

PARENTAL NEGLIGENCE AND VIOLENT FILMS AS PREDICTORS OF TEENAGERS' INTEREST IN KIDNAPPING BEHAVIOUR

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ABSTRACT

This research investigated Impact of Parental Negligence and Violent Movies on Teenagers' Interest in Kidnapping Behavior. Two hypotheses were postulated and tested. Using simple random sampling technique, a total number of four hundred and sixty-two (462) male teenagers were selected from five secondary schools in Anambra State, Nigeria within the ages of 15 to 20 years and a mean age of 17.5. The participants were individually administered with the Parental Negligence Scale, Violent Movie Preference Scale and Kidnapping Interest Scale. The study employed a Cross Sectional Survey Design and Multiple Regression was used to analyze the data. Results showed that parental negligence and violent movies independently influenced kidnapping behavior among teenagers at $r = .353$, $n = .462$, $p < .0005$ and $r = .203$, $n = .462$, $p < .0005$ respectively. It was recommended among other things that seminars should be organized for the people to sensitize them on the negative influence neglectful behaviors and exposure to violent movies can have on them.

Introduction

Kidnapping is fast becoming a regularly used word all over the world. The significant impact of kidnapping is becoming perplexing and worrisome not only to Nigerians but also to foreigners residing in Nigeria. The crime of kidnapping is becoming alarming to the extent that nobody knows who is next to be affected by it. This has heightened the fears of individuals/citizens of Nigeria and foreigners as well thereby threatening the foundation of economic development and peaceful coexistence of the country.

According to Ugwulebo (2011) kidnapping can be seen as the illegal abduction and detention of a person for the purpose of using his/her captivity to demand for ransom or make other demands. He stated further that kidnapping is a flagrant violation of person's fundamental rights as a human being and also a felonious restraint and unlawful imprisonment and can lead to other crimes.

According to www.encyclopedia.com (2010) as cited in Ugwulebo (2011) kidnapping is the crime of unlawfully seizing and carrying away a person by force or fraud, or seizing and obtaining a person against his/her will with intent to carry that person away at a later time.

According to Akwash (2016) kidnapping is the taking away or transportation of a person against the person's will, usually to hold the person in false imprisonment, a confinement without legal authority. To him, it may be done for ransom or in furtherance of another crime, or in connection with a child custody dispute.

Abduction of human beings for certain purposes is not recent in history. It is an old phenomenon. In fact, the history of kidnapping is the history of man. Right from the time of primitiveness, man has been looking for people to suppress and lord over. This partly accounted for why there were so many wars in history where nations conquered nations and carted away the citizens of the conquered nation into captivity in foreign land. The conquered and abducted people became part of the workforce and beasts of burden to their conquerors (Ugwulebo, 2011).

Ibrahim and Mukhtar (2017) made reference to the Holy Bible and Holy Qur'an to explain and prove that kidnapping is as old as man. They made reference to the abduction of Joseph by his brothers to back their assertion that kidnapping is not a new phenomenon.

However, Tzanelli (2006) as cited in Ibrahim et al (2017) mentioned that the usage of the term "kidnapping" dates back in 17th century Britain where infants ("kids") of rich family were "napped" (caught in the sleep) for ransom. During the era of mercantilist imperialism, human beings became pure articles of commerce. The colonialist plundered the underdeveloped world and carted away their able bodied men and women and sold them to far away nations who needed human labor for their plantations and other services, as slaves.

According to Onimode (1983) cited by Ugwulebo (2011), during the European slave trade, some 24 million slaves were shipped from West Africa and Angola with some 22,000 shipped annually from ports in Nigeria over some 450 years and in exchange for these slaves, the imperialists offered guns, gun powders, gin rum, iron bars, mirror etc. This shows that several Africans were kidnapped and sold to foreigners for a fee and indeed it was a flourishing business during that period. With the abolition of slave trade between 1772 and 1850, trafficking, abduction and kidnapping of human beings plummeted.

According to Ugwulebo (2011) kidnapping in Nigeria started as resentment against inhuman treatments and poverty in the Niger Delta region of the country in the year 2006. The militants in Niger Delta used kidnapping of international oil workers to raise international attention regarding the plight of those living in the region, the environmental damage caused by oil spills and the oil industries. The use of kidnapping as a tactics has not been entirely political in nature as there are reports of significant ransom payments, which have then been used to fund the activities of this group further. In fact, the tactics has proven so lucrative that a number of criminal groups appear to have taken on the task in order to make money.

Kidnapping which seemed to have started in a particular region (Niger Delta) has spread like a wide fire all over the country. Kidnapping continues to contribute to a climate of insecurity in the South East and South-South regions. Hostages have most recently also been taking in the state of Northern Nigeria. Terrorism, insurgency and other forms of political violence have increased kidnapping and abduction in such state. The kidnapping of 250 girls in a girl's secondary school in Chibok, Borno State in 2014 and many more others during that time shows that. In February 19, 2018, one hundred and ten (110) school girls aged 11-19 years old were kidnapped by the same terrorist group that is terrorizing that region in Dapchi located in Bulabulen, Yunusari local Government Area of Yobe State.

Kidnapping has shaped the country. Several attempts have been done to reduce or limit the act of kidnapping but all have proven abortive. In 2009, rebranding project was frantically directed towards redeeming the image of Nigeria due to the fact that most countries of the world and Nigerians themselves perceived Nigeria negatively. Incidentally, in the same 2009, there was rise in kidnapping as available statistics shows that.

Several factors seem to increase kidnapping in Nigeria. These factors includes corruption, leadership failures, unemployment, political instability, poverty etc. violent movies or exposure to them seems to push an individual to considering kidnapping as a good or better way of making money in life. Also, it looked like early life moments or deprivations could make individuals to pick interest in kidnapping. Individuals that engage in kidnapping seem to have been neglected by their care givers thus causing stagnation and subsequently exposing the individual to the crime such as kidnapping.

The overwhelming influence of television on the lives of the people since its invention has over the years become not only un-debatable but equally stunning. In recent times, it appears the rate at which violence is aired on television is increasing.

Osuji (2009) as cited in Ezeukwu (2013) stated that violence is an act accompanied by attack or force inflicting injury or pains on another person.

