



PROBLEMS OF INTERNALLY DISPLACED JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS CAMPS, MAIDUGURI METROPOLIS, BORNO STATE, NIGERIA

Aisha Bukar¹ⁱ

Domiya G. Ali²,

Umar Goni²

¹Department of Education,
Faculty of Education,
University of Maiduguri,
Nigeria

²Department of Education,
Faculty of Education,
University of Maiduguri,
Nigeria

Abstract:

This study assessed problems of internally displaced Junior Secondary School Students in Maiduguri IDPs camps Borno State, Nigeria. The one research questions and one null hypothesis were formulated to guide the study. Survey research design was adapted for the study. Five IDPs Camps were sampled, with the population of 2,369 of which 1,075 were males and 1,294 were females. Stratified random sampling technique was used to obtain 222 males and 275 females. Research instruments were used for data collection, which was developed by the researcher with the help of the supervisor and assistance from an expert in Measurement and Evaluation Department of Social Science Education, University of Maiduguri. The data collected was describe using descriptive statistics of frequency counts and percentages in answering the research questions while chi-square was used in testing the null hypotheses at 0.05 level of significance. The results revealed that the displaced students were faced with educational, health and challenges of basic needs. The study also found that there was significant gender difference in problems of displaced Junior Secondary School Students in Maiduguri IDPs Camps. The study also concluded that female's students experienced more psychological problems compared to male students. It, therefore, recommended that Counselling Association of Nigeria (CASSON) Borno State chapter should be visiting the IDPs camps to interact and providing counselling services to the IDPs and also if there is need of referral, they should refer them to appropriate bodies.

ⁱ Correspondence: email ashabukar66@gmail.com, dgagulak@gmail.com, kakaje99@gmail.com

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1. Introduction

Terrorism such as the Boko Haram insurgency in North- Eastern Nigeria from 2009 to date and wide spread of natural disasters such as flooding has led many people to become internally displaced. The upsurge of insurgency in Borno State which quickly spreaded to other parts of the North Eastern Nigeria has resulted to thousands of people being internally displaced. There has been loss of lives and properties worth millions of Naira, schools and business activities were seriously jeopardized and human activities are in danger. Consequently, as a result of insurgency, many internally displaced person camps were set up by the government to accommodate thousands of people from different communities, ethnic and socio - cultural background. The displaced people are individuals with special needs that require special care.

In Nigeria, the insurgent activities of Boko Haram in the past 10 years have forced millions of people to flee their homes, this has resulted in an unprecedented humanitarian crisis in the North-eastern part of the country and the Lake Chad region. Furthermore, inter-communal clashes resulting from ethno-religious disputes, tensions between Fulani herdsmen and farmers have resulted in over 700,000 people being displaced from the Middle Belt region of Nigeria (Owoje, Uchendu, Ajayi& Cadmus, 2016). Internally displaced persons from conflict caused by the terrorist group Boko Haram are dispersed across various location in Borno State having forcibly removed from their homes, the fleeing communities have met many problems in the host city of Maiduguri they are camped in secondary schools and uncompleted housing estates where is no running water, mosquitoes nets, malnutrition in both children and adult is also occurring at alarming rate.

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) are people who are forced or oblique to flee their places of abode and communities for an array of reasons such as effect of conflict, situation of generalized violence, violation of human right, natural or man-made disasters but have not crossed an internationally recognized state boarder. Internally displaced persons (IDPs) who are forced to flee their places of abode and living in different IDPs camps are faced with many problems due to their displacement which include psychological, educational, health and basic needs problems. The most common psychological reaction found among internally displaced persons IDP's in addition to posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) are depression, somatization and external dilemma (where belief pattern has changed the individual trauma exposures having strongest association with (PTSD) were ill health, absence of medical facilities, rape or sexual abuse, and lack of food, water as well as unnatural death of family or friend (Robert, Ocaka, Browne, Oyok & Sondorp, 2009).

Dada (2009) enumerated that displaced persons are faced with the following problems such as communication problems which is on how to get in touch with

relations. Educational problems which are based on how to obtain sponsorships for children education and economic problem on how to engage in productive economic activities in spite of the limited capital, shelter or accommodation problems which is based on how to make use of optimal and limited room space provided in camps and lastly health problems which are hinged on how to make judicious use of limited medical facilities available.

