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# Strategies for peaceful problem solving in Nigeria

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#### Abstract

This research seeks to identify strategies for peaceful problem-solving in Nigeria. The design for the study is expost-facto research design. The population of this study comprised the entire Nigerian citizens, which is 166.2million. The authors adopted a purposive sampling technique in selecting two hundred participants. Four variables of stable family life, employment opportunity for all, good governance and skill acquisition were identified for the study. Data was gathered through a questionnaire titled, Strategies for Peaceful Problem Solving Questionnaire (STPPSQ), which was analyzed to ascertain the relationship between the four variables. The result revealed a significant relationship between the variables. The researchers also employed semi structured interview schedule of qualitative research approach to analyze the responses from twenty participants making the sample two hundred and twenty. The result of the qualitative analysis indicated that creation of jobs, provision of infrastructural facilities, free education and empowerment are indicators for peaceful problem solving in Nigeria. Based on the findings, some recommendations were made which includes that families should take responsibility of giving their children good upbringing that can stand the test of time.

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#### 1. Introduction

1.1. Introduction to the problem

Peaceful problem-solving is the key to a better society where people co-exist in harmony. However, where peace has eluded a society due to chaos, terrorism and religious conflict, there will be no meaningful developments. For the past three years, peace has eluded the Nigerian citizens most especially in the Northern part of the country. The worst hit is Borno and Yobe states respectively, where daily, innocent

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citizens are being killed. Presently in the country, over 200 school girls from Chibox Village were abducted from their dormitories and are being held hostage by the militant group. The issue of Boko Haram (Western education is evil) has left many Nigerians homeless, orphans, widows and widowers. Apart from these, many churches including the US embassy have been bombed. The question then is, what is peace and what strategies can we employ for peaceful problem solving in Nigeria? Peace is the harmony, which exists either within a person or between people who live together in a community. Rummel (1981) defined peace as an opposite of antagonistic conflict, violence or war and that; it may mean an internal state of mind or nation. Again, Francis (2011) sees peace as absence of war, fear, suffering, justice, respect, inner peace etc. The author went further to say that promotion and practice of human rights can bring about peace. In addition, Peace is seen by Dalai Lama (2012) as a situation where people are able to resolve their conflict without violence and can work together to improve their lives. The international alert (2014) went further to summarize peace thus: Peace is when:

- 1. Everyone lives in safety, without fear or threat of violence and no form of violence is tolerated in law or in practice.
- 2. Everyone is equal before the law, the systems for justice are trusted and fair, and effective laws protect people's rights.
- 3. Everyone has fair and equal access to the basic needs for their well-being such as food, clean water, shelter, education, health care and a descent living environment.
- 4. Everyone is able to participate in shaping political decisions and the government is accountable to the people.
- 5. Everyone has equal opportunity to work and make a living regardless of gender, ethnicity or any other aspect of identity.
- 6. Peace therefore can only last where human rights are respected, people are fed and where individuals and nations are free. There are two types of peace. There is intra personal and inter personal peace. Intra personal peace is peace that exists within an individual while inter personal peace is that exist among people.

An individual without peace cannot give peace to another person or others around them. You can only have peace and give peace to others when you are satisfied with what is going on around you. But when you are dissatisfied with the happenings around you such as injustice, no employment, good roads, clean drinking water, and no electricity etc; peace may elude you and the people around you may suffer.

### 1.2. Theoretical framework

The study is anchored on human needs theory, which tries to explain why humans behave violently. This theory as reported by Faleti 2011) maintained that all humans have basic needs which they seek to fulfill and that the denial of these needs by other groups or individuals could affect them immediately or later leading to conflict. When

people's needs are not met and they become frustrated, the result is conflict. For instance, it has become a common phenomenon in Nigeria that, people wait endlessly for many years after school graduation before they can get something to do. A frustrated youth may resort to violence. The main purpose of this study is summarized in a question form thus: what are the strategies for peaceful problem solving in Nigeria? These strategies may include stable family life, employment opportunity for all, good governance and skill acquisition.



Fig. 1. Demographic chart showing causes of conflict.

