

## **CAUSES OF CHILD ABANDONMENT AS EXPRESSED BY PROFESSIONAL HELP PROVIDERS IN KWARA STATE, NIGERIA**

**BY**

**HAMMED, Ayuba Olawale: Department of Counsellor Education, Faculty of Education, University of Ilorin, Nigeria**

**ISIAKA, Gafar: Department of Counsellor Education, Faculty of Education, University of Ilorin, Nigeria**

**&**

**SALAMI, Arinola Rasheedat: Department of Counsellor Education, Faculty of Education, University of Ilorin, Nigeria; Correspondence E-mail: [hammedayuba66@gmail.com](mailto:hammedayuba66@gmail.com)**

### **Abstract**

*Child abandonment is a form of child abuse which has negative health, cognitive, social and emotional development effects. This study investigated causes of child abandonment as expressed by professional help providers in Kwara State, Nigeria. Descriptive survey design was adopted for the study and a total sample of 420 professional help providers were drawn from the three senatorial districts of Kwara State using purposive, proportional and random sampling techniques. A research question was raised and answered and four hypotheses were tested. The instrument used in gathering data for the study was a questionnaire titled "Causes of Child Abandonment Questionnaire (CCAQ)". The instrument was validated by experts and reliability coefficient score of 0.74 was obtained. Percentage was used to present the demographic data while the null hypotheses were analyzed using t-test and ANOVA at 0.05 level of significance. The findings of the study revealed that child abandonment is caused by breakdown in family relationships, death of one or both parents and childbirth out of wedlock. Also, there were significant differences in the causes of child abandonment as expressed by help providers in Kwara State based on length of years in service, professional status and place of work while there was no significant difference in the causes of child abandonment as expressed by help providers in Kwara State based on gender. In line with the findings of the study, it was recommended that Counsellors should organise programmes that may discourage child rearing practices outside wedlock and society should also take into consideration the rights of children.*

**Keywords: Causes, Child abandonment, Professional help providers**

### **Introduction**

Children were regarded as the blessing from God and proper attention and care should be accorded to them irrespective of the family background. Child abandonment is a form of child abuse and it contradicts the principles of the United Nation human and child right, child abandonment is one of the most recognizable and prevalent forms of child maltreatment in Nigeria. The word abandonment is associated with different connotations, denotations, causes, and consequences across disciplines as well as jurisdictions (Hearn, 2011). Abandonment can be defined as caregivers' actions or omissions, or it can be defined as the effects of the actions/omissions of the caregiver on the child (Cicchetti & Toth, 2005). Developmental psychologists defined abandonment as being synonymous to neglect; it is the absence of sufficient attention, responsiveness and protection that are appropriate to the age and needs of the

child” (National Scientific Council on the Developing Child, 2012). According to Daniel, Taylor and Scott (2011), child abandonment takes different forms. For instance it may be inform of physical abandonment (like failure to provide basic needs, or supervision in order to ensure safety), emotional abandonment (such as failure to attend to a child’s psychological, emotional, or social needs), medical abandonment (such as failure to provide/seek necessary medical treatment) for the child and educational abandonment (such as failure to ensure that a child’s formal educational needs are being met) even to school.

The assessment of child abandonment by DePanfilis (2006) revealed that the causes of child abandonment is related to behaviours that may indicate neglectful parenting which may involve situations where by parent appears indifferent to their children; is apathetic or behaves irrationally towards the child, denies a child’s educational or behavioural problems; views a child in a wholly negative light, or relies on a child for satisfaction of emotional needs. Several factors have been attributed to the incidence of child abandonment, for instance, it has been established in various researches that family and community, poverty, parental characteristics, environmental deficit, social and individual factors can influence parents to abandon their children. Family and community factors that are associated with child abandonment include: poverty, single parenting, maternal age and lack of social supports (Cancian, Slack, & Yang, 2010; Schumaker, 2012). Poverty is seen as a strong risk factor for neglect, as well as chronic life stress (Jonson-Reid, Drake, & Zhou, 2013). In the view of Jonson-Reid, Drake and Zhou (2013), several parental characteristics are associated with child neglect these include: substance abuse, mental health concerns, low self-esteem, history of experience of child maltreatment, lack of parenting knowledge.

