# A STUDY OF MEDIA REPORTAGE OF CHILD TRAFFICKING ISSUES AMONGST RESIDENTS OF AUCHI COMMUNITY, ETSAKO WEST LGA, EDO STATE

 $\mathbf{BY}$ 

# ODOYIBO SCOTT OVIE ICT/2132050033

DEPARTMENT OF MASS COMMUNICATION, AUCHI POLYTECHNIC, AUCHI

**NOVEMBER 2022** 

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A PROJECT SUBMITTED TO DEPARTMENT OF MASS COMMUNICATION, SCHOOL OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY, AUCHI POLYTECHNIC, AUCHI

IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF HIGHER NATIONAL DIPLOMA (HND) IN MASS COMMUNICATION

**NOVEMBER 2022** 

# **DECLARATION**

| I hereby declare that this study entitled "A study of media reportage of child trafficking issues    |
|--|
| amongst residents of Auchi Community, Etsako West LGA, Edo State" was written by me                  |
| and that it is the record of my own research. To the best of my knowledge, it has not been presented |
| in any previous application for an academic award. All sources of information have been              |
| acknowledged using references.   |
|  |
|  |
| Odoyibo Scott Ovie Date  |

#### **APPROVAL**

This project is approved based on the student's declaration and its compliance with the requirements of the Department of Mass Communication, Auchi Polytechnic, Auchi, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of the Higher National Diploma (HND) in Mass Communication.

| Anthony U. Ofunne (Mr) (Project Supervisor) | Date |
|---|------|
| Afam Anikwe (Mr)                            | Date |
| (Head of Department)                        |      |
|   |      |
| External Examiner                           | Date |

## **DEDICATION**

God almighty for his grace and mercies and for giving me the strength to complete this project and for making my Higher National diploma (HND) programme a success.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

My gratitude goes to almighty God for being my supreme custodian throughout my studies. I say a big thank you to my project supervisor Mr. Anthony Ofune for his guidance and advice in making this project a success and for given me immense assistance in writing this project and also all my lecturers in the department of mass communication for their seal to impact knowledge.

I greatly appreciate my parents Mr and Mrs Odoyibo J.E. for their love, prayer, financial support and care during the writing of this project. God bless you for me. I also acknowledge Reverend Father Sales Ignatius for his financial supports and prayers.

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#### **Abstract**

This research focused on the ways in which newspapers in Nigeria have covered the issue of human trafficking. According to the findings of a poll conducted by the newspaper Punch, the trafficking of people comes in third place on the list of the most significant international crimes, following the trafficking of drugs and weapons. Throughout the entirety of the research project, the researcher employed a survey approach by sending questionnaires to a sample size equal to or indicative of the entire community of interest. In the research, the agenda setting theory was utilized to perform the analysis of the study. At the end of the investigation, it was discovered that the publication known as "Punch" had been critical in its reporting of human trafficking and had published material that was timely. As a consequence of this, the research proposes that Nigeria should increase the amount of effort it puts into combating poverty by generating employment opportunities and cultivating an economic climate that is favorable to attracting investment. It is important for parents to monitor their children's relationships with their classmates, especially those that take place on social media platforms and other types of online communication.

#### **CHAPTER ONE**

#### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the Study

After the trafficking of weapons and illicit drugs, human trafficking is the third-largest illegal activity worldwide. Human trafficking has significantly grown during the past ten years, especially in Nigeria. Every year, decoys fool or coerce one million individuals into service. The United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (2000) defines "the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, or receipt of persons by threat or use of force or other forms of coercion" as "the abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power, giving or receiving of payments or benefits to obtain the consent of a person having control over another person for the purpose of exploitation."

Human trafficking is become a widespread crime in Nigeria. However, the studio will concentrate on the most prevalent type of trafficking in Nigeria: child trafficking, in order to maintain concentration and clarity. According to ANPPCAN (2010), child trafficking is the recruitment, transportation, transfer, and receipt of children for the purpose of exploitation under the threat or actual use of force, kidnapping, fraud, deception, abuse of power, taking advantage of a vulnerable situation, or payment or receipt of benefits.

In the scientific community, it is commonly acknowledged that minors are trafficked for sex slavery and other types of maltreatment (UNICEF, 2007). The issue of child trafficking in Africa, and specifically Nigeria, has received a lot of attention. According to UNICEF, a number of circumstances, such as poverty, high family

sizes, and rising urbanization, put Nigerian children at danger of being trafficked (2007). Large families are more likely to fall victim to human traffickers who attempt to convince them to part with some of their children to strangers or city dwellers in exchange for promises of a brighter future. The right to be treated as a person, the right to freedom, and the right to an education are just a few of the many rights that are denied to child trafficking victims (ANPPCAN, 2010).

The study of media and society has no bounds. When it comes to media and society, there is a lot to discuss. The individuality of each person is crucial to communication. Its consequences and shortcomings are too obvious to be overlooked. Without the other, neither the media nor society could exist. Tola says that one of our most horrible realities is child trafficking (2008). The significant problem of child trafficking affects people all around the world. It has reached a highly teeming growth rate in regions of Africa, Eastern Europe, the Caribbean, and Latin America and shows no indications of slowing down. The operators and profiteers of the industry are persistent, blaming unparalleled poverty and a neartotal lack of basic requirements for the growth in child trafficking cases in Nigeria. The state's reputation has been damaged by child trafficking. Since we began the journey toward becoming a country or civilization, child trafficking has been a significant economic problem for us. Child trafficking has been a significant barrier to this career as a result of unemployment. As a result, the number of young males emigrating to other nations has risen consistently over the past several years. We currently live in a society that is severely underpopulated as a result of this. Fiske defines communication as "message-based social interaction" (1990). It is described as an interchange of knowledge, wisdom, and culture between people or groups of people by Jaya-Weera (1991). In other words, communication is the process of conveying thoughts and information from one person to another. Okunna provides clarification on the claim that "to communicate simply is to convey ideas, facts, sentiments, or experiences between individuals" (1999). To change the disastrous situation in Nigeria, print media are essential. Okunna (1999) asserts that the print media fulfills a number of functions for all members of society. By carrying out these tasks, print media may also contribute to Nigeria's battle against child trafficking. Okunna claims that these purposes cover a wide range, from serious instructional and instructive material to light-hearted and ridiculous amusement material.

- 1. Information: -This stream of information is continually reporting on social current happenings. This feature's ability to assist individuals in their daily lives by giving advise is one of its advantages.
  - 2. **Interpretation:** -This is the purpose of properly analyzing news and information: to prevent becoming unduly sensitive and to urge the right or necessary action. What should be done and how it should be done must be explained.
- 3. Education: The public should be informed about the value of shared values, norms, and experiences through the use of mass media. Print media are largely used in informal education (unconscious learning) and nonformal education to deliver this information (conscious attempt to impart knowledge outside the formal school system).

