



# Effects of Boko Haram Insurgency on women and Children: An Assessment of Internally Displaced Peoples Camps in Maiduguri Metropolis

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**Abstract:** *Boko Haram, a movement claiming to act in the name of Islam, has killed tens of thousands of people in Nigeria and the neighboring countries of Niger, Chad, and Cameroon. Tens of thousands more have died amid the broader crisis that Boko Haram precipitated. Civilians, Muslims and Christians alike, have fallen victim to hunger and disease, and millions in the region are in now precarious situation. It is against this background that the research considered the; Topic entitled “Effect of Boko Haram Insurgency on women and Children: An assessment of Internally Displaced People Camps (IDP) in Maiduguri metropolitan; The population of the study was 195,670. The sample size for study was 260 in which the 260 questionnaire were administered to internally displaced peoples in 15 camps in Maiduguri metropolis simple random sample was employed. This was to give every member of the population equal and known chance of being selected to represent the population. This research provided answer to three research questions. While Chi-Square was employed to test the hypothesis at 0.05 probability level. The result revealed that Boko Haram insurgency has effect on women and children in that it has strong effect on security of lives and property of women and children at the camps, the quality of formal education received by women and children is low, among others. It was recommended that Government should intensify effort in providing adequate protection to lives and property at the camps.*

**Keywords:** Boko Haram, Insurgency, Internally displaced Peoples, Camp, Women and Children.

## Introduction

Armed groups are not viewed as unitary strategic blocs or collections of individuals but as entities consisting of different organizational modes and structures of cohesion, as well as social groups and network characteristics, all of which have an impact on the group's external and internal behaviour. (Bultman, 2018). Boko Haram, a movement claiming to act in the name of Islam, has killed tens of thousands of people in Nigeria and the neighboring countries of Niger, Chad, and Cameroon. Tens of thousands more have died amid the broader crisis that Boko Haram precipitated. Civilians, Muslims and Christians alike, have fallen victim to hunger and disease, and millions in the region are now in precarious situation. Others have been killed by the Nigerian security forces, whose heavy-handed response to Boko Haram has exacerbated the conflict. Boko Haram is one of the deadliest jihadist groups in the world, and the crisis surrounding it is one of the globe's worst. Boko Haram took shape in the northeastern Nigerian city of Maiduguri in the early 2000s. The group became notorious—but also attracted support—for its contention that Western-style education (in the Hausa language, *boko*) was

legally prohibited by Islam (in Arabic and Hausa, *haram*). In Boko Haram's eyes, Western-style education belonged to a larger, evil system. That system included multiparty democracy,

secular government, constitutionalism, and "man-made laws." For Boko Haram, all these institutions are not just un-Islamic but anti-Islamic. Over time, Boko Haram has preserved core elements of its message. But Boko Haram has also periodically shifted its strategies, tactics, and self-presentation. This book reconstructs the movement's history, paying attention to how its doctrine interacted with the changing environment around it. (Thurston, 2018).

However, the Boko Haram insurgency currently rocking the North-East and more especially Borno State is unique in terms of its avowed objectives, organization, tenacity, tactics, sophisticated strategy, weaponry, magnitude, gravity and audacious operations (Adeyeri, 2015). Internal displacement is a definitive illustration of global crisis with negative experience and devastating effects on its victims. These effects include human rights violations, loss of livelihood, loss of shelter family disintegration, insecurity, looting of property, social disintegration, loss of status, exposure to forced labour and conscription into militia group. Upon arrival at their temporary place of abode are in dire need of basic necessities such as shelter, food clothing potable water, security and healthcare (Olanrewaju, Omotoso and Alabi, 2018).