Putnam-Hornstein and Needell (2011) in their study on predictors of child protective service in California posited that environmental deficit and material deprivations are the primary cause of child abandonment or neglect. For instance poverty-induced stress can render parents overwhelmed and unable to materially or emotionally provide for their children (Schumaker, 2012). The link between environment, poverty and child neglect is strong, and some researchers have shown that parenting characteristics do not mediate the link between material hardship and neglect (Slack, Holl, McDaniel, Yoo, & Bolger, 2004). Gesinde (2008) in his study found that the contribution of the child financially and materially to the survival of the family is the greatest dimension of the influence of child abandonment. In social conduct the process of interacting with parents and adults in the home/ family manifest abandonment in various forms. For instance, it could take the dimension of child trafficking, child apprenticeship, child labour, girl marriage and street begging (Kolo, 2012).

Gilbert, Widom, Browne, Fergusson, Webb and Janson (2009) posited that 222 million women in developing countries today do not have means to child control and child bearing; they are unable to plan their families because they lack access to information; education, and counselling on family planning; they cannot access contraceptives and face social, economic or cultural barriers, including discrimination, coercion and violence in the context of their sexual and reproductive lives which make them to abandon their child. In the long term, abandoned children face higher risk of emotional, behavioural, and interpersonal difficulties (Daniel, Taylor & Scott, 2011). If children grow up in neglectful environments for a long period of time, they are at increased risk

of mental health disorders, including depression and personality disorders (Johnson, Smailes, Cohen, Brown, & Bernstein, 2000). Abandoned children also often face lifelong difficulties with learning, with lower IQ scores on average and lower levels of academic achievement (DePanfilis, 2006). Neglect is associated with increased juvenile delinquency, adult criminal activity, substance abuse, and domestic violence (DePanfilis, 2006). This suggests that estimations of worldwide deaths caused by abuse and neglect could be even higher (Gilbert, Widom, Browne, Fergusson, Webb & Janson, 2009). Based on these opinions and observations, this study investigated causes and consequences of child abandonment as expressed by some professional help providers in Kwara State.

### **Statement of the Problem**

Until recent years, child protection in Africa was not a problem; there were no formal mechanisms to protect children rights and wellbeing which make child abandonment to be rampant. Child abandonment of any form may lead to a wide range of challenges for children and adolescents. Child abandonment in Nigeria has become one issue that cast a gloomy shadow to the entire Nigeria society. The National Assembly in year 2003 passed child right protection law as a way to tackling child abandonment and neglect, but despite the protection law, Nigeria children are reported in electronics and print media being neglected or abandoned on daily basis. It has been reported that abandoned children have high tendency of setback in growth, social and psychological development and this also contradict values of physical wellbeing of children. Child abandonment is a societal problem that weakens entire society with its burden of economic losses, health cost and increased crime rate in the society.

The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that 155,000 deaths around the world of children aged below 15 years occur every year due to abuse and neglect (Pinheiro, 2006). Delaunay (2011) worked on improving knowledge on child abandonment and care in Africa. A case study of Uganda, and found that child abandonment sometimes emanate as a result of abnormal births, breech birth etc. Several researches have been conducted on issues relating to child neglect and abandonment within and outside Nigeria. Akinloye and Akinwusi (2013) carried out study on drug addiction among the abandoned children: The way forward in Nigeria. The study found that child abandonment has a lot of health effects on children which might affect their development in life. All these researches did not holistically address the causes of child abandonment with focus on those that help in the rehabilitation process of the abandoned children and this is the gap this study fills.

### **Research Question**

A research question was raised and answered in the study;

1. What are the causes of child abandonment as expressed by professional help providers in Kwara State?

### **Research Hypotheses**

The following research hypotheses were formulated and tested in the study;

1. There is no significant difference in the causes of child abandonment as expressed by professional help providers in Kwara State based on length of years in service.

2. There is no significant difference in the causes of child abandonment as expressed by professional help providers in Kwara State based on gender.
3. There is no significant difference in the causes of child abandonment as expressed by professional help providers in Kwara State based on professional status.
4. There is no significant difference in the causes of child abandonment as expressed by professional help providers in Kwara State based on place of work.

