SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACTORS AND YOUTH RESTIVENESS IN THE NIGER DELTA REGION OF NIGERIA; USING AKWA IBOM STATE AS A CASE STUDY

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ABSTRACT

This study investigated the socio-economic factors that influenced youth restiveness in the Niger Delta Region of Nigeria; using Akwa Ibom State as a case study. To achieve the objective of this study, which is to examine how Socio Economic factors influence Youth Restiveness in the Niger Delta Region, Nigeria. Two hypotheses were formulated. Literature reviewed according to the identified variables, (poverty, unemployment). Survey design was adopted. A multi-stage sampling technique ('stratified, cluster and simple random sampling,) was also applied. The population of the study comprised the ten ('10,) oil producing local government Areas of Akwa Ibom State. Taro Yamene and percentages were applied to select a sample of .425 Youths. This was based on ratio and proportion. The questionnaire entitled "The socio-Economic Factors and Youth Restiveness Scale (SEFYRS) was the instrument used for data collection. It was designed on the modified 4-point likjert response scale types of SA, 5, D, SD and subjected to face validation by my supervisors and expert in the field of measurement. Cronbach alpha reliability method was used to establish the reliability estimate of the instrument. Population t-test, one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA,) and linear regression statistics were used to analyze the data collected. The stated hypotheses were tested at 0.05 level of significance. The results of the analyses showed that all the three hypotheses were rejected, and found among others that socio-economic factors significantly influenced youth into restiveness in the region. It was concluded that socio-economic factors in the society was the main reason of restiveness in the state. The study therefore recommend among others that concerted efforts by both Federal and state Governments in collaboration with the oil companies operating in the region be geared toward the establishment of skill acquisition centers for youths empowerment in each local government Areas of the region.

Key Words: Socio-economic, youth restiveness, poverty, unemployment, Akwa Ibom State

INTRODUCTION

The issue of youth restiveness in Nigeria has become prominent and indeed has posed fundamental security challenge to past and present government in Nigeria. In the past two decades (1999-2015), hardly a day passed without one hearing about reports of clashes or conflicts among people in different parts of the country. Terrorists attack, insurgency, militancy and other forms of restiveness have been reported everywhere (Enwarieme 2005). As one can testify, Akwa Ibom State and indeed the entire Niger Delta region are not left out of these acts of violence and lawlessness ranging from political, religious, ethnical or communal motivated

violence. Prominent citizens and expatriate oil and road construction workers are taken hostage in the region, while arms insurgency, cultism and even oil hunkering in the region is also a threat to the security. Security situation is so bad to the point that security agents are attached to all expatriate workers and others who work with them for their security and safety.

This paper targeted the oil producing local government areas in Akwa Ibom State as the major stake-holders in the phenomenon due to high level of marginalization and hazard they encounter as a result of oil exploration and exploitation, oil spillage, broken rooftop, bad road network, bad water, spontaneous fire outbreak and other infrastruclure deficiencies without compensation or development of the areas either by oil companies operating in the' areas or government. These are the reasons they are always at the loggerheads with the operating companies in the area.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The Nigeria's Niger Delta, the world's largest wetland and Africa's longest coast line of 70,000km2 (World Bank, 1995) has become a den of complicated problems arising from instability, protest and communal agitation for development, environmental degradation, oil spillage, insurgency, communal clashes, resource control and self-determination. Harassment of both road construction workers and oil workers and their exjatriate, kidnapping of the rich and the newly born children have become real concern of everybody. Beginning from Ogoni Land to Eket-Ibeno, Peremabiri to Akerenkoko, Olubobiri to Bakassi. In Cross River, Adadama communal fight and Amaugu in Ikwu L.G.A in Ebonyi State. In Akwa Ibom State, Ikot Akpan Udo in Ikot Abasi L.G.A and Amazaba in Eastern Obolo L.G.A violence, conifict, militancy, hostage taking, kidnapping, pipeline vandalism and even personal hatred have become the order of the day in the region. Ikelegbe (2006) said in 2006, a total of 118 oil workers were taken hostages in 24 militant attacks. That in 2007, 129 hostages were taken in 33 militant attacks, as if these was not enough, Ikelegbe (2006) continued that others like cult groups, confraternities, inter and intra communal conflicts have also created fears and insecurity in the region. These activities have become very worrisome and serious problems to the region's potential sustainable development

