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RESEARCH ARTICLE

THE NETWORKING OF RECRUITERS OF CHILD LABOUR IN SOME SELECTED BORDER COMMUNITIES IN SOUTH-WESTERN NIGERIA: A REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

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Abstract

Child labourers constitute a growing proportion globally, as more children engage in it, in a bid to meet up with the financial situation for themselves or family support. Poverty, networking of recruiters and other circumstances could be responsible for this. This paper reviewed studies that have examined the networking that exists between recruiters of child labour and parents of child labourers. The Google Scholar search engine was used to search for published studies on the subject in the last ten years, between the 1st of January, 2011 and to 31st of December, 2021. A total of 40 studies were sampled, of which the majority based their conclusion using primary data and only two were retrospective studies, using secondary data. Only 30% of the studies were conducted in Nigeria, and 7% by social scientists with quantitative and triangulation methodologies with very few recruiters. Ninety percent (90%) of the studies reviewed, provided explanations why child labourers could fall into the hands of recruiters due to; abject poverty, risk in child migration, lack of education, and cultural belief system. Others are, - the lack of jobs by the parents, parents' low income, parents' migration, myth of recruiters of child labourers. The study recommends the need for more sociological studies on the networking of the recruiters of child labour in border Communities, using only qualitative methodology to complement the existing literature on child labour.

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Introduction:-

It is anticipated that 152 million young people would work overseas between 2012 and 2016. investigation carried out in 2017 by Genève, Oryois, and Tideman (2017). The most recent projections show that by 2020, 160 million young people will be employed globally. Along with UNICEF, Lambon-Quayefo (2021). By the start of 2020, it is expected that eight million more youngsters, or one in ten of all children globally, would start working as minors overseas. Population expansion, extreme poverty, a lack of social safety, and the considerable closure of businesses and educational institutions were the root reasons of the rise in COVID-19-related mortality (Adeparua, 2021; UNICEF, 2021; ILO, 2012). Therefore, according to the International Labour Organization (2019), millions of children who work as children do so on a full-time basis and are subject to the worst types of child labour, including performing domestic work outside of the home (Basu, Das, and Dutta, 2010; Bilgen, Ozlem, and Serhat, 2016); engaging in sexual acts that increase the risk of STIs (Bales, 2003; Roby, 2005; Willis and Barry, 2006); and children who trade on the streets. Nearly all child labourers, according to Roggero, Mangiaterra, Bustreo, and

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Rosati, are more likely to have behavioural and emotional issues, emotional and mental health issues, as well as a decreased tolerance for stress (2018). Additionally, they are more likely to get infectious diseases including malaria, HIV/AIDS, and non-HIV (Abdalla, Salma, Jafer and Abdelgadir, 2019). The concept that child labour has benefits is now supported by a number of research. Working-class children's social circumstances in America have evolved with time, according to a 1994 research by Rosenberg and Zelizer. (2013). According to Wegmann (2003, 2004), Woodhead (2004, 2006), and Bolin (2006), child labour increases a child's chances of excelling in school by allowing them to realise their full physical and intellectual potential, as well as their self-esteem, and by teaching them how to handle money. The benefits of group projects are also emphasised in the classroom. This was backed by the views of Putnick and Bornstein (2015) and Bourdillon (2017), who thought that child labour had certain intrinsic benefits, including financial rewards for guaranteeing one's survival and sustaining the level of life for one's family.

If the children's education or their mental or physical health before the age of 18 are negatively impacted by these tasks, which are carried out without parental supervision and without the participation of children and teenagers who are at least 14 and enrolled in general, vocational, or technical schools or other training facilities, there may be issues. This may be child labour (ILO Convention, 2011; Ortiz-Ospina, 2016). In light of this, the most recent estimates of child labour (UNICEF, 2021; ILO, 2021) for five geographic regions—Africa, Arab States, Asia and the Pacific, Americas, and Europe and Central Asia—found that, in absolute terms, nearly half of child labour (72.1 million) is found in Africa and another 62 million in the Asia and Pacific Region, with the remaining child labour population being split among the Americas (11 million), Europe, and Central Asia (62 million) (1 m). ILO 2010 and Adeparu 2021.

