

**UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA, NSUKKA
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY/ANTHROPOLOGY**

**A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF OPINIONS AND
PERCEPTIONS ON FACTORS AFFECTING HUMAN
TRAFFICKING IN IMO AND EDO STATES OF
NIGERIA**

BY

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NOVEMBER, 2010

**A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF OPINIONS AND
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HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN IMO AND EDO
STATES OF NIGERIA**

**A Thesis
Presented to the
Department of Sociology/Anthropology
University of Nigeria, Nsukka**

**In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Award of
Ph.D Degree in Sociology/Anthropology
(Criminology/Penology)**

By

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DEDICATION

**TO
THE MEMORY OF MY LATE
MOTHER, NNEOMA
MARIA MMAHU
NWOKEOMA**

APPROVAL PAGE

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I thank God the Almighty for giving me the strength and wisdom to complete this work. I thank my Dear wife Udochi, my son Michael, and Tracy my baby who often read and write with me, for their support and understanding throughout the duration of the work. Many individuals and organizations also made important contributions to the success of this research effort. The most outstanding among these is my supervisor, Prof. E.U.M Igbo whom I consider my academic father and mentor. His suggestions, directions and guidance tremendously enhanced the quality and standard of this study. I am also highly indebted to Prof. J. C. Okeibunor and Dr. Nkechi Onyeneho for their all round support and encouragement from the beginning to the end of this work, more thanks are due to this Duo than I can actually convey here, God shall reward you abundantly. I further thank all the academic staff of the department of Sociology/Anthropology and Social work, whose superior advice and positive disposition facilitated the progress of this work. These include: Prof. V. I. Okeke (HOD), Dr. Eze (HOD), Prof. D. S. Obikeze, Prof. Nkoli Ezumah, Dr. E. E. Uwakwe, Dr. E. E. Anugwom, Dr. P-J Eze, Dr. Uzo Okoye, Dr. Alumanah, Dr. C. U. Ugwoke, A. Onu, S. C. Ejiofor, F. U. Mbah, A. Nzei, Kene Anugwom, N. Arukwe, Mrs. Obikeguna, Tanyi Lum, Ngozi I Aronu, Ass. Prof. Iffih, and others. My bossom friend Osadebe Nnabuike is also appreciated.

My special thanks to Rev. Sr. Florence Nwanguma and her organization Cosudow, Benin, Roland Nwoha of Idia Renaissance, Nigeria Immigration staff, Benin, Enugu and Owerri, NAPTIP staff Benin, Edo State committee on human trafficking. Edo state coalition of NGO on human trafficking, Prof. P. Ebigbo and ANPPCAN, Enugu, Chief Jude Alozie and family, and Mr. Okojie in Uniben.

Finally I thank Cyril Ugwuoke, for his assistance during the field work, and Gloria Nnadozie, Blessing Aneke for typesetting the work. Thanks in the end to God Almighty for his mercies.

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Abstract

The phenomenon of human trafficking which is the recruitment, harbouring, transportation or receipt of persons within national and international borders for the purpose of exploitation has been very prevalent in Nigeria.

Therefore, this study carried out a comparative examination of opinions and perceptions on factors affecting human trafficking in Imo and Edo states of Nigeria. A cross-sectional survey of one thousand, two hundred (1200) respondents was conducted in Oredo and Ikpoba-Okha of Edo state, and Ahiazu-Mbaise and Ehime-Mbano of Imo state. The main instrument for data collection was a uniform set of structured questionnaire schedule, administered by trained research assistants. This was supported by data from in-depth interview with purposively selected victims and individuals, and focus group discussions with victims, adult male, female and youth groups.

The analysis of the data showed that there was a high level of awareness of human trafficking in Edo and Imo states. In Edo state, the perception showed that there was higher level of women trafficking, while in Imo state, there was higher level of child trafficking. It was also established that the traffickers were mostly made up of close relatives and even parents. Indeed the study established that in most cases, there is a nexus between the trafficker and the victim. Also females were found to participate more as traffickers than males, hence there is a significant relationship ($\chi^2 = 89.429$, $df = 3$, $p < 0.001$) between the sex of traffickers male and female and human trafficking in both states.

The age group of persons with the most vulnerability of being trafficked were identified from the study as 15 ó 24 years for women, while the age group of children with the most vulnerability of being trafficked were 6 ó 15 years. Similar outcome was presented in both Imo and Edo states and it is also statistically significant ($P < 0.001$). It was also found that unemployed and out of school persons were identified as most likely victims of trafficking than employed and in school persons, ($P < 0.028$). Also poverty was confirmed to be significantly related to human trafficking ($P < 0.0001$). Another important factor that was found to be significantly related to human trafficking was families with large number of children ($P < 0.0001$).

It was also established that most households in the area have high number of children which may be a positive factor to human trafficking, and this is supported by the culture and tradition of the people. In Edo state, it was found that the traditional system of inheritance propels women to give birth to as many men as possible which leads in most cases to large number of children without a functional mother figure. Also in Imo state, the cultural practice of Æwu-Ukwuø makes most women to give birth to ten children or more. Furthermore, fathers with no formal education, low income families, and mothers with no formal education, are most likely to give out their children to traffickers.

The victims were also found to go through some traditional rites of bondage to ensure obedience and loyalty to their exploiters, the traffickers. It was concluded that factors like large family size, unemployment, poverty, father with no formal education, mother with no formal education, poor households, and cultural disposition to high number of children are positively related to human trafficking. It was consequently recommended that aggressive awareness campaign should be embarked upon to educate families on the need for small number of children in households, that there should be provision of employment especially for the youths, free education for children, the establishment of effective and functional programmes to alleviate the poor conditions of the individuals and severe punishment for arrested traffickers.

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ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS

UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
NAPTIP	National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Person.
ILO	International Labour Organization
UNICEF	United Nations International Children Education Fund
USDS	United States Department of States
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
HIV/AIDS	Human Immuno Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ANPPCAN	African Network for the Protection and Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect
WHARC	Women Health and Action Research Centre
GPI	Girls Power Initiative
UNICRI	United Nations Inter-regional Crime and Justice Research Institute
COSUDOW	Committee for the Support and Dignity of Women
ESCHT	Edo State Committee on Human Trafficking
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
IDI	In-depth Interview
IPEC	International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour
UN	United Nations
WHO	World Health Organization
INTERPOL	International Police

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

Trafficking in human person is a global phenomenon. The practice has reached an epidemic proportion especially since the past decade. It is also prevalent in all countries though the general awareness level and institutional actions toward combating the trend is low.

According to the United Nations Office on Drugs (UNODC; 2004), trafficking in human being is prevalent in Africa and Asia, but growing fastest in Central and Eastern Europe. This trend could be attributed to the relatively poor economic conditions in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. In the case of Africa and Asia, the predominantly poor socio economic situations may serve as basic impetus for involving in human trafficking.

The United Nations protocol defines trafficking in persons as "The recruitment, transportation, transfer harbouring or receipt of personí for the purpose of exploitation" (Ubi, 2003, NAPTIP News, 2006:33). The International Labour Organization (ILO) also noted that for human movement to qualify as trafficking there should be the conclusion of a transaction, the intervention of an intermediary, and the motive to exploit. Human trafficking networks involve several processes, stages and diverse groups of persons from local pimps to foreign syndicates.

There are two dimensions of human trafficking: internal human trafficking, and international human trafficking, (UNICEF, 2000, Fact Sheet Nigeria, 2002). Internal human trafficking includes all processes of trafficking that begin and end within the territorial boundary of a sovereign nation. The international dimension of human trafficking includes the trafficking in persons that takes place from one sovereign territorial boundary to another.

The victims are made up of both children and adolescents of both sexes, but predominantly women.

It is important to distinguish between child trafficking and trafficking in adult persons. The basic difference is in the age of the victim being trafficked. Child trafficking involves children from age of 0-14years, while trafficking in adolescents and adults involve persons from ages of 15years and above. We shall further distinguish between trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants. The smuggling of migrants involves mostly adults who have consented to the movement and even pay to be smuggled. But trafficking victims had either never consented, or when they do, it is based on deception, fraud and exploitation.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Trafficking in human person has been identified by nations and international agencies as both a national and an international problem. The United States Department of State (USDS) estimates that between 800,000 ó 900,000 people are trafficked across international borders annually, (USDS Report, 2003, Pierpaolo, 2003). Also Mario Baccini asserts that every year, about 700,000 people mainly women and children are traded by criminal organizations, (Angeli, F; 2003). However, Marchetto, (2005) states that currently, the International Labour Organization, (ILO) estimates that 12.3million people are enslaved in enforced and bonded labour, and about 2.4million of these are victims of trafficking. Further, the United Nations Office for Drug and Crime (UNODC) and Nancy Raphael of USDS, estimate that approximately, 45,000-50,000 women and children are trafficked into the United States each year, (UNODC), 2005, Angeli, 2003).

The United Nations International Children Education Fund (UNICEF) also estimate that more than 200,000 children are trafficked in West and Central Africa, (UNODC, 2005). USDS, (2004) further estimates the presence of between 15,000 to 30,000 child soldiers in

Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Also in Guinea about 6,200 child soldiers await demobilization in the military garrisons.

According to the United States Department of States Report, (2004), Nigeria is a source, transit and destination country for trafficking in women and children. Nigerians are trafficked to Europe, especially Italy, Spain, France, Netherlands, UK and America (Pearson, 2003). Some are also trafficked to Saudi Arabia and Egypt, while others are trafficked to African countries like South Africa, Morocco, Gabon, Libya, Cameroon Equatorial Guinea etc.

This trend is confirmed by UNICEF, when it estimated that over 60% of girl trafficking victims for commercial sex in Italy are from Nigeria, (UNICEF Report, 2002, UNICEF Fact Sheet, 2002). In another related report, the Advocacy Project raised the percentage to 70%.

Indeed, Italian authorities confirm that about 30,000 trafficked victims in Italy are from Nigeria (Germano, 2001, USDS Report, 2004). UNICEF fact sheet, (2002) further asserts that children from the south, especially Edo and Imo States are the majority of those trafficked to Mali, Gabon, Saudi Arabia and Italy. It also stated that 43% of about 8million Nigerian children engaged in exploitative child labour who are at the risk of being trafficked are based in Calabar, Port-Harcourt and Owerri. Indeed in 1998, a UNICEF study indicated that 4,000 children were trafficked from Cross-River State to various parts of Nigeria and across the country.

The Nigeria Immigration has identified Edo, Delta, Imo, Ondo, Akwa-Ibom, Cross-River, Ebonyi, Enugu, Lagos and Kano States as source areas for trafficking, (UNICEF Report, 2002, Immigration Update, 2002). To buttress this fact, and putting it more succinctly, Pearson(2003), Prina, (2003) and Loconto, (2002) assert that the area of origin of the women trafficked to Europe is the South East of Nigeria, in particular from Edo State, and

the area around Onitsha. A report on the state of origin of repatriated persons boldly supports the assertions above.

Table 1: Repatriated Persons to Nigeria from 1999-2001

Dates	Total	From	Edo state
16-3-2000	75	Italy	68
19-7-2001	86	Italy	79
1-12-2001	107	Italy	104
5-4-2001	87	Italy	82
10-7-2001	14	Abidjan	14
2-7-2001	57	Spain	44
17-8-2001	33	Guinea	26
TOTAL	459		417

Source: Nigerian Taskforce on trafficking

The above table demonstrates that out of 459 deported Nigerians, majority of them were deported from Italy, and over 90% (417) of them are from Edo State. Indeed Okojie et al in a study, (2004:60) observes that 'trafficking is now so ingrained in Edo State, especially in Benin City and its environs that virtually every Benin family has one member or the other involved in trafficking either as a victim, sponsor, madam or trafficker'.

Findings by the Imo State government in 2001 revealed that trafficking in persons is predominant within Mbaise, Mbano and Ohaji areas of the state. The leader of Imo State delegation to Gabon in November, 2001 confirmed the statement and described the situation as beyond words.

Trafficking in human beings especially women and children is repulsive and totally negates the dignity of the human person. According to Karlson, (2003:11) 'Trafficking in persons is a cruel, ruthless, and cynical form of human exploitation, a serious crime and a gross violation of human dignity' - The illicit practice raises huge moral, legal, economic and human rights questions. It has both criminal and health implications for the victims and the perpetrators. Morally, it is inhuman to engage in the trafficking of fellow human beings. Legally, the nefarious activity is contrary to all relevant existing national and international

laws. It also negates the relevant global conventions and bilateral agreements that Nigeria is signatory to.

From the pre-departure to destination stage, women and children experience repeated physical, sexual and psychological abuse, torture, confinement, threats, starvation and humiliation which often leads to trauma and depression. It violates the most basic rights to freedom, autonomy and human dignity of the victims. Pierpaolo, (2003) and Bonetti, (2003) assert that most of the women are sold 10-12times, and are placed under debt bondage which range from 30,000 to as high as 50,000 Euros. Bonetti further painted a graphic picture of this horrific situation when she observes that a woman with a debt of 30,000 needs to undertake 3,000 sexual encounters and an extra 1,000 to pay for other expenses.

Economically, the victims of trafficking are exploited and denied the proceeds from their labour. Most importantly, the activity brings about a depletion of the active productive sector of the population, which may lead to the gradual erosion of the future of the country. Also the large illegal market of human trafficking acts to undermine healthy economies. It also constitutes acute and chronic physical and mental health problems. The victims are highly vulnerable to HIV/AIDs and syphilis. They are also victims of unwanted pregnancies, unsafe abortions and drug addiction. The activity destroys the image of the family and portrays the country very negatively in the comity of nations.

Trafficking in persons like the arms and drug trade, contribute to the growing illegal market and rising criminality. The proceeds may be sometimes used to finance organized criminal activities like drug trafficking and document forgeries. Most of the victims die on transit while some eventually die from the inherent hazards and diseases. In 1992, about 400 persons from Imo State died when the rickety boat on which they were being trafficked to Gabon capsized on the high sea (Immigration update 2002). Also Laconto, (2002) states that

in Italy, about 23% of all murders involving foreign women in 2000 were mainly Nigerian and Albanian women.

Trafficking in human beings no doubt is a complex multi-layered problem. However, UNODC, (2005) and Laczkoy and Gozdziaak (2005) noted that there is a lack of systematic research, reliable data and comparative studies on trafficking based on extensive fieldwork. Therefore, this study has set out to identify and analyze the immediate, precipitating causes and manifestations of human trafficking and also the underlying structural determinants which include the social, economic and cultural factors. Some of these factors are poverty, unemployment, illiteracy, family disorganization, etc. These variables would be rigorously tested on the field in the endemic areas of Edo and Imo States. It is hoped that the study would unravel some of the basic impetus and fundamental reasons people engage in human trafficking. We are concerned about how the people in these states view human trafficking and why it appears to be prevalent in the states. It is also important to know whether there are some cultural dimensions to the practice.

1.3 Research Questions

- (1) What is the awareness and prevalence of human trafficking in Edo/Imo States?
- (2) To what extent is poverty related to human trafficking?
- (3) What is the relationship between unemployment and human trafficking?
- (4) How does the traditional concept of fertility and fostering affect the practice of human trafficking?
- (5) What are the gender implications of human trafficking?
- (6) What is the relationship between persons from families with large size and vulnerability to human trafficking?
- (7) What is the relative strength of these factors in both areas of study?

1.4 Objectives of the Study

The general objective of the study is to examine the various factors affecting human trafficking in Edo and Imo States. The specific objectives derived from the above are as follows:

- (1) To know the prevalence of human trafficking in Edo and Imo States.
- (2) To determine the relationship between poverty and human trafficking in Edo and Imo States of Nigeria.
- (3) Determine the relationship between unemployment and involvement in human trafficking in Edo and Imo States.
- (4) Ascertain the effects of traditional concepts of fertility and fostering on the practice of human trafficking in Edo and Imo States.
- (5) Establish the gender implications of human trafficking in Edo and Imo States.
- (6) To know the relationship between families with large size and vulnerability to human trafficking in Edo and Imo States.
- (7) To proffer positive recommendations on possible ways of combating the problems of human trafficking in Edo and Imo States.

1.5 Significance of the Study

The study is projected to have a veracity of practical relevance. It will be inherently useful for proactive, reactive and deterrence purpose. Trafficking in human being is one of the most ruthless and cynical form of human exploitation. Therefore, embarking on the study would contribute in raising the general awareness of the people on the dangers of the practice. This is very important because the study is to be conducted in some of the most prevalent areas of human trafficking in Nigeria. It will also highlight the various dimensions of the problem in Nigeria.

The public enlightenment against trafficking in persons that will be created by this study would practically discourage potential human traffickers from engaging in the illicit act. It will also deter potential victims from being deceived into obliging traffickers based on false promises. The research is expected to expose the relative strength of the various factors under examination, and also provide explanations on some of the fundamental causes of the phenomenon in Nigeria.

The findings would invariably be of immense value to government in the formulation of both short and long term policies aimed at combating trafficking in persons. It will also be relevant to various enforcement and regulatory agencies in their efforts to stop or at least curb the practice. Local and international non government organizations are further expected to greatly utilize the findings of this study in their intervention and rehabilitation activities, especially within the most prevalent areas of the country.

This study also has some theoretical significance. Generally, it will be a contribution to existing body of knowledge in the area of criminology and penology. It will further contribute to existing literature on human trafficking and organized crime. United Nations office for Drugs and Crimes, UNODC (2005), identified a lack of systematic research in this area which makes comparative analyses difficult. This study is therefore aimed at filling this gap and further serves as a tool for comparative analyses. Finally, it is expected that this research will serve as a reference material to scholars, relevant agencies, international and local organizations in their efforts to further understand the phenomenon of human trafficking, especially in Nigeria.

1.6 Definition of Concepts

Human trafficking

It refers to the recruitment, harbouring, transporting or receipt of human persons within or across national borders by abduction, coercion, threat, deception or fraud, and the offering or

receiving of payments or benefits to get the consent of a person for the purpose of exploitation. Human trafficking is used to mean the same thing as trafficking in person.

Child Trafficking

This is the illicit and clandestine recruitment, movement or harbouring of persons between 5-14yrs, within the country or across national boundaries for the purpose of sexual, labour and economic exploitation for the benefit of the recruiters, traffickers or harbourers.

Correlates

Relationship existing between variables which tend to vary, be associated or occur together in a way not expected on the basis of chance alone. To establish a mutual reciprocal or causal relationship between variables.

Cultural, Social, Economic Correlates

These are the various ways in which human trafficking may be caused, affected or influenced by the traditions, beliefs, interactional processes and lack of material resources and well-being of individuals and groups.

Organized Crime

A category of high level criminal activity usually involving more than one person functioning as a network and covering a large operational area using sophisticated skills and techniques.

Poverty

It refers to very low or minimal household income. A condition in which individuals have weak command or lack of access to essential goods and services due to a household's lack of income.

Traditional Concept of Fostering

The traditional practice in which individuals, mostly children are kept under the care and safety net of relatives.

Traditional Concept of Fertility

The values and beliefs which emphasize and encourage high level of childbirth and accept childbirth outside marriage.

Igbu Ewu-Ukwu

A traditional practice within the communities in which women who give birth to ten children and above are honoured with a goat and recognized traditionally as women of high and exceptional status.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 General Review of Trafficking

Trafficking ordinarily refers to the consistent in-flow or out-flow of an item or substance from one location to another. In this context, it means the consistent in-flow or out-flow of an item, substance, persons or goods within or across national borders in violation of existing laws, regulations and prohibitions. In the contemporary world, so many items, substances and even human beings are trafficked from one location to another, in most cases in response to demand and desire for huge profit, (Alba and Dwight, 1977, Taylor, 2009, U.N. org 2011). Some of the items that are trafficked around the world today are narcotic drugs human organs and human beings.

Drug Trafficking: This is the conveying of banned or prohibited narcotic drugs like cocaine, heroin, morphine, marijuana, opium, etc in the body, ship, vehicle, air, plane, animal back etc by an individual or group of individuals within or across national borders. There are flourishing cocaine bases in Peru, Mexico, Columbia and Bolivia, while the centre point for the production of opium is Burma, Laos, Thailand and Afghamistan, (Bequai, 1979:20). Also, marijuana is cultivated in the caribeans and the West African coast, (Bamaiyi, 1997:25, Nwobeoma, 2010:85). The cocaine and heroin from the producer nations in South America and Asia are constantly conveyed through; illegal distribution or trafficking channels and routes to thriving consumer markets in Europe, America and other parts of the world. The trafficking of narcotic drugs all over the world has been perpetuated by organized drug trafficking cartels. Some are highly structured and organized like the mafia or La Cosa Nostra (Conklin, 2007), Asian drug cartels like the Hong Kong Traid, the Shan and wa opium guerilla, the notorious Madelin drug cartel once headed by the late Pablo Escobar and the Cali drug cartel founded by Jose S. Londono in Colombia, (Liu 1991). Adler, (1993) also

identified the existence of loose trafficking brokers who operate in partnership with other groups based on project, task efficiency and reputation to deliver. It is essentially made up of loose network of trafficking groups who work together to execute drug trafficking projects based on location, expertise and reputation.

Organ Trafficking: - According to UNODC, (2010) the declaration of Istanbul on Organ Trafficking and Transplant Tourism, 2008 defines organ trafficking as the recruitment, transport, transfer, harbouring, or receipt of living or deceased persons or their organs 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 to, or the receiving by a third party, of payments or benefits to achieve the transfer of control over the potential donor, for the purpose of exploitation by the removal of organs for transplantation. Transplant commercialism is also defined as the practice in which an organ is treated as a commodity by being bought, sold or used for material gain. On the other hand, transplant tourism refers to the practice where available organs are given to patients from outside a country thereby undermining the ability of the country to provide organ transplants for its own population.

According to World Health Organization, (2011), kidney transplants are carried out in 91 countries. In 2005, around 66000 kidney transplants, 21000 liver transplants and 6000 heart transplants were performed globally. However, the population of people in the world that are in need of organ transplant are far more than the available organs. According to existing records, by 2002 in the United Kingdom, 667 donated organs, but 2055 people received transplant, and 5615 people are still awaiting transplants (UK Transplant, 2002). In India, 100,000 new patients present with kidney failure each year, and only 3000 would receive transplants. In Western Europe, 40,000 patients await a kidney transplant, but only 10,000 kidneys were available, (Cooper, 2000).

The WHO estimates that most of organs transplanted every year come from the black market fed by organ trafficking networks that are widespread and growing. Most of the organs according to the organization have been supported or harvested from source countries like Pakistan, India, Philippines, China, Bolivia, Iraq, Israel, Turkey, Peru and South Africa, (WHO, 2011). UNODC, (2010) asserts that trafficking in persons for the purpose of removal of organs is a form of human trafficking in which an individual is exploited for bodily organs, especially kidneys and livers for purposes of transplantation. INTERPOL, (2011) further confirms that trafficking in human beings for the purpose of using their organs, in particular kidneys is a rapidly growing field of criminal activity. The victims are often misinformed about the medical implications of the organ removal and deceived about the sums they will receive while their health and life is at risk. For instance, donors of kidney are said to be paid between \$2,500 to \$3,000 and the recipients pay between \$100,000 to \$200,000, the balance of about \$197,000 goes into the pockets of the middle men, the traffickers.

Another related practice to human trafficking is migrant smuggling. In most cases victims of human trafficking are smuggled from the countries of origin to several destination points. The migrant smuggling protocol supplementing the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime, defines migrant smuggling as "the procurement, in order to obtain directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit, of the illegal entry of a person into a state or country of which the person is not a national or a permanent resident" (Article 3, Migrant Smuggling Protocol, [www.UN.ORG](http://www.un.org)).

Virtually every country of the world is affected by migrant smuggling either as an origin, transit as destination country for smuggled migrants of profit seeking criminals. Smuggled migrants are vulnerable to life threatening risks and exploitation. Most of the victims have drowned at sea, suffocated in containers, and perished in deserts. Migrant smuggling is a highly profitable business in which criminals enjoy low risk of detection and

punishment which makes the crime to be attractive to criminals. Consequently, migrant smugglers are becoming more organized, establishing professional networks that transcend borders and regions and their modus operandi are becoming diverse; (<http://www.UNODC.Org>).

2.2 Global Review of Human Trafficking

Article 3 paragraph (a) of the protocol to prevent, suppress and punish, trafficking in persons defines trafficking in persons as the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability, or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person 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, servitude or the removal of organs, (<http://www.UNODC.ORG2011>).

On the basis of the above definition, trafficking in persons could be said to poses three constituent elements: the first is "The Act or What is Done". The act in this case is the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons. The second is "The Means or How it is Done." The means in this case is through threat or use of force, coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or vulnerability, giving payments or benefits to a person in control of the victim. The third element is "The Purpose or Why it is Done". The purpose is for exploitation which includes exploiting the prostitution of others, sexual exploitation, forced labour, slavery or similar practices and the removal of organs.

Trafficking in human being though an emergent phenomenon, has received wide media coverage and in-depth commentaries by scholars and specialized agencies. The manifestation of the practice and the degree of activities towards combating the problem vary among countries.

According to Karlson, (2003) and the United States Department of States (USDS) Report, (2004), most countries of Europe, especially Western Europe and the United States of America, are destination or receiver countries. Some of these countries are: Italy, France, Spain, Germany, Belgium, Britain, etc.

It is also reported and confirmed by Bonetti, (1991) and Ward, (2005) that most of the victims of trafficking are women who are predominantly engaged in the sex industry. Indeed the French Police estimate that about 90% of estimated 18,000 prostitutes working in Paris are victims of trafficking. Also in Paris, over 8,000 children are forced into prostitution and exploitative labour. In Italy, about 30,000 trafficked victims are traced mainly to Nigeria, Ukraine, Albania and East Africa.

However, most countries of Eastern Europe like Georgia, Azerbaijan, Croatia, Bosnia, Slovakia etc are in similar position with most countries of Africa and Asia on the human trafficking chain. They serve as origin and transit ports for trafficked victims. From all indications, the trends of trafficking seem to flow from the poor undeveloped nations to the rich prosperous developed nations.

It is also evident that most countries in Eastern Europe, Asia and Africa do not show sufficient commitment to anti-trafficking measures. They also engage in massive internal trafficking activity, mostly from the poor rural areas to the urban centers, (Humantrafficking. Org; 2005).

2.3 Human Trafficking and Related Concepts

2.3.1 Human Trafficking and Migration

Migration is the movement of a group of people from one geographical location to another, either within, out of or into a territorial boundary, (Ricca, 1989). Karlson, (2003) also referred to migration as the voluntary movement of people within or outside the country. Though human trafficking also involves the movement of persons from one location to the

other across or within national boundaries, the Anti slavery international (2003) stated that trafficking and migration are separate but inter-related issues.

