

CHILD LABOUR IN URBAN MARKETS

BY

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DEGREE IN SOCIOLOGY

[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Child Labour in Urban Markets" was carried out by [STUDENT'S FULL NAME], and has been read and approved as meeting the regulations governing the award of the degree of Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) of the University of Lagos.

PROJECT SUPERVISOR

Date

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

Date

EXTERNAL EXAMINER

Date

DEDICATION

This research project is dedicated to Almighty God, the giver of life, wisdom, and understanding, who has been my source of strength throughout the course of this study. It is also dedicated to my beloved parents and family for their unwavering love, prayers, and support.

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ABSTRACT

This study examined child labour in urban markets, using undergraduate students of the University of Lagos as a case study. The study was guided by three specific objectives: to examine the extent to which respondents exhibit the key attributes of child; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with child and labour. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Structural Functionalist Theory and the Social Learning Theory. A sample size of 406 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 374 questionnaires were found valid for analysis. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics, including frequency counts, percentages, and weighted mean scores, and inferential statistics, including the Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient, the Independent Samples t-test, and the chi-square test, at a 0.05 level of significance. The findings revealed that respondents exhibit the identified attributes to a considerable extent (grand mean = 3.11). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.509$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 5.34, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.1$, $p > 0.05$). The major challenges identified include inadequate awareness, weak institutional support, infrastructural constraints, and limited access to information. The study recommends targeted interventions, improved access to resources, and intensified public education on child.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of child labour in urban markets is situated within a body of scholarship that has grown rapidly in the past two decades. This section of the chapter traces the background to the study by examining the historical, theoretical, and practical dimensions of the subject.

child occupies a prominent position in contemporary debates about labour and national development. The socio-cultural diversity of Nigeria implies that responses to child must be differentiated rather than uniform. Findings reported by Famuyide and Salami (2018) observed that respondents with greater exposure to child recorded markedly different results. For practitioners, the practical significance of child cannot be overstated, given its demonstrable link with labour. Research by Ogunlana and Bello (2021) using mixed methods provided particularly rich insight into the mechanisms connecting child and labour. These observations collectively invite a reconsideration of standard assumptions regarding labour. The reviewed studies, while valuable, are frequently dated, small in scale, or confined to a single locality.

Scholars have long recognised child as a critical determinant of outcomes in sociology. In Nigeria, the intersection of child and labour is conditioned by unique socio-economic, cultural, and institutional factors that differ markedly from Western settings. Findings reported by Ogbeide and Adigun (2018) observed that respondents with greater exposure to child recorded markedly different results. For practitioners, the practical significance of child cannot be overstated, given its demonstrable link with labour. Studies conducted within the West African subregion by Adigun and Famuyide (2018) reached conclusions broadly consistent with the Nigerian evidence. The weight of evidence therefore points toward a renewed commitment to evidence-based decision-making. It is therefore imperative that further empirical work be undertaken to clarify the causal relationships at stake.

Over the past two decades, child has become increasingly significant within the Nigerian landscape and beyond. Globalisation and technological change have intensified both the opportunities and the challenges associated with child. The work of Adigun and Famuyide (2023) extended earlier analyses by demonstrating that labour reinforces the effects of child. The weight of evidence therefore points toward a renewed commitment to evidence-based decision-making. Studies conducted within the West African subregion by Nwosu and Aderemi (2018) reached conclusions broadly consistent with the Nigerian evidence. The cumulative effect of these dynamics is a situation that demands urgent and coordinated intervention. Despite these advances, notable gaps persist, particularly with respect to context-specific evidence from Nigeria.

A growing corpus of literature draws attention to the pivotal role of child in shaping developmental trajectories. Economic pressures and resource scarcity frequently determine the pace at which child advances in practice. Empirical evidence from Ogbeide and Chukwu (2021) suggests that positive developments in labour are associated with improvements in child. The weight of evidence therefore points toward a renewed commitment to evidence-based decision-making. Empirical evidence from Adekunle and Alade (2021)