Enyi (2003) defined violent movies as the act of showing in motion pictures and movies the act accompanied by attacks and injuries (Ezeukwu, 2013). The combination of sounds and vision has made television exert tremendous influence in shaping the lives of teenagers. It is informing, educating, entertaining and persuasive. As a result of this, movies are now powerful force in determining teenager's behavior.

Despite the importance of television, its harmful effects cannot be overemphasized as it shapes the behaviors and attitudes of teenagers. Teenagers watch violent movies/films on television screen without considering that its disadvantages outweigh its advantages or good/positive effects in their lives and the society at large.

Different television stations shows violent and horror movies that teenagers often like to copy and form attitude about life without weighing the hazardous effects of such violent movies on one's behavior. Teenagers copy role models from television screen in the form of clothing, hair style, life style (like kidnapping) language and attitude.

Most parents have abused their children unconsciously. These various abuses have altered or affected their behavior. Parental negligence is a crime which most individuals are not aware of though this type of crime depends on how a child and the society perceive it. Parental negligence which could also be called child neglect is a form of child abuse and it is a deficit in meeting a child's basic needs, including the failure to provide adequate health care, supervision, clothing, nutrition, housing as well as their physical, emotional, social, educational and safety needs.

Parental negligence is a crime consisting of acts or omission of a parent (including a step parent, adoptive parents or someone who, in practical terms, serves in a parent's role) which endangers the health and life of a child or fails to take steps necessary to the proper raising of a child. The neglect include leaving a child alone when he or she needs protection, failure to provide food, clothing, medical attention or education to a child, or placing the child in a dangerous or harmful circumstance, including exposing the child to violent, abusive or sexually predictor person.

Society generally believes there are necessary behaviors a caregiver must provide for a child to develop physically, mentally, socially and emotionally. Causes of neglect may result from several parenting problem including mental disorder, substance abuse, domestic violence, unemployment, unplanned pregnancy, poverty, divorce etc.

According to wikipedia.org (2018) child neglect is the most frequent form of child abuse, with children born to young mothers at a substantial risk for neglect. In 2008, the U.S State and local child protective services (CPS) received 3.3 million reports of children being abused or neglected. Seventy-one percent of the children were classified as victims of child neglect. Maltreated children were about five times more likely to have a first emergency department presentation for suicide related behavior, compared to their peers, both male and female (wikipedia.org, 2018).

Unfortunately, little attentions have been placed on parental negligence. There are few works done on this issue. Parental negligence which is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs are likely to result in serious impairment of the child's health and development and should be given critical attention in order to resolve these crisis that may result from such abuse.

It looked like early life moments or deprivations could make individuals to pick interest in kidnapping. Individuals that engage in kidnapping seem to have been neglected by their caregivers thus causing stagnation and subsequently exposing the individual to the crime such as kidnapping. Parents no longer monitor what their children watch on television screen. Most

acts shown on television often involve taking an individual into hostage without the individual's permission. This neglect seems to cause teenagers who are yet to clearly identify who they are and what they want to become in the future into picking interest in unlawful acts which kidnapping is one of them.

Statement of the Problem

Despite the fact that kidnapping is as old as man, it is only relatively recently that there has been a systematic attempt to understanding the concept. Kidnapping behavior is a very serious crime but relatively unheard of in contemporary scholarship compared to robbery, burglary and other forms of crime. A better understanding of the concept (kidnapping) is of great importance to the world of knowledge as it will help understand its causal factors that needs to be controlled to help in managing and subsequently minimizing the crime.

According to Akwash (2016), kidnapping is one of the most psychologically damaging crimes of all. Victims practically take many years to heal from the psychological wounds inflicted. Kidnapping causes deep emotional and mental scar on the victims which leave victims to battle through issues of trust, independence, love, sex, respect and litany of others. The psychology behind kidnapping is a need for power over an individual (Akwash, 2016).

Akwash (2016) identified various forms of kidnapping which includes, kidnapping for sexual gratification, kidnapping for ransom, kidnapping for child custody and kidnapping for political reasons. In 2009, kidnapping became a tool used by Movement for the Actualization of Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB) to seek for the sovereignty of the Igbo Nation. They kidnapped well to do individuals in the South-Eastern part of the country on the premise that they did not follow them in their struggle. This, the researcher witnessed and developed interest in the concept kidnapping.

The political importance of kidnapping activities as witnessed by the researcher has had a spill-over influence on jobless youths and criminals who took it as a new substitute or complement to robbery and pick-pocketing that bedeviled the South-Eastern part of Nigeria. Such group like MASSOB and other group of kidnapers targeted not only prominent and well to do individuals in the region but also ordinary citizens who possess little wealth. Robbers and other criminal groups have taken advantage of this as a new way of making a living or sustaining their standard of living.

Several factors like corruption, leadership failure, unemployment, political instability, poverty etc have been found to increase kidnapping in Nigeria. The general feeling of the people now is whether it will not happen but when, where and who the next target would be. This prompted the researcher to check whether there are other factors aside the aforementioned ones that can cause people into indulging in the act of kidnapping. The researcher wants to know whether this act of kidnapping is developed when they individual was a teenager. The researcher identified exposure to violent movies and parental negligence as factors to study to see whether they can motivate and trigger kidnapping behavior in teenagers which may manifest later in their adulthood stage.

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study is to find out the influence of exposing teenagers to violent movies and also the impact of parental negligence on teenager's interest in kidnapping behavior. The researcher wants to answer the following questions

- Does exposure to violent movies influence teenager's interest in kidnapping behavior?
- Does parental negligence or teenagers neglected by their parents tend to get interested in kidnapping behavior?

Literature Review

Theoretical Review

William A. Bonger's Theory of Crime

The Dutch Criminologist was influenced by Karl Marx works. He was careful to distinguish the motivational factors of crime from the behavioral factors. To Bonger, however, neither motivation (grounds for goal seeking) subsumed in the Concept of egotism, nor behavior itself is sufficient to account for the execution of criminal act such as kidnapping (Nkwocha et al, 2014).

He referred to capitalism as the "facilitating environmental condition for crime". A thief without victims, a kidnapper without victims, robber without bank(s) cannot commit crimes notwithstanding his criminal motives and techniques (Nkwocha Et al 2014). In order for crime like kidnapping to be committed, Bonger asserted that there must be facilitating environmental conditions.