Migration may take place through regular or irregular channels, and may be freely chosen or forced upon the migrant as a means of survival. Trafficking on the other hand is fundamentally different as it involves the movement of people for the purpose of exploitation. Further, trafficking always implies the activity of a second party or strings of middlemen who are the traffickers, but migration neither has a victim nor a trafficker. The migrant often voluntary embark on the movement aware of the situation at the point of destination. But the trafficked victim is most of the time deceived into embarking on the movement, unaware of the real situation at the port of destination.

The victim of trafficking on getting to the point of destination is held in bondage and made to go through several forms of exploitation by the trafficker. But the migrant even when assisted by a smuggler terminates the link and is in control of himself on getting to the destination.

Human trafficking has also been approximated to slavery by some agencies and scholars. A UNICEF report, (2000) described the trafficking of Nigerian Women to Italy and Europe as having slave like characteristics. The tight control on illegal immigration into Europe makes traffickers to smuggle Nigerian girls through land routes across the Sahara and the Mediterranean. Bonnetti, (2000) also referred to trafficking in women as a complex phenomenon of new sex slavery. The conference of Nigerian Catholic Bishops (2000) and the pontifical council for the pastoral care of migrant and itinerant people, (2005) further described trafficking in women and prostitution as a modern version of the slave trade and a flagrant violation of the dignity of the human person.

Apparently, the description of trafficking in person as slavery gained credence because of the fact that the subject matter is the same- the human person. Also, trafficking

involves profit making and exploitation. The use of the trans-saharan slave route for trafficking also reinforces this sentiment.

However, Tuden and Plantnicov, (1970) defined slavery as the legal institutionalization of persons as property. A slave is regarded as a commodity to be bought, sold and inherited. He is a chattel, totally in the possession of another. He has no control over his destiny, no rights to property or marriage. He can be inherited or sold and his progeny also inherit his status. Therefore, trafficking in person is different from slavery. Though, trafficking victims are placed under slave like situations. Trafficking is not legally institutionalized, rather more severe laws are made to punish offenders. Trafficking is also a process and not a status as is the case with slavery. The children of victims of trafficking also do not inherit the conditions of their parents.

2.3.2 Human Trafficking and Organized Crime

According to Hodges, (2001), criminal rings are involved in the smuggling of children and women across international frontiers. Martin, (2001) noted the involvement of a network of criminals which includes local Italian mafias in the smuggling of Nigerians into Italy. Shifman and Franzbau (2001) also confirmed the involvement of armed Vietnamese gangs in the smuggling into the United States of girls from China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam for fees ranging from \$30,000 to \$40,000. In a recent incident, Dyson reported that organized syndicates use Eurostar train to smuggle women from Eastern Europe and China into Britain, (Human trafficking. Org. June, 2006).

In an attempt to explain this development, Pierpaolo (2003:8) stated that "criminal organizations created a new and flourishing market on human beings in response to a great request for emigration". Scholars like Sutherland, (1962), Cressey, (1969), and Wolfgang, (1979) had also commented on the general activities of organized crime syndicates.

It is apparent from the above review that trafficking in persons all over the world is perpetrated by organized criminal groups. These networks spread through so many individuals at each stage. According to Pierpaolo (2003:9), "Criminal organizations of different nationalities present in the place of origin, of transfer, and destination of the migratory stream could join forces and get skilled in different areas" – These may include the recruiters at the country of origin, the agents who falsify and arrange travel documents, the conveyers who transport the victims, the receivers and retainers at the country of destination. Essentially they operate under cover through secret illegal routes or by deceit.

2.3.3 Human Trafficking and the Concept of Demand and Profit

This concept states that the existence of a demand base and the potentials for huge profit, attract individuals to involve in such an activity even when it is illegal to do so. Advocates of this concept like Schelling (1973) states that the existence of a strong and persistent demand for women, children and unskilled workers, present an opportunity to make enormous profit by traffickers. Alba and Dwight, (1977) also observed that human trafficking exist for the pursuit of profit and in response to illicit demand.

UNICEF, U.K. (2003), Ward (2005) and Vatican Report, (2005), attested that trafficking in persons is estimated to yield a net profit of between \$7 to \$10billion annually. The potential for such a huge profit when linked to the ever increasing demand for foreign prostitutes and migrant workers would definitely serve as a strong impetus for trafficking in persons.

Antislavery International, (2003), captures this linkage when it asserts that the growth in trafficking has taken place during a period of increasing international demand for migrants. A Situation Assessment Report (SAR), (2001), Anderson and Davidson, (2002), and Pearson (2005) also agree that the high and rising demand for women in the international sex industry provides a strong incentive for traffickers who stand to make huge profits. Karlson,

(2003:15) further stated that "global trafficking in human beings may be seen as a response to the demand for people for various forms of exploitations" while Volpicelli, (2004:8) affirms that "traffickers, mindful of market mechanisms, and the local social climate, seize the occasion to respond to Northern demand".

A possible impetus to the demand factor especially as it relates to women could be the legalization and permissibility of prostitution in Europe and America. Romani Pierpaolo, (2003:11) noted this fact when he stated that "the increase of prostitution is the result of the high demand by clients". These societies therefore provide a ready profession, clientele and indeed flourishing market for trafficked victims, and the traffickers merely function to feed the market and make their profit. For instance in Germany, prostitution was legalized in 2002, and since then, over 400,000 sex workers are on the job, and about 40,000 prostitutes were expected to be trafficked into Germany for the 2006, World cup, (Groener, 2006).

2.3.4 Human Trafficking and the Push and Pull Model

Human trafficking can also be viewed in the context of the push and pull model or hypothesis. The model states that human beings seem to remain in a particular location until some circumstance causes them to move; and the initiation of a movement to a given destination must be based on some attractive factors. The push factor operates in the area of origin, while the pull factors operate to attract the individual in the area of destination.

Yeager, (1975) stated in line with the above postulation that widespread poverty, uncertainty, hunger and insecurity generates tremendous economic and social tension, which pushes individuals into criminal behaviour and other vices like human trafficking as means of survival. Ward, (2005:89), described a convergence of "push and pull" factors. According to her, the pull factors for a woman or girl victim might include domestic violence, child sexual abuse, single parenthood and inducement by poor parents or false and criminal husbands. At

the broad societal level, she identified poverty, unemployment, lack of education, economic crises or war as possible push factors.

Nickel, J. (2006) while narrating the situation in Sierra Leone, agreed with the above factors, but added corrupt government and criminal disruption of the polity, as relevant factors. Shifman and Franzblau, (2001) also added globalization, communication, technology and gender discrimination. On the other hand, the pull factors could be perceived or anticipated better economic and financial opportunities, employment, hope of a better life, favourable foreign currency disparity, successes by peers etc.

This model of analysis is most appropriate to voluntary and consenting victims rather than non-consenting ignorant victims. Also, most victims are deceived into believing that they are assisted to escape into a better life, only to end up as victims of trafficking. Generally, the model is relevant in highlighting some of the base factors that come into play in the decision of people to move.

2.4 Empirical Literature Review

There is a dearth of research and studies on human trafficking; however, we shall begin with sub-regional studies.

In the Republic of Benin in 1999, a research was carried out by an organization on the trafficking of children between Benin and Gabon, (Kaye; 2003). The research which was mainly based on interviews reported that most families handover their children to traffickers because they could not provide their essential needs. Also 198 or 86% of 229 trafficked children were girls. It further discovered that many of the initially trafficked children are re-trafficked. Sodjie- Houton, (2000) also conducted another study in Benin Republic in which he interviewed 44 repatriated victims of trafficking; 78% of the children are from poor families, and 73% came from families with more than 5 children. Also, 66% of the parents do not have any education and most of them are females.

Diarra, (2000) carried out another study in Mali involving 155 repatriated victims of trafficking. In contrast to the studies in Benin, 97% in this case were male and 3% females. These children who were mostly repatriated from Cote d'Ivoire, worked on plantations. Most of them were from families with large size.

In Togo, Aballo, (2000) also conducted a research in which 96 respondents were interviewed; all of them repatriated victims of trafficking. About 70% of these victims were girls and this was explained with the fact that in Togo, parents place more value on their sons than the girls. Also, 74% of the families are polygynous and about 82% had more than 5 children, they are also predominantly poor.

In BurkinaFaso, Ouedraogo et al, (2000) in a study, interviewed 116 children who are working in the informal sector in Ouagadougou and Bobodioulasso. It was confirmed that children were trafficked to work as street vendors, domestics and prostitutes. Most of the respondents were girls and illiterate. Also, 65% of the fathers work in agriculture or without work and 98% of the mothers were without work. The researcher interviewed 15 traffickers, and one of them a woman admitted recruiting and placing 150 children each year. An international survey on the elimination of child labour conducted in Gabon interviewed 600 working children, out of whom 583 were foreigners, (IPEC report, 2000).

Several studies had also been conducted in Nigeria. Obikeze, (1984) carried out a survey research on childcare and socialization patterns in Nigeria. The sample size was 2000 parents, 50.8% of whom confirmed the practice of economic exploitation, starvation and denial of food in their native area. The study though not a direct empirical work on human trafficking, provided evidence for a historical basis of child trafficking based on economic exploitation.

According to respective reports by UNICEF and African Network for the Protection and Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ANPPCAN) (2000), a study on child trafficking

in Nigeria was conducted in the towns of Calabar, Uyo, Port-Harcourt, Lagos and Owerri. It was found that 42.2% of the 173 street working children interviewed were trafficked. Also, 51% were males, and 49% females. Hodges (2001) and Ebigbo, (2004) published another study on child trafficking in Nigeria conducted by ANPPCAN on behalf of the International Labour Organization (ILO). The research which was carried out in Sokoto, Kano, Maiduguri, Owerri, Calabar, Port Harcourt and Lagos interviewed a total of 2,100 children. It was discovered that 19% of the school children, and 39% of the street children were trafficked and almost all of them were within 10-16years.

Both studies aptly established the existence of child trafficking in Nigeria and the scope of the second study was enlarged to include towns in the North. However, Hodges, (2001) pointed out that the study did not provide nationally representative data. He also noted that the proportion of trafficked children seem extraordinarily high. Generally, these studies were centered on child trafficking to the exclusion of the larger problem of human trafficking. They also focused more on internal trafficking and less on the international dimension.

One of the major surveys on human trafficking in Edo State was conducted by a women advocacy group, Women's Health and Action Research Centre, (WHARC, 2002). It was a community based study to estimate the extent of sexual trafficking in Benin City. The results of the study confirmed the high prevalence of sexual trafficking in Edo State. Indeed 32% reported that somebody had recently offered to assist them obtain papers to travel abroad.

In another study, Girls Power Initiative, (GPI, 2004) examined sex trafficking in Edo, Delta, Akwa Ibom and Cross River States. The study sought to know why girls were being trafficked from Nigeria, and measures that could help them to resist being trafficked. About 299 victims were interviewed and it was found that girls were more susceptible to trafficking

because there is demand for their sexual services. The majority of the victims are girls between the ages of 15-25 years.

A specific study on trafficking of Nigerian girls to Italy was conducted by Okojie, (2004) for United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), with a focus on Edo State. The researcher interviewed 29 victims and held focus group discussions and target interviews. Most of the victims were between 18-20 years.

The above research reports show a high knowledge of trafficking in women in Edo State. Further, the average age of the victims seem to be 15 and 25. Though the first two studies by WHARC and GPI focused on sex trafficking, the study by Okojie and UNICRI related trafficking in girls to a specific location, Italy. The findings also showed a preponderance of women victims to males. The reason adduced for this trend was only demand based. However, there may be some inherent factors in the place of origin that also functions to facilitate this development. The study of WHARC also revealed that 32% of the respondents had been recently approached, which shows the active presence of recruiters in Benin City.

Though the empirical works so far reviewed had contributed immensely to an understanding of human trafficking, the study under discussion promises to do more. It hopes to undertake a comprehensive study of human trafficking which includes both child and women trafficking. It would focus on collecting and organizing the main elements which permit a better understanding of the phenomenon from the perspective of the areas of origin of the victims. The research would collect data and also carry out analyses on the socio economic and cultural correlates which may be encouraging this practice. It would also attempt to know why the recruiters or traffickers operate freely despite prohibitions. The comparative analyses of Edo and Imo State would also give us a wider scope and dimension of the phenomenon.

2.5 Review of Theoretical Literature

The prime focus of this review would be theories that focus on the importance of social, economic, cultural and other factors in the determination of criminal behaviour.

2.5.1 Routine Activities Theory (RAT)

According to Schaefer,(2005), this is a more recent interactionist explanation of criminal behaviour which focuses on the requisite conditions that must be present for a criminal act to occur. Advocate of this theory like Cohen and Felson, (1979) states that for a criminal act to occur, there must be at the same time, and in the same place a perpetrator, a victim, and an object. According to Felson, (2002), the convergence of motivated offenders and suitable targets creates a crime event. For instance, there can be no car theft without automobiles. Also, there can be no human trafficking without vulnerable individuals.

The term 'routine' suggests that the elements of a criminal or deviant act come together within the context of normal acceptable routine activity. Therefore, changes in the routine activities of individuals could lead to an increase or decrease in criminal behaviour. Scholars like Sherman et al (1989) and Crommwwell et al, (1995) carried out some studies to show that certain crimes occur and also increased as individuals become more vulnerable.

Relating this theory to human trafficking, it could be said that the availability of vulnerable individuals mostly women and children, and the presence of motivated offenders leads to the prevalence of human trafficking. However, despite the relevance of this theory, it is important to note that the availability of vulnerable individuals and motivated offenders alone, may not be sufficient for crime to occur, there has to be a conducive environment. The theory also failed to explain what made these individuals to be vulnerable or why certain individuals are motivated to commit crimes.

2.5.2 Differential Association Theory

According to Philip, (1999) and Schaefer, (2005), this theory is based on the cultural transmission school, which emphasizes that individuals learn criminal behaviour by interacting with others. The main advocate of this theory Sutherland (1960, 1978 and 1983) traced the source of criminal behaviour to the nature of the particular society in which it exists. He observed that a competitive, fluid, diversified and individualistic society would most probably favour criminal activity. However, criminal behaviour is not automatically induced by the social structure; rather, they are learned in interaction within intimate social relationships.

Sutherland further stated that such learning includes not only the techniques of law breaking, but also the motives, drives, attitudes, and rationalization for the crime which may be simple or complicated, (Dow, 1980). This view according to Jackson, et al (1986) also applies to non-criminal deviant acts like smoking, truancy and sexual behaviour.

Glueck faults the theory for being unclear and makes measurement and testing difficult, (Dow, 1980). Also, Sutherland acknowledged that the theory generally ignores the effects of personality factors on behaviour, (Schuesller, 1973). This omission is however understood in the context that Sutherland's emphasis is on social cultural factors of criminal behaviour. Most importantly, Sutherland failed to explain why the pattern of criminal behaviour is there to be learned *ab initio*.

2.5.3 The Structural Strain and Anomie Theory

The theory of anomie has its roots in the structural strain frame of analyses which explain criminal behaviour as the outcome of structural strains that put pressure on some individuals and make them to deviate, (Robertson, 1987). In other words the structures of society, especially the economic, social and political realities of a society, have a significant effect on the various forms of criminal behaviour in that society.

Consequently, anomie theory asserts that the catalyst for individuals to engage in criminal behavior lies in inequities in the social and economic structures of society. Robert Merton, (1968) based on the legacy of Emile Durkheim asserts that the social structure of society creates situations of anomie. Durkheim, (1951:247), defined anomie as,

“ a state of normlessness in which the individual has no acceptable community or institutional model about how to behave”

According to Schaefer, (2005:182),“ anomie is the loss of direction felt in a society when social control of individual has become ineffective”. Merton explains that society consists of systems of norms and values which establish the goals that individuals pursue, and also the means for the achievement of these goals. Some of these goals could be: respect, possession of economic wealth, status, power, authority etc and the accepted means could be acquisition of education, skills, employment, good business, capital, etc.

However, the institutionalized means of attaining the culturally defined goals are not evenly available to every member of society. This discrepancy therefore creates a situation of anomie on the individual who may respond in different possible ways. One process of response is **Innovation**; in which a person may accept the goals of material success, and abandon the approved normative means of the society which in itself is not even available. Individuals in this situation may therefore adopt unconventional, unapproved and unlawful means to success. They may engage in human trafficking which is unapproved and unlawful as a means to achieve the goals of material and social affluence. Normlessness according to Merton may be accelerated when the society's collective conscience (mores, values customs) strongly reinforce the virtues of material gains.

Despite the virtues of the theory, it can hardly explain the existence of motiveless or non-utilitarian crimes. It does not also explain why wealthy people who have access to

legitimate means still engage in criminal activity or why some people in adverse situation, reject criminal activity, Dow(1980), Robertson, (1989), and Clinnard and Miller, (1998).

2.5.4 Conflict Theory

The conflict theory whose main advocate is Karl Marx posits that the infrastructure of society controls and determines the superstructure. As part of the superstructure, the state, the agents of social control, the law and definitions of crime, reflect and serve ruling class interests, (Chambliss and Mankoff, 1976). They perceive criminal behaviour as the natural outgrowth of an unequal economic order, supported by an unjust political and legal system. Quinney, (1974, 1980), Pearce, (1976) asserts that the state as an instrument of the ruling class enact laws which support ruling class interests. The criminal justice system also serves the interest of the powerful and reflects ruling class values. In other words, human trafficking as a criminal act is the creation of ruling class values.

However, it is not correct to assume that only lower class conducts are outlawed and also, that criminal law represents only ruling class values. Indeed most outlawed conducts represent both shades of values. Members of the ruling class also commit crimes. Scholars like Dow, (1980), Gibbons (1974), Rock, (1973), had also criticized the theory.

2.6 Theoretical Orientation

It is evident from the above reviews that no single theory can adequately explain the phenomenon of human trafficking to the total exclusion of others. Therefore, we shall apply the principle of theoretical eclecticism or the Multi Theory Approach, (MTA) as advocated by Dzurec and Abraham, (1993) and Porter, (1989) in the adoption of our theoretical orientation.

Consequently, two theories, the structural strain and anomie theory, and the differential association theory shall form the theoretical framework for this study. According to the structural strain theory, the economic, political and social structures of society produce

enormous strains which put tremendous pressure on some individuals, and make them to engage in criminal behaviour. Also similar strains on the socio economic realities of individual constitute the push factors that condition and affect the latent desire to travel. Some features of these strains could be widespread poverty, hunger, unemployment, insecurity, economic and social tension, etc.

Merton further explained criminal behaviour as part of the means through which individuals resolve the anomie created by the disparity between culturally defined goals, and the institutionalized means of achieving them. The principle of the end justifies the means becomes a guiding tenet for action, when the society unduly exalts the end, and the structures of society unduly limits possible recourse to approved means. Therefore, large shares of criminality are committed by individuals driving towards legitimized social goals by illegal pathways.

The process of engaging in these criminal behaviour -like human trafficking- according to the differential association theory, is learned by individuals within intimate relationships. However, the learning process is most imminent in areas with established patterns of organized adult crime, which presents criminal skills, deviant values, criminal role models and a learning environment. The recognition by Sutherland, (1960) that certain crimes require high level of sophistication and complex networks which is reflective of human trafficking makes the theory more amenable to the study. However, Sutherland's restriction of the learning process to only intimate social groups is not broad enough. Winick, (1971) observed that impersonal agencies like the mass media, especially television, home videos, and even the internet also play important roles in the learning of both the techniques and rationalization of criminal acts.

2.7 Research Hypotheses

- (1) Persons from poor homes are most likely to be victims of human trafficking than persons from rich homes.
- (2) Unemployment and out of school individuals are more likely to be victims of trafficking than employed or in school persons.
- (3) Females tend to participate as traffickers than males.
- (4) Persons from families with large size are more likely to be victims of human trafficking than persons from families with small size.
- (5) Former victims who are familiar with the place of destination tend to operate more as traffickers than non former victims who are not familiar with the place of destination.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Research Design

The study adopted a cross sectional survey design. This enabled the researcher to collect data from a broad section of the cases at the same point in time, (Obikeze, 1990, Babbie, 1992). The survey design is most amenable for this research because it is flexible and most suitable for obtaining data from large populations.

3.2 Area of Study

The areas of study for this research are Edo and Imo States of Nigeria. The choice of these two areas is significant and based on prior empirical findings. Data generated by UNICEF, (2000), Immigration update (2002), and NAPTIP, (2004), identified Edo and Imo states as focal states for trafficking.

Previous studies also corroborate this view. Pearson (2003:1) and Prina, (2003:172) confirm that many of the women trafficked to Europe are from the south east of Nigeria, in particular the Ibo tribes and Edo State, with a net prevalence around Benin-city. Edo State is the nucleus of the old mid-western region and became a distinct state in 1991.

The people of the state engage mostly in agriculture. The preoccupation in Oredo are rubber and poultry and that of Ikpoba-Okha are rubber, cassava, palm product etc. However, the youths seem to have abandoned agriculture and mostly depend on wage labour, hence the state is dubbed a civil service State. Also the poverty level of the state is 53.3%, (FOS, 1999).

Imo State on the other hand is one of the Southeastern States and earned the present status of a state in 1991. The preoccupation of the state is also agriculture and civil service. Mbano and Mbaise areas of the state engage mainly in subsistence cultivation of cassava, yam, palm products, etc. They also depend mostly on wage labour and with the abject lack of

employment in the public service, the area experience high unemployment rate. Traditionally, they value large family size and the poverty level is also high.

3.3 Study Population

The study population was drawn from two local governments in each of the two states that make up the study area. Edo State has a total population of 3,233,366 million persons while Imo State has a population of 3,927,563 million people, (NPC 2006 Census).

In Edo State, Oredo and Ikpoba Okha local government areas were purposively selected. The population of Oredo by the 2006 population census was 374,515, while the population of Ikpoba ó Okha was 372, 080 persons. In Imo State, Ahiazu ó Mbaise and Ehime ó Mbano local governments were also selected as the population of study. Also by the 2006 population census, the population of Ahiazu ó Mbaise was 170,824 people, and the population of Ehime ó Mbano was 130,575 people (NPC, 2006 Census). The choices of these local governments were based on the findings of previous studies which established these local governments as high prevalent areas for trafficking in persons.

3.4 Sample Frame

This is a listing of all the elements in a population from which the sample is derived. The sample frame for this study consists of all persons within the population from the age of 15 and above. The choice of this age limit is because 14 years and below are considered minors. Also, this age limit is considered most mature and able to effectively respond to the research instrument.

Based on the 2006 population census, the population of Edo State from 15 years and above was 63.5%. Therefore the population of Oredo within this category is 237,817 persons, while 63.5% of the population in Ikpoba ó Okha is 236270.

In Imo State the category of population from 15years and above is 64%. Therefore, the population of Ahiazu ó Mbaise within this category is 109327, while that of Ehime ó

Mbaise is 83,568 persons. The sample frame for this study is therefore made up of the population of the selected four local governments within the ages of 15 and above, which is 666,982 persons.

3.5 Sample Size

It would be quite unwieldy and difficult to use the entire population for this study. Therefore, we made use of .2% sample fraction, which constituted a total of 1,334 persons, (Obikeze, 1986). This number is however approximated to 1,200 respondents, for ease of calculations and distribution of the research instruments. It also satisfies the four cardinal features of a good sample; economy, practicability feasibility and accuracy of information (Obikeze, 1986). This population is consequently adopted as the sample size for this research.

This sample size is considered large enough to achieve the best results, reduce sampling error and increase sampling precision. It is equally more economical and amenable to statistical manipulation. The two states, Edo and Imo have two local governments each within the study. The distribution of the sample therefore is such that each local government had 300 respondents each. Therefore, the four local governments in the study had an equal number of respondents: $4 \times 300 = 1,200$

Table 2: Table of Sample Distribution

States	L.G.A.	Respondents	Total Respondents
Edo	Oredo	300	300
	Ikpoba- Okha	300	300
Imo	Ehime- Mbano	300	300
	Ahiazu- Mbaise	300	300
Total	4	1200	1200

3.6 Sampling Procedure

The multistage cluster design was adopted in the research. Also, the random sampling process was applied to achieve the required sample size. The multistage design is very relevant because our study population is very large and made up of several clusters like

towns, villages and households. Therefore, we proceeded through the following stages to derive the stipulated sample size;

- Identification of towns
- Selection of villages/streets
- Selection of households
- Selection of respondents

Selection of Villages

In Edo state, Oredo, and Ikpoba Okha local governments have eight (8) identified Areas, or quarters. All the villages, areas, streets in the towns and quarters were listed and numbers assigned to them. The listed villages and areas were put into a basket and properly shuffled. There were a total number of 140 villages and streets. Then 5 villages/streets were drawn from each of the towns or areas using a fixed sampling gap of one in two (1:2). The process is carried out without replacement. This gave us a total of forty (40) villages/streets.

Selection of Households:

The households in the 40 selected villages/streets are also listed. They were assigned numbers, and put into a basket. The content of the basket was properly shuffled and 5 households each were selected, also using a fixed sampling gap of one in two (1:2), $40 \times 5 = 200$. The total number of household listed were 2, 450.

Selection of Respondents

In each of the selected households, all the persons from 15 years and above were properly listed. Through a similar random process as above, we selected 3 respondents from each household, using a fixed sampling gap of one in two (1:2). Also, the process was carried out without replacement. This finally gave us a total of (3×200) six hundred (600) respondents, which represents our final sample for Edo state.

To reach our selected respondents, in Oredo, we adopted Ring Road Roundabout as the central point of distribution. From Ring Road, the research assistants dispersed to the various street areas in pairs, and by the end of each day, 4.30 p.m. to be precise, all the research teams converged at the Oredo Park by Ring Road to submit the day's report and compare notes and plan for the next day's activity. In Ikpoba Okha, Ramat Mohammed Roundabout was our central point of distribution. From this point, the research assistants took off in pairs to locate the respondents. The Nigerian Immigration Office at Sakpoba area was the collation centre after each day's activity.

In Imo state, three hundred (300) respondents were selected from each of the two local government areas. This selection was carried out through similar stages and processes as in Edo state. In each of the local governments, 7 towns/communities were identified. We listed all the villages in each of the towns, assigned numbers to them, and through a random process as in Edo five (5) villages each were selected, $14 \times 5 = 70$. The total numbers of villages listed were 165.

From each of the villages, 2 households were selected which gave a total of 140 households. The total number of household was 2260. To select the respective respondents, 2 persons each were selected from the first 120 households = 240 and 3 persons were selected from the remaining 20 households. This gave us a total of 300 respondents from each of the two local governments. Therefore, the total sample from the two local governments is $300 \times 2 = 600$.

In Ehime Mbano, the distribution of the research instrument to Nsu, Umunumo and Nzerem started from Oriagu market centre while the distribution in Ehime started from Aba branch (Umuezeala Owerri). In Ahiazu Mbaise, the distribution started from Ogbe Ahiara. From here, the research assistants had access to Ogbe, Otulu, Oru, Ahiara, Nnarambia, Ekwereazu and other areas.

