries into Sokoto and from Sokoto State to other countries; a confirmation of the status of Sokoto State as a source, transit and destination of human trafficking in Nigeria.

Table 2.13: Victims Data 2010

S/N	No of victims 0-28	Sex		State of Origin	Months	Place of Rescue
		F	M			
1.	8	8	-	Delta, Imo, Anambra	January	Sokoto
2.	22	22	-	C/River, Delta, kogi,Oyo, Edo	February	Kebbi
3.	1	-	1	Sokoto	March	Sokoto,
4.	9	9	-	Togo, Delta, Edo, Oyo, Anambra, Niger Republic.	April	Sokoto, Niger Republic
5.	-	-	-	-	May	-
6.	-	-	-	-	June	-
7.	3	2	1	Edo	July	Illela
8.	6	6	-	Plateau, Delta, A/Ibom, Oyo	August	Sokoto
9.	2	-	2	Zamfara	September	Sokoto
10.	15	4	11	Kebbi, Sokoto, Zamfara	October	Sokoto
11.	1	1	-	Akwa Ibom	November	Sokoto
12.	7	7	-	Zamfara,Katstina, Kogi	December	Illela, Sokoto
TOTAL	74	59	15			

Source: NAPTIP Sokoto Zonal Command, 2016

Table 2.13 shows that seventy four (74) victims of human trafficking who are made up of (59) females and (15) males were rescued in different parts of Sokoto State except few from parts of Kebbi and neighbouring Niger Republic. Some of the victims traced their origin from Sokoto State and other States in the North-West, North Central, South-South, South-East and South-West geo-political zones of the country while a few traced their origin from neighbouring Togo and Niger Republic. This further confirms the increasing involvement of Nigerians from States across the country including Sokoto State using Sokoto State as a point of convergence. It also confirms the prevalence of both internal and external

trafficking as well as the status of Sokoto State as a source, transit and destination of human trafficking in Nigeria

Table 2.14: Available Records of Victims of Human Trafficking (Data) between 2003-2010 from Nigeria Immigrations Service Sokoto Command

	2003		2004		2005		2006		2007		2008		2009		2010	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
January	2	3	3	-	3	4	-	-	6	7	-	-	2	-	8	4
February	-	11	-	2	30	-	10	-	60	7	65	10	-	-	22	-
March	-	-	-	2	10	-	-	3	6	-	10	7	-	3	-	3
April	7	19	3	-	2	5	-	4	4	8	6	4	7	-	10	-
May	-	-	-	4	7	6	10	-	7	-	5	3	6	-	2	7
June	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	6	3	3	-	2	4	-	-	14
July	4	-	4	7	-	-	2	-	-	-	3	-	-	4	-	-
August	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
September	-	8	30	-	1	7	3	-	-	10	4	8	-	2	-	10
October	-	-	-	-	30	8	70	-	8	-	30	-	20	3	20	7
November	3	-	20	-	30	-	70	10	9	7	10	8	10	-	20	6
December	-	10	-	8	10	-	50	-	10	-	20	6	20	2	10	6
TOTAL	19	58	60	23	126	30	215	23	113	44	153	48	69	14	92	57

Source: Nigeria Immigrations Service Sokoto State Command

Table 2.14 shows the number of victims of human trafficking rescued by Officers of the Nigeria Immigrations Service (NIS) Sokoto Command between the years 2003-2010. The data indicates that human trafficking activities exist in the State and the number of victims rescued in Sokoto State every year hover around eighty (80) to two hundred and fifty (250) within the period under review. This number is excluding the ones rescued by Nigeria Police and other security Organizations. This also confirms the prevalence of human trafficking in Sokoto State, Nigeria.

Table 2.15: Available Records (Data) of Suspects/Traffickers Between 2006-2010 from NAPTIP Sokoto Zonal Command (Traffickers Data 2006)

No of Suspects	State of Origin	Sex: M/F	Age Range: 18-60yrs	Month & Year	Place of Arrest
1	Edo	1(M)	1	June	Sokoto
2	Edo	1(M) 1(F)	2	July	Sokoto
1	Edo	1(M)	1	August	Sokoto
-	-	-	-	Septe Mber	-
2	Delta	1(M) 1(F)	2	October	Sokoto
1	Lagos	1(M)	1	November	Sokoto
2	Edo	2(M)	2	December	Sokoto
9		7(M) 2(F)	9		

Source: NAPTIP Sokoto Zonal Command 2016

Table 2.15 shows that nine (9) Suspected Traffickers were arrested by NAPTIP in Sokoto. Out of this number seven (7) were males and two females who traced their origin to Edo, Delta and Lagos States. This indicates that men are mostly involve in human trafficking as Traffickers. It also means that Traffickers who are mostly from the Southern part of Nigeria, have been in the business of human trafficking and were often arrested in different parts of Sokoto State do consider Sokoto as a point of convergence for 'business' as well as a source, transit and destination of human trafficking in Nigeria.

Table 2.16: Traffickers Data 2007

No of Suspects	State of Origin	Sex: M/F	Age Range: 18-60yrs	Month & Year	Place of Arrest
5	Edo/Delta	4(M) 1(F)	5	January	Sokoto
6	Edo	4(M) 2(F)	6	February	Sokoto
2	Edo	2(M)	2	March	Sokoto
1	Delta	1(M)	1	April	Sokoto
4	Edo	3(M) 1(F)	4	May	3 Sokoto, 1 Libya Deportee
7	Edo	5(M) 2(F)	7	June	Sokoto & Kebbi
3	Ondo	3(M)	3	July	2 Kebbi, 1 Sokoto
1	Borno	1(F)	1	August	Sokoto
2	Edo	2(F)	2	September	Sokoto
1	Imo	1(M)	1	October	Sokoto
2	Edo	2(M)	2	November	Sokoto & Kebbi
36		26 M 10F	36		

Source: NAPTIP Sokoto Zonal Command, 2016

Table 2.16 shows that a total ofthirty six (36) Traffickers; (26) males and (10) females who traced their origin to Edo, Delta, Ondo, Borno and Imo States were arrested in different parts of Sokoto State and a few were arrested in parts of Kebbi State and one (1) was deported from Libya.This also shows that apart from men who dominate the 'business' of human trafficking in Sokoto State as Traffickers, women are increasingly involve in human trafficking in the State as Traffickers. The data also shows that apart from people from

southern part of the country there are other Nigerians from the northern part of the country who are involved in human trafficking as Traffickers in Sokoto State.

Table 2.17: Traffickers Data 2008

No of Suspects	State of Origin	Sex: M/F	Age Range: 18-60yrs	Month & Year	Place of Arrest
6	Edo	5(M) 1(F)	6	January	Kebbi-5 & Sokoto-1
4	Edo	3(M) 1(F)	4	February	Sokoto
2	Edo	2(M)	2	March	Sokoto
7	Edo	5(M) 2(F)	7	April	Kebbi-4 Sokoto-3
1	Edo	1(M)	1	May	Kebbi
2	Imo	1(M) 1(F)	2	June	Sokoto
11	Anambra	4 (M) 7(F)	11	July	Kebbi-2 Sokoto-9
3	Delta	3 (M)	3	August	Sokoto
4	Edo	4(M)	4	September	Sokoto
6	Edo	6(M)	6	October	Sokoto
2	Kaduna	2(M)	2	November	Sokoto
1	Kebbi	1(F)	1	December	Kebbi
49		36 M 13	49		

Source: NAPTIP Sokoto Zonal Command, 2016

Table 2.17 shows that a total of forty-nine (49) Traffickers including (36) males and (13) females who traced their origin to Edo, Imo, Anambra, Delta, Kaduna and Kebbi States were arrested in different parts of Sokoto State and a few from parts of Kebbi State. This data further confirms the involvement of both men and women from different parts of

Nigeria as Traffickers involved in the recruitment of victims for internal and or external trafficking in Sokoto State Nigeria.

Table 2.18: Traffickers Data 2009

No of Suspects	State of Origin	Sex: M/F	Age Range: 18-60yrs	Month & Year	Place of Arrest
2	Edo	2(M)	2	January	Sokoto
6	Edo	5(M) 1(F)	6	February	Sokoto
7	Delta	4(M) 3(F)	7	March	Sokoto
5	Benin-Republic	5(M)	5	April	Sokoto-4 Kebbi-1
1	Imo	1(M)	1	May	Sokoto
2	Benin Republic	2(F)	2	June	Sokoto
3	Imo	2(M) 1(F)	3	July	Deportee-1 Sokoto-2
1	Mali	1(M)	1	August	Sokoto
2	Niger Republic	2(F)	2	October	Sokoto
1	Benin Republic	1(F)	1	November	Sokoto
30		20M 10F	30		

Source: NAPTIP Sokoto Zonal Command, 2016

Table 2.18 shows that a total of thirty (30) Traffickers; (20) males and (10) females who traced their origin from Edo, Delta, Imo, Mali, Benin and Niger Republic were arrested in different parts of Sokoto State and one (1) each was arrested in Kebbi State and the other deported from a foreign country. This data confirms the involvement of Nigerians as well as foreign nationals in the recruitment of victims for internal and external trafficking in Sokoto State, Nigeria.

Table 2.19: Traffickers Data 2010

No of Suspects	State of Origin	Sex: M/F	Age Range: 18-60yrs	Month & Year	Place of Arrest
4		3(M) 1(M)	4	January	Sokoto
6		5(M) 1(F)	6	February	Sokoto
2		2(M)	2	March	Sokoto
3		1(M) 2(F)	3	April	Sokoto
-	-	-	-	May	Sokoto
1		1(M)	1	June	Sokoto
4		2(M) 2(F)	4	July	Sokoto
2		1(M) 1(F)	2	August	Sokoto
1		1(M)	1	September	Sokoto
2		2(M)	2	October	Sokoto
1		1(M)	1	November	Sokoto
2		1(M) 1(F)	2	December	Sokoto
28		20M 8F	28		

Source: NAPTIP Sokoto Zonal Command, 2016

Table 2.19 shows that a total of twenty eight (28) Traffickers; (20) males and (8) females were all arrested in different parts of Sokoto State alone. This data also confirms the prevalence of human trafficking in Sokoto State, Nigeria as Traffickers consider the State as a source, transit and destination of both internal and external trafficking of victims for the purpose of exploitation within Sokoto State, from Sokoto to other States in Nigeria, from other States in Nigeria to Sokoto State, from Sokoto State to other (foreign) countries and from other (foreign) countries to Sokoto State, Nigeria.

2.15 Effects of Human Trafficking

1. Psychological Trauma: This is a type of damage to the psyche that occurs as a result of traumatic event. Trauma can be caused by a wide variety of events but there are a few common aspects.

There is frequently a violation of the person familiar ideas about the world and of their human rights, putting the person in a state of extreme confusion and insecurity. The inhuman experiences of the victims of human trafficking exposed them to psychological trauma and make it difficult to get them re-integrated into the society.

2. High risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV/AIDS: Bulk of women involved in human trafficking are used as commercial sex workers or prostitutes while some willingly give into prostitution as a means of survival. Some are forced into prostitution as a means of paying their debts to regain freedom while many are raped in the act. Through the above process some incurable diseases are contracted by the victims and even when they are able to gain their freedom or rehabilitated, they live with the disease and often die in the process.

3. Another major effect is that the potential for young girls and boys to grow up and contribute to national development is nipped in the bud thereby reducing the capacity of the work force in the country. This effect is most prevalent when young girls and boys are involved in human trafficking within Nigeria and from Nigeria to other countries.

4. Bad international Image: The High and negative reputation of Human Trafficking as a crime against humanity has subjected Nigerians abroad to unnecessary scrutiny. This has

also led to discrimination and eventual death of some Nigerian citizens as they seek illegal means of migration despite efforts to find a panacea to this illegal business.

2.16 Theoretical framework

2.16.1 Relative Deprivation Theory

This section focuses on the review and identification of an appropriate theoretical framework that will serve as a road map for the conduct of this research. In view of the study conducted which focuses on a review of the relevance, strengths and weaknesses of Feminism, Globalism, Dependency, Push and Pull, Relative Deprivation and other theories relevant to the subject of this research; Relative Deprivation Theory has been considered as the most appropriate theoretical framework due to its suitability as an appropriate explanation for people's tendency toseek alternative means of survival at all cost as a strategy to acquire a desired status, set value, goals and or interest discovered to be the exclusive preserved of others in the society. It therefore provides the most appropriate explanation of the problem of this study which seeks to interrogate the interface between poverty and human trafficking in Sokoto State Nigeria and is hereby adopted for the conduct of thisresearch. This effort helps significantly in the understanding of the extent to which poverty plays a role in the prevalence of human trafficking in Sokoto State, Nigeria.

Relative deprivation theory refers to the idea that feelings of deprivation and discontent are related to a desired point of reference (i.e. reference groups). In other words, feelings of relative deprivation arise when desires are blocked by society. Relative deprivation theory is applicable to socio-political, economic and organizational problems. For example, the theory encourages the exploration of an individual's feeling of deprivations that may result

from comparing his or her situation with that of a referent person or group as well as the behavioral effects of deprivation feelings (Morrison, 1971:675).

Relative deprivation basically distinguishes between egoistic deprivation and fraternal deprivation:

(a) Egoistic deprivation refers to a single individual's feeling of comparative deprivation.

(b) Fraternal deprivation also called group deprivation refers to the discontent arising from the status of the entire group as compared to a referent group. Fraternal deprivation may strengthen a group's collective identity (Singer, 1992: 128).

Relative deprivation theory also refers to the recognition and the associated feelings that go with the recognition that one or one's group is deprived with respect to some comparison dimension. People may compare their individual or group's relative standing to other comparison target on a wide variety of comparison dimension, including economic well-being and standard of living, political power and status. A wide variety of comparison referents may be chosen when people make comparisons. These include ideal standards, other person's in-groups or out-groups. The recognition of deprivation is referred to as cognitive relative deprivation while associated feelings such as disappointment, dissatisfaction, frustration and anger are referred to as effective deprivation (Walker & Pettigrew, 1984:303).

Relative deprivation has been linked to a wide variety of outcomes. These include work place and income satisfaction, attitudes towards employment, depression among women,

resignation and apathy, adolescent social participation, career related midlife issues among men, achievement-oriented behaviors, and crime etc Walker and Mann (1987:275).

2.16.2 Proponents of the theory

This section examines the work (contributions) of the principal theorists who have provided the foundation of relative deprivation theory. The focus here is upon Davis (1959); Gurr (1968a; 1960b; 1969; 1970) Davies (1962; 1969) Runciman (1960); and Crosby (1976; 1982). This section also looks at the work of Stouffer et al (1949) who coined the term relative deprivation.

Stouffer, Suchman, Devinney, Star & Williams (1949) used the concept of relative deprivation to explain a number of puzzling findings in their study of American Soldiers. To give one example, Stouffer et al found that in the military Police, where opportunities for promotion were very poor, satisfaction with opportunities for promotion were found to be higher than in the Air Corps, where opportunities for promotion were comparatively much better. This finding was contrary to the expectation that persons who had a better chance of promotion would be satisfied. Stouffer et al reasoned that those who were not promoted in the military Police tended to compare themselves with the large number of their colleagues who were also not promoted. By contrast, in the Air Corps those who were not promoted were likely to compare themselves to the large number of persons who were promoted. Persons in the Air Corps were thus more likely to feel relatively deprived when it came to promotional opportunities compared to persons in the military Police.

The explanation put forth by Stouffer et al is intuitively convincing; they argued that the level of dissatisfaction was a function of the comparisons people made in evaluating their

standing. As such, soldiers in the Air Corps may not have been deprived in an objective sense but instead were relatively deprived with respect to their reference group.