**4. Entertainment:** -This is what we mean when we talk about the role of the media in offering some entertainment, amusement, relaxation, or leisure.

Because the print media is seen as the watchdog of society, it will be known if they have contributed to Nigeria's fight against child trafficking. Therefore, much as dry rot eats away at wooden beams, child trafficking has the ability to undermine society's whole foundation. Without strong families, healthy employees, trustworthy governments, ethical police, and law-abiding people, human society cannot operate. These are all items that are required.

However, domestic settings are where child trafficking most frequently occurs. When parents are always consumed with their drug addiction, it is challenging for them to establish a stable home environment for their children. As a result, many kids who grow up in this kind of setting become homeless or drug addicts.

On the other side, the goal of this study is to look at how human trafficking has been covered in Nigerian publications like the Punch. As was already said, society despises people trafficking as a criminal crime. This research study will concentrate on the coverage of child trafficking and the steps done by the government to safeguard children's rights.

#### 1.2. Statement of the problem

Parents in rural Nigeria frequently outsource their children's education to other family members who can afford to do so due to the lack of access to excellent education, health care, and other essentials. However, some family members or close friends have exploited this custom by subjecting young kids to risky jobs,

prostitution, and other inhumane practices. This conduct puts the growth of Nigerian society in grave danger. Such issues require in-depth investigation to be solved in order to prevent the already-occurring societal reaction. Print media is anticipated to play a significant role in helping to put an end to this terrible situation. This researcher is dedicated to determining if and how a job like this may be effective in Nigeria's battle against child trafficking despite the lack of hard data.

#### 1.3. Objective of the Study

The purpose of this study is:

- i. To find out what causes child and human trafficking in Nigeria,
- ii. to research the consequences of trafficking in people and children in Nigeria.
- iii. to provide remedies for Nigeria's problems with human and child trafficking.
- iv. to ascertain Punch Newspaper's contribution to Nigeria's battle against child and human trafficking.

#### 1.4. Research Questions

- i. What elements could fuel the trafficking of people and children in Nigeria?
- ii. Is peer pressure helpful in the trafficking of people or children?
- iii. What are the repercussions of human/child trafficking in Nigeria?
- iv. What function does Punch Newspaper serve in Nigeria's fight against human and child trafficking?

#### 1.5. Significance of the Study

This project needs research on the causes, impacts, and treatments of child abuse in Nigeria. Furthermore, it will help the Nigerian government fight human

trafficking. The results of this research can be used to inform future efforts by other nations to thwart child trafficking.

#### 1.6 Scope of the Study

The inquiry will only concentrate on the causes and consequences of child trafficking in Nigeria as well as the function of Nigerian media in combating child trafficking.

#### 1.7. Limitations of the Study

This study includes some errors. Because the researcher did not have simple access to the data he or she would have required, data scarcity is a problem.

If the study had to be broad and complex, it would have been very expensive, and the researcher lacked the funds necessary for that.

Finally, the researcher's options were constrained because the study was carried out during the school day. The researcher also needed a lot of time for her other academic assignments. As a result, the researcher had to divide her attention between these duties due to her restricted time. Due to the urgent nature of the project, the researcher was rushed for time.

#### 1.8. Operational Definition of Terms

Child: Child in this study means any person less than eighteen Years of age

**Trafficking:** The recruitment, transfer, harbouring, or receipt of a Child for the purpose of exploitation.

**Print Media:** This means the means of communicating with large numbers of people through hand bills and bill boards.

**Child trafficking**: Dealing on children of underage illegally.

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**Campaign:** This means avenues by which the print media is carrying out its role in

the fight against child trafficking e.g. through seminars, workshops or programs.

Mass media: Using these methods, information can be disseminated to a wide range

of people in an anonymous and dispersed manner. Press (print), electronic, and

billboard/poster media are the most widely used forms of communication in the

United States (outdoor media).

**Coverage:** This is the range or quality of information reporting by print media.

Prominence: this refers t the important or value the mass media attach to the

reportage of crime in Nigeria. In other words, is the perception of media in reporting

terrorism.

**Harbouring:** A place of shelter for ships

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

**Exploitation:** The act of making use of selfishly.

Poverty: The state of being poor.

**Prostitution:** This is the act in which a woman offers the use of her body for sexual

intercourse to anyone who will pay for this.

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

**Abuse:** Wrong use of something, like drugs.

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

#### CHAPTER TWO

#### LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORITICAL FRAMEWORK

In this chapter, a theoretical framework acting as the foundation for the inquiry was offered after a survey of pertinent literature. The following subheadings were utilized as the review's first starting point:

- Concept of child trafficking
- Child trafficking in Nigeria
- Causes of Child trafficking in Nigeria
- Effects of Child trafficking on children
- Dangers of human trafficking in Nigeria
- Concept of Mass Media in Nigeria
- Role of print media in curbing Child trafficking in Nigeria
- Theoretical Frame work: Agenda-setting theory

#### 2.1 Concept of Human/Child Trafficking

People trafficking is sometimes referred to as child trafficking as a result of the unlawful trade and commerce of minors. It's a type of slavery that relies on "direct purchase" rather than the "natural increase" that results from enslaving slaves' offspring. According to the UN, "the recruitment, transportation, or transfer of persons for the purpose of exploitation through the use of force, threat of force, or other forms of coercion, abduction, fraud or deception, abuse or exploitation of power or a position of vulnerability, or the giving or receiving of payments to obtain the consent of a person who has control over another person's for the purpose of

exploitation" are all considered to be forms of human trafficking. 2010 United Nations

It is a kind of contemporary slavery in which a sizable number of girls and women are sold into slavery and subsequently trafficked to be exploited as labor or sexual slaves. Oftentimes, child trafficking victims are coerced into having intercourse against their choice and under pressure. They do, however, work as sweeping employees, housekeepers, and agricultural and fisheries laborers. The trafficking of children, predominantly women (60 percent of them are between the ages of 12 and 18, and 40 percent are above the age of 18), over Nigerian borders annually, notably in Oredo and adjacent areas of Edo State, is the third-fastest-growing criminal sector in the world. Child trafficking is currently being organized by organizations that deal in drugs and weapons, and they are collaborating with government representatives in more than a dozen different nations. It is without a doubt one of the hardest to tackle since its impacts are less noticeable than those brought on by fleeing and gun trafficking. By taking advantage of the poverty and poor status of women in underdeveloped nations, they may link supply and demand for cheap labor with sex in ways that were previously unrelated. Even while child trafficking is not particularly difficult to understand on its own, its scope and categorization are constantly growing. There may not have been enough space for social issues in the school curriculum because of this. Due to some businesses' refusal to hire professors who are adamant about teaching these courses, Christian and Islamic religious knowledge are being phased away gradually. We only introduce our kids to the vices and virtues of society through social studies in junior secondary school. Students are

unable to handle it because they are unable to deal with the false world of wealth, beauty, and greed that has made people, particularly female trafficking, a big success in our culture. People trafficking is sometimes referred to as child trafficking as a result of the unlawful trade and commerce of minors. It's a type of slavery that relies on "direct purchase" rather than the "natural increase" that results from enslaving slaves' offspring. According to the UN, "trafficking in persons" includes activities including kidnapping, fraud, deceit, abuse of power or vulnerability, and transportation, transfer, sheltering, or receipt of individuals for the purpose of exploitation through the threat or use of force or other types of coercion.