3.7 Instruments and Methods for Data Collection

The primary instrument used for the collection of data in this research is the questionnaire. We also conducted in-depth interviews (IDI) and focus group discussions (FGD). The questionnaire contained approximately 40 sets of uniform questions. This was administered to the 1, 200 selected respondents from the age of 15 and above who attained the minimum of primary school education. The research instruments for Edo state was administered in December, 2008, and that of Imo state was conducted in January and February, 2009.

The questionnaire is made up of both closed and open ended questions. It sought information on the socio demographic characteristics of the respondents, their awareness level on the subject matter, the characteristics of the traffickers, the possible victims and their characteristics, the factors responsible for human trafficking, etc. The questionnaire was self administered, and a total of 1, 200 questionnaires were administered. However, 1, 149 questionnaires were eventually collected and returned. This gave us a response rate (RR) of 96%, which is far and above the 70% required minimum for a survey research of this nature (Robertson, 1987).

In Edo state, the researcher made use of 10 field assistants, recruited from Ekenwa campus of UNIBEN and some staff of relevant NGOø in Benin like Committee for the Support and Dignity of Women (COSUDOW) and Idia Renaissance. In Imo state, 10 field assistants were also recruited from Imo State University. The research assistants received orientation on the objectives of the study and methods of questionnaire administration. They were very committed and dedicated. The questionnaire instrument for Edo was pretested in Ugbowo and Ekenwa area of Benin, while that for Imo State were pretested at Ihitte and Obowo areas of the state. This was done to ensure that the questions meet the objectives of the study, and also that the assistants are familiar with their assignment.

Qualitative data were obtained through in-depth interview with 40 purposively selected respondents. These respondents were selected on the basis of their position, background, profession, knowledge and experience. The interviews contained about 10 structured questions. Those interviewed in Edo state include 4 victims of women trafficking, 4 opinion leaders, 2 persons each from Idia Renaissance, COSUDOW, Edo State Committee on Human Trafficking (ESCHT), and 4 persons from NAPTIP, and Nigeria Immigrations, = 22. In Imo State, those interviewed were 8 opinion leaders, 6 Immigration Officers, 2 NAPTIP officers and 2 personnel of the commission for women affairs = 18. The total number of those interviewed in both states are therefore forty (40).

Another source of qualitative data was Focus Group Discussion (FGD), with carefully developed guides. A total of 5 FGD group discussions were conducted with victims of trafficking, adult males, adult females, male and female youths, with 8 ó 10 persons in each group. In Imo state, the discussion with victims could not hold because the researcher could not find the required number. The FGD provided comparative and corroborative information on the subject matter of research. The researcher also visited some border posts in Nigeria like the Seme Border in Lagos, Mfun and Ikono borders in Cross Rivers, and the Murtala Mohammed International Airport, Lagos, to observe the situations at these parts of departure.

3.8 Instrument Administration and Access

To ensure adequate acceptance of the questionnaire, the words were chosen with great care to avoid ambiguity. The questions were also simple, direct and devoid of technical terms. The questionnaire was administered directly by the researcher with the help of field assistants through in-home face-to-face personal interaction with respondents. The assistants were about 10, and were made up of students of Ekenwa Campus of Uniben and staff of relevant NGOø like COSUDOW in Edo. In Imo State, the assistants were made up of

undergraduates. Both teams received orientations and had knowledge of the socio-cultural environment of the research area.

The research ensured sufficient Response Rate (RR) to both the questionnaire and interview. Consequently, an estimated response rate of 96% was achieved in this study. Since survey data basically reflect what people say about the issues of research, it was important to reduce response bias to the barest minimum. We ensured this by the application of the Conflict Tactics Instrument 2, (CTS2) (Straus et al, 1996); and the funneling technique in the arrangement and administration of questions.

3.9 Data Processing and Analysis

Data were analyzed through the deductive approach. Descriptive statistics like percentages, statistical tables, graphics illustrations were used to describe the relationship between vital variables. The data from the questionnaire was processed and analysed using EPI version 6 and the statistical package for the social sciences (SPSS). Relevant test statistic like the chi-square (χ^2) and multiple regression analysis was also applied. This was aimed at establishing the relevant or combined predictive power of the independent variable on the dependent variables.

Data from the qualitative instruments was also properly interpreted, collated and organized according to relevant thematic headings. Relevant illustrative quotes were also used to compliment the statistical data.

3.10 Limitation of the Study

One major limitation was that the research instruments were administered in December, 2008. This period was supposed to be part of the dry season, but in Edo state, the rain was falling heavily. This was very dangerous because whenever it rained, it was like a huge river enveloping Benin City. Specifically on the 16th of December, the researcher was almost stranded between Iyaro and Ugbowo area of the town, because of the flood. The

research activity also entered the period of the traditional Igue festival in Benin. This period is usually solemn and series of traditional and cultural events take place. Movements within the city were also very slow and hectic because all the roads close to the Oba's palace, including Ring Road were cordoned off.

Another limitation was that in Edo state, some of the research assistants from Ekenwa campus of University of Benin who initially agreed to work with the researcher in anticipation of a good pay withdrew because the researcher could not meet their expectations. This situation slowed down the progress of the work, because the researcher had to recruit others who were also trained and reluctantly accepted ₦500 for lunch and transport. The researcher also had to hire a bus to convey the team to their research locations. Though this added to the cost it improved the unity and cooperation of the research team.

Further, the period of the traditional Igue festival in Benin was not very conducive to conduct a research because the mood of the town is usually solemn and movements to some areas are restricted. However, the researcher was able to overcome this because the questionnaires for Oredo where the Benin monarch resides, and which is the centre of the festival had been previously distributed.

In Imo state, the lack of adequate knowledge of questionnaire instruments in Ehime Mbano and Ahiazu Mbaise of Imo state made the researcher and the team to spend much time in advocacy, education and awareness creation. Some of them whose request for money was not met refused to participate, while some collected the questionnaire and did not comply. Generally, the research team made several visits to the research locations to be able to achieve a reasonable response rate.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

The data are presented using statistical tables, percentages and other relevant methods. Also, some inferential statistics were applied to test the relation between variables

Table 3: Distribution of Respondents by Local Governments by Edo and Imo States Indicating Response Rate

STATE	L.G.A	FREQ.	RESPONSE RATE	PERCENT.
EDO	Oredo	282	94%	49.5%
	Ikpoba-Okha	288	96%	50.5%
	Total	570	95%	100.0%
IMO	Ehime-Mbano	292	97%	50.4%
	Ahiazu-Mbaise	287	95%	49.6%
	Total	579	96%	100.0%
Total	4	1149	96%	100%

Table three above shows that though the sample was evenly distributed in the four selected L.G.As in the states at three hundred respondents each, the response pattern as indicated above shows that in Edo state, respondents from Oredo L.G.A were two hundred and eighty two, while those from Ikpoba-Okha were two hundred and eighty eight. The respective response rates from both local governments are 94% and 96%. The general response rate for the two states is 95%. However in Imo state, the response pattern indicated a slightly higher figure. In Ehime-Mbano L.G.A, for instance, the respondents are two hundred and ninety two, indicating a response rate of 97% while in Ahiazu-Mbaise the respondents are two hundred and eighty seven, indicating a response rate of 95%. However, the total response rate for Imo state is 96%. Generally however, respondents from Edo state were five hundred and seventy (570) while those from Imo state were five hundred and seventy nine, (579). Therefore, a total of one thousand, one hundred and forty nine (1149) respondents

were used for this study, and this gave a response rate of over ninety five percent which is good for the study.

4.1. Socio Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

Table 4: Distribution of Respondents by Sex by State

Sex	State		Total
	Edo	Imo	
Male	323 (58%) (56.7%)	234 (42%) (40.48%)	557 (48.5%)
Female	248(41.7%) (43.3%)	345(58.3%) (59.6%)	592 (57.5%)
Total	570(49.6%)	579(50.4%)	1149(100%)

Table 4 showed that out of a total of one thousand, one hundred and forty nine (1149) respondents used in this study, five hundred and seventy (570) respondents were from Edo state, and five hundred and seventy nine (579) respondents were from Imo state. In otherwords, slightly less than half, (49.6%) were from Edo state and slightly more than half (50.4%) were from Imo state. The gender distribution of the respondents showed that in Edo state, the males contribute less than half (43.3%). In Imo state, the reverse seems the case, while the male constitute a little less than one-third (40.4%), the females constitute a little less than two-third (59.6%) of the respondents from the state.

However, the specific sex differentials of the respondents in both states showed that more than half (58%) of the males are from Edo state, while less than half (42%) are from Imo state. On the other hand, among the female respondents, more than half, (58.3%) were from Imo state, while less than half (41.7%) were from Edo state. This shows that while the composition of male respondents were more in Edo state, the composition of the female respondents were more in Imo-state with almost the same value.

Fig. 1: Comparative Presentation of the Sex Distribution of Respondents by Edo and Imo States.

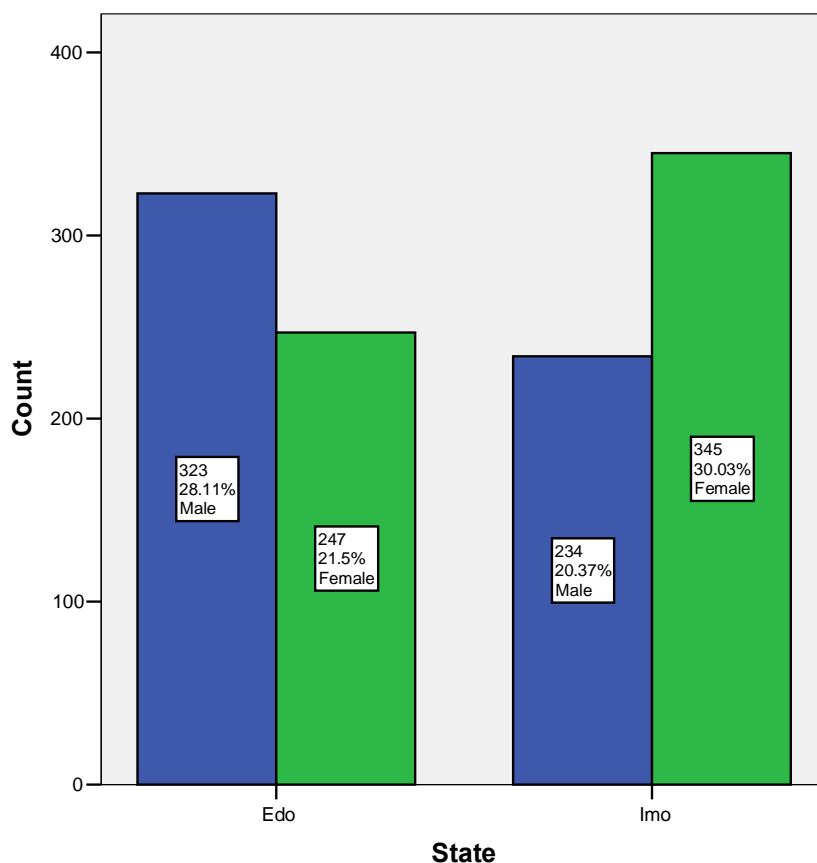


Figure one above vividly highlights the sex differentials of the respondents in both Edo and Imo states. The graph shows that males (28.11%) are higher than females, (21.5%) in Edo state. However in Imo state, the female respondents, (30.03%) are higher than the male (20.37%) respondents. Generally, therefore, the female respondents from Imo state are higher than females from Edo state by more than 8%, while male respondents from Edo state are higher than the males from Imo state by over 7%. Interestingly the observed differences in sex composition were not deliberate, but a result of sampling coincidence and response pattern. It may also be an indicator that the females more than males are more enthusiastic to participate in the study, while in Edo state, the males more than the females are more enthusiastic to participate in the study.

Table 5: Distribution of the Age Group of Respondents by State (% in Parentheses)

Age Group (yrs)	State		Total
	Edo	Imo	
1 ó 19	49(8.6%)	33(5.7%)	82(7.1%)
20 ó 24	147(25.8%)	68(11.7%)	215(18.7%)
25 ó 29	129(22.6%)	62(10.7%)	191(16.6%)
30 ó 34	71(12.5%)	58(10.0%)	129(11.2%)
35 ó 39	68(11.9%)	81(14.0%)	149(13.0%)
40 - 44	46(8.1%)	78(13.5%)	124(10.0%)
45 ó 49	28(4.9%)	89(15.4%)	117(10.2%)
50 ó 54	25(4.4%)	69(11.9%)	94(8.2%)
55 ó 59	3(0.5%)	33(7%)	36(3.1%)
60 ó 64	2(0.4%)	7(1.2%)	9(0.8%)
65 +	2(0.4%)	1(0.2%)	3(0.3%)
Total	570(49.6%)	579(50.4%)	1149(100%)

X = 38yrs; Std \pm 11.8yrs; Mo = 25yrs, Age range = 15 ó 74yrs.

Table 5 shows that in Edo state most of the respondents clustered between the ages of 20 to 29, (48%), and then spreads out from age 30 to 54years. But in Imo state, the respondents had a greater and more even spread from the ages of 19 to 59 years. The age range of the respondents were from 15 ó 74 years and the mean age is X = 33.8years. Also, the standard deviation is \pm 11.8years, and the modal age is 25years. In both states, the age range of 20 ó 29 provided the highest proportion (35%) of respondents.

Table 6: Distribution of Respondents by Specific Marital Status by State (% in parenthesis)

Marital status	State		Total
	Edo	Imo	
Married	206 (36.3%) (36.1%)	362(63.7%) (62.5%)	568 (49.4%)
Single	337 (64.1%) (59.1%)	189 (35.9%)	526 (45.8%)
Divorced	11(78.6%) (1.9%)	3(21.4%) (.5%)	14(1.2%)
Widowed	10(31.3%) (1.8%)	22(68.7%) (3.8%)	32(2.8%)
Separated	6(66.7%) (1.1%)	3(33.3%) (.5%)	9(.8%)
Total	570(100%)	579(100%)	1149(100%)

The preponderance of the respondents in both states are either married, (49.4%) or single (45.8%). In Imo state, slightly less than two third, (62.5%) of the respondents are married; while in Edo state a little over one third (36.1%) are married. On the other hand, in Imo state, about one-third, (32.6%) are single, while almost two-third, (59.1%) are single in Edo state. The respondents that are divorced, (1.2%), widowed, (2.8%) and separated, (0.8%) in both states are few.

However, the proportion of respondents from Edo state that are married is a little higher than one-third, (36.3%), while that of Imo state is a little below two-third, (63.7%). Also Edo state has the highest proportion of respondents that are single, (64.1%), divorced, (78.6%), and separated, (66.7%), while Imo state has the highest proportion of respondents that are widowed (68.7%).

Table 7: Distribution of Respondents by Educational Qualifications (% in Parenthesis)

Educational Qual.	State		Total
	Edo	Imo	
No formal education	1 (0.2%)	1(0.2%)	2(0.2%)
F.S.L. Cert.	38 (6.7%)	22(3.8%)	60(5.2%)
WASC/SSCE	220 (38.6%)	116 (20.0%)	336(29.2%)
OND/NCE	133(23.3%)	183(31.6%)	316(27.5%)
B.Sc/HND	160(28.1%)	234(40.4%)	394(34.3%)
M.Sc +	18(3.2%)	23(4.0%)	41(3.6%)
Total	570(100%)	579(100%)	1149(100%)

Table 7 showed that most of the respondents in Edo state, (38.6%) attained WASC/SSCE, while in Imo state, most of the respondents, (40.4%) attained B.Sc/HND. Also among the sixty respondents that had F.S.L.C., about two-third (63.3%) were from Edo state and about one-third (36.6%) were from Imo State. On the category of the highest qualification, M.Sc, respondents from Edo state were a little more than one-third, (43.9%), while those from Imo State were less than two-third, (56.1%). Generally, respondents from both states, clustered within the three categories of WASC/SSCE, (29.2%), OND.NCE, (27.5%) and B.Sc./HND, (27.5%), thus indicating a high literacy rate among the respondents.

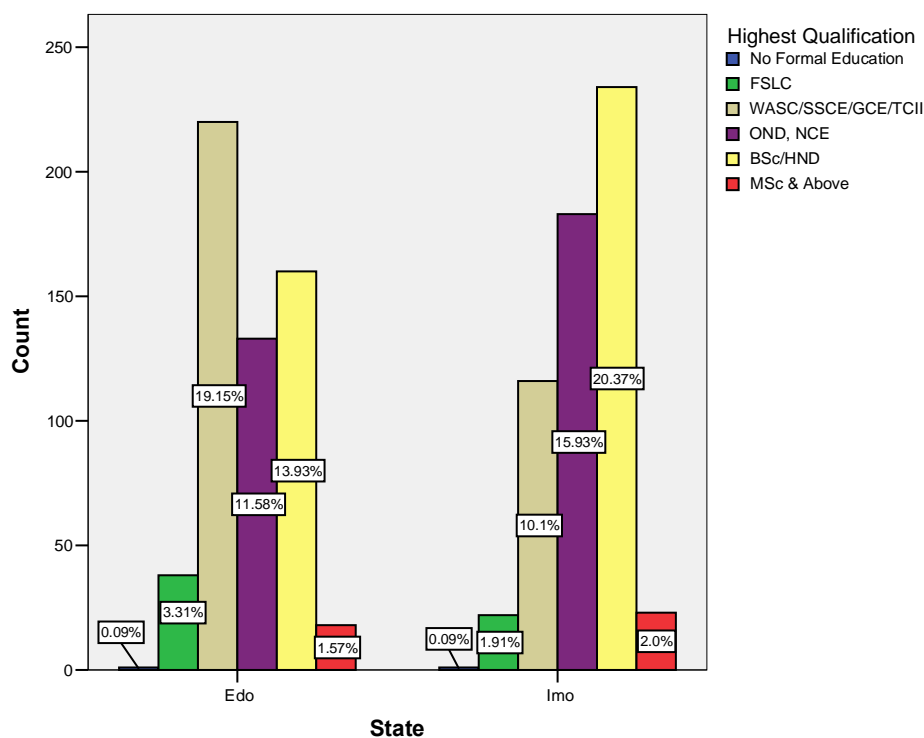
Fig. 2: Highest Qualification of Respondents by Edo and Imo States.

Figure 2 shows that in Edo state, the educational level of most of the respondents was WASC/SSCE, while in Imo state, the educational level of most of the respondents was B.Sc/HND. Generally, respondents from Imo state seem to be better educated than those from Edo state. This is not surprising because Imo people regard education as a major industry, especially among the Mbaise and Mbanjo axis of the state, which are part of the study area.

Table 8: Distribution of Respondents by Economic Activity (% in Parenthesis)

Economic Activity	State		Total
	Edo	Imo	
Civil/public servant	165(28.9%)	412(71.2%)	577(50.2%)
Business/trading	138(24.2%)	43(7.4%)	181(15.8%)
Military/paramilitary	38(6.7%)	8(1.4%)	46(4.01%)
Student	144(25.3%)	61(10.5%)	205(17.8%)
Apprentice	6(1.1%)	3(0.5%)	9(0.8%)
Artisan	28(4.9%)	21(3.6%)	49(4.3%)
Farming	8(1.4%)	13(2.2%)	21(1.8%)
Unemployed	37(6.5%)	17(2.9%)	54(4.7%)
Others	6(1.1%)	1(0.2%)	7(0.6%)
Total	570(100%)	579(100%)	1149(100%)

Table 8 above showed that almost three quarter, (71.2%) of the respondents in Imo state are civil servants, while in Edo state, a little more than one quarter (28.9%) are civil servants. In both states however, civil servants are the highest single category, (50.2%). It is also remarkable to note that the respondents who are farmers in Edo state, (1.4%) and Imo state, (2.2%) are very insignificant.

Table 9: Distribution of Respondents by Religious Affiliation by states (% in Parentheses)

Religious affiliation	State		Total
	Edo	Imo	
Christianity	523(91.8%)	570(98.4%)	1093(95.1%)
Islam	32(5.6%)	4(.7%)	36(3.1%)
Afr. Trad. Rel. (ATR)	13(2.3%)	4(.7%)	17(1.5%)
Atheist	2(.4%)	1(.2%)	3(.3%)
Total	570(100%)	579(100%)	1149(100%)

Table 9 on religious affiliation showed that predominant number (98.4%) of the respondents in Imo state are Christians. Also, in Edo state, Christians were the largest religious group, (91.8%) among the respondents. This outcome aligns with the fact that most of the population in these states are Christians, which obviously manifested in the sample. Also, the proportion of Moslem respondents from Edo state were more than three quarter, (88.9%) while the proportion from Imo state were less than one-quarter, (1.1%). This may be an indication that Edo state has higher number of Moslems than Imo state.

Table 10: Distribution of respondents by weekly income from Economic Activity by State (% in Parentheses).

Weekly Income	State		Total
	Edo	Imo	
<=₦1000	44(7.7%)	87(15.0%)	131(11.4%)
₦1000 ó ₦5,000	115(20.2%)	147(25.4%)	262(22.8%)
₦50001 ó ₦10,000	113 (19.8%)	110(19.0%)	223(19.4%)
₦10,0001 ó ₦15,000	50 (8.8%)	63(10.7%)	112(9.7%)
₦15,001+	58(10.2%)	82(14.2%)	140(12.5%)
DO NOT KNOW	190(33.3%)	91(15.7%)	281(24.5%)
Total	570(100%)	579 (100%)	1149(100%)

$$X^2 = 58.275, df = 5, P < 0.001$$

Table 10 showed that in both Edo and Imo state, most of the respondents, (20.2%) and (25.4%) respectively earn between N1,000 to N5,000 per week from their economic activities. Also, those that earn below N1000 per week in Edo state were less than ten percent, (7.7%) and below twenty percent, (15.0%) in Imo state. Respondents that earn N15,000 and above in Edo state were about one tenth (10.2%), while same category in Imo state were a little above one tenth, (14.2%). It is also remarkable that one-third, (33.3%) of the respondents in Edo state and about half of the value in Imo state, (15.7%) do not know their income. This may be because this category engages in economic activities which income are difficult to quantify. Generally, in both states, the weekly income of most of the respondents cluster between N1000 and N10,000. Expectedly there is a significant difference ($P < 0.0001$) in the income of respondents in both states.

Fig. 3: Indication of Comparative Average Income of Respondents by Edo and Imo States

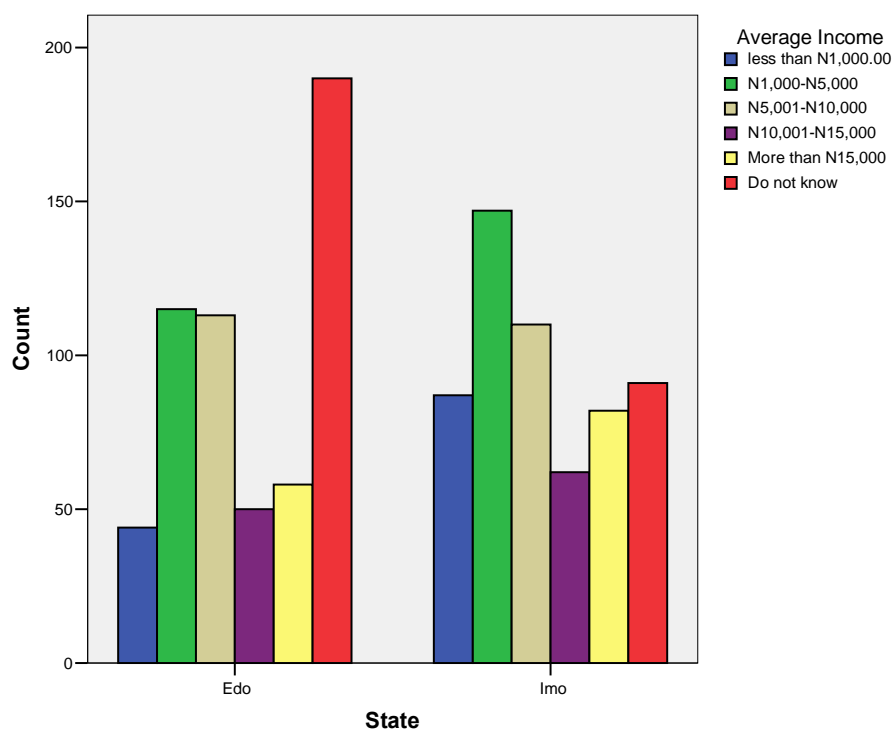


Figure 3 shows that in Edo state, the respondents that do not know their average income are of the highest category. This may be due to problems of computation or that they

are engaged in economic activities that are difficult to quantify. However, on the average incomes, the highest levels in Edo are between ₦1,000 and ₦10,000 also in Imo state the highest income level was between ₦5,000 to ₦10,000.

4.2: Characteristics of Households in the Community in Edo and Imo States.

Table 11: Distribution of Respondents by Perceived Number of Children in Households in the Community in Edo And Imo States

Age Group (yrs)	State		Total
	Edo	Imo	
1 ó 4 (Low)	155(27.2%)	160(27.6%)	315(27.4%)
5 ó 10 (High)	352(61.8%)	358(61.8%)	710(61.8%)
11 +(V. High)	29 (5.0%)	18(3.1%)	47(4.1%)
No child	34(6.0%)	43(7.4%)	77(6.7%)
Total	570(100%)	579(100%)	1149(100%)

$$X^2 = 24.369, df = 19, P < .182$$

The outcome of table 11 showed that in both Edo and Imo states, a little less than two third, (61.8%) of the respondents indicated that most households in the communities have between 5 ó 10 children, on the other hand, less than one-third (27.2%) in Edo, and (27.6%) in Imo indicated that households have between 1 ó 4 children. This outcome showed that households in both states record high number of children, in other words, both states are marked by large family size. Therefore, there is no significant difference, ($X^2 = 24.369$, $df = 19$, $P < .182$) in the number of children by households in the communities in Edo and Imo states.

Fig. 4: Trends in the Number of Children Among Households in Edo and Imo States.