#### **Problem Statement/Justification**

Internally Displaced Camps (IDPs) are faced by many challenges due to one reason or another, Management of internal displacement and meeting the needs of IDPs in Nigeria have been a far cry from the expected intervention (Olanrewaju et al, 2018). However, government at all levels as well as Non-governmental organizations have made efforts to resolve the problem of education of women and children at the various camps by providing teachers and teaching aids, protecting the lives and property of women and children in the camps by way of provision of shelter and security personnel, and providing clinics equipped with manpower and medical facilities be that as it may. It has been observed that women and children at the IDPs camps in Maiduguri metropolis have been faced with several Security, Education and Health problems. They have been having cases of gender based violence in the camps perpetrated on the unfortunate women and girls by some camp officials and security men who are supposed to protect them. There have also been cases of suicide attacks at these camps. This menace has caused psychological and social problems to these vulnerable groups. There are also incidence of children not acquiring the basic formal education and women not receiving the adequate empowerment skills in those camps due to psychological trauma caused by the Boko Haram insurgency. The worse situation is that there have been increasing prevalence of diseases such as HIV and AIDs. Other sources of concern have been hunger as a result of inadequate feeding, thereby predisposing women and children to mal-nutrition. In short many women and children in these camps are bearing the brunt of the insurgency such as social displacement, sexual abuse, lack of education, psychosocial problems, and deplorable shelter.

### **Objectives of the Study**

The main objective of the study is to assess the effects of Boko Haram Insurgency on women and Children with a particular reference to the Internally Displaced Peoples (IDP) Camps in Maiduguri Metropolis. The specific objectives are to:

- (i) assess the effect of Boko Haram insurgency on the security of lives and property of women and children at the IDP camps in Maiduguri Metropolis.
- (ii) determine the effect of Boko Haram insurgency on the quality of women education of women and children at the IDP camps in Maiduguri metropolis.
- (iii) examine the effect of Boko Haram insurgency on the health of women and children at the IDP camps in Maiduguri metropolis.

### **Research Questions**

The following research questions guide the study

- (i) What is the effect of Boko Haram insurgency on the security of women and children in the IDPs camps in Maiduguri metropolis?
- (ii) What is the effect of Boko Haram insurgency on the education of women and children in the IDPs camps in Maiduguri metropolis?
- (iii) What is the effect of Boko Haram insurgency on the health of women and children in the IDPs camps in Maiduguri metropolis?

### **Research Hypotheses of the study**

The following are the research hypotheses of the study:

- (i) **Ho1** There is no relationship between Boko Haram insurgency and the security of women and children in the IDPs camps in Maiduguri metropolis.
- (ii) **Ho2** There is no relationship between Boko Haram insurgency and the education of women and children in the IDPs camps in Maiduguri metropolis.
- (iii) **Ho3** There is no relationship between Boko Haram insurgency and the health of women and children in the IDPs camps in Maiduguri metropolis.

### **Methodology of the Study**

This section provides an explanation of the procedures chosen by the researcher in line with the research objectives; It is aimed at explaining the rationale for the adoption of techniques in the research methodology that were connected with the research objectives. The section therefore, considered the population of the study, the sample size and sampling techniques, methods of data collection, instrument of data collection, method of data presentation and method of data analysis.

### **Population of the Study**

The population of this study was comprised of women and children living in different IDP camps located within Maiduguri metropolis. The camps were: **(1) Bakassi Camp, (2) Customs House (3) Dalori I Camp (4) Dalori II Camp, (5) El-miskin I Camp, (6) El-miskin II (7) EYN Wulari Camp, (8) Farm center Camp (9) Gubio Camp, (10) Madinatu (11) Mogolis Camp, (12) Muna Camp (13) NYSC Camp, (14) New Stadium Camp, and (15) Teacher village Camp,.** Thus, total population of the study area was 195,670. The justification for the adoption of the population was that women and children are often the ones that have borne the brunt of the insurgency in various dimension such as social displacement, sexual abuse, lack of education, psycho-social problems, health related issues and deplorable shelters.

### **Sample size and Sampling Technique**

The sample size to be adopted for the study was 300 people from within the IDP camps in Maiduguri Metropolis. All the IDP camps were located in Maiduguri Metropolis which consisted of all the IDPs of Borno state. The research also adopted the formular of determining sample size for research activities by Krejcie and Morgan (1970)

$$S = \frac{X^2 NP (1-P)}{d^2 (N-1) + X^2 P (1-P)}$$

Where S = required sample size

$X^2$  = the table value of chi-square for 1 degree of freedom at the desired confidence level

N= the population size

P= the population proportion (assumed to be .05 since this would provide the maximum sample size).

d = the degree of accuracy expressed as a proportion (.05).