### **Methodology**

The research design adopted for this study is descriptive survey type. Descriptive research also allows the assessment of certain attributes, properties or characteristics in a situation prevailing at a particular time (Mustapha, 2006). Its main purpose is to describe the event in question using the resulting data to explain and predict the given situation. In view of this, the researcher considered descriptive survey method as the most appropriate for this study because it will assist in finding out causes of child abandonment as expressed by some professional help providers in Kwara State. The population for this study comprised all professional help providers in Kwara State estimated at 255,346 (National Bureau of Statistics, 2018). The target population for this study consisted some professional help providers that were selected from the three Senatorial Districts of Kwara State. The sample size of 384 is recommended as sample for this study. According to Research Advisor Sample Size Determination (2006) at 95% confidence level at 5% margin error, therefore, for the purpose of this study 10 percent of the recommended sample was added to cater for attrition. Thus, 420 respondents were used for the study. In selecting the sample multi stage sampling procedure was adopted for the study which include; proportional, purposive and random sampling techniques were used. Proportional sampling technique was used to select 7 Local Government Areas based on the proportion percentage ratio of LGAs in each of the 3 senatorial districts in Kwara State. Viz: Kwara Central (4), Kwara North (5) and Kwara South (7). Therefore, proportional sampling techniques is considered appropriate as a result of inequality of the distribution of L.G.A in each senatorial district; hence the local government to be used were selected in a proportional ratio of 3:2:2 across the three senatorial district of Kwara State.

Purposive sampling technique was used to select Local Governments in each of the senatorial district. These Local Governments are Ifelodun, Irepodun and Offa from Kwara South, Edu and Moro and from Kwara Central senatorial district, which are; Ilorin South and Ilorin West. Therefore, 60 respondents were selected from each of the 7 Local Government Areas. Thus, 420 professional help providers participated in the study. Also, random sampling technique was used to select professional help providers across the selected LGAs for the study based on the professional statue . Random sampling technique is method of choosing the samples that were the representatives of the population by making it possible for every member of the population being included in the sample (Oke, Olosunde & Jekayinfa, 2005).

Instrumentation is a process of developing measuring devices and methods for gathering data in educational research. The instrument that was used in collecting data for this study is a researcher designed questionnaire tagged “Causes of Child Abandonment Questionnaire (CCAQ)”. The questionnaire has two sections. Section A and B: section A deals with demographic data i.e. personal information of the respondents. It consists of four demographic variables which are length of years in service, gender, professional help provider and place of work. Section B deal

with items on the causes of child abandonment. The respondents were to indicate their responses using Four Point Likert-Type rating scale of; Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D), and Strongly Disagree (SD). The instrument was validated by experts Counselling Psychology and Measurement and Evaluation, it was also subjected to reliability test after test-retest method was used on the same set of 20 professional help providers within an interval of four weeks. The two sets of scores obtained were correlated using Pearson Product Moment Correlation which yielded 0.74 to indicate that the instrument is reliable. The data for this study was subjected to appropriate statistical analysis. Percentage was used to analyze the data obtained from demographic section, rank order analysis was used to answer the research question while Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) was used to test the research hypotheses 1, 3 and 4 while t-test was used to test research hypotheses 2. All hypotheses were tested at 0.05 alpha level.