#### 2.2 Child Trafficking In Nigeria

The pervasiveness of several illnesses that impede Nigeria's growth can be linked to many of the country's difficulties. Due to the existing issues impeding the nation's progress, child trafficking has grown to be one of Nigeria's most significant social ills and has become a big issue. Despite the fact that Edo State, in especially the Oredo Local Government, seems to be the core of the issue, there are indications that the social tragedy that has affected so many communities is not only a state-wide issue. By 2015, there will be 80 million inhabitants. According to the International Labor Organization, more than 12 million Nigerian children are impacted by child labor, mostly in the state of Edo (ILO). A sizable component of the Italian sex industry is made up of the estimated 10,000 Nigerian prostitutes operating in Italy. In the great majority of situations, these women and girls are the victims of human trafficking. Promises of high pay and comfortable working conditions, in particular, are used to lure women and children into prostitution or bonded labor.

#### 2.3. Causes of Child trafficking in Nigeria

According to UNICEF, a number of circumstances, such as poverty, high family sizes, and rising urbanization, put Nigerian children at danger of being trafficked (2007). Large families are more likely to fall victim to human traffickers who attempt to convince them to part with some of their children to strangers or city dwellers in exchange for promises of a brighter future. The International Labor Organization (ILO) developed a list of the top reasons why children are trafficked in 2016:

- Poverty
- Unemployment
- Ignorance
- Bad Government
- Desire wealth
- Inhuman concept

#### 2.4. Effects of Child trafficking on children

There is no question that the lives of children and their families have been impacted both immediately and over time by migratory child trafficking. Children's lives may be at danger as a result. Child trafficking has a harmful impact on a child's physical, emotional, and educational development. Additionally, migrant children who have been trafficked suffer from a variety of disadvantages. They must contend with the language barrier in addition to the cultural shock of living abroad. They are transported and sold as bound labor, regarded as property, and subjected to working circumstances that are akin to slavery, as we've seen in earlier chapters. Because of their solitude, they find it challenging to confide in people when they are sad, hurt,

or having problems. They frequently lack knowledge on where to go, what to do, or who to ask for help since they are undocumented immigrants who are terrified of the police. In rare circumstances, even their own employers may have racial prejudice against them.

Hamad and Al-khalifa of Qatar (2013) warned a United Nations Conference that "the global community is destined to become a communal mausoleum for millions of human beings" as a result of child trafficking. Simply said, child trafficking has the potential to destroy society's whole institutional framework. Without stable families, healthy employees, an honest government, an honest police force, and law-abiding individuals, human society cannot operate. In the past several years, a ton of material about child trafficking has been made available to the general public. The fundamental premise was that Nigerian youth would be motivated to take action against child trafficking if they were informed about it through educational training programs. There isn't a week that goes by that child trafficking isn't featured in the media (news, publications, etc.). The media has estimated that about five million gallons of alcohol are produced annually. About 30 to 35 million Nigerians are paying a total of four billion naira." (IRC, 2003) "With a growing and younger population, mostly young girls, participating, child trafficking has recently grown to be a national and widespread problem. A psychological and occasionally physical state that results from the interaction of a living organism with a drug is what the World Health Organization refers to as "a compulsion to use a drug continuously or occasionally in order to reap the benefits of its psychological effects as well as to avoid the discomfort it causes." According to Whitney, a 1960s and 1970s sentinel research indicated that child trafficking in Nigeria contributed to the usage of cannabis and alcohol (2003, p 28). Many domestic legislation were enacted before and during this time period to address the problem of child trafficking. To tackle the threat, the government has increased its efforts to lower the demand for and regulate the supply of pharmaceuticals. The intended results were regretfully not obtained due to the lack of knowledge on the extent of the issue and the efforts taken to solve it. The results of a new study show that cannabis is the substance that Nigerians misuse the most frequently, perhaps because it is the only narcotic that is grown there. In various states of Nigeria, cocaine consumption has been documented, however it is less prevalent in the North-West Zone. The biggest concentration of states with relatively high cocaine consumption rates was found in the south-south zone, which includes the states of Rivers, Delta, and Cross River State. Lagos and Ogun had the highest rates of cocaine usage in the south-western zone (Whitney 2003, p 28). In various states, there have been instances of heroin usage. In the South-West region, heroin usage was prevalent in Kano, Katsina State, Lagos, and Ogun State. The South-South Zone, which includes the Rivers, Delta, and Cross River States, has the highest heroin usage rates. In Nigeria, self-medication with benzodiazepines was highly prevalent (current usage), with the greatest rates seen in Anambra, Lagos, Delta, Katsina, and Kwara. All ages of people have used benzodiazepines as a kind of relief.

Child trafficking is a widespread issue that impacts almost all nations, regions, and continents. Because of its immense size and extent, humanity's moral, social, and economic well-being has been put to the absolute limit. Poverty has a greater

influence because third-world nations are more susceptible to its impacts. Africans were transported to Europe and the United States as slaves for hard labor as early as the pre-colonial era in Africa. As a result, colonial rulers struggled over how to divide up African land among themselves in order to increase their authority over that continent. As a result, several individuals were uprooted and exposed to exploitation for years, which in turn supported the slave trade. Whitfield (p. 28 of Whitney):

The current tendency in human trafficking is to pass off slavery as another type of servitude. The two most common forms of human trafficking worldwide are the trafficking of women for prostitution and the trafficking of children for work. Gender inequality in school has made it more frequent for males to lack the abilities and opportunity to become independent. A girl's duty in the house encompasses both the kitchen and the bedroom, thanks to traditional gender stereotypes. More and more women and children are becoming involved in illicit operations due to poverty and societal constraints, making it more difficult for them to obtain employment in the legitimate sector. Domestic slavery, small-scale entertainment, and the sex business all prosper as a result of these informal and unregulated industries. Human and child trafficking was a significant problem for the international community and civil society groups as late as the end of the eighteenth century. Illegal immigrants frequently experience difficult circumstances both on the road and when they get to their new areas. Particularly susceptible to physical abuse, poverty, exclusion, and prejudice are women and children.