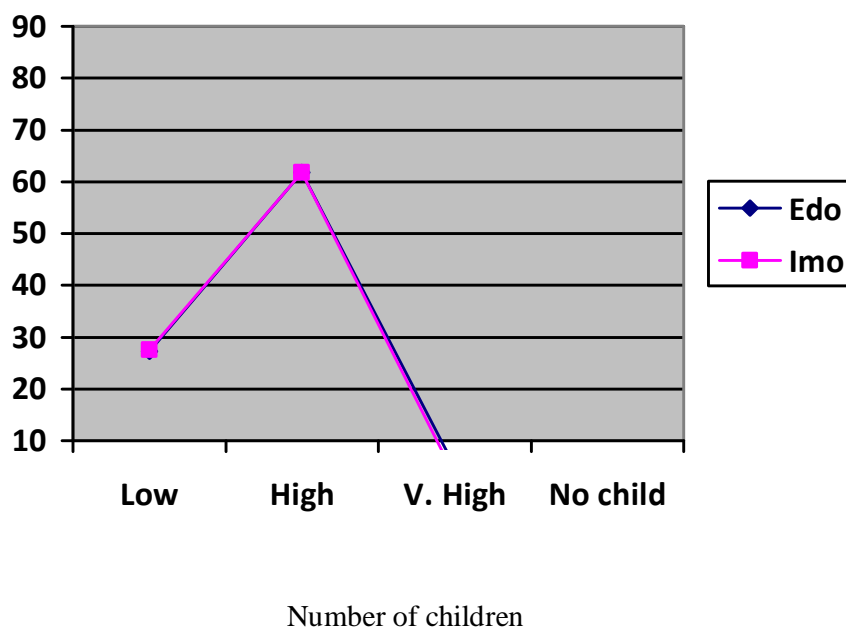


Figure 4 above showed a very clear trend in the number of children in households in the communities in Edo and Imo state. Evidently, both states manifested similar trends, which indicated high number of children with the preference at the highest peak at sixty-one percent. In other words, most households in these states have between five to ten children.

The available qualitative data from in-depth interview with victims, especially in Edo state also confirmed that the lowest numbers of children in the household of the victims were six, (6), and the highest were eleven, (11).

Table 12: Distribution of Respondents by the Reason for the Number of children found in Households in the community by state.

Perceived Reason for the Number of children	State		Total
	Edo	Imo	
Culture, tradition/large families	284(49.8%)	395(68.3%)	680(59.1%)
Early marriage/large family	202(35.4%)	193(33.3%)	395(34.4%)
Ignorance/large families	247(43.3%)	208(35.9%)	455(39.6%)
Culture tradition/small families	10(1.8%)	4(.7%)	14(1.2%)
Modernization/small families	107(18.8%)	71(12.3%)	178(15.5%)
Family planning/small families	112(19.6%)	102(17.6%)	214(18.6%)
Economy, cost/small families	123(21.6%)	144(24.9%)	267(23.2%)
Other reasons	1(.2%)	1(.2%)	2(.2%)
Don't know	23(4.0%)	3(.5%)	26(2.3%)
Total	570(100%)	579(100%)	1149(100%)

A cursory look on table 12 showed that almost half, (49.8%) of the respondents in Edo state indicated that culture and tradition is the major reason for large children in households, this factor is followed by ignorance, (43.3%) and early marriage, (35.4%). On the other hand, harsh economy and high cost of living (21.6%) is indicated as the major reason for small families, in the state followed by family planning, (19.6%). In Imo state, though culture and tradition was identified as the main reason for large number of children found in households, the number of respondents who so indicated which is two third (68.3%) of the respondents, were much higher than in Edo state. This was followed by the factor of ignorance, (35.9%) and early marriage, (33.3%). There was also a significant difference ($P < .0001$) in the factor of culture and tradition in both states.

The study further sought to know and identify the aspect of culture and tradition of the people that most influences large children in households. In Edo state, Oredo and Ikpoba-Okha are within the high fertility belt of the state. In Oredo especially the Benin area, inheritance is only through the first son. Therefore most women regard giving birth to several first sons as investment.

Consequently, most women have children for several men in a bid to get first sons. Apparently, the more sons a woman has, the more wealth she attracts to herself. The first consequence of this is the reality of large children in households; the second is the presence of so many children in households without a mother figure.

An adult female FGD participant explained these cultural traditional factor this way; *“multiple families, women leaving to another family for the first child because inheritance is linked to it, in this part, a man could have more than one wife, and a woman also can leave a man to another so as to have the first child”*

In Imo state, Ahiazu-Mbaise and Ehime-Mbano also have specific culture and tradition that encourage and give impetus to large number of children. It is the tradition

within Mbaise and Mbanjo axis for women to have a target of ten children and above. The culture and tradition reserves a very high status and honour for women who achieved this feat through the òEwu-ukwuò ceremony. Therefore, every woman strives to attain this status, thereby giving rise to large number of children in households.

4.3: Awareness of Human Trafficking and Prevalence

Table 13: Distribution of Respondents by Awareness of Women/Child Trafficking By State (% in Parenthesis)

Type of trafficking	State		Total	Statistics
	Edo	Imo		
I am aware	533(93.5%)	408(70.5%)	941(81.9%)	X ² = 102.916 Df = 2 P<= 0.0001
I am not aware	26(4.6%)	116(20.0%)	142(12.4%)	
Don't know	11(1.9%)	55(9.5%)	66(5.7%)	
Child trafficking				
I am aware	469(82.3%)	509(87.9%)	978(85.1%)	X ² = 8.570 Df = 2 P<=0.14
I am not aware	65(11.4%)	51(8.8%)	116(10.1%)	
Don't know	36(6.3%)	19(3.3%)	55(4.8%)	

Table 13 shows that respondents from Edo (93.5%) and Imo state (70.5%) indicated awareness of the practice of women trafficking, however, the awareness level in Edo state is slightly higher than the level in Imo state. The respondents also presented similar indication on child trafficking. Both Edo (82.3%) and Imo (87.9%) states, showed high level of awareness for child trafficking.

The FGD with victims in Edo state also indicated that some victims were fully aware, but some were not. According to the discussants, most individuals are usually interested in travelling in order to improve on their conditions or have a better life. However, it was also discovered that most of these individuals do not know the link between such travels and human trafficking, this important link is not so clear to them. This ignorance is found to be mostly responsible for most people still indicating interest to travel. The ignorance is reinforced by the quest for better life and the deceit and falsehood of the traffickers and their agents.

According to one of the victims;

“ I met this man, he asked me if I will travel to Italy. I said yes, but I won't go there to do prostitution, but he said there are other works like fabrica, but when I got there, I did not work in the fabrica, the madam kept me on the street”

FGD with adult females, male and female youths further confirmed that the awareness level is relatively high. However, the male adults indicated that awareness is higher in the urban centres than in the rural areas.

On prevalence, all the FGD groups in Edo confirmed that human trafficking especially in women and young girls is highly practised in the state. One adult female participant described the situation like this, “ Oredo is a metropolitan area. It is both a local government headquarter, and a state capital. So it is a high target area for human trafficking” .Another participant, Sr. Florence also described Oredo as “ a melting ground of people from all over”

However, Ikpoba Okha was described by another participant as “ the Italy and Spain of human trafficking” while yet another participant describes it thus “ Ikpoba-Okha is the morocco of the state, it is a centre and a major port for traffickers”. A participant in the adult male group also identified Uromi as an endemic community for human trafficking.

On the contrast in Imo state, FGD participants indicated that the level of awareness for women trafficking is lower but they are very much aware that you can give out a child to a relation or friend to either learn a trade, handwork or school. Similarly, as the case in Edo, they also could not establish the link between this traditional practice and human trafficking. According to one participant from Ahiazu Mbaise, “ what we know here is that parents give their consent to relatives to help them train children or teach them trade”. Interestingly, another male participant gave a historic account of trafficking in Ehime Mbano area in the 1940s and 1950s. According to him;

“ when I went to Calabar in the 1940s, we were working , but those who took us to Calabar were eating the money. Then the persons that took people to towns usually collect all the wages, they eat all the money, we were up to five persons from my village, Umuaroí ”

Another participant also stated thus, “ when we travelled to Yoruba, specifically Akure from my village in Umunumo to cut timber or òlgediò we were two and some other people from Umuezealla. Before we got there, the person who took us to the place had collected our wage for one full year. It was only after the second year that we were paid somethingí ”

Yet another community leader in Imo state narrated how at about 1954 during the construction of Ijebu-Benin óLagos road, and ore bridge, “ one Mark brought three of his kinsmen to work for African timber and plywood (ATP) company at Okitikpukpa, and collected their salary for four yearsí ”

Fig. 5: Perceived Awareness of Trafficking of Young Women/Girls for Prostitution by Edo and Imo States

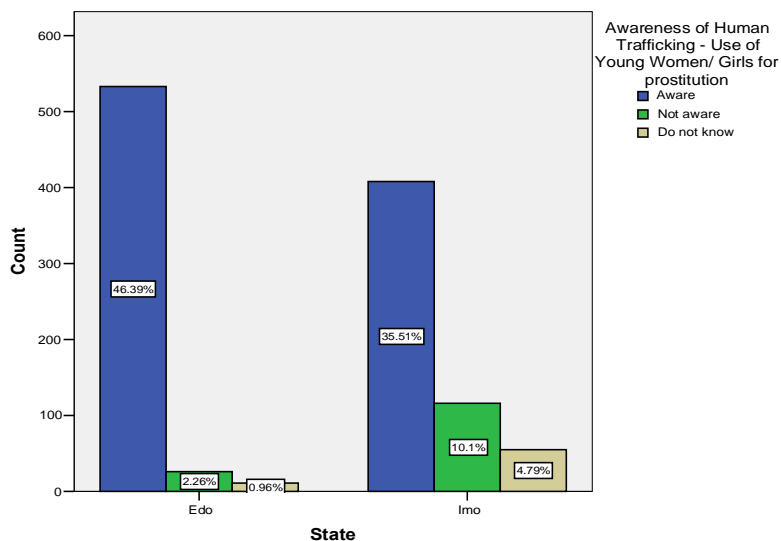
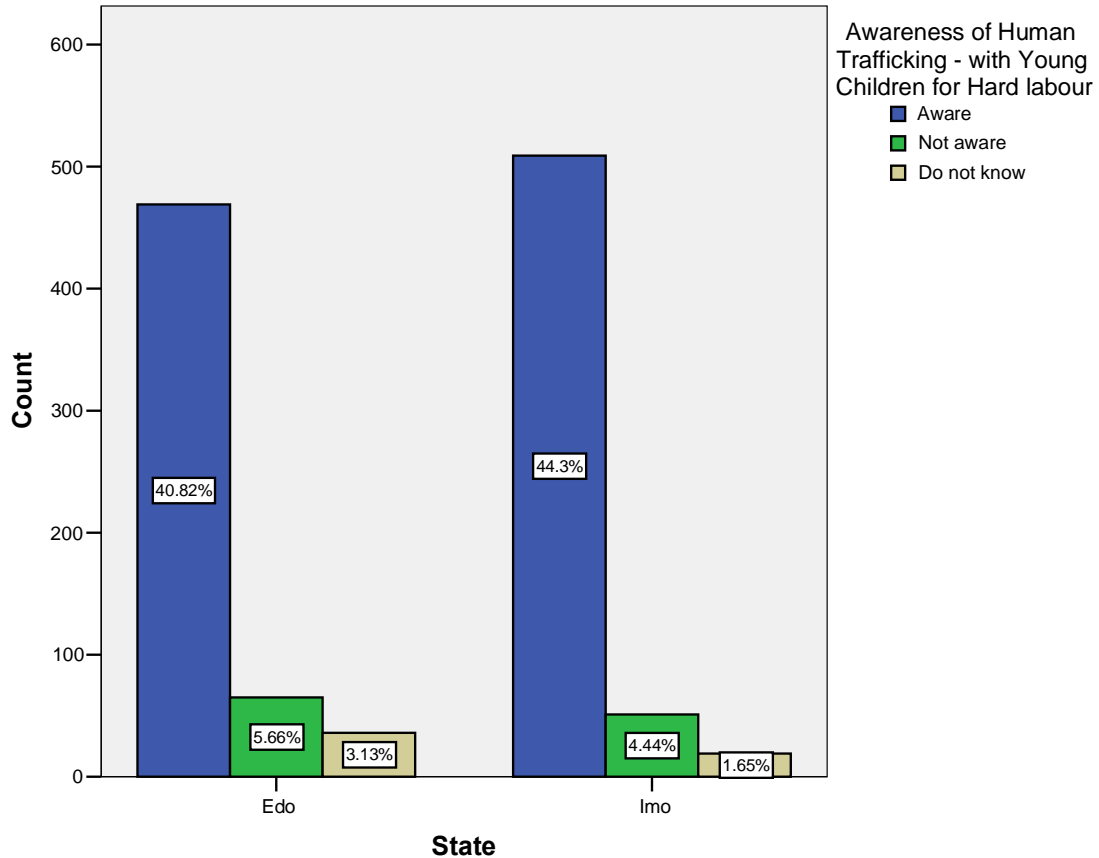


Figure 5 is a chart showing the awareness of trafficking of young women/girls for prostitution in both Edo and Imo states. The chart clearly shows that for awareness of

trafficking of young women/girls for prostitution, Edo state has the highest level of awareness. More than ninety percent of the respondents stated this fact.

Fig. 6: Perceived Awareness of Trafficking of Young Children for Hard Labour in Edo and Imo States



In contrast to figure 5, figure 6 above rather shows that for trafficking with children for hard labour, Imo state indicated the highest level of awareness. However, the perceived awareness level for trafficking with children in Edo state is also high at over forty percent. In other words, while the perceived awareness level for both women and child trafficking is high in Edo state, in Imo state, child trafficking is highest. This also gives an indication of the form of human trafficking that is most common in both states.

4.4: Knowledge and Characteristics of Human Traffickers

The respondents were asked their perception of the traffickers, their sex and the reasons the traffickers usually give to convince the victims. The outcome of the data in this section is aimed at addressing research question five and hypothesis three of this study.

Table 14: Distribution of Respondents by Perceived Knowledge of the Traffickers By Edo and Imo State

Who are these traffickers	State		Total
	Edo	Imo	
Friends of the family	228(40.0%)	282(48.7%)	570(44.4%)
Strangers to women/children	31(5.4%)	22(3.8%)	53(4.6%)
Relations of women/children	291(51.1%)	358(61.8%)	649(56.5%)
Travel agents	248(43.5%)	50(8.6%)	298(25.9%)
Others	5(.9%)	0(.0%)	5(.4%)
Do not know	45(7.9%)	34(5.9%)	79(6.9%)

Table 14 above shows that respondents in Edo state identified the traffickers as mostly relations of the women and children, (51.1%), friends of the family, (40.0%) and travel agents, (43.5%). While in Imo state, the traffickers were identified as mostly relations, (61.8%), and friends of the family, (48.7%). Remarkably in both states, less than 6% identified strangers as the traffickers.

The findings above were confirmed by the FGD and interviews in both states. In Edo, a female participant in Oredo noted that ‘the traffickers could be your next door neighbor, friends, brother, sister, in-law or other relatives.’ Astonishingly, it was discovered in this study that even parents could be traffickers. This was clearly confirmed by another participant in Edo, when he stated that ‘even the parents traffic their children and benefit from the transaction. Some parents actively force their children into the trade.’ In Imo state, a participant in Ahiazu Mbaise corroborated this, when he stated that ‘sometimes, the traffickers may be relations, brothers, or uncles. Sometimes a relation may introduce the person to the family.’ Yet another participant emphasized this when he said ‘you cannot

give your kid to a total strangerí ö. Generally however, most of the participants established a nexus between the victims of trafficking and the traffickers.

The most likely sex of the traffickers and test of hypothesis 3: females tend to participate as traffickers more than males.

Table 15: Distribution of Respondents by the Most Likely Sex of Traffickers.

Sex of traffickers	State		Total
	Edo	Imo	
Males	19(25.0%)	57(75.0%)	76(100%)
Females	341(63.7%)	194(36.3%)	535(100%)
Total	360(58.9%)	257(41.1%)	611(100%)

$X^2 = 41.259$, $df = 1$, $P < 0.0001$

Table 15 represents the perception of the respondents on whether the traffickers are mostly male or female. The table shows that in Edo state the perception of almost two-third, (63.7%) of the respondents identified females as the most likely traffickers, while about one-third (35.3%) in Imo state also identified females. However, among the respondents that identified males as the most likely traffickers, two third, (75.0%) are from Imo state and one third, (25%) are from Edo state. This outcome shows that while females are the most likely traffickers in Edo state, this is not necessarily the case in Imo state.

To further confirm the issue of sex and trafficking in both state the hypothesis which states that females tend to participate as traffickers more than males was tested. The X^2 value of 41.259 indicates a remarkable difference between the observed proportional differences and what is expected by chance occurrence. To determine whether this difference is significant or not, the appropriate steps were taken, and it was established that the computed X^2 value at 41.25% is higher than the critical X^2 value at 10.827. Therefore, the substantive hypothesis is upheld. It also shows that there is a significant difference ($P < .0001$) between the sex of traffickers in both states.

Fig. 7: Bar Chart of Sex of Traffickers by Edo and Imo States.

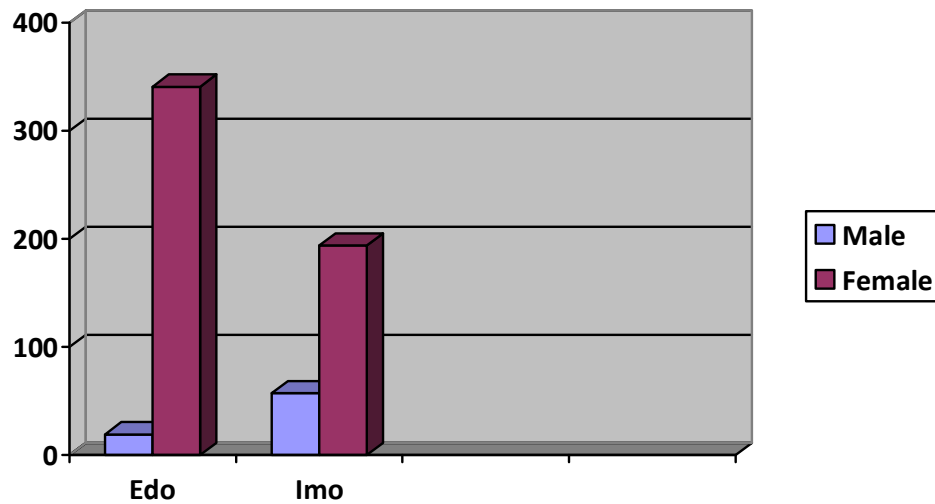


Figure 7 graphically highlights the fact that in Edo state, females are identified as most traffickers. However in both Edo and Imo states, the relative perception of females as most traffickers is more than that of males.

Fig. 8: Perceived Sex of Traffickers Indicating Male and Female Preference

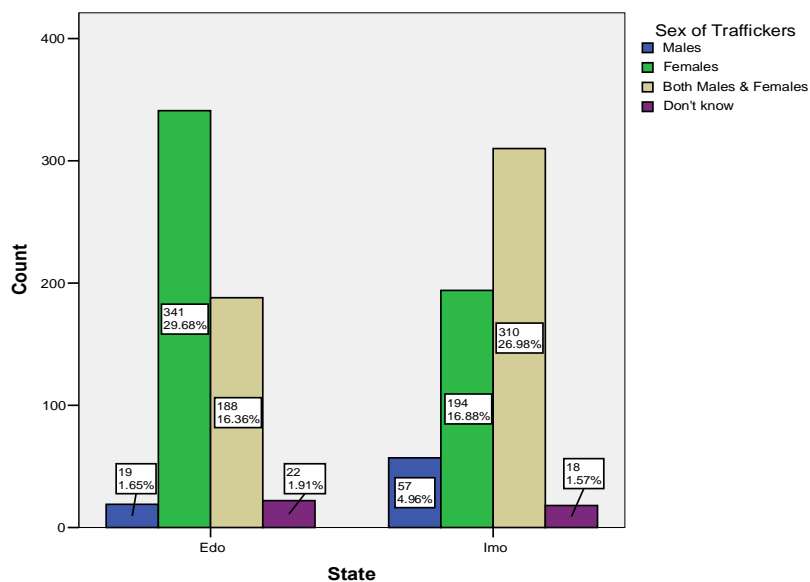


Figure 8 shows that in Imo state, most respondents identified both male and females (26.9%) as the traffickers. This perception is even higher than that for females, (16.8%).

Also, the identification of male and female as traffickers though lower in Edo state is still relatively high at 16.38%.

The FGD and interview sessions indicated similar outcome and more. In Edo state, victim participants stated that the traffickers are both men and women who work at different stage of the trafficking process, either as a scout or agent, facilitator and sponsor or madam. According to a victim who was trafficked to Italy òí I went through a sponsorer, I met the woman who sponsored in Italy, most of those who sponsor are womení ø

Both adult males and females also noted that the traffickers involve a network of persons. The sponsors or baronesses reside abroad, but their agents do the recruitment of victims locally from both urban and rural areas. At this point, the study sought to know if the respondents had come in contact with the traffickers.

Table 16: Distribution of Respondents by whether they have come in Contact with Human Traffickers.

Contact with traffickers	State		Total
	Edo	Imo	
Yes	241(42.3%)	170(29.4%)	411(35.8%)
No	292(57.2%)	369(63.7%)	661(57.5%)
Do not know	37(6.5%)	40(6.9%)	77(6.7%)
TOTAL	570(100%)	579(100%)	1149(100%)

$$X^2 = 21.263; df = 2; P < .0001$$

In Edo state, a little less than half, (42.3%) indicated that they had come in contact with a human trafficker, while a little over one third, (29.4%) indicated same in Imo state. On the other hand, a little more than half (51.2%) in Edo state, indicated that they had not come in contact with a human trafficker while a little less than two-third, (63.7%) indicated same in Imo state. The relative higher contact with human traffickers in Edo state than in Imo state could also be an indicator of the presence and activity of human traffickers in these states. Statistically, there is a significant difference ($P < .0001$) in the responses from both states in terms of coming in contact with traffickers. The study was further directed on the reasons the traffickers give to convince the victims of human trafficking.

Table 17: Distribution of Respondents by the Reasons Traffickers give to Convince the Victims.

Perceived reasons	State		Total
	Edo	Imo	
Women & Girls			
Good jobs abroad	437(76.7%)	472(81.5%)	909(79.1%)
Offer of school	178(31.2%)	165(28.5%)	343(29.9%)
Offer to Est. business	111(19.5%)	99(17.1%)	210(18.3%)
Offer of marriage	59(10.4%)	73(12.6%)	132(11.5%)
To learn Trade/Skills	145(25.4%)	156(26.9%)	301(26.2%)
To escape from poverty	297(52.1%)	257(44.4%)	554(48.2%)
Others	2(.4%)	0(.0%)	2(.2%)
CHILDREN OR PARENTS			
To learn trade	173(30.4%)	263(45.8%)	436(37.9%)
To learn skill	270(47.4%)	265(45.8%)	535(46.6%)
To be sent to school	339(59.5%)	361(62.3%)	700(60.9%)
To pay money to parents	226(39.6%)	265(45.8%)	491(42.7%)
Others	8(1.4%)	1(.2%)	9(.8%)
Do not know	18(3.2%)	19(3.3%)	37(3.2%)

From table 17, it is obvious that the main reasons the traffickers usually give to convince the women and girls according to the perception of the respondents from both states are offer of good jobs abroad, (76.7%) and (81.5%) in Edo and Imo states respectively, and escape from poverty, (52.1%) in Edo, and (44.4%) in Imo state. On the other hand, the main reason traffickers give to convince children and their parents in Edo and Imo state are to send the children to school, (59.5%) and (62.3%) to learn skill, (47.4%) and (45.8%), and paying money to parents, (39.6%) and (45.8%), respectively. The core base factor of women trafficking therefore, seem to be poverty and lack of employment, while that of child trafficking are enrolment in school and learning of skill.

The study further carried out multiple regression analysis in other to know the predictive power of sex and other social characteristics on the awareness of tendency to traffic women and young girls through promise of good job. In other words, the awareness of the tendency to traffic women and young girls through promise of good job is predicted from sex and other social characteristics. In this case, the dependent variable is tendency to traffic

women and young girls through promise of good job, and the independent variables are sex, marital status (married), economic activity, religion (Christians), education, age and income. The intentions here are first, to know the joint effect of these independent variables on the dependent variable, and secondly, to assess the specific effect or influence of each of the independent variables on the dependent variable. In other words the intention is to know the combined effect of sex and other social characteristics on the awareness of the tendency to traffic women and young girls through promise of good job, and also the specific effect of each of the social characteristics on the awareness of the tendency to traffic women and young girls. This effort is underscored by the perception of the respondents that promise of good jobs abroad is the major reason that traffickers give to convince the women/girl victims of human trafficking. The result of the multiple regression analysis is presented on table 18 below.

Table 18: Multiple Regression Analysis of the Awareness of Tendency to Traffic Women and Young Girls through Promise of Good Job on Sex and Other Social Characteristics of Respondents

VARIABLES	Mean	Co-ef.	Std error	T	P
Awareness of tendency to traffic women and young girls through promise of good jobs.	0.8249				
(Constant)	-	0.072	0.392	0.185	0.854
Sex	0.4919	0.031	0.026	1.179	0.239
Married	0.5922	6.182	0.033	0.002	0.998
Economic Activity	0.6244	0.059	0.030	1.970	0.049
Christian	0.9505	0.007	0.060	0.118	0.906
Education	0.9988	0.736	0.383	1.923	0.055
Age	36.4300	0.000	0.001	-0.688	0.492
Income	0.1509	-0.037	0.037	-0.998	0.319

$R = 0.111$; R^2 Change = 0.012; F-change = 1.532; $P < 0.153$

The above table showed that the R-square which measures the variance between variables is 0.012. This implies that 1.2% of variation in the awareness of the tendency to traffic women and young girls through promise of good job is explained by the joint effect of sex and other social characteristics contained in the model. However, this relationship is not statistically significant at $P < 0.153$.

On the relative effect of each of the variables in predicting the awareness of tendency to traffic women and young girls through promise of good job, the table shows that the regression coefficient for sex, marital status (married), economic activity, Christianity, education and age indicated positive association or relationship. The table showed that economic activity with a t-value of 2.0; education with a t-value of 1.9, and sex with a t-value of 1.2 are the most important contributors in predicting the awareness of tendency to traffic women and young girls through promise of good jobs. Also, income indicated a negative or inverse relationship on the tendency to traffic women and young girls through promise of good job at a level of -0.037. This implies that a unit change in the income of the respondent will bring about a decrease in the awareness of the tendency to traffic women and young girls through the promise of good job by 0.037 periods. In other words, high income has a low or negative predictive power while low income has a high or positive predictive power on the awareness of the tendency to traffic women and young girls through promise of good job. Therefore, promise of good jobs abroad by traffickers has negative effect on high income individuals, and positive effect on low income individuals. This relationship is significant at 0.3 levels. Also the positive relationship between education and the awareness of the tendency to traffic women and young girls through the promise of good job is significant at 0.055 levels.