Bonger (1905) showed how a social institution in a capitalist society could create a general climate of incentives which motivated its members to similar behavior (Nkwocha et al, 2014). He showed how social stratification functioned to define this behavior sometimes as "crime" and sometime as "business". He showed also how social institution could impose upon different individuals, with different personalities in different works of life a pervading climate of motivation, which cutting across individual difference involve them in conflict with one another encouraging them to unrestrained self-centered effort. This climate of motivation he called egotism or rugged individualism (Nkwocha et al, 2014).

This theory is stating that the environment is what pushes an individual to engage in kidnapping. In the theory, a kidnapper without a victim cannot engage in the act. This implies that if everyone in the society is equal or share what the society gives equally, nobody is going to kidnap anybody.

Bonger's postulation on the other is unachievable. This is because the society no matter how hard people try to make it equal cannot be achieved. Also, in countries that are well developed where everyone is mostly doing well, there are still cases of crimes such as robbery, child neglect, kidnapping and so on.

The Born Criminal Theory

This theory was developed by Lombroso Cesare (1835) as cited in Cullen et al (2010). Lombroso was an Italian Physician best known for his studies in the field of criminal anthropology and his theories of the "criminal type"- an individual who possesses degenerating traits both in physical structure and psychological characteristics that differentiate them from the civilized, socially well-adjusted humans (Cullen & Wilcox, 2010).

Lombroso shifted the focus of legal thinking from crime to the criminal and his theory of the constitutional and hereditary roots of criminal conducts such as kidnapping. He believes that most criminals like kidnappers did not act out of free will but rather they were urged to commit crime because of their innate organic nature. Thus, aiming to understand criminal minds and therefore prevent crime, it is important to study, measure and classify criminals as physicians did with the ill through examination (Cullen & Wilcox, 2010).

According to Nkwocha and Opara (2014) Lombroso maintained that there are three major classes of criminals. First, born criminals with characteristics of savage such as low criminal capacity, retreating forehead, highly developed frontal sinuses, tufted and crispy hair, large ear, relatively insensitivity to pain. He called this phenomenon atavism, "throwback or reverse to pre-human people making reference to the evolution theory.

Second, insane criminals i.e. idiots, imbeciles, paranoid, suffers from melancholia, those afflicted with general paralysis, dementia, alcoholism, epilepsy or hysteria (strange bedfellows, to be sure).

Third, criminalities, a large class of those without physical stigmata, who are afflicted with recognizable mental disorder, but whose mental and emotions make-ups are such that under certain circumstances, they indulge in vicious and criminal behaviors.

Lombroso focused more on the criminal rather than the crime. He advocated that punishment should be proportional to the dangerousness of the criminal and not the crime committed by such individual. For instance, if one committed a crime because of momentary overwhelming passion, but have never shown any social dangerousness, that the individual should be punished more mercilessly than another individual who had displayed criminal tendencies from a young age or who was a habitual offender.

According to Lombroso (1835) as cited in Cullen et al (2010) the threat the criminal posed and the need to defend society were the critical factors that should be considered when individuals were being sentenced. He advanced in using medico-biological means in explaining crime. He emphasized that crime like kidnapping, child neglect etc were rooted in multiple causes ranging from the biological and psychological organization of the individual to social factors like urbanization, education etc.

Cullen and Wilcox (2010) reported that Lombroso accumulated wide range of data which he got using both cadaver and living subjects. Lombroso reported every single detail from the heights, weight and strength to the shape of the nose, ear, foreheads and even feet of criminals. Psychologically male offenders were described by Lombroso as vain, vindictive, lazy, dominated by thirst for blood and delighting in orgies (Cullen and Wilcox, 2010). Lombroso also searched for the relationship between criminality and age, marital status, sex, profession, diet and environment. Evaluating this theory, one can easily understand that Lombroso shifted the study from the crime to the criminal. He concluded that while a small part of criminality is caused by the social conditions, most of the criminal were constitutionally so. Lombroso emphasized the influence of biological factors over environmental factors. He stated that individuals are born criminals.

This theory on the other hand is handicapped in various angles. First, It is not empirical. Though Lombroso tried to prove criminality from a scientific point, he ended up not stating his methods clearly for replication. His theory is also not universal. He categorized criminals by the shape of their body. There are criminals who do not have such characteristics and features and some individuals who possess such structures that are not criminals.

Emile Durkheim Theory of Anomie

Emile Durkheim proposed that crime is a normal aspect of society based on his belief that crime itself serves a social function. The social function is to support or reassure the social norms of a society by the fact that criminals considered going against social norms.

According to Nkwocha et al (2014), Durkheim had observed that in primitive societies, there existed mechanical solidarity where mores and folkways controlled people's behaviors. But as society gets larger and more complex, there is a shift from mechanical to organic solidarity which results in increasing division of labor, heterogeneity and interdependence.

This result is that traditional form of social control became ineffective. As a consequence, a state of anomie or "normlessness" results and replaces the former state of solidarity. Under this condition, individuals strive to reach their goals by the most effective means that comes to hand like kidnapping an opposition who is contesting the same position with the individual regardless of the normal prohibition of society. This results in deviant behavior like neglecting ones role as a caregiver, kidnapping, robbery etc.

According to Durkheim, crime is an inevitable consequence of social complexity and individual's freedom (Nkwocha et al, 2014). Crime is one of the prices paid for freedom. If the collective sentiments at the basics of morality were too strong, there could be no change and

hence no progress or moral evolution. This theory is very important to this study as it buttress how weak laws are in some countries of the world. The theory emphasized how individuals should come together to find what will suit them as the society changes.

John Bowlby's Attachment Theory (1907-90)

John Bowlby the father of attachment theory proposed that early relationship with caregivers greatly influence child development, as well as the child's entire social relationships in life. He described attachment as "the lasting psychological connectedness between human beings" (Ucheagwu et al, 2010). He agreed with the psychoanalytic theorists that early childhood experience determine adult development and behavior. He also believes that attachment is naturally a strong emotional bond that helps individuals to survive and adjust better to the demands of the social world. Thus, through infant-caregiver relationship, early attachment styles are developed in children.