In Akwa Ibom State, there has been an inter ministerial direct labour committee to help develop the rural communities. Also the Governor has launched a spiritual rebirth of 'dakkada' which means arise to your greatness above ethnicity and political divide that does not always allow our youth to think above the level of their parents as an error. In Akwa Iborn State also restiveness led to the destruction of lives and properties that culminated in burning of cars, keke and houses during the 2011 elections. The problems of unequal distribution of wealth and positions in the government and marginalization is a concern. Onibalar (2005), Ehwaneime (2008), Badown (2008), Okaba (2008), World Bank (1995) and Clark (1999) attribute these unethical behavior of youth to environmental degradation due to activities of oil multi-national companies in the region and embezzlement of public funds by the politicians. The question people may like to ask is, does it mean that only the above can cause youth restiveness in the region? The answer could be yes or no, depending on the situation. This paper therefore tried to ascertain or examine or investigate the socio economic factors influencing restiveness as a phenomenon among youths in Niger Delta Region such as poverty and unemployment.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The main objective of this study is to examine how socio-economic factor influence youths restiveness in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria. Specific objective of the study are

1. To analyze the extent to which poverty can contribute to youths' restiveness in the area.
2. To find out how unemployment among youth could lead to youth restiveness.

RESEARCH HYPOTHESES

I. The level of poverty in the land does not significantly influence youths' restiveness in Akwa Ibom State.

2. The level of youths' unemployment does not significantly relate to youth involvement in restiveness.

Literature Review

Poverty

The term poverty is a state of being poor and lack. Landis (1999) sees poverty as those who are deprived of the dream of the world of "good life" ceaseless entertainment, effortless joy. James (2004) says, poor people do not have food enough for themselves in terms of quality and quantity and they are always found in ghetto and slump. Thus there seems to be a high correlation between poor people and youth restiveness. Poverty connotes inequality and social injustice and this traumatizes the poor. More than 70 percent of Nigerians live in abject poverty that is, living below the poverty line and one-third survive on less than US $1 dollar a day (Zakaria, 2006). He said this figure includes an army of youths in urban centres in Nigeria who struggle to earn a living by hawking on the streets. He went further to state that, the sales per day and the profit margin on such goods are so small that they can hardly live above the poverty line. That disillusion, frustration and dejection led them, to seek opportunity to express their anger against the state. However, Amorawa (2000) and Zakarria (2006) agreed that there is a link between poverty, loss of livelihood, inequality and youth restiveness as evidenced or experienced by the numerous violent protests against the wielders of power in Nigeria.

Unemployment

Unemployment like every other concept in social and management sciences has been variously defined. Some authors have defined it using its nature, while others used relative features to ascribe meaning to it. Bassey (2006) opined that "all countries in the world suffer some form of unemployment", but said it is more prevalent in some countries than others Echehiri (2005) and Onah (2001) were of the view that youth unemployment could be described as the conglomerate of youths with diverse backgrounds willing and able to work but cannot find any when the supply of labour outstrips the demands, that this causes "joblessness" and unemployment. Given the lack of sufficient employment in the formal sector, young people may be compelled to engage in casual work, menial work and other unorthodox livelihood or sources in order to survive, some are even under employed (Echehiri 2005) concluded.

Akinyemi (1995) described unemployment to occur when the factors of production are not employed in the production of goods and services which suppose to create employment to the people. This assertion is supported by Bassey (2006) when he opined that unemployment occurs when labour as a factor of production is not fully utilized due to unavailability of suitable jobs. This assertion is also in support that unemployment occurs in a situation where people are willing and are able to work, but cannot find the work. Akwo (2006) said a critical look at unemployment situations indicates that there exist youths who are willing and able to be employed in offices or other jobs that suit their abilities and competence; but no entrance. Umoh (2012) said that the paradox of unemployment is as a result of poverty; that poor people are often found to be unattractive to employers for the reason that, poor people will not be able to present themselves in competive jobs because of their inferiority complex and also because the poor lack technical know-how needed for employment. But this researcher may differ a little from Umo's (2012) assertion that poor people are not educated, unattractive or not intelligent to be employed. Taking a walk to Uyo Plaza, one would discover that majority of those people there are school leavers of one level or the other and are all educated but congregate there to pass time for lack of jobs,. In this place, you find different kind of educated persons both skills and unskilled male and female, and their arguments. In fact one would be quick to question what these young and energetic people are doing in this place? The answer to that reveals that, they are those who are not engaged in any paid employment. So they go there to wait for any flyer to come their way, probably make contact for jobs. Awogbenle and Wuamadi (2010) said the statistics from the Manpower Board and Federal Bureau of Statistics show that Nigeria has a youth population of 80 million, representing 60% of the total population of the country. Also 64 million of them are unemployed, the Minister of Agriculture, Dr. Akimwumi Adesina notes that Nigeria's unemployment rate is spiraling upwards, growing at 1 percent yearly, that youth unemployment rate is over 50%, that our unemployment rate is spiraling, driven by the wave of four millions young people entering the workforce every year from school with only a small fraction able to find formal employment.