## Results

**Research Question:** *What are the causes of child abandonment as expressed by help providers in Kwara State?*

**Table 1:** Mean and Rank Order on the Respondents' Expression on Causes of Child Abandonment

Item No.	In my view, child abandonment is caused by:	Mean	Rank
2	breakdown in family relationships	3.27	1 <sup>st</sup>
6	death of one or both parents	3.12	2 <sup>nd</sup>
5	childbirth out of wedlock	3.11	3 <sup>rd</sup>
1	physical illness of parents	3.05	4 <sup>th</sup>
8	parents financial incapability to take care of a child	3.03	5 <sup>th</sup>
19	restriction regarding access to abortion	2.96	6 <sup>th</sup>
10	inadequate orphanage homes	2.91	7 <sup>th</sup>
15	high cost of child care	2.90	8 <sup>th</sup>
20	weak legal prohibition against child abandonment	2.86	9 <sup>th</sup>
9	difficulty in adoption proceedings	2.85	10 <sup>th</sup>
7	single parenthood as a result of divorce	2.79	11 <sup>th</sup>
11	teenage pregnancy	2.69	12 <sup>th</sup>
14	unwanted pregnancy due to religious doctrine	2.59	13 <sup>th</sup>
17	post-natal depression	2.56	14 <sup>th</sup>
13	low level of education on the part of parents	2.55	15 <sup>th</sup>
12	unpreferred gender of the child by parents	2.52	16 <sup>th</sup>
3	mental illness of parents	2.28	17 <sup>th</sup>
16	poor health condition of the child	2.23	18 <sup>th</sup>
18	substance misuse by parent	2.03	19 <sup>th</sup>
4	premature motherhood as a result of an unplanned pregnancy	1.73	20 <sup>th</sup>

Table 1 presents the mean and rank order of respondents' expression on causes of child abandonment. The result in the table revealed that item 2 which states that child abandonment is caused by breakdown in family relationships was ranked 1<sup>st</sup> with mean score of 3.27, item 6 which states that child abandonment is caused by death of one or both parents was ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> with mean score of 3.12 and item 5 which states that child abandonment is caused by childbirth out of wedlock was ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> with mean score of 3.11. On the other end, item 16 which states that child abandonment is caused by poor health condition of the child was ranked 18<sup>th</sup> with mean

score of 2.23, item 18 which states that child abandonment is caused by substance misuse by parent was ranked 19<sup>th</sup> with mean score of 2.03 and item 4 which states that child abandonment is caused by premature motherhood as a result of an unplanned pregnancy was ranked 20<sup>th</sup> with mean score of 1.73. The table indicates that most of the items have the mean scores that are above the mid-cut off point of 2.50; this indicates that the respondents attested to the causes of child abandonment listed above. This is due to the fact that the respondents attested to the causes of child abandonment such as; breakdown in family relationships, death of one or both parents, childbirth out of wedlock, physical illness of parents and parents financial incapability to take care of a child.

### Hypotheses Testing

Four null hypotheses were postulated and tested for this study. The hypotheses were tested using t-test and ANOVA statistical methods at 0.05 level of significance.

**Hypothesis One:** *There is no significant difference in the causes of child abandonment as expressed by help providers in Kwara State based on length of years in service.*

**Table 2:** Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) showing the Respondents' Expression on Causes of Child Abandonment Based on Length Years in Service

Source	SS	Mean Squares	Df	Cal. ratio	F- ratio	Crit. ratio	F- P-value
Between Groups	368.78	184.39	2	14.65*	3.00		.000
Within Groups	5249.22	12.58	417				
Total	5618.00		419				

\* Sig. at 0.05 level

Table 2 indicates that calculated F-ratio of 14.65 is greater than the critical F-ratio of 3.00 with a corresponding p-value of .000 which is less than 0.05 level of significance. Since the calculated F-ratio is greater than the critical F-ratio, the null hypothesis is therefore rejected; thus, there was significant difference in the causes of child abandonment as expressed by help providers in Kwara State based on length of years in service.

**Table 3:** Duncan Multiple Range Test (DMRT) showing the Differences on Causes of Child Abandonment Based on Length of Years in Service

Length of Years in Service	Group	N	Mean	Duncan Groupings
Below 5 years	1	85	54.20	B
6-10 years	2	237	53.28	C
11 years & above	3	98	55.57	A

Table 3 shows the DMRT indicating the significant difference noted in the ANOVA on Table 6. Group 1 with a mean score of 54.20 significantly differed from Group 2 with a mean score of 53.28, but significantly differed from Group 3 with a mean score of 55.57. All the groups differed from one another but the significant difference noted was as a result of the mean of Group 3 with the highest mean score, hence the significant difference noted in the ANOVA on table 3 was brought about by respondents who had spent 11years and above in service, therefore, the hypothesis is rejected.