According to Ucheagwu et al (2010) Bowlby emphasized that such attachments have four basic characteristics;

1. Proximity maintenance: there is always a desire to stay close to the attachment figure
2. Safe haven: in the face of threat or fear, the attachment figure is often the nearest source of safety
3. Secure base: the attachment figure always act as the child's security base from where he or she explores his/her environment.
4. Separation distress: separation from the attachment figure always brings about much anxiety.

Looking at this theory, one can easily understand that once a child is not properly connected to the caregiver, there are tendencies that the child will not adjust properly to the society. The child, though there are exceptional cases, may become deviant to the society which may lead him or her to crime such as kidnapping, robbery, drug use and abuse etc.

Bandura's Social Learning Theory

Albert Bandura (1925) contributed greatly to the psychological family (Ucheagwu et al, 2010). He was known as "the father of cognitive theory". He is most famous for the Bobo Doll experiment in 1961 where he showed that aggression can be learned through observational learning.

According to Ucheagwu et al (2010) Bandura believed that four basic skills are needed for observational learning to take place; attention, retention, motor reproduction and reinforcement or motivation. Individuals should be able to retain in their cognitive process those behaviors learned from their models. Also, individuals must have the capability to reproduce those behaviors retained within their cognitive processes.

According to Bandura (1925) learning can only take place as a result of social network in which an individual exist (Ucheagwu et al, 2010). He further explained that an individual behavior is dependent on what he learnt from his social environment through observation, modeling or imitation of someone he sees as an authority figure.

This theory is relevant to this study as it x-rayed the influence the environment has on an individual. Teenagers, as they are growing develop interest in what they are often exposed to and they form their attitudes from them. Television is an agent of socialization through which violent and deviant behavior can be communicated to the people exposed to it. Teenagers are mostly influenced by this going by the Bobo Doll experiment. They chose their models in the various movies they watch and they tend to copy and reproduce such "fake life styles" of such an actor which include playing a role of getting quick unmerited wealth etc.

Gabriel Tade's Theory of Imitation

The French sociologist was humorously critical of Lombroso's doctrine of criminals as a biological atavist. His theory was in line with that of Bandura's theory of social learning. He pointed out the circular reasoning in Lombroso's argument that anti-social behavior of criminals are proves of their sub-human nature and character.

Tade (1843) regarded criminalization as a learning process (Nkwocha et al, 2014). He opined that a criminal learns crime just as a trader learns trade through training and association with others. Usually, his association begins early in schools found in the city streets. Tade maintained that a child would be more influenced by half a score of perverse friends by whom he is surrounded than millions of unknown fellow citizens (Nkwocha et al, 2014).

According to Nkwocha and Opara (2014) Tade opined that crime is a profession fundamentally not different from other professions, except that it renders a disservice rather than service. It has its schools, special income, its techniques even its professional relationship, no difference from those to be observed between people carrying on the same trade of a similar character. There are even syndicates of crimes, formed by those who have merged their careers in common enterprise. To Tade, crime is not a disease or mental state of being but an activity that is learned (Nkwocha and Opara, 2014).

Rational Choice Theory by Cormish and Clarke

Rational choice theory adopts a utilitarian belief that man is a reasoning actor who weighs means and ends, cost and benefits and makes a rational choice (Wikipedia, 2018). This method was designed by Cormish and Clarke to assist in thinking about situational crime prevention.

According to Ibeawudu and Nkwocha (2017) rational choice theory directs it attention towards the choice of the offender in committing crime which the behavior gives him satisfaction at the time he is doing it. It holds that the behavior is intentional and purposive. According to Zems (2011) as cited by Ibeawudu et al (2017) offenders have goals when they are short sight and take into account only a few benefits and risks at a time.

According to Wikipedia.com (2018) rational choice theory is based on numerous assumptions one of which is individualism. The offender sees himself as an individual. The second is that individuals have to maximize their goals and the third is that individuals are self-interested. Offenders are thinking about themselves and how to advance their personal goals. Central points of the theory are described as follows;

1. The human being is a rational actor
2. Rationality involves means/ends calculations
3. People freely choose behavior, both conforming and deviant, based on their rational calculation
4. The central element of calculation involves a cost benefit analysis; pleasure versus pain or hedonistic calculation
5. Choice, with all other conditions equal, will be directed towards the maximization of individual pleasure
6. Choice can be controlled through the perception and understanding of the potential pains or punishment that will follow an act judged to be in violation of the social good or contract
7. The state is responsible for the maintaining order and preserving the common good through a system of laws
8. The swiftness, severity and certainty of punishment are the key elements in understanding a ruling class ability to control their citizens behavior (Wikipedia, 2018).

Empirical Review

Kidnapping is relatively a new concept in the world of research. Though the concept is as old as man, there has been little research on what causes individuals to engaging in kidnapping. Several researches have tried to understand the concept vividly. None has combined exposure to violent movies and parental negligence to ascertain whether they push individuals to engage in kidnapping.

Nweke (2014) researched kidnapping in Nigeria, studying public perception in Enugu East Senatorial District. The researcher used cross-sectional survey research design and also used questionnaires and in-depth interview in its data collection and found that the causative factors of kidnapping are payment of ransom, non-cooperation with the police, lack of instruction on morals and too much emphasis on material gains. The researcher therefore recommended the introduction of youth empowerment programs by government and non-governmental organizations as key instrument to its solution. The research also recommended that more sophisticated and computerized equipment and ammunitions be distributed to all state headquarters and area commands in order to detect the hoodlums and combat the advancement of the crime of kidnapping.

This study lacks external validity because it used some section of the society. Also, there are various problems encountered that could bias the study. Such problems are, people responding to the questionnaires lacked education which hindered them from supplying the answers to the items, difficulties in retrieving information from the security agencies and so on.

Nwadiora and Nkwocha (2011) as cited by Nweke (2014) carried out a research to examine the prevalence of kidnapping as an urban pandemic in Imo state. The population of the study consisted of people selected from the urban centers and rural areas in Imo state. Structured questionnaires were distributed to 100 respondents randomly selected from the target population. They used simple percentage and Chi-square statistical method to test their hypotheses and analysis their data.