According to UNICEF (2013), human trafficking is a complex issue. It is connected to poverty. Organized crime is able to exploit scarce chances and resources

as a result of marginalization in politics and the economy. The integrity and reputation of asylum centers are under risk from human trafficking. Women and children are being trafficked across international boundaries on a yearly basis in growing numbers. From being a societal scandal to being a multibillion dollar industry for those engaged, including the criminal underworld, human trafficking has changed society's perception of it. Due to worries about cross-border terrorism, the legal immigration procedure is becoming more challenging, and traffickers are turning to criminal networks of illegal agents. Forging travel documents, illegally transporting people, and crossing countries without proper documentation are become multimillion dollar industries.

Due to the covert nature of the activity, data on human trafficking are notoriously inaccurate, and the problem can be linked to both general ignorance and knowledge of this reality. Human trafficking, a multibillion dollar illegal sector, comes in third place in terms of volume annually after illicit drug and arms trafficking. A rising number of women and children are being pushed into prostitution and forced labor in the sex trafficking business.

According to a UNICEF research, the majority of victims trafficked out of Africa end up in Western Europe, the United States, and the Middle East (2013). In at least half of the 53 African nations surveyed by UNICEF, human trafficking was acknowledged as a concern. In addition, rather than the conventional manner of physically relocating its target, modern-day slave trade trafficking uses a broader approach that includes deceit, inducement, false promises, and force. Prostitution,

bonded labor, pornography, bride markets, sex tourism, and fake adoptions are among the ultimate objectives.

Human trafficking is a problem in Nigeria, just like it is in other nations. According to reports, Nigerian women, particularly those from the states of Edo and Delta, are becoming more often involved in foreign prostitution in Italy. A single day has seen as many as twelve males forced to have sex with a young girl. The International Organization for Migration found that human traffickers typically take victims' travel credentials and sell them to operators of brothels (2016, p.45). They must pay back the expense of their journey in order to get their passports back.

In Nigeria, there have been allegations of trafficking women and girls being made to work as prostitutes, hawkers, shop clerks, caterers, head loaders, and other domestic service workers. Household members can easily sexually assault the youngsters who labor for them while making them put in 12- to 18-hour work weeks due to a lack of suitable clothes and nourishment. A great deal of physical and psychological suffering has resulted as a result, including the spread of HIV/AIDS, pelvic inflammatory disease, and inclinations toward suicidal and homicidal behavior.

Unless immediate action is taken to address poverty, economic hardship, corrupt government, social unrest, political instability, armed conflicts, natural calamities, familiar pressures, and the worldwide desire for cheap but vulnerable labor, African women and children may continue to be trafficked. Without a strong public education campaign on the risks of the illegal trade, human trafficking cannot be eliminated or reduced, especially in Africa. The government and other key players

must make an effort to reduce poverty, enhance people's living situations, and foster an atmosphere that will lead to employment development. Security and law enforcement organizations must also detain and punish human trafficking clients. These crooks will continue to prosper at the expense of people's dignity as long as their actions go unpunished.

The gift of a human life is inestimable and should never be exchanged. As a result, we must cooperate to fight human trafficking, which reduces the worth of people via pressure, fraud, and exploitation. The only way the modern world will achieve meaningful advancements in economic and human rights standards is via our individual and collective efforts.

#### 2.5 Concept of Mass Media in Nigeria

To begin with, "mass media" includes all types of communication. Through these channels, information may be anonymously distributed to a large group of individuals at the same time. The three types of media that are most commonly employed in the US are print (press), electronic, and billboard/poster (outdoor media). Any society's main channels of communication are those. We'll concentrate on print (newspapers), radio, and TV (and to a lesser extent, the internet in this discussion). Although the word "print media" was initially used to refer solely to the former, the phrase "mass media" now encompasses both print and broadcast media.

In order to establish a nation, the media is essential. Governments will struggle to function if they don't successfully employ the media. The phrase "Fourth Estate" was first used by politician Edmund Burke in the 18th century to refer to the mediaeval European society's newspaper, which had such sway that the three main

institutions of power—the nobility, the church, and the people—were all described in terms of how influential it was (McQuail, 2000; www.wisegeek.com). Burke asserts that the press room in Parliament is the most potent of the four estates in the British kingdom. The press is still referred to as the nation's "fourth estate" in addition to the executive, legislative branch, and judicial branch.

Since the 1859 release of Reverend Henry Townsend's Iwe Irohin, Nigeria's media environment has seen a significant transition. Nigeria today boasts high-profile mass media that is both publicly and privately owned, due to the growth of media companies that appear to be forming everyday. As a result of the establishment of satellite broadcasting operations, TV networks like the Nigerian Television Authority (NTA), African Independent TV, and Channels Television may now access a genuinely global audience. News and current affairs programming that affects the community is broadcast on a number of state- and privately-owned radio stations in Nigeria, including Radio Nigeria, Ray Power FM, and others. The Guardian, Punch, Thisday, Vanguard, The Nation, and Daily Independent, among others, present a wide spectrum of hard and soft news to keep the people informed.

The Nigerian press has been crucial in influencing the development of the nation from the pre-independence era through the independence era, as well as from military dictatorships to the current democratic age. Omu (1978) argues that Nigeria's newspapers have been actively involved in society, reporting on the nation's political and social unrest and encouraging debate and discourse on a variety of topics of general interest and significance.

#### 2.6 Role of print media in curbing Child trafficking in Nigeria

Many people consider Nigeria's print media to be a tool in the war against child trafficking. To change the disastrous situation in Nigeria, print media are essential. Okunna (1999) asserts that the print media fulfills a number of functions for all members of society. By carrying out these tasks, print media may also contribute to Nigeria's battle against child trafficking. Okunna claims that these purposes cover a wide range, from serious instructional and instructive material to lighthearted and ridiculous amusement material.

- 1. Information: -Information regarding current events is constantly being released in the modern world. One advantage of this position is that it gives individuals a feeling of purpose in their everyday lives.
  - 2. **Interpretation:** -This is the function of accurately evaluating current events and information—to prevent over-sensitization and to inspire appropriate or essential action. This includes a thorough explanation of what must be done, how to accomplish it, and why it is crucial.
- 3. Education: The media contribute to society's general cohesiveness and coherence through promoting a wide range of common social norms, values, and experiences. Print media largely disseminates this information through non-formal and informal education (unconscious learning) (conscious attempt to impart knowledge outside the formal school system).
  - **4. Entertainment:** -The media's function is to relieve stress and promote relaxation by offering entertainment and enjoyment.

Because the print media is seen as the watchdog of society, it will be known if they have contributed to Nigeria's fight against child trafficking. Therefore,

much as dry rot eats away at wooden beams, child trafficking has the ability to undermine society's whole foundation. Without strong families, healthy employees, trustworthy governments, ethical police, and law-abiding people, human society cannot operate. These are all items that are required.

5. Public Awareness: - The print media actively campaigns against criminal behavior by highlighting and documenting how such behavior affects both individuals and society as a whole. As a result, the issue will soon be resolved since society will see it the same way that the media does.