Asia uses less child labour as a result of Chinese regulations that uphold children's rights and mandate schooling (Muscato, 2016). The International Labor Organization and several African governments have signed a Memorandum of Understanding titled "Eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labor in West Africa and Strengthening Sub-Regional Cooperation via ECOWAS" (ILO). As of 2006, Mali, Benin, Cape Verde, Ivory Coast, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Niger, Liberia, Togo, Sierra Leone, Sierra Leone, Ghana, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, and Senegal were the first 15 ECOWAS nations to openly endorse the idea. The UN and ILO provided examples. The "Labor Act of Nigeria" included in Part III, Section 59, Subsections 1, 2, and 7 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria forbids the use of children as forced labourers or as participants in any sort of economic activity. Unfortunately, not all of the promises made by the Constitution and the Labor Act have been honoured. If child labour in Nigeria is to be totally eliminated, more work needs to be done to put these restrictions into place.

Even though it is prohibited in many countries, some kids nevertheless work as domestic helpers, sell things on the street, and engage in commercial sexual exploitation. Some nations, including Nigeria, have a lower legal working age than the rest of the world. Given the lack of information on some of the most probable causes of child labour, such as networking between the parents of these children and child labour recruiters in Nigeria, it is logical to draw the conclusion that the practice will never be completely eradicated. This paradox served as the impetus for the inquiry we conducted. This study analysed the findings of other studies on the topic to gain a better understanding of child labour and the networking between recruiters and the parents of child labourers.

Theoretical Orientation

The inquiry is supported by the Social Action theory. The social action hypothesis is most often defended by Max Weber (1864-1920). In one of his works, "Economy and Society," which was first released in the 1920s, Weber founded sociology as a field concerned with the interpretive understanding of social action and, subsequently, with a causal explanation of its path and effects (Haralambos and Holborn, 2013). It is a micro-perspective theory that emphasises people's subjective states (Harvey, 2012). To behave responsibly, people must be conscious of and educated about their environment. According to Coser, Weber argued that sociology should concentrate on the interpretive knowledge of social behaviour, with its dubious explanation of its origins and effects (1977, pp. 217-219). In light of this, he asks the following questions about social interaction: What first influences how individuals behave? What potential long-term consequences may their actions have?

According to Coser (1977), Weber distinguished between four types of social behaviour: goal-rational activities, valued-rational acts, affective or emotional actions, and conventional actions. Goal-rational behaviour may be considered efficient from a rational point of view when supported by logical or scientific reasoning. For instance, the objectives of an activity may be viewed as predetermined, self-sufficient objectives that could be met without the

assistance of other components, or they could be viewed as objectives in and of themselves. For example, this goal still exists even when it is used as a tool to achieve another goal. The goal of the activity is to acquire material goods, such as a new car, a mountain getaway, or a trip to Europe. Coser (1977) asserts that individuals who demonstrate value rationality use tactics to achieve their goals and adhere to a predetermined set of goals. Take a soldier as an example who gives his life for his nation. He is not operating in a way that would enable him to realise any specific, concrete goal, like riches. It places a strong focus on moral values like honour and patriotism. When actors depict characters in emotionally charged contexts, affective or emotional activities are seen to be occurring. A woman who is made fun of on a bus could feel driven to use violence in retaliation because she is so incensed and upset by the behaviour. Instead than being motivated by a goal or moral code in this situation, the actor's emotional reaction to a particular set of circumstances dictates their behaviour. So, a rage-fueled assault, whether physical or verbal, is acceptable. Traditionalism is the technique of establishing a task's objectives and working methods based on custom and tradition. This is based on an old custom. Because we don't fully understand what drives people to behave in certain ways, things are done in such ways. For instance, extremely rigorous succession laws for group leaders exist in certain communities that appear to be ancient (Coser, 1977:217-219).