One of the most affected countries is Afghanistan, which witnessed a dramatic increase in attacks on schools from 242 in 2007 to 670 in 2008 (UNESCO, 2010). Many of the countries where education is under attack include Afghanistan, Burundi, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, India, Iraq, Pakistan, Somalia and Zimbabwe. Conflict or displacement results in decreased access to school, preventing the opening of schools, threatening children's security while going to school and attending classes and increasing teachers' absenteeism. Access issues are also critical for internally displaced persons (children and adolescents) who may lack the appropriate documentation or language skills to participate in new schools (Shemyakina, 2006). For students who do not attend schools conflict has a negative effect on their educational attainment, increasing drop-out and reducing educational survival rates due to displacement. The quality of education also suffers due to the shortage in basic necessities such as food, water and school materials especially in the areas bordering the conflict may experience an influx of refugee or internally displaced students (Shemyakiya, 2006 & Swee, 2009).

2. Statement of the Problem

From 2009 to date many lives were lost and properties worth millions of Naira are destroyed, and millions of people have been displaced by the activities of Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria particularly in the North Eastern States of the country namely Adamawa, Borno and Yobe States. The researcher observed that most of the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) are vulnerable people and live in poor living conditions unknown to the researcher, also the researcher has observed that majority of the IDPs who suffered from the activities of Boko Haram insurgency are women, youth (adolescents) particularly secondary school students these students are of three types those who are accompanied with their parents either one or both of the parents, those who are unaccompanied with any of their parents and those who are stranded and reunited with their parents again. The displaced junior secondary school students in Maiduguri IDPs camps have lost their parents, loved ones, livelihood and are faced with a wide range of threats to their physical safety and restrictions on their freedom of movement. It is against this background that the study determined the problems of internally displaced junior secondary school students in Maiduguri Metropolis IDPs Camps Borno State Nigeria.

2.1 Research Question

The following research questions were answered in this study:

- What are the Problems of Internally Displaced Junior Secondary School Students in Internally Displaced Persons Camps, Maiduguri Metropolis, Borno State, Nigeria?

2.1 Hypothesis

The following null hypothesis were tested at .05 level of significance in this study:

H₀: There is no significant difference in problems of Internally Displaced Junior Secondary School Students in Internally Displaced Persons Camps, Maiduguri Metropolis, Borno State, Nigeria, based on gender.

3. Methodology

The study used survey research designs which determined problems and coping strategies of internally displaced Junior Secondary School Students in Maiduguri IDPs camps, Borno State, Nigeria. According to Sambo (2008), survey research is often used to assess opinion, thoughts and feelings. It is a design in which data are gathered by asking the respondents some questions. The design consists of asking relatively large number of cases at a particular time. Thus, all the respondents in a survey are asked the same questions. Information will be gathered by means of self-administered questionnaire or structured interview schedule. Survey design is used with a sample from well-defined population.

The population of this study consisted of all the internally displaced Junior Secondary School Students in all the IDPs camps in Maiduguri Metropolis, Borno State. The population of internally displaced Junior Secondary School Students (IDJSSS) in the five IDPs camps are 2,369 of which 1,075 are boys while 1,294 are girls. The age range of the displaced Junior Secondary School Students was 14 to 16 years. Stratified Random Sampling Technique was used to sampled 222 males and 275 females JSS students. Stratified random sampling according to Awotunde, Ugodulunwa and Ozoji (1997), is a means of obtaining a sample by dividing the population of sampling units into non-lapping groups of categories (strata) and selecting a simple random from each group or category. Cohen, Manion and Morrison (2013) stated that stratified random sampling involves dividing the population into homogeneous group, each containing subject with similar characteristics. The researcher used the sampling technique by dividing the population into two groups males and females, because it allowed to divide the population into strata, the strata used was gender.

Simple random sampling according to Johnson and Christensen (2008) is a sampling drawn by a procedure in which every member of the population has an equal chance of being selected for the study.

Table 3.1: Table of Distribution of Population and Sample of Internally Displaced Junior Secondary School Students in Maiduguri Metropolis IDPs Camps, Borno State

Camps	N	N	Sample Males	Sample Females
A	414	551	82	110
B	166	215	33	45
C	117	183	32	41
D	100	122	20	35
E	278	223	55	44
Total	1,075	1,294	222	275

Source: 2016 Internally Displaced Persons Camps School Register.