**Hypothesis Two:** *There is no significant difference in the causes of child abandonment as expressed by help providers in Kwara State based on gender.*

**Table 4:** Mean, Standard Deviation and t-value on the Respondents' Expression on Causes of Child Abandonment on Gender

Gender	N	Mean	SD	Df	Cal. t-value	Crit. t-value	p-value
Male	254	54.06	3.54	418	0.27	1.96	.724
Female	166	53.96	3.75				

Table 4 indicates that the calculated t-value of 0.27 is less than the critical t-value of 1.96 with corresponding p-value of .724 which is greater than 0.05 level of significance. Since the calculated t-value is less than the critical t-value, the hypothesis which states that there was no significant difference in the causes of child abandonment as expressed by help providers in Kwara State based on gender is therefore not rejected.

**Hypothesis Three:** *There is no significant difference in the causes of child abandonment as expressed by help providers in Kwara State based on professional status.*

**Table 5:** Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) showing the Respondents' Expression on Causes of Child Abandonment Based on Professional Status

Source	SS	Mean Squares	Df	Cal. ratio	F- ratio	Crit. ratio	F- p-value
Between Groups	389.13	129.71	3	10.32*	2.60		.000
Within Groups	5228.86	12.56	416				
Total	5618.99		419				

Table 5 indicates that calculated F-ratio of 10.32 is greater than the critical F-ratio of 2.60 with a corresponding p-value of .000 which is less than 0.05 level of significance. Since the calculated F-ratio is greater than the critical F-ratio, the null hypothesis is therefore rejected; thus, there was significant difference in the causes of child abandonment as expressed by help providers in Kwara State based on professional status.

**Table 6:** Duncan Multiple Range Test (DMRT) showing the Differences of the Respondents' Expression on Causes of Child Abandonment Based on Professional Status

Professional Help Provider	Group	N	Mean	Duncan Groupings
Counsellor	1	108	54.07	B
Doctor/ Nurse	2	124	52.98	D
Police Force	3	87	53.56	C
Social Worker	4	101	55.56	A

Table 6 shows the DMRT indicating the significant difference noted in the ANOVA on Table 9. Group 1 with a mean score of 54.07 significantly differed from Group 2 with a mean score of 52.98, but significantly differed from Group 3 with a mean score of 53.56, but significantly differed from Group 4 with a mean score of 55.56. All the groups differed from one another but

the significant difference noted was as a result of the mean of Group 4 with the highest mean score, hence the significant difference noted in the ANOVA on table 5 was brought about by respondents who are social worker therefore, the hypothesis is rejected.

**Hypothesis Four:** *There is no significant difference in the causes of child abandonment as expressed by help providers in Kwara State based on place of work.*

**Table 7:** Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) showing the Respondents' Expression on Causes of Child Abandonment Based on Place of Work

Source	SS	Mean Squares	Df	Cal. ratio	F- Crit. ratio	F- p-value
Between Groups	636.39	106.066	6	8.79*	2.10	.000
Within Groups	4981.60	12.062	413			
Total	5517.99		419			

\* Sig. at 0.05 level

Table 7 indicates that calculated F-ratio of 8.79 is greater than the critical F-ratio of 2.10 with a corresponding p-value of .000 is less than 0.05 alpha level of significance. Since the calculated F-ratio is greater than the critical F-ratio, the null hypothesis is therefore rejected; thus, there was significant difference in the causes of child abandonment as expressed by help providers in Kwara State based on place of work.

**Table 8:** Duncan Multiple Range Test (DMRT) Showing the Differences of the Respondents' Expression on Causes of Child Abandonment Based on Place of Work

Place of Work	Group	N	Mean	Duncan Groupings
Hospital	1	49	54.16	C
School	2	69	53.65	D
Law Enfmt.				
Agency	3	116	53.13	D
NGO	4	56	53.54	D
Remand/Juv.	5	47	52.94	E
Home	6	35	55.69	B
Orphanage	7	48	56.79	A
Social Welfare agency				

Table 8 shows the DMRT indicating the significant difference noted in the ANOVA on Table 11. Group 1 with a mean score of 54.16 significantly differed from Group 2 with a mean score of 53.65, but significantly differed from Group 3 with a mean score of 53.13, but significantly differed from Group 4 with a mean score of 52.54. Group 5 with a mean score of 52.94 significantly differed from Group 6 with a mean score of 55.69, but significantly differed from Group 7 with a mean score of 56.79. The significant difference noted was as a result of the mean of Group 7 with the highest mean score, hence the significant difference noted in the ANOVA on table 7 was brought about by respondents who are social worker therefore, the hypothesis is rejected.