Social action theory has a severe problem with its "methodological individualism." According to David Lee and Howard Newby (1983), the aim of social action theory is to approach all social dynamics and forces as if they could be explained (or reduced) to the intentions and deeds of lone people. Social action theory can be helpful in explaining behaviour from the viewpoint of the actor, regardless of whether it is "goal or value reasonable," "successful," or "traditional." Additionally, it explains how social behaviour on an individual level eventually serves as the foundation for social organisations (Trueman 2015; Oyedokun, 2016).

When applying this theory to the network of child labour recruiters, Weber mentions two issues with social action, including: Why do people behave in particular ways? What message do they explicitly seek to convey by their actions? The responses to these two questions are very important since the main objective of the study is to determine the cause(s) of child labour by recruiters and parents of child labourers. to bring attention to the negative effects of their participation in child labour. A person participates in social action and provides it value, according to Weber. What effects does child labour have on employers and parents?

According to Coser, Weber's definition of goal-rational behaviour is a decision made without taking into account the repercussions and typically without having the resources to do so in order to achieve a legitimate purpose (1977, pp. 217-219). Therefore, it is possible to think of child labour as a purposeful, advantageous behaviour. This might be used as justification for the parents' and recruiters' exploitation of the children for financial benefit. In value-rational action, the actor employs tactics to attain predetermined, arbitrary objectives. You think it's good for parents to frequently employ children so they can provide for their families.

When an activity's methods and goals are connected, an affective or emotional action results; this action may be spontaneous or emotional. the same manner that fury may result in verbal or physical abuse. Employers and recruiters frequently utilise young workers, which fosters abuse and violence. Additionally, the hiring manager or employer can't be friendly with the young workers since they are focused with personal matters that have nothing to do with their problems. This type of behaviour is referred to as customary action when the ends and means are set by custom and tradition. The parents of these children or the recruiters may be from purportedly remote regions where they have seen other families use child labour. As a result, it takes on a life of its own. In the end, culture is permeated.

Methods:-

Google Scholar was used to find the research articles mentioned in the study. The search is restricted to English-language works published between January 1, 2011, and December 31, 2021, that addressed the subject and employed jargon and key terms. The recruiters for child labour in this network span border areas, developing nations, child labour, and child labour. Both worldwide and regional study on these subjects were represented by the usage of Africa and Nigeria. For the review, 40 publications in all were consulted. Table 1 displays the key characteristics of the products.

Table 1:- Characteristics of Studies Reviewed.

S/N	Authors/year published	Location of study	Sample population	Sample size	Methodology
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1	Adama, (2014	Nigeria	Geo-political zone NOI Polls on educated Nigerians	NA	Cross-sectional survey
2	Adeborna& Johnson, 2015	Ghana	Existing literature	NA	Review of Existing Literature
3	Adeogun, 2013	Ekiti State, Nigeria.	Parents living in Ekiti	400 parents	Multistage random technique
4	Adeoye, Agbonlahor, Ashaolu, &Ugalahi, 2017	Ogun State, Nigeria	128 rural farmers' household	352 Children between ages 5 to 17.	Multistage sampling technique
5	Ahsan, 2018	Pakistan	NA	NA	Theoretical paper
6	Ajagbe& Adegbite, 2014.	Ogbomoso area of Oyo State, Nigeria.	All relevant respondents to the study.	200 respondents	Stratified sampling technique
7	Alawari, 2014	Anambra, Nigeria	Secondary school children who are working	300 respondents	Qualitative with Key Informant Interview
8	Asamu, 2015	Ibadan, Enugu and Kaduna, Nigeria	Child labourers	826 respondents	Survey method with questionnaire
9	Avais, 2014.	Pakistan	All girls working in the carpet weaving industry	50 respondents	Purposive sampling technique
10	Bilgen,Ozlem, & Serhat, 2016	Turkey	Data from the 2003 Turkey Demography and Health Survey	18, 911 respondents	Retrospective study
11	Bourdilon, 2015	Zimbabwe	NA	NA	Theoretical paper
12	Bourdilon, Aufseeser, Carothers, Lecoufle, & 2017	Zimbabwe	Existing literature	NA	Review of Existing Literature
13	Cleghom, 2017	America	NA	NA	Theoretical paper
14	Das, 2012	India	Households sample of National Sample Survey (NSS) for 61 st round (2004-2005)	124,680 respondents of which 79,306 were in rural and 45,374 in urban areas.	Retrospective study
15	Haddad, 2017.	Iran	NA	Data collected from Iranian Household's Income and Expenditures Survey (2005 and 2010)	Retrospective study within 5 years interval.
16	Hamenoo, & Dako, 2018.	Ghana	Children below the working age of 18.	25 participants	Qualitative with In-depth interview
17	Holgado, Jariego, Ramos-Vidal & Sanudo, 2014	Colombia	Children who participated in the child labour eradication program "Educame Primero	3,302 children were sampled	Quantitative data collection was adopted and data was analyzed through a logistic regression model.