# 1.3. Literature review

Stable family life is one in which the entire family members live in peace and harmony with each other in mutual understanding. In such a family, there is joy, peace, love and respect for each other. Family support (2014) said that a stable family life promotes emotional well-being of children, fosters positive behavior, self-esteem... and that healthy family functioning enhances child welfare, improves outcomes for them and ultimately, the society. A family is a miniature of society and it is where the child's first school begins. According to Nmom (2013), a family is the fundamental unit of social life and that everybody starts life in the family and all other known human institutions grew out of the family. This implies that socialization of the individual into either peaceful life or chaotic life starts from the family. It is here that the child acquires the ideal norms, values, ideologies and the necessary acceptable behaviours that will help them fit properly into the society.

Esu. Cornelius-Ukpepi and Ndifon (2009) confirmed that for regional and global peace to reign, social ethics and values have to be inculcated early in a child. This can

only happen when parents take responsibility of training the children right from home to be peaceful. Also, Family support (2014) asserted that, parents have responsibility for good upbringing of their children. The parenting style to a large extent influences the future of the child, shapes his or her behavior, impacts their development, determines how well prepared the child is to realize their full potential and become the person or adult they is meant to be.

Also, Krishnan (2007) affirmed that teaching children acceptable behaviours to maintain peace starts right from the home and that this can be done at an early age. But, where the family life is not stable, parents are not always around to nurture the children and children are left on their own, family fights and quarrels, separated families and divorce. The children may become problematic. In addition children from such homes may not acquire acceptable behaviours in the society. They may become touts, miscreants, disruptive and cause problems in the society. If family life is stable, enveloped in love, the children may grow to have stable personalities, will value life and property, and may not easily be carried away when there is chaos.

In some locality, there are children of 9-10 years of age leaving in an undeveloped piece of land on their own. What will become of these children? Will they not grow to become a problem in the society? Enoh (2014) in a public lecture blamed families for the rising of insurgence in the country. The author said that the family is a social institution, is responsible for the maintenance of order and stability in society, and transmits the societal way of life, values and norms. The author went further to say that, without appropriate socialization from the family, the society will not survive, and too much deviation from the norms would disrupt the stability and functioning of society as it is evidence in the current happenings in Nigeria.

Employment for all is another strategy that can bring about peace in Nigeria. However, it is sad to note that, unemployment has long become a problem in Nigeria and the world over. Year in, year out, universities and other tertiary institutions are turning out graduates in their numbers in different fields and all are roaming the streets looking for jobs. According to the International Labour congress (2013) Africa had the highest unemployment rates. When someone is idle, without a job, the individual can think up evil, which may affect the larger society. Most of the people perpetuating chaoses in some Nigerian cities are those who have no jobs. Uzochukwu (2014) affirmed that one of the causes of rapid growth of crimes in many parts of the world is unemployment. This is because anyone who has a job will not leave their job to go out and destroy the peace of others or even throwing bombs to kill others. We believe that if everyone is occupied in one job or the other, no one will have the time to create problems. Employment opportunity for all may suffice to solve peace problems in Nigeria.

Again, where a large population of people in a country have no skills to fall back to after graduation from the University, There is bound to be crisis because, people are left

to depend on white collar jobs. Uzochukwu (2014) opined that skill is very important in the life of every citizen. Skill acquisition the author said is the ability to obtain a particular task and become an expert in it. The author continued that lack of skills is the major cause of corruption and enumerated the importance of skill acquisition to include: self-employment, diverse job opportunities, employment generation, effective functioning, and crime reduction. When you acquire a skill outside the school certificate, and when there is no job, you can fall back on that skill and develop from there. However, education in Nigeria, offers citizens paper certificate without specialized skills.

Skill acquisition is one of those things that can keep people busy. When everyone is occupied, doing one thing or the other, there will be no room to think up evil and none will gang up to destroy the peace of the country. Gumbari (2009) affirmed that skill acquisition is very significant in that it can eliminate joblessness and reduce crime through effective management of youths.

It is therefore important that before one completes his/her education, he/her should acquire a skill that can help the person to fend for himself/herself. With this, there will be peace because everyone is occupied with something to do.

Education is a tool for both human and national development. Skill acquisition is a form of education but when many people are uneducated, they can become problematic because they do not understand many things. Ameh (2014) reported that President Goodluck Jonathan of Nigeria warned the Northern governors to stop blaming the Federal government over Boko Haram activities in their domain. The author said that, the president attributed the insurgency to lack of education and flayed some Northern governors over their inability to provide primary and secondary education for the children. This goes to show that if people in the Northern part of the country are given the basic education, they will be better equipped to act justly when there is a misunderstanding and not to carry arms.