METHODS

RESEARCH DESIGN

The research design that will be adopted is the survey research design.

AREA OF STUDY

This study was carried out in Akwa Ibom State in the South-South geo-political region, Nigeria.

POPULATION OF THE STUDY

The population of this study consisted of all youths in 10 oil producing local government area in Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria. The study considered youth who are within the age range of 15-45 years. The total number of youths in the area of study as already defined by age is six hundred and forty two thousand, nine hundred and thirty seven (642,937). In this population, the total number of males were three hundred and thirty one thousand one hundred and thirteen (331113) youths while the total number of females were three hundred and eleven thousand eight hundred and twenty four (311824) youths. The distribution is in table 1 below.

TABLE 1

POPULATION DISTRIBUTION OF THE TEN SAMPLED OIL PRODUCING LGAS IN AKS, AWARD THE STUDY SAMPLE BY GENDER

Paste pay S/N	LGA DISTRIBUT DISTRIBUTION ION	PROJECTED 2016 POPULATIONS			AGE DIST.	PERCENT POPULATION FOR AGE DISTRIBUTION	LGA POPULATION DISTRIBUTION BY AGE RANGE	LGA ESTIMATED YOUTH POPULATION	THE STUDY SAMPLE			
		MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL					Male	Female	Total	%
1	Eastern Obolo	42728	41052	83789	0-14	48.75	40,843		Male	Female	Total	%
					15-45	40.00	33,512	33,512	14		3	.237
					46+	11.25	9,425					
2	Eket	123157	118328	241485	0.14	48.75	117,724					
					15-45	40	96,594	96,594	16	0	4	.486
					46+	11.25	27,167					
3	Esit Eket	45142	43371	88513	0-14	48.75	43,150					
					15-45	40	35,405	35,405	17	12	8	.484
					46+	11.25	9,958					
4	Ibeno	53322	51231	104554	0-14	48.75	50,970					
					15-45	40	41,821	41,821	3	6	8	8978
					46+	11.25	11,762					
5	IkotAbasi	94481	90776	185257	0-14	48.75	90,313					
					15-45	40	74,103	74,103		18	3	10.224
					46+	11.25	20,841					
6	Mbo	72979	69942	142739	0-14	48.75	69,585					
					15-45	40	57,095	57,095	25	20	5	10.723
					46+	11.25	16,058					
7	Mkpat enin	126319	121365	247683	0-14	48.75	120,746					
					15-45	40	99,073	99,073	27	20	6	10.973
					46+	11.25	27,864					
8	Nsitubium	90545	86994	177539	0-14	48.75	86,550					
					15-45	40	71,015	71,015	26	22	48	1.471
					46+	11.25	19,973					
9	Onna	87773	84331	172104	0-14	48.75	83,901					
					15-45	40	68,842	68,842	35	29	64	4.963
					46+	11.25	19,362					
10	Uruan	83481	80207	163688	0-14	48.75	79,798					
					15-45	40	65,475	65,475	37	0	66	5.461-*
					46+	11.25	18,415					
	Total	819745	828649	1607342				642,937	346	179|	25	00.000

SAMPLING TECHNIQUE

The sampling technique adopted for selecting the sample for this study was a combination of stratified, cluster and simple random sampling. The stratified random sampling technique was employed for sample selection.

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INSTRUMENTATON

The instrument used for this study was a structured questionnaire titled 'Socio-Economic Factors and Youth Restiveness Scale (SEFYRS). The questionnaire consisted of two sections. Section A and B. Section A was designed to elicit information on demographic characteristic of the respondents such as gender, age, local government of origin, religion and marital status, vocation, and family socioeconomic status.

