

## HOMELESS PEOPLE AND BOARDING SCHOOL IN NIGERIAN EDUCATION: PROBLEMS AND MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

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### ABSTRACT

This study examine the educational intervention through managing effective boarding house system for tackling challenging homeless schools in Nigeria. The paper noted that Nigeria is a country with a population of 180million people are challenged by high members of homeless people which led to overcrowded homes in the country. However, the challenges of the inadequate homes have devastating effects on the life and prosperity of the citizens. The paper however intends to investigate the strategies for managing Boarding house system by the government and the stakeholders in education, the causes of homeless students, challenges and methods of amelioration using effective operation of the Boarding system at the secondary Education level in Nigeria.

**Keywords:** Boarding system, Challenging, Homeless students and Tackling methods.

### INTRODUCTION

The issues of boarding schools that had become a forgotten activity at the various levels of education had become an issue of concern in Nigeria. Whether or not, school to integrate boarding system into the secondary education programme had become a controversial issue. According to Aparna (2019) the issue of re-engineering boarding house system in to the secondary education was costumed and greatly affected by the factors of negative parental resistance towards sending their children to resident in the schools, such problems are:the cost of operation is too high, environmental security of the schools are lacking, keeping the school children by the school stakeholders, political interference in the management of the schools and parental fear of their children being involved in the perpetration in the undesirable behaviour in the schools, homelessness low adjustment, gender separation and academic pressures. However, the basic challenges are limited to the parents with the high social-economic factors. It should be noted that introduction of boarding system to secondary schools has high rate of advantages over the disadvantages. The advantages of boarding system according to Kareem and Hares (2020) that boarding system encourages interdependence and self-reliance, social confidence improved standard of living self-discipline, social interaction, holistic development and effective time management in the school system.

Boarding schools was described as the type if school system whereby the school administrators take charge of the full responsibilities for the whole term or system or an academic calendar year. The school is therefore responsible for feeding, accommodation, parental care, security and safe keeping and monitoring of the academic pursuit of the students while in the school .

In the recent time, therefore the Federal Republic of Nigeria (1999) identified the fundamental human right which every citizen should envy as a member of a society prominent among the right according to Ogundele (2019) are freedom of housing freedom of speech and freedom to live peacefully among member of the society. Nigerian population is made up of 180million people, it should be noted that the population of homeless people is 13 million. Sambo (2020) also identified the examples of the homeless people live out of school children street boys, girls children, Almajiri, Nomads, Fishermen and Sedentary farmer.

The problems caused by the homeless people according to Oyeniran (2015) are low quality education involvement in the criminal acts, armed robbery, kidnapping, sexual harassment, raping, thuggery, election rigging and all forms of domestic violence are perpetrated by the homeless people. Also noted that the perpetration of all forms of the criminal acts relegate the integrity that the international community accorded Nigerian education. In order to accord and provide Nigerian secondary education a high esteem the need for re-engineering boarding system towards effective tackling the challenges of homeless people in Nigeria. According to Waziri (2018) re-engineering effective boarding system in Nigeria will help the Nigerians to tackle the challenges posed by the homeless people in Nigeria. However, the homeless people affect the educational system in Niger. A homeless parent lead to the homeless students in Nigeria. It is therefore necessary to re-engineer the boarding system so as to bring about equity access and quality education in Nigeria. The re-engineering boarding system beware effective instrument for eradicating homelessness among the members of the societies (Ogundele, 2002)

### **Factors responsible for the homelessness among the students**

The following factors are the root cause of homelessness among the Nigerian people in the recent time, out of Nigerian population of 180 million only 80 million are living in their various homes; while 100 million people are homeless. Many of the homeless people constituted themselves of out of school children, street boys, area boys are prostitutes many of the homeless people sleep in under the bridge, hotels, parks, beach, beer parlours and many at the road side. Many cannot afford to pay rent. However, the major causes of the homelessness in the society are poverty, inflationary trends, home background, poor, quality education, peer group influence and poor governmental housing policy. According to Edewor (2017). The major causes of homeless children are parental neglect, marital instability, poverty.

Brund (1996), also identified the major cause of homelessness to the following causes as unemployment, poverty, poor nutrition, addiction to the use of drugs and alcohol, poor quality education and the high cost of the building materials leading to escalated cost of the high rents in the society.

However, the causes of homeless people among the Nigerian citizens have devastating effects on the educational provision to the Nigerian youths. Osama (2018) opined that the root cause of social-economic crises in Nigeria was attributed to the problem cause by the homeless people; the author rooted that the homeless parents do neglect their children care and such the children mingle up with undesirable elements in the society.