Another strategy for peaceful problem solving in Nigeria is good governance where there is social justice. The society is corrupt and people celebrate injustice. People who are culprits are not reformed in prison. Emphasis should be on teaching inmates different skills so that when they are out, they will not go back to crime. In addition, many people are in prison for no just cause and have not been tried to find out if they are guilty. Many have even died in there.

According to Dada, Udoaka, and Dada (2013) Nigeria is in much need of good governance and responsible leadership. The authors went further to say that, anti-democratic agents such as excessive greed, corruption, lack of transparency and accountability are denial of good governance. When all these are evident in a country, there is no how chaos will not be the order of the day. The masses are not having the basic amenities such as pipe borne water, constant electricity, good roads to mention but a few which are the basic necessities of life. Good governance therefore can be a way of

bringing peace where there is none. In addition, Best (2011) said that good governance helps to diffuse tensions and remove problems as they evolve. This implies that, if the government is sensitive to the needs of the masses, then peace is sure to exist.

Good governance according to UNDP (1997) is a commitment and the capability to effectively address the allocation and management of resources to respond to collective problems. The outcomes of good governance as put by UNDP (2014) could be peaceful, stable and resilient societies where services are delivered and reflect the needs of communities, including the voices of the most vulnerable and marginalized.

Again, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development OECD (2001) went further to enumerate the core characteristics of good governance to include participatory, consensus oriented, accountable, transparent, responsive, effective and efficient, equitable and inclusive and follows the rules of law. Furthermore, the recent reports from OECD (2015) showed that, the development efforts made by the international community over the past 60 years have had measurable impact on reducing poverty, improving human health and tackling other challenges. However, conflicting priorities and uncoordinated approaches continue to hold back progress. The OECD (2015) have therefore, brought out three guiding principles which can help to realize the full potential of partnerships for sustainable development. These include, accountable action, where everyone should be responsible for one's action, coordinated and effective action and experience-based action. Peace can be experienced when these principles are practiced. However, where a government is not effective and responsive to the people's needs, there is a tendency for the people to react in a negative way. Dada et al (2013) confirmed that evidence of absence of good governance in Nigeria is seen in the intolerable profligacy of public officials, massive election fraud, and absence of basic social infrastructure, weak judiciary and abuse of power. The major cause of conflicts in Nigeria Albert in Alabi (2010) is competition for resources in form of human possession such as land, money power and influence that are often in limited supply.

# 1.4. Significance of the study

It is hoped that this study will be of benefit to the Nigerian youths, parents, the Nigerian government thus:

The Nigerian youths may from the findings of this study realize that there is dignity in labour and may strive to acquire skills that will make them become self-reliant.

The parents of these youths may benefit by becoming aware of the importance of giving their children adequate training right from birth.

The Nigerian government from the findings of this study may become proactive to provide the necessary infrastructural facilities to make life more worthy to live and also may bring up programmes that will reduce unemployment among the youths in the country.

### 1.5. Purpose of the study

The purpose of this mixed method study is to identify and explore the strategies for peaceful problem solving in Nigeria and to get a better understanding of the problem. Specifically, the study seeks to determine whether;

- 1. Stable family life relate to peaceful problem solving.
- 2. Employment opportunity relate to peaceful problem solving.
- 3. Skills acquisition relate to peaceful problem solving.
- 4. Good governance relate to peaceful problem solving.

### 1.6. Research questions

Five research questions are asked to guide the study;

- 1. How does stable family life relate to peaceful problem solving?
- 2. To what extent does employment opportunity for all relate to peaceful problem solving?
- 3. Does skill acquisition relate to peaceful problem solving?
- 4. How does good governance relate to peaceful problem solving?
- 5. What are the strategies for peaceful problem solving in Nigeria?

### 1.7. Hypotheses

To guide the study, four hypotheses were formulated;

- 1. There is no significant relationship between stable family life and peaceful solving
- 2. There is no significant relationship between employment opportunity for all and peaceful problem solving
- 3. There is no significant relationship between skill acquisition and peaceful problem solving
- 4. There is no significant relationship between good governance and peaceful problem solving.

