

***The Impact of Students Dropout of School in Sokoto State: A Challenge to Human Security***

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**Abstract**

This paper viewed school dropout as discontinuations of educational programme by a child or students. Education is the most important instrument for national development. Every nation irrespective of its economic growth as developed, developing, and underdeveloped engineers her educational programmes towards the provision of mass literacy for the production of quality manpower for human resources and economic growth for national development. This research is descriptive co relational type. The study was limited to school dropout within the Sokoto metropolis. A total number of 300 participants were selected through random sampling techniques. Two research questions were rose and answered. One instrument was used to collect the data, the questionnaire titled Students Drop out of School Questionnaire (SDSQ). The findings of the study revealed that students drop out of school has negative impact on human security. Therefore this paper recommended that government should encourage mass literacy.

Keywords: students drop out, human security

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## **Introduction**

In the global perspective, it is an incontestable fact that the progress of the nations is highly dependent on the education of their citizens (Latif, Choudhari, and Hammayun, 2015). This is because education is the most important instrument for national development. Every nation irrespective of its economic growth as developed, developing, and underdeveloped engineers her educational programmes towards the provision of mass literacy for the production of quality manpower for human resources and economic growth for national development. Thus, the nations provide financial resources for the development of human resources that will transform the economy of the country for betterment. The realization of this made Nigeria to promulgate Universal Basic Education (UBE) programme in 1999 to ensure that every child is enrolled in schools. However, one of the objectives of this programme is to inculcate permanent literacy and numeracy in the Nigerian child to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

The product of these institutions will then be enrolled in tertiary institutions. All this is done to provide adequate literacy for the citizens and aid in promoting human and materials resources for human and national security example raping, kidnapping cultism killing among others. However, dropping out of the school hampers human development which in turns led to human insecurity. The paper discusses the concept of human security, school dropout, theoretical framework, and review of some related studies. It stated the method of data analysis, data presentation and analysis, and finalize with the findings of the study as well as the uniqueness of the study.

## **Conceptual Frameworks**

This section explains the concepts of human security (personal and security lively hood) and students drop out.

## **Human Security**

There are different views about Human security (Alkire, 2003). But, the most important thing about the concept is that *human being* is central. This is because he is the one to be protected. The Commission on Human Security (CHS 2003) in its final report, Human Security Now, defines human security as the ability to protect the vital core of all human lives in ways that enhance human freedoms and human fulfilment. Human security means protecting fundamental human freedoms– freedoms that are the essence of life. It means protecting people from critical (severe) and pervasive (widespread) threats and situations. It means using processes that build on people's strengths and aspirations. It entails creating “political, social, environmental, economic, military and cultural systems that together give people the building blocks of survival, livelihood and dignity” (CHS, 2003 p. 4).

The two key components of the above conception are: protection from bodily harm and means of lively hood. Protection has been defined by the CHS (2003) as the “strategies, set up by states, international agencies, Non-Governmental Organizations

(NGOs) and the private sector, [to] shield people from menaces”. It refers to the norms, processes, and institutions required to protecting people from critical and pervasive threats. This protection will provide individuals with freedom from fear. Empowerment on other hand is defined by the CHS (2003 p.10) as “strategies [that] enable people to develop their resilience to difficult situations”. These two components (protection and empowerment) are interdependent. Hence CHS stated that, “both are required in nearly all situations of human insecurity, though their form and balance will vary tremendously across circumstances” (CHS, 2003 p.10).

Alkire (2003) stated that the main feature of human security is that it brings together the “human elements” of security, rights, and development. That is why it is an interdisciplinary concept that displays the following characteristics:

- (i) people-centered
- (ii) multi-sectoral
- (iii) comprehensive
- (iv) context-specific
- (v) prevention-oriented
- (i) **People-centered:** the concept of human security considers individuals as the ‘centre of analysis’ (Alkire, 2003). Therefore, it identifies those factors that pose threats to human wants and provide solution to them.
- (ii) Human security is also based on a **multi-sectoral** understanding of insecurities (Alkire, 2003). This component of human security entails causes of insecurity relating to economic, food, health, environmental, personal, community and political security.
- (iii) **Comprehensive** approaches entails the need for cooperative and multi-sectoral responses to security threats that bind the agendas of those dealing with security, development and human rights (Alkire, 2003)..
- (iv) The **context-specific** concept of human security acknowledges the insecurities vary considerably across different settings and as such advances contextualized solutions that are responsive to the particular situations they seek to address (Alkire, 2003).
- (v) Finally, in addressing risks and root causes of insecurities, human security is **prevention-oriented** and introduces a dual focus on protection and empowerment (Alkire, 2003).