While the term "relative deprivation" was coined by Stouffer et al, the idea had been used conceptually many times before (Sorokin, 1965; 72) in Mark & Cook (1979) for example stated that the "poverty or wealth of a man is measured not by what he has at present but what he used to have or what others have". Mark wrote: "a house may be large or small, as long as the surrounding houses are equally small it satisfies all social demands for a dwelling. But let a palace arise beside the little house and it shrinks from a little house to a hut (from "wage labour and capital, 1847 excerpted in freedman 1968:163 – 164). The use of relative deprivation by Stouffer and his colleagues however generated wide interest in the utility of the concept (Mark & Cook, 1979).

Subsequently to Stouffer (1949) the concept of relative deprivation has been elaborated upon by a number of theorists who have attempted to develop formal theoretical frameworks. Gurr (1968a; 1968b; 1969; 1970) as well as Davis (1962; 1969) develop frameworks which argue that relative deprivation results when people assess what they have and find that they have less than they feel they deserve on some value dimension such as economic wealth or status. Both Gurr and Davis argue that such comparisons occur over time and critically, it is the changing pattern of the disparity between what people have and deserve over time which can result in political and other forms of aggression. Prior to when Gurr & Davis (1959) develop the first formal theory of relative deprivation they argued that feelings of deprivation can occur at any point in time when comparison are made. Davis

restricted comparisons which led to relative deprivation to comparisons with one's social group.

Runciman (1968) and Crosby (1982) in agreement with and expanding on Davis, argue that feelings of relative deprivation can occur at any point in time, as long as comparison reveal that one or one's group is deprived compared to a comparison referent and it is feelings which result from such negatively discrepant comparison which provide motivation for action. For Runciman and Crosby, comparisons can be to any relevant referent and both the recognition of deprivation as well as the associated feelings is important dimension that must be distinguished. Taken together, the ideas of these authors represent a heterogeneous body of knowledge, yet are tied together by same underlying theme (Finkel & Rule 1986). Together these authors have developed many of the basic ideas which are foundational to relative deprivation theory and research.

One possible factor leading to confusion and contradictory findings in relative deprivation research may relate to the wide array of potential outcomes as well as differing operationalization and conceptualizations of these outcomes. A number of researchers have attempted to develop classification schemes to organize the bewildering array of response to relative deprivation (For example, Crosby; 1975; and Mark & Folger 1984). Such organizational frameworks assist in the classification of theory and guide research.

Other reason for inconsistent findings in relative deprivation research relate to disagreement on the meaning and operationalization of relative deprivation and the existence of a large number of subtypes of relative deprivation (Crosby, 1979b; Olson & Hazlewood 1986). Additionally, researchers disagree on a number of issues including which comparison

referents are most relevant for the development of feelings of relative deprivation and what comparison dimension are important when people make social comparisons (Smith and Oritz;2002). Researchers also disagree on whether relative deprivation should be measured at one point in time or whether it is people's changing level of deprivation over time which is critical for the predication of crime and other counter-normative responses to relative deprivation (Crosby 1982; Gurr 1970).

Importantly, researchers also disagree about the nature of the processes which lead from relative deprivation to its outcomes and have neglected to consider that other variables may condition or moderate the relationship between relative deprivation theory and its outcomes .Despite these shortcomings, the basic elements and explanations put forward by proponents of relative deprivation theory substantially provided explanations on the research problem for this study.

Relative deprivation may lead to crime and counter normative behaviours for a wide range of reasons. One of the most frequently cited explanations relates to the frustration-aggression hypothesis (Dallard, Doob, Millar, Mowrer & Sears 1939). This hypothesis states that the occurrence of aggressive behaviour always presupposes the existence of frustration and that of existence of frustration always leads to some form of aggression.

Frustration refers to an interference with goal directed behaviour and in the case of relative deprivation, it refers to one or one's in group not having as much of a particular value, for example, economic well-being or political power as one or one's group deserves. Such values directly affect the quality of one's life and thus attainment of these values is central to people's goals. Such goals may be pursued individually or collectively (Martin and

Murray 1984; Wold 2002). Perceiving that one is unable to achieve them result in the perception that the achievement of such is either blocked or partially blocked, resulting in frustration. This argument contends that relative deprivation causes frustration. Other authors have argued that relative deprivation is a form of frustration and that feelings of deprivation are inseparable from the inability to obtain desired value (Martin and Murray 1984). Frustration depending on whether it is individually or collectively felt should result in individual or collective aggression respectively. Aggression is behaviour designed to injure those whom it is directed. Aggression may serve to assist in attainment of the goal, blockage of which caused frustration. Even if aggression does not result in goal achievement it may nevertheless still reduce frustration temporarily through its cathartic effect; that is, it provides a release for an expression of one's frustration (Martin and Murray 1984). Dollard et al argue that there is a tendency to respond aggressively when frustration is an innate one; this tendency has been demonstrated in both human and animals (Eibel-Eibesfeldt 1970; Goodall 1978; Lorenz 1966; Smith *et al* 1970).

Dollard *et al* (1970) noting numerous misunderstandings of their theory later clarified that aggression is not necessary always an outcome of frustration. In doing so, they distinguished between the instigation to aggression and actual aggression. Frustration increases the probability that aggression will occur but whether or not it occur depends on the intensity of the frustration and on inhibition which may prevent an aggressive response. Subsequently research has confirmed that aggression is but one among other possible responses to frustration.

Himmelweit (1950) summarizes experimental evidence that frustration in children could lead to a range of outcome; such outcomes include lowering of intellectual performance, submission, dependence, avoidance and aggression. The primary response among children however was rage or anger. In an earlier study, Maier (1942) discovered that the responses to frustration could be classified into four categories; regression, fixation, resignation and aggression.

Dollard *et al* (1970) additionally clarified that frustration is only one among other possible causes of aggression. The present study concurs and in doing so acknowledges that relative deprivation is only one among other causes for crime and counter normative actions.

Berkowitz (1969) in his reformation of the frustration-aggression hypothesis proposed that frustration, if it is intense enough leads to anger which leads to aggression. For Berkowitz, anger expresses itself as aggression only when the source of frustration is present or known; here aggression is directed at this source with the aim of reducing the frustration. Such anger is goal directed and is a rational response to frustration. Tylor & Moghaddam (1987:116) have added that "when a powerful person or force blocks goal directed behaviour, the frustrated person may displace his or her aggression from rational target onto related but weaker target". Other authors take a more extreme position and have argued that aggression may occur regardless of its instrumentalities and often need not be directed since indeed many times, the source of frustration, is unknown (Blau & Blau 1982; Mark & Cook 1987). Cosby (1968) note that if such conflicts cannot find realistic expression they may find expression as 'non-realistic conflict' Such frustrations may result in feelings of diffuse aggression with people being driven more by hostile impulses rather than being governed by

rational processes. Typifying the rational actor approach, Gurr writes "collective violence may be a calculated strategy of dispassionate elite aspirants and expectation of gains to be achieved through violence maybe present among many of its participants. Recognizing the non-rational aspect of the outcomes of frustration he also writes "civil violence almost always has a strong 'appetitive' emotional base" (Gurr, 1968: 250).

The frustration aggression approach thus provides an explanation of why instrumental as well as non-instrumental reactions to deprivation occur. This distinction may also be useful in explaining when property as opposed to violent crime may occur in response to relative deprivation. Property crime may be a rational response to relative deprivation, where the individual or group is deprived. Violent crime in contrast may represent a non-rational response to deprivation. The frustration-aggression approach however is limited in that it is unable to predict when rational versus non-rational outcomes are likely to occur. More importantly, this approach is also unable to specify when an aggressive versus a non-aggressive response will occur.

A number of writers have argued that relative deprivation creates an 'unbalance or un comfortable mental state not unlike Festinger's (1957) cognitive dissonance or Piaget's (1953) disequilibrium. Morrison (1973:158) writes, 'relative deprivation involve a special type of cognitive dissonance in which there develops the belief in a legitimate expectation and simultaneously, the discrepant belief that there is a high probability that the expectation will not be fulfilled". He further clarifies that 'dissonance is a psychologically upsetting state that generates attempt to reduce this dissonance'. A wide array of responses are possible, many of which may serve to reduce dissonance. One means of dissonance

reduction involves engaging in activities which will allow oneself or one's group depending on which one is deprived to gain that which is lacking. Personal responses may include self-improvement action such as furthering one's educational qualification or becoming employed, but could also include counter normative and criminal responses. Reduction of dissonance produced by group deprivation could be brought about by social protest and other political activities, which it is believed might eventually lead to the improvement of in-group status. Violent, aggressive or criminal responses, however, are not the only responses which may reduce dissonance. Cognitive reactions are also possible. For example, people may lower the perceived value of that which is sought, thus reducing the importance attached to an outcome which they or their group lack. People may also reduce their estimates of goal blockage, that is, they may believe that in time their deprivation may be relieved. Any response which either actually or cognitively alters one or both dissonant cognitions such that dissonance is reduced represents a viable response to relative deprivation.

Agnew (2001) argues that under some circumstances, it may be difficult to intuitively reinterpret one's deprivation. This includes situation in which the person receives clear and frequent information on the injustice and magnitude of their deprivation, where sub cultural beliefs define one's or one's group deprivation as unjust and high in magnitude and where the things deprived of are believed to be important. In such situations "criminal coping may be the only or the most effective way to address the perceived injustice" Agnew (2001:337). Agnews' argument specifies when cognitive responses are unlikely to occur in response to relative deprivation, and thus when behavioral responses become more likely.

He also observed that, Relative deprivation may serve as a technique of neutralization, reducing inhibitions against proscribed behaviors and facilitating the victimization of others. He further argued that if people blame others for their personal or their group's deprivation this may serve as a justification for harming such others. Specific others may not be identifiable and in such cases, people may extend their blame to society in general. External attributions of blame also allow persons to protect their sense of self-worth since their deprivation is not seen as a reflection of personal failure. Agnew further argues that it is even possible for sub cultures to develop where external attributions of blame become the norm. If others are to blame for one or one's group's deprived status, this reduces inhibitions against harming such others and may in fact create a justification or a technique of neutralization. This facilitates the victimization of others as a means to reduce one's deprivation.

Relative deprivation may reduce social trust and the commitment to the conventional social order if others are perceived to be the cause of one's deprivation (Kawachi, 1999:721). Kawachi argue that "belief in the goodwill and benign intent of others facilitates collective action and mutual cooperation… collective action in turn, further reinforces community norms of reciprocity" "visibly high inequalities in material assets tend to produce resentment, that in turn disrupts the social fabric" Kawachi (1999:721, 1492) Tumin (1953) speculated that "to the extent that inequalities in social rewards cannot be made fully acceptable to the less privileged in the society. Social stratification systems serve to encourage hostility, suspicion and distrust… and thus limit the possibilities of extensive social integration" Tumin (1953:393) Blau & Blau (1982) further observe that the perception of inequality creates "resentment, frustration, hopelessness and alienation,

producing a sense of injustice, discontent and distrust" Blau (1982:119) Wilkinson (1996) has reviewed a number of studies which showed that more egalitarian societies tend to be more cohesive and are characterized by high levels of trust for fellow citizens and such societies value solidarity, equality and mutual tolerance. If social trust is reduced this negatively affects community systems of friendship, kinship and acquaintanceship networks as well as formal and informal associational ties, thus resulting in the reduction of social cohesion and cooperation, negatively affecting social controls and the commitment to community norms.

Other writers have argued that relative deprivation lowers the status of the deprived and acts of crime and delinquency represents an attempt to regain status. Attempts to regain status may not only include attempts to acquire material possessions and money which one may lack, but could include engagement in acts which may provide alternative sources of status, for example, joining a gang or delinquent group, such as human trafficking syndicate group; the subject of this study. Attacks on middle class property also serve to reduce the status of others who might be perceived as better off, thus also reducing status disparities between deprived and non-deprived persons. Such acts need not only include those which reduce the material possessions or wealth of middle class , but could include acts of delinquency and property destruction or acts of violent crime since such acts also reduce status of comparison others. Stephenson *et al* (1968:132). Agnew argue further that "the inability to achieve status through conventional channels… can explain the development of an alternative behavioral/value system that includes criminal elements" Agnew (1999:133) Relative deprivation may thus influence the creation of such sub cultures and provides justification for their continued existence.

In summary, there are a number of reasons why relative deprivation may result in crime such as human trafficking. Relative deprivations either produces or is a form of frustration which leads to aggression; it creates an uncomfortable mental state and may also serve as a technique of neutralization, it may create social distrust and reduce the commitment to conventional norms; it lowers status and self-esteem and threatens identity and when one's deprivation is unjust it provides an especially powerful motive to regain status and identity.

Generally speaking the basic provisions of relative deprivation theory becomes the most appropriate explanation to determine the extent of the role of poverty in the prevalence of human trafficking in Sokoto State, Nigeria. This is because the notion of deprivation focuses attention on the circumstances that surround people, casting poverty as an attribute of the environment they live and grow in. People living in poverty do experience deprivation of the material, spiritual and emotional resources needed to survive, develop and thrive, leaving them unable to enjoy their rights, achieve their full potential or participate as full and equal members of society. In violating people's rights by denying them the essentials they need and deserve; we harm them and ourselves, permitting and encouraging the seeds of poverty, alienation and despair to take root. Ted Robert Gurr refers to relative deprivation as 'the tension that develops from a discrepancy between the 'ought' and the 'is' of collective value satisfaction and this disposes men to violence' (1971:23). According to the definition provided by Gurr, relative deprivation is the discrepancies between what people want; their value expectations and what they actually gain, their value accruing capabilities. Gurr states that: 'the intensity of relative deprivation varies strongly in terms of average degree of perceived discrepancy between value expectation and value capabilities. He contends that people are more likely to revolt when they lose hope of attaining their societal

values and the intensity of discontent/frustration varies with the severity of depression and inflation (1971:87)

In addition, Morrison (1973:158) writes 'relative deprivation involves a special type of cognitive dissonance in which there develops the belief in a legitimate expectation and simultaneously; the discrepant belief that there is a high probability that the expectation will not be fulfilled' Dissonance refers to a psychologically upsetting state that generates attempt to reduce this dissonance. Personal responses to dissonance may include self-improvement action such as furthering one's educational qualification or becoming employed, but could also include counter normative and criminal responses such as involvement in human trafficking as a means of achieving a desired status. Any response which actually alters dissonance such that dissonance is reduced represents a viable response to relative deprivation.

Relative deprivation lowers the status of the deprived and acts of crime and delinquency represents an attempt to regain status. Attempt to regain status may not only include attempt to acquire material possessions and money which one may lack, but could include engagement in acts which may provide alternative sources of status, for example joining a gang or delinquent group, such as human trafficking syndicate group, the focus of this research.

Indeed, modernization brings inflation, unemployment and urbanization. Those people who do not benefit from the social-economic transformation that occur alongside modernization processes in a given society may rebel or take any available alternative in order to acquire better access to the resources of modernity. As such, involvement in crime such as human

trafficking as a response to relative deprivation may also be a means to restore perceived inequities in the distribution of resources. This explains the relevance of relative deprivation theory as a suitable theoretical framework for the conduct of this study which seeks to ascertain the extent of the role of poverty in the prevalence of human trafficking in Sokoto State, Nigeria.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

In order to achieve the goals of the research, this chapter describes the data collection methods used in this study. The chapter focuses on the methodology adopted for the study and thus structured with the following sub-themes: description of location of study, types and sources of data, sample size and sampling technique, instruments of data collection, and methods of data Analysis.