We further considered the influence or effect of sex and other social characteristics on the awareness of tendency to traffic women and young girls through promise of training in school or skill. This is important because respondents perceive this factor as the major reason; the traffickers give to convince children or their parents. In other words, it is one major reason that makes children to be vulnerable to human trafficking. Therefore, the dependent variable is the awareness of tendency to traffic women and young girls through

promise of training. The independent variables are sex and other social characteristics as in the previous model in table 18.

Table 19: Multiple Regression Analysis of the Awareness of Tendency to Traffic Children and Young Girls through Promise of Training on Sex and Other Social Characteristics of Respondents.

VARIABLES	Mean	Co-ef.	Std error	T	p
Awareness of tendency to traffic women and young girls through promise of training in school and skill.	0.8502				
(Constant)	-	0.850	0.365	2.326	0.020
Sex	0.4919	0.017	0.025	0.700	0.484
Married	0.5922	0.056	0.031	1.824	0.068
Economic Activity	0.6244	-0.026	0.028	-0.918	0.359
Christianity	0.9505	0.220	0.056	3.924	0.000
Education	0.9988	-0.212	0.357	-0.595	0.552
Age	36.4300	0.000	0.001	-0.299	0.765
Income	0.1509	-0.053	0.034	-1.552	0.121

R = 0.158; R² change = 0.025; F δ change = 3.128; P < 0.003

Table 19 above shows the value of the combined effects of the independent variables or R² value as 0.025. This implies a 2.5% variation or unit change in awareness of tendency to traffic children and young girls through promise of training in school and skills as a result of the joint effect of sex and other social characteristics. This relationship is also statistically significant at P < 0.003 levels. The effect of the specific independent variables showed that the regression coefficient for sex, marital status (married), religion, (Christianity) and age indicated a positive association, while economic activity, education and income indicated a negative or inverse relationship with the awareness of tendency to traffic women and young girls through promise of training in school and skills.

As can be seen from the table, sex is positively associated with the awareness of tendency to traffic children and young girls through promise of training in school and skill at a value of 0.017 periods. Put differently, a unit change in the sex of the respondents (male to female) will bring about a positive change in the awareness of the tendency to traffic women and young girls through promise of training in school and skill by 0.017 periods. When the effects of other variables have been controlled. This relationship was however not significant

at 0.484 levels implying that the observed difference may be due to chance or some sampling error.

Also, marital status (married) and religion (Christianity) showed positive association with the awareness of the tendency to traffic women and young girls through promise of training in school and skill by 0.056, and 0.220 periods respectively. These associations are significant at 0.068, and 0.001 levels respectively. Indeed Christianity recorded the highest level of significance among all the variables in the model.

However, education showed a negative association with the awareness of the tendency to traffic women and young girls through promise of training in school and skill by -0.212 levels. This implies that a unit change in the level of education will bring about a 0.21 negative or less unit change in the awareness of the tendency to traffic women and young girls through promise of training in school and skills.

Further, income showed a negative association with the awareness of the tendency to traffic women and young girls through promise of training in school and skills. In other words, a unit change in income would yield a 5.3% period less or negative change in the awareness of the tendency to traffic women and young girls through promise of training in school and skills. Similarly, a unit decrease in income will translate into 5.3% periods of increase in the awareness of the tendency to traffic women and young girls through promise of training in school and skills. The next plank of the study is to know whether these who had travelled before, especially former victims, play a role or contribute to the spread of human trafficking in these states. In other words, the aim is to know if these former victims who had travelled and are familiar with the destination of victims function in these areas as traffickers. It will also enable us to test the fifth hypothesis which states that former victims who are familiar with the place of destination tend to operate more as traffickers than persons who are not familiar with the place of destination.

Table 20: Distribution of Respondents by whether former Victims who are Familiar with the Place of Destination Operate as Traffickers more than Non Victims who are not familiar with the Place of Destination.

Characteristics of traffickers	State		Total
	Edo	Imo	
INTERNAL TRAFFICKING			
Former victims who are familiar	457(57.2%)	435(48.8%)	892(100%)
Non victims who are not familiar	75(45.7%)	89(54.3%)	154(100%)
Total	532(50.4%)	524(49.6)	105(100%)
$X^2 = 1.677; df = 1; P < .113$			
INTERNATIONAL TRAFFICKING			
Former victims who are familiar	498(57.4%)	470(48.6%)	968(100%)
Non victims who are not familiar	37(45.1%)	45(54.9%)	82(100%)
Total	535(51.0%)	515(49.0%)	105(100%)

$X^2 = 1.210; df = 1; P < .162$

Table 20 shows the perception of the respondents on the role of former victims who are familiar with the destinations on human trafficking. According to the table, in Edo state, more than three-quarter, (87%) of the respondents, and more than half (57.4%) of the respondents in both states indicated that former victims of trafficking, who are familiar with the place of destination operate more as traffickers in both internal and international trafficking.

On the other hand, in Imo state, almost similar margin, seventy five percent (75%) for internal trafficking, and eighty one percent, (81%) for international trafficking and almost half, (48%) of the respondents from both states indicated the same perception. On the contrary, less than fifteen percent and less than ten percent of the respondents in Edo and Imo states stated otherwise. From this category, about forty-five percent, (45%) for both internal and international trafficking are from Edo state, and about fifty-five, (55%) are from Imo state.

This outcome show that the perception of most of the respondents in both states supports the hypothesis that former victims who are familiar with the place of destination operate more as traffickers than non victims who are not familiar with the place of destination. This perception is supported by outcomes of FGD with adult female groups and

interview with female victim in Edo state. An adult female participant described the traffickers thus: "they are our own people, they are not foreigners, they are those that have travelled and know that the trade pays". A victim explaining the influence of these former victims stated that "most of the madams in Benin build houses, send cars, open car shops, electronic and computer shops, they are so many of them, you cannot know they are sponsors". Yet, the senior officer of immigrations in-charge of human trafficking also confirmed that "in Benin city, most of the big structures in town is built by the big girls (traffickers) in Italy and Germany".

We further subjected our hypothesis to statistical test. The computed X^2 value for both internal and international trafficking which is $X^2 = 1.677$ and $X^2 = 1.210$ is less than the critical X^2 value at 2.706 and 1.642 respectively. Consequently, the null hypothesis is upheld, and the substantive hypothesis rejected. This implies that former victims who are familiar with the place of destination do not operate more as traffickers than persons who are not familiar with the destination. Also, there is no significant relationship in the perception of respondents in both states.

Fig. 9: Characteristics of International Traffickers

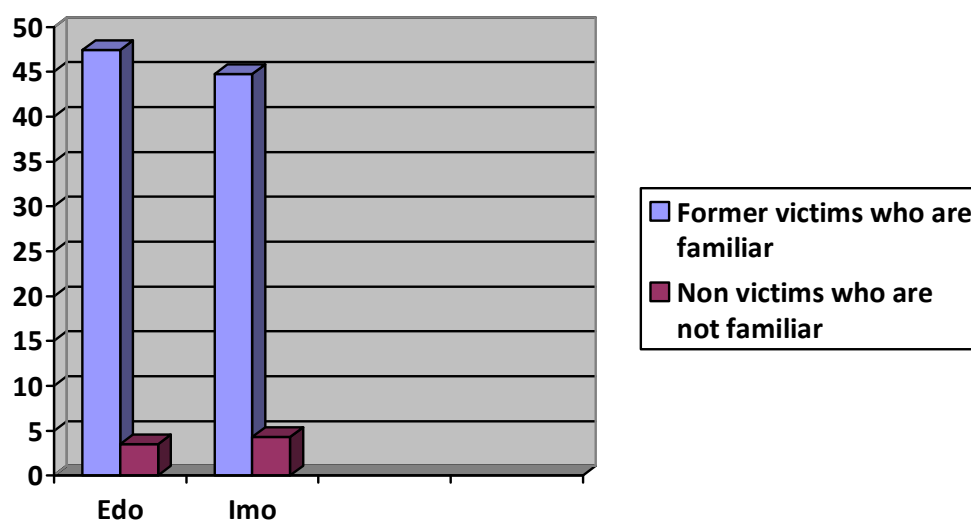


Figure 9, demonstrates the outcome of the data which shows that most respondents in both state have the perception that former victims who are familiar with the destinations operate more as traffickers than persons who are not familiar with the place of destination. However, this hypothesis was not upheld and the level of association, not statistically significant.

The study further set out to find out where the traffickers actually come from. The objective is to know if they come from other states to operate at a particular location.

Table 21: Distribution of Respondents by Whether the Traffickers are from within or Outside the area where they Operate.

Origin or base of trafficker	State		Total
	Edo	Imo	
Within the area	285(50.0%)	275(47.5%)	560(48.9%)
Outside the area	228(40.0%)	234(40.4%)	462(40.2%)
Others	0(.0%)	1(.2%)	1(.1%)
Do not know	57(10.0%)	69(11.9%)	126(11.0%)
Total	570(100.0%)	579(100.0%)	149(100%)

$$X^2 = 2.329, df = 3; P = .507$$

The table above shows that in Edo state, the perception of half of the respondents, (50%) is that the traffickers are from within the areas where they operate while in Imo state a little less than half, (47.5%) held similar perception. On the other hand, about forty percent (40%) of respondents in both states held contrary view that traffickers are from outside the area where they operate. Statistically, the perception of respondents ($X^2 = 2.329, df = 3; P = .507$) is not significant.

Table 22: Perception of Respondents on the State Traffickers in the Area Mostly Come from, by Edo and Imo State

State of traffickers	State		Total
	Edo	Imo	
Imo	17(3.0%)	324(56.0%)	341(29.7%)
Edo	417(73.2%)	70(12.1%)	487(42.2%)
Delta	21(3.7%)	30(5.2%)	51(4.4%)
Lagos	20(3.5%)	28(4.8%)	48(4.2%)
Enugu	3(.5%)	4(.7%)	7(.6%)
Others	0(.0%)	1(.2%)	1(.1%)
Do not know	92(16.1%)	122(21.1%)	214(18.6%)
Total	570(100%)	579(100%)	1149(100%)

Table 22 is a further attempt to actually establish the state of origin of the traffickers who operate in Edo and Imo states. This help to ascertain whether they are actually from the state where they operate or not. The table shows that in Imo state, more than half of the respondents, (56.0%) indicated that the traffickers who operate in the area are from Imo state. On the other hand, over two-third, (73.2%) of the respondents in Edo state also indicated that the traffickers who operate in the area are from Edo state. There is also a significant relationship ($P < .0001$) between the state of origin of a trafficker and the area where he operates.

4.5: Characteristics of likely Victims and People most likely to be trafficked.

An important aspect of this study is centered on the most likely victims of human trafficking. Therefore, the proceeding part of the study will focus on the victims of human trafficking. The study identified possible victims, examined the most likely gender of victims, the likely age groups, and whether the victims are aware that they will be trafficked before giving their consent.

Table 23: Distribution of the Perception of the Respondents on whether they have ever seen a Victim of Woman Trafficking.

Perception	State		Total
	Edo	Imo	
Seen a victim	382(67.1%)	223(38.6%)	604(52.7%)
Not seen a victim	158(27.8%)	339(58.5%)	496(43.3%)
Do not know	29(5.1%)	17(2.9%)	46(4.0%)
Total	570(100%)	579(100%)	1149(100%)

$X^2 = 109.7$; $df = 2$, $P < .0001$

Table 23 shows that the perception of about two-third of the respondents (67.1%) in Edo state indicated that they had seen a victim of woman trafficking, while about one-third (38.6%) of respondents from Imo state indicated similar perception. However, less than one-third (27.8%) in Edo state, stated that they had never seen a victim of trafficking, while more than half, (58.5%) in Imo state indicated same. The outcome shows that while most respondents in Edo state had seen a victim, before most respondents in Imo state, had not seen a victim. This may be an indicator that the practice of women trafficking is more in Edo than in Imo state. There is also a significant ($X^2 = 109.7$; $df = 2$; $P < .0001$) difference in the perception of respondents in both states.

Table 24: Distribution of Respondents by the Gender that are most likely Victims of Human Trafficking

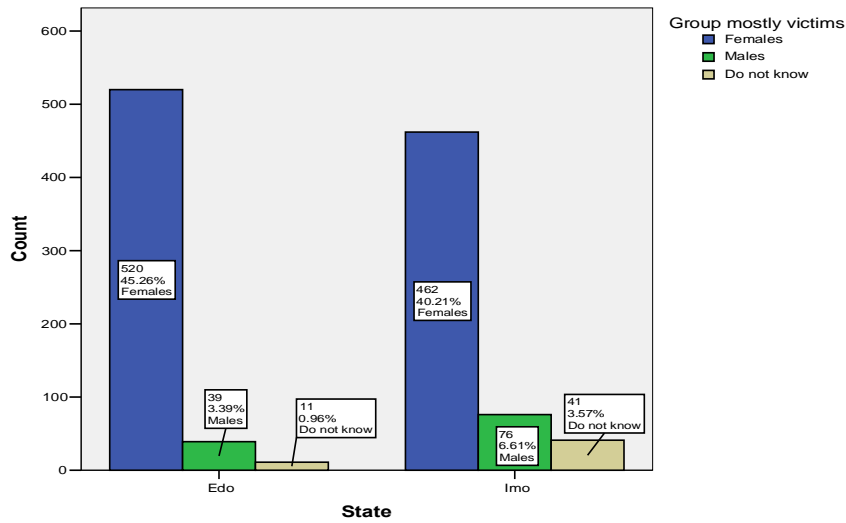
Gender	State		Total
	Edo	Imo	
Females	520 (91.2%)	462(79.8%)	982(85.5%)
Males	39(6.8%)	76(13.1%)	115(10.0%)
Do not know	11(1.9%)	41(.7.1%)	52(4.5%)
Total	570(100%)	579(100%)	1149(100%)

$X^2 = 32.569$; $df = 2$; $P < .0001$

From the above table, in Edo state, almost all the respondents, (91.2%) indicated that females are the most likely victims of human trafficking, while in Imo state, over two third, (79.8%) of the respondents also identified females as the most likely victims. The statistics ($X^2 = 32.569$, $df = 2$; $P < .0001$) further indicated a significant difference between the gender

of the victim and vulnerability to human trafficking. The outcome as shown above further addresses research question five of this study, which is on the gender implications of human trafficking. This is better highlighted with figure 9, below.

Fig. 10: Gender that are most likely Victims of Human Trafficking



The chart above gives a graphic highlight of the perception of the respondents, on the most likely victims of human trafficking. The chart highlights the perception of respondents in Edo state which is forty-five percent (45.26%) in favour of females, and only three percent in favour of males.

On the other hand in Imo state, respondents that indicated females as the most likely victims are about forty percent, (40.21%), and those that indicated males are mere six percent, (6%). In other words in the two states, there is an overwhelming indication of women against males as the most likely victims of human trafficking.

Table 25: Distribution of Respondents by the Age Group of Females that are Victims of Trafficking by States.

Age group (yrs)	State		Total	Statistic
	Edo	Imo		
5 ó 14		97(16.8%)	117(10.2%)	X ² = 64.855 df = 5 P<0.001
15 ó 24	20(3.5%)	388(67.0%)	866(75.4%)	
25 ó 34	478(83.9%)	67(11.6%)	116(10.1%)	
35 ó 44	49(8.6%)	4(0.7%)	5(0.4%)	
45 +	1(0.2%)	2(0.3%)	5(0.4%)	
Others	3(0.5%)	21(3.6%)	40(3.5%)	
Child Victims				X ² = 37.317 df = 4 P<0.0001
0 ó 5	6(1.1%)	18(3.1%)	24(2.1%)	
6 ó 10	161(28.2%)	230(39.7%)	391(34.0%)	
11 ó 15	336(58.9%)	305(53.2%)	641(55.8%)	
Others	4(0.7%)	1(0.2%)	5(0.4%)	
Do not know	63(11.1%)	25(4.3%)	88(7.7%)	

The study further examined the age group of females that are mostly victims of trafficking in both states. Generally, adolescent women between the ages of 15 ó 24 years are the most vulnerable to being trafficked. In Edo state, the vulnerability of being victim of trafficking is much higher, (83.9%) than in Imo state, (67.0%). The statistics (X² = 64.855; df = 5, P<0.0001) Also shows a significant difference in the perception of the respondents as shown in the age groups.

However, for child victims, the most vulnerable age group is between, 6 ó 15 years. More than three-quarter, (92.4%) in Imo state, and less than three-quarter, (87.1%) of the respondents in Edo state confirms the above indication.

The qualitative instruments also indicates similar outcome. Joy, (not real name) a victim and FGD participant stated that: 'most of the victims in Italy came from Edo state, Oredo to be precise, and they are between 20 ó 30 years'. Another victim, trafficked to Port-Harcourt also stated thus; 'I met girls aged 13 ó 15 years in the hotel, and most of them are from interviews with NGOs and law enforcement agencies, also identified young girls between the ages of 13 ó 22 years as the most vulnerable group.

Fig. 11: Perceived Age of Female Victims of Trafficking, by Edo and Imo States.

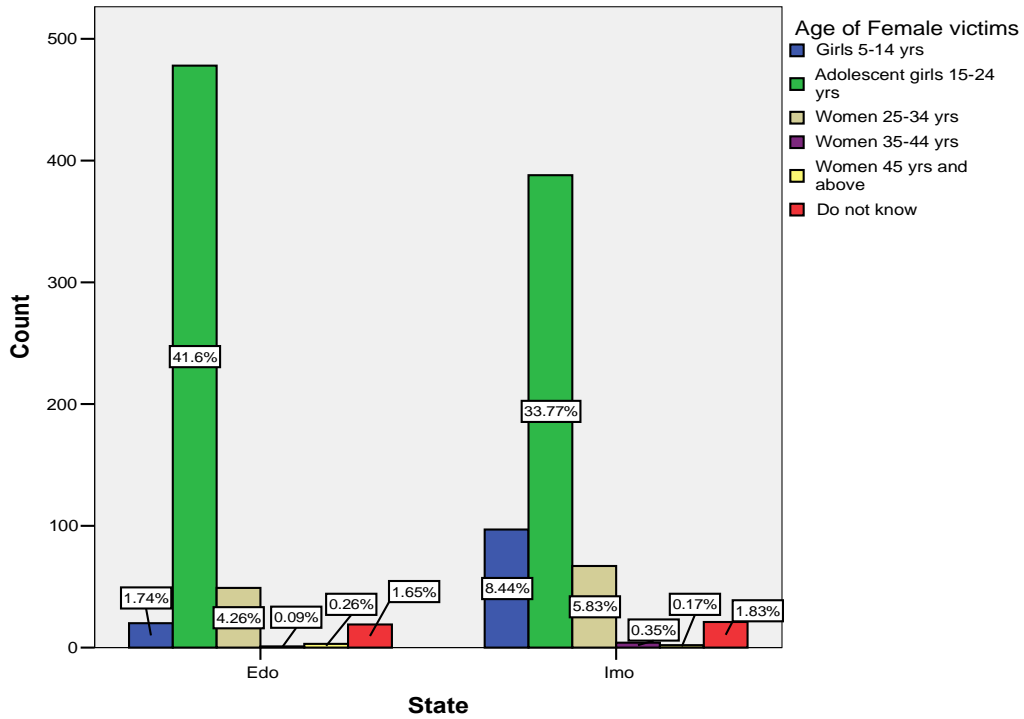
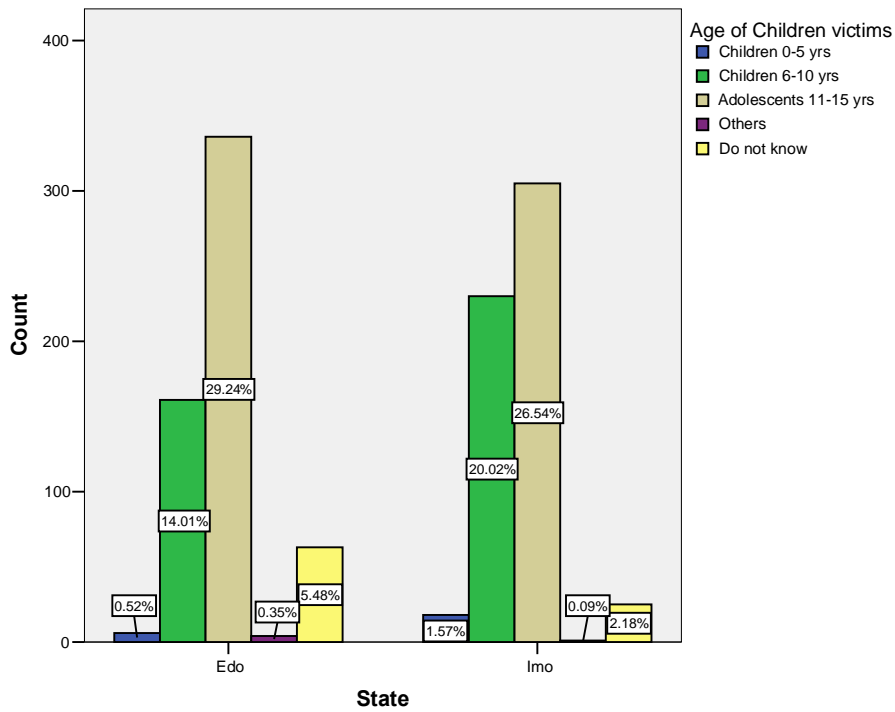


Fig. 12: Perceived Age of Child Victims of Trafficking by Edo and Imo States.



Figures 11 and 12 are graphic highlights of the perception of the respondents on the age group of female victims, and also that of child victims of trafficking in both Edo and Imo states. The chart on female victims shows that in both states, adolescent girls between the age group of 15 ó 24 years are the most victims. Also for child victims girls between the age group of 11 ó 15 years are the most victims in both states.

4.6: Factors Responsible for People being Victims of Human Trafficking

Some of the socioeconomic variables examined in this aspect of the study are poverty and poor households, unemployment, rich households, among others. We also intend to focus on the second and third research questions of this study, which is the relationship of poverty and unemployment to human trafficking and also address the relevant research hypotheses. \

Table 26: Distribution of Respondents by the Category of Women/Children that are most likely to be Victims of Human Trafficking.

Category of women/children	State		Total
	Edo	Imo	
Women from poor homes	283(49.6%)	89(15.4%)	372(32.4%)
Women from rich homes	5(0.9%)	9(1.6%)	14(1.2%)
Women from rich, poor homes	45(7.9%)	45(7.8%)	90(7.8%)
Children from poor homes	231(40.5%)	418(72.2%)	649(56.5%)
Children from rich homes	1(0.2%)	4(0.7%)	5(0.4%)
Children from rich, poor homes	4(0.7%)	8(1.4%)	12(1.0%)
Others	0(0.0%)	1(0.2%)	1(0.1%)
Do not know	1(0.2%)	5(0.9%)	6(0.5%)
Total	570(100.0%)	579(100.0%)	1149(100%)

$$X^2 = 162.93; df = 7; P < 0.001$$

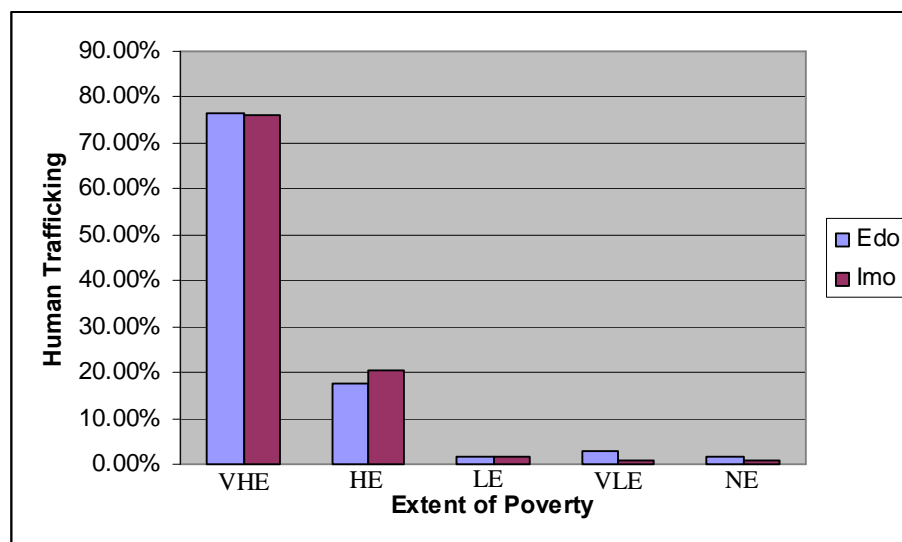
Table 26 above, shows that in Edo state, a little less than half (49.6%) of the respondents indicated that women from poor homes are most likely to be victims of human trafficking. But in Imo state, less than one-sixth, (15.4%) indicated same. On the other hand, less than one percent, (0.9%), in Edo state and less than two percent, (1.6%) in Imo state indicated that women from rich homes are most likely to be victims of human trafficking.

However, on child trafficking, less than half, (40.5%) in Edo state, and two-third, (72.2%) of respondents in Imo state indicated that children from poor homes are most likely

to be victims of human trafficking, against less than one percent, (0.2%) in Edo state, and (0.9%) in Imo states who stated otherwise. The statistics ($P < 0.0001$) shows there is a significant difference in the perception of the respondents that women and children from poor homes are most likely to be victims of human trafficking than women and children from rich homes in Edo and Imo states. Obviously in Edo state, the emphasis was on women from poor homes and trafficking, while in Imo state, the emphasis was on children from poor homes and trafficking. This outcome may be associated with the type of trafficking that is most prevalent in both states.

In other to adequately provide answers to the second research question, the study further examined the extent to which poverty is a factor that makes people to be victims of human trafficking.

Fig. 13: Relationship between Poverty and Human Trafficking In Edo and Imo State



VHE = Very High Extent; HE = High Extent; LE = Low Extent; VLE = Very Low Extent; NE = No Extent

The outcome from figure 13 above was that slightly more than three-quarter, (76.5%), and about three-quarter, (76.0%) of respondents in Edo and Imo states respectively, indicated that to a very high extent, poverty is a factor that makes people to be victims of human trafficking.

While less than three percent, (2.8%) in Edo state, and less than one percent (.09%) in Imo state indicated that poverty to a very low extent is a factor that makes people to be victims of human trafficking. Consequently, the outcome supports the assertion that poverty to a very high extent is a factor that makes people to be victims of human trafficking in Edo and Imo states.

The study further set out to test our first hypothesis which states that persons from poor homes are most likely to be victims of trafficking than persons from rich homes. In order to do this, it is necessary to reduce the sample to only 386 who gave their perception on the two variables of women from poor homes and women from rich homes. The result of the cross tabulation is presented below.