Their findings show that urbanization process has a lot to do with the pervasion of kidnap cases in Imo state. The study also found that ineffectiveness of the police has negatively affected the fight against kidnapping. Other major causative factors identified by their research are unemployment and leadership failures. One of the major criticisms of their research is access to respondents. The researchers shared 100 questionnaires and respondents responded and returned 90. The participants of the study were very small for such a study.

Nseabasi (2010) carried out an exploratory study on kidnapping in Nigeria's Niger Delta. The study used available news reports as well as personal and neighborhood witnesses in order to identify various forms of kidnapping. The study found various forms of kidnapping in relation to economic and political motivations as well as kidnapping as instrument of liberation fight. The study gave an overview of developmental implications of kidnapping on the state economy.

The study recommended the need for inclusive governance whereby all layers of stakeholders have the benefit of empowerment and capacity building as opposed to the current practice of elitist government.

Nnam (2014) as cited by Anazonwu et al (2016) carried out a research on kidnapping in the South Eastern States of contemporary Nigeria. An empirical investigation into the social and demographic characteristics of offenders as determinants of kidnapping in Abakaliki and Umuahia Prisons as a unit of analysis was done. The stud adopted a cross-sectional research design. A specific non-probability sampling technique known as respondent driven sampling of 86 from the total population of 123 inmates in two prisons was used. In-depth oral interview was used to collect data which were later analyzed using thematic analysis.

The study revealed that certain social and demographic characteristics such as age, occupation, gender, social background, marital status and the likes were responsible for kidnapping in Nigeria. The study concluded that kidnapping enterprise is dominated by men in their youthful age and men who are weak and lack strong religious attachment. A brief reflection on the study findings revealed the problem that most individual who fit into the general description are not kidnapers and others who are planning on mounting kidnapping attacks may not have these characteristics.

Ibrahim and Mukhtar (2017) analyzed the causes and consequences of kidnapping in Nigeria. The study examined the nexus between terrorism and kidnapping, investigated the mutual reinforcement between corruption and kidnapping, examined if kidnapping and poverty correlated and examined the consequences of the problems. The study used secondary qualitative data and found out that kidnapping has been taking place in Nigeria due to the activities of insurgent groups in the Niger Delta region but increased with the emergence of Boko Haram terrorist group in the North-Eastern part of Nigeria.

The study also found multiple consequences of kidnapping such as financial victimization, rape and even death of the victims. The study suggested that for kidnapping to be eradicated in Nigeria, poverty and corruption needs to be significantly reduced. It also suggested that terrorism and insurgency should be fought as they involved abductions of innocent people, female and children in particular.

Ukandu (2011) also researched on kidnapping. The research explored the positive roles of religion in the violent crime of kidnapping and attempted to proffer solutions that would be both enduring and peace sustaining in Abia State, Nigeria. It adopted a historical research method and utilized both primary and secondary source of data collection. The study found that moral degeneration and erosion of communal values, mass unemployment and poverty, insecurity which encouraged proliferation of small arms and light weapons and the agitation for amnesty by some Abia youths were underlying factors that led to the crime of kidnapping in the State.

The study also found that religion plays a positive role and was observed as a restoration i.e. justice mechanism and structure that can help abate kidnapping through interventions aimed at prevention, detection, punishment of kidnapers and care of kidnapped victims.

Inyang and Ubong (2013) researched on the social problems of kidnapping and its implications on the socio-economic development of Nigeria using Uyo Metropolis. The study elicited data through the use of questionnaire given to 260 participants that were randomly selected. The participants comprised of policemen/women from various departments at the State police headquarters Ikot Akpan, Uyo. The researcher used Chi-square analytical to analyze elicited data 0.05 level of significance. The result from the test of hypothesis one shows that there is a significant relationship between the reoccurring rate of kidnapping and the people's culture. Test of hypothesis two shows that there is no correlation between kidnapping and the disposition of government. Test of hypothesis three shows that kidnapping is significantly dependent on the provision of the constitution while result from hypothesis four shows that there is no significant relationship between kidnapping and political activities.

Findings also show that the prevalence of kidnapping in Nigeria is as a result of laxity in the law implementation processes in prosecuting offenders. The study suggested that the issue of ransom payment by victim's families or relatives should be seriously condemned. The study also suggested that the government should endeavor to create employment for the learning population of youth as that will help to check the proliferation of kidnapping.

Nnamani (2015) researched on the socio-economic effect of kidnapping in South-Eastern part of Nigeria. This research was taken to expose the issue of kidnapping and its

consequences to Nigerians in general. This study elicited relevant data through the use of questionnaires issued to 360 respondents that were randomly selected from legal advocates, policemen and women, clergymen and the general public whose profession relates to handling kidnapping issues.

Chi-square statistical tool, mean and grand mean were used to analyze data collected. The study shows that the primary cause of kidnapping is greed and high quest for quick and unmerited wealth. The study found other causes of kidnapping which includes moral laxity, unemployment, non-implementation of relevant laws, easy access to arms and ammunition by political thugs. The study recommended that all properties of any confirmed kidnapper(s) should be demolished and burnt and the kidnapper should face the relevant laws and sanctions. The study also encouraged the government to create employment and make enabling policies that will help the private sector create jobs too.

Akhigbe and Koleoso (2013) studied and presented the psychological and psychiatric consideration in kidnapped-for-ransom victims in one of the Niger Delta States. The setting was at an industrial clinic owned by a company in the oil and gas sector located at one of the Niger Delta States in South-South geopolitical zone of Nigeria. The study employed case study design. It was based upon the experiences reported in great details so that the description captures as much of the unique characteristics of the individual and her situation. A clinical interview was conducted to examine her mental state and the study used Symptom Distress Checklist-90 (SCL-90), State Trait Anxiety Inventory (STAI) and Rosenberg Self Esteem Scale (RSES) in doing that.

The evaluation procedure took two days and the study found out that the client's overall distress level was very high. The study recommended the critical importance of mental health assessment as part of a medical evaluation of kidnapped-for-ransom victims after their release. The study emphasized that the society should be aware of the psychological distress associated with been kidnapped.

Over the years, there has been a great interest in television violence especially by media experts. Some research has been done on violent movies to ascertain whether they influence the individual that is watching it.