However, the problem can be solved by re-engineering boarding schools into Nigerian education system. The boarding system however reduces the problems cause by the homeless people into the Nigerian educational system.

### **Boarding school and Homeless people in Nigeria**

In the recent time, the internal efficiency rate of the schooling system is too low. For example, there are high rate of truancy, absenteeism, repetition, wastage, teacher turnover, mass failure, bullying and high rate of indisciplinary behaviours had been attributed to the existence of the homeless parents in Nigeria (Durosaro, 2002).

The existence of homeless citizens have devastating effects on the educational provision to the youths in the country. The effects are:

**Domestic Violence:** There series of dangerous crimes which lead to death, destruction of the properties and life, causing disastrous situations like arson. According to Alowaimi (2018). The violence caused by the homeless people like theft, murder, kidnapping, bullying all which affect the academic activities incessantly strike and truncated school calendar. The peace of the school system is greatly affected.

**Malnutrition and poverty among the students:** The issue of homeless situation as it affects the education become the students from the homeless parents suffer parental neglect. The neglect however cause malnutrition, inadequate parental care and poor feeding, dirty lack and tattered uniform. The problem which relegate the integrity of the students in the school and the problem lead to drop out, repetition and mass failure, the problem discourage the students in staying in the school. It should be noted that the introduction of boarding house system will adequately help in encouraging the student commitment and it will and interdependence, self-esteem and imbibe the spirit of togetherness and discipline in the school (Bukoye (2015).

### **Introduction of Boarding School**

Therefore, become an inputs for managing the problems posed by the homeless situation in Nigeria. Fowowe (2021) noted the efforts of the Federal Republic of Nigeria toward the reduction of the problems posed by the homeless people in Nigeria. The author state that Babatunde Fashola the initiate certain effort which encourage larger to have house of their own. Among the efforts is introduction of boarding schools, ensuring Public-Private Partnership (PPP) intervention towards developing hostels for the government solutions and allow the communities to build hostels for the students. The efforts allows the student to stay in their rented house. The efforts reduced the trauma of homelessness in the society.

### **Conclusion**

The paper examined the issues and challenges pose by the homeless people on the educational provision for her citizens. However, in the paper the homeless problems constitute great to the educational system. The homeless people could not provide quality education to the children. The homeless situation expose the youth teenagers to series of domestic and social violence which deserved the children attend schools but lead them to kidnapping, killing, raping, sexual harassment, arson, hungers, drunkenness, prostitution, area boys, thuggery and political violence. It could however be concluded that all efforts like government efforts in granting housing loans for the

citizens and above all, there is the need to re-engineer the boarding schools that will aid tackling of homeless challenges to Nigerian education.

### Suggestions

Based on the literatures of the paper and the conclusion made suggestions were proffered for solving the problems passed by the homeless situations on education. However, the following suggestions were proffered.

Private sectors involvement in the provision of housing to the schools: There can be private sectors, community school relations and public-private partnership interventions in the provision of hostels, funds and hotels for the schools in Nigeria.

The Federal Republic of Nigeria should revive the abandoned boarding schools in the country. The efforts will exist the public to reduce the situation of the homeless challenges which affect the Nigerian education system.

Also, the funding of Nigeria education should be everyone responsibilities. This is to say that both the government and non-governmental agencies including the foundations should collaborate with each other in an effort to finance the structures faculties that were put in place towards developing quality education for the citizens.

Furthermore, there is the need to establish a formidable counseling services for reducing the trauma caused by the homeless situation on education. The effort will aid equity, quality and accessibility to quality education in the school system.

Also, the school administrators should encourage the operation of the interpersonal relation among the diverse students in the schools. The efforts will encourage friendliness and aid togetherness among the students. The effort will also created assistance to the less privilege children in the school.

The education provision should be universalized by the government. The efforts of government in encouraging free education feeding and provision of free books will allow the students to have access to education and less affected by the homeless situation in the students in Nigeria. Adequate personal services should be provided for the students in the school. The personal services like work study, welfare, financial assistance, home food grown services, health insurance services, which will reduce the trauma of the homeless trauma among the children.

Finally, the use of local resources for the construction of low cost building, need to be encouraged. The use of the local materials like muds, sands, stone, plankles etc, for the building and roofing. The effort will reduce the trauma of homeless situation that can affect Nigerian education.

### Conflict of Interest

No conflict of interest in the study

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