Table 27: Distribution of Respondents on Whether Persons from Poor Homes are more likely to be Victims of Trafficking than Persons from Rich Homes

States	Background of likely victims		Total
	Women form poor homes	Women form rich homes	
Edo	283(76.1%)	5(35.7%)	288(74.6%)
Imo	89(23.9%)	9(64.3%)	98(25.4%)
Total	372(100%)	14(100.0%)	386(100.0%)

$$X^2 = 11.603; df = 1; p < .001$$

The statistical test of the hypothesis gave the value of the computed X^2 as 11.603. However, the value of the critical $X^2 = 10.827$. Therefore, since the computed X^2 is more than the critical value, we reject the null hypothesis, and uphold the substantive hypothesis which states that persons from poor homes are more likely to be victims of human trafficking than persons from rich homes. This relationship is also significant at $P < .001$ levels.

The FGD discussion with virtually all the groups in both states further corroborates the central role and impact of poverty on possible victims of trafficking. A female participant in Imo state puts it this way; 'poverty is the major factor, if you are able to train your children and feed them you won't hand them over to someone else'. Another participant also stated that 'hardship in the country is a problem; even people with five children find it

difficult to cope. In Edo state, a victim who was trafficked to Italy puts it this way; 'If the family is so very poor, they will look for sponsorer to take their daughter or son to Europe to look for money'.

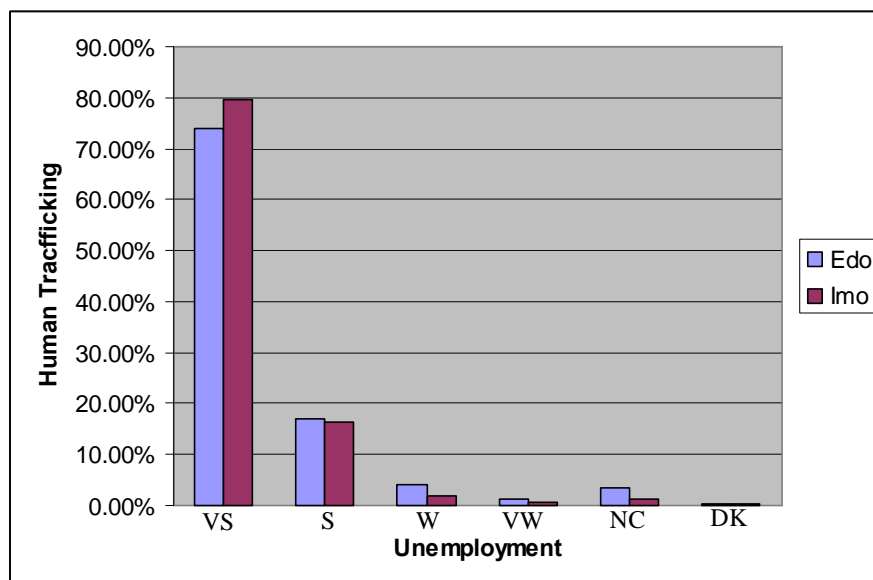
Another relevant factor considered in the study is unemployment and out of school in relation to being victims of trafficking. This will enable us to address the research question on what is the relationship between unemployment and human trafficking, and also test the hypothesis which states that unemployed and out of school individuals are more likely to be victims of trafficking than employed and in school persons.

Table 28: Distribution of Respondents by the Employment Category of Persons that are likely to be Victims of Trafficking by States.

Employment Category	State		Total
	Edo	Imo	
Unemployed/out of school	539(94.6%)	531(91.7%)	1070(93.1%)
Employed persons	12(2.1%)	26(4.5%)	38(3.3%)
In-school persons	40(7.0%)	45(7.8%)	85(7.4%)
Persons in good business	18(3.2%)	19(3.3%)	37(3.2%)
Persons out of business	296(57.9%)	235(40.6%)	531(46.2%)
Poor persons	224(39.3%)	193(33.3%)	417(36.3%)

Majority of the respondents, (94.6%) in Edo state, and also majority, (91.7%) of the respondents (91.7%) in Imo state indicated that unemployed and out of school persons are the most likely to be victims of trafficking. On the contrast, a little over one tenth, (9.1%) in Edo state, and a little more than ten percent, (12.30%) in Imo state indicated that employed and in-school persons are most likely to be victims of trafficking. The perception of the respondents in both states therefore points to a high level of relationship between unemployed and out of school persons and being victims of human trafficking. This is highlighted in the figure 14, below:

Fig. 14: Relationship between Unemployment and Human Trafficking in Edo and Imo States.



VS = Very Strongly; S = Strongly; W = Weak; VW = Very Weak; NC = No Contribution; Dk = Don't Know

As shown in figure 14, above, respondents were further asked how they rate unemployment as a contributory factor to human trafficking. It was found that a little below two-third, (73.9%) in Edo state, and a little above three-quarter, (79.6%) of respondents in Imo state rated unemployment as a very strong contributory factor to human trafficking. This outcome appropriately addresses our research question.

To further examine the factor of unemployment, the hypothesis which states that unemployed and out-of-school persons are more likely to be victims of trafficking than employed and in school persons was posited. It was found that there is a significant relationship between ($X^2 = 12.508$, $df = 5$; $P < 0.028$) unemployed and out-of-school persons and human trafficking in Edo and Imo states.

4.7 Characteristics of families that are likely to give out children to others.

The study examined the various characteristics of the family like low-income, large number of children, father with no formal education and others and also whether the tradition and culture of the people supports giving out children to live with others. Through this

process, we intend to find answers to some of our research questions and also test our hypothesis.

Table 29: Distribution of Respondents by whether it is the Tradition for Parents in the Community to Give out their Children to Live with Others/Relatives.

Tradition	State		Total
	Edo	Imo	
Yes it is the tradition	293(57.4%)	421(72.7%)	714(62.1%)
No it is not the tradition	225(39.5%)	133(23.0%)	358(31.2%)
Do not know	52(9.1%)	25(4.3%)	77(6.7%)
Total	570(100%)	579(100%)	1149(100%)

$X^2 = 55.990$; $df = 2$; $P < .0001$

In Edo state about half, (51.4%) of the respondents indicated that it is the tradition for parents in the community to give out children to live with others, while a little more than one-third (39.5%) indicated otherwise. On the other hand in Imo state, about three-quarter (72.7%) of the respondents stated that it is the tradition, and about one-quarter (23.0%) indicated otherwise. There is also a significant difference, ($P < .0001$) in the perception of the respondents from both states.

We further sought to actually know the number among the respondents that have given out a child to live with others.

Table, 30: Distribution of Respondents by whether they had ever given Out a Child from their Household to Live with another Person.

Given out a child from household	State		Total
	Edo	Imo	
Given out a child	133(23.3%)	191(33.0%)	324(28.2%)
Not given out a child	437(76.7%)	388(67.0%)	825(71.8%)
Total	570(100%)	579(100%)	1149(100%)

Table 30 shows that in Edo state, only about one-quarter (23.3%) of the respondents indicated that they had over given out a child. But in Imo state, one-third (33.0%) of the respondents indicated the same view. However most of the respondents in both states indicated they had not given out a child to live with another person. The main reason given

by those who had given out a child in both states was to get education, and to help relatives or friends.

The study further carried out multiple regression analysis in order to know the effect of sex and other social characteristics of respondents on the tendency of giving out children to live with others.

Table 31: Multiple Regression Analysis of the Tendency of giving out Children to Live with others, Sex and other Social Characteristics

Variables	Mean	Co-ef.	Std error	t	p
Tendency of giving out children	0.2926				
(Constant)	-	0.858	0.464	1.847	0.065
Sex	0.4919	-0.022	0.031	-0.693	0.489
Married	0.5922	-0.034	0.039	-0.879	0.380
Economic Activity	0.6244	-0.162	0.036	-4.542	0.000
Christian	0.9505	-0.055	0.071	-0.766	0.444
Education	0.9988	-0.538	0.454	-1.185	0.236
Age	36.4300	0.004	0.002	2.459	0.014
Income	0.1509	0.016	0.044	0.359	0.720

$R = 0.176$; R^2 change = 0.031; f -change = 3.914, $P < 0.001$.

The dependent variable in the table above, is the tendency of giving out children to live with others, while the independent variables that makes up the model are, sex, marital status, (married), economic activity, religion, (Christian), education, age and income.

The table shows that the R-square which measures the variation between the dependent variables and the independent variables is 3.1%. This implies that 3.1% of variation in the tendency of giving out children to live with others is explained by the joint effect of the social characteristics contained in the model. Put differently, the combined effect of the social characteristics of sex, marital status, economic activity, religion, and others on the tendency of giving out children to live with others has an estimated variation of 3.1%. Also, the level of probability at $P < 0.001$ shows that there is a significant level of association between the tendency of giving out children to others, and the joint effects of the social characteristics of respondents in the model.

The relative effect of each of the variables to predicting the tendency of giving out children to live with others, shows that the regression co-efficient for sex is -0.022. This outcome indicates an inverse relationship between sex and the tendency of giving out children to live with others. In other words, a unit change in the sex of the respondents (female to male), will bring about a decrease in the tendency of giving out children to live with the others by 0.02 periods, and vis-versa. It also showed an inverse association between marital status (married to non married), economic activity, religion (Christian), and level of education; and the tendency of giving out children to live with others.

For instance, education with the highest negative relationship of -0.538, indicates that a unit change in the level of education, from no education to education for example will lead to 0.53 decrease or less tendency of giving out children to live with others. In other words, the more the education, the less the tendency of giving out children to live with others, and the less the education, the more the tendency of giving out children to live with others. . This relationship is significant at 0.24 levels.

On the other hand, age and income indicated a positive association with the tendency of giving out children to live with others. The regression co-efficient of income is associated with a positive relationship of 0.016. This means that a unit change in the income of respondents will result in 0.016 unit change in the tendency to give out children to others, when the effect of other variables are controlled. This outcome is however, not statistically significant at $P < 0.72$ levels. This implies that the perceived association may be a result of sampling error. This is corroborated by the standard error of estimates of 0.044, which shows a weak degree of predictability. However, the degree of predictability of economic activity at the level of $P < 0.0001$ is very strong and indicates the highest level of predictability.

Table 32: Distribution of respondents by the characteristics of families that are likely to give out their children to traffickers

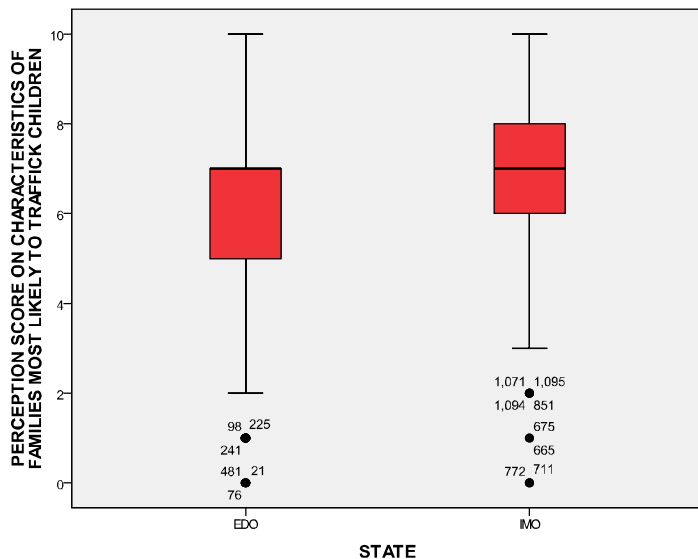
Family characteristics		States	Level of agreement					Total
			SA	A	DK	D	SD	
Large number of children (5-12)	Edo	Edo	302 (53%)	196 (34.4%)	19 (3.3%)	39 (6.8%)	14 (2.5%)	570 (100%)
		Imo	390 (67.4%)	145 (25.0%)	11 (1.9%)	19 (3.3%)	14 (2.4%)	579 (100%)
Small number of children (1-4)	Edo	Edo	13 (2.3%)	43 (7.3%)	68 (11.9%)	259 (45.4%)	187 (32.8%)	570 (100%)
		Imo	13 (2.3%)	33 (5.7%)	50 (8.6%)	269 (46.5%)	214 (37.0%)	579 (100%)
Father with formal education	Edo	Edo	14 (2.5%)	30 (5.3%)	60 (10.5)	236 (41.4%)	230 (40.4%)	570 (100%)
		Imo	9 (1.6%)	8 (1.4%)	31 (5.4%)	234 (40.4%)	297 (51.3%)	579 (100%)
Father with no education	Edo	Edo	153 (26.8%)	297 (52.1%)	50 (8.8%)	40 (7.0%)	30 (5.3%)	570 (100%)
		Imo	208 (35.9%)	268 (46.3%)	23 (4.0%)	33 (5.7%)	47 (8.7%)	579 (100%)
Mother with no education	Edo	Edo	119 (20.9%)	291 (51.1%)	71 (12.5%)	57 (10.0%)	32 (5.5%)	570 (100%)
		Imo	160 (27.6%)	296 (49.4%)	36 (6.2%)	54 (9.3%)	43 (7.4%)	579 (100%)
Low income families	Edo	Edo	279 (48.9%)	205 (36.0%)	41 (7.2%)	28 (4.9%)	17 (3.0%)	570 (100%)
		Imo	335 (57.9%)	180 (31.1%)	20 (3.5%)	21 (3.6%)	23 (4.0%)	579 (100%)
More female children	Edo	Edo	61 (10.7%)	129 (22.6%)	98 (17.2%)	159 (27.9%)	123 (21.6%)	570 (100%)
		Imo	77 (13.3%)	229 (39.6%)	71 (12.3%)	133 (23.0%)	69 (11.9%)	579 (100%)
More male children	Edo	Edo	20 (3.5%)	52 (9.1%)	100 (17.5%)	221 (38.8%)	177 (31.1%)	570 (100%)
		Imo	27 (4.7%)	86 (14.9%)	81 (14.0%)	270 (46.6%)	115 (19.9%)	579 (100%)
Families in farming	Edo	Edo	36 (6.3%)	83 (14.6%)	77 (13.5%)	186 (32.6%)	188 (33.0%)	570 (100%)
		Imo	39 (6.7%)	177 (30.6%)	64 (11.1%)	180 (31.1%)	119 (20.8%)	579 (100%)
Families in business	Edo	Edo	15 (2.6%)	20 (3.5%)	84 (14.9%)	224 (39.8%)	227 (39.8%)	570 (100%)
		Imo	20 (3.5%)	155 (26.8%)	54 (9.3%)	209 (35.8%)	143 (24.7%)	579 (100%)

SA = Strongly Agree; A = Agree; DK = Don't Know; D = Disagree; SD = Strongly Disagree

As indicated on table 32 above, in both Edo and Imo states, families with large number of children, father with no formal education, mother with no education and low income families are most likely to give out their children to traffickers. On the other hand, families with small number of children, father with formal education, are less likely to give out their children to traffickers. The factor of the father is very important because in patrilineal societies as is the case in both states, fathers take most of the decisions in the families. However, in some cases of trafficking as found out in the study, the father figure may be absent, especially among single parents, widows or separated families whose children are also vulnerable. The hypothesis which states that persons from large size families are more likely to be victims of human trafficking than persons from families with small size was tested. The statistics ($X^2 = 27.777$, $df = 4$, $p < 0.001$) revealed a significant difference in the opinion of respondents in both States. Further the critical X^2 value which is 18.465 is less

than the computed X^2 value of 27.777. Therefore, we reject the null hypothesis, and uphold the substantive hypothesis.

Fig. 15: Perception Score on Characteristics of Families most likely to Traffic Children



The perception score as presented above also shows that in Edo State, the score range from two to ten, whereas in Imo State, the score range from three to ten. Also, 50 % of the population in Edo State scored between five and seven and 50% of the respondents in Imo State scored between six and eight. However, the median score for both States is seven. Therefore, there is no significant difference in the perception score on characteristics of families most likely to traffic children in both States.

The study further carried out multiple regression analysis to determine the impact or predicting power of families with large number of children and other social factors on the awareness of trafficking children, for hard labour and women, girls for prostitution.

Table 33: Multiple Regression Analysis of Awareness of Trafficking Young Children for Hard Labour, Families with large Number of Children and other Social Factors of Respondents

Variables	unstandardized coefficients		standardized coefficients	t	Sig
	B	Std error	Beta		
Awareness of trafficking young children for hard labour					
(Constant)	1.161	.085		13.721	.000
Families with large number of children	0.52	.016	.097	3.183	.00
Families with an educated father	.021	.017	-.037	-1.244	.214
The low income families	.004	.015	.008	.273	.785
Families with more female children	.012	.012	.030	.989	.323

R = 0.117; R² change = .014; f = change = 3.990; P < .003

In the table above, the dependent variable is the awareness of trafficking young children for hard labour, while the independent variables are; families with large number of children, families with an educated father, low income families, and families with more female children. From the table, the R-square (R²) which measures the variation between the awareness of trafficking young children for hard labour, the dependent variable, and families with large number of children and other social factors is .014.

The implication of this is that there is a 1.4% unit change in the awareness of trafficking young children for hard labour as a result of the joint effect of the social factors of families with large number of children, an educated father, low income and more female children. There is also a significant difference, (P < .003) in the observed variation between the dependent variable, and the joint effects of the independent variables in the model.

To determine the relative contributions or impact of each of the independent variables to predicting the awareness of trafficking young children for hard labour, we make use of the standardized regression co-efficient. Families with large number of children which has a Beta value of .097 is the most important contributor in determining the awareness of trafficking young children for hard labour. This means that a unit change in families with large number of children will result in 9.7% variation in the awareness of trafficking young children for hard labour. This variation is also significant at P < .001 levels. The above outcome seems to

validate our earlier finding that families with large number of children are most likely to give out their children to traffickers.

The second most important contributor to awareness of trafficking young children for hard labour is families with more female children with a Beta value of .030 followed by low income families with a beta value, of .008. However, families with an educated father are the least contributor in the awareness of trafficking young children for hard labour. Indeed this variable presents a negative or inverse contribution of -.037. In other words, families with educated father, have a 3.7% less tendency in the awareness of trafficking young children for hard labour.

Table 34: Multiple Regression Analysis of Awareness of Trafficking Young Women and Girls for Prostitution, Families with Large Number of Children and Other Social Factors of Respondents.

Variables	Unstandardized coefficients		standardized coefficients	t	sig
	B	Std error	Beta		
Awareness of trafficking young women/girls for prostitution					
(Constant)	1.377	.092		15.032	.000
Families with large number of children	.018	.018	.031	1.013	.311
Families with an educated father	-.004	.018	-.007	-.227	.821
The low income families	-.035	.017	-.065	-2.135	.033
Families with more female children	-.029	.013	-.071	-2.316	.021

R = .100; R² change = .010; f_ó change = 2.915; P < .020

The dependent variable in the multiple regression analysis in table 33 is the awareness of trafficking young women and girls for prostitution, while the independent variables are families with large number of children, families with an educated father, low income families, and families with more female children.

The above table shows that the R-square (R²) value is .010. In other words, 1.0% of variation in the awareness of trafficking young women and girls for prostitution is explained by the joint effects of families with large number of children, and other social factors in the model. This relationship is also significant at P < .020 levels.

However, the relative contribution of the independent variables further shows that families with large number of children is the most important contributor in predicting the awareness of trafficking young women and girls for prostitution with a Beta value of .031. This implies that families with large number of children has the highest and most important impact in the awareness of trafficking young women and girls for prostitution. On the other hand, families with an educated father, indicated a Beta value of -.007. This implies a negative relationship or variation with the awareness of trafficking, young women and girls for prostitution.

4.8: Destination of Trafficked Persons

The study further looked at the possible destination of trafficked persons for both internal and international trafficking. The reason is that identifying these locations may be very relevant in controlling the phenomenon.

Table 35: Distribution of Respondents by the Perceived Destination of Trafficked Persons – International.

Destination	State		Total
	Edo	Imo	
Women			
Italy	469(82.4%)	360(62.2%)	829(72.2%)
Spain	48(8.4%)	54(9.3%)	102(8.9%)
Britain	6(1.1%)	65(11.2%)	71(6.2%)
Germany	14(2.5%)	20(3.5%)	34(3.0%)
Others	1(.2%)	0(.0%)	1(.1%)
Do not know	31(5.4%)	80(13.8%)	11(9.7%)
Total	570(100%)	579(100%)	1149(100%)

$X^2 = 87.322$; $df = 5$; $P < .0001$

Children	State		Total
	Edo	Imo	
Gabon	88(15.4%)	324(56.0%)	412(35.9%)
Cameroun	49(8.6%)	89(15.4%)	138(12.0%)
Equatorial guinea	39(6.8%)	53(9.2%)	92(8.0%)
Ghana	99(17.4%)	2(.3%)	101(8.8%)
Others	8(1.4%)	0(.0%)	8(.7%)
Do not know	287(50.4%)	111(19.2%)	398(34.6%)

$X^2 = 327.846$; $df = 5$, $P < .0001$

Table 35 shows that most of the respondents from Edo state, stated that Edo women, (82.4%) are mostly trafficked to Italy, while few of them are trafficked to Spain, (8.4%) and Germany, (2.5%). However, in Imo state, more than half, (62.2%) of the respondents stated

that Imo women are trafficked to Italy and about one out of nine, (11.2%) are trafficked to Britain, while a few others, (3.2%) are trafficked to Spain. Based on the above perception, it is reasonable to state that the destination of most trafficked women in both Edo and Imo states is Italy, though some of them are also trafficked to Germany, Spain and Britain.

However, for international child trafficking, respondents from Edo state stated that most of the children are trafficked internationally to Ghana, (17.42) Gabon, (15.4%) and Cameroun. On the other hand, in Imo state, children are mostly trafficked to Gabon, (56.0%); Cameroun, (15.4%) and Equatorial Guinea, (9.2%). The statistics also showed a significant difference ($X^2 = 327.846$; $df = 5$, $P < .0001$) in the perceived destination of children in both Edo and Imo states.

Table, 36: Distribution of Respondents by the Perceived Destination of Trafficked Person-Internal Trafficking

Destination	State		Total
	Edo	Imo	
Children			
Aba	12(2.1%)	99(17.1%)	111(9.7%)
Abuja	62(10.9%)	32(5.5%)	94(8.2%)
Benin city	83(14.6%)	42(7.3%)	125(100%)
Lagos	230(40.4%)	169(29.2%)	399(34.7%)
Onitsha	11(1.9%)	25(4.3%)	36(3.1%)
Owerri	7(1.2%)	38(6.6%)	45(3.9%)
Port Harcourt	30(5.3%)	54(9.3%)	84(7.3%)
Others	3(.5%)	0(.0%)	3(.3%)
Do not know	132(23.2%)	120(20.7%)	252(21.1%)
$X^2 = 137.704$, $df = 8$; $P < .0001$			
Women			
Aba	5(.9%)	24(4.0%)	28(2.4%)
Abuja	98(17.2%)	49(8.5%)	147(12.8%)
Benin city	59(10.4%)	47(8.1%)	106(9.2%)
Lagos	207(36.3%)	181(31.3%)	388(33.8%)
Onitsha	2(.4%)	6(1.0%)	8(.7%)
Owerri	4(.7%)	32(5.5%)	36(3.1%)
Port Harcourt	47(8.2%)	105(18.1%)	152(13.2%)
Others	5(.9%)	0(.0%)	5(.4%)
Do not know	143(25.1%)	136(25.5%)	279(24.3%)

$X^2 = 82.025$; $df = 8$, $P < .0001$)

The table on internal trafficking of children shows that in Edo state, the respondents indicated that the town of destination for most children trafficked in the state is Lagos,

(40.4%), followed by Benin City, (14.6%) and Abuja (10.9%). However in Imo state, the indication is that most of the children are trafficked to Lagos, (29.2%), Aba, (17.1%) and Port Harcourt, (9.3%).

Further indication by the respondents in internal trafficking of women, shows that in Edo state, women are mostly trafficked to Lagos, (36.3%), Abuja, (17.2%) and Benin-City, (10.54%). But in Imo state women are mostly trafficked to Lagos, (31.3%), Port-Harcourt, (18.1%) and Abuja, (8.5%).

Remarkably, Lagos stands out as the main destination for women and children trafficked in both Edo and Imo states. Abuja is another town that is gaining prominence in internal trafficking. This may be because of its position as the new federal capital of Nigeria.

4.9 Victim Experience

The findings from FGD sessions and interviews with victims showed that most of the victims go through harrowing experiences beginning from the initial contact with the agent of trafficking, through the routes and when they eventually arrive at their destinations. The findings revealed that most of the victims accept to embark on the trip based on deceit.

According to a NAPTIP official òí sometimes they (traffickers) show the parents of the girls picture of supermarkets and saloons where the girls will work to obtain their permission for their children to be trafficked...ö

One of the victims trafficked to Italy confirmed this through her own experience.

òí I met the man, he came to me and asked if I will travel, I said yes, but I won't go there to prostitute, but he said there is other works like fabbrica. When I got there, I did not work in the fabbrica í ö

Yet another victim gave her own account this way òí I met a lady in the market, she said I had a good body, in the night; she called and invited me that she wants to take me to Port Harcourt to see a friend. So we now left around 2.00pm in the afternoon í ö. In all of these cases, the girls end up on the streets or in brothels as prostitutes. A female FGD

participant summarized it this way ' they promise them good job abroad they deceive them that they would have better life abroad ' .

The victims are also exploited at various stages by the agents through sexual abuse, rape, assault and intimidation. This was discovered to be more among those who travel by road or sea than those who travel by air. By road, or sea, the journey lasts longer and the victims are made to stop at various ports, sometimes under inhuman conditions because in most cases they are illegal. According to an interview with an immigration officer in Ibuno control post ' Gabon boat takes about one month to load, depending on the availability of passengers, they keep the victims in their hideouts at some private beaches until they are ready to move, they start to load around 1.00a.m., and take off around 3.00a.m.' .

Soon as they arrived their destination, their travel documents and personal possessions were confiscated, and hence forth, they lose what remains of their freedom, live under constant treat, intimidation, fear and bondage.

According to one victim, Blessing (not real name)

' we got to Azikiwe street, Higo hotel (in Port Harcourt), I saw many girls putting on pants and bra, I asked the madam what is this, but she said I am stupid, she beat me that night seized my phone, took me to honey moon hotel, and said I should huzzle for her for 6 months, and if I run, she will kill me ' .

Esther (not real name) another victim that was trafficked to Italy further said about her madam:

' she kept me in the street. It is bad to be in the street. The money I worked, she took all the money ' you can make 800, 1000, 8500 Euros per day, we charge, 20, 50 Euro per person, depending on the person ' .