			Colombia”		
18	Jack, 2011.	Gold Coast, Ghana	NA	NA	Theoretical paper
19	Khaleb, Raheem, Sartorius & Ismail, 2019	Egypt	Data from the 2014 Egypt Demography Health Survey (EDHS). Never married- children aged 5-17 years.	20, 560 children (5-17) engaging in economic activities.	Quantitative data collection. Using multivariate Bayesian geo-additive model for demography and socio-economic factors for working children.
20	Mukherjee & Das, 2015	India	Data from the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO), the 55 th (1999-2000) and the 61 st (2004-05).	10,400 male children in Urban areas in India. The survey period was divided into four stages.	Survey methodology with longitudinal study.
21	Mukherjee & Pal, 2016	Bombay in India	Children in Andhra Pradesh	NA	Quantitative with longitudinal survey
22	Muscato, 2016	China	NA	NA	Theoretical paper
23	Nengroo, & Bhat, 2015	Kashmir Valley in India	Parents of child labourers	88 parents responded	quantitative with the use of a questionnaire
24	Nwokoro, 2011	South-East, Nigeria	NGOs/CSOs reports, school owners, government officials, religious leaders, parents, children, existing literature	NA	A review of Existing Literature and an In-depth Interview were conducted.
25	Obed, 2018	Rural and Urban Ghana	Government officials, NGO representatives, parents whose children were/were not involved in child labour	60 respondents in all.	Semi-structured interviews were conducted.
26	Ofuoku, Ovharhe, & Agbamu, 2020	Akwa-Ibom, Bayelsa, Cross River, Delta, Edo, and River State in the Niger Delta Region of Nigeria	Arable crop farmers registered with their respective agricultural development programs (ADP) households	369 children between the ages of 6-17	Three states were randomly selected and multistage sampling was utilized.
27	Oluyemi, Abubakar, Abudulateef, Atolagbe&Motolani, 2018	Ilorin, Nigeria	Child labourers in Ilorin metropolis	20 participants	Qualitative with In-depth interview
28	Oluwatoba, 2012	Ile-Ife, Osun State,	Parents living in	200 parents of	Survey method and

		Nigeria	Ile-Ife	child labourers	data analyzed using Pearson Product Moment Correlation
29	Ortiz-Ospina, 2016	Multicountry	NA	NA	International Labour Organisation countries
30	Oryoi, Alwang, & Tideman, 2017	Zimbabwe	Existing literature	NA	Review of Existing Literature
31	Osment, 2014	Department of Human Geography, University of Lund, Sweden	Existing literature	NA	Review of Existing Literature
32	Putnick, & Bornstein, 2015	Multicountry	Families with Children between 7 to 14 years old.	186,795 families in 30 low and middle-income countries (LMIC)	The survey method was adopted with a cross-sectional approach.
33	Raqib, 2017	Afghanistan in Asia	NA	NA	Theoretical paper
34	Rosenberg, 2013	America	NA	NA	Theoretical paper
35	Salisu, 2012	Ifo, Ogun State, Nigeria	Hawking children on the street and community leader.	Data was collected through a small number of in-depth interview cases (O'Leary 2010:105). One community leader interviewed	Qualitative through In-depth interview
36	Samonova, 2014	The 2 nd Global Virtual Conferences, University College Dublin, Germany	Existing literature	NA	Review of Existing Literature
37	Sharmistha, 2011	India	Rural households in northern and eastern India	NA	Survey method with questionnaire
38	Shehu, Ibarahim, & Nura 2015	Nigeria	Representative of poor households	NA	Survey method with questionnaire. The univariate probit model was used to analyze the data.
39	Wood, 2011	America	Existing literature	NA	Review of Existing Literature
40	Zane, Irwin, & Walker, (2016)	Multicountry	NA	NA	Theoretical paper