The sampling technique to be adopted for the study was simple random sampling. The justification for the use of this technique was to give every member of the population equal and known chance of being selected to represent the population.

### **Method of Data Collection**

The research will employed primary data. The Primary data were employed with a view to obtaining first – hand information from the respondents. The justification for the adoption of the primary data was to have first-hand information from the respondent through their designated camps officials.

### **Instrument of Data Collection**

The research will administered questionnaires to the respondents through the designated camp officials. The justifications for the adoption of the questionnaire was to make the data collection more economical and reliable as well as to motivate respondent through the camp officials, in view of the fact that majority of the respondents had no formal educated.

### Method of Data Analysis

The data will be analysed using simple percentage. Additionally, Chi- Square will be used in testing the hypothesis. It is computed using the following formula.

$$X^2 = \sum \frac{[fo - fe]^2}{fe}$$

Where  $\sum$  = Summation sign

Fo = Frequency observed

Fe = Frequency expected.

The justification for the adoption of the chi- square is that statistic is commonly used for testing categorical variables and that it is extremely sensitive to sample size that is when the sample size is too large, almost any small difference will appear statistically significant.

### Result

Computation of Chi-Square

$$\text{Chi-Square } (X^2) = \sum \frac{(fo - fe)^2}{fe}$$

$$X^2 = \frac{(152 - 162.8)^2}{162.8} + \frac{(161 - 162.8)^2}{162.8} + \dots + \frac{(56 - 53.27)^2}{53.27} + \dots + \frac{(20 - 10.91)^2}{10.92} + \dots$$

$$+ \frac{(39 - 25.09)^2}{25.09} + \dots + \frac{(20 - 25.09)^2}{25.09} =$$
$$X^2 = 424.62$$

Computed Value of  $X^2 = 424.62$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Degree of freedom (df)} &= (R - 1) (C - 1) \\ &= (5 - 1) (11 - 1) \\ &= 4 \times 10 \\ &= 40 \end{aligned}$$

Critical Value of  $X^2$  (0.05, 40) = 55.759

**Decision:** Since the computed Value of  $X^2$  (424. 62) is greater than the  $X^2$  critical value ( 55.759) we reject the null hypothesis and uphold the alternate hypotheses. Therefore, there is relationship between Boko Haram insurgency and security of women and children in IDPs camps in Maiduguri Metropolis; there is relationship between Boko Haram insurgency and education of women and children in the IDPs camps in Maiduguri Metropolis, and there is relationship between Boko Haram insurgency and health of women and children in the IDPs camps in Maiduguri Metropolis

## **Discussion**

The from hypotheses testing revealed that there is relationship between Boko Haram insurgency and security of women and children; There is also relationship

Between Boko Haram insurgency and education of women and children, and there is relationship between Boko Haram insurgency and health of women and children. Thus, Boko Haram insurgency has effect on women and children. The findings corroborate the work of Anugwom (2019) who found that children and women are paying for this insurgency in multiple ways. In a sickening turn of events, it became clear in 2014 that children and women had been selected by Boko Haram for suicide missions.

The finding from Table 9 revealed that women and children are vulnerable to lose of lives and property as a result of Boko Haram attacks in the camps One hundred and fifty one (151) representing 61.92% respondents strongly agreed that women and children were vulnerable to lose of lives and property as a result of the attack while eighty two (82) respondent representing 31.54% agreed to that effect. Thus, Boko Haram insurgency has effect on the security of lives and property of women and children at the IDPs camps in Maiduguri metropolis. This finding is in line with the work of Anugwom (2019) which asserts that children and women are paying for the insurgency in multiple ways. In a sickening term of events it became clear in 2014 that children and women had been selected by Boko Haram for suicide missions.

The finding from table 9 revealed that the quality of formal education received by women and children is very low. One hundred and ninety one respondents representing 73.46% affirmed strongly that the quality was low. Similarly, twenty two (22) respondents representing 8.46% also agreed that the quality was low. This finding corroborate the work of Isokpan and Durojaye (2016) Which state that education was profoundly affected as a result of the targeted attacks on school children, teachers, schools and other education facilities. Armed conflict affects the entire populace but it makes a special impact on women and children as a vulnerable group.