#### 2.7 Theoretical Frame work: Agenda-setting theory

The power of the news media to impact the relevance of items on the public agenda is referred to as agenda-setting theory. The agenda setting hypothesis has its roots in social science and predicts how a group will function in the future. The public values a story more highly when it is regularly and prominently reported by the media. In their analysis of the 1968 American presidential election, Max McCombs and Donald Shaw codified the agenda-setting idea. In their "Chapel Hill research" from 1968, McCombs and Shaw discovered a significant association between what 100 Chapel Hill, North Carolina citizens said was the most crucial election topic and what local and national news media portrayed as the most crucial problem. Because of their comparison of how the news media depicts the most crucial election topic with how the public views it, McCombs and Shaw claim that the media has a major effect on public opinion. More than 400 research have been published on the agenda-setting role of the media since the 1968 study, which was published in a 1972 issue of Public Opinion Quarterly, and the hypothesis is still valid today.

It is the responsibility of the news media to bring significant topics to the public's attention. Agenda-setting also refers to the media's efforts to sway viewers and create a hierarchy of news importance. Most agenda-setting research are based on two essential presumptions:

- 1. The press shapes and filters reality through the media, not the other way around.
- 2. As a result of the media's emphasis on some issues and topics, the general public feels that they are more significant than others.

Surveys were utilized to monitor salience shifts as news coverage become more frequent. The time range for this phenomena is one of the most crucial components of the idea that mass media has an agenda-setting function. Furthermore, different media channels have varying degrees of ability to sway public opinion. Research that sets the agenda for future study of the connection between conventional media and new virtual places is gaining attention.

According to the agenda-setting theory, the public is interested in key print media related to the consequences of child trafficking in Nigeria, and over time, the entire society would turn against it and resolve these concerns. The viewpoint and premise of agenda-setting theory, however, is the foundation of this work. Print media is the most efficient form of communication when it comes to informing the public about significant issues that have an impact on their everyday lives, according to Enahoro and Richard (2007:51). Similar to this, Pate (2006:14) said that mass media are crucial for growth and, depending on the situation, can have a large

public views child trafficking. There is no criminal, no dodge, no trick, no scam, or vice that does not exist under secret, according to Pulitzer (quoted in Oloyede 2011:64). You may discuss and make fun of these things in front of others since "public opinion will eventually sweep them away." The mass media is responsible with covering this popular interest in society.

According to Anaeto, the frequency and prominence of media broadcasts influence our propensity to accept or reject cultural norms (2011). People will perceive terrorism as a positive deed if the media continually depicts it as such, and the opposite is also true. These factors will serve as a benchmark for lowering child trafficking in Nigeria, as will consistent coverage in the print media, victim education, public awareness of child trafficking, and frequent anti-child trafficking initiatives.

#### **CHAPTER THREE**

#### RESEACH METHDOLOGY

We'll be looking at the research approach employed throughout this chapter.

You've found the perfect site if you're seeking for a definition of research technique.

Here are a few instances:

- Research design
- Area of study
- Population of the study
- Sample and sampling techniques
- Method of data collection
- Method of data analysis

#### 3.1. Research design

In order to perform an exhaustive study on how the Punch newspaper may be utilized to lessen child trafficking in Nigeria, a researcher worked with the Nigerian Ministry of Education to apply the Case Study Research Design to gather information from students. Ghosh (1992) suggests carrying out a case study if you're interested in finding out more about the history of a certain person, family, institution, group of people from a particular culture, or an entire community. The research design is crucial to the study's goals and objectives since it will collect data from Auchi inhabitants.

#### 3.2. Area of Study

The subject of this inquiry was the population of Auchi, a tiny village close to Aberdeen. Between the Benin and Okene expressways sits the Etsako West Local Government Area of Edo State. The neighborhood is separated into eleven separate settlements. The economic health of the village is mostly based on farming and commerce. The town is dominated by young adults because a polytechnic is nearby. These characteristics make the locality a better candidate as the case study for this examination.

#### 3.3. Population of the Study.

The assumptions underlying the research approach utilized in this study allow researchers to make generalizations about a whole phenomena. Obaze and Onosu's (2009) assertion that underlying units may be a group's representative and that they could be investigated as a kind or individual feature to be used as an inference or conclusion for a single unit to the group as a whole or to other units validated this. This led the researcher to investigate the Auchi community, which had a population of around 45,675 according to census data from 2006, however this figure may not be exact due to fluctuations in birth and death rates and the time period studied.

#### 3.4. Sample and Sampling Technique

Only 100 participants were chosen from the total to be used as an inference for the full research population since it will be impossible to efficiently manage such a big study group. 100 volunteers were chosen at random by the researcher to serve as the basis for his or her investigation and conclusions.

#### 3.5. Method of Data Collection

In order to obtain data, the researcher employed both primary and secondary data collecting techniques. To get data directly from the students, the researcher employed a questionnaire and an oral interview as primary sources. He did not just use primary materials; he also consulted secondary sources, such as books and journals, newspapers, earlier initiatives, and electronic books.

#### 3.6. Method of Data Analysis

The researcher used frequency count, percentage, and a table to examine data obtained from Auchi Community people via a questionnaire. Frequency counts were used to compute a variable's percentage by applying the method below along with calculating how frequently a variable's response occurred in each item.

# (Number of Respondent X 100 Total Number of Sample

The data were shown using a table that showed various responses to each questionnaire item's variable.

#### **CHAPTER FOUR**

#### DATA ANALYSIS, INTERPRETATION AND DISCUSSION

All the facts pertinent to this inquiry is included in this chapter. The presentation and analysis of data includes information acquired from respondents' responses and statistics. The majority of the information comes from a survey that was delivered to research participants. Ninety-five (95) out of a potential 100 questionnaires were filled out and returned by respondents to the researchers. In this instance, the return on investment is 95%. The four research topics for the study are thoroughly investigated after looking at the respondents' backgrounds. After that, each item connected to the study questions was carefully examined to decide if it should be adopted or rejected in light of the replies from the respondents.

#### 4.1 Data Analysis

### **Background Information of Respondents**

**Table 1 Age Distribution of Respondents** 

| Age                | No of Respondents | percentage% |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| 20 – 30 years      | 20                | 21.06%      |
| 31 – 40 years      | 20                | 21.06%      |
| 41 – 50 years      | 25                | 26.31%      |
| 51 years and above | 30                | 31.57%      |
| Total              | 95                | 100%        |

The previous table's row 4.1 shows the respondents' age distribution. 39 respondents, or 31.57 percent, are between the ages of 20 and 30; 20 respondents, or 21.06 percent, are between the ages of 31 and 40; 20 respondents, or 21.06 percent,

are between the ages of 41 and 50; and 20 respondents, or 21.06 percent, are between the ages of 51 and 60. According to the data above, the response has a higher concentration of people between the ages of 50 and 64.