Findings and Discussion:-

The basic features of the articles are shown in Table 1. Six of the publications were from Europe, eleven from Asia, twenty from Africa (including 12 from Nigeria), and three were the results of cross-border research partnerships. 42

studies were included, with 32 of the 40 being empirical. Eight of the 40 papers were theoretical, making the total number of articles 40. Three studies made use of a retrospective study's worth of secondary data. The study's conclusions are broken down into the following categories: types and characteristics of child labour, overt causes of child labour, networks and distribution methods used by child labour recruiters, misconceptions surrounding child labour recruiters, and parental involvement in child labour.

Nature and types of child labour

Nine research looked into the various types and patterns of child labour in industrialised and developing countries (22.5 percent). It is crucial to assess the kinds of professions that children engage in, their ages when they work, and other aspects because the eight studies that were included covered such a wide range of child labour scenarios (Bourdilon, 2015; Bilgen, Ozlem and Serhat, 2016; Ortiz-Ospina, 2016; Obed, 2018; Khaleb et al., 2019). Eliminating child labour is crucial because it harms children by inhibiting their healthy development (Ortiz-Ospina, 2016; Oryoie et al., 2017). Bourdilon (2015) asserts that child labour is a violation of fundamental human rights, obstructs healthy development, and may have long-term detrimental effects on a kid's physical and mental health. It also affects kids' intellectual development and school attendance (Putnick and Bornstein, 2015). These studies demonstrate how individuals and nations are tackling the causes and consequences of child labour while working within the constraints given by their specific degree of knowledge, circumstances, cultures, legal systems, and institutional capacities. This explains why the idea's definition and interpretation seem to be difficult to grasp.

According to Bourdilon's (2015) and Bilgen, Ozlem, and Serhat's (2015) research, people who work for money or without payment outside of the family are categorised as child labourers (2016). Minors who work for pay or for free in factories, street hawking, workshops, companies, mines, and the service industry—such as domestic labour—while still children are considered to be doing so in violation of the ILO Minimum Age Convention No. 138 from 1973 and the ILO Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention No. 182 from 1999. For instance, many young people in Nigeria work as hawkers, bus drivers, and beggars (Adamu, 2014; Asamu, 2015). For instance, Adamu (2014) discovered that 68 percent of kids worked as street vendors or beggars (31 percent). Child labour refers to the employment of minors, some of whom start their jobs as early as age 6, as domestic servants and child porters in Ghana's Accra and Ashanti regions (Obed, 2018). According to Khaled et al (2019) research, a sizable fraction of Egyptian minors engages in domestic labour, forced begging, and commercial sexual exploitation.

A practise that robs children of their innocence, potential, and dignity while also putting them to circumstances that are detrimental to their physical and mental development is referred to as child labour, according to the research stated earlier. Therefore, when a child is forced to work in a job that puts them in danger physically, psychologically, socially, or morally, interferes with their education, prevents them from going to school, forces them to permanently stop learning, or forces them to try to balance work with excessive demands with attending school, it is considered child labour.