The findings from tables 10 and 11 revealed that health facilities are relatively inadequate and there have been increasing prevalence of diseases such as HIV and AIDs respectively in the camps. One hundred and eighty (180) and One eighty seven (187) respondents representing 69.23% and 71.92% respectively gave affirmative answer. Apart from the fact that health facilities are relatively inadequate in the camps, Omole et al (2015). Confirm that new cases of HIV/AIDs were reported in camps and other major illnesses. These include respiratory tract infections, physical injuries, psychological trauma and undetected polio cases.

The findings from tables 12, 13 and 14 revealed that women are living below the poverty line, women and children have no sufficient access to food in the camps and that they have been experiencing inadequate income capacity for the purchase of the available food, One hundred and ninety (190), One hundred and eighty one (181) and two hundred and ten (210) respondents representing 73.86%, 69.62% and 80.77% respectively affirmed that. Apart from

inadequate income capacity of women and children. Azad and Kaila (2018) confirmed that the adverse effect of food security might be a household living below the poverty line, thereby making households to continuously struggle to obtain food in the market or produce for their own use. During insurgency households who have food to survive might temporarily experience food insecurity.

### **Implications**

The findings of this study have far- reaching implications:

1. Since women and children are vulnerable to lose of lives and property as a result of Boko Haram attacks in camps, they are likely to experience psychological trauma.
2. Increase in illiteracy rate among women and children.
3. Many women and children may be prone to diseases.
4. Inadequate food security may result in malnutrition, hunger and starvation.

### **Summary Conclusion and Recommendation**

In this section, summary of the study, conclusion and recommendation are presented.

#### **Summary of the study**

The researchers administered questionnaire to 260 internally displaced persons residing at Bakassi camp, custom House, Dalori I camp Dalori II camp, El- miskin I camp, miskin II camp EYN wulari camp, Farm centre camp, Gubio camp, madinatu camp, MOGOLIS camp, Muna camp, NYSC camp, New stadium camp, and Teacher village camp. The sample of 260 was obtained using Kreicjic and Morgan (1970) formula for the computation of sample size. The researchers had also employed simple random sample in which every member of the population had equal and known chance of being selected to represent the population.

The research provided answer to the four research questions of the study while Chi-square was employed to test the hypothesis at 0.05 probability level. The hypothesis tested revealed that Boko Haram insurgency has effect on women and children. Also Boko Haram insurgency has strong effect on security of lives and property of women and children at the camps, the quality of formal education received by women and children is very low, health facilities are relatively inadequate , there has been increasing prevalence of diseases such as HIV/AIDs in camps women and children are living below the poverty line women and children have no sufficient access to food in the camps and they have inadequate income capacity for the purchase of available food.

### **Conclusion**

Evident from the study are the follow conclusion: Boko Haram insurgency has effect on the security of lives and property in the camps; the quality of formal education received by women and children is very low; health facilities are relatively inadequate in the camps; There has been



prevalence of diseases such as HIV/AIDs in camps; women and children have no sufficient access to food in the camps; they also live below the poverty line; they have inadequate income capacity for the purchase of available food.

### **Recommendations**

1. Government should intensify effort in providing adequate protection to lives and property in the camps. This can be achieved by stationing enough security at the camps and there should be proper monitoring of people entering and exiting from the camps, close circuit television (CCTV) should also be installed at strategic locations of the camps.
2. Government should provide quality education to women and children in camps this would go along in transforming them and making them to be good citizens and self reliant.
3. In order to cater the health conditions of the IDPs, Government should provide adequate health facilities in the camps. This is by way of seeking interventions from WHO, NGOs among others. Government should also make attempt to prevent the prevalence of HIV/AIDs and other diseases through the involvement of religious leaders to enlighten them on the danger of such an unwholesome act.
4. Government should involve international and local donors agencies in providing food to the IDPs as Government alone cannot bear the responsibility of providing food to the IDPs.

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