**Table 2: Gender Distribution of Respondents** 

| Sex    | No of Respondents | percentage% |
|--------|-------------------|-------------|
| Male   | 45                | 47.3%       |
| Female | 50                | 52.7%       |
| Total  | 95                | 100%        |

Table 2 displays the respondents' gender breakdown. Male respondents made up 52.7 percent of the total, while female respondents made up 45 percent (or 48.3 percent) of the total. This shows that in the population under study, females outnumbered males.

**Table 3 Marital Status of Respondents** 

| Marital Status | No of Respondents | percentage% |
|----------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Married        | 45                | 47.4%       |
| Single         | 50                | 52.6%       |
| Total          | 95                | 100%        |

The respondents' marital status is shown in Table 3 above. The other fifty respondents (representing 52.6 percent) are single, compared to the forty-five (45) respondents (representing 47.4 percent) who are married. This demonstrates that there are more single respondents in the study region.

**Table4: Qualification of Respondents** 

| Qualification     | No of Respondents | percentage% |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------|
|                   |                   |             |
| uneducated        | 10                | 10.5%       |
| WAEC/GCE/SSCE     | 13                | 13.7%       |
| ND                | 15                | 15.7%       |
| HND               | 13                | 13.7%       |
| Degree Holders    | 17                | 17.9%       |
| other certificate | 27                | 28.5%       |
|                   |                   |             |
| Total             | 95                | 100%        |

The table above displays the respondents' credentials. Ten percent (10%) of the respondents said they had no formal education, while thirteen percent (13%) had WAEC/GCE/SSCE credentials, fifteen (15) had NDs, thirteen percent (13%) had HNDs, and seventeen (17) had degrees. The other training and credentials held by the final 27 responders (28.5) were not disclosed. In this survey, respondents with more credentials than only an SSCE/WAEC, ND, HND, or a degree are more numerous.

**Table 5 Show Occupation of Respondents** 

| Qualification | No of Respondents | percentage% |
|---------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Farming       | 40                | 46.6%       |
| trading       | 15                | 13.4%       |
| Civil Servant | 15                | 16.6%       |
| Others        | 20                | 23.4%       |
| Total         | 95                | 100%        |

Table 5 lists a number of jobs, including farmers (46.6%), dealers (13.4%), public employees (16.6%), and other occupations (23 percent). This shows that a higher percentage of responders are farmers.

**Research Question One:** What could be the causes of child trafficking in Nigeria?

Table 6 – Tabular Analyses Responses to Research Question One

| Questions   | Variables       | No of<br>Respondents | percentage% |
|---|-----------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Are you aware of child trafficking in                       | Yes             | 51                   | 53.3%       |
| Nigeria?  | No              | 44                   | 26.7%       |
|   | Total           | 95                   | 100%        |
| Dovarty is the major causes of shild                        | Agree           | 60                   | 63.1%       |
| Poverty is the major causes of child trafficking in Nigeria | Disagree        | 35                   | 36.9%       |
|   | Total           | 95                   | 100%        |
| 16 10 10  | great<br>extend | 60                   | 63.1%       |
| If yes to what extend?                                      | No extend       | 35                   | 36.9%       |
|   | Total           | 95                   | 100%        |
| Does bad government promote child                           | Yes             | 75                   | 60%         |
| trafficking?  | No              | 30                   | 40.7%       |
|   | Total           | 95                   | 100         |

Are you aware of child trafficking in Nigeria? was item 1's first question, to which 53.3 percent of respondents who checked the box responded they were and 26.7 percent said they were not. The remaining forty-four (44) survey participants claimed not to be. The findings of this study indicate that child trafficking is well known in Nigeria.

In response to the survey's second question, which included three factors, participants were asked if "poverty is the most major cause of child trafficking in Nigeria." According to 63.1 percent of survey respondents, poverty exacerbates child trafficking in Nigeria. The findings of the study show that 26,3% of participants disagree that poverty is the main reason for child trafficking in Nigeria. According to this report, poverty plays a significant role in child trafficking in Nigeria.

Two variables were included in the questionnaire's Items 3 and 4, which provided the "If yes, to what extent?" response. 60 (60) of the respondents claimed that one of the main causes of child trafficking in Nigeria is poverty (representing 63.1 percent). 35 respondents, or 36.9% of those surveyed, disagree that poverty is a significant contributor to Nigeria's problem with child trafficking. These results demonstrate that poverty has been demonstrated to enhance child trafficking.

On question 4, "Does bad government foster child trafficking?," 75.7 percent of the respondents said "yes." When responding to the query, two things needed to be taken into account. According to the evidence, child smuggling is supported by a corrupt administration, not by bad government, according to twenty (20) respondents (representing 24.3 percent of the total).

**Research Question Two:** Does peer influence, promote child trafficking in Nigeria?

Table 7 – Tabular Analyses Responses to Research Question two

| Questions             |                   | Variables | No of<br>Respondents | Percentage % |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------|----------------------|--------------|
| Does peers            | activity<br>child | Yes       | 51                   | 53.7%        |
| promotes trafficking? | CIIII             | No        | 34                   | 35.8%        |
|                       |                   | Total     | 95                   | 100%         |

| Do social medial promote      | Yes          | 60 | 63.7% |
|-------------------------------|--------------|----|-------|
| child trafficking in Nigeria? | No           | 25 | 26.3% |
|                               | Total        | 95 | 100%  |
|                               | Great extend | 52 | 54.8% |
| If yes, to what extend?       | An extend    | 33 | 34.8% |
|                               | No extend    | 10 | 10.4% |
|                               | Total        | 95 | 100%  |
| Do you have any victim of     | Yes          | 72 | 75.7% |
| child trafficking around      | No           | 33 | 24.3% |
| you?                          | Total        | 95 | 100   |

Does peer participation encourage child trafficking? was the questionnaire's sixth question, and there were two potential responses: 35.7 percent of respondents disagreed with the statement that peer participation promotes child trafficking in Nigeria, while 64.2 percent of those questioned agreed. According to this study, peer activity promotes child trafficking.

Is child trafficking promoted by social media in Nigeria, as per question 6 on the survey?

Two variables were provided to the student to deal with. Social media, according to 63.1 percent of respondents (60), encourages child trafficking in Nigeria, as opposed to 35.3 percent of respondents (35), who disagreed. The results of this study indicate that social media sites support child trafficking in Nigeria.

Three factors were included in the questionnaire's question number 7, which questioned, "If yes, to what extent?" Of those asked, 52 respondents, or 54.8 percent, agreed that social media greatly encourages child trafficking in Nigeria, 33 respondents, or 34.8 percent, agreed that it does so somewhat, and ten respondents,

or 10.4 percent, disagreed. It is obvious that Nigerian child traffickers are utilizing the influence of social media to further their wicked goals.

Do you know of any children trafficking victims in your nearby area, according to survey question 8? A total of 72 respondents—representing 75.7 percent of the total—said they were aware of child trafficking victims in their area, while 33 respondents—representing 24.3 percent of the total—said they were not. According to information, child trafficking victims are all around the majority of Nigerians.