### **Discussion of Findings**

The study revealed that child abandonment is caused by breakdown in family relationships, death of one or both parents and childbirth out of wedlock among others. The findings was supported by DePanfilis (2006) whose study revealed that the causes of child abandonment was related to behaviours that may indicate neglectful parenting which could involve situations where by parent appears indifferent to their children; is apathetic or behaves irrationally towards the child, denies a child's educational or behavioural problems; views a child in a wholly negative light, or relies on a child for satisfaction of emotional needs. Also, Cicchetti and Toth (2005) that child abandonment is caused by failure of parent to provide minimum care and lack of supervision that presents a risk of serious harm to a child. This is an indication that children were abandoned due to some challenges that family may be confronted with which is beyond their capacity.

The result of hypothesis one revealed that there was significant difference in the causes of child abandonment as expressed by help providers in Kwara State based on length of years in service. This indicated that length of years in service would influence the expression of the respondents on the causes of child abandonment; this was supported by Hickman and Simpson (2003) who stressed that the length of a police investigation period is generally one and a half times longer concerning child abuse. Their limited experience and concern about what would happen if they failed in their meeting with the abused child and its family made the process of investigating child abuse cases difficult.

Hypothesis two revealed that there was no significant difference in the causes of child abandonment as expressed by help providers in Kwara State based on gender. This showed that gender would not influence causes of child abandonment, this was supported by Deirdre (2014) found that child abandonment has been individualised and it has been termed a problem that falls entirely within the domain of poor women, and frequently that these women are young teenagers.

The result of hypothesis three revealed that there was significant difference in the causes of child abandonment as expressed by help providers in Kwara State based on professional help provider. This showed that professional help provider would influence causes of child abandonment; this was supported by Coccozza (2003) that social services interventions that are provided physically abused children is limited in quantity and quality. The reports to social services concern suspected physical child abuse, but as public statistics explain only half of all social services interventions concerning children there is a high degree of uncertainty (Sundell & Egelund, 2001)

The result of hypothesis four revealed that there was significant difference in the causes of child abandonment as expressed by help providers in Kwara State based on place of work. This indicated that place of work would influence causes of child abandonment, this was supported by Guadin (2003) that condition in which a caretaker responsible for the child, either deliberately or by extraordinary inattentiveness, permits the child to experience avoidable present suffering and/or fails to provide one or more of the ingredients generally deemed essential for developing a person's physical, intellectual, and emotional capacities due to work commitment. Also, Müdriye, Sühendan and Neriman (2016) who found that child neglect is the inhibition of a child's physical, psychological, moral or social development due to negligence on the part of the parents, caregivers or other adults to provide the basic essentials due to work and personal schedule.

## Conclusion

This research examined causes of child abandonment as expressed by professional help providers in Kwara State, Nigeria. The findings of the study revealed that child abandonment is caused by breakdown in family relationships, death of one or both parents and childbirth out of wedlock and child abandonment can lead to lose trust in people, suffer malnutrition, engage in gangsterism and drop out of school among others. Also, there is significant difference in the causes of child abandonment as expressed by help providers in Kwara State based on length of years in service, professional help provider and place of work while there is no significant difference in the causes of child abandonment as expressed by help providers in Kwara State based on gender.

## Recommendations

Based on the findings of this study, it is recommended that:

1. Proper family integration should be fostered to reduce child abandonment in the society.
2. Counsellors should organise programmes that may discourage child rearing practices outside wedlock and means to foster family building.
3. Stakeholders in the society should make extra efforts to identify children who have been abandoned and find means to give them needful support and care.
4. Efforts should be made by the government to provide adequate facilities and supports for professional help provider to enable them perform their duties effectively in relation to children welfares.
5. Governments should prepare national action plans with regard to the prevention of child abandonment; it should also take into consideration the rights of children in the society.