3.2 Description of Location of Study

Sokoto, usually referred to as Sokoto State to distinguish it from the City of Sokoto, is located in the extreme Northwest of Nigeria, near the confluence of the Sokoto River and the Rima River. A State (North-Western) based in Sokoto was established in 1967 and occupies 25,973 square kilometres. This covered what is now Niger State, which was split off in 1976, Kebbi State (split off in 1991), and Zamfara State, which was split off in 1996. Sokoto State lies to the north-west of Nigeria and shares its borders with Niger Republic to the North, Katsina State to the East, Niger State to the South-East, Kwara State to the South and Benin Republic to the West.

As at 2006, it has an estimated population of more than 4.2 million. Sokoto City is the modern-day capital of Sokoto State (and its predecessor, the Northwestern State). The name Sokoto (which is the modern/anglicised version of the local name, Sakkwato) is of Arabic origin, representing suk, 'market'. It is also known as Sakkwato, Birnin Shaihu da Bello or "Sokoto, Capital of Shaihu and Bello"). Being the seat of the former Sokoto Caliphate, the

city is predominantly Muslim and an important seat of Islamic learning in Nigeria. The Sultan who heads the caliphate is effectively the spiritual leader of Nigerian Muslims.

The region's lifeline for growing crops is the floodplains of the Sokoto-Rima river system (Sokoto River) which are covered with rich alluvial soil. For the rest, the general dryness of the region allows for few crops, millet perhaps being the most abundant, complemented by rice, corn, other cereals and beans. Apart from tomatoes few vegetables grow in the region. The low variety of foodstuffs available has resulted in the relatively dull local cuisine.

The specific organizations visited in the state are NAPTIP Zonal office Bunza Road, off Maiduguri Road By Dogon Daji House opposite Hussaini Medicals Sokoto, Save the Child Initiative Nigeria located at number 4, Sokoto South LGA Quarters, behind Waziri Junaidu, History and Culture Bureau, Unguwar Rogo Area, Sokoto State, Nigeria, Nigeria Immigrations Service State Command located at Federal Secretariat Sokoto and Ministry of Social Welfare Culture and Poverty Alleviation Agency both located at Shehu Kangiwa (Five Star) Secretariat, Giginya Hotel Area Sokoto, Sokoto State, Nigeria.

3.3 Types and Sources of Data

Primary and secondary data was used for this study. The primary data are those data which are collected afresh and for the first time, and thus happen to be original in character. It also refers to information collected or generated by the researcher for the purpose of the project immediately at hand. The primary data was obtained from staff of NAPTIP and Save the Child Initiative in Sokoto State, Nigeria Immigrations Service Sokoto Zonal Command, Ministry of Social Welfare and Culture and Poverty Alleviation Agency Sokoto

Statedirectly during the field work via survey questionnaire, in-depth interview and observation, this is because there is a greater scope for reliability of the information.

On the other hand, secondary data refer to the information that has been collected by someone other than the researcher for purposes other than those involved in the research project at hand which are also relevant in the conduct of this study. These include official documents, diaries, ministerial reports, etc.

3.4 Sample Size and Sampling Techniques

The sample size for the study is one hundred and forty three(143) respondents and thirty (30) victims derived from the various organizations dealing with human trafficking and 8 management officials who constituted the key informants interviewed making a total of one hundred and eighty one(181).

This study adopted both the probability and non-probability sampling techniques. Probability sampling refers to a sampling method in which each case in the population has equal chances of being selected and is made up of simple random sampling, systematic, stratified, multi-stage, and cluster sampling techniques. While the non-probability does not employ the rules of probability sampling as such it does not ensure equal representation and it is made up of the purposive, snow ball, quota and accidental sampling.

In Nigeria, there are nine NAPTIP Zonal Commands dealing with cases of human trafficking from which four are located in Northern Nigeria (Sokoto, Kano, Markurdi and Maiduguri). It is also interesting to note that the 2010 National Bureau of Statistics report on poverty confirmed that about 70% of Nigerians live below poverty line, while more than

80% of the population of Sokoto State are poor; the highest poverty incidence in the country. The purposive sampling technique was therefore used to select NAPTIP Sokoto Zonal Command for the reasons which include higher concentration of incidence of poverty, proximity, resources and security. In Sokoto State, the NAPTIP Zonal Command, Save the Child Initiative office (NGO),Nigeria Immigration Service (Anti-human Trafficking Unit) Sokoto Command and Poverty Alleviation Agency Sokoto Statewere visited.

Table 3.1: Selected Sample Size for the Officials/Staff

Ministry/Agency/Organization	**Number of Staff**	**Sample Size (60%)**
NAPTIP	57	34
Nigerian Immigration Service (Anti-human Trafficking Units)	74	44
Ministry of Social Welfare and Culture	48	29
Poverty Alleviation Agency	33	20
Save the Child Initiative	27	16
Total	**239**	**143**

Source: Field Survey, 2016

Table 3.2: Selected Sample Size for the Victims

Organisation	**Number of Victims**	**Sample Size (50%)**
NAPTIP	25	13
Save the Child Initiatives	9	5
Nigerian Immigration Service	16	8
Ministry of Social Welfare and Culture	8	4
Total	**57**	**30**

Source: Field Survey, 2016

In selecting the respondents for the study, the simple random sampling technique was employed. In using simple random sampling techniques to select the respondents, the researcher first of all identified or constructed a sample frame, secondly, determined the sample size, thirdly, placed a number of balls or pieces of paper with the names in a container in the number that corresponds with the sample frame, fourthly, shuffled or mixed it very well and one ball or paper from the container was selected at a time and register it.

This process continues until the required sample size (143) respondents and thirty victims were selected.

On the other hand, purposive sampling was adopted to select key informants for the study. Key informants for this study constituted eight (8) management officials purposely selected consisting of two (2) NAPTIP officials in Sokoto Zonal State and six (6) other officials from government and non-governmental organizations responsible for the control of human trafficking and poverty issues in Sokoto State. They include the following; Save the Child Initiative office (1), Ministry of Social Welfare and Culture (2),Nigeria Immigration Service; Anti-human Trafficking Unit (2) and Poverty Alleviation Agency (1) all located in Sokoto, Sokoto State.

3.6 Instruments for Data Collection

Data collection is one of the significant aspects of any research process. This is because, how reliable a research is depend on the right choice of instruments for data collection to be able to elicit the right information.

Therefore, both quantitative and qualitative data was collected for this study; the quantitative data was collected through survey instrument questionnaire, while the qualitative data was collected through an in-depth interview and observation so as to enrich the data collected for the study.

The questionnaire was self-administered by the researcher to respondents while questionnaire administered to victims was with the assistance of a Staff in the respective organizations in order to respect their work ethics and mode of operations. The questionnaire consisted of structured and unstructured questions (closed ended and open

ended questions) which were administered to officials and victims located at the NAPTIP Sokoto Zonal Command, Nigeria Immigration Service Sokoto Command, Save the Child Initiatives (NGO) and Ministry of Social Welfare and Culture. The organizations identified were purposively selected based on their leading roles in the control of human trafficking in Nigeria. Similarly, the officials from these organizations were purposively selected based on their wealth of experience, knowledge, strategic roles and relevant schedule of duties in their respective organizations. i.e NAPTIP Sokoto Zonal Commander, Head Legal, Research and Programme Departments, Nigeria Immigration Service Sokoto Command; Officer in Charge Anti-Human Trafficking, other Desk Officers and Border patrol Officers in Charge of Anti-Human Trafficking in Ilela (Sokoto) Nigeria's border with Niger Republic. Others include Chief Executive Officer of Save the Child Initiative (NGO) in Sokoto, Permanent Secretaries, Director Social Welfare and Head of Administration of both Ministry of Social Welfare and Culture and Poverty Alleviation Agency Sokoto.The structured questionnaire provided options for the respondents to choose from while the unstructured aspect of the questionnaire allowed the respondents to express their opinion freely. The questionnaire was divided into segments to conform to the research objectives and was retrieved instantly upon completion. The first segment described the socio-demographic attributes (characteristics) of the respondents while the other segments contained questions based on the objectives of the study.

For the qualitative technique of data collection, in-depth interview was adopted. An interview guide was developed to elicit data from the key informants; the guide contained a set of questions that are based on the research objectives of the study. During the interview session, permission was sought so as to tape record the discussion in addition to the note

that was taken in order not to miss out any important points, however, where permission was not granted, the researcher relied on the field note taken.

Observation was further employed to covertly assess the facilities, and the victims' conditions. Data collected under this method are more accurate and reliable, as it is based on first hand perception of the researcher.

3.7 Data Presentation and Analysis

In this research, data elicited from the questionnaires was analyzed using descriptive statistical analysis with the help of Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) Version 20.0. Responses generated were coded using coding sheet and thereafter, information was transferred into the SPSS package and the results were presented in frequencies and percentages.

The data gathered through interview were analyzed qualitatively. During the in-depth interview sessions, hand written notes were taken in addition to the field data that was audio recorded. To condense the data for easy handling, management, transformation, and interpretation of output, the data were manually transcribed; typed into the computer and thematically formatted using Microsoft Word, data was organised into major themes, categories, and analyzed within the context of the research objectives set out for the study. The transcribed data produced a discussion document with verbatim quotations from participants.

In the course of the interview session, the researcher observed that respondents were sensitive to request by the researcher to have an interface with Traffickers and victims of

human trafficking under their custody citing work ethics. On the other hand other respondents strive to contest the national poverty statistics and evidence of human trafficking in Nigeria; describing it as a tradition that does no harm to the people. This strategy assisted the researcher to probe further using verifiable and relevant information to elicit response that enriched data generated from both interview and questionnaire.

The objective is to ensure that the transcribed data is a true reflection of the issues covered during the interview sessions. Thereafter, the study used triangulation to complement the data obtained from various methods employed. Triangulation becomes necessary because when a study combines two or more methods to collect data; it deepens, widens and broadens the understanding of the phenomenon under study

CHAPTER FOUR

PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

4.1 Introduction

The purpose of this research is to ascertain the role of poverty in the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria. Five Ministries, Agencies and Organizations which include Ministry of Social Welfare and Culture Sokoto State; Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS) Sokoto State Command; National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons and other Related Matters (NAPTIP) Zonal Command Sokoto; Poverty Alleviation Agency Sokoto State and Save the Child Initiatives (NGO) based in Sokoto constituted the units of study from which one hundred and forty three (143)/100% questionnaires wereadministered to the staff of the above mentioned Ministries, agencies and Organizations. However, 132(92%) of the questionnaires were successfully retrieved while thirty (30) victims of human trafficking were also selected based on their availability and relevant questionnaires were administered and studied. On the other hand, in depth interview was conducted, while eight (8) management officials who include: two (2) NAPTIP officials and six (6) officials from the State Ministry of Social Welfare and Culture Sokoto State (2), Nigeria Immigration Service Sokoto Command (2), Poverty Alleviation Agency Sokoto State (1) and Save the Child Initiative (1), were purposely selected based on their wealth of experience, knowledge, strategic roles and relevant schedule of duties in their respective organizations. The organizations identified above were also purposely selected for their leading roles in the control of human trafficking in Sokoto State, Nigeria. The results of the in-depth interviews conducted were analyzed together with the questionnaires and presented below:

4.2 Victims Assessment

Table 4.1: Victims Assessment (Bio-data)

Sex Trafficked	Frequency	Percentage
Male	11	36.7
Female	19	63.3
Total	**30**	**100.0**
Age Trafficked	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Below 15yrs	7	23.3
15-24yrs	19	63.3
25-29yrs	3	10.0
30-34yrs	1	3.3
Total	**30**	**100.0**
State of Origin of Victims	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Niger Republic	5	16 .7
Togo Republic	3	10.0
Benin Republic	6	20.0
Kogi	1	3.3
Katsina	1	3.3
Sokoto	8	26.7
Edo	3	10.0
Kano	2	6.7
Nasarawa	1	3.3
Total	**30**	**100.0**
Family Size of Victims	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
1 – 5	5	16.7
5 – 10	14	46.6
10 – 15	8	26.7
15 and above	3	10.0
Total	**30**	**100.0**

Number of Siblings of Victims	Frequency	Percentage
1 – 5	1	1.3
5 – 10	23	76.7
10 – 15	5	16.7
15 and above	1	1.3
Total	**30**	**100.0**

Position in the Family of Vicims	Frequency	Percentage
1	2	6.7
2	7	23.3
3	3	10.0
4	3	10.0
5	12	40.0
Others	3	10.0
Total	**30**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2010

Table 4.1 shows victims' socio-demographic characteristics. The data reveals that majority of the victims 19 (63.3%) are female, while 11 (36.7%) are male respondents. Also, 14 (46.7%) of the victims ranges between the ages of 15 – 19 years. In terms of the State of origin of victims, majority 8 (26.7%) said they are from Sokoto State and six 6 (20.0%) said they are nationals (natives) of Benin Republic, while 5(16.7%) said they are nationals (natives) of Niger Republic and 3 (10.0%) said they are indigenes of Edo State and nationals (natives) of Togo Republic, 2 (6.7%) are from Kano State and 1 (3.3%) said they are from Kogi, Katsina and Nasarawa States. This indicates that there exists both internal and external trafficking in Nigeria..

In addition, majority of the victims 14 (46.6%) are between 5 – 10 family members, while 8 (26.7%) are between 10 – 15 members. Similarly, in terms of the position of victims in their respective families; the table shows that 12 (40.0%) said they fall at position 5 (fifth position), while 7 (23.7%) fall at position 2 (second position).

Table 4.2: Victims' Family Assessment

Victims Mother's Occupation	Frequency	Percentage
Unemployed	9	30.0
Petty trader	11	36.7
Civil servants	4	13.3
Teacher	6	20.0
Total	**30**	**100.0**
Victims Father's Occupation	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Farmer	13	43.3
Petty trader	8	26.7
Civil servants	3	10.0
Teacher	4	13.3
Banker	2	6.7
Total	**30**	**100.0**
Victim's Occupation	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Unemployed	2	6.7
Food Vendors	9	30.0
Pupils/Students	7	23.3
Sales Girl	8	26.7
Sales Boy	4	13.3
Total	**30**	**100.0**
Victims Father's Education	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
No formal Education	14	46.7
Primary/Secondary	12	40.0
Degree ,NCE/ND	4	13.3
Total	**30**	**100.0**
Victims Mother's Education	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
No formal education	19	63.3
Primary	6	20.0
Secondary	3	10.0
NCE/ND	2	6.7
Total	**30**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2016

Table 4.2 shows the assessment of victim's family backgrounds. Eleven (36.7%) of victims mother's occupation is petty trading, while 9 (30.0%) of victims mothers are unemployed. Also, 13 (43.3%) of the respondents said their fathers' are farmers, 8 (26.7%) said their fathers are Petty Traders while, 9 (30.0%) of the victims said they are Food Vendors and in

the process introduced into prostitution by the Traffickers. Again 8 (26.7%) of the victims are Sales Girls and 7 (23.3%) are drop out pupils and students who are engaged by Traffickers in various forms of exploitation such as Strip/Club Dancers and other pornographic performances. In addition, 16 (53.4%) of the victims said their fathers had no formal education, while 10 (33.3%) said their fathers' highest educational qualification is Primary/Secondary School Certificate and majority (63.3%) of the victims said their mothers' had no formal education, while 6 (20.0%) said their mothers' highest educational qualification is primary school certificate and 3 (10.0%) said their mothers' highest qualification is Secondary School certificate.