This translates to meeting between 20 to 40 men per night. This is of course inhuman. Painting a more vivid picture, another victim that was trafficked internally said, ' all the money I made, sometimes ₦16,000, ₦17,000 or ₦15,000 every day I work, she collects all

the money. We normally meet 4 men a day and we charge ₦500 per man, short time, and ₦2000 for day breakí ö

For these victims to meet up with these in human tasks, they are made to take drugs and also expose themselves to life threatening situations. According to victim Esther, describing the situation in Italy öí now (2008) it is getting worst, there is no money, and the white no longer want black girls for prostitution. Also, the white mafia kill people, the Ukraninese, Morrocainoø Albanese and Romania Mafiaí ö

Therefore, some of these victims in addition to the massive exploitation, end up losing their lives or may end up contracting dangerous STDø like HIV/AIDs. It was also found that the victims are made to go through juju or voodoo experience. The power of this practice on the victim is very strong because of the traditional belief in the powers of the spirits, deities and witchcraft. According to one FGD female participants in Edo öí what makes it (trafficking) lucrative is our great belief in traditional practices. This help the traffickers to excel in the businessí ö

Most of the victims are made to swear to oaths of bondage in shrines, and parts of their body are also taken by the madams and their agents to make juju or portions which they are made to drink to ensure cooperation, secrecy and obedience.

According to one victim:

öí I believe she (the madam) used charm on me. She brought black soap and powder that when any man sees me, he will follow me. She took my hair, armpit hair and hairs from my private parts and nails to do medicine, that if I leave her, I will run mad or die. Since I left her, I have been dreaming about her, she will be pursuing me in my dream, saying why did I report herí ö

Another victim also confirmed this öí yes, I did the juju thing in Togo. They took me from Benin, took me to somebody in Togo. They took my nails and hairs and said if I run away, I will run madí ö. No, am not afraid of the juju, it does not work. They do it to put fear on peopleí ö

It is important to note that this second victim who stated that the juju do not work has undergone rehabilitation in Italy and under COSUDOW in Benin. But the first victim who still dreams is undergoing rehabilitation at IDIA Renaissance also in Benin.

The study also found out that the traffickers and their agents go after the parents of the victims even after the victim has escaped. They harass, threaten and compel them to pay back the purported 'debt of bondage' they spent on the victim. According to the victim that was trafficked to Italy who ran away after six months 'when I ran away, the madam was looking for me, making trouble with my family in Nigeria. She said I must complete her money, she charged me ₦100,000. A week before I came back, she sent her brothers and sisters to my family to complete their money. They are making trouble'.

4.10. Possible Solutions to the Problem of Human Trafficking

Table 37: Distribution of the Respondents by the Possible Solution to the Problem of Human Trafficking

Solution	States		Total
	Edo	Imo	
Make strict laws	72(12.6%)	71(12.3%)	143(12.4%)
Punish offenders severely	164(28.8%)	192(32.2%)	356(31%)
Provide social needs	55(9.6%)	46(7.9%)	101(8.8%)
Campaign against the practice	188(33%)	142(24.5%)	330(28.7%)
Provide employment	335(58.8%)	350(60.4%)	685(59.6%)
Help the poor	92(16.2%)	69(11.9%)	161(14.0%)
Parents should not give out children	51(9.0%)	89(15.4%)	140(12.2%)
Give education to children	166(29.1%)	273(47.2%)	439(38.2%)

From the table respondents in Edo state in order of priority proffered possible solutions as; provision of employment, (58.8%); strong campaign against the practice, (33.0%), free education to children, (29.1%), severe punishment for offenders, (28.8%) and assistance to the poor, (16.2%). While in Imo state, the respondents identified provision of employment, (60.4%), free education to children, (57.2%), severe punishment to offender (33.2%) campaign against the practice, (24.5%), and parents should stop giving out their children, (15.4%) as the main solutions to the practice.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

5.1 Summary of Findings

Generally, this study is well spread. It covers women and child trafficking, internal and international trafficking, victims of trafficking, the characteristics of traffickers, factors responsible for people being vulnerable to human trafficking and the possible destination of trafficked victims for both internal and international trafficking. The discussions will adopt a thematic procedure in order to achieve clarity and organizational efficiency.

A total sample of one thousand two hundred was chosen for this study (1200). However after the distribution of the questionnaire instrument, one thousand, one hundred and forty nine (1149) questionnaire instruments were duly completed and returned. Therefore, 1149 became our actual sample of respondents on whose perception most of the following discussions are based. This number amounts to a return rate of 96% which is much higher than the generally acceptable minimum of 70% for a study of this nature, (Monethe, Sullivan and Dejong, 2004). Focus Group Discussion (FGD), and In-Depth Interviews (IDI) were also conducted to revalidate and complement the findings of the survey instrument.

5.1.1 Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

The sex composition of the respondents showed that generally, a little less than half, (48.5%) are males and a little more than half (57.5%) are females. However in Edo state, the males are more (56.7%) while in Imo state, the female respondents are more, (59.6%). In both Edo and Imo states, the age range of most of the respondents clustered between 20 to 49 years. Most of the respondents in the two states are also middle aged ($\bar{X} = 33.8$ years). However most of them are actually within 25 years.

In Edo state, most of the respondents are single (59.1%), while most of the respondents in Imo state are married, (62.5%). The reason for this may be that the study area

in Edo are predominantly urban, and naturally attracts young people especially with the presence of several higher institutions in the town, while the study area in Imo state are relatively rural. The educational qualification of most respondents from Edo state was found to be WASC/SSCE, (38.6%), while in Imo state, most of the respondents obtained B.Sc or HND, (40.4%). Generally, respondents from both states clustered within WASC/SSCE, OND/NCE, and B.Sc/HND. Therefore, there is high literacy rate among the respondents. This is good for the study because of its relevance to the quality and content of the responses.

In both states, the predominant economic activity of the respondents is civil, public service, (50.2%), while farming is the least economic activity. This finding seems to justify an earlier position that most individuals in these states are abandoning farming in search of paid employment which is non-existent. Most of them are therefore civil servants. In religion, over 90% of the respondents from both states are Christians. This outcome reflects the general religious affiliation of the population in these states. Generally in both Edo and Imo state, the weekly income of most respondents cluster between ₦1,000 and ₦10,000. Also, one-third (33.3%) of the respondents in Edo state, and half of the value in Imo state (15.7%), do not know their income. This may be because they engage in economic activities that are difficult to quantify.

5.1.2 Characteristics of Households in the Community

There is an existing notion that there might be a relationship between the fertility behavior of a people and disposition to human trafficking as was captured in our research question 4. Therefore, the study sought to know the situation in our study area. It was established from the perception of the respondents, in Edo and Imo state that households in communities in both states have high number of children, (5 ó 10). This outcome naturally leads to high family size. In Nigeria, this could pose a problem of inability to effectively take care of the children especially with the inherent harsh economic situation that leads to food

insecurity and inability to meet basic needs like education, health care and shelter, (Barkindo and Lipede, 2007), thus positively disposing the children to human trafficking.

The study further sought to find out the reason for this preference for large number of children in households. The finding was that for both Edo and Imo state, culture and tradition of the people are the major reasons identified by respondents for large children in households. However, the indication by respondents in Imo state (68.3%) was higher than the situation in Edo state (49.8%). The next major factor is ignorance and this is followed by early marriage.

In order to identify the specific aspect of the culture and tradition of the people that most influence high number of children in households, the study relied on FGD and interview discussions. It was found that there is this general belief, that children come from God, but more than that, both states were found to have specific cultural and traditional practices that directly leads to high number of children in households.

In Edo state, especially the Benin area, inheritance is only through the first son. In other words, the birth of a first son by a woman bestows on her enormous inheritance rights and privileges. Therefore, most women regard giving birth to several first sons as investment, hence they give birth to as many first sons as possible for several men, a practice of serial polyandry. The first consequence of this practice is the reality of so many children in households. The second and perhaps the most important consequence is the presence of so many children in households without functional mothers. This reality negatively affects the upbringing of the child as well as family cohesion. These children are denied the care of a mother, and exposed to the antagonism, and conflict of a foster mother. This also leads to fierce inter-sibling rivalry within the Benin area of Edo state. All the factors mentioned above unfortunately could work in favour of human trafficking. Lipede in Barkindo and Lipede, (2006) mentioned this practice as an example of inherent socio cultural factors in

women trafficking. However, he related it more to gender inequity to the exclusion of other ramifications.

On the other hand, in Imo state, Ahiazu Mbaise and Ehime-Mbano also have specific culture and tradition that encourage and give impetus to large number of children. It is the tradition in these areas that women who give birth to ten children and above are bestowed the highest traditional status and honour among women (Igbu ewu ukwu). Therefore, every woman in these communities strives to attain this status by giving birth to so many children. As is the case in Edo state, with the harsh economic situation makes it so difficult for the family to effectively provide for these children.

5.1.3 Awareness and Prevalence of Human Trafficking

The study established that the perception of respondents in both Edo and Imo state, indicated a high awareness level for human trafficking. In Edo state, more respondents are aware of women trafficking, while in Imo state, more respondents are aware of child trafficking. This could also be an indication of the kind of trafficking that is most common in both states. The finding in Edo state presents similar outcome with previous studies on human trafficking in Edo state. A study by Women's Health and Action Research Centre, (WHARC) in 2002, and Girls Power Initiative (GPI, 2004) and also the study conducted by Okojie for United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, (UNICRI, 2004) established high level of awareness and prevalence of human trafficking in Edo state.

However, this study found out that most individuals who are usually interested in travelling in order to improve on their conditions or have a better life, do not know the link between such travels and human trafficking. This ignorance is found to be mostly responsible for most people still indicating interest to travel. This ignorance is reinforced by the quest for better life and the deceit and falsehood of the traffickers and their agents. Prina (2003) writing on deception and awareness in Edo state puts it this way "the opportunity offered to

girls with precarious economic situations and or with great aspirations, is a strong grip on, them as it is seen as the only possibility to leave Nigeria and to have an easy life for her and the family.

In Imo state, studies conducted by African Network for the protection and Prevention of child abuse and Neglect, ANPPCAN, (2000), Hodges, (2001) and Ebigbo, (2004) also established the prevalence of child trafficking in Imo state. But this study further found that most respondents even presently are much aware that you can give out a child to a relation or friend to either learn a trade, handwork or school, but the link between this traditional practice and human trafficking could not be established. Most respondents, as confirmed in the FGD and interview sessions regard this practice as a normal occurrence which ordinarily does not have any bearing on human trafficking. The study also found that in Imo state human trafficking may have been existing even in the 1940s and 1950s, especially among male youths. However, this is peculiar to internal trafficking.

5.1.4 Knowledge and Characteristics of Human Trafficking

The study established from the perception of the respondents that the traffickers are mostly relations of the women and children, and friends of the family. Some of the traffickers also pose as travel agents, especially in Edo state. Remarkably, in both states, less than six percent identified strangers as the traffickers, while more than forty percent and fifty percent identified relations and friends of the family. Indeed it was found that even parents participate in trafficking their children and benefit from the transaction. Apparently, most trafficking scenario begin with misplaced trust on those that are close to the victims. The culture of obedience and family re-inforces this reality. In both states, a child would hardly say no to the decision of the father, mother or elder siblings, and a relative is often considered family. Prina (2003:177) in a study in Edo state also emphasized the role of the family in human trafficking. According to this study, the deception/self-deception dynamic is carried out

through the active role of the family,í among the reasons that push the family to pretend not to see or even knowingly send the girls on the street of trafficking and prostitution, and at the base of the autonomous determination of some girls and women is the strong permeability of the Nigerian culture to values of riches and well-being promised by the westí ö. In the study by GPI, this fact was further highlighted. According to them öí so many families have been elevated from living in abject poverty to affluence through trafficking their daughters. Many parents now see trafficking as worthy investment whose dividends are huge and fast, they sale their valuables for purposes of paying deposits, and many more families are looking forward to getting their children and relation involvedí ö, (GPI, 2004:32 ó 33). In some cases, the agents go out to convince the girls, their parents, boyfriends or other family members. In some other cases, parents especially mothers look for sponsors for their daughters through the families of those who had been trafficked.

This study further identified the most likely sex of the traffickers. It was found that females were most likely identified as traffickers, especially in Edo state; though males also participate at specific stages of the network. This is critical in view of the fact that females are thought to be harmless and protective as mothers. Surprisingly, the reverse seem to be the case with human trafficking. It was also discovered that most of the sponsors and baronesses are women who most of the time reside abroad, while the agents or trolleys do the recruitment of victims locally from both urban and rural areas. The recruiters are made up of both male and females. The baronesses are also popularly called madams. Most of them are former victims who later graduated into Madams, they are well connected and usually have their documents. According to Esther (not real name) one of the victims öí . In Italy, the madams have documents, if they catch them, they bring lawyers and they are released. They arrested my madam, but she was released, they won't deport her because she is a big womaní ö

Another useful finding in this study is what the traffickers tell the victims to get their consent. The most prominent reason is offer of good jobs for women trafficking and offer to send children to school for child trafficking. The second most important reason for women trafficking in both states is escape from poverty while the second for child trafficking is to learn skill. This implies that if jobs could be provided for the vulnerable age (15 ó 24yrs) and school guaranteed for the children, (6 ó 15 yrs), a large proportion of victims could be salvaged or prevented from being trafficked.

The multiple regression analysis on the awareness of tendency to traffic women and young girls through promise of good job on sex and other social characteristics of respondents further indicated that sex, marital status (married) economic activity, Christianity, education and age are positive contributors to predicting the awareness of tendency to traffic women and young girls through promise of good job, while income is a negative predictor. This means that a unit change in any of the above variables, will also lead to a change in the awareness of tendency to traffic women and young girls through promise of good job by the values already indicated. Also, the multiple regression analysis of the awareness of tendency to traffic women and young girls through promise of training on sex and other social characteristics of respondents showed that sex, marital status, religion (Christianity) and age are positive contributors, while economic activity, education and income are negative contributors.

It was important to also know whether former victims who are familiar with the place of destination operate as traffickers than non victims who are not familiar with the place of destination. The study found that former victims operate more as traffickers than non former victims, especially in Edo state. Apparently, trafficking networks involve several stages and persons. While the agents may not have travelled before, most of the madams or sponsors seem to have travelled, and even live in the places of destination. This is confirmed in the

study of Pierpaolo, (2003:2) and Prina (2003:158) who identified Castel Volturno, and Turin in Italy as the major base of these madams. According to Prina, Turin and Verona are the two cities where it is possible to find a community rooted over time and a strong presence of Nigerian prostitution, where it is not difficult to imagine that the mechanisms of regularization have favoured the stabilization of women who were in the past prostitutes and represent the nucleus of self-reproduction and perpetuation of the phenomenon of trafficking and exploitation. Also according to Pierpaolo, the Comboni missionaries are worried about the situation of great illegality practiced in Castel Volturno and in neighbouring villages, carried out by the local Camorra and by foreigners, (Nigeria and Albania) criminal organizations.

The presence and activity of these former victims or madams in Benin is also a very strong influence on possible victims. FGD and interview sources indicated that in Benin-city, most of the big structures are built by the big girls (traffickers) in Italy and Germany. Also, most of the madams send cars to their families, open car shops electronic shops and super markets. These visible items of wealth and success serve as false inducements to would be victims according to the respondents.

5.1.5 Characteristics of Likely Victims and People Most Likely to be trafficked

The study found that most respondents (67.2%) in Edo state had seen a victim of woman trafficking before, while in Imo state, only about one third had seen a victim of woman trafficking. This is a further indication of high prevalence of women trafficking especially in Edo state.

The study further established that females are the most likely victims of human trafficking. In other words, females more than males are the most likely victims of human trafficking in both Edo and Imo states. So many reasons have been adduced by several scholars to explain why women and girls are more preferred than men as victims of

trafficking. In a study conducted by Girls power Initiative (GPI, 2004:51) a trafficker states that "girls are more marketable and are easily used for all types of jobs, especially sex work. He further stated that girls are more sellable over there than boys also girls have more simple minds than boys.

However, Lipede (2006:8) explained the preference by the fear of HIV/AIDs. According to him "In Italy, the fear of AIDs towards the end of the 1980s led to preference for non-Europeans in the sex trade. The demand for prostitutes from supposedly less AIDs prone areas like Nigeria and other African countries consequently increased in Northern and Central Italy". Rather than the above explanation, Ward (2005), related it to the intricacy of the worldwide sex industry. According to her, "the sex industry throughout the world is the most recognized source of demand for the trafficking of women and girls. Racial and social discrimination within the sex industry figure prominently in the commercial sexual exploitation of women and girls". Quoting a research, she further stated that historically and cross-culturally, a large percentage of clients seek prostitutes whose racial, ethnic, caste or national identities are different, from their own. Lastly, she stated that by importing and exploiting foreign prostitutes, traffickers are better able to meet demand criteria most of which are by men, and at reduced cost.

The study further examined the age group of females and children that are mostly victims of trafficking in both states. It was established that women between the ages of 15 to 24 years are the most vulnerable to being trafficked. While for the children, the most vulnerable age group is between 6 to 15 years. However, the vulnerability of women being victim of trafficking is much higher in Edo state than in Imo state. The preference for these age groups may be determined by demand specifications and the use to which the category of persons are put into. Most of the child victims are usually deployed into petty trading, hawking, child labour, and domestic exploitation. However, women within the identified age

group seem to be most preferred by the clients. According to Ward (2005:90) a study conducted in 2003 by the International organization for migration (IOM) indicated that three quarters of the 185 clients surveyed expressed a preference for prostitutes under the age of 25, and 22% preferred those 18 years of age or under. Giving further explanation for the preference of younger women, Ward also noted that sometimes clients who already have sexually transmitted infections may believe, according to the myth of the ðvirgin cureö, that sex with a virgin will heal their disease. Bizarre as this may seem, it is not very far from the general preference of men for younger females who are perceived to be young, fresh, and better than older women.

5.1.6 Factors Responsible for People Being Victims of Human Trafficking

The study examined the factors of poverty and poor households, wealthy or rich households, unemployment and out of school persons, employed persons, persons in good business, etc. It was found that women from poor homes are most likely to be victims of human trafficking in both Edo and Imo states. However, the indication for this category of women in Edo state is much higher than in Imo state. This may be attributable to the high incidence of women trafficking in Edo state.

Further for child trafficking, the study also found that in both states, children from poor homes are most likely to be victims of human trafficking. The indication for this category of children is much higher in Imo state than in Edo state. This may also be an indication of high incidence of child trafficking in Imo state. Generally however, in both Edo and Imo state, it was established that poverty is a very strong factor that makes people to be victims of human trafficking.

This outcome is in line with other studies. For instance in a study conducted by the International Labour Organization (ILO) through International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) in Republic of Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroun, Cote

Ivory, Gabon, Ghana, Mali, Nigeria and Togo, all countries in west and Central Africa, it was confirmed that in general, trafficked children come from poor families living in rural areas, (ILO, 2000). The difference here is that even among families in the urban centres, poverty can also propel their children to be victims of trafficking. Also a victim study by GPI, (2004) affirmed that the strongest reason girls are involved as victims of trafficking is poverty. Prina (2003) further asserted that at the base of the choice of a potential victim to be involved in the human trafficking, there is nearly always a pressing economic need, the poverty of the family.

The study also established that unemployed and out of school persons are most likely to be victims of trafficking than employed and in school persons, in both Edo and Imo states. This is because an unemployed person may be most willing to engage in any activity that is perceived to yield some income. Also children that are out of school may easily accept an offer to be sent to school even from a concealed trafficker. Generally in both Edo and Imo states, unemployment was found to be a strong contributory factor to human trafficking.

5.1.7 Characteristics of Families that are likely to give out children to others.

The study found that it is the tradition for parents in both Edo and Imo communities to give out children to live with others. This is not surprising because both states extensively observe the extended family network. In this case, members of the extended family mutually trust, assist and rely on one another for both economic and social support; this situation can easily lead to misplaced or deceitful trust and reliance.

The study further found that in both Edo and Imo states, families with large number of children, father with no formal education, mother with no education, and low income families are most likely to give out their children to traffickers. On the other hand, it found that families with small number of children, father with formal education, are less likely to give out their children to traffickers. Evidently, families with large number of children will be

under tremendous pressure to effectively provide for all the children. This task may not be easy with the harsh economic situation in these two states. Consequently, some of the children may not be in school, lack the essentials like good feeding, medicare, and may be prone to being giving out to others who may be traffickers.

Also father and mother with no formal education are illiterates. Therefore, illiteracy will make it difficult for the parents, to make informed decisions about the nature of their children. They would hardly be able to unravel the deceit in the sweet talks of the potential traffickers; hence they are more prone, to giving out their children. In most cases, illiterate parents are also poor. Therefore, a combination of these two factors will predispose the children from these families more to being given out to potential traffickers. Another important factor is low income families. Families with low income are less likely to meet up with family responsibilities and obligations. Therefore, children from these families would be more prone to be given out to others who may be potential traffickers.

The above finding is corroborated by the regional study by International Programme on the elimination of child Labour. According to this study, children are more at risk of being trafficked when they are members of a family with 5 or more children (ILO, 2000). The study which was on child victims showed that in Benin Republic, most of the children came from families with more than 5 children. In Cameroun, most of the victims were members of families with 6 to 9 children, while in Mali, most of the children came from families with an average of 7 to 8 children. The same study also confirmed that the education level of parents of trafficked children is generally low. Similar outcome was recorded in Benin Republic, Cameroun and Burkina Faso.

The multiple regression analysis of awareness of trafficking young children for hard labour indicated that families with large number of children is the most important contributor in predicting the awareness of trafficking young children for hard labour. This second most

important contributor was families with more female children followed by families with low income. The multiple regression analysis of awareness of trafficking young women and girls for prostitution also showed that families with large number of children are the most important contributor.

5.1.8 Destination of Trafficked Persons

The study further established that the destination of most of the women trafficked from Edo and Imo state is Italy. However for international child trafficking the destination for children from Edo state is mostly Ghana, Gabon and Cameroun respectively. But for Imo state, children are mostly trafficked to Gabon, Cameroun and Equatorial Guinea. For internal trafficking, the study found that the destination of most women trafficked locally in both Edo and Imo state is Lagos. Also for internal child trafficking children from both states are mostly trafficked to Lagos. However, the second destination for child trafficking for Edo is Benin city while for Imo is Aba. On the other hand, the second destination for women from Edo state is Abuja, while that of Imo is Port-Harcourt.

Generally, Italy has featured most prominently as the core destination for international women trafficking, especially from Nigeria. This is in line with other studies. Indeed Italy is so prominent that the acronym 'Italo Babes' is used to identify former victims, especially if they are successful. Prina (2003:169) describing the presence of Nigerians in Italy puts it thus; 'In Italy, the Nigerian criminal presence is concentrated in some areas and principally in the North, in Piedmont and in Veneto and in Campania in the South. The Domitian Littoral is noted as being a dominating presence on the road of Nigerian women, and the city of Castel Volturno is one of the centres of residence of the madams' ' However, Nigerian women are also trafficked to other countries in Europe like Spain, Germany or Britain (London).

For local or internal trafficking, Lagos is the most destination for both states. This may be because of the prominence of Lagos in Nigeria as both the commercial and political headquarters for a very long time. Abuja is also becoming a destination for both women and children trafficked from Edo state. This is because of its position as the federal capital of Nigeria. However in local trafficking, most of the major commercial towns serve as destinations for trafficked victims.

5.1.9 Human Trafficking Routes by Air, Land and Air from Nigeria to Destinations around the World

These routes were identified through interviews with victims, immigration officers, and confirmed by some existing studies as routes usually followed by human traffickers from Edo and Imo states.

- ❖ Lagos ó Italy by direct flight
- ❖ Lagos ó France ó Italy
- ❖ Lagos ó London ó Italy
- ❖ Lagos ó Accra (by road) ó Italy (by air)
- ❖ Lagos ó Netherlands ó Italy
- ❖ Lagos ó Cotonou ó Bamako (by road) ó Italy or Spain (by air)
- ❖ Lagos ó Togo ó Lybia (by road) ó Europe (by air)
- ❖ Lagos ó Togo ó Morocco (by air) ó Spain or Italy (by sea)
- ❖ Lagos ó Mali ó Algeria ó Morocco (by road) - Spain or Italy (by sea)
- ❖ Benin ó Lagos ó Ghana (by road) ó Italy by air.
- ❖ Benin ó Kano (by road) ó London by air, then Italy by train.
- ❖ Benin ó Lagos ó Abidjan (by road) ó Italy (by air)
- ❖ Lagos (Benenaise, Ghanaians, Togolese, Malians) ó Aba ó Ikot-Ekpene ó Oron, Ibuno, Ebugu, Mfun, Ekeang ó Gabon, Cameroun, Equatorial Guinea.

Traffickers from southern Nigeria, Edo and Imo also make use of most borders in Northern Nigeria, especially through Kano, Kastina, Jigawa or Borno border towns into Europe.

- ❖ Benin ó Kano ó Kastina ó Jibia ó Morocco or Algeria ó Lybia by road, then by sea from Morocco to Spain, or by air to Italy or France.
- ❖ Benin ó Kano ó London ó Italy.
- ❖ Seme ó Cotonou ó Togo ó Accra ó Bamako ó Europe by air.
- ❖ Idi Iroko ó Cotonou ó Togo ó Accra ó Bamako ó Europe.
- ❖ Seme ó Togo ó Burkina Faso ó Bamako ó Morocco by road, then by sea ó Spain/Italy.
- ❖ Benin ó Kano ó Agades ó Tamasset ó Regan ó Adras ó Godayo ó Oran ó Magraya ó Morocco, through the desert, to ó Europe by sea.
- ❖ Kano ó Katsina ó Jibia ó Maradi ó Agades ó Tripoli ó Europe ó Italy or Spain.
- ❖ Kano or Katsina ó Daura (Baban Mutum border)- Zinder ó Agades ó Tripoli ó Spain or Italy through Mediterranean sea.
- ❖ Katsina ó Niger ó Bobodiolasso or Pontenga (Burkina Faso) ó France.
- ❖ Katsina ó Niger ó Mali ó Burkina Faso ó Lybia/Morocco ó Spain/Italy.
- ❖ Maiduguri ó Baga ó Njemena ó Sudan ó Saudi Arabia (sources: Barkindo and Lipede, 2006, UNICRI, 2004, Nwaonuma, 2005).

5.1.10 Victim Experience

The study found that most of the victims accepted to embark on the trip based on decent. The traffickers paint a very rosy picture of good life and wealth abroad to attract the potential victim. In some cases where the potential victim may raise objections to working as prostitute abroad, they will falsely assure her of a more decent job like hair dressing,

domestic maid e.t.c. Also, the victims are exploited at various stages of the journey by the agents, through sexual abuse, assault and intimidation.

Self account of some victims revealed that before or soon as they arrived their destination, their travel documents and personal possessions were confiscated and they live under constant threat, intimidation and bondage. They also go, through massive economic exploitation in the hands of the madams, sponsors and their agents. Sometimes, the victims may end up losing their lives either in the hands of the madams and their agents or through the activities of some criminal organizations like the mafia, Moroccan, Albanese or ukrainese.