## References

- Akinloye, M. & Akinwusi, D. (2010). A sociological investigation of the determinant factors and the effects of Child Street hawking in Nigeria. *Journal of Asian Social Science*, 3 (1):114-137.
- Cancian, M., Slack, K. S., & Yang, M. Y. (2010). *The effect of family income on risk of child maltreatment (Discussion Paper No. 1385-10)*. Madison, WI: Institute for Research on Poverty.
- Cicchetti, D. & Toth, S. L. (2005). Child Maltreatment. *Annual Review of Clinical Psychology*, 1(1), 409– 438.
- Cocozza, B. (2003). *Child abuse: Towards knowledge base* (3rd ed.). Berkshire: Open University Press.
- Daniel, B., Taylor, J., & Scott, J. (2011). *Recognizing and helping the neglected child: Evidence-based practice for assessment and intervention*. London, UK: Jessica Kingsley Publishers.
- Delnarby, A. (2001). *Children's and women's rights in Nigeria: A wake up call, situation assessment and analysis*, Lagos: National Planning commission and UNICEF.
- Deirdre, G. (2014) Child Sexual Abuse among Urban Secondary School Pupils: Impact of Family Characteristics and Family Structure. *International Review of Social Sciences and Humanities*, 3 (1),36-50
- DePanfilis, D. (2006). *Child neglect: A guide for prevention, assessment, and intervention*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Administration for

- Children and Families; Administration on Children, Youth and Families; Children's Bureau; Office on Child Abuse and Neglect. Retrieved from <https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/usermanuals/neglect/>
- Gesinde, A. M. (2008). A survey of the prevalence of parentally abused children in schools. *Journal of Family Development*, Vol. 3. 111 & 114.
- Gilbert, R., Widom, C. S., Browne, K., Fergusson, D., Webb, E., & Janson, S. (2009). Burden and consequences of child maltreatment in high-income countries. *The Lancet*, 373(9657), 68–81.
- Guadin, T. (2003). *The Story and Effects of Home Violence on Psychology of Samsun Primary School Teachers (In Turkish)*. MA Thesis, Published. Samsun: Ondokuz Mayıs University.
- Hearn, J. (2011). Unmet needs in addressing child neglect: Should we go back to the drawing board. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 33(5), 715–722.
- Johnson, J. G., Smailes, E. M., Cohen, P., Brown, J., & Bernstein, D. P. (2000). Associations Between Four Types of Childhood Neglect and Personality Disorder Symptoms During Adolescence and Early Adulthood: Findings of a Community-Based Longitudinal Study. *Journal of Personality Disorders*, 14(2), 171–187.
- Jonson-Reid, M., Drake, B., & Zhou, P. (2013). Neglect Subtypes, Race, and Poverty Individual, Family, and Service Characteristics. *Child Maltreatment*, 18(1), 30–41.
- Jonson-Reid, M., Drake, B., Chung, S., & Way, I. (2003). Cross-type recidivism among child maltreatment victims and perpetrators. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 27(8), 899–917.
- Kolo, J. (2012). Child maltreatment: A bane to achieving Millennium Development Goals on Education in Nigeria. *Journal of Academics*. 7 (1), 287 & 289.
- Müdiriye, Y. B., Sühendan, E. & Neriman, A. (2016). An Overview of Child Neglect and Abuse: Types, Causes, Impact and Prevention. *Ethno Med*, 10(2): 221-228.
- Mustapha, S. (2006). *Foundation in business research methods*. Lagos: Merrifield Publishing Company.
- National Scientific Council on the Developing Child. (2012). *The science of neglect: The persistent absence of responsive care disrupts the developing brain (Working Paper No. 12)*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University
- Oke, C. S., Olosunde, G. R & Jekayinfa, A. A. (2005). Research methodology and statistics in education: Theory and practice. Ibadan: Emola-Jay Communication inc.
- Pinheiro, P. (2006). *World Report on Violence against Children*. New York: United Nations.
- Putnam-Hornstein, E., & Needell, B. (2011). Predictors of child protective service contact between birth and age five: An examination of California's 2002 birth cohort. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 33(8), 1337–1344.
- Schumaker, K. (2012). *An exploration of the relationship between poverty and child neglect in Canadian child welfare (Doctoral Dissertation)*. University of Toronto, Toronto, ON.
- Slack, K. S., Holl, J. L., McDaniel, M., Yoo, J., & Bolger, K. (2004). Understanding the risks of child neglect: An exploration of poverty and parenting characteristics. *Child Maltreatment*, 9(4), 395–408.