
INFLUENCE OF HAWKING ON THE GIRL CHILD EDUCATION IN ILORIN, KWARA STATE

Alliyu Ayodele **ABDULSALAM** & Issa Nasiru **OLOKOoba**
Social Sciences Education Department
University of Ilorin, Ilorin

Abstract

This research work examined the influence of hawking on the Girl-Child Education in Ilorin, Kwara State. The study investigated the influence of hawking on the girl-child education in Ilorin. Hawking as a social problem that bridges the gap among the girl-child. The study adopted the descriptive type of survey, the population for the study consisted all upper Basic Social Studies students in Ilorin, Kwara State. While target population for the study was 150 students sampled using simple random sampling technique. An adapted questionnaire was used as an instrument to elicit the needed data from the respondent, with psychometric properties of content validity (such as frequency count percentages) and inferential statistics (such as mean and rank order). The findings showed that the girl-child who engaged in hawking are pre-disposed to sexual assault and low academic performance as a result of poor assimilation which goes a long way in affecting their self-esteem. Also, Social Studies student that engages in hawking could not concentrate in class due to the hawking they engage in before and after school hours. Lastly, it has a psychological effect on the girl-child and deprives them of a proper upbringing and interferes with their educational achievements. Based on these findings, it was therefore

recommended among others that the government should pay attention to the education of the Girl-Child through quick intervention programme, parents should take proper care of their Girl-Child and desist from engaging them in hawking. Privileged individuals in the society should also contribute their own quota towards Girl-Child education.

Keywords: Hawking, Girl-Child Education, Causes, Effects, Preventive measures.

Introduction

The home in Africa is quite different from one another in all areas and children from this various homes attend the same school and relate with one another. The home, whether rural or urban can be categorized into the following backgrounds; the rich, the average, and the poor. Each of these variants has its own socio-culture milieu which influences the child born and brought up in it. Therefore, within a given milieu, rural and urban children emerge from overcrowded benefit of security as opposed to homes where love, plenty and enhanced peer influence siblings exist. Crosson (2008) maintained that the achievement a child makes during his school days is largely dependent on the type of home to which he belongs. This means that a child whose parents take great interest in what he does at school and support him has a great advantage over the child whose parent do not give attention at all. These set of parents buy their wards educational materials such as textbook and other materials that will enhance the children educational ability. While some parents do not give their children enough time to study and rest at the appropriate time, consequently, the children performs poorly in school because of what they engage in after school or before school. They do these things in order to help their parents and with the mentality they have that if they do not engage in those jobs, they may not be fed. This act kills the potentialities of the children and doesn't enhance their educational capabilities.

Hawking is one of the great challenges that affects children especially the girl-child because it affects them psychologically,

educationally and socially. This is regarded as child labour, which refers to the employment of children in any work that deprives them of their upbringing and interferes with education, health etc. Most times, hawking is caused by the loss of a parent and on the quest to get a livelihood, poverty, war, illiteracy, etc.

The girl-child education is hindered by some factors such as economic, political, religious factors among others. The intervention of the government has been called to pay attention to the girl child, scholarships should be given to pursue their education, creation of awareness for parents on sexual violence and abuse (Fawole, 2003). The interest of this research has been geared towards the fact that all efforts made by teachers and educational policy formulators to improve the academic performance of the upper basic school students have not yielded favorable results. Hawking in Ilorin is the most occupation found among the lower class strata of the society which is engaged in mostly by the Girl-Child. This act makes them to go about with the aim of going back home with money from the sales of goods hawked and this invariably affects their educational outcome and their social life because most of them sees hawking as an opportunity to carry out their inner desire such as stealing, begging on the street and lots more.

Social Studies deals with the study of man in his physical and social environment. It focuses on the problem of man and his inter-relationship with his environments, orientation of the discipline to provide informed and practical solutions to human challenges. The goals of Social Studies are designed at building a sound and balanced mind as a foundation for functional social education directed towards the development of an intelligent, responsible and self-directing citizen. Integrating and dispensing social knowledge through the instrumentality of Social Studies curriculum design in Nigerian environment. Enabling human to acquire skills for solving societal and environmental problems. Equipping human with the basic understanding of the knowledge of the total environment etc. The roles Social Studies perform in our present day society have paved great ways for its future in Nigeria. Therefore, this makes the subject to gain more recognition among other disciplines thus making its future to be more prosperous and encouraging, it

is being taught in all levels of our educational system in the country viz: primary, secondary and tertiary institutions (Balogun, 2017).