#### 2. Method

This study adopted a mixed method combining both quantitative and qualitative analysis. The rationale for this design was to identify whether the findings from the quantitative method aligned with that of the qualitative result. First, the research design adopted for this study is the Ex-post Facto research design. This is because the researchers have no control over the independent variables and the variables are not manipulable. The instrument used for data collection was a 20- item questionnaire using four point Likert rating scale. The instrument was face validated by lecturers in the area of test and measurement who ascertained them valid for use. This was administered to two hundred participants which were purposively selected across the six geo-political zones of Nigeria. Secondly, a single question demanding written protocols of peoples' opinion of the strategies for peaceful problem solving was administered to 20 participants. This was analyzed using thematic analysis where data was coded with colored pencils by identifying patterns which were grouped into themes. The rationale for the mixed research design was to establish a better understanding of the problem from different perspectives.

### 2.1. Population of the study

The population of the study consisted of all the Nigerian citizens, which are 166.2million as reported by the National Bureau for statistics (2012). The population was made up of male and female participants from across the country. These include traders, students, civil servants, businessmen, and women.

### 2.2. Sampling procedure

The sampling technique adopted for this study was the purposive sampling where 200 people of different categories comprising of traders, students, civil servants, businessmen and politicians were selected to participate in the study. The purposive sampling procedure was ideal because of the vast nature of the country. That is, we made use of the people we met on ground during data collection. Three research assistants were employed to assist the researchers in order to cover the six geo-political zones.

### 2.3. Sample

The sample size of this study was two hundred and twenty subjects (220). Two hundred of the participants were given a questionnaire to respond to while twenty of them responded by written protocols. The mixed method is for the purpose of comparison and confirmation of results. The results obtained from the qualitative analysis are compounded for confirmation, with the results obtained from the qualitative analysis. This is to provide a better understanding of the research problem.

GEO-POLITICAL ZONES South South South East South West North Central North west North East Total CRSEkiti Enugu 6 Niger 4 Sokoto 6 Gombe AKS Oyo Kwara 6 Katsina 5 Bauchi 34 Rivers Ebonyi Osun 5 Kogi 5 Kebbi Adamawa 6 32 3 5 6 5 Bayelsa 7 Ogun Plateau Zamfara Bornu 6 Anam. 5 4 5 Delta 6 Abia Ondo 4 Nasarawa 4 Kano 5 Taraba 5 31 6 Edo 6 Lagos 11 FCT 5 Jigawa 4 Yobe 6 31 Benue 7 4 kaduna 5 33 34 33 34 200 QUALITATIVE SAMPLE 3 3 3 20 4 4 Grand total 220

Table1: Sample distribution according to Geo-political zones

The sample was spread across all the states in each of the six geopolitical zones to give room for adequate representation of every part of Nigeria.

#### 3. Results

In this study, the data collected and prepared for the study was analyzed and interpreted to test the hypotheses of the study using the SPSS software (Statistical Package for Social Sciences). A hypothesis-by-hypothesis analysis of data was presented, followed by the discussion of results in line with literature review.

Hypothesis one

There is a significant relationship between stable family life and peaceful problemsolving. Pearson product moment correlation was used for data analysis. The result of this analysis is presented in Table 2

**Table 2.** Pearson product moment correlation analysis of the relationship between stable family life and peaceful problem solving.

1	N = 200			
Variables	$\sum X$	$\sum X^2$	∑XY	Cal-r
	$\sum Y$	$\sum Y^2$		
Stable family life	2451	34532		
			7031919	0.621*
Peaceful problem-solving	2869	42646		

Significant at 0.05, df = 198; critical r = 0.138

Data presented in Table 2 shows that the null hypothesis is retained. The result obtained from analysis of data reveals that the calculated r-value of 0.621 is less than the critical r-value of 0.138 at 0.05 level of significance with 198 degrees of freedom. This implies that there is no significant relationship between stable family life and peaceful problem solving among youths in the area of study.

### Hypothesis Two

There is no significant relationship between employment opportunity for all and peaceful problem solving. Pearson product moment correlation was used for data analysis. The result of this analysis is presented in Table 3.

**Table 3.** Pearson Product Moment Correlation Analysis of the relationship between employment opportunity for all and peaceful problem solving.

N = 200				
Variables	$\sum X$	$\sum X^2$	∑XY	Cal-r
	$\sum Y$	$\sum Y^2$		
Employment opportunity	2578	36254		
			7381937	0.483*
Peaceful problem-solving	2869	42646		

Significant at 0.05, df = 198; critical r = 0.138

Data presented in Table 3 showed that the null hypothesis is rejected. The result obtained from analysis of data reveals that the calculated r-value of 0.483 is higher than the critical r-value of 0.138 at 0.05 level of significance with 198 degrees of freedom. This implies that there is a significant relationship between employment for all and peaceful problem solving among youths in the study area.