Table 4.3: Views of Victims of the Number of Times they are trafficked

Number of Times	Frequency	Percentage
Once	19	63.3
Three times	7	23.4
Severally	4	13.3
Total	**30**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey Sokoto, 2016

Table 4.3 shows the number of times victims of human trafficking were trafficked. Majority (63.3%) of the victims said they were trafficked once while 7 (23.4%) were trafficked three times. This reveals that majority of the victims were trafficked only once as at the time this research was conducted. It also means that some victims have accepted human trafficking as a means of livelihood. Hence, their willingness to be trafficked as many times as possible and as the opportunity unfolds.

Table 4.4: Views of Victims of the Sources and Destinations of Human Trafficking

Sources and Destinations	Frequency	Percentage
Within Nigeria	10	33.3
Niger Rep. to Nigeria	6	20.0
Benin Rep. to Nigeria	7	23.3
Nigeria to Italy	1	3.3
Nigeria to Mali	3	10.0
Nigeria to Togo	3	10.0
Total	**30**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2016

Table 4.4 shows victims trafficking sources and destinations. Available data gathered shows that 10 (33.3%) of the victims were trafficked within Nigeria and 1 (3.3%) was trafficked from Nigeria to Italy. The data above has established the fact that both internal and external trafficking exist in Nigeria. It also shows that the strategic position of Nigeria as a gateway (border) to some West and North African countries facilitate the trafficking of victims to some African, Middle-East and European Countries. This further established the fact that Nigeria is a source, transit and destination for human trafficking.

A number of the key Informants interviewed agreed with the views of the victims and one of the informants said that:

Most female Children involved in human trafficking in Sokoto State are trafficked into Sokoto from Niger and Benin Republic. They are often used as sources of revenue generation by Traffickers who recruit them, while the victims are variously exploited without any consideration for their welfare and self-development. There are established

incidences of human trafficking from Sokoto State to other States; mostly Southern part of Nigeria. Agents (Traffickers) do use Buses to recruit Children from parent and Guardians from different parts of the State in exchange for monetary rewards and subject those (victims) into various forms of exploitation in order to generate maximum profit for their investment.

Sokoto State has been identified as a source, transit and destination for human trafficking. It is on record that young girls have been trafficked enroute Sokoto to Europe, other African countries and to the Middle East. Also people have been trafficked from other African countries to Sokoto State. Just of recent, we treated a case of human trafficking and after the case we deported the victim to her host country (Niger Republic).

Table 4.5: Types of Jobs Victims are required to do

Type of Jobs	Frequency	Percentage
House help	11	36.7
Begging	1	3.3
Food Vendor/Hawking	5	17.0
Strip/ Club Dancers	4	13.3
Prostitution	9	30.0
Total	**30**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2016

Table 4.5 shows views of the victims on the type of jobs they were required to do. 11 (36.7%) of the victims said they were engaged as domestic servants (House Helps), 9 (30.0%) said they were working as prostitutes, 5 (17.0%) said they were made to serve as food vendors and hawkers in the streets, 4 (13.3) said they were engaged in several pornographic performances such as Strip/Club Dancers and 1 (3.3%) was involved in

Begging as a means of generating income for the Trafficker. This means that majority of the victims were trafficked and made to work as domestic servants (House Helps). The data also shows that a number of the victims operate under cover as food vendors, hawkers and club dancers but are also exploited are also introduced into commercial prostitution by their Traffickers who often operates restaurant and pornographic entertainment clubs.

One of the key informants interviewed also explained the type of jobs victims of human trafficking were required to do. He said that:

"Most victims of human trafficking are forced to do what they would not have done willingly. In fact, like the ones we have and cases we treated some years ago coupled with reports from our branches and other organizations, most victims of human trafficking are used for domestic purpose, prostitution and other commercial purposes. Similarly others especially those trafficked to other countries are mostly used in the factories or farms others are used as House helps and Prostitutes.

In addition to the above, another key informant had this to say; "there are instances where people especially children are trafficked for monetary and ritual purposes. One of such victims rescued by the Police is currently under our custody and we are making necessary arrangement to unite the victim to her family again"

Table 4.6 Ways Victims are lured into Trafficking

Ways	Frequency	Percentage
I was told of a job offer but did not know it was a lie	11	36.7
Promise school and better living condition	17	56.6
Was to prostitute or do force labour	2	6.7
Total	**30**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2016

Table 4.6 shows Victims response on some of the ways Traffickers used in luring (deceiving) them into human trafficking. Majority (56.6%) of the victims said they were promised school and scholarship to pursue their education and better opportunities in life, while 11 (36.7%) said they were told of a job opportunity but it turned out to be a ploy to subject them into different form of exploitation. This means that most of the victims were not empowered with relevant information about human trafficking and lack basic means of livelihood which made them vulnerable to deception by Traffickers**.**

One of the informants interviewed explained some of the ways in which victims are deceived into human trafficking. He said that:

Indeed, most of the Traffickers or their agents are relations, friends and well known citizens within the community. The peculiar nature of our African culture and tradition which promote extended family system is being exploited by the Traffickers to deceive unsuspecting parents to recruit children (victims) into human trafficking.

Another informant observed that some of the Traffickers who recruit the victims into human trafficking are relations, friends and or business associates. A good number of the

Traffickers are mostly people who buy and sell goods and services within the community. In fact, they are mostly familiar persons to the victims' families or to the victims themselves.

"One of the informants said that the Trafficker adequately understand what is happening within the community and this give them the leverage (advantage) to plan strategies on how to lure and convince the unsuspecting victims and their parents or guardians to surrender their children or relations in 'trust' to them"

Another informant also said that based on the information available to him, Traffickers are people well known in the community where they recruit unsuspecting victims. In fact, they (Traffickers) sometimes recruit victims through agents; middle men and women who are known and reside in the community. They use this channel to operate under cover. It is on the strength of familiarity that the care givers (guardian and parents) willingly submit their children and some of the victims present themselves to Traffickers and from there the process of human trafficking begins.

However, contrary to the claim above, a key informant interviewed said: *there are also instances where some parents send their children to city or towns to work for money for the family, while some victims are sent to the cities without any connection or knowing anybody that will provide accommodation for them. Many of such people many at times fall in the hand of Criminals or Traffickers who deceive them under the guise of helping them to achieve their goals in life or give them a bright future. As a result of this development, one can be entrapped as a victim of circumstances.*

Table 4.7: Views of Victims on their Trafficker

Trafficker apprehended	Frequency	Percentage
Apprehended	13	43.3
Not Apprehended	17	56.7
Total	**30**	**100.0**

Charge to court of law in Nigeria	Frequency	Percentage
Charge to Court	10	33.3
Not Charge to Court	3	10.0
No response	17	56.7
Total	**30**	**100.0**

Testify against him or her in the court	Frequency	Percentage
Testify	2	6.6
Not testify	17	56.7
No response	11	36.7
Total	**30**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2016

Table 4.7 reflects victims' response on whether their Traffickers were apprehended or not. Majority (56.7%) said that their Traffickers were not apprehended, while 13 (43.3%) said they were apprehended. This shows that majority of the Traffickers were not apprehended.

Also, majority (56.7%) did not respond to the question whether or not their Traffickers were charged to court, while 10(33.3%) said that they have been charged to court. This means that majority of the victims do not know if their Traffickers were charged to court or not.

Similarly, (56.7%) of the victims did not have opportunity to testify against their Traffickers in court of law, while (36.7%) did not respond to the question and (6.6%) claimed to have testified against their Traffickers in court. This shows that majority of the respondents did not testify against their Traffickers in the court of law in Nigeria. It also explains the challenge of dispensation of justice in accordance with the provision of the law that empower NAPTIP to prosecute crime related to human trafficking in Nigeria.

Table 4.8: Views of Victims on the Punishment to be applied on the Traffickers

Punishment	Frequency	Percentage
Kill them	1	3.3
Jail them	17	56.7
Pay for damage and jail	8	26.7
Pardon	4	13.3
Total	**30**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2016

Table 4.8 shows victims views of the type of punishment that should be meted on Traffickers. Majority (56.7%) said traffickers should be jailed, 4 (13.3%) said Traffickers should be pardon.

From the interpretation and analysis in table 4,8, it shows that majority of victims are demanding for justice or appropriate penalty to be meted to Traffickers for various human trafficking related crimes committed. According to one of the Victims who volunteer to Speak: "How I wished I had my way, I would have killed her (Name not specified) because of what she did to me. She further stated that: "she lied to me, she deceived my parents in the village that she will take good care of me but what I experienced, was terrible in my life"

The above findings depict that victims of human trafficking may turn out to be hard and dangerous as a result of prolong years of exploitation especially if by any chance they have an opportunity to interface with their Traffickers.

Table 4.9: Views of Victims on any possible regret in Life

Views	Frequency	Percentage
Loss of care and support from family members	7	23.3
Missed opportunity to pursue education and developed productive career	14	46.7
Loss hope in the future	3	10.0
Bitter memories and psychological trauma	6	20.0
Total	**30**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2016

Table 4.9 shows views of the victims on whether they share any possible regret about their involvement in human trafficking. Fourteen (46.7%) of the victims said they regret missing the opportunity to pursue education and developed a productive career, 7(23.3%) of the victims said they lost the care and support of their family members as a result of stigmatization, 6(20.0%) said they still nurse the bitter memories and psychological trauma associated with their involvement in human trafficking and 3(10.0%) have lost hope of a desired better life in future. This indicates that victims of human trafficking will want to pursue their education and live a legitimate and productive life if given the opportunity.

Table 4.10: Possible Solutions to the Problem of Human Trafficking

Families	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Ensure good upbringing, monitoring and provision of basic care and need for the children	14	46.7
Parents should avoid polygamous marriage	4	13.3
Parents should embark on family planning to be able to cater for the family	12	40.0
Total		**100.0**
	30	

Victims	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Listening to parental advice	3	10.0
They should realize that human trafficking is a source of exploitation and can ruin their lives	10	33.3
They should henceforth be careful with the people they interact together with them	5	16.7
Keep the past experience behind and pursue legitimate and productive career in life	12	40.0
Total	**30**	**100.0**

Young People	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Careful on the type of friend and people we follow	6	20.0
They should be interested in education	3	10.0
They should learn trade and acquire skills in order not to be deceived	9	30.0
They should avoid quick money syndrome	12	40.0
Total	**30**	**100.0**

Government	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Eradicate poverty and create employment opportunities in order to prevent people from engaging in crime	13	43.3
Provide free education from primary to secondary school	6	20.0
Government should establish laws that will punish traffickers	9	30.0
Government should create skill acquisition centers to effectively engage vulnerable children and youths from being lured into trafficking	2	6.7
Total	**30**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2016

Table 4.10 shows views of the victims on the possible solution (s) to the problem of human trafficking in Sokoto State, Nigeria. Fourteen (46.7%) of the victims suggested that

individual families should ensure adequate upbringing monitoring and provision of basic care and need for their children. While 4 (13.3%) suggested that parents should avoid polygamous marriage. This shows that families should look inward and be proactive in the provision of basic care, mentorship and support for their children and avoid shifting responsibilities others relations, friends and other acquaintances who often turned to be Traffickers. Also, 12 (40.0%) suggested that victims of human trafficking should be focused and keep the past experience behind them, while 10 (33.3%) said they should realize that human trafficking is a source of exploitation and can ruin their lives.

This reveals that adequate information and sustained enlightenment should be made available to victims in order to make them understand the need to be focused and pursue legitimate and productive means of livelihood and beware of the dangers associated with human trafficking as a criminal means of exploitation which destroys the lives of people involved.

Similarly, 12 (40%) of the victims suggested that young people should avoid the quick money syndrome, while 9 (30.0%) suggested that young people should learn trade and acquire skills in order to be empowered and avoid tendency of being vulnerable to the deceit of human traffickers who lure them with empty promises of better living condition. This shows that youths must be made to understand the need to embrace and nurture positive and higher values of life by focusing on legitimate and productive means of livelihood, embraced education, skills acquisition, trade and other forms of empowerment in order to be productive and self-reliant and empower themselves against deception by Traffickers.

Above all, 13 (43.3%) of the victims suggested that the government should create employment opportunities for the teeming unemployed Youths in order to prevent people from engaging in criminal activities, 9(30.0%) suggested that government should make and enforce laws that will severely punish Traffickers and other perpetrators of human trafficking, while 6 (20.0%) suggested that government should provide free education from primary to secondary school. This shows that human trafficking can be effectively tackled if government lived up to its responsibilities through the enforcement of relevant laws that will ensure that Traffickers and other Offenders are severely punished and on the other hand employment opportunities are created, free and or affordable education, Skills acquisition and other forms of empowerment provided with the sole aim of reducing social inequality, ignorance and eradicate poverty.

According to all the informants interviewed, they pin pointed that government has a critical role to play in the rescue and rehabilitation of victims and prevention of human trafficking in Nigeria. One of the key informants said that:

Government should make available funds and other poverty alleviation incentives in order to make the rescued victims self reliant and ensure the implementation of the provision of the amended NAPTIP and other relevant laws in order to serve as a deterrent to Traffickers and other Nigerians who perpetrate the crime (business) of human trafficking.

Another informant expressed his views and maintained that "the government should intensify efforts towards addressing the issue of poverty through the process of strengthening the machinery of government to create enabling environment and make available equal opportunities for its citizens in order to reduce social inequality, rehabilitate

and re-integrate victims rescued and provide platforms for the development of their potentials in order to make them productive and add value to the society.

One of the informants also stressed that:

Individual families should be made to take responsibility. Most of the victims do not enjoy the comfort of a conducive and protective environment to grow and develop their potentials and be useful to the society. The African tradition and the teachings of both Islamic and Christian religions forbid fornication, commercial sex work and all forms of exploitation. Traffickers and family members, who encourage and engage in human trafficking for material gains, have lost their moral values. As such, they should be treated as deviants in the society and be severely punished.

The interpretation and analysis of data above also answers the research question which seeks to identify " the possible strategies and solutions to human trafficking in Sokoto State, Nigeria" It also established the objective of the research which seeks to "recommend effective strategies and solutions to the prevalence of human trafficking in Sokoto State, Nigeria".

4.2.1 Socio-demographic Data of the Respondents

Table 4.11 Socio-demographic Characteristics of Respondents

Variable	Frequency	Percentage
Age		
26-33 years	22	16.7
34-41 years	42	31.8
42-49 years	52	39.4
50 years and above	16	12.1
Total	**132**	**100.0**
Sex		
Male	85	64.4
Female	47	35.6
Total	**132**	**100.0**
Religion		
Christianity	60	45.5
Islam	72	54.5
Total	**132**	**100.0**
Educational status		
Secondary education	9	6.8
Tertiary education	96	72.7
Postgraduate education	27	20.5
Total	**132**	**100.0**
Marital status		
Singled	12	9.8
Married	118	89.4
Divorced	2	1.5
Total	**132**	**100.0**
Ministry		
Ministry of Social Welfare and Culture	57	43.2
Nigerian Immigration Service (Anti-human Trafficking Units)	27	20.5
NAPTIP	23	17.4
Poverty Alleviation Agency	13	9.8
Save the Child Initiative	12	9.1
Total	**132**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2016

Table 4.11 shows the socio-demographic data of the respondents. The result collected indicates that 52 (39.4%) of the respondents falls between the ages of 42 and 49 years, the sexes of the respondents indicate that a significant majority (64.4%) are males, while the

data collected on the religion of the respondents also shows that 72 (54.5%) of them are Muslims.

Data collected on the marital status of the respondents revealed that a reasonable proportion (89.4%) are married and a significant majority 96 (72.7%) of the respondents have tertiary education. Also, 57 (43.2%) of the respondents are from the ministry of Social Welfare and Culture, 27 (20.5%) are from the Nigerian Immigration Service (Anti-human Trafficking Units), 23 (17.4%) are from NAPTIP while 13 (9.8%) are from Poverty Alleviation Agency, and 12 (9.1%) are from the Save the Child Initiatives (NGO)

4.2.2 Nature of Human Trafficking in Nigeria

A question sought to find out whether or not respondents are aware of the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria.