The prevalence of hawking among young children especially the girl child has raised speculations among scholars, researchers, social workers and educationists. Yusuf (2017) asserted that there is no developing country where women possess the same legal economic, social and educational right as men. Female children who engage in labour experience difficulties with their schooling, studies, play time and rest. It is logical to think that if these problems persist, there is a tendency for increase in anti-social activities, child abuse, child molestation, and high rate of child deprivation. Despite several researches on the influence of hawking on girl child education, no research has been carried out on the influence of the contemporary issues facing girl child in Ilorin, Kwara State, part of which the researcher intended to fill the gap on the above subject matter.

Purpose of the Study

The main purpose of the study is to examine the influence of hawking on girl child education in Ilorin, Kwara State. Specifically, the study examined the:

- i. forms of hawking that the Girl-Child engage in;
- ii. causes of Hawking engaged in by the Girl-Child;
- iii. influence of Hawking on the Girl-Child Students education; and
- iv. preventive measures against hawking on Girl-Child Education in Ilorin, Kwara State.

Research Questions

The following research questions were raised to guide the study:

- i. What forms of hawking do the Girl-Child engage in Ilorin, Kwara State?
- ii. What are the causes of hawking among Girl-Child students in Ilorin, Kwara State?

- iii. What are the effects of hawking on Girl-Child education in Ilorin, Kwara State?
- iv. What are the preventive measures against hawking on Girl-Child Education in Ilorin?

Methods

This study adopted descriptive survey for data generation. This method is adopted because the study is carried out among selected upper basic school teachers out of a large population of upper basic school teachers. The population of this study comprised all the public school Social Studies students in public schools in Ilorin. Simple Random Sampling Method was employed to select 10 schools out of 32 public upper basic schools in Ilorin, Kwara State. Stratified sampling technique was used to select 15 students from each school. A total of 150 respondents out of the 755 students in Ilorin participated in this study. The main Instrument used to elicit information from the respondent is a well-structured Questionnaire. The Questionnaire was titled HGEQ. The Questionnaire consists of two main sections. Section A recorded the basic information of the respondents. Section B stated the information on forms, causes, effects and gives them a restricted response on a four Likert scale of SA-Strongly agree, A- agreed-disagree, SD-strongly disagree. The scoring of the responses ranged from 1 to 4. The questionnaire was made up of twenty (20) items which will be developed under each research question raised in the study.

To ensure validity of instrument used, the designed questionnaire for the study was given to two experts in the Department of Social Sciences Education to determine their validity and to get rid of instruments of unclear direction, vocabulary and sentence structures that might be too difficult and ambiguous in test items inappropriate for the outcomes being measured and also to offer criticism in order for it to be accurate. The reliability of the instrument was established using the split-half reliability procedure. The questionnaire was administered to 19 Social Studies Students in 8 schools who were not parts of the original sample of the sample of the study in Ilorin, Kwara State. The response gathered was

correlated using Cronbach alpha. The data collected was analyzed using descriptive statistics, research questions were answered using percentages, mean, standard deviation and rank other.

Results

Research Question One: What are the forms of hawking Girl-Child engaging in, in Ilorin?