Section B on the other hand was structured to elicit information on the variables of the study which are not categorically measured.

VALIDATION OF THE INSTRUMENT

Validate is the extent to which the scale measures what it is meant to measure (Isangedighi, Joshua, Asim & Ekuri 2004). In this study, the face and content validity of the instrument were carried out by the researcher's supervisor and two experts in the Department of Educational Foundation, University of Calabar. Their comments were adhered to before preparing the final drafts for administration.

RELIABILITY OF THE INSTRUMENT

Reliability refers to the degree of consistency with which a measuring instrument measures what it is supposed to measure (Isangedighi et al, 2004). To determine the reliability of the instrument, a trial test was carried out using a sample of fifty (50) youth selected from the study area but not part of the research sample and Cronbach's alpha procedure used to establish the degree of consistency of the instrument. It was assumed that since those used in the trial test were not part of the study population, if they could respond appropriately to the items in the instrument, then the subjects in the actual study would do the same.

Fifty (50) copies of the instrument administered in the trial test were properly responded to. They were properly scored and analyzed for reliability using the Cronbach alpha method. The estimate of reliability of the sub scale of the instrument ranged from .763-883. The reliability value was high enough to warrant the use of the instrument in the actual study.

DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURE

Data for the study were generated using the questionnaire instrument (SEFYRS). The data collection was done directly/personally by the researcher. To effectively do this, an introduction letter was collected from the HOD, Department of Sociology and Anthropology of University of Uyo to meet with the community liason officers in the Local Government Areas of study. On meeting the CLO's, an agreement was reach. They then arranged for me to meet with those involves (respondents). Here the questionnaires were distributed to them for their responses on the matter of concern. After the completion of the questionnaire, all the copies were retrieved from them by the researcher in collaboration with the two personal assistants to the CLO. The data were then collated for analysis.

Table 2: Analysis of Demographic characteristics of respondents

S/N	VARIABLE	FREQUENCY	%
(a)	By L.G.A of origin:		
	Eastern Obolo	23	5.40
	Esit Eket	29	6.80
	Ibeno	39	9.20
	Mbo	46	10.80
	Uruan	65	15.30
	Onna	63	14.80
	Nsit Ubium	49	11.50
	Ikot Abasi	45	10.60
	Eket	22	5.20
	Mkpat Enin	44	10.40
	Total	425	100
(b)	By gender:		
	Male:	235	55.00
	Female:	190	45.00
	Total	425	100.00
(c)	By Age: 20-25yrs	85	20.70
	26-30yrs	180	41.20
	31 & above yrs	160	38.10
	Total-	425	100.00
(d)	By Marital Status: Married	125	28.60
	Single	300	71.40
	Total	425	100.00
(e)	By Occupation:		
	Unemployed	250	65.00
	Self employed	150	30.00
	Students	25	5.00
	Total:	425	100.00
(f)	By State of origin:		
	Akwa Ibom:	400	90.60
	Other NDR state:	20	6.30
	Outside NDR state:	5	3.10
	Total:	425	100.00
(g)	By Religion:		
	Christianity	280	70.00
	Islam	0	0.00
	Others	145	30.00
	Total	425	100.00
(h)	By Parents S. E. S:		
	Low S.E.S:	170	50.00.
	Average S. E. S:	150	30.00
	High S.E.S:	105	20.00
	Total:	425	100.00

SOURCE: Researchers field survey (2016)
The description was done according to school location, level of schooling, sex, age-range, marital status, occupation and socio-economic status (i e table 2a, b, c, d, e, f and g).

Interpretation of Table 2:

a)   From table 2a, it could be inferred that of the total of 425 respondents, 235 (representing 55.87%, were males and 190 representing 45% were females randomly selected from stratum 1.

b)   From table 2b, it could be inferred that in terms of age range of the respondent, 85 representing 20.7% asserted to be between 20 and 25yrs, 180 (or 41.10%) asserted to be between 26 and 30yrs while 160 (or 38.3%) asserted to be 31 and above years old as at the time they participated in this study. This implied that all the respondents were matured (all were above age 21 years) adults who knew exactly the nature of information they were responding to.

c)   From table 2c, which concerned respondents states of origin 400, representing 90.60%, asserted to be from Akwa Ibom State; 20 (or 7.30%) from other states within the NDR states, and 5 (or 3.10%) from states outside NDR state. This implied that most of the respondents (420 or 97.60%) were from within the NDR who participated in this study.