All views expressed by respondents agreed that there exist a prevalence of human trafficking in Sokoto and the country at large.The respondents are aware of contemporary developments with regard to the incidence and nature of human trafficking in Nigeria.

In agreement with the above views, all the key informants attested to the fact that poverty and ignorance are some of the factors responsible for human trafficking in Nigeria and Sokoto State is a source, transit and destination of human trafficking in the country. One of the informants interviewed said that:

Trafficking in Nigeria today revolves around poverty and ignorance. Many people do not know that what they are doing constitute human trafficking nor do they know the impact or effects of human trafficking. All they know is that they do not have money and want to have it at all cost in order to meet up the growing needs of their respective families.

Another informant also observed that:

Human trafficking involves activities that results in a forceful or deceitful recruitment and conveyance of persons from one location to another either within or outside the shores or boundary of a Community, State or country for the purpose of exploitation. Human trafficking also means that the person who is involved may not have the capacity to make an informed choice or decision, when the process of trafficking is initiated and sustained.

Also commenting on the practice of human trafficking in Sokoto State, Nigeria, one of the informant interviewed said that:

Human trafficking is modern day slavery; it is more or less about recruitment, transfer and harboring of people for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation could be in form of sexual, labour and even organ harvesting. Many victims of human trafficking from different parts of the country and from neighbouring countries are trafficked into Sokoto as their destination while others only stop-over in Sokoto as a transit route across Niger Republic to Libya-Morrocco to Europe. Human trafficking is second only to drug trafficking and armed smuggling. It is an organized crime, most profitable and is very common today in Sokoto State, Nigeria.

The analysis above confirmed the research assumption that suggest that "the nature of human trafficking in Nigeria involved the forceful or deceitful recruitment of young and abled bodied people for prostitution and other forms of exploitation" It also established the objective of this study which seeks to ascertain "the nature of human trafficking in Sokoto State, Nigeria".

Table 4.13:Views of Respondents on factors responsible for human trafficking in Nigeria

Option	Frequency	Percentage
Poverty, greed and ignorance	56	42.4
Unemployment and quest for materialism	17	12.9
Illiteracy and lack of western education	5	3.8
Child labour and quest for domestic service	32	24.2
Abuse and exploitation of some children brought under the protective custody of Guardians	8	6.1
Pornographic and Prostitution business	14	10.6
Total	**132**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2016

Table 4.13 shows what constitute human trafficking in Nigeria. The result collected indicated that majority (42.4%) of the respondents said that poverty, greed and ignorance are the major causes of human trafficking, 17 (12.9%) of them said that unemployment and quest for materialism causes human trafficking, 5 (3.8%) of the respondents said that illiteracy and lack of western education, 32 (24.2%) of respondents blamed prevalence of human trafficking in the State on quest for cheap child labour and domestic services, 8 (6.1%) of them blamed it on the abuse of children brought under the protective custody of Guardians to seek religious education'Almajiranchi', While 14 (10.6%) of them blamed the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria; particularly in Sokoto State on the upsurge of political vanguards (hooliganism), Strip/Club Dancers and prostitution as means of wealth acquisition. This indicates that poverty, greed and ignorance are the major factors that constitute human trafficking in Nigeria as confirmed by majority of the respondents studied. Information gathered from the interview conducted shows that majority of the key informants opined that:

"Traffickers are primarily engaged in human trafficking as a result of greed, excessive quest for materialism and peer pressure. People nowadays use all available means to make sure

they get quick money. The quick money syndrome and the desire to 'catch up' with the socio-economic and political status of contemporaries is a factor. Indeed, they are moved by the ostentatious lifestyle of their peers"

In addition another informant sees community's non-challant attitude as a factor motivating Traffickers into human trafficking. She said that:

> The community leaders nowadays shy away from their age- long tradition of promoting excellence, morality, dignity of labour and discipline. They nowadays celebrate people who engage in crime such as human trafficking as a business; provided they can donate such ill-gotten wealth towards the need of the individual leaders or for the community. They no longer call to order parent who are in the habit of releasing their children to hawk or beg for alms on the streets without adequate monitoring and supervision. Traffickers most often exploit this lacuna in the society to recruit these vulnerable children on the streets into human trafficking. In fact, some of the leaders and members of the communities assist Traffickers in the process of recruiting victims of human trafficking. This is also an act of greed that needs to be checked

The informant further stated that:

It is unfortunate that today our sense of moral value and judgment has degenerated to a level that the crime of human trafficking is more or less acceptable in our society. It therefore encourages Traffickers to sustain the business and makes it difficult to curb the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria.

Another informant also shared the same views expressed above. He said that:

"It is unfortunate that parents send their children to 'Almajiri' Schools without knowing who and how the welfare needs of the children will be provided. The Religious Teachers (Mallams) on the other hand, do not know the parent of children placed under their care. As such, in order to relieve themselves from the burden of providing the welfare need of the

children (disciples), the 'Malams' release the Children into the society to beg for alms in order to supplement the welfare need of the children (disciples). It is rather unfortunate that some of them are vulnerable and exposed to the risk of being lured, trafficked, abused and exploited"

He went further to state that "Unfortunately the society today accepts human trafficking as a norm; the community no longer frowns at it. The matter is even made worst when members of the community understand that many people who have been involved in human trafficking, continue in the illegal business without any form of prosecution against them by the law enforcement agencies. This tends to encourage the illicit business"

Table 4.14: Views of Respondents on their knowledge of the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria

Option	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	122	92.4
No	7	5.3
No response	3	2.3
Total	**132**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2016

Table 4.14 indicates that an overwhelming majority (92.4%) of the respondents are aware of the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria; particularly in Sokoto State, 7 (5.3%) of the respondents said they are not aware of this development in the country while 3 (2.3%) of the respondents did not respond to the question. This shows that majority of the respondents studied are aware of the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria.

One of the informants interviewed provided a perspective on the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria and mentioned that:

> Human trafficking here involves mostly women and children. The prevalence of human trafficking in this state has been a thing of

> concern, because we have been receiving useful information from some victims which led to the arrest of some Traffickers. The ladies (women) are mostly trafficked to different cities in Nigeria to work as house maids; where they work without opportunity to go to school and some are subsequently trafficked abroad, exploited by their employers and later moved into sex industries, to work as commercial sex workers.

An informant also said that;

> The crime rate of human trafficking here is rising day by day because so many people find it difficult to take care of their children or themselves, so they give out their children out to either their relations, family friends and other business associates in the name of House Help, food vendors and other menial jobs as a means of improving family's income. This turns out to be means of exploitation as some of them are introduced into commercial sex work, pornographic performances and other form of exploitation for the purpose of generating income for the Trafficker. Another dimension is the 'Almajiri' Children who are often used to beg for alms, hawk goods on the streets and as domestic servants. Some of these children are at risk of being trafficked and exploited by Traffickers".

Another informant said that:

"A typical example is the fact that Sokoto is a strategic international route or border town (gateway) to some countries where Traffickers from different parts of the country explore Sokoto as a transit route to Europe through Niger Republic-Libya-Morocco and across the European coastal waters to Italy, Spain and other European countries"

Table 4.15: Views of Respondents on the most affected victims of human trafficking in Nigeria

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Male children	32	24.2
Female children	92	69.7
Adult male	2	1.5
All females	6	4.6
Total	**132**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2016

Table 4.5 the most affected victims of human trafficking, thirty two (24.2%) of the respondents said that male children are the most affected victims of human trafficking, majority (69.7%) of the respondents said that female children are the most affected victims of human trafficking, while 2 (1.5%) of the respondents said that adult male are the most affected victims of human trafficking, and 6 (4.6%) of the respondents said that all females are the most affected victims of human trafficking. This indicates that female children are the most affected victims of human trafficking.

According to an informant interviewed:

More than seventy percent (70%) of the victims are females and they are mostly used as commercial sex workers, while a number of the male victims work in farms, construction firms and stores. The most vulnerable are women; followed by children. Traffickers usually take advantage of their vulnerability to exploit them.

Table 4.16:Place (s) where human trafficking occurs most

Place (s)	Frequency	Percentage
Within Sokoto state	12	9.1
From Sokoto state to other states	16	12.1
From other states to Sokoto	47	35.6
From Sokoto state to other countries	49	37.1
From other countries to Sokoto state	8	6.1
Total	**132**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2016

The table shows that 12 (9.1%) of the respondents said that human trafficking occur most within Sokoto State,16 (12.1%) of them said it occurs most from Sokoto state to other states, 47 (35.6%) of them said human trafficking occurs most from other states to Sokoto state, 49 (37.1%) of the respondents said it occur most from Sokoto state to other countries, and 8 (6.1%) of them said human trafficking occurs most from other countries to Sokoto state.

This reveals that Sokoto State is a hub for both internal and external trafficking as well as a source, transit and destination of human trafficking. This has also established the prevalence of human trafficking in Sokoto State.

Majority of the key Informants interviewed also agreed with the views expressed by respondents on the table above: One of the informants said that:

"There are established incidences of human trafficking in all parts of Sokoto State. But, the incidence is high in the state capital because many people come here to fend for daily survival. Many of the wealthy elites have one or more young children (male or female) working for them in their houses. There are also incidences where some men hire young ladies from traffickers, keep them away from the society and use them both as domestic and sex workers. While some of these children were forcefully kidnapped and taken away to an unknown place as with the case of two young girls who narrowly escape from their abductor. Another incident was that the girl was given out as domestic help and with agreement to enroll her into school but what turn out at the end was that she became a full time domestic worker and suffers physical and social abuse. She is currently undergoing rehabilitation.

We have treated a number of cases of human trafficking from Sokoto State, Nigeria to other countries across Africa. We also have one foreigner at our disposal now whose case is still under investigation after which we will deport her back to her country and hand her over to the authority. We also receive victims deported from other countries (like Libya, Saudi Arabia, Togo, Niger), after thorough investigation those from Sokoto State are assembled in our facility for rehabilitation and possible re-union with their families or others are

repatriated to their respective States. Recently, two victims were caught at Ilela border on their way out of the country and handed over to us, we later found out that they were from Edo State. We have since handed them over to the Social Welfare Department in Edo State. So, we do record high number of human trafficking cases involving Nigerians as victims and or Traffickers. There are other isolated cases across other countries around the world.

Table 4.17: Assessment on the group mostly involved in human trafficking in Nigeria

Option	Frequency	Percentage
Relations	67	50.8
Parents	32	24.2
Family friends	15	11.4
Religious leaders	9	6.8
All of the above	7	5.3
Politicians	2	1.5
Total	**132**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2016

The data presented above revealed that 67 (50.8%) of the respondents are of the view that relations of victims constitute greater percentage of the group involved in human trafficking, 32 (24.2%) of them said that parent of victims constitute the group mostly involved while 15 (11.4%) of them said family friends, 9 (6.8%) of them said the religious leaders, 7 (5.3%) of the respondents said all of the above, and 2 (1.5%) of the respondents said politicians constitute greater percentage of people involved in human trafficking. This means that majority of the respondents revealed that parents of victims constitute greater percentage of people involved in human trafficking.

One of the informants that was interviewed gave explanations on some of the ways in which victims are deceived into human trafficking. He said that:

"Some of the Traffickers who recruit the victims into human trafficking are relations, friends and or business associates. A good number of the Traffickers are mostly people who engage in buying and selling of goods and services within the community. In fact, they are mostly familiar persons to the victims' families or to the victims themselves"

One of the informants said that:

"The Trafficker adequately understand what is happening within the community and this give them the leverage (advantage) to plan strategies on how to lure and convince the unsuspecting victims and their parents or guardians to surrender their children or relations in 'trust' to them"

Another informant also said that:

Traffickers are people well known in the community where they recruit their victims. In fact, they (Traffickers) sometimes recruit victims through agents; middle men and women who are known and reside in the community. They use this channel to operate under cover. It is on the strength of familiarity that the care givers (guardian and parents) willingly hand over their children and sometimes victims willingly present themselves to Traffickers and from there the process of human trafficking begins"

The study further establish the nature of human trafficking in Nigeria" It also answers the question,"What is the nature of human trafficking in Nigeria?" and agree with the research assumption "The nature of human trafficking in Nigeria involve the forceful or deceitful recruitment of mostly young and able bodied people for forced labour, prostitution and other forms of exploitation"

4.2.3 The role of poverty in the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria

Table 4.18:Views of Respondents on the incidence of poverty in Nigeria

With regard to the incidence of poverty in Nigeria, all views retrieved from respondents confirmed that the existence of high incidence of poverty in sokoto and nigeria as a whole.This shows that all the respondents studied are aware of the incidence of poverty in Nigeria.

The finding corroborated with those of the informants during the interview conducted where all the key informants stressed that poverty is wide spread across Nigeria and Sokoto State in particular. The incidence of poverty among women and young children is high as they are considered most vulnerable to socio-economic depression.

Table 4.19: Assessment on whether or not NigerianCitizens are living in Poverty

Poor	Frequency	Percentage
Poor	92	69.7
Not Poor	18	13.6
Can't tell	22	16.7
Total	**132**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2016

Table 4.19 shows an assessment of whether or not Sokoto State citizens are one of the poorest in Nigeria. The results gathered indicated that 92 (69.7%) of the respondents said that Sokoto State citizens are one of the poorest in Nigeria, 18 (13.6%) of the respondents did not agree, and 22 (16.7%)said they can't tell. This reveals that majority of the respondents agreed that Sokoto state citizens are the poorest in Nigeria.

While responding to a question, one of the key informants said that "yes, when we take a good look at the state of poverty in Sokoto State, most especially the alarming rate of

unemployment, which makes it difficult for one to survive and because of this human trafficking flourishes in the State due to the fact that people are willing to do anything in order to acquire wealth and or source of living.

In the same vein, another informant said:

> Loss of hope in the future due to unemployment has caused so many families to give out their children either to their friends or relations as a result of their inability to provide basic necessities for their families. This has created an enabling environment for human trafficking to thrive in Sokoto State. It essentially explains the vulnerability of members of our communities where Traffickers exploit the vulnerable condition of mostly women and children and other less privileged to recruit unsuspecting women and children for the purpose of exploitation.

Also, another informant made reference to issues in agreement with the role of poverty in the prevalence of human trafficking in Sokoto State, Nigeria. He said that:

"Indeed, the poverty level in Sokoto state and Nigeria in general is alarming, because of limited access to sources of economic empowerment available to the people. This limitation literally pushed the citizens; especially those residing in the rural areas to move from the rural areas to urban centres in search of a means of livelihood and wealth acquisition"." If you go around the town now and ask people about where they come from, you will be shock to discover that majority of those you meet will tell you they are from the villages across the State and are in the city to make ends meet. You will see some parents and their children working in the house of elite. This means that scourge of the poverty has displaced the family entirely to the extent that their survival depends entirely on the elite who engages them as domestic servants. Such a family is vulnerable to abuse and exploitation".

In a brief discussion with a parent, he said that: most of my children are not staying with me, they are working for somebody (name not specified) and myself and my wife we are trading on petty goods to raise money for other members of the family.

The result of the interpretation and analysis clearly provide answers and logical explanation on the central role of poverty in the prevalence of human trafficking in Sokoto State, Nigeria. Hence, the research has provided answers to the question: "what is the role of poverty in the Prevalence of human trafficking in Sokoto State, Nigeria?" It also confirms the research assumption that says "poverty is largely responsible for the prevalence of human trafficking in Sokoto State, Nigeria".