Table 1: Forms of Hawking among Girl-Child

S/N	Items	SA (%)	A (%)	D (%)	SD (%)	Stan- dard Devia- tion	Mean
1.	Roadside hawking on the highway is a type of hawking that is rampant among girl child in Ilorin.	78 (52)	62 (41.3)	7 (4.7)	3 (2)	0.68	3.43
2.	Inter-house hawking is common among girl child in Ilorin	70 (46.7)	53 (35.3)	20 (13.3)	7 (4.7)	0.86	3.24
3.	Street hawking is also a type of hawking common among the girl child in Ilorin	55 (31.3)	69 (46)	18 (12)	8 (5.3)	0.83	3.4
4.	Public market hawking is also found to be prevalent among girl child in Ilorin	47 (31.3)	60 (40)	34 (22.7)	9 (6)	0.89	2.97
5.	Heavy traffic hawking is also a form of hawking by girl-child in Ilorin	30 (20)	69 (46)	36 (24)	15 (10)	0.89	2.76

Mean \geq 2.5 = Agreed, Mean < 2.5 = Disagreed

Table 1 showed the result of the forms of Girl-Child engage in hawking Ilorin, Kwara State. It was shown in item 1 that most respondents were of the opinion that road side hawking on the highway is a type of hawking that is rampant among girl child in the area since the mean value of 3.43 was obtained. Item 2 also revealed that street hawking is also a type of hawking common among girl child in Ilorin as mean value of 3.14 is realized. Lastly, item 5 with mean value 2.76 indicates that heavy traffic hawking is also a form of hawking by girl-child in Ilorin.

Research Question Two: What are the causes of hawking among girl-child education in Ilorin, Kwara State?

Table 2: Causes of Hawking among Girl-child

S/N	Items	SA (%)	A (%)	D (%)	SD (%)	Standard Deviation	Mean
1.	High level of poverty may prone girl child to hawking to meet their ends' need.	80 (53.3)	51 (34)	17 (11.3)	2 (1.3)	0.74	3.39
2.	Sustainability due to loss of parents may predispose girl child to hawk in Ilorin	79 (52.7)	58 (38.7)	8 (5.3)	5 (3.3)	0.74	3.41
3.	Broken home causes a girl child to be hawking in order to cater for her livelihood	64 (42.7)	57 (38)	21 (14)	8 (5.3)	0.87	3.18
4.	High level of illiteracy is also associated with high level of hawking among girl child	62 (41.3)	60 (40)	20 (13.3)	8 (5.3)	0.86	3.17
5.	Poor family planning where by the parents could not cater efficiently for the children may bring about hawking among girl child	57 (38)	60 (40)	26 (17.3)	7 (4.7)	0.86	3.11

*Mean ≥ 2.5 = Agreed, Mean < 2.5 = Disagreed

Table 2 showed the result of the reasons why Girl-Child hawks in Ilorin, Kwara State. It was shown in Item 1 that most respondents were of the opinion that Sustainability due to loss of a parent may predispose girl child to hawk in Ilorin Area since the mean value of 3.41 was obtained. Item 2 also revealed that a High level of poverty may prone girl child to hawking to meet their ends' needs as a mean value of 3.39 is realized. Furthermore, item 3 with mean value of 3.17 implies that most respondents were of the opinion high level of illiteracy is also associated with high level of hawking among girl child in the area. Lastly, item 5 with mean value of 3.11 indicates that poor family planning whereby the parents could not cater efficiently for the children may bring about hawking among girl child.

Research Question Three: What is the influence of hawking on girl-child education in Ilorin, Kwara State?

Table 3: Influence of Hawking on Girl-child Education

S/N	Items	SA (%)	A (%)	D (%)	SD (%)	Standard Deviation	Mean
1.	Hawking may predispose girl child to sexual assault thereby put them in psychological problem that may hamper their education.	84 (56)	51 (34)	8 (5.3)	7 (4.7)	0.80	3.41
2.	Hawking may affect the concentration of girl child in class thereby reducing their assimilation which may result to low performance	76 (50.7)	55 (36.7)	15 (10)	4 (2.7)	0.77	3.36
3.	Hawking may bring about inferiority complex which make girl child to lose interest in schooling.	66 (44)	57 (38)	20 (13.3)	7 (4.7)	0.85	3.21
4.	Money realizing from hawking could prevent some of the girl child to think about education.	58 (38.7)	63 (42)	27 (18)	2 (1.3)	0.77	3.18

Table 3 (cont'd)

5.	Prevalent hawking among girl child may prone them to drop out of school due to lack of concentration.	47 (31.3)	71 (47.3)	25 (16.7)	8 (5.3)	0.84	3.06
6.	Frequent hawking deprives girl child of their proper upbringing and interferes with educational achievement.	76 (50.7)	55 (36.7)	15 (10)	4 (2.7)	0.77	3.36