Ezeukwu (2013) carried out a research on the influence of television violence on socio-emotional and academic adjustment of students in Federal Tertiary institutions in Anambra State comprising Nnamdi Azikwe University, Awka, Federal polytechnic, Oko and College of Education, Umunze. The study assessed what kind of program/films contain violence and how it affects the respondents and influence their lifestyle and behavior. The study used survey method and a questionnaire was distributed to the sample size of 300 that were randomly selected.

The study found that youths initiate violence they observed on television and the effect of television violence on them is profound. The study suggested that regular seminars should be organized to enlighten students on the influence television violence has. The study also recommended constant giving of assignments to students to limit their access to television. It also recommended that the National Broadcasting Commission should set guidelines that will limit television violence.

Agboola (2004) as cited by Ezeukwu (2013) conducted a study on the effects of television violence on secondary school students in Lagos State of Nigeria. The study was basically to investigate whether there is any relationship between violence and the deviant behavior among secondary school students. The study elicited data from a sampled size of 340 drawn from five secondary schools in Lagos and copies of the questionnaires were distributed among selected teachers and students. The study found that the viewing of television violence

by secondary school children go a long way in negatively influencing them into deviant acts and behaviors.

Haralambos and Holbom (2008) conducted a study on the effect of television violence on school children/students in the United States of America using the combined High School Shooting in 1999 as a case study (Ezeukwu, 2013). The study investigated whether television induced aggressive behaviors among students. They used observation method in their investigation and exposed the sample to televised violent movies.

Their study revealed that the students misconstrued media representation portrayed in the television violent movies for real life experiences thus becoming aggressive in school the next day. The study recommended decreased exposure to violent acts shown on television. The study on the other hand has ethical issues as it exposed the children to harmful situations. Huesmann et al (2003) as cited by Ezeukwu (2013) conducted a research on the longitudinal relationship between children's exposure to television violence and their aggressive and violent behavior in young adulthood both male and female. This study was a replication study conducted in 1977. The study elicited data from interviews and gathered collected data (i.e. archival records and interviews of spouses and friends) on 329 participants from 557 which was the original sample size.

The study revealed that early childhood exposure to television violence predicted aggressive behavior for both males and females. Furthermore, while a positive relationship was found between early aggression and subsequent televised violence viewing, the effect was not significant.

Bushman and Huesman (2006) conducted a study on short term and long term effect of violent media on aggression in children and adults using meta-analysis. The study measured aggressive behavior, aggressive thoughts, angry feelings, physiological arousal (e.g. heart rate, blood pressure) and helping behavior. The study found that short-term effects of violent media were greater for adults than children whereas long-term effects were greater in children than adults. The result also shows that there were overall modest but significant effect sizes for exposure to media violence on aggressive behavior, aggressive thoughts, angry feelings, arousal level and helping behavior.

Also, there are relatively little research or study on parental negligence. This inadequacy can be viewed from the point that most individuals are not aware that neglecting a child is also a form of abuse. Meanwhile, some attempts have been made to understanding the causes and consequences of negligence.

Tuwangye (2000) carried out an investigation to establish how parents living in rural district of Jatti in Uganda construed child Abuse and negligence. This study is notable for its attempts to examine child abuse and neglect through the eyes of the parents and their children. Data for the study were collected over 12 months using a triangulation of case study, focus group discussions, interviews and workshop methods.

The study found that child rearing is deeply rooted in the traditional culture. However, it also found that many parents are aware that they are been neglectful towards their children but feel powerless to change their behavior. The study found out that poverty and culture are contributing factors to this. The study recommended that intervention programs must be attained to achieve success. The study emphasized a holistic approach, policies and strategies which must be directed in acknowledging parents to cope up. The study was predictably complex. There is no uniformity in determining abusive and neglectful actions. What is regarded as abusive in urban areas of Uganda may be regarded as part of life in rural Uganda. The study failed to control for these bias.

Fitzpatrick (2013) conducted a study on neglect in infancy and childhood in Tasmania. The study drew attention to the urgent need for a broad and concise child-centered and need-

based definition of neglect that focuses specifically on this highly vulnerable age group and to further the development of conceptual and operational definition of the problem. The study used case-study method and in-depth exploratory method in gathering data. The study contributed to the development of a system for identifying and measuring the sub-types of neglect that are unique in infancy and early childhood.

Alkema (2009) conducted a study on the effect of parental neglect type on children's emotional disturbance in United States of America. The study attempted to narrow down which type of neglect is most harmful or predictive of emotional disturbances. The study used 100 participants drawn from various juvenile detention centers across U.S.A. The selected participants were previously diagnosed of emotional disturbances. They were selected using simple random method of computer selection and also used interviews and questionnaires in collecting data. The study found that neglect constituted to emotional disturbances.

Although this study increased the understanding of parental negligence on emotional disturbances, there are some limitations witnessed in the study. First, those juvenile may have no memory for some of the neglect which may have happened in their formative years. Second, the study did not control for abused individual which may also cause emotional disturbances. Finally, the study population did not represent the emotionally disturbed individuals in the country making it very difficult to generalize.

Mata et al (2017) picked interest also in the issue of parental negligence. They researched and analyzed the concept of parental negligence in Brazil. The study specified and investigated the types of negligence practiced in families in the context of health care that are considered to be insufficient for children and adolescents. The study is a qualitative study made from an interpretative anthropological point of view. The study findings show that there are accusations, labels and serious omission in relation to the configuration of families.

Hypotheses

1. Parental negligence will not significantly influence teenagers' interest in kidnapping behavior
2. Violent movies will not significantly influence teenager's interest in kidnapping behavior

Method

Participants

Four hundred and sixty-two (462) male teenagers were selected from boys secondary schools located in Onitsha North Local Government Area, Anambra State. The students were all in senior secondary 3 with the age range 15-20. The participants were selected using simple random sampling technique drawn from the following boys school; Dennis Memorial Grammar School (D.M.G.S), Onitsha Boys High School, Christ The King College (C.K.C), St Charles College and Government Technical College.