**Research Question Three:** What are the effects of child trafficking in Nigeria?

Table 8 – Tabular Analyses Responses to Research Question three

| Questions   | Variables    | No of<br>Respondents | Percentage % |
|---|--------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Does child trafficking                            | Yes          | 51                   | 53.7%        |
| affect the behavior of children?                  | No           | 34                   | 35.8%        |
|   | Total        | 95                   | 100%         |
| To what extend do child                           | great extend | 60                   | 63.7%        |
| trafficking affect the social life of individual? | No extend    | 25                   | 26.3%        |
|   | Total        | 95                   | 100%         |
| Child trafficking affect the social economic      | Agree        | 52                   | 54.8%        |
| development of a Nation                           | Disagree     | 33                   | 34.8%        |
|   | Total        | 95                   | 100%         |
| To what extend does it                            | Great extend | 72                   | 75.7%        |
| affect the Nation?                                | No extend    | 33                   | 24.3%        |
|   | Total        | 95                   | 100          |

Does child trafficking effect children's behavior? was the question posed by survey item 9, which included the following two variables: A total of 51 respondents, or 53.3%, claimed that child trafficking had an impact on children's conduct, while

44 respondents, or 26.7%, claimed that it has no such impact. The results of this study show that child trafficking has an impact on children's behavior.

How much does child trafficking effect a person's social life? was the survey's question number 10, and it included three factors. The three independent variables were as follows: According to 60 of the respondents, the social life of an individual is significantly impacted by child trafficking (63.1 percent ). 25.3% of the 35 respondents to the poll claimed that child trafficking had no impact on their social life. According to this study, child trafficking has a substantial influence on children's social life.

Child trafficking "has an influence on the social and economic growth of a nation," according to Question 11 of the survey. According to the study, 64.8 percent of participants believed that child trafficking has an effect on the social and economic growth of a nation, while 36.7 percent disagreed. The social and economic development of a nation is negatively impacted by child smuggling. Child trafficking has a negative impact on the social and economic development of a nation.

Item 12 of a questionnaire asked, "To what extent does it harm the nation? There were two choices: a high level of education (72 respondents) or no education (no responses) (33 respondents). 75.7 percent of respondents said that child trafficking significantly affects a country's social and economic growth, while 24.3 percent said that it has no effect. All evidence point to child trafficking having a profound influence on a nation's social and economic growth.

**Research Question four:** What is the role of print media in curbing child trafficking in Nigeria?

Table 9 - Tabular Analyses Responses to Research Question four

| Questions                                     | Variables    | No of<br>Respondents | Percentage % |
|---|--------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Do you think Punch newspaper can be a         | Yes          | 51                   | 53.7%        |
| vehicle to curb child trafficking in Nigeria? | No           | 34                   | 35.8%        |
| trafficking in Nigeria:                       | Total        | 95                   | 100%         |
|   | Yes          | 60                   | 63.7%        |
| Do you read newspaper?                        | No           | 25                   | 26.3%        |
|   | Total        | 95                   | 100%         |
| How often do Punch newspaper report child     | Great extend | 52                   | 54.8%        |
|   | An extend    | 33                   | 34.8%        |
| trafficking issues?                           | No extend    | 10                   | 10.4%        |
|   | Total        | 95                   | 100%         |
| Punch newspaper reports                       | Yes          | 72                   | 75.7%        |
| sensitize child trafficking                   | No           | 33                   | 24.3%        |
| victims?<br>the Nation?                       | Total        | 95                   | 100          |

Do you think print media can be a tool to stop child trafficking in Nigeria? was the question at item 13 of the poll. There were two potential responses: forty-four (44) respondents, or 26.7 percent, said that print media cannot be a vehicle to limit child trafficking in Nigeria, while fifty-one (51) respondents, or 53.3 percent, said that print media can be a vehicle to combat child trafficking in Nigeria. According to this study, print media in Nigeria can aid in the fight against child trafficking.

The survey's question 14 asked, "Do you read the newspaper?" and offered three potential responses. Sixty participants, or 63.1 percent, said they read the newspaper in the morning. 35 respondents, or 26.3 percent of those surveyed, claimed not to routinely read the newspaper. In this survey, it was discovered that almost all of the participants read newspapers.

The survey's question 15 had two variables and asked, "How frequently do the mainstream media report on child trafficking issues?" According to 52 respondents (54.8%), 33 respondents (33.3%), and ten (10) respondents (10.4%) in a poll by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, print media commonly covers child trafficking in Nigeria (CDC). This program demonstrates how the Nigerian print media routinely covers child trafficking.

The 16th question on the survey asked, "Do print media accounts sensitize child trafficking victims?," and 72 respondents (representing 75.7 percent) said that they did, while the other thirty-three (33) respondents (representing 24.3 percent) disagreed. All signs point to print media coverage of child trafficking victims as a factor in increasing public awareness of the issue.

#### 4.2. Interpretation

The aforementioned analysis revealed that social media and poor governance are also key factors to child trafficking in Nigeria, in addition to poverty being one of the major causes.

Peers can influence the transmission of information regarding child trafficking through social media and other media.

Child trafficking has an effect on both the social and economic growth of a nation and the conduct of its children.

Reports on child trafficking in the media can assist victims become more aware of the problem and lower the number of cases.

#### 4.3. Discussions

According to Table 6, which looked at research question one, poverty and bad governance are two of the major causes of child trafficking in Nigeria. According to the International Labor Organization (2016), child trafficking in Nigeria is a direct outcome of the nation's poor economic performance, high unemployment rate, and unresponsive administration, according to the report. Additionally, this has been confirmed by additional investigations. Child trafficking would be at a minimum in Nigeria after poverty is eradicated and good government has a firm grasp on the country. This was shown in Table 8 of this study, which included a tabular analysis.

Peers can influence the transmission of information regarding child trafficking through social media and other media. According to Table 7 of the analysis above, the answer to research question two of this study—"Does peer influence positively enhance child trafficking?—was yes. According to a research, limiting kids' access to social media can lessen the abuse of children.

In addition, the state's reputation has been damaged as a result of its involvement in child trafficking. Trafficking of minors is one of Nigeria's most urgent social and economic challenges. Young people have physically died in significant numbers as a result of traveling down this route, and some people's perspectives regarding their community and life in general have changed as a result.

Nigeria is now in a condition of development as a result of the gradual flight of young people over the past several years.

The results in Table 9 nonetheless demonstrate that print media may contribute to the reduction of child trafficking by regularly reporting on the crime and educating kids about the long-term effects of child trafficking on both the development of the individual and the country.

#### **CHAPTER FIVE**

#### SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This chapter contains a summary of the research findings, as well as the conclusions reached and recommendations made in light of the findings.