Mean \geq 2.5 = Agreed, Mean $<$ 2.5 = Disagreed

Table 3 showed the result of the influence of hawking on girl-child education in Ilorin, Kwara State. It was shown in Item 1 that most respondents were of the opinion that Hawking may predispose girl child to sexual assault thereby put them in psychological problem that may hamper their education since the mean value of 3.41 was obtained. Item 2 also revealed that frequent hawking deprives girl child of their proper upbringing and interferes with educational achievement as mean value of 3.02 is realized. Also in item 3, a mean value of 3.18 was realized which implies that most respondents were of the opinion that money realized from hawking could prevent some of the girl child to think about education. Lastly, item 6 with mean value of 3.36 indicates that hawking may affect the concentration of girl child in class thereby reducing their assimilation which may result to low performance.

Research Question Four: What are the preventive measures against hawking of girl-child in Ilorin, Kwara State?

Table 4: Preventive measures against hawking among Girl-child

S/N	Items	SA (%)	A (%)	D (%)	SD (%)	Standard Deviation	Mean
1.	The government should pay attention to the education of girl child through quick intervention programme.	98 (65.3)	44 (29.3)	5 (3.3)	3 (2)	0.66	3.59
2.	Parents and Guardian should take proper care of their girl-child and desist from engaging them in hawking	82 (54.7)	49 (32.7)	13 (8.7)	6 (4)	0.81	3.38
3.	Girl-child should be made to realize the importance of education and be enlightened on the consequences of hawking	73 (48.7)	59 (39.3)	14 (9.3)	4 (2.7)	0.76	3.34
4.	Philanthropist in the society should set up scholarship schemes to enhance girl-child education	70 (46.7)	53 (35.3)	23 (15.3)	4 (2.7)	0.81	3.26
5.	There should be creation of awareness for parents on sexual violence and child abuse as a result child hawking.	69 (46)	57 (38)	19 (12.7)	5 (3.3)	0.81	3.27
6.	Free and compulsory education for all children up to the completion of secondary education should be embraced.	66 (44)	50 (33.3)	23 (15.3)	11 (7.3)	0.93	3.14

Table 4 (cont'd)

7	Non-Governmental organizations should also participate in campaigning against girl-child hawking in the society	65 (43.3)	56 (37.3)	16 (10.7)	13 (8.7)	0.93	3.15
8	Individuals in the society should also contribute their own quota towards girl-child education	64 (42.7)	67 (44.7)	13 (8.7)	6 (4)	0.78	3.26
9	Parents should accept and rely on Family Planning Methods in the determination of Family Size	58 (38.7)	71 (47.3)	16 (10.7)	5 (3.3)	0.76	3.21
10	The old tradition of privileged family members helping the less privilege family member should be encouraged	49 (32.7)	66 (44)	29 (19.3)	6 (4)	0.83	3.05
11	Total						

*Mean ≥ 2.5 = Agreed, Mean < 2.5 = Disagreed

Table 4 showed preventive measures against hawking among girl-child in Ilorin, Kwara State. Item 1 with mean value of 3.59 implies that majority of the respondents were of the opinion that the government should pay attention to the education of girl child through quick intervention programme. Item 2 with mean value of 3.27 indicates that most of the respondents were of the opinion that there should be creation of awareness for parents on sexual violence and child abuse as a result child hawking. Lastly, item 10 indicates that parent and guardian should take proper care of their girl-child and desist from engaging them in hawking since mean value of 3.38 was derived.

Discussions

The finding of the study revealed out that road side hawking on the high way by the girl child is more prevalent in Ilorin, Kwara State. This is in line with the views of Ekpenyong and Sibiri (2011) that the girl-child is exposed to high degree of vehicular accident making them to sustain injuries and exposing them to risky behaviours such as hanging on moving bus in order to sell their goods, watching people fight, imitating touts.