# Hypothesis Three

There is no significant relationship between skill acquisition and peaceful problemsolving among youths. To test this hypothesis, Pearson product moment correlation was used at .05 level of significance. The result of this analysis is presented in Table 4.

**Table 4.** Pearson Product Moment Correlation Analysis of the relationship between skill acquisition and peaceful problem solving

N = 200				
Variables	$\sum X$	$\sum X^2$	∑XY	Cal-r
	$\sum Y$	$\sum Y^2$		
Skill acquisition	2094	28674		
			6007686	0.274*
Peaceful problem-solving	2869	42646		

Significant at 0.05, df = 198; critical r = 0.138

Data presented in Table 4 revealed that the null hypothesis is rejected. The result obtained from analysis of data indicates that the calculated r-value of 0.274 is higher than the critical r-value of 0.138 at 0.05 level of significance with 198 degrees of freedom. This implies that there is a significant relationship between skills acquisition and peaceful problem solving among youths in the area of study.

### Hypothesis Four

Good governance does not significantly relate with peaceful problem-solving. Pearson product moment correlation was used for data analysis. The result of this analysis is presented in Table 5.

**Table 5.** Pearson Product Moment Correlation Analysis of the relationship between good governance and peaceful problem solving

N = 200				
Variables	$\sum X$	$\sum X^2$	∑XY	Cal-r
	$\sum Y$	$\sum Y^2$		
Good governance	2406	34362		
			6902814	0.356*
Peaceful problem-solving	2869	42646		

Significant at 0.05, df = 198; critical r = 0.138

Data presented in Table 5 show that the null hypothesis is rejected. The result obtained from analysis of data revealed that the calculated r-value of 0.356 is higher than the critical r-value of 0.138 at 0.05 level of significance with 198 degrees of freedom. This implies that good governance significantly relate with peaceful problem solving among youths in the area of study

#### 4. Discussion

The result of the analysis of the first hypothesis revealed that there is a significant relationship between stable family life and peaceful problem solving in Nigeria. This indicates that; when a family life is stable and peaceful, members of the family will exhibit peace where ever they find themselves. The finding of this study on stable family life is supportive on family support (2014) who maintained that a stable family life promotes emotional wellbeing of children foster positive behaviour self-esteem and improve outcomes for them and ultimately the society.

The findings also lend credence to Esu. Cornelius-Ukpepi and Ndifon (2009) who confirmed from a study that for global and regional peace to reign, social ethics and values has to be inculcated early in a child. This implies that if social ethics and values are taught to children at an early age they will imbibe them and become law abiding citizens and peaceful individuals for their own benefits and that of their immediate environment.

Furthermore, family support (2014) added that parents have responsibility for good upbringing of their children. This will help children to become responsible adult In future who will strive for peace in their domains.

This finding also is in line with the opinion of Krishnan (2007) who said that teaching children acceptable behaviours to maintain peace start right from the home and this can be done at an early age.

The family therefore, is a place where children are nurtured to develop good and acceptable behaviours. The stability of family life is very important in the life of every member of the family for this can bring lasting peace both in the family and society at large.

The result of the analysis of hypothesis two showed that there is a significant relationship between employment opportunities for all and peaceful problem solving in Nigeria. This showed that when youth are gainfully employed, there would be no room to ferment trouble hence, any problem can be resolved. This finding is in support of the international labour congress (2013) who said that Africa had the highest unemployment rate. This shows that when youth are giving opportunity to work, they would be occupied with work and there will be fewer crises in the society.

This finding also lends credence to Uzochukwu (2014) who opined that one of the causes of rapid growth of crimes in many parts of the world is unemployment. This means that when people are unemployed, they will be engaged in crime. When someone is unemployed, such a person will be frustrated and angry with everything around him. This may make such a person to be involved in crime related offences.

The result of the third hypothesis revealed that there is a significant relationship between skill acquisition and peaceful problems solving, this implies that when one has a skill to fall back to after graduation when there is no job, such a person cannot breath trouble. This finding is in line with Uzochukwu (2014) who maintained that skill acquisition is very important in the life of every citizen and that lack of skills is the major cause of corruption in Nigeria. The author went further to mention the importance of skill such as self employment, diverse job opportunities, employment generation, effective functioning and crime reduction. This shows that when youth acquire different skills they can use those skills to help themselves and they would have no time to engage in crime, crises and conflict. The finding is also in consonance with Gumbari (2009) who maintained that skill acquisition is very significant in that it can eliminate joblessness and reduce crime through effective management of youths.