Manifest Factors responsible for child labour

It is thought that poverty is what leads to child labour most commonly since the financial security of these houses rely largely on the income of these kids. Child labour may occur when a family is facing economic difficulty or uncertainty, when a caregiver falls ill suddenly, or when a family loses its main source of income. A correlation between the growth in child labour and the bad economy that causes family poverty was demonstrated in 14 of these research, or 37% of all evaluations. The Head Tax was a brand-new set of tax regulations that were implemented at the time by the colonial empires of the British and French. Everyone was required to pay taxes, sometimes even 8-year-old children, to help cover the costs of the local colonial administration. Child labour was therefore promoted throughout the latter years of colonialism in Africa (Jack, 2011). To be able to pay their taxes and take care of their daily expenses, many parents made sure their kids had jobs. Because of the complicated connections between economic and cultural elements that viewed imperial power, experience from the late colonial era demonstrates that families and children were under pressure to embrace views.

Because of their vulnerability to and desire to work as flexible, unskilled labour for corporations or dishonest relatives, Ahsan thinks that young people are typically the victims, regardless of any potential familial issues (2018). Many families are compelled to use their kids as labourers in order to survive (Holgado, Jariego, Ramos-Vidal, Sanudo, 2014; Haddad, 2017; Hamenoo and Dako, 2018). However, it is believed that child labour in Nigeria, where it usually represents the family's sole source of money, is mostly a result of poverty (Adegun, 2013; Shehu, Ibrahim, Nura, 2015; Oluoyemi, 2018). The prevalence of child labour in Nigeria has been linked to a number of factors,

including widespread rural-urban migration (Osment, 2014), farm and household size, cultural factors, political factors (Adeoye, Agbonlahor, Ashaolu, Ugalahi, 2017; Ofuoku, Ovharhe, Agbamu, 2020), and a lack of financial support for the children's education due to low family income.

According to the aforementioned data, child labour is on the rise and poverty is a problem in both industrialised and developing nations. For the purpose of conducting research, gathering data, and keeping track of the issue, governments must keep a careful eye on the elements that contribute to child labour. Despite the fact that most nations have sufficient legislative protection, governments frequently fail to monitor real practises.

Channels and networking of recruiters of child labour

In only a few research, the issue of how recruiters use young children as child labourers has been briefly discussed. Pictures of children were present on 4 percent or 11 percent of the commodities under inspection. Working has been a tradition throughout human history (Nwokoro, 2011; Oishimaya, 2019). For instance, slavery, perhaps the best-known instance of child labour, was a thriving industry that relied on the networks of influential business men or women and a select few strategically placed people to flourish. Since ancient times, it has existed in a variety of forms in both developed and developing nations (Nwokoro, 2011). After the contracts were signed, the kids were kidnapped to America and forced to masquerade as street performers. Sometimes, child labour recruiters deceive parents into enrolling their children in apprenticeships by claiming that they are doing so to teach the children how to play an instrument (Wood, 2011; Cleghom, 2017). At this period, a large number of young Italian men and women were enrolled, and the recruiters, or padrone in Italian, were paid for their work. Children who violated their "padrone" master's orders would frequently suffer horrendous punishment (Wood, 2011; Cleghom, 2017).

Children from less developed regions of Ethiopia used to be sent to Addis Abeba, a major African metropolis, where they were forced to perform physically demanding tasks including mining, selling commodities, polishing shoes, and other manual labour for little to no pay or under duress (Oishimaya, 2019). This slave labour was occasionally converted into chains or used to settle debts. These kidnapped children are maybe the toughest to rescue since their parents or guardians are paying them to clean houses while still benefiting from their labour, and because they aren't available if the carpet owner has bought them (Oishimaya, 2019). These studies, however, failed to mention that child migration, which can occasionally be unlawful or irregular, is one method for kids to travel and subsequently expose themselves to child labour recruiters.

The myth of the recruiters of child labour

According to five surveys, 13% of employers that take on young workers believe they are doing them a favour by offering them a job and money to aid with their financial difficulties. Sadly, the main justification for hiring children has nothing to do with how important they are to the economy (Nwokoro, 2011; Wood, 2011; Zane, Irwin and Recczek, 2016; Bourdillon, 2017; Cleghom, 2017). Contrary to what they claimed, a research conducted in 2016 by Zane, Irwin, and Recczek revealed that people who enrol these youngsters don't actually care about their human rights. If so, supply chain reports of unethical behaviour would have been investigated to find out more about the young children. So, ignorance on purpose was at play. The Italian "padrones" (employers of Italian immigrants), who employed youngsters as slaves while disguising them as apprentices, engaged in similar behaviours (Wood, 2011; Nwokoro, 2011).