Two research instruments were used to collect data for the study. They were self-developed questionnaire on Problems of Internally Displaced Junior Secondary School Students (PIDJSS) in Maiduguri Metropolis IDPs camps and adopted “Revised Ways of Coping Questionnaire” developed by Folkman and Lazarus (1985). The questionnaire on problems of internally displaced junior secondary school students was divided into two Sections A and B. Section A is on demographic characteristics of the respondents, while section B was on the problems on psychological, educational, health and basic needs of internally displaced Junior Secondary School Students. The questionnaire contains 37 items which require the respondents to respond by ticking A=Always, S=Sometimes and N=Never.

“Revised Ways of Coping Questionnaire” by Folkman and Lazarus (1985) was divided into two sections. Section A is on bio data of the respondents and section B contained 66 items randomly spread across eight sub-scales containing a wide range of thoughts and acts that people used to deal with internal and external demands of specific stressful encounters. The items in the questionnaire were scored on a rating scale of 0-3 representing the extent to which the person used it in a given situation. The responses are 0=Not used, 1=Used somewhat, 2= Used quite a bit and 3= Used a great deal. The instrument was divided into eight sub scales which are summed into: Confrontive Coping, Distancing, Self-Controlling, Seeking Social Support, Accepting Responsibility, Escape-Avoidance, Planful Problem Solving and Positive Reappraisal. The respondents are expected to tick in the spaces provided the extent to which they used the situation described. The response categories are: 0= Not used, 1= Used somewhat, 2= Used quite a bit and 3= Used a great deal.

To ensure validity of the instruments, the instruments were presented to the researcher’s supervisors and experts in measurement and evaluation unit in the Department of Education University of Maiduguri who attest the appropriateness of the instruments in determining problems and coping strategies of internally displaced junior secondary school students in Maiduguri IDPs camp Borno State. The instruments were pilot tested in one of the IDPs camp among 20 displaced Junior Secondary School Students who are not part of the study using test-re-test method. The procedure followed was that the instruments were administered in the first week and again re-administered to the same individuals after two weeks’ interval. Results of the test-re test were analyzed

using Cronbach Alpha Reliability Method and Alpha level of 0.79 was obtained for questionnaire on problems of the displaced junior secondary school students.

The researcher obtained an introductory letter from the former Head of Department of Education, University of Maiduguri. The letter was taken to the Chairman State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) Maiduguri, Borno State in order to get permission to carry out the study. After getting permission from SEMA the researcher visited all the five sampled IDPs camps. The researcher introduced herself to the school principals in each of the sampled camps and inform them about what she intends to do. In all the camps the researcher was granted permission and also employed the services of two research assistants in each of the selected camps a teacher and a camp official. The researcher trained the research assistances on how to administer the questionnaire to the respondents and also train few interpreters so that they can translate from English to kanuri, hausa, fulani and waha languages if the students do not understand the items well. The researcher met with the respondents in their classes during morning hours before break time, administered and explain it to the students, give them time to respond to the questions, the administration and collection of the questionnaires last for three days in each of the camps.

The collected data were analyzed using both descriptive and inferential statistics. The descriptive statistics of frequency counts and percentages was used to answer research question on problems. Goodness of fit chi square test was used in testing the formulated null hypotheses at 0.05 level of significant.

4. Results

What are the Problems of internally displaced Junior Secondary Students in Maiduguri IDPs Camps Borno State? The results of the finding in respect to research question one was presented in table 4.1 below.

Table 4.1: Frequency Counts and Percentages of Problems of Internally Displaced Junior Secondary School Students

S/No	Problem	N	Percentages
1	Psychological	305	61.4
2	Health Needs	88	17.7
3	Educational	41	8.2
4	Psychological and Health Needs	23	4.6
5	Psychological and Basic Needs	16	3.2
6	Basic Needs	10	2.0
7	Combination of all the needs	14	2.9
	Total	497	100

Results in Table 4.1 revealed that 61.4% of the respondents are faced with psychological problems, 17.7% were faced with health problems, 8.2% are faced with educational problems, 4.6% are faced with psychological and health problems, 3.2% were faced with

psychological and basic need problems, 2% are faced with basic needs problems and 2.9% were faced with multiple problems. This implies that more than 50% of internally displaced Junior Secondary School Students in Maiduguri Metropolis IDPs camps were faced with psychological problems.

Ho: There is no significant gender difference in problems of internally displaced Junior Secondary School Students in Maiduguri Metropolis IDPs camps Borno State, Nigeria.