#### **5.1. Summary**

According to Table 6, which looked at research question one, poverty and bad governance are two of the major causes of child trafficking in Nigeria. According to the International Labor Organization (2016), child trafficking in Nigeria is a direct outcome of the nation's poor economic performance, high unemployment rate, and unresponsive administration, according to the report. Additionally, this has been confirmed by additional investigations. Child trafficking would be at a minimum in Nigeria after poverty is eradicated and good government has a firm grasp on the country. This was shown in Table 8 of this study, which included a tabular analysis. Peers can influence the transmission of information regarding child trafficking through social media and other media. According to Table 7 of the analysis above, the answer to research question two of this study—"Does peer influence positively enhance child trafficking?—was yes. According to a research, limiting kids' access to social media can lessen the abuse of children.

In addition, the state's reputation has been damaged as a result of its involvement in child trafficking. Trafficking of minors is one of Nigeria's most urgent social and economic challenges. Young people have physically died in significant numbers as a result of traveling down this route, and some people's perspectives regarding their community and life in general have changed as a result. Nigeria is now in a condition of development as a result of the gradual flight of young people over the past several years.

The results in Table 9 nonetheless demonstrate that print media may contribute to the reduction of child trafficking by regularly reporting on the crime and educating kids about the long-term effects of child trafficking on both the development of the individual and the country.

#### 5.2. Conclusion

The most vulnerable people of our society were the victims of this horrible crime, which must always be treated seriously. The significant problem of child trafficking affects people all around the world. It has developed into an incredibly high growth rate that has plateaued and shows no indications of slowing down throughout Nigeria and the rest of the developing world. The unrelenting efforts of company owners and profiteers, who attribute their operations to unparalleled poverty and the almost complete lack of basic essentials of life, are to blame for the surge in child trafficking in Nigeria.

Nigeria's efforts to put an end to this horrible condition were greatly helped by the print media, which had a good impact on society as a whole. Within the realm of these capabilities, there are important instructional and educational roles as well as more lighthearted entertainment activities. As was already said, print media may significantly contribute to the decline of child trafficking in Nigeria.

#### **5.3.** Recommendations

Base on the above discussions, the following recommendations were made:

- In Nigeria, both parents and the government are responsible for providing for children's fundamental requirements.
- 2. Nigeria should work more to end poverty by creating jobs and a welcoming business climate to draw in international businesses.
- 3. The contacts that children have with their classmates should be closely monitored by parents, especially on social media and other kinds of media.
- 4. Finally, print media should do their duties more effectively, especially when it comes to establishing the topics for debates concerning child trafficking concerns.

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#### **APPENDIX I**

Department of Mass Communication,
Auchi Polytechnic, Auchi,
Edo state.
4th July, 2022.

Dear Respondent,

### **Request to Complete a Questionnaire**

I am a final year student of Mass Communication, Auchi Polytechnic, Auchi.

I am conducting a research on "A study of media reportage of child trafficking issues amongst residents of Auchi Community, Etsako West LGA, Edo State".

The research is in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of Higher National Diploma (HND) in Mass Communication.

I will be grateful for your assistance and co-operation in spending a few minutes to complete the attached questionnaire in order to facilitate the research.

I assure you that the information you provide will be treated with utmost confidentiality and will be used strictly for academic purposes.

Thanks.

Yours faithfully,

# **Odoyibo Ovie Scott**

Researcher

## **APPENDIX II**

# QUESTIONNAIRE

**Note**: Please tick  $(\sqrt{})$  as appropriate to indicate your choice

## **Section A – Background of Information of Respondents**

| 1. | Age:                   |            |                         |          |
|----|------------------------|------------|-------------------------|----------|
|    | 20 - 30 years          | [ ]        |                         |          |
|    | 31 - 40 years          | [ ]        |                         |          |
|    | 41 years and above     | [ ]        |                         |          |
| 2. | Sex:                   |            |                         |          |
|    | Male                   | []         |                         |          |
|    | Female                 |            | []                      |          |
| 3. | <b>Marital Status</b>  |            |                         |          |
|    | Single                 | []         |                         |          |
|    | Married                | []         |                         |          |
| 4. | <b>Education Level</b> |            |                         |          |
|    | Uneducated             | []         |                         |          |
|    | SSCE                   | []         |                         |          |
|    | ND                     | []         |                         |          |
|    | HND/BSC                | []         |                         |          |
|    | Others                 | []         |                         |          |
| 5. | Occupation             |            |                         |          |
|    | Farming                | []         |                         |          |
|    | Trading                | []         |                         |          |
|    | Civil Servant          | []         |                         |          |
|    | Others                 | []         |                         |          |
|    | <b>SECTION B: Item</b> | s Relate   | ed to the Research Qu   | iestions |
|    |                        |            |                         |          |
| 1. | Are you aware of ch    | nild traft | ficking in Nigeria?     |          |
|    | Yes []                 |            |                         |          |
|    | No []                  |            |                         |          |
| 2. | Poverty is the major   | causes     | of child trafficking in | Nigeria. |

|     | Agree [           |   |
|-----|-------------------|---|
|     | disagree [        |   |
| 3.  | If yes to what    | extend?   |
|     | Great extend [    |   |
|     | An extend [       |   |
|     | No extend [       |   |
| 4.  | Does bad gove     | ernment promote child trafficking?                            |
|     | Yes [             |   |
|     | No [              |   |
| 5.  | Does peers act    | civity promotes child trafficking?                            |
|     | Yes []            |   |
|     | No [              |   |
| 6.  | Do social med     | ial promote child trafficking in Nigeria?                     |
|     |                   |   |
|     | N                 |   |
| 7.  | If yes, to what   | extend?   |
|     | Great extend [    |   |
|     | An extend         | - <del>-</del>  |
|     | No extend         |   |
| 8.  | Do you have a     | ny victim of child trafficking around you?                    |
|     |                   |   |
|     |                   |   |
| 9.  | _                 | fficking affect the behavior of children?                     |
|     |                   |   |
|     | No [              |   |
| 10  | . To what exten   | d do child trafficking affect the social life of individual?  |
|     | Great extend [    |   |
|     | No [              |   |
| 11. | . Child trafficki | ng affect the social economic development of a Nation         |
|     | Agree [           |   |
|     | Disagree [        |   |
| 12  | . To what exten   | d does it affect the Nation?                                  |
|     | Great extend [    |   |
|     | No extend [       |   |
| 13. | .Do you think     | punch newspaper can be a vehicle to curb child trafficking in |
|     | Nigeria?          |   |
|     | Yes [             |   |
|     | No [              |   |
| 14  | . Do you read no  | ewspaper?   |
|     | Yes               |   |
|     | No                |   |
| 15  | . How often do    | punch newspaper report child trafficking issues?              |
|     | Regularly         |   |
|     | Sometimes         |   |
|     | Not at all        |   |

| 16. Do punch | newspaper reports, sensitize child trafficking victims? |
|--------------|---|
| Yes          | []  |
| No           | []  |