### **Students Dropout of Schools**

According to Latif (2015) dropping out of the school is defined by National Center for Education Statistics as leaving school without completing a high school education .... This definition indicated that absconding of the program of the school by the students is called school dropout. For this conception, Latif, (2015) concludes that students drop out means discontinuing schooling either for financial reasons and disappointment with their social system and examination results.

Saleh (2015) sees dropping out of high school as leaving high school without completion to a formal qualification awarded. This indicates the abandonment of an

education before the expected minimum number of courses has been completed. The potential dropouts are those students that are likely to totally abandon their studies. In essence, dropping out refers to the students quitting school programs before they graduates. Latif (2015) states that students' dropout their schools to fulfil their financial needs. Another reason of students' dropouts is that some parents are not interested in education for their children. Dropout rate in Bangladesh is also high as in other developing countries.

This paper considers students drop out to be a phenomenon that threatened individual human security. Depending on the individuals' social maladjustment, risk factors are events or conditions that increase the likelihood of an individual's experiencing emotional or behavioral problems that may contribute to dropping out. Others include: higher mortality rate; increased social dependence; lack of, or decreased, self-confidence or self-esteem; lost earnings; increased unemployment and social security benefits, and related costs.

### **Theoretical Framework**

This paper was adapted from the "Life Chance Theory." The theory was developed by the German Sociologist, Max Weber to describe the opportunities each individual has to improve his quality of life this can only be achieve when individual are secured. It is a probabilistic theory that predicts how an individuals' life will turn out. The theory has it that the available resources that an individual has, determines whether his life can improve or remains at the position socioeconomically. He lists "properties ownership, Education, health care, food, clothing and shelter are the main factors that determine an individuals' life chance." Educationally, the theory implies that once an individual stay in school and acquire knowledge there is every possibility of improving his life chances and vice versa.

### **Review of Relevant Studies**

There are various studies conducted on the impacts of students dropping out of schools on the sustainability of the society. Latif, Choudhari, &Hammayun (2015) conducted a comparative research on the Economic effects of students drop out of schools for the purpose of exploring the causes and the impacts of students drop out on the economic enterprises of the Pakistan Students. It was found that students Pakistan like any other student elsewhere in the world drop out of the school due to the following reasons: financial problems, parents' unwillingness, distance and lack of basic facilities, bad quality education, inadequate school environment and building, overloaded classrooms, improper language of teaching, carelessness of teachers, and security problems in girls' schools. The effect of drop out was found to bedevil the economy and human freedoms from fear and wants created.

Yumiko, (1997) Investigated the causes, processes, and consequences of the student's dropout from junior secondary school in Komeda-Edina-Eguofa-Abrem (K.E.E.A),Ghana. The researcher carried out the research on two levels- micro and Macro. At the macro level, he surveyed 39 schools in the district. He then took up the

micro investigation and surveyed 4 schools and undertook an in-depth study on them. He sampled 32 drop out and 32 stay-in students as the subject sample of his study. He found that there were financial, gender and social cause of drop-outs of students in the Ghana. Having compared the samples, he discovered that most drop-outs engaged in apprenticeship to lead to self-employment. Yet, these apprenticeship skills are gender sensitive. There are limited opportunities for women to be successful.

### **Statement of the Problems**

Dropping out, with its many implications, remains a common term to use in describing the failure of schools and their students. Studies suggest that there is need for research in the area of student dropout to study how does it affects the social, economic, and security conditions of a country.

A study on United State of America (USA) identified that many student dropout their school because students found their classes boring, absence from school for long time and unable to manage their work, consuming time with those who are not interested in study, unnecessary freedom to do everything and failure in class were the main reasons for which student left their school during their education (Agbenyega and Klibthong, 2013). The consequence of this is that United State of America lost about \$292,000 for this threat (en.wikipedia.org). This huge amount of money affects other sectors of social development in which human empowerment for human security is included.

In developing countries like Nigeria, dropout rates are remarkably high. Saleh (2015), states that the high school dropout problem is a crisis because it impacts not only individuals and their education, but because of the economic and social costs local communities have to deal with. Communities suffer from a lack of productive workers and higher costs associated with incarceration, health care, and other social services. She confirmed that most of the young dropouts experience a wide range of job market, earnings, social and income problems that impair their ability to transition to productive career and stable family life. Thus, their life chance had been threatened.

It is disheartening that experience shows that in Sokoto state students were found to be falling apart in tertiary institutions. They are found to be dropping out of the schools. This paper therefore undertakes to assess the gravity of the tertiary students drop out in Sokoto state and examines how it affects human security in the state. The paper argued that tertiary students drop out in can cause human insecurity which advertently affect state security and national development.

### **Research Questions**

Q1. How does student's dropout in tertiary educational institutions in Sokoto State affect the personnel security?

Q2. How does student's dropout in tertiary educational institutions in Sokoto State affect the security of people lively hood?