Unexpectedly, managing children is less difficult than managing adults. Additionally, they have a higher chance of being fired at any time, are less likely to protest unfair working conditions, are less likely to join unions, are less aware of their legal rights, and are less obnoxious, whiny, and adaptable. Therefore, it is essential to stress the financial advantages of work for children. Because they are concerned about losing the small amount of money their children may bring into the home, parents are less likely to file police complaints (CI) (2017). According to Bourdillon (2017), children who sell goods on the street will gain financial incentives for supporting their family and themselves as well as learn the value of money and develop a legal source of income as opposed to begging or stealing.

Parents' involvement in child labour

A connection between different family system factors and parental involvement in child labour was hypothesised to exist in 16 papers, or 40% of the research examined. Rural American parents historically thought of a new baby as a potential helpful labourer because the nation's agricultural investment required more labor-intensive employment with more children in the 18th century, whether it was planting crops, caring for poultry, or building fences

(Rosenberg, 2013). The ability of parents to maximise the potential for productivity of their children has long been acknowledged in the country, according to Cleghom's 2017 study, which found that the post-Civil War American legal system permitted parental control of the children regardless of the parent's line of work. The supervisor also considered the child's height when determining the pay offer for any physically demanding tasks, and the child's earnings went toward comparable family-supporting pursuits (Cleghom, 2017).

Parents who cherish their childhood memories of helping their parents may encourage their children to feel the same way (Sharmistha, 2011; Avais, 2014). The sociodemographic and economic circumstances of parents, such as poverty, inadequate childcare, exposing children to various levels of violence, living in an area where children are easily influenced by their peers, parental survival rate, and household size (Khaled et al., 2019), have a significant impact on the level of involvement of parents of child labourers because it boosts the income of some families. Migration of parents is another possibility. Parents' absence, carelessness, and neglect as parents expose their covert involvement in child labour. Children are at risk of being contacted by a stranger or someone looking to use them as child labour when parents leave the house (Ragib, 2017; Hamenoo and Dako, 2018).

Parental ignorance increases the likelihood that both parents and children will engage in child labour because it is more difficult for parents to understand how their actions affect their children (Das, 2012; Oluwatoba, 2012; Ajagbe and Adegbite, 2014; Mukherjee and Pal, 2016). A parent education programme is therefore required (Sharmistha, 2011; Nengroo and Bhat, 2015; Mukherjee and Das, 2015), and if the parents are educated, there is a possibility that the prevalence of child labour will decrease. Even though some parents genuinely care about their kids' education, many feel pressure to send their future stars into the workforce due to certain socioeconomic circumstances, such as a lack of funding for their education and a lack of government oversight of laws defending kids' rights (Oluwatoba, 2012; Samonova, 2014; Asamu, 2015; Muscato, 2016).

Conclusion:-

The majority of research on the networking of child labour recruiters only skims the issue of root causes and makes the assumption that those who engage in child labour and the exploitation that surrounds it are widely known. As a result of the reviewed literature, many academics have concentrated on the factors that cause child labour, such as gender bias, polygamous family origins, parent unemployment or parent illiteracy, cultural issues, and a lack of family shelter. Famine, parent deaths, significant rural-urban migration, a lack of parental care, a lack of education for children, and insufficient government laws on child labour are additional factors that contribute to child labour. Other investigations focused on the harmful outcomes of child labour, including rape, pregnancy, HIV/AIDS, excruciating pain, and physical and mental illness.

Recognize that parents and recruiters/employers both play important roles because they are the actual actors in the situation. The problem hasn't received enough attention from academics, though. Border Communities haven't received enough attention, despite the fact that some of these kids are occasionally forced into child labour. Hence, this study is an attempt to explore this aspect by interrogating the network that exists between recruiters/employers and parents of child labourers in selected border Communities in southwestern Nigeria.

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