Instruments

Three instruments were used for the study. The first instrument, Parental Negligence Scale 11 (PNS-11) is a self-developed scale with a restricted response of YES (1) and NO (0) that contains 11 items that are directly scored except for items 6, 7 and 8 which are scored in a reverse form. The scale is used for measuring care giver neglect in individual age 15-20 years of age. A Cronbach's Alpha Reliability Coefficient of .81 and a Spearman-Brown Coefficient of .75 were obtained for the 11-item thus confirming that the scale has a strong internal consistency among Nigerian samples. This further shows that the scale is internally consistent for use among Nigerian samples. The Nigerian norm for the PNS-11 as obtained in the pilot study is 1.62 (males only) with scores higher than the norm indicating negligence and vice versa.

The second instrument, Violent Movie Preference Scale (VMPS-11) was also developed and validated by the researcher. The scale measures for individual's preference and likeness to violent movies over other movie genres. The instrument has a 5-point likert response style ranging from strongly agree (5) to strongly disagree (1). It has 11 items that are directly scored except for item 8 which is scored in a reverse form. A Cronbach's Alpha Reliability Coefficient of .83 was obtained for the 11-item VMPS-11 thus confirming that the scale has a strong internal consistency among Nigerian samples. The Nigerian norm for the VMPS-11 as obtained in the pilot study is 35.88 (males aged 15-20 only) with scores higher than the norm indicating preference for violent movies and vice versa.

The third instrument, Kidnapping Interest Scale (KIS-28) is a self-developed and validated test that measures and predicts teenager's tendency to engaging in the act of kidnapping at some point in his life. The scale contains 28 items with a 5-point Likert response style ranging from strong agree (5) to strongly disagree (1) that are all scored directly. A Cronbach's Alpha Reliability Coefficient of .94 was obtained for the 28-item KIS-28 thus confirming that the scale has a strong internal consistency among Nigerian samples. Further item-analysis of the scale showed that all the initial 28 items of the KIS yielded a corrected item-total of between .32 – .68. This further shows that the scale is internally consistent for use among Nigerian samples. The Nigerian norm for the KIS-28 as obtained in the pilot study is 51.44 (males aged 15-20 only) with scores higher than the norm indicating interest in kidnapping behavior and vice versa.

The researcher carried out a pilot study on all the scales using 50 male students of Beth-Root Model School age range 15-20. Before the pilot study, the researcher went to police stations and agencies that deal on crime to get the description of a kidnapper. The researcher also consulted literature before developing pool of items for the various scales. The researcher also contacted movie experts, lectures, friends and family during this period. The researcher also conducted face validity. The researcher presented the items to lecturers, colleagues, family and friends who made some corrections and the scales were ready for final stage of validation. Kidnapping interest scale (KIS-28) was reliable at a Cronbach Alpha Reliability Coefficient of .94, Parental Negligence Scale (PNS-11) at a Cronbach Alpha Reliability Coefficient of .81 and Violent Movie Preference Scale (VMPS-11) at a Cronbach Alpha Reliability Coefficient of .83.

Procedure

The researcher critically listed the names of schools that houses only boys and carefully folded them and then called another individual to pick 5 from the bowl where the 500 participants will be drawn from. The individual carefully picked and opened them. After the schools have been selected, the researcher identified himself with the schools according to the way they were picked. The school management permitted the research to go into the school and administer the test to SS3 students.

The researcher administered the tests with the help of some teachers who announced to the students to kindly fill the questionnaire and return immediately. The exercise lasted for 2 weeks. The first week was used in gaining permission and booking a day for the exercise from the school management who accepted the process without delays. The second week was for administration. The researcher went to the schools within five days and according to the way they were picked. In school number one, the researcher started from the first classes to share the questionnaire until they have filled out hundred questionnaires. The researcher started from the last classes in the second school until they have filled out the questionnaire. In the third school, the researcher issued from classes that are in the middle until they have filled out

hundred questionnaires. In the fourth and fifth school, he started from first and last classes respectively until they have filled out.

During the week when the researcher administered the test, he went during the hours of 10:30 am so that he can speak with the students and their teachers before their break period which is usually around 11:20am-11:50am when they now fill the questionnaires and submitted immediately. The researcher after collecting the questionnaires thanked the students, their teachers and the school management and then bid them farewell.

Design/Statistics

Cross sectional design was used for this study. This method was adopted in order to help the researcher access the large number of participants selected for the study. It was also used to assess the burden of kidnapping among teenagers.

Multiple Regression was used by the researcher. The researcher used this statistics to predict the values of kidnapping interest based on the values of parental negligence and violent movies.

Results

Table 1: Table of Correlations for Key Variables Used in the Study

	Kidnapping Behavior	Parental Negligence	Violent Movies
Kidnapping Behavior	1.000		
Parental Negligence	.353***	1.000	
Violent Movies	.203***	.188***	1.000

Note: $N = 462$, *** = $p < .0005$

The Pearson correlation for all variables used in the study is presented in Table 1 above. The table show that kidnapping behavior had a positive significant relationships with parental negligence ($r = .353$, $n = .462$, $p < .0005$) and violent movies ($r = .203$, $n = .462$, $p < .0005$) while parental negligence was significantly related to violent movies. ($r = .188$, $n = .462$, $p < .0005$). The results imply that higher interest in kidnapping behavior is related to higher parental negligence and higher involvement in watching violent movies among teenagers. Also, a higher level of parental negligence is associated with higher involvement in watching violent movies among teenagers.

Table 2: Summary of Results of a Two-Step Hierarchical Multiple Regression Analyses for Interest in Kidnapping Behavior on Parental Negligence and Violent Movies

Predictors	Step1 β	Step 2 β
Step 1		
Parental Negligence	.353***	.327***
Step 2		
Violent Movies		.141**
ΔF	65.55***	10.30**
R^2	.353***	.379**
ΔR^2		.019
Df	1,460	2, 459
Dublin Watson	1.80	

Note: $N = 462$, ** $p < .005$, *** $p < .0005$.

The result of a hierarchical multiple regression analysis as presented in Table 2 above tested the two hypotheses of the study. The overall model of the two step hierarchical regression analysis was significant [$R^2 = .353$, $F(1, 460) = 65.55$, $p < .0005$; $R^2 = .379$, $F(2, 459) =$

10.30, $p < .005$]. The overall fit of the model shows that 14.4% of the variation in teenagers' interest in kidnapping behavior has been explained. Also, the Durbin-Watson of 1.80 falls within the accepted range ($1.5 < D < 2.5$), indicating that there is no autocorrelation problem in the data and that the error term is independent.