d)   From table 2d, in respect of respondent marital status, 125, representing 28.6% of the study sample asserted that they were married, while 300 (or 71.4%) asserted to be single as at the period of this study. This implied that majority of the youths were not married and so they could cause trouble without looking back.

e)   From table 2e, in respect of respondents occupation, majority of the respondents (250 or 65.00%) asserted that they were unemployed, while 150 (or 30.00%) asserted that they were self employed and very few were schooling as at the time of study about 25 representing 5% .

ii)   From table 2f, in respect of religiousity, 280, representing 70.00% asserted that they were Christians. There was no Muslim while 145 (or 30.00%) asserted to be in significant other religions.

g)   From table 2g, in respect of socio-economic status of respondents parents, 170, representing 50.0% asserted that their parents belonged to the lower cadre socio-economic status; 150 (or 30.0%) belonged to the middle socio-economic class, while 105 (or 20.0%) belonged to the high socio-economic status. This implied that majority of the respondents belonged to not well to do family, who could afford the means to belong to (or even sponsor/support) restiveness hence seems to shine in order to survive.

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

Data analysis of each of the four null hypotheses was done, using, simple linear regression statistical procedures. In presenting the results each hypothesis was first stated in the null form, this was followed by identification of the variables, then the statistical analysis procedures before the actual interpretation of results. All interpretations were done at the 0.05 alpha level of significance with various degrees of freedom. The descriptive statistics for all major variables in the study was presented in Table 3.

TABLE 3

Descriptive statistics (mean and standard deviations) for all major variables in the study N= 425.

Variables Independent:	N	Expected Min	Mean scores Max	Actual mean (X)	SD
i. Poverty	425	7.00	28.00	17.8918	5.7587
ii. Unemployment	425	9.00	28.00	19.6071	5.4200
Dependent Restiveness	425	9.00	28.00	20.8235	5.7285

Source: Field survey (2016).

From table 3, it could be inferred that restiveness exhibited the highest mean score of 20.8235; this is indicative of respondents ascertain of the high level of restiveness in the area of the study at the period of conducting this study, then unemployment with a mean sore of 19.6071, and lead by a score of 17.8918. (Note) that, the higher the mean score the higher the extent of the restiveness output from the youths actions.

HYPOTHESIS ONE

The level of poverty on the land does not significantly influence youth's restiveness in Akwa Ibom State. The independent variable in this hypothesis was level of poverty while the dependent variable was youth's restiveness. To analyze this hypothesis, data were extracted from the data bank summarize into means (x), and standard deviation (SD), sums and sum of squares and then subjected to analyses, using the simple linear regression statistics. The result of the analyses are presented in table 4, a, b, and c.

TABLE 4
Model summary for the predication of youths restiveness by the level of poverty on the land. N = 425

(a)   Model Summary

Model	R	R-Square	Adjusted R^{-2}	Std. Error of Estimate
1	.733[a]	.536	.536	3.90293

B) ANOVA of the model

Model/Source of variation	Sum of Squares (SS)	df	Mean Square(MS)	F -cal	Sign
1 Regression	7470.267	1	74770.267		
Residual	6443.497	423	15.233	490.405	.000[b]
Total	13913.765	424			

(C) B- coefficients of the Estimate.

Model	co-efficient B	Std. Error	co-efficient Betta	t-cal.	Sign
1. (Constant)	7.782	.619		12.581	.000
Poverty	.729	.033	.733	22.145	.000

a. Dep.   var. Restiveness

From table 4a, showing the model summary for prediction of restiveness (or influence) of poverty on youths restiveness, a calculated R- value of .733, an R^2 -value of .537, and adjusted R^2 -value of .536, were portrayed. The R-value of .536 means that of the total factors influencing restiveness in the Akwa Ibom State (region) youths poverty on the land, accounted for 53.6% of the factors; the remaining 46.6% being accountable for by factors not considered in this study (or aigene values).

To confirm this analysis, summary of ANOVA (table 4b was used). Here in (table 4b) a calculated F- val was 490.405 and F -value was found to be far greater than the critical F- value of 3.002, needed for significance at 000 alpha level with 1 and 423 degrees of freedom. With these results the null hypothesis was rejected. This means that the level of poverty on the land significantly influence youths into restiveness in Akwa Ibom State.