Table 4.3: Chi-square on Gender Difference in Problems Faced by the Internally Displaced Junior Secondary School Students

Gender	Value	df	P-level	Remark
Pearson Chi-square	14.862 ^a	6	.021	Sig
Likelihood Ratio	14.877	6	.021	
Linear-by-Linear Association	1.144	1	.285	
N. of Valid Cases	497			

Table 4.3 indicated that the calculated value is 14.862, degree of freedom is 6 and the P-level is .021 which is less than .05 this implies that there was significant gender difference in problems of internally displaced junior secondary school students in Maiduguri IDPs Camps. The cross tabulation showed that female students experienced more psychological problems with 60.7% while males had 39.3% that means the null hypothesis which stated that there was no significant gender difference in problems of internally displaced Junior Secondary School Students in Maiduguri IDPs Camps, Borno State was rejected.

5. Discussion

The finding revealed that Internally Displaced Junior Secondary School Students in Maiduguri IDPs camps are faced with psychological, educational, health and basic needs problems. The finding is in line with Moosau and Wasanga (2013), Ajiboye, Akinboye and Ajokyanioya (2014) and Robert, Ocaka, Brown and Sondrop (2009) reported psychological problems such as fair, lack of sleep, isolation, family disintegration faced by IDPs. The study further confirmed that most of the students are traumatized because they have lost their parents and loved ones as a result of Boko Haram insurgency. The study also revealed that the Displaced Students are faced with educational problems which supported that of Swee (2009) Robert, Ocaka, Brown and Sandrop (2009) and Ari (2010) who reported that lack of enough teachers, learning materials, shortage of basic necessities of life such as food, water, overcrowded class size and not ventilated classrooms. The study also confirmed that educational problems in the camps was as a result that there were no permanent classrooms most of the classes are tents, the students are overcrowded with lack of enough classes and lack of enough feeding. The study revealed that the Displaced Students are faced with health problems in the camps. The finding is in line with Mira (2015), PHCP (2013) and Majidi (2011) reported problems

include outbreak of diarrhea, malaria and skin diseases. The study further confirmed that health problems among the IDPs was as a result of poor hygiene, improper waste disposal, no access to health care services and medicine. The study found that the Displaced Students were faced with the challenges of basic needs. The finding supported that of UNHCR (1999), ICRC, (2010), NEMA (2011) and HNO (2015) who reported that IDPs are faced with problems of basic needs such as food, water, shelter and sanitation. The study also confirmed that these problems are as a result of most of the IDPs are camped in uncompleted housing estates, lack of sufficient food items and water.

The finding of the study in respect to hypothesis one revealed that there was significant gender difference in psychological problems of Internally Displaced Junior Secondary School Students in Maiduguri IDPs. The findings of Jurnip and Hauff (2004) and that of Kazimi, Abbas, Khan and Tay (2015) support this study, which both revealed that prevalence of psychological distress was higher among female IDPs than in male IDPs. It also supports the findings of Botacourt, Salihi, Buka, Dunns and Earls (2012) which showed that females demonstrated higher problem compared to male IDPs. It also supports a report by (UNICEF, 1998) which reported that the long-term impact of displacement of women may mean permanent social and cultural ties disruption or loss of educational opportunities.

6. Recommendations

Based on the findings of the study the following recommendations were made:

- 1) Professional counsellors should be provided to IDPs camps in order to provide counselling services to the IDPs for their psychological needs.
- 2) Counselling Association of Nigeria (CASSON) Borno State chapter should be visiting the IDPs camps to interact and providing counselling services to the IDPs and also if there is need of referral, they should refer them to appropriate bodies.
- 3) Borno State Ministry of Health should send more qualified and trained medical personnel and facilities to IDPs clinics to provide enough medical services to the IDPs.

About the Authors

Aisha Bukar is a Lecturer at the Department of Education University of Maiduguri, Nigeria. Her areas of interest are girl child education and trauma counselling. She holds a Master degree in Guidance and Counselling.

Dr. Domiya G. Ali is Associate Professor at the Department of Education University of Maiduguri, Nigeria. His areas of interest are in areas counselling psychology. He holds Master and Doctorate degrees in counselling psychology.

Dr. Umar Goni is a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Education University of Maiduguri, Nigeria. His areas of interest are in areas of counselling psychology. He holds Master and Doctorate degrees in counselling psychology.

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