The finding of the study also revealed that out of the numerous causes of hawking among the girl-child, high level of poverty is a major causative agent that predisposes the girl-child to hawking as a means of helping their parents in order to meet the family basic needs and this may be due to unemployment, underemployment, social inequality (Fawole et al, 2003). Sustainability due to loss of parents makes the girl-child to hawk because they would have to meet their basic needs and nobody is ready to be of help, so they venture in a daily activity which is hawking for them to meet their daily needs.

This finding showed that hawking predisposes the girl-child to sexual abuse thereby putting them in psychological problem. This is in line with Okeke, Nzewi and Njoku (2008) explained that young female hawkers are prone to sexual abuse with the consequence that they end up contracting sexually transmitted diseases. The research revealed that the Government has a great amount of quota to contribute in order to help the girl-child who hawks in the society as the government have enough resources to meet the needs of the girl-child. Fawole (2007) asserted that the government should make adequate provisions for the less privilege citizens especially the girl-child.

Conclusion

This study concluded that Hawking had a negative effect on the girl-child who hawks in Ilorin, Kwara State Area of Ilorin State. Hawking as a Social problem affected the girl-child psychologically because they were exposed to some factors such as Sexual assault,

hooliganism, harsh weather, accidents which robbed them of their self-esteem and good academic performance in school.

Recommendations

Government should pay maximum and total attention to the education of the girl-child through a quick intervention programme. They should also create massive awareness for parents on the effects of hawking on the Girl-Child. The Government should also create a free and compulsory education for all children up to the completion of secondary education. This is because if they are well educated, they will have chances of contributing to nation-building and being of help to themselves and their immediate environment. More so, the government should enforce the law as regard to sexual violence and abuse in order to deter others from terrorizing the girl-child while in the school as it contributes to nation-building.

References

- Akpan, N. & Olubamide, A. J. (2010). The menace of child abuse in Nigeria: A case study of street hawking in Uyo, Akwa Ibom State Nigeria. *Journal of Social Sciences*. 5 (1), 45-57.
- Balogun, A. O. (2017) Evolution and Development of Social Studies in Nigeria; In S. F. Ogundare & A.A. Jekayinfa (Eds) *Fundamental of Social Studies Education and Human-Environmental Relations*. Haytee Publication, Ilorin, Kwara State.
- Crosson, T. C, (2008). *Understanding child abuse and neglect*. Boston: McPearson Education.
- Fawole, O. I., A. A. J. & K. O. Osungbade, (2003). Interventions for violence prevention among female workers in motor parks in South-Western Nigeria: A Review of Effectiveness *African Journal of Reproductive Health*. 4 (2), 143-150.
- Kwankye, S. O., Nyarko, P. E. & Tagoe, C. A. (2007). Reproductive health implications of street hawking in Accra.
- Ogunbameru, A. K. (2006). *Man and his social environment*. Spectrum, Book Ltd.
- Onuzulike, N. M. (2007). *Gender differences in knowledge and attitude towards child street hawking among rural resident parents*. Ibadan: Royal People.

- Okam, C. C. (2012). Needed paradigm shift repositioning social studies education to meet vision 20-20-20 challenges in Nigeria. Lead Paper. *Nigerian Journal of Social Studies*.
- Okeke E. A, Nzewi U. M, & Njoku T. A. (2008). Tracking school Age children's education status in UNICEF A- field states. Enugu.
- Olutayo T. (2007). *Research methodology and precious journalism*. Ibadan: Divine Publishers.
- Osas, B. A. (2010). Causes and effect of hawking and drop-out of child of school age. Unpublished Ph.D Thesis, University of Benin, Edo State.
- Ubah, M. C. & Bulius, A. (2014). Effect of street hawking on the academic performance of students in Social Studies students in Junior Secondary schools in Nasarawa State, *Nigerian Journal of Research in Education* 5 (3), 19-27.
- Wangenge, G. O. (2004). *Education for street children in Kenya: The role of the indigenous society*. Prepared for UNESCO International Institute for Educational planning.
- Yusuf, H. T. (2017). Social Disorganization; In S. F. Ogundare & A. A. Jekayinfa (Eds) *Fundamental of Social Studies Education and Human Environmental Relations*. Ilorin: Haytee Publications.