It was also established that victims were made to go through oath taking or other juju or voodoo experience. The parts of the body of the victim that are usually used for the practice are hairs from the head, armpit, private parts and nails. The oath is usually administered in Benin, surrounding rural towns, and even in Togo. The traffickers insist on this ritual so as to guarantee that the victim remains loyal and under bondage until she finishes paying her alleged debt to the trafficker. Through this process, the trafficker instills fear on the victim to the extent that they cannot even report their ordeal. Prina, (2003) also captured this practice in his study when he asserted that "the magic-religious tie is a fundamental aspect of the traffic of girls and women from Nigeria" this is a magic practice denominated voodoo or juju which the Nigerian madam makes the witch doctor celebrate on the girls destined for the prostitution market in Europe. However, it is not magic, rather, it is the psychological effect of a belief system.

Ward, (2005) also gave a precise narrative on the risk the victims, go through in their travails. According to her, "as each trafficking incident unfolds, the victim experiences threats to her physical and mental health. Women and girls may experience repeated physical,

sexual and psychological abuse or torture, forced or coerced use of drugs and alcohol, denial of privacy, public discrimination and social exclusion í ö.

5.1.11 Possible Solutions to the Problem of Human Trafficking

In Edo state, the study revealed through the perception of the respondents that the most preferred solution is provision of employment. Most of them are of the opinion that if most people are employed, they will not fall victim to human trafficking. Also, when people are employed, their economic base is enhanced, and they can better provide for their well beings. The second most preferred solution is strong campaign against the practice of human trafficking. This campaign is very necessary because most people in Edo state, though aware that people travel to Italy, are not quite aware of the human trafficking angle in the process. Despite all the dangerous aspect of the illicit practice, most families are still eager for their girls or even boys to travel abroad. This is because they are concentrating on the benefits and choosing to ignore the hazards. Any campaign programme should highlight these hazards. The campaign should also be spread to the rural areas, and not only concentrated in the urban centres.

The third preferred solution is free education to children. This is important because if the children are in school, they will not be victims of child trafficking. Most children who are not in school are because parents cannot afford the cost; some are children of single parents or separated parents. So, free education will help put these children back to school.

The fourth preferred solution for Edo respondents is severe punishment for offenders. This is very necessary because if a trafficker is severely punished, it will serve as deterrence to other people not to engage in the practice of human trafficking. But for this solution to be effective, both the families and affected individuals must be willing to give information about traffickers to law enforcement agents, and also be willing to testify against suspected traffickers. The judiciary on the other hand, should also work in tandem with the law

enforcement agencies to put the traffickers behind bars. The last solution is offer of assistance to the poor. Most Nigerians live on below \$1 dollar per day. Indeed poverty is widespread in Nigeria, especially in Edo state. Therefore, functional programmes to alleviate the poor conditions of the people are very necessary.

In Imo state, the provision of employment is also the first preferred solution. This is not surprising because in Imo state, especially in Mbaise and Mbano, most of the young persons attend school in order to get paid employment. However, there is no provision for these people to be employed either in the public or private sector. The second preference is provision of free education to children. This is important because most parents are very eager to provide education for their children, and when they cannot do it themselves, they look for assistance. The third is severe punishment to offenders; and then campaign against the practice. In Imo state this campaign should be aimed at raising the awareness of the people on the link between the hitherto normal traditional practice of giving out children to others, and vulnerability to human trafficking.

5.2 Conclusions

The findings as stated so far justify in many ways the theoretical orientation of this study which is the structural strain and anomie theory and the differential association theory. The structural strain theory posits that the economic political and social structures of society produce enormous strain which put tremendous pressure on some individuals, and make them to look for ways to alleviate the strain. In this case, and as confirmed by some of our findings, the structure of society produce enormous strains in terms of widespread poverty unemployment, large family size, illiteracy and predispose persons into being vulnerable to human trafficking.

The traffickers also catch in on the favourable condition for human trafficking created by the social structure. They also operate in response to the large demand for prostitutes in

European sex industry. Also, in accordance with the differential association theory, the professional traffickers learn to engage in human trafficking within intimate relationship. The learning process is also very imminent in areas with established patterns of organized adult crime, which presents skills, deviant values, criminal role models and learning environment. This may explain why human trafficking has been so entrenched in Edo state, especially Benin City.

Generally, the study found that there is a high level of awareness of human trafficking in both Edo and Imo states. However, the awareness of women trafficking is more in Edo state, while the awareness of child trafficking is more in Imo state. Despite the high level of awareness, most respondents especially in Imo state are ignorant of the link between certain traditional practices like giving out their children to live with friends and relatives and human trafficking. Even in Edo state, the core concept of human trafficking which is economic exploitation is not very clear to the people.

On the characteristics of the households in the communities in Edo and Imo states, households in both states maintain high number of children, between 5-10. The preference for high number of children in households was also found to be based on the culture and tradition of the people. Another reason for this preference is ignorance.

The specific aspect of the people's culture and tradition that is responsible for this practice is different in both states. In Edo state especially the Benin area, inheritance is only through the first sons. Therefore most women give birth to several men, in order to have first sons. The notion is the more first son a woman has, the more the sources of inheritance. On the other hand, in Imo state, the Ahiazu Mbaise and Ehime Mbano area have a tradition for women to have a target of ten children and above. Any woman who achieves this fit is honoured with the *oEwu-ukwuö* ceremony, and occupies a high status among other women.

On the knowledge and characteristics of traffickers, it was established in both states that the traffickers are mostly relations and friends of the women and children. In some cases the parents, brothers, sisters, uncles or aunts of the victim may be the trafficker. This sounds odd but indeed some parents play active role in the trafficking of their children either by omission or commission.

The traffickers were also identified to be mostly females especially in Edo state. However, males participate at certain stages of the networks, but most of the Baronesses or Madams are women. Most of these madams are from Edo state and mostly live abroad, but operate actively in Benin-City.

The main reasons the traffickers usually give to convince the women and girls are offer of good jobs abroad and escape from poverty. However, for child trafficking, the main reason traffickers give to convince children and their parents in both states, are to send children to school and to learn skill.

Also, former victims who are familiar with the place of destination operate more as traffickers. This outcome manifests more in international trafficking were most of the madams and sponsors are ex victims who now live abroad. Most of the traffickers are also from within the area where they operate. Specifically, most of the traffickers who operate in Edo state were perceived to come from Edo state, and also those who operate in Imo state are from the state.

On the characteristics of likely victims and people most likely to be trafficked, the gender of the most likely victims of human trafficking in both states is female. The most vulnerable age group of victims of women trafficking is between the ages of 15-24 years, while the most vulnerable age group of victims of child trafficking are between the ages of 6-15 years.

Women from poor homes are most likely to be victims of human trafficking in Edo state. But in Imo state, children from poor homes are most likely to be victims of human trafficking. Generally, in both states, poverty is a very strong factor that predisposes people to be victims of human trafficking.

Unemployment is also a very strong contributory factor to human trafficking in both Imo and Edo states. Indeed, unemployed and out of school persons are the most likely to be victims of human trafficking. Therefore, there is a high level of relationship between unemployed and out of school persons and vulnerability to human trafficking.

The characteristics of families that are likely to give out children to others established that it is the tradition in both Edo and Imo states for parents in the community to give out children to live with others. Specifically, families with large number of children, father with no formal education, mother with no education and low income families are most likely to give out their children to traffickers, then families with small number of children or father with formal education.

For international trafficking, the destination of most women from Edo is Italy, while children are mostly trafficked to Ghana. But for internal trafficking, women from Edo are mostly trafficked to Lagos and Abuja while the children are mostly trafficked to Lagos and Benin-City. However for Imo state, the perception is that most women are internationally trafficked to Italy, while children are most likely trafficked to Gabon Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea. But for internal trafficking the women are mostly trafficked to Lagos and Port-Harcourt, while the children are trafficked to Lagos and Aba.

The victims of trafficking also experience a lot of deprivation, threat, intimidation, trauma and bondage. They are also made to swear an oath of bondage, and some parts of their body used for juju or voodoo practice. They also suffer severe sexual and economic

exploitation. The parents and family of the victims sometimes suffer reprisal attacks from the traffickers, especially when the victim escapes from their bondage.

5.3 Recommendations

Based on the findings, the following recommendations are proffered:

- ❖ The government should establish effective and functional programmes to alleviate the poor conditions of individuals in Edo, Imo state and Nigeria as a whole. Though Nigeria has enormous natural and human resources, it is sadly rated as one of the poorest countries in the world. There is low standards of living and failure to meet the health, food, and security, needs of the people. The harsh economic situation is such that most parents are unable to care and properly feed their families. These conditions should of priority be changed.
- ❖ The government and private organisations should provide employment to Nigerians, especially the youths of the country. The employment should specifically target women from age 15 ó 24. The situation today where almost all avenues for employment has been closed is dangerous. The few government agencies that sometimes employ people politicize the process and only relations of politicians are employed. The government should urgently reject the imperialist notion that government do not have any business in companies and business, and begin to open up companies and build new ones to employ Nigerians. After all, America and all Europeans countries affected by the economic meltdown or depression, did not allow the companies to collapse, rather, they gave them stimulus packages so as to safe the companies and the jobs of their people. Enabling business environment should also be created for private enterprise.
- ❖ The government and non-government organizations should mount a massive campaign that targets parents, women and children, with a content that establishes the

link between certain traditional practices and human trafficking and also exposes the falsehood in the fake reasons and rationalization of the traffickers. This can be achieved by

- (i) Establishing a community education programme for the prevention of human trafficking and child abuse. The program should include women leaders, community leaders and youth organization.
 - (ii) Developing awareness raising and sensitization programmes about exploitation, HIV/AIDS and human trafficking, and to better inform the public about the mutually reinforcing effects of these phenomena.
- ❖ The identified traffickers should be arrested, prosecuted and severely punished. To achieve this goal: trafficked persons should be treated as victims so that they can willingly assist in identifying and prosecuting traffickers, the trafficked persons should be rescued from their situation and not captured by authorities. Summary deportation of trafficked persons makes it difficult to prosecute traffickers and also endanger victims.
 - ❖ The children especially age 6 to 15 years should be provided with free education, and measures taken to ensure that children are in school. The government should ensure the effective implementation of programmes addressing the needs of children. The Universal Basic Education (UBE) policy which made it free and compulsory for every child to attend school up to the senior secondary level if modified and properly implemented has the potentials to help prevent child trafficking. Also the child rights Act should be effectively implemented by the states.
 - ❖ The government should adequately provide funds and materials to NAPTIP and other enforcement agencies like police, immigration and civil defence to ensure efficiency, and also set up mechanisms to identify and punish corrupt officials.

- ❖ There should be strong emphasis on victim centered approach to trafficking which is focused on compassionate treatment based on rescue, rehabilitation and reintegration. There should be facilities and social services for the reception, protection and reintegration of trafficked persons to prevent re-trafficking.
- ❖ Measures should be taken to discourage families from having large number of children and large families, through intense family planning campaign that will involve women groups, community leaders and male community based organizations.
- ❖ The school curriculum should be modified to include skill and vocational education that could enable youths to be engaged after school.
- ❖ The destination countries like Italy, Spain, Germany, London and others should take steps to address the problem in their home countries through the criminalization of illegal prostitution, arrest and prosecution of the madams living in their countries and the rescue and rehabilitation of victims.
- ❖ Finally, all the stakeholders, the government, foreign governments, church organizations and NGOs should cooperate, combine their efforts strengthen and intensify actions towards the eradication of human trafficking.

Areas for Future Research

- (i) Human trafficking involving young boys and children.
- (ii) Trafficking in women and girls involving other forms of exploitation other than sexual and prostitution.
- (iii) The involvement of organized criminal networks in human trafficking in Nigeria.
- (iv) International and internal trafficking of infants through false adoption and baby homes.

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APPENDIX
QUESTIONNAIRE SCHEDULE

Department of Sociology/Anth.
University of Nigeria, Nsukka
Dateí í í í í í í í í í .

Dear Respondent,

I am a Ph.D. student of the University of Nigeria, Nsukka. I am conducting a research on a Comparative Study of Options and Perceptions on Factors affecting Human Trafficking in Edo and Imo State, Nigeria.

You were selected, in a random sample, as one of the respondents in this research. I therefore urge you to kindly provide the information required in the questions below. Please note that there are no right or wrong answers. Just answer the questions to the best of your ability.

Be assured that your answers are strictly for academic purposes and would be treated with utmost confidentiality.

I thank you immensely for your co-operation.
Yours faithfully,

Nwokeoma, B.N

SECTION 1: SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

Please tick good (√) inside the box in front of the answer you have chosen.

1. What is your sex:

- a) Male []
b) Female []

2. How old will you be by your next birthday?.....

3. What is your marital status:

- a) Married []
b) Single []
c) Divorced []
d) Widowed []
e) Separated. []

4. What is the highest qualification you have attained?

- a) First school leaving certificate []
b) WASC/SSCE, GCE, TC11 []
c) OND/NCE []
d) B.Sc/HND []
e) M.Sc AND above []
f) None []

5. What is the economic activity that takes most of your time in a week (Occupation)?

- a) Civil/Public Servant []
- b) Business/Trading []
- c) Military/Paramilitary []
- d) Student []
- e) Apprentice []
- f) Technician, Mechanic, Tailor, Hairdresser []
- g) Farming []
- h) Unemployed []
- i) Others specify í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í .

6. On the average, estimate the income you make from the economic activity that takes most of your time in a week?

- a) Less than N1,000.00 []
- b) N1,000.00 to N 5,000.00 []
- c) N5,000.00 to N 10,000.00 []
- d) N10,000.00 to N 15,000.00 []
- e) More than N15,000.00 []
- f) Do not know []

7. What is your religious affiliation?

- a) Christianity []
- b) Islam []
- c) African Traditional Religion (ATR) []
- d) Atheist []
- e) Others Specify-----

8. How many children have you in your household? í í í í í í í .

9. On the average, how many children do households have in this your community?.....

10. What, in your opinion, is the reason for the average number of children found in households in your community? **(More than one answer is allowed).**

- a) The culture/tradition of my people encourages large families []
- b) Early marriage in my area encourages larger families []
- c) Ignorance encourages large families []
- d) The culture/tradition of my people encourages small families []
- e) Modernization brings about Small families []
- f) The promotion of family planning encourages small families []
- g) Economy and cost of raising children encourages small families []
- h) Others, please specify []
- i) Do not know []

SECTION II: AWARENESS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

11. It has been reported that in some parts of Nigeria, some people deceive young women and girls with promises of good jobs only to take them to big cities or outside Nigeria and force them into prostitution and hard labour. Are you aware of such practices in this community?

- a) I am aware []
- b) I am not aware []
- c) Don't know []

12. It is also reported that in some parts of Nigeria, some individuals promise to train children in school or trade, only to take them to the cities or oversea and make money with them by forcing them to work in farm plantations, factories, hawk items or work as house helps. Are you aware of such practices in this community?

- a) I am aware []
- b) I am not aware []
- c) I don't know []

13. In your view, who are these individuals (traffickers) that take these women and children to the city or outside Nigerian for prostitution or child labour?

- a) Friends of the women/children's family []
- b) Strangers to the women/children []
- c) Relations of the women/children []
- d) Travel agents []
- e) Other, please specify []
- f) Do not know []

14. What sex are the traffickers mostly made up of?

- a) Males []
- b) Females []
- c) Both males and females []
- d) Don't know []

15. What reason(s) do the traffickers usually give:

- a) Good jobs in the city or outside Nigeria []
- b) Offer of school []
- c) Offer to establish a business []
- d) Offer of marriage []
- e) Learning trade/skills []
- f) Escape from poverty []
- g) Other, please specify []
- h) Do not know []

16. What are the reasons the child traffickers usually give to convince the child or their parents before they are taken to the cities or outside Nigeria? **(More than one answer is allowed).**

- a) Opportunity to learn trade []
- b) Opportunity to learn a skill for income earning (handwork) []
- c) Opportunity to be sent to school []
- d) Offer to pay money to the parents []
- e) Other, please specify []
- f) Do not know []

17. In your opinion, are the victims of trafficking aware that they would be engaged in the following activities before accepting to travel?

Activities	Yes, they are aware	No, they are not aware	I do not know
Prostitution			
Hawking			
Menial work			
Domestic exploitation			

SECTION III: PEOPLE MOST LIKELY TO BE TRAFFICKED AND FACTORS RESPONSIBLE

18. In your opinion, which group of people are Mostly victims? Only one answer is allowed.

- a) Females []
- b) Males []
- c) Don't know []

19. From your observation, females in which age bracket are mostly victims of trafficking?

(Only one answer is allowed)

- a) Girls 5- 14 years []
- b) Adolescent girls 15-24 years []
- c) Women 25-34 years []
- d) Women 35-44 years []
- e) Women 45 and above []
- f) e) Other, please specify []
- g) f) Do not know []

20. From your observation, what is the age group of children that are mostly victims of trafficking? **(Only one answer is allowed)**

- a) Children 0- 5 years []
- b) Children 6-10 years []
- c) Adolescent 11-15 years []
- d) Others specify í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í .
- e) Don't know []

21. In your opinion, which employment categories of persons are likely to be victims of trafficking? **(More than one answer is allowed)**

- a) Unemployed/out of school persons []
- b) Employed persons []
- c) In-school persons []
- d) Persons in good business []
- e) Persons out of business []
- f) Other, please specifyí í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í
- g) Do not know []

22. From your observation and experience, which category of persons is most likely to fall victim to traffickers? **(Only one answer is allowed)**

- a) Women from poor homes. []
- b) Women from rich homes []
- c) Women from rich and poor homes []
- d) Children from poor homes []
- e) Children from rich homes []
- f) Children from rich and poor homes []
- g) Other, please specifyí í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í
- h) Don't know []

23. In your opinion, how would you rate unemployment as a contributory factor to human trafficking? **(Only one answer is allowed)**

- a) Very strong contributor []
- b) Strong contributor []
- c) Very weak contributor []
- d) Weak contributor []
- e) It does not contribute at all []

24. To what extent would you say poverty is a strong factor that makes people to fall victim to traffickers? **(Only one answer is allowed)**

- a) To a very high extent []
- b) To a high extent []
- c) To a very low extent []
- d) To a low extent []
- e) To no extent at all []

SECTION IV: CHARACTERISTICS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKERS

25. Have you directly or indirectly come in contact with the traffickers or those who help them?

- a) Yes []
- b) No []
- c) Don't know []

26. Most individuals who operate as traffickers locally are those who had: **(Only one answer is allowed)**

- a) Travelled and are familiar with the place of Destination. []
- b) Not traveled before and are not familiar with the place of destination. []
- c) Others specify í ..
- d) Don't know []

27. Most individuals who operate as traffickers internationally are those who had: **(Only one answer is allowed)**

- a) Travelled and are familiar with the place of Destination. []
- b) Not traveled before and are not familiar with the place of destination. []
- c) Others specify í
- d) Don't know []

28. From your knowledge, traffickers are usually from: **(Only one answer is allowed)**

- a) The area where they operate []
- b) Outside the area where they operate []
- c) Others specify í
- d) Don't know []

29. From which state do the traffickers mostly come from:

- a) Imo State []
- b) Edo State []
- c) Delta State []
- d) Lagos State []
- e) Enugu State []
- f) Others specify -----
- g) Do not know []

SECTION V: SOURCE AND DESTINATIONS OF TRAFFICKED PERSONS

30. Which of the country(s) below are most trafficked women taken to?

- a) Italy []
- b) Spain []
- c) Britain []
- d) Germany []
- e) Others specify í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í
- f) Don't know []

31. Most children trafficked abroad are usually taken to?

- a) Aba []
- b) Abuja []
- c) Benin City []
- d) Lagos []
- e) Owerri []
- f) Port-Harcourt []

32. Which of the Nigerian towns are the trafficked children from your area taken to?

- a) Aba []
- b) Abuja []
- c) Lagos []
- d) Onitsha []
- e) Owerri []
- f) Port-Harcourt []
- g) Others, please specify -----
- h) Don't know []

33. Which of the Nigerian towns are the trafficked children from your area taken to?

- a) Aba []
- b) Abuja []
- c) Benin City []
- d) Lagos []
- e) Onitsha []
- f) Owerri []
- g) Port-Harcourt []
- h) Others, please specify í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í í
- i) Don't know []

**SECTION VI: CHARACTERISTICS OF FAMILIES AND PERSONS LIKELY TO
BE VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

34. In some communities, it is the tradition for parents to give out their children to live with relatives. Would you say this is the case in your place of residence?

- a) Yes []
- b) No []
- c) Don't know. []

35. Have you given out a child from your household to live with another person?

- a) Yes []
- b) No []

36. If Yes to Question 35, what were your reasons?

- a) To get more education []
- b) To help my relative/friend []
- c) To get employment []
- d) To learn more skills []
- e) Other, please specify-----
- f) Do not know. []

37. If No to Question 35, what were your reasons?

- a) I have no children []
- b) I do not like the idea []
- c) I like to live with my children []
- d) Other, please specify-----
- e) Do not know []

38. Have you ever seen a woman/young lady who is a victim of human trafficking?

- a) Yes []
- b) No []
- c) Do not know. []

39. Some people give some characteristics of families that are likely to give out their children to others as house helps. Kindly indicate your agreement disagreement with the following characterization of families that are likely to give out their children as house helps.

Characteristics of families		Strongly agree	Agree	Do not know	Disagree	Strongly disagree
a	Families with large number of children are more likely to give out their children to others than those with small number of children.					
b	Families with small number of children are more likely to give out their children to others than those with large number of children					
c	Families with an educated father are more likely to give out their children to others than those with fathers who have no formal education.					
d	Families with an educated mother are more likely to give out their children to others than those with a mother who have no formal education.					
e	A family with a father, who has no formal education, is more likely to give out their children to others than those with fathers who have formal education.					
f	A family with mothers, who has no formal education, is more likely to give out their children to others than those with mother who have formal education.					
g	The low income families are more likely to give out their children to others.					
h	Families with more female children are more likely to give out their children to others					
i	Families with more male children are more likely to give out their children to others					
j	Farming families are likely to give out their children to others					
k	Families in business/trade are likely to give out their children to others					

SECTION VI: SUGGESTIONS

40. How will you regard human trafficking?

- a) A normal activity that should be encouraged []
- b) A normal activity that should not be taken []
- c) It offers families opportunities to train their children and should be encouraged []
- d) It offers the women opportunities they cannot get from their communities []
- e) Others, please specify í ..
- f) Don't know []

41. What in your view are possible solutions to the problem of Human trafficking:

- a) -----
- b) -----
- c) -----
- d) -----
- e) -----
- f) -----

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE AND COOPERATION

FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION (FGD) GUIDE

A) Core Areas Of Concern

1. Prevalence of human trafficking
2. Socioeconomic and cultural variables affecting human trafficking
3. Solution to human trafficking

B) 1. Study location -----

2. FGD group -----

3. Date -----

C) Discussion Guide:

1. Introduction
2. Assurance of confidentiality
3. Permission to record the discussion
4. Opening remarks

Details:

This discussion is on the issue of human trafficking in your area. You have been selected because of your importance in the community. We urge you to please tell us all you know about the issue.

We are students, and we are interested to learn any thing you know, as this will help us in our studies. Be assured that whatever knowledge you share with us today will assist us to write a thesis on trafficking in persons, in Edo and Imo state of Nigeria.

We seek your permission to use a tape-recorder during out discussions. This will help us to remember what you say, and also enable us to compare with the notes taken by my colleague. If you desire, we may play the tape back to you after our discussion.

Question Guide:

1. Awareness of human trafficking.
 2. Who are the most likely victims.
 3. Who are the most likely perpetrators.
 4. What are the possible factors that make people fall victim to human trafficking.
 5. Why is Edo and Imo States identified as endemic areas for human trafficking.
 6. Which type of trafficking obtains mostly in your area.
 7. Are there some social, economic and cultural factors that predispose people into being victims of trafficking in the state.
 8. Why are people still getting involved despite the risk.
 9. Why is the practice still ongoing despite efforts to stop it.

IN-DEPTH INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR NGOs

1. Are you aware that women in your area are taken to the city and abroad by traffickers.
2. How rampant is this practice in this area, estimate figures if possible.
3. Which countries abroad are these girls mostly taken to.
4. Which cities in Nigeria are most of the women and girls taken to.
5. Do the parents of these women and children consent to their children and daughters have thing abroad.
6. Who are these traffickers/where are they from.
7. Are they mostly women or men.
8. Do the victims base their consent on truth or falsehood.
9. Are the victims mostly males or females.
10. What are the major means of travel.
11. What are the cultural factors that are responsible for human trafficking in this area.
12. What are the economic factors.
13. What are the social factors.
14. What are the age interval of the victims.
15. How do you rate the efforts of the law enforcement agents on trafficking.
16. Which agency in your opinion is the most effective in the fight against human trafficking? Are the laws of Nigeria good enough to tackle the problems.
17. Are the laws of Nigeria good enough to tackle the problems.
18. What are the major roles of your NGO in combating human trafficking.
19. What are the rehabilitation and reintegrate programs for victims.
20. What are the possible solutions to the problem of human trafficking.

IN-DEPTH INTERVIEW GUIDE

A: FOR VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING

1. Where you a victim of human trafficking.
2. Which country did you travel to.
3. What were you doing before you traveled.
4. Through what route did you travel.
5. What was your preoccupation abroad.
6. Who is the person that facilitated your travel.
7. Who funded the trip.
8. Where your parents aware of the travel plan and did they give their consent.
9. How many children are in your family.

10. Why and how did you come back.
11. If you have the chance again will you travel.

B: FOR OPINION LEADERS

1. Are you aware that young women and children in your area are taken to the city and abroad by traffickers.
2. How rampant is this practice in your area.
3. Do the parents or family of these young women and children give their consent before they travel.
4. Who are these traffickers.
5. What is the average family size in your area.
6. Are the victims of trafficking mostly from poor families.
7. Why is Benin City and Edo State notorious for women trafficking.
8. Why is Mbaise/ Mbano notorious for child trafficking.
9. What is the effect of the presence of successful former victims of human trafficking on potential victims.
10. What cultural, social, economic factors are responsible for this practice.
11. What are the solutions to the problem of human trafficking.
12. What is the impact of human trafficking on the image of the state.

C: FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENTS/PROFESSIONALS.

1. What is your Formation/Department.
2. What is the prevalence of human trafficking in your formation.
3. What is the rate of arrest of traffickers and prosecution.
4. What are the gender composition of most of the traffickers and where do they come from.
5. Which type of women or children trafficking is most common.
6. What is the age interval do most of the victims.
7. What is the sex composition of most of the victims.
8. What are your rehabilitation and reintegration programs for victims.
9. What measures and facilities are in place to combat trafficking.
10. How effective are these measures.
11. What are the major routes for human trafficking.
12. What are the major destination countries for human trafficking.
13. What is the possible solution to the problem of human trafficking.