The fourth hypothesis, which states, there is no significant relationship between good governance and peaceful problem solving was rejected based on the finding that there is a significant relationship between good governance and peaceful problem solving, this shows that good governance where there is social justice, provision of social amenities

transparency, accountability and provision of the basic necessities of life can help to resolve problems and maintain peace. This finding is consistent with the views of best (2011) who said that good governance helps to diffuse tensions and remove problems as they evolve.

The finding also is in agreement with UNDP (2014) who said that the outcomes of good governance could be peaceful, stable and resilient societies where services are delivered and reflects the needs of communities, including the voices of the most vulnerable and marginalized.

It is important to recognize that when the needs of the masses are met, the people will be happy and there will be no need for crises and even when a problem arises, it can be resolve amicably. However, where the peoples' needs are not met, they may be aggrieved and cause problems. Dada et al (2013) reported that, evidence of absence of good governance in Nigeria is seen in intolerable profligacy of public officials' massive election fraud, and absence of basic social infrastructure, weak judiciary and abuse of power.

# 4.1. Discussion of the qualitative data

This data was analyzed using thematic analysis where the data was coded with colored pencils; patterns were identified and grouped into themes. Out of the 20 participants for the written protocols, eight (8) indicated the importance of employment opportunity for all as strategy for peaceful problem solving in Nigeria .For example,

- > Creation of job opportunity: one of the problems the country is facing today is unemployment; there are more than 1,000,000 graduates... in the country without job.
- > Government should reduce the rate of unemployment and create job opportunities for Nigeria graduates.
- ➤ Nigeria government should generate employment for the unemployed youths and graduates roaming about in the streets.

Again, three of the participants noted that litigation is the best approach to peaceful problem solving. This of course was not found in the quantitative result: For instance,

- > Consulting or going to court for legislative opinion will help resolve the problem.
  - > Through the court, matters are resolved following the constitution process
  - ➤ Here, the law court tries to settle the warring groups.

Furthermore, six of the 20 participants indicated in their responses that free education for all is a strategy that can bring peace in a country. Example,

- > Free education for all Nigerian citizens.
- People should be educated to enable them value themselves and others.

> Student should be taught skills to enable them become self reliant. Emphasis should be on technical education.

Two out of 20 participants said that mutual understanding between people can help to solve problems in Nigeria thus:

➤ Knowing and understanding other peoples' culture and customs will go a long way to sustain peaceful co-existence.

One of the participant particularly stated that stable family life is one of the strategies that can bring about peace.

Other strategies mentioned by the participants generally include:

- Dialogue
- > Government should keep to their promises
- Nigeria should stop discrimination, corruption and selfishness.
- ➤ Politicians should change their attitude towards the control and management of our natural resources and money.
- ➤ Government should reduce the rate of poverty.
- People should be empowered.

All these has shown that, there is more to peaceful problem solving in Nigeria and not just the four issues raised under the quantitative part of the study.

### 5. Recommendations

Based on the result of the analysis, the following recommendations were made for peaceful problem solving.

- 1. Families should take responsibility of training the young ones and maintain peace in the family.
- 2. Government should create employment opportunity for the teaming population to reduce unemployment.
- 3. Government should make Nigerian education functional by training each child in a particular skill which the child can fall back on when there is no job.
- 4. Government should provide the basic necessities of life for the citizens and try to keep to their promises to the masses.

#### 6. Conclusions

The fight against insurgency and many other vices in Nigeria cannot succeed if many youths and adults are left to wander about in search of jobs. The future of Nigeria depends upon the youths of today hence Nigeria is in development. Therefore, when the basic needs of the people are met adequately, the young ones will not divert their energies to wrong doing but become confident to fend for themselves and their country and even in global competitiveness. Based on the result of the analysis coupled with different opinions and views from various contributors in the paper, the researchers concluded that peace and harmony could only be achieved in a society like Nigeria with the provision of basic infrastructure, employment of youths, good governance and gainful skill acquisition for effective co-existence and individual self-reliance. All these, put together, can create a better future for our youths and a conducive environment for happy living.

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