In the first hypothesis, parental negligence was regressed into the model and it explained 12.3% of the variations in teenagers' interest in kidnapping behavior. Parental negligence also significantly predicted teenagers' interest in kidnapping behavior ($\beta = .353$, $p > .0005$, $t = 8.10$) indicating that level of parental negligence resulted in higher teenagers' interest in kidnapping behavior. Therefore, the first null hypothesis is rejected.

Analysis of the second hypothesis shows that involvement in watching violent movies explained only 1.9% of the variations in teenagers' interest in kidnapping behavior. The result further shows that involvement in watching violent movies is a significant predictor of teenagers' interest in kidnapping behavior ($\beta = .141$, $p > .005$; $t = 3.21$). The second null hypothesis is therefore rejected implying that higher involvement in watching violent movies significantly result to higher teenagers' interest in kidnapping behavior.

Discussions

The study findings show that parental negligence significantly impacted on teenager's interest in kidnapping behavior. The findings led to the rejection of the first hypothesis of this study which postulated that parental negligence will not impact on teenager's interest in kidnapping behavior.

The study findings are in concordance with John Bowlby Attachment Theory that proposed that early relationship with caregivers greatly influence child development. The theory suggested that a child tends to take a negative part as a result of how the caregiver treated him at their early stages of life. Caregivers should be mindful of their children as it is clear that a highly neglected teenager is seriously going to consider going into kidnapping due to his early life challenges he had with his caregivers as compared to their mates who were not neglected.

The second hypothesis tested in this study stated that violent movies will not significantly impact on teenager's interest in kidnapping behavior. The study findings lead to the rejection of this hypothesis. The result from this study implies that violent movies significantly influence teenager's interest in kidnapping behavior. The study findings support Agboola (2004) as cited by Ezeukwu (2013) who researched the effect of television violence on deviant behavior among secondary school students in Lagos state. The study found that exposing secondary school students to television violence go a long way in negatively influencing them into deviant behavior.

The study findings is also in concordance with Bandura's Theory which stated that any action or behavior such as kidnapping etc is learned through observational learning skills which are attention, retention, motor reproduction and reinforcement. The theory further stated that individual's behaviors are dependent on what he learnt from his social environment which exposure to violent movies is one of them. It is now obvious that teenagers that are highly exposed to violent movies tends to consider getting into deviant acts such as kidnapping which is a negative attitude formed from watching violent scenes than their counterparts who are not exposed to them.

Finally, findings of this study indicated that both parental negligence and violent movies did significantly impact on teenager's interest in kidnapping behavior among teenagers in Onitsha North Local Government Area.

Implication of the Study

The implication of the study is that parental negligence and violent movies both impacted on teenager's interest in kidnapping behavior. This implies that teenagers that have high level of neglect by their care giver will at some point in life consider kidnapping as a means of achieving a particular goal in life compared to their mates who were not neglected by their care giver. Also, teenagers that prefer and watch violent movies tend to have interest in kidnapping behavior compared to their mates who do not watch violent moves.

Therefore, there is need to promote proper parental care and control what the teenagers are exposed to. Caregivers should be sensitized on the importance of healthy relationship between them and their children at their early stage in life. Majority of care givers at this part of the world do not even know that not providing for their children is also as harmful as abusing them. This should be curtailed to raise a well grown individual for the good of all.

On the part of the individual, it should be worthy to note that it will be difficult in making adjustments at some point when they have harbored a negative perception of life when they have been neglected by their care givers and have inappropriate thought pattern as a result of exposure to violent movies thinking life works that way. The individual ends up so frustrated and angry at all point of life when they realize that life does not work that way. The frustration turns to something that will harm the environment the individual finds himself. He tends to act against constituted authority, headache to the family and an object of making reference when it comes to bad deeds.

Another implication of this study is that once a caregiver is neglectful, they are also not aware of what their children view while they are not around. When a care giver is up and doing, they surely will raise a well-adjusted individual who will make the society a better place.

Recommendations

Considering the findings of this study, there should be massive reorientation conducted across the country. The values that state and recommend hard work are fast dying down. The society should be reoriented and communicated of the dangers of "get rich quick syndrome". Parents and the society at large should be thought the appropriate ways to act and the right ways of motivating the child so as not to imbibe in them that syndrome. The society should stop singing praises to individuals that their source of wealth is not clear. They should applaud hard work as it will reduce the high quest for money and this will reduce interest in kidnapping behavior.

Also, the study findings recommend that the commission in charge of media should sit up and endeavor to limit some level of violence portrayed in the media. The commission should also enlighten and teach the society the impact television and other audio-visual devices have on them especially the younger generation. The commission should also teach parents to obey the age bracket stipulated for a particular media shown.

The study findings also recommend that the government should improve our Educational system. The current system does not motivate students to study hard in order to be gainfully employed. The current system does not help in anyway and should be improved. When it has been improved on, the "get rich quick syndrome" will reduce and people will not engage in unlawful acts.

Seminars should be organized for the parents and guardians to teach on some certain behaviors that are neglectful to the teenager. Most parents are not aware that negligence is as dangerous as abuse. They should be encouraged to bear children they can easily monitor and care for. Parents should be sensitized on the important role they play at the formation stage of the child.

On the other hand, the school authorities should organize programs that can teach morals and values to the children. They should be encouraged not to be pressured by the crazy society we are into. The school management should constantly give assignments to the students and parents should help ensure that they are done. The assignment should not just focus on theories but it should be practical and meaningful to the society. Rewards for excellence should also be improved on as this will teach the teenagers that hard work pays.

Conclusion

This study investigated the impact of parental negligence and violent movies on teenager's interest in kidnapping behavior. Two hypotheses were tested and three questionnaires (parental negligence scale PNS-11, violent movie preference scale VMPS-11 and kidnapping interest scale KIS-24) were utilized. The design for this study is cross-sectional survey method and multiple regression analysis were used in analyzing data collected. Both hypotheses were rejected which implies that parental negligence and violent movies significantly influenced teenager's interest in kidnapping behavior.

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