Table 4.20:Respondents assessment on the incidence of poverty in Nigeria

Incidence of poverty	Frequency	Percentage
High	102	77.3
Moderate	24	18.2
No response	6	4.5
Total	**132**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2016

Table 4.20 shows that overwhelming majority (77.3%) of the respondents said that the incidence of poverty is high, 24 (18.2%) said it is moderate, and 6 (4.5%) did not respond. This means that majority of the respondents studied indicated that the incidence of poverty across the country is high; particularly in Sokoto state.

While responding to the question on the incidence of poverty in the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria, one of the informants said that:

Poverty is on the increase in Nigeria. If you want to know how people are suffering, go on the street, go to the market centers, go to bus stops and filing stations, to under the bridge

and villages. In fact, poverty in the village is wide spread because presently their food crops are not yet ripe to begin consuming there you find a family not eating a square meal a day while many others just ones and you see them striving to go to farms and some of them don't have money to buy fertilizer. It is a serious problem and that is why we are having much of rural urban migration and constitutes urban hazard today with criminality on the increase.

In the same vein, another informant said:

"You see with poverty as an underlying factor, it is responsible for creating an enabling environment for human trafficking to thrive. In Sokoto State for example, people are suffering due to widespread hunger.It essentially explains the vulnerability of members of our communities. Traffickers do exploit the vulnerable condition of mostly women and children and other less privileged to recruit unsuspecting women and children for the purpose of exploitation. Most of these children (victims) are denied access to any form of protection and denied opportunities to go to school"

Another informant added that: poverty pushes most of these parents to surrender their children to people who they believe will take good care of them. Although, most of the parents do not know that the intention of the Traffickers is to use their children for their selfish motive.

Also, another informant made reference to issues that are in agreement with the points raised above on the role of poverty in the prevalence of human trafficking in Sokoto State, Nigeria. He said that:

Indeed, the poverty level in Nigeria is high. It is high because of limited access to sources of economic empowerment available to the people. This limitation literally pushed people; especially rural dwellers to look for available means to move from the rural areas to urban

centres in search of greener pasture and an escape route from poverty. In the process a number of them are trafficked to urban centres by Traffickers and subsequently to other countries abroad and subjected into all forms of exploitation.

The result of the interpretation and analysis of data above clearly provide answers and logical explanation on the central role of poverty in the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria. Hence, the research has provided answers to the question: "what is the role of poverty in the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria?" It also confirms the research assumption that says "poverty is largely responsible for the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria"

Table 4.21: Assessment on the percentage of People who can afford three square Meals a Day

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Afford	32	24.2
Can"t afford	87	65.9
Don't know	13	9.9
Total	**132**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2016

Table 4.21 reveals that 32 (24.2%) of the respondents said that the people can afford three square meals a day, 87 (65.9%) of the respondents said that they cannot afford three square meals a day, and 13 (9.9%) of them said they don't know. This means that majority of the respondents studied revealed that the people cannot afford three square meals a day.

Table 4.22: Assessment on percentage of people who can afford to send their children or wards to formal School

Option	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	24	18.2
No	97	73.5
Don't know	6	4.5
No response	5	3.8
Total	**132**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2016

Table 4.22 indicates that 24 (18.2%) of the respondents said that the people can afford to send their children or ward to a formal school, 97 (73.5%) of respondents said that the people cannot afford to send their children or ward to a formal school, 6 (4.5%) said they don't know, and 5 (3.8%) of the respondents did not respond. This means that majority of the respondents studied said that most children or ward are not enrolled in formal school because their parents or guardians cannot afford it.

Table 4.23: Nature of Human Trafficking in Nigeria

Views	Agree	Strongly agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Total
Only poor people and their families are trafficked	69 (52.3%)	14 (10.6%)	0 (0%)	43 (32.6%)	6 (6.0%)	132 (100.0)
Poverty and poor access to sources of material wellbeing provide favorable environment for human trafficking	26 (19.7%)	101 (76.5%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	5 (3.8%)	132 (100.0)
Poor parents due to ignorance easily give consent to relations and associates to take custody of their children away from home; who are in turned trafficked for exploitation	29 (22.0%)	99 (75.0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4 (3.0%)	132 (100.0)
Most children trafficked are from poor families	92 (69.7%)	32 (24.2%)	2 (1.5%)	6 (4.6%)	0 (0%)	132 (100.0)
Most traffickers have no access to basic necessities of life	67 (50.7%)	12 (9.1%)	3 (2.3%)	43 (32.6%)	7 (5.3%)	132 (100.0)
Most traffickers are greedy and materially inclined	38 (28.8%)	81 (61.4%)	9 (6.8%)	0 (0%)	4 (3.0%)	132 (100.0)
Poverty is the major factor responsible for human trafficking	71 (53.8%)	51 (38.6%)	6 (4.5%)	0 (0%)	4 (3.1%)	132 (100.0)

Source: Field Survey, 2016

The results gathered indicated that 69 (52.3%) of the respondents agreed that only poor people and their families are trafficked, 101 (76.5%) of the respondents strongly agreed that poverty and poor access to sources of material wellbeing provide favourable environment for human trafficking, 99 (75.0%) of them said poor parents easily give consent to relations and associates to take custody of their children away from home; who are in turned trafficked for exploitation , 92 (69.7%) respondents agreed that most children trafficked are from poor families, 67 (50.7%) of the respondents identified that most traffickers have no access to basic necessities of life, 81 (61.4%) respondents strongly agreed that most traffickers are greedy and materially inclined, 71 (53.8%) of them agreed that poverty is the major factor responsible for human trafficking.

Also while responding to a question on the nature of human trafficking in Sokoto state, one of the key informants said that:

"Human trafficking is a major problem in Sokoto state. It is very common, but not uniformly distributed in terms of percentage of spread across the states this is because of its nature. It is believed that some children under the 'Almajiri' system who beg, hawk and engaged in domestic services are at risk of being trafficked, abused and exploited. Also, many young girls and boys are being reported to be trafficked within Sokoto and across other states in the south such as Lagos, Rivers (Port-Harcourt) and used (exploited) by their Traffickers. The problem we have in this ministry is that there are underreported cases of human trafficking and most of the cases we have are either reported by the police or referred. However, the incident is alarming as we handle some cases but hoped that the public cooperate with us by reporting such.

One of the informants interviewed also confirmed the views of Respondents on the nature of human trafficking in Sokoto State, Nigeria. He said that:

Human trafficking network is strongly established from the villages to urban centres not only in Sokoto state but in Nigeria and across the borders to destination countries. On this chain; there are middle men, (agents) and women popularly called 'Madams/Hajiya as the case may be. There is a case involving one woman who was arrested on the allegation that she "facilitated the illegal movement of victims with the strong support of collaborators (Kinpins) abroad. A United Nations Researcher, Mrs. Ngozi, Chinelo also confirmed that she met trafficked people from Nigeria in all the one hundred and thirty (130) countries she visited in the course of her research on human trafficking across continents of the world. Human trafficking is therefore a general problem in Nigeria not limited to Sokoto State"

He also added that human trafficking is common in Sokoto State, Nigeria, because virtually all parts of the state have a number of established human trafficking cases. As a measure to tackle this problem, the government established NAPTIP Zonal Command in Sokoto as an effort to curb the prevalence of the menace in the State"

Another informant explained the nature and operations of human trafficking in the State thus:

The human trafficking chain is simple and straight forward; the person releasing the child (victim) to the Trafficker is doing it out of poverty. That is, in order to earn money to meet up with the debts or need of the family. The parent or guardian of the child also believe that, it is an opportunity to relieve themselves from the burden of sponsoring their children to go to school and be productive in life. On the other hand, the person receiving the child

(Trafficker) is doing it consciously out of greed; to make and acquire wealth through exploiting the vulnerable and less privileged in the society.

From the analysis above, it is established that the research has sufficiently provided answers and explanations on the nature of human trafficking in Nigeria and therefore shed more light on the research question: "what is the nature of human trafficking in Sokoto State, Nigeria?" It also confirms the assumption that "the nature of human trafficking in Sokoto State, Nigeria involved the forceful or deceitful recruitment of young and able bodied people for forced labour, prostitution and other form of exploitation" It further established the objective of the research which seeks to "ascertain the nature of human trafficking Nigeria".

4.3 Strategies to tackle the problem of human trafficking in Nigeria

Table 4.24: Views of Respondent on whether Human Trafficking in Nigeria can be eradicated

Eradication	Frequency	Percentage
Eradicated	72	54.5
Can't be eradicated	60	45.5
Total	**132**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2016

Table 4.24 shows whether or not human trafficking can be eradicated. The result gathered revealed that a larger proportion 72 (54.5%) of the respondents said that it can be eradicated, while 60 (45.5%) declined. This indicated that majority of the respondents studied agreed that human trafficking can be eradicated while a minority dis-agreed citing reasons such as cultural factors which makes it difficult to differentiate between practices that constitute human trafficking and age-long traditional and communal way of life of the people which in actual sense encourages the practice of human trafficking in the State.

Table 4.25: Assessment on those who should constitute major Stakeholders in the prevention of Human Trafficking in Nigeria.

Option	Frequency	Percentage %
Parents	32	24.2
Government	51	38.6
NGOs	8	6.1
Religious Leaders	41	31.1
Total	**132**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2016

In assessing the views of respondents on the major stakeholders that can synergize to effectively tackle the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria, table 4.25 shows that 32 (24.2%) of the respondents said that parents should be the major players in the prevention of human trafficking in Sokoto State, 51 (38.6%) of them said government at all levels should be the major Stakeholders in the prevention of human trafficking in the State, 8 (6.1%) of them said Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and 41 (31.1%) religious leaders should be the major stakeholders in the prevention of human trafficking in Nigeria. This means that government at all levels must rise up to the challenge by ensuring effective coordination of the activities of relevant stakeholders aimed at controlling and preventing human trafficking in the State. Government should also facilitate the empowerment of the people especially rural dwellers through the involvement of relevant stakeholders in the provision of basic necessities of life as well as ensuring the effective prosecution of Traffickers and other Offenders in order to serve as a deterrent to others and curb the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria.

Table 4.26: Possible suggestions that can help in solving the problem of human trafficking in Nigeria

Suggestions	Frequency	Percentage
Increase funding of NAPTIP and other relevant agencies	18	13.6
Periodic Capacity building of staff through seminars and workshops	5	3.8
Public awareness/enlightenment of the public through radio and television programmmes and community theatre in villages	32	24.2
Developing a comprehensive agricultural and food security programme, reduce poverty by empowering the citizens and providing employment for the youths	22	16.7
Government should provide basic social amenities to the citizens	20	15.2
Government intervention through the promulgation of new and amendment of the existing laws and effective prosecution of Offenders.	13	9.3
Decentralization and integration of religious and western education in rural areas	16	12.2
Advocacy and encouragement of Parents to accept responsibility and provide care and support for their Children	6	4.5
Total	**132**	**100.0**

Source: Field Survey, 2016

Table 4.26 shows that 18 (13.6%) of the respondents said there should be increase in funding of NAPTIP and other relevant agencies responsible for the control of human trafficking in Sokoto State while 5 (3.8%) indicated that organizing periodic seminars and workshops for capacity building of staff is the solution to the problem of human trafficking in the State whereas 32 (24.2%) revealed that public awareness/enlightenment through radio, television programmes and community theatre in villages will help solve the problem of human trafficking in Nigeria, 22 (16.7%) of them said poverty reduction through empowering the citizens and providing employment for the youths is the solution, 20

(15.2%) of the respondents said that provision of basic social amenities to the citizens through government intervention is the most viable solution, 13 (9.8%) of them indicated that government intervention through the amendment of the existing laws and promulgation of new relevant laws on the control and prevention of human trafficking in the State will help address the problem, 16 (12.2%) of the respondents revealed that parental care and support to their children instead of relations or associates will effectively check the rising cases of abuse and exploitation by Traffickers and 6 (4.5%) of them did not respond.

One of the informants interviewed on the measures that can be taken to curb the prevalence of human trafficking suggested that:

Government must decisively address poverty through a declaration of emergency and the implementation of programmes and policies geared towards poverty eradication and economic empowerment of the people; especially rural dwellers. Creation of employment opportunities for the teeming unemployed young people in the State who constitute the larger percentage of victims of human trafficking must be given top most priority.

Another informant suggested that intensive awareness campaign must be launched and sustained across the State through the electronic, print, social and other mass-media platforms in order to adequately sensitize and build the capacity of citizens to take informed decisions on human trafficking and other related issues.

One of the informants also said that:

Government should ensure the ratification and implementation of the 'Childs Right Act' at all levels of government and make laws mandating families in need of domestic (House)

helps, to sign a legal undertaking to sponsor their children's education and provide them access to basic rights and privileges contained in the Child's Right Act.

The informant further explained that:

Prevention is better than cure. We must identify the root cause of human trafficking and make effort to prevent it. If we concentrate on those already involve in human trafficking, what happens to those who are today being lured into it? Poverty must be addressed at the grass root through the eradication of corruption in governance and the society as a whole. There must be a conscious effort towards value re-orientation focusing on respect for human dignity, self-esteem, hard work, merit, functional punishment and reward system and above all the development of a just free and egalitarian society"

She also suggested that:

Government and individual families must intensify efforts towards a quality investment on children education in the State. Efforts should be targeted at integrating both religious (Almajiri or Tsangaya) system of education and formal school curriculum by accommodating the Teachers (Mallam) into the pay-roll of the State. This is in addition to decentralizing the schools under the arrangement suggested above through the provision of clusters of boarding facilities at designated districts and other strategic rural areas. This will discourage rural urban migration, exposure of children under the 'Almajiri' system to abuse, reduce the burden of sponsorship of children's education and ensure the involvement of parent in the monitoring, upbringing, care and support of their children's welfare need. An investment in a child is a life time empowerment and a solid foundation laid for the growth and development of the State and the nation at large. Failure to invest in a child's

development is also a life time burden, whereby children will grow into adulthood and still depend on their parents for a source of living. In a situation whereby the family's means of survival is inadequate or not available, poverty sets in and the Children and their families become vulnerable to crime such as human trafficking as they are vulnerable to abuse and exploitations by Traffickers in the process.

Another informant suggested that:

"Government should make available soft loans and other poverty alleviation incentives in order to make the people self-reliant and ensure the implementation of provision of the amended NAPTIP (2015) and other relevant laws in order to serve as a deterrent to Traffickers and other category of people engaged in human trafficking"

He further stressed that:

Government should intensify efforts towards addressing the issue of poverty through the process of strengthening the machinery of government to create enabling environment for the empowerment of the people through improvement in agricultural practice for increase food security and making available other economic opportunities for its citizens in order to reduce social inequality and provide platforms for the development of potentials of its people in order to enhance productivity and add value to the society.

From the interpretation and analysis of the data presented above, the research has established the objective of this study which seeks to "recommend effective strategies and solutions to the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria.

4.4 Discussion of Major Findings

The result collected in this study indicates that 19 (63.3%) of the victims of human trafficking are female youths and children between the ages 15-24 years, 9 (30%) of the victims said they are Food Vendors and in the process introduced into prostitution by the Traffickers, while 8 (26.7%) are Sales Girls and 7 (23.3%) are drop-out Students who are engaged by Traffickers in various forms of exploitation as a means of earning a living. In addition, 14 (46.7%) of the victims laments on the difficulty faced in their attempt to be re-integrated into the society, pursue education and build a productive career.The data suggests that majority of victims are female youths and children who are exposed to various forms of exploitation and deny opportunity to live a productive life.