Therefore, to determine the line of model - fit for this hypothesis, table of B-coefficients (table 4c) was employed. This table showed a constant regression terin of 7.782 with a corresponding t-value of 12.581 and a bi-variate of 0.729 with a corresponding t- value of 22.145 On the basis of these values, the line of best fit for the model was given as:
Y = a +bxi (where Y = criterion or dependent variable - restiveness; a = regression constant; b = regression coefficient and **Xj** = the predictor (or independent variable -poverty on the land).
Hence: Y = 7.782 + 21.349 x 29.183
i.e , Restiveness = 7.702 +22.145 shows poverty on the land.

HYPOTHESIS TWO
The level of youth's unemployment does not significantly relate to youth involvement in restiveness in Akwa Ibom State. The dependent variable in this hypothesis was restiveness, while the independent variable was youth unemployment. To test this hypothesis the simple linear

regression statistics was employed. The results of the analyses are presented in Table 5, a, b, and c.

TABLE 5
Model summary for the predication of youths restiveness by the level of poverty on the land. N = 425
(b)   Model Summary

Model	R	R^{-2}	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of Estimate
1	.901[a]	.811	.811	2.49040

B) ANOVA of the model

Model/Source of variation	Sum of Squares (SS)	df	Mean Square(MS)	F -cal	Sign
1 Regression	11290.280	1	11290.280		
Residual	2623.484	423	6.202	1820.399*	.000[b]
Total	13913.765				

(C) B- coefficients of the Estimate.

Model	co-efficient B	Std. Error	co-efficient Betta	t-cal.	Sign
1. (Constant)	2.156	.454		4.750	.000
Unemployment	.952	.022	.901	42.666	.000

From table 5, which portrayed an "R"- value of 0.899[a], R"' - value of 809; and was indicative that, the total weights (or factors) accountable for the restiveness in the Niger Delta Region (specifically AKS), youths unemployment accounts for 81.1% of 1he relationship; (the remaining 18.9%, could be attributed to aigene values (or other factors not included in this study). To confirm this claim, table 5 showing summary of ANOVA statistics of the model was used.

From table 5b, the calculated F-ratio of 1820.399* was found to be far greater than the critical F-value of 3.002 needed for significance at .000 significance level with 1 and 423 degrees of freedom. With these results, the null hypothesis was rejected. This means that: the high level of youths unemployment significantly relate to youth involvement in restiveness phenomena in Akwa Ibom State.

Therefore, to determine the line of "best fit" for this hypothesis, the table of B-coefficients for the regression model was employed. From the table 5b a constant value of 2.156 with a corresponding calculated t-value of 4.750* and a bi- varlate value for unemployment of 0.952, with a corresponding calculated t-value of 42.666*were given off. On the basis of these values, the line of "best fit" for hypothesis 2 was given as: $Y = a_2 + a_2 x_2$

$Y = a_2 + b_2 x_2$ {where Y = criterion variable}
{a_2 = Regression Constance for hypo. 2} {b_2 = Regression coefficient „   „ „} {X_2 = Predictor/ independent var. 2 = unemployment} Hence, Y = 2.156+ 42.666*
OR: Restiveness = 2.156 + 42.666 shows unemployment.

CONCLUSION

On the basis of all the statistical analyses of each of the null hypothesis of the study, the following findings (which could also be regarded as an addition to knowledge bank) were arrived at: That the level of poverty on the land significantly influence youths restiveness in Akwa Ibom State. The higher the poverty level, the more the involvement of youths in restiveness phenomenon. That the high level of youths unemployment significantly relate to youth involvement in restiveness in Akwa Ibom State. The wider the gap of youths unemployment, the more their involvement in restiveness phenomenon.

IMPLICATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS:

1) It is recommended that, given the quantum of federations financial allocation accruing to Akwa Ibom State and the Niger Delta Region in general, the state government should Endeavour to create cottage industries for the production of products that make use of secondary raw materials such as bitumen and tarrr (which are intermediary waste products of crude oil refineries. This would reduce poverty among youths and creates employment for people. Furthermore, such cottage industries will directly employ more than fifty percent (50.0%) youths who are jobless, and so help to reduce (if not completely stop) their dependence on people (politicians and god's fathers).
2) Government should create skill acquisition center for the youth in each wards or local government areas in the country.
3) Youth corpers should be encouraged to be posted to agricultural based establishment for their primary assignment.

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