### **Objectives of the Study**

The objectives of this study are to assess the extent of the students drop out in institutions in Sokoto State and how it affects human security. The study is designed to achieve the following objectives:

- i. Find out the relationship between students dropout in tertiary educational institutions and personal security in sokoto state.
- ii. Find out the relationship between students dropout in tertiary educational institutions and security of people lively hood in sokoto state.

### **Research Methodology**

The research is a descriptive survey of co relational type. The study was limited to school dropout in tertiary educational institutions within the Sokoto metropolis. A total number of 300 participants were selected from Shehu Shagari College of Education, Sokoto (SSCOE), Sokoto State University and Sokoto State Polytechnic Sokoto, through random sampling techniques. Two research questions were rose and answered. One instrument was used to collect the data, the questionnaire titled Students Dropout and Human Security Questionnaire (SDHSQ).The instrument was validated by team of expert in Educational Management. The reliability of the instrument was obtained using test and re-test methods and a co-efficient of 0.75 was obtained. The researcher and trained field assistance were personally administered the questionnaire to all respondents. The responses to the questionnaire were be collected and processed with the use of Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS). The statistical tool to be use in analyzing the data obtained is simple percentages and Person Product Moment Correlation Co-efficient (PPMCC).

### **Research Question 1:**

How does student's dropout in tertiary educational institutions in Sokoto State affect the personnel security?

This research question was answered and present in table 1

**Table 1: Effect of Student Dropout and Personal Security**

S/N Item	Students	Agree	Disagree
1. Dropouts contribute in political attacks		85%	25%
2. Dropouts contribute in kidnapping citizens		65%	35%
3. Dropouts contribute in rape cases		70%	30%
4. Dropouts contribute in rituals killings		45%	65%
5. Dropouts contribute in armed bandits attacks		64%	36%

Item 1 in Table 1 shows that, the majority of participants 85% agreed that dropout of tertiary education institutions contribute in political attacks on citizens. Item 2 shows that, the majority of the participants 65% agreed that dropout contribute in kidnapping the citizens. Item 3 shows that the majority of the participants 70% agreed that, dropout contribute in rape cases. Item 4 shows that, the majority of the participants 65% disagreed that, dropout contribute in ritual killing. Item 5 shows that, the majority of the participants 64% agreed that, dropout contribute in armed bandits attack.

**Research Question 2:**

How does student’s dropout in tertiary educational institutions in Sokoto State affect the security of people lively hood?

This research question was answered and present in table 2

**Table 2**

S/N Item	Students	Agree	Disagree
1.	Dropouts are employable for industrial security	30%	70%
2.	Dropouts are interested in farming for food security	20%	80%
3.	Dropouts are contribute in commercial activities	55%	45%
4.	Dropouts are do contribute self-employment	52%	48%
5.	Dropouts are do contribute as un-skills labourers	26%	74%

Item 1 in Table 2 shows that, the majority of participants 70% disagreed that, dropouts of tertiary educational institutions are employable for industrial security. Item 2 shows that, the majority of the participants 80% disagreed that dropout are interested in farming for food security. Item 3 shows that the majority of the participants 55% agreed that, dropout contribute in commercial activities. Item 4 shows that, the majority of the participants 52% agreed that, dropout do contribute in self-employment. Item 5 shows that, the majority of the participants 74% disagreed that, dropout do contribute as un-skill labourers.

**Summary of Findings**

1. Students dropout from tertiary educational institutions contribute to personal insecurity in Sokoto State.
2. Students dropping out of schools contribute to insecurity of liveli-hood in Sokoto State.

**Discussion of Findings**

The result of this study found that there is relationship between students’ dropout and personal security in Sokoto State. Therefore this affects security of lively-hood and increase fear and want among the teeming population which the State Government believed to be fighting against. There findings from this paper agrees with Latif, Choudhary, and Hammayun, (2015) that dropping out of school by students affect the

economy society for the simple reason that the work force is going to be diminished. Thus human security has been affected. However, the findings went contrary to the Yuniko (1997) who found that students in Ghana turn to apprenticeship and microenterprises-for self-employment.

### **Conclusion**

The paper concludes that education is prerequisite in the empowerment of the human beings. It provides to them not only the knowledge but also the skills that will relieve him with fears of human existence and adaptation with situations. The human beings can use their knowledge obtained in schools to initiate, invent, and innovate new things that can make them to self-subsistence and self-employed apart from working under any organization. These empowerment opportunities provided by schools will only benefit those that were retained in schools. Schools can therefore be a catalyst for providing human security.

### **Recommendations**

The paper finally recommends the following:

1. Government should encourage entrepreneurship program and make it compulsory for school dropout.
2. The government should target schools as the centres for fighting human insecurity.

### **Suggestions for Further Studies**

1. Research should be conducted on out of school children in North-West Nigeria.
2. There should be a research on mass-education (Adult education programme).

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