This finding justifies the assumption of the study that the nature of human trafficking in Nigeria involves the forceful or deceitful recruitment of mostly young and abled-bodied people for forced labour, prostitution and other forms of exploitation. Morgenthau (1962:133) also supports this argument, where he stated that *"the age distribution within a given population is an important element in power calculations. All other things being equal, a nation with a relatively large population of maximum potential usefulness for military and productive purpose, (roughly between twenty and forty years of age) will have an edge in power over a nation in whose population the older age groups predominate"*

This finding also provides answer to the research question which seeks to find out the nature of human trafficking in Nigeria. It further established the objective of the study which seeks to ascertain the nature of human trafficking in Nigeria.

On the other hand 52 (39.4%) of the respondents fall between the ages of 42 and 49 years, the sexes of the respondents indicates that 85 (64.4%) of the respondents are males, 96 (72.7%) of the respondents attain tertiary education, and a significant majority 112 (84.8%) of the respondents are civil servants. 57 (43.2%) of the respondents are from NAPTIP, 27 (20.5%) are from the Nigerian Immigration Service (Anti-human Trafficking Unit), 23 (17.4%) are from Ministry of Social Welfare and Culture, 13 (9.8%) are from Poverty Alleviation Agency, and 12 (9.1%) are from the Save the Child Initiatives (NGO).

In assessing the respondents, 132 (100.0%) of the respondents are aware of the high incidence of poverty and human trafficking in Nigeria. The result collected indicated that 56 (42.4%) of the respondents said that poverty greed and ignorance are the major causes of human trafficking in Nigeria, 17 (12.9%) said that unemployment and quest for materialism causes human trafficking, 5 (3.8%) of the respondents said that illiteracy and lack of western education, 32 (24.2%) said the quest for cheap child labour and domestic servants creates favourable environment for human trafficking to thrive while 8 (6.1%) said the abuse and exploitation of children under 'Almajiranchi'or Tsangaya system of education creates fertile ground for human trafficking and 14 (10.6%) said the exploitation of youths used for commercial Prostitution, Strip and pornographic performances as well as youths mostly recruited and made available to political elites for the purpose of political hooliganism forms the basis for human trafficking activities in Nigeria.

This finding further confirms the assumption of the study that factors contributing to poverty create favourable environment for the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria. Falola (1990:30) also supports this assumption when he stated that *"Due to the collapse of*

certain structures such as the economic structure, to address poverty, welfare, a system to address unemployment, low wages and salaries and attendant result of human trafficking made Nigeria to acquire a reputation of being the leading African country in human trafficking"

It also provides answer to the research question that seeks to find out the factors that create favourable environment for the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria and established the objective of the study which seeks to examine the factors that create favourable environment for the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria.

In addition, the result of the study also indicates that 69 (52.3%) of the respondents are of the view that only poor people and their families are trafficked, 101 (76.5%) of the respondents strongly agreed that poverty and poor access to sources of material wellbeing is responsible for the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria, 99 (75.0%) said poor parents easily give consent to relations and associates to take custody of their children away from home; who are in turned trafficked for exploitation , 92 (69.7%) respondents agreed that most children trafficked are from poor families, 67 (50.7%) of the respondents said that most traffickers have no access to available means of wealth creation and basic necessities of life, 81 (61.4%) respondents strongly agreed that most traffickers are greedy and materially inclined, 71 (53.8%) agreed that poverty is the major factor responsible for human trafficking in Nigeria. The study also found out that 92 (69.7%) of the respondents are of the view that Nigerian citizens are livingin poverty.

This finding also justifies the assumption of the study that poverty is responsible for the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria. According to Jega (2007),

the incidence and magnitude of poverty has increased dramatically in Nigeria since the 1980's, with the result that 67% of Nigerians are decisively entrapped in conditions of acute poverty. Thus, mass poverty served to condition the minds and attitude of Nigerians and made them vulnerable and susceptible to elite exploitation and manipulation. As the state was unable to satisfy the basic needs of the people, they in turn resort to other illegal means of survival such as human trafficking.

The finding further provides answer to the research question which seeks to find out the role of poverty in the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria. It also established the objective of the study which seeks to ascertain the role of poverty in the prevalence of human trafficking inNigeria.

In conclusion, 18 (13.6%) of the respondents said there should be increase in funding and support of NAPTIP and other relevant organizations in the implementation of programmes targeted at controlling the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria 5 (3.8%) said that periodic capacity building workshops and seminars for officials in relevant organizations involve in the fight against human trafficking should be sustained and enhanced while 32 (24.2%) said that public awareness/enlightenment programmes through radio, television and community theatre in villages will help solve the problem of human trafficking in Nigeria, 22 (16.7%) said provision of poverty alleviation intervention initiatives, skills acquisition and employment generations programmes will empower the youth population and curb the prevalenceof human trafficking in Nigeria. Also, 20 (15.2%) of the respondents said that government should provide basic social amenities for the citizens, 13 (9.8%) said that government intervention through the amendment of existing laws and promulgation of new

relevant laws on the prevention and control of human trafficking will help solve the problem of human trafficking, 16 (12.2%) said that a legislation that will address government support for parent as well as enforce the need for parental care, support and responsibilities for children will effectively curb the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria.

The finding of the research has therefore confirmed the reseach assumption that a comprehensive stakeholder synergy towards addressing poverty is the solution that will effectively tackle the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria. Konrad (2004:13) supports this assumption when he calls for more stakeholder involvement, a better and effective means to address the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria. According to Konrad, *many good things, ranging from structural and institutional measures and collaborative initiatives to the development of comprehensive action plans at national levels have been done. Yet, inspite of all these activities, there does not seem to be evidence of a substantial reduction of human trafficking. So, the question is no longer what can be done about human trafficking, but rather how we can do more and does it better. There is no time to waste*

This finding has therefore answers the research question which seeks to find out the possible and effective solutions to the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria. It also established the objective of this study which seeks to recommend possible and effective solutions to the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria.

4.5 Contribution of the Study to the Body of existing Literature

This research focuses on the role of poverty in the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria. This essentially provides another alternative perspective for a critical analysis and effective control of the phenomenon of human trafficking as a problem that requires a preventive measure targeted at the root cause rather than the institutional approach which concentrated on symptomatic effects alone such as arrest, deportation and prosecution of perpetrators of human trafficking.

The contribution of this study to the body of existing literature is basically designed to cover the gaps or pit-falls inherent in the limitation of the understanding of the concept of human trafficking and the institutional approach put in place by government to curb the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria. The focus of this study on preventive measures is a strategic approach aimed at addressing the root cause of both internal and external human trafficking in Nigeria. This study therefore helps in the understanding of the concept of human trafficking as a phenomenon that involves the trafficking of victims for the purpose of exploitation both within and outside a country. It is also a welcome development and a departure from the long held view that human trafficking is limited to the trafficking of victims from one country to another or from a less developed (developing) country to a developed country.

In addition, the focus of this study on the development of a dynamic and comprehensive synergy between government and relevant stakeholders targeted at alleviating poverty is in effect an effective strategy capable of stimulating a ripple or multiplier effect towards

addressing the socio-economic and other relevant challenges that sustain the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria.

The study also helps to bring to the front burner the seriousness and significance of human trafficking as a problem confronting the entire members of the society and not limited to prostitution involving the female gender, a particular ethnic group or a few states in Nigeria. It is therefore an alternative narrative or departure away from the long held default position or the one-sided perspective of the phenomenon of human trafficking in Nigeria as a problem confronting a part or a section of the population in Nigeria. This understanding provides a platform for the involvement of all relevant stakeholders in partnership with Government at all levels to effectively address poverty as a solution to the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria. This is critical towards finding a lasting solution to the problem of human trafficking in Nigeria.

The study is therefore a relevant contribution towards stimulating public debate, confronting and expanding the level of commitment of government, non-governmental organizations, community and opinion leaders and other relevant stakeholders to the eradication and or effective control of the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria. Indeed, the contribution of this research is of immense value in this direction.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

This chapter provides summary of the findings of this study, draw conclusions and recommendations on the role of poverty in the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria.

5.2 Summary

The research examines the role of poverty in the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria. In an attempt to achieve this goal the research focused on the nature, causes and effects of human trafficking, poverty and human trafficking situation in Nigeria, factors contributing to poverty and human trafficking in Nigeria and draws out possible ways of addressing poverty and by implication human trafficking in Nigeria. Relevant literature were reviewed on the subject matter and Relative Deprivation theory was adopted to explain and ascertain the extent to which poverty plays a role in the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria. Towards this end, it was assumed that people venture into human trafficking; a criminal business in response to their feelings of deprivations as reflected in their perceived existence of social inequality (gab) between their current socio-economic status and their prospects and what appear to be reasonable and legitimate expectations, in comparisons with what other persons in the society are believed to enjoy in terms of material, cultural and or political satisfaction. It is further discovered that factors contributing to poverty are responsible for the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria. Similarly, corruption in governance aggravates the incidence of poverty in the society, where human and material resources are poorly harnessed, managed and distributed among the people. This in turns widens social inequality among the people. As a result of this, people venture into different

criminal practices such as human trafficking in order to up-grade their status and earn a better living condition that will guarantee their escape from poverty.

In order to allow a clear and logical analysis of the subject matter, the research reviewed the operations of NAPTIP in tackling the menace of human trafficking in Nigeria, dwelt on the historical background and the nature and dimension of human trafficking, internal and external trafficking as well as the purposes and methods of human trafficking. All these were highlighted and discussed and it was discovered that Nigeria is a source, transit and destination for human trafficking activities. Effort was also made to discuss some steps taken by government, international and Non- Governmental Organizations to curb human trafficking in Nigeria. It was discovered that the development of a proactive and comprehensive synergy between government and relevant stakeholders towards addressing, poverty rather than arrest, deportation and prosecution of offenders alone, will effectively check the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria.

The research also adopted both primary and secondary types of data collection. The primary method involves the administration of questionnaires and conducting interview with officials of National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP) Sokoto Zonal Command, Ministry of Social Welfare and Culture Sokoto, Save the Child Initiative (NGO) based in Sokoto, Poverty Alleviation Agency Sokoto, Nigerian Immigration Service (Anti-human Trafficking Unit) all in Sokoto State. The results of the data gathered shows that majority of the trafficked victims (19 63.3%) are female children, while majority of the respondents are males and fall between the ages of 42 and 49 years. Also, 14 (46.7%) of victims laments on the difficulty to reintegrate into the society, pursue education and build a

productive and professional career. While majority of respondents 132 (100.0%) are aware of the incidence of poverty in Nigeria. 56 (42.4%) suggested that addressing the root cause of human trafficking which revolves around poverty through economic and other forms of empowerment of the populace remains the most viable solution that will effectively curb the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria.

The study further suggested that efforts need to be intensified towards strengthening the operations of NAPTIP and other relevant law enforcement organizations through sustained funding, amendment of existing laws and the promulgation of new relevant laws that will enhance Government capacity to coordinate efforts put in place by relevant stakeholders to curb the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria.

5.3 Conclusion

Human trafficking has intensified in Nigeria, due to widespread poverty, economic desperation, greed and ignorance among people in Nigeria. Over the years Traffickers have taken advantage of the proximity of Nigeria as the gateway to neighbouring West and North African countries enroute Europe, Middle-East and other countries of the world; couple with the high incidence of poverty in the State and the country at large to recruit people into human trafficking. There are evidences of both cross –border (external) and internal (domestic) trafficking in Nigeria. Nigeria is a source, transit and destination for human trafficking in the country.

Human trafficking is a major violation of human rights, as men, women and children are trafficked for exploitative purposes such as sexual exploitation, begging, organ harvesting, under paid jobs through forced labour in the agricultural, manufacturing and construction

industries, Clubs, recreational centres and other entertainment industries as well as domestic services. This had become a major source of concern to individual families and the society at large. Victims of human trafficking suffered from psychological trauma, effects of stigmatization, low self esteem, diseases among others; where most victims find it difficult to be re-integrated into the society in order to pursuit educational opportunities, productive career and other legitimate forms of empowerment. The problem of human trafficking has assumed wider dimensions, not only to the individual victims and families but also to the entire country and society at large.

In view of the above, Government and other relevant stakeholder should play a major role in the eradication/alleviation of poverty through the creation of an enabling environment for employment, skills acquisition and other economic empowerment opportunities in order to reduce the level of social inequality as well as educate,engaged and prevent people from tendency of being lured into crime such as human trafficking as a means of earning a living or wealth creation at all cost. Also, Government should strengthen the capacity of law enforcement agencies and the judiciary to ensure the effective enforcement of existing laws, and punish offenders accordingly in order to serve as a deterrant to others. A dynamic and robust counter human trafficking strategy that focuses on a synergy among various stakeholders targeted at alleviating poverty and eliminating social in-equality in the society, rehabilitation and reintegration of victims and prosecution of offenders will effectively curb the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria.

5.4 Recommendations

Based on the research, the challenges and opportunities in this study, the following are recommended.

- The study recommends that government should embarked upon the implementation of various programmes aimed at tackling human trafficking by reducing both the vulnerability of potential victims and the demand for exploitation in all its forms, ensuring adequate protection and support to those who fall victims of human trafficking and supporting the efficient prosecution of the criminals involved as Traffickers; to serve as a deterrent to others and discourage the practice of human trafficking in Nigeria.
- It also recommends that Government should work towards establishing a comprehensive legislation on human trafficking that will strengthen the enforcement of severe and capital punishment for offenders and enhance the capacity of NAPTIP, other relevant law enforcement agencies and the Judiciary to developappropriate expertise in tackling the menace of human trafficking in Nigeria.

- The findings of the study recommends that media, non – governmental organizations (NGO's) and other relevant stakeholders should sustain and increase the current public and media interest in human traffickingin Nigeria through more public education and enlightenment campaigns based on research, conferences, workshop and other relevant intervention strategies that will sensitize people; mostly the youths against the negative effects of human trafficking.

- It also recommends that politicians, opinion leaders, religious institutions and other major stakeholders in the society, should play complementary roles in supporting government efforts at alleviating poverty among the people. Efforts should be intensified towards investments in the critical sectors of Agriculture, Health, Education and infrastructure in order to assist government in its efforts at addressing factors contributing to poverty as a strategy to seliminate incentives that create favourable environment for theprevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria.
- In addition, the study recommends the review of school curricula at all educational levels to teach and promote history of Nigeria, incorporate core national values of patriotism and nationalism in order to encourage youths to believe in themselves and the country, discourage the excessive quest for greener pasture abroad and curb the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria.
- The findings of this study also recommends that government in conjunction with captain of industries and non-governmental organization should encourage increased investment in the development of skills acquisition centres across the country and promotion of enabling environment for local and international patronage of finished products in order to gainfully engaged the teeming youth population in Nigeria for productive purposes the purpose, boost the economy and discourage people from seeking illegal and alternative source of livelihood such as human trafficking
- The study also recommends that government should formulate a policy that will factor in peculiarities of age-long traditional practices that usually discourage mostly the youth population from enrolling in formal school system across the nation. This is with the view to de-populate the teeming number of in-active youth population

through accommodating the traditional practices as well as encourage school enrollment among the youths. For example, the ‘Almajiri’ or Tsangaya system, nomadic pastoralist system, petty trading, fishing and other types of adhoc (informal) business that divert the attention of youths from formal school system; when incorporated alongside formal school system will develop the capacity of Nigerian youths and gainfully utilize their potentials towards the growth and development of the economy and eliminate their vulnerability to human trafficking.

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APPENDIX I

Questionnaire

Dear Respondents,

I am a Master of Philosophy (M.Phil) Student from the Department of Political Science and International Relations, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, currently carrying out a research on the **Role of Poverty in the Prevalence of Human Trafficking in Nigeria: A Study of NAPTIP Sokoto Zonal Command 2003-2010.** I wish to crave your indulgence to respond to my questionnaire, while assuring you that whatever information provided will be treated with high sense of confidentiality. I hope you will find the questionnaire interesting. Thank you.

Instructions: tick [√] or write in the space provided where necessary.

Section A: Socio-demographic Characteristics of Respondents

1. Age (a) 18 – 25years [ ] (b) 26 – 33years [ ] (c) 34 – 41years [ ]

(d) 42 – 49years [ ] (e) 50years and above [ ]

2. Sex (a) Male [ ] (b) Female [ ]

3. Religion (a) Christianity [ ] (b) Islam [ ] (c) Traditional [ ]

5. Occupation (a) Unemployed [ ] (b) Trader [ ] (c) Civil servant [ ]

(d) Artisan/Farming [ ]

6. Educational status (a) Primary education [ ] (b) Secondary education [ ]

(c) Tertiary education [ ] (d) Non-formal education [ ] (e) Postgraduate education [ ]

7. Marital status (a) Singled [ ] (b) Married [ ] (c) Divorced [ ]

(d) Separated [ ] (e) Widowed [ ]

Section B: Nature of Human Trafficking in Nigeria

8. Are you aware of human trafficking (a forceful or deceitful recruitment of people for exploitation purposes) in Nigeria? (a) Yes [ ] (b) No [ ]

9. If yes to question (8) above, what do you think constitute human trafficking in Nigeria?

_____

_____

10. Do you think there is a prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria? (a) Yes [ ] (b) No [ ]

11. Who do you think is the most affected victim of human trafficking in Nigeria? (a) Male children [ ] (b) Female children [ ] (c) Adults male [ ] (d) Adults female [ ] (e) All females [ ] (f) All males [ ]

12. Where do you think human trafficking occur most?

_____

13. Which group do you think constitute greater percentage of Traffickers in Nigeria? (a) Parents [ ] (b) Relatives [ ] (c) Neighbours [ ] (d) Family friends [ ] (e) Religious leaders [ ] (f) Others (please specify [ ]

Section C The Role of Poverty in the Prevalence of Human Trafficking in Nigeria

14. Are you aware of the high incidence of poverty in Nigeria?

(a) Yes [ ] (b) No [ ]

15. Do you think majority of Nigerians are living in poverty?

(a) Yes (b) No [ ] (c) Can't tell [ ]

16. What is your assessment of the incidence of poverty in Nigeria?

(a) High [ ] (b) Moderate [ ] (c) Low [ ]

17. Do you think most people in Nigeria can afford three square meals a day? (a) Yes [ ] (b) No [ ] (c) Don't know [ ]

18. Do you think majority of people in Nigeria can afford to send their Children or wards to formal School? (a) Yes [ ] (b) No [ ] (c) Don't know [ ]

19. To what extent do you agree with the following statement where A= agree, SA= strongly agree, Un= undecided, D= disagree, SD= strongly disagree

S/no	Views	A	SA	Un	D	SD
A	Only poor people and their families are trafficked					
B	Poverty and poor access to sources of material wellbeing provide favourable environment for human trafficking					

C	Poor parents easily give consent to Relations and Associates to take custody of their children away from home; who are in turn trafficked for exploitation					
D	Most children trafficked are from poor families					
E	Most Traffickers have no access to basic necessities of life					
F	Most Traffickers are greedy and materially inclined					
G	Poverty is the major factor responsible for human trafficking					

Section D: Strategies and Solutions to the Problem of Human Trafficking in Nigeria

20. Do you think human trafficking in Nigeria can be eradicated?

(a) Yes [ ] (b) No [ ]

21. Who do you think is the major player in the prevention of human trafficking in Nigeria? (a) Parents [ ] (b) Government [ ] (c) Security agents [ ] (d) Schools [ ] (e) Community leaders [ ] (f) Religious leaders [ ] (g) Others (please specify) _____

22. What suggestions can you provide that can help solve the problem of human trafficking in Nigeria?

_____

_____

_____

APPENDIX II

In-depth Interview Guide

On

The Role of Poverty in the Prevalence of Human Trafficking in Nigeria

1. How could you describe human trafficking situation in Nigeria?

2. Could you please confirm and explain the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria?

3. Considering who could be a victim of human trafficking, how can you explain the most affected victim of human trafficking in Nigeria?

4. What are your views on place (point of traffic, destination or transit place) where human trafficking occurs most?

5. Can you explain which group constitutes greater percentage of Traffickers in Nigeria?

Probe:

- Parents
- Relatives
- Neighbours
- Family friends
- Religious leaders

6. Looking at the state of poverty in Nigeria, do you think that majority of Nigerians are living in poverty? (if yes, could you explain please?, and if no, what is your proof?

7. Do you think people go into human trafficking majorly because of poverty? Could you explain please?

8. Do you think some Parent, Relations, friends and sometimes the victims themselves go into human trafficking in order to meet up with certain basic necessities of life?

9. What other reasons do you think explain the involvement of people in human trafficking?

Probe:

- Greed
- Materialism
- Family background
- Parental factors
- Socio-cultural factors

10. In your opinion, what measures do you think can be taken to curb the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria?

Appendix 111: Questionnaire

Section A: Socio-Demographic Data

1. Sex

   (a). Male [ ]

   (b) Female [ ]

2. Ethnicity

   (a) Igbo [ ] (b) Yoruba [ ] (c) Hausa [ ] (d). Tiv [ ]

   (e) Benin [ ] (f) Urhobo [ ] (g) Gbagyi [ ] (h) Others Specify _____

3. Age

   (a) Below 15yrs[ ] (b) 15–19yrs [ ] (c) 20 – 24yrs[ ] (d) 25-29yrs [ ]

   (e) 30 – 34yrs [ ] (f) 35 -39yrs [ ] (g) 40–44yrs [ ] (h) 45–49yrs

   (i) 50yrs and above [ ].

4. Place of Residence _____

5. State of Origin _____

6. Level of Education _____

   (a) Non [ ] (b) Primary (c) Secondary (d) Tertiary (e) Post Graduate(f) Others specify _____

7. Occupation

   (a) Unemployed [ ] (b) Trading (c) Small Scale Business (d) Farming

(e) Civil Service (Junior) [ ] (f) Civil Service (Senior) [ ] (g) Teaching [ ]

(h) Labourer (i) Professional (Doctor, Lecturer, Lawyer etc) [ ]

8. Marital Status

(a) Single [ ] (b) Married Polygamous (multiple wives) [ ] (c)Married monogamous (one wife) [ ] (d) Divorced [ ] (e) Widowed [ ]

9. Number of Children

(a) none [ ] (b) 1-3 [ ] (c) 4-6 [ ] (d) 7- 10 [ ] (e) 1-14 [ ]

(f) 15 and above children [ ]

10. Religion

(a) Christianity [ ] (b) Islam [ ] (c) Traditional [ ]

Section B: Causes of Trafficking

11. Have you heard about trafficking in person (a form of human movement before?

(a) Yes [ ] (b) No [ ]

12. If yes, which of these statements constitute trafficking in persons (tick as many as you like).

(a) Helping a person from rural area to get job in the urban area [ ]

(b) Deceiving a person from rural area to get job in urban area [ ]

(c) Deceiving a person from one country to get job in another country [ ]

(d) Deceiving or forcing a person to work in order to pay for a family debt [ ]

(e) Selling a person who has earlier been moved and forced to work against his or her will [ ]

(f) Taking someone abroad for the purpose of providing jobs [ ]

(g) All of the above [ ]

(g) Others Specify_____

13. What do you think are the major causes of human trafficking?_____

14. Who are the victims of human trafficking in Nigeria?

(a) Female Children [ ] (b). Male Children [ ] (c) Adult females [ ]

(d) Adult males [ ] (e) All of the above

15. Which of the above are trafficked the most? _____

16. To what extent do you agree with the following views where; AS = Strongly Agree, A = Agree, UN= Undecided, D=Disagreed, SD=Strongly Disagree.

S/no	**Views**	**SA**	**A**	**UN**	**D**	**SD**
a	Only poor people and their families are trafficked					
	Poverty and poor access to sources of economic wellbeing provide favourable environment for human trafficking					
C	Only greedy and materially inclined people and their families are trafficked					

d	Trafficking occurs from Nigeria to other African countries					
e	Trafficking occurs from other African countries to Nigeria					
f	Trafficking occurs from overseas countries to Nigeria					
g	National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and Other Related Matters (NAPTIP) is a legal body for fighting trafficking in Nigeria.					
h	Victims of trafficking should be blamed for the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria. Traffickers should be blamed for the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria.					
I	Victims of trafficking are innocent					
j	Parents are to be blamed for prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria.					
k	Government should be blamed for the problem of human trafficking in Nigeria.					

Section C: Effects of Human Trafficking

17. Have you ever seen a victim of human trafficking? (a) Yes [ ] (b) No [

18. Does a victim of human trafficking testify in court of law in Nigeria ?

(a) Yes [ ] (b) No [ ]

19. How are offenders punished?_____

20. Do victims testify in court? (a) Yes [ ] (b) No [ ]

21. What do you think hinders victims of human trafficking from testifying in the court of law in Nigeria?

(a). Safety of the Family [ ] (b) Fear of reprisal from the offenders [ ]

(c). Fear of breaking an oath [ ] (d). Love the business [ ]

(e) Can't stand legal hashes [ ] (f) Fear of publicity [ ].

22. What are the negative effects of trafficking? _____

23. What are the positive effects of trafficking? _____

24. Which of these are true? (Tick as many as you like).

(a). Trafficking causes low esteem for the victims [ ] (b) Brings money to victims [ ] (c) brings money to traffickers [ ] (d) Bring prestige to families [ ] (e) Affect health of victims [ ] (f) Others specify _____

Section D: To be completed by the victims only

25. Number of person in your family? (a) 1-5 [ ] (b) 5-10 [ ] (c) 10-15 [ ]

(d) 15 and above [ ]

26. How many siblings do you have?_____

27. What is your position in the family e.g 1st born? _____

28. Father's Occupation_____

29. Mother's Occupation _____

30. Victim's Occupation _____

31. Father's Highest Qualification_____

32. Mother's Highest Qualification_____

33. How many times have you been trafficked in your life?_____

34. From where to where?_____

35. What where you required to do?_____

36. How did you get involved in trafficking/ Through?

    (a) Woman [ ] (b) Man [ ]

37. What is your relationship with the person?

    (a) Relative [ ] (b) Family friend [ ] (c) My friend [ ]

    (d) Unknown person [ ] (e) Others specify _____

38. After you have been trafficked, what job were you involved in?

    (a) Prostitution [ ] (b) Forced labour [ ] (c) Hair dressing

    (d) Others specify _____.

39. How were you lured into trafficking?

(a). I was told of a job offer but did not know it was a lie. (b) I knew the implication of travelling with offenders [ ] (c) Was to prostitute or do force labour [ ] (d) Others Specify _____

40. Where you required to take an oath (swear)? (a) Yes [ ] (b) No [ ]

41. If yes, how was this done? _____

42. Where your parents/family members aware of your gravelling?

(a) Yes [ ] (b) No [ ]

43. If yes, did they approve of it?

(a) Yes [ ] (b) No [ ]

44. Was your trafficker apprehended? (a) Yes [ ] (b) No [ ]

45. If yes, was he/she taken to court of law in Nigeria/ (a) Yes [ ] (b) No [

46. If yes, did you testify against him or her in the court? (a) Yes [ ] (b) No [

47. What punishment do you think should be mated on human traffickers?

(a) Kill them [ ] (b) Jail them [ ] (c) Fire them [ ]

(d) Report such a person to the police [ ] (e) Leave them alone.

48. What punishment do you think should be mated on victims?

(a) Kill them [ ] (b) Jail them [ ] (c) Fire them [ ]

(d) Leave them alone [ ] (e)Support them through counseling and jobs [ ]

(f) Don't know.

49. What are your greatest positive achievements so far from being trafficked?

_____

_____

_____

50. What are your negative experiences?

_____

_____

51. What are your regrets in life?

_____

_____

_____

52. What advice can you give to?

(a) Families

_____

_____

(b) Victims

_____

_____

(c) Young people

_____

_____

(d) Government

_____

_____

53. Can you briefly share your experiences?

_____

_____

_____

54. How are you coping?

_____

_____

_____

55. What do you intend to do in future?

_____

_____

_____

APPENDIX IV

IN-DEPTH INTERVIEW GUIDE

1. What is your view on trafficking? _____

2. How common is this problem?_____

3. How are people trafficked?_____

4. Who are those most trafficked?_____

* Where are they from? _____

* What Gender? _____

* What tribe/Country?_____

Causes of Human Trafficking

5. Why do people traffic other people?

* Poverty
* Greed
* Materialism
* Peer Pressure
* Any Other?

6. Who are the offenders?

* Relatives
* Friends
* Outsiders

7. What are the causes of Human Trafficking?

* Parental Neglect
* Poverty
* Illiteracy
* Greed
* Materialism
* Peer Pressure
* Any Other?

8. Who is to be blamed for prevalence of Human Trafficking?

* Government
* Parents
* Individuals
* Others

9 Do you think that poverty and poor access to sources of economic wellbeing are responsible for human trafficking in Nigeria?

Testifying

9. What are the effects of trafficking on (a) The Victims (b) Families (c) Nation

10. Why do people not report cases of trafficking?

* Fear of reprisal
* Indifference
* Oath

11. What can be done to curb this social problem?

* Government

* Parents
* Individuals
* NGOs
* Others

12. What punishment do you suggest for offenders?

13. Do you know any of your victim(s)?

14. Do you have any experience to share with me?

15. Do you have any other thing(s) to share with me?

Thank you.

VICTIMS

1. What is your goal in life?

2. How are you feeling generally?

3. What are your major problems?

* Financing

* Home sick

* Lonely

* Sad

* What are the things you like most?

* What do you miss the most?

4. How did you get here?

5. How did you get here?

6. How did you get involved?

* Family/Relatives

* And what negotiation took place?

7. Why did you join them?

* Poverty

* Greed

* Peer Pressure

* Any other specify.

8. What did you have to do?

* Narrate the steps

* What happened on Day 1

9. The actual journey------- tell me of your experiences.

* Mode of transportation

* Experiences on the road

* Feeding

* Sleeping

10. On your arrival, how were you treated?

11. What negotiation took place?

12. What job did you do?

13. How much did you make per day?

14. How much commission?

15. On the job expenses?

16. Discussion to return?

17. Help- from who?

* Nigerian Embassy

* NGOs

* Any other

18. Did you testify against your boss?

19. If yes, what punishment was he/she served?

20. Do you think the punishment was enough?

21. Where there repercussion on you for testifying?

22. Have you in the past testified?

23. What were the repercussions if you did not testify against your boss and what were the reasons for not testifying against your boss?

24 If you have access to sources of economic wellbeing and empowerment will you still explore the opportunities available in human trafficking?

APPENDIX V

PICTORIAL EVIDENCE

Figure 1: The Researcher; Mr. Lot Christopher (on suit jacket) and some Staff of Research and Programme department NAPTIP Zonal Command, Sokoto in a group photograph shortly after administration of questionnaire in one of the visits to the facility, 2016.



Figure 2: The Researcher; Mr. Lot Christopher posed for a photograph at the entrance of NAPTIP Sokoto Zonal Command, 2016; in one of his official visits to the facility to conduct research.

